## Eagle Scout Court of Honor

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: (Proceeds to the center front of Communion Rail and turns to face the audience) "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)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SM: (calls the Color Guard - Cobra & Trailblazer Webelos Scouts - to present the colors. 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.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SA: "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. Before we begin, the Reverend Jim McWhinnie, Pastor of Grace United Methodist Church, will deliver the Invocation."

### Invocation

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

### 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."

(Lights are dimmed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

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 Eagle is lit.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "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 ribbon 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 ribbon 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 ribbon 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 Scroll is lit.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "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."

(Lights are turned up by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (soloist -- music "The Lord's Prayer")

### Keynote Address

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will now convene the National Court of Honor."

### Convening of the National Court of Honor

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "By the authority vested in me as a representative of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 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, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_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. (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ steps forward, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ addresses him.) "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 father to your side."

(After his father is in position on the candidate's right and the Honor Guard has returned to their seats, continue with...)

"Eagle Candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, your father has undoubtedly been a primary source of help in your Scout work. He will help 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. I am going to ask your father, who has stood by you so loyally to pledge his willingness to continue to help you. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, do you agree to continue to help\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so that he may grow in character and those leadership qualities that an Eagle

Scout should have?"

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "I will."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Your mother has undoubtedly been your greatest source of inspiration in your quest for the Eagle Award. I am going to ask that she please rise and allow the Honor Guard to escort her to your side."

(The Honor Guard escorts the mother to the candidate's left. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moves to microphone as mom is escorted to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_'s side.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (Give a brief history of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_'s Scouting career - see attached. When completed, he continues ...)

"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 stand 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. Please 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 an 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, I will ask this Eagle Scout's father now to present to his son the Eagle Scout certificate and personal letter of commendation from the Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America." (Hand certificate to father for presenting. Letter should be read before presenting.)

"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." (Son pins on miniature Eagle pin. When all the insignia have been presented, speaker gives the new Eagle Scout the Scout handclasp with the left hand. Right handshake should be used for each of the parents.)

"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.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Chartered Organization Representative for the Scouting units here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who will present those with special recognition's for the new Eagle Scout."

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

Committee Chairman, Troop\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (plaque) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Kiwanis, (plaque +) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Optimist, (plaque +)

(When presentations are complete, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ moves back to the microphone for the closing.)

### Closing

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: "Now \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, before you leave this ceremony, will you kneel where you are and in true Scout fashion, silently ask your God to give you strength and courage to wear with distinction and honor the award which you now hold."

( A moment of silent prayer)

"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 and present to you Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (After applause, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ says a few words of thanks)

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: (Leads closing, colors recess.)

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

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## Here is another:

COLOR GUARD, HONOR GUARD, PARENTS, PRESENTERS, AND TROOP PARENTS: PEW AUDIENCE LEFT

PRESENTERS: PEW AUDIENCE RIGHT

HONOR GUARD AND COLOR GUARD BEHIND PARENTS

### OPENING CEREMONY:

Scout 1: The red of my flag is the lifeblood of brave men ready to die or worthily live for this, our country. (Lights candle)

Scout 2: The white of my flag is for purity, cleanliness of purpose, thought, word, and deed. (Lights candle)

Scout 3: The blue of my flag is for faith and loyalty, like the eternal blue of the star filled heavens. (Lights candle)

### WELCOME: SCOUTMASTER

### INVOCATION: CHAPLAIN

### NATIONAL COURT OF HONOR: SCOUTING REP

The time has come to recognize our recipient of the Eagle. By the authority vested in me by the Boy Scouts of America, I now declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor officially open.

Today, one individual will receive his Eagle. He has been tested along the scouting trail, and proudly wears at least twenty-one merit badges. He has tasted the thrill of service to our community, and has found that it is truly better to serve than to be served.

Eagle Scout Candidate, please rise.

### EAGLE SCOUT TRAIL: SCOUTING REP

This is the voice of the Eagle - the Eagle whose heights you have struggled to reach. I remember when you came to the base of the cliff, and how you looked up with ambition and determination. Look back at the experiences you have encountered in your ascent. These experiences should not be forgotten. You should profit by making sure the adverse

Do you remember when you took your first step on the Eagle trail? With those first steps you began to build yourself physically, mentally, and morally. You started living the Scout Oath and law. Soon you learned the symbolism inherent in the Scout badge; you learned that there are three points of the trefoil which stand for the three parts of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and country, duty to other people, and duty to yourself. You learned of two important ideals in scouting, truth and knowledge. These are symbolized by two stars on either side of the badge. These stars are like those of the great outdoors which you have enjoyed on hikes and campouts. In adding the Eagle to the shield of the United States you are further reminded of your duty to country. You pledge to support and preserve its freedom. Pointing skyward is the sign of the north. Taken from the mariner's compass, it is a reminder of your duty to God and your obligation to respect the religious convictions of others.

From here the trail led through basic outdoor skills to the Second Class rank. This badge, with the corners of the scroll turned up in a scout smile admonished you to Be Prepared. The overhand knot reminds you of your daily good turn.

At this point on the trail, some stop to catch their breath before continuing. But you began to study more and work harder. Almost before you knew it you became a First Class scout. The badge you received is a combination of both Tenderfoot and Second Class, reminding that there is much more to being a scout than just attending meetings. Here you were tempted to remain, but your ambition stirred you on. The variety of merit badges gave your interest free reign. You took the lead showing others the way. It didn't take long before the first obstacle on the trail had been overcome. You were then a Star Scout. The life rank was reached more slowly. The trail had become steeper and merit badges harder. Fewer scouts seemed headed in your direction. You looked back and saw the crowds behind you. You looked up and saw the few above and with the same determination with which you had started your climb, you continued up the trail. You learned that leadership was leading, not driving or pushing. Example is best.

The life rank is symbolized by a heart with the First Class badge, the badge of scouting imposed thereon. At this point the trail became tougher, but also more interesting. The original principals, the Scout Oath and Law now had fuller meaning. Your understanding of them was much greater. As a result, your character unfolded; you became more of a man. Your leadership ability expanded into a valuable asset. Your mind developed and your wisdom increased.

Now you stand at the top of the mountain. It is not the end of the trail nor the beginning. Almost your whole life lies ahead of you. Your part in our country's upbuilding from the past may be small, and your claim to distinction and honor may rest on no basis at all. But the future is for your own choosing. From your action the judgment must come. The need of your service to your country is greater than all you have previously done. When the drama is finally ended and the curtain is lowered at last, you must rest on the things you have accomplished, not the dreams of the past.

Eagle candidate, please be seated.

### INTRODUCTION OF HONORED GUESTS: SCOUTMASTER

### QUALIFICATIONS: SCOUTMASTER

We have the honor and pleasure of recognizing the candidate for the rank of Eagle Scout. This is an important and serious matter. The parents and Scout leaders of this candidate have labored long and faithfully to guide him towards alert and participating citizenship through the Boy Scout program. Their efforts culminate today in the presentation of this Eagle badge.

The Boy Scout movement constitutes one of the most wholesome and significant developments of our day. This scout is worked in the troop, school, church, and community. We found that he has demonstrated this ability in activities that are constructive and worthwhile. We believe that he qualifies for the Eagle rank. Last and most importantly is the character of this candidate. It was our finding that this candidate is endeavoring to put into daily practice the principles of the Scout Oath and Law which include integrity and honor. We believe he is qualified as an Eagle Scout and that he will continue those habits of conduct in the future.

In light of these inquiries by the Eagle board of review, the court of honor finds the candidate qualified to receive the rank of Eagle Scout

### EAGLE PRESENTATION: SCOUTING REP

Would the honor guard please escort the Eagle candidate and his parents to the Honor area.

We would like to have the Scoutmaster assist in the presentation of the Eagle badge.

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, and be involved in the presentation of that award.

In recognition of fatherly advice and guidance along the trail to the Eagle rank, I will ask your father now to pin the badge of the Eagle Scout. (Father pins on the Eagle badge on the left pocket flap.) (Eagle Scout) will now give his father the Eagle Tie Clasp.

Service and patient perseverance has been shown by your leaders as they helped you toward worthy manhood. It is appropriate that the Committee Chairman present you with the Eagle Scout Certificate. (Chairman reads letter from National Boy Scouts and presents Eagle Scout the certificate.)

No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice from your mother. In recognition of her devotion, the court will now ask you to present her with a miniature pin. (Eagle Scout pins Eagle pin on mother and gives her a hug and kiss.)

Will the Honor Guard please escort the parents to their seats of honor.

(Eagle Scout) has asked (Scoutmaster) to give him the Eagle charge.

### EAGLE CHARGE: SCOUTMASTER

(Scoutmaster reads 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 stand 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. Please 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."

Would the Honor Guard please escort (Eagle Scout) to his seat of honor.

Would (Scoutmaster and an Eagle Scout) please come forward for the summation of our program and the reading of the congratulatory letters.

### CONGRATULATORY LETTERS: TROOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

### CLOSING REMARKS: SCOUTING REP

### "VOICE OF THE EAGLE": SCOUTMASTER

### CLOSING CEREMONY

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# EAGLE COURT OF HONOR

This is a Generic Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony that I have used several times. But it should be customized to make each Court of Honor as unique as possible.

-Tim Curt

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Ladies and Gentleman may I please have your attention".

"Please stand for the Presentation of Colors".

"Color Guard, advance the Colors".

(Troop marches in and remains in the aisle. Color Guard comes forward at the head of the Troop, stops with the Troop at the head of the aisle. Then continues forward and rotates to face the audience.)

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Will the audience please join in the Pledge of Allegiance."

"Scouts, Salute!" (S.P.L. leads the Pledge of Allegiance)

(After the Pledge, while everyone is standing three Scouts come forward and complete the opening ceremony. SPL asks each scout by name to come forward.)

SCOUT : "The Red of our Flag represents the lifeblood of Brave Americans ready to die or worthily live for this our Country".

SCOUT : "The white of our Flag is for Purity, Cleanliness of purpose, thought, word and deed".

SCOUT : "The Blue of our Flag is for Faith and Loyalty, the eternal blue of the Star-filled heavens".

(Three Scouts return to the head of the line of the Troop.)

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Color Guard, post the colors".

(Color Guard posts the colors, returns to the front of the line, and salutes the Flag.)

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Troop take your seats".

(Scouts file into the seats going all the way down to the end.)

(Everyone is still to remain standing.)

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Will everyone remain standing while

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Church, delivers the invocation".\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(delivers the invocation)

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Thank you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Would everyone please be seated."

"I would like to introduce \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Troop 161 and our Master of Ceremonies for our Eagle Court of Honor".

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "Thank you,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Good afternoon honored guests, ladies, gentleman, scouts and Scouters. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Troop 161. It is my pleasure to be the Master of Ceremonies for this Eagle Court of Honor, honoring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

"Today we have the honor and pleasure of recognizing for the award of Eagle Scout. The parents and Scout Leaders of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have labored long and faithfully to develop him towards responsible citizenship through the Boy Scout Program. Their efforts now culminate in the presentation of the Eagle Award. The success of these efforts, however, will only be manifested in the way this new Eagle sets a social pattern for the lives of those he touches".

"Honor Guard, please escort before this Court of Honor, Eagle Candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Honor Guard escorts candidate to the front of the room and returns to seats.)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "I will now call upon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a member of

the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ District Commissioners staff to open this Court of Honor".

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER: "By the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, I hereby declare this Court of Honor opened".

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "Achieving Eagle is a long and arduous task. Scoutmaster \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will outline long trail to the Rank of Eagle".

(Six preselected, rehearsed scouts with rank award signs prepare to assist in this ceremony.)

SCOUTMASTER: "Scouting is no doubt one of the greatest organizations in the world to foster the ideals of citizenship. It is little wonder then that so many of our nations greatest leaders had some of their earliest leadership experiences in scouting. The total development from boyhood to manhood depends on physical, mental and moral growth expressed in the Scout Law and Oath. The skills are so demanding and the challenges so great that it is not surprising to learn that only about 2 percent of all boys in scouting achieve the rank of Eagle. Let us now reflect on the trail to Eagle which a young man must undertake.

If you refer to your program, you can see the long trail this Eagle Candidate traveled.

SCOUT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Holds up Scout Emblem)

(Scout Rank)

"I am the Scout. My badge represents the international brotherhood of Scouting which I have joined."

SCOUTMASTER: "To become a Scout a boy must understand and promise to live by the Scout Oath and Law."

SCOUT : (Holds up the Tenderfoot Emblem)

(Tenderfoot Rank)

"I am the Tenderfoot. My three points stand for the three parts of the Scout Oath. You find me on the Mariner's Compass, forever pointing the way to the North Star and a safe journey in life. On my face are two stars representing truth and knowledge, a shield which is the emblem of a nation molded together in justice, and an Eagle to guard the freedom of my land."

SCOUTMASTER: "A Tenderfoot must .\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

.............

SCOUT : (Holds up the Second Class Emblem)

(Second Class Rank)

"I am the Second Class. The ends of my scroll are turned up in the willing smile of the scout. On my face is the motto "BE PREPARED", and suspended from me is the knot, tied there to remind you of the slogan of the Boy Scouts of America, "DO A GOOD TURN DAILY".

SCOUTMASTER: "To become a Second Class Scout a boy must

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.................

SCOUT :

(First Class Scout)

"I am a First Class Scout. I was Tenderfoot and I laid a course by the stars of truth and knowledge and I girded myself with the righteousness of justice and freedom. I added a smile that I might be a friend to all and bound myself together with the knot of duty to others."

SCOUTMASTER: "To become a First Class Scout A boy must earn

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

SCOUT :

(Star Scout)

"I am the Star. Now that I can stand alone, I have earned the right to improve on my own. To me goes the honor of choosing my field. Before me lies an horizon of endless opportunity."

SCOUTMASTER: "To become a Star Scout a boy must earn a total of six merit badges, four of which must be from the required Eagle List."

SCOUT :

(Life Scout)

"I am the Life. I have shown the world that Scouting is in my heart. I have mastered knowledge of subjects that will benefit not only myself but my country and my fellowman. I am ready to reach for my wings to fly."

SCOUTMASTER: "To become a Life Scout a boy must earn a total of eleven Merit Badges, including seven from the required Eagle list."

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "The Eagle Award is the culmination of the efforts

of and his leaders. A scout must earn 21 Merit Badges, in various crafts and skills. Eleven of these badges are required by the Boy Scouts of America.

You boys who sit here with the Troop are a part of the Eagle Award that is about to receive. As has helped you learn your scouting skills, he was exhibiting Troop leadership, that is necessary to develop to become an Eagle Scout. Hopefully, some of you will follow his example and complete your Eagle Rank.

Each Eagle Candidate must plan and supervise an Eagle Service Project. This Service Project demonstrates a Scouts capacity and willingness to exert his leadership ability in activities that are constructive and worthwhile in his community.

(Briefly describe the Eagle Service Project completed by the Candidate)

After a Scout has completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle, he must be reviewed by an Eagle Board of Review, made up of members of the Troop Committee and a representative of the Council for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ District. This Board of Review meets to assure that the ideals of Scouting and the esteem of the Eagle Rank are upheld.

I would like to introduce \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who sat on the Eagle Board and will report on the Boards findings."

### BOARD OF REVIEW

(\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

"As a member of the Board that reviewed , I certify that after investigation, interview and examination, the Board is of the opinion that this Scout has demonstrated that he has held to the spirit of Scouting in his daily living. The Board recommends his advancement to Eagle."

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "Thank you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I will now call upon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Council\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to help convey the responsibilities of the Eagle Rank to our new candidate."

: "I speak for the Eagle Scouts of this Council. 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 influences in the world's history. You have been counted worthy of this high rank. All who know you rejoice in your achievement. As you live up to your obligations, you bring honor to yourself and your brother Scouts.

Your responsibility extends to your country and your God. America has many good things to give you and your children after you, but these good things depend for the most part on the ability of her citizens. Our country has a great past, you can make the future still greater.

I charge you to undertake your citizenship with 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 your fellow man.

So live and serve, that those 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 hearts and hands to common good.

Build America on the solid foundation of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship, and reverence for God. Then, whatever others may do, you will leave behind you a record of which you may be justly proud.

Eagle Scout Candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I

charge you to enter the Eagle Scout Brotherhood, holding without reservation ever before you, the ideals of honor and service. By repetition of the Eagle Scout Promise before your fellow Scouts, you will become an Eagle Scout. Though the words you use may be similar to those by which you joined Scouting, today they will mean more than they could have meant at any time in the past. When you pledge yourself on your sacred honor, you will be sealing your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout, with the words which closed the Declaration of Independence"

(Speaker turns to the audience and says:)

"Will all the Eagle Scouts present today join \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I, as I administer the Eagle Scout Promise".

(Speaker waits for the Eagle Scouts to reach the front and line up.)

"Will everyone please stand."

"Eagle Scouts, please give the Scout Sign and repeat after me".

"I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name) reaffirm my allegiance to the three promises of the Scout Oath. (pause) I thoughtfully recognize and take upon myself (pause) the obligations and responsibilities of the rank of Eagle Scout. (pause) On my honor, I will do my best (pause) to make my training an example of my rank (pause) and my influence count strongly and for better citizenship, (pause) in my home, in my community and in my contacts with other people. (pause) To this I pledge my sacred honor."

(All Eagle Scouts except candidates, please return to seats.)MASTER OF

CEREMONIES: "Will Scoutmaster \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lease come forward and present the Eagle Award"

SCOUTMASTER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ "Will the parents of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ please come forward."

"By the virtue of the authority vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I hereby award the rank of Eagle Scout to you."

(Scoutmaster gives Eagle Medal to the Scout's mother to pin on her son.)

"Will you please pin the Eagle Medal on your son."

(Scoutmaster gives Eagle pin for mother to Scout)

"No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout which has led to this afternoon. As the symbol of what this mother has made possible, this Court now asks \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to present his mother a miniature Eagle pin."

(Eagle Scout pins pin on mother)

"Eagle Scout, it is customary that you also give your mother an Eagle kiss."

"Eagle Scout, would you also present your Dad with the lapel pin."

(Scoutmaster gives lapel pin to Eagle Scout to present to his father.)

(MC asks parents to return to their seats.)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "I would like to introduce Eagle Scout, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with a presentation from the National Eagle Scout Association."

: "The Troop Committee has enrolled you, our new Eagle Scout in the National Eagle Scout Association. May I present you with your certificate and membership card."

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, there are many dignitaries here today that would like to congratulate you and say a few words.

 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "Are there any others present who wish to make a presentation at this time."

"\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has received many letters and certificates from dignitaries and friends who could not be here this afternoon. I would like to read a few of them."

(Reads letter from President and a few others)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it is now time to hear from you"

(New Eagle Scout gives a few remarks)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: "I declare this National Court of Honor Closed.

Senior Patrol Leader take charge."

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Scouts please rise and repeat the Scout Laws Scout Sign"

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will you please deliver the Benediction:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Gives the Benediction)

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: "Will everyone please rise..... Color Guard retire the Colors.

(Color Guard retrieves the colors and exits.)

"Will everyone, please join in refreshments"