

**This crossing over ceremony was first performed in Gonzales Tx. We used an actual bridge to cross over, and ½ way across had the parents change their epilates.**

**Akela:** The moon is full, just as it was long ago on that night in the jungle when Mowgli first joined the wolf pack. It has been many years since Mowgli returned from living with the wolves. After he returned, he taught us many of the lessons he learned while in the jungle. The most important was that the strength of the wolf is the pack, and the strength of the pack is the wolf. That is why we are here tonight in this council ring.

But just as Mowgli had to leave the pack, tonight we also have some man cubs among us who have grown strong and tall. The time has now come when they too must leave the pack to find their place in the world of men. They have learned many lessons as they have walked the trails of the bobcat, tiger, wolf, and bear.

Tonight, these cubs are ready to begin their next adventure on their way to manhood. We will not hold them back, though we will miss them when they are gone. Instead, we will wish them well and send them into the wild where they will continue on their path.

**Akela:** So let us begin. Parents, bring forward these man cubs.  
(Akela calls out the names of the Cubs who will be advancing to Scouts.  
Parents and Cubs come forward and face the rest of the pack.)

Follow me.

**First station:** As Tigers you were young cubs, playful and had so much still to learn. The task were easy, but rewarding.

**Second Station:** As wolfs we ran faster, and got stronger. Our pack of brothers ran with us.

**Third Station:** As bears we grew stronger. Our bodies got bigger and our task got harder. We pushed through though and make it through the year.

**Station Four:** We then became Webelos. Our tasks were even harder. We grew wiser. We learned speed and strength were only good when we had thought about how we are going to use them.

**Akela:** Akela of men, do you hear me?

**Sr. Patrol Leader:** I hear you, Akela of the man cubs. What is it that you want?

**Akela:** We have among us several boys who have grown tall in body and strong in character. They have learned well the ways of the pack, but now they yearn to run with older boys in the wild places. They have been with the pack for many moons, and have been a source of pride for us all. But now it is time that they must leave us and search out greater adventure.

**Sr. Patrol Leader:** I understand you and I will accept them into my tribe and guide them in those wild places. As a sign you are no longer a cub, your parents who have walked beside you this whole journey will replace your Webelos signs with Boy Scout epilates.

### **Parents put epilates on boys**

**AKELA:** But now a vision of what is to come

**Station Five:** As a Tenderfoot you learn the basics of scouting. The oath, law and several things that make a boy scout a scout.

**Station Six:** As 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> class we become more accustomed to the Boy Scout ways. We start to lead others that are new to our troop as we keep our eye on the eagle.

**Station 7:** Life and Star are far into the journey. We've come a long way since our days as cub scouts. We are leaders in our troop. We have to keep vigilant as time slips away if we are to get to the goal we set out for so many moons ago.

**Station 8:** And here, at the station of Eagle is what we strive for. As Eagles we are at the top of Scouting. Only 4 out of every 100 boys that start in scouting ever make it here. So our question to you is, do you have what it takes to be the best of the best? Can you keep yourself focused in striving such a lofty goal? Can you keep your eye on the Eagle?

**Akela:** These boys are no longer with our pack, yet we still call on the Great Akela of all Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts to always guide their way. We ask that the Great Akela watch over them as they learn to soar with Eagles in the wild places. And, in the fullness of time, we pray that these boys will return, tall and proud and strong, and present their own man cubs to be accepted into the pack.