



The Feather

Echockotee Lodge 200 - North Florida Council 87
Order of the Arrow - Boy Scouts of America

Fall Edition 2015

Echockotee Lodge Takes Michigan State

By John Steinmeyer



On the morning of August 1st, 2015, 120 members of Echockotee Lodge departed for an epic week-long adventure to Michigan State University for the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Order. Our plan was to travel to Cherokee, North Carolina that first evening and have dinner at a local buffet before going to see “Unto These Hills” -- a play about the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation performed by the local tribe. Unfortunately, one of our busses met mechanical difficulties and broke down as we were entering the Appalachian Mountains. While the majority of the contingent continued on, the remainder graciously volunteered to stay behind to wait on a new bus.

The next morning, reunited with our lost companions, we embarked once again, this time for Dollywood, a theme park opened by country music singer Dolly Parton in her small hometown in eastern Tennessee. After a packed day of rollercoasters, country music, and overpriced food, we continued with the trip. It was at this time that our valiant lodge adviser, Mr. Chip Leonard, was promoted to the position of ‘Conductor’ of Bus 3 (because calling him our bus leader was far too mediocre), with an official cap to prove it.



Monday afternoon, we finally arrived at Michigan State along with around 15,000 other Arrowmen from all over the country and received the long awaited, much debated, and very impressive centennial sashes! However, they came with a caveat: we were only supposed to wear them during the course of the 2015 NOAC. *(continued on page 4)*

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Echockotee Lodge 200 - North Florida Council 87

Order of the Arrow - Boy Scouts of America



COLE GABRIEL
Lodge Chief



ZACHARY MORRIS

Lodge Vice Chief of Program



AUSTIN SCHWINDT

Lodge Vice Chief of Training



KYLE KIPPLE

Lodge Secretary



JONATHAN BRESCIA

Lodge Treasurer



JOHN CARLISLE

Lodge Historian



MARTY HEESACKER

Lodge Adviser



CHRIS BEURY

Associate Lodge Adviser



ALLAN GRINNAN

Associate Lodge Adviser



CHIP LEONARD

Associate Lodge Adviser



BRIAN PATTERSON

Lodge Staff Adviser



Brothers,

Last month, I had the opportunity to be with 15,000 of my closest friends at the centennial National Order of the Arrow Conference. After we arrived at Michigan State University, we were set free to define our own NOAC experience. Many Arrowmen attended the trainings, competitions, obstacle courses, SCUBA, and other miscellaneous special gatherings. After diving in to the numerous opportunities available at the conference, I knew that this would be one of the most fun and most memorable weeks of my life.

Of course, the objectives of the Order of the Arrow are to foster the spirit of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service in our members. Sometimes, it's possible to get so involved, so ambitious, so focused on service to the lodge that we forget to our real purpose. For the survival of our Order, we have to inspire Arrowmen around us to focus on the individuals that make our lodge what it is, rather than just the lodge itself. It starts with having fun. Take opportunities for involvement that allow you to have fun. The happiness that comes from being involved with something you love shines through, and that enthusiasm inspires others to find fun in the Order as well.

As a lodge chief, there are weeks where I spend hours upon hours working on lodge business, ensuring Arrowmen have the best experience they possibly can. Sometimes it's difficult and doesn't feel like there's enough time to juggle Echockotee Lodge with the rest of my life. But in addition to my service to the lodge, I always remember to have fun. Serving as Lodge Chief has been the most difficult yet most exciting opportunity I have undertaken in the OA. I knew that amidst the weighty responsibilities, I would have fun serving others.

There's fun to be found in every position in our lodge, and the world around us. In your endeavors, remember to have fun in your service to others. If you're not having fun with what you're doing, try something new, or make it fun. When we create fun and excitement in everything we do, we have the opportunity to make an incredible impact on the people and the world around us. Don't forget to have fun.

Yours in Wingolausich,

Cole Gabriel
Echockotee Lodge Chief



Go to page 5 to read about our Centurion Award recipients!

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Hello Brothers,

I hope you all had a good summer. This summer, we took a record contingent to NOAC. I am proud to say we had a fantastic experience growing together in brotherhood at the conference. Now as we move back into a new school year, our lodge has to move forward as well. The upcoming fellowship means another chance for Brotherhood conversions. If you are Brotherhood eligible, register for the Brotherhood class. If you know someone who is Brotherhood eligible, recommend the class to him. It is a great experience, and you can fully seal your membership. Can't wait to see you all at the next fellowship but until then, stay classy Echokottee!



Austin Schwindt, Vice Chief of Training



Aloha, Echokottee Lodge!

Now that NOAC 2015 is over, I hope everyone is ready for Fall Fellowship! The theme is Honolulu, Hawaii, so break out your leis and grass skirts. This summer was filled with all sorts of fun and excitement for Echokottee Lodge and I'm very excited to bring the lodge together again to have another successful fellowship.

For those ambitious and curious Arrowmen out there, reach out to committees that you are interested in joining at the lodge level. Each of them are always looking for new faces to bring new ideas and skill sets to the table. The contact information for the chairmen are in the lodge plan book or can be retrieved from your Chapter Chief. If you have any questions or need recommendations, please ask your Chief or myself. I am only an email or text message away.

See you all soon!

Zach Morris, Vice Chief of Program



Follow Echokottee Lodge on Twitter!

@echokottee

Echokottee,

I hope everyone had a fun-filled summer, packed with summer camp, ArrowTour, and the centennial NOAC! There are always open spots on the publications, website, and social media teams, so if you're interested, be sure to email us at socialmedia@echokottee.org - we would love to have you on our nationally-recognized communication team! I'll be at Fall Fellowship, will you?

Kyle Kipple, Secretary

Hello Echokottee!

As your treasurer, I'm writing this to give you a friendly reminder to please make your best effort to make all payments to the lodge through cash or check. The reasoning behind this request is to prevent the lodge from being forced to incur a 3% fee on all transactions that happen via credit card. 3% doesn't sound like a lot, but it adds up fast. This simple change that you can easily implement will help save the lodge thousands of dollars that will be put back into giving all of you the very best program and training possible. I thank you in advance for this courtesy, and know that you are personally helping to improve the lodge with your decision to act.

Get your request forms at

Jonathan Brescia, Treasurer

www.echokottee.org

Greetings Echokottee,

As your new historian, I have many things that I look forward to accomplishing this year. My biggest objective is to ensure that we have a phenomenal historical display commemorating our upcoming 75th anniversary. If you take any pictures at events, PLEASE send them to me so I can have as many wonderful pictures to put into the display as possible! I hope that I can end the year right as your historian, as I look forward to seeing each one of you at Fall Fellowship.

John Carlisle, Historian

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(continued from page 1)

That evening, we were treated to an impressive opening show where we were introduced to the national officers and our conference theme. Our very own Austin Kriznar - a former Echokotee lodge officer, Echoshows founding member, and Section S-4 Chief - served as the Conference Vice Chief of Shows. As such, Austin was the top youth leader for the National Shows, and led the planning for the evening shows at NOAC. The quality of the performances was a testament to Austin's drive and passion for the OA, and he certainly made Echokotee proud.



Participants at NOAC are able to participate in a wide variety of activities. Many of those activities include training classes, taught by the best Arrowmen in the country on topics such as patch design, ceremonial performance, and positive youth & adviser relationships. In the afternoon, Arrowmen could SCUBA dive, rock climb, and learn about the history of the OA. Lodges from across the nation competed in ceremonies and American-Indian dance competitions. And of course what NOAC would be complete without hordes of patch traders?

One of my personal highlights from the conference was the Wednesday night show. This show was very diverse, and opened with a performance by Charles Peachock, the most incredible juggler I've ever seen (who was also a finalist on America's Got Talent), a concert by the country duo "Maddie and Tae," and an address by Dr. Robert Gates, President of the Boy Scouts of America. Dr. Gate's message was truly inspiring and I would encourage anyone who wasn't able to attend NOAC to look it up on YouTube (youtube.com/oanoac).



The celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Order of the Arrow's founding was truly an amazing experience. By the time the closing show ended and we all drifted back to our dorms to rest up for the trip home, we were all exhausted. But it was the exhaustion that comes from having a great experience with some of your closest friends. In the end, it's not the patches or the cool inverted sashes that make a NOAC. It's the random trips to the campus ice cream shop, the terrible karaoke renditions of "Sweet Caroline" and "Let it Go," and the hours just spent hanging out with friends that you will remember for the rest of your life. Every Arrowman should go to a NOAC at least once in his or her life, but trust me, once you've gone, once just won't be enough.



Summer Fellowship Recap

By **KYLE KIPPLE, LODGE SECRETARY**



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Ante up! Summer Fellowship was a gamblin' good time, with a festive Las Vegas themed weekend. We had a total of 354 people attend the fellowship - wow! Elemukulek took home best all-around games performance, while Osceola was the only chapter able to stay afloat in the sink-a-thon. Lodge Historian Preston Richter hosted a runoff between Elemukulek and Oglala for Sonic using an appropriate method, a roll of the die, which rolled in Oglala's favor.

A special congratulations goes to Cole Gabriel and Austin Kriznar, who were recognized by Echokottee Lodge for their outstanding service and leadership by the awarding of the Founder's Award. This is a prestigious recognition - thank you for your service!

ArrowTour & Centurion Award Recipients

By **KYLE KIPPLE, LODGE SECRETARY**

On July 10th, a delegation of Arrowmen from the Southern Region brought the centennial experience to our very own Camp Shands during a program call ArrowTour. ArrowTour is a program that provided opportunities to reflect, connect, and discover the Order's Centuries of Service, both past and future. Check out the many photos on our website!

At ArrowTour, Echokottee Lodge recognized 10 Arrowmen for their servant leadership and service to the growing and maturing of our Lodge. Thank you for your service! Listed alphabetically, these Centurion Award recipients are:

- Courtney Allen
- Don Kreitzman
- Todd Leonard
- Jack Butler
- Dick Leonard
- Kelly Roberts
- Allan Grinnan
- Nick Leonard
- Alexander Williams
- Chris Hume



Thank you, Mr. Chip!

By **ZACH MORRIS, LODGE VICE CHIEF OF PROGRAM**

A great Arrowman in our lodge, Chip Leonard, has recently stepped down as our Lodge Adviser at the National Order of the Arrow Conference. During his leadership as Echokottee Lodge Adviser, the lodge never received any distinction other than the coveted Gold Tier Journey to Excellence status. This material success has remained under-the-radar in comparison to the mentorship he has provided countless youth leaders in the lodge.

At NOAC, many of his past chiefs spoke on Chip's humble nature and hatred of the spotlight. This does not deter from how much he truly deserves it for empowering the leadership of the Lodge and encouraging their continual professional development and confidence. Clarence Leonard is a true mentor, friend, and brother to the members of our lodge. Thank you for all you have done, Chip. *To read the full article about Chip Leonard, go to echokottee.org!*



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Chapter Reports

Apieka

Hey Echockotee! Apieka has had an amazing summer full of fun events. Our chapter had a blast at NOAC with the high quality training sessions and fun activities, not to mention the spectacular shows. We are looking forward to a cool time surfing the waves of Hawaii at Fall Fellowship followed by a fast approaching Special Needs Camporee.

-Jonathan Gitzendanner, Apieka Chapter Chief

Oglala

Hello Echockotee! While Fall Fellowship is coming soon, there were two big events to happen over the course of summer, ArrowTour at Camp Shands and NOAC at Michigan State University! For those of you who did not attend Arrow Tour, it was a great time for those who attended the event. 9 members of Oglala attended NOAC and loved it! Oglala won Sonic for the second time this year at the Summer Fellowship in a very climactic conclusion to a fantastic weekend. We are excited for the upcoming Fall Fellowship and we are hoping to see as many of you there as possible.

-Daniel Fisher, Oglala Chapter Chief

Elemukulek

We're ready to finish out our 2015 year strongly! Recently, we had our chapter bowling fun day, with 25 members there. We had fun and it was a great way to start off our school year. My officers and I are working together to continually keep up the chapter spirit in any way we can. The well-being of our members is and always will be our number one priority. As we move into the end of the year, we are preparing for the transition to a new leadership team. We are making good progression towards our chapter annual goals and cannot wait to see everybody at Fall Fellowship!

-Matt Waeltz, Elemukulek Chapter Chief

Onathequa

Greetings from Onathequa! We are extremely excited for our District Camporee coming up in November that we are hard at work planning. We have more than doubled our numbers this year and we are still growing in members and in brotherhood. Who are we? Onathequa!

-Christian Rodriguez, Onathequa Chapter Chief





Oklawaha

Hello Echokotee Lodge! Our chapter had a great time at the past event! We had a lot of fun participating in all of the games, training, ceremonies, and service. You will be sure to see our chapter spirit wherever you are! We are looking forward to our next event, where we will have lots of fun. Until then, see you later Echokotee!

-Oklawaha Chapter Chief

Osceola

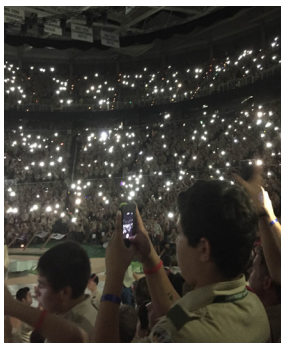
Hello Echokotee Lodge! Our chapter had a great time at the past event! We had a lot of fun participating in all of the games, training, ceremonies, and service. You will be sure to see our chapter spirit wherever you are! We are looking forward to our next event, where we will have lots of fun. Until then, see you later Echokotee!

-Osceola Chapter Chief

Timucuan

Hello Echokotee Lodge! Our chapter had a great time at the past event! We had a lot of fun participating in all of the games, training, ceremonies, and service. You will be sure to see our chapter spirit wherever you are! We are looking forward to our next event, where we will have lots of fun. Until then, see you later Echokotee!

-Timucuan Chapter Chief



Saturiwa

Saturiwa has had a great time since we last met. We kicked off our summer with a chapter fun night at Adventure Landing. We proceeded through the summer with a large group from our chapter attending NOAC. We are having a successful year so far, and we look forward to continuing our success as we wind down the centennial year of the OA. We hope to have a strong showing at Fall Fellowship and will see you all there. PLANET!!!

-Justin Cowell, Saturiwa Chapter Chief

Seminole

Hello Echokotee! Seminole Chapter has had a wonderful summer. We had a terrific time at Summer Fellowship, and a very successful day of service as well. We had a total of six members attend NOAC 2015. All of us had a spectacular time in Michigan, celebrating the Order of the Arrow's 100th anniversary! We are looking forward to the next NOAC, in 2018!

-Griffen Walters, Seminole Chapter Chief

Text your chapter's code to 84483 to stay informed with text alerts!

Apieka:	APIEKA
Elemukulek:	DUCKSGO
Oglala:	OGLALA
Oklawaha:	FENIX
Onathequa:	OWL200
Osceola:	OSCEOLA200
Saturiwa:	PLANET
Seminole:	PANTHERSROAR
Timucuan:	BUFFITUP

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Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
October 16-18, 2015	Special Needs Camporee	SJRB @ Echokotee
November 6-8, 2015	Section Leadership Summit	Wallwood Scout Reservation
November 6-8, 2015	NLS & NLATS	Nashville, Tennessee
December 5, 2015	December Service Day	SJRB @ Echokotee
January 8-10, 2016	Winter Fellowship	Camp Shands
March 4-6, 2016	Spring Fellowship	Camp Shands
April 8-10, 2016	Section Conference	Camp Elmore