

CLOSING CEREMONY-OPTION 2

Required Materials:

- Two OA members, could be officers, trainers or very active Arrowmen



PREPARATION

Standard Preparation for any Ceremony done in the Order of the Arrow.

SESSION NARRATIVE

LVC: My Brothers, I congratulate you on completing your preparation for leadership. You are now ready to face another Ordeal. Leadership is in itself an Ordeal and you will discover more rocky summits within you, more than you found in your climb of the trail.

LC: Recall those who needed you, your leadership, elected you. Remember he who said, "For he who serves his fellows, is of all his fellows, greatest." For you, this is now doubly true.

LVC: There is no higher honor than being chosen to lead those elected to our Brotherhood in order to lead. It is a great responsibility in the undertaking, but the rewards can and will exceed material worth

LC: Think back, allowing your mind to find your memories of the Ordeal. Do you recall Kichkinet? He labored with you, ate with you, and was silent with you. Was he not a leader to you? A vital aspect of leadership is leading by example. When you make a decision and then work to create the end result yourself, others are encouraged. Your Brothers will see you are willing to labor with them, so they will readily help you at your request. If you set the example as a leader, others will notice and follow your actions. Always remember that your actions, decisions and vocalizations are apt to be heard by all you lead, so you must strive to use the tools of leadership you were provided this weekend. The new Ordeal of leadership you should fear not, because Kichkinet will be with you each step of the way, embedded in the new knowledge you have gained this weekend.

LVC: Since you hath gone back through the vaulted isles of memory, let's explore that memory more. Recall the legend, the story Meteu gave to you about the founding of our order. Old Chief Chingachgook and noble Uncas, together traversing the trail to warn our brethren of the invaders. Along the way, they

discovered others who were willing to spend themselves in serving others. Our Order was founded by leaders who believed that leadership came in serving others. That thought is what you must now follow. Leadership is helping, assisting, guiding and counseling those who elected you. Your role is to help your Brothers grow, to keep them safe and on the path to the top. Serving other can be arduous labor; however you must remain cheerful, for leadership brings another new set of trials and tribulations. I implore you to labor just as hard as your brothers, that in that service your leadership will grow, as the fire in their hearts will as well.

LC: Your current undertaking hath given you the tools of leadership. However, now that you begin you climb on the leadership trail, there is no going back. From now on, you are always the leader, you will never stop. You are the first to ease the burden, the last to have it lifted. You are a listener, a thinker and a friend. Like the lead wolf of a pack, you must have strength, wisdom, knowledge and cunning. You were drawn by the fittest of the arrows in the quiver; you are the first shaft of the hunter. While it bears a deep responsibility, does not the first arrow of the hunter give the hunter his reward? You will find that as your leadership style grows and you succeed at your tasks, you will feel a true feeling of Brotherhood in yourself and those you lead

LVC: You have completed your training and so are now ready to be the leaders of leaders. Your new position comes with great responsibility and reward. As a leader, use the tools we have given you this weekend, consider those you serve at all times, knowing that you must lead by example, in service and be totally dedicated to your position. Come, let us sing the song of our Order and by doing so, and reaffirm our commitment to leadership in the Order of the Arrow.

(Make the circle, join hands and sing the song of the Order.)

LC: Now, it is my pleasure to introduce the newest leaders of the Order of the Arrow. Come, let us congratulate them on their accomplishment and wish them well in their future endeavors.

APPENDIX: SOURCE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Order of the Arrow Guide to Inductions

Order of the Arrow Ordeal Ceremony