The Feather

Echockotee Lodge 200 - North Florida Council

Spring 2010

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Spring Fellowship

by Bryan Franz

Hear ye! Hear ye! This is a decree put forth to you by King Aaron himself. His majesty extends an invitation to all of you nobleman and women to his castle, Camp Shands; on the days of March 5th through the 7th for the land of Echockotee's Spring Fellowship. This grand event will be a royal and majestic experience. Not only will we do service to the land but also riddle self in good fun and brotherhood. We, your lands nobleman challenge all of you to partake and come to this extravagant event. So gather your swords and your spears, wear capes and your crowns and ride your horses to the land of Camp Shands. We all want each of your chapters to partake in this with merriest of spirits and if deem unhappy you shall be cast into the dungeon in Taylor Layer. This will be a great event that you shall not miss!

Yours,

King Aaron's Royal Court.

Adventure Base 100

by Steve Manis

Created specifically for the Boy Scouts of America's 100th Anniversary Celebration, Adventure Base 100 is an interactive 10,000 square foot "campus" traveling the country to give people an exciting, hands-on view of the organization's 100 year history, as well as the positive difference Scouting has made in the lives of millions of youth. Designed to reach people of all ages, Adventure Base 100 offers something for everyone, including – a **high adventure ropes course, a multi-sensory,** IMAX-like video **Go! Dome**, a **stage show** featuring contests, trivia and skill demonstrations from local Scouts, **hands-on interactive digital exhibits** relating to the Scout experience, a **traveling museum** featuring artifacts from the National Scouting Museum in Irving, TX, as well as the **BSA's 100th Anniversary National Time Capsule**, which will include artifacts submitted from local Councils throughout the country.

Adventure Base 100 is one of eight major engagement programs Boy Scouts of America is

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Echockotee Lodge 200 - North Florida Council

2009 - 2010
Officers and Advisers

Aaron Lewis
Lodge Chief

Bryan Franz
Vice-Chief of Program

Philip Strauβ
Vice-Chief of Training

Dylan Kilby
Secretary

Joe Heesacker
Treasurer

Sean Fish
Historian

Chip Leonard
Lodge Adviser

Patrick Wright
Associate Lodge Adviser

Todd Leonard
Associate Lodge Adviser

Allan Grinnan
Associate Lodge Adviser

Chiefly Speaking

Brothers,

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Fellowship. As you'll hear about in this edition from our Vice Chief of Program (Bryan Franz), we expect the weekend to be exceptional. We'll be celebrating a medieval theme, and while we don't have a castle at Camp Shands, I imagine that our Chapters will come close with ambitious war machines or other creations. I can't wait. On the service side of things, we expect to be planting many, many trees – a hundred or more! – to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Scouting in America and make good on a commitment we made following the national ArrowCorps5 service project.

Speaking of the 100th Anniversary, there's going to be a lot happening this year to recognize this milestone. One of them, the our visit from the BSA's Adventure Base 100, promises to be a one-of-a-kind experience and an unprecedented opportunity to share the excitement of Scouting. You can read here about the opportunity, and learn more about how you can contribute.

As an organization, we have a lot of contributions we've made over the past 100 years that we can point to and be proud of. Responding to hurricanes, earthquakes and war efforts; developing the worldviews of Presidents, astronauts and Generals; being among the first to be "green". We honor this tradition by continuing to challenge ourselves, and the Order of the Arrow in our state has taken on such a challenge: Section FourCorps.

This name, "FourCorps", represents an ambitious plan hatched by top Scouts from around Florida and South Georgia: we will spend a week this summer in the Ocala National Forest working with the Forest Service to preserve the Forest's beauty. Preserve it from what? Invasive species strangling river life; erosion driving riverbanks to the brink of collapse – we will work to ensure that the wilderness is accessible to future generations and still as vibrant as it is today. Certainly a cause worth working for, particularly when it's paired with a week hanging out with friends and a day vacationing. See a video and more information at *sections-4.org*.

In conclusion, I'd like to ask that if you do attend the Fellowship, and if you aren't already part of our ambitious team of officers and committees, you consider

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Chiefly Speaking, cont.

joining it. Not often in life do we have the opportunity to work on meaningful things with passionate friends; leadership in the OA can offer this. If you'd like to play an active role as we strive to fulfill our purpose – *promoting outdoor adventure, environmental stewardship, servant leadership and Scouting principles* – please contact me. I'll enjoy talking about your interests.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Aaron Lewis
Lodge Chief
lodgechief@echockotee.org

LOAC

by Philip Strauss

As some of the coldest weather in Florida history descended upon Camp Shands, hundreds of Arrowmen came out to Echockotee Lodge's LOAC or Winter Fellowship. With jackets, hats, and high expectations, brothers arrived for a weekend full of fun, fellowship, and training.

Friday night started with a solemn Vigil Tap out. The lights of the stars illuminated the ceremony as the temperatures plummeted to near freezing. Those tapped out were honored later that weekend during the Vigil Banquet. Classes started early Saturday morning. Special preparations were made to insure that as many of the classes as possible could be conducted within heated buildings. Several classes were offered from Dancing Styles, to new ones like Leadership and How to Deal with Difficult Arrowmen. One new class taught by Hayden Roberts focused on streamlining the ordeal experience and provided direction for future Elangomats.

As always Echockotee came out in numbers for the afternoon activities. A variety of games were offered, some of the supplies required included bananas, panty hose, shaving cream, and spam. As you can imagine these games were just as fun to watch as they were to play. Saturday evening began with the annual patch auction, which was a great success for the Lodge. Following the patch auction, the LEC passed the most comprehensive budget in Lodge History. Congrats to Joe Heesacker for his hard work!

The cold weather continued to make its presence known into Saturday night, dropping into the teens. But the cold weather did not freeze the spirits of Saturiwa as they took home the spirit award for the second time in a row. The weekend was an overall success with an attendance of 215 scouts and we look forward to another great weekend at the Spring Fellowship.

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LOAC, cont.

Fun and fellowship are a major component of every event we have. Here we see Arrowmen participating in one of the many games Michael Filz prepared this weekend.

Vigil

by Chris Hume

At the Winter Fellowship Echockotee Lodge held its annual Vigil weekend. The Vigil honor is a prestigious award given to youth and adults for their outstanding service to their Lodge. Recipients of this award are characterized by giving service above and beyond any expectation. At this weekend 10 individuals were selected to complete their Vigil, of these ten five were youth and five were adults. The selected individuals include: Bryan Franz the current Lodge Vice-Chief of Program and past Oglala Chapter Chief; Michael Filz the current Section S4 Historian; past Lodge Vice-Chief of Training and Timucuan Chapter Chief; Patrick Gherrity the current Section S4 Secretary and past NOAC 2009 Chairman; Erik Fish the current Lodge Service Chairman and the current Learning for Life Camporee Chairman; Sean Fish the current Lodge Historian and past Elemukulek Chapter Chief; Ron Johnson the Camp Shands summer camp medic, Winter Blast program medic, camp commissioner and former Seminole Chapter Adviser; Robert Burns Sr. the current Oglala Chapter Adviser and annual advisor for the council Winter Blast and Brownsea

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Vigil, cont.

programs; Eric Clarke the current Website Adviser and past Wood Badge staff; Tim Griffing the current First Year Arrowmen Adviser, the past Osceola Chapter Adviser and past leader of several contingents to Scottish Jamborettes and World Jamborees; lastly Ron Fish a current Associate Lodge Adviser and past Elemukeluk Associate Chapter Adviser. These vigil recipients have all provided invaluable leadership to our lodge and service toward out goals. This is a tremendous honor for these individuals which is well deserved. The Lodge thanks them for their service, and the service they continue to complete. Echockotee Lodge had a memorable weekend honoring its members and look forward to next years Winter Fellowship.

Above:
Left to right: Patric Gherrity, Bryan Franz, Tim Griffing, Ron Johnson, and Robert Burns Sr.

Left :
First row left to right: Sean Fish, Ron Fish, Eric Clarke, and Michael Filz;
Second row: Erik Fish

Adventure Base 100, cont.

undertaking as part of its 100th Anniversary Celebration. And it's coming to Jacksonville! To make this successful, we need a large crew of volunteers to be on hand throughout the three days the exhibit will be open to the public – March 19-21, 2010 at the St. John's Town Center in Jacksonville. We are asking for the support of Echockotee Lodge Arrowmen to help make this happen – registered youth and adults are needed! Volunteer applications can be accessed through the NFC website – www.nfcscouting.org – 100th Anniversary of Scouting.
Thank you for volunteering!

Section Conference

by Joe Saxon

Who:	You and 1,100 of your closest Arrowmen from throughout Florida
What:	Section Conference 2010
When:	April 16-18th, 2010 (register and pay $35.00 by April 2nd-)
Where:	Flaming Arrow Scout Reservation in Lake Wales, Fl
Why:	Because it is the second largest OA event in the country, it is where you will have the most fun this year, and all the coolest people in the lodge will be there!!!

*Talk to Joe Saxon for spirit and competition information. saxonj@comcast.net

Chapter Reports

Apieka
No report.

Elemukulek
Elemukulek has had a great start to the new year. Our annual District Camporee went off without a hitch because of an awesome staff of Arrowmen. We are continuing our monthly chapter meetings on the first Thursday of every month. And our attendance is continuously growing.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Chris Faison, Chapter Chief

Oglala
The Oglala chapter finished up 2009 with an outstanding show of force at the Camp Echockotee work day. The Beavers cleaned and shined up the Campmaster's office during our day of cheerful service. Several Arrowmen began working on our Bulletin board for LOAC; most notably Geoffrey Brown, Matthew Williamson, Andrew Solomons, Campbell Carroll, Mr. Robert Burns, and Mrs. Melissa Wright. Thanks

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Chapter Reports, cont.

for all the hard work. Oglala Chapter had 46 hearty souls attend the Winter Fellowship braving the elements and falling temperatures. It was the coolest fellowship of the year! We all enjoyed the great training and had lots of fun during the games. All of this was capped off with a wonderful dinner Saturday night where we witnessed the lodge bestow the Vigil Honor on ten deserving Arrowmen. A Big Slap Attack goes out to Patrick Garrity, Bryan Franz, and Mr. Robert Burns; our newest Vigil Honor members. Sunday Morning we welcomed our new Chapter Advisor, Mr. Frank Ross and said good-bye to Mr. Robert Burns; he is now the Sing & Dance Team Advisor. We are looking forward to our special March chapter meeting when we meet at Adventure Landing for the evening.

Your Brother,
Geoffrey Brown, Chapter Chief

Onathequa
No report.

Oklawaha
Hello my brothers, I hope everyone had a great and productive year! The Oklawaha chapter is currently working on producing an OA Troop Rep. list, our own newsletter, and we are always updating our website: oklawaha.bravehost.com. Our chapter hosted a local canned food drive through the month of December and had a positive response. The Chapter's Christmas party, also in December, had a great turnout! The Vice Chief of Program for our chapter will soon be receiving his Eagle Scout award, congratulations Peter Wycoff! Our chapter has been working hard to meet the quality chapter requirements and we look forward to having a fruitful year. Our monthly chapter meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Troop 380 Scout hut located at the Central Christian Church. I hope you all have an exciting and rewarding year!

Yours in Brotherhood,
Logan Memoli, Chapter Chief

Osceola
Osceola is doing GREAT. We are raising our numbers, and becoming more active again. We are looking ahead to the Spring Fellowship and will have a very fun time. Our meetings are running smoothly, and, at our next one, we will be practicing archery the whole time. We wish you all luck in the games, but some of our members are hard to beat.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Carson Basye, Chapter Chief.

Outina
Well we just had an election and one boy from Troop 70 got voted in. We are happy for what the new year brings within the O.A. in the Echockotee Lodge.

Your Fellow Brother,
Sean Phinney, Chapter Chief,

Saturiwa
This has certainly been one of the best years for Saturiwa Chapter, we have won Sonic twice in a row! We have quite a few new Ordeals going through at Spring Fellowship. We will also be sporting our ceremonies team at Spring Fellowship, so look around for our amazing regalia. We can't wait for the medieval theme for we have a lot of great ideas that I'm excited to see in development and I know you can't wait to see them either. We'll see you all at Spring Fellowship!

Yours in Brotherhood,
Alexander Williams, Chapter Chief

Seminole
We had a great time at the Winter Fellowship and are proud to announce that we have added our first Vigil member in 30 years, Mr. Ronald Johnson. Congratulations! We now have a chapter website; give us a month and it will be up and running with pictures, calendar of events and member contacts. It will be very informational and useful. We are currently working on a Chapter service project for the Cherokees of Georgia for this spring. We will be helping this fall with the Grand Entry for the Powwow. We are looking for 55 Arrowmen to be flag bearers. Our Chapters biggest project for this year will be the Baden Powell Fall Camporee / Merit Badge Fair. We are running the programs for both events; scheduled for October 1-3, 2010. If you would like to be a merit badge counselor, please contact a member of our chapter.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Garrett Curtis, Chapter Chief

Timucuan
No report.

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2010 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
March 5-7	Spring Fellowship	Camp Shands
April 16-18	Section Conference	Flaming Arrow SR Lake Wales, Fl
April 24	OA Service Day	Camp Shands
May 21-23	Summer Fellowship	Camp Shands
July 18-24	Brownsea NYLT	Camp Shands
August 20-21	LLD	Camp Shands
September 11-13	NLS and NLATS	Haines City, Florida
September 24-26	Fall Fellowship	Camp Shands
October 15-17	Special Needs Camporee	Camp Echockotee
November 13-15	Section Seminars	Camp La-No-Che
December 4	Lodge Service Day	Camp Echockotee
January 7-9, 2011	Winter Fellowship	Camp Shands

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