

**Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont  
Lodge 165**

**Lodge of Allegheny Highlands  
Council #382**



**New Member Handbook**

## *Obligation of the Order of the Arrow*

I 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.

**My new brother,**

**Congratulations! And welcome to one of the greatest youth organizations in the world. You have completed your Ordeal, proving yourself worthy of the name Arrowman. It is an honor to have you as a member of our Lodge.**

**This New Member Handbook is to be a resource for you as you learn about the Order and the Lodge. It is designed to help you understand what membership in the Order of the Arrow is, and what it can mean. It will teach you how to get involved in our Lodge and make a difference in the Council.**

**Your Ordeal is over, and it was an intense experience. As some of your experience may be hazy, this Handbook should answer many questions that you may have, but there might be some that go unanswered. Some things have been left intentionally mysterious and it hopefully will all make sense to you with time. If you have any questions about your experience or any aspect of the Order of the Arrow, you can reference this handbook, the Order of the Arrow Handbook or ask a lodge officer or another Arrowman.**

**As you become an active member of the Lodge and prepare yourself for the Brotherhood honor, remember to keep the Spirit of the Arrow booklets and refer to them often. They will help you understand the Ordeal, the significance of things done and said, and their symbolic meaning.**

**We look forward to getting to know you better over the next few years and sincerely hope you take this experience to heart. See you at the next event!**

**Yours in Brotherhood,**

**Braden Stewart  
2011 Lodge Chief  
Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont**

**Michael J. Embs  
2011 Executive Vice Chief  
Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont**

**Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui**

# What is the Order of the Arrow?

*“The Order is a thing of the spirit rather than mechanic. Organization, Operational Procedures, and all that go with them are necessary in any large and growing movement, but they are not what count in the end. The things of the spirit are what count”*

*-E. Urner Goodman, Co Founder of the Order of the Arrow*

## PURPOSE OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

- To recognize those campers -- Scouts and Scouters -- who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, and by such recognition cause other campers to conduct themselves in such manner as to warrant recognition.
- Promote camping, responsible outdoor adventure, and environmental stewardship as essential components of every Scout's experience, in the unit, year-round, and in summer camp.
- Develop leaders with the willingness, character, spirit and ability to advance the activities of their units, our Brotherhood, Scouting, and ultimately our nation.
- To crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

## MISSION OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW LODGE

The mission of the lodge is to achieve the purpose of the Order of the Arrow as an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America in the council through positive youth leadership under the guidance of selected capable adults.

## PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

The Order of the Arrow was founded upon the principles of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. These principles form the foundation for the Obligation of cheerful service in our world. For some, the Order will be like a supernova, shining brilliantly for a brief time and soon crumbling to ashes. For others, the Order will kindle a flame of brotherhood, brighter than a thousand suns, lasting throughout eternity.

## HOW BIG IS THE ORDER OF THE ARROW?

The Order of the Arrow has more than 178,000 members in approximately 327 lodges throughout the Nation, parts of Europe, Puerto Rico, and parts of the Virgin Islands.

## **“Order of the Arrow-Scouting’s National Honor Society”**

### **ORGANIZATION OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW**

The Order of the Arrow is organized into local lodge corresponding to the local Boy Scout Council. Some lodges are broken into chapters, which serve to break down lodge responsibilities and help to deliver the program of the lodge. Each lodge and chapter has elected officers, all of which are under the age of 21. This is because the Order of the Arrow is a youth run organization. Lodges are then grouped together into Sections (which are then organized further into areas and four regions). The Section is responsible for the annual Section Conclave and act as a connection between the Region and National Officers and the local lodge. Each year, the Section Chiefs elect the National Chief, National Vice-Chief, and the 4 Region Chiefs for the following year. The officers act as youth members (under 21) on the National Order of the Arrow Committee and provide youth input into decisions that affect the Order. Please see the Order of the Arrow Handbook for more information concerning Section, Region, and National organization.

### **ORGANIZATION OF HO-NAN-NE-HO-ONT LODGE**

Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge is divided among the two districts of Two Lakes and Western Gate.

The Lodge Chief, an elected officer under the age of 21, heads the lodge. Four Vice-Chiefs, a V.C. Secretary, and a V.C. Program, a V.C. of Communications, & a V.C. Ceremonies assist him in the running of the lodge. Also, as second in command, there is an Executive Vice-Chief, who is appointed by the Chief. All of these positions are elected with the exception of Executive Vice-Chief. All of these officers are under the age of 21 for their entire term. The Scout Executive appoints a Lodge Adviser and a Professional Staff Adviser annually to advise the lodge officers. Other youth committee chairmen may be appointed as the need arises. The lodge key three (chief, staff advisor, lodge advisor) appoint a vice-chief of membership for each district, these vice chiefs are voting members of lodge executive committee. For the duty of each of these officers, please consult the Lodge Standard Operation Procedures which are available on our website, [oalodge165.org](http://oalodge165.org).

## **HO-NAN-NE-HO-ONT LODGE AND SECTION NE-4A**

**Currently, Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge is part of Section NE-4A, along with 5 other Lodges. A section Chief who is assisted by a Section Vice-Chief and Section Secretary heads the Section. These officers are elected at the annual Section business meeting held at the Section Conclave. They must be under the age of 21 for their entire term in office.**

**Each Lodge Chief also served on the Council of Chiefs, the executive committee for the Section. The Council of Chiefs (CoC) is responsible for planning the Section Conclave, a weekend of training and competition between the lodges of the Section. Each lodge has a certain Responsibility for the Conclave with one lodge serving as Host Lodge-providing the facilities, meals, and other physical arrangements. The Section also has a volunteer Section Adviser and a professional Section Staff Adviser, each appointed annually by the Area Director.**

### **Section NE-4A**

**Langundowi Lodge-French Creek Council**

**Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge-Allegheny Highlands Council**

**Gyantwachia Lodge-Chief Cornplanter Council**

**Woapeu Sisilija Lodge- Susquehanna Council**

**Ah' Tic Lodge-Bucktail Council**

**Wyona Lodge-Columbia Montour Council**

## MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

OA membership begins with the Ordeal, and is completed with Brotherhood. At least ten months of service must pass before Brotherhood can be attained. If after two years of Brotherhood participation, a member has shown outstanding service, he or she can be nominated for the Vigil Honor, a National Council recognition.



Ordeal Honor

The Ordeal is only the first step in an Arrow man's induction into the Order of the Arrow, an introduction to its high purpose and traditions. Although an Ordeal member's brother Arrowmen have aided him in seeking the Arrow, the next step in the journey is his alone to make. He is expected to strengthen his involvement in his Troop and to encourage Camping spirit. When the Ordeal member has made the principles of the Order part of his life, he is ready to complete his induction by sealing his membership.



Brotherhood Honor

When an Ordeal member has developed a thorough understanding of the Ordeal, it is only right for him to seal his membership in the Order. He does this by undergoing a second ordeal, but one administered and evaluated solely by himself. Having seen the Arrow, he judges his past service and reaffirms his belief in the high purpose of the Order. The ability to suffer cheerfully in brotherhood while taking up the heavy burden of additional responsibility is the hallmark of the Brotherhood member. His induction to the Order of the Arrow now complete, he commits himself to make a special effort to render even more service to Scouting and his fellow man. Although a Brotherhood member's primary obligation remains with his Troop, he pledges service to the Lodge as the price of additional insight. The Brotherhood trail requires a minimum of 10 months to complete.



## Vigil Honor

**The Vigil Honor is a high mark of distinction and recognition reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position of office to one or more of the following: their lodge, the Order of the Arrow, Scouting, or their Scout Camp. Under no circumstances should tenure in Scouting or the Order of the Arrow be considered as reason enough for a Vigil Honor recommendation. The Vigil Honor is the highest honor that the Order of the Arrow can bestow upon its members.**

## **MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR HO-NAN-NE-HO-ONT LODGE**

**In order to keep your membership in the Order of the Arrow and Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont lodge current, and continue to receive your newsletter, the “Heron’s Call”, you must keep your dues paid. Below are the current amounts for dues payable in one year, two years, and three years amounts. You may pay your dues at any Lodge event or send a check to the Council Service Center marked with your name and OA dues.**

1 year-\$10.00

2 years \$19.00

3 years \$26.00

## HOW DO I BECOME A BROTHERHOOD MEMBER?

The sealing of your membership in the Order, by completing the requirements of Brotherhood listed below, is your personal commitment to the high ideals of the Order and Scouting.

Read over the sections of the Order of the Arrow Handbook on *Brotherhood Membership* and *The Trail to Brotherhood*. These should give you a better understanding of what is expected and give you the time for thought and reflection on what you have learned during your Ordeal.

You may seal your membership by completing the Brotherhood requirements and taking part in the Brotherhood Ceremony offered at *ALL* Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont events (with the exception of the Winter Banquet). There will be a place on the registration form to mark that you wish to take your brotherhood.

You must be an Ordeal member for ten (10) months, providing service to your troop before you can make this commitment. You should be serving as a leader in your troop and helping the younger Scouts in any way you can. Service does not always mean coming to camp and working hard. Service can be in the form of being an instructor in the troop, helping to organize a fund raiser, helping to run unit elections or a camp promotions program for the Lodge. The time that you commit to the Lodge should not hurt your troop program; the troop comes before the lodge, however, your support to the Lodge should strengthen your ability to help your troop.

*“He who serves his fellow man, is of his fellows greatest”*  
*-Uncas, in the Legend of the Order of the Arrow*



## **REQUIREMENTS FOR BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP**

(As listed in the OA Handbook)

**1. Memorize the signs of Arrow membership. Memorize the Obligation of the Order, which you received from Allowat Sakima (printed on the back of your membership card and in your handbook). Also memorize the Order of the Arrow Official Song, the Admonition, the sign of Ordeal membership, and the Arrow handclasp.**

**2. Advance in your understanding of the Ordeal. Gain a thorough understanding of the Ordeal through which you have passed.**

**3. Serve your unit. Retain your registration in Scouting. During a period of at least 10 months, strive to fulfill your Obligation by continuing and expanding your service to your own troop or team.**

**4. Plan for service in your Lodge. Retain your registration in your Order of the Arrow Lodge and keep your dues paid. Be aware that acceptance of Brotherhood membership involves a pledge of service to the lodge. 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 your lodge secretary. In this letter:**

**A. Explain what you think the Obligation means.**

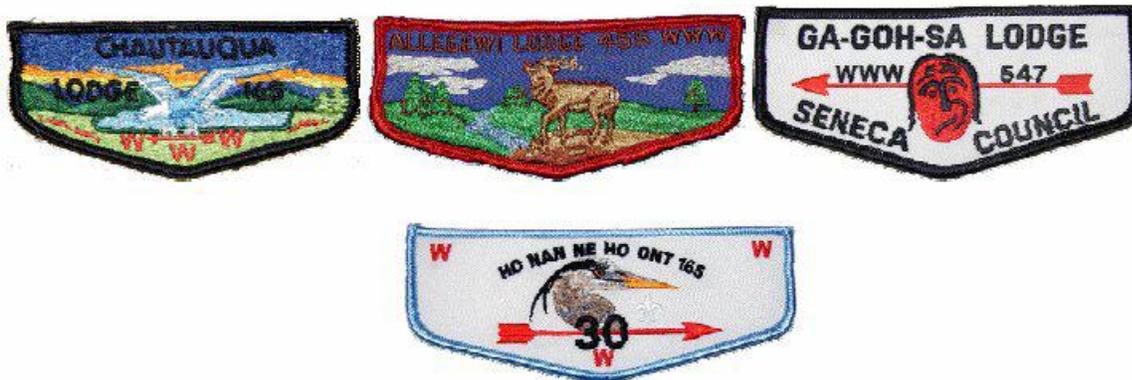
**B. Describe how you have been fulfilling this obligation in your troop or team and in your daily life, and how you have used your understanding of the Ordeal to aid in this service.**

**C. Describe your specific plans for giving service in the lodge program. Include with this letter your advance registration application and fees for the next Brotherhood ceremony according to the instructions given by the lodge.**



## HO-NAN-NE-HO-ONT LODGE HISTORY

The Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge can trace its roots to an original charter issued August 11, 1939 to the Chautauqua Lodge #165. In 1973, a charter was issued for the Ho-Nan-Ne- Ho-Ont Lodge #165, which was the result of the merger between Chautauqua Lodge #165 and Allegewi Lodge #455. in 1975, Ga Goh Sa Lodge #547 joined the Ho-Nan-Ne- Ho-Ont Lodge #165 when the Allegheny Highlands council absorbed the Seneca Council. Chautauqua Lodge #165 was the corresponding lodge to the Chautauqua County Council, Allegewi Lodge #455 to the Elk Lick Council, and Ga Goh Sa Lodge #547 to the Seneca Council. The totem for the Chautauqua Lodge #165 was the Blue Eagle, for Allegewi Lodge #455 the Elk, and for the Ga Goh Sa Lodge #547 the Crooked Face. The merging totem was to be the Great Blue Heron, and still is today. The lodge has often been host for Section Conclaves. This began in 1949 when Chautauqua Lodge #165 hosted the 1949 Area 2E Conclave at Camp Merz. Chautauqua Lodge #165 also hosted to 1956, 1961, 1965, and 1971 Area 2E Conclaves, all at Camp Merz. In 1979, at Camp Merz, Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge #165 hosted its first Conclave for Section NE-2C. in 1985, the lodge hosted the Conclave again, this time, at Elk Lick Scout Reserve. Finally in 1999, Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge #165, was able to host the Section NE-5A Section Conclave at Camp Merz. An interesting fact about that Conclave was that this was the 50<sup>th</sup> Conclave and was held at the same site, by the same lodge as the original Conclave of 1949. Our lodge has been fortunate enough to have 2 Section Chiefs hail from our lodge. In 2000, Kollin King was elected NE-5A Section Chief at the January CoC to take over for Scott Schmitt, and in June 2003, Matt Agarwala was elected as Section NE-3A Chief.



## **INTERESTING LODGE FACTS**

**Lodge Totem: Great Blue Heron (better known as Heron Man)**

**Meaning of Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont: Keeper of the Western Gate**

## **Lodge Activities and Calendar**

**Each year, Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge gathers in January for the Parent/Member Dinner. This is our banquet for the proceeding year. We have a Spring Fellowship, Fall Fellowship, Spring Ordeal, and a Fall Ordeal. Just recently, we have also begun to have an annual Christmas party held in early December.**

**There are two Ordeals held each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. These Ordeals rotate between the two council camps.**

**You may do your brotherhood at any event (except for the dinner). Ordeal weekends are the only time to do an Ordeal for the year. Fellowship weekends are a time for fun; there is no work unless you want to perform a service for the camp.**

**The lodge will plan activities for these weekends such as regalia making, games, competitions, and so forth. Each year, at the Member-Parent Dinner, there is a guest speaker and a chance to enjoy an evening of great food and fellowship.**

**The Lodge also participates in Section and National events as they occur. This includes the annual Section Conclave and that National Order of the Arrow Conference otherwise known as NOAC. NOAC is held every other year, and on college campuses around the country. There are National Leadership Seminars put on by the Region that has some of the best leadership training that can be had at any price.**

**These are all great times and you should plan to attend, because if you don't attend, then you will never know what you missed out on! As with any program, you get out of it what you put into it.**

## *Lodge Song*

### *Heronman!*

**“Heronman, Heronman! Doing the things a Heron can!  
What’s he like, it’s not important, Heronman!  
Is he our totem, or is he a bird, people just think that he’s  
absurd!**

**He’s our hero none the less! Heronman!**

**I AM HERONMAN!**

**Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont...**

**Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge 165**

**Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont...**

**Ho-Nan-Ne-Ho-Ont Lodge 16fiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiive!**

