

# Brotherhood Help Sheet

Before you arrive at your Brotherhood weekend bring a tent and work clothes

**1. Write a letter explaining the obligation in your own words, and how you use it in your daily life.** This does not have to be more than a few paragraphs. Bring this with you to your Brotherhood weekend.

**2. Memorize the Obligation.**

I do hereby promise, on my honor as a Scout, that I will always and faithfully, observe and preserve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow, Wimachtendienk, Wingolausik, Witahemui. I will always regard the ties of Brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow as lasting, and will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities, and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in the service and devotion to the welfare of others.

**3. Memorize the Song of the Order.**

Firm bound in brotherhood, gather the clan  
that cheerful service brings to fellow man.  
Circle our council fire, weld tightly every link  
That binds us in brotherhood, Wimachtendienk

**4. Know the handclasp.**

This is a left-handed grip, with the last two fingers intertwined.

**5. Know the Sign of the Ordeal.**

This is done with the right hand over the left shoulder, moving as if drawing an arrow from a quiver.

**6. Know the Admonition and its meaning.**

The Admonition is always whispered in the ear of another member, never said out loud. Because Allowat Sakima whispered it in your ear, you might not have heard it clearly at your Ordeal. It is "Ahoalton", pronounced Ah-Ho-Wal-Ton, and it means to love one another.

**7. Explain the legend of the Order of the Arrow in your own words.**

(You don't have to memorize this. Just understand it and explain the high points.)

Years ago, in the dim ages, In the Valley of the Delaware, Lived a peaceful tribe of Indians - Lenni Lenape their name was. Deer and bear, wildcat and panther through the forest oft they hunted. On the bosom of the river Peacefully they fished and paddled.

Round their busy village wigwams still the chase they nimbly followed. In this state of bliss so happy, many moons they lived contented, springtime blossomed into summer, summer into autumn ripened, autumn died on winter's bosom; thus the seasons in succession never ending seemed to pass on.

But, behold, a cloud arising changed how soon this peaceful aspect. Neighboring tribes, and distant enemies, suddenly disturbed their hunting. Then Chingachgook, aged chieftain of the tribe, made quick inquiry: "Who will go and carry warning of this dire and dreadful danger to all Delaware's, our brothers?" But none wished to make the journey.

Then spoke up the noble Uncas, worthy son of the old chieftain, "O my father, I am ready; Send me on this gracious errand. If we would remain a nation, we must stand by one another. Let us both urge on our kindred firm devotion to our brethren and our cause, ourselves forgetting, let us catch the higher vision. Let us find the greater beauty in the life of cheerful service."

Off upon the trail they started, old Chingachgook and young Uncas; And in every tribal village some were found who were quite willing to spend themselves in other's service. When at last the fierce marauders were forced back to their own country and peace was declared between them, they who first themselves had offered for the service of their brethren, to the places most respected by the chieftain were promoted: For, said he, who serves his fellows Is, of all his fellows, greatest!

As a seed dropped by the sower on good soil bears quick fulfillment: So this saying of their chieftain in their hearts found glad acceptance and they asked that in some manner he should make its memory lasting.

So together fast and firmly Chief Chingachgook bound these warriors In a great and honored Order, Into which can be admitted only those who their own interests can forget in serving others. And so firm must be their purpose so to live that their companions, taking note of their devotion, shall propose them to the Order, we, therefore, to them succeeding to the present day perpetuate the names and tokens of this Brotherhood of Cheerful Service called by Delawares: Wimachtendienk, Wingolausik, Witahemui

**8.** Once you feel that you understand the signs of our Brotherhood, have a conversation with any two Vigil Honor members of Tecumseh Lodge. Be ready to display what you have learned.

Please do not be afraid to reach out for help