

# Duck Calls

2017, Issue 1 - The Monthly Newsletter of Wahunsenakah Lodge – Winter Weekend

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## A Question I Should Have Asked Sooner

Some of you veterans of the Lodge are well aware that this newsletter looks nothing like the old ones, even the ones as late as 2014.

Truthfully, I more or less had to make my own material, and I don't think I've done necessarily a *bad* job at it so far, but I still have a few ideals in mind.

What especially jogged by desire to improve this newsletter was the Tutelo Lodge 161 *Torchbearer*, a quarterly, mailed on pretty paper, and well-organized newsletter fit with information from their chapters, LEC officers, events, and even some clippings from National, Regional, and Sectional sources.

I curiously approached a small gathering of my Tutelo brothers at the Section Leadership Summit, with Mr. Morris's *Torchbearer* in hand, and discovered that, beyond an immensely larger budget for mailing (not a problem for us), I already had everything I needed to create such a newsletter of that caliber, and began to see the merits of the *Duck Calls's* design.

As a purely online newsletter, the *Duck Calls* is outlined more like a webpage article, with minimal distractors. In the minutes videos, several LEC officers – from Chapter Chiefs to the Second Vice Chief of Program – give the Lodge their greetings. And I think I'm capable of copying a few things from the Sectional mail regarding Conclave (Conclave!) for content.

*So Duck Calls, don't you worry about a thing.*

- Evan Crain, Lodge Secretary and Communications Chairman



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Want your message in the next Duck Calls Newsletter? Proud of your new Eagle Scout or want to share information about that chapter day of service? Tell your Chapter Chief to send us info! JTE-compatible.



## Lodge Re-Opens to 2017 Scouting Season

Scouting is a year-long activity, and after the Lodge's Holiday hiatus (starting with the excellent Holiday Banquet featuring great food, fellowship, Santa, and even a guest speaker who hiked the West Coast) during the December month, we returned full-swing on January 15, 2017, to kick off the new year.

The Winter Service Weekend, from March 3-5 2017, will be held at Pipsico Scout Reservation this March. As our standard event, this will feature all activities from service, to the food, to activities hosted by the several Lodge committees, and – of course – the Ordeal for our new brothers.

Communications has decided to subscribe to the “new year, new you” aspect. Following the January LEC, the content usually posted the day the minutes are released have been changed to follow a more continuous release schedule. The Committee hopes that this will increase Lodge engagement in the more spread out flow of information.

While these are the current happenings of the Lodge, don't forget that the Section is finalizing plans for Conclave! While you're here, why not [check out the Conclave page on the Lodge website?](#)

- Evan Crain, Lodge Secretary and Communications Chairman

## The Section SR-7A Ceremonies Weekend

Relationships are built on first impressions, and ceremonies are undoubtedly many scouts' first impression of the Order of the Arrow. The importance of a strong ceremonies presence in a lodge cannot be understated, and to support this, SR-7A is proud to present its second-annual [Ceremonies Weekend](#).

[Ceremonies Weekend](#) is a section-wide training and fellowship event to be held on April 7-9 at the Cub Adventure Camp on the Heart of Virginia Scout Reservation. This event will help you improve your ceremonial skills, consequently giving your lodge's candidates and brothers the best possible experience at every level.

In addition to training and fellowship, SR-7A ceremony evaluations will be held this weekend. This exciting addition frees up ceremonialists to experience more of Conclave!

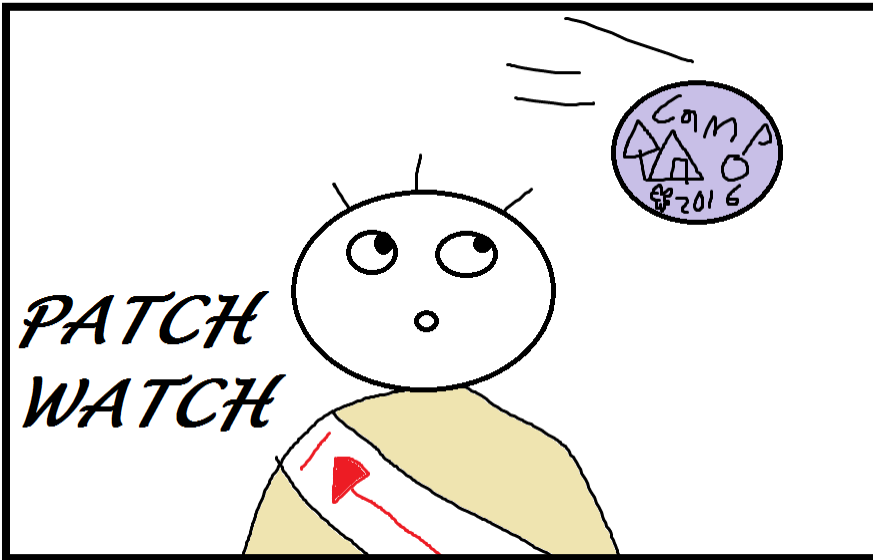
Guests include Jay Dunbar, a national ceremonies author; Paul Lackey, the National Evaluator Chair; Alex Deloach, member of the original new brotherhood ceremony team; and Ryan Showman of the NOAC Inductions and Ceremonial Events Committee.

For more information about the Ceremonies Weekend and to register, [click here](#).

- SR-7A Communications Team



## Patch Watch: SR-7A 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Lodge Rarities!



Pre-orders for Conclave patches and, a bonus, the SR-7A 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Patch, ended February 28th. While a limited quantity will be available at Conclave, pre-ordering was the only way to ensure these patches end up in your bag at the big event. **Get a last chance at getting this rare patch by signing up for Conclave today at [conclave.sr7a.org](http://conclave.sr7a.org)!**

Starting next Winter Service Weekend, the 2017 Series flaps will start to become available. Additionally, any

leftover 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Patches, Bayport beaver days patches, and 2015 silver JTE pins will be available.

- Evan Crain, Lodge Secretary and Communications Chairman

## Upcoming Events

March 12 – Lodge Executive Committee meeting at Denbigh Christian Academy

April 7-9 – Section SR-7A Ceremonies Weekend at Camp T. Brady Saunders Cub Adventure Camp

April 9 – Lodge Executive Committee meeting at Denbigh Christian Academy

April 28-30 – Section SR-7A Conclave at Pipsico Scout Reservation

May 14 – Lodge Executive Committee meeting at Denbigh Christian Academy

May 19-21 – Spring Service Weekend at Wakefield 4H Conference Center in Wakefield, VA



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Unit Elections	OPEN	OPEN

## Duck Calls Message Board

Do read the minutes! With the LEC minutes, you can better understand some happenings of the Lodge that didn't happen to make it into this newsletter. Check it out at <http://wahunsenakah.org/>

This newsletter is very broad, and doesn't really focus on any one chapter. Want some information from your chapter in the newsletter? Contact me at [evan.c.crain@gmail.com](mailto:evan.c.crain@gmail.com) with submissions.

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