

Sponsors for Vigil Candidates

An important part of our Vigil Induction process is having a Sponsor for each Vigil Candidate. The Sponsor helps make the Vigil more personal, meaningful, and enjoyable for the Candidate.

Sponsor Selection: The Chapter Adviser is responsible to select a Sponsor for each Candidate from their chapter, and submit their information **by June 30th**. If the chapter adviser is not a Vigil member, this selection shall be done by a Vigil member of the chapter that the Chapter Adviser designates to handle this responsibility. The lodge Vigil Induction Adviser is responsible to select a Sponsor for any council level Candidates not affiliated with a chapter.

Sponsor Requirements: A sponsor needs to be a Vigil member of Totanhan Nakaha lodge, with a personal connection to the Vigil Candidate, who is available to participate for the entire Vigil Conclave in August, is dues-paid (or will become so), and is willing to carry out the duties of the Sponsor (as listed below). A member can only be a Sponsor for **one** Candidate at a time. A candidate can have only **one** Sponsor. The Sponsor may be youth or adult, and may come from any chapter in the lodge. A youth can be a sponsor for a youth or an adult, and an adult can be a sponsor for an adult or a youth. While being selected as a Sponsor is an honor, the focus in selecting a Sponsor should be on their connection to the Candidate and their ability to fulfill the duties.

Sponsor Duties: A sponsor needs to carry out the following actions:

- 1) **Arrange transportation to and from the camp for your candidate.** You can drive them yourself, or arrange for them to ride with another Vigil member coming to the event.
- 2) **Contact your candidate after you receive your Sponsor notification letter.** Congratulate him or her, and personally ensure your Candidate plans to attend the Vigil Conclave in August. (If they cannot attend, contact the Lodge Vigil Induction Adviser right away.) Discuss the transportation you have arranged for them. Make sure they understand that they may not drive themselves. Verify that they received their candidate announcement letter sent out in June. Answer questions your candidate may have about the event and what to bring with them. (See the copy of their letter provided to you for a list of what they need to bring.) It is ok to let them know they will be up all night, but please do not ruin the mystery of the Vigil by disclosing any specifics of the ceremonies or overnight experience.
- 3) **Register online for the Vigil Conclave by August 15.** Registering online confirms your role as a sponsor, and helps in planning the event. Ensure that your candidate also registers. (The candidate does not pay any fee, but must register in advance.)
- 4) **Invite non-Vigil members significant to your Candidate to attend the Public Recognition Ceremony.** Invite individuals who are not Vigil members of the OA, but who should be present to help celebrate your candidate's achievement of the Vigil Honor, to come to the Public Recognition Ceremony on Sunday morning. This can include parents, Scoutmasters, etc.
- 5) **On the Saturday of the Vigil Conclave weekend, pick up your candidate and bring him or her to camp to arrive at the time given in your sponsor letter,** or make sure another Vigil member has picked them up and is bringing them to camp. Please do not be late.
- 6) **Serve as a guide for your Candidate.** Plan to participate with your Candidate during the entire Vigil Conclave, including various activities and ceremonies. We will give you more details on your role, including locations, etc, once you arrive at camp.
- 7) **On the Sunday of the Vigil Conclave, give your candidate a ride home** after the Public Recognition Ceremony has ended, or make sure they have a ride with another Vigil member.

Submitting sponsor info: Please send the sponsor's name, email, phone, and candidate name to: Mark Ellenberger, Vigil Conclave Admin Lead, at: mellenberger@att.net by June 30th.