

**WHATS NEXT?**

**Sonoran Sunset District**

**Revised 10/15/2019**

**General Pre-arrangements**

As soon as the Eagle Scout notification from the National Office arrives, the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee Chairman should begin serious preparations for the Eagle Scout Court of Honor. The Eagle candidate and his family should be invited to designate an award presenter who should then be contacted, and his participation firmed up. If a hall or other facility is to be used for the ceremony, the necessary arrangements should be made with the owners or another responsible group as soon as possible.

In order to obtain letters of recognition and congratulations from government officials, the requests must be mailed a **minimum of four weeks** prior to the ceremony.

When the who, what, when, and where have been established, those who will plan the Court of Honor should be brought together. This group will usually include representatives from the Troop Committee, the Patrol Leaders Council. Coordination should be established concerning such details as:

Other advancement recognition
Ceremony details, including props, public address system, and the movements of the participants
Decorations
Refreshments
Invitations to the guests – **Remember to invite members of the Community Government, Eagle Board, and District Committee members and District Executive.**
Printing of the program
Publicity, with special emphasis on photographs in newspapers

When the planning is complete, it is essential that all key people understand their roles in the arrangements and in the ceremony itself. Periodic rechecking to make sure that preparation in all assignment areas are progressing on schedule is a good idea. The presenter and any other guests who will have a speaking part in the award presentation should be contacted directly. It is helpful if these people have a thorough understanding of their individual duties as well as some general information concerning Scouting history and the significance of the Eagle Award.

As the day of the ceremony draws near, those who will participate should be well prepared. They should know precisely how the entire Court of Honor is to take place. In summary, everyone should understand where and why they fit in.

**Features Of A Good Eagle Ceremony**

Here are a few things to keep in mind while planning an Eagle Court of Honor:

* The ceremony should have a crisp definitive opening.
* A proper introduction of the Eagle Scout candidate should be made by someone or some group the Scouts in the Troop respect.
* A complete and easy to understand explanation should be made regarding what must be accomplished to attain the Eagle Scout rank. (Explicit mention should be made of the candidate's Eagle Service project.)
* The Eagle candidate's parents should be escorted to the front of the room and should stand or sit near their son. (If neither of his parents are able to attend, his guardian, a close relative or friend should join him.)
* The Eagle candidate should reaffirm his belief in the ideals of Scouting by either reciting the Scout Oath or participating in the Eagle charge.
* The presenter should be someone of special significance to the Eagle candidate. The presenter should be given a few moments to speak concerning the individual Scout or the Eagle Award.
* Either the presenter, assisted by a Troop Committee member, the Scoutmaster, or the Scout's parents should pin the badge on the Eagle recipient.
* Both the mother and father should receive some recognition from the Eagle Scout himself.
* The Eagle Scout should receive congratulations from all people involved. All or some of the letters of congratulations may be read to those present.
* The Eagle Scout should be given the opportunity to say a few words if he is inclined to do so.
* The ceremony must have a definite closing.

**Small Pitfalls To Avoid**

In Eagle ceremonies, as in so many other areas of life, it is often the small things that cause the problems and ruin the big things. The following are small items that are often overlooked:

* When using candles for the ceremony, get a supply of fresh candles. Don't try to get by with candles that have previously been used. The Eagle ceremony is a big enough event to warrant fresh candles. Then, save them and use them for other purposes.
* Make sure you have matches or a working lighter available. A lot of people have given up smoking and it is more difficult to ask a group of people for matches and get a positive response.
* Check the PA system immediately before the start of the ceremony.
* Check all props before the start of the ceremony. This includes the lectern, any lights being used, the candles, etc.
* Remind the parents of the Eagle Scout that their son will be pinning awards on them also. They should dress in a way to facilitate this. The mother should wear a dress or suit with lapels or a blouse with a collar. This makes life for the Eagle Scout a lot simpler than a turtleneck sweater. The father should wear a tie or, at least, a jacket with lapels.
* As soon as word is received from National that the application has been approved contact the Council Scout Shop and purchase the Eagle Presentation Kit. **Prior to the ceremony, detach the badges and pins from the presentation box.**  This can be a little tricky, and trying to figure it out for the first time in the middle of the ceremony plus it interrupts the flow and pacing of the ceremony.
* **PLEASE** rehearse the ceremony. Stumbling over words detracts from the quality of the ceremony. The young man worked hard to achieve the rank of Eagle; we want to make the ceremony appropriate to his achievement.

**Other General Thoughts**

A guest book which can be signed by everyone who attends the Eagle Court of Honor makes a wonderful memento of the occasion for the new Eagle Scout.

Some of the ceremonies in this document include the presentation of a membership in the National Eagle Scout Association. Such a presentation can be added to any of the ceremonies. Consider presenting a NESA membership to the new Eagle Scout. Whether you present the membership or not, invite a representative of NESA to attend the ceremony and to say a few words as part of the ceremony.

All the Courts of Honor in this document assume that the Eagle Scout comes from the "traditional family:" one mother and one father. This is not necessarily true. Be prepared to handle the exceptions by modifying the ceremonies, as appropriate. Some Eagle Scouts will be part of a single parent family while others will involve multiple sets of parents. Be sensitive to individual situations.

Finally, a word of advice to the mother of the Eagle Scout: enjoy the ceremony. Let someone else do the work of providing refreshments and decorating the hall. This day belongs to your son and to you; make it a day that you will remember fondly.

**Eagle Court of Honor Execution**

Keep in mind that the purpose of an Eagle Court of Honor is first, to honor the Scout. If the Court of Honor is executed well, it will inspire other Scouts to follow the adventurous and rewarding Eagle trail. A dignified and meaningful Court of Honor will also show the community the result of the Scouting program, so they will direct other boys into the Scouting programs and support the movement.

Some things to think about while planning the event:

* Make it simple, but keep it fun.
* The Master of Ceremonies (MC) sets the tone and the pace of the ceremony.
* Keep the aisle space clear for parading the colors.
* Use props with candles; Scout spirit candle.
* Make sure the candidate's parents sit in a special place.
* An Eagle Ceremony should be held separately from troop Court-Of-Honors.
* Master the lighting and sound system before a ceremony.
* Have the principle speakers sit close to the front to reduce program lag time in traveling to the podium.
* Have the troop march in with patrol flags, and sit together for colors.
* It is appropriate to let humor in and to expect the unexpected.
* Have the Eagle speak from prepared notes!
* Daytime window light may affect slide programs

**Eagle Scout Court of Honor Work Sheet**

This is an example of instructions and a worksheet that can be adapted for your Troop, to give information to the Eagle candidate parents, and help them develop plans for the Eagle Court of Honor.

The Committee of the Troop sends our sincere Congratulations on achieving Scouting's highest honor, the rank of Eagle Scout. Every Eagle Scout is constantly looked up to as a special example of leadership and service. It is indeed a special accomplishment.

Because of the special significance of this award, we invite the Eagle Scout and his parents to assist in planning the Court of Honor, so it will always be a special memory for him. This guide has been prepared to help you in your choices. While there is an organized plan to the ceremony, there is also a good deal of flexibility, to accommodate any special people or events that you want to be part of the ceremony. If you want to make changes, please do so, and let us know what you would like to do. The Troop Committee will appoint someone to work with you throughout this process. Please note that it takes 6 to 8 weeks to make all the necessary arrangements, select teams, rehearse them, print invitations, etc.

**General Information:**

The date, time, and place of the Court of Honor are basically up to you to decide. You should, of course, be cognizant of holidays, school, church and Troop schedules. This will allow a maximum opportunity for other Troop members to attend. It may be done at your own church, or at another location that has special significance for you in your son's achievement. You should also give thought to whether or not a reception afterward will be held, and if suitable facilities are available for it.

Once a date, time and location have been determined, please notify us. It would be customary that the Troop print invitations on standard BSA Eagle stationery. The Troop will give these to you for addressing and mailing. The members of the Troop will all be invited by an enclosure in a regular Troop mailing. You may also have your own invitations printed if you prefer. It is customary that the Troop also make the printed programs for the Court of Honor, based on the Program Worksheet examples, again on standard BSA stationery, unless you choose to provide your own.

The Troop will provide scouts to serve as the Master of Ceremonies, ushers, the Color Guard, and the Dedication Team. Additionally, the Troop should prepare a binder for the Scout which will include (mounted in plastic sleeves) all congratulatory letters and a copy of the ceremony.

Many Troops will also pay for the Scout's initial membership in the National Eagle Scout Association.

You should know that once your son's Eagle application has been processed by the National Office, you will receive various solicitations directly from National for various Eagle mementos, stained glass windows, plaques, and other forms of recognition. The choice to purchase of any of these items either by yourself or as a suggestion to family relatives is of course up to you.

**Court of Honor Program & Ceremony:**

In planning the location and time, please remember to have access to the location a minimum of 1 hour before the ceremony, for setup and rehearsal by the various teams that will be performing. There is a worksheet attached which outlines examples of the principal parts of the ceremony. Many items are optional. You may include them or not as you choose. The choice to include any kind of music, such as a hymn or the camp song is optional. If you want an organist or other musician for accompaniment of music, you will need to ask them yourself. The Master of Ceremonies will usually be the Senior Patrol Leader of the Troop, but you may select another individual if you choose. The Color Guard will usually be composed of Troop members, but you may select other scouts if you desire. The Call of the Eagle is an audio or video tape special presentation. Its use is optional.

The choice of Speakers is up to you. The main purpose is for various adults, in different aspects of the Scout's life, to briefly tell of the effort and accomplishment of the Scout in the area of experience they know him. It is not necessary to have all 5, but there should be at least 3, ending with the Scoutmaster. The speaker representing the BSA may be a Scouter from another Troop, a District or Council Executive. The speaker for the Church usually represents the church where the Court of Honor is performed or someone from the Scout's own religious training. A significant teacher or perhaps someone from the community, perhaps with whom the Scout worked on his Eagle Project, is another possibility.

The Scout may have another personal or scouting mentor, a person from the OA Lodge perhaps, or a relative of significance to his achievement. Lastly, will be the Scoutmaster, who will relate the Scout's record of accomplishments and scouting history in the Troop.

The Eagle Scout Challenge is a statement in the responsibilities expected of an Eagle Scout and all other Eagle Scouts present will participate at this time. The Eagle Scout Charge is the actual 'oath of responsibility' and immediately precedes the presentation of the Eagle Award. The parents will be a part of this ceremony. The Scout will receive his award, and he will in turn, present miniature awards to both parents.

The Eagle Scout is expected to say a few words in acceptance of his award, perhaps thanking particular people who have been of special help along his trail as well as inspiring others Scout's still working the Trail to Eagle. The Scoutmaster will then read from various letters of congratulations and recognition from political figures or others unable to attend. This is followed by the closing flag ceremony.

**After the Court of Honor:**

Since the location of the Court of Honor is your choice, the place of a reception afterwards is also yours. Whether or not to have a reception, what kind of refreshments, how much to have, etc. are all up to you. If asked, I’m sure any members of the committee would be willing to help with these arrangements, but the principal direction and decisions must be yours. It is customary for the Troop pay for a decorated flat cake for the reception.

The reception is a good time and place to present any additional family recognition, and also to display a 'memory board' of your son's involvement with Scouting as well as the book detailing his Eagle Project work.

**Gifts and Recognition**

Should parents, relatives, or guests at an Eagle court of honor give the new Eagle Scout gifts?

This is the most frequently asked question received at Eaglescout.org.  The answer is: it's up to you.

You might inquire of other people in your area about what the customs are for gifts.  I suspect customs vary around the country.  Sometimes gifts are given and sometimes not.  In my own area, usually the family and a few close friends might give the Eagle Scout a gift, but it depends on the family.  When I have seen gifts given, they are typically something like you might give a friend as a birthday gift or graduation gift - nothing of great value, but thoughtful.  A card would certainly be appropriate regardless of the gift.

Eagle-themed items are appropriate and usually appreciated as gift. For ideas, your local Scout shop has many Eagle items. You can see the catalog of everything that is available locally at [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org/) and the Eagle specific items by searching for items with the word "Eagle". You can order Scouting merchandise online, but the online catalog doesn’t stock everything. There is probably a Scout shop associated with your local Boy Scout council. You can find the council contact information by entering your zip code at this link. Scout shops are basically locally run independent businesses and do their business locally rather than over a web site. The local profits go back to support local Scouting.



[National Eagle Scout Association](http://nesa.org/index.html)

**NESA MEMBERSHIP**

Only those who have been granted the Eagle Scout Award by the Boy Scouts of America may hold membership in the National Eagle Scout Association.

**A FEW POINTS ABOUT NESA**

You will be associated with an impressive group of men, many of whom are now in positions of responsibility and prominence in industry, government, military, business, and education.

Eagles' Call, the official publication of the National Eagle Scout Association, will be sent to you with articles of interest detailing the latest developments in Scouting and the achievements of Eagle Scouts.

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| [**Purchase a NESA membership for myself**](http://www.kintera.org/site/lookup.asp?c=bqIJISMALiL0F&b=9493599) (I know my Eagle Scout information - Board of Review Date, Troop Number, etc.)*quicker processing*[**Purchase a NESA membershipfor myself**](http://www.kintera.org/site/lookup.asp?c=9oIFJMPsGgIWF&b=9508785)(The NESA office will need to locate some or all of my Eagle information) | [**Purchase a NESA membershipas a gift for an Eagle**](http://www.kintera.org/site/lookup.asp?c=9oIFJMPsGgIWF&b=9365585)  [**Download a paper application**](http://www.nesa.org/PDF/542-404_WB.pdf) |

**WHAT ARE THE COSTS?**

**Life membership**
The life membership is available for a one-time payment of $250. Members will receive attractive full-color pocket and wall certificates and a gold NESA pin.

 **Regular membership**A five-year new or renewal membership is available for $35. Pocket and wall certificates, plus a silver NESA pin, are provided in this fee.

**Payment methods**
The National Eagle Scout Association accepts credit cards, money orders, or checks for membership payment.

**Gift memberships**A gift of membership in the National Eagle Scout Association is an important, meaningful, and appreciated recognition of significant achievement. The importance of enrolling new Eagle Scouts cannot be overemphasized. NESA is the only way for the Boy Scouts of America to maintain contact with Eagle Scouts.

**Special Handling/Overnight Delivery**Special handling is available at a cost of $25. Overnight delivery is also available for $15. Weekend deliveries will be charged according to current rates incurred by the National Eagle Scout Association. Both special handling and overnight delivery services must be purchased together. Note: This $40 charge is in addition to the membership fee.

**Special Eagle Scout Recognitions**

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| The Congratulatory Eagle Scout Letters are a resource for the Awards and Recognition chairperson meant for Scouts earning their Eagle Scout during the current year. The national chief and national vice chief and the national chairman want to recognize each Eagle on the great accomplishment of obtaining Eagle. The letters are intended for all Boy Scouts and not just Arrowmen.To obtain the letters, follow the instructions on this page:<http://www.oa-bsa.org/pages/content/2015-oa-eagle-congratulatory-letter> | 2015 OA Chiefs' Letter 2015 OA Chairman's' Letter |

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| **US Army Youth Certificates of Recognition** |
| Scout leaders and parents may nominate their scouts for this award (shown at the right) by completing an [on-line application](http://www.goarmy.com/ycr/)The following information is needed:* Scout's name
* Date and time of ceremony
* Name, phone number and E-mail address of the person making the request, and
* Where the Certificate should be mailed (Name and full address)

.  | Army Youth Certificate of Recognition |

**How to Purchase a Flag of the United States That Has Flown Over the U.S. Capitol**

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**Where to Purchase an American Flag That Has Flown Over the U.S. Capitol Building?**

*ORDER AND PURCHASE YOUR FLAG BY CONTACTING THE OFFICE OF YOUR STATE SENATOR. PLEASE FOLLOW THE STEPS PROVIDED BELOW...*

**To Order Your Capitol-Flown American Flag, Follow These Steps**

Approximately six to eight weeks in advance of the date you’d like to have your flag flown...

1. Use the [United States Senate online directory](https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) to find the website of your U.S. Senator.
2. From the Senate Directory, navigate to your senator’s website, and find the link to constituent services (this comes under a variety of service-oriented headings).
3. On the services page, find and click on the “Flag Requests” option.
4. Follow the specific ordering instructions indicated by your senator.
5. If you have any lingering questions, we recommend sending an email to your senator with “Flag Requests” in the subject line.

**Additionally, these notes from our research may be helpful as you navigate your senator’s unique Flag Requests process…**

* Before a flag can be flown over the Capitol Building, it must be purchased.
* Most senators offer the option to pay online directly from their websites, but if you are mailing a check or money order, the amount on the check must cover the complete cost of the flag and be made out to “The Keeper of the Stationery.”
* Only a United States flag may be flown over the United States Capitol Building.
* Flags are flown daily — weather permitting — all year long, with the exceptions of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day, per the Architect of the Capitol.
* To have the best chance of processing your flag on the date of your request, advanced notice of six to eight weeks is the typical recommendation.
* Once flown, the constituent may receive the flag of the United States, and a certificate of authenticity from The Architect of the Capitol — suitable for framing — stating that the flag was flown over the Capitol. The certificate may also include the name of the person or organization for whom the flag was flown, the occasion for which it was flown, and the date upon which it was flown.
* While it varies, flags and certificates are typically shipped three to six weeks after they have been flown.
* *Always contact your senator’s office with any questions regarding your flag request, as they will know the exact procedure as they prefer to follow it.*

**GUIDELINES FOR REQUESTING AN AMERICAN FLAG(s) FLOWN OVER THE PENTAGON**

1. The requestor must provide the flag. All requests must be submitted 15 business days in advance, or the least must be 5 business days from date of receipt (if you are mailing the flag(s) please add on an additional week).
2. Each returned flag will be accompanied by a certificate verifying the date upon which the flag was flown along with the person's name and the occasion for which the flag was flown (the certificate only has 3 lines which holds 32 characters including spaces). The requestor (without Pentagon access) must provide within the package return postage from the post office or another requestor pre-paid shipping method (i.e. FedEx or UPS Air Bill with an account number, must also provide return packaging or postage stamps) for the flag and certificate to be returned. (The Pentagon Force Protection Agency (PFPA) cannot accept cash, money orders or checks for the return postage. PFPA is not responsible for providing return postage.)
3. The requestor will be notified immediately to arrange for shipping if return postage or another paid shipping method is not received with the flag so that the flag and certificate can be returned. If additional postage is due, you will be notified upon delivery. (Due to limited space flag(s) cannot be held for more than 30 days from date of receipt.)
4. A typed or printed letter of request must accompany the flag and contain the following information:
	* The name of the person the flag is been flown for
	* The occasion the flag will be flown for, if any (e.g. retirements, anniversary, birthday, etc.)
	* The specific date the flag is requested to be flown on. If no date is specified, the flag will be flown 15 business days after receipt of the flag.
	* The point of contact’s name, address, and their telephone number (commercial and/or DSN) and email address.

Requestors with Pentagon access dropping off or picking up a flag may go directly to 5B890 between 0900-1230 and 1400-1600 Monday-Friday (excluding Federal Holidays) (703) 692-7842

**Submit the written request to:**

Pentagon Force Protection Agency
Program Integration Directorate, Room 5B890
9000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-9000

**US Postal Service Certificates of Recognition**

The United States Postal Service has a newly designed recognition certificate for presentation to new Eagle Scouts. The certificate shows the USPS logo and the (old) BAS logo. What makes this certificate special is a reproduction of the $.03 Boy Scouts of America Commemorative stamp issued in 1950.

To obtain a certificate, send your request, listing the name of the new Eagle Scout, to: MS Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General/CEO, US Postal Service, 475 L’Enfant Plaza SW, Washington DC 20260-0010

**US Fish and Wildlife Service Certificates of Recognition**

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has recognition certificates for presentation to new Eagle Scout, and Venturing Silver, Ranger, and Sea Scout Quartermaster Award recipients.

The certificates are pdf files that can be filled out on line, and locally printed.

**Eagle Congratulation Letters**

When sending notes to people asking for letters of commendation, please include:

* The Scouts FULL NAME (not just "Sparky" or "Jimmy" but "Samuel James Jackson" or "James Ray Morrison")
* The UNIT NUMBER and COUNCIL NAME (the Unit number is that number his left shoulder; the Council name appears on the patch right above it), and
* A SHORT DESCRIPTION of the Service Project led by and completed as a requirement for the award.
* It is also courteous to include a self addressed stamped envelope when writing to private individuals or organizations. That is usually not necessary when writing to government officials.

Many people writing a letter to acknowledge an Eagle Scout would also like to know how the person earned the badge. But don't only discuss his Service Project. Give some information about the Scout and his activities. This gives them more than just a "congratulations, Johnny, on your achievement" line and can allow the letter to be a bit more personalized than boilerplate letters.  In this regard, here is what our resident Commissioner "Andy McCommish" wrote on his "Ask Andy" blog after he got a request for a letter to a new Eagle Scout.

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| I've just received another letter inviting me to a court of honor for your troop's newest Eagle Scout - the most recent in a string of several hundred in the past ten years alone. Your letter lauds this Scout's service project and gives great detail of all the work done. Inevitably, however, and like all others preceding it, the letter - except for time, date, and location - stops there. To the uninitiated, it would seem that attaining the rank of Eagle solely involves a community service project of some kind. To others, including myself, there's disappointment: It's as if the coffee-after-dessert is all I get; there's no mention of the preceding courses all of which have led up to this.Where, I wonder, is a description of what this young man has learned about citizenship and his role in his community, nation, and the world at large. Will I not learn that he's now skilled in first aid and has the ability to save life on both land and in the water, or has developed and carried out a mobilization plan for his troop in an emergency situation? How many miles has he hiked and backpacked; how many camping trips has he taken, and where has he gone? How has he developed and honed his communication and leadership skills both among his peers who have elected him to lead, and how has he learned to be a responsible team member when called upon?This young man has led his patrol and troop in significant ways for extended periods, yet I learn nothing of these roles. Nor do I learn how he has developed his physical and mental fitness in this preparation for his future life. Can he handle a canoe? A sailboat? Can he survive in the wilderness by himself - a skill few outside of Scouting know anything at all about? Does he know firearms safety? Has he grown as a member of his own family? Does he know how to protect himself and other youth, if necessary, from bullying and other forms of abuse? Can he manage money and a budget? What does he know of ecology and - today's buzzword - sustainability? What explorations into subjects only Scouts get to choose from has he made? Does he know what to do if confronted by a snake bite, or contact with a poisonous plant? Does he know the flora and fauna of the region he lives in? Has his service project developed not only his leadership skills but also his knowledge of project planning, including "sweating the details." How does he live the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life? What are his aspirations for his own future?Tell me about his life beyond Scouting. What has he accomplished for himself scholastically and in team and individual sports? What of his religious life?Has he been recommended for this rank by his teachers or principal, his employers, his religious mentor?All of this and more ... absent. Instead of understanding the "whole" of this fine young man, I'm left with impressions of wood and gravel and plantings and such. There's no "three-dimensional image" of him here; he's done community service and that's all your letter tells me. Please tell me more. Please honor everything that this young man has accomplished for himself. Make that image "3D"! |

Remember that the purpose of a congratulatory letter is to honor the Scout and that each person you write may be getting many, many requests. This is not a race or a contest to see who can get the most letters. Often a few letters are more meaningful than a scrapbook full of letters that ends up on a shelf. Sometimes the best thing is a letter or two from an admired prominent person, a state official like a governor, a local official like a mayor, and letters from local prominent people that the Scout knows or who know the Scout.

Please pick and choose so that people who are willing to write a letter do not get overwhelmed and decide to stop accepting requests.

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| **US Government Officials****Due to security measures which can delay receipt of letters sent through the US Mail, we recommend using online forms or e-mail whenever possible when contacting US Government officials. For Congressional offices, mail to local offices frequently get a faster response than mail sent to the Capitol.** |
| President and Mrs. Donald TrumpThe White HouseAttn: Greetings Office1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NWWashington, D.C. 20500Use the online contact  form  [Request a Greeting](https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact) | Vice President and Mrs. Mike PenceOld Executive Office BuildingWashington, DC 20501 |
| **Cabinet Members** |
| Hon. George Ervin "Sonny" PerdueSecretary of Agriculture14th St. and Independence Ave., SWWashington, DC 20250e-mail: Click Here | Hon. Wilbur RossSecretary of Commerce14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NWWashington, DC 20230 |
| Hon. Mark EsperSecretary of Defense1000 Defense PentagonWashington, DC 20301 -1000 | Hon. Betsy DeVosSecretary of Education400 Maryland Ave., SWWashington, DC 20202-0100 |
| Hon. Rick PerrySecretary of Energy1000 Independence Ave., SWWashington, DC 20585 | Hon. Tom PriceSecretary of Health and Human Services200 Independence Ave., SWWashington, DC 20201 |
| Hon. Gen. John KellySecretary of Homeland SecurityWashington, DC 20528 | Hon. Dr. Ben CarsonSecretary of Housing and Urban Development451 7th St., SWWashington, DC 20410 |
| Hon. Ryan ZinkeSecretary of the Interior1849 C Street, NWWashington, DC 20240 | Hon. William BarrAttorney GeneralDepartment of Justice950 Pennsylvania Ave., NWWashington, DC 20530e-mail: Click Here |
| Hon. Alexander AcostaSecretary of Labor200 Constitution Ave., NWWashington, DC 20210 | Hon. Mike PompeoSecretary of State2201 C St., NWWashington, DC 20520 |
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| Hon Elaine ChaoSecretary of Transportation1200 New Jersey Ave, SEWashington, DC 20590e-mail: Click Here | Hon Steven MnuchinSecretary of the Treasury1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NWWashington, DC 20220 |
| Hon. David ShulkinSecretary of Veterans Affairs810 Vermont Ave., NWWashington, DC 20420 | Hon. Andrew WheelerAdministrator, US Environmental Protection Agency1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NWWashington, DC 20460 |
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| **Other Department of Defense Officials - Branch Secretaries and the Joint Chiefs of Staff** |
| Honorable Ryan D. McCarthy Secretary of the Army | Gen. Mark A. MilleyChief of Staff of the Army |
| Click here for an on-line application for letters from the Army Secretary and Chief of Staff<http://www.goarmy.com/ycr/>**(Mail applications will not be honored)** |
| Honorable Matthew Donovan Secretary of the Air Force | Gen. David L. GoldfeinChief of Staff of the Air Force |
| Click here for an on-line application for letters from the Air Force Secretary and Chief of Staff<https://scouts.airforce.com/> **(Mail applications will not be honored)** |
| Honorable Richard V. Spencer Secretary of the NavyThe PentagonWashington, DC 20350 | Adm. Michael M. GildayChief of Naval Operations2000 Navy PentagonWashington, DC 20350-2000 |
| Please include the full name of the scout, Troop number, date of Court of Honor ceremony and return address. In order to expedite your request, please consolidate multiple awardees into ONE (1) troop request. Please allow 4 - 5 weeks for processing. |
| Gen. Mark Milley US ArmyChairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff9999 Joint Staff PentagonWashington, D.C. 20318-9999 | Gen. John Hyten USAFVice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of StaffThe PentagonWashington, DC 20301 |
| Please include the full name of the scout, Troop number, date of honor ceremony and return address. Return postage is not required. In order to expedite your request, please consolidate multiple awardees into one (1) troop request. Due to mail handling procedures, allow 4 - 5 weeks for processing. |
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| Gen. Robert NellerCommandant of the Marine CorpsHeadquarters, US Marine Corps3000 Marine CorpsPentagonWashington, DC 20350-3000**Mail-in requests are no longer honored. To request a congratulatory letter for an Eagle Scout, please call 1-800-MAR-INES and ask for the closest recruiting station near you. The letter requests will be processed at the local recruiting station only.** | General Joseph L. LengyelChief of the National Guard Bureau The PentagonWashington, DC 20301 |

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| **Congress****For Congressional offices, due to security issues, mail to local offices will usually get a much faster response than mail sent to the Capitol.** |
| **House of Representatives** | **Senate** |
| Hon. Nancy Pelosi Speaker House of RepresentativesU.S. Capitol BuildingWashington, DC 20515[Click here for an on-line application](http://www.speaker.gov/greetings-request) | Hon. Charles GrassleyPresident Pro-TemporeU.S. SenateU.S. Capitol BuildingWashington, DC 20510 |
| Hon. Steny Hoyer Majority Leader House of RepresentativesU.S. Capitol BuildingWashington, DC 20515 | Hon. Mitch McConnellMajority LeaderU.S. SenateU.S. Capitol BuildingWashington, DC 20510 |
| Hon. Kevin MCarthyMinority Leader House of RepresentativesU.S. Capitol BuildingWashington, DC 20515 | Hon. Charles E. SchumerMinority LeaderU.S. SenateU.S. Capitol BuildingWashington, DC 20510 |
| For other Congressmen (Representatives), check the official [US House of Representatives web site](http://www.house.gov/representatives/) for the address to use, which will be in the form:Hon. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ House Office BuildingWashington, DC 20515or simply address your letter to:Hon. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_U.S. House of RepresentativesWashington, DC 20515There is no central listing of  public e-mail addresses for House members. If a member has a public e-mail address, it can be found on the member's website, or there may be a form which can be used directly on the member's website. | For other Senators, check the official [US Senate web site](http://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/) for the address to use, which will be in the form:Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Senate Office BuildingWashington, DC 20510or simply address your letter to:Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_U.S. SenateWashington, DC 20510e-mail addresses: [Click Here](http://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/) |
|  |  |
| **Other Government Officials and Programs** |
| Adm. Paul ZukunftCommandant, U.S. Coast Guard,2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SEWashington, DC 20593 | Hon. Jay ClaytonChairmanSecurities and Exchange Commission450 Fifth Street, NWWashington, DC 20549 |
| Mr. Christopher WrayFederal Bureau of Investigation935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NWWashington, DC 20535 | Hon. Nikki HaleyUnited States Representative to the United NationsUnited States Mission to the United Nations 799 United Nations PlazaNew York, N.Y. 10017 |
| United States Military AcademyWest Point, NY 10996[Click here for an on-line application](https://candidate.usma.edu/guest/scouts/)(Mail applications will not be honored) | US Air Force Academy[Click here](http://www.usafa.af.mil/Leadership/PublicAffairs/ScoutingInformation.aspx) then click on the link for "Scout Recognition Certificate" for an on-line application |
| United States Naval Academy**The US Naval Academy is no longer able to respond to requests.** | United States Coast Guard Academy31 Mohegan AvenueNew London, CT 06320-8103[Click here for a link to generate a printable certificate](http://www.uscga.edu/tier3.aspx?ekfrm=6650&terms=Eagle%20Scout) |
| National Park Service Youth ProgramsPlease [click here](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/eagle-scout.htm) to download the Eagle Scout Certificate of Recognition. **Please note that mailed requests are no longer accepted.** | Vice Admiral Vivek H. Murthy, MDSurgeon General of the U.S.Public Health ServiceDept of Health and Human ServicesRockville MD 20857 |

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| **Past Presidents and Vice Presidents** |
| President and Mrs. Jimmy CarterThe Carter Center453 Freedom ParkwayAtlanta, GA 30307Attn: Correspondence OfficePresident Carter wants all requests in writing to the above address, or by FAX to: (404) 331-0283 | President and Mrs. George H. W. Bush10000 Memorial Drive, Suite 900Houston, TX 77024 |
| President and Mrs. George W. BushPost Office Box 259000Dallas, Texas 75225-9000 |
| President William J. Clinton and Hon. Hillary Rodham Clinton55 West 125th StreetNew York, NY 10027-4516 | President Barack H. Obamaand Mrs. Michelle ObamaP.O. Box 91000Washington, DC 20066[www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com/) |
| Vice President Joseph Biden The Biden FoundationP.O. Box 65464Washington, DC 20035-5464 | Vice President Al Gore3810 Bedford AvenueSuite 250Nashville, TN 37215 |

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| **Governors** |
| Gov. Doug DuceyOffice of the Governor 1700 West WashingtonPhoenix, AZ 85007 |

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| **Other Prominent People and Organizations** |
| NASAPublic Communications OfficeNASA HeadquartersSuite 5K39Washington, DC 20546-0001SA**NASA has an on-line form which can be used to request Eagle Letters of Recognition at**<http://www.nasa.gov/about/contact/boy_scout_page.html> | Veterans of Foreign Wars National HeadquartersAttn: VFW Programs Department406 West 34th StreetKansas City, MO 64111Fax: (816) 968-1149**Please allow a minimum of one month advance notice.** |
| Mayor Rudolph W. Giulianic/o Giuliani Partners, LLC200 Park Avenue39th FloorNew York, NY 10166 | Mr. Steven SpielbergDreamWorks100 Universal City PlazaUniversal City, California 91608We have had reports that requests have not been honored recently. |
| U.S. Coast Guard AuxiliarySee the information on their web page by clicking on this link:<http://auxbdeptwiki.cgaux.org/index.php/Eagle_and_Quartermaster_Recognition>Then send an e-mail with the appropriate information to:stephan.reckie@cgauxnet.us(Mail applications will not be honored) | Rush LimbaughThe Rush Limbaugh Show1270 Avenue of the AmericasNew York, NY 10020email: ElRushbo@eibnet.com |
| His Holiness, Pope FrancisApostolic Nunciature3339 Massachusetts Ave., NWWashington, DC 20008-3687 | Mr. Bill GatesMicrosoft Corporation1 Microsoft WayRedmond, WA 98052-6399 |
| Sons of the American Revolution809 W. Main St.Louisville, KY 40202To request an Eagle Scout letter of commendation and or certificate of recognition for an Eagle Court of Honor, please visit the SAR website and contact the state Eagle Scout chairman from your state. Writing directly to the national office address above will delay the response.  See: <https://www.sar.org/education/youth-contests-awards/arthur-m-berdena-king-eagle-scout-award>The SAR also presents the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Scholarship awards. Three national-level scholarships are awarded: $10,000 (first place), $6,000 (first runner-up), and $4,000 (second runner-up); prizes may also be awarded at the state and local levels. | American LegionPO Box 1055Indianapolis, IN 46206Certificates are available online using this procedure:1) Go to [www.legion.org/scouting/certificates](http://www.legion.org/scouting/certificates)2) Log into or create a Legion.org account to access the forms for the BSA Certificate3) Enter the requested information4) Fill in and/or download the BSA Certificate of Appreciation5) Print it using a color printer with margins set to narrow |
| Military Order of the World Wars435 North Lee StreetAlexandria, VA 22314-2301See information on ordering their certificate at:<http://www.moww.org/file.aspx?DocumentId=2073> |
| Benevolent and Protective Order of ElksATTN: Ms. Pat Dempsey 2750 Lakeview AvenueChicago, IL 60614-1889 email: patriciad@elks.org | AMVETS National HeadquartersAttn: Programs Department4647 Forbes Blvd.Lanham, Maryland 20706[Download the required request form (PDF)](http://www.amvets.org/pdfs/programs_pdfs/eagle_scout_form.pdf) |
| United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.PO Box 3870Silverdale, WA 98383-3870**The USSVI requests 3 weeks advance notice and requires a specific form. Download the application form from their web site at:**<https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Awards_Programs_Scout-application-for-recognition.doc> | Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War1 Lincoln Circle at Reservoir ParkSuite 240 (Nat. Civil War Museum)Harrisburg, PA 17103-2411**The SUVCW requests 45 days advance notice and requires a specific form, sent to them by email. See the instructions and download and print the application form from their web site at:**<http://suvcw.org/eagle/> |
| Marine Corps LeagueP.O. Box 3070Merrifield, VA 22116-3070 | Moose InternationalCommunity Service Dept.Mooseheart, IL 60539-1126 |
| Ms. Rosalyn Farb, Senior Vice PresidentWendy's Corporate Communications4288 W. Dublin, Granville Rd.Dublin OH 43017 | East Tennessee State UniversityMilitary Science DepartmentEnrollment and Scholarship OfficerP.O. Box 70648Johnson City, TN 37614 |
| Les Stroud Productions Inc. (Survivorman)51 King William StreetP.O. Box 30008Huntsville, Ontario P1H 0B5Canada | Supreme LodgeKnights of Pythias458 Pearl StreetStoughton, MA 02072-1655(certificate & patch - $5.00 fee required)[Click here for the form to fill out and return](http://www.pythias.org/scouts/Request%20an%20Eagle%20Certificate.pdf) |
|  |  |
| National Rifle AssociationAttn: Eagle Scout CoordinatorYouth Programs111250 Waples Mill RoadFairfax, VA 22030Fax: 703-267-3999**The NRA requests 1 month advance notice and now has an online form on their web site at:**<http://youth.nra.org/request-for-eagle-scout-certificate.aspx> | Hon. Condoleezza Ricec/o Stanford UniversityDepartment of Political Science616 Serra St., Room 100Stanford, CA 94305-6044 |
| **For Islamic Scouts:**ISLAMIC COUNCIL ON SCOUTING OF NORTH AMERICANational Islamic Committee on ScoutingP. O. Box 857Edison NJ 08818Info@islamicscouting.comTel: (732)-801-1283 |
| **For Catholic Scouts:**Knights of Columbus HeadquartersDepartment of Fraternal Services1 Columbus PlazaNew Haven, CT 06510(203) 752-4270 | **For Latter-day Saints Scouts:**The Young Men's General PresidencyThe Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints47 East South Temple StSalt Lake City UT 84150-1700 |
| **For Baptist Scouts:**Association of Baptists for Scoutingpresident@baptistscouters.org | **Please do NOT include a self addressed stamped envelope.** |
| **For Jewish Scouts:**National Jewish Committee on Scoutingc/o The Relationships Division - S326Boy Scouts of AmericaPO Box 152079Irving, TX 75015-2079[http://www.jewishscouting.org](http://www.jewishscouting.org/) |
| **For Jewish Scouts:**Rabbi Steven WernickExecutive Vice PresidentUnited Synagogue of Conservative Judaism820 Second AvenueNew York, NY 10017-4504 | **For Jewish Scouts:**Chancellor Arnold M. Eisen Jewish Theological Seminary of America3080 Broadway New York, NY 10027 |
|  |  |
| **For Jewish Scouts:**Rabbi Judah Isaacs Director of Synagogue ServicesOrthodox Union Eleven Broadway New York, NY 10004 | **For Jewish Scouts:**National Council of Young Israel 50 Eisenhower Drive, Suite 102, Paramus, NJ 07652 |
| **For Jewish Scouts:**Mr. Greg Byrne Jewish War Veterans of the United States 1811 R Street NW Washington, DC 20009 | **For Jewish Scouts:**Rabbi Rick JacobsPresident Union for Reform Judaism633 Third Avenue New York, NY 10017-6778 |

**If a name or organization has been removed from this list, it is because we have had specific requests to NOT send letters to them.
In particular, the following people and groups have asked that they be removed:**

**The Central Intelligence Agency, The Justices of the US Supreme Court, NASA Johnson Space Center /Astronaut Office,
US Air Force Recruiting Service, US Air Force Thunderbirds, Civil Air Patrol Headquarters, US Naval Academy,
The Boeing Corp., The Cato Institute, Dr. William J. Bennett, Pat Boone, William F. Buckley,  The Joy Cone Company,
J. Willard Marriot, Allan H. "Bud" Selig, Mr. James R. Moffett.**

**The Eagle Scout Service / NESA no longer provides congratulatory letters from James A. Lovell.**

**Mike Rowe (star of Dirty Jobs) no longer sends personalized copies of his letter,**[**Click here**](http://mikerowe.com/2017/02/otw-completely-transparent-totally-honest-eagle-scout-congratulatory-form-letter/)**for details)**. However, you can download a copy of his **"Completely Transparent, Totally Honest, Eagle Scout Congratulatory Form Letter"** and fill in the blanks, by clicking here: <http://mikerowe.com/about-mike/eagle-scout-letter/>

**Eagle Scout Court of Honor – Example 1**

As the guests enter the Sanctuary, Boy Scouts of Troop hand out programs and usher guests to their seats. All speakers, participants, and their spouses are seated in a special area prior to the opening.

**Opening Ceremony:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SPL: "Would everyone please stand for the presentation of our Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance."

(Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack march in and take their places by patrols)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SPL: Once the Color Guard reaches the front of the Sanctuary and is in place, he calls "Hand Salute" and leads the Pledge of Allegiance. The colors are posted; he asks the audience to "Please be seated". He then dismisses the Color Guard "Color Guard, dismissed", and follows them to the back of the Sanctuary where they then quietly proceed to their seats.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SM: "Scouts, Scouters, and friends of Scouting, I would like to welcome you to this Eagle Court of Honor. This is an occasion for pride and joy, as well as a time for serious reflection. The Eagle is the highest recognition that Scouting offers to Scouts. It is earned through the advancement program, and only a small percentage of boys who begin in Scouting receive this honor. The wearer of the Eagle award is the epitome of Scouting's best efforts and beliefs. Tonight, we have the pleasure of seeing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ climax his Scouting efforts when he joins the company of Eagle Scouts.

**Invocation**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: delivers the Invocation.

**Introduction of special guests in attendance.**

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**Significance of the Eagle Badge**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The presentation of the Eagle Scout Award is an important and serious matter. For the Eagle candidate, this is the climax in his Scouting efforts. The attainment of this award is made possible through the assistance of those with the candidate tonight -- his Scoutmasters, Troop leaders, fellow Scouts, parents, family, friends, and members of the community. This is an occasion for pride and joy, as well as a time for serious reflection."

The Eagle is the highest recognition offered in Scouting. It is earned through the advancement program. The wearer of the Eagle award is the embodiment of Scouting's best efforts and beliefs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has distinguished himself through his continued performance of active service in Scouting. He is trained and practiced in his leadership abilities. And, he is marked by the character gained through an understanding of his citizenship and religious beliefs. It is important that each of us understands the meaning of the Eagle Badge."

The Eagle Honor Guard speaks from the rear of the sanctuary:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The appeal of the majestic eagle has been felt by every great people from prehistoric times to the present day. To the Egyptians, the eagle was the messenger of the gods and the sun, a symbol of eternal life. To the Romans, he was the carrier of Jupiter's thunderbolts and a sign of power. To American Indians he stood as the incentive to valor and the pledge of victory. For us today, the eagle is the living symbol of all courageous and freedom-aspiring Americans. When the Eagle Scout badge was designed in 1912, it was decided that a small silver eagle would be suspended from a tricolor ribbon of red, white, and blue. So it remains today."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The foremost responsibility of an Eagle Scout is to live with honor. To an Eagle Scout, honor is the foundation of all character. He knows that 'a Scout is trustworthy' is the very first point of the Scout Law for a good reason. An Eagle Scout lives honorably, not only because honor is important to him, but because of the vital significance of the example he sets for other scouts. Living honorably reflects credit on his home, his church, his troop, and his community. May the white of the Eagle Badge remind you to always live with honor." The white candle is lit

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The second obligation of an Eagle Scout is loyalty. A Scout is true to his family, scout leaders, friends, school, and nation. His loyalty to his troop and brother scouts makes him pitch in and carry his share of the load. All of these help to build the loyalty which means devotion to community, to country, to one's own ideals, and to God. Let the blue of the Eagle Badge always inspire your loyalty." The blue candle is lit.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The third obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be courageous. Courage has always been a quality by which men measure themselves and others. To a scout, bravery means not only the courage to face physical danger, but the determination to stand up for the right. Trusting in God, with faith in his fellow man, he looks forward to each day, seeking his share of the world's work to do. Let the red of the Eagle Badge remind you always of courage." The red candle is lit

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: The fourth obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be cheerful. To remind the Eagle Scout to always wear a smile, the red, white, and blue ribbon is attached to the scroll of the Second Class Scout award, which has its ends turned up in a smile."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The final responsibility of an Eagle Scout is service. The Eagle Scout is service. The Eagle Scout extends a helping hand to those who still toil up Scouting's trail, just as others helped him in his climb to the Eagle. The performance of the daily good turn takes on a new meaning when he enters a more adult life of continuing service to others. The Eagle stands as protector of the weak and helpless. He aids and comforts the unfortunate and the oppressed. He upholds the rights of others while defending his own. He will always 'be prepared' to put forth his best."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "You are deserving of much credit in having achieved Scouting's highest award. However, wear your award with humility, ever mindful that the Eagle Scout is looked up to as an example. May the Scout Oath and the Scout Law be your guide for tomorrow and onward."

**Convening of the National Court of Honor**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "By the authority vested in me as a representative of the Grand Canyon Council and the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, I declare this Court of Honor to be convened."

"The Scouting movement constitutes one of the most wholesome and significant influences in the world today. Many successful, well-known persons are Eagle Scouts -- a former President of the United States, a film director whose films have won world-wide acclaim, most of the original astronauts, and several outstanding sports personalities. The Eagle candidate whose efforts culminate this evening in the presentation of the Eagle badge, has labored long to enter this brotherhood. He will assume even greater responsibilities to the ideals of honor and service. When he pledges himself on his sacred honor, he will be sealing his loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout with the words which closed the Declaration of Independence."

"Honor Guard, please escort before this Court of Honor Life Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, where he will be prepared to receive the Eagle Scout Award."

**(After the Honor Guard returns to their seats he continues)**

**Reaffirmation of Candidate to the Scout Oath Principles**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "All along the trail of achievement, your scoutmasters have given you advice and encouragement. I call upon your Scoutmaster, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to vouch for you tonight. "Sir, before presenting your Scout the Eagle Award, we would like to have your assurance that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been faithful in serving his troop, in giving leadership to its scouts, in practicing the principles of the Scout Oath and Law, and in practicing the good turn in his daily life. Based upon these qualifications, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SM, is your Scout entitled to the honor the Eagle badge represents?"

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SM: "Yes, sir, he is."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Eagle candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, what promise did you take when you became a Tenderfoot Scout?"

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "The Scout Oath, sir."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Is there any reason why you should not renew that promise now?"

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "There is not, sir."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Then I ask you to now give the Scout Oath as you rededicate yourself to its principles."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (Gives the Scout Sign and repeats the Scout Oath)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "You have just recommitted yourself to the principles of the Scout Oath. You now have a new, more intense obligation to your church, your community, and your troop. The knowledge you have gained in all areas of scouting will better enable you to be prepared for the future and its challenges. The Scout Motto of 'be prepared' now takes on special meaning."

"Before the Eagle Award is bestowed upon you, I am going to ask the Honor Guard to escort your mother and father to your side."

"Eagle Candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, "Your mother has undoubtedly been your greatest source of inspiration in your quest for the Eagle Award, and your father has undoubtedly been a primary source of help in your Scout work. They have helped you carry the standards of your award to the highest peak of attainment, since the very best is expected of an Eagle Scout in exemplary conduct, character, achievement, and leadership ability.

"Eagle Candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, it is now my pleasure to introduce Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to deliver to you the Eagle Charge."

**Eagle Charge:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Scouts of all nations make up one of the most wholesome and significant movements in the world's history. You have been judged by the Boy Scouts of America as being worthy of this honor. All who know you rejoice in your achievement. This award, as you will know, is one of honor and responsibility. You are a marked man. As an Eagle Scout, you have assumed a solemn obligation to do your duty to God, to Country, to your fellow Scouts, and to mankind in general. This is a great undertaking. As you live up to your obligations you bring honor to yourself and to your brother Scouts."

"America has many good things to give you and your children after you; but these good things depend for the most part on the quality of her citizens. Our country has had a great past. You can help make the future even greater."

"I charge you to undertake your citizenship with a solemn dedication. Be a leader, but lead only toward the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you hold to the highest level of service to God and to your fellow man."

"So live and serve, that those who know you will be inspired to finer living. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their hearts, hands, skills, and abilities to the common good. Help to build America's future by continuing to set an example of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship and reverence for God, whatever others may do. You will leave behind you a record of which you may be justly proud."

"Eagle Candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I charge you to enter this Eagle Scout brotherhood holding without reservation and ever before you the ideals of honor and service. By the repetition of the Eagle Scout promise before your fellow members, you will become an Eagle Scout. When you pledge yourself on your sacred honor, you will be sealing your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout with the same words which closed the Declaration of Independence."

"Will all Eagle Scouts here tonight please join me in the Eagles nest and renew your Eagle Scout promise as\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ joins our brotherhood? (Pause) Scout sign; repeat after me;"

"I reaffirm my allegiance .... to the three promises of the Scout Oath .... I thoughtfully recognize .... and take upon myself .... the obligations and responsibilities .... of an Eagle Scout. .... On my honor, I will do my best .... to make my training an example .... and my status and my influence .... count strongly for better Scouting .... and for better citizenship .... in my troop, .... in my community, .... and in my contacts with other people. .... To this I pledge my sacred honor." “Two…. you may be seated.”

Your conduct along the trail has been excellent. You have rededicated yourself to the principles of Scouting. But one more thing is important ... your future." "As an Eagle Scout, you become a guide to other Scouts. You become an example in your community. Remember that your actions are now a little more conspicuous and people will expect more of you. To falter in your responsibility would reflect not only on you, but on your fellow Eagles and all of Scouting. The torch you carry is not only yours, but it is also ours."

**Presentation of Award:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Life Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we are finally at that point you have been waiting for. Having confirmed all readiness for the reception of this award, it is now time to formally present this high badge of accomplishment."

"By the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege and pleasure to pronounce you an Eagle Scout. May the Oath you have taken always remain with you."

"No words of this Court of Honor could do justice to the devotion and patient perseverance with which your Scoutmaster has helped you towards worthy manhood. Only from his hands could you receive your Eagle award at this moment. Will Scoutmaster \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pin the badge on this new Eagle Scout?"

"In recognition of fatherly advice and guidance along the trail to Eagle, the court will now ask this Eagle to present his father with a miniature Eagle pin.

No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout which have led us to this night. As the symbol of what his mother has made possible, the court will now ask this Eagle to present his mother with a miniature Eagle pin.

Immediate past Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will present you with your Eagle neckerchief.

"May I congratulate you again, and may I remind you that Scouting should now become an even greater tie between son and parents, binding you even more closely as a family. To you, Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I express confidence that you will honor Scouting with your life and service as tonight Scouting honors you. That God may bless you and make you a blessing is our prayer."

"Honor Guard, please escort \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_'s parents to their seats."

(As the Honor Guard is seating the parents, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moves to the microphone and continues ...)

**Special Recognition:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "It gives me great pleasure to introduce Mr.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, our Chartered Organization Representative who will present those with special recognitions for the new Eagle Scout."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (says a few words on behalf of the sponsoring organization, and introduces the following people)

Committee Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dignitaries \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(When presentations are complete, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moves back to the microphone for Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to make is closing remarks.

**Closing**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "I congratulate you as an Eagle Scout. The eagle soars high and seeks to rest only upon the lofty peaks. As an Eagle Scout, you too must soar high. You must not swerve from the path of duty. Your ideals must be lofty. You must strive to obtain that which is the highest and noblest in life."

"I hereby close this Eagle Court of Honor.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: gives the benediction.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Color guard retires the colors.

Honor Guard: Escorts parents out. All remaining Boy Scouts follow, then Cub Scouts. Receiving line is formed in Fellowship Hall.

**Order of the Arrow Ceremony – Example 2**
This ceremony is appropriate if the Eagle Candidate is an active member of the Order of the Arrow.

**SETTING:**

A ceremonial campfire as a backdrop. Six OA Ceremonialist enter either in silence or chanting in a low voice from backstage or from the rear of the audience if no stage is available. The four winds stand on one side, Allowat Sakima is at center stage, and Kichkinet off to the side near the candidate.

**CEREMONY:**

**ALLOWAT:** I have led my braves to the summit of this mountain in a long journey from our camp to show you the rewards of your climb along the trail. When you began this trip as a young Boy Scout of many years ago you had this mountain top as your goal. You now have reached the summit, the realm of the Eagles. Before admitting you into honored membership, we must first hear the story of your long climb along the Eagle trail.

**KICHKINET:** This Scout, after reaching the First Class rank, has worked diligently and has sought experts who gave him valuable counsel on many subjects. He has been given advice and encouragement along the trail by capable leaders.

**ALLOWAT:** Before admitting this Scout to the realm of the Eagles, I must have assurance that he has been faithful in serving his troop. Also, has he put into practice giving leadership to younger Scouts, and that he is entitled to wear the wings of the Eagle. Mr. Scoutmaster, has your Eagle candidate met these qualifications?

**SCOUTMASTER:** Yes, he has.

**ALLOWAT:** Scout [ Scout's name], you have worked hard to achieve the rank of Eagle, but listen first to the wisdom of the winds.

**EAST WIND:** I am the spirit of the East Wind. I represent the common law, your duty to God and to country. Trustworthy, loyal, and helpful, are the qualities that a man must possess who lives by the laws of this land. See that you do not lose the great blessing of a lawful land.

**WEST WIND:** As the spirit of the West Wind. I represent the law of equity, your duty to country and others, friendly, courteous, and kind are the laws that breathe of conscience. They create the atmosphere that comes from within your heart; the desire for you always to be friends to those of all ages, young and old. Be courteous to those who pass along your trail. Cast away the harmful spirit of the unfriendliness and selfishness.

**SOUTH WIND:** I am the spirit of the South Wind. I represent civil law, your duty to others and to self. Obedient, cheerful and thrifty are the character of civility. A life of cheerful obedience is necessary for the development of a true citizen. Obedience is something we all must learn, to take orders and carry them out cheerfully. Real thrift means earning, spending wisely and saving, and to share with that less fortunate.

**NORTH WIND:** I am the spirit of the North Wind, the most powerful of all, I represent the divine law, your duty to be brave, clean, and reverent. To be brave is to be unselfish. To be clean in body and soul is to be pure in heart. Cast from your mind and body any evil spirits that try to weaken or destroy the divine law, live a life of reverence. Be always brave, clean, and reverent.

**ALLOWAT:** Through your climb up the Scouting trail, the badges have changed as your abilities grew. One pledge remained unchanged, the Scout Oath. Is there any reason why you as a new Eagle cannot renew this promise which you first made as a new Scout.

**CANDIDATE:** No.

**ALLOWAT:** Then please stand and with the Scout sign, recite the Scout Oath, slowly and clearly.

**CANDIDATE:** (Repeat the Scout Oath slowly.)

**ALLOWAT:** Scouting has been a great influence in your life. It has supplemented the effect of your home, your church, and your school. You climbed through the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class.

**KICHKINET:** Then additional merit badges allowed you to be a Star Scout, while still more and harder ones found you wearing the heart of a Life Scout. More time and harder requirements found you adding to your qualifications until now you have reached the highest rank in the Scouting movement, the Eagle Rank.

**ALLOWAT:** Without the love and guidance of understanding parents, a boy is severely handicapped. Your parents have watched you grow and develop. They have worked with you in health, nursed you in sickness, guided your thoughts and actions, and helped you in untold ways. Your Adult Leaders have been a strength to lean on. One of them was always there in times of trouble and for help. Your home influence will last throughout your life. I ask your parents to stand beside you as a symbol that they will continue to help the young Eagle to grow in the qualities of leadership and citizenship that a true Eagle must have.

**(The four winds escort the parents to the candidate's side.)**
**KICHKINET:** As a token of your willingness to continue your support for this young Eagle, I ask Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to pin the Eagle badge on your son.

Eagle Scout [ Scout's name], you have seen that your mother plans to standby you in the future. Do you now promise to do your best as an Eagle Scout?

**CANDIDATE:** Yes.

**KICHKINET:** Then you now have the honor to pin a miniature Eagle pin on your mother.

To let everyone know you are truly a proud Eagle Scout, I ask your father, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to place the Eagle Neckerchief around your neck.

Eagle Scout [ Scout's name], you have seen that your father plans to standby you in the future. Do you promise to follow the Scout Law as an Eagle Scout?

**CANDIDATE:** Yes.

**KICHKINET:** Then you have the honor to give your father the miniature Eagle Tie Pin.

**ALLOWAT:** As Ceremonial Chief, I now call upon Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to give the new Eagle the charge.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (Any of the many charges may be used.)

(When the charge is finished, the four winds step up to the new Eagle Scout, one at a time, and tap him on the right shoulder three times, as Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reads.)

Always remember Eagle Scout [ Scout's name], the words of the EAST WIND, to be TRUSTWORTHY, LOYAL, and HELPFUL. The words of the WEST WIND, tells one to be FRIENDLY, COURTEOUS, and KIND. The words of the SOUTH WIND urges one to be OBEDIENT, CHEERFUL, and THRIFTY. Finally, the words of the NORTH WIND, the most powerful of all admonishes, one to be BRAVE, CLEAN and REVERENT.

(Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ returns to his seat.)

**ALLOWAT:** I now welcome you, Eagle Scout [ Scout's name], to the summit of your trail. the Eagle is strong and powerful, and flies unblinking into the face of the sun. He soars high and builds on a pinnacle. You must not swerve from your duties as an Eagle.

Will the audience please rise.

(KICHKINET, and the FOUR WINDS raise both their hands.)

We now call upon the Great Spirit of all, for his blessing on this new Eagle Scout. May he always strive to attain the noblest and highest ideals of life. Be his strength and his guide. Cause him to follow a straight trail and to never be a reason for other Scouts to waver from their path. Protect him for many moons to come. May the Great Master of all Scouts be with us until our trails cross again.

(Ceremonialists walk back from whence they came, and the Scoutmaster takes over to start the congratulations.)

**Special Recognition:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "It gives me great pleasure to introduce Mr.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, our Chartered Organization Representative who will present those with special recognitions for the new Eagle Scout."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (says a few words on behalf of the sponsoring organization, and introduces the following people)

Committee Chairman, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dignitaries \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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(When presentations are complete, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moves back to the microphone for Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to make is closing remarks.

**Closing**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "I congratulate you as an Eagle Scout. The eagle soars high and seeks to rest only upon the lofty peaks. As an Eagle Scout, you too must soar high. You must not swerve from the path of duty. Your ideals must be lofty. You must strive to obtain that which is the highest and noblest in life."

"I hereby close this Eagle Court of Honor.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: gives the benediction.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Color guard retires the colors.

Honor Guard: Escorts parents out. All remaining Boy Scouts follow, then Cub Scouts. Receiving line is formed in Fellowship Hall.



**Eagle Scout Challenge**

The foremost responsibility of an Eagle Scout is to live with honor. To an Eagle Scout, honor is the foundation of all character. He knows that "A Scout is trustworthy" is the very first point of the Scout Law for a good reason. An Eagle Scout lives honorably, not only because honor is important to him but because of the vital significance of the example he sets for other Scouts. Living honorably reflects credit on his home, his church, his troop, and his community. May the white of the Eagle badge remind you to always live with honor.

The second obligation of an Eagle Scout is loyalty. A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, school, and nation. His loyalty to his troop and brother Scouts makes him pitch in and carry his share of the load. All of these help to build the loyalty which means devotion to community, to country, to one's own ideals, and to God. Let the blue of the Eagle badge always inspire your loyalty.

The third obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be courageous. Courage has always been a quality by which men measure themselves and others. To a Scout, bravery means not only the courage to face physical danger, but the determination to stand up for the right. Trusting in God, with faith in his fellowman, he looks forward to each day, seeking his share of the world's work to do. Let the red of the Eagle badge remind you always of courage.

The fourth obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be cheerful. To remind the Eagle Scout to always wear a smile, the red, white, and blue ribbon is attached to the scroll of the Second Class Scout award, which has its ends turned up in a smile.

The final responsibility of an Eagle Scout is service. The Eagle Scout extends a helping hand to those who still toil up Scouting's trail, just as others helped him in his climb to the Eagle. The performance of the daily Good Turn takes on a new meaning when he enters a more adult life of continuing service to others. The Eagle stands as protector of the weak and helpless. He aids and comforts the unfortunate and the oppressed. He upholds the rights of others while defending his own. He will always "Be Prepared" to put forth his best.

You deserve much credit for having achieved Scouting's highest award. But wear your award with humility, ever mindful that the Eagle Scout is looked up to as an example. May the Scout Oath and the Scout Law be your guide for tomorrow and onward



**Eagle Scout Charge**

I have the honor to give you the Eagle Scout charge on the occasion of your elevation to the highest rank in Scouting.

The Boy Scouts of all nations constitute one of the most wholesome and significant movements in the world's history and you have been counted worthy of this high rank in the Boy Scouts of America.

All who know you rejoice in your achievement. Your position, as you well know, is one of honor and responsibility. You are a marked man. As an Eagle Scout you have assumed a solemn obligation to do your duty to god to country, to your fellow Scouts and to mankind in general. This is a great undertaking.

As you live up to your obligations you bring honor to yourself and to your brother Scouts. Your responsibility goes beyond your fellow Scouts to your country and your god. America has many good things to give you and your children after you; but these things depend for the most part on the quality of her citizens.

Our country has had a great past. You are here to make the future greater. I charge you to undertake your citizenship with a solemn dedication. Be a leader, but, lead only towards the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you hold to the high level of service to god and to your fellow man. So live and serve that these who know you, will be inspired to the finest living. We have too many who use their strength and their brains to exploit others and to gain selfish ends. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their skills and ability to the common good. Build America on the solid foundations of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship and reverence for god and, whatever others say or may do, you leave behind you a record of which every Scout may be justly proud.

On behalf of the Court of Honor of the ----------------- Council, Boy Scouts of America, with the high hope that you will always represent the finest of character and citizenship, we welcome you into the brotherhood of Eagle Scouts and congratulate you, your parents and your Scout leaders.

***Please note that many forms/variations of this are used. No single charge is considered to be the "right" one.***

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**I Am The Eagle**

I am the Eagle.

Since the beginning of time, man has used my brothers and me as a symbol of royalty, power, victory, authority, and valor. My strength and courage has inspired men throughout the ages.

In the golden days of Greece, I was a symbol of victory and supreme spiritual energy. I was the sacred bird of Zeus, the ruler of all gods. The Greeks represented me with wings outstretched, holding a serpent in my claws. Thus I represented the triumph of good over evil.

In Rome, I was the symbol of Jupiter, the supreme Roman god. The Romans saw me as the symbol of victory. As the Roman legions conquered the World, they marched under the standard of the Eagle, with outstretched wings. The silver Eagle was the symbol of the Republic and the Roman Empire used the Golden Eagle as its symbol. I became the personal emblem of the Caesars, thus representing supreme authority.

The rise of Christianity brought me still more honor. To the early Christians, the Eagle was the symbol of Ascension. This was due to the strong flight of the Eagle with its gaze fixed upon the sun. In early icons, I was known as the symbol of Saint John the Evangelist.

On June 20, 1782, I became the symbol of a new country. Because of my courage and beauty, I was chosen to symbolize the new United States of America. The eagle became a prominent feature of the Seal of State of the new republic.

From this early beginning, I have been used in many ways to symbolize the ideals of this country. Several states have the eagle on their state flags. You can find me on the coins of America from the beginning to the present day.

I have a prominent place in America, as in ancient Rome, as a symbol of power and authority. The emblem of the President, Vice-President, several members of the President's Cabinet, and most branches of the military center on the Eagle.

From the symbol of the Caesars to the emblem of this country, it was thus fitting that the Eagle should have a part in the most momentous achievement of man. The Apollo Eleven crew chose Eagle as the name for the Lunar Module which was to make history... and with the words of Eagle Scout Neil Armstrong... "Houston, Tranquility Base here, the Eagle has landed."... Man was on the Moon.

In 1911, following the traditions as old as man himself, the Boy Scouts of America chose the Eagle to symbolize the very highest in achievement. Through all of history, I have been the symbol of man's best; now I am the symbol of Scouting's best.