



ARACOMA LODGE

BLACK WARRIOR COUNCIL, BSA

June 2022

Dear Scout,

Congratulations on being chosen by your peers to become a candidate for membership in Scouting's National Honor Society, the Order of the Arrow. The purpose of the Order of the Arrow (OA) is to recognize and honor those campers who best live up to the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.

This is a significant recognition in your scouting career, since you were elected by members of your troop based on the high ideals that the Order of the Arrow represents.

Our local lodge is Aracoma Lodge #481, and is represented throughout the Black Warrior Council. In order to become a member of the OA, you must attend an Ordeal Weekend and ceremony within a year of being elected. Our Ordeal Weekend this year is scheduled for July 15-17, 2022.

Attached to this letter is a registration form. You may also visit www.aracoma481.org and register online. Be sure to use the **Ordeal Candidate Registration Form**.

Becoming active in the OA will offer many leadership, service, and fun opportunities to you. The lodge participates in several fellowship weekends throughout the year. There are also national events and programs such as the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC), OA Trail Crew at Philmont, and others. Individual members often explore Native American events such as dancing, drumming or singing, or may participate in our various ceremonial teams.

Again, congratulations on this honor bestowed to you by your troop, and we look forward to meeting and helping you as you begin this exciting scouting journey. If you have any questions regarding the weekend, please contact our Rob Fikes, at registration@aracoma481.org or 205-886-8865.

Yours in Scouting,

Thatcher Rotenberry

Thatcher Rotenberry
Lodge Chief
chief@aracoma481.org

Wayne Harris

Wayne Harris
Lodge Adviser
adviser@aracoma481.org



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What to bring to Ordeal:

- Pack everything in a backpack or bag that you can carry with you:
- BSA Medical Form (Parts A & B; a copy of the one you used for summer camp will work)
- BSA Field Uniform (“Class A Uniform”)
- Work clothes
- Work gloves
- Sleeping bag/ground pad
- Water bottle
- Toiletry kit (soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, towel, etc)
- Rain gear (poncho, rain jacket, etc)
- Flashlight
- Any medication you may need

What NOT to bring:

- Cell phone (*if you think you really need it, we'll ask that you leave it turned off, packed in your bag until after the ceremony on Saturday night*)
- Personal electronic devices (iPod, iPad, mp3 players, PSP, GameBoy, Walkman, etc)
- Cooking gear/mess kit
- Tent

Additional Information:

- Eat before you arrive at Camp—no food will be served Friday night
- You don't need to wear your scout uniform to camp Friday night (but be sure to pack it).
- You can arrive in the work clothes you plan to wear Saturday
- If you have any questions, please contact Rob Fikes at 205-886-8865 or Wayne Harris at 205-292-2845