

Marnoc Lodge

2012 Election Packet

Scott Saffle
Lodge Chief

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Lodge Secretary

Tony Maggio
Unit Relations Chairman

Mr. Brian Pichola
Lodge Adviser



To: All youth in the Great Trail Council, BSA
From: Scott Saffle, Marnoc Lodge Chief

Well another year has started which means that election season has started! Since last year, your fellow Scouts have grown - having positive successes and even failures that they have hopefully learned from. Remember when you are conducting your troop's OA election to think about what your eligible Scouts have done over the past year for better or for worse and to look for the best Scouts in your troop. OA is for the Honor Scouts after all.

On a final note, elect as many as you feel are worthy; we want every Scout that is deserving to be honored.

To: Adult Unit Leaders
From: Brian Pichola, Lodge Adviser

Thank you for taking the time to use the Order of the Arrow as a way to recognize your Honored Campers. The Order is closing in on 100 years (2015) of being Scouting's way to honor those who stand above and beyond their peers, as recognized by those same peers. Marnoc Lodge is closing in on 75 years (2014) of being your local lodge, offering cheerful service to camp and to local units. My hope is that as you elect new members in to the lodge, you take the opportunity to utilize what we offer as a part of your troop program. We are not here to pull Scouts away from your troop; we are here to give them another way to experience Scouting while staying active in your troop. On the local level, we offer 3 fellowships throughout the year, where your older boys can come and hang out with other older boys. At these events, we perform service to camp, offer leadership training and a whole lot of fun and, well, fellowship. We have 2 service days to camp to show our support for our outdoor "playground." We have 5 Ordeals to induct our new members and we are always looking for help as ceremonialists, fire tenders and Elangomats. We have 7 Brotherhood ceremonies, where we honor those who have chosen to deepen their commitment to the lodge. Of Course, we have our 7 ice cream socials, where you can just hangout on a hot summer day and eat ice cream. Beyond the local level, there is advance leadership training at Conclave every May, ALTC (Area Leadership Training Conference) every November and NOAC (National Order of the Arrow Conference) every three years including this year at Michigan State University. There are also high adventure opportunities available at all three national high adventure bases for as little as \$200!

As you elect your new members, I would like to challenge you to deepen your understanding of the Spirit of the Arrow by becoming more involved in the lodge and bringing your boys with you. Unless you were elected as a youth, you were nominated to help the Order achieve its purpose. That purpose is to keep boys active in Scouting by offering them concrete lessons in servant leadership and cheerful service. You can do that by coming to our events and bringing your boys. Details are available on our facebook page and website, www.marnoc.org.

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Visit www.marnoc.org to find out what's happening in Marnoc Lodge.

To Scoutmasters and OA Troop Representatives,

Marnoc has started a program called Tribes to help you know about what's going on in our Lodge. For each District, there will be a Tribe Chief who will communicate with you about what Marnoc events are coming up. To find out who your Tribe Chief is, visit www.marnoc.org.

IMPORTANT: All of these forms can also be filled out and submitted over the internet at www.marnoc.org/elections.

2012 Membership Qualifications

(from the latest (2010) edition of the Guide to Officers and Advisers).

Youth membership qualifications. All members of, or candidates for membership in, the Order of the Arrow who are under 21 years of age shall be considered youth members or candidates for youth membership, subject to meeting the following requirements:

- Have Unit leader approval. To become eligible for election, a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and have the approval of his unit leader **prior** to the election. The unit leader must certify his Scout spirit (i.e., his adherence to the Scout Oath and Law and active participation in unit activities).
- Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Hold the First Class rank of the Boy Scouts of America, as a minimum.
- After registration with a troop or team, have experienced 15 days and nights of Boy Scout camping **during the two-year period prior to the election**. The 15 days and nights must include one, but no more than one, long-term camp consisting of six consecutive days and five nights of resident camping, approved and under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scouts of America. The balance of the camping must be overnight, weekend, or other short-term camps.

Adult membership qualifications. All members of, or candidates for membership in, the Order of the Arrow who are 21 years of age or older and who are registered members of the Boy Scouts of America shall be considered adult members or candidates for adult membership. Individuals shall be selected as candidates based on the following:

- Each year, upon holding a troop or team election for youth candidates that results in at least one youth candidate being elected, the unit committee may nominate one adult to the lodge adult selection committee, composed of the lodge adviser, the chairman of the council committee on which the lodge adviser serves, and the lodge staff adviser. Troops or teams having more than 50 registered active youth members may nominate an additional adult for every 50 registered, active youth, or fraction thereof. Recommendations of the adult selection committee, with the approval of the Scout executive, serving as Supreme Chief of the Fire, will be candidates for induction, provided the following conditions are fulfilled:
- Selection of the adult is based on the ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purpose, and not for recognition of service, including current or prior achievement and positions.
- The individual will be an asset to the Order because of demonstrated abilities that fulfill the purpose of the Order.
- The camping requirements set forth for youth members are fulfilled.
- The adult leader's membership will provide a positive example for the growth and development of the youth members of the lodge.

2012 Unit Election Checklist

Use this checklist to make sure that you have not missed any steps in the elections process. All forms are available electronically from our website www.marnoc.org

Before the night of election:

- Complete the Notification of Unit Elections (Page 6) either online or mail it **by March 1, 2012 (February 1, 2012, if election team from the lodge is needed)**. Upon receipt of your information, the Elections Committee may contact you to confirm your unit's election date.
- Compile a list of the Scouts who are eligible (see page 3). Record these names on your *Unit Elections Report* (Page 8), and have this list ready for the night of your election.

On the night of election:

You must have 50% of your registered youth in attendance to hold an election. If you do not, you will have to hold the election at another time.

- Have current Arrowmen Read the ceremony (page 11)
- Pass out ballots and vote. A voter may list on his ballot any combination of names, including all eligible candidates who he believes are worthy to become members. A Scout may vote for himself. To be elected, a youth must have 50% of the number of votes cast. A blank vote turned in counts as a vote cast, i.e. a vote against everyone. If someone does not know the candidates well enough, he may cast no vote by not turning in a ballot. A ballot not turned in does not count against anyone, nor does it count for them. If no one is elected a second vote may be held immediately, and the result of this vote will be final.
- If your unit is nominating an adult, complete the *Marnoc Lodge Adult Nomination Form* (Page 7).
- Have each person elected, youth and adult, fill out and turn in an Ordeal Reservation Form. ***Not filling out and turning in this form or filling it out incompletely/incorrectly will severely hamper our ability to notify candidates of their scheduled Ordeal and its details.***
- Complete and turn in the *Unit Elections Report* (Page 8).
- Complete the *Troop Representative Form* (Page 7 of this packet). Your OA Troop/Team representative is an important liaison between your Troop and the Lodge. This information will also be used during summer camp to communicate about camp activities for members of your unit.

After the election:

- Be sure that all forms (Adult Candidate Recommendation, page 7; Unit election report, page 8; Ordeal Reservation forms for **each** candidate, page 9 and OA troop/Team rep form, page 10) are turned in to the lodge by April 15, 2012 either in print or electronically. We will try our best to accommodate forms turned in after this date, but priority will be given to those turned in correctly and by the deadline.

Election Q&A

ABOUT THE ORDER OF THE ARROW:

Q – What is the Order of the Arrow?

A – Boy Scouts of America’s National Honor Society.

Q – What is the Order of the Arrow's purpose?

A – Recognize those campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. Such recognition is awarded in hopes that it may cause other campers to conduct themselves in such a manner as to warrant similar recognition, to promote camping and to crystallize the habit of helpfulness in a life purpose.

Q – How can a youth become a member of the OA?

A – The only way for a youth to become a member of the OA is to be elected by his peers during his Troop/Team's election.

DATES AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MARNOC'S ELECTIONS:

Q – When do I need to turn in the Notification of Unit Elections form?

A – If you are running an “Independent Unit Election” (meaning you are running an election with OA members in your Troop) or an “Unit Election with Lodge Representative” (meaning you would like a Lodge member who is not from your Troop to oversee your election), you need to turn in your Troop's Notification of Unit Elections form by March 1st, 2012.

If you are running a “Unit Election run by Lodge Election Teams” (meaning you would like a Lodge Election team to come to your Troop meeting to run your elections), you need to turn in your Troop's Notification of Unit Elections form by February 1st, 2012.

Q – What date must our Troop Elections be done by?

A – Elections should be and results reported to the lodge by April 15, 2012. After this date, your newly elected candidates can not be guaranteed a spot in any Marnoc Lodge Ordeal this year.

Q – When do I need to turn in the Unit Elections Report form?

A – The unit elections report, and all other forms (adult recommendation form, ordeal reservation form) must be turned in by April 15th, 2012.

Q – How do I contact Unit Relations if I have a question or a concern?

A – You can contact us at unit_elections@marnoc.org, or barrythebluebear@juno.com.

ABOUT THE ORDEAL:

Q – When will a candidate be notified about his Ordeal?

A – The candidate should receive a letter addressed directly to him from the lodge by the middle of May, 2012. It will detail when their Ordeal has been scheduled, what to bring, what not to bring, cost of the Ordeal, when to show up and when to be picked up.

Q – What do I do if I don't get a letter, or need to change my Ordeal date?

A – The most common reason that a candidate does not receive a letter is that one of the forms has not been turned in or correctly completed. Please check this first and then contact the membership committee, memerbship@marnoc.org and rbajr@windstream.net.

Q – Can parents come to the ceremonies?

A – Yes and no. The call out ceremony performed Wednesday night at retreat at camp is the only ceremony open to the public (nonmembers). Nonmembers, including parents, are *highly discouraged* from attending the other ceremonies. Please see the last page of this packet for a deeper explanation and contact the lodge adviser with any questions lodge_adviser@marnoc.org.

Notification of Unit Election

Marnoc Lodge, #151

Unit #: _____ District: _____ Date of Election: _____

Independent Unit Election

With this option, the Lodge will not send anyone to your unit's election, and you are responsible for using the attached script for the election, and ensuring that all election materials are in order and received by the Lodge no later than April 15, 2012.

Please be aware that due to the nature of the Election Ceremony, if your troop does not have at least three youth Arrowmen to conduct the Ceremony properly, you should not consider this option. The ceremonies of the Lodge are an important part of the customs and traditions of the Order. If you do not have enough Arrowmen to fulfill this requirement, you may still have an election, but please select one of the following options below.

Unit Election with Lodge Representative

With this option, the Lodge will send a representative to your unit's elections to oversee their conduct and collect your election results. The representative will collect your election results the night of the election. The representative will also act as "OA member C" in your election. Please ensure that all paperwork is in order according to the checklist on page 3 in order for an easier election process. If choosing this option, make sure you complete the election data/time information below.

Be sure your Troop has at least two Arrowmen to conduct the Ceremony properly; otherwise, you should not consider this option. If you do not have enough youth Arrowmen to fulfill this requirement, please select the "Unit Elections run by Lodge Elections Team" option.

Unit Election run by Lodge Elections Team

With this option, the Lodge will send an Election Team to run your Unit Election. A group of three youth Arrowmen will arrive at the designated time and conduct the election per the attached script. The Lodge Election Team will also collect your election results the night of the election. Please ensure that all paperwork is in order according to the checklist on page 3 of this packet in order for an easier election process. If choosing this option, make sure you complete the election date/time information below.

Please provide the following additional information regarding your election if you choose the 2nd or 3rd option:

Location of Election: _____ Time*: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Scout Contact Name & Phone #: _____

*The Lodge Election Team will arrive approximately 15 minutes before this time.

This form must be postmarked by March 1, 2012 (February 1, 2012 if election team needed) in order for your candidates to be guaranteed a spot in the 2012 Ordeal.

Mail to:

Marnoc Lodge, GTC, ATTN: Unit Relations Committee, P.O. Box 68, Akron, Ohio 44309-0068

Unit Adult Candidate Recommendation

We understand that election into the Order of the Arrow of an adult Scouter (21 or older) shall take place only when the adult's role in Boy Scouting or Varsity Scouting will make Order of the Arrow membership more meaningful in the lives of the youth (under the age of 21) membership. Selection of an adult is based on the ability to perform the necessary functions to help the Order fulfill its purposes, and not for recognition of service, including current or prior achievement and position. At least one youth must be elected from our unit before we may nominate an adult. *All items below must be completed.* Our unit committee would like to recommend the following adult for consideration:

Name: _____ Unit Position: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Date of Birth: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

- 1) The camping requirement, which must be fulfilled: a minimum of 15 days and nights of camping under the auspices and standards of the Boy Scout of America, including six consecutive days and nights of long term camping, accomplished within the last two years.
- 2) What abilities/resources does this adult have that will help the Lodge fulfill its mission of service?

<input type="checkbox"/> OA adult contact for the unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Painting/staining
<input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry/woodworking	<input type="checkbox"/> Masonry
<input type="checkbox"/> Roofing	<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical
<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping/planting
<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____	
- 3) Selection of the adult is based upon their ability to perform the requisite functions including current or prior achievement and position. They are:

- 4) This adult will be an asset to the Order of the Arrow due to demonstrated skills and abilities, which fulfill the purpose of the Order of the Arrow because:

We hereby affirm that we understand the above information and the aforementioned adult leader has fulfilled the above requirements and is duly recommended for membership in the Order of the Arrow. We also understand this nomination form is an application for candidacy, and the nominee must first be approved by the Scout Executive and others before he/she is considered a candidate for membership in the Order of the Arrow.

Date: _____ Committee Chair: _____

Date: _____ Unit Leader: _____

Print Name

Signature

The Adult Nomination Committee's decision will be mailed to the Unit Committee Chairman on file with Great Trail Council. This form should accompany the Marnoc Lodge Ordeal Reservation Form and be complete by the unit's youth election.

Unit Election Report

Marnoc Lodge, #151

Unit #: _____ District: _____ Date of Election: _____

Number of registered active youth: _____ Number present at elections: _____

At least half of the registered active youth unit members must be present to hold an election.

Fill in the names and ranks of eligible youth before election.

Check the names of elected youth. Strike through the names of non-elected youth.

Name	Rank	Check if Elected	Name	Rank	Check if Elected
1			10		
2			11		
3			12		
4			13		
5			14		
6			15		
7			16		
8			17		
9			18		

I certify that the above youth are eligible and approve them as nominees for the election.

Unit Leader / Designate

Number of Troop members under 21: _____

Number of above in attendance: _____

Number of votes required to be elected: _____

Number of ballots cast: _____

Number of youth elected: _____

Election team members' printed names:

Election team members' signatures:

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative:

Order of the Arrow Troop Representative's signature:

Lodge Representative / Unit Leader:

Lodge Representative / Unit Leader signature:

By completing this form **on time**, if elected, you are **guaranteed a spot at one of the five Ordeals**. This form should be completed by the conclusion of your unit elections and be ready for the Marnoc Lodge representative before he leaves your election.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Unit #: _____

District: _____ Council: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Please list your preferences below. Marnoc Lodge will do it's best to accommodate everyone.

2012 Ordeal Dates:	Your Preference (circle your selection):					
Ordeal 1 – June 1 – 3 (weekend)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 2 – June 20-21 (week 1 of camp)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 3 – July 4-5 (week 3 of camp)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 4 – July 18–19 (week 5 of camp)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 5 – Aug 10 – 12 (weekend)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend

-----Cut Here-----

By completing this form **on time**, if elected, you are **guaranteed a spot at one of the five Ordeals**. This form should be completed by the conclusion of your unit elections and be ready for the Marnoc Lodge representative before he leaves your election.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Unit #: _____

District: _____ Council: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Please list your preferences below. Marnoc Lodge will do it's best to accommodate everyone.

2012 Ordeal Dates:	Your Preference (circle your selection):					
Ordeal 1 – June 1 – 3 (weekend)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 2 – June 20-21 (week 1 of camp)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 3 – July 4-5 (week 3 of camp)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 4 – July 18–19 (week 5 of camp)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend
Ordeal 5 – Aug 10 – 12 (weekend)	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	Can't Attend



OA Troop/Team Representative

Registration Form for the OA Troop/Team Representative

Date of Submission: ____/____/____

Term of Office: ____/____ to ____/____

Name: _____ Troop/Team #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

District: _____ Phone #: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Circle One: Ordeal Brotherhood Vigil

Scouting Experiences: _____

OA Experiences: _____

Please list the three Marnoc Lodge Executive Counsel committees that you would like to serve on in order of your preference. You can find a list of committees on www.marnoc.org:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

If you are unfamiliar with the Marnoc Lodge Executive Counsel (LEC), we would like to invite you to come to one of the meetings. The LEC is open to any Marnoc Lodge OA member to come and see how Marnoc Lodge get things done.

Check the Marnoc Lodge Calendar on our website: www.marnoc.org for dates and times of LEC meetings.

To view the job description for an OA Troop/Team Representative, please visit our web site at www.marnoc.org.

About the Ordeal

From the current (2009) edition of the OA Handbook. This information is not to be shared with candidates, but is provided in the event that parents have questions or concerns about the Ordeal and ceremonies.

Mystery and the Ordeal.

The candidates will undergo a process and ceremonies in which they are challenged and helped to think about their lives. The mystery in which we cloak these steps is part of the induction. Candidates receive less benefit if they know about the induction in advance. Knowledge lowers expectancy, dulls the edge of experience. In other words, **you hurt the experience when you tell them about the Ordeal. They are better off knowing nothing until they receive the challenges from the age-old figures in the pre-Ordeal ceremony.** Be vague when answering questions about the Ordeal. Do not confirm or deny what they think they know. Leaving a sense of mystery adds to the Order of the Arrow. Stretching the truth or just plain lying is not Scoutlike.

Purpose of the Ordeal.

It is the purpose of the Ordeal to have candidates reflect on their own Scout life and character and come to a deeper understanding of the Scout Oath and the principle of the Order. The purpose is realized through a fourfold Ordeal that includes sleeping alone, silence, work and a limited amount of food.

The candidate spends a night alone as proof of courage and self reliance. It also gives the candidate the chance to clearly think over the events taking place.

The candidate keeps complete silence. This gives him or her the opportunity to pay stricter attention to unspoken thoughts, searching out past deficiencies and resolving on a life of fuller service in the future.

The candidate spends the daylight hours of the Ordeal in meaningful labor. This proves the candidate's willingness to serve others cheerfully.

The candidate also eats sparingly, thus proving the ability to subordinate the appetites of the body to the higher purpose of the spirit.

Ceremonies (emphasis below from the original)

The ceremonies of the Order of the Arrow were developed to help members learn and be inspired to fulfill the Order's high purpose.

Youth and adult candidates for membership into the Order of the Arrow are introduced to the Order's concepts of servant leadership through a safeguarded ceremonial induction. Nonmembers should not attend the ceremonies.

Although the content of the ceremonies is private, the ceremonies were designed to avoid offending any religious belief and have received the approval of religious leaders. The ceremonies are consistent with Scouting traditions and the spirit of the Scout Oath and Law.

The Order of the Arrow recognizes and respects the right of any parent, Scout Leader or religious leader to be interested in the content of the ceremony. The lodge adviser, or his designee, may discuss the content of the ceremony and any other issues brought to his attention by one of these interested and responsible adults, with the understanding that the adult will maintain the confidentiality of the ceremony.

If after discussing the ceremony with the lodge adviser, the parent, Scout leader or religious leader continues to have questions about the content of the ceremony, that person will be permitted to read the ceremony text and view the Order's ceremony training DVD. Following this, parents will be in a position to decide whether to allow their son to participate in the ceremony. Candidates may not become members without completing the pre-Ordeal and Ordeal ceremonies.

Election Ceremony

OA Member A:

Fellow Boy Scouts, the Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. Its purpose is to recognize and honor those campers who best live up to the Scout Oath and Scout Law in their daily lives and to guide them in expanding the service that has made them outstanding. The order promotes Scout camping and maintains camping traditions and spirit. It emphasizes that the good Scout camper is not only skilled in Scoutcraft, but also true to the ideals of Scouting and its tradition of the daily Good Turn.

The only way that a Scout can become a member of the Order of the arrow is to be elected for this honor by the members of his unit. To be eligible for election, a youth must fulfill the camping requirement and hold the First Class rank.

After being elected, the Scout must complete the Ordeal, which is a series of tests of his sincere dedication to the high ideals of Scouting and the Order. If he is faithful in performing the tests, he takes a solemn pledge of service and is admitted into the Order. A long period of self-improvement and service then follows.

The lodge flap, Universal Arrow ribbon, and the distinctive sash identify the Order of the Arrow member. They are symbols of service. Our lodge has its own activities and projects, but our program does not replace the member's responsibility to his unit. Indeed, each Arrowman is expected to give richer service to his own troop or team in return for the honor his unit extended to him.

American Indian lore is an attractive sideline in our Order. American Indian dances and ceremonies add color to our program of service, and members often make American Indian lore their hobby. However, one does not need American Indian attire or skill in American Indian lore to become a valuable member of the Order of the Arrow.

Scouts, you will elect representatives to our brotherhood of cheerful service, and we are here to assist you in the election. All registered active members of this troop or team, except those 21 or older, are entitled to vote.

All those who receive votes from at least half of those who turn in ballots are elected. The number of candidates you elect will depend on how your votes agree with votes of other members of your unit.

Remember that an Order of the Arrow election is not a popularity contest! Don't vote for a Scout just because he is your friend or just because he is a good athlete or because he is older than the rest. What really counts is his loyalty to the Scout Oath and Law.

Campaigning in an Order of the Arrow election is not permitted. You are expected to think for yourself; do not let others influence your decision. The election is by secret ballot and no discussion will be permitted, so no one will know for whom you are voting. This important decision about your fellow Scouts is entirely up to you.

Before we announce the names of those eligible and begin the election, are there any questions?

(Answer any questions about the nature and purpose of the Order of the Arrow and the election procedure.)

OA Member B:

The following members of this unit have met the camping and advancement requirements and are eligible for election, as certified by your unit leader. Will you stand and form a line over here (*point*) as your names are called?

(Point out a place to line up and read the list slowly. Arrange the candidates in a line facing the voters at the place indicated; the line can be semicircular if the eligible group is large. Write each name on the chalkboard or flip chart as called.)

Scouts, you should now answer each of the following questions to yourself; your answers will help you to make the right selections.

OA Member C:

Who in this group is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout? Who is pleasant and easy to get along with? Is he kind and helpful? In all, if you were a Tenderfoot Scout, would you like to hike and camp with him?

Who is cheerful, even when he has many tiresome jobs to do? Who smiles whenever he can? Who obeys promptly and cheerfully? Does he control his temper? If you were at camp with him for several weeks, do you think you would enjoy it?

Who is always ready to give unselfish and wholehearted service to others? Who, in serving others, can forget his own desires and interests? Who has served your unit all year round, faithfully attending your meetings and helping with your service projects? Do you think he will continue his service in the future? If you were his patrol leader, could you depend on him?

In all, ask yourselves: Who in this group, by living up to the Scout Oath, serves your fellow Scouts with such an example of brotherhood and cheerfulness that you look up to him with deep respect and admiration?

OA Member B:

Scouts, on the ballot you will be given, print the first and last names of the candidates who, in your opinion, have set the best examples of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.

Vote only for those you believe will continue in unselfish service to your troop. If you feel that no one is worthy, turn in an unmarked ballot. If you are new in the troop or team and do not know the candidates well enough to vote wisely, you may abstain by not turning in a ballot to all, and this will not affect the final result. Those eligible for election also vote, and they may vote for themselves if they feel they are worthy.

The names of the eligible candidates are listed on this chalkboard (flip chart, poster, etc.). When you are finished, fold the ballot only once and give the pencil and ballot to any member of the election team.

(Distribute election ballots and pencils.)

(Collect ballots and pencils. Count the votes in private with the unit leader. The following text should be used whenever there is no formal calling-out ceremony planned.)

OA Member A:

The following have been elected to the Order of the Arrow. Will you please come forward as your leader calls your name? *(Name those elected.)*

This concludes the election. Thank you for your cooperation. Good camping and good night (day).

(Elected candidates and any Arrowmen within the unit who can be spared are taken into a separate room where the election team records necessary data and instructs the candidates as to the date, time, and place of the beginning of the Ordeal. The following paragraphs should then be presented as a charge to the candidates and present Order of the Arrow members.)

OA Member B:

That you, my fellow campers, have been chosen by your companions to become members of the Order of the Arrow reflects great credit upon you, and I congratulate you upon your election. You have impressed upon those who have lived closest to you the sincerity of your purpose to live in accordance with the high ideals of the Scout Oath. The judgment of your fellows could hardly have been mistaken.

In a short time, you will take upon yourselves another solemn obligation to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others. Your fellow Scouts elected you because they felt that you would continue your service. Do not let them down.

OA Member C:

My brothers in the Order, you have proved during the past year that the traditions of our brotherhood are not a collection of meaningless words. As we welcome these new candidates (the new candidate) on our journey, let us be mindful of our obligation to help and guide them (him) during the trails that lie ahead.