



The Deerpath



VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2015

ECHECONNEE LODGE

CENTRAL GEORGIA COUNCIL, BSA MACON, GEORGIA

CHIEFLY SPEAKING

The Lodge Banquet was held January 24, 2015, in Macon. The evening started with great food and fellowship. The Lodge was honored to have the 2015 Southeast Region Chief Alex Leach attend and give the keynote speech. 2015 is starting on a high note to have a current National Officer attend. We also want to thank Section Secretary Matt Harris, Section Adviser Devlin Cooper, and CVC Alex East for attending.

The evening awards included: Lodge Chief's Award—Alex Swaine; Lodge Adviser's Award—Ron Norton; the Silver Shaft - Ocmulgee Chapter; and the Founder's Award—Kenny Higginbotham.

To complete the evening, four of the six Lodge Chief's, that served with Lodge Adviser Ross Adams, were present and made remarks about their time serving with Ross. Each Chief presented Ross with a frame containing all the Echeconnee patches made during his seven years as Lodge Adviser. This totaled six framed sets for Ross's collection. We wish Ross the best in "retirement" and a grateful THANK YOU!!



This is a special year for the Lodge, but also for the Order of the Arrow. We have made it to the Centennial Year, which means we have hit 100 years! For such a special time the LEC has planned events for everyone to enjoy, youth and adult, but it takes everyone to make it bigger than what we planned. I would like to invite everyone to come join us at all of our events this year, to celebrate this special occasion and to help make this year more memorable.

If you are looking for something to do this year we would be glad to help you find that something. We have several things that we need brothers for, so if you're interested in helping feel free to contact me or any member of the LEC.

This year is full of potential, and with the help of all brothers here in the Lodge we can put Echeconnee Lodge at the top. Lets not think of this as the end of a century, but the beginning of another 100 great years of a program that has provided leaders for all in this great nation..

Robert Sweat
2015 Lodge Chief



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“IT STARTS WITH US”

(2015 NOAC Theme)



Past Lodge Chief Kenny Higginbotham
2014 Founder’s Award



2015 Lodge Executive Committee (LEC)

1st row: SE Region Chief Alex Leach, Lodge Chief Robert Sweat 2nd row: John Norton, Christian Nobles, Zach Woods 3rd row: Thayer Seabrook, Alex Boland, Mark Donnell, Alex Swaine 4th row: Ryan Loney, Cullen Patterson



Ross Adams
Serving 7 years as Lodge Adviser
2008 * 2015



2015

Lodge Officers

Lodge Chief

Robert Sweat

LodgeChief@Echeconnee.com

1st Vice-Chief

Alex Swaine

1stViceChief@Echeconnee.com

2nd Vice-Chief

Ryan Loney

2ndViceChief@Echeconnee.com

3rd Vice-Chief

Christian Nobles

3rdViceChief@Echeconnee.com

Secretary

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Treasurer

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Adviser

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Cell: 478-396-2822

Staff Adviser

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Chapter Chiefs

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Ocmulgee C.C.

Cullen Patterson

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Pine Forest C.C.

Mark Donnell

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Robert L. Scott C.C.

Johnathan Norton

rls@echeconnee.com

Deerpath Editor

Chip Greene

MORE NEWS YOU CAN USE:

What is "Sash and Dash" disease and can I get it?

Unfortunately, "Sash and Dash" disease is a real affliction that sometimes infects new Ordeal members. Its symptoms are much like the similar "Flap and Flee" syndrome.

Early warning signs are:

 Leaving the Ordeal weekend never to be seen again at an O.A. event.

 Unwillingness to exhibit any "cheerful service"

 Desire to be seen with a sash or flap publicly but only to be seen

 Clean, crisp sash showing no signs of having ever gotten dirty in service to others.

Infected members often are heard to make statements like, "I earned my O.A."; "I have other things to do"; "All the O.A. work is done". In its more advance stages, Ordeal members may express a lack of appetite after ten months of membership to complete the Ordeal and achieve the "Brotherhood" membership. In the most advanced stages, having never participated in any O.A. activity, having become totally uninvolved, the patient will simply do nothing and never pay their dues after the first year.

"Sash and Dash" is easy to avoid and readily treatable. First, members should take a healthy attitude and get involved early. Even occasional exposure to lodge or chapter activities can boost the immune system and reduce the chances of this disease occurring.

An early warning sign is the statement, "Nobody asked me to get involved or to help. Nobody called me." When this occurs, the best course is to show up at the next meeting or event, and get involved. In many cases, we have confirmed reports of sufferers being quickly cured just by having a buddy ask them to come with them to the next lodge meeting or activity.

If you're a Scoutmaster of a troop with Scouts showing any of the above symptoms, get them immediately to the next chapter meeting.

Even something as simple as paying one's O.A. dues once a year will help to keep this disease at bay. Fun is the best prevention technique we've discovered.

Avoid "Sash and Dash". Get out and have some fun. Get involved with the Order. Get your sash dirty!

Spring Fellowship—CBH :

The Spring Fellowship is the next Lodge event, March 6—8, 2015. 1st Vice Chief Alex Swaine is planning outstanding events and campfires. 3rd Vice Chief Christian Nobles is planning two dynamic training sessions: Elangomat and OA Troop Representative. Plan to attend the training and be better prepared to assist with the retention of members who are the future of the Lodge for the next 100 years. You are not required to attend the training unless you are interested in these two important functions. You can enjoy games, relaxing under the Persimmon tree, hike around CBH, or work on your own service project. It's a Fellowship which means FUN! Was it mentioned—great food by the Cook Team !! The cost for the weekend is \$23.00.

OA Afghan Awarded:

The winning ticket was drawn at the Lodge Banquet with the winning number going to Steve Bell. Mr. Bell is on the Council Executive Committee. We would like to thank Gwen Harn Rideout for the donation of the afghan and matching funds. The money raised is helping offset the cost of NOAC contingent.

From the Editor

It seems that some new arrowmen got omitted from the last edition of the *Deerpath*. My apologies for this. Please join me in recognizing these new brothers into our lodge:

◆ Kimberly Simmons

SPRING FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND REGISTRATION



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

COPIES OF MEDICAL FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND

Convenient online registration: <http://echeconneespringfellowship2015eventbrite.com/>
 Or, download the application online at www.Echeconnee.com and mail it in or turn it in at check-in

Echeconnee Lodge Spring Fellowship Weekend, March 6-8, 2015 at Camp Ben Hawkins
 If you have not paid dues for 2015 they will be collected at the event.

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

<p>IF REGISTERING BY MAIL: Mail this registration form, and payment to: Central Georgia Council, BSA 4335 Confederate Way Macon, GA 31217</p> <p style="color: red; font-size: small;">NOTE: If you purchased a 2015 EVENT PASS, you have already paid the weekend fee. Please annotate with "Event Pass" and it will be confirmed when checking in.</p>	<p>WEEKEND FEE: \$20.00 x (number of registrants) = \$ _____</p> <p>2015 Event Pass Holder = \$ 0.00 Please check if you have an 2015 Event Pass <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2015 DUES (if not already paid) : \$12.00 x (# of registrants) = \$ _____</p> <p>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED = \$ _____</p>
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Make checks payable to: Central Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America

Cash or check (circle one)	Check #	Amount \$
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UPCOMING EVENTS

SR9 SECTION CONCLAVE : APRIL 24-26, 2015

UNIT ELECTIONS— 2015

WHAT IS A CONCLAVE?

The Echeconnee Lodge is made up of 4 chapters which are the 4 districts of the Central GA Council. We are in the Southeast Region and in Section 9 of the Order of the Arrow. The Section is made up by the Lodges. Southeast Region 9(SR9) is made up of 11 Lodges including Echeconnee. The Lodges in SR9 are made up 3 Lodges from Alabama and 8 Lodges from GA. The Conclave is the Section event where the 11 Lodges gather for a weekend of fun, patch trading, competitions between Lodges, and training sessions. The Conclave could have between 700 to 1000 fellow Arrowmen at the event, All members of Echeconnee are encouraged to attend. We usually have several cars going so there are ways to get there even if you do not drive. The 2015 Conclave is at Camp Sidney Dew near Rome, GA, only 2 to 3 hours away. You can register by sending in the registration form (included in Deerpath) to the Council Office or through Eventbrite found on the Lodge Facebook page : Echeconnee Lodge OA. The cost for the weekend is \$34.00. It's a great weekend—do not miss it!

“The seventh annual SR-9 conclave is quickly approaching. What better time and opportunity do you have to get the members of your lodge excited about the Order's 100th anniversary? Help us make this the biggest conclave yet. If each lodge pushed to get 15% of their membership to at-tend, we'd have the biggest for sure. As you know, conclave is likely the best OA event of the year besides NO-AC. With the addition of the lodge chief reunion and other centennial activities, this conclave promises to be the best yet. “

-Matt Harris Section Secretary

It is time to start planning and conducting Troop Unit Elections. If you are an OA Troop Representative, please contact your Chapter Chief at the email listed below. The Chapter Chiefs will begin contacting Scoutmasters and schedule a Unit Election. OA members are encourage to assist in this process. This is a vital function of our Lodge to gain new members.

Chapter Chiefs

Oconee C.C. Thayer Seabrook

oconnee@echeconnee.com

Ocmulgee C.C. Cullen Patterson

ocmulgee@echeconnee.com

Pine Forest C.C. Mark Donnell

pineforest@echeconnee.com

Robert L. Scott C.C. Johnathan Norton

rls@echeconnee.com

Lodges of SR9:

[Alibamu Lodge](#), Tukabatchee Area Council – Montgomery, AL

[Aracoma Lodge](#), Black Warrior Council – Tuscaloosa, AL

[Chattahoochee Lodge](#), Chattahoochee Council – Columbus, GA

[Coosa Lodge](#), Greater Alabama Council – Birmingham, AL

[Echeconnee Lodge](#), Central Georgia Council – Macon, GA

[Egwa Tawa Dee Lodge](#), Atlanta Area Council – Atlanta, GA

[Ini-to Lodge](#), Flint River Council – Griffin, GA

[I-Tsu-La Lodge](#), Coastal Georgia Council—

Savannah, GA

[Mowogo Lodge](#), Northeast Georgia Council –

Gainesville, GA

[Waguli Lodge](#), Northwest Georgia Council –

Rome, GA

[Withlacoochee Lodge](#), South Georgia Council –



Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

2015 SR-9 Conclave

April 24-26 at Camp Sidney Dew



Circle one - youth (12-17), youth adult (18-20), adult male, adult female
 Circle one - Ordeal, Brotherhood, Vigil Circle one - First conclave? Yes, No

Very limited inventory will be available for sale at conclave. Order yours today so you do not miss out.

Trading post items are only available until March 6. Do not order these after March 6 without speaking to your lodge leadership.



Patch w/ loop



Jacket patch



Super patch (plus totems)



Chenille



T-shirt



Neckerchief



Luggage tag



Conclave hat

	Qty	Each	Total
Patch w/ loop	_____	\$ 4.00	_____
Jacket patch	_____	\$ 8.00	_____
Super patch	_____	\$ 15.00	_____
Chenille	_____	\$ 10.00	_____
T-shirt S, M, L, X (circle)	_____	\$ 12.00	_____
T-shirt 2X, 3X, 4X (circle)	_____	\$ 13.00	_____
Neckerchief	_____	\$ 10.00	_____
Luggage tag	_____	\$ 5.00	_____
Hat	_____	\$ 12.00	_____

Available on site only:
 Vigil rededication patch - \$5

Conclave fee \$ 32.00
Add \$18 late fee if paid after 3/31 _____
 Trading post items (do not order after 3/6) _____
 Total due _____

Send to: Your Council
 Address _____
 City, ST ZIP _____
 Make checks payable to BSA

Arrowman Service Award



Members of the Order of the Arrow will soon be able to celebrate the organization's 100th anniversary by working to complete the Arrowman Service Award. This award, which some are referring to as "the sash patch," will be recognized as one of the few patches that have ever been approved by the OA National Committee to be worn on the Order of the Arrow sash.

The purpose of the Arrowman Service Award (ASA) is to encourage Arrowmen to recommit themselves to the ideals of the Order of the Arrow, increase their level of service to their local unit and council, and participate in the 100th anniversary celebration of the OA.

The award will have three categories of criteria with various requirements that Arrowmen can complete.

These include personal growth, service to Scouting, and participation in the centennial celebration. Those completing the requirements will receive the patch at left that can be worn on your Order of the Arrow sash.

All Echeconnee Events this year will be a Centennial Celebration Event, so that every member has an opportunity to earn this Arrowman's Service Award.

Begin your first step to earn this award by attending the Spring Fellowship, 6-8 March at Camp Benjamin Hawkins. Contacts for this award are: Alex Swaine 1stvicechief@echeconnee.com (Youth Requirements) or Hank Personius hsperson@cox.net (Adult Requirements) –

THOUGHTS FROM UNDER THE PERSIMMON TREE...

Greetings Lodge Members,

I am the Lodge Adviser as of January 24, 2015. I have been co-adviser with Ross Adams this past year learning from a great leader. Ross has taken on more responsibility in scouting by helping start a new scout troop and serving as Asst. Scoutmaster, and additional duties with Wood Badge. I was asked by Ross and Scout Executive Garrett Williams to step into this role. I appreciate their confidence and support. I would ask for your support for a smooth transition. Echeconnee Lodge is strong and usually runs like "a well oiled machine." I do not anticipate anything different while I am Lodge Adviser.

How can you support the Lodge and what is expected? Your attendance is the first step, but communication is the biggest step. If you like something, do not like something, have ideas, suggestions, or need something, please do not hesitate to contact me (cell: 478-396-2822; email: CMRott327@cox.net). I am serving as your lodge adviser and am here to ensure your experiences with Echeconnee events are enjoyable and positive. I want and need your input and suggestions—both youth and adult, so we know we if are doing it right, if we need to pick up the pace, or try traveling down a different trail.

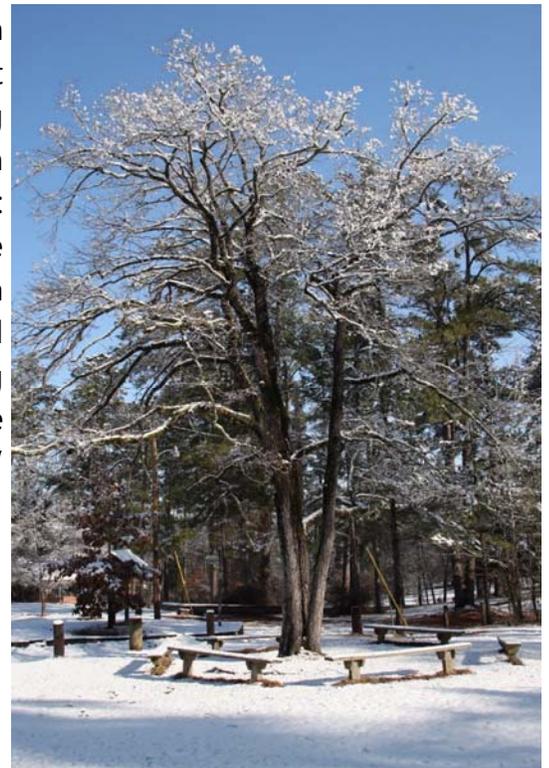
I have served Echeconnee Lodge as Oconee Chapter Chief, Lodge 1st Vice Chief, Lodge Chief, and as Section Chief. I was in Troop 124 and then Troop 87 in Milledgeville where I earned Eagle Scout. I currently live in Macon and I am Special Agent in Charge of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Training Unit. One of my job duties is a GBI bomb technician which helps keep the LEC from going over the top on starting campfires for the ceremonies.

2015 is the 100th year of the Order of the Arrow with National, Regional, and Sectional events. The Conclave is at Sidney Dew in North Georgia, we have a contingent attending NOAC in Michigan, and various NLS sessions, not to mention all the Echeconnee Events. Keep track via the website: www.echeconnee.com, like us on Facebook—"Echeconnee Lodge OA." We only have two new Lodge Officers and a Chapter Chief for each chapter. So, we have a seasoned and experienced LEC which should reflect some outstanding events this year. This is going to be a great year so make sure you are part of it! "Follow me, and let us find the arrow..." "Seek the higher vision..."

W.W.W.

Craig Rotter

2015 Echeconnee Lodge Adviser





ECHECONNIE LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW

CENTRAL GEORGIA
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MACON, GEORGIA 31217

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If you have any comments, please
email the Editor at:
Editor@Echeconnee.com*



February:	12	LEC – Council Office
March:	6-8	Spring Fellowship CBH
April:	10-12	NLS / NLATS Radnor, Va
	16	LEC
	24-26	Section Conclave - Camp Sidney Dew—Rome, GA
May:	7	LEC
	9	CBH Workday
	15-17	Spring Council Camporee (Callout)
	29-31	OA Induction
June:		open
July:	5	Centennial Arrow Tour - Camp Bert Adams
August:	1-10	NOAC—Michigan State University
	20	LEC
September:	11-13	OA Induction—CBH
	19-20	Indian Festival – Ocmulgee Indian Mounds
	25-27	Council Camporee
October:	5	LEC
November:	6-8	Fall Fellowship—CBH
December:	12-13	LLD
January 2016:	23	Lodge Banquet

WE ARE ON THE WEB
WWW.ECHECONNIE.COM

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