

**TIPISA
LODGE 326**

**SPRING
EDITION**

NIMT

Lodge News

Upcoming Activities

Chapter Updates



**A word from our Lodge
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SECTION CONFERENCE

By Section Secretary Megan Ewing

Put on your best cowboy boots and join Arrowmen from across the state of Florida for an unforgettable weekend at Section E5's Section Conference. Hosted by Osceola Lodge at Camp Miles in Price Sanders Scout Reservation. This annual event is packed with time-honored traditions, including ceremonial evaluations, AIA competitions, and spirited Lodge vs. Lodge challenges!

Start your morning exploring American Indian Activities (AIA) and shop around the Trading Post for exclusive Host Lodge merch.

In the afternoon, compete in a showdown with Arrowmen from six other lodges in exciting games like Ultimate Frisbee, lasso throwing, crate stacking, and Tipisa's favorite, Tug of War!

Cool off afterward by watching the Publications and Website competitions (maybe you'll spot me!), and cheer on participants in the continuing AIA contests. Don't miss the Adviser Sink-a-Thon, and see if our own Lodge Adviser will sink or swim.

As the sun sets, the very last Festival of Feathers begins, showcasing incredible Native American dances in the Solo Dance Competition. Close out the night with a spectacular show presented by Osceola Lodge.

Join the Section team and Osceola Lodge for Section Conference 2025! Scan the QR code below or visit tipisa.org to sign up. If you need assistance with transportation, please contact chief@tipisa.org, as we are organizing a bus to the event. I look forward to seeing you there!



CHIEF AND ADVISER MINUTE

Lodge Chief Alex Hepperman

Dear Brothers of Tipisa Lodge,

I am filled with honor and gratitude reflecting on our journey together since last spring. This past year has been nothing short of extraordinary for our lodge, and it is thanks to each of your dedication, your service, and your unwavering commitment to the principles of the Order that we stand where we do today. In the fall, we celebrated our most successful Fall Fellowship to date. The weekend was filled with incredible programs, spirited competitions, and meaningful moments of fellowship that brought our lodge closer together. It was inspiring to see so many of you actively engaged, creating memories, and strengthening the bonds of brotherhood that make Tipisa Lodge so special.



LLD 2024

One of our crowning achievements this past year was the outstanding recognition earned by our Brotherhood ceremony team at the 2024 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC). Their hard work, dedication, and passion for our traditions earned them the prestigious Exemplar designation. We also achieved incredible success through our 2025 Ordeals, which welcomed a new generation of Arrowmen into our organization. These weekends were marked by a shared spirit of cheerful service, as candidates and members alike worked together to enhance our camp and leave a lasting impact. From restoring campsites to improving key facilities, these Ordeals not only strengthened our Scouting community but also deepened the bonds of brotherhood. I was inspired to see our lodge come together to ensure that each candidate's journey was meaningful and transformative. As we move into 2025, let this Nimat serve as a powerful reminder of our role as guides and mentors in our units. It is our responsibility to lead others along the path of cheerful service and to inspire the next generation of Arrowmen. I challenge each of you to embrace this role wholeheartedly, throughout the year ahead. Together, we can continue to grow Tipisa Lodge as a home for fellowship, service, and leadership. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to make our lodge exceptional. I look forward to another incredible year of achievements, growth, and brotherhood with each of you. I hope to see all of you at Service Weekend as we continue to create Generations of Brotherhood.

Lodge Adviser Paul Lackie

Our Founder, Dr. E. Urner Goodman, said, "The Order is a thing of the spirit." He understood many aspects of the human spirit including the allure of mystery to people of all ages. It's in our nature to be inquisitive about secrets and to feel a special satisfaction when we discover hidden truths. The Quest for the Arrow is an enticing mystery, an adventure journey, that rewards us with treasures of knowledge hidden deep within...ourselves. It begins when we test the bow, and satisfyingly concludes when we encounter the Principals again in the Brotherhood ceremony.

While the Order's mysteries should be safeguarded to preserve the joy of discovery for those who await the Quest, they are intended to be revealed to...not hidden from...members! In fact, the entire Induction experience is designed to be one of revelation! If you are an Ordeal member, seek out a Brotherhood or Vigil to discuss questions such as, "Who is the spirit of the Arrow?" and "How can I apply the lessons of the Ordeal to my troop and my daily life?" If you are a Brotherhood or Vigil member, be alert to reach a hand to those who need you. Walk in Brotherhood beside them and share the joy of discovering the symbolic meaning of the words, principals, and lived experiences of the Ordeal so that they too, can fulfill their Quest for the Arrow.



ORDEALS

By Inductions Chairman Colin Gibbons

Brothers,

This winter our chapters hosted three amazing Ordeal Weekends, as well as a first of its kind Presidents' Day Ordeal. Over the course of these weekends we welcomed 265 new brothers into our Order. Additionally, over the course of Chapter Ordeals and Spring Conclave, a total of 42 brothers sealed their membership in the OA. We look forward to all of our new members joining us around the fire once more during Fall Fellowship to complete their Induction and become Brotherhood Members.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Colin Gibbons

2024-25 Tipisa Lodge Inductions Chair



PUBLICATIONS

By Chairman and Lodge Secretary Megan Ewing

Hello Tipisa Arrowmen!

My name is Megan Ewing and I have had the privilege of serving as the Publications Chairman for Tipisa Lodge for the past three years.

Publications is one of the many aspects of our Lodge that help connect Arrowmen and keep them up to date on our current events. From newsletters and event promotions to social media updates and photos, I help ensure that every Arrowman knows about upcoming events, service opportunities, and the rich traditions of our lodge. It is a time-consuming but rewarding position.

One of my primary responsibilities is producing the lodge newsletter, which highlights recent events, recognizes outstanding members, and provides important information about upcoming activities. The other side of publications is our social media and website chairman, that maintain the lodge's digital presence, ensuring that our social media and website reflect the energy and enthusiasm of our members. Whether through event recaps, promotional graphics, or creative storytelling, Publications is all about sharing the spirit of Tipisa. Which is why I am in need of assistance. If you have a passion for graphic design, writing, photography, and more, please reach out to publications@tipisa.org to join the Publications team!



CEREMONIES

Ceremonialist Rachel Devoid

Looking for a way to give back in service to your brothers? Ceremonies might be the right way for you. Ceremonies are an essential part of the Order of the Arrow. Without them, no new members would be inducted, and part of the history behind our organization would be lost. Oftentimes, though, there are not enough people willing to bear the burden of becoming a ceremonialist, requiring individuals from other chapters to be present to conduct a ceremony.

Ceremonies give youth an outlet to enhance their public speaking skills and build camaraderie and fellowship with brothers from other chapters. While memorization may seem daunting, there are months between OA lodge events, which gives ample time to fine-tune your speaking. As long as you are dedicated and spend about 15 minutes every other night to work on your part, you will be more than ready to step into the ring confidently. Tipisa Lodge has numerous resources to encourage and aid you in this process. Our veteran Ceremony Advisors give encouraging and constructive feedback to strengthen the principle inside you. This great support system has guided Tipisa's ceremonialists to exemplary status.



If you are looking for a way to start, ask your Chapter Chief, and they will introduce you to the appropriate contacts. If you are still unsure and have questions, you can refer them to ceremonies@tipisa.org. The ceremonies teams are elated in your interest and we can't wait to see you in the ring!

Ceremonies is fun!



KING'S CUP

Lodge Historian Stephen Bohlin



Hello Tipisa!

As we prepare for Section Conference, there's a lot to get ready. One important aspect of the event is the Historian's King's Cup competition. However, our King's Cup display looks a bit sad. It was built last year, but it still lacks patches and photos. I challenge every chapter to send me as many patches and photos as possible for the display. Each photo should include a caption, date, and the names of the people in it. Photos should be no larger than 5x7. If needed, I don't mind printing them. If you have any questions, please contact me at historian@tipisa.com.

CHAPTER REPORTS



Meet your chief!

Huracan

Dear Brothers,

Welcome to Huracan Chapter! We are very excited to have so many members both new and old to add to our program. To get more involved make sure to watch your email, check our social medias, and come to our meetings. Our chapter meets at New Covenant Assembly in Casselberry from 7:00-8:30pm on the third Thursday of each month. We had a wonderful Ordeal season and can't wait to show our new brothers the joys of cheerful service. Huracan has had some great events this year from running our district's Nordic Camporee to holding a successful TopGolf fundraiser. We look forward to finishing this year out strong!

Yours in Brotherhood,

Mia DeVivo

Huracan Chapter Chief - huracan@tipisa.org



Kikape

Kikape Chapter is associated with Challenger District and spans the North end of Brevard County.

We meet every third Thursday of the month at Rockledge Methodist Church at 7:00pm

Any questions or concerns email kikape@tipisa.org



Meet your chief!

CHAPTER REPORTS

Lemhee-Yekchi

Hello, I am Ben Weger, and I have the distinct honor of serving as your 2024-2025 Lemhee-Yekchi Chapter Chief. Lemhee-Yekchi is the joy of Tipisa, consistently leading lodge spirit, and dedication, consistently having high attendance at Lodge weekends or regular chapter meetings. Lemhee brings a strong sense of brotherhood to its members, along with an inviting and fun environment that helps future leaders gain the experience they need to impact youth, units, and Tipisa in the future!

Recently at Tipisa Lodge Spring Conclave Lemhee took home several awards, placing second and third in three events, and first place in two more, Website competition, and Sink-a-Thon. At first a feat thought never to be winnable, Lemhee-Yekchi's new Chapter Advisor Mark Weger, and Chief Ben Weger set out and were unable to sink!

Additionally, Please congratulate and welcome Lemhee-Yekchi's New Chapter Advisor, Mark Weger!

Yours in Brotherhood

Lemhee-Yekchi Chief

-Ben Weger

WWW

Website: <https://lemhee-yekchi.tipisa.org/>

Email: lemhee-yekchi@tipisa.org



Meet your chief!



Oussuana

Oussuana Chapter is associated with Narcoossee District and spans East Orange County and Osceola County.

We meet every third Thursday of the month at Center Pointe Community Church from 7:15-8:30pm

Any questions or concerns email oussuana@tipisa.org



Meet your chief!



CHAPTER REPORTS

Nefketeḥ

Nefketeḥ Chapter is pleased to update you on the latest developments within our chapter!

Currently, our chapter has been focusing on welcoming new members into the order, having a wonderful chapter party during our January Chapter Meeting, a Spring Conclave preparation meeting in February, and a beach day (with a beach cleanup) in March! Recently, we had 20 members of Nefketeḥ Chapter join in fellowship for Spring Conclave!

At Spring Conclave, Nefketeḥ was awarded third place in the Tour de Tipisa, followed by second place in the Website Competition, King's Cup, and Sink-A-Thon!

In January, Nefketeḥ conducted our Ordeals, and we are proud to welcome our new members who successfully completed this important step to beginning their journey in the Order of the Arrow. The overall Ordeal experience went smoothly, with very minimal issues occurring, providing all candidates and members with a wonderful weekend giving back to the camp that has done so much for us! Nefketeḥ Chapter would like to express sincere gratitude for all of our Elangomats who stepped up, leading a clan of seven candidates throughout the Ordeal. This experience could not have happened without your contributions! Furthermore, we would like to extend a congratulations to our new brotherhood members, accomplished during Fall Fellowship and Ordeal, and to our new Vigil Honor members, who were recognized this past Spring Conclave for their contributions to not only Nefketeḥ Chapter, but also the Order of the Arrow. Nefketeḥ Chapter also congratulates the newest Founder's Award recipient from Nefketeḥ, appreciating all the contributions to Nefketeḥ Chapter and Tipisa Lodge! For our new members looking forward to the next opportunity for fellowship with Nefketeḥ Chapter, our chapter meets regularly at Melbourne Church of Christ on the third Thursday of every month from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We look forward to seeing all members of Nefketeḥ Chapter at our next meeting (make sure you check your emails for information about upcoming meetings!).



Meet your chief!

Wewahitchka



Wewahitchka Chapter is associated with Lake District and spans all of Lake County.

We meet every third Thursday of the month at GraceWay Church from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Any questions or concerns email wewahitchka@tipisa.org



Meet your chief!

CHAPTER REPORTS

Micco-Tomokee

We gathered for ice cream and games at our February chapter meeting. A total of 30 (21 Y/YA and 9 A) attended with 9 new members activating their membership. This was our first chapter meeting after the ordeal season. The Spring Conclave is a Highway Event drew 18 members (12 Y/YA and 6 A). All had a fun time attending seminars and participating in the various games. Fifty percent of the brotherhood class were from Micco-Tomokee – 3 Y/YA and 1 A. We are looking forward to FLOW (formerly known as TNAW) and Service Weekend.



Meet your chief!



LODGE BOX

Welcome Brothers of Tipisa Lodge,
This is Austin Rice, your Lodge Treasurer here. If you don't know, I am in charge of running our amazing Lodge Box. You know the guy who stands in the corner of the dining hall all weekend. Here we sell amazing Tipisa merch. New this year we are adding Tipisa Lodge T-Shirts, Tipi Socks, Tipisa backpacks, and more to come. I hope you all come by next lodge weekend to pick up this amazing new drip. If you have any questions about merch, or finances please contact treasurer@tipisa.org.

Yours in Brotherhood,
Austin Rice,
Lodge Treasurer



TIPISA LODGE



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SPRING CONCLAVE AWARDS

The Founder's Award grants national recognition to Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to their lodge. It is reserved for those who personify the spirit of selfless service, as exemplified by founder E. Urner Goodman and cofounder Carroll A. Edson. Those that are awarded have gone above and beyond and given back with such fervor, that it is only right to recognize them with such a handsome bronze medallion. We honor those such as Gail and Adam by enumerating their service.



Adam Brandt has been a servant leader since 2017. He has served as an Elangomat (3 times!) held multiple chapter officer positions including Chief, served as Lodge First Vice-Chief and 2024 Spring Conclave Chairman. He produced the Lodge Planbook (twice), created our first Book of Chants, and is the steward and chief defender of our virtual home, Tipisa.org.

For her part, Gail Wescott has been serving others both in and outside of Scouting for more than 30 years. She has been a devoted adviser for American Indian programs, has been a devoted Vigil Adviser, and has served many years - over two terms - as Chapter Adviser. We are honored to have these amazing individuals in our Lodge. If you happen to see them, make sure to congratulate them on their spectacular achievement!

VIGIL CLASS OF 2025

Brothers, a huge congratulations to the 11 Arrowmen who were elected to the honor and who kept their Vigil this Spring Conclave! (from left to right)

Dr. Alan Caetano

Nick Foster

Matthew Loftus

Clinton Kuropkat

Amber Smith

Colin Gibbons



Peyton Ebert

Evan Stalnaker

Jacob Smith

Rick Currey

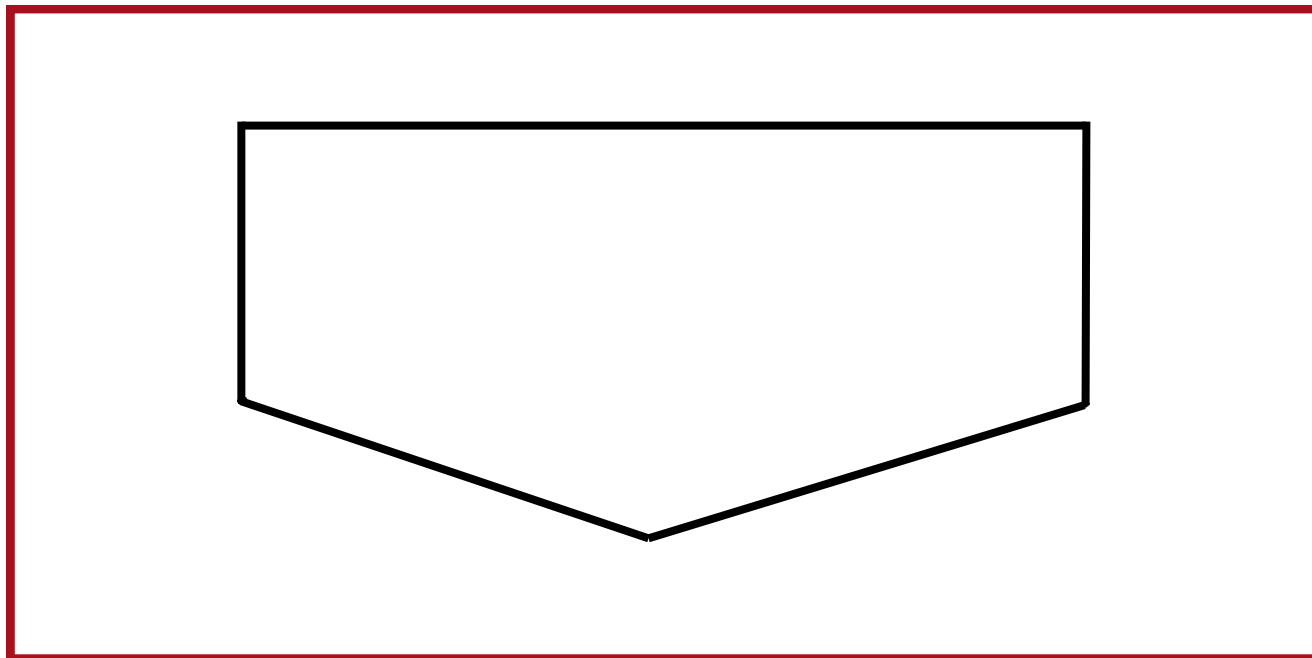
Not pictured:

Dan Morrison

NIMAT

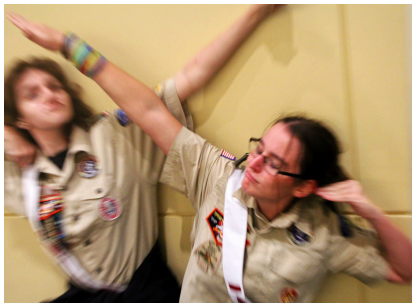
GAME

Design your very own lodge flap and submit it to publications@tipisa.org to win best in the Lodge!



PICTURES

Find pictures and more on our Facebook page! Tipisa Lodge #326



When you ask a Scout for directions



A good captain goes down with the ship



Founder's Recipient Adam Brandt and Nefkete Chapter



Shenanigans at NOAC



Four Vigil honors in one family!



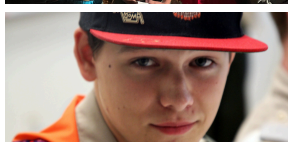
Models spotted at SLS



Lodge Chief sighting at LLD



Sleepy Vigil Advisor



CALENDAR

Section Conference - April 11-13, 2025
Camp Miles at Price-Sander's Scout Reservation
Charlotte County, Florida



Service Weekend May 16-18, 2025
Camp La-No-Che
Paisley, Florida



Contact your Chapter Chief for more upcoming events!