



Dear Ordeal Candidate:

Congratulations! You have been elected to be a candidate for membership in the Order of the Arrow. The OA, as it is called, is the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America. It was organized in 1915 to recognize honor campers. The purpose of the Order of the Arrow is to recognize those campers 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 similar recognition; to promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure; and environmental stewardship; to develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit, and ability to advance the activities of Scouting and our nation; and to crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Candidates for the Order of the Arrow are chosen by their peers, rather than by the members of the Order of the Arrow. This means that you have already demonstrated that you are an honor camper. However, before you may become an "Arrowman," you must undergo an "Ordeal" within one (1) year of your election. If you do not, then you must be elected to be a candidate again. In the next year, we will hold an Ordeal on **March 19-21, 2010 or September 17-19, 2009** at **Knox Scout Reservation**. You must attend one of these to become a member. For more information, please see the attached information sheet.

Please feel free to contact me at 706-4145618 if you have any questions concerning the Order of the Arrow. Once again, congratulations on your election.

Sincerely,

Douglas R. Massey, III
Lodge Chief
Bob White Lodge

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ORDEAL EVENTS

1. The Ordeal weekend is open to all OA members and newly elected Ordeal Candidates. Candidates should arrive no later than 7:00 pm on Friday night. The event will end on Sunday morning by approximately 12:00 Noon concluding with General Lodge Meeting, New Member Orientation and distribution of member packets containing Membership card, pocket flap, and OA handbook. Special arrangements can be made to accommodate late arrivals on Friday night due to football, band, or other activities, and on Sunday to accommodate religious requirements. The fee is \$45.00 for which the Ordeal members receive a sash, a book, a lodge flap, membership card, and all meals. The OA Store will be open Sunday morning and after the General Lodge Meeting for the purchase of OA memorabilia such as t-shirts, patches, and other items. Members frequently spend between \$20.00 and \$25.00 at the OA Store.
2. However, Candidates should make every effort to stay for the entire event due to safety issues regarding traveling on Saturday night and missing out on important information at the New Member Orientation. Saturday's activities will be tiring and last late into the evening (approx. 10:00 pm).
3. Candidates should arrive in clothing to work and sleep outdoors and members in complete Scout uniform. All Scouts should have a complete Scout Uniform in their gear.
4. All attendees must have a copy of a current Class I Medical Form.
5. After check-in on Friday night, Candidates and members will set up their tents in a designated campsite. They will need the normal toiletries, change of clothes, etc. for Saturday night. Candidates will need only the following items when they report back to the designated assembly area:
 - a. Sleeping bag or bed roll
 - b. Ground cloth
 - c. Work clothes, work gloves, and work boots/shoes (may be subject to getting paint, dirt, oil, etc. on them so plan accordingly). Candidates may return to the designated area in their work clothes.
 - d. Canteen or water bottle
 - e. Small flashlight (no lanterns)
 - f. Raingear such as a poncho
 - g. Pocket knife
 - h. Sunscreen and insect repellent
6. Members should bring work clothes, gloves, boots/shoes, and tools, as they feel necessary for service projects on Saturday.
7. Brotherhood Candidates should plan on attending a Pre-Ordeal Ceremony on Friday night and arrive accordingly.
8. **Eat before you arrive on Friday night.**