



Letter to Ordeal Candidates

Occoneechee Council
3231 Atlantic Ave
Raleigh, NC 27604

To My Fellow Scouters,

First of all, let me congratulate you on being nominated for membership into the Order of the Arrow, or commonly called the OA. As a candidate for the Ordeal membership, you are now faced with many new responsibilities. Your unit chose you because they believed you best lived up to the Scout Oath and Law in your daily life and desired to recognize you for your contributions to your unit and to the Boy Scouts of America.

But to become a member into the Scouting honor society, you must first complete the Ordeal induction weekend. You are asked to be at the Inductions in March, May or September and take your Ordeal. After completing the Ordeal process, you will now have several more responsibilities to strive for. You will then be placed in an OA chapter. This chapter meets regularly to help promote Scout camping and to plan service projects. By going to the chapter meetings you will be able to expand your service to the Order. You may also consider running for a chapter office. By expanding your service and developing a habit of cheerfulness and brotherhood, you can fully become a member of the OA. The demands are great, and sometimes you will be tested in which you may lose sight of what is expected of you. So think hard and consider all the aspects of the OA and what your peers expect from you. Only then will you be able to make a wise decision on whether Ordeal membership is right for you. Welcome and we hope that you will complete the ordeal and begin a lifelong membership in the Order while continuing in your dedicated service to scouting here in Occoneechee Council.

Opportunities to complete your Ordeal are offered on the third weekend of March, May and September. For exact dates and further information, please visit our website, www.Lodge104.com.

Yours in the Order,

John Akerman
Scout Executive
Supreme Chief of the Fire



New Ordeal Opportunities

Occoneechee Council
3231 Atlantic Ave
Raleigh, NC 27604

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on your election to the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society. Your selection by the fellow Scouts in your troop is indeed a great honor, and we look forward to welcoming you into a unique organization in Scouting - a brotherhood of cheerful service.

In order to become a member of the Order of the Arrow (the OA), you must complete the Ordeal weekend on one of three weekends during the coming year:

- a. **March 20-22, 2015 (Spring Pow Wow)**
- b. **May 15-17, 2015 (Spring Inductions)**
- c. **September 18-20, 2015 (Fall Fellowship)**

These weekends will be held at Occoneechee Council's own Camp Durant. If you do not participate on one of these dates, you must be elected again in order to be eligible for membership. (If strongly extenuating circumstances prevent attending both weekends, an extension may be possible - contact your District's OA Chapter Advisor).

You should plan to arrive at Camp Durant no earlier than 5 p.m. and no later than about 6 p.m. on the Friday evening of your Ordeal weekend. No Friday evening meal will be served, so plan to eat well before you arrive. The weekend activities will last until around 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning (when a brief nondenominational chapel service will be held).

Pack for this weekend as you would for any troop outing: bring sleeping gear, a tent, flashlight, water bottle or canteen, toiletries, and any other necessities. One exception from the standard camping equipment is that of cooking or eating gear - these will not be needed, as all meals (Saturday breakfast through Sunday breakfast) will be provided. As with all Scouting functions, you should bring your complete ("Class A") Scout uniform. However, as you will spend much of Saturday performing service for the council camp, you should bring a change of work clothes (older clothes that can get dirty), including work gloves.

The Ordeal registration and event fee is \$50.00 – cash or check made out to Occoneechee Lodge 104 - this fee includes insurance, an event patch, four meals plus a cracker-barrel, the current lodge OA dues, an Order of the Arrow handbook, an Ordeal sash, and an Ordeal lodge flap. **You MUST also bring a completed copy of the Health History/Authorization form.**

We look forward to seeing you at either the spring or fall Ordeal weekend! If you have any questions, or simply need more information, please do not hesitate to contact one of the officers listed below. Again, we extend our congratulations on your achievement and selection for membership in the Order of the Arrow and anticipate your active participation in Occoneechee Lodge.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Chapter Chief