

CROSS OVER THE BRIDGE CEREMONY

Props: Bridge, Boy Scout Handbooks

CM: Tonight we have Cub Scouts who will embark on a new adventure in Scouting. Will those Scouts of Akela gather with their parents over on the left side of the bridge?

CM: *(to parents)* During the years you and your sons have been in Cub Scouting, we have had numerous opportunities to work together along your trail. Your boys have reached the age to enter Boy Scouting. I'm sure you and your sons will find the same satisfactions there that you found in Cub Scouting. As a symbol of the growth of your sons and their entrance into Boy Scouting, I will ask that you lead them before me and prepare to guide them across the bridge into Boy Scouting when I obtain permission for your sons to enter their council camp.

CM: Hello! Scouts of Troops!

SM: Hello! Cub Scouts of Akela! What do you desire?

CM: I have Cub Scouts of Akela's council ring who have prepared themselves for entrance into the council rings of Troop(s) _____ and who all wear Cub Scouting's highest award, the Arrow of Light.

SM: Bring them forward to the bridge that joins our council rings. *(Lead parents and boys to the bridge. Scoutmasters cross the bridge and are introduced to parents and boys.)*

CM: Boys, it has been a sincere pleasure knowing and working with you. In a few moments you will no longer be Webelos Scouts. I hope and pray that the desire, eagerness, interest and free spirit you have shown in Cub Scouting carries over into your families, church, school room, circle of friends, and everything you do in your lives.

The trail to Eagle still lies ahead of you. It takes a strong desire, a willingness to sacrifice, and a lot of guts sprinkled with a lot of love, to make it. So, this is just the starting point. Keep the fire going, and the desire going within you and from this base camp. May your travels be onward and upward and may you have a marvelous journey toward being a successful, active, contributing citizen of the community.

Boys, you have contributed much to your den and pack; and we shall miss you and your parents. You leave us to enter the Scout Troop of your choice. There, I'm sure, you'll continue to grow in Scouting skills and friendships.

Now that you are leaving our pack and Cub Scouting, will you remove your neckerchiefs and give them to your parents. Your new Scoutmaster will soon present you with a token of your status as new Boy Scouts. As you leave our council ring, I would like to present to you a token to start you on your new path *(present Boy Scout handbook to each boy.)* Now cross over the bridge and join your new council ring.

(Scouts and parents follow the Scoutmaster(s) across the bridge.)

SM: As Scoutmaster of Troop ____, I welcome you and your parents. There are many traditions in our troop, so many that we would not attempt to relate them all to you now. Instead, it is our pleasure to present you with this token of our council ring.
(Present boys with neckerchiefs. Have other Boy Scouts place them around their necks.)

Wear it with pride as many have done before you. We welcome you to our troop with your first official handshake.

(This is followed by the Scoutmaster and new Boy Scouts repeating the Scout Oath together.)

At this time please show the Scout Sign and say with me the Scout Oath.