

Cubmaster Advancement Newsletter

Issue 9, April 2005

It is April. Blue & Golds and Pinewood Derbies are well behind us. Hopefully your Pack is well on its way to having 100% of your Cubs earn their rank.

The two topics this month are

New Leader Book & A Ceremony Idea

New Leader Book

A new version of the Cub Scout Leader Book is out on the Scout Shop shelves. As I unwrapped my new copy, I was disappointed that there was not a summary of the changes made to the new edition. My first stop in the new book was the Advancement section where I did a paragraph-by-paragraph comparison between old and new. There are no changes to the Cub Scouting program related to advancement.

A fellow Scouter that has done a detailed comparison of the entire book has reported that the only substantial changes are

- a) The book now reflects the Tigers in the blue uniform, and
- b) Camping in chapter 33 has had some revisions.

A Ceremony Idea

While fabric shopping, I was surprised to see that there exists reasonable fake fur facsimiles of Tiger, Bobcat, Wolf, and Bear pelts. This prompted a new set of ceremony ideas for my Pack; The Cloaking of the _____. Two yards of each fabric and some free-hand cutting produced pelt shaped pieces that could be worn as a cloak or cape.

The Cloaking of the _____

The advancing boy and parent(s) are called forward for the presentation.

Cubmaster Speaks:

Johnny, you have done very well, completing all of the challenges given to you on the _____ Trail. We place on you the Cloak of the _____ so that all can see the true mark of your accomplishments.

Johnny's Mom/Dad, please pin on to your son his _____ badge, the mark of his accomplishment that he should proudly wear on his Cub Scout uniform from this day forward.

(handshakes) Congratulations and well done Johnny! (applause) (cloak is removed)

You can also cut 2" squares of fur scraps from the cloaks to present a token remembrance to the boy of his time wearing the cloak. Mark the year and your pack number on the back and they can become a collectors item for the boy.

Since no one has seen a Webelos outside of captivity, we don't really know what their fur looks like (maybe they are a close relative of a snipe). You are on your own to come up with a creative solution for a Webelos ceremony.

Ron Hanson, who is lucky enough to have come into real pelts, deserves much of the credit for this planting this idea.

Newsletters

If you are interested in getting back-copies of the newsletters or would like electronic versions to share, you can find them at http://webpages.charter.net/chadc/html/cub_scouting.html

Till next month, yours in Scouting,
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