



PA - HIN LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Dear Ordeal Candidate,

Congratulations! You have been approved by your Scoutmaster and elected by the Scouts of your troop to become a member of the Order of the Arrow (OA), Scouting's National Honor Society. Membership in the OA not only marks you as one of the best in Scouting but opens up additional Scouting opportunities for you including National Conferences, Training, High Adventure Opportunities, and new leadership experiences.

Your election was the first step of your induction into the OA. Your next step is to complete the Ordeal. The Ordeal is a 24-hour test of your strength and will. The Ordeal is not done to see if you are worthy for membership in the Order, you've passed that test already by being elected by your fellow Scouts. The Ordeal is a test of your desire to be a part of such a great honor society.

Sometimes candidates are told that they must go through a Call-Out ceremony before they can go through their Ordeal. This is not true. The Call-Out is an optional public recognition of your achievement. You can even go through a Call-Out ceremony after you've completed your Ordeal.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the lodge leadership has decided to postpone the Spring Conclave opportunities originally scheduled for May 8-10 at Camp Wilderness and May 15-17 at Big 4. These two opportunities have been **rescheduled for September 11-13 at Camp Wilderness and September 25-27, 2020 at Big Four Scout Reservation**. Your next immediate opportunity to complete the Ordeal will be at the Fall Conclave August 14-16 at Heart Butte Scout Reservation. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak the national office has granted all Ordeal Candidates **24 months** to complete their ordeal. If you have any questions on your eligibility please contact the Lodge Adviser.

Conclave Instructions:

Medical Forms - Per national requirement for Ordeal weekends, you must bring a current Annual Health and Medical form, with the first two parts, completed (Parts A & B), although it is **strongly** recommended that all three parts (Parts A, B, & C) are completed.

Registration - To register for Spring Conclave please visit www.nlcbsa.org under the calendar.

Cost - The total cost for the May Spring Conclave is \$60. The cost includes food, OA handbook, lodge flap (patch), conclave patch, Ordeal sash, induction costs, and other materials. You may wish to bring extra money to purchase items at the Lodge trading post. The trading post will offer many OA items including special patches, OA shirts, fleeces, and other goods.

Friday and Saturday - Plan to arrive Friday night between 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. If you must arrive later please notify the Lodge Adviser (paul@fargotire.com or cell 701-730-6803) and let us know your expected arrival time. Immediately upon arrival, you will register at the main dining hall building. There will be no dinner served on Friday evening, so you should eat before checking in. Ask your Scoutmaster if others were elected in your troop so you can arrange to carpool.

Come prepared to spend the first night of your Ordeal under the stars. You will not be allowed to have a fire Friday night, so don't bring matches or lighters with you. You will need a sleeping bag, ground cloth (plastic tarp), and your raincoat or poncho. Please remember that the heat can become extensive in August.

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in North Dakota. Also, that the rescheduled Spring Conclave in the late fall the weather can vary greatly from very cold to very warm. Check the weather forecast and bring enough clothing. --- Wear Layers! The Adviser team will be watching the weather closely during the week leading up to the event and during the event, to keep each scout safe.

During the Ordeal you will be expected to do physical labor, this may involve lifting, walking, reaching and other strenuous activity. If you are physically incapable or concerned about performing these activities, please contact the Health Officer upon your check-in Friday night and we'll make adjustments as needed. Please also let the health officer know at check-in if you brought any medications with you.

You will need a tent for Saturday, we'd like you to bring your own tent but if you want to share with a buddy that is okay. You must have a tent, no exceptions, even if you are planning an early checkout on Saturday. You will set up your tent on Friday evening in case weather conditions prevent sleeping under the stars and to store your excess gear.

You will want to wear old clothes or work clothes on Friday night and Saturday, but you will need your Scout uniform for Saturday evening and Sunday. A pair of work gloves for Saturday is strongly suggested. Showers are available and all eating utensils, plates are provided.

Check out – Program for the weekend runs through Sunday morning. Checkout will be at 8:30 a.m. Sunday. There will be worship services held during the weekend.

While the program does go through Sunday morning, we understand that some people will need to leave on Saturday. We will open an early checkout from 8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday evening at the Black Building. You must indicate at registration that you are doing an early checkout.

Here is a list of items you must bring, should not bring, and may want to bring with you on your Ordeal. Your equipment will be checked on Friday to ensure you are prepared.

Things You Must Bring (No Exceptions!):

- Scout Medical, complete 3 part form
- Tent (Your own or one you share with a buddy from your troop)
- Sleeping bag
- Ground cloth/plastic tarp Rain gear

Things You Should Bring:

- Class 'A' Scout uniform
- Cold weather gear
- Shower kit
- Work clothes
- Water bottle
- Good boots
- Flashlight
- Prescription medicine (in original container)

Things You Shouldn't Bring:

- Food or snacks
- Matches or lighters (you will not be allowed to have a fire Friday night)
- Portable electronics (iPods, video games, etc)
- Cell phones are discouraged
- Sheath knives
- Hatchets, axes, tools

Things You Might Want to Bring:

- Camera (only limited opportunities to use them though)
- Air or Foam mattress
- Day pack or regular backpack (may be easier to carry your sleeping bag and ground cloth on Friday night)
- Notebook, pencil, pen

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Social Media – Throughout the year and during conclave weekend the lodge and chapter releases vital information through our social media accounts. Please feel free to follow us on the following accounts:

- Facebook: (search) Pa-Hin #27
- Instagram: @pahin_27
- Website: www.pa-hin.com

Parents and Non-OA Scouting Leaders – Parents (and non-OA Scout Leaders) are welcome to stay for the weekend if they wish. They should register as a guest during registration. We do discourage them from attending ceremonies if they believe they will be a member of the OA in the future because knowing what happens ruins some of the mystery.

Officer Elections – For youth Arrowmen we will hold our annual officer elections during the annual business meeting. If you win an election, you'll take office January 1st. Offices available:

- **Lodge Chief** – is the top youth leader in the council for the OA program. Represents the lodge at all section and national events. He sets the goals and agendas for the Lodge.
- **Lodge Vice Chief of Committees**– represents the Lodge Chief when he is not present and oversees the lodge committees.
- **Lodge Vice Chief of Chapters** Over sees the lodge chapter program.
- **Lodge Treasurer** – Keeps a financial record of the lodge and reports on that to each Lodge Executive Meeting.

The terms of office are one year; there are no term limits. Election is by majority vote of the lodges youth membership. The only requirements are:

- You are under 21 years of age for your entire term
- You are a member of the OA (Ordeal, Brotherhood, or Vigil) in good standing (meaning you've paid your dues)
- You are a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America

Once again, congratulations on your election to the Order of the Arrow. We look forward to seeing you at Conclave!

Enclosed is a "Spirit of the Arrow" booklet. Please read this carefully before arriving at the Conclave. If you have any questions prior to the conclave, please contact our Chief or Adviser.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Michael Gibson
Lodge Chief
Chief@pa-hin.com

Paul Anderson
Lodge Adviser
paul@fargotire.com
701-730-6803

Upon a Lofly Journey



Save this booklet for future reference, and *bring it with you to your Ordeal*.

Ponder my words carefully.

In a short time you will be given the opportunity to undergo an *Ordeal* — your induction into the Order of the Arrow.

This will test not only your physical strength, but your inner strength.

But, by taking full advantage of this opportunity, you will find yourself better able to serve Scouting and your unit... *the ones who chose you*.

Who am I?
For the moment, that is less important than what I represent.

It is enough to say that I am a friend you have probably known for a long time.

Right now, what *is* important is that you commit yourself to taking the first step.

My friend, I congratulate you on your election to the Order of the Arrow.

You may not realize it now, but you will look back on today as a day of beginnings.

The honor you have received is truly a great one, for it is bestowed upon you by your peers — the members of your unit.

But, such an honor is not without its price.

Those who chose you are *watching*.
They have *faith* in you.

Will you be able to live up to their expectations? They have challenged you to do so.

By accepting their challenge, you embark upon a journey that many before you have taken.

Along its path lies true Brotherhood.
However, this destination is many months — maybe even years — away.

I am here to help you find your way as you travel — as an arrow driven skyward — along this lofty journey...

I am here to help you prove to yourself your *worthiness* for the honor your unit has bestowed upon you.