

SPRING FELLOWSHIP
APRIL 18, 19 & 20

Scout/Scouter:

Congratulations! You have been called out as a candidate for the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America. The Order of the Arrow or more commonly referred to as the "OA" was founded in 1915. With the following goals in mind:

(1) To recognize those campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.

(2) Develop and maintain camping traditions and spirit and to promote Scout camping.

(3) To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Candidates for the Order of the Arrow are chosen not only for what they have done, but also for what they are expected to do in serving the welfare of others. Because you were selected for candidacy by the unique method of being elected by your peers, we are sure that you are worthy of this great honor.

During Summer Camp at Camp Joy you were called-out to be a Candidate for the OA. As a Candidate, you have two opportunities to become a member of Taleka Lodge during an induction weekend. The weekend will offer a unique opportunity for you to reflect on your personal commitment to the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. You will also become acquainted with the principles and purposes of the Order of the Arrow. The weekend is undertaken by every new candidate and is a meaningful and inspiring experience that will not be soon forgotten.

Induction in the Order of the Arrow will open many new doors for you. Our Lodge participates in many events every year. In addition, the OA provides some of the most valuable youth leadership training and opportunities available. These opportunities will build upon the knowledge that you have already received during your Scouting experience. This is truly an exciting time for you!

The first Ordeal weekend is **August 17-19, 2007** at Camp Joy; a short time after being called out. The other opportunity is **April 18-20, 2008** at Camp Van.

Attached you will find the necessary registration form for the upcoming Ordeal weekend. If for some reason you are unable to attend either weekend, you will then have to be re-elected by your troop to become an eligible OA candidate again.

Please if you have any questions refer to our lodge website: taleka81.org and click on the Candidates tab. Or please feel free to contact me personally.

Yours in Scouting,

Andy Schefelker
Lodge Chief
Taleka Lodge
(618) 533-0447

Steve Kappel
Lodge Adult Advisor
Taleka Lodge
(314) 729-7843

Candidate Equipment List

All candidates should bring the following items for their Ordeal experience:

- Class "A" uniform shirt
- Totem (The wooden arrow you received the evening you were called-out)
- Health Form
- Troop Insurance form. (A copy of the original will be fine.)
- Tent for Saturday night.
- Insect Repellant (non-aerosol)
- Sleeping bag
- Ground cloth for Friday night
- Work clothes for Saturday
- Work gloves
- Rain Gear
- Shower gear
- Water bottle
- Drinking Cup
- Any medications you might be taking during the Ordeal weekend
- Backpack (optional)