

## REDEDICATION CEREMONY

The Order of the Arrow, recognizing the attractiveness of the unknown, utilizes the form of mystery. This shall not be interpreted, however, as justifying the withholding of any information regarding the Order from any person legitimately interested in Investigating its nature, purpose, or method.

Nothing in the Order shall be interpreted as interfering with any member's religious obligation.

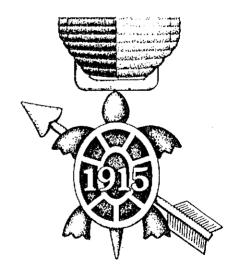
IT IS PLEDGED THAT
THIS CEREMONY SHALL BE SAFEGUARDED

## INTRODUCTION

The Order of the Arrow was founded during the summer of 1915. As it now begins the celebration of its seventy-fifth year, special emphasis is being placed on those founding principles to which it has since been devoted.

The Rededication Ceremony is one of three elements of the Order's 75th Anniversary program. This ceremony has been developed to re-emphasize the purpose of the Order of the Arrow and help its members rededicate themselves to the purpose of the Brotherhood of Cheerful Service.

The need for such a ceremony has existed for many years. While this ceremony has been developed for the 75th anniversary, it may also be adopted by chapters, lodges and sections for use in other situations, long after the Order's 75th anniversary has passed. Lodges and chapters might use the ceremony to present a special award at a fellowship weekend. Sections could perform it as part of the conclave program. Utilize the Rededication Ceremony any time it might serve a useful purpose for those participating in it.



## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

The ceremony begins with the principal players positioned around the ceremonial grounds: Allowat Sakima to the north behind the unlit candles; Nutiket to the south; Meteu to the west; and Kichkinet to the east. When Nutiket asks those wishing to participate in the Rededication to take their places in the circle, participants should be directed into a line forming an arc that, if completed, would be a circle that would include Meteu, Kichkinet, Allowat Sakima and the fifteen candles.

The principals cross to the candles, step into the center of the circle, move around the circle while speaking, or speak from their place in the circle, as appropriate, or according to the directions of the ceremony. If they have moved, the principals always return to their original positions in the circle at the conclusion of their speech.

The principals should carry the appropriate prop for their part [Kichkinet, the bow; Meteu, the turtle; Nutiket, the arrow; and Allowat Sakima, the ember] or place them nearby for easy access during the ceremony.

Use a wooden carved or ceramic replica of a turtle or a turtle shell. DO NOT USE A LIVE TURTLE.

Allowat Sakima should use tongs to remove a live ember from the fire. The ember is then placed in a small ceramic pot or fireproof bowl so that it may be safely passed around the circle.

The 75th Anniversary Award Is similar to the universal arrow ribbon. It is worn hanging from the button of the right breast pocket of the uniform shirt. In the interest of time, ceremonial teams may wish to simply present the Award to the recipient without actually hanging it from the button of the uniform shirt.

## THE REDEDICATION

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Brothers, form our circle, officers take your places. We will now proceed to open our lodge in the Rededication. Brother Nutiket, satisfy yourself that all persons present are entitled to remain.

(Nutiket approaches each person in the circle. He satisfies himself that each one wishes to participate in the Rededication Ceremony and asks those that do to take their places in the circle, as in the traditional lodge closing ceremony, with brothers Allowat Sakima, Meteu and Kichkinet.)

**NUTIKET:** I am satisfied Brother Allowat Sakima. All those present seek to reaffirm their commitment to our noble goals and purpose.

**ALLOWAT SAKIMA:** Have they completed their quest to demonstrate this commitment?

**NUTIKET:** They have, Brother Allowat Sakima. I have placed them in position to begin.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: I now declare our lodge [chapter, section, etc.] assembled for the Rededication. My Brothers, Meteu will remind us of our purpose here together, as we seek to strengthen our resolve to live a life of cheerful service.

**METEU:** Here we stand in God's cathedral Surrounded by it's majesty. We who love great vaulting arches, Love the prairies ever rolling, Love the tundra and the swampland, Love the cricket's nighttime chatter, And the chilling eagle's cry, Love the peace that flows within us, Just as sunshine flows through branches. Love the beauty of the desert, Love the redwoods, living relics, And the sound of utter silence That can stir one's inward thoughts To waken dreams mankind can share. Help us in our present mission As we strive for greater vision In a life of cheerful service.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: As we begin the work for which we have gathered here this evening, it is proper that we remind ourselves of those high ideals of the Scout Oath and Law to which we are committed. Brother Nutiket, will you now perform the duty entrusted to your charge?

NUTIKET: As Guard of this lodge, I am ever mindful of my duty faithfully to exemplify the points of the Scout Law represented by the candles which I now light as we begin our ceremony. As Scout is cheerful; A Scout is thrifty; A Scout is brave; A Scout is clean; and always to live that part of our Scout Oath or Promise that describes our duty to ourselves: "To keep (ourselves) physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." My it be our steadfast purpose that the virtues these candles represent glow the brighter in our hearts and consciences as a result of our resolve this evening.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Brother Kichkinet, will you attend to your part of this ceremony?

KICHKINET: As Guide of this lodge, I am ever mindful of my duty faithfully to exemplify the points of the Scout Law represented by the candles that I now light as we begin our ceremony. A Scout is helpful; A Scout is friendly; A Scout is courteous; A Scout is kind; and always to live that part of our Oath or Promise that teaches us: "To help other people at all times." May it be our steadfast purpose that the virtues these candles represent glow the brighter in our hearts and consciences as a result of our resolve this evening.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: How solemn is the duty of the Mighty Chief to show forth the greatest of a Scout's obligations: "To do (our) duty to God and our country." To be trustworthy, loyal, obedient, and reverent. May it be our steadfast purpose that the virtues these candles represent glow the brighter in our hearts and consciences as a result of our resolve this evening.

KICHKINET: Brothers, you were selected for membership in our Order because your fellow Scouts saw in you and your actions sincerity and acceptance of the high ideals of the Scout Oath and Law.

The very essence of the Order's existence is that its members be those who exemplify these great virtues in their daily lives and by example influence others to do the same.

I hold the bow as a symbol of the first and most important part of our Order's purpose -- to permit others to recognize those who strive to live the Scout Oath and Law. I entrust the bow to each of you so that you can test the full measure of the weight of that responsibility, just as you did in your pre-Ordeal.

(Kichkinet takes the bow with him to his place in the circle. He pulls the bowstring and then passes it to the Brother on his left who in turn tests and passes the bow to the next Brother, and so on, until the bow is returned to Kichkinet.)

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Brother Meteu, will you remind us the second part of our Order's purpose?

No doubt the bow has brought back METEU: memories of the Ordeal you took many moons ago. Now I seek for you to recall your memory of the Order as something born of the sun and the moon, the peaks and the prairies, the woodlands and the wetlands, the earth and the sky. It is significant that the Order had its birth in the out-of-doors, in camp, where Scouting's values spring to life. There action packed, challenging, outdoor adventures offer simple lessons quickly mastered -- responsibility, judgment and interacting with others -- working not just for one's self, but for the group. The values of the Promise and Law and all the virtues of Scouting are essential to the survival of our society. The outdoors serves as a natural teacher.

(Meteu takes his place in the circle and passes the turtle to the Brother on his left who in turn passes the turtle to the next Brother, and so on, until the turtle is returned to Meteu.)

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Brother Nutiket, will you help us to recall the third part of our Order's noble purpose?

NUTIKET: Meteu has told you of our outdoor focus and the lessons to be learned from the outdoor experience. What I share with you now is related to the last. We must promote outdoor Scouting so that all Scouts can know of and learn the self-reliance gained from genuine camping.

I hold this arrow as a symbol of this third important part of our purpose -- to promote Scouting's outdoor programs, including camping, in summer camp and all year 'round. I entrust it to you so that you can know how straight and keen your resolve must be to help the Order reach its mark.

(Nutiket takes his place in the circle and passes the arrow to the Brother on his left who in turn passes the arrow to the next Brother, and so on, until the arrow is returned to Nutiket.)

were called to membership in the Order upon the recommendation of your fellow Scouts. They bestowed this honor upon you to recognize the leadership and service you provided them. But you are worthy of their trust only so long as you continue to extend a helping hand to others, as the servant of all is truly the greatest of all. The fourth and final part of the purpose of our Order is a logical extension of the first -- to turn your example of cheerful service to others into a lifelong commitment of leadership in service to your fellow man.

I hold this ember as a symbol of this, the most challenging part of our Order's purpose -- to lead a life of cheerful service for our world. I entrust the ember to you so that you can feel how fierce yet fragile is the fire of spirit that must burn within you to fulfill this purpose with your life.

(Allowat Sakima takes his place in the circle and passes the ember, in a small clay vessel or pot, to the Brother on his left who In turn passes the ember to the next Brother, and so on, until the ember is returned to Allowat Sakima.)

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Brother Meteu will now remind us all to be ever faithful to our obligation and purpose as we prepare to rededicate ourselves.

METEU: Brotherhood has beckoned us To a life of cheerful service. Therefore let us each consider That according to our pledges, We as leaders must endeavor To be known by all our brothers As those who strive to live their lives According to the Oath and Law; To be steadfast in our lifetimes Through so many moons unflinching, In our search to find the truth That's found in service to all others; To help nurture and to better Scouting's camp and outdoor spirit So that somehow through our efforts Those who our example follow Can learn lessons we've discovered Here in twilight from the heavens Outdoors in our natural home.

> Renewed again to our great calling. Deep inside you find the spark there That will strengthen your intentions; Deep inside you find the ember That will guide you through your lifetime.

This our purpose and intent Mark with silence, reverent.

**ALLOWAT SAKIMA:** My Brothers, you are here this day seeking to rededicate yourself to the Wimachtendienk. To prepare for this moment you were sent on a quest, designed to test your devotion to our purpose. That Nutiket allowed you to remain was evidence that you had completed the challenges of this quest satisfactorily. ceremony began when Nutiket, Kichkinet, Meteu and I reminded you of the twelve points of the Scout Law and the three parts of the Scout Promise upon which our Order is based. We then shared with you four symbols: the bow, the turtle, the arrow and the ember; each representing one of the parts of our Order's purpose. These symbols were passed around our circle to help etch their significance upon your minds. Each was in your hands. It is only right that you be reminded of our intentions in this way, for our Order of the Arrow is truly a thing of the individual. Its strength depends on the actions of each of its members, and, for this reason, the Order is only as strong as you are.

KICHKINET: When you live the Scout Oath and Law,

**METEU:** When you nurture and improve Scouting's outdoor traditions and spirit,

**NUTIKET:** When you promote Scouting's outdoor programs and camping,

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: When you lead a life of cheerful service for the good of all around you, the purpose of the Order is fulfilled. But when you fail to do these things, the Order fails to live up to its potential.

**NUTIKET:** The time has come for your commitment. If you still seek to rededicate yourself to the goals and purpose of the Wimachtendienk, you will now take four steps toward the council fire.

(The members take four steps toward the council fire.)

**NUTIKET:** You will now raise your hand in the Scout sign and repeat after Allowat Sakima.

completed the quest, testing my resolve and dedication to the Order of the Arrow, Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui, do now rededicate myself to a life of cheerful service, by acknowledging the four parts of the purpose of our Order, namely:

- To permit others to recognize those who strive to live the Scout Oath and Law;
- To nurture and improve Scouting's outdoor traditions and spirit;
- To promote Scouting's outdoor programs, including Scout camping, in summer camp and all year 'round;
- To lead a life of cheerful service for our world.

And to the fulfillment of this purpose, I pledge my honor.

NUTIKET: You may lower your hand.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: My Brothers, now that you have successfully completed your quest and rededicated yourself to the Arrow's purpose, Meteu will share with you the story of our beginning, which took root in the heart and mind of E. Urner Goodman, the Founder.

METEU: Years before the birth of Scouting
In the town of Philadelphia
A young boy was growing up.
Running, playing, chores and school,
Were typical of his daily life,
But deep inside him there was also
Ideas for the future growing.
While in his teens he joined a group
Through his church that taught ideals
In a way he'd ne'er forget.

By twenty years of age he joined A fledgling group back then, the Scouts, That offered lessons quickly learned Of knots and camping ... woodcraft skills. Lessons that would last through life.

Later on he chose to teach,
Inspiring younger minds to learn,
When unexpectedly came the chance
To make a full career of Scouting.
The decision was weighty,
The movement so new,
But he resolved to take the leap.
"I took the bold course," he said later
Of his choice to enter Scouting.
So began the evolution
Of our Order of the Arrow.

In the year of 1915
As the summer was approaching
Urner Goodman was recruited
To direct the council camp.
Treasure Island was the place,
'Midst the peaceful Delaware River.
With the help of Carroll Edson
All was quickly being readied
For the campers to arrive.

In their planning both agreed
There was need to emphasize
All of Scouting's high ideals
To the boys encamped that summer
Working closely with the camp staff
They developed the foundations
Of the Order of the Arrow.

From the start it was decided To select from troops in camp, By a method democratic, Those who best did demonstrate Ideals of the Oath and Law.

Thus from the first and even now A proud tradition still remains, Something that must never change If our purpose we fulfill. Those from not among our ranks Must have the largest say concerning Who is chosen to the Order, For in this way we recognize Those who in the eyes of others Come to mind as demonstrating The ideals we hold so sacred And in so doing give example To the very ones who choose us.

Having settled on a method For election of the campers To be honored in this way The Founder searched throughout the island For a site that would hold meaning To be used for an induction. After many days of searching One was found that held great promise, Just behind a fallen tree That would hide a fire from view 'Til those approaching came upon it. A totem pole was fashioned From a plank for decoration Upon which was placed a drawing Of a turtle as a symbol, Just as Chingachgook and Uncas Used so many years before.

When darkness fell, the day's work finished, Tension spread throughout the camp As those selected then were met By a guide who them admonished To above all maintain silence And upon a winding trail Led them to the place appointed.

One by one they emerged
From beneath the fallen tree
To stand before the council fire
Behind which stood in long black robes
The Founder, Urner Goodman,
And assistant, Carroll Edson.

Then began three challenges
Like the tests in the Ordeal
That we all have undertaken,
Designed to etch upon those present
The ideals and traditions
That we cherish and hold sacred
And to which we've pledged our honor.

Thus that night marked the beginning Of what has grown into a program That gives leadership in service To the Boy Scouts of America -- To the members of its units that Proposed those to be honored.

Let us pause now to reflect
On what together we've accomplished
On our future dedication,
For only with such dedication
Can we fulfill the noble purpose
That the Founder did envision
In creating this great Order,
As called by all Arrowmen,
Wimachtendienk, Wingolauchsik, Witahemui.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: My Brothers, I will now pass among you and give you once again the handclasp of our Order and place upon you the symbol of our rededication commitments.

(Allowat Sakima, assisted by Nutiket and Kichkinet, greets each participant with the handclasp of the Order and then presents him with the symbol of Rededication. Allowat Sakima, Nutiket and Kichkinet return to their positions when the presentations are completed.)

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Having finished the work for which we gathered here this evening, we are about to leave this our meeting place. Let us join hands and sing the song of our Order.

(All join hands and sing the song of our Order.)

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: Meteu will once again remind us to concentrate upon the solemn resolution that should guide us in all our days ahead.

METEU: Having sought rededication In the Order of the Arrow, We in silent meditation Seek the strength to venture onward, Bear the burdens ever weighty Of the tasks we undertake.

In the years that have transpired Since July of 1915, Millions have, like you, been called To test the bow, to feel the fire, To lead a life of cheerful service Uniquely linked in brotherhood.

To kindle in our hearts an ember And to challenge us to tend it Was the goal of our great Founder, That its warmth within us Cause the Oath and the Law To spring to real life action.

We today hold these things true And so we now, with faith unending And with guidance from our Maker Continue to answer the Order's call.

This our purpose and intent Mark with silence, reverent.

ALLOWAT SAKIMA: As Mighty Chief, I bid you now to depart our circle. It is fitting that you do this while the candles representing the points of the Scout Oath and Law remain burning, for having rededicated yourself to the purpose of our Order this evening (day), in this way the glow and warmth of what they represent may be remembered more fully in your heart and conscience as you continue along the path of cheerful service. Trust that Nutiket, Kichkinet, Meteu and I will attend to the closing of the lodge in your absence.

I therefore close this meeting of our Brotherhood until such time as business comes before it once again.

(Those who have participated in the Rededication Ceremony are led down the path leading away from the circle. When they are no longer within ear-shot, the principals and any non-participating observers, such as those having participated in the ceremony before, carry out the Lodge Closing Ceremony as printed in the most current edition of the Manual for the Ordeal.)