



The Deerpath



VOLUME 13, ISSUE 5

APRIL 2010

ECHECONNEE LODGE

CENTRAL GEORGIA COUNCIL, BSA MACON, GEORGIA

JUNE ORDEAL INDUCTION

For those candidates who were elected by fellow Scouts into the Order of the Arrow, the first Ordeal Weekend is on June 4-6 at Camp Ben Hawkins. It is our responsibility as Lodge members to encourage these candidates to complete the Ordeal and become members of the Order of the Arrow. If you are already a member planning to attend the Ordeal, then please assist our candidates by explaining what the OA is and, at the same time, working with them and getting them excited about their future as Arrowmen. The Lodge has decided to hold Brotherhood Ceremonies during the Ordeal. Brotherhood candidates have only two events left this year to seal their membership in the Order. The Lodge looks forward to a healthy attendance at the June Ordeal



June Ordeal Induction
June 4-6 Camp Ben Hawkins
Registration Form on pg. 7

IN THIS ISSUE:

From the Lodge Chief	1	Oconee District Camporee	2
Section SR-9 Chief	2	Brotherhood	5
From the Treasurer's Advisor	3	Conclave 2010	4
Trading Post Update	4	June Induction Forms	7

FROM THE LODGE CHIEF

Brothers,

For those of you who have been missing out, our Lodge has been busy lately. In February we helped the Central Georgia Council host the annual Extreme Games camporee. In March, our Lodge conducted both a Call-out ceremony and a Webelos Crossover ceremony at the Oconee

District Camporee. In April, our Lodge attended the Southern Region Section-9 Conclave at Camp Tukabatchee in Alabama. The 44 arrowmen from our Lodge who went had a great time. If you are missing out on all the fun and opportunities our Lodge is having, I encourage you to stay connected through the

Deerpath, the website (www.echeconnee.com), and through your OA Troop Representatives and Chapter Chiefs. Think of them as your "Gateway to the OA."

(Continued on Page 3)

**2010
Lodge Officers**

Lodge Chief

Tyler Stepanek

LodgeChief@Echeconnee.com

1st Vice-Chief

Tyler Johnson

1stViceChief@Echeconnee.com

2nd Vice-Chief

Sean Tighe

2ndViceChief@Echeconnee.com

3rd Vice-Chief

Jacob Kraft

3rdViceChief@Echeconnee.com

Secretary

Seth Lowery

Secretary@Echeconnee.com

Treasurer

Nathan van Loenen

Treasurer@Echeconnee.com

Advisers

Ross Adams

Chip Green

Advisers@Echeconnee.com

Staff Adviser

Matt Howell

StaffAdviser@Echeconnee.com

Chapter Chiefs

Oconee C.C.

Robert Sweat

oconnee@echeconnee.com

Ocmulgee C.C.

Sid Grigsby

ocmulgee@echeconnee.com

Pine Forest C.C.

Cole Rowland

pineforest@echeconnee.com

Robert L. Scott C.C.

Hank Harrison

rls@echeconnee.com

www.echeconnee.com

2010 SR-9 CONCLAVE

Fellow Brothers,

I am excited to serve as your Section Chief this year. I saw a great number of you at conclave, but hope to see more of you at future events. I am thrilled at the way your lodge has grown over the past couple of years. Your Lodge leadership as well as adult advisers take pride in what they do and it shows with the improvements I have seen in the past 2 years. I want to encourage each and every one of you to get involved. Whether it be in a leadership position, a dancer, or ceremonialist, this Order has something for everyone. Remind brothers who around you to come to meetings and participate in the rich traditions this organization has. I guarantee that you will find

something you enjoy. I hope to see you all in the near future. Please never hesitate to contact me at rajpal.sagoo@yahoo.com, on Facebook, and be sure to follow us on twitter at SR9Chief10.

WWW,
Rajpal
Sagoo
Section
Chief



OCONEE DISTRICT

The Order of the Arrow recently was an excellent event. Everyone provided service at the Oconee had a great time. I encourage OA District Camporee, which was brothers to assist with district located at South Creek in Mil- events. It's a great opportunity ledgeville on April 9th-11th. Sev- for service and fun!

Several youth and adult members assisted with the activities for both Cubs and Scouts. The ceremonies team, (Robert Sweat, Sean Tighe, and Tyler Stepanek) conducted an great callout ceremony for the twelve newly elected OA candidates. The team also conducted a Crossover ceremony for the seven Webelos crossing over from their Cub Scout Packs to several Oconee District Troops. The Camporee

Robert Sweat

Ordeal Member

Oconee District

FROM THE LODGE CHIEF (CONT.)

THIS JUST IN!

Tyler Stepanek

2010 Echeconnee Lodge Chief

National has rejected our Lodge Flap! Because of a new stipulation set forth by the National Board of BSA, our Lodge is required to design a new Lodge Flap. I encourage each of you to attend the LEC (Lodge Executive Committee) Meeting on May 20 at the Council Office. This meeting is open to any Echeconnee Lodge member. We are looking for your opinions in handling this twist. Please, let your voice be heard on this matter.



FROM THE TREASURER'S ADVISOR

Since OA is a service-oriented organization, opportunities arise throughout the year to accomplish this. The upcoming events will assist you in planning for the next year:

Sep 10-12: Fall induction weekend. Your presence is highly desired.

Sep 18-19: Ocmulgee Indian Festival in Macon. This is our annual service project. It is an opportunity to serve the vendors and dancers lunch and drinks. Plenty of time to wander the festival and watch the ceremonies, as well as get a history of the Ocmulgee Indian Mounds.

Nov: Fall Fellowship. Good times for all. Competitions, cracker barrels, and patch auctions. Elections for next years Lodge Executive committee.

Jan/Feb: Lodge Banquet. Meet and Greet your new Lodge staff. Dinner will be served.

April: Spring Conclave. Meet other OA members from your section (8 other lodges) in various competitions and gatherings. Another good time!

The 3rd Thursday of every month, the LEC has their monthly meetings. Come join us at the council to see how decisions are made and what the leadership of your lodge is planning for future events.

As ordeal members, you can solidify your position with the Order when you accept to walk the brotherhood trail. This can be done after you have been an ordeal member for at least 10 months.

The next opportunity will be at spring induction 2010.

To access the national OA website: <http://www.oa-bsa.org/>. Here you will find a wealth of information on NOAC, High Adventure, and other Boy Scout related areas. You will want to check out the High Adventure area!

Alan Stepanek

Echeconnee Lodge Advisor

TRADING POST UPDATE

National OA will no longer approve the design of the current Lodge Flaps with the Indian and the spear with the atlatl. We suspected something when we had to change the design on the 2009 Fall Fellowship patch. Based on this decision, if you have not already picked up either of the current Lodge Flaps, we suggest you do it soon. We have very few (about 18) 2010 Anniversary Lodge Flaps and (about 60) standard Black Bordered Lodge Flaps left. They will become collector's items as the LEC is working on a new design that will be released in 2012. Currently,

the LEC is designing a "transitional" lodge flap for 2011.

Another item that is in short supply is the standard Back Patch. We only have 9 left. These too, have the same design as the Lodge flap and the same issue applies to this as it does to the Lodge Flap.

If you are a youth and like to collect patches, I have an opportunity for you. We have a Back Patch for Ceremonies Team members. You can only purchase these if you meet the qualifications. Talk with the 2nd Vice, (Vigil member Sean T.) about what these qualifications

are.

Also, we now have Polo shirts for sale at the Trading Post starting at the June Induction! We were able to get a limited amount of shirts that are embroidered with the OA Logo on the left chest. These shirts will sell for \$15 each.

Again, we have a limited quantity in various sizes ranging from Adult Medium to Adult XXL. Purchase yours early because once they are gone, they're gone!

Luke van Loenen

Echeconnee Lodge Treasurer

2010 SR-9 CONCLAVE

This was my first OA conclave. I was excited and full of anticipation even though I really didn't know what to expect.

Friday night we loaded up the trailer with all our gear, divided ourselves into two vehicles, and went on our way. Approximately three and a half hours later, we arrived at our destination: Camp Tukabatchee. Camp Tukabatchee is located in Prattville, AL. This awesome BSA Scout Camp consists of a large parade field, trading post, air conditioned dining hall, and a giant lake with its very own island. Over 700 Arrowmen from 9 lodges attended this SR9 Conclave.

Upon arriving at the camp,

we dropped off the dunk tank that our lodge brought with us. With that task completed, we met up with the rest of our lodge at our campsite. After unloading the gear and setting up our tents, we headed down to the island for the opening show. This exhilarating show was full of flying beach balls, inspiring presentations, humorous skits, introductions to important people, and much more. After all the evening festivities were finished, we were ready to head back to our campsites and relax a bit before getting some much needed shut-eye.

Over the next two days we took classes, which included every-

thing from designing patches to OA High Adventure. We played Ultimate Frisbee against other lodges, tried to find "Mr." Axe (who turned out to be "Mrs." Axe), traded patches, watched more humorous videos, met new OA members, made new friends, and above all, had fun in the outdoors.

Like I said, that was my first OA Conclave. I may have not known what to expect, but I ended up having a BLAST! I know at least one person will be attending the next OA Conclave - ME!

*Kenny Higginbotham
Ordeal Member
Robert L. Scott District*

WHY SHOULD I BECOME A BROTHERHOOD MEMBER?

Have you asked yourself or heard others ask that question?

The most important answer for becoming a Brotherhood Member is that it marks the completion of your Induction (Ordeal) into the Order and seals your membership as a member of the Order of the Arrow. After 10 months as an Ordeal member you decide whether to become a Brotherhood Member – Yes, **YOU** decide. It is the **ONLY** Honor in which the member makes that determination. For the other two Honors you are elected by the youth members of your Troop (adults are nominated) for Induction into the OA and following your induction weekend become an Ordeal member, whereas Vigil members (youth and adult) are elected by the youth members of their Lodge.

Another answer to the question is you cannot be considered for the Vigil Honor until you have attained and held Brotherhood Membership for a minimum of two years. As a Brotherhood member you commit to providing greater service to Scouting through your Troop, District, Council, and Echeconnee Lodge.

There is no better time to begin preparing for Brotherhood membership than right now. How do you become a Brotherhood Member? There are Five (5)

challenges for walking the Brotherhood Trail. They are:

1. Know the signs of OA Membership: They are the Obligation, Song, Admonition, Sign of the Ordeal Membership and Handclasp as given during your Ordeal Ceremony.
2. Have an understanding and purpose of the Ordeal.
3. Continue to serve your Scouting Unit for 10 months after becoming an Ordeal Member.
4. Continue to attend OA Events and provide support and service to Echeconnee Lodge.
5. Write a letter to the Secretary of Echeconnee Lodge explaining what the Obligation means to you, how you have been fulfilling the Obligation, and how you plan to provide service to Echeconnee Lodge once becoming a Brotherhood Member and into the future. You may email this letter to Secretary@echeconnee.com or bring it with you during the Induction weekend.

If you are not sure about the Five Challenges above, ask a fellow Lodge Member or Refer to “The Customs and Traditions of the Ordeal” Questions and Answers, on pages 52-

54 of your OA Handbook – Review your OA Handbook and visit the OA Jumpstart webpage at <http://www.jumpstart.oa-bsa.org/> for further information.

The Brotherhood Trail is not walked alone; it is made with fellow OA members and completed within a couple hours just before the Brotherhood Ceremony begins. Invite friends from your Troop or others you know who are Ordeal members like yourself to walk the Brotherhood Trail with you

Your next opportunity to become a Brotherhood Member occurs during the next Induction weekend to be held at Camp Benjamin Hawkins June 4,5,& 6 2010. The cost for the weekend is \$16.00 which covers the cost of your Brotherhood Sash and meals. Come out and join your Fellow Lodge Members, complete the Brotherhood Trail with them, and enjoy the Fellowship among your friends.



FOR BROTHERHOOD

(Written by Tyler Johnson; Edited by Seth Lowery)

2010 ECHECONNEE LODGE DUES CAN BE PAID

**DUE DECEMBER 31ST
PLEASE PAY SOON**

**PAY AT ORDEAL
WEEKEND OR FALL
FELLOWSHIP OR
FORM ON WEBSITE**

Due to modern times that effect lodge members from attending OA events, the Lodge is promoting it's six decade long history. Many lodges have their own mascot. The mascot may be a animal, Indian, sprit and more. Echeconnee Lodge has adopted the Deer. The Deer is on the Lodge newsletter, The Deerpath, and patches. We are promoting the Deer, and history, to keep the spirit of the Lodge healthy, so the lodges spirit will not die.



Echeconnee Lodge Totem

BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS

Last year, we had several dozen people obtain Brotherhood. These members have now sealed their membership in the Order, and Echeconnee Lodge. Having this many members convert to Brotherhood, the chances of 2011 National Quality Lodge are looking good. Thanks to lodge volunteers, members and new Ordeal members. Echeconnee Lodge congratulates those on earning the Brotherhood honor.

Though the might have completed they journey, the service they can give can never end. When you are an Ordeal member, you are entitled to all OA privileges. By becoming a Brotherhood member, you are officially in the Order of the Arrow. New Ordeal members, we encourage you to take the Brotherhood challenge, and complete the trail. Refer to your OA

handbook and the national

website for guidance and help.

Also feel free to contact any Lodge officer if you have any questions. Congratulations to all of the new Brotherhood members.

Remember, it's an impossibility to skip Brotherhood and still be considered for Vigil Honor! Just come on out, have a blast, and seal your membership with the Order of the Arrow! Hope to see you there!



ECHECONNEE LODGE CALENDAR

June Ordeal Induction

June 4-6 2010

Camp Benjamin Hawkins

September Ordeal Induction

September 10-12

Camp Benjamin Hawkins

One Day of Service

September 13-15, 2009

Ocmulgee Indian Mounds

Echeconnee Fall Fellowship

November 5-7, 2010

Camp Benjamin Hawkins

Winter Leadership Retreat

January 21-23, 2011

SPRING INDUCTION WEEKEND REGISTRATION



Echeconnee Lodge...It's time for another weekend full of food, fun, and fellowship.

Brotherhood will be available for any Ordeal member that has been in the Order for ten months. There will be a Brotherhood ceremony Saturday night prior to the Ordeal Ceremony. **The cost for Brotherhood is only \$16. MEDICAL FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND**

You can also download the application online at www.Echeconnee.com

Echeconnee Lodge Spring Induction Weekend, June 4-6, 2010 at Camp Ben Hawkins

Registration must be received by ~~Friday, May 28th~~
Sunday 30th

In order to attend, your dues must be current for 2010. Dues can be paid at the event.

Name	Dates of your Ordeal/Brotherhood/Vigil	Male/ Female	Youth/Adult
	/ /		
	/ /		
	/ /		
	/ /		

<p style="text-align: center;">REGISTER BY: Mailing registration form, with payment to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Central Georgia Council, BSA 4335 Confederate Way Macon, GA 31217</p> <p style="color: red; font-size: small;">NOTE: If you purchased a 2010 EVENT PASS, you have already paid the weekend fee. Please annotate with "Event Pass" and it will be confirmed with the information from Lodge Master.</p>	<p>WEEKEND FEE: \$15.00 x (number of registrants) = \$ _____</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; text-align: center;">Do Not Accept after Friday, May 30th 2010</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; text-align: center;">After May 28, you may register upon arrival at CBH with \$5 late registration fee per person</p> <p>Brotherhood Fee: \$16.00 x (number of registrants) = \$ _____</p> <p>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED = \$ _____</p>		
<p>There is no guarantee there will be patches for walk-ins Make checks payable to: Central Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America</p>			
Cash or check (circle one)	Check #	Amount \$	

ECHECONNEE LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW
CENTRAL GEORGIA
COUNCIL, BSA
4335 CONFEDERATE WAY
MACON, GEORGIA 31217

*The Deerpath is the official
newsletter of the Echeconnee
Lodge. It is published quarterly.
If you have any comments, please
email the Editor at:
Editor@Echeconnee.com*



CONCLAVE 2012

Echeconnee Lodge has taken the responsibility of hosting the SR-9 Section Conclave in 2012.

There has not been a set date or a voted location. Due to size Camp Ben Hawkins is not big enough to support the event. Therefore the lodge is looking for a new location. Every Conclave has a team of arrowmen who plan the event, this year the lodge has selected a Conclave Chairman, Tyler Stepanek currently serving as Lodge Treasurer and a Conclave Adviser, Alan Stepanek also serving as Adviser to the Treasurer. The two are doing a great job so far in finding information on locations and dates so the lodge may run a successful Conclave. The Lodge has done a lot of research for our turn to hold Conclave. Last year at Camp Comer, we observed the way Coosa

Lodge held Conclave 2009.



We hope to run a successful conclave, with your help, we can make that happen. Echeconnee has not held a conclave in over 20 years.

WE ARE ON THE WEB
WWW.ECHECONNEE.COM



ECHECONNEE LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW
CENTRAL GEORGIA COUNCIL, BSA
4335 CONFEDERATE WAY
MACON, GEORGIA 31217