
January Roundtable

CUB SCOUT INTEREST TOPIC AND MONTHLY PACK ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR FEBRUARY 2016

Point of Scout Law: Friendly

Theme: Friends Near and Far

CUB SCOUT INTEREST TOPIC

Blue and Gold Birthday Party

February 8, 2016 will be the 106th birthday (anniversary) of the Boy Scouts of America. What better way to celebrate than with a “birthday party” called the blue and gold banquet? In nearly all packs, the blue and gold banquet is the highlight of the year. It brings families together for an evening of fun and cheer. It’s often the pack meeting for February.

The banquet can be like a regular pack meeting, with songs, skits, stunts, and awards. Or it can be something different and a little more special. Your pack may decide to bring in an entertainer such as a magician or a storyteller. Some packs invite former members and other Scouting or community leaders to take part. Or you could have a video or slide show of what the pack did during the last 12 months. Some packs use the blue and gold banquet to put on an impressive ceremony for Webelos Scouts as they cross over into Boy Scouting.

Some packs make the banquet a potluck dinner affair, having each family bring a covered dish. Other packs prefer purchasing the food, having it prepared by the parents’ committee, and prorating the cost among those attending the banquet. Some packs have a formal dinner while others just do a cake and ice cream celebration. Every pack is different in numbers of people and budget, so the plans need to be finalized within your pack, with the banquet committee and pack committee working closely together. Because blue and gold are popular colors, you can easily find appropriate party favors and decorations. Both colors come in shades that are bright, vibrant, and sure to enliven almost any banquet hall.

While the banquet and pack committees have been working on the logistics for some time as part of the pack’s annual plan, the dens can use January as a time to make centerpieces and practice their part in the upcoming festivities.

Monthly Pack Activity

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Hold a cake decorating contest. After all, what is a birthday party without cake? Purchase or make plain iced cakes (one per den), and provide a variety of cake decorating supplies (e.g., sprinkles and colored frosting). Then let the dens see what wonderful masterpieces they can create.

SUGGESTED BANQUET AGENDA

- Displays
- Opening Ceremony
- Invocation
- Dinner (Make sure to keep the cost reasonable. Simple table decorations can and should be used. Select food that is generally accepted by all families. Serve it hot, and get everyone served as quickly as possible.)
- Welcome and Introductions (The Cubmaster or pack committee chair should make brief but appropriate introductions.)
- Greeting from Institutional Representative
- Entertainment/Songs
- Review of Year
- Awards (Everyone has been waiting for this part of the evening. The ceremony should be well executed and meaningful.)
- Recognition of Leaders and Parents (Recognize all Scout leaders and parents who have been especially helpful during the last year.)
- Announcements and Thanks
- Closing Ceremony (Plan a perfect end to a perfect evening.)

FEBRUARY 2016 BREAKOUT RESOURCE SHEET

POINT OF SCOUT LAW: FRIENDLY

THEME: FRIENDS NEAR AND FAR

EXPLAIN – DEMONSTRATE GUIDE – ENABLE

Depending on attendance and the size of your roundtable team, you may run all these breakouts individually, or you may combine them in a manner that works for your district (e.g., put Tiger, Wolf, and Bear breakouts together).

For All Den Leaders

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Blue and Gold Banquet

Lead a brief discussion on how dens are involved with the blue and gold banquet.

- Centerpiece making
- Invitations
- Placemats
- Skits
- Songs

Tiger Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Games Tigers Play required adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Wolf Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Running With the Pack required adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Bear Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Grin and Bear It required adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Webelos Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Stronger, Faster, Higher required adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Arrow of Light Den Leaders

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Arrow of Light Ceremonies

As you all know, the Arrow of Light Award is the pinnacle of a boy's journey in Cub Scouting and the only Cub Scout award or insignia that may be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. Boys who achieve this award, and the leaders and family members who help, can be very proud of the accomplishment. For this reason, a great deal of thought and planning should go into the presentation of the award. Many packs have their own traditions for "crossing over" ceremonies; others rely on the troops that the boys are transitioning into if they continue as Boy Scouts. Lead a brief discussion on different Arrow of Light ceremonies.

ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITY

Look at the requirements for the Building a Better World required adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Cubmasters

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Special Ceremonies

Resource: *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*, No. 33212

Discuss the importance of youth recognition in the den and pack. Why do we have ceremonies in Cub Scouting? Points to consider:

- Provides recognition in a positive way
- Provides meaningful and memorable highlights of a youth's Cub Scouting experience
- Helps to teach the ideals and goals of Scouting—*learn by doing*
- Focuses attention not only on youth but also on families, leaders, and volunteers and their part in the achievements
- Stimulates and encourages participation and attendance at pack meetings
- Defines the beginning and ending of meetings

Discuss the best ceremonies that participants have witnessed, and the worst. Then list the various types of ceremonies. Discuss how those ceremonies may be conducted to meet the needs of the pack, to hold the interest of boys and adults, and to make the Cub Scouts feel valued and special. Make sure to include:

- Induction ceremonies to welcome new youth and families to the pack
- Advancement ceremonies to celebrate the completion of ranks from Bobcat through Arrow of Light
- Transition ceremonies to mark crossovers from Webelos to Boy Scouting

Discuss developing and adapting ceremonies to meet the needs of any occasion. For example, a pack might annually recognize its own efforts in presenting a quality program during the last year. Ceremonies should focus on everyone's accomplishments and build den and pack spirit.

If possible, bring in materials that might be used for a pack ceremony such as candleholders, an artificial campfire, or boards that show ranks. Equipment should be easy to store and set up, inexpensive, and if possible, adaptable for use in different types of ceremonies. Equipment must be maintained in good working order.

Where do Cub Scout leaders find materials and resources for ceremonies? Everywhere! Use your imagination, and you will find and create what you need to make a ceremony special for your unit.

ACTIVITY

Have participants conduct one of the ceremonies from the Pack Resource Sheet.

Pack Leaders

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Scouting Anniversary Week Activities

Ask pack leaders to discuss the importance of celebrating the anniversary of Boy Scouting in respect to Scouting's rich legacy of service and youth development, as well as what it means to the youth and adults involved in the program. During this week, local councils participate in a

variety of celebrations, relief projects, banquets, religious services, and volunteer efforts in their communities. Develop a list of ways that a local unit might benefit its community in honor of the anniversary.

A good blue and gold banquet requires a lot of planning. Discuss ways that the pack leaders can be involved and support the Cubmaster and den leaders in the planning. In many councils, Scouting Anniversary Week kicks off with Scout Sunday and ends with Scout Sabbath, which is often used as an opportunity for education and understanding about different faiths and cultures. Share ways to honor the legacy of Scouting during this week and on Scout Sunday.

ACTIVITY

Practice the Blue and Gold skit from the Pack Resource Sheet.

FEBRUARY 2016 PACK RESOURCE SHEET

POINT OF SCOUT LAW: FRIENDLY

THEME: FRIENDS NEAR AND FAR

THE POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW TO BE HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH

A SCOUT IS FRIENDLY

A Scout is a friend to everyone, even people who are very different from him.

HOW DOES "FRIENDS NEAR AND FAR" RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He offers his friendship to people of all races and nations, and respects the beliefs and customs of others. Friends Near and Far reminds us that we are part of something bigger than our own community. By living the Scout Law, we are accepting of the world's peoples and their values.

Preopening Activity

SILLY SALLY

This is a fun game to play with Cub Scouts as they arrive. Give them hints about things that Silly Sally likes and things she doesn't like. There's a simple rule for figuring out what her likes and dislikes are. The object of the game is for the boys to figure out what that rule is. Here are some sample hints.

- Silly Sally likes the moon but she hates the sun.
- Silly Sally likes doors but she hates windows.
- Silly Sally likes butter but she hates margarine.
- Silly Sally likes maroon but she hates red.

- Silly Sally likes geese but she hates ducks.
- Silly Sally likes jelly but she hates jam.
- Silly Sally likes tennis but she hates badminton.
- Silly Sally likes the Yankees but she hates the Orioles.
- Silly Sally likes Mississippi but she hates Maryland.
- Silly Sally likes glass but she hates plastic.
- Silly Sally likes the piccolo but she hates the flute.

Can you figure out the rule for her likes and dislikes?

(Answer: Silly Sally likes words with double letters!)

Opening Ceremonies

GREETINGS AROUND THE WORLD

Materials: cue cards with the Cub Scouts' lines printed on the back; a world map showing which countries have Scouting organizations (Go to www.scout.org to see the list of all the countries participating in the World Brotherhood of Scouting.)

Announcer: Welcome to our meeting. There are 149 countries in the World Brotherhood of Scouting, as shown on our map. There are many languages spoken in those countries, but no matter where you go or how it is said, you can count on being greeted by a Scout who says, "Hello":

Spanish: Hola (OH-lah)

French: Bonjour (bohn-ZHOOR)

German: Guten Tag (GOOT-en Tahg)

Mandarin: Ni hao (nee-HOW)

Russian: Zdravstvuite (ZzDrast-vet-yah)

Swahili: Jambo (JAM-bo)

Arabic: Al Salaam a' alaykum (AHL sah-LAHM-ah ah-LAY-koom)

Hindi: Namaste (nah-mah-STAY)

Hebrew: Shalom (Sha-LOHM)

FLAG AND CANDLE

Materials: U.S. flag; pack flag (optional); three candles—red, white, and blue; five-pointed star

The flags are posted in their stands before the pack meeting starts. Five Cub Scouts walk to the front of the room carrying their unlit candles. (Candle-shaped lamps with batteries may be used in place of wax candles.)

Cub #1: Practically from the beginning of time, man has used symbols to express hope, ideals, and love of his own nation. Our flag represents the ideals of science, commerce, and agriculture. It symbolizes the sacrifices made by men and women for the future of America. It stands for your home and everything and everyone you hold dear. I light the red candle, which represents the red in our flag, and stands for hardiness and valor. It reminds us of the lifeblood of brave men and women shed in our defense.

Cub #2: I light the white candle, which is the symbol of purity and innocence, and which represents the white of our flag.

Cub #3: I light the blue candle, which symbolizes perseverance and justice. The blue in our flag directs our view toward the heavens. It reminds us of a power greater than our own.

Cub #4: The stars in our flag represent the individual states. They indicate that the height of achievement for our nation is as limitless as the heavens above us.

Cub #5: Will the audience please stand and join me as we pledge our allegiance to the flag?

Each Cub Scout places his candle on a table in the center of the meeting room, situated between the American flag and the pack flag. The candles remain lit until the end of the meeting.

Prayers

Dear Heavenly Father,

Look down on us this evening as we gather together in the spirit of Scouting. Bless these families assembled here and guide them as they go forward in Akela's path. AMEN.

Dear Father,

As we come together tonight, we ask you to bless our time together and our meeting so that we may all do our best to do our duty to you, our country, our communities, our families, and ourselves. We ask that our Scouts always remember the lessons they have learned:

- To be Trustworthy, Loyal, and Helpful to everyone they meet.
- To be Friendly, Courteous, and Kind to friend and stranger alike.
- To be Obedient and Cheerful in doing their duty.
- To be Thrifty so as not to squander the gifts they have received.
- To be Brave and Clean, facing the challenges of everyday life with a clean mind and a clean spirit.
- To be Reverent, remembering always your presence in their lives.

We thank you, Oh Lord. AMEN.

Songs

ARE YOU SLEEPING?

Tune: "Frère Jacques"

Are you sleeping, are you sleeping,
Brother John, Brother John?

Morning bells are ringing, morning bells are ringing.
Ding, ding, dong; ding, ding, dong.

French:

Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques,
Dormez-vous? Dormez-vous?
Sonnez les matines, sonnez les matines.
Ding dong ding; ding, dong, ding.

Dutch:

Vader Jacob, Vader Jacob,
Slaapjy noq? Slaapjy noq?
Alle klokken luiden, alle klokken luiden.
Bim, barn, born; bim, barn, born.

Spanish:

Compañero, compañero,
Duerme ya? Duerme ya?
Toca la campana, toca la campana.
Din, dam, dom; din, dam, dom.

German:

Vater Jacob, Vater Jacob,
Schlafs du jets? Schlafs du jets?
Alle glocken klingen, alle glocken klingen.
Bim, born, him; bim, born, him.

GOLDEN RULE

Tune: "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain"

Oh, we'll all be sure to use the golden rule,
Playing sports, at home, at church, or when at school.
We'll all treat one another
Like a sister, friend, or brother,
We will always choose to use the golden rule.

MONTY THE MOOSE

Tune: "Alice the Camel"

Form the group into a circle and interlock arms so that everyone will be close when they sing "Boom, boom, boom," swaying their hips and bumping the person on either side. Also, each time they hear a number, they should quickly bend their knees and stand back up.

Monty the Moose had five points,
Monty the Moose had five points,
Monty the Moose had five points,
So go, Monty, go!
Boom, boom, boom!
Monty the Moose had four points, etc.
(Count down until the last verse.)
Monty the Moose had no points,
Monty the Moose had no points,
Monty the Moose had no points,
'Cause Monty was a horse!
(Repeat.)

Cheer or Applause

GONDOLIER

Make a motion as if pulling a boat and sing out: "O, sole mio!"

JOKES

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Utah.

Utah who?

You tah-king to me?

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Who, who, who?

Are you an owl?

Why did the mouse give up tap dancing?

It kept falling in the sink.

What did the postcard say to the stamp?

Stick with me kid, and we'll go places.

What travels around the world and stays in a corner?

A stamp.

Did you hear about the wooden car with the wooden wheels and the wooden engine?

It wooden go!

What kind of snack do little monkeys have with their milk?

Chocolate chimp cookies

What's a cat's favorite breakfast?

Mice Krispies.

What is the first letter in yellow?

Y.

Because I want to know!

BANANA CHEER

Bananas of the world unite (place hands together above head)! Peel to the left (lower left hand to your side), peel to the right (lower right hand to your side)! Peel down the center (place both hands above head and lower them simultaneously) and oomph, take a bite (snap arms back together above head in a giant "bite")!

Go bananas, go bananas (dancing around)!

Advancement Ceremonies

DUTCH ADVANCEMENT

Take a page from the Scouts in Holland: Wrap each boy's award in tissue. Then tie with yarn, and before the pack meeting begins, string the yarn all over the room—with different strands crossing each other, going between the rungs of chairs, etc. When each Cub Scout's name is called, give him the end of his yarn strand and have him follow it all the way to the end. You could use a different colored yarn for each boy, or make it even harder and use the same color yarn for everyone! If it seems too difficult for a boy, invite his parents to come up and join the fun.

Along the same lines, another Dutch tradition is to plant notes with rhymes or riddles leading to the final prize—in this case, a box or envelope with the Cub Scout's awards inside. This will take some extra preparation before the meeting. The boy can get help from his den, his parents, or the whole audience.

AROUND THE WORLD

Materials: yellow tablecloth on awards table, displaying a globe and small flags from other countries

Cubmaster: Every minute of every day of every year, there are thousands of boys enjoying the fun and excitement of Cub Scouting somewhere in the world. The Cub Scout uniform varies from country to country because each uniform must be suitable and practical for the climate. But all the uniforms have one thing in common: They promote Scouting and its goals.

Just as Cub Scouts wear different uniforms in different countries, they also award different badges of rank. In Japan and Korea, Cub Scouts earn the Rabbit, Deer, and Bear badges. In Australia, the badges are Bronze Boomerang, Silver Boomerang, and Gold Boomerang. South Africa has the Tenderpad badge.

As we know, the first badge of rank in the United States is Bobcat. Tonight, we honor (names of boys). These new Cub Scouts have earned this badge, which is the start of their Cub Scout trail. Would the Bobcats and parents please come forward?

The second badge on our Cub Scout trail is Tiger. Tonight we honor (names of boys). These boys have earned this badge. Would these Tigers and parents please come forward?

As the Cub Scouts learn new skills, the next badge they earn is Wolf. Would these Wolf Scouts and their parents please come forward? (Read names.)

Our next badge of rank is Bear. Would the following Bears and parents please come forward? (Read names.)

Next comes Webelos. Would the following Webelos Scouts and parents please come forward? (Read names.)

Our final badge is the Arrow of Light. Would the following Arrow of Light Scouts and their parents please come forward? (Read names.)

These Cub Scouts, like others in Scouting all around the world, have worked together and developed new interests that make them better citizens of our country and of the world. Let's give them a big hand to show how proud we are of them.

CUB SCOUT SPIRIT

Materials: a world globe on the head table, candles placed around the globe (one for each rank to be presented)

The room is dark except for one candle held by the assistant Cubmaster.

Cubmaster: We read in the newspaper every day about wars—nation against nation in all parts of our world. Television shows us daily pictures of bombings, buildings destroyed, people killed. It's a dark and unpleasant picture, certainly not what each of us wants for ourselves or our children.

Scouting is one thing that helps to bring people together, because its ideals and goals are the same everywhere. We tend to think of Cub Scouting as just our pack, our dens, and our friends. But, there are Cub Scouts like ours in almost every country in the world. We are just a small part of this wonderful organization.

Our assistant Cubmaster, (name), holds a candle representing the spirit of Cub Scouting. As we present our advancement awards tonight, he will light a candle next to the world globe for each rank.

First, we have (number) boys who have passed the requirements for the rank of Bobcat. Will Scout (name) and his parents please come forward? (The rank patches are presented to each parent, who gives it to his or her son. A candle on the table is lit. This is repeated for each rank to be presented.)

Notice how the darkness the world was in has gone away as the light of the Cub Scout spirit is spread around the globe. If we all continue to work on our adventures and continue to advance in rank, we can keep the light bright and help our world to be a better place to live for everyone.

Note: As a variation, you might attach rank patches on different continents with rubber cement, and turn the globe as the presentations are made. This would highlight Scouting around the world.

Games

CATCH THE DRAGON'S TAIL—TAIWAN

Two single lines are formed with each person's hands on the shoulder of the person in front of him to form a "dragon." Until the signal "Go" is given, the dragons must each remain in a straight line. The starter begins the countdown, "Em-Er-San-Ko!" or "1-2-3-GO!" Then the "fiery head" of each line runs back toward the "lashing tail" and tries to catch the last Cub Scout in line. The whole dragon body must remain unbroken. If anyone lets go, the dragon's body is broken and the dragon dies. If this happens, a new dragon must be formed with the head becoming the tail and the next in line taking a turn at being the head. However, if the head player touches the tail with the dragon breaking, he may continue to be the head.

LA CANASTA (THE BASKET)—BRAZIL

The players sit in a circle. Each is assigned the name of a different fruit. "It" stands in the center and says, "I went to the market and bought a basket of pears and grapes (or other fruit)." The players who were assigned to those fruits must change places while "It" tries to sit down in one of the vacated spots. The one left standing is the next "It."

BIVOE EBUMA (CLAP BALL)—CAMEROON

Divide Cub Scouts into two teams. Teams line up parallel and facing each other six feet apart on either side of a center line. The two teams toss a small rubber ball back and forth. No player may step across the center line. When the ball is caught, the catcher must clap his hands and stamp his feet once. If a player forgets to clap and stamp, a point is scored against his team. Keep the ball moving fast.

Audience Participation

MY AUNT CAME BACK

The leader recites the words and, at the end of each stanza, he adds a motion that the audience must imitate. Have the audience stand and “fan” themselves, then “cut” with shears, etc., until at the end everyone is doing all six motions at the same time and laughing so hard they can hardly stand up. This is a great stunt to try at your pack meeting show.

My aunt came back from old Japan. She gave to me an old silk FAN. (Make fanning motion with right hand.)

My aunt came back from old Tangiers. She gave to me a pair of SHEARS. (Make cutting motion with left hand.)

My aunt came back from the New York Fair. She gave to me a ROCKING CHAIR. (Rock back and forth on your heels.)

My aunt came back from Holland, too. She gave to me a WOODEN SHOE. (Stomp right foot repeatedly.)

My aunt came back from old Hong Kong. She gave to me the game of PING PONG. (Move head to right and then to left.)

My aunt came back from Kalamazoo. She gave to me some GUM TO CHEW. (Make chewing motion with mouth.)

My aunt came back from Timbuktu. She gave to me some (points to audience) NUTS LIKE YOU!

Skit

AROUND THE WORLD

Four Cub Scouts are dressed in costumes from South America, Japan, Africa, and the Netherlands; each is holding a large picture or map of that part of the world. Narration is written in large print on the back of each picture so the boy can read it. A fifth Cub Scout, in uniform or dressed in an Uncle Sam costume, is holding an American flag.

The boys enter the stage one at a time. Each boy reads his lines while a recording of “This Is My Country” is played softly in the background. A recording of “The Star-Spangled Banner” is played at the end.

Cub # 1: I am South America. I am most noted for my exotic foods, sugarcane, coffee, molasses, and coconut. My people eat domestic foods such as beans, pumpkin, pineapple, potatoes, and tomatoes. I am also known for my tobacco. On any sunny day, you can see me dressed in my native clothing, the serape and the sombrero. My religion is mostly Roman Catholic. South America!

Cub #2: I am Japan. Agriculture is my game, but silk is my claim to fame. People come from all over the world to visit my Buddhist pagodas and geisha houses, and try to master the art of using chopsticks. They almost always go home wearing a kimono, which is my native dress. Japan!

Cub #3: I am the Netherlands, or Holland, as I am most commonly called. My schools are all state-supported and education is compulsory. Only 8 percent of me is forest surface, so I am best known for my canals. Dairying is one of my important industries. I am world famous for my Dutch cheese. I also grow cereal grain and potatoes, but I am most famous for my fields of horticulture, especially the tulips. When I pass your open window, you can hear the clippety-clop of my wooden shoes on the cobblestone streets. Holland!

Cub #4: I am Africa, the second largest of the six continents. Why not visit me and pick up a diamond? Ninety-eight percent of the world’s diamonds come from me. I also have gold and oil in abundance. Although I dance as a form of religion, parts of the world have copied the dances as entertainment. The caftan and dashiki, my native dress, are now a worldwide fashion. Africa!

Cub #5: I am the United States of America. People from all over the world come to me to find freedom. My customs are those of every nation, and I offer an equal opportunity to every man. I am called the land of plenty, for my natural resources are many. Clothing styles and religion are a person’s own choice. What’s the difference if someone hails from north, south, east, or west? My heart is filled with love for all of them. The home of the brave and the land of the free. America!

BLUE AND GOLD

The narrator, the spirit of Baden-Powell, is a den chief in full uniform wearing a campaign hat. He reads the script from a lectern, while Cub Scouts in uniform come on stage one by one.

Narrator: I represent the spirit of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting. I am also the spirit of Scouting past and present. Here is our future—the Cub Scouts of America. (The first Cub Scout enters in complete uniform.)

The two colors of the Cub Scout uniform have a meaning. Blue stands for truth and loyalty; gold for good cheer and happiness. (The second Cub Scout enters carrying the *Wolf Handbook* and Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book*.)

Early Cub Scout ceremonies were based on Kipling’s jungle tales. When Cub Scouting was organized in America in 1930, Indian themes were used. (The third Cub Scout enters carrying a wood craft project.)

Cub Scouting means fun. We have lots of fun. But most boys like making things—real BOY projects—things they can play with or that follow the monthly theme. (The fourth Cub Scout enters carrying a nature collection.)

Cub Scouts like to go on hikes and find things for their nature collection or the den museum. They like the outdoors. (The fifth Cub Scout enters carrying a picnic basket.)

Most Cub Scouts like to go on picnics. All boys like to eat. It is even more fun when they can cook their own food. (The sixth Cub Scout—the smallest one—enters holding the United States flag.)

Cub Scouts are proud to be Americans. They are proud of their flag. They are also proud of their pack flag (points to it) because it reminds them they are part of years of Scouting. They belong!

Yes, I represent the past and the present. These boys, Cub Scouts now, are the men of tomorrow. They will be the preservers of our American heritage. Please stand and join us in singing “God Bless America.”

Cubmaster’s Minutes

THOUGHTS

Do your best in everything you do on life’s way.

Always be friendly to brighten another’s day.

Give away your smiles, for it is rewarding indeed.

Be prepared to help others for goodness—not for greed.

Be honest and sincere toward others that you meet.

Be loyal and true—a most commendable feat.

Count your blessings and be thankful for the opportunities that come to you.

Good night to each and every one, may these thoughts stay with you your whole life through.

INDIVIDUALITY

Please take a moment and look around the room. You see many people. Do you see two people who are exactly alike? No. None of us are the same, not even twins. We are all unique individuals, each different from others. By recognizing our own individual talents, tastes, and gifts, we can try to have a better understanding of other people and our surroundings, and be more respectful of the world we live in.

THE SCOUT SALUTE AND HANDSHAKE

Our Scout salute and handshake are ancient signs of bravery and respect. Back when George Washington was general of the Continental Army, men carried weapons for their protection. When they met one another, there was an uneasy moment as each watched the other’s right hand. If that hand went toward his sword or gun, there was a battle, but if it went to his hat it was a salute of friendship or respect.

The left-handed shake comes to us from the Ashanti warriors whom Baden-Powell knew more than a hundred years ago in South Africa. He saluted them with his right hand, but the Ashanti chieftains offered their left hands and said: “In our land, only the bravest of the brave shake hands with the left hand, because to do so we must drop our shields and protection.”

The Ashanti knew of Baden-Powell’s bravery, for they had fought both against him and with him, and they were proud to offer him the left-handed shake of bravery. During February, we honor the birthdays of two brave men: General Washington, founder of our nation, and Baden-Powell, founder of the Scouting movement. As you use the Scout salute and handshake, remember these two great men.

Closing Ceremonies

THREE CANDLES

This closing extinguishes the candles that were lit during the Flag and Candle opening. Three Cub Scouts, either the boys from the opening ceremony or new ones, may take part. They walk to the front of the room to extinguish the candles.

Cub #1: As I put out this white candle, which represents purity, may we be mindful that a Cub Scout is clean. He is clean in body and thought. He stands for clean speech, clean sports, and clean habits. He travels with a clean crowd.

Cub #2: As I put out this blue candle, which represents loyalty, may we as Cub Scouts be ever mindful to be loyal to whom loyalty is due. We are loyal to our den leader, our home, our parents, our country, and our God.

Cub #3: As I put out this red candle, which represents courage and sacrifice, may we be mindful of the sacrifices that have been made for us by many others that we may continue to enjoy freedom, liberty, and justice in the great nation of the United States of America.

WORLD PEACE

Eight Cub Scouts are dressed in white. Each one carries a card of stiff sky-blue paper tacked to a wand. On the card is pasted a dove with outspread wings cut from white paper.

All: Oh, may the dove of peace descend to Earth today.

Cub #1: And may the dove of peace drive cruel war away.

Cub #2: From hearts of men may love drive out all bitter strife.

Cub #3: May nations everywhere all lead a peaceful life.

Cub #4: Oh, may all battle din be stilled forevermore.

Cub #5: Oh, may the dove of peace soon banish cruel war.

Cub #6: May nations everywhere together dwell in peace.

Cub #7: Oh, quickly come the day when cruel war shall cease.

Cub #8: Oh, may the dove of peace descend to Earth today.

All: And may the dove of peace drive cruel war away.