



Octoraro Lodge 22 Order of the Arrow

Council Service Center,
504 South Concord Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Congratulations on your son's election into the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society. He has been chosen by his fellow Scouts to become a part of our Brotherhood. Through his dedication to the ideals of Scouting, and his earnest exemplification of the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life, he has the opportunity to join this prestigious organization and earn the title of Arrowman.

The Order of the Arrow was founded in 1915 in the nearby Philadelphia Council; its purpose was to honor and recognize Scouts and Scouters for their steadfast dedication to the principles of Scouting. In order to be inducted into the Order, he must undertake an Ordeal, to prove his willingness to serve others, just as all Brothers have one before him.

Octoraro Lodge hosts three (3) Ordeal and Service weekends each year, April, June and September. He will have one year from the time of his election to complete his Ordeal. While you are free to choose any of the three Ordeal weekends depending on other obligations to school, sports and his troop, we strongly encourage him to complete his Ordeal in April or June, as these weekends are crucial in preparing the Reservation for the Summer Camp season.

The Ordeal itself is a weekend long process in which Scouts and Scouters are asked to cheerfully provide service to the Reservation. **Ordeal Candidates are supervised by qualified adults and older Scouts at all times, pursuant to BSA Policy. At no time is hazing or any unsafe act permitted.** You can rest assured that this experience, while challenging, will enrich your son's Scouting experience.

After completing his Ordeal and earning the distinctive pocket flap and sash which identify our members, your son is not only a member of the Brotherhood, but is now easily identified as a model Scout and Leader within the Scouting program. We encourage all of our new Arrowmen to **supplement** their activity in their home unit by becoming active in the Lodge and its programs. **We realize and understand that Scouting can be expensive yet rewarding, and to ensure that no Scout loses out on this opportunity, scholarship funds are available to Scouts with financial need. Please contact us for additional information.**

On behalf of the Brothers of Octoraro Lodge, we would like to congratulate you on your son's election as a candidate of the Order of the Arrow. We hope that he will join us to complete his Ordeal at the next possible opportunity. We have enclosed a Frequently Asked Questions sheet for you to review. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at questions@octoraro22.org.

In Brotherhood,

Gus Sauerzopf

Octoraro Lodge Adviser

Jake Segal

Octoraro Lodge Staff Adviser

Charlie Rogers

Scout Executive