

# CORNERSTONE COLUMN

Eastern Region Section 7

## ACT CONFERENCE AND COC

**BY**

GRACE FRANKLIN, SECRETARY

As a section, we held our first ACT Conference at Camp Old Indian this year. We had over 63 Arrowmen in attendance. The ACT Conference is designed to help lodges **A**dapt to face major challenges, **C**ollaborate with their peers across the section, and eventually **T**hrive and become high performing. We succeeded in covering many different elements of the OA, including Performance Measurement Program (PMP) and annual planning. This training started on Friday night and continued through Saturday afternoon before CoC.

In the afternoon, we held CoC. There was attendance from every lodge, and each of the coordinators (or their proxies) presented their proposals, which were all approved with minor amendments. This includes the patch design for Conclave this year on page 8. We also approved the deadline list I have included in the next page for your reference. It was also voted on to change the name of the newsletter to "The Cornerstone Column" to better reflect the new section name: E7.

We are excited to see you all at Conclave. Whether you enjoy Quest, Administration, or AIA, we have an event for you!

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# UPCOMING DATES & DEADLINES

<b>Due Date:</b>	<b>Assignment:</b>	<b>Due To:</b>
March 12	Requests for Lodge Display	Samuel Brown
March 17	Balance of Registration and Dietary Restrictions	Coastal Carolina Council Attn: Unali'Yi Lodge Conclave 2023
April 1	Website Judging Begins	Samuel Brown
April 7	Video Competition Due	Samuel Brown
April 14	Ceremonies Rosters	Bennett Tollison
April 21 (upon check-in)	Newsletter & Handbook Due All AIA Documentation & Names	Section Office Abby Barton
April 21 (at COC Meeting)	All Judge Names, Totem Pole Competition Declaration, and Honor Lodge Petition	Samuel Brown



EASTERN REGION SECTION 7

ORDER OF THE ARROW

# SECTION OFFICERS SEMINAR

BY

ANDREW ADLER, SECTION CHIEF

One of the annual Region events put on by the Order of the Arrow is the Section Officer Seminar, which was held this past October in Charlotte, North Carolina. This was especially cool because of the 20 sections in our region, they chose ours to be the host. Over the course of the weekend, we had training sessions on various topics such as “How to Support Your Lodges”, “How to Plan a Conclave”, and other section-related sessions. There were also several opportunities to get to meet other Section Chiefs, Section Vice Chiefs, and Secretaries from Florida to Maine. It was interesting to hear what their conclaves are like and how many people they get in attendance (and let's just say that we normally blow it out of the water compared to most sections).



My favorite memory from SOS was when all of the section officers were getting ready to head to the Whitewater Center for a team building/ fun event for the weekend. We were told that the bus would be arriving shortly so we all just stood around outside the hotel and talked while we waited. I was mid conversation with another Section Chief when I barely saw over the top of his head a black and red bus. I paused for a moment thinking “Have I seen this bus before?” and then it hit me: it was the Troop 19 bus that Catawba Lodge often uses to travel to conclaves and NOACs. I got so excited that I interrupted the other guy and pointed at the bus saying “I know that bus! I know that bus!” All of the people around probably thought I had finally gone crazy from the minimal sleep I had gotten that weekend, but I didn’t really care. I was just glad that I got to share a little piece of our section with a group of Arrowmen from across the Eastern United States.

# MUSCOGEE 116 MERGER

**BY**

JAMIE MARTIN, SECTION VICE CHIEF

This year I had the honor of serving as the youth merger facilitator for Muscogee 221 and Santee 116. There are so many people who put in so much work to make this merger possible. Before I go into the details of the merger, I want to be sure to thank them. First, the members from each legacy lodge (youth and adult) with whom I met weekly to enable this major change. Secondly, the Eastern Region for their support of our section and lodges through this process. And lastly, but certainly not least, my adviser Jason Isherwood. We would not have been able to achieve this success without all of your help.

As I said, this merger required lots of time and effort. I watched as the Arrowmen of our new lodge formed ties of Brotherhood right before my eyes. Sometimes there was disagreement, but in the end the merger committee always came together as a new lodge to make the decision that would be best for all of its new members. I could not be prouder of the newest lodge in our section.

BETTER  
TOGETHER

On January 7th, I watched the new lodge come together as a whole for the first time. They voted to approve the new lodge's bylaws and patches, as well as to elect the first slate of officers for Muscogee Lodge 116. After the business meeting, there was a phenomenal banquet where both legacy lodges recognized their leaders. More importantly, however, there was an air of moving forward. I believe the members of our newest lodge truly believe they are better together. I cannot wait to see what they have in store for us.



# NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

**BY**

GRACE FRANKLIN, SECRETARY

The National Leadership Seminar (NLS) is our Order's premier leadership training. Whether you are a brand new Arrowmen looking to get involved in leadership or a seasoned lodge officer, there is something for you to learn. NLS focuses on empowering leaders by providing them with the problem-solving tools and a network of Arrowmen outside of their own lodge. I encourage every Arrowmen to attend. There are three more courses this year:

March 24-26 | Pittsburgh, PA

September 8-10 | Hillsdale, MI

November 10-12 | Atlanta, GA

Each course is taught by an amazing, nationally trained staff who are there to support their Arrowmen for years to come. I hope to see you and learn with you at an NLS course this year.



## MUSCOGEE 116 LODGE REPORT

**BY**

GRACE FRANKLIN, LODGE CHIEF

Hello, Section E7! Muscogee Lodge 116 is so excited for this first year as a new lodge. We have many great events planned, including two induction weekends, three fellowships, the Chief's Retreat, and the 2024 Winter Banquet. We are so excited to see all of our old friends and Brothers in E7 at Conclave. But be prepared, we plan to show you the combined might of our lodge and prove we truly are BETTER TOGETHER.

# TSALI 134 LODGE REPORT

**BY**

AARON SWIFT, LODGE CHIEF

Tsali lodge is excited to be hosting five fun and exciting events throughout 2023 for our lodge members. These include 2 ordeals, 2 fellowships, and a banquet. Tsali is also ready to defend our lodge of the year award at conclave for a second time and win it for the third year in a row. Tsali would not be able to have this success without our loyal and dedicated members who continue to put us at the top of the section.



# ATTA KULLA KULLA 185 LODGE REPORT

**BY**

ELIJAH AIKEN, LODGE CHIEF

Greetings from AKK, E-7! We are looking forward to a much more normal year than that of recent times which is extremely exciting! Our lodge will be busy hosting over 6 events this year and our council will be busy celebrating its 100th anniversary. It is truly an exciting time to be in the upstate of South Carolina and we can't wait to see all of our friends from all over this great section. Wishing you all a safe and successful start to the year, and we will see you at cornerstone conclave at the beautiful Camp Ho Non Wah.

# ITIBAPISHE ITI HOLLO 188 LODGE REPORT



## **BY**

AIDEN PILOTTO, LODGE  
SECRETARY

Itibap had a great 2022-2023 year! We had a 17% increase in membership of our lodge and hosted the 2022 Conclave at Camp John J Barnhardt. With our theme of 80s music we jammed out at our Ordeals and Fellowships. Best of all though was our 19 arrowman contingent to represent us at NOAC 2022. See you all at Camp Ho Non Wah in April!

"The Order of the Arrow is a thing of the outdoors rather than the indoors. It was born in an island wilderness. It needs the sun and rain, the woods and the plains, the waters and the starlit sky."

- E. Urner Goodman

# UNALI'YI 236 LODGE REPORT

**BY**

ANDREW BRITZ, LODGE CHIEF

Down in Charleston, South Carolina, Unali'Yi Lodge is doing great. We just had our Annual Lodge Recognition Banquet, where we recognized the new Vigil Honor Members, Founders Award recipients, and all the arrowmen who have gone above and beyond in cheerfully serving our lodge with numerous awards. We also finished out the calendar year scoring 30/30 for PMP. We have been super busy preparing for the 2023 Cornerstone Conclave, making sure to put on the best event we can. Many parts are already in motion, and we continue to work hard to make it a great Conclave.



Some of our big goals this year were to focus on activation and retention. We have been working hard and will continue to work hard to make lodge functions more fun, so Arrowmen will want to come back. Another big factor we felt was hurting our retention was the prices of some events, one of them being Conclave. Although Conclave is a very fun event, it comes with a hefty cost, so we have been fundraising throughout the year and we were able to cut the fee for Conclave in half for the youth members of our Lodge, in hopes it will make the youth come to Conclave. We can't wait to see what the rest of the year has to offer and we look forward to seeing you on the shores of the Bohicket at Camp Ho Non Wah in April for Conclave







# CATAWBA 459 LODGE REPORT

**BY**

CHASE HENSLEY, LODGE CHIEF

This coming year is exciting for Catawba Lodge; we are looking forward to inducting many new members and re-activating old ones. We are gearing up for our Spring events and our upcoming fall events. Our election season has started, and we have been able to visit new Units to get them excited about joining the Order of the Arrow. Catawba Lodge is also preparing to host Conclave 2024 next April! We are excited to host it again at our beautiful Belk Scout Camp in Midland, North Carolina. For those of you who had the opportunity to join us in 2015 at our last Dixie, you will notice that camp has changed drastically. Looking forward to bringing new events and shows to the Arrowmen in our Section. Overall, I am super excited about what this year has in store for us and can not wait to see what we can accomplish as a lodge.

## ADVISER'S MOMENT

**BY**

MAC MCLEAN, SECTION ADVISER

The youth of Section E7 met in November at the Section ACT Conference and Council of Chiefs meeting and planned a terrific conclave for April. Great work from all involved, in particular the service lodge, has resulted in an outstanding program for the event.

By the time you read this, our lodges will have pre-ordered memorabilia and submitted registration for the event, so I hope we have a full house and spirited participation! I look forward to seeing everyone at the Cornerstone Conclave at Camp Ho Non Wah in April 2023.

