BLACK EAGLE LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW

TO Arrowmen, Namassakett Chapter

FROM Frank Sotrines, Chapter Adviser, Namassakett Chapter

DATE 2-4 October 2026

SUBJECT **2026 Order of the Arrow Fall Fellowship**

The Fellowship is being held in conjunction with the Mayflower District Camporee as during this event we want to emphasize what the Order of the Arrow is all about and rather than have a separate event where we complete a bit of service for the campsites, we want to show why it is a part of scouting that all should strive to be a part of. In addition to Arrowmen assisting in running the activities and helping host the Campfire, we will also be holding other Order of the Arrow happenings throughout the weekend including opportunity for completion of Ordeals and Brotherhood walks for any that require one. This will need to be marked on the registration, so we know how many need to plan for. We would appreciate all Arrowmen wear their Order of the Arrow sashes over their Scout Activity Uniform throughout the day on the Saturday, to demonstrate the impact on scouting that Order of the Arrow membership brings.

1. General Fellowship Information

1.1 When is it?

The Fall Fellowship will be in conjunction with the Mayflower District Camporee during the weekend of Friday, October 2nd to Sunday, October 4th.

1.2 How Much Is the Fellowship Weekend?

The cost for Arrowmen to participate at the fellowship will be $40.00, this cost comes with option to stay in building if required and to eat with the Camporee Staff/Other Arrowmen. For anyone registering as Brotherhood candidate this cost will be $65.00 to cover the cost of the Brotherhood Sash.

Arrowmen and Brotherhood candidates <u>should not</u> register as Camporee Participants. If you are intending to seal your membership in the order, please read the attached information on Brotherhood. Please complete registration via link on scouting event website.

1.3 Which Meals Are Provided?

Though Arrowmen can eat with their units that are attending the Camporee the registration cost for Arrowmen, Brothood Candidates and Ordeal Candidates covers for the food for all of the meals Saturday including a feast for the dinner with cake and ice cream to finish. It will also include a Sunday Breakfast and Snack for Friday during the evening crackerbarrel, there will be no Friday Dinner or Sunday Lunch.

1.4 How Do I Register?

To register for the weekend please complete the registration using the link on the Councils scouting event website in addition to contacting the Chapter Adviser via the e-mail address below by September 27th.

1.5 What Do I Need to Bring?

You need to bring all of your normal personal camping gear, plus ***a tent***, work clothes, work gloves, hand axe/hatchet if you have one, ***scout uniform*** and your cheerful spirit, preserved even in the midst of irksome tasks!

1.6 What Time Will the Weekend Start and Finish?

Arrowmen should arrive between 6:00pm and 7:00pm on Friday, October 2rd. The Weekend should be over by around 10:30am on Sunday, October 4th. If the ceremony team members and chapter officers should make sure they arrive for 6:00pm.

1.7 What are the Rules for the Weekend?

There are four basic operating instructions for the Ordeal. Anyone seriously breaking these operating instructions will be asked to leave Dorneywood Scout Camp.

1. **Hazing:** Hazing is defined as anything that places undue mental and physical strain on any candidate, youth or adult. This includes trying to get a candidate to talk or break any part of the Ordeal tests. No notching of the "Neck Arrow" is permitted.
2. **Respect:** Respect will be given to any youth or adult, whether Ordeal candidate or not. At no time will practical jokes be played on any candidate. This is a solemn time for the candidates and members should therefore conduct themselves accordingly.
3. **Rest:** Every candidate will be allowed eight hours rest before beginning the day of the Ordeal. Candidates are not to be disturbed during their "Night Alone" unless express permission is given by the Chapter Chief or the Chapter Adviser. During the work period candidates and members should take five minutes rest for every hour worked.
4. **Work:** Work accomplished during the Ordeal will be meaningful and useful. There will be no "make-work projects". All members will also be expected to work. You took upon yourselves an Obligation of Cheerful Service and you are expected to fulfill the obligation.

1.8 How Do I Complete My Brotherhood?

After 6 months of service as an Ordeal member, all Arrowmen have an opportunity to reaffirm their belief in the high purposes of the Order. 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**
2. **Advance in your Understanding of the Ordeal**
3. **Serve your Unit**
4. **Retain your Registration in your Lodge**
5. **Review your Progress (Letter to Lodge Secretary)**

1.9 Where will it be held?

Lees Wood Scout & Guide Activity Centre

Site Address: Lees Wood Scout & Guide Activity Centre, Fir Tree Hill, Chandler's Cross, Rickmansworth WD3 4LY

Closest Train Stations: Watford Junction Station (served by West Midlands Railway from London Euston) or Rickmansworth Station (via Metropolitan Underground Line) – both are approx. 3.5-4 miles of the campsite.

If you plan on travelling by train, please contact Frank Sotrines on 07540-984358 by September 27th so that arrangements can be made if require to be picked up from the train station.

1.10 Who Do I Contact If I Have Further Questions?

If you have further questions, please contact your Scoutmaster or:

Chapter Adviser: **Frank Sotrines**

Tel: 07540-984358 (Cell)

e-mail:namassakettadvisor@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you at the weekend.