

# The Osprey

Yustaga Lodge #385

www.yustaga385.com

Gulf Coast Council #773

Feb 2006



## 2005/2006 Officers

Lodge Chief

**Ben Marshall**

lodgechief@yustaga385.com

Lodge Vice-Chief

**Michael Kirkland**

Lodge Vice-Chief

**Tre' Hellwig**

Lodge Secretary

**Doug Watson**

Lodge Treasurer

**Geoffrey Helms**

Lodge Adviser

**Jim Matson**

adviser@yustaga385.com

Staff Adviser

**Joey Quick**

jquick@bsaemail.org

Assoc Lodge Adviser

**Steve Kolek**

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Boy Scouts of America  
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## SPRING FELLOWSHIP

March 10, 11 and 12, 2006

Spanish Trail Scout Reservation

Arrowmen and Brothers! Don't miss out on the premier Order of the Arrow event this spring. The OA Spring Fellowship promises to be a blast. We will have events like drum training, regalia making, Ceremonies 101, wilderness survival cooking, wilderness survival shelter building, and much more. And that's not all.

We also plan to play Wischixin, Ultimate Frisbee, Geo-caching, and maybe even some fun at the Euchee waterfront.

Anyone going to NOAC should come to the NOAC planning meeting during the day Saturday and any Arrowman who wants to get more involved can become a member of one of our committees, for which we will hold meetings Saturday afternoon.

Have you ever wanted to sleep outdoors without a tent? Well, Yustaga plans to hold a wilderness survival night during the Spring Fellowship. Each Arrowman will build his own shelter and spend the night under the stars.

We will also have a patch auction and a special guest speaker. Don't miss out! Come have a fun time at camp Euchee with all of your brothers in Yustaga.

I'm looking forward to this event with high hopes and I think you should too!

**Ben Marshall, Lodge Chief**

## SR-4N CONCLAVE

APRIL 21-22-23, 2006

### CAMP MAUBILA

The annual section Conclave is only a few months away. If you have never attended a Conclave before, you need to sign up! Conclave... isn't that the secret meeting that is held to elect a new Pope? Well, yes, but that's a different kind of Conclave. This Conclave is a weekend filled with fun, food, fellowship, patch trading, training (TRAINING RULES!), competitions, and some of the best shows you will see at a Scouting event other than a National Jamboree or National OA Conference. All of this for only \$30, plus transportation. It's a great deal!

Every year, all seven of the lodges in our section, SR-4N (which is a geographical area covering parts of Florida, Alabama, and Georgia), get together for a weekend. The lodges in the section take turns hosting the annual Conclave. Yustaga last hosted in 2001, and will again in just a couple of years.

Why should you attend the Conclave? You will have the opportunity to attend great training sessions about many different aspects of the OA. You will eat, and eat GOOD! Not to say that the food at our own lodge events isn't some of the best, but at Conclaves, we traditionally eat very well! This year, Woa Cholena, the host lodge, has promised an awesome menu, to include the Friday night Seafood Jubilee! There are also lots of sports competitions to compete in, including Tug-of-War, Arm Wrestling, Volleyball, and of course, Wischixin! Plus, compete in a 5K Run, search for the Golden Arrow and Mr. Axe, and a whole lot more!

Right now, our lodge's slots for Conclave are almost filled, but if you want to attend, you need to sign up as soon as possible.

We will arrange travel to the Conclave by chapters, and arrowmen will likely need to plan to take all or at least part of Friday, April 21, off from work or school to allow for adequate travel time. More details on travel arrangements for Conclave will be announced at the Spring Fellowship.

If you have any questions about Conclave, contact your chapter chief or any of the lodge officers. Sign up today! (No later than March 1)

**2006**

*January 27-29*  
**Green Bar Training**

*March 10-12*  
**Spring Fellowship**

*April 21-23*  
**SR-4N Conclave**

*May 19-21*  
**Ordeal**

*September 15-17*  
**Fall Pow Wow**

*October 28-29*  
**LLD**

*December 2*  
**Lodge Banquet**

All dates are  
subject to change  
by the LEC.

# ***Appalachee Chapter Update***

Chandler Young, Chapter Chief

## ***Techakin News***

Frank Henry, Chapter Adviser

We had a great Christmas Party with lots of good finger food and we also did a white elephant gift exchange. Tehcakin chapter has contacted al of the Perdido Bay District Troops to schedule elections. All Troops requiring elections have dates scheduled and all will be completed prior to February 17. We are also putting together a joint Call Out Team with Panzacola Chapter. We continue to meet at the American Legion on Gulf Beach Highway (between blue Angel and Fairfield) on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm.

## ***Panzacola Chapter Update***

Brad Brock, *Chapter Chief*

I would like to formally thank all of those who helped with the Lodge Banquet; you guys did a great job! In December, Panzacola did not have a chapter meeting due to the holidays and exams. In January, we had a great turnout for our meeting and focused our attention on unit elections which we will be doing for the next month.

We still hold our meetings the fourth Thursday of every month in the Troop 3 Scout Hut at Cokesbuy United Methodist Church from 7-8 PM.

***Osprey* articles should now be submitted to:**

***osprey@ystaga385.com***

# NOAC 2006

Jim Matson, Lodge Adviser



This coming summer, Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, will serve as host for the National Order of the Arrow Conference. Held every two years at a major college campus, NOAC is kind of like a National Jamboree for the Order of the Arrow. NOAC 2006 will be unique in many ways – first of all, Michigan State is the largest campus where a NOAC has been held, so there are plenty of slots available. For this NOAC only, there is a 1 to 1 ratio of adults to youth. Also, because of the 2010 National Scout Jamboree, there will not be another NOAC until 2009, to pattern NOAC in the odd years. So, if you don't attend this NOAC, you won't have the opportunity to do so again until 2009! Yustaga has been given a quota of 24 slots, but it is certain that more will be available. In fact, we have more than 24 arrowmen signed up for NOAC with our lodge. All lodges have until March 1 to claim their allocated slots, and then unused slots are turned back in to national and are allocated to lodges on a first-come, first-served basis.

For this year's NOAC, we will be chartering a bus and sharing it with two other lodges – Cowikee Lodge in Dothan, Alabama, and Alibamu Lodge in Montgomery. We will depart Pensacola on the evening of Thursday, July 27, and we will spend the next day at Six Flags in Louisville, Kentucky. We'll have an overnight stay on July 28 near Fort Wayne, Indiana, and then arrive at NOAC on the morning of July 29. We will return straight home from NOAC, arriving back home early morning on August 4.

Slots are still available! Use the payment coupon in The Osprey to pay your deposit and all payments up to the present. The estimated cost for NOAC, including transportation, meals and overnight stay en route, and Six Flags admission, will be around \$600-\$650. The Lodge Executive Committee approved two \$250 NOAC scholarships. Application forms for the scholarships are on the lodge website.

New for NOAC this year is a special promotion patch that all contingent members will receive prior to NOAC.

Don't miss this opportunity! Sign up for NOAC today. You can get more information about NOAC by visiting the National OA website at <http://www.oa-bsa.org>.

More information about NOAC will be available at the Spring Fellowship. There will also be a meeting for all NOAC contingent members at the Spring Fellowship.

There are so many more activities at NOAC that you cannot possibly do them all. Besides those mentioned above, there are such things as The Outdoor Adventure Place (TOAP), Special Events, VIPs, Regional Gatherings, Religious Services, Displays and Exhibits, and much more. There's also a Conference Newspaper, Radio Station, Band, Chorus, Trading Post, and still more!

# Brotherhood Eligibility

Benny Banegas, Inductions Adviser

Dear Ordeal Members:

It has been at least 10 months since your induction into Ordeal membership in our Order of the Arrow Lodge. You may now seal your Membership in the Order through the Brotherhood Ceremony if you have continued faithfully to serve your fellowman and have completed the following requirements:

- Completed 10 months of service as an Ordeal member,
- Maintained your registered membership in Scouting,
- Maintained your registered membership in the Order of the Arrow,
- Memorized the Obligation, the OA Official Song, the Admonition, the sign of the Ordeal membership, and the Arrow handclasp, and
- Gained a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you have passed. (See “The Customs and Traditions of the Ordeal” in the Order of the Arrow Handbook.)

It is important not only that you meet the above requirements but that feel you are prepared for the Brotherhood. Write a letter to the Lodge Secretary expressing your feelings. In your letter:

- Explain what you think the Obligation means,
- Describe how you have been fulfilling this Obligation in your Troop or Team and in your daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid in your service, and
- Describe your specific plans for giving future service to the Lodge program.

With this letter, you should include your advance registration (fees) for the Brotherhood Ceremony in which you will participate.

Your first opportunity will be at the Brotherhood Ceremony to be held at Camp Euchee, on Saturday, March 11, 2006, in the evening. If you are prepared now to make this important decision for yourself, we will welcome you at the Ceremony. Please let us know of your intention so preparations can be made for all those who will attend.

## *Opportunities to Serve*

### **WANTED: ADULTS WITH FIRST AID TRAINING**

We are looking for some adults with First Aid training who would be willing to help staff the First Aid lodge at OA events. Don't worry, you would not have to perform surgery, but you would just be available to assist with minor first aid issues. If you are interested in helping us out with this need, please contact Lodge Adviser Jim Matson.

## ***SPRING FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE***

Friday, March 10

5:00-7:00 pm Member Check-in Henson Hall  
7:00 pm Chapter Chiefs and Advisers Meeting Henson Hall  
9:45 pm Cracker-barrel Dining Hall  
\* Silent Patch Auction \* Patch Auction \* Patch Trading  
\* Lodge Box Open \* Board Games \* Food, Fun and Fellowship  
12:00 am Taps

Saturday, March 11

7:00 am Reveille  
7:30 am Assembly and Colors Dining Hall  
7:35 am Breakfast Dining Hall  
8:30-11:45 am Training  
(1 CPR/first aid/ wilderness survival First Aid Shelter  
(2 Drum training Big Heart  
(3 Wilderness survival cooking Pathfinder  
(4 Shelter building Handicraft  
(5 Regalia Henson Hall  
(6 Brotherhood/Elangomat Dining Hall  
(7 Dance team Square Grounds  
(8 Ceremonies 101 TBA  
12:00-12:45 pm Lunch  
Dining Hall  
1:00-2:00 pm Speaker  
Dining Hall  
2:00-3:35 pm Afternoon Events  
Ultimate Frisbee Staff Area  
Wichixin Parking Lot  
Geo caching COPE  
Fun at the Waterfront Waterfront  
3:45 pm Committee Meetings Dining Hall  
4:15 pm NOAC meeting Henson Hall  
5:00 pm Silent Auction ends Dining Hall  
5:00 pm Brotherhood candidates assemble Trading Post  
6:00 pm Brotherhood ceremony Jambo road  
7:00 pm Supper Dining Hall  
7:45 pm Hikers leave for overnigher Trading Post  
8:30 pm Cracker-barrel Dining Hall  
\* Patch Trading \* Fun, Fellowship and Food \* Movies  
\* Lodge Box Open \* Board Games  
12:00 am Taps

Sunday , March 12

7:00 am Reveille  
7:30 am Scout's Own Chapel  
8:00 am Breakfast Dining Hall  
9:00 am Break camp, check out with chapter leadership  
9:30 am Lodge Executive Committee Meeting  
(old and new officers) Henson Hall

# Chiefly Speaking

Ben Marshall, Lodge Chief

Dear Yustaga Lodge Members,

Brothers, we have started a new year. Each year we have opportunities to excel. Yustaga has already started off right! The Green Bar weekend was great and has set the tone of our other events this year. We have a Spring Fellowship, an Ordeal, a Pow Wow, and a Banquet for sure this year. Let's plan to make this year the best yet. You can always look forward to the future, but while you do that you are up to your neck in the present. Planning for the future is good but not to the detriment of what you are doing right now. Never use the excuse "Well I'll do better next time." There may not be a next time. Putting off doing your best won't make it happen in the future. So buckle down and we'll get things done together.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Ben Marshall

## WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD (ARROW)MEN

Our lodge still has some vacancies for Committee Chairmen for a few lodge committees. We need youth to serve as chairmen for:

- Native American Events – works with dance teams, drum teams, and costuming;
- Service – plans and executes lodge service projects, including camp projects and community service projects like "One Day;"
- Unit/Council Service – works to provide service to units (troops) as well as council and district events. and ensures that the OA Representative program is implemented in each unit.

Serving as a committee chairman is a great way to get involved in a leadership role within the lodge. If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, please contact Lodge Chief Ben Marshall.

## Chapter Information

### **Appalachee**

***Appalachee@yustaga385.com***

**Chief**

*Chandler Young*

**Adviser**

*Jimmy Wiselogel*

### **Choctaw**

***Choctaw@yustaa385.com***

**Chief**

*Patrick Bagby*

**Adviser**

*Benny Banegas*

### **Oschambos**

***Oschambos@yustaga385.com***

**Chief**

**TBA**

**Adviser**

*Chad Hartley*

### **Panzacola**

***Panzacola@yustaga385.com***

**Chief**

*Brad Brock*

**Adviser**

*Randy Werre*

### **Techakin**

***Techakin@yustaga385.com***

**Chief**

*Nick Batson*

**Adviser**

*Frank Henry*

# ***Lodge Adviser's Column*** ***“Around the Campfire”***

**Jim Matson**, Lodge Adviser

Fellow Arrowmen,

First of all, I would like to share with each of you what an honor and a privilege it is to have the opportunity to serve as Lodge Adviser. I am looking forward to continued success within Yustaga Lodge.

Having been a member of the lodge for almost 20 years now, I have many fond memories, including my Ordeal weekend, sealing my membership as a Brotherhood member, serving as a committee chairman, Chapter Chief, Lodge Secretary, and Lodge Chief, and most especially receiving the Vigil Honor. Those were all memorable milestones in my journey as an arrowman, but more importantly, along the way, I made many new friends and learned a lot about what it means to be part of Scouting's National Honor Society. We are a brotherhood of cheerful service. I have many more fond memories of spending time with newfound friends as well as fellow arrowmen in my troop. Having the opportunity to spend time in fellowship with our brothers while at the same time working to promote scout camping and cheerful service are what it's all about. I can't think of another organization that makes serving other so much fun!

My main goal as Lodge Adviser is to make sure we continue to live by the spirit of our founders, E. Urner Goodman and Carroll A. Edson. Let us always keep in mind why we are here – the purposes of the OA - to recognize those Scout campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, to develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit, to promote Scout camping, and to crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others. If we do this, then everything else we do will fall into place.

I am looking forward to continuing my service as Lodge Adviser. We are going to have a wonderful year, with many activities and opportunities for cheerful service in the spirit of Brotherhood.

Yours in Cheerful Service,

Jim Matson  
Lodge Adviser





## **UNIT ELECTIONS**

**Jim Matson**, Lodge Adviser

Unit elections should be wrapping up in your chapter. Every troop in your district needs to be contacted and an election scheduled. Want to help? Contact your chapter chief. If a troop does not have any candidates eligible for election into the OA, your chapter election team should still visit the troop and make a presentation about the Order. Chapters were sent new DVDs and copies of election forms in December. All unit elections must be completed by the Spring Fellowship. Youth election forms should be submitted to Mr. Frank Henry at the Spring Fellowship LEC meeting. Adult nomination forms are to be mailed directly to Mr. Jim Matson no later than March 9, 2006.

## **MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

If you have paid your annual lodge dues for 2006, your membership card will be available at the Spring Fellowship. Unclaimed membership cards will be given to your chapter chief so you can pick them up at your next chapter meeting. You will note that the application for the Spec Lovell service award has been removed from the membership card. The application is now a separate form and is available on the lodge website.

## **HIGH ADVENTURE SCHOLARSHIPS**

The lodge will once again award two scholarships to Arrowmen for participation in one of the three OA High Adventure programs. The form for the scholarship is available on the lodge website. Please note the deadline for turning in the scholarship application is Friday night, March 10, at the Spring Fellowship. You should also apply for the program you are interested in, Philmont Trail Crew, or Northern Tier Wilderness Voyage. The Sea Base Ocean Adventure Camp is full for the 2006 season; any applications received should be forwarded to next year. Application forms for the programs themselves are located on the lodge website in the Resources section. At press time, the National OA website was down and we did not have a local version of the Sea Base OA Ocean Adventure (OAOA) application form. As soon as we obtain one, we will post it on the website.

