the length of this country, often while herding their cattle and sheep as they went. These young people were great trekkers.

Two great trekkers of the last century were Roald Amundsen of Norway and Robert F. Scott of Great Britain. Both men set out on a race to reach the South Pole. Both set out with sled and dogs, but Amundsen's team of six traveled on cross country skis and arrived at the pole 35 days ahead of Scott's team. Traveling light, they made their return to their base camp with a trek that was smooth and uneventful. Scott, who traveled much heavier with additional gear, made it to the pole only to find Amundsen's tent and flag pole, and perished on his attempt to return.

One of the great treks of the world happened midway through the last century, the trek up Mount Everest. With attempts starting in 1921, many tried to ascend the world's highest peak, with many lives being lost through out the years. Finally, in May of 1953, Edmund Hillary of New Zealand became the first man to set foot on the summit.

Through out time people have made treks, many of them treks of discovery. Tonight we have a young man who has made such a trek, one of discovery through his journey of the Cub Scout program. He has traveled through the Bobcat, Wolf, Bear and Webelos ranks, discovering treasures of knowledge, skill, and personal achievement. And yes, there has been some hiking along the path. But now this trek must end, one that has reached a summit, the highest summit of Cub Scouting, the peak that is the Arrow of Light. This is the pinnacle, the highest award given in Cub Scouting. His journey has been interesting, challenging, and sometimes even difficult, but the growth has been well worth the struggle.

Is this his last trek? Not at all. Ahead is a series of new summits to reach in Boy Scouting, with its Everest being the rank of Eagle Scout. And along the way there will be a lot more real hiking, including the chance to do a 50 miler, a trek that truly is high adventure.

By Eric Christiansen, WE7-590-3-08

Arrow of Light Ceremony—Trekking

Have you ever been on a long hike? Long hikes, or treks, are much more than a long walk, they are expeditions that encompass multiple days and cover long distances.

Who are some of the great trekkers of history? In our own Southwest is an example of culture involved in great travel. In what is now northwestern New Mexico lays the ruins of a great city at Chaco Canyon. This great complex was inhabited by the early Native Americans known as the Anasazi. Chaco Canyon was a great center of commerce, with series of roads emanating from it in all directions. Among the artifacts found at the site are shells used for ornamental beads that came from far away in the Pacific Ocean, the gulf coast of Mexico, and the gulf coast of the South. Surely, there were great travelers among the Anasazi that trekked great distances to in order to trade.

Another great trekker lived in the early days of our country. Born John Chapman just two years before the Revolutionary War, you would recognize him as Johnny Appleseed. As a young man growing up in Massachusetts, he apprenticed as an orchard cultivator. His love of apples, and a restless spirit led him to travel the frontier to spread orchards. He would collect his seeds for free from the cider mills, and then plant nurseries as he traveled west. Many of the old orchards throughout Ohio, Indiana and Illinois came from Johnny's nursery stock. As a pioneer, missionary and planter, Johnny walked the frontier of our young country, making friends and creating legends with his acts of kindness.

The west was opened after the Lewis and Clark expedition, know as the Corp of Discovery, with frontiersmen following. Within a few years, they were followed by pioneers who set out along the Santa Fe Trail, the Mormon Trail and the Oregon Trail with dreams of a new life. Families often had children your age, and they found it more comfortable to walk than to ride in bouncing, jostling wagons. These young people walked