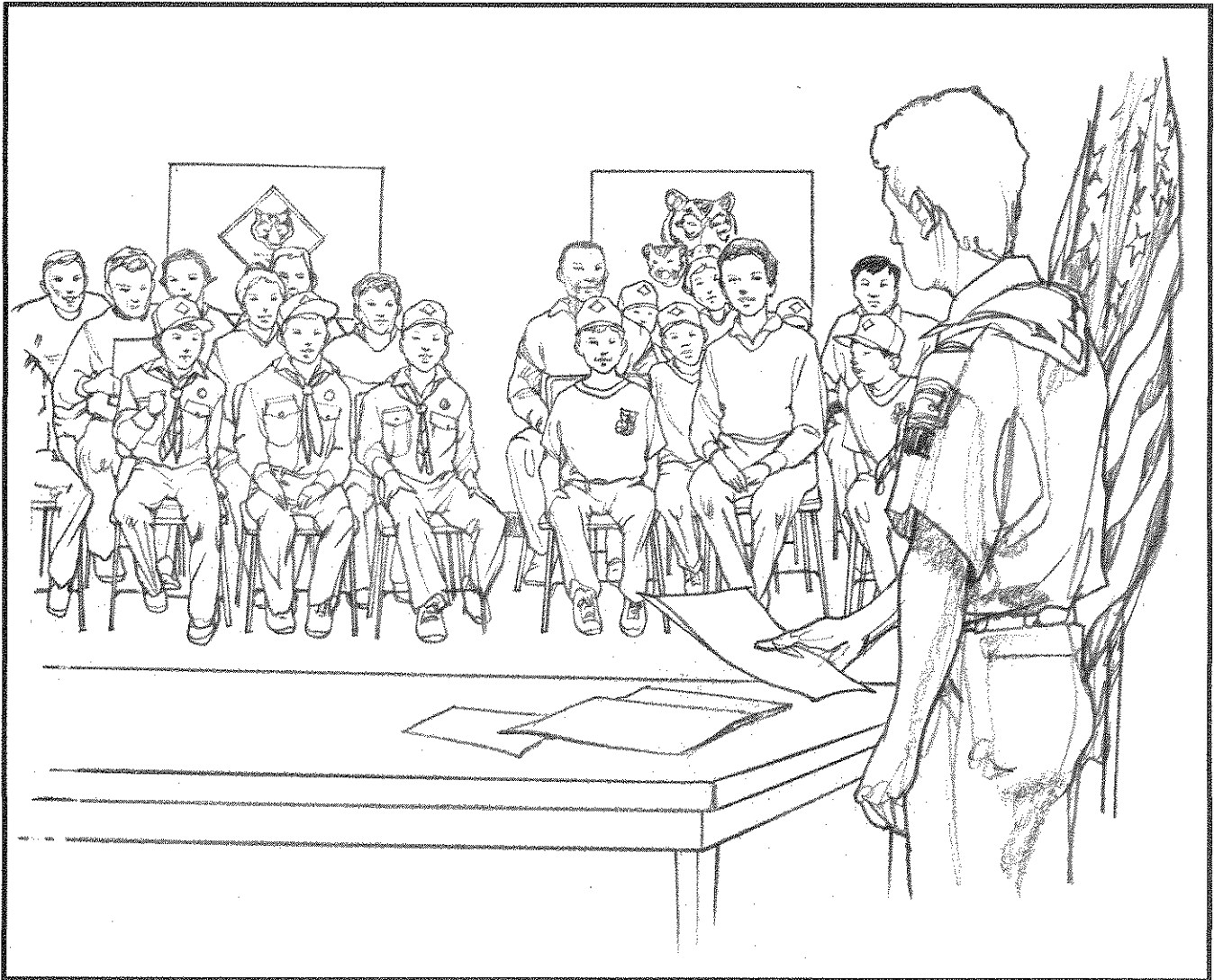


CHAPTER 3

Pack Meeting Ceremonies



Planning Your Pack Ceremonies, 3-2

Pack Meeting Layout, 3-2

Den Award and Appreciation Ideas, 3-2

Pack Ceremony Equipment, 3-3

Scouting Clip Art to Use in Ceremonies, 3-5

Music in Ceremonies, 3-7

Planning Your Pack Ceremonies

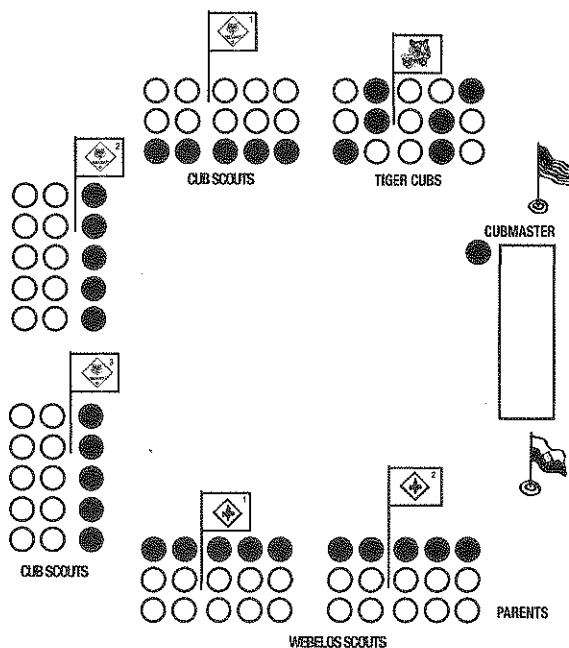
Think of your pack meetings as an opportunity to use the magic of ceremonies to instill the purposes of Cub Scouting in the hearts of boys and adults. You'll have several opportunities to do this throughout your meeting:

- Flag ceremony
- Opening ceremony
- Inducting new families into the pack
- Advancement ceremony
- Graduation ceremony
- Other opportunities
- Closing ceremony

You'll find a chapter devoted to each of these in this book. The pack committee will want to use the annual pack program planning conference to outline the overall themes and the timing for major events such as graduations and a pinewood derby. At the monthly pack leaders' meeting, one may fill in the details of which ceremonies will be used and who is responsible for doing them. The Pack Meeting Planning Sheet in the *Cub Scout Leader Book* will help with this process. Just remember to use a variety of ceremonies to hold the interest of both boys and adults.

Pack Meeting Layout

The layout of your pack meetings will depend on your facilities. It is important for everyone to be able to see what is going on in the front of the room. When boys can see and hear what is taking place, they will be less easily distracted. Boys are inexperienced at projecting their voices, so the closer they are to the audience, the more likely it is that everyone will be able to hear what they are saying in ceremonies and skits.



Seat boys by dens and have families sit in the same area. Make sure that your aisles are wide enough for all to maneuver through, including those with physical disabilities. For the same reason, consider carefully the use of stages, which may discourage the participation of boys or adults of all ages who have difficulty walking up and down stairs. Darkened circles in the diagram are boys; remaining circles are family members.

Den Award and Appreciation Ideas

At your pack meetings, use a simple, homemade award to recognize the den that did a community service project or the adult who organized your school roundup night. This is a positive way to recognize and thank the people in your pack.

Be creative and attach one of the following items to a string or a piece of wood, cardboard, or leather to create a den award or thank you. Ask the den or person to come forward and make a brief statement about what they accomplished.

Keep your eyes open for special opportunities that give you the chance to tell people you appreciate their efforts.

Airplane	Really helped us fly
Alka Seltzer	Added fizz to...
Bag of tea	Tea-riffic job
Ball	Being on the ball
Adhesive bandage	Helped fix up...
Baseball and bat	Pitches in where needed
Battery	Charged us up
Bees	Busy bees
Berry (wax or plastic)	Berry good job
Bottle of glue	Stuck to it
Burnt piece of toast	Well done award
Chalkboard	Chalked up a great...
(small box from self-serve laundry)	
Cheese grater	Grate job (great job)
Clock	Found extra time to...
Clothespin	Hanging in there
Coat hanger	Hanging in there
Compass	Leads the way
Eyes (plastic wiggly)	Set the example for us
Fire engine	Came to the rescue
Fishing pole	Really caught the spirit
Flashlight	Shining example or lights the way
Frog	Hopped to it
Glue stick	Stuck to it
Golf tee	Tee-riffic job
Gum	Thanks for chew-sing to do a great job
Hat	Hat's off to...
Heart, gold	Heart of gold when...

Heart, red	Shows great heart by...
Key	Key to success
Kite	Flying high
Lifesavers	Has been a life saver by...
Light bulb	Good ideas
Lion	Roaring success
Magic wand	Worked magic in...
Magnet	Stuck with it
Marbles in a bag	Marble-ous job
Million dollars play money	Thanks a million, worth a million
Needle and thread	Kept us in stitches
Newspaper bundle	Thanks a bundle
Packet of seeds	Helping the pack grow
Pair of glasses	See things clearly
Pencil	Write on (right on!)
Plastic egg	Good egg by helping the pack
Playing cards	Great hand, can't be beat
Puzzle	Knows how to tackle challenges
Recipe	All the ingredients for...
Red or gold reflector	Reflects Cub Scout spirit when...
Right shoe or footprint	On the right foot
Ruler or tape measure	Really measures up
Sandpaper	Smoothed the way to...
Scissors	Cut out for...
Seal	Seal of approval
Shovel	Really dug into the job
Small horn	Music to our ears when...
Small notepad	Most noteworthy
Spaceship	Out of this world
Spark plug	Showed extra spark when...
Spice	Really spiced things up
Sponge	Soaks up all the...
T Square	Squared away
Tape dispenser	Stuck to it
Tent stake	Stake in future
Top	You are tops at...
Watering can	Help the pack grow
Whale	Whale of a job
Wire whisk	Unbeatable at...
Wooden spoons, blue and gold	Blue and gold banquet chair
World globe	For the world's best...

Pack Ceremony Equipment

The use of equipment—candleholders, boards that show ranks—adds color and life to your ceremonies. If your pack creates several different setups, you will be able to vary the ceremonies you use. Make sure that all props are:

- Easy to set up
- Easy to store (can be taken apart or folded)
- Inexpensive
- Adaptable for use in several different ceremonies
- In good working order

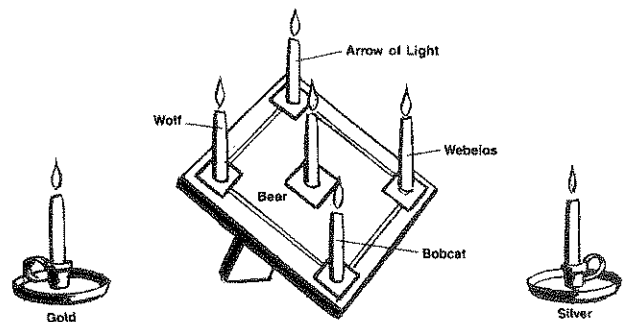
The items you might want to have on hand include

- A ceremonial board that holds candles or lights (up to five candles)
- A symbol for each Cub Scout rank that is large enough to be seen from the back of the room
- An artificial campfire
- A log split lengthwise with several holes drilled for candles
- Extra candles and candleholders
- A spotlight or large flashlight
- A bridge—either several poles connected with rope to suggest a bridge or pallets used to construct a bridge and railing
- Freestanding poles that hold each of the Cub Scout ranks to suggest a Cub Scout trail. These can be linked with rope.

If your location prohibits, or you prefer not to use candles, adapt the ceremonies and props to use battery-operated candles (usually available at Christmas), glow sticks, penlights, or flashlights hooded with colored cellophane. You can also replace candleholders shown on props with large outdoor Christmas lights. If you are using new candles, always light them ahead of time.

Cub Scouts love campfires. While an outdoor campfire at every pack meeting is probably too much of a good thing, you can work an artificial campfire into some of your indoor meetings, too.

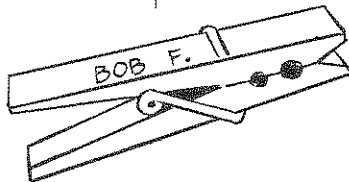
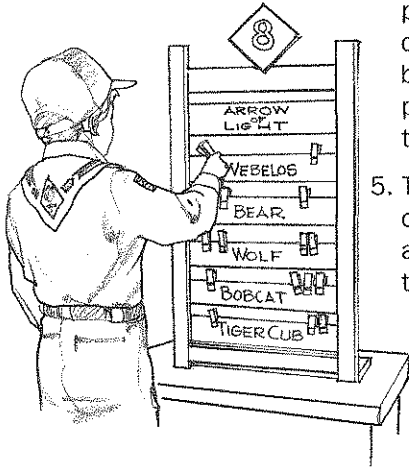
Additional ideas for ceremony equipment can be found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book* and the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*.



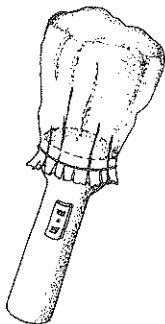
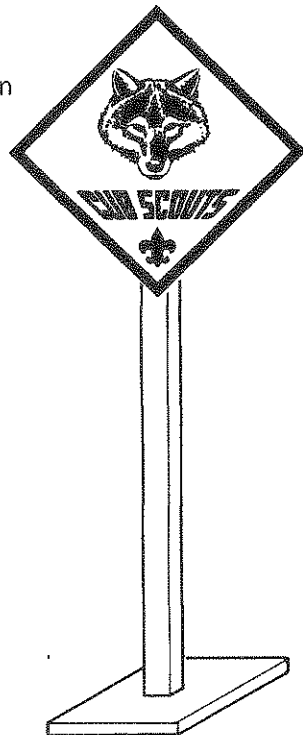
Large outdoor Christmas lights can be used to wire these props with lights to replace the candles shown.

ADVANCEMENT LADDER

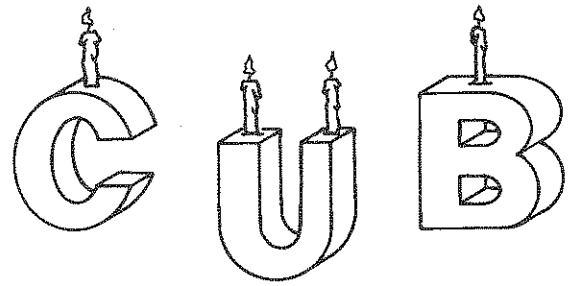
1. Ladder rungs each measure ¼-by-3-by-18 inches and are painted yellow with blue letters.
2. Uprights are 1-by-1½-by-41 inches and are painted blue. They are spaced 5 inches apart.
3. The base is 2-by-10-by-24 inches wide. The ladder is attached with 3-by-3-inch corner braces.
4. Spring-type clothespins are painted in den colors with the boy's name painted in a contrasting color.
5. The pack number can be painted on a diamond at the top of the ladder.



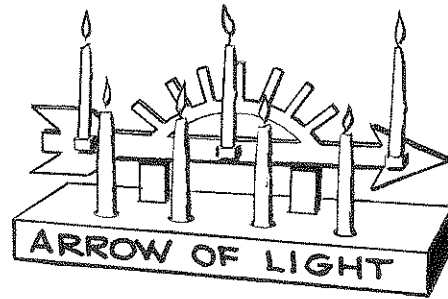
CUB SCOUT TRAIL: Mount large Cub Scout badges on freestanding holders.



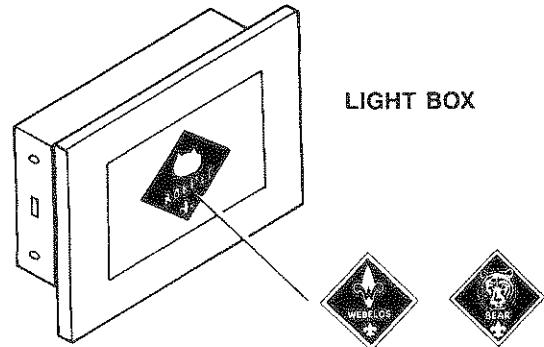
Cover flashlights with cellophane hoods to replace lighted colored candles.



Cut simple block letters from 2-inch-thick pine. Drill holes in tops of blocks for candles or wire for lights.

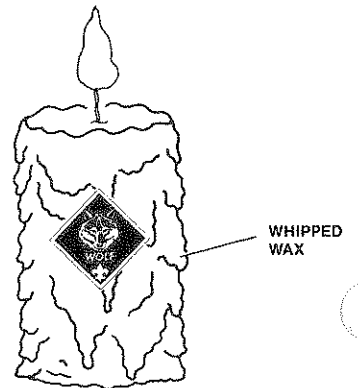


Substitute battery-operated candles or penlights as an alternate. Or use large outdoor Christmas lights with cardboard tubes to create electric candles.



Use a recessed lighting fixture placed on its side. Attach cutout silhouette of rank being presented.

MAGIC CANDLES can be very effective when they are used in ceremonies. As the candles burn down, they drip blue and gold wax. To make magic candles, drill ¼-inch diameter holes every 2 inches on a wide white candle. Place scrapings of blue and gold crayons in the holes. Melt paraffin and whip it with an eggbeater. Cover the candle with this whipped paraffin, using a fork to give the candle a rough decoration. Let the candle harden before handling.



Scouting Clip Art to Use in Ceremonies

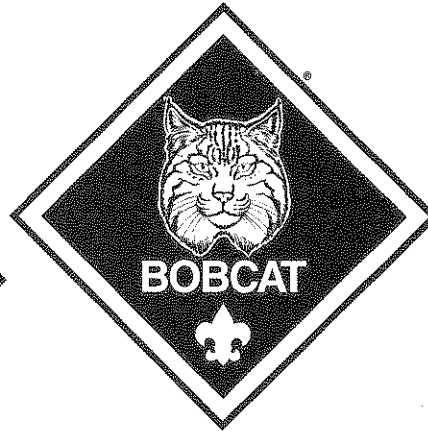
You can use several methods to take advantage of these graphics.

- Enlarge them on a photocopier. Use marking pens to add color to your copies or print the same photo on each color needed for a badge. Cut and paste to create the final multicolored badge.

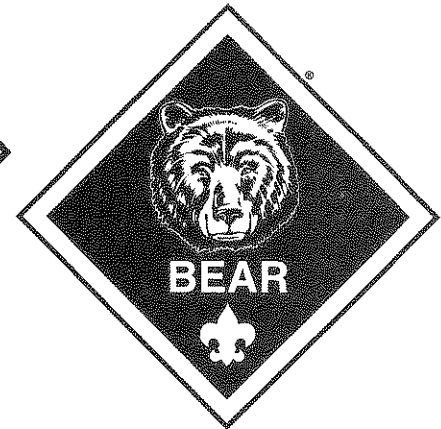
- Copy them onto a transparency and use an overhead projector to enlarge them to the desired size. Trace the design onto a paper taped on the wall.
- Mount your copies on cardboard, foam core, or wood, or laminate them for use in ceremonies. If you laminate them, you will want to spray them with a non-glare finish so they can be seen from all areas of the room without reflections from the overhead lights.
- Trace your designs onto fabric for banners and table covers.



Tiger Cub badge logo



Bobcat badge logo



Bear badge logo



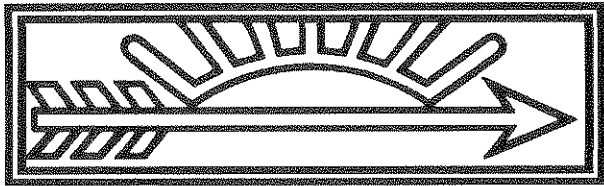
Wolf badge logo



Webelos badge logo



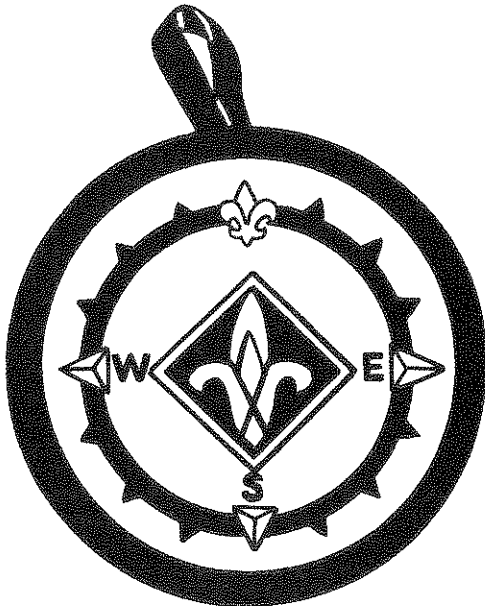
Webelos badge logo



Arrow of Light



World Conservation Award



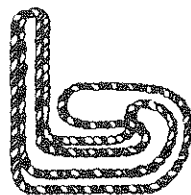
Compass Points Emblem



National Summertime Pack Award pin



Den Chief emblem



Den Chief shoulder cord



Boy Scouts of America Universal emblem



Quality Unit Award



Tiger Cubs

Music in Ceremonies

Using music in a ceremony creates an additional dimension of sound and makes the event more memorable. However, using music successfully requires additional planning, no matter what form of music is used. Always make sure that whatever source you are using, the music and lyrics are appropriate for a Cub Scout audience and exemplify the Cub Scout Promise.

Prerecorded Music

A wealth of music in every form, from jazz to folk and classical to rock, is available that can be adapted for ceremonies. Patriotic recordings can be used for openings and closings. Instrumental arrangements can be used as background music for advancement ceremonies. Vocal recordings can be used to lead group singing.

- Test your sound system before the day of the event to be sure it will be adequate.
- Prepare for all contingencies. Carry an extension cord, electric plug adapter, and spare batteries if necessary.
- If you are involved in the ceremony, have an assistant handle the music. Make sure your assistant knows exactly what he or she is expected to do.
- Recheck all equipment before the arrival of Cub Scouts and their families, including cueing up the music to the correct starting point as well as setting the proper volume for the group.
- If the group is to sing along with the recording, make sure the lyrics are clear and understandable and that the speed is appropriate.

Guest Musicians

Explore your community's resources for performers who can provide live accompaniment or featured numbers. Your list might include Cub Scouts who are taking music lessons, parents, a Boy Scout troop bugler, music teachers, and staff or students from a school's music department. Their music adds a festive touch to a holiday sing-along or a blue and gold banquet. It also can add impact to special advancements and graduations.

- Make your arrangements well in advance.
- Send a written confirmation of the exact time, the location (including a map), the group size, and the name and phone number of the contact person in the pack.
- Know what equipment and setup the musicians require, such as a microphone, piano, and music stand. Be sure all is available and in good working order before the performance date.
- If possible, arrange for a rehearsal if it is a special event.
- Contact the musicians again several days before their performance.
- Have a "plan B" in mind in case an unforeseen circumstance prevents their performance.
- Introduce the guest musicians to the group.
- Show your appreciation with some sort of token, such as a special applause and perhaps a certificate.

