



CRAWFISH TALES



2009 Training / Banquet – January 10th

Crawfish Tales

Volume XLIII, Issue 1

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On Saturday, January 10, the Atchafalaya Lodge will host its annual Lodge Training and Banquet. The event will be held at the Fugro Chance Office Hall located at 200 Dulles Dr, Lafayette, LA 70506 in Lafayette, LA. The training will start at 8:30 a.m., and the Banquet will start at 6:30 p.m. The training is free and lunch will be provided. The cost of the Banquet is \$10 per Arrowman and the first non-member. Each additional non-member guest is \$5. If you have never

attended a Lodge Training and Banquet this is a great opportunity to learn what is going on in the lodge. The Atchafalaya Lodge officers and chairmen hope to see everyone there. For more information, please look at the detailed insert.

Some Of The Articles Inside This Issue:

Lodge Advisor's Corner	2
An Update On An Arrowman	2
Did You Know?	2
563's Website	2
The Crawfish Tales	2
Dues, Dues, Dues	3
Lodge T-Shirt Closeout Sale!	3
#563 History (25 Years Ago)	3
Insert (Lodge Training/Banquet Flier)	

NOAC 2009

It's coming!! It's the best thing in Scouting next to a National Jamboree or getting your Eagle. It will be Saturday, August 1st through Thursday, August 6th 2009. This event will be held in Bloomington, Indiana at Indiana University. It looks to be a great time with lots of interesting things to do and if you are not careful you might just have fun or learn something. They are reinstating the 2 to 1 ratio (2 youth to 1 adult) again because there is a cap on attendance due to the size of the University. Deposits will be due in January 2009. Expect transportation to be the biggest expense (surprise – not). National's already has it up on their website. If you are interested in attending

NOAC 2009 as one of the delegates, give **John Aldridge** a call at (337) 367-7802.



New Ordeal and Brotherhood Members!

There were 9 new Ordeal member inducted to our lodge. They were: **Tre' Hebert, Joel Pellerin, Patrick Hebert Jr., Sam Hebert, Nick Botteron, Jonathon Hebert, Andre Lafleur, Jonathan Matthysen, and Cannon Mathews III.** There were 7 members that sealed their membership by becoming Brotherhood members. They were **Farren Trahan, Andre Guilbeau, Travis Romero, Tyler Jones, Aaron Scully, Andrew Goree, and Craig Overland.** Congratulations on continued Cheerful Service!

Lodge Calendar

January 2009

10 8:00 AM Lodge Training
6:30 PM Lodge Banquet

February

7 Council of Chiefs (Metairie, LA)
8 2:00 PM LEC (Council Office)
27-28 NLS (Camp Strake, Conroe, TX)

March

1 NLS (Camp Strake, Conroe, TX)
8 2:00 PM LEC (Council Office)
20-22 LTB –Service (Mt. Bayou)

Lodge Advisor's Corner

Arrowmen,

I want to thank everyone who attended the Fall Ordeal for a great job that was accomplished by all work details. The conversion rate according to OA Lodgemaster had the lodge at 28 % conversion rate. This is the most that we have had in a couple of years. Congratulations to all Arrowmen that sealed their membership. This is a great accomplishment, also thanks to all Arrowmen who have paid their 2009 dues. With the OA Lodgemaster if Arrowmen have not paid their dues by



December 31, 2008, the program considers them not paying their dues for the next year. It is important that dues be paid before the end of the year, also, a reminder that the Scout Office will be closed for the holidays and have to perform inventory in the scout office, which means that their normal job will not be accomplished.

The Lodge will have Lodge Training on January 10, 2009 starting at 8:30 a.m. at 200 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, La. until 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided by the Lodge. The banquet will follow a meeting with the parents if they have any questions about the Lodge. We are expecting the Section SR-1A Vice Chief to be present, let have a good turnout for the training and the banquet.

I have received notification from the National Order of the Arrow office that our quota for NOAC 2009 is 13. The Lodge needs to submit \$100.00 per registered member attending the event, by March 31, 2009. If more want to attend then we can request additional slots after March 31. The total cost of NOAC is \$ 395.00 per member. This does NOT include transportation, spending money or trading post items. Trading post items not ordered on line can be bought at the Conference. In the past the Lodge has had Mardi Gras beads to through during the parade and Founder's Day. This is a good time to meet members from across the nation as well as meeting members of the National Committee members, especially the youth, National Chief, National Vice Chief, Region Chiefs, and Section Chiefs.

In W.W.W.

John Aldrige
John Aldrige

Update on one of our own Arrowmen

Please keep Spencer Hoffman in your prayers during his recovery. Spencer, who is one of our vary own Arrowmen, has been receiving treatment at St. Jude's in Memphis, Tennessee. He is doing fine, but continues to be tired and is staying home recovering and regaining his strength. Our prayers are with you, Spencer, as well as your family!

Did You Know?

Did you know that Atchafalaya Lodge has its own Yahoo Group? The group is AtchafalayaLodge563@yahoo.com. This is one of the major communication tools for the Lodge. It is a way of staying informed by getting updates of upcoming events without having to read the newsletter.

563's Website

Stay informed. Go to the Evangeline Area Council website and click on Order of the Arrow. Or go to <http://eacbsa.org/orderarrow.php>. It has some useful information about the Lodge as well as useful links.

The Crawfish Tales

Like what you see in The Crawfish Tales? Want to become a part of the Crawfish Tales staff? Better yet, want to be in charge of producing the Crawfish Tales? Atchafalaya is looking for Arrowmen with basic computer skills and the ability to work with the Officers and Chairmen of the Lodge to help produce a quality publication in a timely manner. If you are interested in any way, please e-mail me at matt@mattsonnier.com.

In WWW,

Matt Sonnier
Publications Advisor

DUES, DUES, DUES

THE LODGE ANNUAL DUES FOR 2009 ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2009.

For the time being annual dues remain at \$10 per year. What has changed is the importance of paying these dues on or before Jan 1 of each. In the past, it was no big deal if members waited until the Banquet or the Spring Ordeal to pay dues. That has changed.

The new lodge membership database (Lodgemaster) is set up so that until you pay your annual dues (January to December), your name does not show up in the records. Not that communications in the lodge has ever been great, but if you fail to pay your dues on time and then forget, you won't be surprised when you don't receive any notices, newsletters or other communication with perhaps the exception of a "bill".

Membership cards for 2009 will be printed and mailed in January (also available at the banquet / training) for dues paid before January 31. Those paying dues between February and the Spring Ordeal will have their membership cards mailed on a monthly basis. After the Spring Ordeal membership cards will only be printed and mailed for as time allows. After July, 2009 membership cards will not be printed until January 2010 of the following year.

Don't forget that to be considered an

active member of the OA / Atchafalaya Lodge that you must maintain your annual registration with the BSA. Those of you who are no longer active with a troop may want to consider joining one of the Lodge sponsored Crews such as Crew 563. You can contact Mr. Aldridge or Mr. Conn for more information on this.

One last reminder; you can now pay your Lodge dues for multiple years. This is a good idea for those arrowmen who continually forget to pay their dues on time and to lock in the current annual \$10 fee. (Membership cards will be issued annually for the current year.)

**LODGE T-SHIRT
CLOSEOUT
1/2 PRICE SALE!
FOR ONE DAY ONLY!
JANUARY 10, 2009!
LODGE TRAINING / BANQUET!**

**LAST CHANCE TO OWN THIS UNIQUE DESIGN!
WHEN THEY ARE GONE, THEY ARE GONE!**

\$5 EA

ONLY 'EXTRA LARGE' GXL IN STOCK!

GREAT GIFT!

25 YEARS AGO IN LODGE HISTORY

Year	Chief	Home	Advisor	Home	Pro. Advisor	Home	# of Members
1984	John Vonderheide	Lafayette	Charles Harbin	Lafayette	Joe Farrell	Lafayette	185
Vigils of 1984:							
	Robert Hollier "MERCHANT"		Rusty Richard "EXCITED ONE"		John Vonderheide "DETERMINED ONE"		

ATCHAFALAYA LODGE #563

43 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SCOUTING

EVANGELINE AREA COUNCIL

1966 – 2009

YOUR 2009 LODGE OFFICERS

Lodge Chief – Robert Hess	337.233.0862	Advisor – John Aldridge	337.367.7802
VC of Membership – Rene Guilbeaux	337.845.9220	Advisor – Ronald Conn	337.896.3036
VC of Service – Stephen Dial	337.783.8005	Advisor – Open	
Secretary – Nicholas Mrotek	337.236.9802	Advisor – Lee Ritter	337.781.4010
Treasurer – Nicholas Botteron	337.229.4398	Advisor – Open	

Professional Advisor – Philip Frey 337.235.8551 Supreme Chief of the Fire – 337.235.8551



Evangeline Area Council
Boy Scouts of America
P.O. Box 80115-0115
Lafayette, LA 70598

