October 2009-December 2009

O-Shot-Caw.org

Section Seminars

Written By: Francisco ‘Frank’ Gamez

It was a long car drive from sunny South Florida to Camp La-No-Che in Central Florida, but the trip was well worth it. On the weekend of November 13th through the 15th, O-Shot-Caw Lodge #265 attended Section Seminars in full force with 60+ Arrowmen.

The Host Lodge, Tipisa, offered several Seminars such as Conflict Resolution, Quality Lodge, Lodge Publications, National Programs, Conservation USA, Powwow Movies, Seminole Cooking, Beadwork, Silverwork, among lots of other Native American and Lodge enhancing Seminars.

Three committee members of O-Shot-Caw’s award winning Publication The Patchwork and Lodge Secretary Francisco ‘Frank’ Gamez and a few other O-Shot-Caw Lodge members attended the Seminar on Publications. From what we learned, our Publications Committee may create a new in-between publication called The Thread. The Thread will feature upcoming events along with a calendar and short articles. Continued on Page 4…
Dear O-Shot-Caw Brothers,

The O-Shot-Caw Lodge is continuing on the right track with successful events including the Haunted Forest, Section Seminars, and the Scout Extreme Games.

On October 24, 2009, at Markham Park, the O-Shot-Caw Lodge held our annul Haunted Forest, one of the largest events in scouting. In 24 hours Arrowmen put together a massive display to entertain cub scouts and families across South Florida. The 2009 Haunted Forest was extremely successful due to all of the hard work and dedication from the brothers of O-Shot-Caw. Our Lodge raised an astonishing $21,000 to support the Joseph Aaron Abbott Campership Fund which helps to make it possible for scouts with financial needs to attend summer camp.

Following the Haunted Forest, O-Shot-Caw went up to Paisley, Florida for the 2009 Section Seminars event. It was a great weekend of fun, fellowship, and learning. Our Lodge took a contingent of almost 60 Arrowmen to this event which was more than any other Lodge. One of our most famous cheers, “Knock Knock”, could be heard throughout the entire camp.

In December, our Lodge volunteered to help with the South Florida Council Scout Extreme Games and for the first time, O-Shot-Caw had an Indian Village display where young scouts got the opportunity to learn more about the Drum Team, Dance Team, and the Order of the Arrow.

It is that time of year to pay your annual dues. Please log on to www.o-shot-caw.org and make your payment. Just around the corner is the Winter Ordeal, at Camp Everglades, on January 8-10, 2010 followed by a Lodge presence at the Lincoln Marti Camporee on January 22-24, 2010 and an Indian Village display at Scoutmaster’s Camporee on February 19-21, 2010.

It is my pleasure to announce that the O-Shot-Caw Lodge #265 is a National Quality Lodge for 2009. This is a tremendous honor for O-Shot-Caw to receive and is a great stepping stone for our Lodge. Boy Scouting has reached 100 years and at the Lodge Executive Committee meeting in December I introduced a new statement for our Lodge. O-Shot-Caw truly has a tradition of excellence, but it is now time to Honor that Tradition and Begin a Legacy for another 100 years to come.

I hope all of you had a fun and safe Holiday Season and I look forward to continuing an outstanding Lodge year as your Chief.

Yours in Cheerful Service,

Brad Schmidt
O-Shot-Caw Lodge Chief
On December 4 and 5, South Florida Council presented another SCOUT EXTREME GAMES. This was the third year for the event to be held at Land Shark Stadium. It is considered the premiere event of the year for our council. This year we saw over 4000 participants over the two days. We also had many members from the Order of the Arrow help with the event. They set up an Indian Village, which included a teepee and a fire circle for the Drum and Dance Teams to perform the following day.

As Cub Scouts started showing up, Elgixin Chapter handed out delicious food from Pollo-Tropical. Brothers from Paldani Chapter were the ushers for Friday nights showing of the movie "Up". We handed each viewer a tasty bagged snack and an icy cold beverage of their choice. As they ascended the escalator to the upper section of the stadium to watch the movie on the giant screen, Arrowmen helped them find a seat and get ready for the movie. After the movie ended, Arrowmen helped the Cub Scouts and their parents down the escalators and back to their campsite. Once the stadium was empty, members from Paldani Chapter were sent up to clean out any leftover trash from the moviegoers.

On Saturday, Cub Scouts had a chance to see performances by the Drum and Dance Teams on the main stage, to the delight of the crowds, but little did they know the team was unintentionally calling in the rains that would end the event early. All through the day members of Gokhos Chapter sold drinks to the visitors. All in all, O-Shot-Caw Lodge had a great time serving the Cub Scouts of our council.
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The food was edible, and the weather was awesome. There was a show on Saturday night where former Senator Mel Martinez’s brother, Rafael E. Martinez, gave a monologue on Leadership, which was very inspirational. And that night there was a cracker barrel and a patch auction that, I hear, lasted until the sun came out the next day. O-Shot-Caw’s Pooca-Tooka Chapter had the privilege of driving Section Vice Chief Joe Charbonnet from Orlando International Airport to Section Seminars and back.

At the Council of Chiefs on Saturday night, it was explained that the Best All-Around Lodge winner for 2009 was not Aal-Pa-Tah Lodge #237 but instead was Echockotee Lodge #200 because of a discrepancy with the points. Because of this both Lodges have been named co-champions.

At the November Lodge Executive Committee a vote was passed for O-Shot-Caw Lodge to attend FourCorps. This is a continuation of last year’s Arrowcorp5. FourCorps will be from June 13th–19th, 2009 in the Ocala National Forest based at Camp La-No-Che. More information can be found at http://www.sections-4.org/

Overall, Section Seminars was a tremendous success for O-Shot-Caw Lodge. If you were not able to attend this year, I truly recommend that you attend next year. And now that we have gained momentum at Section level, we need every O-Shot-Caw member to attend next year’s Section Conference on April 16th–18th, 2010 at Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation.

Vigil Breakfast

Written By: RJ Hickman

Forty years of tradition and brotherhood continued Saturday morning December 19, as O-Shot-Caw Lodge’s Fortieth Vigil Breakfast took place at Wolf Lake Park in Davie. It was a bright, cool and clear gorgeous morning making for a great day for an outdoor breakfast. Speaking of breakfast the past and current, Scoutmasters Camporee Chiefs, put together an amazing spread and a great tasting breakfast feast. Although the food and atmosphere was perfect for the event, the real treat was seeing old friends and meeting new ones as well. No matter how far or how busy a Vigil honor member might be, most make the trip down to Sunny South Florida for the Vigil breakfast. The fellowship at the breakfast is the one of the most exciting and interesting events to attend as you meet fellow Vigil honor members old and new. The best part is hearing every Vigil honor member introduce themselves and give their Vigil name, year and location they kept there Vigil. Our Lodge has Vigil members from all over the country and several of whom received their Vigil way before many of us were born. Meeting these fellow members and hearing their stories are some of the most memorable and interesting times an O.A. member can have.

Unfortunately at the close of the breakfast the Vigil honor members depart, and for many, they will have to wait another year to see each other and share this great experience once again. See you at Forty One?
The Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage program is an experience like no other. For two weeks, you will join together with Arrowmen from around the country and experience all that the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northern Minnesota has to offer. The first week of the program is spent giving back to the Boundary Waters through portage trail restoration work. Participants have the opportunity to leave their mark on the Boundary Waters that will enable millions of visitors each year to better enjoy their experience. Trail work involves restoring and protecting trails that have existed for centuries and are in dire need or repair. The second part of the program is a trek planned by the crew. From the 8-1/2 mile "Grand Portage" leading to Lake Superior, to the Height of Land, even the pictographs on Fishdance Lake, crews have done and seen all in the Boundary Waters.

The Order of the Arrow Trail Crew program is one of the best ways to experience Scouting’s premier high adventure base, Philmont Scout Ranch. For two weeks, participants see and experience all that Philmont has to offer and much more. For the first week, participants have the chance to make a significant difference to Philmont by participating in trail building in the backcountry. Work will include clearing terrain for trail and constructing switchbacks, retention bars, and several other erosion controls. The impact of this service will be felt by scouts for decades. The second week of the program is spent experiencing Philmont in its finest. Unlike regular treks, Trail Crews make their own itinerary, instead of selecting from pre-planned routes. You can do and see just about anything, from the Tooth of Time to Baldy Mountain, your crew decides!

The Order of the Arrow, in cooperation with the Florida Sea Base is offering you an opportunity to cheerfully serve one of the greatest ecosystems on our planet – the Florida Keys and the waters which surround them. You will be camping on a remote 100 acre island, snorkeling on pristine coral reefs, trolling for sportfish, kayaking through red mangroves, and exploring the flora and fauna of Big Munson Island. You will wade ashore on Big Munson Island carrying all the food, water and equipment used during your adventure in a rugged camping setting. Venture out to snorkel, fish and explore. Your program is a 13 day experience in which participants will have the opportunity to improve the habitat of Big Munson Island. Participants will experience wilderness camping on one of the BSA’s island paradise in the Florida Keys. The program will be conservation based and will seek to improve trails, campsite location, critical Key Deer habitat and, renew and improve the critical mangroves surrounding the Island. In addition to the conservation service, participants will strengthen leadership skills, learn more about marine environment, strengthen understanding of the Order of the Arrow, and explore the history of the beautiful Florida Keys. Participants will enjoy many of the recreational opportunities unique to Sea Base. Sailing, deep sea fishing, sea kayaking and canoeing, snorkeling, fishing – you may even have the opportunity to go shark fishing while you enjoy life on Big Munson.
Yet again, **O-Shot-Caw Lodge** held our annual Haunted Forest which is the largest fundraiser for the Joseph Aaron Abbot Campership Fund (JAACF). It was held on the weekend of October 23rd through the 25th in the old zoo area of Markham Park. The setup for this event started on Friday afternoon, Chapters bringing in supplies and the Lodge putting up its dining fly for the weekend. **Gokhos Chapter** was again in charge of cooking and provided delicious meals for the weekend. **Paldani Chapter** did a great job parking the vehicles during the event. **Mark Jelincic**, the Haunted Forest Chairman, was in charge of the event and made sure that all of the Chapters had their displays up before the gates opened. Throughout the night, **Mark** and the Lodge officers walked through the displays to judge for the coveted Golden Pumpkin, as well as to make sure that all of the displays were safe. Every Chapter worked hard to make sure that their displays were the scariest but only one Chapter could win the Golden Pumpkin. This year’s race for the Golden Pumpkin will be a close one, with the Chapters having new themes. These themes included Haunted Hotel by **Elgixin Chapter** and Haunted Restaurant by **Paldani Chapter**. **Hnu-Ra-Con Chapter** dug our Lodge deep into a Haunted Mine Shaft and **Gokhos Chapter** showed some Florida pride by sticking to the Haunted Swamp! **O-Shot-Co-Chee Chapter**’s theme was based upon all of the Saw Movies. **Pooca-Tooka Chapter** started off the trail with the Haunted Swamp. Many of the Chapters also had Midway displays for those who were waiting to enter and for those who escaped alive. The event ended roughly at ten o’clock and the Chapters began to take
down their displays. Many brothers left for the night, but they returned in the morning and they continued to take down the displays and the dining fly. All in all, this was a good weekend and raised a lot of money for Joseph Aaron Abbot Campership Fund. Over $20,000 was raised for this very worthy cause: to help needy scouts wanting to go to Summer Camp.
Elgixin

I would just like to say thank you to everyone who came to the Elgixin holiday dinner were we had 47 members in attendance. The Elgixin Chapter also served dinner for all the Cub Scouts at the Scout Extreme Games we also helped set up the OA booth. As a Chapter we also participated in the Haunted Forest. The Elgixin Chapter was also in attendance at Section Seminars. Also the Elgixin Chapter would like to wish everyone to have a Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. We meet every first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 6012 NW 9th CT Margate, FL 33063-3650. If you have any questions please contact me at robmyns6190@gmail.com.  

—Robert Slapikas

Hnu-Ra-Con

Like last time, a whole lot has happened since the last Patchwork came out. Haunted Forest was a huge success for our chapter, and I was very pleased with the outcome for our display. We’ll see whose efforts pay off at the Lodge Banquet, and may the best Chapter win! The next great event, and my personal favorite, is that of the Winter Ordeal. Lots of new scouts from the Hurricane District have been elected into the order, and even more are soon to be introduced to our fine organization. We will be hosting the Brotherhood Bash on Saturday night, and plan on it being even wilder than the Brotherhood Bash at Fall Ordeal. Until then, I wish all of you warm holiday wishes!

—Robert Williams

Tomoka

Tomoka Chapter had its Chapter elections on our meeting on October 12. We had 10 members in attendance and Andrew Taggart was elected Chapter Chief and Drew Taylor as Vice Chief. At Haunted Forest we had good participation from the Chapter and got good comments on our display even though there was not a theme besides the one and only Halloween spirit. We had a Chapter meeting on the 9th of November and we discussed Winter Ordeal. We hope to have four scouts join the Order and two brothers go for the rank of Brotherhood. We had another meeting on December 14th. We meet the second Monday of every month at the American Legion Post 67, located at 1491 West Dixie Highway at 7:30.

—Andrew Taggart

Gokhos

The Gokhos nation would like to congratulate Marc Jelincic, Brad Schmidt, and the Lodge Officers on conducting an awesome Haunted Forest! We attended and had a ton of fun putting up the event and scaring all the kids. The Gokhos Chapter has completed their one day of service. We volunteered to hand out turkeys to less fortunate families for Thanksgiving. We have also provided service to our district by helping judge gateway, campsite, and spirit competitions at Webelos Woods. At Section Seminars we had boys attend and receive higher knowledge of the Order of the Arrow. Our district also had a Fall Encampment that was a huge success due to Gokhos involvement. Our new goal is to be more fun oriented and to boost attendance. We also plan to show up in force at Winter Ordeal, where we will be conducting scouts own. In the future, we plan to have a laser quest lock in some time in March. So keep your calendars open Gokhos! We meet at Parkway Christian Church and our next meeting will be on January 18. Please call either Tony Anastasio or myself if you have any questions. Be sure to check out the Gokhos Page on www.O-Shot-Caw.org!

—Justin LeBlanc

To-Hopki-Lagi

The Proud, the Boisterous, the Fun, all sum up our great Chapter, To-Hopki-Lagi. We proudly took part in Haunted Forest with the help of a local Venture Crew (2021). Our Chapter conducted elections for 100% of the eligible Troops in our district. Our Chapter has roughly 20 elected members and is gladly looking for any other scouts, who are looking for a excellent Chapter to join. In our latest events we have performed a rather spirited and successful tap-out ceremony, with help from Lenny Schrager who indeed is a honored ceremonialist member in the OA. Likewise, at District Camporee we helped care for and maintain the fire, at the campfire gathering. In future events the grand Winter Ordeal is coming up. Our Chapter always cooks for the Ordeal, and might I say our culinary skills are marvelous and is the true essence of happiness all bundled into food. We are excited for 2010 and we are hoping for many candidates to do their Ordeal so our spirited ways can grow among everyone. To-Hopki-Lagi serves under the Thunderbird District and meets at Perine Elementary at 7:30 the first Monday of each month. If you have any questions or comments you can email Kris.
Senzig at kristoffer44@yahoo.com, or the Chapter Adviser Jim Smith at (786)-242-4439.

—Kris Senzig

O-Shot-Co-Chee

Our Chapter, O-Shot-Co-Chee, is supported by the Tequesta District. We meet the second Monday of every month at 7:30 P.M. at First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables. Our Chapter had a One Day of Service Project to clear weeds and grass that had grown around and over graves at the Miami Veteran’s Cemetery. We soon discovered that another group of volunteers had done that same job the day before we arrived. A change of plans was made. Instead, we picked up trash at Bicentennial Park. We were able to clean and beautify at least a small part of Miami. We hope to have more service projects before the school year is out. On the weekend of December 5, our Chapter helped with Scout Extreme Games. We arrived at about 7:00 A.M. and worked till about 1:00 P.M. We helped with the rock climbing and the games in the Indian Village. We had fun working with the other members of the Lodge. As is our tradition, our Christmas Party, which was held on December 14, closed out the meetings for 2009. There was something for everybody, from a Chinese Gift Exchange to a checkerboard-designed cake and games. Upcoming events that we will participate in are the Winter Ordeal, Lodge Banquet, and Section Conference. In between these major events and our regular meetings, our Chapter will be meeting for purely enjoyable fellowship activities. Our next Chapter meeting will be on January 11, 2010 at 7:30 P.M.

—Garret Siljee

Paldani

Paldani Chapter continues to excel in a positive direction. Over the past three months we have provided service to our Lodge, community, and fellow scouts through various camping funds. We are already halfway through the year and have accomplished so much. On October 2–4, 2009 Paldani held a call out ceremony at our annual District Camporee. Many candidates were called out. On October 12, 2009 Paldani held its monthly Chapter meeting. The night finished as we ate pizza and drank soda. On October 23-25, Paldani attended the Haunted Forest. Much preparation led to a successful display. Our theme was the Paldani Chophouse, or in other words a haunted kitchen.

On October 31, Paldani visited a local Memorial Hospital and gave out stuffed animals to children in the pediatric ward. On November 9, Paldani held its monthly Chapter Meeting. The meeting came to a close as we all ate hot dogs and drank soda. On November 13-15, Paldani attended the Section Seminars in full force. Of the 54 people in attendance from the Lodge, 25 of them were from Paldani. Everyone that attended enjoyed this event and came home with a piece of knowledge that they didn’t have before they left. On November 21, Paldani held its fourth annual Rock-A-Thon. We were proud to have the Lodge Chief, Brad Schmidt, the Lodge First Vice Chief, RJ Hickman, and the Lodge Second Vice Chief, Jonathan Yost in attendance. We raised money for the Joseph Aaron Abbot, Hal Hollis, Maury Clancy Campership Funds along with a donation for Friends Of Scouting. The night was spent playing games, eating unlimited amounts of food, and relaxing. From December 4-5, Paldani helped out South Florida Council at the Scout Extreme Games. On Friday night we helped assist the influx of Cub Scouts up to the 400 level of Land Shark Stadium to watch a movie. On their way up they were given a drink and some chips. On Saturday we helped out in the Indian Village that was set up by the Lodge. On December 14, Paldani held its holiday party. The night began with a short business meeting and was followed by endless amounts of food and dessert such as cup cakes, cookies, hot dogs, hamburgers, and the list goes on. The night came to an end as we sang Happy Birthday to our District Executive, Alberto Rodriguez, who was in attendance. To conclude, Paldani is looking forward to attending the upcoming Winter Ordeal in which we will have approximately twenty candidates coming through. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, you can contact either myself at captainkerr22@gmail.com, or our Chapter Advisor Mr. Gomez at glenngomez@bellsouth.net.

—James Kerr
The Patchwork

NLS

Written By: Jonathon Yost

It was a chilly weekend in Covington, Georgia on November 6-8. What business does O-Shot-Caw Lodge have there you ask? Why the National Leadership Seminar of course! Many Arrowmen from across the Southern Region met in Covington for this powerful training, four of which were from O-Shot-Caw Lodge, to cover such topics as conflict resolution, overcoming obstacles in your Chapter or Lodge, and excepting people. The seminar is divided into two separate trainings: the traditional National Leadership Seminar (NLS) and National Lodge Advisors Training Seminar (NLATS). Two O-Shot-Caw members attended NLS, your Lodge Chief Brad Schmidt and Second Vice Chief Jonathan Yost. While Jeff Robinson and your Lodge Advisor, Bill Gundlach attended NLATS. At the end of it all, the four South Florida Arrowmen drove home with new enlightenment to leading O-Shot-Caw to greatness. The next NLS will be held soon. Contact your Chapter Chief for more info.

Patch That Participants Received

Left to Right - Bill Gundlach, Brad Schmidt, John Yost, and Jeff Robinson

ROCK-A-THON

Written By: James Kerr

On November 21, Paldani Chapter held its fourth annual Rock-A-Thon. As with every year it took place at the Crackle Barrel located on the corner of I-75 and Sheridan Street. The whole night was loaded with fun. As people arrived, they ate pizza and drank soda. There was something for everyone there. The rockers rocked out on Guitar Hero, the football players played football, and the sleepers slept. We were proud to have the Lodge Chief; Brad Schmidt, the First Vice Chief; RJ Hickman, and the Lodge Second Vice Chief; Jonathon Yost in attendance. The Rock-A-Thon raised money for various camping funds. Thanks to all who attended!
Dear Brothers,

As we start the new year I can not believe that this is my second Issue of the Patchwork and potentially the birth of a new shorter version of The Patchwork called The Thread. This would include a calendar and permission forms for upcoming OA events along with a few short articles. The Publications Committee will work with Francisco “Frank” Gamez, the Lodge Secretary to make The Thread the best that it can be.

The Publications Committee came up with this idea at Section Seminars which was a total success for O-Shot-Caw Lodge with over 60 members in attendance. I hope that The Thread a similar success as The Patchwork is and will make our Lodge look even better at our upcoming competition at Section Conference this April.

At Scout Extreme Games our Lodge help to our fullest capacity to help Cub Scouts happy and safe all throughout the weekend. Every Chapter was assigned to a job and they executed it properly. O-Shot-Caw certainly had a blast helping the Cub Scouts of South Florida Council.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or would like to write an article in a future Publication you can direct them to me at willmckinley@ymail.com or calling my Advisor, Ira Schrager at (954)-410-2101.

Until Next Issue,

William McKinley

Here are some of the most recent patches of O-Shot-Caw Lodge.

Haunted Forest Patch 2009

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

**Lodge Calendar**

**Scoutmaster’s Camporee**
Where? Markham Park
When? February 19 - 20, 2010
Cost? Check Website for Details
Why go? Have fun with your Troop in Competitions

**Lodge Banquet**
Where? Markham Park
When? March 5 - 7, 2010
Cost? Check Website for details
Why go? Compete to win the Golden Arrow

**Section Conference**
Where? Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation
When? April 16 - 18, 2010
Cost? Check Website for details
Why go? Compete for Best All Around Lodge