



Warped Wheel

Providing Resources to Support Units, Chapters, and Lodges

I am sure that at one time or another, every Arrowman has ridden a bicycle. As you know, the smoothness of the ride is dependent on the shape of the wheels and how the shape of the wheel is perfectly rounded. If for any reason the wheel is off balance, the ride will not be as smooth. If you loosen five or six adjoining spokes on a bicycle wheel, it will warp out of shape so that it no longer makes a true circle. Soon after this occurs, you're going to experience a bumpy ride.

An Arrowman's character is something like a bike wheel. The spokes are a series of guidelines that we follow in the Lodge as well as Scouting. These guidelines are meant to help us through the year to stay straight and true. Some of these guidelines are based on the Scout Oath and Scout Law. As Arrowmen, we are recognized as those who exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law in our daily lives. If you get loose and sloppy on any point of the Scout Law, the result will be the same as loosening the spokes on a bike wheel. This not only affects you personally but also has an impact on our lodge. Your personality, as well as the lodge's, will be warped and out of shape.

One way to stay true to yourself and the lodge is to see that your observance of the Scout Oath and Scout Law are always foremost in your mind. When doubts creep in and you're tempted to violate the Scout Oath or one of the points of the Scout Law, think about the warped, out-of-shape bike wheel and remember that you can help to make a difference. Resolve to live up to the ideals of Scouting which you have been recognized for.

As a member of the lodge we are all spokes in the wheel that make the lodge move. It is up to each one of us to determine if the ride will be smooth or bumpy. I look forward to working together to experience a fun and successful year.