The income of the South Florida Council, Boy Scouts of America comes from many different sources. The single largest source of income in providing Scouting’s character development program to over 40,000 youth right here in South Florida is the "Friends of Scouting" campaign.

The Friends of Scouting campaign is South Florida Council’s annual fundraising drive and NOW accounts for more than 45% of the overall budget. The Friends of Scouting campaign is broken down into two divisions – the Family Division and the Community Division.

In the Family Division, funds are raised from the families that are actively participating in the Boy Scout program. Families are urged to give at the family level of $100. This is what it costs the Council to put one youth through a year of the Scouting program.

In the Community Division, South Florida Council seeks support from local businesses and individuals who share the same values and beliefs as the Boy Scouts of America, but are not necessarily active in the program.

Continued on Page 8...
Chiefly Speaking...

Dear Brothers,

There is one thing that always seems to surprise me. It’s that a year can go by so quickly. As a matter of fact, we are already halfway through this lodge year, and by now so much has happened.

Since the beginning of this lodge year, O-Shot-Caw has actively participated in numerous events to include both National and Section wide programs. At National’s OA Indian Summer, O-Shot-Caw brought the largest contingent, proving that our lodge really is the best in the nation. Furthermore, O-Shot-Caw held the Fall Ordeal and annual Haunted Forest at Camp Seminole. Despite game six of the World Series and the rainy weather, we managed to raise over 15,000 for the Joseph Aaron Abbott Campership Fund, generating one of most successful Haunted Forests in lodge history.

Just recently, we held the Winter Ordeal at Camp Everglades on January 9-11, 2004. Camp Everglades is the only Boy Scout camp within a National Park, which provides us with many new and different work projects. Our lodge took part in numerous conservation projects to include clearing nature trails and removing nonnative plant life.

Soon, our lodge will be hosting the annual Lodge Banquet at Camp Seminole from March 5-7, 2004. The day will consist of athletic competitions to include both the Tom Tatham Spirit Award for the youth and the Quest for the Rusted Arrow for the adults. On Saturday night will be the annual lodge banquet program. Bring out your family and friends for a night of excitement and remembrance.

“That’s All Folks.” I look forward to seeing you at the Lodge Banquet!

WWW,
Brian Polino, Lodge Chief
**NATIONAL BOY SCOUT PROGRAM TRAINING**

**CONFERENCE AT SEABASE**

Seabase, a national high adventure base of the Boy Scouts of America, was home to this year’s National Boy Scout Program Training Conference between the dates of November 5-9, 2003. At the event, professional staff members from all around the nation gathered to learn more about Cub Scouting and Boy Scouting, as it relates to programming. Moreover, the conference was also home to many vendors that produce camp goods used by scout troops from around the nation. With hundreds of professional staffers and trainers all in once place, the help of a very strong support staff was needed. It seemed appropriate that this be O-Shot-Caw Lodge’s calling to once again do the most difficult of tasks—serve food and clean up afterwards. In addition to this arduous task, the support staff from O-Shot-Caw, which included Arend “Croc” Rolf, Anthony Ramirez, Phil Maus, Ron Bell, Bob Wolz, Alex Holinko, and Josh Levenson, also performed many other logistical tasks that truly made the event memorable.

**WINTER ORDEAL**

Just recently, we held the Winter Ordeal at Camp Everglades on January 9-11, 2004. Camp Everglades is the only Boy Scout Camp that is inside a National Park. Due to the camp’s unique location in Everglades National Park, many rare and vital work projects were made available to us. These projects included working alongside the National Park System on conservation projects such as: removing foreign plant life, clearing out hazardous brush that may cause forest fires, and various animal habitat restoration undertakings. Besides lending a hand to the National Park System, our arrowmen helped out the council camp by repairing the program shelter, painting the main entrance sign, making new tables and benches, clearing out overgrown trails, and making new campsites. Since there is no ranger at the camp, the council and the local troops truly benefit from our cheerful service. This Ordeal is the perfect example of a WIN-WIN situation. This proves that together, we all can accomplish more!
COMMITTEE REPORTS

DANCE TEAM

Happy New Year my brothers.

The dance team is expecting a very big year with Individual Dance!

Conference coming and NOAC looming in the background. The dance team is looking for people who are interested in individual dance. We will be at the Lodge Banquet on Friday night hoping to see you all there. If interested please give me a call at 954-704-0999.

Alex Coker

FIRST YEAR ARROWMAN

We obtained a few cards at the winter ordeal, and although the winter ordeal was the deadline because of the low number are still waiting for more. If anyone has completed the requirements please either send your card to us at 4647 Bucida Rd. Boynton Beach Fl 33436 or Email me at torquiljm@bellsouth.net.

I encourage all of you to obtain the exceptional first year arrowman award.

Jack McLeod

HAUNTED FOREST

So far, this year has been great for the Haunted Forest committee! We made a goal to raise $20,000 this year for the Joseph Aaron Abbott Campership Fund, and we have raised over $15,500 so far. At the upcoming Lodge Banquet, find out which Chapter won the Golden Pumpkin Award! We have already begun progress on preparations for the Spaghetti Dinner that our Lodge will host on the Friday night of the Scout Expo, as well as the Concession Booth that we will host all day Saturday of that event as well! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at thehat68@hotmail.com.

Alex Gomez

UNIT ELECTIONS

Hi, My name is Chris Gundlach and I am the Unit Elections Chairman. My committee has not received many elections forms so if you or your chapter have any elections forms, please send them to me or give them to me at an LEC or Lodge event. If you need a video or elections forms, contact me and I will get them to you. At the upcoming Lodge Banquet, I will be holding a seminar and I hope to see you all in attendance. If you are interested in Unit Elections see me there and I will talk to you and inform you when my next seminar will be.

Chris Gundlach

CHAPTER REPORTS

ELGIXIN

The Elgixin chapter has been very active the past few months. Lately we have been working on several key projects. Some of which include, conducting unit elections in troops around the district, expanding scout reach program for troops, being led by Jonathan Scandling and Chris Daugherty, which is already very successful. We have had several of our members obtain the rank of Eagle so far this year, and most recently we would like to congratulate Jake Diprima and Rob Gillian. The Elgixin chapter also has been busy working on concessions at Scoutmaster's Camporee where everyone had a great time and contributed funds to both the camporee and lodge.

Geoffrey Landau
**GOKHOS**
The Gokhos Chapter is moving ahead with our plans to win Best-All-Around Chapter for the 2nd year in a row. (YES, WE WILL WIN!) We are making plans for the Lodge Banquet as well as cooperating with the Elgixin Chapter to work a vending booth at Scoutmaster's Camporee this February. As March comes along, we are looking forward to the Lodge Banquet where we will try to defend our title as the winners of the Quest events. I would only hope that other chapters can even TRY to compete with the Mighty Gokhos Chapter. But just remember one thing, GOKHOS RULES!!!

*Jimmy Carlson*

**Paldani**
Paldani Chapter has been doing great so far this year! At the Seminole District Camporee, our Chapter hosted a Call-Out Ceremony. We have already ordered new T-Shirts that will be available at the Lodge Banquet, as well as begun plans on a NOAC Scholarship Form for Chapter members. We will be having a Car Wash February 18th at the Pembroke Pines Fire Station #99, and I hope to see you all in attendance. O-Shot-Caw, don’t mess with the BEAR!

*Alex Gomez*

**Pooca-TooKa**
My brothers, it is almost upon us. The event where we will regain our bragging rights and we will be able to talk the smack for the next year (even though we don’t need it.) That is right the Lodge Banquet. The “Mighty” Gokhos will be “de-mightysfied” and all shall tremble before us. Hahahahahahaha. No seriously enough of the smack. We are all looking forward to a wonderful weekend of fun, fellowship, and healthy competition. We will unveil our new chapter shirts, the first in 6 years. And let me tell you my brothers, they are amazing. I can’t wait to see everyone, and good luck to all.

*Manny Mendez*

**O-Shot-Co-Chee**
The O-Shot-Co-Chee Chapter has been quite busy working on different projects. We have held elections for Troops: 870, 336, and 83. The new membership looks promising. The Chapter has been working on updating the Camp Promotions Booklet, which will help the Camp promotions committee. The book is 107 pages so we hope to published soon.

*Matthew Murrell*
VIGIL HONOR BREAKFAST

On December 20, 2003, the Vigil Honor Members of O-Shot-Caw lodge gathered at the Tom Tatham Scout Center for the annual Vigil Honor breakfast. This event, which started as a small-scale event at Hal Hollis’s house, has now grown to a mega gathering with an average attendance of 70 Vigil Honor Members. The breakfast begins with a recap of what the O-Shot-Caw Lodge has accomplished in the past year, and is then followed by a ceremony congratulating all new Vigil Honor Members. To the surprise of many Arrowmen, the first ever Vigil Honor Membership Database has been created and is in the process of being updated/corrected with the help of all Arrowmen. It was a fantastic event that will definitely impact the lives of many individuals. For more information, please contact Vigil Honor Chairman, Eric McAlpin at emc265@hotmail.com.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

The National Leadership Seminar (NLS) is the best leadership training that Boy Scouting and the Order of the Arrow can offer. Every two years the OA’s NLS comes to Florida, and this year it was held at the FFA Conference Center in Haines City on October 17-19, 2003. Again, O-Shot-Caw brought the largest contingent to include Brian Sweeney, Bill Gundlach, Brian Polino, Mike Vreeland, Andy Hausman, Devang Desai, Courtney Bays, Eric Vreeland, and Josh Levenson. The weekend was full of training and competitions including “The Game of Life.” This experience only comes around once for a participant, and it is certain that they will never forget it.
O-SHOT-CAW NAMED NATIONAL QUALITY LODGE!!!

Once again, our lodge was named a National Quality Lodge for the 2004 year! This means that the National Boy Scout and Order of the Arrow offices recognize O-Shot-Caw for outstanding operations, true quality, and as an example for other lodges to follow. Congratulations brothers on another job well done!

SCOUTREACH MENTORING PROGRAM

The Order of Arrow Scoutreach Mentoring Program is a joint effort of the national Scoutreach Division of the Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Arrow. Its purpose is to identify and assist urban and rural Scout troops whose camping and advancement programs are below standard. Its goals are as follow:

- To act as a positive influence in the midst of dramatic social, political, economic, and demographic forces affecting urban and rural communities.
- To increase advancement and camping opportunities for Scouts in urban and rural troops whose programs, leadership, and resources are limited.
- To provide additional, positive youth and adult role models for disadvantaged urban and rural Scouts and adult leaders.
- To create a "guided discovery" for Order of the Arrow members to reflect on the ideal of "He alone is worthy to wear the arrow who will continue faithfully to serve his fellow man."
- To fulfill the Order of the Arrow Strategic Plan.
- To create the opportunity for more urban and rural Scouts to become eligible for membership in the Order of the Arrow.

One of the perks of the Scoutreach Mentoring Program is an opportunity to recognize mentors for their diligent efforts in assisting urban and rural troops. Before recognition is granted, mentors must have the approval of the urban or rural Scoutmaster, lodge chief, lodge adviser, lodge service committee chairman, and district commissioner. Once approvals are granted, the Scout executive will forward applications to the national Scoutreach Division. The national Scoutreach Division will forward patches and certificates to the Scout executive for presentation.

Interested Arrowmen can secure an application from Michael Worley, O-Shot-Caw’s Scoutreach Chairman. He can be reached at mworley@myexcel.com. Join the ranks of America’s leading youth in providing service to not only the Scouting program, but to the community as well. Sign up today!
Council FOS Dinner

On February 5th, 2004, South Florida Council held the Friends of Scouting kickoff dinner at the Signature Grand in Davie. The night included guest speakers such as Jim Naugle, Mayor of Ft. Lauderdale; Dennis Cole, Master of Ceremonies; Norman J. Silber, President of SFC; and Charles H. Rollinson III, Chairman of the 2004 FOS Campaign. After the opening ceremony, dinner, and the FOS video, the keynote address was delivered by Lt. Col. Oliver North. (A brief biography of Lt. Col. North is listed below) It was a truly amazing night, ending with a silent auction and a book signing by Lt. Col. North.

O-Shot-Caw’s role in the evening’s events was clearly seen by those whom attended. Our Lodge Chief Brian Polino led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance, the Scout Oath, and the Scout Law; the presentation of colors was led by Eric Vreeland, Courtney Bays, and Chris Gundlach; and Eagle Scout Alex Gomez delivered the invocation before dinner was served. All in all, O-Shot-Caw was once again well-represented in the Council and public eye as standard-bearers of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service.

Council FOS Dinner

Oliver North is a New York Times best-selling author, the host of War Stories on the FOX News Channel, and a war correspondent for the Fox News Network.

North was born in San Antonio, Texas, graduated in Annapolis, Maryland, Marine. His awards for Silver Star, the Bronze Star for wounds in action.

Assigned to the National Security Council Staff in Counter-Terrorism Staff in the Reagan administration, United States government’s Coordinator from 1983-1986 and was involved in planning the rescue of medical students on the Island of Grenada and played a major role in the daring capture of the hijackers of the cruise ship Achille Lauro.
Section Conference
April 16-18, 2004

The largest Order of the Arrow event in the Southern Region is only a couple of months away! That’s right, the Section Conference is in April and it’s just around the corner. This year it will be held at Camp Tanah Keeta in Jupiter, Florida. Yes, Jupiter, Florida. That means that everyone should be there. Come show your O-Shot-Caw spirit and come out and support our lodge while we compete against other lodges in numerous events that include Publications, Quest for the Golden Arrow, Inductions, Ceremonies, Drum Team, and of course SPIRIT. We want to come out there make sure everyone can hear us from one side of the camp to the other. When lodges compete against us we want them to be intimidated. No matter the event, we want to show the whole section what kind of spirit this great lodge has. Last year we swept almost every single event. We won the Quest for the Golden Arrow, our Ceremonies team did great, our Dance Team and Drum Team did great as always, and who can forget that we won the Best All-Around Lodge competition. So come out, have a great time, and see what the O-Shot-Caw Lodge can really do! KNOCK KNOCK!

What will be in the next issue?
1) Lodge Banquet
2) Section Conference
3) Committee/Chapter Reports
4) Chiefly Speaking
5) Scout Expo
6) O-Shot-Co-Chee Bowling Tournament

Your 2003-2004 Lodge Officers are...
Lodge Chief          Brian Polino
1st Vice Chief       Eric Vreeland
2nd Vice Chief       Courtney Bays
Secretary            Michael Worley
Treasurer            Jonathan Marino

Our Lodge has agreed to take 80 Arrowmen to the National Order of the Arrow Conference, and spots are going fast! Register today online at www.o-shot-caw.org!
O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265
South Florida Council
15255 NW 82\textsuperscript{nd} Avenue
Miami Lakes, Florida 33016

\textbf{Lodge Calendar}

\textbf{Lodge Banquet}
March 5-7, 2004
Camp Seminole

\textbf{Youth Expo}
March 19-21, 2004
Pro Player Stadium

\textbf{Section Conference}
April 16-18, 2004
Camp Tanah Keeta

\textbf{Nok-Su Conch Craziness}
May, 2004
Camp Sawyer

\textbf{Quotes of the Month}
\textit{~SERVICE~}

“I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.”

-Rabindranath Tagore

“How many ideas have there been in history that were unthinkable ten years before they appeared?”

-Fyodor Dostoyevsky

“So long as my voice can be heard on this or the other side of the Atlantic, I will hold up America to the lightning scorn of moral indignation. In doing this, I shall feel myself discharging the duty of a true patriot; for he is a lover of his country who rebukes and does not excuse its sins.”

-Frederick Douglass

And now, for your moment of zen!...

2003-2004 O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chief Brian Polino!