

# Blue and Gold

## **History of Blue and Gold:**

The blue and gold banquet is a birthday celebration for the Cub Scouting program, held during February. This is the anniversary month of the Boy Scouts of America, which was organized in February 1910. The Cub Scouts was organized 20 years later in 1930. The first Blue and Gold was in 1943 and Packs sold War Bonds. The Blue and Gold Banquet is probably the most exciting event of the whole year because all families can take part.

## **Ranks:**

A badge in Cub scouting is a piece of embroidered cloth. It might not be worth a lot of money because the real value of the badge is in what it represents – the things you learned to earn it.

## **Bobcat Rank: (Light the Candle)**

Tonight we have some boys who are to receive the badge of Bobcat and take their first step along the Scouting trail. To earn the badge of bobcat, these boys learned the Cub Scout Promise, the Law of the Pack, the Cub Scout sign, and the Cub Scout motto. These things are part of the map that guides you along the Cub Scouting trail. Will the following boys and their families please come forward? (Call up the individual boys)

## **Tiger Rank: (Light the Candle)**

Tonight, we honor our Tiger Cubs. You have each taken part of the Tiger Cub motto –Search, Discover, and Share. You and your Akela have searched out new activities that have shown you how people work and have fun together. You have discovered that by doing things together with friends and family, you feel a sense of belonging. You have shared with your family, friends, and fellow Tiger Cubs the things that you have searched out and discovered. Will the following boys and their adult partners please come forward? (Dens 4, 6)

**Wolf Rank:** (Light the Candle)

As each of you worked toward your Wolf Badge, you had the opportunity to develop new skills, help at home and in your community. You have completed 12 achievements in reaching the rank of Wolf. These required knowledge of the flag, about fitness, tools, safety, and books. You have mastered several feats of skill, made a collection, and accomplished much more. Will the following boys and their families please come forward? (Den 4, 5, 6)

**Bear Rank:** (Light the Candle)

As you worked toward your Bear badge, you found that the challenges became more difficult with each step. We all experience choices in our lives and must decide the best path to follow. To achieve the rank of Bear you make choices as you selected which requirements to complete. The Bear Scout is proud that he has climbed more than halfway up the Cub Scout achievement trail. Will the following boys and their families please come forward? (Dens 13, 14, 15)

**Webelos:** (Light Candle)

When a Cub Scout enters the Webelos den, he begins the final stage of his climb up the trail. As a Webelos Scout, he works on a variety of activity badges that challenge him to do new things. Your den leader now approves the completion of your requirements. Achievements are in the form of the activity badges. Will the following boys and their families please come forward? (Eagle Patrol)

**Arrow of Light:** (Light Candle)

The trail to the Arrow of Light is a long and difficult trail to climb. It is the highest award in Cub Scouting and is the only Cub Scout rank that a boy may wear on his Boy Scout uniform. Your journey was full of adventure as you stretched to experience new challenges. Many of the achievements you accomplished have prepared you to move into Boy Scouts. These achievements have been new and varied with the promise of even greater adventures in the future. (Missile and Phoenix Patrol)

The Cub Scout trail is full of the traditions you learn as a Bobcat, the opportunity to search, discover, and share as a Tiger. The skills you learn as a Wolf and the choices you make as a Bear. The changes you experience as a Webelos scout and the adventures that challenge you while working toward the Arrow of Light. Think of the value of each badge you have earned. Each badge is a step-by-step adventure in your life along the scouting trail. Remember the value of each of your badges.

### **Pack Leaders Recognition:**

Committee members and Den Leaders are regular people, just like you and me. They give a special gift to our children: their time. They attend training, Cub Scout round tables. They plan den meeting, meet with other pack leaders, watch for new ideas, call parents, and play with our boys. The time that they spend helps mold our Cub Scouts in to the type of men we wish them to become: responsible people who are strong in mind and character.

We want the best for our children. Tonight, we wish to thank those who have given their best. Will the following special people please come forward (Call Den Leaders)

We also have all the volunteers that make the special events during the year come alive. (Call the volunteer groups for each event Popcorn Sale, Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold)

### **Closing thought:**

Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, said: "I often think that when the sun goes down, the world is hidden by a big blanket from the light of heaven, but the stars are little holes pierced in that blanket by those who have done good deeds in this world. The stars are not all the same size; some are big, some are little, and some men have done small deeds, but they have made their hole in the blanket by doing good before they went to heaven. Try and make your hole in the blanket by good work while you are on earth. It is something to be good, but it is far better to do good." Think of Baden-Powell's words when you promise to help other people.

**Closing:**

Do you know what the blue and gold of Cub Scouting means? Each color has a meaning. Blue stands for truth and spirituality, for steadfast loyalty, and for the sky above. Gold stands for good cheer and happiness, and the warm sunlight. May the meaning behind these two colors shine in your lives as we live the Scouting program?