

WELCOME!

FOUR WINDS PRAYER

O Great Spirit, God of all, We gather this day as those who seek to learn of your ways that we may truly be a Brotherhood of Cheerful Service. Bless us from the north with the cool winds that calm our passions. Bless us from the east with the winds that bring and renew life. Bless us from the south with the warm wet winds that invite growth. Bless us from the west with the winds that lead us through this life to the next. Fill the sky with your handiwork so that we might sense your presence. And most of all, bless us so that the work of our hands may not be wasted, but let all that we do in this day be pleasing in your sight. Amen

A Litany of the Scout Oath

Leader: Our honor is a quality we possess because of our dignity as human beings and children of God. Our 'best' means to give all we have. It means to keep striving to do what we know is right, and in the Oath it means we will try to be good Scouts by fulfilling our Scout duties as expressed in the Scout law.

Scouts: On my honor I will do my best.

Leader: Our duty to God and country means chiefly two things: obedience and loyalty. The duties we owe to God, to our country, to our parents, to one another, and to ourselves come from some command of God. The Scout Law sums up all the qualities a Scout should have and without which he cannot be a good Scout.

Scouts: To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law.

Leader: Many religions teach that loving our neighbor is like the first law of love of God. The people of God are known by the love they have for one another. Real human charity or love prompts us to want to help others at all times. Our Scout training will give us skills and knowledge that will better prepare us to love one another.

Scouts: To help other people at all times.

Leader: Scouting offers us many opportunities to grow physically. To be alert and ready requires us to give special care to those gifts of soul – intellect and will – that make us unto God. "Morally straight" means we must try to know what is right and true, and to love what is good and choose it.

Scouts: To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

A Litany of the Scout Law

Leader: A true and worthy person recognizes his obligations and does them without being watched or compelled.

Scouts: A scout is trustworthy.

Leader: We owe much to many – to home, school, community, nation, and to God.

Scouts: A scout is loyal.

Leader: The Good Samaritan showed the spirit of doing a Good Turn.

Scouts: A scout is helpful.

Leader: No one likes a grouchy self centered person who cares only about themselves. We must be willing to share our time with others.

Scouts: A scout is friendly.

Leader: Courtesy is the mark of all faiths. It is shown in thoughtful acts and kindly respect for everyone.

Scouts: A scout is courteous.

Leader: Kindliness is the way people show respect for others.

Scouts: A scout is kind.

Leader: Life is filled with things that we must do whether we like them or not. One of the marks of growing up is our readiness to accept responsibilities willingly.

Scouts: A scout is obedient.

Leader: Our moods make our days. If we are grouchy, our day is gloomy. If we are happy, our day is always brighter.

Scouts: A scout is cheerful.

Leader: The world offers many gifts. A wise person uses them with care.

Scouts: A scout is thrifty.

Leader: To each of us comes danger, difficult tasks, and temptations. In the choice of courage or cowardice, may we be brave.

Scouts: A scout is brave.

Leader: Cleanliness is said to be next to Godliness. To have a clean body, a clean mind, and a clean record is a rewarding achievement worthy of praise.

Scouts: A scout is clean.

Leader: Most of our character is determined by the things we worship. Whatever we put first in our life will determine the course and content of our life. When God is first, everything else falls into place.

Scouts: A Scout is reverent.

All: Give us clean hands, clean words, and clean thoughts, O God. Teach us to work hard and to play fairly. Forgive us when we are unkind and help us to help others. Send us strength to do a good turn each day and help us to do your will in all areas of our life.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

CHIEF YELLOW LARK BENEDICTION

O' Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me! I am small and weak, I need your strength and wisdom.

Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.

Make my hands respect the things you have made, and my ears sharp to hear your voice.

Make me wise so that I may know the things you have taught my people.

Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be greater than my brother, but to fight my greatest enemy – myself.

Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes.

So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame.

Given by Chief Yellow Lark, Sioux, 1887

Scout's Own



Lodge Leadership Development