4-H Guide To Ceremonies
# Table of Contents

- Why Do We Use Ceremonies In 4-H  
- Where Can You Find The Right Ceremony For The Occasion  
- Admission Of New Members  
- 4-H Club Initiation Ceremony  
- Installation Of Officers  
- Leaders' Recognition Ceremony  
- Candlelight Service  
- His Truth Is Marching On (A 4-H Candlelight Service For Pennsylvania)  
- Campfire Ceremonial  
- From Forest To Flame To 4-H Spirit  
- Friendship Ceremony  
- Opening Of Camp Ceremony  
- Flag Raising Ceremony  
- Flag Lowering Ceremony  
- 4-H Sunset Ceremonial—Trees  
- Star Talk  
- The Birthright Of Children  
- Chief Sealth's Words To The President  
- The Last Will And Testament Of Charles Lounsberry  
- Untitled (Sleeping Bag Story)  
- Arbor Day Ceremony  
- Ceremonies—Lesson Plan Checklists
Why Do We Use Ceremonies In 4-H?

Ceremonies help us to develop a deep sense of reverence and respect. They can add dignity and beauty in such a way that a close bond and group feeling takes place among members of the group. They can teach or give recognition. They can provide inspiration or offer a chance to do some serious thinking. Often times they are used to prepare a group for events to follow.

Ceremonies may be serious or humorous, depending on the occasion. Some have a religious emphasis, others do not. Some are elaborate, others are simple. The occasion for which they are to be used will determine the type of ceremony to use. They will be most effective and meaningful when the theme is some current important happening.

Where Can You Find The Right Ceremony For The Occasion?

Many times you can't—so try writing your own or get the participants to write it. It will likely be more effective and meaningful than any that has been written. Whether you write your own, use one already written which fits your purpose, or get the group to write one, you will want to consider these things:

1. Environment—This means the setting. If outdoors, the ceremony might be given on a hillside at sunset or around a campfire. Many times background music and stage properties lend the desired atmosphere. If equipment or props are used, they should be simple; they should be easily secured and add to the meaningfulness of the ceremony. Group singing might be an effective help in "setting the stage".

2. Theme or Idea—A ceremony should be built around one thought. One idea of current interest to all should be used. It relates to the purpose of the ceremony—the occasion being observed. Consider the number of people you will want to involve and the method of presentation that would be most effective.

3. Length—No ceremony should be lengthy, especially if there is little action or drama. Five to ten minutes of meaningful activity emphasizing one idea is plenty. It is better to make a ceremony too short than too long.

4. Try to Avoid—Confusion, weak voices with poor expressions, shifting of props, and equipment, poor readers with words too difficult to pronounce, complicated ceremonies requiring many rehearsals, extreme sentimentality introducing participants - a ceremony should "happen" letting background music dominate extreme emotion beyond the coping ability of the group.

5. Mood—Setting, holding, and savoring a mood is worth the effort to create it. Individuals and their actions detrimental to ceremonies and moods should be anticipated and planned for. For example: flashbulbs, flashlights, crying babies, and juvenile mischief.

Enclosed are some suggested ceremonies for typical 4-H events. Some you will find useful as they are, others may be an inspiration for those you will want to write.

Admission Of New Members

President or chairman asks candidates for membership to come to the front of the room and stand facing the officers who are standing behind a table.

President: To you who are about to become a member of the 4-H Club, we wish to explain the purposes of our organization. 4-H Clubs are organized to make us better citizens by teaching us to work and play together, by giving us the means for learning worthwhile skills and developing talents, and by encouraging us to set standards and goals which challenge us. 4-H Clubs are a national organization with headquarters in the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. All state, commonwealth, territory, and county Extension services cooperate to make 4-H work available to boys and girls from 8 to 19.

Vice-President: The national emblem of the 4-H Clubs is the green four-leaf clover, with the four white H's, one in each leaf, signifying the training of the Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. Our motto, "To Make the Best Better," asks us to improve ourselves with each job that we undertake. Our colors are green and white. Green is nature's most common color and stands for springtime, life, youth, and growth. White symbolizes purity and high ideals.

Secretary: Each new 4-H member accepts certain responsibilities along with the privileges of membership. We ask each
club member to:
- Attend meetings regularly
- Take active part in 4-H events
- Do work required in the project selected
- Keep project record up-to-date and turn in at end of club year
- Be a worthy representative of 4-H at all times

President: You now know the purposes, motto, emblem, and colors of 4-H. Will knowledge yourself to live up to these purposes, to take part in the affairs of this club, and to further its interest in every way possible?

Candidates: I will.

President: Will you join with the active 4-H Club members in repeating our club pledge?

I pledge:
My Head to clearer thinking,
My Heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service, and
My Health to better living,
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

President: We are happy to have you as a new member of the 4-H Club. You will now sign your name to the constitution in the secretary's book. (President goes down the line shaking hands with each new member - if this is the last item of business, members and leaders will want to come forward and welcome the new members.)

### 4-H Club Initiation Ceremony

This ceremony is to be used in connection with a campfire program. It is suggested that the ceremony be made a part of each year's picnic program, when all members who have joined for the first year of 4-H are accepted and made to feel that they are a part of the county organization. The ceremony may be used with or without a campfire, but would be most effective as a part of the campfire program.

#### Arrangements

Group all members who have been in 4-H more than one year in the form of a horseshoe. Have parents and friends in the background. Led by a guide or guides, the candidates approach the open end of the horseshoe formation where they are challenged by the guards. A large four-leaf clover can be outlined on the ground with lime or flour, with the stem facing out toward the candidates. (see diagram) The campfire, if used, is built in the curve of the horseshoe.

The club president takes his place on the stem of the clover, with the vice-president on the leaflet to his left, and the news reporter on his right. The secretary stands on the leaflet back of the vice-president; the song and recreation leaders are on the leaflet back of the news reporter.

After the vice-president and news reporter have completed their part in the ceremony, they exchange places with the two officers back of them. The president keeps his original position throughout the ceremony. The guards take their position facing away from the campfire and beyond those in charge of the ceremony. Speaking parts should be taken by older club members who have been active in 4-H during previous years.
Song: "We're From Pennsylvania", as candidates approach the guard.

Guard: "Who approaches?"

Guide: "A group of new 4-H Club members who desire to join the 4-H Club campfire circle of _________ County."

Guard: (speaking to president or master of ceremonies) "Sir, a group of 4-H Club members who desire to join our Assembly seek admission."

President: "Admit them." Candidates are brought inside the circle. When they are in position, the president resumes "to you, who are about to become members of 4-H and active members of the County group, I wish to explain the object of 4-H. These clubs are organized to make us better citizens by teaching us to work and play together, to give us the means of learning better methods of farming and homemaking, and to encourage us to pass on these better methods to others. The guide will now conduct you to the vice-president who will give you the meaning of our symbols and motto."

Candidates are conducted to a position before the vice-president.

Vice-President: "The symbol of this organization is the green four-leaf clover with the four white H's, one on each leaf, meaning education of the Head, Heart, Hands and Health (give motions of the club pledge as each of the above are mentioned), the motto of this club is 'To Make the Best Better'. We expect you to live up to the ideals and the motto of the 4-H organization."

Candidates are conducted to news reporter.

News R: "You have been given the symbol and the motto of the organization. I shall give you the slogan of Pennsylvania 4-H members which is 'Every member does his work.'"

Secretary: "As a 4-H Club member you are a part of a vast organization that extends throughout the land. Your 4-H leader is your guide and counselor. Our extension agents direct the work of all the clubs in this county. All counties in Pennsylvania have similar clubs. You are now familiar with our plan or organization. You know the emblem, the slogan, and the goal of 4-H. Are you willing to live up to these?"

Candidates: Together say, "We are'.

Secretary: "The song and recreation leader will give you further instruction."

S. & R. Leader: "Before you are admitted to membership in this assembly, we wish you to know our rules and regulations'.
• Attend all club meetings when possible to do so.
• Take an active part in club meetings.
• Be willing to do any task your club requests of you.
• Do your work as carefully and completely as you can.
• Keep an accurate record of your work and make an exhibit at the roundup.
• Learn the club pledge and live up to the club motto.
You are now familiar with the rules and regulations, ideals, and purposes. Do you still wish to join us?"

Candidates in unison: "I do."

President: "You will now join me in giving the club pledge."
I pledge:  
My Head to clearer thinking,  
My Heart to greater loyalty,  
My Hands to larger service, and  
My Heart to better living,  
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

We will now complete our campfire circle in __________ County for 19__ . All the 4-H members, both old and new, will join hands and form a complete circle, showing that the 4-H members in __________ County are united for self-help throughout the coming year.”

Following this all join and sing “Try to Remember” (4-H version).

Installation Of Officers

Retiring Officers

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
News Reporter  
Social Chairman  
Song Leader

New Officers

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
News Reporter  
Social Chairman  
Song Leader

Retiring President stands in center front and addresses group.

Retiring President: 4-H members, you have been chosen to fill the various offices of this 4-H Club. You will, I know, honor the trust imposed upon you and fulfill in every way the obligations that this trust entails. You will at once familiarize yourself with the duties of your office. You must know that the welfare and success of this club depend upon you.

Crosses to new president.

As presiding officer for the __________ 4-H Club, many obligations and responsibilities will be yours. You will preside at meetings and will be ready at any time to give your services for the best interests of our club. You must protect its good name and strive always to further its ideals and purposes. This gavel is given to you to aid you in the performance of your duties and as a symbol of the responsibility and honor of the office of president.

They exchange places. Retiring vice-president crosses room to new vice-president.

Retiring Vice-President: As vice-president you will familiarize yourself with the duties of the president and will be ready to act in that capacity at any time in the absence of the president. In this position you will assume responsibility for the chairmanship of the program planning committee and will strive in every way to aid in promoting our 4-H program.

They exchange places. Retiring secretary crosses room to new secretary.

Retiring Secretary: As secretary you will keep the membership roll and a complete record of what takes place at each meeting. We will depend on you to have in complete form all important data whenever it is needed. You shall also conduct correspondence in behalf of the club and be responsible for notifying the membership of club meetings. Into your hands and keeping is now placed the secretary’s book for the 4-H Club.

They exchange places. Retiring treasurer crosses room to new treasurer.
Retiring Treasurer: The book which you are receiving also brings with it its share of responsibility. Here the virtues of honesty and accuracy reign. You will be entrusted with all money of our 4-H Club and will keep an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures. You will be prepared at any time to furnish complete information concerning the finances of the club.

They exchange places. Retiring news reporter crosses room to new news reporter.

Retiring News Reporter: As reporter of our club, it will be your responsibility to keep people informed of the activities and progress of our club. You will cooperate with local newspapers in giving them an accurate and true account of our club meetings and special events. You will set forth information in a readable form.

They exchange places. Retiring social chairman crosses room to new social chairman.

Retiring Social Chairman: As social chairman for the ____________ 4-H Club you will be responsible for planning and carrying out recreation for the enjoyment of the entire club. Such recreation should be a part of every 4-H Club meeting and of special 4-H events.

They exchange places. Retiring song leader crosses room to new song leader.

Retiring Song Leader: As song leader for the ____________ 4-H Club yours is a two-fold responsibility; the first being the inspiration of the club provided through group singing, and the second the teaching of 4-H songs which add strength and unity to our 4-H program.

They exchange places.

New President: As officers of the ____________ 4-H Club we are proud to accept the responsibilities entrusted to us and pledge ourselves to perform these duties to the best of our abilities. As a token of your support, will all club members join us in repeating the pledge which states our 4-H goals.

I pledge:
   My Head to clearer thinking,
   My Heart to greater loyalty,
   My Hands to larger service, and
   My Health to better living,
   For my club, my community, my country's and my world.

Leaders' Recognition Ceremony

Pillars of 4-H (for County Event)
This is a ceremony designed for a County Leaders Banquet. The stage setting consists of three large white pillars labeled with silver letters—Community (in front and largest), Project (in the middle and medium size), and Activity (the smallest and to the rear of stage). Setting these at an angle gives depth effect. If possible, these are flanked by two large baskets of green and white carnations and two seven-branch candelabra. Spots can be effectively used here. Light candles. Background music opens ceremony.

Narrator:
Tonight as we assemble to honor you 4-H Leaders of ____________ County, we turn our thoughts toward the true meaning of 4-H leadership. You leaders represent untold days, months, and years of 4-H service to members, 4-H Alumni and parents, as well as your community. This service is represented in various forms and performed by different techniques. Nevertheless, the end result is the same, YOU ARE A 4-H LEADER. You are a main support of hope, encouragement, understanding, and faith. You are a "PILLAR OF 4-H". (Spotlight on pillars of community, project, and activity).
As a PILLAR OF 4-H work, your leadership is observed by members and parents through various dimensions. To illustrate these dimensions, may I read the definition of a 4-H Leader by Bonnie Hill of Colorado? (Background music— I Would Be True)

Somewhere between the sternness of a parent and the comradeship of a pal is that mysterious creature we call a 4-H leader. These leaders come in all shapes and sizes, and may be male or female. But they all have one thing in common—a glorious twinkle in their eyes!

4-H Leaders are found everywhere—at judging contests, junior fairs, square dancing, and talent shows. They always are preparing for, sitting through, participating in, or recuperating from a meeting of some kind.

They are tireless consumers of muffins, expert at taking knots out of thread, peerless coaches, and spend hours on the telephone.

A 4-H Leader is many things—an artist making a float for the fair, a doctor prescribing for an underfed calf, a counselor at camp, a lawyer filling out reports, and a shoulder to cry on when the dress just won't fit.

Nobody else is so early to rise and so late to get home at night. Nobody else has so much fun with so many boys and girls.

We sometimes forget them, but we can't do without them. They receive no salary, but we never can repay them. They are angels in aprons, saints in straw hats. Their only reward is the love of the kids and the respect of the community. But when they look around them at the skills they've taught and the youth they've built, there is an inner voice from somewhere that says, "Well Done".

This world has many leaders in government, religious movements, society, and organizations. These leaders, some great and some inadequate, have led through wars and peace, inflation and depression, and happiness and sorrow. In each situation these leaders and you 4-H leaders had feelings of sadness and joy, winning and defeat.

Your leadership, guidance, and faith has inspired, molded and constructed many young people. You are a pillar, a supporter, and a foundation which never crumbles or deteriorates. I am sure each of you builders and pillars are likened to the mason who constructs a large building. First in building and supporting a 4-H youth you began with a foundation which is the 4-H program. Next comes the mortar which is projects and activities. Finally, the bricks with which to build. These are patience, guidance, companionship, inspiration, hope, faith, understanding and many more. When the first brick is laid it may look almost hopeless, but brick by brick with mortar and more mortar the building or youth takes form. Yet, this will crumble or fail without support. You as a leader realize this pitfall and set yourself, the pillar, in place. Yes, you are the pillar, the mainstay which has and will continue to hold "Buildings of 4-H Youth" together for years to come. (Background music)

These 4-H building pillars are composed of many particles. By themselves they are weak, but together, working together they form a strong, sturdy structure. Put them all together they spell Service. Let us now spell out these particles.

S  Sincerity to all
E  Energy which is boundless
R  Resources to find a better way
V  Vision of accomplishments
I  Inspiration that challenges defeat
C  Cooperation which is endless
E  Everlasting optimism that says, 'It Can Be Done'

(Background music—Try To Remember—4-H version suggested)

These particles spell Service, service which you as Community, Project, and Activity leaders render to 4-H youth. Each leader has a purpose. Each leader has a method. Each leader has a challenge. I should like to ask the Community leaders to please stand. Here is your challenge and what you stand for. As this challenge is read, will each Community Leader please stand and light their candle?
is Cheerfulness and a beaming smile.
stands for offering Opportunities
is Merit you give unto others.
stands for Mutual friends you make and have.
Understanding which knows no boundaries.
is for Noble, the deeds you fulfill.
is Interest in all, not just one.
stands for Teachers of many curricula.
is Yielding your thoughts that others may advance.

In the eyes of your 4-H members this word, Community, represents you. May we pledge ourselves to uphold these meanings. Please be seated.

Project leaders, too, have a mission in club work. You too, are eagerly watched by energetic and hopeful youth today. Will all project leaders please stand? This word, Project, represents you. (Please light your candles.)

Patience which never ceases.
Readiness to serve others.
Optimism that says, "It can be done."
Joy which you extend to all.
Energy which is likened to a flowing brook.
Consideration not to one but many.
Tenure of years—may they be numerous.

Please be seated.  
Last, but definitely not least are the Activity pillars. We of 4-H well realize that you guide and direct youth in essential activities such as health, recreation, safety, and many more. Without these our 4-H building would crumble. Activity leaders please stand as you too, will learn of your importance to youth. (Will you also please light your candles?)

Abundance of spirit and enthusiasm.
Character which is kind and sympathetic.
Teaching ideas which are true.
Ingenuity exhibited in all endeavors.
Vision of 4-H work, unlimited.
Integrity which is sound.
Thoughts which are sincere.
Yourself last, others first.

Please be seated.
Three pillars supporting, guiding, and directing an eager, energetic, and capable youth of today. For a few brief minutes we have humbly given our thanks and a salute to you. May God give each of you strength, forethought, and patience that will never cease.
(Background music—Kum Ba Yah suggested)
Now may we stand and bow our heads for a moment of silent prayer?
I Am The Nation

Slides
Statue of Liberty
I was born on July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate. The bloodlines of the world run in my veins, because I offered freedom to the oppressed. I am many things and many people. I Am The Nation.

White House
I am 2 million souls — and the ghost of millions who have lived and died for me.

Abe Lincoln
I am Nathan Hale and Paul Revere. I stood at Lexington and fired the shot heard around the world. I am Washington, Jefferson and Patrick Henry. I am John Paul Jones, the Green Mountain Boys, and Davy Crockett. I am Lee and Grant, and Abe Lincoln.

Iwo Jima Monument
I remember the Alamo, the Maine, and Pearl Harbor. When freedom called, I answered and stayed until it was over, over there. I left my heroic dead in Flanders Fields, on the rock of Corregido, and on the bleak slopes of Korea, and the jungles of Vietnam.

Brooklyn Bridge
I am the Brooklyn Bridge, the wheat lands of Kansas, the granite hills of Vermont. I am the coalfields of the Virginias and Pennsylvania, the fertile lands of the West, the Golden Gate and the Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall, the Monitor, and the Merrimac.

Country Scene
I am big. I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific, 3 million square miles throbbing with industry. I am more than 5 million farms. I am forest, field, mountain, and desert. I am quiet villages — and cities that never sleep.

Independence Hall
You can look at me and see Ben Franklin walking down the streets of Philadelphia with his bread loaf under his arm. You can see Betsy Ross with her needle. You can see the lights of Christmas and hear the strains of Auld Lang Syne as the calendar turns.

National Cathedral
I am Babe Ruth and the World Series. I am 169,000 schools and colleges, and 250,000 churches where my people worship God as they think best. I am a ballot dropped in a box, the roar of a crowd in a stadium, and the voice of a choir in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a newspaper and a letter to a Congressman.

United Nations

Capitol
Yes, I Am The Nation, and these are the things that I am. I was conceived in freedom and, God willing, in Freedom I will spend the rest of my days. May I possess always the integrity, the courage, and the strength to keep myself unshackled to remain a citadel of freedom and a beacon of hope to this world.

This is my wish, my goal, and my prayer in 19__ - 2__ years after I was born.

This slide set is available from Agricultural Information Services, 119 Agricultural Administration Bldg., University Park, PA 16802.
Candlelight Service

Participants
Narrator, Spirit of 4-H (white robe),
Four H's, Chorus, Bugler (or bugle
record of Taps)

Songs For Chorus
America The Beautiful
4-H Pledge Song
Follow The Gleam

Lime-outside or chalk-inside may be used to outline a four-leaf clover. Members who do not have a part in the ceremony will file into place on this outline.

Chorus: (Hums “America the Beautiful” as group assembles in place.)

Narrator: Quiet is the darkness, creeping soft, and slow. Time to light our candles, that their light may show. Seekers, do you know the meaning of the candles and their mellow glow? Head and Heart and Hands and Health—4-H spirits true—will give the inspiration to take home with you.

Chorus: “America the Beautiful” (one verse—then continue humming until the spirit’s candle has been lighted. During the singing the spirit and four H’s take their places.)

Narrator: If we were asked to express what 4-H means to us, each would tell a different story, and many would find difficulty in putting into words all that needs saying. This is often true of the things that mean a great deal to us. When words seem inadequate, we symbolize as beautifully as we can that which we want to express. This is the purpose of the 4-H Candlelight Service.

4-H—an educational and inspirational program sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and The Pennsylvania State University is conducted in the counties of the state with the cooperation of the County Extension Associations. 4-H members plan and carry out their activities with the aid of local 4-H leaders and parents, county agricultural agents and home economists.

I now light the candle of the Spirit of 4-H. May its light and inspiration be with you always.

Lights candle and retires from the scene.

Spirit: This week we have found new friends and new meaning of friendship. We know that some doors of opportunity will be opened by others but that many will be opened only by our own efforts. So we shall seek to discover keys to workmanship of which we may be proud.

“I am only one;
But, I am one.
I cannot do everything;
But I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do;
And what I ought to do,
By the grace of God, I will do.”

Chorus: (Begins to hum, “Follow the Gleam”)

Spirit: We see in this candle the symbol of the ideals of 4-H, whose emblem is the four-leaf clover. The help and inspiration we have received is ours only as we carry it back to others. Head H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.

Head H advances to Spirit, lights candle.
Spirit: Your light shall be a symbol to all men for clearer thinking.

Head H: I will think clearly. (Retires to place)

Spirit: Heart H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.

Heart H advances and lights candle.

Spirit: Your light shall be a symbol to all men for comradeship and loyalty to your home and community.

Heart H: I will be loyal and friendly. (Retires to place)

Spirit: Hand H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.

Hand H advances and lights candle.

Spirit: Your light shall be a symbol to all men for good workmanship and skill.

Hand H: I will develop skill. (Retires to place)

Spirit: Health H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.

Health H advances and lights candles.

Spirit: Your light shall be a symbol to all men for physical, mental, and social well-being.

Health H: I will develop Health. (Retires to place)

Spirit: Even as you have received from another, you will pass along to others the light and inspiration of truth you have received.

“For as one light lights another
Nor grows less
So nobleness enkindles nobleness."

Each of the H's moves to his or her leaf of the clover and begins to light the candles of members...

Spirit: As you receive your light, turn and pass it to another until all the candles are aglow.

Chorus: “Follow the Gleam” (two verses—then continue humming)

Spirit: Against the darkness of ignorance and fear, the doubt and of despair, we light these candles of our democratic heritage and our 4-H inspiration. Shall we join the chorus in our 4-H Pledge Song?

Chorus and all: 4-H Pledge Song

Spirit: After taps, let us quickly follow as the four H's lead outward and beyond this circle of light. Carry in our hearts the memory and inspiration of this night, and the glow of truths we have to share.

Bugler: Taps
His Truth Is Marching On
A 4-H Candlelight Service for Pennsylvania

Participants:
State 4-H Leader, Spirit of 4-H, 4-H'ers (4 boys and 4 girls), 1 National Conference delegate or outstanding 4-H'er, 1 County Extension Agent, 1 local (adult) 4-H leader

Chorus:
Bugler and persons to distribute candles (2 microphones are needed, 1 for speakers near chorus, and 1 for spirit at center of clover.)

Chorus sings and hums: “America The Beautiful” while delegates form into a large 4-H leaf clover. Then they sing stanzas 1 and 3 of “Battle Hymn of the Republic”.

State Leader: (at microphone near chorus)
“His Truth is Marching On”

“Ye shall seek the truth and the truth will make you free.”

You have met here at this ____________ seeking truths the 4-H way. You have counseled together, testing ideas for future action. You have sung together, building a spirit of harmony that stands for 4-H. You have explored some of the many paths leading to the world of achievement through your life work. You have considered your responsibilities, present and future, as citizens. You have asked of yourselves: How can I develop and deepen those ways of thinking and feeling about myself in relation to others that I may come to act democratically, to become a person of character?

In all these ways, you have sought the truth.

Truth marches on! The truth you carry, symbolized by the candle you will light has its beginnings, its sources of strength, and its power to endure.

Whence comes the truth which 4-H members carry? What nourished the truth which 4-H members extend?

Spirit of 4-H: (at microphone near chorus)
4-H is a program of the Cooperative Extension Service. As all phases of that program it derives its life, its strength from three sources: The United State Department of Agriculture, The Land Grant University (for us—Penn State) and the counties in each state.

Spirit moves to center of clover.

National Conference Delegate or Outstanding 4-H’er: (State 4-H Leader light candle)
The 4-H’s carry truth from the United States Department of Agriculture. On May 15, 1862, Abraham Lincoln as President, signed the act creating the department: a department which contributes to the health and welfare of every individual to our national economic growth to furthering the development of underdeveloped nations.

One of his speeches leaves this heritage of truth:
“Let us hope that by the best cultivation of the physical world beneath and around us and the intellectual and moral world within us, we shall secure an individual, social, and political prosperity and happiness which course shall be onward and upward and which, while the earth endures, shall not pass away.”

“One hundred years ago in the darkness of a war, there was this much faith in the destiny of our country. Can you match that faith today?”

Join Spirit of 4-H at Center of Clover. (State 4-H Leader light candle)
Extension Agent: "The light still shines in the darkness and the darkness never put it out."

To expand the circle of light which comes from knowledge another course of truth was established in the same period of history: the Land-Grant College and University. On July 2, 1862, Lincoln signed into law the Morrill Land-Grant Act of encouraging the establishment of at least one college in each state by granting to the state 30,000 acres of Federal land, or its equivalent in script, for each congressman from the state.

Within a year the Pennsylvania State Legislature designed the Farmer’s High School of Pennsylvania as the Land-Grant Institution of the Commonwealth. The founding, the dreams, the labors, and the people of our Land-Grant University— Penn State—were pictured for all time in the mural painted by Henry Varnum Poor in the lobby of Old Main.

So the “truth goes marching on”—from the Land-Grant University, from Penn State. The County Extension Workers whom you know represent this University in your county.

Join Spirit of 4-H at center of clover. (State 4-H Leader light candle)

Adult 4-H Leader: The third source of the truth you bear is represented by the local 4-H leader, frequently a parent, who carries the truths discovered by the USDA and the State University into a program of life enrichment for 4-H members everywhere.

Beattitudes For Leaders

BLESSED is the leader who has not sought the high places, but who has been drafted into service because of his ability and willingness to serve.

BLESSED is the leader who knows where he is going, why he is going, and how to get there.

BLESSED is the leader who knows how to lead without being dictatorial; true leaders are humble.

BLESSED is the leader who seeks for the best for those he serves.

BLESSED is the leader who leads for the good of the most concerned, and not for the personal gratification of his own ideas.

BLESSED is the leader who marches with the group, interprets correctly the signs on the pathway that leads to success.

BLESSED is the leader who develops leaders while leading.

BLESSED is the leader who has his head in the clouds but his feet on the ground.

BLESSED is the leader who considers leadership an opportunity for service.

BLESSED is the leader who knows no discouragement, who presents no alibi.

Leader joins extension worker and delegate at center of clover with Spirit of 4-H. They light the candle which the Spirit holds, and move out to the microphone near the chorus.

Spirit of 4-H: During this event, then, 4-H members you have seen truth kindled anew: truth about citizenship, truth about careers and the world of work, and truth about the building of character.

Citizenship means thinking, feeling, and acting with concern for the welfare of others.
National Conference Delegate or outstanding 4-H’er:

I'm proud of this America
in which I had my birth;
To me it is the finest land of
any on this earth.
I'm proud to know the stars and stripes
floats over great and small,
And gives, regardless of their race,
security to all.
And, for the blessed privilege
of being safe and free,
I'll try my very best to make
my country proud of me.

Spirit of 4-H: This week we have looked at the world of work. We know that some doors of opportunity will be opened by others but that many will be opened only by our own efforts. So we shall seek to discover keys to workmanship of which we may be proud.

Extension Agent: After I leave your hands you may never see me again. People looking at me, however, will see you and, so far as they are concerned, I'll be you. Put into me your best so that I may speak to all who see me, and tell them of the master workman who wrought me. Say to them through me, "I know what good work is." If I am shabby and poorly made, I will get into bad company, then show through me your joy in what you do, so that I may go the way of all good work; announcing wherever I go that I stand for a workman that needeth not be ashamed.

Spirit of 4-H: Here at______________ we have come to know 4-H members from other clubs, states, and counties. We have found new friends and new meanings of friendship.

Adult 4-H Leader:
Life is sweet just because of the friends we have made
And the things which in common we share;
We want to live on, not because of ourselves,
But because of the people who care.
It is giving and doing for somebody else,
On that all life's splendor depends;
And the joy of the world, when you have summed it all up,
Is found in the making of FRIENDS.

Spirit of 4-H:
I am only one;
But, I am one.
I cannot do everything
But I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do;
And what I ought to do,
By the grace of God,
I will do.
—Everett H. Hale

Chorus may hum “Follow the Gleam” or 4-H songs as candles are lit.

“We see in this candle then the symbol of the ideals of 4-H, whose emblem is the 4-H clover leaf. The help and inspiration we have received today is ours only as we carry it back to others. Head H, summon you to approach and light your candle.”

Head H advances to Spirit, lights candle.
Spirit: “Your light shall be a symbol to all men for clearer thinking.”

Head H: “I will think clearly.” (Retires to place)

Spirit: “Heart H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.”

Heart H advances and lights candle.

Spirit: “Your light shall be a symbol to all men for comradeship and loyalty to your home and community.”

Heart H: “I will be loyal and friendly” (Retires to place)

Spirit: “Hand H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.”

Hand H advances and lights candle.

Spirit: “Your light shall be a symbol to all men for good workmanship and skill.”

Hand H: “I will develop skill.” (Retires to place)

Spirit: “Health H, I summon you to approach and light your candle.”

Health H advances and lights candle.

Spirit: “Your light shall be a symbol to all men for physical well-being.”

Health H: “I will develop Health.” (Retires to place)

Spirit of 4-H: Even as you have received from another, you will pass along to others the light and inspiration of truth you have received.

“For as one light lights another
    Nor grows less
    So nobleness enkindles nobleness.”

Each of the 4-H’s moves to his or her leaf of the clover and begins to light the candles.

As you receive your light, turn and pass it to another until all the candles are aglow.

Chorus sings—“Follow the Gleam”— two verses. Repeat until all candles are lit.

Spirit of 4-H: Against the darkness of oppression and fear, of doubt, and of despair, we light these candles of our democratic heritage. As 4-H members, we pledge ourselves to do whatever we can, and wherever we go to see that “truth is marching on.” Raise high your light as we repeat the 4-H pledge.

Pledge

After taps, let us quickly follow as the four H’s lead outward and beyond this circle of light and carry in our hearts the memory and inspiration of this night, and the glow of truths we have to share.

Chorus sings— “Taps”

Bugler Echoes—“Taps”

Songs for Chorus: America, the Beautiful, Battle Hymn of the Republic, Follow the Gleam, 4-H Pledge Song, Taps
Campfire Ceremonial

Tribes assemble by groups some distance from the Council Circle and approach it in silence. Tribes stay outside the ring until their Chief gives the woodcutters sign and says “O Great Chief, may we enter?” The Great Chief replies “Enter.” Each group sits in previously designated areas of the circle. After all are seated, the Chief opens the campfire.

Great Chief: My friends, we are about to hold a council just as did the Indians many moons before us. Come, Firekeeper, give us a fire for warmth and light.

(As the Firekeeper lights the fire, the Great Chief tells this story in his own words.)

Great Chief: In the beginning before men had fire, they were forced to sit up in the trees and shiver all night as they looked down at the shining eyes in the bushes below—the eyes of fierce animals ready to destroy them. But when fire was discovered, man could sit on the ground all night for the brute beasts feared it and stayed away. Fire provided protection, warmth, and a place for meeting. These people gathered around a fire just as we are tonight.

As we sit in our circle, we should be grateful that we live in a world where warmth, friendship, and reverence is possible. Let us be grateful for what our ancestors did for us. Now as the fire burns brightly, let us proceed. May we hear the laws of the Council?

Lawkeeper: Oh Chief.

Great Chief: Speak.

Lawkeeper: These are the laws to be observed by all fellow tribesmen.
- Braves and squaws do not speak until they have addressed the Chief.
- When addressing the Chief, rise and say, “Oh Chief.” Wait until the Chief says “Speak.”
- No one crosses in front of the Great Chief.
- No whistling or clapping to show approval is permitted during the program. Approval is shown by saying “how-how!” Disapproval is voiced by saying “nitchy-nitchy.”
- There shall be no other light but the great light of the campfire.
- Permission to leave the circle must be obtained from the Great Chief.

From this point the program may take any desired order, but might proceed in this order: One or two peppy group songs, tribe yells, scout reports, challenges, stunts, story telling

Great Chief: I now declare this campfire program closed. Depart in Peace.

Tribes file out humming a closing song such as “Jacobs Ladder” or “Kum Ba Yah.”
From Forest To Flame To 4-H Spirit

Songs
4-H Dreaming Song, 4-H Pledge Song, Upward Trail, Over My Head, or I'm Looking Over A 4-H Clover are among some of the songs that may be considered for the opening of the campfire ceremony. The singing may be led by a chorus selected for the purpose.

Poem

Kneel Always When You Light A Fire
Kneel always when you light a fire.
Kneel reverently and thankful be
for God's unfailing charity.
And on the ascending flame inspire
A little prayer that shall upbear
The incense of your thankfulness
For this sweet grace
Of warmth and light!
For here again is sacrifice
For your delight.

Oak, elm and chestnut, beech and red pine bole,
God shrined his sunshine and entombed
For you these stores of light and heat
Your life joys to complete.
These all have died that you might live;
Yours now the high prerogative
To loose their captivities
To give them new sweet span of life
And fresh activities.

Kneel always when you light a fire!
Kneel reverently,
And grateful be
To God for His unfailing charity!

—Author Unknown

First camper: “Pine bough and cones stand for service. The pine tree does not live for self alone. It provides shelter from the storm and warmth from its wood. Medicine made from its needles heals wounds. Gifts of service from the pine bough and cone placed upon our fellowship fire is for service.”

Second camper: “The oak is the symbol of sharing—sharing friendships, joys, hopes, fun, and experiences. Sharing together will make new friends and strengthen old friendships.”

Third camper: “Adding the pine knot to the campfire is a symbol of cheer, fellowship, and lasting friendship. It has always been used for decorating and lighting for parties. The messenger carried the light from clan to clan. It adds sparkle to a fire. Pine knots express the gift of friends.”

Fourth camper: “The dogwood is the symbol of being bound together. The branches point in every direction, suggestive of the way we have come from different parts of the country. These branches are closely bound together, showing the way we are united in common need and purpose.”

Fifth camper: “As these flames leap upward, we think of the mounting spirit of this our 4-H camp. We will dance, laugh, and sing. In the fire are many colors and shooting sparks. During our camp, we have begun to acquire new skills, new interests, new songs, and new ideas which will brighten our lives as the sparks do the night. The camp activities bring us the warm satisfaction of new friends, and how we can be of more service to others. When we leave, we will
dedicate ourselves to a purpose like that of the pine trees that grow around us, conserving the land for the enrichment of the lives close to it. From forest to flame to 4-H spirit, in changing form our world expands. Like the plants and trees of the forest, we shall learn to live together in harmony extending the 4-H spirit wherever we go."

(The trees used should be selected to fit the surroundings.)

Closing songs led by campfire chorus.

---

**Around The Campfire Bright**

Oh! set the campfire burning.
Let's sit around the blaze.
We'll store some lovely memories bright
To use in coming days.
A picture of good comrades with faces all alight,
Who sat beneath the stars and sang,
Around the campfire site.
Friendship Ceremony

Participants
Love, Tolerance, Spirit of Friendship,
Understanding, Truth

Each participant holds a candle on the darkened stage.

Back stage narrator: A friend is the jewel that shines brightest in the darkness. (Spirit lights candle.)

Spirit:
God give my eyes the will to see,
my friend for what he is to me,
It's not his creed, or shade of skin,
That makes his heart to mine akin;

O God, if peace on earth we seek,
Our hearts must follow yours so meek,
And see ourselves as no other,
But to every man—a brother.

Narrator: We are all strangers to each other until one of us puts out his hand and makes a friend.

Spirit (2): Come forth, understanding, and obtain your light and let it shine forth to the outermost parts of the earth.

Understanding: (Lights candle)
To be accepted, to be understood,
To make some contribution of real worth,
To feel a mutual bond of brotherhood
With men of every race throughout the earth.

Spirit (1): Come forth, love, and obtain your light and let it shine in the hearts of all men.

Love: (Lights candle)
God, help us see beyond mere race or creed,
Beyond false pride which tears our world apart,
That men, as individuals have need
Deep rooted, basic in the human heart.

Spirit (3): Come forth, tolerance, and obtain your light, and let it shine through the actions of everyone.

Tolerance: (Lights candle)
Clothe us, thy children, with humility
That we may truly come to understand
The worth of human personality
Transcends the bounds of color, creed, or land.

Spirit (4): Come forth, truth and obtain your light, and never let it be extinguished.
Truth: (Lights candle)
Dear Father, in compassion make us whole,
Teach us to walk in place as brothers should
That truth and wisdom shall expand the soul
Toward a universal brotherhood.

Narrator:
Let there be peace in all the earth
and in my life, I pray;
Let me express
Thy harmony and love from day to day.

Not by our might, not by our power,
But by Thy Spirit—good
Shall nations round the world be saved
and know true brotherhood.

Let there be peace in all the earth
From mountain peak to fen;
Mary Christ’s good will reign in our hearts,
In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Everyone please join us in singing_________________.

Doorbells are like a magic game
Or a grab bag at a fair;
You never know when you hear one ring,
Who may be waiting there!
But whether strangers from afar
Or the very closest kin
We’ll open wide the door of our house
And bid them enter in.

Lord Christ, the bird his nest has found,
The fox is sheltered in his ground,
But dost thou still this dark earth tread
And have no place to lay thy head?
Shepherd of mortals, here behold
A little flock, a wayside fold
That wait thy presence to be blest—
O Man of Nazareth, be our guest!
—Daniel Henderson

Opening Of Camp Ceremony
Note: This ceremony is intended to create desirable attitudes toward the life at camp. It may be used at the beginning or end of the first evening camp program. These suggestions may be altered in many ways. Leaders should confer with each 4-H member taking part. It is best if all parts are told, not read.

Set up: Boys and girls sit in a semi-circle. Camp director and counselors enter from outside of area. The camp director’s candle should be lighted before entering. Colored candles could be used for the counselors that might be the tribe or group colors. Also you might use one counselor from each group or tribe.

Camp Director: “If each one of us were asked to tell what we expect to get out of camp, we would have a number of different ideas. Since that would take a long time, we are going to ask some of the counselors to take part in this ceremony in hopes that all of our thoughts will be put into words.

We have heard this said: “you will benefit from anything in proportion to what you yourself put into it.”

The light of this candle symbolized our camp. If it is to be kept burning brightly, it requires our cooperation. The same is true of our camp. If it is to run smoothly and we are to enjoy it, we must work together. How can we do this most effectively? Your counselors have candles which they will light from this fire. Let us hear what each candle will add to our camp life in the next few days.”

1st Counselor: “With my candle I bring friendliness and courtesy to our camp. This is an opportunity for us to have the experience of making new friends and of renewing old friendships. One part of making new friends is courtesy. We should be courteous to camp leaders and instructors as well as fellow campers.”
2nd Counselor: “My candle brings helpfulness to the camp. We can be helpful by doing our part to keep the barracks clean and orderly, by assisting new campers and the younger campers whenever possible. Helpfulness also means being willing to do our share of camp chores and assume assigned responsibilities cheerfully.”

3rd Counselor: “With my candle I wish to add consideration for others. This might include being on time for meals, going to bed and getting up according to the camp code, joining in all phases of the camp program, and helping others before helping yourself.”

4th Counselor: “I bring good sportsmanship and cooperation. This means being a good loser and a graceful winner in all games and events. It also means taking my turn in work and in play. In addition, it means being fair to others as well as to self. We must remember that each of us has certain abilities and cooperation means using our abilities where they will do the most good.”

Camp Director: “Now that you have heard what can be brought to camp, the question is how much of each of these elements have you brought. Actually, the success of this camp depends on your answer to that question.

There is a little poem that says something about each one of you, and I am sure that many of you have heard it before. This would be a good time to start “living” the poem by Everett Hale that goes like this:

I am only one;
I cannot do everything
But I can do something.
What I can do I ought to do;
And what I ought to do,
By the grace of God, I will do.

Flag Raising Ceremony

Music: “To the Colors”
Personnel: Four color bearers and a bugler

Suggested Formation for Ceremony

Advance Instructions: Color bearer No. 1 checks position of the rope before campers assemble for the ceremony. Before the ceremony begins, the campers assemble in an orderly fashion as indicated in above formation.

Duties of color bearers: Color bearer No. 2 carries the American flag; color bearer No. 1 is in charge of the rope; color bearer No. 3 carries the 4-H flag; color bearer No. 4 gives the commands. If color bearers are not already familiar with proper procedures, demonstrate and practice before the ceremony.
Procedure:
1. Color bearer No. 4 gives command—Attention (Ah-ten-SHUN').
2. Campers come to attention. Coming to attention means standing erect with heels together, eyes straight ahead, hands at sides, and no whispering.
3. Color bearer No. 4 gives command—Color bearers advance.
4. Color bearers No. 1 and 2 and 3 march to flag pole side by side approximately two feet apart, starting to march with left foot first. Color bearer No. 4 and bugler remain in place.
5. Color bearer No. 1 grasps rope and steps back three or four paces from flag pole. Color bearer No. 2 unfolds American flag only enough to fasten it to the rope. Color bearer No. 3 unfurls 4-H flag only enough to fasten it to the rope.
6. Color bearer No. 4 gives command—"Raise the colors".
7. At the first note of "To the Colors", the flags are raised quickly and the campers give the hand salute. (The hand salute is given by placing the right hand over the heart just below the left shoulder. The arm is held close to the body. If boys are wearing caps or hats they remove them with the right hand and hold them in right hand while giving salute.) After the color bearers finish their tasks they stand at attention.
8. When flag reaches the top, color bearer No. 4 gives command "At ease". (Upon command "at ease" campers may assume a relaxed position. Campers are not permitted to talk or be noisy.)
9. If camp staff wishes to have campers give pledge, sing "America" or "America the Beautiful", or give the Thought for the Day, it is done at this time while campers are at ease. (See suggested "Thoughts for the Day")
10. After pledge or thought for the day is given, command "Dismissed", is given by color bearer No. 4.

Poem from the Ship of State
Thou, too, sail on, O ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all its hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what Master laid thy keel,
What workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Fears not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock,
'Tis but the flappings of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of rock and tempest's roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breach the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith, triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee,—are all with thee!
—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Flag Lowering Ceremony

Music: “To the Colors”
Personnel: Four color bearers and a bugler

Formation for Ceremony: Same formation as for flag raising. Thought for the day (Flag Lowering) is given before flags are lowered.

Procedure:
1. Color bearer No. 4 gives command—Attention (Ah-ten-SHUN').
2. Campers come to attention.
3. Color bearer No. 4 gives command—“Color bearers advance.” Color bearers No. 1, 2, 3, and 4 march to flag pole. Bugler remains in place.

4. Color bearer No. 1 unties rope while color bearers No. 2 and 3 and 4 stand at attention.
5. Color bearer No. 4 gives command—“Lower the Colors”.
6. On the first note of “To the Colors”, the flag is lowered slowly and the campers give the hand salute. The flags are lowered so that on the last note of music, the 4-H flag reaches the hands of the color bearer No. 4.
7. Color bearer No. 4 steps forward and takes end of flag, so that it doesn’t touch the ground.
8. Color bearer No. 3 unfastens the flag as it reaches the bottom. No. 3 and 4 fold 4-H flag.
9. No. 4 holds 4-H flag and stands aside.
10. Color bearer No. 2 steps forward and takes end of American flag so that it doesn’t touch the ground.
11. Color bearer No. 1 unfastens the flag as it reaches the bottom. No. 2 and 3 fold the American flag.
12. After flag is unfastened, campers drop hand salute (without a command) but remain at attention.
13. Color bearer No. 1 refastens rope on pole while color bearers No. 2 and 3 fold flag as shown in Steps 1 through 6. (Figure 5)

Step 1. Flag before folding.

Step 2. Fold in center lengthwise; blue field and stars always on top.

Step 3. Fold in center again with upper part of blue field on top.
Step 4. Fold right corner opposite blue field to left side.

Step 5. Fold left corner toward blue field. This leaves the end opposite the blue field parallel to the edge of the field.

Step 6. Continue steps 4 and 5 until the flag is folded into a triangle. No red shows.

14. When the flag is folded, color bearers march at close interval to starting place with flag bearers in center. Color bearers turn right and face flag pole as in starting position.

15. Right color bearer No. 4 gives command—"Dismissed."

4-H Sunset Ceremonial—Trees

Leader: Twilight and vespers, and once more the hearts of 4-H members turn toward the deeper things of life. Just to spend this time between the dusk and the daylight in remembering God by music and prayer creates in one who knows or one who wants to learn, the desire—the longing—to live and give.

The thoughts that you absorb will also mold you.

Out-of-doors there are many lovely things—the earth, the plants, the trees, the birds that sing, the insects and bees, the fish, the rocks, the clouds, the sunset and the stars. Some people have lived with these all their lives, and yet, have never noticed them. Upon observing nature, we can find beautiful things to enjoy and discover ways of solving our own problems. Anyone who understands and appreciates outdoor life need never be unhappy. Some of our best music and poetry tells about the trees, birds, flowers, and animals. As we sit here on the hillside, we can think back on the happenings of the day and the things we have seen. Have you made friends with the beauties of nature? Have you made friends with other people? What things did you enjoy during the day? In thought, poetry and song, let us find friends in the out-of-doors.

---

1 Taken from South Dakota 4-H ceremonials. This ceremony might easily be adapted for use as a 4-H tree planting ceremony on Arbor Day.
First spokesman: In a verse I will tell about the friends I found:

These are the things I prize
And hold of dearest worth;
Light of the sapphire skies,
Peace of the silent hills,
Shelter of forests, comfort of the grass,
Music of birds, murmur of little rills,
Shadows of clouds that swiftly pass,
And, after showers
The smell of flowers
And of the good, brown earth
And best of all, along the way
Friendship and mirth.

—Henry Van Dyke

Song: “America the Beautiful”

Second spokesman:

My friends are the trees,
When vacation days come, away to the woods!
I never tire of them. Encouraged as much
by the winter storms to be strong as by the
summer heat and showers to grow,
everything in the woods overhead and
under the feet, does all it can.
If there is anywhere more than there
is among the trees, a kind of patience
that is very wonderful, I fail to know it.
But the glory of trees is more than their gifts:
’Tis a beautiful wonder of life that lifts
From a wrinkled seed in an earth-bound clod,
A column, an arch in the temple of God,
A pillar of power, a dome of delight,
A shrine of song and a joy of sight!
Their roots are the nurses of rivers in birth;
Their leaves are alive with the breath of the earth;
They shelter the dwellings of man; and they bend
O’er his grave with the look of a living friend.

Leader: True appreciation of trees is given by Joyce Kilmer in his well-known song. Listen, as it is being sung.

Solo: “Trees” or hum as a group “O Christmas Tree” or sing “This Land is Your Land”.


Fourth spokesman:

A Prayer

Teach me, Father, how to go
softly as the grasses grow;
Hush my soul to meet the shock
Of the wild world as a rock;
But my spirit, propped with power,
Make as simple as a flower,
Let the dry heart fill its cup
Like a poppy looking up;
Let life lightly wear her crown,
Like a poppy looking down.
Teach me, Father, how to be
Kind and patient as a tree
Joyfully the crickets croon
Under shady oak at noon;
Beetle, on his mission bent.

Tarries on that cooling tent,
Let me, also, cheer a spot,
Hidden field or garden grot —
Place where passing souls can rest
On the way and be their best.

—Edwin Markham
Song:

For the Beauty of the Earth.
For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies;
Refrain:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.
Amen.

Fifth spokesman:

The Day
The day will bring some lovely thing,
I say it over each new day,
Some gay, adventurous thing to hold
Against my heart when it is gone,
And so I rise, and go to meet
The day with wings upon my feet.

I come upon it unaware,
Some sudden beauty without name;
A snatch of song, a breath of pine,
A poem lit with golden flame;
High tangled bird notes, keenly thinned,
Like flying color on the wind.

No day has ever failed me quite;
Before the grayest day is done
I find some misty purple bloom,
Or a late line of crimson sun.
Each night I pause, remembering
Some gay, adventurous, lovely thing.

Leader: In thought and song we have renewed friendship with many of the fine things in the out-of-doors. You have probably noticed many more. In your thoughts you have added them to this service. And now as the day and this program close, we remember that:

This night, whatever day has brought of shadow,
Today's distress, the burden of tomorrow,
Comes calm with healing dew and quiet, long,
Will dim like dreams, the thought of God will keep
Slow weaving of lavender dusk on hill and meadow
Such old and faithful guard that even sorrow
And one late robin's song.
Must fold her hands and sleep.

Benediction:

May the silence of the hills,
The joy of the winds
The peace of the fields,
The music of the birds,
The fire of the sun,
The strength of the trees,
And the faith of a little child,
In all of which is God,
Be in your hearts. Amen.
The following are a series of short simple ceremonies to create a quiet, thoughtful mood.

**Star Talk**

This program is to be led by one familiar with stars. Five minutes should be allowed for eye adjustment to the dark and participants are not to use flashlights during the talk. The leader will use a strong flashlight as a pointer.

Tonight as you lie on your back and look at the countless stars and planets, you are doing what men have done since the beginning of time. The great explorers, Fremont, Boone, Lewis, Clark, DeSoto, Leif Erickson, Marco Polo, and others who came before the written word, have done as you are now doing.

We know there is one planet upon which life exists—Earth. Because we are; we know that they, the other planets and stars, also exist. This ability of perception, consciousness, and thought is the marvel of human life.

Distance in space is measured in light years. Light travels at the speed of 186,000 miles per second. A light year is then the distance light will travel in one year at the rate of 186,000 miles per second. This speed is almost incomprehensible to the human mind. Think of it this way. If you were to hitch a ride on a beam of light at midnight, when you looked back at a clock on earth, it would still read midnight, no matter how long you had been riding. Why? Because it would take an equal amount of time for what you saw to catch up to you. For you, time would stand still.

Our moon is very close—it is only a few hundred thousand miles away. The sun is also relatively close—only 93 million miles distant. It takes less than ten minutes for light to travel from the sun to the earth.

The sun is a star. It is our star. We are part of the solar system of the sun that contains nine planets; from the sun out to Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Neptune, Uranus and Pluto. Our Solar System is part of a galaxy called the "Milky Way." The nearest galaxy to ours is Alpha Centaura in the constellation of Cassiopeia, a mere 8.3 light years away.

Space, as we know it, is either converging on itself or rushing away from the center depending upon which theory you espouse. We know stars are born and stars die. Planets also do this. There is a void in our solar system where a planet used to be and now there is only cosmic dust and rubble. The void was called Aries by the ancients for the ram that butted a hole in the sky and the sign for it is a ram's horn.

Constellations and the ancients have been mentioned. The Greeks gazed at the stars and imagined pictures in the sky. The ancient story tellers would then weave a tale about pictures. These pictures are called constellations and are often helpful in finding certain stars. Some will now be shown to you.

Here is the "Big Dipper", or the "Great Bear". The star in the lip of the dipper is Duhbe. The star at the end of the handle is Alkaid and the next star down the handle is Allooth. The "Big Dipper" pours into the "Little Dipper". In the lip of the little dipper is the star Kochab and at the tip of the handle of this dipper is the North Star, Polaris. Polaris is so named because it rotates in a small circle over the North Pole, so that it appears to remain stationary and all the stars rotate about it. At the North Pole "Polaris" would be directly overhead or in the zenith of the sky. At the equator "Polaris" would be just on the horizon. You may tell where you are on the face of the earth by measuring the height of "Polaris" above the horizon, for latitude, and your distance from the Greenwich Meridian for longitude.

In the south is the "Scorpio", the Scorpion or question mark in the sky. The eye of "Scorpio" is the red star, Anteres. In the tail of "Scorpio" is Shaula.

This is the "Chair of Cassiopia," or the Big "W" in the sky. Cassiopia was a Greek girl who wove cloth and played the flute. In the seat of her chair is Schedar. Also in this chair is our sister galaxy "Alpha Centaura," only 8.3 light years away.

This is the "Arc of Capella." Here is Capella, Pollux, Procyon, and Minnicallahan. (Minnie Callahan).

The "Navigator's Triangle" is almost directly overhead. The brightest star in the sky is in the right angle of the triangle, Vega. At the 60° angle is Deneb and at the 30° angle is Altair. Here is the "Northern Cross." It lies within the triangle.

Directly overhead in the Zenith of our sky is Rassellague, a dim star.

These are the summer stars. They will change with the seasons. In the winter you will see "Orion the Hunter", "The Arc of Arcturus", "Corvus, the Sail", "Pegasus, the Flying Horse", and the "Seven Sister of Pheades".

Man has just started to explore the stars with pioneers such as Grissom, Glenn, Carpenter, Schirra, Aldrin, Shepherd, Armstrong, (let group name some), but man's imagination has been there before.

**Note:** Star charts are available in *Natural History Magazine* each month.
The Birthright Of Children

“All Children should know the joy of playing in healthful mud, of paddling in clean water, or hearing birds sing praises to God for the new day."

“They should have the vision of pure skies to enrich the dawn and sunset with unspeakable glory; of dew drenched mornings flashing with priceless gems; of the vast night sky all throbbing and panting with stars.”

“They should live with flowers and butterflies, with the wild things that make possible the world of fable.”

“They should experience the thrill of going barefoot, of being out in the rain, of riding a white birch, of sliding down pine boughs, of climbing ledges and tall trees, of diving headfirst into a transparent pool.”

“They ought to know the smell of wet earth, of new mown hay, of sweet fern mint, and fir; of the breath of cattle and of fog blown inland from the sea.”

“They should have a chance to catch fish, to ride on a load of hay, to camp out, cook over an open fire, tramp through a new country and sleep under the open sky.”

“They should have the fun of driving a horse, paddling a canoe, sailing a boat … One cannot appreciate and enjoy to the full extent nature, books, novels, histories, poems, pictures, or even musical compositions, blessed contact with the world of nature.”

—Henry Turner Bailey

Chief Sealth’s Words To The President

“The Great Chief in Washington sends word that he wishes to buy our land. How can you buy or sell the sky—the warmth of the land? The idea is strange to us. Yet we do not own the freshness of the air or the sparkle of the water. How can you buy them from us? Every part of this earth is sacred to my people. Every shiny pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every clearing and humming insect is holy in the memory and experience of my people.

“We know that white man does not understand our ways. One portion of the land is the same to him as the next, for he is a stranger who comes in the night and takes from the land whatever he needs. The earth is not his brother but his enemy, and when he has conquered it he moves on. He leaves his father’s graves, and his children’s birthright is forgotten.

“There is no quiet place in the white man’s cities. No place to hear the leaves of spring or the rustle of insect wings. But perhaps because I am savage and do not understand—the latter only seems to insult the ears. And what is there to life if a man cannot hear the lovely cry of the whippoorwill or the arguments of the frog around the pond at night?”

“The whites too, shall pass—perhaps sooner than other tribes. Continue to contaminate your bed and you will one night suffocate in your own waste, when the buffalo are all slaughtered, the wild horses all tamed, the secret corners of the forest heavy with the scent of many men, and the view of the ripe hills blotted by talking wires. Where is the thickest? Gone. Where is the eagle? Gone. And what is it to say goodbye to the swift and the hunt, the end of living and beginning of survival?”

Chief Sealth of the Duwanish Tribe in Washington wrote these words in a letter to President Franklin Pierce in 1855.
"The Last Will And Testament Of Charles Lounsberry"

I, Charles Lounsberry, being of sound and disposing memory, do hereby make and publish this my first will and testament. My property, being inconsiderable and of no account, I make no disposition of in this, my will. But, these things excepted, all else in the world I now proceed to devise and bequeath.

Item: I give to good fathers and mothers, in trust to their children, all good, little words of praise and encouragement, and all quaint pet names and endearments; and I charge said parents to use them justly, but generously, as the deeds of their children shall require.

Item: I leave to children inclusively, but only for the term of their childhood, all and every flower of the fields and the blossoms of the woods. And I devise to children, the banks of the brooks and the golden sands beneath the waters thereof, and the odors of the willows that dip therein, and the white clouds that float high over the giant trees. And I leave the children the long, long days to be merry in, in a thousand ways, and the night and the trail of the milky way to wonder at, but subject, nevertheless, to the rights hereinafter given to lovers.

Item: I devise to boys jointly, all the useful idle fields and commons where ball may be played, all pleasant waters where one may swim, all snowclad hills where one may coast, and all streams and ponds where one may fish, or where, when grim winter comes, one may skate, to hold the same for the period of their boyhood. And all the meadows, with the clover-blossoms and the butterflies thereof; the woods with the squirrels and the birds and echoes and strange noises, and all distant places, which may be visited, together with the adventures there found.

Item: To lovers I devise their imaginary world, with the stars of the sky, the red roses by the wall, the bloom of the hawthorne, the sweet strains of music, and aught else that they may desire to figure to each other, the lastningness and the beauty of their love.

Item: To those who are no longer children or youths, or lovers, I bequeath the power to have lasting friendships, the capacity for courage and undaunted faith.

Item: To our loved ones with snowy crowns, I leave memory, the peace and happiness of old age, the love and gratitude of their children until they fall asleep.

This sublime bequest was made by the late Charles Lounsberry, Chicago attorney while confined in an insane asylum. In a world gone mad with hate, greed and war, with humanity gripped by fear of total annihilation, who is to say which one of us is sane?

Compliments of Gene Barry
An Arbor Day Ceremony

Choose a tree to plant on or about April 15th. Know what you want in a tree.

Consider shade—sugar maple
Beauty—weeping willow
Long life—white, red, black oak
Food—Chinese chestnut
Quick growth—hybrid poplar
Preservation of a species—Gingko

Ask your local nursery people for a suggestion. If necessary, choose a local tree in a nearby woods. Perhaps the land owner will donate it.

When digging the tree, get a large ball of roots. Keep these roots covered and moist. Consider the weight of this mass. It may be wiser to plant a smaller tree.

Tree Planting Ceremony

Have the hole prepared and extra water nearby. Read this from Land Ethic by Aldo Leopold, America’s Conservation Philosopher who died fighting a forest fire in Wisconsin in 1948.

"Do we not already sing our love for and obligation to the land of the free and the home of the brave. Yes, but just what and whom do we love? Certainly not the soil, which we are sending helter-skelter downriver. Certainly not the waters, which we assume have no function except to turn turbines, float barges, and carry off sewage. Certainly not the plants, of which we exterminate whole communities (by fire and poison) without batting an eye. Certainly not the animals of which we have already extirpated (killed) many of the largest and most beautiful species."

The individual, each of us, is a member of a community of interdependent parts. Our instincts prompt us to compete for a place in this community of living things, but our ethics also prompt us to cooperate with and respect other living things in order that we have a place in which to compete.

Have each child contribute a handful of soil to hole, pour in water, and end by planting a small American flag in soil beside the tree or tying one to its branches. Sing the national anthem—with a three-second pause, if it can be achieved, before “the land of the free and the home of the brave”.

Alternative: Take the group for a walk in the woods. Examine several trees and note their importance to our country, such as:

Chestnut sprouts—This mighty tree, devastated by disease, once fed deer and turkeys by the millions. Longfellow’s smith stood under it, and it sheltered many American with fine lumber for homes.
Eastern Hemlock—Our State tree.
Hickory species—Food for wildlife, one of the hardest woods.
Dogwood—Beautiful in spring, its wood is used for loom parts for the spinning industry.
White pine—Ship masts for sailing vessels.
White oak—Basis for the container industry of buckets and barrels, cooperage.
Red and Black oak—Floors for many houses.
Black walnut—Food, fine furniture, veneer, gun stocks
Beech—Clothes pins, toys.
Aspen—Paper products, tissue, textbooks, cardboard boxes.

Have groups of children study a species, find it and read its properties to the group. (25 words or less)

Find a suitable tree and read the Leopold piece while standing in a circle about it. Tie an American flag to the tree or a piece of red, white, and blue bunting to the trunk. Hold hands and sing the national anthem.

Note: The national anthem can be recorded on a portable tape cassette player. The stop and/or pause button can be appropriately manipulated.
Ceremonies

What is the sound you make to tell a horse to go? Does it have a name? Describe it to me. How do you write it? That sound is the only glottal stop in the English language. It is primitive language. So is a ceremony. The purpose of a ceremony is to set a mood, to cause an emotion, to solidify a ritual, custom, or form of etiquette. Moods are like soap bubbles, once formed to be enjoyed in the present. Moods can be set by repetition. You know what is coming next and how you are expected to feel and react. Moods are fragile. Let the sequence be wrong and the mood will not happen. Moods are not forever. They are for an instant, for set periods of time, and then gone, broken. They are to be enjoyed in the present. Intrude on a mood and it is gone. A sudden sound, a flash of light from a camera—and the mood is gone. Like a soap bubble, you don’t repair it. It is gone forever. Some ritual ceremonies are simple manners and customs. Touch someone accidentally and you say “excuse me”. Approach a door together, “after you”. These little ceremonies—manners and rituals, have been described as the oil that lubricates the gears of human relations. They allow us to live together without friction. But they are important. The salute, the wave of a right hand originally meant, I’m unarmed and I won’t attack you at this moment. Maybe later, but not now! The kiss was a way of checking people out by sniffing. The olfactory senses are both taste and smell and located physically close together in the human body. Smiling, on the other hand, is not kissing without touching, but an ancient ritualized form of submission. This has been well documented in baboon troops where all smile and click their teeth to the head male! The specific human adaptation is to look at somebody, purse your lips, and open your mouth causing a noisy smack. This act is a primitive smile.

Some are rituals of greeting: the shaking of hands in America, bowing in Japan, touching your own hands, and nodding the head in other Asian places.

Kissing is also a ritual. Sometimes it is done only between prescribed relatives, parents, and children, children and grandparents, and certain other relatives. You know instinctively who and who not to kiss. You know that certain ethnic groups allow men to kiss ritually, the French, Italians, and Eastern Europeans. The Irish, English, and Nigerians usually do not. Kissing is less restricted among women. Most times and in most ethnic groups it is acceptable for two women of any age to kiss.

Protocol

These are forms of ceremony that must not be violated because something unpleasant will happen. Violation of the first mentions set of rituals will quickly be forgiven and forgotten, but these will not. A quick example at home is your father’s chair. Don’t sit in it. For us, now, don’t tell jokes when you preside in Eisenhower Auditorium. Let the speaker tell a joke, if he or she wants, but don’t UPSTAGE the speaker. It gets us all into trouble. Don’t get caught in the dormitories of the opposite sex. It is a written code and you’ll be shipped home in a ritualized manner.

What to Do for Ceremonies

So what do you do for ceremonies? First, decide what you want to do, what mood you are trying to set. Build on last year, show continuity, friendship, and looking ahead to the beginning of a new cycle. How do you do it? Repetition. Ritual. Flow. Go to last year’s place. Do some of the same things. Use the “what we do” and “what it means” in the attachment if you want a change.

Stopping a Ceremony

Good ceremonies seem too short. Time apparently stands still. There is a feeling of oneness, unity, and togetherness. Space condenses. Stepping towards the center of a circle heightens this feeling. Spiraling a group to the center can do this provided the group does not compact or clump. Before this happens, Stop. Words can be read and dedication made. The reversal is mesmerizing. It shows immersion, flow, and emergence in one process.

Because ceremonies cause emotion, time slows and strong feeling is evoked in the participants, so a plan must be made to halt them. Somebody must stay outside the emotion. This can be a figurehead who presides and closes the ceremony. It must be planned for. Of all parts of the ceremony this cannot be left to chance.

Ceremonies can be stopped by people facing outward in a circle and walking away. They can walk away in pairs. They can be led away. They can pass through a gate or an arch. They can touch a figurehead, but they should not be allowed to stop or pause as this causes delays with a large group. Several figureheads can be used to speed things along, but the flow must not stop. Time does not stand still. Flow is of the essence and the participants are part of flow and they must move on. Good ceremonies leave people feeling better, uplifted, and knowing they have accomplished something worthwhile. They are better remembered than recorded, progressing than prolonged. Life is flow. Left are memories. Ahead is hope. Ahead is potential. Ahead is possibility. We Must Go On. Courage demands it. Courage is the most essential of human emotions because it allows us to Love.
| **Choreography**  
| *What We Do* | **Symbology**  
| *What It Means* |
| --- | --- |
| Lighting Candles | Discovery of Fire—Basic Knowledge |
| Lighting Other Candles | Passing Knowledge, Love, Friendship |
| Circles of People | Solidarity, Continuity |
| Walking Double File | Unity of Purpose |
| Silence | Tribute/Contemplation |
| Walking Figure 8, Passing Thru | Eternity/Change/Emergence |
| Walking/Spiraling, Unwinding | Immersion/Dedication/Emergence |
| Whispering/Soft Speaking | Respect |
| Bowing | Respect |
| Sunset Period | Ending, Recycling, Beauty, Peace |
| Circle, Move to the Center | Strengthening Purpose, Unity |
| Cleaning Area of Debris | Respect for Nature and Other People |
| Clapping—Random | Appreciation |
| Clapping—Rhythmically | Appreciation, Honor, Tribute |
| Clapping Twice | Attention (of the Gods, Spirit) |
| Clapping Three Times | Revenal (Stand to Sit, Sit to Stand) |
| Sustained Tone | One with Universe |
| Metered Beat—Drum, Bell | Passage (of Time, Things, People) |
| Passing Through Arches | Beginning |
| Passing Between People | Beginning (Touching—I’m With You, Thanks) |
| Touching Face | Thank You, I’m With You, I Love You |
| Circle—Slow Single File Walk—Counterclockwise | Contemplating the Past |
| Circle—Slow Single File Walk—Clockwise | Contemplating the Future |
| Incense (Smell Visible) | Oneness (With Each Other, Spirit, Etc.) |
| Smoke | Entering the Future/Infinite |
| Blowing Out Candles | End |
| “Spritzing” with Water | Rebirth, Respect for Vital Substance |
| Kissing the Earth | Respect—Homeland, Nature, Planet |
| Deep Breath | Respect for Health, Vital Substance |
| Words | Mean Nothing Unless Meaning Between |
| Poetry | Sender and Receiver is the Same |
| Touching the Lips | Words Thrown at the Wind that Return With |
| Touching the Ear | Inflated Meaning |
| Touching the Area Alongside the Nose | Silence |
| Bringing Two Single File Columns Together | Hear |
| To Make Two, Recycling To Four—Eight—16 | Confidence—I Can Keep A Secret |
| Turning Back/Away | Grand March—Strength, Unity |
| | Rejection |
Ceremonies Check List

What do you want to say with this ceremony?

1.

2.

3.

What symbols could say this?

What equipment is needed?

If equipment is not now available, who is responsible for getting it?

Where is ceremony to take place?

What if it rains (for outdoor ceremonies)?

Who will open the ceremony?

Order of service—Who? What?

Who will close the ceremony?

When? (Signal, cue)?
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ceremony Flow Chart</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>10.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Pennsylvania State University is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. The Pennsylvania State University does not discriminate against any person because of age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, national origin, race, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Direct all affirmative action inquiries to the Affirmative Action Office, The Pennsylvania State University, 201 Willard Building, University Park, PA 16802-2801.

R5M492