As a brother Bobcat we learn all about the Cub Scouts, with its oath and law, the handshake and the salute. We learn the responsibility that we have to God, our country and to ourselves. Bobcat is the beginning of our Cub Scout trail.

Brother Wolf is our next experience. A wolf is a family member, one who always takes care of the others in the pack. Akela is the leader of the pack and watches over the family. Together they are strong and able to accomplish many great tasks. Great fun is had by sharing experiences with the group.

The Native Americans thought of the bear as a close relative, since he was very much like them when he stood on two feet. The bear is strong, one of the mightiest beast in all the land. As a bear we learn to stand tall as we learn of the earth, of our country and learn skills that we will use for the rest of our lives.

Now we are Webelos, no longer associated with the animals of the earth, but with a very special group. What does Webelos mean? It stands for “We Be Loyal Scouts”. As a Webelos we earn badges in science, fitness, athletics, citizenship, and in scholarship. We learn the beginnings of the Boy Scout program, including the motto, slogan, oath and the scout law. More important, we learn what they mean and how we can make them part of our life. Tonight we have a young man who has learned these things on his long journey through the Cub Scouting trail. Together we will repeat the twelve points of the Scout Law.

Tonight he has earned a special award, the Arrow of Light, which is the highest award that can be earned in Cub Scouting. This is the only award from Cub Scouting that will be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. It lets everyone know of the accomplishment and the knowledge he has gained as a young man. We will ask him now to bring his parents forward.

By Eric Christiansen, WE7-590-3-08

ARROW OF LIGHT—OUR BROTHERS, THE ANIMALS

The Native Americans teach us many things about the world we live in. We learn of their love for Mother Earth and its relationship to Father Sky, and the order of the many creatures that pass through either on wing, foot, belly or slide through her waters.

The Ute people tell us of their brother, the beaver who carried fire from the east on its flat tail, and presented it to the peoples of the west. His sacrifice is noted because the fire burned all the fur off his tail and it has never grown back.

The coyote is the trickster, the one who uses its wits rather than its brawn to win. He taught the people to use wisdom in their dealings with the earth, so it would always share its bounty. With the example of the trickster the hunter was able to take the rabbit by making it believe that he had no interest in it. Man learned how to conserve energy by watching the example of the coyote.

The buffalo bore a man child from its blood who taught the people how to hunt the mighty beast. This knowledge saved them from famine, gave them furs for blankets and bedding, and skins for lodges. In gratitude the young man was given the chief's daughter in marriage. The young man's wife broke his spell by referring to the buffalo calf, which was what he truly was. He jumped on his horse and raced from the village. As he sped away he was once again transformed into the buffalo, never to return. Yet his legacy was set, for the Ute people were now able to live and survive from Mother Earth, with food, raiment and shelter supplied by their brother the Bison.

In Cub Scouting we have many brothers, and we all share a single goal, to learn to become better young men, to learn and live by the points of the Scout Law, and to become future leaders of our families and in our communities.