

**Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area**

**CEREMONIES,  
CEREMONIES,  
CEREMONIES...**

# WHAT IS A CEREMONY ?

Ceremonies in Girl Scouting are used to honor special moments, recognize accomplishments, or to begin or end meetings. Ceremonies offer a way to express feelings and values. They may be simple or detailed. They may require advance preparation. Your girls may choose to have ceremonies on a number of occasions: Investitures, Awards, Bridging/Fly-up, Flag, Troop Birthdays, and others.

Whether your ceremony is going to be  
a celebration,  
an observance,  
a ritual,  
a tradition,  
a high point,  
a symbolic expression, or  
a key to unlocking feelings . . .

. . . it should be creative and it should be your girls' own. Your girls will have wonderful ideas - - be sure to include them in each step of the planning! Then they will have a sense of ownership and the pride of accomplishment as the ceremony unfolds. As in all Girl Scout programs, girls should make the plans and carry them out, with adult help only when needed.

## STEPS IN PLANNING A CEREMONY

### **Purpose:**

- Welcome new members to Girl Scouting in an investiture ceremony.
- To inaugurate a new troop/group/project.
- To rededicate continuing members.
- To mark progression from one program age level to another in a bridging ceremony.
- To recognize accomplishment in a Court of Awards ceremony.
- To open or close a troop/group/association meeting.
- Other

1. Where will it take place?
  - Meeting room
  - Auditorium or hall
  - Outdoors - where?
  
2. When? How long? \_\_\_\_\_
  - During a group meeting
  - A special event by itself
  - Day - Evening - Weekend
  
3. Who will attend?

# STEPS

4. What will the ceremony include? Is there a theme or central idea?  
(Possibilities are endless, but include friendship, nature, courage, commitment to values, world understanding, peace.)

## Ideas - Theme

5. Ways to express ideas/theme

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| - Music and songs  | - Flowers, mirrors                    |
| - Poetry, stories  | - Symbols                             |
| - Choral readings, dramatizations                        | flags                                 |
| - Quotations   | bridges, arches                       |
| - Original writing by members                            | rings/circles                         |
| - Girl Scout Promise and Law                             | chains                                |
| - Motto, Slogan  | - Girl Scout Membership pins          |
| - Dance, creative movement, gesturing, positioning, etc. | meaning of designs on Insignia        |
| - Light - candles, campfire, theatrical lighting effects | - Presentation of recognitions/awards |
|  | - Your thoughts                       |

6. Star (\*) the ones chosen in 4 and 5.

7. What words describe the atmosphere desired? What emotions?

8. List your decisions about what to include based on 6 and 7. Be as specific as possible about what is desired, but don't be concerned about order:

9. Sequence and timing of the parts of the ceremony:

How to begin:	Time	How to end:	Time
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_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

10. Who says/starts/leads each part? Standing? Sitting? Where?

11. What equipment/props? Who brings?

12. Does the whole group need to learn something specific before the ceremony? If so, what, and when will this be included in group plans?

## STEPS

13. Does the ceremony need to be “walked through” or rehearsed so that everyone knows what is happening and how she contributed?  
If so, when?
14. What recognitions/awards need to be ordered/purchased?  
Other supplies?
15. If guests are coming, invitations and hostessing plans:
16. Do particular guests or “officials” need to be prepared to do something for the ceremony?  
If so, who is contacting them? Who prepares/transmits information for Council public relations representatives, when needed?
17. Review all parts of the plan and make any adjustments necessary to effectively carry out the spirit of the occasion.
18. Arrange the ceremony site according to plans, layout pins/recognition, if needed, and their distribution list, gather other needed props/equipment.  
Notes:  
  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place:
19. Everyone participates in the ceremony. If someone forgets her cue or the order becomes confused, simply say “We will now . . .” or “Mary will . . .” to allay concern. Most spontaneous changes that honor the purpose and desired mood of the occasion work out very well.  
Notes:
20. Recommendations for another time.

## RESOURCES:

Daisy Girl Scout Leaders Guide, p. 41-42  
Junior Girl Scout Leaders Guide, p. 23-25

Brownie Girl Scout Handbook, p. 22  
Junior Girl Scout Handbook, p. 14-15  
Cadette Girl Scout Handbook, p. 18-20  
Resource Book for Senior Girl Scouts, p. 12-14

# KINDS OF CEREMONIES

## **Investiture**

### **Who?**

- A girl or an adult joining for the first time
- make the Promise
  - receive the pin
  - is welcomed into Girl Scouting

## **Brownie Bridging - Fly-up**

### **Who?**

- Brownies who are ready to become Junior Girl Scouts
- receive Brownie Wings from Brownie Leader
  - receive Girl Scout pin from Junior Leader
  - take part in rededication ceremony with Juniors

## **Rededication**

### **Who?**

- Girl or adults who have already been invested
- renew the Promise

## **Bridging**

### **Who?**

- Girls who are crossing the bridge to the next level of Girl Scouting
- Daisys crossing a symbolic bridge into Brownies
  - Brownies who are flying up into Juniors cross a symbolic bridge; if they have completed requirements for Bridge to Juniors patch, they would receive at this time
  - Juniors who are bridging into Cadettes receive the Bridge to Cadettes patch if they have completed the requirements
  - Cadettes who are bridging into Seniors receive the Bridge to Seniors patch if they have completed the requirements.

## **Patrol Leader Installation**

### **Who?**

- Elected/selected Patrol Leaders for a troop
- receive Patrol Leader cord
  - formally assume responsibility of the job

### **Court of Awards**

#### **Who?**

Juniors and Cadettes receive badges and insignia they have earned

- insignia usually presented by troop leader
- explanation, recognition of accomplishment for which the insignia stands
- program consultants may be recognized and thanked at this time.

### **Flag**

#### **What?**

Flag of the U.S.A. and troop flag and/or other flags

- color bearer(s)
- color guard
- Pledge of Allegiance
- patriotic songs, readings, chosen by girls.

### **Opening/Closing**

#### **What?**

Beginning a meeting or event, Ending a meeting or event,

Good night closing at camp

- can be formal or informal

### **Thinking Day**

#### **Who?**

Girl Scouts at all program levels celebrate membership in World Association of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides

- birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell
- remember and think about Girl Scouts and Girl Guides throughout the world.

### **Girl Scouts' Own**

#### **Who?**

All Girl Scouts express their feelings about ideals of Girl Scouting

- words, music, simple drama, visual art, lovely surroundings, moment of quiet may be part of a Girl Scouts' Own
- can be held at any time; can take place at a troop meeting, an inter-troop gathering, in camp
- NOT a religious ceremony or service nor a substitute for one
- traditionally, Girl Scouts walk in silence to and from a Girl Scouts' Own site.

# INVESTITURES . . .

An investiture ceremony is held when girls new to Girl Scouting join a troop. It is usually held after a girl has met with her troop four to six times. During an investiture ceremony, new girls make their Promise, receive their Brownie or Girl Scout pin and are welcomed into Girl Scouting.

## BROWNIE

Use the Brownie Story as a basis for your ceremony. Place a mirror on the floor (to represent the pond). It may be decorated with green tree branches or leaves, or made from construction paper. New Brownies come into the room, form a horseshoe formation or join in horseshoe with other troop members. Leader reads the Girl Scout Law and briefly talks about its meaning. Then asks the girls if they are ready to make the Girl Scout Promise - together new Brownies make their Promise while giving the Girl Scout Sign. Each Brownie is then called forward by name to receive her pin and Girl Scout Handshake. As each girl is pinned she moves to the pond where a circle is formed, when all new girls are in the circle around the pond they turn around three times slowly saying "Twist me and turn me and show me the elf, I looked in the water and saw myself!" Girls might then enjoy singing the "Brownie Smile Song" from the Brownie Girl Scout Handbook, p. 28.

**Formation:** Two circles; one with new Brownies, the other with already invested girls. The leader is in the circle with the new girls.

**Leader:** For the last four meetings you have been learning about being a Brownie.

Would \_\_\_\_\_ please step forward to say her Promise? Girl says Promise with help if needed. (Leader pins the new Brownie and leader and girl share the Girl Scout Handshake. An option that saves time and sometimes embarrassment: Give pin and handshake, and then say Promise in group.)

As each girl is invested, she is escorted by one of the older, invested girls to the Brownie Ring. After all girls are invested and are in the Brownie Ring, girls might sing: *Whene'er You Make a Promise* (Pocket Songbook.)

## JUNIOR

Girl Scouts in horseshoe formation, leader and assistant in front facing the group.

**Leader:** Today you are ready to receive the Girl Scout Pin. Before you do, you should know it's significance. It is a trefoil which means that it has three parts. Each part represents one part of the Girl Scout Promise.

One troop member steps forward and remains there holding a large picture of the Girl Scout Pin and says, "On my honor I will try." A second member steps forward, points to one section of the trefoil and says, "To serve God and my Country;" a third member steps forward, points to trefoil and says, "To help people at all times ;" a fourth member steps forward, points to trefoil and says, "And to live by the Girl Scout Law." The three members return to the horseshoe while the girl holding the picture steps to the side, remaining visible to troop members.

**Leader:** Our motto is Be Prepared and our slogan is Do A Good Turn Daily. It is important that as Girl Scouts you try to live your promise daily and remember our motto and slogan. Will \_\_\_\_\_ please step forward to make your Girl Scout Promise.

Girl steps forward, makes her promise, is pinned and gives the Girl Scout Handshake to both leaders. An older troop member steps forward and escorts the girl back into the horseshoe. When all new girls have made their promise, the leader asks the entire troop to join hands and sing, "Whene'er You Make A Promise."

Troop in horseshoe formation.

Leader: Today we welcome you into Junior Girl Scout Troop \_\_\_\_\_. Before you make your Girl Scout Promise, (Asst. Ldr's Name) will read Ways of a Girl Scout.

Assistant: What makes Girl Scouts special? Certainly our Promise and Law, but here are a few more things that help make Girl Scouting so special:

Be Prepared is the Girl Scout Motto. Girl Scouts learn to do many things so they can be ready to help whenever help is needed.

Do A Good Turn Daily is our slogan. Good turns are the kind and helpful things you do each day without being asked. They can make others very happy. A Service Project is a special kind of good turn that Girl Scouts do for others.

The Girl Scout Pin has the shape of a trefoil. Trefoil means a leaf with three parts. This stands for the three parts of our Promise. Girls and adults in Girl Scouting all wear either Girl Scout pin.

The Girl Scout Sign is made with three fingers which stands for the three parts of the Promise. We make this sign whenever we say the Girl Scout Promise. Girl Scouts have friends around the world. Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all make the same promise and follow the same law, use the same sign and handshake. We may wear different uniforms and use different words, but we are all part of the Girl Scout family in 136 countries.

Leader invites new girls to step forward to say the Promise.

Leader then says: It is time now for you to make your Girl Scout Promise all together. (Girls make their promise, receive their pins, shake hands with leaders and return to horseshoe.) Group sings "Make New Friends." (Pocket Song Book)

## INSTALLATION

In Junior and Cadette troops where patrols are used, it is important to install elected leaders. This ceremony helps to clarify the expectations of a patrol leader and gives the entire troop a sense of commitment to those who have been elected.

Leader: Please present all patrol leaders to be installed. (When all are in place)

Assistant Patrol Leaders: May I present name, the newly elected patrol leader of (name of patrol)

.

Leader: Are you ready to take the patrol leader's oath?

Patrol Leaders: We are.



Leader: Repeat after me.

As a patrol leader I will try to lead the patrol to the best of my ability; to keep order in my group at all times; that in the Court of Honor, I speak for my patrol and not just for myself; that I will do my best to live up to the patrol's trust.

Members of patrols repeat after me:

As a member of Troop #\_\_\_\_\_, I will do my best to be loyal and helpful to my patrol leader. (As assistant patrol leaders pin on cords, leader says)

Leader: The cord of the patrol leader has two golden circles; the small circle represents the patrol you lead and serve. The large circle in the cord is a symbol of the entire troop you serve in the Court of Honor. (Leader gives Girl Scout Handshake to each patrol leader.)

Assistants and patrol leaders return to horseshoe - form a Friendship circle and sing "Whene'er You Make A Promise." (Pocket Songbook)

## COURT OF AWARDS

A Court of Awards ceremony is a special time to honor and present girls with patches/badges and awards they have earned. Often parents and other special adults are invited so they too can share in the recognition of a job well done. This ceremony can be held at any time during the year - you may have several if you wish. Careful planning on the part of both leaders and girls is necessary to make this ceremony meaningful.

Suggested Content for Court of Awards Ceremony.

While honoring girls and presenting them with insignia is certainly the aim of this ceremony, you might want to consider including some of the following:

Start with a flag ceremony, followed by a song or reading. End with a formal closing.

Include a Candlelight Rededication ceremony.

Present awards and congratulate each girl.

Recognize the troop committee, sponsor or other adults who have helped the troop.

Entertain guests with a skit showing the outstanding activities or memories of the year, or song they have learned.

Share a display of badgework, crafts, or pictures of troop activities.

Be aware of time -- don't make it too long.

Tips: Don't pin badges, use envelope or masking tape.

# BROWNIE BRIDGING/ FLY-UP

When Brownie Girl Scouts bridge to Junior Girl Scouts, they participate in a fly-up Ceremony. Girls receive their Brownie Wings (to show they have flown up from Brownies to Juniors), renew their Girl Scout Promise, and receive their Girl Scout pin.

1. Brownies and leaders form a ring at one side of the room. Junior troop forms a horseshoe at the other side, with open end toward the Brownies. The space between may be used to symbolize the transition. (A rustic bridge, a rainbow arch of colored paper; cardboard stepping stones.)

The Brownie leader presents the fly-up Brownie with her Brownie Wings and makes appropriate remarks on her achievements and wishes for the future. The troop members say:

“Now it’s time to say good-bye. Break the ring, and out you fly.”

The ring breaks just long enough to let the girl out.

The girl crosses the bridge and at the middle of the bridge (or stones), is met by a Junior Girl Scout from the horseshoe, who escorts her to the Junior side.

Brownie is met by the Junior Leader who pins on her Girl Scout pin (or Brownie Wings) and gives her a Girl Scout Salute and Handshake.

Fly-up moves within the horseshoe forming an inner horseshoe, while the Junior goes back into the original horseshoe.

When all the fly-ups have formed an inner horseshoe, the girls (Brownies and Juniors) sing “Make New Friends.” During the singing, fly-ups move back to form one horseshoe and then the girls in the Brownie Ring and horseshoe join hands to make one large circle.

Brownie and Juniors say the Girl Scout Promise together.

Close the ceremony by singing “Girl Scouts Together” (Pocket Songbook).

## VARIATION

2. Brownie Leader: Brownie Girl Scouts, you have traveled through Brownie land and are now ready to move into Junior Girl Scouting.

Girls line up quietly on one side of a bridge (see previous description). Junior Girl Scouts form a horseshoe on the other side of the bridge. Juniors might sing “Hello!” (Pocket Songbook) at this time.

Brownie Leader: Your Brownie years come to an end as you cross the bridge to Junior Girl Scouting. Will (Brownie’s Name) come to the bridge. (Leader then pins her Brownie Wings on, gives her the Girl Scout handshake and tells her goodbye. Brownie crosses the bridge and is met by a Junior Girl Scout who escorts her to the Junior horseshoe.)

When all Brownies have received their Brownie Wings and crossed the bridge, the girls sing “Girl Scouts Together” (Pocket Songbook).

Junior Leader: Will our new Juniors please make the Girl Scout Promise. (All step forward, recite the Promise, receive their Girl Scout pin and give the Girl Scout Handshake.)

Girls then sing “Whene’r You Make A Promise” (Pocket Songbook).

# BRIDGING

A Bridging Ceremony is held at the end of the year. It is the time girls leave their present troop and bridge into the next level of Girl Scout-ing. Usually it is jointly planned by the two troops involved.

A stage in a local school or church or a few steps leading to an entry way or landing, could serve as a symbolic bridge leading to the next Girl Scouting level. All girls who are bridging assemble in a horse-shoe. As each girl's name is called, she walks to the symbolic bridge, gives her present leader a Girl Scout handshake and says goodbye. She then crosses the bridge where she is met by a representative from her new troop. Once this is completed, the girls rededicate themselves to Girl Scouting. They may also choose to sing some songs, have a Scouts' Own or put on a skit where they recall their past Girl Scout days.

Variation: Sometimes the troops involved plan a joint camping week-end. On Friday night, the girl stay with their present troop. A Bridging Ceremony is then held the following evening and the bridging girls spend the second night with their new troop members.

# REDEDICATION

A rededication is the time when girls or adults who have already been invested as Girl Scouts renew their Promise and review what the Girl Scout Law means to them.

Rededications often take place at the beginning of a new Girl Scouting year, at investitures, bridging ceremonies or a Court of Awards.

Girls are in a horseshoe formation and a table is in front of the open end of the horseshoe. Three large candles for the three parts of the Promise and ten small candles for the ten parts of the Law are in holders on the table. If candles are prohibited, flowers could be used with each girl putting a flower in a vase as she recites her part of the Promise or Law.

Leader: The candles before us represent the three parts of our Promise and the ten parts of the Law. At this quiet time, let us make our Girl Scout Promise.

Leader: On my honor, I will try:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1st: To serve God, and my Country             | 8th: responsible for what I say and do   |
| 2nd: To help people at all times              | 9th: and to respect myself and others    |
| 3rd: And to live by the Girl Scout Law        | 10th: respect authority                  |
| 4th: I will do my best to be honest and fair, | 11th: use resources wisely               |
| 5th: friendly and helpful                     | 12th: make the world a better place, and |
| 6th: considerate and caring                   | 13th: be a sister to every Girl Scout    |
| 7th: courageous and strong                    |  |

After all candles have been lit, the Promise is recited in unison by the entire troop/group.

Group may then sing, "Whene'er You Make A Promise" (Pocket Songbook).

Other suggested songs are: "Sing For Joy," "Somewhere There's A Forest," "Rise Up O Flame," "Let Us Sing Together," (Our Chalet Songbook). "Girl Scout Together," "Peace," (Pocket Songbook).

# FLAG

“The Flag of the United States of America” is the official name of our flag. The design for it, stars and stripes, was taken originally from General George Washington’s family coat of arms on the gateposts of the home of his ancestors in England.

The colors of the flag are red, representing valor; white, representing purity; blue, representing justice. The five-pointed stars originally designated “a new constellation” arisen in the skies of the world, meaning a new nation.

Our flag is always displayed to the right, the front, and higher than any other flags. To the right means the flag’s own right: in front means ahead or first; should your troop have an American flag and a troop flag, the American flag should be a little ahead of or in front of the troop flag. Higher means that our flag should stand taller than other flags in the ceremony, perhaps with a longer flag pole or by placing it on a platform above the other flags.

A flag ceremony should not become a routine part of a troop’s life. It is better to have a well planned and meaningful ceremony occasionally than a routine ceremony every day or week. This ceremony is often times a part of investitures, rededications, fly-ups and Court of Awards.

Brownies may wish to do the flag ceremony using a small flag which they can hold. Only two guards would be needed with one flag bearer. The leader could act as caller the first few times and then allow girls to take turns calling on their own.

Suggested songs for flag ceremonies: “America, the Beautiful,” “Star-Spangled Banner,” “America,” “O Beautiful Banner,” “Make New Friends” (Pocket Songbook).

See handbook for instructions on standard ceremony. Please remember that Girl Scouts salute the flag by placing the right hand over the heart. Girl Scouts do not ever use a military style salute.

## FLAG CEREMONY VARIATION

Participants: Six Girl Scouts, one the caller. Also need a person to handle the lights.

Group is called to attention, asked to rise. House lights are dimmed or turned off. One Girl Scout turns on a flashlight, shining it on the American flag. The flag is held in each corner by a Girl Scout; it is tilted so the audience can see the entire flag and the light is shining directly on it.

Caller: Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance and “God Bless America.”

The flag is folded at the end of the song with only the flashlight on - once the flag ceremony is completed the house lights go on.

# OPENING AND CLOSING

Every meeting needs to have an official opening and closing that tells girls the meeting is about to begin or end. Often leaders or designated girls ask troop members to sit or stand in a circle or horseshoe formation.

Suggested activities for openings are: A flag ceremony, a song, the sharing of a favorite poem or game, or saying what happened that day.

For closing, often girls gather in a circle with arms crossed, hands joined right over left, and sing "Taps." Leaders say "Goodnight Scouts" and girls are dismissed.

Some variations include: The passing of a hand squeeze with a silent happy thought or wish accompanying the squeeze; when last hand is squeezed, the leader says goodbye.

Brownies might stand in two lines making arches with their arms; the pair farthest from the door goes through arches, then next pair, etc. The last two go out under the arch made by the two adult leaders.

## GIRL SCOUTS' OWN

A Girl Scouts' Own is an inspirational gathering planned and conducted by girls with the help of their leader. It is based on the ideals of Girl Scouting and gives girls an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings about those ideals. It is not a religious ceremony and should not be used to take the place of one.

A Girl Scouts' Own can take place anywhere, but the outdoors provides an ideal setting. It is another experience that has special meaning for girls when held on an outing or a camping trip.

Talk with your girls about the purpose and meaning of a Girl Scouts' Own ahead of time.

Explain that we don't applaud at a Girl Scouts' Own, that we enter, attend and leave in silence because a Girl Scouts' Own is a quiet, reflective time.

Now decide on a time or focus (see Ceremonies checklist) and plan your Girl Scouts' Own. It might include: Singing Dramatizations A short talk Poetry Music Sharing our thoughts

Decide where you'll have it, and how to move to the spot. (Single file or as a group?) A place in the woods, a campfire, around a fireplace circle or a meadow are good choices. A Girl Scouts' Own are best in a beautiful setting!

Evaluate at your next meeting! The girls will benefit from talking it over afterwards. A successful Girl Scouts' Own will have a positive effect on girls feelings and regard for one another and the group. You, as leader, will see a real growth in individuals and a deepening group spirit as girls have good experiences planning and carrying out a Girl Scouts' Own.

NOTE: Brownie Girl Scouts' Own - Keep your Girl Scouts' Own short. Focus on a subject for your girls. Let them write a short poem or story about your theme. Have each one read a part and then sing a single song.

## A SAMPLE GIRL SCOUTS OWN

A Junior troop has invited another troop to their next meeting and plan to do a Girl Scouts' Own ceremony. You may use a single theme or cluster of themes.

In this variation, patrols or committees have selected the following themes: Happiness, Friendship, Girl Scouting. Each group will sing a song or read a poem in addition to sharing their own thoughts on the chosen theme.

All girls gather together by walking quietly to the center of the meeting room and forming a horseshoe. The leader in charge explains what a Girl Scouts' Own is, why it is held and gives instructions to the entire group.

The following ceremony was written by girls -- see what your troop can create!

Patrol Leader #1: Our theme is Girl Scouting. My thought to share is that Girl Scouting is working together to plan a meeting like today with other Girl Scouts.

Patrol Member #1: Girl Scouting is doing things I don't get to do at home.

Patrol Member #2: Girl Scouting is going places and doing things.

Patrol Member #3: Girl Scouting is sharing, caring and having fun. (Song)

Patrol Leader #2: Our theme is Happiness. Happiness is camping with my troop.

Patrol Member #1: Happiness is sharing good times.

Patrol Member #2: Happiness is having a puppy to hold.

Patrol Member #3: Happiness is being in Junior Girl Scouts. Please join us in singing "This Land Is Your Land."

Patrol Leader #3: Our theme is Friendship. To me friendship is having someone you like, like you back.

Patrol Member #1: Friendship is caring about how someone else feels.

Patrol Member #2: Friendship is having a place to belong.

Patrol Member #3: Friendship is being with other people who like you and never having to be alone. I would like to share this poem with you ... (girl has selected a poem she feels would be appropriate).

Adult: Let's all join hands and sing "Girl Scouts Together" and then we will have our closing circle.

# THINKING DAY

Thinking Day, February 22, is celebrated by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts throughout the world. It is the birthday of Lord Baden-Powell, founder of the worldwide Guiding and Scouting movement and is also the birthday of his wife, Lady Baden-Powell, the World Chief Guide until her death in 1977.

Thinking Day is a time when girls all over the world take the time to think about their sister Girl Scouts and Girl Guides.

## **Thinking Day Candlelight Ceremony:**

Group stands in horseshoe formation.

**Leader:** This horseshoe in which we stand symbolizes the open friendship circle. In the open end of our horseshoe stand our sister Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world. Though we can't see them, they are there in spirit, and with thoughts of friendship for you and me. We will use candles to remind us of the meaning of Thinking Day in our ceremony. My candle represents Thinking Day, February 22.

**Girl Scout 1:** I light my candle for Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding. February 22nd was his birthday.

**Girl Scout 2:** I light my candle for Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding. February 22 was his birthday.

**Girl Scout 3:** I light my candle for Lady Baden-Powell, Chief Guide of the world. February 22 was also her birthday.

**Girl Scout 4:** February 22, the birthday of both Lord & Lady Baden-Powell, was set aside in 1926 as Thinking Day - the day when Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world think about each other and what Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding means to them.

**Girl Scout 5:** I light my candle to represent service Girl Scouts and Girl Guides are prepared to give to others.

**Girl Scout 6:** My candle represents the Girl Scouts and Girl Guide Promise made by members in the 112 member countries of the World Association.

**Girl Scout 7:** Let us all renew our Promise by repeating it together.

Close with the **Dutch Pavindster's** (Girl Guide) Goodnight.

I AM A LINK IN THE GOLDEN CHAIN OF SCOUTING WORLD  
FRIENDSHIP, AND I MUST KEEP MY LINK STRONG AND BRIGHT.

## Thinking Day World Pin Ceremony

Group stands in horseshoe formation.

Leader: (Give brief concise explanation of World Association - see handbook.)

This horseshoe in which we stand symbolizes the open friendship circle. In the open end stand our sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from around the world. We cannot see them but they are here in spirit with thoughts of friendship for all of us. The pin you are about to receive is a symbol of this world wide bond. Its purpose is to encourage friendship between girls of all nations. As you receive your pin, remember that millions of girls all over the world will be receiving and wearing it also.

Girl #1: The World Pin has a blue background. The blue stands for the sky which is over us all.

Girl #2: The gold trefoil stands for the sun which shines on us all. Its shape represents the three parts of the promise.

Girl #3: The stars in the trefoil remind us of our promise and law.

Girl #4: The vein is the compass needle that guides us.

Girl #5: The wavy base of the trefoil is shaped like a flame - the flame of the love of humankind in the true spirit of international friendship.

Suggested Song: "Rise Up O Flame"

Leader: presents pin -

We wear the World Friendship Pin above the Girl Scout membership pin because we are a member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts first, and then members of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, our own country's organization.

Suggested Song: "Girl Scout Together" (Pocket Songbook).

## VARIATION

Make a flannel board of the pieces using gold flannel as the background, a circle of dark blue flannel, the trefoil and its base (in two parts) in gold, two blue stars, and one blue compass needle. As the ceremony progresses, each girl then places her piece on the board.