

Keyauwee Lodge 70

With the merger of General Greene Council and Uwharrie Council a new Order of the Arrow lodge was chartered for the new Old North State Council on January 1, 1992. The lodge chose the name “Keyauwee”, the name of a small tribe of Indians that resided in Randolph County in the early 1700s. Larry Warlick, a longtime Scouter in Uwharrie Lodge, suggested that the lodge choose the River Otter as the lodge totem. He displayed a mounted River Otter and this animal was chosen. He also helped design the original pocket flap.

When the lodge chartered to begin 1992 they reported the following membership:

Ordeal members	314		
Brotherhood	228	Youth:	480
Vigil	<u>82</u>	Adults:	144
Total	624		

The Lodge Charter form for the newly established lodge showed Rob Staudinger as Lodge Chief. He had served as Lodge Chief for Tali Taktaki Lodge in 1991. New officers had not yet been elected so the Uwharrie and Tali Taktaki officers continued in their roles for the new lodge. Brad Brewer of High Point was listed as Lodge Adviser and Steve Lawson was shown as Staff Adviser.

Leaders from both lodges met on March 1, 1992 at a Lodge Executive Committee meeting to plan for the lodge’s first event. Scout Executive Bill Brackett appointed Mike Bailey as Lodge Adviser and Ted Williams as Staff Adviser. The main goal of this meeting was to compare traditions from the two lodges which had both existed for over 50 years and begin joining them into a new organization for the future.



The new lodge held its first function on the weekend of March 13 – 15 at Camp Wenasa. It was a time for getting acquainted and making plans for the upcoming Section Conclave. Elections were held on March 14 and Chris Grubb was chosen as Lodge Chief. For this first event, Dan Howard, a former Tali Taktaki Lodge Chapter Advisor, ordered a patch with Lodge and Council approval. All that attended received one that notes “First Lodge Fellowship”.

The former members of Tali Taktaki Lodge 70 and Uwharrie Lodge 208 camped together in April at the 1992 SE-7 Section Conclave held at Cherokee Scout Reservation. The lodge did not have its new flap to wear but did issue a simple white t-shirt silkscreened with “70” and “KEYAUWEE”. Many of the new lodge members had friends in the other lodge so the merger went smoothly. This big event together gave all members a chance to get to know each other and continue making plans for the future.

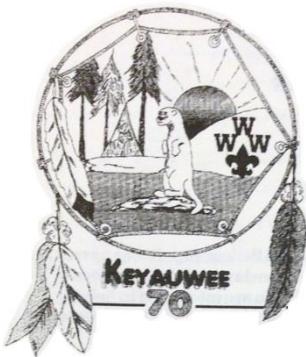




In May the lodge's first flap became available. The patch featured a river otter on a gray stone. Red rays streak across a yellow sky and there was a dark green border. The patches were popular and worn proudly by lodge members. A small number of this patch design was ordered with a white border. These flaps were restricted to three per member that attended the SE-7 Section Conclave. These patches were distributed during summer camp.



Since Camp Uwharrie had closed and Woodfield Scout Preservation was not yet ready for a summer program, Old North State Council held summer camp at Camp Wenasa and Camp Nikwasi. During the Family Night evening program each week the OA lodge held its tap-out ceremony. Following summer camp Ordeals were held at both Camp Wenasa and Woodfield. A total of 155 candidates were inducted into the lodge bringing the year end membership to a total of 734.



Strong communications was an emphasis for the leaders of this newly merged lodge. It was important to keep members of both former lodges up-to-date on lodge activities and plans. The lodge established a newsletter named "*The Keyauwee Courier*". The lodge's goal was to mail a new issue of this newsletter every other month. Issues would start with a letter "From the Chief's Teepee" with the lodge chief's thoughts on what is happening in the lodge. Each vice-chief also included columns informing members about issues in their area. The back page always included a calendar of upcoming events.

From August 9 – 13 members of Keyauwee Lodge attended the National Order of the Arrow Conference held at the University of Tennessee. They joined 6,800 Arrowmen from across the country for a week of training, competition, fellowship and inspirational shows. The lodge issued a special NOAC flap for those delegates.



The Vigil Weekend took place on September 17 - 18 and nine members became Vigil. There was a Saturday evening cracker barrel then a special breakfast on Sunday morning. The first Vigil members of Keyauwee Lodge were **Brad Austin, Harry Bowers, Brad Brewer, James Harrison, Danny Holt, Tay Howard, Brad King, Kris Youngblood, and Turner Younts.**

On November 6 – 8 the lodge held its Fall Fellowship at Camp Wenasa. The highlight of the weekend was the Lodge Banquet on Saturday evening.



The weekend of March 12 – 14, 1993 was a Spring Fellowship to remember. As Brothers arrived on Friday the temperature was in the 30s and light rain was falling. Overnight temperatures dropped and the wind started blowing over 20 mph. The precipitation turned to freezing rain and later snow. Besides fellowship the main objective of the weekend was the election of lodge officers. On Saturday morning the wind was blowing over 25 mph and the dining hall lost power. The

forecast was for heavy snow in the afternoon. The decision was made to send everyone home before the full effect of the storm hit, but the elections needed to go on. The 50+ youth that remained cast their votes and selected the following leaders:

Danny Holt	Lodge Chief
Ryan Hill	Vice Chief of Program
Andy Jackson	Vice Chief of Service
Maurice Hamilton	Vice Chief of Finance
Brent Stainback	Vice Chief of Records
Mark Everhart	Vice Chief of Publications
Kelly Trull	Vice Chief of Indian Affairs



The participants packed their bags and most people left by 2:00. Saturday evening over six inches of snow fell in what the newspapers called the “Blizzard of 1993”.



A new flap design was available in the spring of 1993. A standing otter on a gray stone was in the center of this flap with a white border.

On April 16 – 18 the lodge sent a delegation to the SE-7 Section Conclave hosted by Occoneechee Lodge at Camp Durant. Since Keyauwee was scheduled to host the 1994 conclave, this year the lodge was considered the “host lodge in training”. Various conclave committee chairs observed their Occoneechee counterparts to learn how to run a well-managed OA event for over 1,000 Arrowmen. The weekend went well and even though the lodge did not bring home any of the big awards, everyone felt it was a success.

The lodge was quite active in providing service to the council's camps, Camp Wenasa, Camp Nikwasi, and Woodfield Scout Preservation. On May 21 – 23 the lodge held an OA Work Weekend at Camp Wenasa which included a make-up ordeal. The primary objective was to get the property ready for summer camp.

The lodge issued a new jacket patch in the spring of 1993. The patch sold for \$10.00 and was not restricted.

Tap-outs were conducted each week during summer camp and a large number of candidates were selected. Two ordeals were held in the fall, one at Woodfield and one at Camp Wenasa. A total of 153 new members were inducted.



The Vigil Weekend took place on September 3 - 4, 1993 at Camp Wenasa. The following Brothers became Vigil members: **Charles Bettini, Maurice Hamilton, Paul Pressley, and David Trull.**

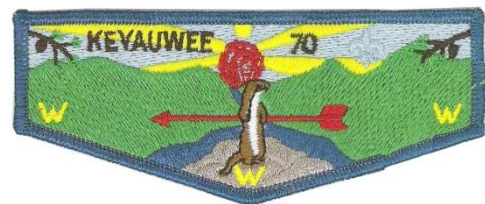
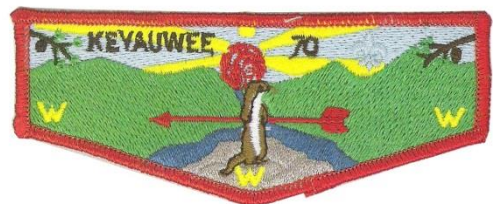
On November 5 – 7 the lodge held its Fall Fellowship at Camp Wenasa. Over 100 members attended this fun event. On Saturday participants saw presentations on arrowhead chipping, leatherwork design, and metalwork. While the weekend was centered on fellowship, much time was spent in preparation for the 1994 SR-7 Conclave that the lodge would host. Committees met and staffs were recruited and plans were made for what projects needed to be completed before conclave. The lodge estimated it needed at least 250 of its 605 active members to help staff the event. No patches were ordered for this event so Ted Williams arranged for a supply of 3” round leather blanks to be available. Participants used various tools and stamps and made their own emblem for the weekend.



The year ended with the lodge rechartering with these 605 members: 373 Ordeal, 165 Brotherhood, and 67 Vigils. There were 368 youth and 237 adults.

While committees were working early in the year, the lodge’s first activity of 1994 was its annual Banquet on February 24. Members of the lodge gathered at Jamestown United Methodist Church for a fine meal and entertainment. Members were encouraged to invite family and friends for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.

The Spring Fellowship was held on March 11 -13 at Camp Wenasa. This event which usually includes some training, some fun and games, and lots of fellowship was dominated by conclave preparation. Every Saturday from this until conclave (except Easter weekend) was filled with workdays at camp. Workdays took place on March 19, 26, and April 9. By the final workday everyone agreed that camp looked its best and was ready. The lodge issued two new flaps for the conclave workdays. The red border was restricted to one per workday worked. The blue border flap was not restricted.



Keyauwee Brothers began arriving on Thursday, April 14, to do the final set-up for conclave. On Friday over 1,200 Arrowmen from across North Carolina and Virginia moved in to campsites all over the Old North State Scout Reservation (Camp Wenasa and Camp Nikwasi). The theme for this first SR-7 Section Conclave was “A New Dawning”. This was the first conclave including four lodges from Virginia added to the ten North Carolina lodges from Section SE-7. The patch design for the event included the lodge numbers for all fourteen lodges in the new section. A special “Host Lodge” patch was also issued.

Friday started with a spirited show including welcoming speeches from Section leaders and a preview of what was planned for the weekend. Saturday started early with a Vigil Rededication and Breakfast at 5:45am. Following breakfast delegates attended a couple of hours of training then attention turned to exhibits and competition. There were Theme exhibits and ones on Scoutcraft and Indian Culture. Dance team and Ceremony competition continued until early afternoon. After lunch there was Individual Dance Competition and then the Quest for the Golden Arrow (which was won by Tsalagi Lodge 163). A patch auction was held then Section elections. Participants enjoyed barbecue pork and all the fixins for dinner. The evening included a fine arena show, patch trading, and a large cracker barrel. The weekend had a special feel of spirit and fellowship. After breakfast on Sunday participants packed their bags then went to Schenck Arena for a worship service and Closing Ceremonies. New Section officers were sworn in and awards were presented. Everyone agreed that it was a great conclave and all went well with the addition of the Arrowmen from Virginia.



The key to the success of this first SR-7 Section Conclave was the leadership provided by former lodge chief Danny Holt and Conclave Adviser Ed Hampton. Through their dedication and hard work a large team of Keyauwee brothers came together and hosted a well-run, enjoyable event.

In May the lodge held a Work Weekend at Camp Wenasa and 1993 candidates had one last opportunity to take their Ordeal. On Saturday evening both Ordeal and Brotherhood ceremonies were held.

Many Keyauwee Lodge members served on the staff of Camp Wenasa and Camp Nikwasi. Each Monday night during camp the lodge held a meeting of Arrowmen attending camp. They recruited members to assist with the Family night tap-out ceremony. Members were encouraged to become active with the lodge and to become Brotherhood.

During the summer of 1994 Keyauwee Lodge members became aware that Cherokee Council had voted to join Old North State Council. This would mean the merger of Keyauwee and Tsalagi Lodge 163. The transition would take place during the fall.

From July 31 – August 4 members of the lodge attended the National OA Conference held at Purdue University. The delegates enjoyed their trip and returned to North Carolina ready to begin another merger process.

The lodge held an Ordeal for the recently tapped out candidates on August 12 – 14 at Woodfield Scout Preservation. Tsalagi Lodge sent a ceremony team that performed Pre-Ordeal and Ordeal ceremonies. A total of 111 candidates were inducted including five Scouts from Cherokee Council. Essential projects were completed at Woodfield, but more important was the beginning of the merger process.

On September 1, the lodge held its final Vigil Weekend. The following members completed the process to become Vigil: **Steve Allred, Ed Hampton, Brent Stainback, Kelly Trull, Steven Vaughn, and Ben Williams.**

Prior to merging with Tali Taktaki Lodge 70 in 1992, Uwharrie Lodge had established a Life Member program. Following the merger Keyauwee Lodge honored the Uwharrie Lodge life memberships and included the program in their dues structure. Keyauwee Lodge members could become Life Members by paying \$100.00. They received one Life Member patch when they paid the fee. Each year members could purchase one patch for the amount of the annual lodge dues.



Leaders of Keyauwee Lodge 70 and Tsalagi Lodge 163 met to discuss the merger of the two lodges. The first joint event between the members of both lodges was planned for November 11 – 13. The Keyauwee Fall Fellowship planned for Camp Wenasa / Camp Nikwasi would become the first function for the new lodge, Tsoiotsi Tsogalii Lodge 70. This event would also be a farewell event for the Old North State Scout Reservation near Brown Summit. In the future the council would use Cherokee Scout Reservation for its summer camp program. The Brown Summit property would be closed and eventually sold.

Keyauwee Lodge 70 was active for less than three years, but it was an important organization in the transition from three lodges to now one.

When Keyauwee Lodge hosted the 1994 SR-7 Section Conclave, Steve Allred was the Adviser for the Trading Post Committee. He wanted to recognize and reward those Arrowmen serving on the staff of the Trading Post so he ordered a special patch. There were 100 of these patches made.

