



BALOO'S BUGLE



Volume 9 Number 12

July Cub Scout Roundtable

August Cub Scout Theme

CIRCLE THE WAGONS

Tiger Cub Activities

Webelos Naturalist & Forester

Editor's Comments:

Our thanks to Dave Lyons for putting this issue of Baloo's Bugle together and sharing it with Scouters from around the world.

Focus

Cub Scout Program Helps

With summer ending, it's time to round-up your Cub Scouts to begin another Scouting year. Boys spend the month learning about the "Old West". What did frontier boys do for fun? There are lots of good stories to be told around the campfire and lots of fun costumes to make. Cub Scouts can use cardboard boxes to make their own covered wagons and horses, then have rodeos, roping contests, and wagon races. Circle those wagons around the campfire and have a Chuckwagon Dinner at your pack meeting. Don't forget the tin cups and plates!

Cub Scout Roundtable leaders Guide

Some of the purposes of Cub Scouting developed through this month's theme are:

- ✓ **Spiritual Growth**, Boys will realize that life in the Old West wasn't easy and that religion was important in daily life.
- ✓ **Fun and Achievement**, Boys play games and learn skills from the Old West.
- ✓ **Personal Achievement**, Boys learn new skills and improve and improve upon those skills while practicing for the Wagon Rally.

The core value highlighted this month is:

- ✓ **Courage**, Boys will learn that to be "brave" one needs spirit to overcome difficult situations.

Can you think of others???

NOTE from Commissioner Dave – I have my 2003 – 2004 Cub Scout Program Helps – make sure you get one before your Pack's Annual Summer Planning Conference!

This is my third Baloo and each one gets rougher to do as I try and improve each month. This month there were a lot of good patriotic ceremonies in the Pow Wow books I have. They sort of fit the western pioneer theme but not completely. So, I thought I would put them into a file for later this year when a red, white and blue patriotic theme occurs – Guess what?? There isn't an Uncle Sam or American Heritage theme this year – so I included those that I liked and am suggesting you should file some of these for later use in your Packs and Dens.

Get Outside – It's August!

Keep those Cubs moving outside! I keep Baloo away from too many indoor crafts and games this month – your cubs don't want to be inside yet. When school reopens is soon enough.

I live in New Jersey, so you are probably picturing oil refineries and densely populated suburbs. You are wrong. After working on the Naturalist and Forester sections of Baloo, I gained a new appreciation for my daily ride to work. I go past two horse farms (There must be two dozen colts this year at one), a pig farm and numerous agricultural fields. Along the way I go past wildlife preserves and every day I get to see the ever-changing beauty of Mannington Meadow. This is a tidal area I cross on my way to work. There are always different birds coming and going. The plants along the sides and on the water change with the seasons. The sky is always different over the meadow, too. In winter, it is fun to see ducks swimming in the one stream through the meadow that isn't frozen. It is always relaxing after along day at work when I get here and am able take in the views. My last six miles into work is over a marsh that has filled in over the years between the mainland and "The Island." I see muskrat houses, Osprey nests, and deer feeding along the side of the road as I near the plant. Once I saw a fox running! This appreciation I am sure is something I **caught** during my ten years in Scouting as a youth. I know it wasn't taught because I would not have listened! So our challenge today is to have our Cubs catch this same appreciation of the beauty of God's earth.

PRAYERS & POEMS FOR SCOUTERS

This Land of Mine

*No Author cited in their Pow Wow Book
Santa Clara County Council*

This is my land and I love it,
A country of lakes and of streams,
Of mountains and wind-swept prairies,
A land where the sunlight gleams.

It's a land that was settled by heroes,
The venturesome, brave pioneers.
It stands as a symbol of freedom,
That will greater grow through the years.

This is the land that I cherish...
It stands as a guiding star...
For those who, tired and discouraged,
Have come here from countries afar.

It's a land were the lowly and humble
Can dream and their dreams can come true,
Where we are proud of our starry emblem,
Of red and of white and of blue.

This is my land and I love it,
And wherever my thoughts may roam,
Always there comes that great feeling
Of pride that this is my home.

My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group, there was much less competition.
--Indira Ghandi

Roundtable Prayer

CS Roundtable leader's Guide

As we work with our young cowpokes known as Cub Scouts, we pray that we can help leave a gentle brand on their hearts that will lead them to grow into responsible citizens of their homes and their communities. Amen.

Cowboy's Prayer

CS Program Helps

We give thanks that we have the strength to ride the trail each day, keeping safe on our way until we meet again. Happy trails to everyone. Amen.

"Why I Love Her"

*By John Wayne
Santa Clara County Council*

If possible, play an instrumental version of "America the Beautiful" in the background.

You ask me why I love her?
Well, give me time and I'll explain.
Have you ever seen a Kansas sunset or an Arizona rain?
Have you drifted on a bayou down Louisiana way?
Have you watched the cold fog drifting over San Francisco Bay?
Have you heard a bobwhite calling in the Carolina pines
Or heard the bellow of a diesel at the Appalachian mines?
Does the call of the Niagara thrill you when you hear her waters roar?
Do you look with awe and wonder at a Massachusetts shore
Where men who braved a hard new world first stepped on Plymouth Rock?
Do you think of them when you stroll along a New York City block?
Have you seen a snowflake drifting in the Rockies way up high?
Have you seen the sun come blazing down from a bright Nevada sky?
Do you hail to the Columbia as she rushes to the sea
Or bow your head at Gettysburg in our struggle to be free?
Have you seen the mighty Tetons or watched an eagle soar?
Have you seen the Mississippi roll along Missouri's shore?
Have you felt a chill at Michigan when on a winter's day,
her waters rage along the shore in thunderous display?
Does the word "Aloha" make you warm?
Do you stare in disbelief when you see the surf come roaring in
at Waimea reef?
From Alaska's cold to the Everglades...from the Rio Grande to Maine...
My heart cries out, my pulse runs fast...The might of her domain.
You ask me why I love her?
I've a million reasons why...
My beautiful America...beneath God's wide, wide sky!

"The coach will teach you how to score on the court, but education is how you score in life."

Jamie Gladden, Xavier University

PACK ADMIN & TRAINING TIPS

The 2003 – 2004 Themes

Just in case you don't have your 2003-2004 Program helps yet!!

September 2003	Soaring to New Heights Webelos - Communicator, Citizen
October 2003	Once Upon a Time Webelos - Showman, Citizen
November 2003	Pilgrims of Plymouth Rock Webelos - Craftsman, Scientist
December 2003	A Cub Scout Gives Goodwill Webelos - Craftsman, Scientist
January 2004	Home Alone Webelos - Fitness, Readyman
February 2004	Fiesta! (Blue and Gold Theme) Webelos - Scholar, Engineer
March 2004	Walk in My Shoes Webelos - Athlete, Engineer
April 2004	Cubservation Webelos - Sportsman, Family Member
May 2004	My Home State Webelos - Outdoorsman, Handyman
June 2004	Cub Rock Webelos - Traveler, Artist
July 2004	Fin Fun Webelos - Aquanaut, Geologist
August 2004	Scouting the Midway Webelos - Naturalist, Forester

Looking through my Cub Scout Roundtable Leader's Guide, I do not see a month earmarked for Pinewood Derby. I'll have to go look again!!

Fast Start Training on the Web

When you recruit those new leaders for the 2003 – 2004 season (or when you finally sign that parent that helped out all last year) make sure they take **FAST START TRAINING** right away. My pack has a copy of the video (courtesy weaver popcorn who makes trail's End) and a Pack Trainer (my wife!) who is ready to sit down with the new leaders but if you don't or they are "too busy." National has put **FAST START TRAINING** on the web

www.scouting.org/cubscouts/faststart/

So if you can't get FAST START TRAINING to them, have them take it n the web!!!

And after you get them trained be sure to give them a memorable induction ceremony so the Scouts can see how important the leaders are and the new leaders can feel proud -

Leader Induction Ceremony
National Capital Area Council

Props: 5 candles, candle board with two holes in top and three holes in bottom

Committee Chairperson: Before you is a ceremony board that has five candles in it. The top two, like the alert ears of a Wolf, represent the two upright fingers of the

Cub Scout sign. They mean to OBEY and TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE.

The three candles at the bottom represent the folded fingers of our Cub Scout sign. These three fingers stand for the three secret letters in our law; F--H--G. These letters mean FOLLOWS, HELPS, GIVES. They also mean FAIR, HAPPY, GAME, and, finally, they can remind us of something each Cub Scout respects: FREEDOM, HOME and GOD.

All of our leaders want to do their best to teach Cub Scouts to learn to follow, to help, to give, to be fair and happy, whatever the game might be, and to respect their freedom, home and God.

Will the new leaders please come forward? Please repeat after me:

I, _____, promise to do my best, to help the Cub Scouts in my den and in my Pack to do their best, to help other people, and to do their duty to God and their country, and to obey the Law of the Pack.

As Chairperson of Pack _____, I take pleasure in presenting to you your registration cards and badges of office and personally welcome you into active leadership in Cub Scouting. May the days ahead be happy, great and fair.

**Be a S.T.A.R –
Scouter That Attends Roundtable**

You Ask What Is Roundtable
Cub Scout Leader Book
Available at your Scout Shop

Cub Scout leader roundtables are held monthly on a district basis. Den and pack leaders join for fun and fellowship while learning new tricks, stunts, games crafts, ceremonies, songs, and skits related to the theme and Webelos activity badges for the following month. There are also opportunities for sharing ideas and activities with leaders from other packs.

After attending the roundtable each month, your leaders will come to your pack leaders' meeting well-informed and ready to complete plans for your den and pack program for the next month.

Check with your unit commissioner to find out when and where your monthly roundtable is held.

Well I guess that is what Roundtable is in pretty plain language but it doesn't tell of all the fun the leaders have playing Cubs Scouts making crafts, singing songs (I always do at least two), cheers and other such stuff. It doesn't talk about the camaraderie felt when you have 50 to 70 Cub Scout Leaders together all trying to bring a better program to the boys.

**ROUNDTABLE –
Where you get the skill to do
And
The will to do !!!**

This article was in Baloo last month but it is important and I thought it was worth repeating (especially since this is the summer). I am still looking for activities for Character Connections. See address below.

WOLF CUB SCOUT, BEAR CUB SCOUT, AND WEBELOS SCOUT HANDBOOKS TO BE REVISED

My council recently received a letter from Alan Westberg, Director - Cub Scout Division, BSA, about upcoming revisions to the Wolf, Bear and Webelos Books. He states the change is part of efforts to help leaders deliver a quality Cub Scouting program and to ensure that Cub Scout materials remain current and age-appropriate. The content of the current handbooks has been enhanced. They have been updated for relevance to today's youth, appropriateness of content, ease of use, and perceived challenge to the reader.

He continues, "We have maintained many of the current elements in these books that have proven successful during the past. We have eliminated topics that have become dated and do not challenge today's Cub Scouts and their families. Some specific revisions are as follows:

- Integrated Character Connections (that draw on Cub Scouting's 12 Core Values) directly into selected requirements in each book
- Infused age-appropriate outdoor program activities into both the requirements and the electives in each book.
- Enhanced the advancement and elective trails to create a progressively more challenging pathway that logically prepares boys for the next rank in Cub Scouting and prepares Webelos Scouts for Boy Scouting
- Reformatted and enhanced the Webelos handbook, particularly, the Webelos badge and Arrow of Light Award requirements.

In an effort to assist you end your leaders with the transition from the current handbooks to the new handbooks, we have created the following implementation plan.

- The enhanced Wolf, Bear and Webelos handbooks will be released to the field in July 2003.
- The enhancements to the requirements in these books will not affect the advancement trails of boys who are using the current books. They are to continue using their current books until they have completed all requirements in those books.
- Based on availability, Cub Scouting youth members may use either the current handbook or the new handbook. As boys enter the program or advance in

rank by the dates indicated below, they are required to use the new books.

- Boys who become Wolf and Bear Cub Scouts after August 1, 2004, will be required to use the new book for the corresponding rank.
- Boys who become Webelos Scouts after August 1, 2005, will be required to use the new Webelos Scout Handbook."

The letter concludes by recommending that the transition information be given to your Cub Scouting leaders and families before public announcement about the new books to help alleviate any concerns regarding the need to switch from the current handbooks to the new ones.

Comment from Commissioner Dave –

This sounds really good to me. I see more outdoor activities for our Cub Scouts. That uses Scouting's strengths. I see help for Leaders in understanding how their activities fit with Cub Scouting's Core Values and Purposes. There is an article in the March-April 2003 Scouting Magazine that begins to explain Character Connections, Core Values and Cub Scouts. There is a BSA Bin item, # 13-323A, referenced in the article as a resource to learn more. When requested, Bin items are provided free from National to your local council. So ask your District Exec or Local Council to get you a copy. It looks like most of the brochure's info is at <http://wtsmith.com/rt/ethicsinaction.html>. There are new requirements in the National Den Award and Cub Scout Leader Recognition Plan for Character Connection Activities. The literature stresses the point that Character Connections use the regular activities but focus on the Core values. I am looking for activities to use as examples for my roundtables. If you have info for me on this, write me at commissionerdave@comcast.net.

TIGERS

The Wonderful Thing About Tigers...
...is Tigers are Wonderful Things!!

Starting with the August issue (which is September's Theme) and for the next four issues in the Tiger session we will feature a different Achievement. August will be Achievement #1.

Cactus

Circle Ten Council

What You Need

Potato or paper, Toothpicks, Paint

What You Do:

Either give your Tigers a potato with the bottom cut off or a piece of paper cut into the shape of a cactus. Let them stick toothpicks in it and paint it to make it look like a cactus.

Western Vest

Circle Ten Council

What You Need:

Paper Grocery Bag, Paint/Crayons/Markers

What You Do

Cut armholes and a head hole in the bag. Let your Tigers decorate it with the paint as a western theme (sheriff, landscape, etc)

Lasso Game

Circle Ten Council

Make a large cow head, and a lasso, let your Tigers try to rope it.

If your Tigers can't rope it or it is hard. Try using a hula-hoop with a rope tied to it.

Ride'm Cowboy Game

Circle Ten Council

See if a parent in your den has an old saddle and will bring it to a den meeting. Let your Tigers play with it.

Ridin' Race Game

Circle Ten Council

Have your Tigers race across the playground on stick horses they have made. Set up various competitions.

I'm A Little Cowboy

Circle Ten Council

(Sung to "I'm a Little Tea Pot")

I'm a little cowboy. Here's my hat. (point to hat)
Here are my spurs and here are my chaps. (Point to foot and legs)

When I get up, I work all day, (Jump on work)
Get on my horse and ride away (galloping motion).

Going To The Desert

Circle Ten Council

(Sung to: "She'll Be Comin Around The Mountain)

We are going on a journey to the desert
We are going on a journey to the desert
We are going on a journey, We are going on a journey
We are going on a journey to the desert

Oh we'll see a roadrunner, watch it go, whoosh, whoosh!
Oh we'll see a roadrunner, watch it go, whoosh, whoosh!
Oh we'll see a roadrunner, oh we'll see a roadrunner
Oh we'll see a roadrunner, watch it go, whoosh, whoosh!

Oh we won't see snow or ice while we're there, Brrrr, Brrrr
Oh we won't see snow or ice while we're there, Brrrr, Brrrr
Oh we won't see snow or ice, Oh we won't see snow or ice
Oh we won't see snow or ice while we're there, Brrrr, Brrrr

Oh the sun will be shining, yes it will, whew, whew
Oh the sun will be shining, yes it will, whew, whew
Oh the sun will be shining, Oh the sun will be shining
Oh the sun will be shining, yes it will, whew, whew

Oh we'll see a saguaro cactus where we're there, ouch,
ouch!
Oh we'll see a saguaro cactus where we're there, ouch,
ouch!
Oh we'll see a saguaro cactus, oh we'll see a saguaro cactus
Oh we'll see a saguaro cactus where we're there, ouch,
ouch!

Cactus Tasting

Circle Ten Council

In the specialty section of your grocery store they should have cactus jelly and may have other items made with cactus. Buy as many different kinds as you can and let your Tigers taste what cactus tastes like.

Egg Fry

Circle Ten Council

If you live somewhere that gets particularly hot. Take an egg outside and show your Tigers how that you can fry an egg on asphalt. (**Commissioner Dave – This really works and does amaze the boys but remember, try it first yourself before doing it with the Den**)

PRE-OPENING ACTIVITY**California Gold Rush***York Adams Council*

Hand out sheets of paper with the words "California Gold Rush" at the top and tell everyone to see how many words they can get from the letters. Make sure you have some kind of gold nuggets to give out as a reward for the highest word counts!

Shoot-out at the OK Corral*Santa Clara County Council*

Spread small, inexpensive plastic bugs on the sidewalk and have Scouts shoot at the bugs with squirt guns. Anyone who moves a bug with the stream of water gets to keep it. Or, cut out silhouettes of animals from tissue paper, affix them to a fence and let each kid shoot one. Putting a hole through a target wins a prize.

'49er's Obstacle Course*National Capital Area Council*

Set up the following stations and man them with adults or Den Chiefs who can give each boy a gold nugget (painted rock or piece of wrapped candy) if he performs the test required. Let the boys all try as they arrive.

1. Climb Rope - climb the rope and touch the 8' mark
2. Quicksand Bottom - run over six tires, stepping in each one.
3. Cross the Gulch - swing across ladder/monkey bars, using hands
4. Over the Cliff - scale a 5' plywood wall
5. One push-up
6. One chin-up
7. Jump the Creek - do a 6' running broad jump
8. Dodge the Rattler - standing broad jump (at least 2')
9. Tunnel Escape - crawl under sticks or through cardboard box for 10'.

The Town Barber*CS Roundtable Leaders' Guide*

Materials - Round Balloons, Shaving Cream, Plastic knives, markers

Blow up the balloons. Draw a cowboy face on each balloon using the marker.

As each Scout arrives have him spread shaving cream on the face. Then shave the face using the plastic knife. See who can get all the shaving cream off without bursting the balloon.

Ten Gallon Hat Toss*CS Program Helps*

Materials - Large cowboy hat (or baseball cap, if that's all you have)

See how many playing cards each Scout can toss into the hat from a given distance in 30 seconds.

OPENING CEREMONY**A Picture of Our Past - Opening***Circle Ten Council*

Setting: Flag is staffed on a stage behind a closed curtain. If this arrangement is not possible, the opening may be done in a darkened room with the spotlight on the flag coming on at the appropriate time.

CUBMASTER: It is a picture of our past, and there is something of Davy Crockett, Kit Carson, Daniel Boone, Horace Greeley, the famous forty-niners, and even Lewis and Clark. It is a picture of all those brave frontiersmen that headed west.

It is a picture of our people...200 million of them. They are part of the picture we are helping to paint.

To this picture we would add the portraits of boys, growing into men, who will live useful lives, and who will add to that history of noble action which is our American heritage.

Cub Scouts and parents, the picture of our country!

Curtains open showing the American flag; or a spotlight on the American flag.

The flag of the United States of America! Will you stand and join me in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to this great flag and to the people who make it so great?

What's It All About? - Opening*Circle Ten Council*

You asked, What's it all about?

Why, to turn a boy into a Scout.

To take a boy so young and frail,
And start him up the Cub Scout trail.

From Bobcat and Wolf and Bear
With all the awards and arrows share.

Through Webelos and then into Scouts,
Giving guidance through problems, fears, and doubts.

And on through school and into life he'll trod,
With respect and love for man and God.

To watch him grow so tall and free,
Till one day a leader of our country be.

And then he too, like you and me,
Will take a boy so small and wee.,

And will teach that boy,
With pride and joy,

To be helpful, and to be a good Scout.
Yes, that's what it's all about!

Please stand and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance

My Flag Opening Ceremony*Viking Council*

Props – Flag, 2 flashlights lights out, Cub Scout in Cowboy Outfit or leader with boys in half circle around flag in cowboy outfits.

Setting - Turn lights out. Flashlights on flag, either one person says poem or boys take turns saying verses.

The flag is so beautiful to see,
It really means a lot to me.

It's like a banner in the sky,
It brings great tears to my eyes.

In my cowboy mind,
These thoughts I find.

The white stripes remind me,
Of Sunday and the Glory of Light.

The red stripes remind me,
Of sweat, of a workday in sight.

The White stars on a blue field,
Remind me of peace at night.

She stands for freedom, I stand by her side,
She is to me my faithful guide.

What Makes America Great Opening Ceremony*Viking Council*

Den Leader: The Cub Scout promises "to do his duty to his country." Our country is different in many ways from other countries. We would like to review for you some of the things that are different but still make this the greatest country in the world.

Cub 1 We call it the United States, and we're bound together by our Constitution and our language. Yet in many ways we're a group of separate kingdoms.

Cub 2 We practice more than 250 different religions and observe thousands of different hunting laws, tax laws, and labor laws.

Cub 3 Our lands grow palm trees and pine, redwood and beech, vanishing Keg deer, and whooping cranes.

Cub 4 Our people say "y'all" and "youse".

Cub 5 We catch shrimp and sell stocks --- live in lean-tos, skyscrapers, and stucco bungalows.

Cub 6 We are a very diverse land, but these are some of the things that make the United States great.

Cub 7 Let us rise and sing "America the Beautiful".

I Am An American*Heart of America Council*

Arrangement: Flags are advanced in regular manner. 12 uniformed Cub Scouts have speaking parts. (or use 6 Cubs, each giving two parts.)

Cubmaster – Leads posting of flags and Pledge of Allegiance in standard manner, then says something like "Den 3 will now tell us what it means to be an American."

Cub 1 My country gives each one of us the opportunity to advance according to his ambition. Education is for all. I am an American.

Cub 2 My country means love of freedom, faith in democracy, justice and equality. I am an American.

Cub 3 My country believes in the moral worth of the common man. I am an American.

Cub 4 My country gives us the privilege of expressing beliefs or opinions without fear of persecution. I am an American.

Cub 5 My country has the best form of government. It is our duty to keep it that way. I am an American.

Cub 6 My country promises life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I am an American.

Cub 7 My country gives us a privilege that we shall protect and defend even with our lies. I am an American.

Cub 8 My country is and always shall remain the land of the free. I am an American.

Cub 9 My country is the home of the brave. I am an American.

Cub 10 My country meets any needs or suffering with its abiding love and loyalty. I am an American.

Cub 11 My country is the servant ...not the master. I am an American.

Cub 12 My country possesses a Statue of Liberty whose torch shall burn as long as we keep it lit with our devotion to the freedom of the individual. I am an American.

I am your Flag*Heart of America Council*

Position someone behind flag (out of sight). As ceremony begins, the flag talks.

The flag asks, "What is happening?"

Someone explains about the meeting.

Then some one asks, "Who are you?"

The flag replies -

I am your flag

I was born June 14, 1776.

I am more than just cloth shaped into a design. I am the refuge of the world's oppressed people. I am the silent sentinel of freedom.

I am the emblem of the greatest sovereign nation on earth.

I am the inspiration for which American patriots gave their lives and fortunes.

I have led your sons into battle from Valley Forge to the dense jungles of Vietnam.

I walk in silence with each of your Honored Dead to their final resting place beneath the silent white crosses, row upon row.

I have flown through peace and war, strife and prosperity, and amidst it all I have been respected.

I am your flag.

My red stripes symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious Nation.

My white stripes signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

Buckskin Pioneers

Heart of America Council

Narrator: American pioneers have been men and women with curious minds, strong purpose, courage, determination, and a proud, fierce loyalty. Through every hardship they refused to give up.

Cub 1 In 1607, some 100 men and some venturesome boys stepped ashore at Jamestown and founded the first English settlement on this continent. Soon other men and women came seeking new homes and religious freedom.

Cub 2 During the Revolutionary War, the minutemen and other great patriots fought for our independence and founded our nation. There were people like Patrick Henry, Nathan Hale, Dolly Madison, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

Cub 3 Daniel Boone, Lewis and Clark, and others opened the way westward. Then came the pioneers, trappers and settlers. This was the great westward movement over the famous trails with scouts like Buffalo Bill Cody, Kit Carson, and Davy Crockett.

Cub 4 Robert Fulton produced the first steamboat for river travel and Peter Cooper built the first steam locomotive which brought forth our railroads. Man and woman brought their families and possessions into a new land and built towns and cities.

Narrator: For us, the United States is still a land of expanding opportunities. The doors of education are open to every American. You can be trained for any one of thousands of skilled jobs in industry, business, science or social fields. You can look forward to a life of opportunity because of our nation's pioneers. Now, let us salute the flag in honor of these great people who have gone before us and have had visions of today's America.

Use a turkey feather and whittle the tip to a sharp point. Sandpaper will help make the tip smooth. The point will need to be sharpened again after it is used. Make sure the boys write with washable ink.

Lasso Practice

Santa Clara County Council

Using a hula-hoop and a child's wooden rocking horse, have cowboys try to "rope" the horse's neck. You can also setup folding chairs around the room, and have the boys try to rope the backs of the chairs.

Spin a Flat Loop

Santa Clara County Council

Before you try your first rope spin, there are a few "don'ts" to remember: Don't spin ropes inside the house, unless you have a large play area where things aren't likely to get bumped or broken. Don't wear loose clothes that might interfere with the spinning rope. Don't—actually, NEVER—put the lariat around anyone's head or body, including your own. And, finally, don't be discouraged if the rope doesn't spin a perfect circle right away. Most kids can do a pretty good spin with less than an hour's practice.

Get a piece of rope about 12 feet long and between ¼ and 3/8" in diameter. Use only a braided rope, often called sash cord. Don't use a common "laid rope," with spiral strands because it kinks and tangles too easily. A brand new rope will probably be too stiff and should be worked until the stiffness is gone. Just using the rope for awhile will usually soften it up.

At one end of the rope, tie a slip knot known as a "honda." Be sure to snip off the tail or end of the honda knot to make it light enough for good spinning. Feed the other end of the rope through the honda, and pull the slip knot tight. Place a large flat washer over the free end of the rope, then tie the end of the rope with a simple overhand knot.

To adjust the rope for spinning, hold the lariat at the honda; the loop should hang down. The length of the rope from the honda to the washer and knot is called the "spoke." When the loop is the proper size, the spoke should hang down from the honda halfway to the bottom of the loop. Adjust the rope so this is so. When you have the rope adjusted properly, be sure the skip knot is pulled tight so that the loop size won't change.

The easiest spin to learn is the "flat loop." Find a space where there is plenty of room, and stand with your feet slightly apart and your body leaning slightly forward at the waist. Hold the rope at the honda in your left hand (assuming you are right-handed; a left-handed scout may need to switch hands/directions). Place the knotted end of the spoke with the washer loosely between the second and third fingers of your right hand so that the knot faces the palm of your hand. Your right hand is called the "spoke hand."

PACK/DEN ACTIVITIES



Quill Pens (Bear Den Meeting Activity)

Cub Scout Program Helps Addendum

Bring the loop over to your right hand and let it lie loosely across the fingers of that hand. You're now ready to throw out the rope and start spinning.

Throw out your right hand in a counterclockwise direction away from your body. At the same time, release the loop from both hands, while still loosely holding the spoke. Your right hand should continue to make counterclockwise movements while the loop spins parallel to the ground and the spoke slips and turns between your fingers. This slipping is important if you wish to avoid "wind up" and rope kinking. (Cowboys don't use washers on their ropes, but this is a good way to learn.)

Keep trying to throw out the rope and get it spinning before the loop touches the ground. If the rope seems too big or clumsy, you can shorten it or try standing on something sturdy. Don't try to make the rope spin too fast—the secret of good rope spinning is to "get the rhythm." Of course, there are many other rope tricks you can learn, but the first step is to learn this flat spin—and to be able to get it going in both directions.

Wanted Posters

Circle Ten Council

Make wanted posters. Their easy just use Beige Paper and lightly singe the edges with a candle. Finally paste a picture to the paper and write wanted at the top. At the bottom write a description of all of the fun things they do in Scouting. "Wanted For Fun." ***Then use these in the schools for your "Round Up" or other recruiting drive!!***

Log Cabin Key Holder

Circle Ten Council

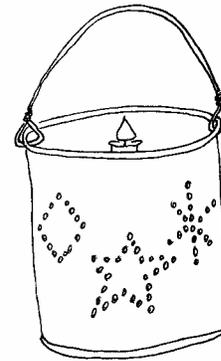
Materials: 26 Popsicle sticks, glue, 6 small nails



Lay 10 sticks side by side. Glue 3 sticks on top of the 10 sticks; one at the top, one in the middle and one at the bottom. Glue 3 sticks one on top of each other for each side of the roof. Cut the remaining sticks to make the roof. Glue the roof to the cabin. Hammer the 6 small nails onto the cabin for hanging keys.

Tin Lantern

Santa Clara County Council



Materials:

Empty tin can (coffee can is best, but any size will work)
Wire coat hanger, other wire or heavy twine
Candle (at least 1" shorter than the can)

Utensils:

Colored marker or crayon
Newspaper or towel
Nails
Hammer
Wire-cutting tool or scissors

Remove any labels from can and wash thoroughly. Using a colored marker or crayon, draw a punch-hole pattern on the can. Make a traditional design or invent your own.

Fill the can with water and put in the freezer until the water is solid ice (one or two days, depending on the size). The ice will keep the can from collapsing when you make the holes. ***(In all my years of making Tin Can Lanterns, I never heard this trick – Wow how easy to eliminate a problem!! Commissioner Dave)***

Remove the can from the freezer and place on several layers of newspaper or a folded towel. Using a hammer and nail, hammer holes in the tin can following the pattern you have drawn. You can vary the size of the holes by using different-sized nails. Make holes for the handle at opposite sides of the can rim. When all the holes have been punched, invert the can to remove the ice.

Use wire cutters or scissors to cut a length of wire or twine and attach across the can for a handle. (If using twine, be sure to lay it over to one side when the candle is lit.)

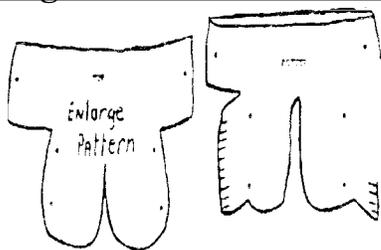
Drip wax from the candle into the bottom of the lantern and stand the candle in it, holding until set.

NOTE:

**Use EXTREME CAUTION when candles are lit.
Have a water source nearby,**

Cowboy Chaps Slide

Heart of America Council

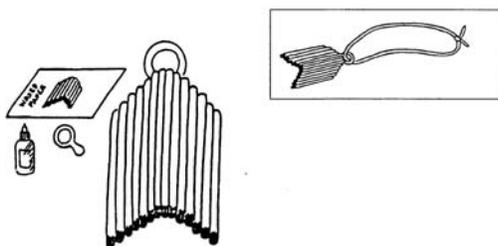


Material – small piece of suede, vinyl, leather or leatherette that looks like what chaps were made of in the Old West

Trace both top and bottom of pattern on material, cut out. Fasten top section to bottom by folding end pieces (tabs) into the circle. Then secure with brad to form Ring. (indicated by dot on pattern) Fasten top of chaps to bottom with Four brads where indicated by dots. Fringe edges of chaps.

Or to make it easier - I think I would cut out the top pattern with the tabs a little longer and glue it to a piece of PVC pipe for the slide.

Burnt Match Necklace



Heart of America Council

Materials:

- Burnt kitchen matches
- Glue
- Waxed Paper
- Ring
- Cord or Leather thong

1. Burn matches in advance. Light and blow out immediately, so just tips are burnt. Wipe off black residue on tips.
2. Boys work on waxed paper when gluing matchers together.
3. Arrange matches as shown and glue together with white glue. Let dry thoroughly.
4. Glue ring on back, at top.
5. When glue is dry, add cord or leather thong through ring and tie around neck.

Covered Wagon Model

Santa Clara County Council

(Adapted from FamilyCrafts.com)

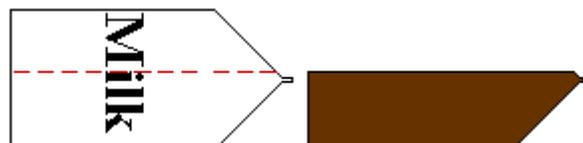
Here's a model of a covered wagon that you can make from materials found around the house.

Supplies:

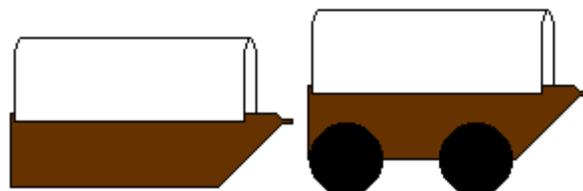
- 1 empty pint size milk carton
- Construction paper
- 4 bottle caps, or lids from milk jugs (Pogs)
- Glue or tape
- Markers or paint

Directions:

1. Cut the milk carton in half as shown by the dotted lines below. Keep the bottom half with the top point, and paint it brown (adding a little glue to the paint will help your paint adhere to the milk carton better). Set it aside to dry.



2. Paint the 4 bottle or milk caps black or brown to make the wheels for the wagon. You can also cut small circles from black or brown construction paper and glue them to the outside of the caps. As a substitute for the bottle or milk caps, try to find some big buttons, or anything else that is small and round.
3. Cut a piece of white construction paper about 8" x 5". Glue or tape it over the opening you cut in the milk carton to make the cover for your wagon.



4. Glue the wheels into place. (This is the tricky part, so be patient) If you are using the bottle or milk caps they will be heavy and you will have to work to find a good position to lay your wagon until the wheels dry. You will want most of each wheel attached to the wagon body with very little hanging over the bottom edge. If you want, glue on the wheels for one side at a time and let it dry lying on the side.

You can get a toy plastic horse for your covered wagon. Attach the horse to your covered wagon with string.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**Deep in the Heart of Texas***Heart of America Council*

Divide audience into 7 parts. Assign each a part. Explain they are to respond loudly when their character is named.

Characters: Response

Cowpunchers..... Whoopie
 Timid Ladies Scream (falsetto)
 Bucking Broncos Gallop (slap hands on knees)
 Six Shooters Bang; Bang
 Bandits Steak'em up
 Rattlesnakes Hiss ominously
 Cattle Moo

Ride 'em Cowboy... all shout – Ride 'em Cowboy

Are you listless, tired out of sorts? Do you need excitement and new thrills? Then go to Texas! There you will find **COWPUNCHERS, BUCKING BRONCOS, RATTLESNAKES, SIX SHOOTERS** and just enough **TIMID LADIES**.

How well I remember one night on the Bar-B-Que ranch, the **CATTLE** were in the corral and the **RATTLESNAKES** were rattling their babes to sleep and the **COWPUNCHERS** were telling tales to the **TIMID LADIES**, when all of a sudden the **BUCKING BRONCOS** began cutting up, and you could hear the **CATTLE** for a mile. Like a flash, the **COWPUNCHERS** pulled out their **SIX SHOOTERS** and made for the corral. The **RATTLESNAKES** ran for cover, the **TIMID LADIES** collapsed in a cactus bush.

Stealthily, from around the corner of the ranch house crept the **BANDITS**. "Aha, just as I thought - much better than **CATTLE**, huh, Pancho? So your young friends have deserted you. We could be very good friends. "The **TIMID LADIES** shrank further into the cactus. Aha, Pancho, See they are such **TIMID LADIES**, we will have to teach them a few things."

The **BANDITS** quickly carried the **TIMID LADIES** to Gory Gulch where their horses were waiting. The **TIMID LADIES** screamed but to no avail - the **CATTLE** were making too much noise. The **TIMID LADIES** screamed, "Where are you taking us?"

" Down Mexico way, my little tortilla." At this moment, the **TIMID LADIES** sank their teeth into the **BANDITS** arms. The **BANDITS** let out a terrific yell that rang out over the range above the noise of the **CATTLE** and the stamping of the **BUCKING BRONCOS**.

In an instant, the **COWPUNCHERS** were on **THEIR BUCKING BRONCOS, SIX SHOOTERS** in hand, riding hard and fast in the direction of the **BANDITS**. They could hear the cries of the **TIMID LADIES**.

The **BANDITS** spurred their horses on; the **COWPUNCHERS** were gaining - 50 yards, 30 yards, 10 yard. Now the **BUCKING BRONCOS** were at the foot of the hill. The noise of the **SIX SHOOTERS** was terrific.

Pancho pushed one of the **TIMID LADIES** off his horses, the other **BANDITS** followed suit. "Reverse," cried the **COWPUNCHERS**, shifting their reins. Immediately the **BUCKING BRONCOS** fell into reverse until the **TIMID LADIES** could regain their feet. The **COWPUNCHERS** swooped the **TIMID LADIES** up into the saddles beside them and galloped rapidly away. The **TIMID LADIES** shouted, "**RIDE 'EM COWBOY**"

Pioneer Trip - Audience Participation Skit*Viking Council*

Instructions: Throw beanbags (or peanuts, candy, nuts, etc.) into audience as you reach blanks in the story.

Whoever catches it fills in the blank with items pioneers would need when moving to a new farm.

Today when we move we put our things in a large truck and are settled in our new home within a week. But did you ever wonder about the pioneers?

This is a story about a pioneer family named Jones who moved from their old home to a new farm. To carry all their things, Mr. Jones will get a __1__ pulled by __2__. To cook their meals, Mrs. Jones will take her __3__, __4__, __5__ (as many cooking utensils as they can name). To cut wood they will need a __6__. When Mr. Jones goes hunting, he will need a __7__.

Junior Jones will help herd the __8__ along the way. To help her mother plant a garden when they get to their new home, Sally Jones will take __9__. To prepare the ground for their new garden they will need a __10__. They will probably build a cabin out of __11__, and to store vegetables will dig a __12__. Mrs. Jones will probably cook in a __13__, and their plates will be made from __14__ or __15__. When it gets cold, everyone will wear woolen __16__.

One possible set of answers:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Covered wagon | 9. Seeds |
| 2. Oxen | 10. Plow (pulled by ox) |
| 3. Cast iron frying pan | 11. Logs or sod |
| 4. Kettle | 12. Cellar |
| 5. Pots and pans, rolling pin | 13. Fireplace |
| 6. Ax or Saw | 14. Wood |
| 7. Rifle or Gun | 15. Pewter |
| 8. Cow | 16. Long johns |

Variations –

- Put the answers in a hat and have people pull one out each time you come to a blank. See how comical it would be.
- Prior to reading, have people call out 16 nouns relating to the old west and use them in the order given to fill in the blanks.

The Sad Tale Of Two Famous*Circle Ten Council*

Divide the audience up into 3 groups and assign them each a name and sound.

WILD BILL HICCUP: Hic-c-cup
HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE: Ooops!
CACTUS: Eech, Ouch!

Let me tell you the story of two famous cowboys from western history. Yep, you guessed it! They are **WILD BILL HICCUP** and, his sidekick, **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE**. It seems that **WILD BILL HICCUP** was constantly plagued with long seizures of hiccups for which there seemed to be no cure. Many doctors all over this land of sagebrush and **CACTUS** had tried to cure him, but it was all in vain. Nothing worked!

WILD BILL HICCUP's buddy, **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE**, was also plagued with a peculiar ailment. It seems that he was so clumsy that he was like a bull in a china closet. He stumbled his way from one catastrophe to another. Out in this land of sagebrush and **CACTUS** these two men kept each other company and tried to keep out of the way of others so as not to disturb any more people than necessary. Thus **WILD BILL HICCUP** and **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE** were together constantly. One day while trying to mount his horse, **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE** spooked his horse with his usually bumbling. The horse ran off into the sunset. With much effort and many tries to stay on, **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE** made it onto the horse with **WILD BILL HICCUP** and off the two rode through the land of sagebrush and **CACTUS**. After riding awhile, they caught sight of the horse. It had calmed down and was slowly walking among the **CACTUS**. Wouldn't you know it! **WILD BILL HICCUP** got so excited at finding the horse that he began to hiccup violently and of course, **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE** being the way he was, could not take the jerking of his friend on the horse. Just as they came to the next big **CACTUS**, **WILD BILL HICCUP** gave out a tremendous hiccup, which sent **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE** sprawling right into the middle of the **CACTUS**! That frightened the horse again and sent him running off into the sunset.

The last anyone saw of our western heroes, **HAP-A-LONG CATASTROPHE** was still trying to mount **WILD BILL HICCUP's** horse, only to be sent flying back into the **CACTUS** by a giant hiccup from his friend. I'm sure after many trials and failures, our heroes must have felt the whole thing was pointless, but the **CACTUS** was still there reminding them of it's point.

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONIES

Induction - Bobcat Branding Heart of America Council

At first it seemed strange having a Bobcat ceremony in the August Baloo, but then I thought about it. Many school districts start in August (not here in NJ, but in many other places) so a Pack may have already had it's Back to School Night and started its Fall program. Also,

isn't August a great time to round up some new recruits, friends of your Scouts. Invite them to your fun summertime events – a baseball game, a swim party, a campfire, a trip to camp, ... Commissioner Dave

Personnel: Cubmaster and Assistant

Equipment: BSA Stamp and pad, Bobcat cards and badges with pins (to attach badge upside down), Fire (artificial or real), twigs.

Arrangement:

- 1) Ask boys to leave the room if inside (or gather as a group with Assistant away from the fire if outside) as their name is read. If outside hand each a twig.
- 2) Have all the other Cubs also Den Chiefs and Leaders form a circle around the fire and join hands while facing the fire.
- 3) Ask the ones around the fire to say "SSSS" each time a Bobcat is branded.
- 4) If inside dim lights or only have a few in back on during ceremony.

Cubmaster: (Shouts) Round-up, round-up

At this time Assistant brings the Bobcats to just outside the circle of Cubs.

Cubmaster: Do these mavericks carry a Brand?

Assistant: They are not, but desire to enter our corral.

Cubmaster: Corral your mavericks.

Assistant opens up circle and leads the Bobcats in, they place their sticks in the fire

Cubmaster: Just as our fire grew in warmth and brightness when you added your wood, so will our pack grow as you now join us in spirit and numbers.

(Picks up the "Branding Iron") Bobcats, you are about to carry the Boy Scouts of America brand that represents one of the greatest organizations for youth in the world. I am going to place this brand on your left hand You must wear it visibly for 24 hours, and then tomorrow night when you wash it off I want you to repeat the Cub Scout Promise to yourself, so that, you may carry its ideals in your heart. (Pause) Please repeat the Cub Scout Promise after me. (Hold up two fingers and say Promise) (now brand the Bobcats saying "SSSS" each time you do a boy.)

Cubmaster: Now that these Bobcats have been branded, will their parents come up and join them.

Assistant: Now that you have completed all the Bobcat requirements you are now entitled to wear this Bobcat badge. But first, a word of explanation. The badge will be handed to your parents and they will have the privilege of pinning it an your shirt pocket, because they have helped you earn this and will be continually helping you throughout the Scouting program. You will notice that it is upside down. Later when you feel you have performed a good deed you may turn it right side up and sew it on your shirt. (read names again as the Cubmaster hands the awards to the parents- shake each boys hand)

Buckskin Pioneers - Advancement*Circle Ten Council*

Arrangement: Ceremony board or log, three small candles and one large candle set on table.

Narrator: I.B. Scoutly was the wagon master on the Cub Scout trail. He was tall, brave and very wise. He was fierce to an enemy, but kind to a brother. His father taught him the ways of the mountain men and his mother taught him kindness and compassion. As a young man, he lived with the Webelos tribe and learned their ways. He was taken on trips over mountains and rivers. Here, from the Wolf, he learned the language of tracks and the ways to find food. **(I.B. Scoutly lights the large candle representing the Spirit of Scouting and using that he lights the small candle representing Wolf.)**

I.B. Scoutly: With this candle, representing the Spirit of Scouting, I light the trail of the Wolf. From the signs along the Wolf trail I see that the wagons are approaching the Wolf Crossing. (Scoutly calls the names of the boys receiving Wolf badges and arrow points. They come forward with their parents.)

Narrator: Then, on the side of a snow-covered mountain, I. B. Scoutly learned the secret passes over the mountains and the weather signs.

I.B. Scoutly: (lighting the Bear candle) With the Spirit of Scouting, we light the Bear Trail. It isn't easy crossing the mountains on the Bear Trail, but I see wagons coming down the side. (He calls up boys receiving Bear badges and arrow points. They come forward with their parents.)

Narrator: But, before he could become a wagon master, I.B. had to prove himself by acquiring new skills, performing certain tasks and passing rigorous tests.

I.B. Scoutly: (lighting the Webelos candle) With the Spirit of Scouting we light the trail to Webelos. From the fresh ruts on the trail, I see that the following drivers have shown their skill in earning the _____ Activity pins. **(Indicating the pins earned, he calls forward the boys and their parents. He presents the awards.)**

Narrator: I.B. Scoutly went on to blaze many new trails, that lead to Boy Scouting. The Spirit of Scouting still burns brightly. Now will all Cub Scouts stand and repeat the Cub Scout Promise.

Our Wagon Train Crew Advancement Ceremony*Viking Council*

Arrangement: An artificial or real campfire. Costuming as desired for pioneer.

Cubmaster: To the early day pioneer, nothing was more challenging than the road West. His days were long, sleep was little, and his food was edible... sometimes. The pioneers traveled in groups so that they could help each other, working as a team with each person having responsibilities according to his skill.

Walking along beside the wagons are the Bobcats. Their enthusiasm keeps alive our spirit of togetherness. **(Have**

Bobcats and parents come forward - present awards. Have parents return to seats and new Bobcats sit around fire.)

Our Wolves are in the green horn stage. Each task is a new challenge and is met with wide-eyed eagerness. They are in charge of the horses and oxen which pull the wagons and are the future strength of the train. **(Present awards as above.)**

Honing skills learned as Wolves, our Bears are the drovers on our train. They have proven the ability to meet the demands of the trail and to seek out new adventures on the arrow point trail. **(Present awards as above.)**

Webelos are the scouts for our group. Their knowledge and experience set the goals of achievement for the pack and give continuity to our crew. With courage and determination, Webelos scouts further define and hone their skills by earning activity badges. **(Present awards as above. Ask awards recipients to stand and face audience.)**

Ladies and gentleman, it is time to hit the trail again. The trail can be long and tiring, but as long as we work together, we will reach our destination. May I present to you, our wagon train crew... a group I am proud to ride with. **Lead a cheer!!**

Fireside Ceremony*Heart of America Council*

Cubmaster stands before a campfire, or, if fires are not permitted, stack wood log cabin-style as if ready for a fire.

CM: Will all our Cub Scout pioneers come forward and be seated around our fire? (Pause while boys settle down around fire.)

CM: Fire played an important part in the lives of our pioneers. It gave them heat on chilly mornings and light into the evenings. It was where they cooked their food and heated water to wash their clothes. In order to build a fire, we need several sizes of wood. (show pieces of wood from twigs to branches to logs.)

CM The advancement ranks in Cub Scouting are like the wood needed to build a strong fire. The boys earning their Bobcat rank are like these twigs, just getting fired up. Will our Bobcat recipients and their parents come forward. (name boy, present awards). **Lead a cheer!!**

Repeat for all the ranks, wolves like branches, Bear are our heavier wood, Webelos are the logs on the fire.

CM: Congratulations to all our Cub Scouts as you continue to burn with the fire of scouting and the spirit of Circle the Wagons.

Advancement*Santa Clara County Council*

Setting: Cubmaster is dressed in a western hat and bandana. Another pack leader is his deputy.

Cubmaster: Deputy, call the Younger Gang to come in now.

Deputy calls Cubs receiving Wolf or arrow points.

Cubmaster: Come in boys and receive your silver dollars (foil-wrapped coins) for your good work. Now, I want to see the Bearskin Boys.

Deputy calls Cubs receiving Bear or arrow points.

Cubmaster: You have earned a fair share of our bounty. I have chosen to reward you with diamonds. (These can be cardboard-shaped diamonds with awards taped to the back.) Now, I want to see the Webelos, to award them their share of the treasure.

Deputy calls Webelos receiving activity badges.

Cubmaster: The Webelos have traveled with the pack for many years, and their loyalty cannot go unrewarded. For you young men, I have bags of gold. (Made from scrap material, with awards inside.) Thank you all, for your hard work. You bring honor to our pack.

Deputy leads a cheer for all the awards. (or better yet, he led a cheer after each one!!)

GAMES

Chuck Wagon Contest

Viking Council

Equipment required: Two children's wagons (made to look like a chuck wagon by covering with a cloth cover attached to a wire frame), assorted pots and pans, brown paper bags.

Each den team has a chuck wagon. Two den members wearing paper bag horse masks are the horses. Behind each wagon is an equal number of pots and pans (or tin cans). On signal, all den members except the horses load cans into the wagon. When they are finished, they yell, "Wagons, ho!" and the horses dash off, pulling the wagon twice around a track. If any implement falls out, the horses must stop and wait for other den members to put it back. First wagon making the circuit twice wins.

Bull In The Ring Game

Viking Council

The players form a ring around the "Bull" holding hands. The "bull" tries to break through. He may rush, lunge, or pull, to try to break out of the ring. If he escapes the players chase him. Whoever catches him becomes the "Bull". It is not fair for the "bull" to duck under.

Pony Express Game

Viking Council

One player is blindfolded and stands in center of the area as the Pony Express Rider. Another is selected to be Station Agent and has a list of cities or towns. Other players have been given names of one of the towns. The Station Agent calls out names such as: "I have a letter from Deadwood to Tombstone". Immediately the players with

these names must rise and exchange seats. The Pony Express Rider tries to catch one of them or sit in his seat. If a player is caught or his chair is taken, he becomes the Pony Express Rider. Players may crawl, run, walk, dive, or dodge to get by the Pony Express Rider, but they are not allowed to step outside the circle of chairs. If the rider has difficulty catching anyone, the Station Agent may call out several town names at once. Keep the game moving rapidly. The announcement of "General Delivery" causes a mad scramble, as all players must change chairs.

Relay Barrel Race

Circle Ten Council

Arrange three barrels (or other objects in a large triangle)

Starting point is midway between two barrels and a distance (depends on size of your playing area) outside of the triangle.

Following the route of a Rodeo Barrel race: Rider circles left barrel, then right barrel, then the far barrel, then races home.

Bronco Tag Game

Circle Ten Council

At least 10 players are needed for this game. Divide the players into groups of three with the one remaining as the chaser. The groups of three form "broncos"; one player is the "head" and the other two line up behind the "head" holding onto the player in front of him at the waist; they are the "tails".

After the broncos start running, the chaser must try to join one of them by getting hold of the waist of the "tail" player. If the chaser successfully joins the bronco, the head becomes the chaser and the next player in line becomes the new head. This game has no real winners or losers. The object is to simply avoid the chaser.

Golden Spike Game

(or I've been working on the Railroad)

Circle Ten Council

A large grassy or carpeted area is needed. Divide boy's into two teams. They must construct a railroad connection to Premonitory Point in the middle of the area, starting from their side of the room. The boys become the tracks. One boy lays down with feet and arms extended and together. The next boy crawls over the first and with the first boy holding his feet, he extends the tracks further, etc. However each railroad must have two "curves", a "trestle" (boy on elbows and knees), and a "switch back" (three boys forming a "Z" in their "track plan" before connecting to Premonitory point. Once the two tracks have joined, then the boy's "ride the rails" to premonitory, beginning with the first one down, till everyone has completed the journey to "drive the golden spike."

Earth, Air, Water*Santa Clara County Council*

The players form a circle, and one stands in the center holding a knotted up neckerchief or a ball. He counts up to ten, then throws the ball into someone's lap, calling out either "Earth," "Air," or "Water." If he cries "Earth," the person in who has the ball or neckerchief must instantly name some animal which lives on earth; if the word was "Water," some fish must be named; and if "Air," a bird. If the thrower counts to ten without an answer, the catcher either leaves the circle or loses a point or becomes the thrower (whatever scheme is most fun for your group).

Stake a Claim -*Heart of America Council*

To play this game take a piece of rope about one meter long and tie the ends together with a square knot. Drop the rope down on the ground anywhere you like. Together look carefully at everything in your circle. How many different things can you discover?

Pony Express Relay*Heart of America Council*

Each den is given a paper bag full of crumpled newspaper and is divided into two groups. The groups should be separated as far as possible. On signal, the first "rider" in each den grabs the bag from the floor, races to the other group and puts the bag down. The first rider in the other line picks it up and races back to the start. This continues until all riders in the den have finished. First den through wins.

Stagecoach*Heart of America Council*

The players are seated in a circle. Each player is given the name of some part of a stagecoach - the wheel, hub, axle, seat, door, harness, brake, horses, driver, passenger, baggage, spoke, step. One of the party begins telling a story about a stagecoach. As each thing is mentioned, the player or players representing it gets up and runs around his chair. At the same point in the story, the storyteller shouts "stagecoach", when everyone must leave his seat and get a different one. The storyteller tries to get a seat in the scramble, thus leaving another player to begin a new story.

Going West*Heart of America Council*

A trail out west is set up outside. It is played like a treasure hunt, except that at every stop a player must do something in order to go to the next stop on the trail. A leader is posted at each stop to see that every boy completed the requirement. These requirements can be feats of skill or other achievements out of the Wolf or Bear book and after the game is over the boys can be signed off on those feats. This game can also be used by Webelos leaders too.

Advancing Cowboys*Heart of America Council*

All players stand in a line except one. He stands some distance ahead of the line and covers his eyes as he counts to 10. The players try to get to the finish line while "it" is counting. As soon as "it" reaches 10, he looks up suddenly. Any player caught in motion must go back to the starting line. The others must hold whatever position they happen to have at the time, "Cowboy-like". The first player to cross the finish line becomes "it".

SONGS

Song tip from Commissioner Dave - The York-Adams Council Pow Wow Book CD has a folder with a lot of midi files for the most popular Scouting tunes. This will give you something to play to help you lead the song. It will help prevent a problem like I had this year teaching "The Scout Who Never Returned," so many leaders are so young that they never even heard of The Kingston Trio let alone that song!!! Their website is www.yaac-bsa.org

The Ballad of Davy Crockett*Heart of America Council*

HOAC suggested using this song as a closing, introducing it with following words - "To close our Circle the wagons theme, lets sing about a famous scout and pioneer."

Born on a mountain top in Tennessee,
Greenest state in the land of the free,
Raised in the woods, so's he knew ev'ry tree,
Kilt him a bar when he was only three.
Davy, Davy Crockett, the man of the wild frontier.
In 1813, the Creeks up rose,
Addin' redskin arrows to the country's woes,
Now, Injun fightin' is somethin' he knows,
So he shoulders his rifle an' off he goes.
Davy, Davy Crockett, the man who don't know fear.
Off through the woods he's a marchin' along,
Making up yarns an' singin' a song,
Itchin' fer fightin' an' righin' a wrong,
He's big as a bar and twice't as strong.
Davy, Davy Crockett, the buckskin buccaneer.
His land is biggest an' his land is best,
From grassy plains to the mountain crest,
He's ahead of us all a meetin' the test,
Following his legend into the west.
Davy, Davy Crockett, king of the wild frontier.

From Commissioner Dave - There are actually 30 plus verses to this song. Having been 6 years old when Walt Disney put Davy Crockett on the air, I have the sheet music, a song sheet with all the verses, multiple recordings of the song, the LP that tells his story, the new Disney DVD with all 6 episodes (Of course, I know the three with Mike Fink are made up but the original three are true), and the Little Golden Book (with the 25 cent price). I also have several coonskin caps (but none real or original)

Give me an angle in a theme, and I can work in Davy
Crockett!

Wagon Train Song

Viking Council

(Tune: If you're Happy and You Know it)

Won't you come along and join the wagon train?
Won't you come along and join the wagon train?
We will blaze the trail before us,
And will sing this western chorus.
Won't you come along and join the wagon train?

Home on The Range

Heart of America Council

Oh, give me a home where the buffalo roam
Where the deer and the antelope play.
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day
Home, home on the range,
Where the deer and the antelope play.
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day.

Fun On the Range

Heart of America Council

(tune: Home on the range)

Oh give me a home where the Webelos roam
And the wolves and the Bears like to play,
Where seldom is heard, a discouraging word
And the Tigers Cubs wrestle all day
Home, home, on the range
Where the Den Leaders smell kind of strange.
Where seldom is heard, a discouraging word,
And the Pack is at home on the range.

Happy Wanderer

Heart of America Council

I love to go a-wandering along the mountain track
And as I go, I love to sing. My knapsack on my back

Chorus:

Valderi, valdera, valderi, valderha, ha,ha, ha, ha, ha, ha
Valderi, valdera, my knapsack on my back.

I wave my hat to all I meet and they wave back to me
And black birds call so loud and sweet from every
greenwood tree.

Chorus: ... from every greenwood tree

Oh, may I go a-wandering until the day I die
Oh, may I always laugh and sing beneath God's clear blue
sky.

Chorus: ...beneath God's clear blue sky

Deep in the Heart of Texas

Heart of America Council

The stars at night are big and bright

Deep in the heart of Texas.
Reminds me of the one I love,
Deep in the heart of Texas.
The prairie sky is wide and high,
Deep in the heart of Texas.
The cowboys cry "K-YIP-PE-Y"
Deep in the heart of Texas.

Oh, Susannah

Heart of America Council

Oh, I come from Alabama with a banjo on my knee
I'm goin' to Louisiana, my true love for to see.
It rained all night, the day I left, the weather, it was dry.
The sun so hot, I froze to death, Susannah don't you cry.
Oh, Susannah, don't you cry for me.
For I come from Alabama with a banjo on my knee.

Wagons, Ho!

Viking Council

One of the important ways to travel during the settlement
of the west was the covered wagon. Give the boys a
chance to recreate this adventure by practicing this chant
several times until the boys can experience the rhythm and
feel of the rolling wagons.

Let's go across the country
Life folks did so long ago,
Hitch-up the team
Let's pack the covered wagon,
Get inside, Wagons, Ho!

Roll on across the prairie,
Tall grass swishing by,
Swish, Swish, Swish, Swish.

Roll on through the river,
Water splashing at our wheels,
Splash, Splash, Splash, Splash.

Roll on over mountains,
Foot hills rumble by,
Rumble, Rumble, Rumble, Rumble.

Roll on to the new land,
Clear the forest, build a home.
Journey's ended. We are settlers.

This was wilderness. Now we're home!

CUB GRUB - Fun Food

Fruit Leather (Bear Den Meeting Activity)

Cub Scout Program Helps Addendum

It was possible to have fruit to eat when traveling by
wagon train by turning it into "leather."

Ingredients: 2 cups of ripe fruit (berries, cherries, plums,
apricots, peaches, apples, or a combination of these)

Utensils: Table knife, blender, cookie sheet, plastic wrap,
and wooden spoon

Wash the fruit and let it drain. Cut it into small chunks. Leave the peels on—they are chewy and nutritious. Put the fruit in the blender and blend while counting to 15 slowly. Pour the mixture out onto a cookie sheet lined with plastic wrap. Dry it in a warm place for a day or so. To eat, peel the fruit off the plastic wrap. You can also roll it in the plastic wrap and store it in a covered container.

Pioneer And Western Recipes

Circle Ten Council

Johnnycakes

2 eggs, beaten
2 cups buttermilk
2 tablespoons honey or molasses
2 cups cornmeal
1/2 cup flour
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons butter

Beat eggs until light. Add buttermilk and honey or molasses. Combine dry ingredients and stir into batter along with melted butter. Pour into buttered dripper pan and bake at 425° F. for about 20 minutes. Cut into squares.

Apple Candy

2 tablespoons gelatin
1 1/4 cups cold applesauce
2 cups sugar
1 cup chopped nuts
1 tablespoon vanilla

Soak gelatin in 1/2 cup cold applesauce for 10 minutes. Combine remaining applesauce and sugar and boil 10 minutes. Add gelatin and applesauce mixture and boil 15 minutes longer, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, add nuts and vanilla, and pour into slightly greased pan. Let set overnight in refrigerator. Then cut in squares and roll in powdered sugar.

Dried Apple Rings

Santa Clara County Council

Start with firm, ripe apples (as many as you like), with a strong, tart flavor. Peel and core them; then slice them across the core into rings about 1/4" thick.

Dry the apples as quickly as possible before they spoil. String the rings on a length of twine and hang it between any 2 hooks in a warm, dry, airy place. Drying can be done indoors or out. If outside, be sure the weather is sunny and dry, and bring the apples indoors if it becomes damp or rainy and during the nighttime dew. If flies or insects try to feed on your drying apple rings, cover them with a piece of cheesecloth. Outdoor drying during warm weather may take only a few days, whereas it may take up to two weeks to dry the apples indoors.

For indoor drying, hang the string of apple rings in the driest and warmest place in your house. Depending upon the time of year, this might be in your kitchen, by a radiator or heater, or in the attic. Don't try to dry the rings

in the oven, since heating them too quickly causes an outside skin to form and prevents the inside from drying. Dried apple rings are usually eaten as a sweet snack, but they can also be put into cereals, cakes and other baking recipes. They can be carried and stored safely without refrigeration, which makes them a perfect snack on hikes or long car rides. They can be stored (for years!) in a jar with a tight lid without losing their flavor.

Double Berry Pie

Santa Clara County Council

Ingredients:

- 1 jar (16 oz.) blueberry jam
- 1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 2 cups fresh blueberries or raspberries
- 9-inch frozen pie shell, cooked & cooled

Directions:

1. Using a microwave safe bowl, combine jam and cinnamon. Microwave on high for about 1 minute, until mixture liquefies (do not overcook).
2. Stir in the fresh berries and spoon into pie shell.
3. Place in refrigerator for a hour to chill.
4. Serve with vanilla ice cream.

Crispix Ranch Mix

Santa Clara County Council

Ingredients:

- 8 cups Kellogg's Crispix cereal
- 1 1/2 cups bite-size cheddar cheese crackers
- 1 cup pretzel sticks (low-salt)
- 2 cups mixed nuts (unsalted)
- 2 tbs. vegetable oil
- 1 package (1 oz) dry ranch salad dressing

Directions:

1. Using a 2 gallon storage bag, combine the Crispix, cheese crackers, pretzels and nuts. If any of your boys are allergic to nuts, substitute with sunflower seeds or other snack food.
2. Pour oil on the mixture and toss until evenly coated.
3. Add the ranch dressing and gently toss again to coat.
4. Store in an airtight container until ready to serve.

STUNTS & APPLAUSES

Cheers and Applauses

Heart of America Council

Horse applause: Gallop in place saying clippety clop.

Cowboy applause: Raise hand in air as if waving hat, saying Whoopee!!

Santa Clara County Council

Cowboy Cheer: Put index finger in the air and make a circular motion as you say, "Yeehaw!"

*Circle Ten Council***Pioneer Cheer:** Wagons ho!**Pony Express Cheer:** Gallop in place and shout YIPEEE!**Covered Wagon Cheer:** Divide the group into two.
One group shouts **WESTWARD!** And
The other group shouts **HO!****Jokes, Riddles and Run-ons***Viking Council***Boy 1:** When you are on a wagon train trip, how will you know when you are getting into wild country?**Boy 2:** When you see a sign: "Bear to the Right."*Heart of America Council***Smoke Signals****1st Cub -** Hey George, look over there, Smoke Signals.**2nd Cub -** Oh yes Mike, what do they say?**1st Cub -** Pretending to look through binoculars, says very slowly "Help..my...blankets ...on..fire"**2nd Cub -** (Look at 2nd Cub)"Help my blankets on fire?"*Heart of America Council***Tex:** My uncle can shoot a gun faster than any other man in the West.

He can even shoot without removing the gun from his holster.

Rex: What do they call your uncle?**Tex:** Toeless Joe.**Cowboy:** I broke three wild horses this morning.**Tenderfoot:** How careless of you!**Little Louie:** What do you use that rope for?**Cowboy:** I use it to catch cattle.**Little Louie:** What do you use for bait?**Cowboy AI:** Why are you wearing only one spur?**Cowboy Hal:** I figure that when one side of the horse starts running, the other side will follow.**Cowboy 1:** When I left the ranch I was a three-letter man**Cowboy 2:** You mean there were on three athletic teams there?**Cowboy 1:** No, I sat on a hot branding iron.**Dude:** The flies sure are thick out here in the West.**Rancher:** You prefer your flies to be thin?**Cowhand:** Aren't you putting that saddle on backwards, sir?**Dude:** How can you say that! You don't even know which way I'm going,*Southern NJ Council***# 1:** Hey look at that bunch of cows**# 2:** Not a bunch, a herd**# 1:** Heard what?**# 2:** Herd of cows**# 1:** Sure I've heard of cows**# 2:** No, I mean a cow herd**# 1:** What do I can what a Cow heard!**Dave** Do you know how long Wild Appalachian Cows are milked?**Charlie** No**Dave** Same as short ones

Run-ons

*Santa Clara County Council***Cub #1:** What is a twip?**Cub #2:** A twip is what a wabbit takes when he wides a twain.**Cub #1:** Why did the horse sneeze?**Cub #2:** Because it had a little colt.**Cub #1:** In what kind of home do the buffalo roam?**Cub #2:** A very dirty one.**Cub #1:** What is the saddest piece of clothing?**Cub #2:** Blue jeans.**Cowboy Phrases***Santa Clara County Council*

Try adding these zippy cowboy phrases to your next conversation:

- *Above my huckleberry* - Too hard for me to do
- *All horns and rattles* - Someone who is very angry
- *Barkin' at the knot* - Wasting your time, trying to do something useless
- *Doesn't use up all his kindlin' to make a fire* - Someone who doesn't waste words on small talk
- *Don't go wakin' snakes* - Don't make trouble
- *He's a featherheaded loco!* - He's a crazy fool!
- *I'm busted!* -I've spent all my money
- *I'm sick of prairie strawberries every day!* - Not baked beans again!
- *Let's hit the trail* - Time to get going!
- *Looks like a goose-drowner* - It's going to rain cats and dogs
- *Mad as a peeled rattler* - Very angry

SKITS**The Oldest Settler In The West - Skit***Circle Ten Council*

This is a very simple skit, almost an elongated run-on!

Cub #1: Who's the oldest settler in the west?**Cub #2:** Death Valley Scout?**Cub #1:** Nope.**Cub #3:** Buffalo Bill?**Cub #1:** Nope.

Cub #4: Daniel Rodney?

Cub #1: Nope.

Cubs # 2,3 and 4: We give up, who is the oldest settler in the west?

Cub #1: The sun!

The Show Down

Circle Ten Council

Set up: Western costumes, stick horse, Town's Treasure (small toy)

Characters: Sheriff Fear Less, Banker Count de Money, Bad guy Rude Red Bart, Good guy The Looone Ranger, Den Leader.

SHERIFF: (on stage alone) I'm the sheriff in these here parts... Sheriff Fear Less, and I run a clean town. Don't any of you even think of causin' any trouble or I'll run ya out of town. I ain't afraid of nobody.

(Banker runs frantically on stage from audience.)

SHERIFF: Here comes our banker, Count de Money. Mmmmmm, he seems upset. Count, what's up?

BANKER: It's awful, just awful. The bank's been robbed!

SHERIFF: Robbed? I'll get a posse. I'll track the no good so and so down. I'll.....

BANKER: It's Rude Red Bart.

SHERIFF: ...leave town.

BANKER: But who'll get the Town's Treasure back?

SHERIFF: T'aint me. Rude Red Bart is so mean he won't help little old ladies across the street and steals candy from babies. There's only one man who can help us now.... The Looone Ranger!

BANKER: The Looone Ranger?

SHERIFF: Yes, the Looone Ranger. (Rude Red Bart walks out)

RUDE RED: The Looone Ranger can't help you now. (Banker and Sheriff draw back in horror.) It's Rude Red Bart!

RUDE RED: That's right! I'm the meanest, low down bad guy you've ever wanted to meet, North, South, East or West of the Pecos. And I don't never give nothin' back once I take it.

SHERIFF: Not to mention that you smell bad and have rotten teeth. But that's not going to stop us from calling the Looone Ranger.

BANKER: (tugging on the Sheriff's sleeve) But phones haven't been invented yet!

SHERIFF: Not that kind of calling. We'll get everyone here to call "Where are you Looone Ranger?"

(Have the audience call "Where are you Looone Ranger?" at least three times and louder each time. After

the third time the Looone Ranger comes riding in on a stick horse.)

RANGER: I heard someone calling me and my mommy always told me to come when called. Now what's the matter? I was playing with Tonto.

BANKER: Rude Red Bart robbed the bank!

RANGER: (walks over to Rude Red so they are chest to chest) Rude Red, what did I tell you about taking things that didn't belong to you?

RUDE RED: (pushes back) Don't care.

RANGER: (pushes back) And did I tell you what I was going to do?

RUDE RED: (pushes back) Still don't care.

RANGER: (pushes back) I'll call your Den Leader!

RUDE RED: (draws back, upset) No! No! Not that! I promise I'll be good. I'll do anything you want! Just please don't call my Den Leader! I was just a funnin'.

RANGER: It's too late now! Mr. or Mrs. _____, come here please. I need you help!

LEADER: (from audience) What can I help you with?

RANGER: Well sir (or ma'am). It's Rude Red. He's been a baaaaaad boy. He robbed the bank of the Town's Treasure.

LEADER: Little Red is that true?

RUDE RED: (head down) Yes sir (or ma'am).

LEADER: What am I going to do with you? I just can't leave you alone for one minute. Now, you give back what you took.

RUDE RED: (protesting) Awww, do I have to?

LEADER: Yes, and what do you say?

RUDE RED: (pulls toy out from under shirt and hands to banker) I'm sorry.

LEADER: Now let's go! I don't know what I'm going to do with you. (Leads him off)

RANGER: Well, my work here is done. Hi-Ho Platinum, awaaay! (rides off on his stick horse)

SHERIFF AND BANKER: (looking off) Who is that masked man?

"Frontier Life"

Santa Clara County Council

A narrator tells a story of the harsh frontier life out on the prairie. Scouts perform various actions cued by the narrator, including a large group to act as a thundering herd of buffalo, and three act as "volunteers."

The narrator begins by asking for three volunteers from the audience (**pre-selected and cued**). They are asked to come forward and lay down on their stomachs next to each other. The narrator then says, "Now to begin. Frontier life out on the prairie was very harsh. First, the wind swept across the prairie" (A scout comes out with a broom and

sweeps the backs of the three volunteers while making wind noises).

The narrator continues with "The sun beat down" (another scout shines a flashlight on the heads and backs of the volunteers). "And the rain came down" (another scout sprinkles water on them). The narrator continues with the story, explaining how difficult it was to plant crops and build homes, etc, with each of the element actions being repeated in turn.

Finally, the narrator explains, "Worse than the wind, sun and rain was the constant fear of a buffalo stampede." (On that cue, a large group of Scouts charges across the stage toward the volunteers, who get up and run off the stage.)

Dude Ranch

(This is, also, a great run on)

Heart of America Council

Props: A couple of western hats and bandannas would help set the scene.

Announcer: This skit takes place at a dude ranch.

Old Hand: (slouched against fence, slow western accent)
So, you want to go ridin' eh?

Dude: (City Voice) Well, yes, that's what I came to this expensive resort to do!

Old Hand: You ever been ridin' before?

Dude: No, I expect you to teach me.

Old Hand: Well... we better start with the saddle. Would you like an English saddle or Western saddle?

Dude: I don't know, what's the difference?

Old Hand: Well... the English saddle is flat, the Western saddle has a horn on it.

Dude: Give me the one with the horn. I don't want anybody getting in my way!!

Three Rivers

Heart of America Council

Players: a prospector, two tired riders,

Scene: campfire, prospector eating dinner. First tired rider walks up to the campfire.

1st rider: Hey, old timer. That grub smells mighty good; would you happen to have any extra to spare?

Prospector: Sure, sonny, hand me that empty plate over there and I'll fix you right up.

1st rider: Gee, this plate looks kinda dirty.

Prospector: Dirty? That plates not dirty; its as clean as Three Rivers can get it. (Prospector dishes up the food; rider shrugs and eats.)

1st rider: Well, thanks for the grub. I've got to be moving on.

2nd rider: Boy, I've been ridin' for miles and I sure am hungry. Would you have any of that great stew to share?

Prospector: You bet, young feller, hand me that bowl over there and I'll fill it up for you.

2nd rider: (makes face and looks into the bowl) This bowl seems pretty dirty to me, do you have a cleaner one?

Prospector: Dirty? Why that bowl's as clean as Three Rivers can get it. (Prospector dishes up food; rider shrugs and eats.)

2nd rider: I've got to be going, thanks for the great food. (Prospector finishes eating.)

Prospector: Well, that was mighty good grub. Now, time to clean the dishes. (Prospector puts dishes on ground and whistles.) Three Rivers! Here, Three Rivers, it time to do the dishes.

The Tates Watch Company

*From Commissioner Dave's
Collection of Classic Scout stories.*

Back in the 1840's the Tates Watch Company of Massachusetts wanted to make other products. Since they already made the cases for the excellent pocket watches they made, they decided to make compasses for the 49ers heading West that would, also, fit in the cases.

It turned out that, although their watches were of finest quality, their compasses were so bad that people often ended up in Canada or Mexico, rather than California. This, of course, is the origin of the expression, "He who has a Tates is lost!"

CLOSING CEREMONY

Cowboy's Philosophy

Southern NJ Council

Cub 1 We, the cowboys of the western plains are bound by our desire to live free.

Cub 2 We must, therefore, show respect for our fellow man,

Cub 3 Respect for his beliefs,

Cub 4 Respect for his belongings,
Respect for his privacy,
Respect for the ground he walks on and
the air he breathes.

Cub 5 In doing so, we show respect for ourselves.

Note from Commissioner Dave – This ceremony was listed as a Closing in the SNJC book and an Opening in the Santa Clara County Council book. *Your choice!*

And Secure Freedom For All - Bound And Gagged

Heart of America Council

This ceremony is effective if done with lights out and a spotlight on the Cub Scout. A den leader or den chief unbinds the boy while the Cubmaster, standing in the back of the room, reads the script.

A Cub Scout stands blindfolded, gagged and bound at the wrists.

Cubmaster (or other Leader) say all lines:

This is an American boy.

The American Revolution won him his freedom.

Unbind wrists

The Constitution guarantees him freedom of speech

Remove gag

A free education has enables him to see and understand.

Remove blindfold

Help Cub Scouting teach him to preserve and enjoy his glorious heritage, and to become a good citizen.

Famous Pioneer - Closing

Circle Ten Council

Cubmaster: We've heard of many famous men; men with curious minds, strong purposes, courage, determination, and a proud, fierce loyalty for their country. For you, as Cub Scouts, America is still a land of expanding opportunity. It could well be that someday one of you will become a famous pioneer in American history. Good luck with your future. Good night.

Campfire Closing

National Capital Area Council

(Give each person a sprig of dried cedar, pine, juniper, etc. If using an artificial campfire indoors, use toothpicks.)

Cubmaster: The light from hundreds of campfires around the world have brightened the Cub Scout spirit for many years. Tonight, we have enjoyed the warmth and cheerfulness of our campfire as one Cub Scout family. As the campfire dims, its glowing embers are reminders of the fun and fellowship we have shared. I ask that you now walk slowly past our campfire in silence, throw your twig upon the embers, and think of what Cub Scouting means to you. Then please leave our council ring, remaining silent. Good Night.

WEBELOS

Note from Commissioner Dave – This Webelos section is reprinted from the August 2002 Baloo with a few additions. I need to improve my resources for Webelos Activity Badges.

Both badges this month offer you an opportunity to promote understanding of the Outdoor Code and give you opportunities for practical application.

The Outdoor Code

BSA Outdoor Code Wallet Card (#33428A)

As an American, I will do my best to -

Be clean in my outdoor manners.

- I will treat the outdoors as a heritage.
- I will take care of it for myself and others
- I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways.

Be careful with fire.

- I will prevent wildfire.
- I will build my fires only where they are appropriate.
- When I have finished using a fire, I will make sure it is cold out.
- I will leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of my fire.

Be considerate in the outdoors. and

- I will treat public and private property with respect.
- I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping.

Be conservation minded

- I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, waters, forests, minerals, grasslands, wildlife, and energy.
- I will urge others to do the same.

Naturalist

Baltimore Area Council

Wild creatures fascinate most Webelos-age boys. Working on the Naturalist Activity Badge gives a boy a chance to develop his natural curiosity and may begin a lifelong habit of observing things all around him. We miss a great deal when we do not have some appreciation or knowledge of the wonderful world of nature all around us.

This introduction to the world of nature will prepare them for further adventures in Scouting where they may choose to work on the many nature related merit badges dealing with plants and animals such as Environmental Science and Mammal Study.

If you are not an experienced outdoorsman, bird watcher or amateur naturalist, you may welcome some experienced help. Check with a high school science teacher, state conservation department or an amateur naturalist among your den's parents.

In most of the country, it is probably best to work on the Naturalist badge during the spring, summer or fall. Most animal life is hard to find in winter and plant life is dormant. It is possible for a boy to earn this badge without ever going into the field, but that would be unfortunate. Schedule trips to areas where wildlife can be found, a park, the woods, or even someone's farm.

Note from Commissioner Dave - In Southern NJ Council, our Webelos Resident camp emphasizes this badge and Forester. Encourage your Webelos to attend your council's Webelos Resident camp and earn these badges while living in the environment.

Den Activities

Baltimore Area Council

Make an ant farm.

- Make an insect study laboratory
- Make bird feeders and observe the birds.
- Make terrariums.
- Start a nature collection
- Invite a conservationist to a meeting.
- Make a leaf collection.
- Take a bird watcher's hike, identify birds.
- Collect tadpoles; keep in terrarium; watch them grow.
- Study wildlife homes.
- Make a list of plants in your area.
- Take a hike and look for animal tracks.

Outdoor Activity Tips
Baltimore Area Council

Be sure the boys can identify poisonous plants.
 Know and practice the Outdoor Code on all field trips.

Leader's Tip
www.pack846.org

If you're in the Greater Cincinnati area, the Hamilton County Park District offers a program at Sharon Woods Park where Scouts can earn this badge and the Forester badge in one session. Sessions are Ranger led and are a great and easy way to earn these badges. The session costs a nominal fee and is held periodically throughout the year. Advance registration is required. Check the Evergreen insert in the Sunday Cincinnati Enquirer or their web site.

Comment from Commissioner Dave – I provided this Leader's Tip as an example of available help with these Activity Badges. When I did searches on the web for Webelos Naturalist and Webelos Forester, I received many hits from parks, zoos, nature centers, and other places that offer classes on these badges. If your Webelos do not go to Resident Camp to earn these and you feel your knowledge is limited one of these programs may be just the ticket.

Rare Bird Facts
 By Barb Stephens
 Pack 114 Fun Pages

Fill in the correct answer(s)

1. What is the fastest flying bird? _____
2. How high can birds fly? _____
3. What is the Nebraska State Bird? _____
4. What bird became extinct in the last 75 years? _____
5. Why do all birds build nests? _____
6. Name two "major league" birds. _____
7. Which birds can fly backwards? _____
8. What bird is famous for its deliveries? _____
9. What is the largest bird in North America? _____
10. What is the smallest bird in the world? _____
11. List three birds that cannot fly. _____
12. What color is a bluebird? _____

Answers:

1. What is the fastest flying bird?
Swifts have been timed at 200 mph.
2. How high can birds fly?
A vulture has been seen flying at 25,000 feet, but most birds rarely fly above 3,000 feet.
3. What is the Nebraska State Bird?
Western Meadowlark (New Jersey is the Eastern Goldfinch!! – “My Home State” is the May 2004 theme!!)
4. What bird has become extinct in the last 75 years?
Passenger Pigeon
5. Why do all birds build nests?
Birds build nests to "house" their eggs while they incubate
6. Name two "major league" birds.
Cardinal and Oriole
7. Which birds can fly backwards?
Hummingbirds or any bird using fluttering flight
8. What bird is known for its famous deliveries?
Stork
9. What is the largest bird in North America?
Trumpet Swan
10. What is the smallest bird in the world?
Bee Hummingbird of Cuba - 2.25" long
11. List three birds that cannot fly.
Kiwi, Penguin, Ostrich
12. What color is a bluebird?
It appears blue because of reflection and diffraction of light due to the structure of feathers

Forester

Bay Area Council

There's no greater thrill than being in the forest, amongst the trees, hearing the wind in the treetops and feeling the peace there. These activities will help you to appreciate the woodlands around you.

Activity #1:

Almost any one can figure out the age of a tree by counting its rings. Now you can do the same by dating a twig by looking at its bark. Every tree branch ends in a "terminal bud," which contains the growth for the next season. Every spring, the leaves sprout from that bud and the twig lengthens. At the end of

the growing season, the leaves fall and a new bud is formed to protect the tip of the growing branch. Wherever the terminal bud is formed, a band is left around the twig. By looking at the distance between the bands, you can get an idea of how fast the twig grew and how many seasons it's been growing. The more bands, the more seasons. The longer the distance between bands, the more the twig has grown that year.

Activity #2:

Tree seed art-take a plastic grocery bag and go on a seed collection hunt. Be sure to gather seeds that have already fallen to the ground. Some seeds will have casings or pods, some may have what looks like wings, while others will be in protective shells. After collecting, clean off any dirt and attach to a poster board using white glue that dries clear. To preserve your picture, wrap in clear plastic wrap and tape it to the back of the poster board.

The Web Of Life.

Materials needed: ball of string or yarn, scissors, plain white stickers and pen.

Everyone stands in a circle and the den leader begins by asking each individual to name a tree that grows in the forest. The first to speak up will be given the end of the string or yarn. Next, ask the boys to name an animal that depends on that tree for food or shelter and then hand the ball of string to the boy that answers. This creates the first strand of your web of life. See if anyone can name an animal or plant that depends on the first animal and pass the ball of string to him. Continue until each child has answered a question and is holding a part of the web of string. You can use the stickers to place the name of the animal or plant suggested by the boy and put it on his hand.

After playing the game, ask the boys to imagine that a forest fire has wiped out all the trees in their forest. Have the boy representing the tree tug on his end of the string and tell each child who feels a tug to give a tug in turn. Very quickly, each boy in the web should feel the impact of the loss of the tree.

Forest Glossary:

Soil Layer is the foundation of the forest. It supports and provides moisture and nutrients to plant and tree roots. It consists of decomposed plant matter and inorganic mater, like rocks, minerals, and clay.

Litter layer is the floor of the forest, where decaying plant matter and fungi undergo the transformation into soil. Bacteria, insects, and worms in the litter help break down the plant matter. Field layer is the firstlayer of growth on the forest floor-a soft carpet of moss and ferns, wild flowers, grasses and other low plants.

Understory is made up of bushes, shrubs, woody plants, and young trees reaching up to the forest canopy. It provides a habitat for birds and insects. Canopy is the highest layer of the forest-the intertwined branches of mature trees that shade and protect lower forest layers and provides a habitat for insects, birds and small mammals.

Forester*Baltimore Area Council*

A forester deals with the care and growing of trees, and a Webelos Scout working on his Forester Activity Badge will learn how to recognize different species of trees by their shape, foliage, bark and types of wood, as well as how they live and grow.

A forester must learn how to do a great variety of things as well as know many facts about trees. Some of his tasks are making tree inventories, estimating the lumber content in standing timber, surveying, logging, and marking of trees for harvesting. He is interested in Woodlands conservation and learns how to preserve and protect them from fire and disease. A forester must have excellent health and a love of the outdoors.

Den Activities*Baltimore Area Council*

Teach the boys the Outdoor Code

Plant a tree

Make a collection of leaf prints.

Take a hike to identify trees

Grow a tree from seed to plant

Visit a tree farm or nursery

Visit a lumber yard or sawmill

Smokey's Pledge*Baltimore Area Council*

I promise that:

I will not play with matches.

I will tell people who smoke to use an ashtray.

I will see that campfires are in a clear place, at least 5 feet from anything else that will burn.

I will not leave a campfire until it is put out with water

I will tell all my friends to always be careful with fire.

Trees

Provide fuel, furniture, paper, wax, cork, oils, gums, rubber, syrup, nuts and fruits.

Give shade, beauty and relief from the drabness of concrete.

Make it cooler in the summer with their shade and warmer in the winter by serving as a wind break.

Provide homes and shelters for birds, who in turn help reduce insect pests.

Make an area more attractive and appealing and so it increases property values.

Screen impurities, trap the dust in the air.

Help prevent soil erosion.

Provide a barrier that screens out noise.

Put oxygen in the air.

How To Plant A Shade Tree*Baltimore Area Council*

Select the tree and decide when and where to plant it. Protect the roots from drying. Unpack a bare-root tree immediately and place it in a bucket of water or thin mud. Do not plant with packing material attached to roots. Cover the roots with fertile soil, tamping it or settling it with water. Pour protective mulch, such as wood chips or peat moss around the base after water has soaked in. Wrap the trunk with a protective covering such as burlap, cloth snips or paper. Don't use polyethylene plastic. Dig a hole large enough to hold the entire root system without crowding.

Make certain that drainage from the hole is good. Planting-holes must be drained for trees to grow satisfactorily. Fasten the trunk to the stakes with canvas tape or loops of wire passed through a section of rubber or plastic hose or similar material.

Care for the tree after planting. Water well for at least a year & **ENJOY!**

Cut off one-half inch and file ends of the roots to expose live root tissue.

Prune the top of the tree as needed to compensate for roots lost in digging and moving. *Consult a nurseryman or a good tree manual before starting to prune.*

Put some fertile soil in the hole.

Set the tree in the hole no deeper than it was at its original site.

Install supporting stakes. 1 to 3 wooden stakes usually will support a diameter of no more than 2". The wooden stakes are strong enough to hold the trunk rigidly in place.

Wall Plaque

Baltimore Area Council

Make this wall plaque from the cross section of a tree log. Sand both sides smooth, allowing the cambium rings to show clearly. Apply several coats of varnish for a deep, glossy finish.

POW WOW EXTRAVAGANZAS Around The United States.

Well my list has doubled this month – I now have two Pow Wows. If you want you Pow Wow listed – E-mail commissionerdave@comcast.net and attach a sign up sheet or flyer. Thanks

Northeast Region

**Southern NJ Council –
Adventures in Neverland**

January 24, 2004

Lakeview School, Millville, NJ

Call Southern NJ Council, 856-327-1700, extension 32, or visit the website, www.snjscouting.org for more information

Western Region

Santa Clara County Council –

Scouting Safari

January 24, 2004

Somewhere in Santa Clara County, California
Call Santa Clara County Council, 408-280-5088,
Or visit their website <http://www.sccc-scouting.org/> for more information

WEBSITES

I am a little hesitant to list too many but here are a few –

New recruiting Ideas (so critical at this time of the year)- The Santa Clara County council has an excellent document called [Invitation Methods for Cub Scouting](#). It is a 1Meg PDF file on recruiting. So if you need some new ideas, visit their website <http://www.sccc-scouting.org/>.

The Kwahadi Indian dancers (Venture crew 9, Amarillo, Texas) who are known for their shows at the Philmont Training Center and other places have an excellent website. Check it out at - <http://www.kwahadi.com/>

The Santa Fe Trail Council has a portion of their site dedicated to **Scouting Humor** - <http://www.sftcbsa.org/humor/index.html>

Smokey the Bear's official website is <http://www.smokeybear.com/>

Which reminds me – What is Smokey the Bear's middle name?? (Answer - The)
What is Palladin's first name/ (Of course you have to remember "Have Gun Will Travel" with Richard Boone to get this one) (Answer – Wire. His card said so. It read "Wire Palladin")

And of course **the Granddaddy of all Philmont Web pages**, the one that lists everything he can find on Philmont – Selden's Philmont Web page - <http://www.lns.cornell.edu/~seb/philmont.html>

And if you need answers – Pack 958, Leesburg, Virginia, has "100 Frequently Asked Scouting Questions" at <http://www.loudoun-net.com/pack958/faq.htm>