Written By: William McKinley

This summer we had a rainy Ordeal but in the end it turned out to be fantastic. On the first night the Pre-Ordeal Ceremony was held by our Lodge’s B Team and was said to be their best performance ever. One thing that made this Ordeal different was that the Brotherhood candidates stood behind the Ordeal candidates and watched the ceremony. This was done so that the Brotherhood Candidates could get a better understanding of the Pre-Ordeal ceremony. Throughout check-in, there was a downpour. So after some debate the Lodge decided to have everyone sleep inside the church.

As Saturday started up, we were served breakfast by the Gokhos Chapter. After breakfast, everyone went off in different directions. The Ordeal and Brotherhood candidates went off to do their service projects of cleaning up around the church and helping tend to elderly people’s gardens in the area. Two dozen trees were planted around the area. The Ceremonialist’s went off to the chapel to practice for the night ahead of them, and everyone else sat around in the Fellowship Hall trading patches.

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The Patchwork
April-June 2009

Editor In Chief
James Kerr

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Ira Schrager

Contributors
William McKinley, Colby Kudja, and Brad Ellis

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 read—black, or green, or orange, or whatever the heck color their sent in!

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“Chiefly Speaking”

O-Shot-Caw Brothers,

The O-Shot-Caw Lodge has begun a new era and is ready to continue a tradition of excellence. Since our last Patchwork many incredible things have happened including the 2009 Section Conference and the Summer Ordeal where five brothers of our mighty Lodge were elected to serve you as the 2009-2010 Lodge Officers. RJ Hickman First Vice Chief, Jonathon Yost Second Vice, Frank Gamez Secretary, Hernan Martinez Treasurer, and myself Brad Schmidt, as your Lodge Chief.

The O-Shot-Caw Lodge had a blast at the 2009 Section Conference. It was held at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation where the Timuquan Lodge did an outstanding job hosting the event. It was a great weekend and our lodge competed in practically every event. The O-Shot-Caw Lodge went home with 1st Place Publications and Flag Football following with close 2nd Places with Internet and Historical.

The Summer Ordeal took place June 5-7 and was a huge success due to all the hard work every arrowmen put into the weekend. The Ordeal was held at the Silver Palm United Methodist Church where the O-Shot-Caw Lodge planted dozens of Green Button trees and along with other miscellaneous projects around the church premises. Our dedicated lodge also sent out the weekend’s Brotherhood candidates to a home nearby to help an elderly couple with some yard work. On Saturday afternoon chapters competed to see who would be named the coveted Best All Around Chapter. Every chapter that competed did an outstanding job and congratulations go out to the Gokhos Chapter for being named the 2008-2009 Best All Around Chapter. After Saturday evening’s Brotherhood and Ordeal ceremonies, and fantastic feast, the Lodge recognized a great leader and terrific Lodge Advisor, Thom McLeod, who is moving to Jacksonville to become the Pastor of a new Church, with a Seminole patchwork jacket by our new Lodge Advisor, Bill Gundlach, and then the rest of the night was spent in fun and fellowship. Summer Ordeal was an extremely wet weekend, but our Lodge stepped up once again and improvised to make sure that the Ordeal was a great success.

Our next event is the 2009 National Order of the Arrow Conference at Indiana University. O-Shot-Caw Lodge is sending a contingent of over 50 brothers to show the OA nation who we are.

I am extremely excited to be serving as your chief and have many great plans and ideas to bring to the O-Shot-Caw Lodge. With a little tradition and history put together with a new era, the O-Shot-Caw Lodge will continue to be on top.

WWW,

Brad Schmidt
O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chief
ArrowCorps5 Reunion

If you have talked to anyone that went than you probably have heard some of the stories. From lightning bolts striking left and right while Brothers frantically flee down a hill, to wild deer dwelling in the midst of Brothers as they are hard at work building trails, ArrowCorps5 was most certainly a once in a lifetime experience. For those of you who are not familiar with what AC5 was, in a nutshell it was the second largest service project by the Boy Scouts ever and consisted of five camps, each with a thousand Arrowmen hence the name ArrowCorps5. Our Lodge’s contingent went to the George Washington and Jefferson Site, where miles of trails were constructed.

The ArrowCorps5 reunion was held at the Scout Office on June 2nd. Many Brothers that went to ArrowCorps5 were in attendance. The fellowship started out with a delicious dinner provided by Pollo Tropical. This consisted of chicken, a roll, rice and beans, plantains, and soda. Following the dinner Bob Kerr presented a wrap up video of the event. After many laughs, the video was over. Then Glenn Gomez, the contingent leader, took the floor, gave a short speech, and handed out awards to all the drivers. Also, Bill Gilliland, and Myrna Pedrayes received awards for all their help in making this trip a success.

The night concluded as Glenn Gomez gave all in attendance to AC5 a special surprise. It was a great way to end the night.

All-in-all the AC5 reunion was an excellent way for Brothers to be able to reflect on a once in a lifetime trip. It reminded all that attended of the experience that they received just one summer back!

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The Section conference was a great success for O-Shot-Caw lodge. We had over a hundred members attend who in turn fought cheerfully in the competitions to put our wonderful lodge up to the top three in the quest for the golden arrow. Our ceremonies, dance, and drum teams also competed after practicing, oh so vigorously to perform to the best of their abilities. And lastly our ever famous, award winning newsletter The Patchwork won first place.

At the Section Conference, the dance team performed a new type of dance called the Oklahoma stomp, which is a social dance that is done all through the night and anyone is invited to this social gathering. As with every year, the Ceremonies Team competed. Both the A-Team and the B-Team did an outstanding job.
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Lenny Schrager won ‘Best in Section’ for his Vigil Ceremony. The Drum Team also competed at Section Conference and placed.

The quest for the Golden Arrow was fierce. We still aren’t sure who the real winner is.

The Publications competition also took place on Saturday. After our Publications Chairman, James Kerr, competed against several other Lodges, O-Shot-Caw once again brought home the title of ‘Best in Section’ Publications!

Everyone had a great time at Section Conference. As with every year, Section Conference comes and goes faster than you think. Regardless of who wins the ‘Best all around Lodge’ award, O-Shot-Caw will always be number one and that’s all that matters. Finally, we will end on a quote spoken by our previous Lodge Chief, Mark Jelincic: “And let it be known that our caucus may not be the biggest, but it sure does get the job done!”
True Brotherhood

Written By: Bradley J. Ellis

Historically, Aal-Pa-Tah and O-Shot-Caw Lodges spend most of each year pretending to be the greatest of rivals. Despite sharing a common border, we sparsely interact and most of our members know very little about each other. This article - published in the newsletters of both Lodges - seeks to remind us all that we were once one Lodge, and are Brothers in the same Order. To be sure, both Lodges run amazing OA programs. It must be noted that amazing programs only come from one source – amazing people. In May of this year, some Brothers of O-Shot-Caw came to the aid of Aal-Pa-Tah, when we erred in our Ordeal planning. I want to share with both Lodges my story of what occurred.

On May 29-31, 2009, Aal-Pa-Tah hosted an Ordeal weekend for 105 of its candidates for the year. Early Saturday morning, we began to gather the materials to put together new member packets for the new Brothers. As it turned out, we were missing a crucial item – the OA Handbook. How could we possibly induct 105 new Brothers and not include in their welcoming handing them their very own OA Handbook to take home and absorb? The answer was simple: “We couldn’t.” So the next question went around the room: “What could we possibly do to fix this the day of the Ordeal?” That one was not so simple. We started with the obvious, and called the Scout shop at Gulf Stream Council. Unfortunately, six books were not going to even cover “learning to share.” So the next obvious option came up, and we called the South Florida Council’s Scout shop. No books to be found. So, I turned to our Lodge Chief, and told him its time to suck it up and call the O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chief for help. It was his reply of: “I don’t have his number. I know who he is, but I don’t really know him,” that made me realize this article was necessary.

Stroll back in time with me just a few years. Back in 2000, I was the Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge Chief. At that time, Josh Levenson was serving his first of three terms as O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chief. During that year, Josh and I used each other as mutual resources, and I had simply assumed that all Aal-Pa-Tah and O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chiefs did the same.

For instance, during our term Josh was the master of ceremonies for the South Florida Council’s Eagle Banquet. Josh asked me if our Lodge’s dance team – the Hitchiti Dancers – would come down and perform for the banquet. What Josh did not realize, is that at the time our Hitchiti Dancers had over thirty dancers and a repertoire of ten or so dances. We rented a charter bus, drove down, and danced a 45 minute program – all because Josh asked me to help. Over the years, Josh and I have become great friends.

Continued on page 7...
True Brotherhood Continued

Continued from page 6...

Although we met bound as Brothers in the Order, our Journeys have brought us together time and time again. In 2005, we both ended up in law school together at the University of Florida. We tried out as partners for the law school’s moot court (appellate) team. Nowadays, we are both attorneys in South Florida, having returned to serve our hometown communities. We even ended up dating the same woman at different points. That one – of course – was Josh’s fault.

So back to the missing OA Handbooks. When my Lodge Chief did not know your Lodge Chief, I did what I have done over the last decade. I called Josh, and asked for O-Shot-Caw’s help. Josh helped locate the books we needed, and we arranged for your Dean Kubler to meet with our Barry Ekle. At the end of the day, each and every one of our new Brothers received the welcome they deserved – with the help of Josh’s friendship, and the Cheerful Service of Dean and Barry.

The point being, I have realized over the years that those of us in the Order are strikingly similar at the core. Our similar belief in the higher vision not only binds us as Brothers, but truly provides us the chemistry for excellent friendships. Sure, for the sake of fun we will continue to sling cheers at each other and bandy about which is the Section’s Best All Around Lodge. But, at the end of the day, I urge each of us to realize that each stranger from across the swamp is truly a Brother, and – who knows- just could turn out to be a lifelong friend. I challenge each of us to seek out a Brother from the other Lodge at each Section event, shake his hand, and make a friend. To O-Shot-Caw Lodge, we are sincerely obliged for your answering our call for help last May. Hopefully, we will be able to return the Cheerful Service should you need it again.

WWW.
Your Friend,
Bradley J. Ellis, Esq.
Associate Lodge Advisor
Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge 237

O-Shot-Caw
Here are some common questions and answers about the LLD.

What is an LLD?
“An LLD, or Lodge Leadership Development, is an event that is aimed towards training Brothers so that they might become the leaders of tomorrow.”

Who gets to go?
“The LLD is by invitation only. All members on the LEC will be attending. Also, each Chapter Chief will be receiving five invitations in which he can hand out to other members who are not already invited.”

When is O-Shot-Caw’s LLD?
“O-Shot-Caw’s LLD will be held on August 22, 2009 at Shula’s Golf Course.”

In the summer of 2009, Arrowmen from around the country have the unique opportunity to gather together for the National Order of the Arrow Conference commonly referred to as NOAC. NOACs generally have over 7,000 Arrowmen in attendance that are seeking many of the aspects you are looking for: fun, fun and more fun. Each time a conference is held, Arrowmen coming from around the country gather at a major university to share their ideas on lodge leadership, activities, and ceremonies as well as participate in a large variety of competitions. This six day adventure is unlike any other event in Scouting and is unique to just members of the Order of the Arrow. The training at each NOAC is country class because it brings together the most knowledgeable individuals in the area of your chosen topic. These trainers come from around the country to share their expertise with you so that you may be able to bring these ideas back to your lodge and also for personal enjoyment. No matter what you are interested in, there is a training session that will create a fire within you. The latest in bead weaving techniques will help you make your very own beaded items or Native American headdress. A wide variety of sports competitions take place at each conference. For those of you interested in the Native American aspect, we have ceremonies evaluations and Native American dancing to suit your fancy. Through these competitions, Arrowmen are able to not only better themselves physically but also mentally!
Chapter Reports

**Paldani**

My name is **James Kerr** and I am proud to serve as the 2009-2010 Paldani Chapter Chief. Over the past couple of months, the Paldani Chapter has continued to be active on a district and council level, serving the communities in the Seminole District.

The month of April was eventful in that Paldani Chapter attended Section Conference in full force. Many Brothers from our Chapter competed in various Lodge competitions such as Ceremonies, Dance, and the Spirit games. We also held our monthly Chapter meeting, where we opened the floor to nominations for Chapter Officer positions.

During the month of May, we held our monthly Chapter meeting.

The month of June consisted of the Summer Ordeal in which Paldani Chapter competed for the title of ‘Best all Around’. We also held a flag retirement ceremony on June 14 for the Hollywood Elks Lodge, which is the building that we meet at. We had our monthly Chapter Meeting where new officers were elected in. Myself as Chapter Chief, **Jake Cutler** as First Vice Chief, **Gabe Gutierrez** as Second Vice Chief, and **Lance Henry** as Secretary.

Paldani Chapter will be attending NOAC, and will make up 33% of the contingent.

We meet the second Monday of every month at the Hollywood Elks Lodge at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions, you can contact me at captainkerr22@gmail.com, or my Chapter Advisor, **Glenn Gomez**, at (954)-655-4446.

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**Gokhos**

The Mighty Gokhos nation is better than ever! Not only did the purple nation cook for over 100 brothers at the Summer Ordeal, we managed to win Best All Around Chapter for this past year! Congrats to **Mitch Anastasio** and the rest of the Gokhos members! We also recently had officer elections for the 2009-2010 year.

The results were, **Justin LeBlanc** Chapter Chief, **Ryan Mandell** First Vice, **Reno Mascaro** Second Vice, **Brandon Morin** Secretary, and **Shawn McLaughlin** Spirit Chairman. I’d also like to congratulate **Bradley Schmit** for being elected Lodge Chief! We are looking forward to continuing our commitment to excellence!

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**List of Chapters**

**Elgixin**

They meet the fourth Monday of each month at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church located at 6012 NW 9 Ct., Margate at 7:30 p.m.

**Peoca-Tooka**

They meet the first Monday of each month at Barbara Goleman High School located at 14100 NW 89 Ave.

**O-Shot-Co-Choo**

They meet the second Monday of the month at First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables located at 536 Coral Way, one block west of LeJeune (42 Avenue) on Coral Way (SW 24th street).

**Tomoka**

They meet at American Legion Post 67, located at 1491 West Dixie Highway on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Tomoka is interpreted as “tomahawk”.

**Hnu-Ra-Con**

They meet the first Monday of the month at the LDS Kendall Chapel located at 10000 SW 107 Ave at 7:30 p.m.

**Nok Su**

They meet at District events and the Nok Su Fellowship.

**Allouchset**

The chapter meets at the American Legion Post - No. 29 located at 6445 NE 7th Ave on the first Monday of the month.

**Te-Hopki-Lagi**

They meet the first Monday of the month at the Perrine Elementary located at 8851 SW 168 St at 7:30 p.m.
Continued from page 1...

At noon everyone stopped what they were doing and joined together in the Fellowship Hall for lunch. At around three-thirty, everyone had a snack of chicken broth and ramen noodles. After snack, the ‘Best All Around Chapter’ presentations were evaluated in the Fellowship Hall. During the ‘Best All Around’ Chapter presentations, each Chapter Chief gave a synopsis on what their Chapter did this past year at Lodge and Chapter events. In the end, Gokhos Chapter won ‘Best All Around Chapter’.

As the day was coming to an end, the air was tense because of an incoming thunder storm. This caused the ceremonies to be forced indoors. While the Brotherhood Candidates were on the Nimat Hike, where they reflected on their past scouting in the OA, the Ceremonies Team was busy setting up the Fellowship Hall so that the candidates could seal their ties in Brotherhood. As they ended the hike, they were ushered into the Fellowship Hall, where the Brotherhood and Ordeal Ceremonies were to take place. Dinner followed the Ordeal Ceremony and consisted of a delicious plate of Ziti with a bowl of salad and a dinner roll. The roaring thunder and torrential downpour lasted throughout the night.

On Sunday morning everyone crawled out of their sleeping bags and prepared for the day ahead. As everyone lined up to get another wonderful meal from the Gokhos Chapter, the First Year Arrowmen Chairman Garret C. started setting up a special breakfast for the new Arrowmen coming into the Lodge. Right after breakfast ended, the business meeting started with each past Lodge Executive Chairman giving an explanation on their position and how it helps the Lodge. As soon as everyone gave their spill on what they did, the Lodge started the election process for this year’s Lodge positions.

The new Lodge positions for O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265 are Lodge Chief, Brad Schmitt; First Vice Chief, RJ Hickman; Second Vice Chief, Jonathan Yost; Secretary, Frank Gamez; and Treasurer, Hernan Martinez. Congratulations to all new Lodge Officers! After the business meeting, we all went outside, circled up, closed the Lodge, showed some Lodge spirit, packed up and headed home.
Dear Brothers,

This year can not be wrapped up in just a few paragraphs, for too much has happened. I am sad to say that this will be my final issue as I have recently been elected as the Paldani Chapter Chief. However, I assure you that the Patchwork will continue in its excellence as I hand it over to my right hand man, William McKinley.

On a lighter note, this past Summer Ordeal was a very interesting one. Upon arrival it was raining cats and dogs. This caused drastic changes, which included moving all Brothers including candidates indoors for both ceremonies and sleeping. Work projects were also moved around due to extensive flooding. Also, as at every Summer Ordeal new officers were elected.

To wrap things up, O-Shot-Caw Lodge Publications went to Section Conference with one goal in mind, to win back our title of ‘Best in Section’. We were successful! And here is a personal thank you to all who helped make the Patchwork what it is, especially Ira Schrager! Because being the Publications Chairman is truly more than just a one person job. It takes support from many adults and youth to pull it together. I hope that in this next year to come, that we can all come together as one and support the new Chairman. It goes way beyond just Publications though. Our Lodge needs to come together as one, one family, after all, we are Brothers!

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you can direct them to me by emailing me at captainkerr22@gmail.com.

Until Next Issue,

James Kerr

“Editor’s Notes”

Patch Corner

“Together Fast and Firmly”
-Section Conference 2009

Here are some of the most recent patches in O-Shot-Caw. On the right is the Summer Ordeal Patch, and on the left is the Section Conference Patch. Both for 2009.

Summer Ordeal 2009
Lodge Patch
O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265
South Florida Council
15255 NW 82nd Avenue
Miami Lakes, Florida 33016

Lodge Calendar

NOAC

Where? Indiana University
When? August 1-9, 2009
Cost? $1250.00*
Why go? To have a fun and memorable experience.

* Rough Figures

LLD

Where? Shula’s Golf Course
When? August 22, 2009
Cost? Check Website for details
Why go? To become a better leader

Fall Ordeal

Where? Markham Park
When? September 25-27, 2009
Cost? Check Website for details
Why go? To cheerfully serve