

## **FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY WEBELOS CAMPSITE ACTIVITY**

**READ: "No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America. The Flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."**

**LEADER: Display the Flag that will be retired.**

**READ: " The United States Flag is more than just some brightly colored cloth ...it is a symbol of our nation."**

**"Seven red stripes and six white stripes; together represent the original 13 colonies that gained us liberty. The red stripes remind us of the lifeblood of brave men and women who were ready to die for this, their country."**

**"The white stripes remind us of purity and cleanliness of purpose, thought, word, and deed. The blue is for truth and justice, like the eternal blue of star-filled heavens."**

**"The stars represent the fifty sovereign states of our union. The American Creed states: It is my duty to my country to love it, to respect its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."**

**"Therefore, we retire flags with dignity and respect when they become worn, torn, faded, or badly soiled."**

**LEADER: Please stand and join me in a final Pledge of Allegiance to this, our American Flag.**

**Scout Salute**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**READ: "A flag ceases to be a flag when it is cut into pieces. We separate the 13 stripes that represent the original 13 colonies and the 50 stars that honor the 50 states that together make up this great nation."**

**"As we retire the red and white stripes, let us remember the 13 original colonies who came together to form the United States of America."**

**[Cut the flag into 13 stripes and the field of blue with stars]**

**(As the stripes are placed in the fire.....read the names of the states:)**

**READ:** Delaware---December 7, ~~1787~~ 1787  
Pennsylvania ---- December 12, 1787  
New Jersey --- December 18, 1787  
Georgia --- January 2, 1788  
Connecticut --- January 9, 1788  
Massachusetts --- February 6, 1788  
Maryland --- April 28, 1788  
South Carolina --- May 23, 1788  
New Hampshire --- June 21, 1788  
Virginia --- June 25, 1788  
New York --- July 26, 1788  
North Carolina --- November 21, 1788  
Rhode Island --- May 29, 1790

**READ:** As we retire the 50 stars let us remember to pay homage to the 50 states that together make up this great nation.

**LEADER:** Sing the first and last verses of America.

**READ:** Thank-you Cub Scouts and parents for participating in this ceremony that retired an American Flag with dignity. Let us not forget all that have sacrificed so that we may live a life of liberty and pursuit of happiness.

**2008-Daryl L. Barton**