NOAC: The Time of Your Life!

NOAC - National Order of the Arrow Conference. How can such an incredibly outstanding event be summarized into one word? Well, it can't, and if you weren't there to enjoy the excitement, here it is. It officially began for O-Shot-Caw when we arrived at Michigan State University in our dress shirts and ties, and for some higher-class dressers, a blazer. At the scene of arrival, O-Shot-Caw gained lots of attention because of our business-like outfits. We then hopped back on the shuttle bus that took us to MSU from the airport, and rode to where our dorm was, which is where we would be staying for the next 4 days. Although many arrowmen were upset that our dorm did not have air-conditioning, most were slightly relieved when they heard that we had one of the only dining halls with air-conditioning. But, nonetheless; the lack of air-conditioning annoyed so many arrowmen that they started to pass a joke around that NOAC stood for No-Air Conditioning. After everyone settled into their college dorm room, we went down to dinner and met outside of the dorms to start heading over to the amazing opening show. Continued on pg. .......
The Patchwork
April-June 2006

EDITOR
Lenny Schrager

ADVISOR
Glenn Gomez

CONTRIBUTORS
Geoffrey Landau, Mike Worley, Chris Geyer-Roberts, Chaz Pinna

The Patchwork is the official publication of the O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265, Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America. Any opinions expressed within these pages do not necessarily reflect the views of the aforementioned. Letters to the editor will be laughed at, recycled into new paper, then burned. The ashes will then be fed to the umpa lumpas as food to supply energy to make nerds rope.

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"Chiefly Speaking"

O-Shot-Caw Brothers,
A lot of great things have happened since the last Patchwork in June. NOAC, the Fall Ordeal, the LLD, and the Haunted Forest have completed and were all extremely successful. We have also elected a new Lodge Treasurer, Carlos Vallejo, to replace Jack Sweeney who moved to North Carolina. Congratulations Carlos!

On July 29th, over 100 O-Shot-Caw Lodge brothers packed their bags and headed to Michigan State University for a week of fun and fellowship at the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC). Throughout the 5 days, our lodge competed in every single competition offered at NOAC, attended various training seminars, ate more ice cream pops than I could count, and made friendships that will last forever. On August 3rd, our lodge began touring Michigan and went to some awesome places including the Michigan Sand Dunes and the Henry Ford Museum and Village. Not only did we learn a bit, but everyone had an awesome time.

Another outstanding event this fall was the Lodge Leadership Development Course which was held at The Palm Aire Resort and Spa on Saturday, September 16. The 50+ Arrowmen in attendance, both youth and adult, learned all about the Scoutreach program, problem solving, OA High Adventure, and O-Shot-Caw Lodge history.

At the Fall Ordeal, September 29 – October 1, O-Shot-Caw proved itself yet again, and continued to help improve the conditions at Camp Seminole. Congratulations to all our new brothers!

Our most recent event was the 2006 Haunted Forest. Cancelled last year due to Hurricane Wilma, the Lodge Executive Committee was determined to hold the event this year. Once a location was picked (Vista View Park), everyone got right to work promoting the event and organizing chapter displays. On the night of October 21, 2006 over 1700 people walked through our forest and donated money for the Joseph Aaron Abbott Campership Fund (JAACF). We made $6,100 that night, which was all donated to the fund that helps send scouts to summer camp. Thank you to all our brothers for showing up, having fun, and working hard!

With a new year approaching us, we need to start getting ready. Do not procrastinate and pay your 2007 dues before the $5 late fee begins December 31. In the upcoming year we can look forward to some great events including the Winter Ordeal, Lodge Banquet, and Section Conference.

If you are not currently receiving O-Shot-Caw Lodge emails, please log on to www.o-shot-caw.org and click "mailing list" on the left hand column. There is always something new and interesting taking place, so sign up and get the latest O-Shot-Caw news.

Geoff Landau
Yours in Brotherhood,
Geoff Landau
O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chief
"The Haunted Forest 2006: Big Success"

By: Kris Geyer-Roberts

This year’s Haunted Forest was a huge success, thanks to the hard work of our lodge. Due to the fact that Hurricane Wilma destroyed Camp Seminole, this year’s Haunted Forest was relocated to Vista View Park, and although the area wasn’t as vast and densely vegetated, the hard work and creativity by our brothers, together we raised $6,188 for the Joseph Aaron Abott Campership Fund.

The chapters were very creative with their displays and midways this year considering our size limitations. Elgixin surprised everyone with their midway, a dunk tank, and raised a lot of money for the fund. Hnu-Ra-Con, seeking to defend their Golden Pumpkin, was very imaginative with their display, which consisted of a moving room representing a collapsing pyramid. Pooca Tooka, with their cannibal island display, sent people running into To-Hopki-Lagi’s display, which featured R.J. Smith hanging from the gallows. Paldani was also very creative with their display having a haunted summer camp, and so was Tomoka. O-Shot-Co-Chee’s mausoleum was very artistic and so was Gokhos and their headless horsemen theme. The excitement didn’t end there.

The trading post, for this haunted forest, improvised by putting last years 2005 patches to good use with 2006 stickers, and 500 limited worker patches.

Overall, this year’s Haunted Forest was spectacular; everyone stepped up to the plate and helped out. The Committee chairman for the Haunted Forest, Kris Geyer-Roberts commented, “I do not think that I would have been able to do such a fine job if I didn’t have Mr. Mike Mannix and Geoff Landau helping me along the way and for that I thank them, and everyone else who helped make this year’s Haunted Forest a success. And a special thanks goes out to or brothers from Osceola who came all the way from Naples to help out.”
"2006 Fall Ordeal- A Re-birth of Camp Seminole"

This year's fall ordeal started out wonderfully. Friday evening, while candidates were arriving, the award winning O-Shot-Caw ceremonies team was preparing and getting ready for a jaw-dropping performance of the pre-ordeal ceremony, especially in the conditions they dealt with at Camp Seminole. After the ceremony, the Hnu-Ra-Con chapter hosted an incredible brotherhood bash. The next morning, Arrowmen awake early, eager to start their work projects. But before that, the most important meal of the day must prevail, yes you guessed it: breakfast. Breakasts, and the rest of the meals at the ordeal, were cooked by the Paldani chapter. When the work projects were assigned, some of them consisted of: cleaning up trash and removing old fencing on Boy Scout Road leading into camp Seminole, cleaning up trash left inside the camp, and clearing unnecessary un-native trees. That afternoon, the usual ordeal routine was rightfully carried out: lunch, a continuation of the work projects, and snack. Then came the Brotherhood Nimat hike, which was followed by the Brotherhood ceremony, which was also another outstanding performance by the ceremonies team. After the sealing of ties in the brotherhood, now the time called for the induction of new members as well. When all was said and done, of course, what would an ordeal be without the ending feast, to welcome new brothers into our organization? Beautiful marinated steaks were served, which were accompanied by mashed potatoes, and assorted vegetables. "The best ordeal steak ever", remarked Lodge Adviser Ron Bell. Sunday morning, new brothers were congratulated. This year the Pooca-Tooka chapter did the scout's own service. To end it all, we had a lodge meeting for all new members of the lodge.
“Victorious!”

The ceremonies Team

The ceremonies team at NOAC. By Jonathan Yost

Adrenalin ran through the O-Shot-Caw Ceremonies Team, as they awaited their evaluation. “We are awarding you, Honor Team”, when the team heard those words from the evaluator, relief and excitement filled the room. The weeks of practice paid off as the team honored in all five ceremonies, in total the team won 19 medals, an O-Shot-Caw record. O-Shot-Caw showed that the legend truly does live on. The honor ceremonialists are: Alex Gomez, Jon Marino, Jaime Nelson, Brian Polino, Lenny Schrager, Dan Smith, Dan Stopnick, Mike Worley, and Jonathan Yost.

By: Chaz Pinna

Well, the Dance team had an awesome NOAC, the enjoyment of practicing every night, whether it was in a rainstorm or pitch dark. The group dance team really came together as we practiced more and more. The final product in front of the judges was incredibly perfect. Although we were not named champions, we danced like champs. It was a great experience for everyone that participated. I would like to take this moment to thank everyone who shared this great experience with me. We’re looking forward to winning three in a row at section conference.
The Drum Team

At NOAC, the drum team had the great opportunity to compete. All of the members of the team had a great time at NOAC, and can’t wait to go back next time NOAC comes around. All the members of the Drum Team had a really fun-filled time at NOAC. The team is currently looking for new members. If you are interested in joining the team, everyone on the team has a great time, they have a lot of fun and sing and drum at many different Order of the Arrow events. If you are interested in joining the Drum Team, you can contact the team chairman, Julian Murphy, at: fireballbsa@aol.com

The Historical Committee

At the 2006 NOAC, among the other events O-Shot-Caw triumphed in, we also claimed our first victory in the area of lodge history. The Lodge Historical Competition and the Lodge Oral History Presentations are two events, which have been held at many a NOAC. O-Shot-Caw was proud to participate in this event, the first time in our 51-year history. And in our rookie presentation, we still dominated. O-Shot-Caw won the title of “Southern Region Champions” in the Oral History Competition, and was named 1 of 7 “Honor Lodges” for our Historical Presentation. O-Shot-Caw was the only Lodge in Section S-4S to get Honor status.

Michael W. at the Historical display for O-Shot-Caw Lodge at NOAC
The show consisted of a ceremony of excerpts from the pre-ordeal ceremony. Then there was a ceremony introducing the new national chief Sean Murray and national vice chief Chris Schildknecht. Then of course, the parade of introducing the lodges, an array of brilliant hues from the myriad of wooden lodge flaps. Opening show night had an iPod theme, where, through song we learned the morals of the order of the arrow. After the opening show, arrowmen went back to their dorms, traded patches, played pool, and went bowling, you name it, arrowmen had fun doing it.

The next morning, training seminars began. Topics of seminars were of all different nature in the Order of the Arrow. There were Native American craft seminars, seminars about Order of the Arrow History, ceremonies, Native American dances, and Leadership.

When the last day of NOAC finally came upon us, Arrowmen tried to have the most fun they could have, after all, it was Founder’s Day. For those of you who are new Arrowmen, or just don’t know what Founder’s Day is, it’s a day commemorated to our founder E. Urner Goodman, in which all most every single lodge across the country sets up a display booth displaying their lodge and their council’s summer camp. At founder’s day, our lodge set up a spectacular booth.

When NOAC was over, Arrowmen woke up bright and early ready to hop back on our tour bus and take a ride to our first destination on the O-Shot-Caw tour. First on the tour schedule was the capital of Michigan and its impressive architecture. Then the sand dunes of Michigan where everyone had lots of fun on this educational ride. Arrowmen had the most fun at the Air Zoo, where they were given the opportuniies to see inside WWII airplanes, and see what it is like to pilot a military aircraft in a virtual simulator. Then, we journeyed over to the Kelloggs factory, where arrowmen learned how a kernel of corn is turned into a corn flake. The very next day, we went over to the Henry Ford museum. Here, arrowmen saw historical cars like the bus Rosa Parks sat in when she was arrested, the car that JFK was shot in, and what life was like back in the time that Mr. Ford himself lived. After the Ford Museum, the 2006 NOAC trip was coming to an end. Arrowmen packed up their bags and the next morning got on a plane back to good ole South Florida.
Attention: all arrowmen who don’t know what Founder’s Day is, this is an important announcement giving you a thorough explanation on what it is and its significance. Founder’s Day is the last day of NOAC, where we honor our founder E. Urner Goodman, through celebration of the Order of the Arrow, by having almost every single lodge in the nation set up a display booth, displaying both their lodge and their council’s summer camp, which also comes with a free give away of some kind either representing, their state, camp, lodge, etc.

Anyway, this year, our council’s summer camp is camp Sawyer, the most southern Boy Scout Camp in the continental United States. Because of this, our give away was sand from the Florida Keys, packed in little bags, labeled, “Sand from the Florida Keys”. Our display booth resembled, a kind of surf shack or fishing boat, decorated with pictures of Camp Sawyer and a few of O-Shot-Caw Lodge. A true tradition of any event that has to do with island life is to play Jimmy Buffett music, and this we most certainly did.

Volunteers from our lodge who manned the booth were given the opportunity to blow a conch horn as loud as they possibly could to let everyone know that O-Shot-Caw was there. Andrew Durden our second vice chief, and mascot for the day, walked around in 100-degree weather in a full scuba suit handing out flyers on Camp Sawyer. Fellow arrowmen from across the nation were very surprised to see our lodge chief out there in his full scuba suit just to hand out flyers, which is the exact reaction we were hoping for. Way to go O-Shot-Caw Lodge for doing a great job on all our endeavors.

Top Left: the Founder’s Day booth. From L to R: Dan S., Eric P., Michael S., and Lenny S.

Middle Left: Andrew, handing out Camp Sawyer Flyers to Arrowmen across the nation.

Bottom Right: Brett M. shows off his official Camp Sawyer shirt.
"The Paldani Rock-A-Thon, a one of a kind charity"

On October 7th, 2006, the Paldani Chapter hosted a one of a kind event. What was it called you may ask? Well, it’s called a Rock-A-Thon. The next thing you may ask is what is a Rock-A-Thon? Well my brothers, a Rock-A-Thon is an event in which participants rock in rocking chairs for a number of hours to raise money for certain charities. As explained by chapter chief Mike Worley, "A Rock-A-Thon is like a walk-a-thon, but you don’t have to walk, and there’s free food."

At the Rock-A-Thon over 60 people were in attendance ranging from members of the lodge, members of the Paldani chapter, and members of the Cooper City High School Key Club, a club committed to community service. Overall the event raised well over $6000.

All night wonderful music was playing, while participants were competing in video game competitions. Ones such as: Halo II competition, and a James Bond Golden Eye competition. There was great food, like pizza, chicken wings, cookies and much more. You were also given the opportunity to watch movies, and play football, all going towards charity.

Each attendee was required to raise a minimum of $100 to participate in the event, although not all did. Of course, this was the minimum, some even raised as much as $200-$300. Most of the proceeds from the Rock-A-Thon are going toward the JAACF. Way to go Paldani Chapter! What a great way to raise money toward a charity and simultaneously have tons of fun in doing so.

Pictures on this page: Top right: Paldani member Joey takes a nap. Middle Left: Colby rocks the night away. Bottom Left: The videogame competitions that went on. Bottom Right: The Cracker Barrel the rock-a-thon was held at.
"The Lodge Leadership Development Course"

This year, the LLD (Lodge Leadership Development) was held at the Palm Aire Resort and Spa, just as it was last year. And also the same as last year, if the members of the LEC desired, they were given the opportunity to stay and sleep over Friday night.

The "Sleep Over" that took place Friday night was awesome. Arrowmen watched a plethora of movies including Anchor Man and Kill Bill. Some, even brought along their gaming systems, and played videogames all night long. Many Arrowman took this opportunity to just kick back and relax by watching traditional cable TV on one of the three televisions provided in each room. A Few chose to take a swim in the pool, and some decided to play a game of pool (billiards).

Saturday morning, it was time to start taking notes and learning how to be a better leader. First was a small segment entitled “Meet the Man” where arrowmen were given the opportunity to meet a very influential member in our lodge. This year the man who was the star of “Meet the Man”, was none other than Phil Engelmann, who was a very influential lodge chief of our lodge, and specifically, he was the first lodge chief to be elected into the same position as lodge chief three consecutive times.

Next on the list were seminars that entailed how to solve problems, and how to manage your time wisely, and then there were games such as the typical OA jeopardy. And sessions where arrowmen learned more about Arrow Corps 5, and high adventure programs for members in the OA.

Then finally was the graduation at the LLD. Arrowmen received a certificate with their name on it congratulating them on their achievement of successfully completing the Lodge Leadership Development course.
Dear Brothers,

As the year goes on I have already started to reflect on all of our success, which as usual, has been great so far thanks to Geoff Landau and many other very active Arrowmen who give their time and effort to help support this incredible lodge. I hope that you enjoy this issue of The Patchwork. If you or someone you know is interested in writing articles for The Patchwork please send me an email at ischrage@bellsouth.net. If you know someone who is not receiving The Patchwork and is a dues-paid member of the lodge, please let them know that they can send me an e-mail to start receiving The Patchwork.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Lenny Schrager

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"O-Shot-Caw Patches"

The Miami Dolphins NOAC patch

The O-Shot-Caw 30\textsuperscript{th} anniversary patch

The 1996 Section Conference Host patch

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Articles to look for in the next edition of *The Patchwork*:

Section Seminars, Winter Ordeal and Much More...
O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265

South Florida Council
15255 NW 82nd Avenue
Miami Lakes, Florida 33016

LODGE CALENDER

Winter Ordeal
January 12-14, 2007
at Camp Everglades

Lodge Banquet
March 2-4, 2007
at Camp Seminole

Section Conference
April 20-22, 2007
at Camp Shands

At NOAC Robert Learned what it was like in WW II

Brett is covered in confetti!

Too bad Ron is “Fearless”.

O-Shot-Caw Game: which fancy dancer is Chaz at NOAC?

Answer: the one in the upper center; the brightest costume on, way to go Chaz!