

RED FEATHER HERALD

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Coosa Lodge 50
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Greater Alabama Council 1
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Coosa Lodge 50 Brings Home Honors in the NOAC Indian Events!

By Will Hayes, Lodge Vice-Chief of Fellowship

Coosa Lodge 50 brought home many awards from NOAC 2002 in both ceremonies and in dance. In dance, Charlie Simmons, Stephen Hayes, and Will Hayes competed in the traditional style of dance. In this style over 200 dancers competed, while advancing through each round accordingly. Charlie and Will both advanced to the second to last round, that's in the top twenty out of 200 dancers!

In ceremonies Coosa Lodge 50 also brought home top honors. Coosa Lodge 50 competed in both the pre-ordeal ceremony and the call-out ceremony. In the pre-ordeal ceremony Charlie Simmons, Will Hayes, Andrew Land, and Kevin Pocus earned Honor, which is the highest rating any ceremony team can earn. Charlie Simmons, Will Hayes, Stephen Hayes, Andrew Land, and Kevin Pocus also earned Honor in the call-out ceremony, which was a new competition NOAC.

Charlie Simmons, Will Hayes, Stephen Hayes, Andrew Land, Kevin Pocus, Daniel Rodda, and Robert Thomason put on a special ceremony for the national museum. The ceremony was a re-creation of the original ceremony of the OA.

Fall Fellowship A Blast For All Those Who Attended!

By Will Hayes, Lodge Vice-Chief of Fellowship

Fall Fellowship 2002 ended the year in fine fashion for Coosa 50. It was a fun and learning experience for all those who attended. The weekend started out right with the call-out ceremony for the class of 2002 Vigil's, and plenty of movies and patch trading. Saturday morning brought with it many fun, hands on classes such as building a dance outfit, and being an effective Elangomat. Soon after the classes were over the mood changed. It was time to elect the new lodge officers for 2003. Each candidate was given a few minutes to speak on their behalf. The new lodge officers were announced during lunch. After lunch it was time to let the games begin. It started out with nice water-balloon bath for the new lodge officers from the

lodge. Then it was time for the first ever game of flickerball, the game was huge success. Other games included volleyball, and closest to pin golf. After dinner it was time for the grand shabang... the evening show. The show included Native American Dancing, the presentation of the new Vigil Honor members, a few words from the new chief, a thank-you to all the past lodge officers, a slide show with few pictures that poked fun, and a special slide show for Gene Wright. Indeed, the fall fellowship was great fun for all who attended. We all look forward seeing those who attended this year, and those who missed out, at Fall Fellowship 2003!



Lodge Leadership Development Conference Coming Up!

By Red Feather Herald Staff

The annual Coosa Lodge Leadership Development Conference (LLDC) will be hosted by the Achunanchi Tribe at Camp Comer on Saturday, January 25, 2003. Registration will start at 8 A.M., and the conference will be from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. The entire lodge is invited and the chapter, tribe, lodge officers and committee chairmen are required to attend.

Those who complete the course will receive the special Coosa LLDC patch.

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Are You Official?

By Joey Kiker, Lodge Vice-Chief of Service

Arrowmen, it's that time again! Time to pay your lodge Order of the Arrow dues, if you didn't pay them at the Fall Fellowship Pow-Wow. Your dues cover the cost of rechartering the lodge with the National Order of the Arrow Office, and these newsletters, among other things! Dues are \$8.00 for 2003, and all you have to do is get the dues form off the awesome Coosa web site (coosa50.org), or use the one in this newsletter, and mail it and your \$8.00 to the Birmingham Scout Office by December 21, 2002. Once received, you will receive a new 2003 Coosa Lodge Membership Card in the mail, which will be required to purchase lodge memorabilia and patches during 2003. New Arrowmen, don't worry about paying your dues this year; this year is on us if you went through a 2002 ordeal. Thanks for all your help and remember Coosa Lodge 50 Rules!

Sequoyah Ordeal of 2002

By Loring S. Jones, IV, Nunne Hi First Vice Chief and Elections Vice Chief

Coosa's second Ordeal of 2002, held at camp Sequoyah, ended with favorable success. Over the weekend of August 16th to 18th, more than 170 Ordeal Candidates and around fifty Brotherhood Candidates (with even more members simply in attendance to help) entered upon, and successfully completed, their various tests. Will Davis and Evan Sanderson, the dual Ordeal Master team, successfully led the multitude of candidates through a weekend that was both trying on the mind and the body - even for those leading the project.

As the candidates began to arrive that Friday afternoon (and some even trickled in late that evening), I began to realize the great task that lay before us that weekend; I knew registration was only the beginning. As Elangomat Chief, I was busy with a juggling act of trying to recruit the twenty to twenty-five Elangomats that were originally believed were needed to lead the clans the following Saturday, and placing the candidates themselves within clans. Eventually, as the registration process died down, and more members began to arrive, the ranks were filled and the rosters of clans were taken. The candidates' long night was just gearing up - they then waited hours for the ceremony teams to prepare and for night to fall.

The ceremonies were fantastic. The teams represented were those from Mulberry and Nunne Hi Chapters. The teams serving during the weekend performed nine separate times, and, as far as I noticed, flawlessly. This was actually the debut of the Nunne Hi team, and their performance was one to be remembered. After the ceremonies, the candidates were bedded down, and their night under the stars thus commenced.

Saturday, once the candidates had been introduced to boiled eggs, the clans were separated into work groups who mostly cleared the dam throughout the day. Other projects included the painting of the front gate, the painting of the chain link fence around the climbing tower, and various other carpentry projects. The workday ended in the knowledge of achievement and a goal reached.

The weekend was beautiful, made all the more so because of the accomplishments of our Lodge. I would personally wish to extend grateful thanks to all who came, and to all who served. To the more than twenty Elangomat volunteers at the Sequoyah Ordeal, I also wish to extend sincere thanks. I would urge you all to strive for the Coosa Lodge Elangomat Award, whose requirements are listed on your handout. We are a brotherhood - one of cheerful service - and that was evident in the outstanding volunteerism witnessed during this ordeal. Thanks to all.

Arrow Points

Coosa Philmont OA Trip Planned!

Plans are developing for a Coosa Lodge contingent to Philmont during Spring Break of 2003 - if you are between 18 and 25 and are interested, please contact Jon Ingram, Associate Lodge Adviser - Cherokee Tribe, at 205-646-3231.

Arrowman Service Award Applications Due

Last call for 2002 Arrowman Service Award completed applications! If you have completed the requirements, please notify Dr. Flatt by email, and mail your completed application sheet to Dr. Flatt at: 5811 Macon Drive, Huntsville, AL 35802 by December 22nd. If you need an application, visit the Coosa Lodge website (www.Coosa50.org) and download one from the "Forms and Publications" page.

New Lodge Membership Cards

The Lodge membership cards for 2003 will contain information on the restricted lodge items which are for sale in the trading post, such as lodge flaps, Brotherhood neckerchiefs, etc. When you pay your dues for 2003 (see the enclosed dues form), you will receive your new card in the mail. Remember to bring it to all Lodge functions - you must present your current membership card to buy these items in the trading post.

Coosa 50 Dance Team Needs Members!

Coosa 50 dance team takes first place at Conclave 2003? No, not yet. Want to be on the Coosa 50 dance team? Contact Will Hayes at (205) 856-7380 or mrkchk50@aol.com for more information. Come be apart of the wining tradition of the Coosa 50 dance team!

From The Lodge Chief

By Robert Thomason, Lodge Chief

Brothers,

I would like to thank all of you for supporting me at the fall fellowship. I'm going to "do my best" this year to help out the lodge and my fellow brothers. This year will be a very important year for our lodge, in that there are new things being introduced to the lodge that will help out greatly in the future. One of my plans for the next year is to have a bigger turnout for all of the 2003 events for our lodge, starting with the Lodge Leadership Development Conference, which should be a blast. Who knows, there might even be a surprise when you get there. I really want all of you to know that I am here for you and to help you to the best of my ability. I'm excited about the potential this year holds and look forward to seeing us mature as a Lodge this year. Remember, since we are all bound by the ties of brotherhood, we are more than a team - we are family, and with all of us working together, we will keep this lodge as the best lodge in the nation.

Your Brother in Scouting,

Arapaho Chapter News

By Gabe Moore, Arapaho Chapter

The Westmoreland and Arrowhead Districts' Camporee on September 27th thru the 29th was a great success. Over five hundred Scouts and Scouters showed up to participate in a "Trail of Tears" indian theme at Camp Westmoreland. Arapaho chapter of the Order of the Arrow sponsored the campfire on Saturday night. Scouts who helped were Cory Pearsall, Alex Scalfano, Randy Mills, Byron Haynes, Robert Brown and Phillip Webster who served as the Master of Ceremonies. The Scouts and Scouters were led out by a torch along a smudge pot-lit trail to an open spot with a large bonfire. There were skits, awards, and traditional indian stories that enthralled the spectators for two hours. The "Trail of Tears" camporee, hosted by Troop 275 of Priceville, was the most well put-together camporee in the past two years.

Cheaha Chapter News

By Preston Thomason

Congratulations to our newly elected chapter officers- Chapter Chief: Jake Smith (256) 249-8953, Vice Chief of Service: Tyler Gann (205) 338-3488, Vice Chief of Fellowship: Matt Carpenter (256) 245-9744, Vice Chief of Inductions/Ceremony: Joshua Bryson (205) 640-2955, Secretary: Andrew Bennett (205) 884-7338. We are looking forward to a great year, and encourage all Order of the Arrow members to participate in chapter meetings, and lodge events.

Our chapter service project will be to provide firewood, and build the campfire at the Cheaha District Jack Frost campout January 17-19th, to be held in Pell City. We will be starting a ceremony team to help out the lodge and to hopefully compete at conclave. A schedule for ceremony practice will be forthcoming.

Cheaha Chapter meetings will be held at the same time as the district roundtable. Scoutmasters, please assist in getting your Order of the Arrow members to the roundtables. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Any questions that you have please contact your chapter officers, or Chapter Adviser Tad Thomason at (205) 338-2052, e-mail fuzzytad@netzero.net, or Associate Adviser Steve Moore at (205) 338-1018, e-mail Smoolectd@aol.com.

2002 Coosa Lodge 50 Vigil Honor Class

By Red Feather Herald Staff

It was a foggy night as the lodge circled around the Vigil Chief at the flagpoles of Camp Comer. This only served to increase the anticipation and the tension as, one by one, 15 of our brothers were tapped out as candidates for the Vigil Honor. The following Arrowmen were chosen to receive the Vigil Honor, listed along with the English translation of their Indian names: William Davis- Reliable Quiet One, Cory Phillips- Forest Walker, Justin Ruf- Hard Worker Who Is Small And Narrow, Brian Russell- Red Headed Messenger, George Saunders- Silent Organizer, Jeffrey Wagner- Active Warrior, Phillip Webster- Spiritual One Who Teaches, Paul Whittle- Happy Trader, Daniel Wright- Guide Who Creates With His Hands, Mr. Dan Ingram- Truly Patient, Mr. Anthony Messer- Patient Teachers Of Nature, Mr. Mason Ruf- Hard Worker Who Is Big And Wide, Mr. Richard Souder- Proud Servant, Mr. Delane Terrell- Skillful Artist, Mr. Chris Whitehead- Honored One Who Has Authority.

After successfully completing the Vigil Honor, these brothers were presented to the Lodge at the Saturday night show. Each struggled to pronounce the Lenni Lenape version of their new names and was presented with a certificate and sash reflecting this honor.

Unexpectedly, the Vigil Chief announced that "...fifteen stand before you, but one is missing. Let us find him!" He proceeded to search the Lodge for the sixteenth member of this class. Mr. Chad Skelton was tapped out and will stand his Vigil at a later date. These brothers are very deserving of this honor! Congratulations are extended from the entire lodge to these brothers!



New Comer Council Ring Planned

By Mitch Relfe, Vice Chief of Fellowship

Coosa Lodge is pleased to accept the challenge of the Greater Alabama Council in building a new natural amphitheater council ring at Camp Comer. The amphitheater will be located to the left of the waterfront near the pre-ordeal ceremony ring. It will incorporate the natural rock formations found along the bank of the lake.

Plans are to build the amphitheater so that it will hold around 1,000 people, and be complete with lighting and sound. Hopefully the new amphitheater will be complete in time for the 2004 Conclave being held at Camp Comer. To meet this lofty goal will require a great deal of work from everyone in 2003. If anyone has access to bulldozer or any other type of construction equipment, please contact Dr. Flatt (drflatt@aol.com). This will be a tremendous help to the lodge. I look forward to working with you all in this project.



2003 Coosa Lodge 50 Calendar

January 25	Lodge Leadership Development Conference	Camp Comer
March 14-16	Spring Fellowship	Camp Sequoyah
March 15	Get Hooked on Camping	Camp Sequoyah
April 5	Get Hooked on Camping	Camp Comer
April 12	Get Hooked on Camping	Jackson AdVenture Base
April 25-27	Section Conclave Ini-to 324 Host	Camp Thunder Griffin, GA
May 30-June 1	Ordeal/Brotherhood	Camp Comer
July 19	Service Day/Brotherhood	Camp Westmoreland
August 2-7	Indain Summer	Asheville, NC
August 15-17	Ordeal/Brotherhood	Camp Sequoyah
September 5-7	Ordeal/Brotherhood	Jackson AdVenture Base
October 3-5	Fall Fellowship Pow-Wow	Camp Comer

The Greater Alabama Council
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