Transcript – Kyle Durfey’s Eagle Court of Honor

(TRAIL TO EAGLE)

November 14, 2009

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** Good afternoon everyone and thank you for coming today to help celebrate Kyle Durfey attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. My name is Philip Riola.

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** And my name is Chris La Due

**<BOTH>** and we will be your Masters of Ceremonies.

**TROOP ASSEMBLY:**

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** At this time will everyone please rise as our Troop Color Guard presents the Troop and American flags.

*(When the flags are posted and the Color Guard returns to their seats, ask everyone to remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance)*

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** Please remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Senior Patrol Leader Conner Reitz, Scout Oath by Alex La Due, Scout Law by Gregory Riola and Outdoor Code by Gavin Sonntag.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** – (*led by Conner Reitz) –*

**<PHIL RIOLA>:**Guests please be seated, Scouts and Advisors please remain standing.

**Scout Oath:** – (*led by Alex La Due)*

**Scout Law:** – (*led by Gregory Riola)*

**Outdoor Code:** – (*led by Gavin Sonntag)*

**<PHIL RIOLA>:**Two. Scouts and Advisors please be seated.

**INVOCATION:**

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** Our Invocation will be given by Pastor Mindy who is the Pastor here at Asbury United Methodist Church. Pastor Mindy …….

*(When she is finished simply say “Thank you Pastor” and she will sit down)*

**WELCOME:**

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** A special welcome message from the eagle’s parents, Bob & Belinda Durfey.

**<BOB & BELINDA DURFEY>:** *(Welcome Message)*

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** Our first guest is Lisa Boscola. Senator Boscola is serving her third term representing the 18th Senatorial District. Senator Boscola ………

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** Our next presenter is the Honorable Julie Harhart. Representative Harhart is a member of the Pennsylvania State Assembly and has been the 183rd State Legislative representative since 1994. Representative Harhart………

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** Our next presenter is Mr. Edward Hozza, Township Executive (or mayor) of Whitehall Township. Mr. Hozza ……..

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** Our next presenter is Mr. Rene Rodriguez, a Commissioner representing the South Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners. Mr. Rodriguez ……..

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** At this time, Mr. Torres, our Chartered Organization Representative has a presentation.

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** At this time, Mr. Gandhi would like to briefly read some additional acclamations Kyle has received.

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** Kyle’s guest speaker is a long time family friend and a former scoutmaster of Troop 12 – Mr. Robert La Due.………..

**TRAIL TO EAGLE:**

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** Listen now as Mike Dunmire reads the Trail To Eagle.

**<MIKE DUNMIRE>:** "Will Eagle candidate Kyle Durfey please step up to the center stage and face the audience.

*(Eagle steps up to center stage)*

"This is the Voice of the Eagle. The Eagle whose heights you have struggled hard to reach. We remember well when you first came to the base of the cliffs, and how you looked up with ambition and determination. Look back for a moment; look down the cliff you have climbed; look at the experiences you have encountered in you ascent. These experiences should not be forgotten. You should profit by making sure adverse experiences do not occur again. Experience is a valuable teacher, if you heed its teachings."

First, you were only a Scout.

*<**CHRIS LADUE lights the Scout candle>*

We remembered when you took your first step upon the trail that leads upward. With that first step you began to build yourself physically, mentally, and morally. You started living the Scout Oath and Law. All the while you were on the trail, we watched you study and we saw you learn by doing – especially your table manners.

*< CHRIS LADUE lights the Tenderfoot candle>*

Then your brother Scouts called you a Tenderfoot, and they were right; you were indeed a Tenderfoot Scout. The trail started to rise slowly as your brother Tenderfoots helped guide you on the trail to the first ledge. Although it seemed a daunting task for a new Tenderfoot, you eagerly followed their guidance.

*< CHRIS LADUE lights the Second Class candle>*

So, you reached the first ledge and there you were greeted by a large group of Second Class Scouts.

Some, like you, were stopping to catch their breath before continuing along the trail. You began to study more, you worked harder, and almost before you knew it, you came to another ledge, the ledge where the First Class Scouts dwell.

*< CHRIS LADUE lights the First Class candle>*

There you found a tempting green meadow by a clear stream bathed in the sun. Here you were tempted to remain. Yes, you could have remained there to live in First Class glory, but your ambition stirred you on. We remembered your advancement to Star Scout.

*< CHRIS LADUE lights the Star candle>*

The trail from First Class to Star rank was not as difficult as it had seemed. This spurred you on, again you climbed further. The trail was steeper and less worn. Fewer scouts were headed in your direction. You looked down and saw the crowds below you. You looked up and saw a few above you, and with the same determination with which you started your climb, you continued up the trail. Soon you earned the badge of Life rank.

*< CHRIS LADUE lights the Life candle>*

The heart badge was then placed on your uniform. You will never forget the thought in your heart. This feeling has been experienced by all Scouts on reaching the ledge of Life Scout. Now I am close to the Eagle, I will carry on. The trail became tougher, but more interesting. The original principles, the Scout Oath and Law, now had a fuller meaning. Your understanding of them was greater.

*< CHRIS LADUE lights the Eagle candle>*

Yes, we have watched your character unfold and become a man. We have watched your leadership expand into a valuable asset. We have watched your mind develop and your wisdom increase. We have watched all these things in you and now that you are on the threshold of your goal, we welcome you, for you have done your climbing in a true Scout-like manner.

This is the Voice of the Eagle.

**PRESENTATION OF EAGLE AWARD**

**<CHRIS LA DUE>:** Will Kyle, Mr. & Mrs. Durfey and Mr. La Due please come forward to present Kyle his rank of Eagle Scout.

**<** **Mr. La Due >:** 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 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. Kyle 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 character gained through an understanding of his citizenship and religious beliefs.

Kyle, you are deserving of much credit in having achieved this 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 Scout Law be your guide for tomorrow and onward.

**<Mr. La Due>:** *(get the Eagle Scout mothers pin)* Kyle, as a sign of your gratitude for your mother’s support, will you please present her the Eagle Scout Mother’s Pin.

**<Mr. La Due>:** *(get the Eagle Scout fathers pin)* Kyle, for the support your father has provided over the years, will you please present him the Eagle Scout Father’s Pin

**<Mr. La Due>:** *(get the Eagle Scout neckerchief)* Mom, will you please remove Kyle’s Troop neckerchief and replace it with the Eagle neckerchief.

**<Mr. La Due>:** *(get the Eagle Scout ribbon)* Dad, will you please pin Kyle’s Eagle ribbon on his uniform.

**<** **Mr. La Due >:** On behalf Troop 12, we would like to present you a remembrance of your scouting experiences with this Eagle plaque. *(READ THE PLAQUE)* - Ladies and Gentlemen I am proud toofficially introduce Troop 12’s newest Eagle Scout – Mr. Kyle Durfey.

**EAGLE SCOUT CHALLENGE:**

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** It is time for the Eagle Scout Challenge. This is the time when all Eagle Scouts in the audience are asked to come forward and stand with Kyle to renew their pledge to the ideals of Scouting. Will all Eagle Scout please come forward and join Kyle in the front and will Mr. Reitz please give the Eagle Scout Challenge. *(<Phil> to give some guidance to have the* ***Eagle Scouts*** *stand on the steps facing the audience)*

**<Mr. Reitz>** The foremost responsibility of an Eagle Scout is to live with honor. To an Eagle Scout, honor is the foundation of all character. We know that the first point of the Scout Law "A Scout is trustworthy” is there for a good reason. An Eagle Scout lives honorably, not only because honor is important to us but because of the vital significance of the example we set for other Scouts. Living honorably reflects credit on our home, our church, our troop, and our community. May the white of the Eagle badge remind us to always live with honor.

The second obligation of an Eagle Scout is loyalty. We are true to our family, Scout leaders, friends, school, and nation. Our loyalty to our troop and brother Scouts makes us pitch in and carry our 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 our 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 us, 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, we look forward to each day, seeking our share of the world's work to do. Let the red of the Eagle badge remind us 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. We extend a helping hand to those who still toil up Scouting's trail, just as others helped us in our climb to Eagle. The performance of the daily Good Turn takes on a new meaning when we enter a more adult life of continuing service to others. The Eagle stands as protector of the weak and helpless. We aid and comfort the unfortunate and the oppressed. We uphold the rights of others while defending our own. We will always "Be Prepared" to put forth our best.

Eagles Scouts, will you now and forever live by these Eagle Responsibilities. If so please respond with – WE DO.

*(All eagle scouts respond with WE DO)*

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** (*before the Eagle scouts leave the stage)*: Eagle Scouts, you deserve much credit for having achieved Scouting's highest award. Thank you. You may now return to your seats.

**SCOUTMASTER MOMENT:**

**<CHRIS LADUE>:** Now for the time that Kyle has been dreading the entire afternoon, the Troop 12 tradition of special words and thoughts by the mean old scoutmaster. Mr. Durfey if you please.

**TRADITIONAL SPEECH:**

**<PHIL ROILA>:** We have heard a lot of complementary statements acknowledging Kyle’s achievement. Kyle, now it is your turn to address those present. Ladies & Gentlemen, Troop 12’s newest Eagle Scout – Kyle Durfey.

**THANK YOU:**

**<CHRIS LADUE>:** Bob & Belinda Durfey have a special thank you message.

**<BOB & BELINDA DURFEY>:** *(Thank You Message)*

**SCOUTMASTERS BENDICTION:**

**<PHIL RIOLA>:** And now to close our COH as we do all Troop 12 gatherings, scouts and advisors please rise, Tyler Durfey please lead us in the Scoutmasters Benediction.

**<TYLER DURFEY>:** (*lead the troop in the scoutmasters benediction)*

**RETIRE THE COLORS**

**<CHRIS LADUE>:** Everyone please rise. Will the Color Guard please retire the Colors.

*(After the scouts exit the room – Kyle and parents exit to the rear for a reception line)*

**<CHRIS LADUE>:** Thank you for coming and celebrating this day. Go in peace.

**Participants**

Master of Ceremonies Phil Riola & Chris La Due

Senior Patrol Leader Conner Reitz

Color Guard <Conner>, <Alex>, <Gavin>, <Gregory>

Trail To Eagle:

Reads the Trail To Eagle Mr. Dunmire

Lights the Candles Chris La Due

Chartered Org Rep Mr. Torres

Eagle Rank Presentation Mr. La Due

Guest Speaker Mr. La Due

Letters of Recognition Reader Mr. Gandhi

Eagle Challenge Mr. Reitz

**SETUP**

AWARDS Have the following on the alter and ready for awarding:

* Individual Presentation Plaque
* Eagle ribbon and pins
* Eagle Neckerchief
* Troop Plaque of All Eagle Names

LETTERS Binder of recognition letters from non-attendees. Have this book available on alter.

PROGRAMS Have printed programs available for scouts to hand out

SCRIPTS Have printed scripts available for all participants

CANDLES Have new candles for the trail to eagle reading. Have the candle holders in place and ready as well. Have a lighter available for lighting the starting candle.

FLAGS Have base for American and Troop flag up front and positioned. Have American and Troop flags ready for color guard to carry.

RANK CARDS Have each rank advancement placard and candle holder setup and ready to go.