



July 16, 2008

Scoutmaster
First Street
Evans, Georgia 30809

RE: Order of the Arrow Annual Unit Elections

Dear Sir:

The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. It recognizes those campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and, by such recognition, cause other campers to conduct themselves in such a manner as to warrant similar recognition, to promote camping, and to crystallize the Scout habit of helpfulness into a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others.

Each unit may conduct one election in a program year. Our program year is from August 1 until the following July 31. Our Lodge conducts two Ordeals per year at which those elected to the Order of the Arrow may go through their initiation. Our next two Ordeals, are scheduled for September 19-21, 2008 and March 13-15, 2009 at Knox Scout Reservation. If a unit holds an election before the September 2008 Ordeal, then the candidate must attend one of these Ordeals to become a member. We ask that the elections be scheduled early enough so that not all of the elections are conducted the week before the Ordeal.

Our Chapter Chiefs should be contacting you to schedule an election if you desire to have one. We asked that you contact us if you have not heard from a Chapter Chief by August 15, 2008. If you have not heard from a Chapter Chief, please contact the Lodge Adviser at 706-650-7727 or myself, the Lodge Chief, at 706-840-3414.

If you desire to contact the Chapter Chiefs directly, you may. They and their telephone numbers are as follows:

William Ealick, Chickasaw Chapter Chief 706-738-4037
Alex Clegg, Kiokee Chapter Chief 706-210-0963
Allen Harding, Yamasee Chapter Chief 803-648-4572 (h), 803-640-7148 (c)
Jody Kangetter, Ogeechee Chapter 478-763-3075 (h), 478-495-0593 (c)

For your information, I have attached several documents which relate to the Order of the Arrow and elections. These documents are as follows:

1. OA Basics-Basic information about the Order of the Arrow.
2. The 2007 Annual Report- Each year the Lodge files and Annual Report with the Georgia-Carolina Council.
3. OA Membership Flyer- This explains the membership and elections process.
4. An Adult Election Form- This is the form for your unit to use if it desires to nominate an adult for the OA.
5. OA Unit Election Form- This is the form the election teams should record the election results.
6. OA Candidates Letter- The election team should provide this to you at the election to give to the candidates when you announce the results of the election. It contains general information about the Ordeal including the gear needed.
7. Parents' letter- The election team should provide this letter to you at the election to forward to the parents upon the results being announced. It contains general information about the Ordeal including the gear needed.
8. Election Request Form- This is the form to return to the Council to request an election.

A return envelope is enclosed for you to use in notifying the council service center of the date and place set aside for the election of candidates. It should be held at a regularly scheduled unit meeting or camping experience. Every effort should be made to have 100 percent attendance of both youths and adults at this meeting. An election team from the Order of the Arrow will be on hand to conduct the election.

If you desire to have a "Call-Out" ceremony before the Fall Ordeal, the Chickasaw District has agreed to allow us to conduct a Call-Out Ceremony at the Chickasaw District Camporee on September 6, 2008 at Knox Scout Reservation.

Sincerely,

Patrick Garcia
Lodge Chief