INVOCATION

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Let us bow our heads and lift high our souls ....

Oh God ....

We have come from many places and camps ....

We are of all races and faiths ....

We have, among many common interests, a special concern for our campers and our country, and we have a deep love of the out-of-doors ....

We have come:

- to deliberate and to share fellowship ....

- to seek ways to meet our obligations to campers, parents, and society ....

- to find more effective means of helping campers to be at home in the woods and open spaces ....

- to understand and love the land and all its treasured possessions ....

- to show concern for and to practice stewardship of Thy land ....

We have come also:

- to share our interests, gains, and concepts of living and learning in the open spaces ....

- to probe more deeply the goals and purposes of camping ....

- to find more effective ways of attaining these goals and purposes ....

We ask Thy help and guidance:

- to find more ways of exploring fully those adventures indigenous to the camp environment ....
- to do at camp mostly those things not possible in our urban or home environment ....

- to gain as many new first-hand experiences as possible in the out-of-doors ....

- to see and feel the innumerable things which books try to tell and pictures try to portray ....

- to stand in the path of the last glacier and ponder its power and its gifts ....

- to scale the high peaks and hills and become engulfed in the life story of mountains and valleys ....

- to take time to be quiet, --- still, --- and hear the woodland symphonies ....

- to make the forest, with all its beauty and mystery our friend and teacher ....

- to hear rain on leaves and canvas ....

- to sleep under the stars and sky on the Appalachian and other trails, on the open hills, in the fields, and by the streams ....

- to create with hand and mind ....

- to find new worth as individuals through living in small groups in the open ....

- to come closer to the meaning of time and space ....

- to explore and sense deeply the splendor of Thy Creation ....

Help us, oh God:

- to see and understand how the life of man is completely entwined in myriads of vital connections with the out-of-doors ....

Help us to realize that because of Thy gifts, we may become better campers, more inspired leaders ....

Help us to obtain a fuller and more meaningful and joyous life in the open spaces ....

May Thy grace and wisdom be with us in all of our deliberations ....

........... Amen ...........