

## CUB SCOUT POCKETS

## CEREMONIES

### Starting the New Year off Right

Sam Houston Area Council

*Setting* – 6 Cub Scouts, each with a verse to read/memorize

*Scene* – Cub Scouts in a line near the flag.

Cub #1: Another year is starting, and we'd like to welcome you, and tell you what our purpose is, and what we hope to do.

Cub #2: The Cub Scouts are a group of boys, it helps us to grow strong, it teaches us to do what's right, and fight against what's wrong.

Cub #3: It shows us how much we can do, if we work as a team. Then we'll have fun and projects won't be as hard as they first seem.

Cub #4: We'll go on hikes and field trips, to learn of nature's wonders. So we'll respect her when we're grown and not make any blunders.

Cub #5: And we'll be shown in many ways, that each Scout is our brother, and we will see the joy there is in helping one another.

Cub #6: We'll learn to be good citizens, and hopefully we'll see, that laws are made for all the men, so each man can be free.

ALL TOGETHER: To do this, the Cub Scouts need good leaders, that is true. That means we need the help of all of you. Please stand and join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Pockets

Heart of America Council

Preparation: You will need each boy to have one of the following in his pockets: a frog,(plastic, unless you are brave), dirt, marbles, rocks, and a small flag. Have boys practice their parts ahead of time.

**Cubmaster:** Have you ever wondered what boys keep in their pockets and why? Lets see what we can find out tonight.

**Boy 1:** (Pulls out frog.) This frog reminds me of freedom of speech, he can croak all he wants and no one stops him.

**Boy 2:** (Pulls out dirt.) This dirt reminds me of our forefathers as they put their feet on American soil for the first time.

**Boy 3:** (Pulls out marbles.) These marbles remind me of the pilgrims as they worked and played in this new land of freedom.

**Boy 4:** (Pulls out small flag.) This flag stands for our country will you please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance?

### Song in My Pocket

Heart of America Council

**Narrator:** Tonight's theme is "Pockets." What good are pockets? Well there are the obvious good uses of pockets, like holding your Cub Scout Registration and, if you're a Bear Scout or older, to hold your Whittlin' Chip. And you hold your Den Dues and important notes your Den Leader sends home with you. But there is another really good use for a pocket, that you might not have ever considered. You should always have a song in your pocket. What, a song in your pocket? What does that mean? Well it means you should always have a way to turn the bad into good or have an idea that can keep things lively, and what better way is there than to always have

a song ready—ready to sing, or whistle, or hum. Tonight, to begin our Pack Meeting, I have a song in my pocket. [Reaches in pocket and pulls out a paper.] Let's all stand and join together in singing "God Bless America."

### **Pocket Advancement Ceremony**

Sam Houston Area Council

*Materials* – A piece of tag board is cut in the shape of a pocket and covered with blue felt, including a pocket flap and button. The badges which are attached are available at the Scout office (#4648 ), or could easily be made out of cardboard. They are attached with masking tape. The arrows are made of cardboard and covered with gold and gray felt.



Cubmaster: This is a pocket - a very plain pocket - not very interesting, and it could belong to anyone. But wait, let's give this pocket to a Cub Scout.

*Cubmaster places Bobcat badge on pocket.*

Our pocket is turning into something with meaning. It represents a sense of belonging and will soon bring our Cub Scout knowledge, skills, enjoyment and good fellowship. We would like to present the following Scouts and parents their Bobcat badges.

*(Cub Scout places Tiger badge on pocket).*

Now our pocket turns to show cooperation and fun and learning with adult partners along the first steps of Cub Scouts. We would like to present the following Scouts with their Tiger badges. Please bring your parents with you as you come forward.

*Cubmaster places Wolf and arrows on pocket.*

With the Wolf rank, our pocket turns into something more special. It proudly displays the first symbol of new-found knowledge of the flag, of keeping strong, of tools, of knots of safety, of books and reading. It means our Cub Scout has mastered feats of fun. Tonight we are privileged to recognize the following Cub Scouts who have achieved the rank of Wolf. Would the following Wolf candidates and their parents please come forward?

*Narrator places Bear and arrows on pocket.*

Adding the Bear badge has increased our pocket's meaning even more. It shows our Cub Scout is completing increasingly difficult achievements which show he is growing in knowledge and skill. Would the following Bear candidates and their parents please come forward?

*Cubmaster places Webelos and Arrow of Light badges on pocket.*

Our pocket has now had placed upon it the Webelos badge and Arrow of Light, the highest awards which our Cub Scouts can achieve. To receive these awards, our Cub Scouts must dedicate themselves to the hard work necessary in completing the required number of activity badges and prove themselves ready to join the ranks of Scouting. Tonight we wish to recognize these young men who have completed activity badges within the Webelos program. Will the following boys and their parents please come forward?

*(With the Webelos Scouts together, a candle ceremony may be added at this time.)*

Our pocket is very special now. It is very rich in new possibilities. It opens up a whole new world of challenges. Cub Scouting has taken our plain pocket, and turned it into a pocketful of adventure, fun, and excitement. Congratulations to all the Scouts and their parents on all the achievements.

## Other Advancement Ideas

*Sam Houston Area Council*

1. Make a big pocket of denim or blue poster paper with the awards in it. Or a poster with several pockets on it, each one with awards for a different Scout.
2. Have each of the leaders (use committee members, den leaders, assistants, etc) put a different Scout's awards in their pockets and ask them to come pull out what is in their pockets. This is a good chance to involve pack leaders that normally work only behind the scenes.

## Pockets Advancement Ceremony

Heart of America Council

(Prepare pockets of blue paper with different emblems on them ahead of time and hold up as each is referenced in speech).

Young boys and pockets—I don't think they can be separated. Pockets hold the treasures of lifetimes, a yoyo, a shooter and four aggies, a few baseball cards, and a Canadian penny. When a boy walks home from school anything of interest goes in a pocket, stones, pine cones, nails, a rusty bolt. What neat stuff!

Unlike other boys' pockets, the pockets of the Cub Scout's uniform cannot only hold a lot of things, they are used to display a boy's accomplishments. Cub Scout achievements can be divided into four categories: God, Country, Family and Self.

A boy can earn separate awards for all these areas:

For God, he can earn the emblem of his faith;

For Country, the World Conservation Award;

For Family, the Cub Scout Family Award;

For Self, the camp, special events, and sports/academic program patches.

The most important part of this colorful shirt is the rank; Bobcat, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and Arrow of Light.

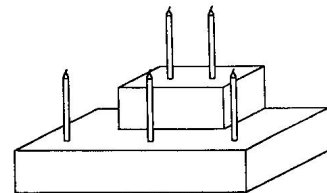
Tonight we have someone/boys who has/have earned...

Present awards to parents to give to boys. Give boys and parents a round of applause.

## Leader Induction Ceremony

Preparation: Build ceremony board as pictured

Speaker: Before you is a ceremony board that has five candies. The top two, like the two ears of the wolf, represent the two upright fingers of the Cub Scout Sign. They mean "to obey" and "to help other people."



The three candies together on the lower level represent three special words in The Law of the Pack - follow, help, and give.

All of our leaders want to Do Their Best to teach Cub Scouts to learn to Follow, Help, and Give. Will the new leaders in our Pack please come forward and would all of our other leaders please stand?

[Leaders hold up the Cub Scout Sign.] Please repeat after me...

I promise to do my best to help the Cub Scouts in my Den and 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.

Speaker: Now as [speakers' position] of the Pack, I take pleasure in giving you your registration cards and welcome you into the active leadership in Cub Scouting. Thank you and Good Luck!

## **Bobcat Induction**

Heart of America Council

Equipment: Large drawing of left pocket of a Cub Scout uniform with badges. Awards.

Cubmaster: Will Bobcat candidates, (names) , come forward with their parents? We welcome all of you into Pack \_\_\_\_ and to the good fellowship we hope you will find with us.

Parents, Cub Scouting is for the whole family and we know you will work with your sons as you did when they learned their Bobcat requirements.

You see before you a picture of the left pocket of a Cub Scout uniform shirt. Your shirt pocket is bare now, but someday it will look as this one. Tonight you are receiving your first badge, the Bobcat. Next step will be the Tiger badge. Then the Wolf, then the Bear, and the Webelos. These are the symbols of Cub Scouting. You will be earning them with help from your parents.

Now, raise your right hand in the Cub Scout sign and repeat with me the Cub Scout Promise. I am happy to hand you each a Bobcat badge. Parents, please pin it on your son. Congratulations!

## **Pocket Knife Closing Ceremony**

Northwest Suburban Council

CUBMASTER: Cub Scout, I hold in my hand a pocketknife. This is a valuable tool in the right hands, because it can be use for many worthwhile things. It is a dependable tool, as long as the blade is kept sharp and free from rust and the working parts are in good condition. But, if it is neglected and becomes dull and rusty, it can be a dangerous tool. The same principles apply to us.

We have bodies which, when kept in good condition, will serve us well. But if we fail to take care of ourselves, we can become rusty and dull like that neglected pocketknife. Do you best to keep yourself personally fit.

## **Pockets Closing**

Heart of America Council

Personnel: 7 Cubs

Equipment: Cards with letters spelling out P O C K E T S and pictures of collections.

P: is for POSTAGE STAMPS, something people have collected for many years.

O:is OLD-FASHIONED, what some call antiques.

C:is for CARDS, baseball, football, basketball or hockey. There are so many kinds to choose from.

K is for KITES, to fly high in the sky. They come in so many styles and color the variety is endless.

E :is for ELECTRONICS, some people collect everything electronic they can get their hands on. TVs, radios, CD players, video games and computers the list goes on.

T: is for TOYS, every kid is a true collector. Their collecting never stops even when they grow up. They just collect different toys.

S: is for SCOUT STUFF, that every Scout collects. What Scout does not have collections of badges, patches, uniforms, ties slides, T shirts, and camping gear.

## **Smile Closing**

Sam Houston Area Council

*Setting* – 8 Cub Scouts with verses memorized or written on index cards as a reference.

Cub #1: I think there were 1,000 smiles here tonight, but did you know,

Cub #2: A smile costs nothing,

Cub #3: But it creates much.

Cub #4: It happens in a flash, but the memory sometimes lasts forever.

Cub #5: It cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen.

Cub #6: But it is of no earthly good to anyone unless it is given away.

Cub #7: So, if in your hurry and rush, you meet someone who is too weary to give you a smile, leave him one of yours.

Cub #8: No one needs a smile as much as a person who has none left to give.

## **Cubmaster Thought-Pockets**

Heart of America Council

(Have Cubmaster pull out what is in his pockets and explain why he carries it and how he is prepared for emergencies with it.)

Everything a boy puts in his pockets is important to him just as he and his family is important to our pack.

We have to work together to be successful. If our pack is successful each of us will feel good about ourselves and each other. Let's remember to be prepared by what we carry in our pockets and our lives and be successful.

## **Pockets**

Sam Houston Area Council

Pockets are great things. They can be filled with treasures just waiting for a story to help the treasures come alive. They can brag about a Cub Scout's achievements when he wears his patches. They can be like vaults – saving a prized possession that gets taken out only periodically to be admired and then returned safely to its home. Yes, pockets are great storytellers.

Scouting is a great story, too. Every month, we have new stories from our Cubs of achievements and adventures. They wear their stories proudly on their pockets. When they grow up, these stories will get worn on their hearts, as memories of the amazing times they had as Cub Scouts. I'm glad you are all here tonight to help your Cubs write their stories, and I hope you Cubs are helping your parents find some new stories of their own as well.

## **Smiling**

Sam Houston Area Council

Wasn't that a great closing ceremony about smiling? Someone once asked what you could give away and still keep for yourself. The answer is a smile. I hope tonight's pack meeting has brought a few smiles your way. I'm smiling because of all of the awards our Cub Scouts have earned tonight. Cub Scouting takes a bit of hard work from both our Scouts and our leaders, but the smiles of their accomplishments speak to the merit of the program. Our goal is to, with your help, parents, work with our Cubs to instill the aims of character, citizenship, and fitness. We do this with lots of fun and exciting den meetings and adventures, and I hope we'll see you smiling again at our next pack meeting.

## **My Pocket**

My pocket is a special place  
That's full of all neat things,  
What Mom once called old junk  
To me it's like diamond rings.

I gather things as I walk home  
In case they're gone tomorrow  
'Cause you'll never know just when  
Someone has a need to borrow.

The things that go in my of pocket  
Say more than words can say  
They tell about things important  
To me from day to day.

They are not money, or expensive goods  
I don't need them right now.  
It's more important to find a stone  
Or a broken piece of plow.

Someday I won't see things like  
I see things now, you know.  
I'll get too tied up in the world  
To see the wild flowers grow.

So while I can collect neat things  
And put them in my pocket  
Please don't think it's yuck or dumb  
And please don't go and mock it.