under ground, he has been on a path of discovery during this past year. Some of the nuggets he has acquired are knowledge about the outdoors, about being a citizen of this great country, about physical activities and sports, about scholarship and about service. The collection of these nuggets has given him a wealth unlike any other, and now the light at the end of his tunnel looks like a sun burst over an arrow. It is the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of light award. It is the only Cub Scouting award that he can wear on his Boy Scout uniform and later on as a knot on his adult uniform. Let us honor him now.

By Eric Christiansen, WE7-590-3-08

east of Big Cottonwood Canyon, descended down the other side and crossed what is now called Bonanza Flats. As they reached a small peak across the valley, they saw what they recognized as an outcropping of ore in a rock formation. But, as they looked to the northwest, they could see a storm front approaching. Not wanting to become stuck in the first winter storm of the season, a bandana was tied to a staff, and the pole was placed upright with a pile of stones around it. They beat it back across the flats and over the ridge before the storm trapped them. The next spring an expedition was led back to the marker, where mining began in Park City. The peak of the discovery of silver is Flagstaff Mountain at Deer Valley Resort in Park City.

Mining really hit its boom after the war when men were free to start going out on their own again. So, what was it like to be a miner? First of all, it was very hard work. The shifts were much longer than just eight hours, and they would often work ten to twelve days in a row before getting just one day off. They would go down in the mine shafts down elevators that were wire cages, just big enough for a few men. Once down in the mine it was cold and often very wet. They lit candles for light and worked in almost pitch darkness. They would drill holes in the rock with a hammer and chisel. When the holes were deep enough they would place explosives in them and light the fuse before running around the corner to a safe place. When the dynamite exploded, they would use picks and shovels to remove the debris and haul out the ore. It was back breaking work and took a lot of strength and endurance to do the job.

The time the men looked forward to the most was their assent out of the mine at the end of their shift. Their hearts would be full when they would finally see the daylight breaking at the entrance to the tunnel. This was known as the light at the end of the tunnel.

We have a young man who has been deep in the tunnel of Webelos, and tonight he is seeing the light at the end of his tunnel. Just as the miners made discoveries of ore and nuggets while working deep

Arrow of Light Ceremony
Our Mining History

As we look back on our local history we find that it is full of rich and colorful individuals. There were the Native Americans that inhabited these mountains and valleys, followed by mountain men, pioneers, soldiers and miners. Each one left their mark on the land and had a story to tell.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, the nation was concerned about the west and particularly how Utah would side in the conflict. President Lincoln had already sent Union troops to Maryland and Delaware to make sure they didn't side with the South. Being unsure of where Utah stood, he decided to organize a company of volunteers out of California and send them east to Salt Lake City.

Once the troops arrived under the command of Colonel Patrick E. Connor and set up Fort Douglas, they found they were an army without an enemy to fight. With all this time on their hands, the directive was given the troops to search for precious metals to help the treasury finance the costly war.

So, who were the soldiers of the California Volunteers? Most had traveled across the country from 1849 through 1860 in hopes of making their fortunes in the California Gold Rush. These were the 49'ers. When asked to prospect in the Great Basin, this company had a wealth of experience from which to draw. They found copper up Bingham Canyon, now the sight of the largest open pit mine in the world. They went up Little Cottonwood Canyon to set up a saw mill to produce lumber, and while there discovered silver. This was at the present site of the Alta Ski Resort. The soldiers were becoming quite successful.

One cold October day in 1868, soldiers from Alta decided to do a little exploring. They headed north and crossed over the ridge just