



TSCHITANI LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Brother,

It has now been more than 6 months since you first wore the sash of our Order. I trust that, during this time, you have continued to represent the ideals of our Brotherhood and serve faithfully in Scouting and the Community more broadly. Now, you are called to strengthen and seal your membership in the Lodge by meeting these 5 challenges:

1. **Memorizing the signs of Membership.** Long ago, Allowat Sakima repeated to you the Obligation and Admonition of the Order of the Arrow. Make an effort to memorize these, along with the OA Song and Handclasp. Your OA Handbook may assist you in this quest.
2. **Advance in your Understanding of the Ordeal.** Gain a more comprehensive understanding of the symbolism and story of the Ordeal ceremony. Be able to recall the Sign of the Ordeal.
3. **Serve your Unit.** During these 6 months, strive to fulfill your Obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your Troop, Crew, or Ship.
4. **Plan for Future Service in the OA.** Retain your registration in the Order of the Arrow by paying your Lodge Dues (\$20 annually) at tschitani.org/dues. Be aware that the acceptance of Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service. Develop a plan to honor this pledge.
5. **Review your Progress and Write a Letter to Lodge Leadership.** When you earnestly feel that you've met the four challenges above, write a letter addressed to Tschitani Lodge Leadership. In this letter, include the following:
 - a. What the promise of the Obligation means to you.
 - b. How you have been working to fulfill the Obligation in your unit and daily life.
 - c. Describe your specific goals for continuing in the Order of the Arrow.This doesn't need to be a long letter, just enough to review the requirements above.

It's not only important that you meet the challenges above, but that you feel prepared. The Brotherhood Honor and Sash represent a goal that all Ordeal members should seek to achieve. However, only those seeking to reaffirm their belief in the high purpose of our order, will succeed.

At your Ordeal, you were sent to seek a vision of yourself and your purpose. The challenge of Brotherhood membership is part of that vision. Plan now to seal your membership at one of our upcoming induction weekends for the 2026 year:

April 17th-19th @ June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation

June 5th-7th @ Camp Mattatuck

September 18th-20th @ Camp Workcoeman

The induction weekend begins with registration between 7:00-8:00pm on Friday night, and concludes with departure at 10:00am on Sunday morning. Brotherhood Candidates must stay to conclusion on Sunday morning.

You can register now for all 3 of these weekends on the Connecticut Rivers Council Website at <https://ctscouting.org/oa/> or through the Council Calendar. The cost for Brotherhood conversion is equal to the regular pricing for a member to attend an Induction Weekend (\$15 Youth/\$25 Adult). At registration, please select the "Brotherhood Candidate" option to let us know of your candidacy. Additionally, you have the option to take on one of the following roles as staff for the weekend:

- **Elangomat:** Elangomats lead and mentor Ordeal Candidate crews throughout the weekend. Although you will have to sleep outside and provide cheerful service alongside the Candidates, you will be served full-class meals during all of Saturday. Those who serve as an Elangomat receive a special pin, and those who serve as an Elangomat at 3 Induction Weekends receive a rare Elangomat Lodge Flap.
- **Ceremonialist:** Ceremonialists take on one of the Ordeal Ceremony roles during the weekend, and spend the day practicing their parts. The four principles are: Allowat Sakima (the Mighty Chief), Meteu (the Medicine Man), Nutiket (the Guard), and Kichkinet (the Guide). Those who serve as a Ceremonialist at 3 Induction Weekends receive a rare Ceremonies Team Lodge Flap.
- **Nimat:** Nimats work behind the scenes to set up and take down ceremonies, as well as assist with the flow of the day. Those who serve as a Nimat at 3 Induction Weekends receive a rare Ceremonies Team Lodge Flap.

Before your attendance at the Weekend, please contact me or AJ Giuliano, our Vice Chief of Communications, about which role you'd prefer. On behalf of Tschitani Lodge, thank you for your continued commitment to the Order of the Arrow, and I hope to see you at one of our induction weekends soon. If you have any questions, please contact our Lodge Adviser Kevin Rame at oalodge10adviser@gmail.com or Samantha Olszewski at solszewski@ymail.com.

Yours in Scouting,

Drew Carmon

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Tschitani Lodge Chief

Eagle Scout Class of 2022
Summit Award Class of 2025