

Hi – my name is Bill McGovern – I am cubmaster of Pack 418 in Hilliard. Today, I want to discuss Arrow of Light and Crossover ceremonies. There are many ceremonies available on the internet (Google search). Barb Karweik has assembled the compilation of the ceremonies presented below.

First – the basics:

1. Giving the highest award possible in Cub Scouts (AOL). What can we do to make it special?
  - a. Practice ceremony with leaders / parents BEFORE if possible.
  - b. Parent tunnel or Flag tunnel that they can walk through
  - c. Special lighting (dim lights, spotlights, flashlights, campfire, candles)
  - d. Sound effects (solemn drum beating, claps or foot stomps, theme or dramatic music, bugle calls).
    - i. Have a parent with a good “announcer voice”? Use them.
  - e. Involve younger scouts in the presentation (could be a reminder at the journey to AOL).
  - f. Have the parents be part of the ceremony too. Have webelos give mom a carnation or rose.
  - g. Facepaint – but stay away from imitation of Native American face paint
    - i. Simple patterns, lines, akela’s ears, whiskers
  - h. Invite a storyteller
  - i. Invite a Native American Dance Team
  - j. Have food / cake and punch for after the ceremony.
  
2. Crossover from Cubs into Boy Scouts
  - a. Same list above applies for special enhancements.
  - b. A bridge is typically used in the ceremony
    - i. Bridge can be heavy or difficult to store – other options
      1. Can also use parents / leaders to hold up lashed poles as “sides”
      2. Use a colored carpet w/ nonslip backing instead of a bridge deck.
      3. Paint a bridge mural on a heavy piece of paper taped to wall – becomes the back side of bridge.
  - c. Transition with colors: blue&gold on one side → olive green &red on the other
  - d. Transition with adults; cub leaders on one side → scout is received by Boy Scout leaders of the troop they are joining on the other.
  - e. Transition with hat & neckerchief; webelos hat is replaced with Boy Scout hat and neckerchief on far side of bridge.
  - f. Transition with salutes, handshakes; Cub Scout salute and handshake to cubmaster, then Boy Scout salute and handshake to scoutmaster.

**Whatever you do – make it memorable – make it special. Celebrate the achievement with each boy and their family.**

### **ADVANCEMENT - WEBELOS GRADUATION "WE ARE PREPARED"**

Invite Scoutmasters or other representatives of the troops your Webelos Scouts are joining. Using poles driven into the ground and rope, make the winding trail, with the Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos, Arrow of Light, and Boy Scout emblems on top of the poles. Have troop representatives at far end of the trail to receive the graduates, who stand with their parents at the trails beginning.

CUBMASTER: "Webelos Scouts, today you say goodbye to Cub Scouting and begin you Boy Scouting years. It's been great having you in the pack as you traveled up the trail from Bobcat to Webelos. (Have boys and parents move up the trail, stopping at the Arrow of Light, present it now to the parents and have them pin it on their son's shirt while you speak briefly about the award as Cub Scouting's highest. Then say, "One of the things you have done as Webelos Scouts is learn some of the things you will need to know as a Boy Scout. One of them is the Boy Scout Motto. Can you tell me what it is?" (Boys respond "Be prepared.") Ask, "Are you prepared?" Boys respond "We are prepared!"

Cubmaster then says, "Great! We wish you well as you start the Boy Scout trail."

(Boys and parents then continue past the Arrow of Light emblem and are welcomed by the troop representative, who may lead them in the Scout Oath and present neckerchiefs or other gifts symbolizing their membership in a troop.

### **ADVANCEMENT - WEBELOS GRADUATION FEATHERS**

PROPS: one blue, yellow, and red feather for each boy

CUBMASTER: Through your Webelos activities you have had many opportunities to experience the outdoors, including activities such as Day Camp, camping with your Webelos den and with Boy Scouts. You now know the OUTING is the essences of Scouting. Now as you complete the transition from Cub Scouting into Boy Scouting you will experience more of the outdoors. As you cross over into Boy Scouts you will begin as a Scout and then earn the right to be known as a Tenderfoot. You must learn to walk before you learn to fly. And fly you will as you expand your horizons and build your endurance to someday become an Eagle. An eagle of nature is a creature of God that has learned to be one with the Outdoors and is not satisfied with just watching the world pass by. You are developing to be such a creature of God.

Are you willing to make the commitment to work hard to build your strength and work with your fellow scouts to develop your wings to soar as an eagle? (Scouts says yes)

To encourage you on the trail, here are your first Eagle feathers. The blue feather represents your progress through Cub Scouts and into Webelos. The yellow Eagle feather is for earning the Arrow of Light. Not all Webelos scouts earn the Arrow of Light. The yellow feather represents your first flight over the first steps of Boy Scouting toward the

Tenderfoot rank. You are indeed at least two steps ahead of those boys who enter Boy Scouts without progressing through the Webelos program. (Give blue and Yellow feathers to the boy)

As you cross the bridge to Boy Scouting, your Scoutmaster will present you with a red Eagle feather, representing your first step as a Boy Scout toward becoming an Eagle Scout.

Remember these first Eagle feathers as you progress through the hardest years for a young Eagle, the teenage years. You will be pulled in many directions and often lose sight of your objectives. Remember that an Eagle flies above those things that confront him in order to gain a better perspective. He does not always fly past his problems but does see more clearly the obstacles that confront him. Only in the Outdoors can the Eagle truly arise above his troubles and not lose sight of these objectives.

Go now and join your fellow Scouts who will teach you to walk with tender feet as you develop your strong wings to fly. Go my son, get your education!

### **ADVANCEMENT - WEBELOS GRADUATION - YELLOW BRICK ROAD**

**EQUIPMENT:**A paper pathway cut from yellow paper; four small tables; one yellow, one blue, one white, and one red candle in candlesticks for each graduating Webelos den.

**PERSONNEL:**Cubmaster, Webelos den leader, assistant and den chief, Scoutmaster and senior patrol leader of troop receiving the graduates; graduating Webelos and their parents

**ARRANGEMENT:**Lay the yellow paper pathway across the stage or area that graduating Webelos Scouts will cross to go from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. In front of the path, place the four tables at intervals. The Cubmaster stands at the first table, where the yellow candles are placed. The Webelos den leader stands at the second table, where the blue candles are placed. The assistant Webelos den leader stands at the third table, where the white candles are placed. The Scoutmaster and senior patrol leader stand at the fourth table, where the red candles are placed.

**CUBMASTER:** As we have seen many times throughout America's history, it is our way to meet challenges and tests and to rise above them. Even in trying times such as the 1930s, this country ended the decade with the triumphant release of *The Wizard of Oz*. Although it may appear to be simple entertainment, the message it sent was meaningful. It said to Americans, "Look what we can do when we work together with heart, with brains, and with courage." Den chief, please lead the Webelos den forward, *(The den chief leads the first graduating den and parents along the path, stopping them in a semicircle behind the first table.)* I have watched each of you travel along the path of Cub Scouting. I have observed your demonstrations of fitness, both moral and physical. As it takes thought to keep yourselves in a state of fitness, I declare that the members of this Webelos den have proved they have brains. *(The Cubmaster lights a yellow candle, and the den chief leads the group along the path to form a semicircle behind the second table.)*

**WEBELOS DEN LEADER:** I have watched each of you travel along the path of Cub Scouting. I have observed your demonstrations of character in thought and action. As it takes deep feeling to meet adversity with character, I declare that the members of this Webelos den

have proved they have heart. *(The Webelos den leader lights a blue candle, and the den chief leads the group along the path to form a semicircle behind the third table.)*

ASSISTANT WEBELOS DEN LEADER: I have watched each of you travel along the path of Cub Scouting. I have observed your demonstrations of citizenship many times along the way. As it takes strength to stand up for your country and your flag, I declare that the members of this Webelos den have proved they have courage. *(The assistant Webelos den leader lights a white candle, and the den chief leads the group along the path to form a semicircle behind the fourth table.)*

SCOUTMASTER: We have heard your Cub Scout leaders declare that you understand the qualities of fitness, character, and citizenship. As these are the tools that you will need to continue your path into Boy Scouting, we welcome you and your parents into Troop \_\_\_\_\_ *(The senior patrol leader lights a red candle, and the Scoutmaster welcomes each boy with the Scout handclasp. The new Scouts and their parents take their places at the back or side of the stage, and the ceremony is repeated for each Webelos den.)*

### **ADVANCEMENT - WEBELOS GRADUATION TO SCOUTS**

PERSONNEL: Cubmaster, Webelos Leader, Scoutmaster, SPL, Graduating Webelos and their parents.

CUBMASTER: Tonight, our Pack has an important event to observe... the recognition of who is (are) continuing on the Scouting Trail. Will Webelos Scout(s) and his (their) parents please come forward.

*(Webelos stand facing Cubmaster, with parents behind them.)*

CUBMASTER: (Name(s)), when you joined our Pack you stood before us, repeated the Cub Scout Promise and agreed to live by it. In honor of that occasion let us all stand and repeat the Cub Scout Promise.

*(Give Cub Sign and lead in the Cub Promise.)*

CUBMASTER: Since you made that promise, and agreed to Do Your Best as a Cub Scout... a lot has happened. You have grown, you have helped the Pack go, you have followed Akela, and you have given good will. You entered Cub Scouting as a child, so to speak. You have learned a lot, had a lot of fun, and have grown into a fine young boy(s). You first became a Bobcat, then a Wolf Cub, a Bear Cub and then a Webelos Scout... Now, you are ready to move into Scouting.

WEBELOS LEADER: Just as you continued to grow and moved from Cubbing into Webelos, so you are continuing into Scouting. Our charge to (each of) you is that you do continue to grow, to learn more, to enjoy the challenge of Scouting, that you will take on the ways of young manhood and prepare yourself(ves) to become the kind of citizen(s) our Country needs. Scouting, your parents and friends will continue to help you along the way... As a symbol of your growth I remove your neckerchief and present it to your parents.

CUBMASTER: As your Cubmaster, I pass you on to your Scoutmaster (s) Mr.\_\_\_\_, so that you will continue your days in Scouting and continue to grow and learn, and meet the challenge

of those words "On My Honor, I will Do My Best..." Congratulations and good luck along your way Scout(s).

SCOUTMASTER: To show that you accept the challenge of Scouting, will you join the representatives of your new troop and other scouts present in giving the Scout Sign that you learned as (a) Webelos Scout(s) and repeating with them the Scout Oath. Welcome to your new Troop. Your Senior Patrol Leader will now present your Scout neckerchief. (SPL places neckerchief on the new Scout and shakes his hand with the Scout Handclasp.)

### **ARROW OF LIGHT - LEAVING CUB SCOUTING FOREVER**

EQUIPMENT: Signs with each insignia on it (Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light). A bridge to walk over. PEOPLE: Cubmaster, 3 or 4 assistants, Boy Scout Troop Leader.

CUBMASTER: Most awards here are fun, goofy or crazy. Not this one, this is a time to be serious. This is a very important day for these Scouts. They are leaving Cub Scouting forever. Starting on a new trail (to Boy Scouts). Receiving the highest award in Cub Scouting, The Arrow of Light. Before you see the Cub Scouting trail. (The signs of each rank)

FIRST DL: Bobcat - The Bobcat is asked to follow the Cub Scout trail and follow the Law of the Pack. You have helped the pack go and we hope it has helped you grow. (Have boys stand in front of Bobcat sign.)

SECOND DL: Wolf - As a wolf you had to learn new skills and start to find your way in advancements. You were required to fulfill 49 Wolf activities - to receive your Wolf badge. (Have boys stand in front of Wolf sign).

THIRD DL: Bear - As a Bear you had to learn new and more challenging skills which required more work on your part, as well as help from your parents and Den Leader. To achieve your Bear badge, you had to achieve 12 Bear activities. (Have boys stand in front of Bear sign).

FORTH DL: Webelos - As a Webelos, you had to earn three activity pins and fulfill 15 requirements which were all leading you to The Arrow of Light - which is the hardest of all Cub Scouting ranks to achieve. (Have boys stand in front of Webelos Sign.)

CUBMASTER: To earn your Arrow of Light. You had to show your knowledge of Scouting.

FIRST DL: You had to participate in Boy Scout camping.

SECOND DL: Earn an additional 5 activity pins - which is a big challenge in itself. Some of you have gone far beyond this, earning several more activity pins.

THIRD DL: Learned new skills and acquired new knowledge you can use the rest of your life.

CUBMASTER: Before you, you see the Arrow of Light. This has a special meaning. Did you notice the Native American sign for the sun over the arrow? That is why it's called the Arrow of Light. Notice the seven rays of the sun - one for each day of the week. They will remind you to do your best every day as you follow the arrow that leads you to Boy Scouting.

CUBMASTER: This is a joyous time - and a sad time. I am happy that you are advancing but sad that you are leaving. I have watched you grow from Bobcats to becoming Boy Scouts. I

hope you carry a part of us with you as you grow. You are always welcome at our Pack Meetings.

FIRST DL: The Arrow leads you to your final Cub Scout trail - The Bridge to Scouting.

SECOND DL: Parents of these fine young men. Please come up. As parents you have helped your Scouts through all the ranks of Scouting. You must now join them in crossing the bridge to Boy Scouts.

CUBMASTER: (Present the Arrow of Light to the parents, parents presents award to boys.)  
Send boys and parents over bridge.

TROOP LEADER: I would like to welcome you into Boy Scouting. (He could say a little about Boy Scouts.)

CUBMASTER: Congratulations on earning your Arrow of Light and good luck on your Boy Scout Adventure.

### **ARROW OF LIGHT - ARROW OF LIGHT AND GRADUATION CEREMONY**

NOTE: Ideally, this ceremony should be performed in an outdoor campfire setting; for example, at a pack picnic. This allows for a more natural feel as well as for the use of torches, firepots, and other "special effects". If an indoor setting is preferred by the pack, candles should be used in place of smudgepots. Either the team or the Pack can provide the tokens called for in the ceremony. The team should have something prepared in case the Pack doesn't (an arrow with a felt banner, leather thong bolo, etc.). The team needs to make sure (via the Webelos leader) that the Cubs participating in the ceremony know and can recite the Scout Oath and Law as they are called upon to say both in the ceremony. When performing the speaking parts, memorization is important, but also try to become familiar enough with the part so the words come out naturally. Also, since this ceremony doesn't tie in with any Order of the Arrow induction ceremony, sashes should NOT be worn.

#### *Arrow of Light Ceremony*

(The three principles (Chief, Medicine Man, Guide) enter from the rear and take their positions: Chief at the North, Medicine Man at the West and Guide at the east.)

CHIEF: (pausing for a moment to look out among the pack) Cub Scouts, leaders, parents and guests; my brothers, the Medicine Man, the Guide, and I, the Chieftain, bring you greetings and salutations. We have come before you tonight to fulfill a prophecy spoken in the legends of our tribe.

MEDICINE MAN: The words of the legend say that in the springtime of each year, young braves will be found who have met the challenges of Akela and are ready to become warriors. My brothers and I have watched your pack and have found such braves among you. We have come to present them with the highest honor: the Arrow of Light. But before this can happen, they must take a journey through their memories.

GUIDE: Many moons ago, you entered the Cub Pack. The first challenges you encountered were from the Bobcat clan. As you met them, you learned what it means to be a Cub, the Law of the Pack, and the three words that would inspire you to meet all other challenges: Do Your Best. (Light firepot or candle)

Having started on the trail, you next sought to join the Wolf clan. Here you were met with twelve challenges, harder than the Bobcat tests, but with the cleverness of the Wolf itself, you met them and continued on your journey.

(Light firepot or candle) MEDICINE MAN: Now the trail became darker and fainter as you came to the Bear clan. Again twelve challenges were presented before you. As you met them, your knowledge grew and your spirit strengthened. It was this strength of spirit, like the Bear, that prompted you to move onward.

(Light firepot or candle) CHIEF: As you neared the summit, you joined the Webelos clan. The time of your testing had begun. In the Webelos clan you began to learn about Scouting. Just as you learned the ways of the brave as a Bobcat, Wolf, and Bear, as a member of the Webelos learn the ways of the warrior.

(Light firepot or candle) In time, you earned the Webelos badge, blazing the rest of the trail on your own. Now at last you have reached the summit and the end of this journey.

(To other principles) Let the Arrow of Light be conferred upon them.

GUIDE: (to Chief) Wait Brother! Before receiving this most high honor, they must hear its legend so they may understand and appreciate what they are to receive.

CHIEF: (to Medicine Man) Brother, let the legend of the Arrow of Light be known to all present.

MEDICINE MAN: (Moves forward) In the ages past, when the Nations of the red man spread across the land, there was a young member of one tribe called Akela. Akela wished to be a warrior as the older men of his tribe were, but no one would consider him so. "Little Akela, he is too young to join the hunt," they would say. "Too slow to run with the Bobcat clan, not clever enough to hunt with the Wolf clan. Such a young one is not strong enough to join the Bear clan." No matter how hard Akela worked, all ways were barred to him. But the Aged Chieftain of the tribe saw Akela differently than the rest. "The spirit of this young one burns brighter than the largest fire. Akela has served his brethren well for one of his age. The time will come when the tribe will need only that which Akela can give."

One night in the fall during the harvest, a party of warriors was canoeing back to their village after a hunt. On this night, the fog rolled thick across the river. The fog was so heavy, the river path back to the village was hidden from view. A nearby river path to the right led to a roaring chasm. The warriors did not know the safe path to take and were trapped. Akela had been practicing his hunting skills in the hills above the river and had seen the danger to the canoe. He wrapped an arrow in a skin, set it aflame, and shot it into the sky toward the safe river path. The warriors in the canoe saw the flaming arrow through the fog and followed it to the river path and the village. The warriors went to the Chieftain saying, "We were trapped on the river and the Highfather sent an Arrow of Light through the sky to guide us." The Chieftain smiled and said, "The sign that led you to safety came not from the heavens but from one who you thought was too young to do anything." He brought Akela forward to the surprise of the warriors.

"Akela has proved himself worthy to wear the name of warrior. He has aided his brothers in their time of greatest need. Hereafter, all young members of our tribe shall become warriors only after meeting the challenges of the Arrow of Light. Let them each be filled

with the spirit of Akela and follow his example of unselfish service to our brethren." And it was made so and carried through to the present day as you Webelos stand before us now, ready to receive the Arrow of Light.

GUIDE: Will the following Webelos and their parents please stand before us as your names are called. (As Guide recites or reads names, the Medicine Man should direct Webelos to make a line across the southern end of the circle. Parents should stand behind their son(s).)

CHIEF: Before this honor is conferred upon you, I must see your devotion to the high ideals of Scouting. Therefore, I ask you all now to raise your right hand to the Scout sign and repeat with me, the Scout Oath and Law.

(Raises hand in the sign of the Boy Scout (followed by other principles and Webelos) and recites Scout Oath and Law with other principles (Medicine Man and Guide) and the Webelos who will be awarded the Arrow of Light)

GUIDE: Having met all of its challenges, it is our duty and privilege to award you with the highest Cub Scout honor: the Arrow of Light.

(To parents) Because of the support and guidance you have given these braves, I give the Arrow of Light to you to present to them. (moves to the front and gives the Arrow of Light card and/or patch to the parents who then present it to their son(s).)

MEDICINE MAN: My brothers and I also present you tokens from your pack. (or say our tribe if your team supplied the tokens) Keep this in remembrance of this occasion. (Moves forward and presents each Webelos with a token. As he presents the tokens, the Chief and Guide congratulate each Webelos with the Scout Handshake)

(If you are going to induct the Webelos into your troop at this time, continue, else jump to the closing (see below)) *Graduation Ceremony*

GUIDE: (After all principles have returned to their places) Parents, you may be seated.

CHIEF: As we have said before, this ceremony marks an end of a journey. But even as this journey ends, another is just beginning. Here at the summit of Cub Scouting you have found the start of a new trail. This trail is a pathway that leads to the realm of our brothers in the sky, the Eagles.

MEDICINE MAN: But the trail will also be long and difficult. As you journey, you must keep the spirit of Akela strong within each of you. It will give you strength and guidance as you move onward.

GUIDE: (Medicine Man moves between the members of the Scout troop and the Webelos) The time has come for you to begin on the new trail. To join the clan of the warriors: The Scout Troop. Each of you shall now cross the bridge and be welcomed by the Troop members.

MEDICINE MAN: As the night is a bridge between each day, let this be a bridge for each of you to the fellowship of Scouting. (Medicine Man moves aside to let the Cub Scouts pass and cross the bridge. Webelos cross and are welcomed by a Troop member, after all have crossed and are greeted, Guide continues)

*Closing Ceremony*

GUIDE: (To all still standing) You may now be seated.

CHIEF: Once again, I congratulate you on your achievements. Having finished the work for which we were called to do, we now depart this gathering of your Pack. Before we go, I would remind you to keep Akela's spirit alive. Let it ignite a spark within each of you that will fan into a fire as you grow.

(Pause) We challenge all the younger braves present to continue on your trails and strive to reach the summit and the Arrow of Light. May the great master of all Scouts be with you until we meet again. (Principles silently depart)

### **ARROW OF LIGHT – WEBELOS GRADUATION – THE MILEPOST**

PERSONNEL: Cubmaster, Webelos Den Chief, graduating Webelos Scout and his parents, Scoutmaster, and two Scout aides. EQUIPMENT: Troop neckerchief for graduate.

CUBMASTER: (Addressing audience.) Cub Scouting is part of the great Scouting movement. In the final months of his Webelos Scouting experience, a boy learns the requirements for the Boy Scout badge. He decides what troop he will join and, with his parents, arranges for his entrance into Boy Scouting. Tonight our Pack has the privilege of bringing another Webelos Scout to this significant milepost. (Addressing Den Chief.) Den Chief [names Scout [name] and his parents forward. (The Cubmaster greets them.) [Webelos Scout's name] has chosen Troop [number] as his preference. The Scoutmaster of Troop [number], Mr. [name], is here. We will ask him to come forward with his aides. (The Cubmaster introduces the Scoutmaster and his aides to the Webelos Scout, his parents, and the audience.)

[Webelos Scout's name], I remember the night you became a Cub Scout. You and your parents stood in this same spot. That night a whole new world of opportunity was opened to you through Cub Scouting. During the past years you have experienced that good feeling that comes in giving goodwill to others. Now you have the privilege of becoming a Boy Scout. This ceremony marks the completion of your Cub Scouting, just as it marks the beginning of a whole new experience in Boy Scouting. [Addressing Scoutmaster] Scoutmaster [name], Pack [number] is proud to present Webelos Scout [name], holder of the Arrow of Light Award. It is our hope and belief that you and your Scouts will provide him the finest opportunity to carry on his Scouting.

SCOUTMASTER: [Webelos Scout's name], it is a real privilege to welcome you into Troop [number]. As a Boy Scout you will hike and camp. You will learn many useful things. You will have an opportunity to continue to grow into a useful citizen because you will participate in civic activities and learn the thrill of helping other people by practicing the habit of doing a Good Turn every day. And now Scouts [name] and [name] will exchange your Webelos Scout neckerchief for our troop neckerchief, a symbol of graduation into Boy Scouting. (Aides replace the Webelos Scout neckerchief with a Boy Scout neckerchief, give the Scout handclasp, step back, and salute. The graduating Webelos Scout should have been coached to return this salute. The Webelos den Chief leads the Pack in a yell for the graduate. The Cubmaster dismisses the graduate with a warm handshake, and aides escort the graduate, the Scoutmaster, and the family off.

## **Webelos Graduation Ceremony**

Staging: Darkened room. Red light is on bridge, which is centered between American flag and the Pack flag. Assembled on stage, to the left of the bridge are the parents and Webelos den leader; on the opposite end of bridge is the Scoutmaster.

CUBMASTER: Tonight we mark a great occasion the graduation of Webelos Scout (name) from our pack. We are sad to see him leave because he has been a great help to our pack, but we are happy for him because he is going on to the greatest adventure of Scouting. He has worked hard for this night and has advanced well. Please escort Webelos Scout (name) to the front.

(Boy, who has been standing on opposite side of room, is escorted to front by another Webelos Scout, who carries the Webelos den flag. They stop at front; the graduating Scout salutes and joins his den leader on stage. The other Webelos Scout returns to his place).

CUBMASTER: (Recaps information such as date boy joined pack, ranks he earned, awards he received, date joined Webelos den, etc.)

DEN LEADER: (Recaps activities in Webelos den, highlighting activity badges he has earned). Webelos Scout (name) it is with a great sense of pride that I now ask you for your Webelos neckerchief. (After removing neckerchief, den leader escorts him to end of bridge where Cubmaster is waiting).

CUBMASTER: I am pleased to see that you are wearing the Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouting. This is the only Cub Scout badge which you will be permitted to wear on your Scout uniform. And now you may, take the final steps. (Webelos Scout crosses bridge. He stops in center, turns to salute Cubmaster with Cub Scout salute. He proceeds across bridge to where the Scoutmaster is waiting. He gives him Scout salute).

SCOUTMASTER: (name), welcome to our troop. I congratulate you on having earned the Arrow of Light. It shows that you are prepared to join the great fellowship of Scouting. (short statement on what is expected of Scout). Please repeat after me the Scout Oath. (Scoutmaster and Scout exchange salutes and shake hands). As a token of this important occasion, I would like to present you with the troop neckerchief. (Scoutmaster and parents meet in front of bridge).

Mr. and Mrs. (name) Welcome to our troop. I congratulate you on the fine work that you have done with your son in Cub Scouting. I am sure you will find new adventures in our troop. (Red light is turned off. House lights on. Participants leave.

### **Webelos Graduation Ceremony**

Equipment: Bridge of some sort; red shoulder loops and troop neckerchief for each boy; 3-foot piece of rope for each boy

Personnel: Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chair (and/or Assistant Scoutmaster for New Scout Patrol) Webelos Leader, Webelos and parents, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts. (Boy Scouts form a circle at the end of the bridge.)

Cubmaster: This evening we celebrate with the Webelos Scouts their completion of the Cub Scout program. They will be graduating tonight, leaving us and crossing over to Boy Scouting.

Member of Troop \_\_\_\_ are gathered on the other side of the bridge to welcome them. I would like for all Cub Scouts, except the graduating Webelos Scouts, to please come to the main aisle to form a Living Arch. Cub Scouts, form two lines facing each other, then raise your hats to form the archway. Parents of graduating Webelos Scouts, please wait at the front of the graduation bridge. (Boy Scout troop members should be waiting at the opposite end of the bridge.)

Cubmaster: Will the following Webelos Scouts please pass through the Cub Scout archway and join their parents in front of the bridge? (Call each Webelos Scout's name separately and allow enough time for him to pass through the archway alone to join his parents.) Cub Scouts, you may return to your seats.

Webelos Ldr: Parents, please remove the blue shoulder loop and Webelos neckerchief from your son's uniform. Then, cross over the bridge with your son.

*(The Cubmaster calls out each Scout's name as he crosses over the bridge, followed by his parents. The new Boy Scout is met by the Scoutmaster and troop committee chair. They put on red shoulder loops and troop neckerchief. A troop member hands each new Boy Scout a 3-foot piece of rope and escorts the new Boy Scout to the center of the Boy Scout circle. The new Boy Scouts form a circle inside the Boy Scout circle.)*

Scoutmaster: Now, all new Boy Scouts please tie the ends of your ropes to the ropes of the boys standing beside you. *(Troop members assist if needed.)* I welcome you new Boy Scouts to the World Brotherhood of Scouting. The tying of this rope symbolizes the circle of the brotherhood of Scouting. Welcome to this wonderful and exciting adventure.

## **Webelos Crossover Ceremony**

Props four 4"x4"x5" posts

five 12"x2"x5' planks-one unpainted, one green, one blue, one gold, one red

Ask the Webelos Den Leader to place one of the posts on the ground in a N-S direction.

Then ask the Scoutmaster to place a second post on the ground about four feet away and parallel in a N-S direction.

Announce that this is symbolic of the foundations of Scouting that these leaders have laid through outings represented by the natural brown color. Then ask each set of leaders to place an E-W post over the N-S posts about three to four feet apart, pointing out that by building on Scouting's foundations, these leaders have set the stage for bridging the boys from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting.

Have Webelos # 1 and his parents bring the unpainted plank forward and place it across the EW posts. State that this represents the boys as they arrived in Cub Scouting full of potential but unfinished.

(If they were in Tigers, use a plank that is painted orange and make a statement about how they were on fire to learn about Scouting.)

Ask Webelos #2 and parents to bring the blue plank forward and place it snugly against the unfinished plank. State that this represents the Wolf and Bear years where with the help of their parents, the Scouts became true blue and loyal friends.

Next Webelos #3 comes forward with his parents and places the gold plank next to the blue to represent their golden years in Cubbing as Webelos learning important skills through activity badges culminating in the Arrow of Light.

Webelos #4 comes forward with his parents and the green plank. Announce that this represents their new beginning as Boy Scouts who will soon be green Tenderfoot Scouts, anxious to begin the Boy Scout Trail to Eagle.

Finally, Webelos #5 and parents put down the red plank. Comment that this plank is red like the predominant color in the Eagle badge and represents the beginning of their journey to become Eagles.

Webelos are assembled at the unfinished board side of the now completed bridge and presented graduation certificates and a patch board of their Cub Scout badges and awards (many use a large piece of plywood cut in the shape of a Scout emblem and covered with blue felt on which are mounted the badges earned by the Scout.)

When these presentations are over, the Scoutmaster invites each boy in turn to cross the bridge. Once over, he is welcomed into the Troop. His Webelos neckerchief is replaced by the Troop neckerchief in a presentation. Same thing for each boy. Say some personal words about how proud you are of their

accomplishments and how you know they will work hard and succeed in whatever they try in Boy Scouting.

-----Arrow of Light Ceremony (from Craig Rex, Pack 418)-----

Cubmaster:

The highest rank in Cub Scouting is the Arrow of Light. There are many achievements to complete and experiences to have to obtain this goal. Let's hear from some scouts how it is achieved.

Bobcat:

I am a Bobcat, a new member of the Pack. I have learned the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack.

Tiger:

I am a Tiger Scout. I am searching, discovering and sharing new things with my den and Akela.

Wolf:

I am a Wolf Scout. I have completed many achievements on my way to earning my Wolf Rank. Some are learning to make good choices and how to fold the flag.

Bear:

I am a Bear Scout. I have completed dozens of achievements and electives on my way to earning my Bear Rank. My activities are in the areas of GOD, Country, Family and Self.

WEBELOS 1:

I am a WEBELO. I have started to set my own path in scouting. I have earned activity pins and gone camping with my den. I understand more about the ideals of Boy Scouts.

Cubmaster:

Tonight we honor (1,2,3...) scouts with this rank. As Cub Scouts, Many Akelas have guided you through the Cub Scout Trail. Soon as a Boy Scout you will blaze your own trail toward Eagle.

(Den Leader leads blindfolded scouts to parents, parents then lead scout to front, and removes blindfold)

Cubmaster:

(Say names of Web 2 scouts here)... You have been called before the Pack because you have completed the requirements for Cub Scouting Highest Rank. **THE ARROW OF LIGHT.**

(Light blue candle)

The blue candle represents the Spirit of Cub Scouting, giving good will and doing your best. Scouts do you promise to fulfill the Cub Scout Promise and to Do Your Best when you receive the Arrow of Light?

(WEEBS respond; WE DO)(WEBELOS leader apply Blue paint to left cheek)

Cubmaster:

WEBELOS parents do you promise; to continue helping your son in his scouting adventures?

(Parents respond: WE DO)

(Light White candle)

Cubmaster:

The white candle represents the Scout Law. Many will cheerfully show and teach you the Law, but it is up to you, to live up to the Law. So when making choices through life remember the law.

Scouts do you promises to be Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent?

(WEEBS respond We Do)(WEBELOS leader apply white paint to bridge of nose)

Cubmaster:

The yellow candle represents the Arrow of Light. The Arrow of Light holds an honored place; the shaft of the arrow is straight and narrow. Just as your path through life should be (hand possible blue and yellow arrow to scouts).

The tip points the way to success in all that you do. The tip also points to the right reminding you that nothing should be left undone (place arrow necklace on scouts).

Finally there are 7 rays of the sun light (replace slide with AoL slide). Reminding you that each day is a new day to Do your best, to honor God and Country, to do a Good Turn, to follow the Scout Law and to remember these words ON MY HONOR.

Scouts do you promise to let the Arrow of Light shine forth from you, to set an example for others to follow and to set your eye on the Eagle and never waiver?

(WEEBS respond WE DO) (WEBELOS leader apply yellow paint to right cheek)  
(as paint is applied Asst. CM gives AOL award to parents)

Cubmaster:

Will each parent please pin the ARROW of LIGHT upon their scouts left pocket.

(hand out miniature AOL pins and flower to scouts)

Cubmaster:

As every scout knows his parents play a large role in getting him to the ARROW of LIGHT. So we ask the scouts to honor his parents with a miniature AoL pin and a flower.

Cubmaster:

I now have the distinct honor to call you: ARROW of LIGHT holders. Congratulations!

Web Link for this document

<http://www.skscouts.org/buckeye/>

Click on Resources, Scroll to Roundtable & click