

Holiday Celebrations

Holidays- Halloween, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa

Scoutings birthday-Blue and Gold, Summer celebrations

Scout leaders struggle with how to celebrate holidays, especially the ones with religious basis

****Who is in your pack – religious affiliation as there many are there none**

****Consider where you meet – are you affiliate with “church” you meet at**

OK to celebrate but remember to be respectful for others who celebrate in a different way

****December religious holiday -**

--Instead of just one holiday – consider Holiday Magic; cheerful celebration, Let's celebrate examples of some openings (on hand out)

Our Pack always tries to touch on general theme of holiday season – kindness, friendship, good will, respect for others traditions,

We have asked Scouts to bring in something that means the holiday to them.

Dens pick a song that enjoy – usually non secular Christmas or Dreidel song always popular

So many fun ways to do recognitions and advancement

Always like The Night of the Pack Meeting (take off on the night before Christmas)

Varieties of ways to celebrates

We had rebellion from our Arrow of Light Den

party like Halloween

planned it – making up games, discussed games we have or can make

parents are to send in snacks

STEM stuff fun to do – Candy Cane Science experiment (Holiday magic)

Cub Scouting's Family and Reverence Adventures are great (recent article in Aaron on Scouting) designed to build values for Scouts and instill meaningful connections within a Scout's family, making them perfect for everyone during the holidays.

Reverence is the final point of the Scout law. Scouting America is nonsectarian in its attitude toward a member's religion or faith.

Family and Reverence Adventuress help scouts learn about their family's faith traditions and celebrations.

Lion's Pride Tiger Circles Wolf Footsteps Bear Fellowship Webelos-My Family Adventures and Arrow of Light – Duty to God

Chocolate presentation each December. 22024

The year 2010 was a hard year for our pack, we lost our den leader, Kate Miller in November to cancer and then one of our Wolf and Bear father's in the spring of 2011 to cancer. This year we lost one of our Eagle Scouts. Each year we lose someone who has special meaning to each of us individually as well as those who meant a lot to Scouting. At Kate's celebration of life service everyone was asked to eat a piece of chocolate, Kate's favorite, in celebration and in memory of her.

It has been our tradition since then to ask each of us to share a piece of chocolate and think of family and friends we have lost this past year and rejoice and be thankful for those we have around with us now.

Pass around Hershey kiss for those who would like and can have Hershey kisses,, please join us for a chocolate break and a moment of reflection and thankfulness.

EXAMPLES :

Opening: With Apologies to Charles Dickens:

****This is a special time of year for people all around the world. It is a time of Joy and Light, of Hope and Peace and of the comforts of Home, Family and tradition**

It is a time of Spirit of all things, and although there are many different types of Spirit and spirits among us, tonight we are going to be visited by four of them.

Spirit of Christmas: I am the Spirit of Christmas (light Christmas tree)

Spirit of Hanukkah -I am the spirit of Hanukkah (light center candle or the shamash of the hanukkah)

Spirit of Kwanzaa – I am the Spirit of Kwanzaa (light a candle or if have kinara -3 red, 3 green. 1 black – light one)

Spirit of Scouting – I am the Spirit of Scouting.

I light the Spirit of Scouting candle which represents not only the Spirit of Scouting but the Spirit of goodness which exists throughout the world of ours.

I call upon my fellow Spirits and all of you here in this room to stand and join with me in reciting the Scout Oath and Scout Law and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Yule Log Opening

#1 (light candle) This wish is for all your dreams to come true

#2 (light candle) This wish is for peace for all the children of the world

#3(light candle) this wish is for a year where everything goes well for those we hold dear

#4 This wish is for you to stand and join together in the Pledge of Allegiance to our country.

Opening

This month we shine holiday light on our own traditions and culture and the customs of others. As we learn more about one another, we respect the different ways each of us celebrates this time of year around the world.

(each Scout carries a battery operated candle -or real if you are brave)

#1-this is the season of lights.

The days are shorter, the nights are longer, brightened by our holiday lights.

#2: Many homes light candles to honor the birth of Jesus at Christmas time,

#3: Many homes light Hanukkah candles to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

#4 Many homes light the kinara to celebrate Kwanzaa

#5 The most brilliant light comes from the spirit of goodwill and peace toward all.

Cub Scouts light up the lives of others by respecting the traditions of all faiths and peoples.

LIGHT SPIRIT OF SCOUTING CANDLE

Cub Scout Spirit Opening

#1- December is a fun time of the year. It is a time for giving and sharing

#2-As we gather for our last pack meeting of (current year), let us remember the good times

#3- Let us end this year with new determination to keep the Cub Scout Spirit going, no matter what challenges we may face.

#4 -Remember, to give of yourself is more important than any gift you can buy.

Applauses:

Reindeer: thumbs to head with fingers up forming antlers – wrinkle nose – Blink, blink,blink

Prayer/Meditations:

During this holiday season and every day of the new year, please help us remember to have respect for others and to do our Good turn daily with a joyful heart.

We give thanks for all who are here with us tonight, and wish those around the world who are celebrating in their own way, a happy, safe and secure holiday season.

May the light of the season lighten our hearts and theirs throughout this year and the next . Amen.

During this holiday season and everyday of the year, please help us remember to have respect for others and to Do Our Best and Do a Good Turn Daily with a joyful heart.

When we see the smile on a person's face, we'll know we have brought holiday magic into his or her life. Amen

Recognition/ Advancement Ceremony: The Night of the Pack Meeting (wear Santa hats or Santa)

Twas the night of the Pack meeting and all through the place,
Not a Scout was stirring, anticipation on each face.
It was time for recognition and they all turned an ear
So when their name was called, they would hear it loud and clear.

LION

First are our Lions, all new to the Pack
Akela is ready with guidance and experience they lack
Come alio new Cubs, You're our Lions tonight
Your fianl step as a Lion is to do a good deed and you must do it right

TIGER

Second is our Tigers, full of excitement they rule
But they have just started their path, much awaits them it is true
Come up our Tigers, you are our Tigers of note

Wolf

Third are the Wolves, experienced that is true
But there is still much to learn, Akela's not through
Stand up our Wolf Cubs and join us on stage
You are a Wolf to be praised

BEARS

Fourth are the Bers, the most experienced so far
Akela's teachings they've heeded, they're way above par
Come all our Bear Cubs, your work and learning is applauded
For completing adventure loops, tonight you are rewarded

WEBELOS

Next to last are the Webelos, but not least to be sure.
Come up all our Webelos your activities are harder
Your accomplishments you wear so proudly on your shoulders

ARROW OF LIGHT

Striving toward Scouts BSA
Our Arrow of Lighers are hard at work they say
To accomplish all to reach their goal
Of Spring in Scouts BSA