

Order of the Arrow, Wauna La-Mon'tay Lodge #442

Wapiti Chapter Call-out/Tap-out Ceremony

(Meteu enters from ceremonial west, walks around fire and "blesses" it with flash powder.)

Meteu: The district fire is burning cheerfully. All is in readiness for those among you who have been chosen to approach it. I call upon the guide for assistance.

(Kichkinet enters from ceremonial East, walks all the way around fire then faces the crowd)

Kichkinet: I have come from afar, over the great hills, through the dark forest, beyond the deep valley. I have come to this gathering of Scouts and Scouters, to publicly recognize those chosen by their peers to be a part of our brotherhood. I will guide them and I will answer for them. With need of protection, I call upon the guard to make sure those who are ready to make the journey are admitted to our circle.

(Nutiket enters from ceremonial South, walks all the way around fire then faces the crowd)

Nutiket: My brothers, soon we will be welcoming new members into our brotherhood. Tonight those chosen will have a great honor bestowed upon them, but with that honor also comes responsibility and commitment.

Meteu: The Order of the Arrow is an honor campers society, membership should not be taken lightly, but rather with dignity and reverence. The purpose of our Order is to recognize those campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, promote camping, and develop a life long leadership of cheerful service to others. It emphasizes that a good Scout camper is not only skilled in scout-craft, but also is true to scout Spirit in his daily life.

Nutiket: A scout is elected by members of his unit after completing fifteen nights of camping, obtaining first class, and earning his unit leader's approval. Let us call the great and mighty chief to properly recognize those who have been chosen.

(Allowat Sakima enters from ceremonial north with choosers)

Allowat Sakima: Who is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout? Who is cheerful, even when he has many tiresome jobs to do? Who smiles whenever he can? Who is always ready to give unselfish and wholehearted service to others? Having been elected by the scouts in your unit, you will now be recognized in front of your Scouting family.

(Allowat Sakima turns to choosers)

Allowat Sakima: My brothers, there are those among us who have been prepared to become members of our honored order. Find those with the mark of the Order, and call them out from among the crowd.

(choosers walk into the crowd and remove those who have been elected. They call the name and Troop number of each candidate as the Scouts are selected. If the Candidate can not be found, The chooser calls out the name and Troop member and when the Scout stands, he advances and removes them from the crowd The chooser then leads the candidate to Nutiket who taps the candidate thrice on the

shoulder. The candidate is then led to Allowat Sakima who then taps the candidate thrice (one long tap followed by two short taps). The candidate is then placed in line behind Kichkinet)

(after choosers are done)

Nutiket: If there are any who have been missed, let it be known now.

(Pause to allow for missed candidates to be found by Scoutmasters.)

Meteu: Fellow Scouts, examine these honorees. They represent the best Scouts that our district offers this year. Many like them will come soon, though. Look carefully and follow their examples, and next year, you could join them in the Order.

Kichkinet: Will you please follow me along the trail that leads to unselfish service and devotion to others.

(Kichkinet leads the candidates out. Choosers accompany the candidates in the line.)

Allowat Sakima My brothers, you have chosen wisely. What happened here tonight was a public recognition; a way for the Order to show you who has been chosen. This was not an induction. All who were chosen must now complete the Ordeal for them to actually become members of the Order. Members of the Order of the Arrow are welcome to attend the second half of our ceremony if they so desire. May the great master of all Scouts be with you, until we meet again.

(Allowat Sakima, Nutiket & Meteu exit from where they entered then run to the Chapter fire.)

(Some time during the walk to the chapter fire, Kichkinet stops the group and verifies that those in line are on the Candidate list. He also makes sure that OA members who are observing are actually members and stay to the back of the line and out of the way.)

(Kichkinet leads the group up to Nutiket who stands guard outside the circle.)

Nutiket: My brother, who are these who follow you to the sacred circle of our chapter?

Kichkinet: These are candidates who have been selected by their fellow Scouts to be set apart for something higher. They satisfy the requirements and have been chosen by their unit because of their willingness to serve and their dedication to the high ideals of scouting.

Nutiket: Have you verified that all of them are entitled to remain?

Kichkinet: I have.

Nutiket: Then you may line them up so that they may learn about the Ordeal.

Kichkinet: It shall be done.

(Kichkinet lines the candidates up outside the circle of fire pots. The Choosers assist and stay among

the candidates. Kichkinet enters the circle and stands at the east.)

Allowat Sakima: 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 and Law. The judgment of your fellows could hardly have been mistaken.

Meteu: You are here tonight because your peers believe that you will be worthy members to represent your troop in the Order of the Arrow. But before you may join, you must, like all others before you, prove your devotion to the Scout Oath and Law. This will be done by an Ordeal which your guide will now explain.

Kichkinet: The Ordeal is conducted over the course of a weekend camp out and you will be presented with four tasks which will teach you what you need to know. You will learn about the isolation which a leader often faces. Your thoughts will be turned inward, so you may ponder your role in Scouting. You will learn the virtue of self denial and sacrifice, for the greater good of your brothers. Finally, you will discover how working cheerfully for the benefit of your fellow man strengthens your spirit as well as that of the group.

Nutiket: We challenge you to return the honor that your unit has awarded you by giving of yourselves to others in your unit. By helping of a young Scout with his first advance in Scouting, By serving as a leader in your unit, By promoting camp traditions in your unit as well as others, By serving as a close friend to every member of your unit. The only limits of this challenge are those that lie within your heart. It is only right that we now pledge ourselves again to the Scout Oath and Law... Scout Sign;

(Nutiket leads the group in the Scout Oath and Law)

Allowat Sakima: In a short time, you will take upon yourselves a 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. Let us now pray each in his own way to the God who made us.

Meteu: Listen now with your heart; to the silence of the forest; Listen to those voices calling; From the darkness, from the heavens, calling you from selfish feelings. Calling you to resolution, into leadership in service. Listen to find that determination, that with guidance from our maker, will lead you all, to a life of true devotion, in the Order of the Arrow. Listen to your conscience, as you pray now in silence.

(Pause for at least 1 minute of silence)

Allowat Sakima: Now, as you prepare to depart this place, think back upon your scouting career. Reflect upon your friends, and your skills. I bid you now return to your campsites, and walk in silence reverent.

Kichkinet: Follow me out now.

(Kichkinet leads the group away from the Chapter fire to the advisor who is waiting with registration forms and the Spirit of the Arrow Book #1)

Kichkinet: I would like to introduce you to the Wapiti Chapter Advisor Paul Collett. He will try to answer any question you have.