

## The Bear Claw

# Special 2017 Candidate Edition

## You have been called

### Special points of interest:

- Letter from Lodge Chief Aaron Morse about your Ordeal Weekend experience.
- Map on how to get to Rancho Alegre
- Notes on what to pack for your Ordeal weekend.
- Registration Form for the Ordeal weekend.
- Remember you **MUST** bring your completed BSA Medical Form and Registration Form if registering online.



### Questions? Need more information? You or your parents have concerns?

Contact Lodge Membership Advisor Wayne Rascati at 452-7828 or [chumash90@cox.net](mailto:chumash90@cox.net)  
Or go online to our website at <http://www.Chumash-Lodge90.www.net>

You have been selected by the members of your unit as a candidate for the Order of the Arrow. Your election indicates that your fellow Scouts find you an honor camper who is committed to serving those in the unit, particularly the Scouts who are younger. We encourage you to keep up these strong principles and ideals which got you elected.

This packet has been prepared for you so that you know what you need to do to seal your membership in the OA. Please look it over closely.

Please note that the registration form is double-sided. The front side indicates that you wish to attend the Ordeal at Rancho Alegre on May 19-21. The other side is the required BSA Release Form. This is your first of two opportunities to become a member of the Order of the Arrow. The Summer Ordeal is August 25-27 at Rancho Alegre. If you do not attend either Ordeal, you will need to meet all requirements and gain reelection by the members of your unit this winter. We hope that this will be your first Ordeal Weekend and that you will come back regularly to participate in the service and fellowship. But we'll explain more about that at your Ordeal weekend.

The OA is more than just a weekend Ordeal. It is a long-term, even life, commitment to giving cheerful service to others. We hope that the Ordeal is not the last that we see of you. Your primary commitment is to your unit, but your OA Brothers need you also to carry out our obligation to Scouting. Please don't be one of those Scouts who "sash and dash". Pay your annual dues, commit to attend some Chapter meetings and service projects, make your Brotherhood Ceremony next year, and be an example to others.

Look at the packet. If you have any questions, please contact one of the individuals listed elsewhere in this brochure. We look forward to meeting you soon.

## About the Ordeal

Your weekend is an opportunity to reflect on the reasons why your fellow Scouts deemed you worthy. There are several challenges presented during the weekend that you should by your Scouting experience thus far prepare you for life as an Arrowman.

We ask that you register early. The \$50 fee covers your weekend, an OA Ordeal sash, Membership Book, a Lodge flap, and your first year's (2017) dues in the OA. Please remember to register early and be sure to include your appropriate medical form with your registration.

## Congratulations

Dear Candidate:

Again I extend congratulations on your nomination as a ***candidate for the Order of the Arrow!*** As you may have already heard, the Order is Scouting's National Honor Society; its members are selected not only for what they have done, but also for the service they are expected to return to others. It is my hope that our induction ceremony and process will lead you to new insights that that will better prepare you for the path ahead in the OA.

**Please remember to bring old clothing and shoes for our service project on Saturday. You may be doing trail repair, fence installation, weeding, and/or painting.** I do want to stress that although the Order puts a strong emphasis on service, we spend a lot of time having fun, too! We participate in District and Council events, as well as our own Lodge activities, which are not intended to draw you away from your Troop, but to enhance the Scouting experience. Each September, OA members from all over the Central California gather (in a manner similar to a Campor-all) for the event we call a Section Conclave.

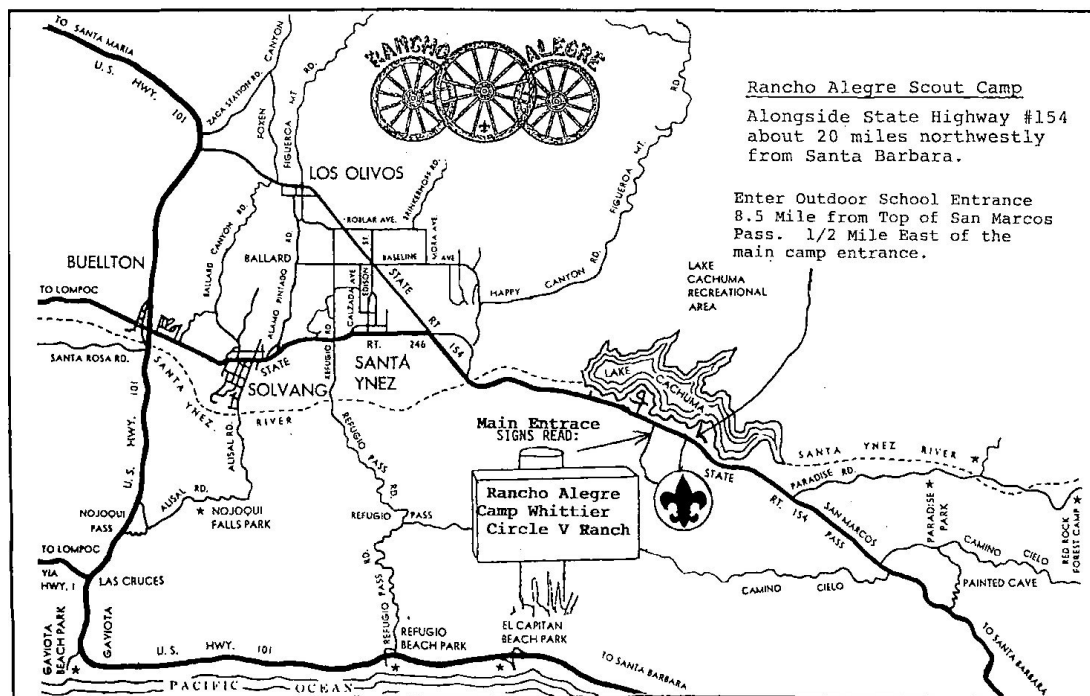
This year you will have two opportunities to become a member of the Order of the Arrow during our induction weekend at Rancho Alegre. You must plan on attending the Spring Ordeal on May 19-21 or the Summer Ordeal on August 25-27. *(Be careful about the August date as it is the first weekend of the new school year for most.)* If you do not attend this Ordeal, you would need to meet eligibility requirements and be elected by the members of your unit in unit elections next winter. I would strongly recommend you remain from check-in Friday night (6:30 pm to 8 pm) and stay until 9:30 am Sunday morning. However, if you have religious or another important purpose, we can make arrangements for you to leave after 9:30 pm Saturday evening.

In order to attend the Ordeal weekend, you must pre-register with the attached form. **All applications should be sent in, along with the medical information and parental activity consent form (youth), to the address at the top of the form at least 7 days prior to the Ordeal.** *Forms received after May 12th will require payment of a \$10.00 late fee.* The cost is \$50, which covers your food for the weekend, Ordeal Sash, OA Handbook, one Chumash Lodge 90 pocket flap, a packet of information, and your OA dues for calendar year 2017 (members usually pay \$15 annually, but the \$50 Ordeal fee covers your dues for the remainder of this calendar year. All checks should be made payable to Los Padres Council, BSA. Visa or Mastercard payments can be made at your local Scout Office or at on the home page of the Council's website ([www.lpcbsa.org](http://www.lpcbsa.org); click on OA link midway down the page. On Saturday evening our Lodge Trading Post will be open with selected OA items (patches, pins, bolo ties, etc.) for sale.

The Ordeal offers you a unique opportunity to reflect on your personal commitment to the principals of Scouting and the Order of the Arrow. Every new candidate undergoes the Ordeal, for it is a meaningful experience that is not soon forgotten. **Unfortunately, if you do not attend one of these two Ordeal weekends, you are no longer a candidate for the OA and you will need to be re-elected by the members of your unit for future consideration.** Every effort should be made to attend your Ordeal; if you have any trouble arranging transportation, please feel free to call or e-mail me. I hope to see you there!

Yours in Scouting,  
**Aaron Morse**  
Lodge Chief

**Rancho Alegre: This year at Rancho Alegre is May 19-21, 2017  
Summer Ordeal at Rancho Alegre is August 25-27.**



**From Santa Barbara:**

Take San Marcos Pass Road to approx. mile marker 16.3. Camp entrance is on the left. For safety reasons it is recommended you go another 1/2 mile to the left turn lane and then double back. Take driveway entrance for approx. 1 mile to Main Gate.

**From North:**

Take San Marcos Pass to mile marker 16.3. Turn right onto driveway entrance. Go approx. 1 mile to Main Gate.

**Order of the Arrow helps keep camping alive**

Camping promotion is one of the major goals of the Order of the Arrow. That is why any one nominated for the Order must be an active camper with 15 nights of camping of which 6 nights are at a long term camp. This applies to both youth and adult candidates.

In addition Chumash Lodge has published a guide to local camp and backpacking areas on the Central Coast for over 60 years. The current edition is an electronic version which is updated regularly based on reports of our own members.

Ordeals are held at our local Scout Camp so that our users (Troops, Packs, and Crews) can benefit from the outdoor experience. During our Ordeals we will work on the COPE area as well as doing some trail maintenance. The COPE Program has been sponsored by the Lodge for years. Last year a Climbing Wall was added to the COPE Course. This year our work projects include doing trail work and working on the first phase of our camp's new physical fitness area. Your participation can be a memorable recollection each time you come to Rancho Alegre.



**Questions:**

Here is the information on some adult OA Advisers that could answer your questions:

- Lodge Adviser—Jacques Benoit (sbboy scout@gmail.com)
- Lodge Membership Associate Adviser—Wayne Rascati (chumash90@cox.net)
- Scouting Professional—Scott Oldenburg (Scott.Oldenburg@scouting.org)



## 2017 ORDER OF THE ARROW ORDEAL WEEKENDS

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Our two 2017 OA Ordeals are occurring this summer. We hope to see you then for your Ordeal. Check-in time is from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The Ordeal concludes at 9:30 am on Sunday. Candidates may leave Saturday evening after 9:30 pm for religious or other important reasons. Otherwise, **you must stay the entire time.**

**May 19-21, 2017 at Rancho Alegre**  
**August 25-27, 2017 at Rancho Alegre**

**Please register at least one week in advance of the Ordeal with enclosed form.** This helps with planning meals and providing materials.

#### WHAT TO BRING TO THE ORDEAL WEEKEND:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack or Duffel Bag         | <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or Pencil                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Pad                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Money for OA Trading Post    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Cloth                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Clothes and Shoes (old) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tent (may be shared)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Boy Scout Uniform (Class A)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp Pocketknife/Tote 'n Chit |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work Gloves (for Saturday)     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking Boots/Sturdy Shoes      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bandana or Handkerchief        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen                      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bug Repellant                  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lip Balm                       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Gear                      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warm Jacket, Hat               |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle/Canteen           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medication                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BSA Medical Form               |   |

#### Do NOT bring any of these items

- XXX Electronic Games
- XXX Radios, Tape/CD Players
- XXX Card Games
- XXX Junk Food



***Wear your uniform to the Ordeal. Pack light, you must carry your gear.***

***We suggest eating a good meal before arrival/check-in on Friday evening.***  
***There will be no meals on Friday.***

Be sure to state on medical form if you have special dietary needs or restrictions. Also list all medicines to be taken during the Ordeal. Certain medical conditions may require you to bring supplementary food, and that is permissible if it is stated on your medical form.