attend their meetings, they have the opportunity to earn the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light Award. This is the only award from Cub Scouts that you will continue to wear on your uniform throughout your scouting career. This enters you into the modern age of development, where all things are possible, where the tools are available for you to progress through the ranks of scouting and continue on to the rank of Eagle Scout. Tonight we would like to award the Arrow of Light to _____ and send on his continuing path of scouting.

By Eric Christiansen, WE7-590-3-08

capture Helen and return her to her husband, the Spartan King, Menelaus. Their shields and armor, swords, arrow and spear heads would have all been made of bronze.

The Bronze Age led way to the Iron Age. Man discovered he could melt down the iron oxide he found and create an even stronger metal. By adding carbon to the molten metal, it became steel, and steel could be hardened or tempered by cooling it quickly after forging. Steel was strong enough to create not only tools and weapons, but even cooking pots and building materials. From nails to beams, steel improved the lives of people throughout the world. When you think of great and tall structures such as the Empire State Building, they could not have been built without the steel skeleton made out of metal beams.

In modern times we have all kinds of new metals and metal alloys. Aluminum is light enough to be used in the construction of aircraft, while alloys such as cobalt steel are stronger and harder than their predecessors. We have come very far since the days of sticks and stones.

Tonight we have a young man who has also come very far. He has participated in the Cub Scouting program and grown as he has passed from one stage to the next. Becoming a Scout and learning about the Bobcat requirements is similar to the Stone Age, where our tools are simple. The age of copper would be like the Wolf, where the tools used to learn are becoming more refined. We add a little to the mix and the tools of the Bears are the Bronze Age of Cubbing. Each stage offers the tools for growth and learning, with each having its own adventures.

The Iron Age of Cub Scouting is the Webelos program, where great adventures and experiences prepare the young men for Boy Scouts. Every activity badge they earn gives them a chance to learn and grow. We learn about our duty to God, duty to our country and our duty to ourselves. If the young men work hard and

From the Stone Age to Today
Arrow of Light Ceremony

Let me tell you a story of the progress of man. If we were to go into the outback of Australia just a few years ago, we would witness the men making spears to hunt with. First they would find a certain plant with long roots that stretched out under the surface of the ground. Digging it up they would have a root of fairly consistent diameter about five or six feet long, but it would have many twists and curves to it. After cleaning it up to make it smooth, they would hold it over a fire and start to heat it up a section at a time. As the root became warm they would twist it and pull it until the root became straight and true. The process took patience and many hours to produce a long straight shaft. On the tapered end they would sharpen the spear to a point by grinding it on the surface of rocks. The last thing was to harden the point over the fire. Launched with a throwing stick, these spears could be accurate over many yards, and allowed hunting parties to supply meat to their village.

This is a modern example of how man made tools during the Stone Age. People throughout the world began by making similar tools. They used wood, antlers and stone to create tools and weapons. On this continent the Native Americans made knives, arrow heads, spear heads and scrappers out of obsidian, a glass like rock found in many areas. Skilled craftsmen would pound the edges of the rock to give them shape and sharp edges.

Eventually man began to take a green mineral, melt it down and make a hardened metal, and the age of copper began. A mummified Iceman from about 3300 BC, given the name Otiz, was discovered with a copper axe and a stone knife. Very quickly men found that by adding other minerals such as tin, the metal could be made much stronger and harder, and the Bronze Age began. It was during this time that the Trojan War was fought, where the Achaeans or Greeks laid siege to the city of Troy for nine years to