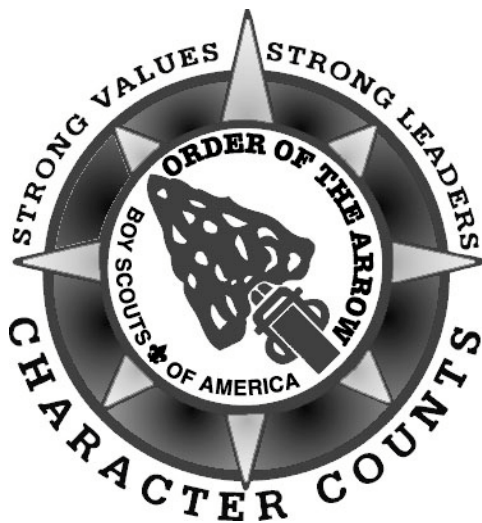


Wel come to the Otyokwa Lodge #337!



New Ordeal Orientation Guide

Congratulations!

You have just become one of the newest members the Otyokwa Lodge #337. The Ordeal weekend through which you have passed was filled with new experiences and a lot of information. This guide will show you what lies ahead on the exciting journey that you have begun.

What has Happened?

There have been many events leading up to your membership in the Lodge.

➤ Unit Elections

The first step in your induction was your unit election. You were chosen by the members of your unit because of something they saw in you. Allowat Sakima, the mighty Chief, talked of the election in the Pre-Ordeal Ceremony:

*"As the warrior draws the arrow
most trustworthy from the quiver,
you were drawn from many others"*

This was the first indication of your worthiness to be inducted to the Order.

➤ Symbolic Tap-Out Ceremony (Calling Out)

The next step in your induction was the Tap-Out Ceremony. At this ceremony, you were officially recognized as a candidate. Meteu called you up from your seat and Allowat Sakima tapped you three times on the shoulder to symbolize the three points of the Scout Oath (duty to others, self, and God). You were then given information about the Ordeal.

➤ The Ordeal Experience

When you arrived at our Ordeal, you were curious. Many questions floated in your head. Soon after you arrived, you were introduced to your Elangomat and the members of your clan. The Elangomat would be your friend throughout your Ordeal Experience. He is a member of the Lodge who would experience all the things you would during the Ordeal.

➤ The Pre-Ordeal Ceremony

The first glimpse of the Pre-Ordeal ring was undoubtedly breathtaking. Fifteen small fires circled an unlit fire lay. The fifteen fires represent the twelve points of the Scout Law and the three points of the Scout Oath. One at a time, you met the four ceremonial principals. They encouraged you and presented you with a challenge.

➤ The Obligation

The most important moment of the Ordeal is when you took upon yourself the Obligation of the Order of the Arrow. This solemn obligation is the very heart of what the OA is all about:

I do hereby promise, on my honor as a Scout, that it will always and faithfully observe and pre-serve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow, Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui.

I will always regard the ties of brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow as lasting, and will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit, even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities, and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others.

The Obligation can also be found on the back of your membership card and in your Order of the Arrow Handbook. When you sign the back of your membership card, you reaffirm this obligation and again pledge yourself to live by it.

Customs and Traditions of the Ordeal

Question: Who is Kichkinet? Nutiket? Meteu? Allowat Sakima?

Answer: Kichkinet is your guide in the ceremonies. He symbolizes helpfulness and friendliness. Nutiket is the guard of the circle. He upholds the tradition of cheerfulness. Meteu is the Medicine Man and representative of Brotherhood. He reminds us of our need to love one another. Allowat Sakima, the mighty chief, symbolizes service. From him you accepted the Obligation of the Order.

Question: What tokens did the four ceremonial principles reveal to you in the Pre-Ordeal ceremony, and what did they represent?

Answer: Nutiket gave the bow to Allowat Sakima as a token of liveliness and flexibility under stress, the principle of cheerfulness. Meteu gave the bowstring to Allowat Sakima as a token of the ties of Brotherhood also symbolized by the rope in the Ordeal ceremony. Allowat Sakima strung the bow uniting brotherhood and cheerfulness for service, and drew an arrow from a quiver as a token that your election separated you from your fellows for something higher. Allowat Sakima asked you to test the bow as a sign of willingness to test the dedication to Scout ideals that led to your election. Lastly, Kichkinet shot the arrow upward, symbolizing the pathway you will follow if your dedication is unwavering.

Question: What are the tests of Ordeal, and what do they illustrate?

Answer: The night alone focuses attention on your need for courage and self-reliance on the trail ahead. You must be willing to accept individual responsibility for your thoughts and actions. You will find that your course will set you apart from your friends to the extent of isolation, but you must act according to your resolution regardless of what others do or fail to do. Your pledge of silence emphasizes the continuing need for you to spend time in thoughtful silence. Difficult decisions will face you now and in the future, and you will need to search your heart and spirit deeply to find the resolution that will guide you onward successfully. The scant food test illustrates self-denial. Often you will find it necessary to abandon mere personal comfort or desires if you are to fulfill your Obligation. The day of work indicates your willingness to give service, even when this service involves hardship and toil. In the Ordeal, you worked with the help and cooperation of other candidates and members, but now you must be ready to serve without the help and cooperation of others.

Question: What is the tradition given to us by Uncas as described in the legend?

Answer: The legend tells how the peaceful lives of the Lenni Lenape Indians were threatened by neighboring tribes and distant enemies. Chief Chingachgook's call for volunteers to go and alert other villages of the tribe was met with apathy and indifference from tribal members. Uncas cheerfully offered his help despite negative attitudes of everyone around him. He cared enough for others that he was willing to face hardship and danger to protect them from harm. Uncas clearly saw a higher vision, and his desire for his brothers was that they could see it, too. The self-sacrificing service given by Uncas and Chingachgook is said to have saved the tribe from annihilation.

Question: What is the significance of Allowat Sakima's description of the Arrow in the Ordeal Ceremony?

Answer: The chief stated that the various qualities attributed to the Arrow are ingredients of leadership. His discussion is a continuation of Meteu's comments about the Arrow in the Pre-Ordeal Ceremony. The Ordeal asks each one to act according to his highest sense of right, regardless of the attitudes or actions of others. The four tests and the Obligation point the way, and Allowat Sakima reveals his way as one of real leadership. Any member who understands his Obligation and is striving to fulfill it inevitably becomes a center of strength in his Troop. His example sets the pace in cheerful service, and his dedication has a rich affect on those who know him. Although wearing a sash identifies a Scout as a member of the Order, it is his efforts to fulfill his Obligation that truly distinguishes him and provides others with the glimpses of the Arrow.

Question: What is Ordeal membership?

Answer: Like the Ordeal, it is a time of trial, during which your understanding of the traditions of the Arrow will be put to the test. In the Ordeal ceremony, each advancement you made into the circle was challenged, but your resolution and faithfulness in time of testing enabled you to go forward. You will find this to be true also in the experiences ahead. By striving to fulfill your Obligation, you will provide the higher vision of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service to your fellow Scouts, even as Uncas did for his tribe.

Question: When are you ready to accept Brotherhood membership in the Order?

Answer: Successfully meeting the demands of the Obligation is usually rather hard for the first several months. Gradually, however your dedication to it will bring about changes that will make it easier for you. Eventually, the Spirit of Cheerful Service will become almost second nature to you, and you will be fulfilling the Obligation and hardly even thinking about. As this experience develops, you begin to see the Arrow, and you are ready for Brotherhood.

What's It All About?

The Order of the Arrow is known as Scouting's National Honor Society.

Purpose of the Order

- To recognize those campers-Scouts, and Scouters-who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and by such recognition cause other campers to conduct themselves in such a manner as to warrant recognition.
- To develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit.
- To promote Scout camping, which reaches its greatest effectiveness as a part of the unit's camping program, both year-around and in the summer camp, as directed by the camping committee of the council.
- To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Membership

During your Ordeal weekend, you were inducted into the Otyokwa Lodge #337. During the Ordeal Ceremony, you became an Ordeal Member. As you were told, you have all of the rights and privileges of the Order of the Arrow.

The Order does not have ranks like in Scouting, rather, it has levels of membership. However, these levels do not cause one Arrowman to be superior to another, for we are brothers. After you have been active as an Arrowman in the Lodge for 10 months, you are eligible to become a Brotherhood Member. This involves a ceremony similar to that of the Ordeal. The Brotherhood Ceremony builds upon some of the occurrences in the Ordeal Ceremony. This is an important step that you should plan to take. By becoming a Brotherhood member, you seal your membership in the Order. You must meet a few more challenges regarding the customs, tradition, and obligations of the Order.

Each year the Lodge honors several Arrowmen who have held Brotherhood membership for two years with the Vigil Honor Membership. These Arrowmen undergo new tests and a new ceremony before receiving the Vigil Honor. A committee meets each year to nominate the Vigil Honor Recipients. The selections are made based on continuing service and devotion to the Order of the Arrow and Scouting.

Lodge Leadership and the Lodge Executive Committee

The Lodge is lead by several youth and adult Arrowmen who are responsible for conducting the program of the Lodge. Many of these Lodge leaders comprise the Lodge Executive Committee, the decision-making body of the Lodge. The LEC is composed of the Lodge and Chapter Officers, Lodge and Chapter Advisors, Committee Chairmen, and Committee Advisors.

The officers of the Lodge are the Chief, Vice-Chief of Administration, Vice-Chief of Activities, Secretary, and Treasurer. These Lodge leaders are responsible for overseeing and conducting the operations of the Lodge and administering the Lodge program.

The Chapters (Blue Hills and Silver Waters) also have 3 officers each. These are the Chapter Chief, Vice-Chief and Secretary.

There are many opportunities for Leadership in the OA. If you have an interest in becoming more involved in the Lodge Program and are interested in learning about the Order of the Arrow through one of its numerous leadership positions, contact one of the Lodge Leaders and discuss it with him. There's a role for every Arrowmen in the Order of the Arrow.

What's In It For Me?

The Order of the Arrow has a lot to offer you, from activities to leadership and service opportunities.

Activities

Each activity is promoted in the Lodge Newsletter, which you will now be receiving. Pay attention to the articles in the Newsletter so you don't miss registration deadlines and other important information.

Winter Banquet

To begin the new year, the Lodge annually holds a winter dinner. Held on a Sunday evening in January or February, it is the biggest social event of the year for the Lodge. Along with a dinner, the banquet includes recognition of past and current officers, new Brotherhood members, and Vigil Honor recipients. The service and Founder's award is also presented. All family members are welcome to attend this event.

Spring Work Weekend

The Spring Ordeal is held in April or May at Camp Phillips. The first Ordeal of the year takes place, and many work projects are completed. Brotherhood questioning and ceremony are also held during this weekend.

Summer Ceremonies

Throughout the summer at Camp Phillips the lodge exhibits American Indian dances as well as performs a spectacular call-out ceremony each week. An opportunity to complete Brotherhood membership is also available for troops staying at Camp Phillips.

Fall Fellowship

The largest event of the year in the lodge, this weekend provides a great amount of service to Camp Phillips. Ordeal, Brotherhood and Vigil ceremonies take place.

National Order of the Arrow Conference

NOAC is held bi-annually on the campus of a major university. This week of training, Brotherhood, com-petition, and fellowship includes Arrowmen from all over the United States. There are many opportunities at this national event.

Section Conclave

Arrowmen from 7 lodges meet in September every year for this event at a different location. All Arrowmen are welcome to attend this event and enjoy the fun, fellowship,

competition, training and the opportunity to exchange energy and ideas. A different Lodge from the Section hosts this event each year.

Winterfest

This activity will feature cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, sledding, ice fishing, games, fun and fellowship for the Arrowmen that attend. Usually held at Camp Phillips in February, this is a great time to have fun, relax and get to know other lodge members.

Council Program

Numerous times throughout the year the lodge plays a support role in council and district events such as the Webelos transition nights and camporees. Watch for details in the Eagle's Flight.

What's Ahead?

The Trail to Brotherhood

Your completion of the Ordeal sets you on the start of an exciting adventure. After at least 10 months of active service, you will be eligible to seal your membership with the Order in the Brotherhood Ceremony. The Ordeal has introduced you to the mysteries of the Order. Now, during your service as an Ordeal member, you have ample opportunity to increase your knowledge of the Arrow and to make it work for you. Your brothers in the Otyokwa Lodge #337 stand ready to help you, and you should take advantage of their support whenever possible.

The Challenges of Brotherhood Membership

You must meet five challenges before you can enter the Circle of Brotherhood. The first of these you should meet now. The next three require steady effort over a period of months. The last challenge you must meet after you are satisfied that you are meeting the first four challenges.

- 1. Memorize the signs of Arrow Membership.** Memorize the Obligation of the Arrow, which you received from Allowat Sakima (printed on the back of your Membership Card, in this Guide, and in the Order of the Arrow Handbook). Also, memorize the Order of the Arrow Official Song, the Admonition, the sign of the Ordeal membership, and the Arrow handclasp.
- 2. Advance in your understanding of the Ordeal.** Gain a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you have passed.
- 3. Serve you unit.** Retain your registration in Scouting. During a period of at least 10 months, strive to fulfill your Obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your own troop or team.
- 4. Plan for service in your Lodge.** Retain your registration in your Order of the Arrow Lodge and keep your dues paid. Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service to the Lodge. Develop a concrete idea of how you plan to fulfill this pledge.
- 5. Review your Progress.** When you earnestly feel that you have met the four challenges above, write a letter to you Lodge Secretary.

How?

To sign up for Brotherhood Conversion, register using the Lodge Newsletter. The Lodge offers the Brotherhood Ceremony at least twice a year. It is often held at the Spring Ordeal and Annual Meeting. Come to the Weekend fully prepared. The guide on the following pages will help you prepare for the next step in your journey.

Your Guide to Brotherhood

Do the following to meet the 5 challenges of Brotherhood Membership.

1. Memorize these signs of membership.
 - The Obligation can be found on page 2 of this Guide, on the back of your membership card, and in your Order of the Arrow Handbook.
 - The Order of the Arrow Official Song. Can be found in your Order of the Arrow Handbook.
 - The handclasp of the Order is made with the left hand intertwining the ring and little fingers.
 - The Admonition is a very sacred element in the Order of the Arrow. So sacred is the Lenni Lenape word that it is only printed in ceremonial booklets. It appears nowhere else in print. The word is only to be whispered between brothers during ceremonies and to verify OA membership; it is never to be spoken out loud. If you need to be reminded of what the admonition is, ask a fellow Arrowmen who can tell you.
2. To further your understanding of the Ordeal, please study the answers to these questions found in this Guide on page 3 and in you Order of the Arrow Handbook.
 - Who is Kichkinet? Nutiket? Meteu? Allowat Sakima?
 - What tokens did the four ceremonial principals reveal to you in the Pre-Ordeal, and what did they represent?
 - What are the tests of the Ordeal, and what do they illustrate?
 - What are the three symbolic preparations for the Obligation in the Ordeal Ceremony?
 - What is the tradition given to us by Uncas as described in the legend?
 - What is the significance of Allowat Sakima's description of the Arrow in the Ordeal Ceremony?
 - What is Ordeal Membership?
 - When are you ready to accept Brotherhood Membership in the Order?
3. Retain your registration in Scouting. During a period of at least 10 months, strive to fulfill your Obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your own troop. An Arrowman's greatest obligation in Scouting does not belong to the Order of the Arrow; rather, it lies in service to the Troop.
4. Retain your registration in your Order of the Arrow Lodge and keep your dues paid. Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service to the Lodge. Develop a concrete idea of how you plan to fulfill this pledge. Attending events is a great way to develop an idea of how you can serve the Lodge.

5. Write a letter. This letter is for you to explain your journey in the Order thus far. It should be brought with you to the weekend of your Brotherhood Ceremony. In it include:

- Explain what you think the Obligation means.
- Describe how you have been fulfilling this Obligation in your Troop and in your daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid in this service.
- Describe your specific plans for giving service in the Lodge program.

My Trail to Brotherhood

Check off each item as you complete it.

1) Memorize.

___ Obligation ___ Handclasp ___ Song ___ Admonition and Meaning

2) Further Your Understanding of the Ordeal.

___ Look up answers to questions

___ Study questions and answers

3) Remain Active in Your Troop and Lodge.

Date of Ordeal _____

Date Eligible for Brotherhood (10 months after Ordeal) _____

4) Attend a Few Lodge Functions.

Event Attended _____ Date _____

Event Attended _____ Date _____

Event Attended _____ Date _____

5) Develop a Plan for Service to the Lodge.

How I plan to serve the Otyokwa Lodge #337:

6) Watch the Eagle's Flight for registration Information. Send it in as soon as you find the date for an event with a Brotherhood Conversion Opportunity. Review and familiarize yourself with the customs and traditions of the Order of the Arrow.

7) Write a letter to the Lodge Secretary and bring it with you to the Brotherhood Weekend.

If you ever have any questions regarding the Lodge or Brotherhood Membership, feel free to contact your Elangomat or another lodge officer.