



2008 Spring PowWow ... What a Successful Weekend!

A great time was had by all in attendance, from the hundreds of Brothers who came to the many Webelos who participated in OA Webelos Day on Saturday. There was so much going on, most of us wished we could be in two places at once! Our time is important, though, and we owe it to the Scouting program to put our best foot forward for the little guys in "blue." They are our future, so we made every effort to make their stay at Durant a great one.

In American Indian Affairs (AIA), we take our dancing very seriously. So whether it's teaching youngsters to dance, or to make leg bells, mirror boards or whatever, we do it with smiles on our faces and try to make positive interactions with the Webelos. PowWow seemed to be a hit with the guys.

I was approached by one of our Brotherhood members who is the father of one of the Webelos on Saturday night in the Dining hall. He told me that he is one-quarter Cherokee and that this was the first time his Son had ever asked him about their heritage and about dancing. They will be back because of the efforts put forth by the Lodge. Yes, we are making a difference and all the feedback we are getting is positive.

One of the drum and singing groups at PowWow on Saturday was *Eastern Bull*, comprised of John Blackfeather and an intertribal group of Native Americans based in Greenville, NC. John is himself an Eagle Scout and Vigil Member of the Order.

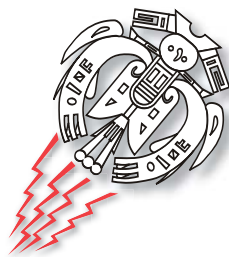


Photo by Jeff Kidd

His exact words were, "them boys at Occoneechee know what they're doing!" Those of us who wear the regalia take that as a quite a compliment and to have him speak so highly of us says our program is second to none.

Our Brothers are poised and ready to bring home to the Lodge the top honors at Conclave this April. Last year we took six out of eight first places in Dance and this year we look to sweep the event. *Spread the word, for we are the Thunderbird!* 🦅

— Warren Pusak
Eluwak Chapter Adviser
AIA Committee



In This Issue ...

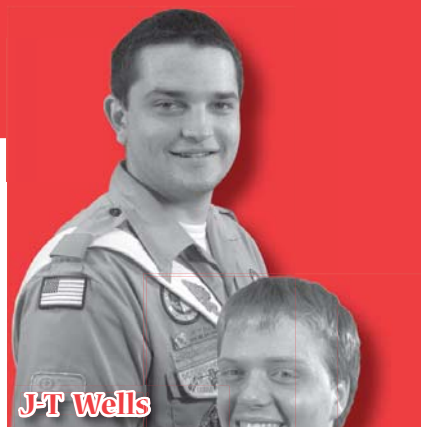
2008 PowWow a Great Success.	1
The Chief's Corner.	2-3
Adviser's Minute.	3
AIA News.	4
Sons of Uncas.	5
104-Living Up to the "300".	5
"De-Pressed" & Lonely in the Tipi.	6
Improved Website on the Way.	6
More AIA News.	6
"Paper Punchers" Have a Blast.	7
Finance Adviser Kudos.	7
Patch Traders Update.	7
Newest Vigil Honor Recipient.	8
2009 NOAC Reminder.	8
Calendar of Events.	8



2008 Lodge Executive Committee

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J-T Wells



Nelson Blair



Marc Seelinger



Michael Warnick



Matt Gardiner

Photography by Richard Connelly

The Chief's Corner

As we start this great Spring season, I want to talk a little bit about reviving our own chapters as we strive for excellence. It has been quite a few years now since the districts and their chapters were re-aligned in the Council and the Lodge. Now it is time for us as a Lodge to step out of that shadow and look towards starting a transformation. If you were at the Spring PowWow EC meeting, I talked a little bit about this and I want to continue my message. The Chapter Support Team is in full swing as they look into specifics ways to help each chapter. I would also like to propose a three-step procedure that you and your chapter leadership can follow to start this new era:

STEP 1 – Ensure that strong leadership is in place. In order to succeed, someone must step up and assume the call for excellence. We must stop blaming and putting things on others and decide that the success of our chapter is something I

will work for. Both youth and adults are needed to step up in each chapter and it may start out with someone doing something small such as offering to plan the meetings, but do it, and do the heck out of it. Adults, make sure your youth have what they need to succeed, help them get the things they need to fund raise or start that ceremonies team, but be there and encourage others in your troop to attend chapter meetings. Offer any skills that you have and most importantly, offer to give rides to youth who may not be able to drive yet. Youth, especially those in charge of our 13 chapters, make the chapter meetings fun, and bring your friends to the meetings. Once the leadership in your chapter is set and motivated, train them to complete their jobs, give them the skills and the items they need to succeed, don't just ask them to do it and expect it to get done. Train them, follow up on them, work with them, and help them!

STEP 2 – Strive to create fun and informative meetings. The OA and Scouting

Continued on Page 3



Lodge 104 — Home of the Thunderbird!



Adviser's Minute

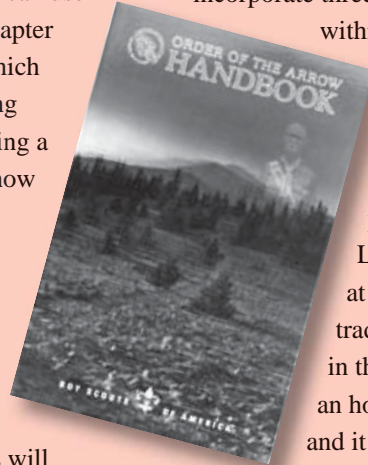


Photography by Richard Connelly

Welcome to all of the new members of the Order and our Lodge! Many new and exciting things are happening including the induction of several new officers and advisers. Have you read the *OA Handbook* given to you after

your Ordeal ceremony? To you older members, when was the last time you broke it open? Like a good friend, it's full of good advice that we can use everyday, especially the chapter on "You and your Unit" which includes sections on 'Giving friendship', 'Hints on helping a friend in need', 'Hints on how to teach a skill to a Scout', and one of my favorites 'Unit camping traditions'. There are twenty-one camping traditions recommended for your Troop.

Years from now, most of us will forget what we did at our weekly troop meetings, but how many remember that really rainy camping trip or how your fingers froze during that winter campout or the thrill of being in the arena with 75,000 Scouts at the National Jamboree?



Meet a New Friend & Get a Patch!

For the first ten Ordeal members willing to work with your Scoutmaster to incorporate three of those traditions within your Troop, just

send me an email (tomw@designdevelopment.com) and I'll send you a free Lodge patch. I challenge each Lodge member to adopt at least one new camping tradition for your Troop in the next year. The OA is an honor camping society and it is up to us to maintain a high standard in our Troops.

Check out the *OA Handbook* and start some new traditions! 🏹

*Yours in the Brotherhood,
Tom Wells*

The Chief's Corner – Continued from Page 2

as a whole are competing for the precious time of our brothers now more than ever, and we must make sure our meetings include fun, interesting and informative. Try new activities such as making and playing Indian flutes, or creating a new tomahawk throwing team. Just do something that is fun while learning more about the OA and having great fellowship with your brothers. Focus on having top quality meetings. Be sure to meet regularly even if you have to scale back on the number of meetings.

STEP 3 – Get the word out! You have your leadership in place and an awesome program. Now all you need are brothers at your chapter events! If they do not already have one, each chapter should start an email list server to communicate with their members. To help renew interest in

the OA, visit each troop and talk to the Scoutmaster to ask for his commitment to promote the program. Help troops, packs, and district camporees with their programs so those same Scoutmasters see your willingness to serve. This will give them even more reasons to support the OA. Get both adults and youth involved in ceremonies, troop elections, and being elangomats – there is a place for everyone, no joke!

You may wonder why I am presenting this topic to you. Well, we currently have over 1,600 active Lodge members yet we have thousands more who are inactive. For too long, too few brothers have been doing too much. We must realize that for our Lodge to not only succeed but thrive, our chapters must first thrive! They must get new members involved and coming to our Lodge weekends so we can fill

our Lodge leadership positions. We need to invite our inactive members to come back, perhaps with a personal phone call. I know this takes time and effort, but let's reach out and get many more brothers sharing the experience of leadership, growth, and fun that comes with that white sash.

For this to be a phenomenal year, let's challenge each other to be creative and make our chapters the best they can be! If you have any questions at all, or you would like some more help with your chapter or troop OA program, please feel free to email me at:

jtwells2390@hotmail.com

and I will be more than happy to help our chapters thrive! 🏹

*– In Brotherly Cheerful Service,
J-T Wells
Lodge Chief*

American Indian Affairs (AIA) News

Spring PowWow was a tremendous success for AIA. Webelos OA Day was a big hit with 67 Webelos Scouts and Scouters in attendance. A special thanks goes to Alma McIntire and her staff for making Webelos OA day a great accomplishment. Her efforts created a memorable day for those in attendance.

We also had a Pre-Ordeal competition during Spring PowWow weekend. Netami and Eluwak both had teams compete with the Netami chapter team claiming the overall team award. Both teams will be competing at Conclave. The individual awards were as follows:

- 1st Place Allowat Sakima – Robert Edmiston, Netami Chapter
- 1st Place Meteu – John Taylor, Eluwak Chapter
- 1st Place Nutiket – Chris Grice, Netami Chapter
- 1st Place Kichkinet – Ryan O’Keefe, Netami Chapter

Also on Saturday we held a Dance Competition, with thanks to Eastern Bull’s Gray Wolf Junior drum. All the dancers were from Eluwak and will be eligible to compete at Conclave. The winners were:

- 1st Place Senior Straight Dance – Kevin Pusak, Eluwak
- 1st Place Junior Straight Dance – Jordan Hackney, Eluwak
- 1st Place Senior Grass Dance – John Taylor, Eluwak
- 1st Place Junior Grass Dance – Dylan Taylor, Eluwak
- 2nd Place Junior Grass Dance – Dallas Conover, Eluwak

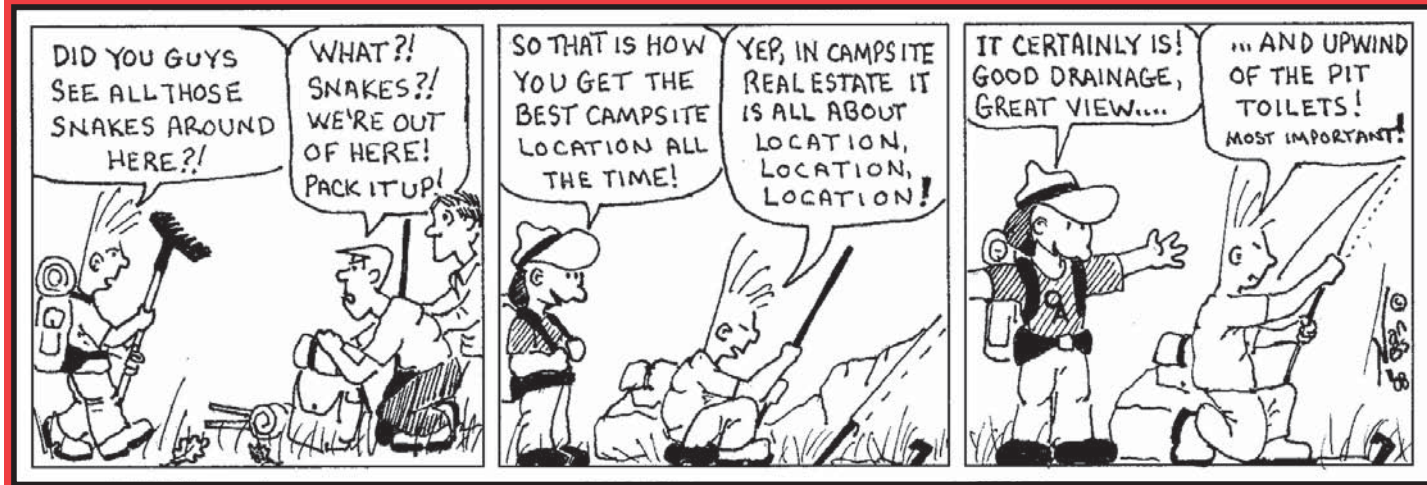
Saturday night we converted 69 brothers thanks to the Brotherhood Ceremony teams of Netami, Eluwak, and Wazeeyatah Chapters. We thank all competitors and ceremonialists for their help Saturday and urge other teams and chapters to get involved in AIA. You don’t know what you are missing! I am happy and willing to come to your chapter meeting to help you get started dancing or doing ceremonies just let me know! See you at Conclave! 🏹

– John Taylor
AIA Committee Chairman



Photography by Jeff Kida





104 Living Up to the "300!"

Wow! "The 300!" Many of you may already know that this is our Lodge's theme for Conclave 2008. But for those of you who didn't know, now is your chance to get just as excited and pumped as the rest of us are! Here's how: watch the movie "The 300" or clips of the movie on YouTube.com. After that you should have enough testosterone in you to be able to say to yourself, "OK, Conclave ... Sparta, *now!*" And that's when you get started! Your chapter chiefs should already have a hard copy of ways to make the costumes, so be creative and transform yourself into a true Occoneechee Spartan!

Remember being in uniform is key, so we all must have our 300 gear with us at Conclave, not only so you can look but act the part of a Spartan. We are the best out there, and as a whole group, we dominate in competitions showing Cheerful Spirit. We are the standard for Arrowmen. Others look up to us in awe! That is our mental approach to Conclave and our attitude is even better. We are courteous in *all* our actions and we exemplify every aspect of the Scout Oath and Law. Simple yet so important.

Lastly, review the movie, get the feel of the Spartans' approach to situations and replicate all the good aspects. *No battle scenes.*

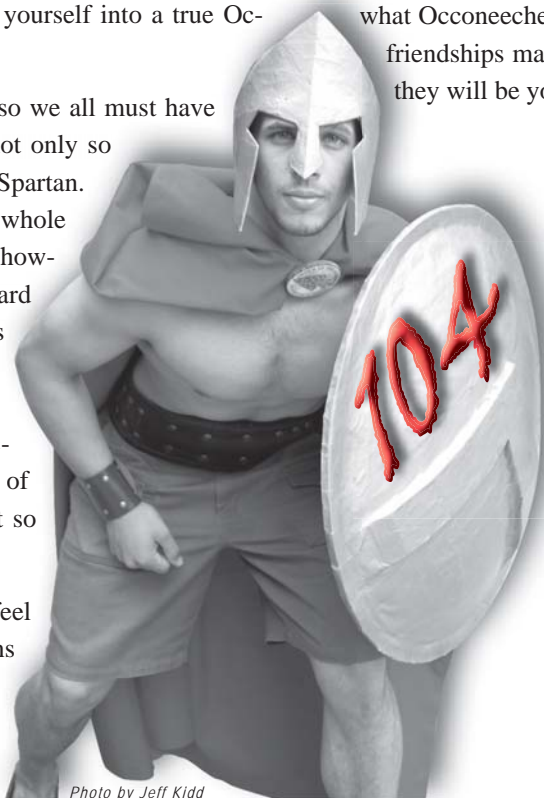


Photo by Jeff Kidd

Again, we are the best Lodge, no doubt about it. If anyone says otherwise we won't argue with them — we'll just demonstrate our proof with organized columns and an entire Lodge of brothers in a phalanx that rivals no other. When we get to the campsite, it becomes Occoneechee's, we show everyone how to treat the land. We pick up every piece of trash and we also keep the area we "ruled" better than it was before we came. In doing this there will be no way we can lose the Quest for the Golden Arrow!

Lastly what I want you to leave the Conclave with the feeling that you are part of something bigger than yourself. You will have a blast at Conclave, guaranteed. It is what you make of it, so do your best to help the Lodge and yourself. Let's show the other Lodges what Occoneechee can really do! Brotherhood will be built and friendships made! Maintain these memories my brothers, for they will be yours for eternity!

— *Gerry Hassenmayer*
Niganit Chapter Chief
Conclave Chairman

Gerry shows Matt Gardiner how he constructed his Spartan helmet

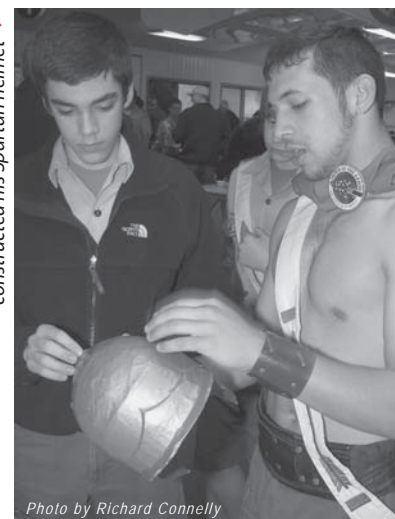


Photo by Richard Connelly

We're De-Pressed & Downright Lonely!

How important is it to get our message out to our members? It's critical to the life of the Lodge! And yet we haven't had much response to our plea for help with the Tipi ... so I guess you could say we are "*de*-pressed" and lonely, too, because need more brothers to help us get the newsletter to the "press!"

Do you have a talent for writing? Are you interested in getting "the scoop?" Could you be a "paparazzi" with a camera? Want to learn more about the printing industry? Get expert instruction and training from professional graphic artists, photographers and software instructors!

We need you right away to help make your *Tipi* newsletter bigger and better! You can join the elite group of:

- **Reporters and Writers**
- **Photographers .**
- **Cartoonists**
- **Graphic Artists**
- **Editors**
- **Newsletter Layout Designers,**
plus you could
- **Earn the *Graphic Arts* merit badge and gain great lifelong career skills!**

If this opportunity is for you, contact:

Tipi Newsletter Chairman

Nate Duncombe

email: njdthelifeguard@yahoo.com

— or —

Vice Chief of Communications

Mike Warnick

email: mikeboy200377@hotmail.com

— Richard Connelly
Tipi Adviser



Improved Lodge Website on the Way

For many months now, our very own *Cameron Bowe* has been working on updating and creating a brand new website for Occoneechee Lodge. It will have a newer, more modern look and include everything that's on the current site. It will have even more resources for you to use, including a better members' area where our members can view the previous issues of the Tipi, view Executive Committee minutes from past years and have access to the entire Lodge member directory. We look forward to introducing the website to you in the near future and hope you will make it one of your most frequently used resources. 🚩



More AIA News

The AIA committee would like to thank *Mary Dilday* for stepping up as the adviser to the *AIA Dance Sub-Committee*. Her help at the PowWow was priceless. Also, kudos are due to *Patrick Keeley* for his support of the ceremonies teams in both the competition and the Brotherhood ceremonies.

That being said, an adviser for the *AIA Ceremonies Sub-Committee* is sorely needed. If any of you adults out there have some interest in helping support this vital part of OA experience, please contact the AIA team or our Lodge Chief. 🚩

— Jay Taylor
AIA Adviser



Photography by Richard Connelly



Stay Up-to-Date With Lodge Events and Notices

Subscribe to the Lodge 104 E-mail list to receive the latest announcements and event information. For all the details and more (you can even pay your dues online!), visit www.lodge104.com. 🚩



"Paper Punchers" Have a Blast! More Special Events Planned

This past Spring PowWow, the rifle range was opened to all OA members who came to Camp Durant. The event was a huge success with a constant flow of Arrowmen and women during the morning. There was even a Chapter Adviser and Lodge Adviser competition to see who could shoot the best. The winners of the shooting competition were *Glenn Parler* and *Seth Asbill* who both had perfect scores! Thank you to Linda Boggs who opened and ran the rifle range for the Lodge and to those who assisted her in a safe program. We know this will again be part of our program in the future.



Photography by Richard Connelly



email to see what activities will be planned for the Fall Fellowship. Thank you to all the people who came out and shot. 🦋

– *Bryan Underwood and Larry Calhoun*

As many of you already know, the Lodge recently went through a huge transition year in which many of our former advisers – including the Lodge Adviser – stepped aside after many years of faithful service for us. We will always be grateful for their leadership! This included our former Finance Adviser, **Rob Grau** (left), seen working hard at every Lodge event over the many years. He's not gone, though. He can be found in the kitchen and elsewhere always helping out.



Our new Finance Adviser, **Keith Biegert** (right), has already stood out as he put the PowWow weekend into overdrive. Just as his predecessor did, Keith made sure to account for every penny collected over the event, not an easy task considering the number of participants and program areas he is responsible for. We congratulate Mr. Biegert on continuing the tradition, and doing an amazing job. Thanks to both of these brothers for all they have done and will do in the future! 🦋



Photography by Richard Connelly

Patch Traders & Collectors Update!

At Pow-Wow the brothers descended on the Trading Post to get their Conclave patch sets in preparation for the upcoming SR-7B Conclave. All of the sets were sold out except the 150 sets that we have in reserve to give to the delegates attending conclave. So if you missed out on getting any, you need to attend conclave.

All of the Charley Sullivan blue monochromatic flaps have been sold out and preparations are underway for a new color. The Lodge Executive Committee originally approved 5 colors, so we have 4 colors left to go. Will the new one be shades of red, green, orange, or purple? You will just have to wait and see! Remember that the proceeds from the sale of these flaps go to the Charley Sullivan Training Center at Durant so buy lots of 'em. They make excellent trader flaps!

In January the Lodge Executive Committee voted to make a patch to help off-set some of the transportation cost for those brothers attending ArrowCorps5. The design was selected at the Pow-Wow LEC meeting and the flap will be available in the Trading Post at Spring Inductions. The approved flap utilizes the "cartooned" thunderbird logo that is now on the regular issue Lodge caps.

Remember, trade fairly and ethically! 🦋

The Tipi

April 2008



*The Newsletter of Occoneechee Lodge 104, WWW
A National Quality Lodge of the Order of the Arrow, BSA*

Occoneechee Council, Boy Scouts of America

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2008 PowWow Spirit Stick Award

Congratulations to *Kato Hochuli Chapter*
for displaying great attitude, unity and
enthusiasm at PowWow this Spring in
winning the coveted Spirit Stick Award!

Looking Ahead to 2009

The 2009 National Order of the Arrow Conference
will be held at Indiana University, August 1-6, 2009.
Be sure to put this date on your calendar and start set-
ting aside a few bucks a month for this special event!
For future details, keep checking www.oa-bsa.org
and the *Tipi*.

Photography by Richard Connelly



Newest Vigil Recipient

Congratulations to our Lodge Chief,
J-T Wells, the latest recipient of the Vigil
Honor. J-T was presented his award on
Saturday morning of the 2008 Spring PowWow.

Calendar of Events

April 18 - 20	SR-7B Conclave @ Camp Bowers
May 16 - 17	Spring Inductions @ Camp Durant
June 22 - July 25	Summer Camp @ Camp Durant Brotherhood Trail each week
August 3 - 8	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) @ Camp Durant
September 19 - 21	Fall Fellowship @ Camp Durant
October 18 - 19	Vigil Gathering (site to be announced)
November 14 - 16	Lodge Leadership Development @ Campbell University
December 6	Lodge Winter Banquet (site to be announced)

