

# Troop Meeting

## OPENING CEREMONIES



Troops Fully Alive

*The troop falls in, patrols in formation. Each patrol leader carries his patrol's guidon (flag). The Quartermaster stands alone before the troop, comes to attention, and commands:*

**QUARTERMASTER: Troop, attention.**

*The troop stands at attention and observes silence. If the troop does not immediately respond, the Quartermaster remains at attention and, in silence, waits for the troop to respond. He does not raise his voice. Once the troop comes to attention and all are silent, he continues:*

**QUARTERMASTER: A Trailman honors God.**

*The troop removes any headgear and sunglasses and creates a prayerful mood. While the troop sings the entrance chant, and led by the troop's processional cross, the First Officer, Second Officer, and all Freedom Rangemen process forward. The First Officer takes position, front and center of the formation, and the Quartermaster and Second Officer take position on either side of the First Officer. The Freedom Rangemen enter the ranks of their patrols. The crossbearer posts the processional cross in a prominent place before the troop and enters the rank of his patrol. When the entrance chant is concluded, the First Officer says:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Trailman \_\_\_\_, front and center.**

*The Trailman leaves the rank of his patrol, comes forward and stands before the First Officer facing him, renders the Trailman salute and holds the salute until returned. In unison, the First Officer, Second Officer, and Quartermaster return the salute, and all simultaneously drop the salute.*

**FIRST OFFICER: Opening Prayer.**

*The Trailman turns about face. The Trailman and the troop sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross, while the Trailman, facing the troop, says:*

**TRAILMAN: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

**TROOP: Amen.**

*The Trailman leads the troop in the opening prayer, and the troop responds:*

**TROOP: Amen.**

*The troop replaces their headgear. The Trailman returns to position before the First Officer facing him, renders the Trailman salute and holds the salute. In unison, the First Officer, Second Officer, and Quartermaster return the salute.*

*While all hold the salute, the First Officer commands:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Trailman, dismissed.**

*All simultaneously drop the salute. The Trailman returns to the ranks of his patrol.*

**FIRST OFFICER: Color guard, front and center.**

*The color guard (Trailmen selected before the troop enters formation) leave the ranks of their patrols, come forward and stand before the First Officer facing him, simultaneously rendering the Trailman salute and holding the salute until returned. In unison, the First Officer, Second Officer, and Quartermaster return the salute, and all simultaneously drop the salute.*

**FIRST OFFICER: Color guard, retrieve the colors.**

*The color guard turns, marches to the rear of the formation, and retrieves the colors.*

*Once the color guard has retrieved the colors, and the First Officer observes they are ready to advance, he says:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Troop, hand salute.**

*In unison, the troop renders and holds the Trailman salute.*

**FIRST OFFICER: Color guard, bring forth the colors.**

*The color guard carries the colors forward to positions where the colors will be posted but awaits the First Officer's command before posting the colors. Once the troop begins the Pledge of Allegiance, the color guard dips all flags inferior to the United States flag, including a state flag, troop flag, etc. The United States flag is never dipped, nor is another national flag dipped (e.g., Vatican City State flag is not dipped).*

**FIRST OFFICER: Trailman \_\_\_\_\_, lead the troop in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

*From his position in formation, the Trailman leads the pledge:*

**TRAILMAN: "I pledge allegiance to the flag...."**

*The troop recites the pledge, after which the First Officer gives the command to drop the Trailman salute:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Ready, two.**

*The troop simultaneously drops the Trailman salute.*

**FIRST OFFICER: Color guard, post the colors.**

*The color guard posts the colors and returns to position before the First Officer facing him, simultaneously rendering the Trailman salute and holding the salute. In unison, the First Officer, Second Officer, and Quartermaster return the salute. While all hold the salute, the First Officer commands:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Color guard, dismissed.**

*All simultaneously drop the salute. The color guard returns to the ranks of their patrols.*

**FIRST OFFICER: Trailman \_\_\_\_\_, front and center.**

*The Trailman leaves the rank of his patrol, comes forward and stands before the First Officer facing him, renders the Trailman salute and holds the salute until returned. In unison, the First Officer, Second Officer, and Quartermaster return the salute, and all simultaneously drop the salute.*

**FIRST OFFICER: The Trailman Oath.**

*The Trailman turns about face and, facing the troop, displays the Trailman sign and says:*

**TRAILMAN: Troop, Trailman sign.**

*In unison, the troop renders and holds the Trailman sign.*

**TRAILMAN: The Trailman Oath: "On my honor, I will do my best...."**

*In unison, the troop recites the Trailman oath, after which the First Officer gives the command to drop the Trailman sign:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Ready, two.**

*The troop simultaneously drops the Trailman sign. The Trailman returns to position before the First Officer facing him, renders the Trailman salute and holds the salute. In unison, the First Officer, Second Officer, and Quartermaster return the salute. While all hold the salute, the First Officer commands:*

**FIRST OFFICER: Trailman, dismissed.**

*All simultaneously drop the salute. The Trailman returns to the ranks of his patrol. The meeting proceeds as scheduled.*



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