

# OATH (Needle 1)

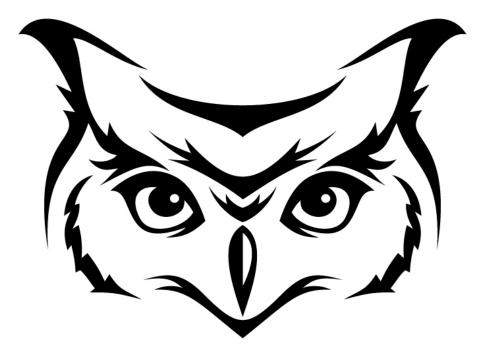
It is a great honor to walk the Path of The Ascetic

We give thanks to the Ancestors for showing us The Way

We promise we will;

- 1. Honor the Northeast Shield through training in these guilds (Sit Spot, Bird Language, Fiber, Baskets and Pots, Packing and Caching)
- 2. Utilize the Thanksgiving Address and the Sense Meditation in all their forms
- 3. Strive for constant awareness of the 5 voices of the birds
- 4. Maintain empathy for all living beings
- 5. Teach, to help others and ourselves understand The Path of The Ascetic

We make this promise for the health and happiness of the future generations



## **PROTOCOLS, PROHIBITIONS and CARETAKING (Needle 2)**

The Northeast is sometimes called the Spirit Road, that sacred time between night and dawn. Here we invite practitioners to offer tea to the Elders and Storytellers and to embody the spirit of the Ascetic through awareness, empathy and selflessness.

The Northeast **Ascetics Council** is composed of all the Ancestors, Elders, Heroes and Guild Members of the Northeast. As such, all those in the Council and those who are striving to enter the Council should follow these Protocols, Prohibitions and Caretaking Principles.

Caretake these things as you would care for a Revered Elder

-the emotional well being of our community particularly those in need -the plant nations that provide for our fiber, baskets and pots - the birds and their flyways - our sit spots and sacred places in nature, ourselves, and others - our Northeast library books and Ascetics Handbook Do

-strive to be present for all guild presentations and ceremonies -be attentive -take notes -learn well to teach well

Do Not

-show up late to guild presentations

-approach the learning and teaching of guilds in a haphazard manner, to do so is to bring disrespect to the Council.

### Sit Spot

Do

-communicate with family or instructors when leaving for a sit spot -enjoy, this is your time and your place Do Not

-force yourself to do sit spot

### **Bird Language**

Do

-practice patience -use your animal forms -journal your observations Do Not

-look directly at a bird (use owl eyes) -disturb a singing bird (fox walk) -point at a bird with your finger (use your nose or thumb)

#### Fiber

-always be on the lookout for materials -learn the seasons for each material -ask before you harvest and leave a gift Do Not -harvest annuals or biennials like nettle and milkweed before they have gone to seed

### **Baskets and Pots**

-find other guild practitioners -ask before you harvest and leave a gift Do Not -overharvest materials from one place **PC** -EDC should be carried whenever possible

Do Not -carry a knife into a government building, a school or an airport



# **ANCESTORS, ELDERS, HEROES (Needle 3)**

### ANCESTORS:

Ethan Runnels Victor Schoonmaker Thich Nhat Hanh

### ELDERS:

Jon Young



## **NORTHEAST ALIEN TEST (Needle 4)**

### 5 voices (behaviors) of Birds

What are the 4 baseline behaviors of birds? 1.

What is an example of alarm behavior in birds? 2.

Audio Vocalization ID 3.

### Residence

Summer Resident 4.

Winter Resident 5.

A Migratory Waterfowl 6.

What migratory flyway is Indiana in? 7.

Extirpated/Extinct 8.

Recovered 9.

### Example of a:

Passerine 10.

Buteo 11.

11.

Accipiter 12.



Hummingbird 13. Thrush 14. Wren 15. Corvid 16. Landfowl 17. Wader 18. Owl 19. Warbler 20. A local game bird 21. Feeding, Name a bird that is:

A Scavenger 22.

A Gleaner 23.

A Ground Feeder 24.

A predator of Birds 25.

A predator of Mammals 26.

A predator of Fish 27.

A predator of Insects 28.

Name two local plants good for making cordage 29.

What are the 5 Animal forms (sense meditation)? 30.

What is the Quest of the Northeast? 31.

What are the Qualities of the Northeast? 32.

What are the Guilds of the Northeast? 33.

Who are the Elders of NE? 34.

Describe a basket native to the Eastern Woodlands, including the plants used, the method, size, tribe that made it, and its utilitarian purpose. 35.

Describe a mat native to the Eastern Woodlands, including the plants used, the method, size, tribe that made it, and its utilitarian purpose. 36.

