

Totanhan Nakaha Lodge, WWW
Northern Star Council, BSA

5300 Glenwood Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55422



393 Marshall Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102

June 30, 2017

Dear Brother in the Vigil Honor,

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a sponsor for one of our Vigil candidates at the Totanhan Nakaha Vigil Conclave, August 26 to 27, at Stearns Scout Camp. The role of the sponsor is very important, and we appreciate you taking on this responsibility. Your efforts will help make the Vigil Induction more personal and enjoyable for your candidate.

As a sponsor, we ask that you do the following:

- 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** immediately after getting this letter. Congratulate them again, and confirm that he or she is planning to attend the Vigil Induction. (If they cannot attend, please contact Admin Lead Mark Ellenberger, below, right away.) Discuss the transportation you have arranged for them. Please make sure they understand that they may not drive themselves, due to not sleeping! **Verify that your candidate has received and read their candidate letter**, which we sent to them in June (a copy of the candidate letter is attached). Make sure **your candidate has registered online for the event**. (Candidates do not pay any fee, but they do need to register for the event to confirm their attendance.)
- 3) **Answer the questions your candidate may have** about the event and what to bring with them. (See their letter for the list of required and optional items 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.
- 4) **Register yourself online for the Vigil Conclave** no later than Saturday, August 15 at: <https://scoutingevent.com/250-2017VigilConclave>. You will need to use your OALM ID number to register. (If you do not know your OALM ID, ask your chapter adviser.) When registering, you can choose to pay online, by credit card or check. The event fee is **\$18 for Adult Vigil members who register online by August 15**. This covers lunch, dinner, and cracker barrel on Saturday, the Vigil Breakfast on Sunday morning, activities, ceremonies, and camp costs. The fee for **Adult Vigil Members who register after August 15 or at the door will be \$20**. The fee for **Youth Vigil Members is \$10**.
- 5) **Invite non-Vigil members significant to your Candidate to attend the Public Recognition Ceremony.** Please 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 at the end of the Conclave. This can include parents, Scoutmasters, etc. This ceremony will take place at camp at 9:00am on Sunday morning, August 27. There is no fee or registration needed for non Vigil members to attend the public recognition ceremony. They should check in at camp by 8:45am for directions to the ceremony.

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- 6) On **Saturday afternoon, August 26, pick up your candidate and bring him or her with you** to Stearns Scout Camp, or make sure another Vigil member has picked them up. Be sure to **arrive at Stearns Landes Training Center between 2:00pm and 2:30pm on Saturday**. Please do not be late. There will be an instructional meeting for Sponsors at 3:30, immediately followed by walking to find your candidate's site in the daylight.
- 7) **Serve as the Guide for your Candidate.** Participate with your Candidate during the entire Vigil Conclave, including various activities, service projects, and ceremonies. You will walk several blocks on camp trails, so wear appropriate shoes or boots (and see special accommodations, below). We will give you more details on the Guide's role, including locations, etc, once you arrive at camp. You will need to ask your Candidate some questions and give some instructions. A page with the Guide's part will be provided to you at the event.
- 8) On **Sunday, August 27, at 10:00**, after the Public Recognition Ceremony has ended, **give your candidate a ride home**, or make sure they have a ride with another Vigil member.

Each member should bring the following items with them to the event:

Scout Uniform & OA Vigil sash	Water Bottle	Watch
Light jacket or windbreaker	Rain gear or Poncho	Flashlight
Appropriate boots or shoes	Insect Repellent	
Tent, Sleeping bag, Cot or Pad, (as needed for indoor or outdoor accommodation)		
Cards, cribbage boards, patch blankets, and other amusements are optional!		

PLEASE NOTE: Each sponsor also needs to bring the following set of items to camp to properly provide for their Candidate's site:

5 gallon bucket and small shovel for fire control. Matches or stick lighter
Some Kindling to help with fire if we have had rain (just put in your bucket).
A tarp and chair are optional for your candidate, but you may want to set them up for them in the site during daylight rather than wait until dark.

You will also need to **bring a current health form** with you to hand in at camp.

Since last year, you have the option of tenting or having a bunk, in-doors at the event. Please indicate that on your registration.

We want to accommodate the individual needs of all of our Candidates and Sponsors, and understand that some may have mobility concerns. Of course this is easier with advance notice. Please advise us if you or your Candidate:

Cannot walk several blocks carrying moderate amounts of gear
 Need special sleeping arrangements (such as electrical hook-up for CPAP.)
 Cannot meet the schedule described above

For these, or if you have any other questions about your role as a Sponsor for this Vigil Conclave, or if a conflict comes up that will prevent you from fulfilling the Sponsor role, please contact the Vigil Administration Lead, Mark Ellenberger, at 612-812-9269 or at "mellenberger@att.net". You can also contact: Dave Murphy, Vigil Induction Adviser, at 651-666-7338(cell), Avi Shaver, Vigil Induction Chair, at 952-540-7831(cell).

Thanks again for being a Sponsor. Your leadership in service helps bring the personal touch to your candidate's Vigil experience.

In WWW,

Avi Shaver
 Vigil Induction Chair

Dave Murphy
 Vigil Induction Adviser