

## Call to Order – Master of Ceremonies (MC)

MC:

Good Afternoon. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am the \_\_\_\_\_ for Troop 636. On behalf of the Scouts, Scoutmasters, Troop Committee and all the Troop 636 family, I would like to welcome you to this Eagle Court of Honor, convened to honor \_\_\_\_\_.

Troop 636 is sponsored by the New Horizon United Methodist Church. For those who are unaware of his project, \_\_\_\_\_ tore down and then built new cages for two birds of prey that are housed here for educational purposes. The cages are located only a short distance behind this pavilion.

The Eagle Court of Honor is an event of great importance in a boy's life. In order to achieve this high honor, a Scout has to fulfill many requirements, earn 21 merit badges, serve his Troop in a leadership position, and plan and carry out a substantial project for his community. This afternoon we gather to celebrate \_\_\_\_\_ achievement and to recognize his hard work and dedication.

As \_\_\_\_\_, I declare this Eagle Court of Honor in session.

The Eagle Honor Guard is comprised of all the Eagle Scouts attending this Court of Honor. Will the honor guard please escort \_\_\_\_\_, his mother \_\_\_\_\_, his father \_\_\_\_\_, his grandmother \_\_\_\_\_ and his grandfather \_\_\_\_\_, to the front.

*(After they are seated):*

Will Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_, please sound fan fare.

*(After fan fare):*

Will the Color Guard please post the colors?

*(Color Guard – American Flag*

*Troop Flag*

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

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

*(After the colors are posted):*

Will \_\_\_\_\_, please advance and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Law and Scout Oath.

*(\_\_\_\_\_ leads attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Law and Scout Oath.)*

*(After the Scout Oath):*

MC *(continues):*

Will the Troop Chaplain Aide, \_\_\_\_\_, please come forward and lead us in the invocation. (See Attachment “A”).

*(After the invocation):*

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ first Scoutmaster in \_\_\_\_\_. At this time, would \_\_\_\_\_ please come forward and recite the “Voice of The Eagle”.

\_\_\_\_\_:

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

Ancient man looked upon me as an inveterate enemy of serpents. They saw the battle between sun and clouds as battles between the eagle and a serpent.

The ancient Assyrians associated me with Ashur, the great sun god. I was held in awe and worshipped for my majestic beauty. In the Assyrian myths, I was a symbol of storms and lightning and the god who carried souls to Hades.

In India and Babylon I was the symbol of fire, of wind and storms, and the bringer of immortality.

In the golden age of Greece, I was a symbol of victory and supreme spiritual energy. I was the sacred bird of Zeus, ruler of all gods. The Greeks represented me with wings out-stretched 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 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 Caesar's, representing supreme authority.

The rise of Christianity brought me still ore 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 best known as the symbol of St. John the Evangelist.

In the nineteenth century, French troops under Napoleon conquered Europe under the symbol of the eagle. Many French soldiers gave their lives to protect the golden eagle which supported the French flag on the battleground.

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 ideal of this country. Several states have the eagle on their own sate 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 emblems of the President, vice-president, several members of the President's cabinet, and most branches of the armed forces, center on the eagle.

From the god of the Assyrians to the symbol of the Caesar's to the emblem of this great country, it was fitting thus fitting that the eagle should have a part in the most momentous achievement of man. The Apollo 11 crew chose Eagle as the name for the lunar module, which was to make history. An with the words of Eagle Scout Neil Armstrong – "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed" – man was on the moon.

In 1911, following tradition 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 the eagle is the symbol of Scouting's best.

(\_\_\_\_\_ adds any of his own remarks, comments, stories etc.)

(After \_\_\_\_\_ concludes):

MC:

At this time, would Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ please come forward and present "One Hundred Scouts".

\_\_\_\_\_:

Of any one hundred boys who become Scouts, it must be confessed that thirty will drop out in their first year. Perhaps this may be regarded as a failure, but later in life all of these will remember that they had been Scouts and will speak well of the program.

Of the one hundred, one rarely will ever appear before a juvenile court judge. Twelve of the one hundred will be from families that belong to no church. Through Scouting, these twelve and many of their families will be brought into contact with a church and will continue to be active all their lives. Six of the one hundred will become pastors.

Each of the one hundred will learn something from scouting. Almost all will develop hobbies that will add interest throughout the rest of their lives. Approximately one-half will serve in the military and in varying degrees, profit from their Scout training. At least one will use it to save another person's life and many will credit it with saving their own.

Two of the one hundred will reach Eagle rank and one will later say that he valued his Eagle above his college degree. Many will find their future vocation through merit badge work and Scouting contacts. Seventeen of the one hundred boys will later become Scout leaders and will give leadership to thousands of other boys.

Only one in four boys in America will become Scouts, but it is interesting to know that of the leaders of this nation in business, religion and politics, three out of four were Scouts.

In particular, some notable Eagle Scouts are:

Steven Spielberg- Movie director  
 Lloyd Bernsten-Former Secretary of the Treasury  
 James Lovell-Apollo 13 Astronaut  
 Neil Armstrong-Apollo 11 Astronaut  
 Gerald R. Ford-38th President  
 William Sessions-Former FBI Director  
 Don Neptun-Troop 636  
 Wesley King Troop 636  
 Ryan Gilbert-Troop 636  
 Marshall Dunson-Troop 636  
 Joseph Fariello-Troop 636  
 Kyle Stevens- Troop 636  
 ETC, ETC

(\_\_\_\_\_ adds any of his own remarks, comments, stories etc.)

(After \_\_\_\_\_ concludes.)

MC:

I would now like to call upon \_\_\_\_\_ to describe  
\_\_\_\_\_ Trail to Eagle.

\_\_\_\_\_:

In \_\_\_\_\_, your Trail to Eagle began. You started in Pack \_\_\_\_ as a Bobcat and over the next few years, you followed the trail to Wolf, Bear and Webelos. In \_\_\_\_\_, you earned the Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouting.

The Trail now began a tough climb. When you joined Troop 636, along the trail you encountered 6 steps. The six steps represent the ranks of Scouting that you had to pass on the trail. \_\_\_\_\_, it is fitting that you look back before you go on to other challenges to see what you have accomplished. These experiences should not be forgotten – You should benefit from them. Cherish the valuable ones, and make sure the bad ones do not happen again.

Remember your first trip along that steep trail? At first, you were called Scout by your bothers.

*(Scout \_\_\_\_\_ marches slowly down the aisle with an unlighted candle, steps up to the front table and lights his candle. He then walks solemnly to the left side and waits.)*

Remember when you received the Scout badge? You learned the Fleur-de-lis shape was to resemble the Mariner compass as it would always point you along the true path towards tonight. You began to build yourself physically, mentally, and morally by learning the Scout Oath and Law. Before you knew it, you were a Tenderfoot Scout.

*(Tenderfoot Scout \_\_\_\_\_ marches slowly down the aisle with an unlighted candle, steps up to the front table and lights his candle. He then walks solemnly and waits next to the Scout.)*

The Badge of a Tenderfoot replaced your Scout Badge. You learned from the shield on the eagle's breast that the freedom of America is not without cost, that it must be defended. Soon, you set out for another ledge. There, you were greeted by a larger group of second class scouts.

*(Second Class Scout \_\_\_\_\_ marches slowly down the aisle with an unlighted candle, steps up to the front table and lights his candle. He then walks solemnly and waits next to the Tenderfoot Scout.)*

The second class badge showed you a scroll with your motto "Be Prepared". You found that some second class scouts had been there a long time and were content with their achievement. You continued onward. You studied and soon you arrived at a new ledge, one where First Class Scouts dwell.

*(First Class Scout \_\_\_\_\_ marches slowly down the aisle with an unlighted candle, steps up to the front table and lights his candle. He then walks solemnly and waits next to the Second Class Scout.)*

Your First Class Badge showed you that it was time to put everything you had learned thus far and continue up the trail. You continued onward in Scouting, earning specific skills through merit badges. Your next step was to become a Star Scout.

*(Star Scout \_\_\_\_\_ marches slowly down the aisle with an unlighted candle, steps up to the front table and lights his candle. He then walks solemnly and waits next to the First Class Scout.)*

The Star Badge, a golden star, was to symbolize your role as a leader. You taught others in the troop and helped scouts along their trail, while continuing on your own journey. Soon it led you to Life Rank.

*(Life Scout \_\_\_\_\_ marches slowly down the aisle with an unlighted candle, steps up to the front table and lights his candle. He then walks solemnly and waits next to the Star Scout.)*

The Badge of Life, a pure red heart on a golden field, was to show the entire world the path you had chosen. True to the ideals of Scouting, you had gained an inner confidence that was to prepare you for the rest of your life. The trail became even tougher, but more interesting. You thought, now I am close to the Eagle. I will carry on.

We in Troop 636 have watched you as you have worked towards your Eagle. We have watched your mind and your knowledge increase. We have seen you grow in many ways and now that you are on the threshold of your goal, we welcome you, for you have done your climbing in a Scout-like manner.

(\_\_\_\_\_ adds any of his own remarks, comments, stories etc.)

(After \_\_\_\_\_ concludes.)

MC:

(Ask \_\_\_\_\_ to stand. Ask ASM \_\_\_\_\_ and ASM \_\_\_\_\_ to come forward.)

MC:

We come now to the part of our Court of Honor where we are to give recognition to the candidate for the rank of Eagle Scout.

ASM \_\_\_\_\_: Sir, I have the honor to present Life Scout \_\_\_\_\_ for the award of Eagle Scout.

MC: Awarding the Eagle Scout Badge is an important and serious matter. It is the goal toward which this Scout has been working for several years. It is the culmination of effort by his parents and Scout Leaders. It is an occasion for pride and for joy, but it is also a time for serious contemplation.

ASM \_\_\_\_\_: The Eagle Badge of Rank is the highest and most coveted award in all of Scouting, and it is the last major step in the advancement program. If at this point, Scouting has not achieved its purpose of building character – then it probably never shall. These thoughts, which are the basic code of Scouting, are well summed up in the pledge that is taken by every Scout's upon advancement to Eagle Rank.

MC: \_\_\_\_\_, I will read the Pledge of the Eagle so that you will know that which you are about to promise, and then I will ask you to repeat it after me.

“I, (give your name), reaffirm my allegiance *(pause)*  
 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. *(pause)*”  
 TWO.

Having heard the Pledge of the Eagle, are you willing to adopt it?

\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes, I am.

MC: Raise your right hand and repeat after me.

Eagle Scout #1 \_\_\_\_\_ *(from the audience interrupts):*

Wait !!!!! I challenge the right of this Scout to be awarded the rank of Eagle.

MC: Who are you and by what right do you challenge?

Eagle Scout #1 \_\_\_\_\_: I am an Eagle Scout, and the pride that I have in this badge that I wear over my heart gives me the right to challenge.

MC: On what grounds do you challenge?

Eagle Scout #1 \_\_\_\_\_: Has this Scout, nearing the end of the Eagle trail, demonstrated his Scouting Spirit? Has his ability to live and act in accordance with the ideals of Scouting, as exemplified by the Scout oath, Law , motto, and slogan been noted?

MC: As the Committee Chairman, I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ has held to the spirit of Scouting in his daily living. Are you now satisfied?

Eagle Scout #1 \_\_\_\_\_: Yes, I am.

Eagle Scout #2 \_\_\_\_\_: Wait !!!!! I too challenge the right of this Scout to be awarded the rank of Eagle.

MC: On what grounds do you challenge?

Eagle Scout #2 \_\_\_\_\_: Has the candidate met all of the requirements for the Eagle Rank and completed a service project?

MC: \_\_\_\_\_ joined Troop 636 in \_\_\_\_\_. In \_\_\_\_\_, he attended Junior Leadership Training and in \_\_\_\_\_, he was elected to the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's Honor Society. In \_\_\_\_\_, you received your OA Brotherhood. Along the way, \_\_\_\_\_ earned a total of \_\_\_\_ Merit Badges, as well as the \_\_\_\_\_ award and the Historic Trails Award. He has attended \_\_\_\_\_ summer camps and served in a leadership capacity as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and most recently, the Troop 636 representative to the Order of the Arrow. \_\_\_\_\_ completed a significant service project at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and has prepared a report on his life's ambitions. As \_\_\_\_\_, I certify that

\_\_\_\_\_ has met all of the requirements to earn the Eagle Rank. Are you now satisfied?

Eagle Scout #2\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes, I am.

Eagle Scout #3\_\_\_\_\_ : Wait !!!!! I too challenge the right of this Scout to be awarded the rank of Eagle.

MC: On what grounds to do you challenge?

Eagle Scout #3\_\_\_\_\_ : I believe that this candidate should understand that the Eagle Rank is a big responsibility as well as an honor. I respectfully ask that this candidate be reminded by my fellow Eagle Scouts, on the meaning of the Eagle Scout Badge.

MC: Please proceed:

*(Eagle Scouts #1, #2 and #3 all approach front table).*

Eagle Scout #1\_\_\_\_\_ *(lights the white candle)*: May the white of your Eagle Badge always remind you to live with honor.

Eagle Scout #2\_\_\_\_\_ *(lights the blue candle)*: May the blue of your Eagle Badge always remind you to be loyal.

Eagle Scout #3\_\_\_\_\_ *(lights the red candle)*: May the red of your Eagle Badge always remind you of courage.

MC: \_\_\_\_\_, do you understand that the Eagle Rank is an awesome responsibility as well as an honor? Are you ready and willing to accept the responsibilities and adopt the Pledge of the Eagle?.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes, I am.

MC: Thank you Troop 636 Eagle Scouts. Please be seated.

\_\_\_\_\_, you have passed the challenge set forth by the Eagle Scouts. I will now administer the pledge.

Repeat after me:

“I, (give your name), reaffirm my allegiance *(pause)*  
 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. *(pause)*”  
 TWO.

MC *(continues)*: Will (the parents) please approach.

The symbol of your success is the Eagle badge which I now  
 present to your mother and father, who in turn will pin the  
 badge over your heart. *(Present Eagle Badge.)*

\_\_\_\_\_, in recognition of the wisdom and guidance given by  
 your father, will you present him with this Eagle tie tack, which  
 he will be proud to wear in your honor.

\_\_\_\_\_, also in recognition of the many hours of patient  
 guidance given by her in your efforts, will you pin the Eagle  
 mother’s pin on your mother.

\_\_\_\_\_: It gives me great pride to introduce, \_\_\_\_\_,  
 Eagle Scout, Troop 636.

MC: Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_ would like to make a few  
 remarks.

\_\_\_\_\_ : *(speech)*

MC: I would like to offer my congratulations to \_\_\_\_\_ for achieving the rank of Eagle. I now declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed. \_\_\_\_\_, do you have any closing remarks?

\_\_\_\_\_: *(Invite everyone to review Joseph's Eagle Project Service Workbook and to review the binder with the congratulatory letters, certificates and commendations. Remind everyone to sign the guest book. Form lines for dinner – guests, Eagle Scouts, adults, scouts by rank.)*

Will (Troop Chaplain Aid) please come forward and say grace.

*(After \_\_\_\_\_ concludes):*

\_\_\_\_\_: Thank you. Lets eat.

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EAGLE COURT OF HONOR

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PROGRAM

ATTACHMENT "A"

Chaplain Aid (Invocation):

Will everyone please stand and remove your cover, if it is your custom.

Heavenly Father, we ask that you bless this gathering of family and friends from near and far who have come together today to honor and celebrate with \_\_\_\_\_ his earning of the highest rank in Scouting, that of Eagle. Father, we also ask your blessing on \_\_\_\_\_ family, Scout leaders and fellow scouts who have guided and supported \_\_\_\_\_ along the path to Eagle.

Amen