



SEMIALACHEE LODGE 239

ORDER OF THE ARROW - BROTHERHOOD



Preparation
for
Brotherhood



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ORDER OF THE ARROW BROTHERHOOD REQUIREMENTS

Ever since the inception of the Order of the Arrow in 1915, it was intended that all members should be equal in rank. Brotherhood membership does not provide a specific degree of rank, status, or special honor like that of the Vigil Honor. Instead, the Brotherhood is an opportunity for members to reaffirm their belief in the high purposes of the Order. The ceremony is intended as a source of inspiration that motivates brothers to give even greater service to Scouting. An Ordeal member may become a Brotherhood member when he has completed the five Challenges of Brotherhood Membership below:

1. Memorize the signs of OA Membership:

- a. Obligation I, (your name), do hereby promise on my honor as a Scout, that I will always and faithfully observe and preserve 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.
- b. OA Song “Firm bound in brotherhood, gather the clan that cheerful service brings to fellow man. Circle our council fire, weld tightly every link that binds us in brotherhood, Wimachtendienk.”
- c. Admonition Never said above a whisper. If you need your memory refreshed, check with a lodge officer or ceremonial team.



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- d. Sign of Ordeal Membership Drawing an arrow from a quiver over the left shoulder with right arm. E) OA Handclasp Done with the left hand, lower two fingers interlocked.

2. Advance in your understanding of the Ordeal:

a. The four principle characters of the Ordeal Ceremony:

- Kichkinet (Guide) – represents helpfulness & friendliness.
- Nutiket (Guard) – represents cheerfulness.
- Meteu (Medicine Man) – represents brotherhood & reminds us to love one another.
- Allowat Sakima (Mighty Chief) – represents service.

b. The four tests of the Ordeal:

- Night Alone – to teach you self-reliance and to show that you are set apart from your fellow Scouts for something higher.
- 24 Hours of Silence – to turn your thoughts inward to the things of the spirit.
- Scant Food – to teach you the virtues of self-denial.
- Arduous Toil for a Day – to indicate your willingness to serve others all through your life.

c. The Arrow (as used in the Ordeal)

- It is a symbol of leadership
- Worn pointed high over the right shoulder as an outward symbol indicating that he possesses the qualities of leadership that the Arrow represents.

d. The True name of the Order of the Arrow

“Wimachtendienk”, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui”, which means “The Brotherhood of Cheerful Service”.



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3. Serve Your Unit

- a. Retain your registration in Scouting.
- b. During a period of at least 10 months, strive to fulfill your obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your own Troop or Post.

4. Plan for Service in your Lodge

- a. Retain your registration in Semialachee Lodge and keep your dues paid.
- b. Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood Membership involves a pledge of service to the Lodge.
- c. 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 the Lodge Secretary.

In this letter:

- a. Explain what you think the obligation means.
- b. Describe how you have been fulfilling this Obligation in your unit and in your daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid in this service.
- c. Describe your specific plans for continuing this service in the future.
- d. Tell what the Order of the Arrow means to you, and why you are seeking Brotherhood Membership.

When the five challenges have been completed, the Ordeal Member should present himself at the requested time, as a candidate for Brotherhood Membership. This may be done at a Semialachee Lodge Fellowship or activity offering Brotherhood conversion.



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Pronunciations:

Wimachtendienk (Brotherhood) Wee-mok-ten-dee-enk

Wingolauchsik (Cheerfulness) Win-go-lough-sik

Witahemui (Service) Wi-tah-hem-oo-ee

Delaware Indians:

Lenni Lenape Len-nee Len-ah-pee

The Chieftain Chingachgook Ching-gatch-gook

Chieftain's son Uncas Un-cuss

Mighty Chief Allowat Sakima Al-lo-wot Sa-kee-ma

Medicine Man Meteu Mee-tay-o

The Guard Nutiket Nu-te-ket

The Guide Kichkinet Kitch-kin-et