



**AMANGAMEK-WIPIT LODGE #470**  
**National Capital Area Council #82 - Boy Scouts of America**



**APPENDIX E**  
**BROTHERHOOD CONVERSION**

Brotherhood conversion is a sealing of the Ordeal member's membership in the Order of the Arrow. The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge Officers have prepared this package in order to assist the Chapters of the Lodge in converting the eligible Ordeal members to the Brotherhood. The implementation of this program will contribute significantly to increasing both the quality and Brotherhood population of the chapters and, perform, the Lodge as well.

The categories of eligible Ordeal members have been separated into two classes: (1) Ordeal members who have just been inducted and (2) active Ordeal members of 1-3 years as Arrowmen. A version of the "Extended Elangomat System" will be used for the newly inducted Ordeal members and a version of the "Ideal" Chapter Brotherhood conversion program will be used for those Ordeal members of 1-3 years.

This package is provided as a guide and was developed to meet the needs of all 8 Chapters of the Lodge. This program is not meant to replace or conflict with already established and successful Chapter program but, rather, to provide additional information and solutions to the Chapter Brotherhood conversion efforts.



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### **THE ACTIVE ORDEAL MEMBER**

The first thing that should be done is to get the names and phone numbers of all the active 1-3 year Ordeal members in the Chapter.

Each Chapter has its own system for calling their members. The number of eligible Brotherhood candidates probably will not exceed a number such that the list could not be evenly divided up between the members of the Chapter Executive Committee. Once you have the names, the Chapter Officers may choose to use the above method or a procedure for contact that is normally used in your Chapter.

On the following two pages, you will find an instruction sheet and suggested telephone survey form for use in contacting the Brotherhood candidates. This form is used for recording the Brotherhood candidate information as each candidate is contacted. However, each Chapter should feel free to construct its own form should this not meet its needs. Once the phone survey sheets are completed, those indicating an interest in serving on a specific committee should be forwarded to that Committee Chairman for further use.

### **MAILINGS**

Once all eligible Ordeal members have been contacted, it is time to mail the information letter packets. Copies of these letter packets are included in this package for reproduction. Each packet contains a calendar of events for the coming year and a map to the Chapter meetings. The packets are to be mailed 2 months, 5 months and 8 months, respectively, following the Chapter's initial contact with the Ordeal member. During the first 2 months after the first packet is mailed, the Chapter should have some function to keep the prospective Brotherhood inductees interested in the Chapter and the OA. These mailing dates coincide with the mailing dates for the new Ordeal members in the "Extended Elangomat System".

Each packet should contain an updated calendar (if required). In addition, the second packet should contain a new expanded survey from which explains the Chapter Committees in more detail. The fourth and final packet should consist of an application and invitation to the Brotherhood ceremony along with a map (if applicable).



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**ORDEAL MEMBER SURVEY**  
**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP**

**CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX ON THIS SECTION OF THE MEMBERSHIP SURVEY FORM**

- ACTIVE
- MOVED
- AWAY AT SCHOOL
- INACTIVE IN SCOUTING
- OTHER

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

USE THIS LIST TO DETERMINE DESIRED COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT AND PLACE CHECK IN APPROPRIATE NUMBERED BLOCK CORRESPONDING TO COMMITTEE.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE    | <input type="checkbox"/> CAMP PROMOTIONS                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEREMONIES | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLICATIONS                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DANCE      | <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH ADVENTURE                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COOK CREW  | <input type="checkbox"/> COORDINATION                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTIONS  | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: INDICATE AS APPROPRIATE |
-



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## **ROUNDTABLE MEETING CAMPAIGN**

The District Roundtable is the best place for the Chapter to reinforce the Brotherhood conversion program, by reaching the Unit leaders. The Roundtable presentation should be made at the each of the two Roundtable meetings prior to the Brotherhood induction date. At the time of the first Roundtable meeting, all eligible Ordeal members should have received the first two packets. This ensures that the Unit leaders will be talking to the eligible Brotherhood candidates in their troops with both the unit leaders and inductees thoroughly familiar with the program.

In order to prepare for the Roundtable meetings, the Chapter Officers should have a list of all eligible Ordeal members, by Troop or Post, and pass out this list to the Unit leaders at the Roundtable along with a letter defining the purpose of the OA. This letter should be extracted from the purpose of the OA as contained in the Lodge Operating procedures. The listing of eligible candidates should also contain their phone numbers as well as the name and phone number of the Chapter Chief and Adviser along with the list of Brotherhood Ceremony date(s).



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## **THE EXTENDED ELANGOMAT SYSTEM**

In the Lenni-Lenape language, Elangomat means "friend," and this is exactly the role the Elangomat holds in his relationship to the newly inducted ordeal member.

The Extended Elangomat System takes the Elangomat out of the Ordeal and into the newly inducted ordeal member's Scouting life. The Elangomat helps keep the Scout active and interested in Scouting and the Order of the Arrow and thereby leading to the Ordeal member becoming a Brotherhood member.

During the approximately 10 months between the candidate's induction as an ordeal member and the Brotherhood ceremony, Elangomats will maintain continual contact with their assigned ordeal members. The Elangomat or a member of the Chapter Publications Committee will be responsible for mailing the three individual letter packets to the ordeal members. These packets are a duplicate of the Active Ordeal Member except that each packet will be accompanied by a character letter numbered I through 4. These letters will accompany the first through fourth packet, respectively. The fourth packet will contain the same information regarding the invitation, etc. for the Brotherhood ceremony. These character letters are from the four members of the Ordeal ceremony with each letter being written by a different Ordeal character. By sending on of these letters with each successive packet, it is hoped that the purpose and goals of the Order of the Arrow will be reinforced with the potential Brotherhood member and remind him or her of why he or she was elected or selected and inducted in the order. Examples of the packets and letters are contained in this total package.

The Lodge officers hope that this packet will help the Chapters with Brotherhood conversion achievement for the coming year and future years. This Brotherhood Conversion Program should be planned and placed in effect at the time of your next Ordeal and each Ordeal thereafter. It is a living program and if actively implemented and supported, will result in the conversion of the majority of the Chapters' eligible members into the Brotherhood. With this, the Chapters and Lodge will consist of active and dedicated Arrowmen whose contributions and participation will ensure both Honor Chapters and an Honor Lodge.



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**FIRST BROTHERHOOD CONVERSION LETTER**  
**LETTER FROM NUTIKET**

My Brother,

"As guardian of the Circle, I urge you to seek the fire at the center ... lay the Oak and Pine together ... kindle all that is within you with a warm and cheerful spirit ... a cheerful heart is lively as ... bow-wood under hardship)." Thus, I Nutiket awakened you on the eve of your Ordeal.

My brothers and I each present a challenge, as in the torchlight we presented you with tests on the eve of your Ordeal. Do you recall my charge in the Ordeal? I urged you to sacrifice and learn the virtues of self denial by the test of Scant Food. Thus you abandoned mere personal, comfort or desire in order to fulfill your obligation. Have you thus far fulfilled your new obligation in your unit? Only thus can you be ready for Brotherhood membership.

The bow I carried when presenting my test is symbolic of cheerfulness for the Bow is lively and flexible under stress, just like the cheerful spirit. It is the trait of cheerfulness that other Scouts in your unit saw you and weighed heavily in their decision to elect you to the Order. The sash you wear, the Arrow, is symbolic of Leadership. But the sash is only a symbol and an ideal. It is your efforts to fulfill the Obligation that really distinguishes you from your fellow Scouts.

Always remember that your fellow Scouts honored you by electing you to our Order. They set you apart as one from whom they expect a great deal. They expect you to cheerfully provide leadership in camping and service.

You were sent to seek a vision of yourself and of your purpose. The challenge of Brotherhood is apart of that vision. When are you ready for Brotherhood? Do not let your fellow Scouts down. Serve cheerfully my Brother. We await your decision in the Circle.

Yours in Wingolauchsik,

Nutiket

Recommended Enclosures:

- Chapter Calendar
- Map to Chapter Meeting Location Chapter Organization
- Roster of Key Chapter Personnel



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**SECOND BROTHERHOOD CONVERSION LETTER**  
**LETTER FROM METEU**

My Brother,

As a shadow in the firelight, I, Meteu, remind you of the Admonition whispered by all the natural world around you. The admonition of our Order was whispered in your ear at the ordeal, do you remember it? It should be your guide to Brotherhood membership.

The admonition as whispered by nature cannot be heard without a receptive ear. Thus I presented you with the test of Silence in the Ordeal that you clearly perceive your reflection in the mirror of nature "Hours spent in thoughtful silence help us make the right decisions more than days of talking ... help us catch the higher vision ..." in the tradition of Uncas.

As my symbol, I carry the Bow String, for without a string a lively Bow will do little to propel The Arrow onward and upward. Likewise, without the ties of Brotherhood and Love, a cheerful heart can accomplish little.

Before you took the obligation, your ties of Brotherhood were symbolized first by silence which "like a bowstring bound you each to every other" and then by the rope. The months following your achievement of ordeal membership are your opportunity to strengthen the ties of Brotherhood and express your love for fellow Scouts by fulfilling the obligation in your Unit.

My Brother, seek to identify the tests of the Ordeal when you encounter them in new ways and strive not to flinch from opportunities to apply the Admonition and obligation. Only thus will you **BE PREPARED** to make your decision to seal your membership in the Brotherhood. We await your decision in the Circle.

Yours in Wimachtendienk,

Meteu

Recommended Enclosures:

- Member Interest Survey Form
- Chapter Calendar



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**THIRD BROTHERHOOD CONVERSION LETTER**  
**LETTER FROM ALLOWAT SAKIMA**

My Brother,

I, Allowat Sakima, the Mighty Chief, challenge you to service! From me you accepted the test of Arduous Toil for the Ordeal. By my request, you were caused to approach the fire of Cheerfulness and to accept the Obligation of our Order. May you ALWAYS be willing to spend your time in service to others even when your Brothers in the order cannot assist you as they did during the Ordeal. Are you ready, thus to serve your unit?

On the eve of your first service with our Order, I strung the Bow, symbolic of uniting Brotherhood and Cheerfulness FOR SERVICE. I had you test the completed Bow, symbolic of your willingness to serve. My token, however, is the Arrow. Fitly chosen as a symbol of our Order, it is drawn from a quiver just as the election drew you from many others in your Troop. Do you still serve? Will you continue to serve?

The Hailing Sign of our Order is reminiscent of your introduction to the Arrow and is symbolic of your being set apart for something higher. Have you memorized the Obligation that you may more easily recall what you have promised? Was the judgment of your fellow Scouts accurate and justified? Remember that you pledged to return in service to your unit by placing your hand on the shoulder of the Brother Scout in front of you. Will you reconfirm the pledge? Your Brothers in the Order stand ready to assist you. Take advantage of their support whenever possible, but remember that the Arrow is a symbol of Leadership and that membership in our order is given not for what you have done but for what you are expected to do in the future. "He alone is worthy to wear the Arrow who will continue faithfully to serve his fellow man." My Brothers and I await your decision in the circle.

Yours in Witahemui,

Allowat Sakima



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**FOURTH BROTHERHOOD CONVERSION LETTER**  
**LETTER FROM KICHKINET**

My Brother:

As Kichkinet, your Guide, I urge you forward on the next step of your journey. I am here to help you onward as a friend and Brother. Remember that the handclasp of the Order symbolizes your Obligation as additional ties to the ideals of Scouting. The Helpful Hand of your Brothers is available to you, clasp it.

I shot the Arrow on the eve of your Ordeal. as a token of your pathway to the goal - "Thus do you appear to others on the path of Cheerful Service." Are you still on the straight and true path? I urge you on with the same words with which I led you to the test of the Night Alone beneath the Heavens; "Now with courage on this ... step, follow me and these my Brothers, let us try to find the Arrow."

In the test of the night alone you confirmed your Self-Reliance, your willingness to accept the responsibility for your own thoughts and actions. Have you continued to test yourself and apply the traditions of the Order in your daily life? Are you walking with me and my Brothers, the Path of Uncas? Remember how he cheerfully offered his help despite the negative attitude of everyone around him?

I will be looking for you just outside the Circle to continue guiding you on this next step of your journey. Will you join me there? Will you accept the challenge to seal your membership at this time? My Brothers and I await you around the fire.

Yours in Wimachtendienk Wingolauchsik Witahemui,

Kichkinet

Recommended Enclosures:

- Brotherhood Ceremony Registration Form
- Map to Brotherhood Ceremony Location
- Information on Requirements for Brotherhood Candidates