

EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR
BOY SCOUT TROOP 225

For: _____
Date: Sunday, _____, 20__
Time: Assemble at 2:30 pm; ceremony at 3:00 pm
Place: Church of Saint Joseph

PRE-CEREMONY NOTES

Programs:

Scout(s) who are to hand out programs should be in place at the main entrance to the Sanctuary at least thirty minutes before the ceremony. They will instruct late-arriving Scouts to be seated in the last row of the troop section. Three minutes prior to the start of the ceremony the Program Attendants will move forward to sit immediately behind the troop. They are:

Color Guard:

The Color Guard will be at the main entrance to the Sanctuary at least thirty minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. The Color Guard members are: _____

Senior Patrol Leader:

The Senior Patrol Leader, _____, will be at the main entrance with the Troop to ensure that they are in the correct order and know where they are to go.

Trail to Eagle:

The Scouts selected to participate in the "Trail to Eagle" portion of the ceremony will be provided with their respected rank symbol signs at least thirty minutes prior to the beginning to the ceremony. These Scouts are:

Scout: _____

Tenderfoot: _____

Second Class: _____

First Class: _____

Star: _____

Life: _____

Eagle Escort:

The Eagle Escort will be at the front of the Sanctuary at least thirty minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. They will escort the Eagle Parents to their seats five minutes prior to the start of the ceremony. The members of the Eagle Escort are:

_____.

Voice of the Eagle:

_____ takes his place in the gathering space at least thirty minutes before the ceremony begins to check the remote microphone and PA system. Rectory must unlock the cabinet and turn the system on before it can be tested.

SEATING:

Right Side of the Church (facing the altar)

First Row

The First Row will be reserved for the Eagle Scout, his parents, and the Eagle Escort. The Eagle will sit on the parents' left, next to the center aisle and the Eagle Escrow will sit on the ends of the family.

(Seating from left to right)

Escort, (Eagle) _____, (Mom) _____, (Dad) _____, Escort

Second Row

Eagle's Family

(Seating from left to right) _____.

Third Row

Color Guard

(Seating from left to right) _____.

Fourth and Fifth Rows

Eagle Family

Left Side of the Church (facing altar)

First Row

The First Row, Left Side of the Sanctuary will be reserved for the following people: (from left to right), Committee Chairperson _____, Priest, _____, Leaders _____.

Second Row

The Scouts chosen to participate in the “Trail to Eagle” portion of the ceremony will be seated on the Second Row, from left to right (facing the altar), in the order which they will come forward during the ceremony:

Third Row

(Left to right facing the altar _____)

Fourth and Fifth Rows

Troop Area

Scouts and Program Attendants will sit. Program Attendants should take their seats (last two seats in the Troop Section) three minutes before the ceremony begins. Program Attendants should instruct late-arriving Scouts to be seated at the rear of the Troop Section, and to reserve seats for them.

STAGE SETTING, PROPS, ETC.:

At the back of center stage the following items will be arranged (from back to front):

The Eagle Poster Board (front of table)

A Table with white table cloth & three (red, white, blue) candles for the Scout Oath

Scout Log with twelve white candles for the Scout Law

One green Scout Spirit candle

(all candles need to be pre-lit to assist in their lighting during the ceremony)

The Scout Spirit candle will be the only one burning during the Pre-Ceremony activities, it will be lit by the Scoutmaster three minutes before the ceremony begins.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

A small table on which the presentation items will be placed and arranged on the right side on the floor, out of the path of the Troop Flag Holder. A copy of this ceremony script will be kept at the lectern or pulpit for reference by program participants.

FLAGS:

Flag stands will be placed on the floor at the front corners of the altar.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Troop 225 should assemble, in full uniform, at the main entrance to the Sanctuary at least thirty minutes before the ceremony. All Scouts who are to be seated before the ceremony will be assembled by patrol in a single file line headed by the _____ “Trail to Eagle” Scouts (_____, _____, _____, _____, _____)

Ten minutes before the ceremony begins the Scoutmaster will be responsible for the orderly entry and seating of the Troop.

All other program participants should also arrive and assemble at least thirty minutes before the start of the ceremony. Immediately following the entry and seating of the Troop, the Senior Patrol Leader, Color Guard, the Eagle Scout and Eagle Escort will assemble at the main entrance to the church. The Eagle Escort will bring the parents of the Eagle candidate to their seats and return to join the SPL and Color Guard.

VISITORS:

All known visiting District, Council and Special Guests will be seating immediately at reserved positions. Placards will be on seats.

THE CEREMONY

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:

Committee Chairperson, Troop 225, _____

This Eagle Scout Court of Honor is now called to order. Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen. My name is

_____ and as the Committee Chairperson for Troop 225 it is my privilege to welcome you on behalf to Troop 225 to the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for

_____. At this time I would like to ask Father _____ to come forward to lead us in the Invocation.

INVOCATION: *Father _____*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS AND EAGLE ESCORT

Committee Chairperson for Troop 225, _____

Will the audience please stand for the presentation of the Colors and the Eagle Escort?

((audience stands) The Senior Patrol Leader, followed by the Color Guard, Eagle Escort and Eagle Scout advance to the front down the center aisle from the rear of the Sanctuary. At front, the Senior Patrol Leader halts and does an about face. The Color Guard moves to their respective sides and faces the audience. The Eagle Escort escorts the Eagle Scout to the first seat on the first row on the right side of the Church next to his parents. The Eagle Escort then take their places on the front row at each end of the family.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senior Patrol Leader, _____

Will the audience please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance? Scouts. Salute!

*(Scouts and Troop Flag Bearer, who dips the Troop Flag, salute) Pledge!
(Senior Patrol Leader leads Pledge of Allegiance) Two! Post the Colors!
(Color Guard posts the colors and stands at attention.)*

The audience may be seated. Scouts attention! Scout Sign! The Scout Oath refers to three

points: Duty to God, Duty to Country and Duty to Oneself. Recite! (recitation)

The Scout Law has twelve points. Recite Slowly. Two! (recitation)
(At the saying of each point _____ lights a candle.)

Scouts. Please be seated. *(Senior Patrol Leader and Color Guard take their seats on the Third Row, right side)*

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Committee Chairperson, _____

At this time we would like to recognize all Eagle Scouts in the audience. Will all the Eagles in the audience please stand? Would you please state your name and what year you became an Eagle. (lead a round of applause) Thank you. Please be seated. We would

also like to recognize some special guests who are here today.

_____, _____,

_____. **Thank you so much for sharing this day with us.**

At this time let us hear the story of The Trail to Eagle. *(chairman sits)*

THE TRAIL TO EAGLE

Assistant Scoutmaster, _____

(The "Voice of the Eagle" speaks into the microphone from the rear of the church).

Will Eagle Candidate _____ please step up to the center aisle and face the audience. *(Eagle steps up to center with Eagle Escort who then retake their seats).*

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 your 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 teaching. We remember 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.

First, you were only a Scout (*Scout _____ steps forward and takes his place facing the audience. He should stand in front of the stage, at floor level and in front of the lectern*).

Then your brother Scouts called you a Tenderfoot, and they were right' you were indeed a Tenderfoot Scout. (*Tenderfoot _____ steps forward and takes his place to the left of the Scout, facing the audience*).

So, you reached the first ledge and you were greeted by a large group of Second Class Scouts. (*Second Class Scout _____ steps out and takes his place to the left of the Tenderfoot, facing the audience (should be about center aisle)*).

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. (*First Class Scout _____ steps out and takes his place to the left of the Second Class Scout, facing the audience.*). **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. (*Star Scout _____ steps out and takes his place to the left of the First Class Scout, facing the audience*). **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. (*Life Scout _____ steps out and takes his place to the left of the Star Scout, facing the audience.*) **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 become tougher but more interesting. The original principles, the Scout Oath and Law now had a fuller meaning. Your understanding of them was greater. Yes. We have watched your character unfold and become more manly. We have watched your leadership expand into a valuable asset. 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. *(Scouts return to their seats).*

REVIEW OF EAGLE RANK CRITERIA

Advancement Committee Chairman, _____

The awarding of the Eagle Badge is an important and serious occasion. The climax and the goal for which a Scout works for many years. It is an occasion for pride and joy and a time for serious contemplation. It is the culmination of the efforts of the various leaders of this Troop. The Eagle Award is the highest and most coveted rank in Scouting; the last major step in the advancement program. Less than 1 out of 50 Scouts (or 2%) in the United States reach the Eagle Rank. At this point we trust you have achieve our purpose in building of character, training of leadership and the practice of service. To become an Eagle Scout a Scout must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, including 12 of which that are required. He must serve actively in a Troop leadership position for a period of six months after achieving the rank of Life Scout. While a Life Scout he must plan, develop and carry out a service project helpful to a religious institution, school or community in a manner

worthy of an Eagle Scout. He must demonstrate, through the testimony of character references and otherwise, that he lives by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life. Finally, he must appear before a Board of Review.

_____ has been in Troop 225 for _____ years following his crossover from Pack 225. He has earned a total of _____ merit badges and has served as _____. He is a _____ member of the Order of the Arrow Unami Lodge.

_____’s Eagle Project involved _____.

As Advancement Committee Chairman for Troop 225, it is my pleasure to report that, after a thorough review of his qualifications, _____ has qualified for the rank of Eagle Scout and is entitled to receive the Eagle Scout Award [and the Bronze Palm for five additional merit badges and service to the Troop since his Eagle Board of Review.]

EAGLE SCOUT CHALLENGE

_____ reads the official Challenge (framed certificate at lectern).

At this time, I ask _____ to come

forward to administer the Eagle Scout Oath.

THE EAGLE SCOUT OATH

Will all the Eagle Scouts present please stand for the recitation of the Eagle Scout Oath? *(Eagles in the audience stand).*

_____. **Please give the Scout Sign and repeat the Eagle Scout Oath 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 the rank of Eagle Scout. ...

On my honor I will do my best...

...to make my training...

...example, rank, and influence...

...count strongly for better Scouting...

...and for better citizenship...

...in my Troop...

...in my community, ...

...and in my contacts with other people...

...always.

The Eagles in the audience may be seated.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

Scoutmaster

Will the Eagle Escort please bring the parents of the Eagle Candidate forward?

(_____ (mother) takes her place on the Eagle's left; _____ (father) takes his place on the Eagle's right).

No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from _____'s mother which have helped lead us to this day. As a symbol of what his mother made possible, the Court now asks _____ to present his mother with a miniature Eagle pin. (*Scoutmaster gives the pin to _____ who then pins it on his mother*). _____, your father has stoop by you over the years and has offered his encouragement and leadership as a _____. As a symbol of what he has contributed to your attainment of this award, the Court now asks you to present him with a miniature Eagle pin. (*Scoutmaster gives the pin to _____ who then pins it on his father.*)

_____. **By the authority vested to me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is with distinct**

honor and pleasure that I present you with the Eagle Scout Award and it is my further privilege to declare you an Eagle Scout.

I will ask your mother to pin your award over your heart. *(Scoutmaster gives the award to _____ (mother) who pins it on _____'s left chest, just above the pocket).*

[If applicable] **In addition, it is my privilege to also present you with your Bronze Palm, signifying the five additional merit badges that you have earned and service to the Troop since your Eagle Board of Review.** *(Scoutmaster gives the pin to _____ (father) who pins it on the Eagle medal ribbon.*

I now present you with the Eagle Scout Certificate, signed by the Chief Scout Executive and the President of the United States. It reads...

(Scoutmaster reads Eagle Scout Certificate and presents it to _____ along with his card.)

(Scoutmaster then calls for the Eagle Neckerchief Presentation.)

PRESENTATION OF EAGLE NECKERCHIEF AND SLIDE

_____ & _____

_____, on behalf of the Scouts, adult leaders and

Committee members of Troop 225 it is our pleasure to present to you the Eagle Scout Neckerchief and Neckerchief Slide.

(_____ & _____ takes off _____'s Troop Neckerchief and Slide and replaces them with the Eagle Neckerchief and slide. They shake his hand, congratulate him and return to their seats.)

(Scoutmaster then introduces the guests for presentations: _____)

_____, you have received several commendations and letters with reference to your Eagle rank accomplishment. I would like to take a moment to review a couple and make note that these documents will be on display during the reception for all to review: Letters from: _____.

These are just a few. Please take the time to view all of them at the reception.

At this time I call _____ forward to deliver the Eagle Charge. (_____ gives his presentation items to his parents who, along with the Scoutmaster, then return to their seats. _____ remains standing, facing the audience).

THE EAGLE CHARGE

_____. I have the honor of giving you the Eagle Scout Charge on this 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 the highest rank in its membership. 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 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. When you fail, you bring down by so much the good name of all true and worthy Scouts.

Your responsibility goes beyond your fellow Scouts, to your Country and God.

America has many good things to give you and your children after you; but these things depend, for the most part, on the character and leadership abilities of Her citizens.

You are to help Her in all that She needs most. She has a great past. You are here to make Her future 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 your fellow man. So live and serve that those who know you will be inspired to the finest living.

I charge you to be among those who dedicate their skills and abilities to the common good.

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

**At this time, the Court invites Eagle Scout _____
_____ to make his remarks on this occasion.**

THE EAGLE'S REMARKS

Eagle Scout, _____

Mentor Pins presentations.

Presentation of inspiration presents.

Comments

(After his remarks, _____ returns to his seat and Scoutmaster moves to the lectern.)

SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE

Scoutmaster

THE BENEDICTION

RETIRING THE COLORS

Committee Chairperson, _____

After the ceremony and pictures have been taken, I invite you (on behalf of _____ and

his parents, _____ and _____) to attend a reception in the lower church.

I now declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor adjourned.

Please stand for the retiring of the Colors. (*Instructions here*
_____)

(*Senior Patrol Leader* _____):

Color Guard. Retire the Colors!
(*Instructions* _____)