

## Flag Retirement Ceremony

**Scout A:** Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. (PAUSE)

Those in uniform – Salute.

All others, place your hand across your heart.

Ready, begin. I pledge allegiance to the flag .....

**Scout A:** Two. Please be seated. (WAIT FOR AUDIENCE TO SETTLE)

**MC:** The U.S. flag is more than just some brightly colored cloth, it is a symbol of our nation.

**Scout #1:** Seven red stripes and six white strips; together they represent the original 13 colonies that gained us liberty.

**Scout #2:** The RED stripes remind us of the lifeblood of brave men and women who were ready to die for our country.

**Scout #3:** The WHITE stripes remind us of purity and cleanliness of purpose, thought, word and deed.

**Scout #4:** The BLUE is for truth and justice, like the eternal blue of the heavens under which we fly.

**Scout #1:** The STARS represent and unify the 50 states of our great country.

**MC:** The U.S. flag should be treated with respect when it's flying, and it should be treated with respect when it's being retired. Let us hear the Prose "I Am Your Flag"

**Adult Leader #1:** Recite Prose - I AM YOUR FLAG

**Scout #2:** 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."

**MUSIC:** "America, America Round"

**Scout #3:** We retire flags with dignity and respect when they become worn, torn, faded, or badly soiled.

**Scout #4:** A flag ceases to be a flag when it is cut into pieces. We cut the flag into colored pieces: Red stripes, White stripes, and the Blue Star Field. We leave the Blue Field intact because no one should ever let the union be broken.

**MC:** These flags are ready to be retired. The following is a direct quote from the United States Code: "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." We ask that everyone maintain a respectful silence as these flags are retired. Please retire the flags.

**Scout #5:** Let us retire the RED Stripes. Salute!

(**Adult Leader #2:** Place the RED stripes on the burning fire.)

(**Music:** Play Taps while colors are being destroyed.)

**Scout #6:** TWO!

**Scout #5:** Let us retire the WHITE Stripes. Salute!

(**Adult Leader #2:** Place the WHITE stripes on the burning fire.)

(**Music:** Play Taps while colors are being destroyed.)

**Scout #6:** TWO!

**Scout #5:** Let us retire the BLUE Field with Stars. Salute!

(**Adult Leader #2:** Place the BLUE Field with Stars on the burning fire.)

(**Music:** Play Taps while colors are being destroyed.)

**Scout #6:** TWO!

(**MUSIC:** Play Taps 1 last time. Audience waits in silence until flag is completely consumed by fire.)

**MC:** Thank you Pack members of 301 and 310 for joining us for this solemn flag retirement ceremony. This sacred flame will be allowed to burn without disturbance. Please depart in silence as a tribute to those who have fallen. Goodnight and God bless America!