

Seminole DRUMBEAT

Seminole Chapter, Echockotee Lodge, Order of the Arrow, February and March, 2014

New Brother Perspective:

Hello Brothers! My name is Emory Raines, and I am new member of our lodge. I did my ordeal at this past spring fellowship, and I wanted to write about my experience going through the ordeal.

We began the night by lining up into our clans, then our groups were numbered off, 5 clans to larger group, then group by group we were marched to the hidden ordeal circle where we drew the bow and took the oath of silence for the weekend. Then we were all marched to where we would camp out for the night. Our adult guide pointed us to where our clan would sleep for the night, and all of us spread out, but kept within a reasonable distance, and we set up our gear. I set up my tarp, laid my sleeping bag and my day bag on the tarp, took off my boots, crawled in my sleeping bag, then folded my tarp over my head, to make what looked like a giant blue hot-pocket in the forest. It kept me relatively warm through the night, and when I woke up, tapped the roof of my hot-pocket, and felt the water on my fingertip, I knew bringing an extra-large tarp was a smart idea. Then we all got up, and packed our bedrolls for the day of labor ahead, then we all grouped up, and our Elangomats led us to breakfast, which was a boiled egg, a slice of toast, and some orange juice. Then after a short briefing, our clan went to our work project, which was cleaning up a campsite and cleaning teepees for the Indian lore. Then we had lunch, which

consisted of a sandwich, an apple, and some apple juice, and then we went back to our work project. Then after working for quite a bit, we went to the mess hall for our snack, which consisted of some stew, ham cubes, some cheese and some celery, then we waited for the big ceremony after dark. Then when the time came, all the clans in our group, we all lined up and were joined by the rope, then we went and circled the council fire, and we were officially inducted as members of the Order of the Arrow. Then we had the lodge feast and enjoyed the rest of the evening, and then we got to sleep in our tents. Then we had to get up Sunday for a special arrow men meeting, then we had breakfast, went back to our campsite and broke everything down, had our first chapter meeting, and then my troop left after that. I can't wait to see what lies ahead for me and my fellow Arrowmen in the lodge and chapter!

- Emory Raines

From the Chapter Historian:

Last fellowship was a great success. Seminole chapter had more members attend than we have had in many years. We had lots of new Arrowmen, as well as returning members. With all these new members our chapter can make an impact on the lodge at the upcoming Section Conference, the likes of which Seminole has not made in a long time. As the Chapter Historian, I can confirm that with all the new heads, last fellowship made history.

- Hynson Cole

From the Chapter Chief:

Seminole, thank you for your dedication to Scouting and the Order of the Arrow! Thanks to your support at Spring Fellowship we were noticed by many different Lodge Officers and Advisers as making a difference and growing in size. We were able to accomplish this by doing lots of Chapter Elections, and not only getting new members, but getting old members who fell away for a time. I was glad to see so many new faces along with the old and if you did not come to the last Fellowship we have another one in May or you can also sign up for Section Conference April 11-13. Seminole, continue to give back to Scouting and serve your Troops. Also, if your troop hasn't received an Election yet this year, and now wants one, please contact either myself RBDLandrum@gmail.com; 904-802-3479 or Bruce Landrum (Adviser) bdlandrum@gmail.com.

-Yours in Brotherhood,
Robert Landrum

In the next issue:

Section Conference Reports!

