

## The Elangomat

*\*You will be eating the same food as the candidates during the ordeal.*

*Only exceptions are the cracker barrel Friday night after the candidates are secured for the night and the Pizza that will be served at Elangomat training Friday evening before the candidates arrive.*

It's almost time to welcome new candidates into our Order during another year of Ordeal Weekends. As you all know, to make this happen we need Elangomats.

We were all candidates once, and we went through the Ordeal led by some person we probably just met called an Elangomat. He tested the bow with us and worked alongside us during the weekend.

As many of you may recall, Elangomats were the friends who led us through the various tests of the Ordeal and served our Lodge/Chapter and the ordeal with a Great Spirit and desire to insure that all candidates found the true meaning of the Order.

It was Elangomats that showed all of us the path through the Ordeal and onward to Brotherhood.

Many who have served in this role have commented that it brought time to reflect on their own Ordeal weekend, no matter how long ago that was, and many stated that I only intensified their respect for the Order and strengthened their bond in Brotherhood.

Now it is your time to return the favor, and maybe even strengthen your bond in the Lodge by becoming an Elangomat.

Every member is encouraged to be an Elangomat at least once before they become a Brotherhood member. This experience gives one the opportunity to understand the meaning of the Ordeal and its intentions more completely.

Essentially, an Elangomat goes through the Ordeal again as if he or she were an Ordeal candidate.

Besides strengthening your understanding of the Ordeal, you help to improve the experience for the Ordeal candidates in attendance.

The word Elangomat is translated as "friend" from the Lenne Lenape. Thus, an Elangomat serves as a friend to the Ordeal candidates.

During the Ordeal, an Elangomat will act as a liaison from the Lodge/Chapter to the candidates, enduring every part of the ordeal with them, and therefore strengthening their confidence.

Serving as an Elangomat is also an excellent way of fulfilling one of the requirements for Brotherhood.

Being an Elangomat is a wonderful experience, and we encourage all Arrowmen to serve in this important role at least once.