

FLORIDA COLLECTORS' NEWSLETTER

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2013 SECTION S-4 CONFERENCE



FROM THE EDITORS

David Weda, Publisher Robert Mathis, Editor

Springtime in Florida. Usually, springtime means lots of patches, with the Section Conference, and the opportunity to catch up on what was created in the first four months. And with the Jamboree looming this summer, even more to come.

Speaking of the Jamboree. How was it possible that anyone attended the Jamboree back in the old days (pre-1993) without having a council issue a set of multiple shoulder patches that surrounded a large jacket patch? When a Scout is paying more than \$2000 to attend the Jamboree, and sets of patches are at least \$30, there is not a lot of room to make more than ten trades on a budget of \$300.

Section Conference 2013. Once upon time, the patch trading would fill the entire dining tent at a conference, going until 3 AM. These days, less than a third of a tent of traders, packing up their wares before midnight.

IL-LODGE-ICAL. On Facebook is a commentator from somewhere in Florida, offering a satirical, skewed view on Scouting, the Order of the Arrow, petty politics, and the area where all three merge: IL-LODGE-ICAL (<https://www.facebook.com/illodgeical>). Or, as the creator puts it: "it's the official page for

obscene observations, state of the art graphic design, crude commentaries, and things that probably shouldn't have been made public." And for a lucky few that had the foresight to order, there was a special flap created in 2012.

Mergermania 2013. Yet another wave of council mergers is working its way across the country, as a consequence of the lingering economic plight that began in 2008. Late last year was a merger just up north, creating South Georgia Council (and Withlacoochee Lodge). Now, two councils in Florida have unwillingly begun the process that may lead to mergers. More on this story inside.

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NEW ISSUES

(numbering is tentative at this time)

+ For hosting the Section Conference, **Seminole Lodge 85** gets to commemorate their efforts in thread. Besides the first Service flap (**S-65**) that was pictured in the last issue, there was another service flap (**S-66**), with "Babe the Blue Ox", and a third flap for hosting the event, with Paul Bunyan and Babe (**S-67**). The Service flaps have matching pocket dangle patches, with the legs of each character (**X-13**, **X-14**). The Blue Ox service set appears to be much harder to obtain than the other.

Their other items are Host versions of the items created for the Conference: a pocket patch (**X-15**), jacket patch (**J-6**), Neckerchief (**N-10**), double-sided chenille (**C-4**), and a brass belt buckle.

+ **Semialachee Lodge 239** is celebrating their 70th anniversary in 2013, with a commemorative flap (**S-88**). Before that was their special flap for winning the 2012 Section Conference "Quest For The Golden Arrow" (**S-87**). Both were issued with very low production numbers.

+ **Tipisa Lodge 326** reached the Gold level for the 2012 "Journey To Excellence" program, and made 500 flaps for the occasion (**S-48**), with a gold background and lettering. They also created a new jacket patch (**J-7**), with a new map of the lodge's chapters. **Tosohatchee Chapter** has issued their own 2013 National Scout Jamboree patch (**X-13**), designed to be worn below the lodge's own Jamboree flap.

+ **Osceola 564** has a new regular issue flap (**S-53**), with a design of a sunset, and the embroidered image of Chief Osceola embroidered in matching colors, embedded in the design. Each of their weekend patches for 2013 will be the bottom of a two-piece set, one event for each of their chapters.

+ Not pictured in the previous issue, the **O-Shot-Caw Lodge 265** 2012 Lodge Executive Committee flap (**S-147**).

+ Still not pictured, a new Elangomat patch for Echockotee Lodge 200 (**P-7**), with

ELANGOMAT SERVICE in RED letters. 100 made.

On the Council Shoulder Patch side...

+ **West Central Florida** has been busy, with their two Friends of Scouting (FO\$) strips, extending their "Scout Law" and "Endangered Species" themes. There is also a new fundraising CSP, for Wood Badge and NYLT scholarships.

+ **North Florida Council** has two more FO\$ strips of their own. Since they have completed the twelve-year "Scout Law" set last year, 2013 will begin the "Scout Oath" series. Full color patches for donors, monochrome for program presenters.

+ **Central Florida Council** members that staffed the 2013 Sunshine Trade-O-Ree created their own hand-made, hand-painted felt CSP. The 2010 "Armed Forces" set of five CSPs and a jacket patch had proven to be so popular, that it has been re-issued, with different colored lettering.

And for the 2013 National Jamboree...

+ **Gulf Coast Council** has a set of three JSPs and a jacket patch. with designs of aquatic life,

+ **Gulf Stream Council** has two sets of five JSPs for the council, and a jacket patch, depicting off-shore fish. **Aal-Pa-Tah 237** will have two flap and CSP sets of their own. For both, one set is in full color, the other is a WHT monochrome.

+ **Southwest Florida Council** has a set of six JSPs and a jacket patch., with local animals silhouetted in front of sunsets.

THE RUMOR MILL

* On a website set up to show upcoming council Jamboree patches (<https://sites.google.com/site/bsanationalscoutjamboree2013/>), there are two sets of patch artwork for **South Florida Council**. One set has five JSPs and a jacket patch, the other has five rectangular emblems. Both sets have depictions of sea life.

* The same website mentions that **Gulf Ridge Council's** Jamboree set will have a military theme.

* **Timuquan Lodge 340** will have a two-

piece set for the Jamboree.

* **Echockotee Lodge 200** will soon be producing a LOT of new items, over the next few years. First, there will be a Jamboree flap, to be released in the next month. Second, the lodge made a commitment of \$50,000 to North Florida Council for the naming rights to a new enclosed shelter to be built at Camp Shands. And to pay for this commitment, the lodge will be producing fundraiser flaps for the next three years, along with other patches, at least one belt buckle, and a lithograph. Or, at least that is the plan.

+ **Tipisa Lodge 326** was named the 2013 Best All-Around Lodge at the Section Conference, so there will be a commemorative flap, rendered in a WHT monochrome with a RED tipi, lettering, and border. There will also be a matching CSP, similar to the "Together In Scouting" CSP for Central Florida Council, also to be embroidered in a WHT monochrome.

notes & asides

> Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of George Vise, member of Tipisa 326

and collector, who passed away on May 22.

> The 2013 Sctrion S-4 Seminars will be hosted by **Timuquan Lodge 340**, but it will be held at Camp Soule (near Clearwater), and not Sand Hill Scout Reservation, outside Brooksville. Last we heard, the plan for the patch for the Seminars would be to use the original design of the 1982 Section SE-1 Conference patch, the last Section event held at Soule.

> FourCorps 2014. Just like the section's FourCorps 2010, just four years later. More details to come.

> Sometimes, a patch design gets altered until it looks good, when it was already looking great. Case in point: the 1996 Section S-4 Conference. The original design was used to create a set of samples, that were deemed to be ugly, and forced the colors to be tweaked to include more blue. But having seen the original sample set, they should have stayed with their first inclination. See the pictures below, which would you choose?

> The National OA Committee is selling a set of four flaps associated with the OA's activities at the National Jamboree. The four flap set includes emblems for the OA Service



Corps, Indian Village, Trek Guides, and the "Day of Service". Sets are being sold for \$50 each. (http://www.sgtradingpost.com/product.php?product_id=1102&subcat_id=105)

> Planning for next year's Section Conference has already begun, including discussions of the product line to be created. Which means that it may be time for the chenille to be retired.

> The 100th Anniversary National OA Conference, August 3-8, 2015, at Michigan State University.. Let the patch making begin.

> As recently seen on eBay: some of the more interesting Florida items sold in the last few months.

- 552-S-1 flap: \$432.78
- 239-N-1 : \$1999.99
- 237-F-1 (event flap, for the 1956 Fellowship): \$41.52
- Calusa 219 F-1 flap: \$4999.99
- "FLA." BYS state strip, used: \$300.01.
- 326-R-2, used: \$749.99
- 239-A-1 sewn on neckerchief, with red pompoms (1954 NOAC contingent): \$2024.99.
- 265-N-2 (RED ribbon, LEC): \$522.
- Camp Echockotee neckerchief slide: \$46.
- 200/ 265 NOAC 1975 patch: \$151.50.
- 385-A-1; \$957.77
- 200 belt buckle, brass; arrow left (to the wearer): \$114.17.

MERGER MANIA 2013

Almost from the beginning of this publication in the early 1990s, one of the running stories was "Merger Mania", the head-long rush that the BSA had at that time to merge councils together (much like today). Back then, the prime target for merger were the councils in Tampa (Gulf Ridge) and St. Petersburg (West Central Florida). After a few years, the National urge to merge the two waned, when it became clear that there was no interest with both parties in participating. And so both councils have peacefully coexisted, each with their own council offices, a local camp near their population center (Owen Brorein in Tampa, Soule in Clearwater),

and each with a long-term camp in rural areas (Flaming Arrow in Lake Wales, Sand Hill near Brooksville).

But now, there is a new term to learn: "conditional charter". The BSA issues three types of charters to councils: "regular" (which every council wants, "conditional", and "transitional". A conditional charter is issued when a council's numbers (membership, money, or both) have declined below an acceptable level, and conditions are imposed by the BSA to bring the numbers up by a set date. Failure to meet these numbers may mean that the next charter to be issued may be the "transitional charter", in which National will initiate actions that will lead to the merger of that council with other nearby councils, either in total, or broken into separate pieces and divided between nearby councils. This is the situation with West Central Florida Council: attain mutually agreed-upon goals for increased membership, revenue, attain a balanced budget, and attain a silver ranking in the Journey To Excellence program, before the end of the year. Failure will mean merger, not necessarily with Gulf Ridge, but it would be the closest nearby council. And a merger would likely mean the shuttering of at least one camp, to be sold as excess property.

This is not the only council in Florida that is facing dissolution. Suwannee River Area Council in Tallahassee has also been given a 2013 conditional charter, and has been tasked by National to achieve similar improvements, or face a transitional charter. Merger with one other council does seem problematic, as the headquarters of the neighboring councils to the east and west are over 150 miles away (Jacksonville, Pensacola). To the north, newly -created South Florida Council was formed in the 2012 merger between Alapaha (Valdosta) and Southwest Georgia (Albany) Councils, and is itself pretty large. Any failure of Suwannee River to remain a viable council may mean dividing up its parts between the nearby councils.



085-S-66 2012; 2013 Section S-4 Conference Work Days; Babe The Blue Ox; 100 made?



085-S-67 2012; 2013 Section S-4 Conference HOST; Paul Bunyan and Babe The Blue Ox; no service restriction.



085-J-6 2013 Section S-4 Conference Host



085-X-13 2013 Section S-4 Conference; Service; legs of Paul Bunyan; 100 made?



085-X-14 2013 Section S-4 Conference; Service; legs of Babe the Blue Ox



085-X-15 2013 Section S-4 Conference Host



085 buckle 2013; Section S-4 Conference Host; brass

085-N-10 2013; Section S-4 Conference Host



085-C-4 2013 Section S-4 Conference Host. (left) front. (right) reverse.



237-X-77 2013 Section Conference



239-S-88 2013; 70th anniversary; 150 made



265-S-147 2012; LEC



237-S-116 2013 National Scout Jamboree.



237-X-78 2013 National Scout Jamboree lodge CSP



239-S-87 2012; Quest For The Golden Arrow



326-J-7 2013; chapter map



326-S-48 2013; 2012 JTE Gold Lodge; 500 made



326 Tosohatchee Chapter X-13 2013; National Jamboree. Worn along with the Tipisa 326 Jamboree flap.



564-S-53 2013



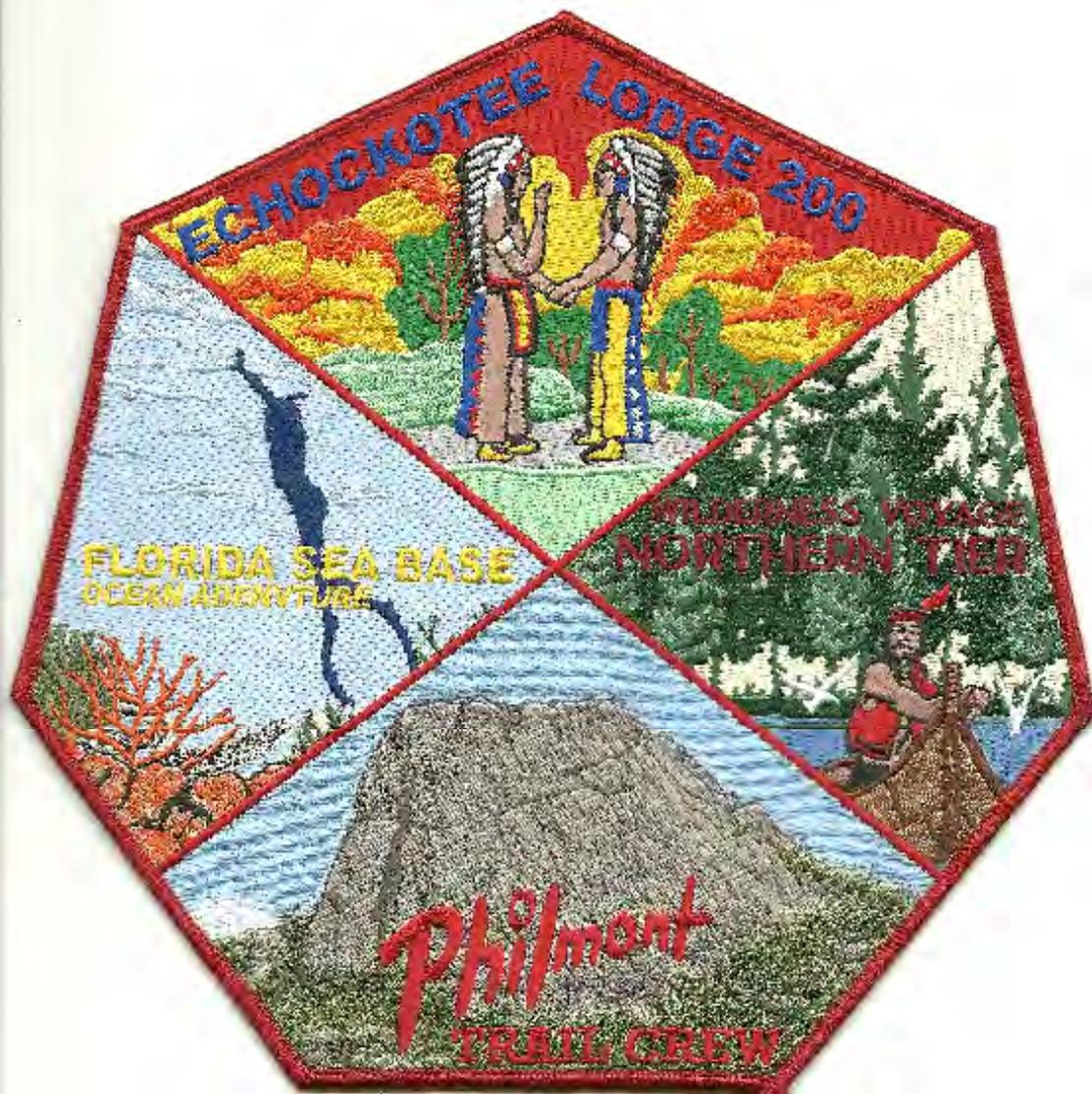
085 2013 Spring Conclave. Part of 2013 activity patch theme, "Mythical Figures".



326 Lem-Hee' Okee Chapter X-3 2013; 200 made



(left) 239 Winter Fellowship 2013. (above) 239 Spring Fellowship. Parts of 2013 series, "70th Anniversary", depicting early lodge emblems.



200 (above) 2013 year patch. (below, left) 200 Spring Fellowship 2013. (right) 200 Summer Fellowship 2013. Parts of 2013 series, "BSA High Adventure Bases".





(above) 237 2013 "Fast Pass" (one time payment for all lodge events for 2013).
 (below) 237 2013 Palm Beach Trade-O-Ree



(above) 237 2013 year patch. (below, left) 237 2013 "small" year patch (middle design of the large puzzle set). (middle) 237 2013 Spring Ordeal. (right) 237 2013 Summee Pow Wow. Parts of 2013 activity patch series, "Legends Of The Loxahatchee".





(above) 237 2013 Fall Ordeal. (right) 237 2013 Winter Fellowship.



265 (left) 2012 Fall Ordeal. (below) 265 2012 Section S-4 Seminars Delegate. Parts of 2012-2013 series, depicting the Heron (lodge totem). (right, above) 265 2012 Haunted Forest, PUR border; attendee. (right) 265 2012 Haunted Forest; YEL border; staff.

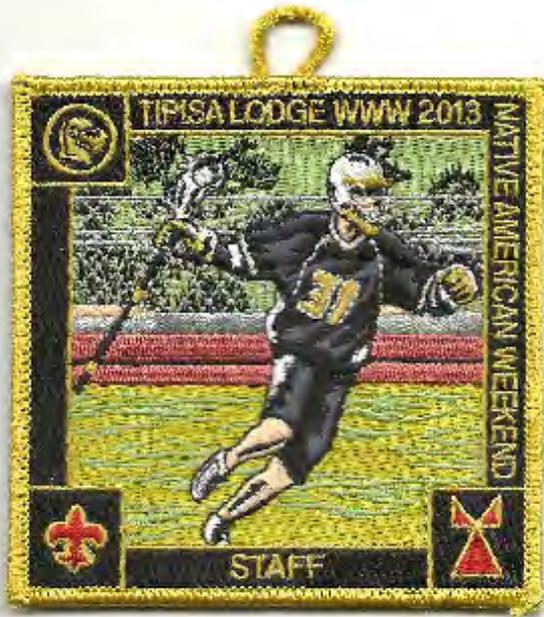




(left) 265 2013 Winter Ordeal.



265 2013 Lodge Banquet. (left) front. (below) right). Last part of 2011-2012 series, depicting "The Legend".

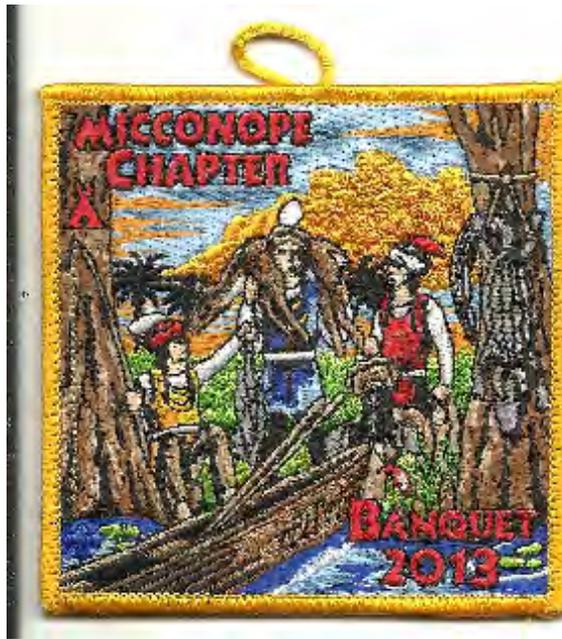


326 (left) 2013 Native American Weekend; attendee. (above) 326 2013 Native American Weekend, staff. (right) 326 2013 Spring Conclave.. Parts of 2012-2013 series "Athletics of an Unnamed University in Orlando"





326 2013 Service Weekend.



326 Micconope Chapter. (left) 2013 Banquet. (below) 2013 Lock-In.



340 (left) 2012-2013 Year patch. (right) 2013 Spring Fellowship. Parts of 2012-2013 activity patch series, "Sand Hill Scout Reservation Wildlife".





564 2013 Ordeal. (above) regular attendee. (below) Elangomat. Parts of 2013 activity patch series, depicting the chapters of Osecola Lodge. Designs match that of the lodge's new flap.



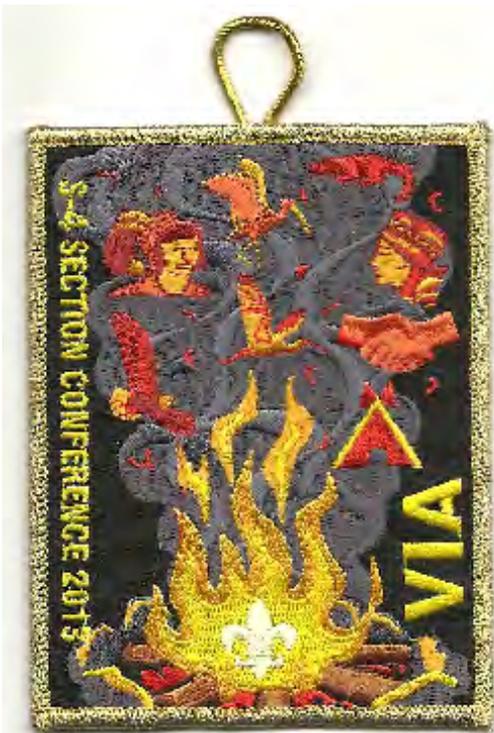
564 Hvlpatah Tastanagi Chapter 2012 Camporee (top) BLU background; attendee. (above) LGR background; STAFF



265 "40th Anniversary Vigil Reunion Coin". Issued 2012.



2013 Section S-4 Conference pocket patch



2013 Section S-4 Conference VIA Luncheon patch.



2013 Section S-4 Conference belt buckle; attendee (gray metal)



2013 Section S-4 Conference hat pin.



2013 Section S-4 Conference Vigil Breakfast patch.



2013 Section S-4 Conference neckerchief



2013 Section S-4 Conference chenille (above) front (below) back



2013 Section S-4 Conference "special" patch



2013 Section S-4 Conference Golf Tournament patch.





Central Florida Council CSP-?? 2013; Sunshine Trade-O-Ree staff; hand-made



West Central Florida Council SA-?? 2013 FO\$; "THRIFTY"; Scout Law series of FO\$ CSPs



North Florida Council SA-?? 2013 FO\$; full color; contributor



West Central Florida Council SA-?? 2013 FO\$; "gopher tortoise"; Endangered Species series of FO\$ CSPs



North Florida Council SA-?? 2013 FO\$; monochrome; presenter



West Central Florida Council JSP 2013 Campership Fund; BLK border



South Florida Council SA-?? 2013; Wood Badge Association



West Central Florida Council JSP 2013 Campership Fund; BGLD border

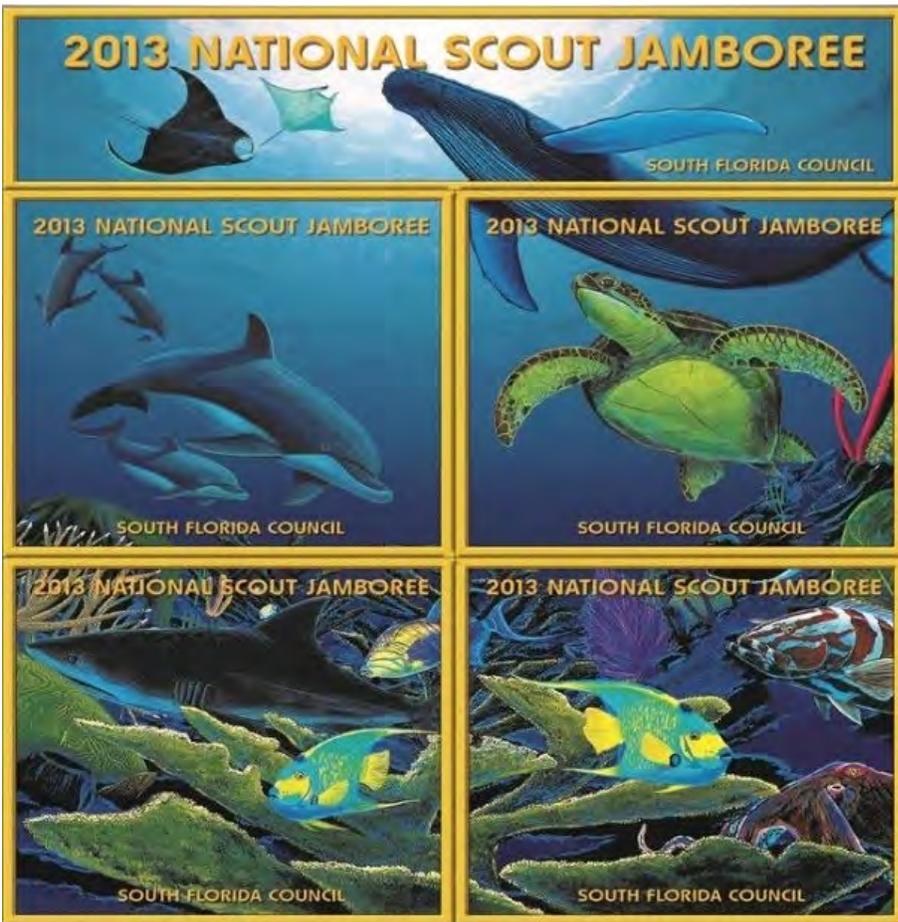
West Central Florida Council SA-?? 2013 Wood Badge/ NYLT Scholarship Funds





(above) Gulf Stream Council 2013 National Jamboree patch set.
 (below) Southwest Florida Council 2013 National Jamboree patch set.







Central Florida Council 2013; "Armed Forces" set; different colored lettering than the 2010 set.



Gulf Coast Council 2013 Jamboree set