

CUBMASTER: Scouts, parents, family, friends, and honored guests, welcome to Pack [number]'s Arrow Of Light crossover ceremony.

ARROW OF LIGHT PATROL LEADER: Color Guard, attention. Den, attention. Will the audience please rise. (*Wait for everyone to stand up.*)

Color Guard, advance. Scout Salute. (*Wait for the Color Guard to walk forward.*)

(*When the Color Guard gets past the audience.*) Color Guard, Halt. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Color Guard, post the colors. (*Color guard places flags into flag stands; American flag to the left of the stage, den flag to the right of the stage.*)

Two. (*Put down Scout Salute.*)

Scout Sign. (*Put up the Cub Scout sign.*) Please join me in the Scout Oath & Law.

"On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

"A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."

Two. (*Put down Scout Sign.*)

Color Guard, retreat. (*Color Guard walks back to where they started.*)

CUBMASTER: I now invite [name] to come forward and give the invocation.

SPEAKER: Please assume an attitude of reverence.

Scouts, many will cheerfully share and teach you the Scout Law, but it is up to you, to embody that Law. As you navigate your choices in life, remember what the Great Scoutmaster has taught us:

Make us trustworthy, for there are those who trust us.

Make us loyal, for through loyalty we reach our highest ideals.

Teach us to be helpful, for through helpfulness we forget our selfishness.

Make us friendly, for there are so many who need a friend.

Train us in courtesy, for courtesy is the carpet on life's floor.

Make us kind, for kindness is the oil in the cogs of life's machinery.

Help us to be obedient, for selfless obedience teaches us how to lead.

Make us cheerful, for cheerfulness is the green grass among the rocks along the path of life.

Train us in thrift, for thrifty habits brighten our future.

Make us brave; for bravery does not mean the absence of fear, but the strength to persevere, to do our our best, and to encourage others to do their best as well.

Help us to be clean – clean in thoughts, in speech, and deed.

Above all, help us to be reverent toward all things.

CUBMASTER: Tonight, we are gathered to honor these youth who have earned the final badge of rank in Cub Scouts: the Arrow of Light. These Arrow of Light Scouts have worked very hard over the years to progress along the Cub Scout trail. They began their journey alongside their Adult Partners as Lions and Tigers. As Wolves, Bears, and Webelos they learned new skills and participated in exciting activities. As Arrow of Light Scouts, they learned about character, leadership, and teamwork as they earned their Bobcat adventure. They nurtured a respect for nature as they earned their Outdoor Adventurer adventure. They took an active role in creating healthy habits as they earned their Personal Fitness adventure. They led the planning of a service project and gave back to their community as they earned their Citizenship adventure. They learned not only about caring for others but also how to protect themselves as they earned their First Aid adventure. And they demonstrated reverence as they earned their Duty to God (Family and Reverence) adventure. In addition, they earned at least two additional adventures that encouraged them to explore new hobbies, hone new skills, and develop new interests. In the final months of their Cub Scout experience, our scouts learned about the Scouts BSA program and selected a troop to join. In all they have learned and done this year, they have demonstrated that they understand the purpose of Scouting.

Tonight, we have the privilege of participating in this significant milestone: our Arrow of Light crossover ceremony. These Scouts have completed all the requirements for the Arrow of Light rank and have reached the end of the Cub Scout trail.

SCOUTMASTER: The Arrow of Light is recognized as a significant achievement by Scouting America. As long as you are in Scouting, even as an adult, you will be able to wear the symbol of the Arrow of Light rank. As a Scout, you can continue to wear the Arrow of Light rank patch. As an adult leader, you can wear the Arrow of Light square knot on your uniform.

CUBMASTER: The Arrow of Light symbol itself is full of meaning. It contains an arrow and a sun. The setting sun signifies the end of the journey on the Cub Scout Trail. However, the sun may also be seen as a rising sun. The beginning of a new trail full of exciting adventures and engaging opportunities.

SCOUTMASTER: The sun shines from the arrow with seven rays to light your way. Seven rays represent the seven days in a week, reminding us to do a good turn daily. These seven rays also stand for the seven great virtues of life; virtues toward which Scouts should strive.

A Scout has wisdom.

CUBMASTER: Possessing wisdom doesn't mean that a Scout is smarter than others. It means that Scouts use what they know to live a better life; to be helpful to others and a positive role model for everyone around them.

SCOUTMASTER: A Scout has courage.

CUBMASTER: Having courage doesn't mean you're never afraid; in fact, many truly courageous individuals experience fear. Courage is the willingness to act despite your fear. When others give up, a Scout gives more.

SCOUTMASTER: A Scout has self-control.

CUBMASTER: Scouts must recognize when it's time to pause. The ability to know when you've had enough—whether it's food, play, or even work—demonstrates self-control. Understanding the appropriate behavior for each situation and acting accordingly is essential in your growth as a Scout.

SCOUTMASTER: A Scout is just.

CUBMASTER: Justice is a key element in the Pledge of Allegiance: "with liberty and justice for all." It embodies fairness toward everyone we encounter—whether at school, work, or play. Justice means that a person's identity, including their race, religion, gender, or occupation, should not influence how they are treated. As Scouts, we strive to be fair and just to all individuals, embracing equality for everyone.

SCOUTMASTER: A Scout has faith.

CUBMASTER: Scouts believe in a purpose beyond their individual selves. Faith is defined as having trust in what we hope for and confidence in what we do not see. Faith serves as a guiding light, motivating us to pursue our goals, even when the way forward is unclear.

SCOUTMASTER: A Scout has hope.

CUBMASTER: Hope is the belief that good things will happen. It embodies the desire for a brighter future, while also motivating you to put in the effort each day to turn those hopes into reality.

SCOUTMASTER: A Scout has love.

CUBMASTER: Scouts have many kinds of love, including love of family, home, fellow Scouts, God, and country. Each plays a vital role in creating a fulfilling and joyful life, enriching our experiences and connections with others.

SCOUTMASTER: Embracing these seven virtues will not only lead to your own happiness but will also bring joy to those around you. By living according to these principles, you create a positive environment for yourself and others.

CUBMASTER: Below the sun in the Arrow of Light symbol is an arrow. The arrow is a symbol of leadership. The parts of the arrow also hold special significance. The shaft of the arrow, fashioned from the hardest wood, stands for honesty and fairness. May you always be truthful, and straight as the arrow.

SCOUTMASTER: The feathers on the arrow help guide it on its course; just as the ideals of Scouting guide scouts on their course through life. The three feathers, or fletchings, symbolize the scout, the family, and the Pack. We have all worked together to help you grow into a fine young adult. May you always fly straight and true to the mark.

CUBMASTER: The arrowhead represents courage and strength, like the stone from which it is crafted. May you always be courageous and strong. Its point is keen, representing your focus in life as you face the challenges ahead. The arrow's tip points to the right, pointing the way forward, and reminding you that you are at the beginning of a new path. The lashing that holds the arrowhead to the shaft represents the friendship that has bound us together in scouting and will bind us together in memory.

SCOUTMASTER: When aimed high, its direction is onward and upward. Like the arrow, straight and true, as Scouts you have learned how to live your life, setting an example for others to follow. This is truly symbolic of those Arrow of Light Scouts here tonight.

CUBMASTER: During the past years, you have experienced that good feeling that comes from giving goodwill to others. As a Cub Scout, you have been guided along the Cub Scout trail with the help of many leaders: den leaders, Cubmasters, teachers, principals, coaches, and your family.

SCOUTMASTER: When you become a Scout, you will find that, while there are still many people willing to help, you take on more and more responsibility for blazing your own trail. As a Scout in a Scouts BSA Troop, you will hike and camp. You will learn new and useful skills. You will discover the joy of helping others through the habit of doing a Good Turn every day. Your new Troop will help you grow, so you can take your place in society as a responsible citizen.

CUBMASTER: Tonight we have Cub Scouts who will embark on a new adventure in Scouting. They will take their first step on the Scouts BSA trail and begin their next journey. Parents, during the years you and your Cub Scouts have been in our pack, we have had numerous opportunities to work together along the Cub Scout trail. Now you also have the privilege of joining a Troop. This ceremony marks the completion of your time in Cub Scout Pack [number], just as it marks the beginning of a whole new experience in your Scouts BSA Troop. I'm sure you and your Scout will find the same satisfaction there that you found in Cub Scouting.

Arrow of Light Scouts, tonight, you will cross over from Cub Scouts to Scouts BSA. You will receive and return the Scouts BSA salute and handshake. Will our Arrow of Light Scouts gather with their parents at the front of the room? Please bring your candles.

*(Pause while the group assembles.)*

DEN LEADER: Before you stands the flame of knowledge. You, Arrow of Light Cub Scouts, who are bridging over to Scouts BSA have shown me that you bring with you a hunger for knowledge. Your eagerness to learn reflects a deep-seated desire for wisdom. The Scouting program offers you a special kind of knowledge, like a compass, that will help you navigate the often challenging journey into adulthood.

This flame of knowledge is everlasting, fueled by the relentless pursuit of understanding and enlightenment. It shines brightly in the minds of humankind as a beacon, serving as a guiding light as we strive for a deeper comprehension of the world around us.

*(Den Leader lights a taper candle from the flame of knowledge.)*

Scouts, the candle each of us holds symbolizes our individual quest for knowledge. You have taken the initiative to expand your Scouting knowledge by selecting a Scouts BSA Troop that will support you in acquiring this invaluable wisdom.

Remember, knowledge is most effective when shared. Each Scout has a responsibility to pass on what they have learned to others. As you grow in your Scouting experience, we will encourage you to give back some of what you have gained. As you diligently pursue more knowledge, you will discover valuable lessons that you can pass on to those who follow in your footsteps. Keep in mind that the value you receive from Scouting is directly related to the effort you invest. I challenge you to work hard so that you will have much to give back.

Let us share the flame of knowledge. Please light your candle from the candle of the Scout on your right.

*(Den Leader uses their candle to light the candle of the first Scout in line. When all the Scout's candles are lit, the den leader blows out their taper candle. NOTE: The candle representing the flame of knowledge is left burning as long as possible.)*

Observe how easily this flame was extinguished by the breeze of complacency. Protect the flame of knowledge that burns inside you. Yet, take note that the flame of knowledge, which resides in the hearts and minds of humanity, remains aglow. From this eternal source, you can always rekindle your own flame, even if the gusts of apathy threaten to diminish it. Never stop learning. Never permit the winds of indifference to take hold. Fuel your flame by doing your best, by asking questions when you don't understand, and by embodying the principles of the Scout Oath and Law.

CUBMASTER: Your time in Cub Scouting ignited a spark. A passion for adventuring, exploring, learning new things, and helping others. Every den meeting, pack meeting, field trip, campout, summer camp, and campfire, all fed that spark. And now, as you prepare to crossover into Scouts BSA, you will bring your flame of knowledge and your light of Scouting with you to your new Troop. You will add your light to their campfire.

As every Scout knows, your parents and guardians played an important role in guiding you along the Cub Scout trail to the Arrow of Light rank. Parents and guardians, do you promise to continue helping your Scout throughout their scouting adventures?

*(Pause for affirmative response.)*

Parents you may now return to your seats.

*(Wait for all parents to be seated.)*

DEN LEADER: As you cross over into Scouts BSA, you will first earn the rank of Scout and then 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 is a creature that has learned to be one with the outdoors and is not satisfied with just watching the world pass by. Are you willing to commit to working hard so you can soar as an eagle?

*(Pause for response.)*

To encourage you on the trail, I would like to give you some advice. Arrows can only fly toward their mark by being pulled back. So, when life is dragging you back with difficulties or challenges, perhaps it means you are being prepared to launch toward something great. Remain focused and keep aiming high.

These first steps along a new trail can be the hardest. You will find yourself pulled in many directions and may lose sight of your objectives. Remember that an eagle flies above those things that confront it to gain a better perspective. They don't fly past problems or away from them; they fly higher to see more clearly the obstacles ahead.

CUBMASTER: As the night is a bridge between each new day, let tonight be a bridge for each of you. These Arrow of Light Scouts have contributed much to their den and pack, and we shall miss them and their families. Now you are leaving us to enter a Scouts BSA Troop of your choice. There you will continue to grow in scouting skills and friendships. Arrow of Light Scouts, when your name is called please step forward, give your Den Leader the Scout handshake, and cross the stage. There, you will be welcomed by your new Scouts BSA Troop with the Scout salute and the Scout handshake. Scouts, please pause in the middle of the stage so your parents can get a picture.

We now ask the representative(s) from the visiting Troop(s) to come up to the right side of the stage to welcome these new Scouts into their troop(s).

*(Pause for troop(s) to prepare.)*

CUBMASTER: Scoutmaster(s), these Scouts have outgrown our pack. They need more challenge and more adventure than we can provide. They have traveled the Cub Scout trail and are ready for their next adventure. They are ready to move forward into Scouts BSA.

Troop [number], please send your envoy to welcome [Arrow of Light Scout's name].

*(Continue until all Arrow of Light Scouts have crossed over.)*

[Name], as Assistant Den Leader of [patrol name] patrol, please crossover and take your place with our Scouts and their Troop(s).

[Name], as Den Leader of [patrol name] patrol, you are the last to crossover. Please take your place with our Scouts and their Troop(s).

In this end, there is a new beginning; the beginning of new leadership for tomorrow.

DEN LEADER: Scouts, it has been a sincere pleasure being your Den Leader. I hope that the desire, eagerness, interest, and free spirit you have shown in Cub Scouting carries over into your families, school, circle of friends, and everything you do in your lives.

The trail to Eagle still lies ahead of you. It takes a strong desire, a willingness to sacrifice, and a lot of guts sprinkled with a lot of love, to make it. Tonight is just the starting point. Take your flame of knowledge, that started with a Cub Scout spark, and keep the fire going. May your travels be onward and upward and may you have a marvelous journey.

CUBMASTER: I challenge each of you to look at your Arrow of Light rank badge and think about what it represents. Let the dawning sun be a reminder to be a light for those around you. Let the seven sunbeams remind you to do your best, every day. Let the arrow, which flies straight and true, guide you as you follow its path, upward to higher challenges, and along a new trail.

That concludes our ceremony this evening. Thank you all for coming. Please stay and enjoy the celebration, and be careful as you travel home.