

Algonquin

Drum starts to beat. Slow tempo. Principles enter from the back, crossing over the bridge from where the troop SM/SPL are standing. Chief Akela enters the ceremony area, positions himself (NORTH) behind the council fire and faces the audience with head bowed. Medicine Man enters the ceremony area carrying a blanket. He places the blanket in front of the council fire and positions himself with his back to the blanket (EAST), facing the audience with his head bowed.

Guide enters the ceremony area and lights the Spirit of Scouting Candle by the Arrow of Light candle holder. He positions himself on the west side of the ceremony area (WEST), facing the audience with his head bowed.

Guard enters the ceremony area and positions himself on the other side of the ceremony area (SOUTH), facing the audience with his head bowed. When all are in position with their heads bowed the drum will continue to beat for a short time. When the drum stops, all will raise their heads. The chief will start the four winds. The drum stops.

Chief Akela: (raises the coup stick) I am the North Wind. People say I am cold, but to you I will always bring the warmest of winds because you have been true-blue Cub Scout and Webelos Scouts, and have always lived up to the Law of the Pack.

Guard: (raises the dream catcher) I am the South Wind. I wish you good Scouting. Over hill and dale I have carried stories of you and your experiences. As Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts, you have been happy, game, fair and a credit to your Den and Pack.

Medicine Man: (raises the arrow) I am the East Wind. I wish you well. I have spread the story of your fun and happiness in Cub Scouting and how you lived up to the Cub Scout Promise and were fair and helpful.

Guide: (raises the bow) I am the West Wind. I would like everyone present to know that these Webelos Scouts did not walk the Cub Scout Trail alone. Each had the wonderful help of his parents. Parents, continue to help your boys to go and grow.

Guard: Chief Akela, there are some among us worthy of the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light.

Chief Akela: (tilts the coup stick towards Guard) My brother, seek them out that are worthy of this award and bring them before our council fire.

Guard: It shall be done Chief Akela.

Drum beats slowly. Guard and escorts bring the Webelos Scouts into the circle, moving clockwise, to form up behind Akela. He raises his right hand in the Cub Scout sign. The drum stops. When all is ready, Akela speaks.

Teller 1: ~~Webelos Scouts, listen to the story of the arrow.~~

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Once, long ago, when all the animals of the earth were equal, there was great unrest. The animals began to quarrel among themselves. The Bear quarreled with the Eagle, the Buffalo argued with the Indian. Finally, the wise old Grandmother called the animals to her teepee and she spoke to them, saying, "You have argued among yourselves about many things. Now I will ask one question. You will have one year to think about your answer. I will reward each of you according to the merit of your answer".

The animals became excited because they each thought it would be easy to answer any question in a year's time. And besides, the old Grandmother was not only wise, she was also generous with her rewards. Was it not the old Grandmother that had given grass to the fields and fruit to the trees.

"What is the question, Grandmother?" , they asked, and she said, "You must answer me this. What is it your most important duty?" And with that they all left. The Eagle flew to the high mountain to think about the question. The Bear returned to the deep forest. The Buffalo to the grassy plains. The Indian returned to his campfire. They all began to think about their answer.

Teller 2: Thirteen moons later, they returned to the old Grandmother's teepee. Grandmother spoke first to the Eagle and said, "Eagle, what is your most important duty?". The Eagle replied, "My most important duty is to fly higher than anyone else.". Grandmother said, "For that answer, I will give you feathers which will help you fly higher than anyone else." And the Eagle was very pleased with his gift.

Next, the Grandmother spoke to the Buffalo and said, "Buffalo, what is your most important duty?". The Buffalo replied, "My most important duty is to run further than anyone else.". Grandmother said, "For that answer, I will give you thick hooves that will allow you to run further than anyone else." And the Buffalo was very pleased with his gift.

The Bear replied, "My most important duty is to be stronger than anyone else.". Grandmother said, "For that answer, I will give you sharp claws that will make you the strongest animal in the forest.". And the Bear was also pleased with his gift.

Finally, the Indian arose and said, "Grandmother, my most important duty is to help other." Grandmother said, " For that answer, I will give you this stick." And when he saw the stick, the Indian was disappointed for he had thought long and hard about his most important duty. "Grandmother", he said, "why do you give me a stick? Did my answer displease you?"

"Oh no", she said, "your answer pleased me greatly. All the others felt their most important duty was to themselves and they were rewarded accordingly. But you have learned that the most important duty is to help others, and you have been reward".

But Grandmother, what can I do with this stick?"

"This is more than a stick", she replied. "This is an arrow. With the arrow you can shoot the strongest Bear, the fastest Buffalo, or the Eagle, no matter how high he soars. He who would serve others is the strongest of all."

And then the Indian knew that this was the greatest gift of all and he was pleased.

The drum slowly starts after the story of the arrow is finished. Guard walks to the side of the Arrow of Light board to light the candles with a lighted taper. The drum stops.

Guard: These seven candles represent the rays in the Arrow of Light. As they are lighted, you will hear how they stand for the seven great virtues of life.

Akela states the first virtue with the remaining six rotating clockwise around the circle, each principle taking a turn says the name of the candle, while Guard recites the script for the seven virtues.

~~Chief Akela: The first virtue is Wisdom.~~

~~Wisdom does not necessarily mean superior knowledge. It means putting the right use to the knowledge that one possesses.~~

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~~Medicine Man: The second virtue is Courage. Courage is not the quality that enable men to meet danger without fear. It is being able to meet danger in spite of one's fears.~~

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~~light candle in log and hand lit candle to next scout.~~

Guard: The third virtue is Self-control. Self-control isn't limited to the control of one's temper, but control of one's self in all things: eating, playing, and even working and talking.

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light candle in log and hand lit candle to next scout

Guide: The fourth virtue is Justice. Justice is the practice of dealing fairly with others without prejudice or regard to race, color or creed.

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light candle in log and hand lit candle to next scout

Medicine Man: The fifth virtue is Faith. Faith is the conviction that something unproved by physical evidence is true. One eight-year-old Cub Scout said faith was when you turned the light switch, you knew the light would go on.

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Guard: The sixth virtue is Hope. Hope means to expect with confidence. Always hope for better things to come. A man without hope is of little good to himself or his community.

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Guide: The seventh virtue is Love. There are many kinds of love, love of family, love of home, love of fellow man, love of God, and love of country. All these loves are necessary for a full life.

7.LOVE: There are many kinds of love -- love of family, love of home, love of fellowman,

light candle in log .

Guard: You will find that if you live by the seven great virtues, you will become a happy man, and a happy man is a successful man.

Chief Akela then explains the Arrow of Light badge.

Chief Akela: The Arrow of Light Badge is the only Cub Scout Award that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. It serves as a link between our two programs and points the way toward the new adventures that you will have in Boy Scouting.

Chief Akela: My brother, go forth and seek out the parents of these Webelos Scouts and bring them before the council fire.

Guard goes out into the audience and finds the parents of the Webelos (Cubmaster/Webelos Den Leader job to set them up) and brings them forward, placing them behind their sons. Guard returns to his position.

Chief Akela gives out the large Arrow of Light Badge to the mother.

Chief Akela: Will you pin on the Arrow of Light Badge on the left pocket flap of your son.

Chief Akela gives each Webelos a miniature Arrow of Light Pin.

Chief Akela: Here is a miniature Arrow of Light Pin for you to pin on your Mother. Do so now, if she is present.

Mothers, you should take pride in wearing the miniature Arrow of Light pin. It symbolizes not only your sons achievements, but that he has had your support during his time in Cub Scouting. He will need your continued support when he moves on to Boy Scouting.

Chief Akela then gives the cloth Arrow of Light Badge to the father.

Chief Akela: Here is your sons Arrow of Light Award, please present it to him now.

Chief Akela now gives each Webelos an arrow and shakes his right hand as a Cub Scout. Medicine Man helps pass out the arrows.

Chief Akela: These arrows have passed down from previous Arrow of Light recipients, so one day you may be asked to pass it on to Cub Scout who is about to receive their Arrow of Light.

Chief Akela and Medicine Man returns to their position after the arrows have been passed out. Chief Akela tilts the leather flag toward Guard.

Chief Akela: My brother, please escort these parents back to their seats.

Guide blows out the seven rays candles and slowly leaves the ceremony area.

Medicine Man folds the blanket and slowly leaves the ceremony area.

Chief Akela walks over to the Spirit of Scouting candle and carefully blows it out.

The drum stops.

Chief Akela: This ends your Arrow of Light ceremony.

Chief Akela picks up the Spirit of Scouting candle and slowly leaves the ceremony area.