A BANQUET ICEBREAKER

Find people in the room who answer **one each** of the descriptions below. They should sign in the proper space.

1. Someone who wears a size 101/2 shoe _____
2. Someone with your eye color _____
3. Someone who has a Girl Scout daughter _____
4. Someone who was born in February _____
5. Someone who has not been to Sesame Place _____
6. Someone who is wearing blue socks _____
7. Someone who went to Philmont _____
8. Someone who has a pre-school age child _____
9. Someone who was a Cub Scout as a boy _____
10. Someone who has earned the Eagle Rank _____
11. Someone with an unusual middle name _____
12. Someone who was not born in Berks County _____
13. Someone with the number 3, 5 or 1 in their phone # _____

The person with the most signatures is the winner. No duplicate signature is allowed.

BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET

The Boy Scouts of America was organized in February, 1910. Each February, Packs across the country plan and conduct a Blue and Gold Banquet for the entire family to celebrate the anniversary of Scouting. This bog Pack celebration gets its name from the Cub Scout colors – blue and gold. The Blue and Gold Banquet is really a birthday dinner, so it should involve a lot of planning and be **REALLY SPECIAL**.

Involve as many parents as possible; Den Leaders should NOT have to do all the work. They should be free to mingle with parents. Appoint a set-up committee, publicity, program committee, and clean-up crew. Determine your Pack's needs, and then organize your committee accordingly.

Organization – the key word!

Steps to Planning the Blue and Gold Banquet

I. Select a date, time, place

A. The Banquet often takes the place of the February Pack meeting, although it is not necessarily held on the regular Pack meeting night.

B. In selecting a place, consider the following:
1. Adequate space for seating and displays. How many tables will be needed?
2. Availability of parking spaces, restrooms, coat racks.
3. Program needs, such as microphone, stage, etc.
4. Convenience for food preparation and/or serving.

C. Reserve meeting place WELL in advance!!!

C. Select a theme – plan your decorations and program around this theme.

II. Committees

A. Set-up Committee – plan to set-up the night before or at least well in advance of banquet time. You should be ready when guests begin to arrive. Perhaps one den's parents could take the responsibility for setting up, and another be clean-up crew. Again, organization is important.

B. Welcoming Committee – greets guests, has guestbook available to be signed and aids families and honored guests in finding their respective seats. Den Chiefs and Webelos can be very helpful with the seating.

C. Program Committee – sees that programs are printed for the guests, acquires the necessary props and sound equipment for the program, and works with the Den Leaders in producing the program.

D. Dinner Committee
1. Select a meal plan
a. Pack buys the meat. Then each family brings a covered dish. This could be "potluck",
or parents could sign-up to bring dishes on a planned menu.
b. Each family brings a meat dish and covered dish (casserole, vegetable, salad or dessert). All dishes are put together in buffet form.
c. Catered dinner – be sure you have DEFINITE prices before committing.
d. If you have a "potluck" dinner, the Pack should plan to buy coffee, cream, sugar, rolls, butter and beverages. Also salt, pepper and any other condiments.
e. A decorated birthday cake for Scouting will accentuate your celebration.
2. Determine serving needs – kitchen and utensils
3. Select menu and estimate cost
4. Assign someone to serve (Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H and past Pack parents are possibilities)

E. Clean-up crew – should wait to clean up until guests have left. This responsibility should be assumed by the parents in a particular den. Be sure you leave the facility in as good or better condition than you found it.

III. Program – should be something really special. Plan ahead, practice a lot, and make it really meaningful and entertaining.

A. Entertainment

B. Skits – dens can prepare skits that tell parents the story and meaning of Cub Scouting. Include props, costumes, and songs in your skits. Parents enjoy seeing their children perform.

2. Speaker – keep in mind the age of the audience and plan the length of the speech accordingly.
3. Songs – group singing encourages spirit and involves everyone. It helps to "break the ice".
4. Opening and Closing Ceremonies – should be planned to go with program and be meaningful.

B. Recognition of Cubs and Leaders

C. Advancement Awards – have impressive Advancement Ceremony

D. Leaders – present certificates of appreciation to Pack Leaders and to any parents who have helped in the Pack extensively. Don't forget the Den Chiefs and Pack Committee Members.

E. Sponsoring Institution – express appreciation for their sponsorship. Some Packs also receive their charter at this time.

C. Make assignments for various parts of the program

1. Invocation

D. Welcome and Introduction of Guests

E. Ceremonies

F. Recognitions

G. Entertainment

D. Typical banquet program

1. Opening Ceremony

E. Invocation

F. Dinner

G. Welcome and Introduction of Guests

H. Greetings from Head of Institution

I. Group Singing

J. Den Skit or other entertainment

K. Awards and Graduation Ceremony

L. Recognition of Leaders

M. Announcements and Thanks

N. Closing Ceremony

IV. Decorations – should follow a theme

A. Room decorations – use pennants, balloons, sunbursts, crepe paper streamers or anything to create a bright, colorful atmosphere for all to enjoy.

B. Table Decorations – each den makes placemats, favors, napkin rings, place cards and name tags for whoever will be sitting with their den.

C. Centerpieces – created for the tables by mothers, dens and/or leaders.

D. All the dens should make decorations for the head table an special guests.

E. Decorative Programs – giving the order of activities for the evening could be handed out as guests arrive. It would be nice to list the Cub Scouts, Leaders and Honored Guests in these.

V. Publicity

VI. Inform all Pack families of the date, time, place and cost.

B. Invitations can be made by the Cub Scouts for families and special guests. You will have to determine ahead how many people each Cub Scout can invite. Be sure to get your invitations out in plenty of time for response.

1. Typical invitation
   Cub Scout Pack #_____ of _____(town) requests the pleasure of your company for our Blue and Gold Banquet on _____, the _____ of February at _____ o'clock at the _____(location)

   RSVP:
   (Den Leader Coach, Cubmaster, or Committee Treasurer)
   his/her address and phone number

C. Suggested Guest List – many Packs invite guests from outside their Packs to the banquet. People who have done much to encourage and promote the Scouting program. Below are some people you might consider:

1. Head of Sponsoring Institution
2. Scout Master of affiliated Troop
3. Tiger Cubs and families
4. Minister
5. Custodian of building where regular meetings take place (honor him)
6. District Roundtable Personnel
7. District Executive
8. District Commissioner
9. District Chairman
10. Unit Commissioner
11. Former Scouters
12. Business contributors

Invocation
Dear Heavenly Father, look down on us this evening as we gather together in the Spirit of Scouting. Bless these families assembled here and guide them as they go forward in Akela's path. Amen.

Blue and Gold Grace
O, God, who givest all things good,

We pray Thee now to bless our food.
Amen

SKITS

Blue and Gold Audience Participation
Banquet – Let's eat (rub tummies)

Cubmaster – Signs Up (Cub Scout Sign)

Cub Scout – Yippee!! (jump up and down)

Den Leader – Oh, dear! (hand on top of head)

Parents – Us, too! (points to self)

Committee Chairman – Thank heaven! (hands to ceiling)

Divide audience into 6 groups and assign them one of the above. As the story is read, pause for the audience to make responses as the words are said.

Blue and Gold time has come again. CUB SCOUTS……and DEN LEADERS…..have come up with ideas for the BANQUET…..to please the CUBMASTER…..They also had to stay within their budget to the COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S……delight. They made invitations for their PARENTS….. and centerpieces for the table with the help of their DEN LEADERS….

When they arrived at the BANQUET….the PARENTS….were happy with the decorations the CUB SCOUTS….had made. When the awards were presented, the DEN LEADERS…..received thanks for jobs well done. The CUBMASTER….and the COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN….were also rewarded. Then EVERYONE…..decided it was the nicest BANQUET they have had so far.

Cub Scout Stew
Characters: Boy in chef's hat, any # of uniformed Cub Scouts, Den Leader

Setting: On stage is a large kettle made from a LARGE cardboard carton. There is a short stepladder at each side for the boys to climb up and get into the kettle. As the curtain opens, a boy wearing a chef's hat is standing on one of the stepladders, stirring in the pot with a broomstick. He holds a large piece of paper on which the word "RECIPE" is written in LARGE letters.

Den Leader (entering): What are you doing?
Chef: This is Cub Scout Stew. Would you like to watch?

Den Leader: Yes, I would. What's in it?

Chef (pretending to read recipe): First, add any number of Cub Scouts who "do their best". (uniformed Cub comes on stage and enters the kettle.

Then add a sense of humor (grinning Cub wearing a sign saying "Humor" enters the kettle)

Next, add a pinch of service to others (Cub wearing sign "Service" climbs in).

Then add a dash of mischief (Cub with sign "Mischief" climbs in).

And a BIG helping of sunshine (Cub with sign "Sunshine" climbs in).

Now add a whole lot of FUN (Cub with sign "Fun" enters the kettle).

And last, add a ton of energy (Cub with sign "Energy" climbs in).

Stir well, and you have Cub Scout Stew. Would you like a taste?

Den Leader: That's delicious. I'd like your recipe!!!

PAIN IS WHERE YOU FIND IT

CAST: DOCTOR and PATIENT
(Add extras according to the number of boys in den)

SETTING: Doctor's office

DOCTOR: Good morning Mr. Smith

MR. SMITH: (Bending over in pain.) Oh...Oh...this pain!!!

DOCTOR: Where does it seem to be?

MR. SMITH: In my back. I can't straighten up.

DOCTOR: When did the pain start?

MR. SMITH: This morning when I was getting dressed.

(At this point the Doctor examines Mr. Smith. He can call in other specialists to look at Mr. Smith too.)

DOCTOR: (Bending over and doing something to patients legs.) There now, try to straighten up.

MR. SMITH: (Flashing a big smile.) Doctor!!! My pain is all gone!!! It's a miracle!!!

DOCTOR: Of course it has … your suspenders were fastened to your socks.

LOST MONEY

CAST: Several CUB SCOUTS (one holding flashlight aiming down)

SETTING: 1st Cub is circling around and looking down at the ground under flashlight

2ND CUB: What are you doing?

1ST CUB: I dropped my money and I'm looking for it.

2ND CUB: Well, I'll help you look

(Other Cubs come up one at a time and ask him what he is doing. He tells them he lost his money and they agree to help look. Eventually there are several boys circling around looking for the money on the ground.)

LAST CUB: What are you doing?

1ST CUB: I'm looking for the money I lost.

LAST CUB: Where did you lose it?

1ST CUB: Down the street by those houses.

LAST CUB: Then why are you looking for it here?

1ST CUB: Because this is where the street light is.

THREE RIVERS

CAST: CAMP COOK
3 STRANGERS
THREE RIVERS, a boy on all fours acting like a dog

PROPS: Big Kettle or Dutch Oven

SETTING: The camp cook is stirring the contents of the big kettle when along comes a stranger.

1ST STRANGER: What's cooking? Sure does smell good.

COOK: Homemade stew. Want a plate?

1ST STRANGER: Yeah, if it's not any trouble. Got an extra plate?

COOK: Sure do. Three Rivers just finished cleaning some.

(The 1st Stranger picks up a plate from the pile the cook is pointing to.)

1ST STRANGER: Are you sure these plates are clean?

COOK" Sure are, stranger. As clean as Three Rivers can get 'em.

(This is the crux of the skit. Make sure the audience understands that Three Rivers cleaned the plates.)

(Two more strangers come in and get served.)

Remember, main line is "As clean as Three Rivers can get em."

3RD STRANGER: Cookie, that stew was great! To show my appreciation, I'd like to clean up the dishes.

COOK: Never mind about that. Three Rivers will take care of them.
Three Rivers!!! Three Rivers!!! Here boy, come on Three Rivers!!!"

THREE RIVERS: (Enters, barking.)

STRANGERS: (Pretend to get sick.)

RUN-ONS

BOY: (Comes on stage carrying a wooden case)

CUBMASTER: What are you doing?

BOY: I'm taking my case to court.

LATER:

SAME BOY: (Returns on stage later in the program. This time he's carrying the case on top of his head.)

CUBMASTER: What are you doing now?

BOY: I'm taking my case to a higher court.

<u>SONGS</u>

Road Kill Stew
Tune: Three Blind Mice

Road Kill stew,
Road Kill stew,
Tases so good,
Just like it should.

First you go down to the Interstate
You wait for the critter to meet it's fate.
You take it home and you make it great!
Road Kill stew,
Road Kill stew.

Bug Juice
(Tune: On Top of Old Smokey)

At camp with the Cub Scouts,
They gave us a drink,
We thought it was Koolaid,
Because it was pink.

But the thing that they told us,
Would have grossed out a moose,
For that good tasting pink drink,
Was really bug juice.

It looked fresh and fruity,
Like tasty Koolaid,
But the bugs that were in it,
were murdered with Raid.

We drank by the gallons,
We drank by the ton,
But then the next morning,
We all had the runs.

Next time you drind bug juice,
And a fly drives you mad,
He's just getting even,
Because you swallowed his dad.

Amazing Grace
Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have
already come;
Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and
grace will lead
me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's Praise, than
when we first
begun.

Amazing grace has set me free,
To touch, to taste, to feel;
The wonders of accepting love,
Have made me whole and real.

Blue and Gold Closings

Baden-Powell Closing

This closing can be done by having boys recite one line each, or one person can read the entire poem.

Baden-Powell had a vision
which he made come true,

so that we enjoy Scouting
and have fun while we do.

He wasn't an American
but he's famous to us;

he has earned in America
our admiration and trust.

May the Spirit of Scouting
be with you both young and old,

as you never forget
The Blue and The Gold.

May you strive for truth and spirituality in the warm sun light under the sky above. May you bring good cheer and happiness to others and have steadfast loyalty and love.

Helpful to Others

This is credited to Lord Baden-Powell:

"I often think that, when the sun goes down, the world is hidden by a big blanket from the light of heaven, but the stars are little holes pierced in that blanket by those who have done good deeds in this world. The stars are not all the same size; some are big, some are little, and some men have done small deeds but they have made their hole in the blanket b doing good before they went to heaven.

Try and make your hole in the blanket by good work while you are on earth.

IT IS SOMETHING TO **BE** GOOD, BUT IT IS FAR BETTER TO **DO** GOOD.