

The Tipi

February newsletter for Occoneechee Lodge # 104

Monthly Newsletter

February 2009

Chief's report

Brothers,

I hope you are all as excited for Spring Powwow as I am. This year we are turning powwow into a mini-conclave. We are asking every chapter to dress in the super hero theme and compete throughout the weekend in many activities similar to the ones available at conclave this year. Some of the special activities we will have available to you include, a showing of "The Dark Knight" on Friday, the rifle range will be open Saturday morning, the brotherhood trail will of course be open in the afternoon for no additional cost, chapters can also compete in quest events, ceremony competitions, and dance competitions, we will also be awarding the spirit award at the end of the weekend so we encourage everyone to participate.

On a separate note please be aware that vigil nominations are due by Sunday EC at Powwow. All brothers are encouraged to nominate anyone they feel is worthy of this high honor and who fits the eligibility requirements. Just so everyone knows, we can only select as many adults as we do youth. Also, as the new dining is put into use, it is time to begin work on the lodge building. There is a lot of work that the lodge will need to do and therefore we are forming a committee to help work on it. If you are interested please contact me (ndblair@ncsu.edu).

I look forward to seeing all of you at Powwow and feel free to contact me if you have any problems or questions.

WWW

Nelson Blair

Yours in cheerful service,

Nelson Blair

ndblair@ncsu.edu

NOT TIED DOWN

Starting at Powwow (March 20-22), every Lodge member is going to be asked to join one of the Lodge or Chapter Committees or Sub-Committees and become a more active participant of the Order. Many of you are already very active and are major supporters, but with over 1600 members, we have the opportunity to do more. We are members of a strong Lodge, but your Lodge and Chapter officers have a broad vision for the future and we need your help.

We are in a great time of change in everything that we are doing. The Lodge will begin the renovations of our Sullivan Building this spring. Camp Durant is opening the new Grand Lodge. Our communities and nation are experiencing changes and we need to be prepared. We all have old habits that we can change to help ourselves, those around us and those that come behind us. If you have ever been to the circus, you may have seen the large elephants moving the heaviest equipment to set up the circus. When they are finished each day, the handlers secure the elephants with a rope tied to their back right leg with the loose end tied to a small wooden stake in the ground. The elephants could easily get free, but they never try.

When a baby elephant is quite young, it's back right leg is chained to an anchor set in concrete. After just a few weeks of struggling, the baby elephant learns that it cannot get loose if its' leg is tied. We've all heard about an elephant's memory and this story supports that fact. As long as he's alive, the elephant won't try to change or get away.

Sometimes, our habits keep us tied down and we believe that we can't change or do new things. The Lodge needs your help and I guarantee that you will benefit from your experience and have fun! Encourage inactive members in your unit to come to Powwow. We are going to be doing new things that will help Scouting, the Lodge, your troop and YOU!!

WWW

Tom Wells

tomwells@designdevelopment.com

New Lodge Jacket Patch

A new Lodge jacket patch will be available for sale in the Trading Post at Pow-Wow. The new issue will have 16 different colors and be 8" in diameter. The jacket patch includes all 13 of our Chapter's totems.

When submitted to our patch manufacturer, it was soon dubbed the "Wheel of Fortune" patch. The name is well suited for our new patch. Here's why.....The jacket patch is actually two separate pieces but will be sold together for one price. There will be a 3" center round patch and the "wheel" patch with all the Chapter totems will revolve around the center piece. That way, if you are in "X" Chapter, you can rotate your Chapter's totem to the top to signify you are in that particular Chapter.

With all the different thread colors this one is a beauty. You will want to get several of these before they are gone as it is sure to be a popular issue!



Spring Cleaning

The trading post will be doing some Spring cleaning at Pow-Wow and will have a **SALE!!!!**

Items included in the sale are too numerous to mention, but are too good to not be going home with you. Stop by the trading post to see these marked down and slashed priced items as well as the new merchandise!

See you at Pow-Wow

- The Trading Post Committee

Featured Chapter

Brothers,

Eluwak Chapter has been hard at work first and foremost on the Election Trail for new Brothers. We are currently 25% done with elections at this point with a full calendar ahead of us in March/ April. In our experiences if there was nobody eligible we gave a demonstration of what we do and why we are so valuable to the District as well as to the Lodge.

We have been busy with cultivating the younger folks as well. We've been involved in dance exhibitions on the Cub Scout ranks as well as our Ceremony teams out doing Crossover Ceremonies, not just in Durham but also in other districts as well. If we have been contacted to get out there and strut our stuff we have found time to help out. We look forward to seeing more youth show up this year at OA Webelos from our own district, we've noticed that the Cubs from our area haven't attended Lodge functions as much as we'd like.

Attendance has been doing well at our Chapter Meetings, between programs and special guests we are staying the course and beating the attendance that Roundtable has that same night. It's not just the pizza and drinks anymore. We've tried to raise the bar with awareness in our District. There are certain Troops who have no representation and after seeing these troops at elections, we know why. We'll let on at Spring Pow-Wow, it's so simple you'll want to scream.

The Lodge's goal for Conclave is 300, we have been spreading the word and 70 is our target. Sorry, Nelson, Matt, Marc, Kevin and John, your going to lose your hair on this one. If the numbers that the others bring hold true, your going' down.

Yours in Cheerful Service,
Kevin Pusak
Eluwak Chapter Chief

Yamni Wakpa:

We are running our districts spring camporee the last weekend in March at the Chatham Wildlife Preserve. This will be a fish-o-ree with a fishing derby and other fishing themed games.. Our attendance has been low the past few meetings and we are trying to get it up by having a meeting with Pizza on Sunday February 22nd at Elizabeths Pizza in Sanford. Elections are coming along well with only two troop left. Ceremonies are good too. We are looking for new members that are interested in these.

Jack Koch
Yamni Wakpa Chapter Chief

Here is what **Impeesa** has been up too:

- We have been working on ceremony's, and are currently holding troop elections, and at our next meeting we plan to start throwing tomahawks again.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Joseph Palko
Impeesa Chapter Chief

Chapter Chiefs:

Remember to send me your chapter reports via email so they can be put in the Tipi.

Upcoming events



What	When	Where
Spring Pow-Wow	March 20-22	Camp Durant (Carthage, NC)
SR-7B Conclave	April 17-19	Camp Tuscarora (Four Oaks, NC)
Spring Inductions	May 15-17	Camp Durant (Carthage, NC)

Lodge Key 3



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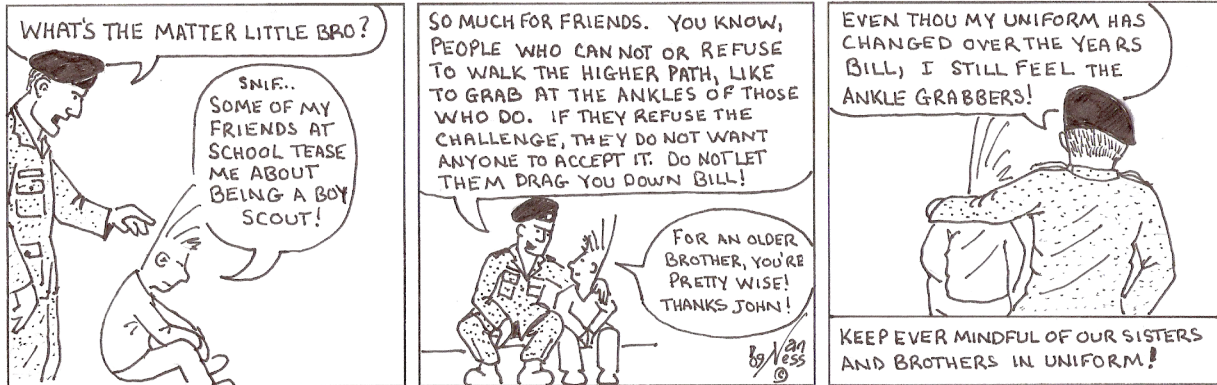


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Sons of Uncas



By: Randy Van Ness



Remember... if Occonechee brings 300 brothers to Conclave, the Lodge Officers will shave their heads!