

**SCOUTS-L**

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**EAGLE PROJECTS**

**Date:** Fri, 29 Jul 1994 22:40:32 -0400 (EDT)  
**From:** "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@cap.gwu.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Eagle Service Project  
**To:** Charles Nusbaum <aa904@cleveland.Freenet.Edu>

Charles,

Your willingness to spring back from dissapointment is heartening! Many old-timers could take a lesson . . .

Anyway, are there any retirement centers close to where you live, particularly religious or government subsidized? If so, see whether any of them have garden plots for residents. Many are using gardening as an activity to residents because of its theraphy value and because its just plain fun. If these two questions are answered in the affirmative, then see whether they could use a garden shed to store tools, seeds, etc. We've had a couple successful Eagle projects where the candidate organized the construction of the shed, stocked it with tools and provisioned it with seeds in metal storage containers. Hardware and garden center stores were very willing to donate to the cause. Lumber came from construction site left overs. In all the cost was minimal and the joy immeasurable for many folks confined to the homes. Leadership opportunities in planning, coordinating and carrying out the projects abounded.

Yours in Scouting, Michael F. Bowman, a/k/a Professor Beaver  
Deputy District Commissioner Exploring, GW Dist., NCAC, BSA  
Speaking only for myself, but with Scouting Spirit . . .  
\_\_\_\_\_ mfbowman@CAP.GWU.EDU \_\_\_\_\_

**Date: Sat, 30 Jul 1994 07:28:35 -0400**  
**From: mhorowit@cap.gwu.edu (Michael C. Horowitz)**  
**To: mfbowman**  
**Subject: Good idea!**

**Nice Eagle Project suggestion! Mike**

**Date: Sat, 30 Jul 1994 10:55:29 -0400**  
**From: aa904@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Charles Nusbaum)**  
**To: mfbowman@cap.gwu.edu**  
**Subject: Re: Eagle Service Project**

**Michael,**

**Great idea!**

**--> Charles Nusbaum**

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**Charles Nusbaum \* Saint Ignatius High School - Class of 1998**  
**aa904@po.cwru.edu \* Saint Ignatius Wildcat Marching & Concert**  
**Band**  
**Co-Sysop of The SeaQuest SIG \* B.S.A. Troop 176 - Cleveland, Ohio**  
**~~~~~ \* Order of the Arrow - Cuyahoga Lodge No.**

**17**

**Date:** Tue, 4 Oct 1994 23:13:08 -0400 (EDT)  
**From:** "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@cap.gwu.edu>  
**Subject:** Re: Eagle Projects - New Question

**Bob,**

I've also seen a wide range of time on Eagle projects. In part this is due to the varying degree of leadership development the Scout has when the project is initiated. We've had to encourage more focus and reduced hours once as well as encourage a bit more initiative. I'd hate to see a real number become a target. I think that it should be whatever is appropriate to the Scout's skills, talents and capabilities, provided he is being challenged and has to stretch a bit. I agree with you that his time management is his responsibility and he should have learned something about this if he earned the Personal Management merit badge (requirement #5) or the Family Life merit badge. Probably his dad hasn't bothered to ask what will help him more 20 years from now - grades or leadership ability. Sounds like you're doing good Scouting and as usual parents are more difficult to deal with than the Scouts.

**Yours in Scouting, Michael F. Bowman, a/k/a Professor Beaver**  
**Deputy District Commissioner Exploring, GW Dist., NCAC, BSA**  
**Speaking only for myself, but with Scouting Spirit . . .**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ mfbowman@CAP.GWU.EDU \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date:** Mon, 13 Nov 1995 01:04:51 -0600  
**From:** golden cliff <c60clg1@CORN.CSO.NIU.EDU>  
**Subject:** Re: EAGLE SERVICE PROJECTS

These are a few ideas from some past projects my Scouts have done.

- Design and build educational games for learning disabled students.
- Straighen grave markers and fill-in pot holes in road at County Cemetary.
- Set up Disaster Response Plan with local ARC and Scouting, do mock event.
- Design and build historical display for local museum.
- Do landscaping project for local park.
- Build patio area for local nursing home.
- Plant trees for forest preserve district.
- Landscaping project for church.
- Dinner welcoming international students at university.
- Clean up and painting project for church.
- Clean up city parking lots after winter snow melt.
- Set up historical trail through town and write brochure.
- Paint 100 picnic tables for park district.
- Transplant large trees at forest preserve.
- Blood Drive.
- Design, build, and install flag holders for light posts for city.
- Restoration work for native prairie at forest preserve.
- Clean and paint light booth at local high school.
- Work with mentally handicapped students through custom designed porgram.
- Correct water erosion problem at public park.
- Create and implement program to record church services and deliver to shut ins.
- Paint house and garage of elderly woman.
- Design & build conservation education unit for forest preserve.
- Build handicapped trail with posts for braille plaques at forest preserve.
- Organize and conduct river clean up campaign.
- Clean up and repair children's playground.
- Rehab old bikes to donate to underprivalaged children.
- Food Drive for the needy.
- Repaint World War II army tank (local monument)
- Build nesting platforms for Canadian Geese for forest preserve.
- Grade pond banks to control erosion, map pond, stock with fish.
- Landscaping project for local VFW grounds.

- Oak savannah restoration project at local forest preserve.

There are hundreds of ideas out there. I hope these few help.

YIS, Cliff Golden                      DeKalb, Illinois  
Scoutmaster Troop 33              cgolden@niu.edu

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Thu Dec 21 01:01:41 1995

Subject: GOOD NEWS DEPT - Eagle In the Spotlight

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.951221004934.28087E-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

The following is taken from the December 1995 edition of GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE a magazine that is sent to most federal Government managers and national in its audience:

Jeremy Nuanes, a 17-year-old Boy Scout from Golden, Colo., wants to attain the Scouts' highest honor, the rank of Eagle Scout. And he wants to do it by honoring federal employees.

For his Eagle Scout public-service project, Nuanes is raising funds to erect a memorial at the Denver Federal Center to all federal employees who have lost their lives in service to their country, such as those who were killed in last April's Oklahoma City bombing, died fighting fires on federal lands, or gave their lives providing disaster relief both here and abroad.

Nuanes says he got the idea after seeing the dedication last July of a bronze statute and memorial on Colorado's Storm King Mountain to the 14 fire-fighters who lost their lives in a 1994 blaze there. "I thought it was great, but they didn't recognize all the federal workers that give their lives," he says.

Nuanes commissioned Jo Cipri, a sculptor and firefighter, to design the memorial. It will feature a statute of an eagle, representing the federal work force, soaring above a globe wrapped in the American flag. Nuanes hopes to hold the dedication of the statue during Public Service Recognition Week next May.

Nuanes comes from a public-service family. His father is a firefighter and his mother works as a GS-11 engineer at the Bureau of Reclamation. But he says his future lies in the private sector. "I want to work for a

company like IBM and work on computers," he says. "I love computers. It's, like, my whole life."

Nuanes is soliciting donations through January 15, 1996. By late October he had raised about \$1,000 of the \$24,000 needed to erect the monument. Contributors donating \$2,50 or more will receive a bronze model of the sculpture. Donations can be sent to the Credit Union of Denver, Eagle Project Memorial Fund, Attn: Marcene Walker, P.O. Box 261420, Lakewood, CO 80226-1420.

\_\_\_\_\_ end story \_\_\_\_\_

Well it may not be Time magazine yet, but anytime an Eagle Scout gets National attention in any of the news media in a positive fashion, I think its worth repeating. My hat is off to Life Scout Jeremy Nuanes!

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training, G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

Date: Fri, 22 Dec 1995 14:22:52 -0500  
From: "Bruce E. Cobern" <bec@PIPELINE.COM>  
Subject: Re: GOOD NEWS DEPT - Additional Info

On Dec 22, 1995 01:20:00, "'Michael F. Bowman"  
<mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG>' wrote:

>Of course an Eagle Project that is solely oriented towards fund raising would  
>not meet the requirements. Unfortunately all we have is a news article written  
>by someone impressed by Scouting for the rest of the world and not for those  
>who'd ask more questions. Before we end up with misplaced or unwarranted  
  
>criticism, maybe I can help out.

Since I was one of a couple who raised the question, let me express my



feelings and reservations.

You are correct, we do not have all of the information, so we need to deal with this hypothetically. I feel that this is of general concern because these are issues that many of us face when dealing with Eagle projects.

IF the project involved all of the things you described in the rest of your post (which I have deleted to save bandwidth) I.E. the Scout was responsible for the design of the monument, securing permission for its placement, commissioning the sculptor, having it cast and then sited IN ADDITION TO raising the considerable amount of funds necessary for all of this then I would agree with you that this is PROBABLY an acceptable Eagle Project. It would also be a MONUMENTAL (pun intended) undertaking, far greater than what most of the Eagles I have dealt with have done.

If, on the other hand, the Scouts role in seeing this to fruition is the raising of funds to pay for a project the remainder of the details of which were handled by someone else, and into which he had minimal or no input or responsibility, then I would definitely not approve it as an Eagle project.

Even if the first scenario is the case I might still have problems with the size of the fundraising effort in relation to the rest of the project. My interpretation of the fundraising restriction is that national envisions that fundraising will be incidental to the primary objective of a project. I do not know at what point the level of fundraising becomes a potential problem but I tend to believe that I would know it when I see it. If it turns out, for example, that 80% of the Scouts time on the project was actually spent in raising the funds while the rest of the work went on without major involvement on his part then I would have a problem.

Again, since we do not know exactly what parts of this project are actually being "planned, led, and given leadership" by this Scout we cannot form any sort of judgement on its worthiness, other than to raise the red flags and ask questions.

--

Bruce E. Cobern  
Advancement Chairman  
Dan Beard District  
Queens Council, NY

**Date:** Thu, 21 Dec 1995 22:08:33 -0700  
**From:** "Chris Haggerty, Sierra Vista, Arizona"  
<CHAGGERTY@BPA.ARIZONA.EDU>  
**Subject:** Re: GOOD NEWS DEPT - Eagle In the Spotlight

I just sent the following on to the address given in the article quoted by Michael Bowman. From the information presented in the article, it is too difficult to tell if the project is really building the memorial or if the project is the fund raiser. As I state in the letter, (with appologies to Michael Bowman who works in the press), this may be just another case of the press twisting things so they write (read) better, but not necessary correct. Just in case this is a fund raiser, as the article states it is, then Jeremy needs to be made aware of this. He either did not read the instructions or one of us adults is screwing up again and telling him, his project is ok when it is not. In my opinion, if he is not envolved in the process (more than commissioning) of building the memorial by directing the effort and coordinating the effort, then this is not an Eagle Scout Service Project. Either way, it is still a super thing to do!

December 22, 1995

Credit Union of Denver  
Eagle Project Memorial Fund  
Attn: Marcene Walker  
P.O. Box 261420  
Lakewood, Colorado 80226-1420

Dear Ms. Walker: Please forward this letter to the Jeremy Nuanes, Thank you.

Dear Master Nuanes:

Please do not take this the wrong way. My hope is that the GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE magazine has not properly presented your Eagle Scout Project. It is hard to make a judgement when one does not have all the information.

Since I rarely believe exactly what the press states, I hope that this presentation of your project is not correct. I am referring to a recent article published in the December 1995 issue which talks about your Eagle Scout project. A copy of what I received is enclosed for your reference.

My concern is that your Eagle Scout project, may in fact be a fund-raising

activity which is not allowed by the rules and policies of the Boy Scouts of America. The requirements for Eagle specify that you must use the "Life to Eagle Packet" BSA # 18-927 while working on your Eagle Scout Project. In this document it states on page 0 (the page before page 1): "The project also may not be performed for a business, be of a commercial nature, or be a fund-raiser. (Fund-raising is permitted only for securing materials for supplies needed to carry out your project.)" This information is presented under the Limitations section of this packet. The "Advancement Policies and Procedures Committee Guide", BSA # 33088, provides the same information on page 15. This is the guide used by the District and Council Scouters to help them follow BSA's National policy.

It is my hope that your real project is building the memorial you are having designed by Jo Cipri. It is my hope that the GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE should have described your project as building this memorial and that you are seeking donations for the purchase of the materials needed to construct the memorial. That is within the guidelines.

If you have concerns about your project after reading this, please discuss this with your District or Council Advancement Chairman. You do not need to reply to me about this letter. I am only expressing a concern that some adults may have missed this when reviewing your project. These policies on the requirements for Eagle are not something the local Scout Executive or anyone, other than the National Committee, can alter. My main concern is the possibility that this is a fund-raiser and when you get to your Eagle Scout Board of Review, someone is going to notice that and say, sorry your project was not within the Guidelines set by National. This has happened in the past and the Eagle Candidates involved can be very demoralized as a result. While the work was very admirable, it was not within the guidelines and thus does not count for Eagle. I would hate for that to happen to you.

Good luck with your Eagle, from the publicity you have been able to stir up, there certainly is the potential for you be a very good Eagle Scout. Like Michael Bowman, I take my hat off to you for what you are doing. Eagle project or not, this is an outstanding effort.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris Haggerty

**Cochise District Advancement Chairman**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Fri Dec 22 01:20:01 1995  
Subject: Re: GOOD NEWS DEPT - Additional Info**

**Of course an Eagle Project that is solely oriented towards fund raising would not meet the requirements. Unfortunately all we have is a news article written by someone impressed by Scouting for the rest of the world and not for those who'd ask more questions. Before we end up with misplaced or unwarranted criticism, maybe I can help out.**

**The project from all that I can understand of it would certainly fall within the Eagle Project Guidelines that I know and should receive a favorable Eagle BOR as well. Let me explain in some detail my reasoning:**

**In evaluating an Eagle Scout Project the BSA Advancement Policies and Procedures Committee Guide (1995) states "Fund-raising is permitted only for securing materials or supplies needed to carry out the project."**

**Before a project can be approved, the candidate must identify fund-raising, materials to be used, and how the materials are to be acquired.**

**This particular project is a large monument constructed from stone and bronze. From what I have read about local monuments of similar size (and I am guessing based on the artist's sketch that was with the article), the raw materials alone could easily exceed the \$24,000 that Nuanes is raising.**

**Add to this the construction materials needed to crate and move the monument from the sculptors studio, etc. and you can see my point that it could be that he's getting a bargain on materials. Unfortunately, we have to trust this Scout, because the news story doesn't tell anything about its costs - wasn't an audit report you know. :-)**

**The same Advancement Policies and Procedures Committee Guide suggests the following questions for an Eagle Board of Review:**

- \* Did the candidate demonstrate leadership of others?**

**Going through the process to obtain federal land use permits, organizing**

material acquisition, organizing fundraising, securing the presumably free services of a volunteer sculptor, etc., and bring it all together probably should suffice here. There is nothing that says the Scout can't supervise other adults. Again we have no information to infer he did not meet leadership requirements or use other Scouts as well.

- \* Did he indeed direct the project rather than do all of the work himself?

Same as previous. The article focuses on the result and I'm prone to trust a Scout until proven otherwise. To me it is obvious that he is not doing all the work himself and that he has shown leadership.

- \* Was the project of real value to the religious institution, school, or community group?

My :- ) guess is that the federal community thinks this is of real value.

- \* Who from the group benefiting from the project may be contacted to verify the value of the project?

The same Government that approved the use of federal property for the monument.

- \* Did the project follow the approved plan or were modifications needed to bring it to its completion.

Here we have no information, but it looks like the plan is working so far.

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle  
Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Fri Dec 22 14:38:20 1995  
Subject: Re: GOOD NEWS DEPT - Additional Info

Bruce,

I can certainly understand your concerns - you have valid questions. Whenever we are reviewing an Eagle Project we should be looking to make sure that the acquisition of material or the means to pay for it is not the largest part of the effort. In this case I will hope that it is not.

Chris,

**:-) I have been called worse; e.g. a member of the press. Just to clear the record here, I am not a member of the press or any news media. I am a federal Government attorney. Likewise, I am acutely aware that the news media can leave a bit to be desired in writing a story. For example, when I was presented my Eagle Scout rank, the local paper ran a short story with a picture - the caption was "Wins Birdie." 28 years later and I haven't forgotten that little lesson. :-) I suspect that in this case the news story was only a small part of the real story and that much of the real effort escaped the writer's pen.**

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Sat Dec 23 00:22:10 1995  
To: pfarnham@CapAccess.org  
Subject: Re: Good News**

Pete,

**Thank you for your kind understanding of a difficult situation that really floored me and put my spirit to the test with temptation to follow the darker path with a violation of my own rule of praise in public and criticize in private. At the moment when most sorely tempted, the angelic voices of a boys choir penetrated my thick skull and made me realize with shame the message of goodwill was one I was about to violate. Hence my milder postings in response. Sometimes it seems that God has a way of letting one know when things are going too far, if hearing is not impaired. :-)**

**While I have bit my lip (bleeding profusely) and was tempted, I found it much better to step back for a broader panorama of distance and time to place things in a better context. Chris, who I know and have spent many hours with by telephone is basically good at heart, but short in thinking before acting sometimes. To really give him a good public chastizing would only make things worse and impair our ability to nudge both him and others along to better courses of future action.**

**My thinking is that it would be better to give young Mr. Nautes a chance to share his work with us and learn more about it. The facts can speak for themselves. Object lessons will teach themselves.**

**Thanks for your kind invitation to help. To the extent that I can find a bit more time, I'll be happy to help. Our trial is over and we are now preparing for an appeal after the Judge cut us off without allowing critical evidence. In a month I'll be better able to give an honest assessment of how much I can do to help.**

**Tommorrow I'll be setting pen to paper to write some Silver Beaver nominations. Funny how things change. Only a few years back I would not have thought from my station to have presumed to suggest these awards. Now I'm hopeful that those who wear the blue and white will act on the words of one who does not and reward some really deserving folks who have heart and soul in doing all they can for our youth. Wish me luck in the writing process.**

**Thanks again for all of your kind words and thoughts. May God grant you and your family a very warm, memorable, and Merry Christmas. Peace and goodwill be with you.**

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**Date: Tue, 16 Jan 1996 17:27:16 -0500  
From: Randy Ritter <CCCEF.RITTER@CAPITAL.GE.COM>  
Subject: Winter Eagle Projects**

**Currently have 17 life scouts in the troop and the following projects are in various stages of completion:**

**Winter Projects:**

**Organizing, promoting and running a potluck dinner featuring a keynote speaker for victims of domestic violence.**

**Creating health related surveys, polling the community and arranging for public forums to discuss the top 6 health concerns.**

## **Building Bluebird boxes and installing in Spring**

### **Early Spring projects:**

- Island cleanup for creation of badly needed soccer fields.**
- Landscaping project at softball field including erosion barriers, and creating a tiered spectator area.**
- Improving and creating town forest nature identification trails.**
- Beautifying a highway exit ramp with shrubery and Welcome sign.**
- Coordinating a Good Friday community cleanup day**
- Creating a riverside passive use park with bench and picnic table.**
- Reclaim & beautify neighborhood walkway between two streets.**

### **Other winter/early spring projects that have been done are:**

- Easter Dinner for the homeless**
- Vial for life distribution**
- Winter jacket collection, cleaning and distribution**
- Recording books for the blind**

**Of course the best Eagle Projects are usually those conceived by the scouts themselves. However sharing a list of projects may be what it takes to get their creative juices flowing.**

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**YIS, Randy Ritter, Eagle '82 & Scoutmaster Trp 3 Derby, Connecticut**

**Date: Sat, 6 Jan 1996 02:14:12 -0500 (EST)**  
**From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>**  
**To: Fred Rogers <fredrogers@VNET.IBM.COM>**  
**Subject: Re: GOOD NEWS DEPT - Eagle In the Spotlight**

**Fred,**

**Did you read the subsequent messages concerning what we do know and what we do not know from the article. We for example do not know how active the Scout is in raising the money or whether he has delegated. We do not know in proportion to the material costs whether it is reasonable, although my best information is that the amount is reasonable. You must certainly know that news media no matter how well intentioned do not report all the news and most of what you really would like to know.**

**The national recognition of something good for a change struck me as worth encouragement. The only response I got for the effort was a good**



lot of grousing from half-informed folks that should know better. If I were the editor and got this kind of a response, I wouldn't make the same mistake twice. To cap it off one of our number decided to write a letter to the Eagle questioning his project, which undoubtedly went through his own District's review.

I've had a lot of respect for your thoughts in the past and since I now find us a bit at odds on this, please help me understand why it is that what should be good news has served only as a place for pigeon poop. I guess I'm amazed at how fast people went off the mark to shoot it down without enough facts to know what the target was. In the hunting safety course we'd still call it a homicide, even if the shooter thought it was a deer. :-)

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Sat Feb 17 16:27:50 1996

Date: Sat, 17 Feb 1996 16:27:49 -0500 (EST)

From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>

To:

Multiple Recipients of the List SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L%TCUBVM.BITNET@PUCC.PRINCETON.EDU>

Subject: Re: Eagle Project Fundraisers

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.960217162709.16050A-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Status: RO

X-Status:

Ralph,

There are several reasons for not wanting Eagle projects to involve fundraising:

1. It could operate to the detriment of the Council's own fundraising efforts to cover the costs of operation and capital expenses such as camp buildings, etc.

2. Fundraising by the youth could cause a number of interesting tax problems for the youth (and/or his family) and the donor unless the youth was willing to do what is necessary to become a tax-exempt non-profit entity under the tax laws.

3. The idea of the Eagle Project is to teach leadership. Fundraising can involve leadership, but more often than not would either end up being handled by an adult or a youth soliciting contributions instead of exercising real leadership.

4. Fundraising is transitory. It is hard to see concrete results or to know for sure just how the funds were actually used; e.g. were 80% spent on administering the charity and 20% used for charitable purposes? No it is much better for the Scout to have done something that he will remember

and be able to look back upon with pride in his accomplishment. I can still remember my Uncle taking me to Camp Beltzer in Indianapolis in 1965

and proudly pointing out a brick walkway and retaining wall leading to the Dining hall that he had built for his Eagle Project in 1920, Forty-five years earlier. To his death a few years ago he treasured the memory of making that walkway that thousands upon thousands of Scouts used at camp over the course of some 60 summers.

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training, G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - [mfbowman@capaccess.org](mailto:mfbowman@capaccess.org)

Date: Sun, 19 May 1996 12:22:48 -0400 (EDT)

From: "Michael F. Bowman" <[mfbowman@CapAccess.org](mailto:mfbowman@CapAccess.org)>

To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <[SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU](mailto:SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU)>

cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <[SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU](mailto:SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU)>

Subject: Re: Eagle project question.

Jim,

Planning an Eagle project can be a real challenge. Before your son gets too far down the path of planning his project, he should carefully read BSA's "Life to Eagle Packet" No. 18-927 (1995). In the "Packet" he will find that "Working involving council property or other BSA activities is not permitted. The project also may not be performed for a business, be of

a commercial nature, or be a fundraiser. (Fundraising is permitted only for securing materials or supplies needed to carry out your project.)"

Based on what the "Packet" instructions say, organizing a fundraising run to benefit the local Council, while praiseworthy, would not be acceptable as an Eagle project. However, he is on the right track. Perhaps a bit of a shift in emphasis could help. For example, he could demonstrate leadership and service by providing all of the support services for a run promoting physical fitness among school aged youth where no fundraising was taking place. He could also organize a run bicycle safety campaign and trek or even one for skateboarding, where he developed a safety campaign in advance of the event, held equipment safety tests, had skill tests, and a written test for participants.

Though not exactly the same, many of his ideas could be carried over to a productive project. Another idea would be to organize a fitness walk for seniors in a park with an aid station, free blood pressure tests, refreshments along the way, and booths to visit along the route with health care people to provide information on health subjects.

Or how about having design a wheelchair accessible fitness route from a local hospital or veterans home, correcting problem areas and then having an event to celebrate its opening and use.

Whatever he decides, and it sounds like he is ambitious enough to do some really great things, make sure that you work with your District's public relations Scouter to see that the local media gets invited to attend whatever event or activity he comes up with after a bit more planning. Some of these make great human interest stories and why not have his efforts recognized in the community?

Good luck,

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - [mfbowman@capaccess.org](mailto:mfbowman@capaccess.org)

Date: Sun, 2 Jun 1996 00:35:36 -0400 (EDT)

From: "Michael F. Bowman" <[mfbowman@CapAccess.org](mailto:mfbowman@CapAccess.org)>

To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <[SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU](mailto:SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU)>

cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <[SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU](mailto:SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU)>

Subject: Re: Eagle Project Ideas-Music

John,

Your Scout's heart is in the right place, but as other posters have noted, fundraising is not an appropriate Eagle Scout project. It may help to have some reasons to explain to your Eagle why another project would be better and then go over the rules.

There are several reasons for not wanting Eagle projects to involve fundraising:

1. It could operate to the detriment of the Council's own fundraising efforts to cover the costs of operation and capital expenses such as camp buildings, etc.
2. Fundraising by the youth could cause a number of interesting tax problems for the youth (and/or his family) and the donor unless the youth was willing to do what is necessary to become a tax-exempt non-profit entity under the tax laws.
3. The idea of the Eagle Project is to teach leadership. Fundraising can involve leadership, but more often than not would either end up being handled by an adult or a youth soliciting contributions instead of exercising real leadership.
4. Fundraising is transitory. It is hard to see concrete results or to know for sure just how the funds were actually used; e.g. were 80% spent on administering the charity and 20% used for charitable purposes? No it is much better for the Scout to have done something that he will remember and be able to look back upon with pride in his accomplishment. I can still remember my Uncle taking me to Camp Beltzer in Indianapolis in 1965 and proudly pointing out a brick walkway and retaining wall leading to the Dining hall that he had built for his Eagle Project in 1920, Forty-five years earlier. To his death a few years ago he treasured the memory of making that walkway that thousands upon thousands of Scouts used at camp over the course of some 60 summers.

Planning an Eagle project can be a real challenge. Before any Scout gets to far down the path of planning his project, he should carefully read BSA's "Life to Eagle Packet" No. 18-927 (1995). In the "Packet" he will find that "Working involving council property or other BSA activities is not permitted. The project also may not be performed for a business, be of

a commercial nature, or be a fundraiser. (Fundraising is permitted only for securing materials or supplies needed to carry out your project.)"

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle  
Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**Date: Sat, 3 Aug 1996 00:14:44 -0700  
From: Jeff Babis <jbab@THERIVER.COM>  
Subject: Re: Eagle Project**

> Anyone have a good eagle project? I need one and could use some others  
> for Life Scouts in my troop.

One of the best Eagle projects which I have ever seen was for the battered children's home. The Eagle candidate had most of the members of the troop record on tape while they read children's books from the library of the children's home. The tapes were then attached to the library books with plastic covers. This project allowed children who could not read, to listen to the tape while they followed along and looked at the pictures. This really helped the overburdened staff of the children's home. I believe this project had about 500 boy-hours in it.

**YIS**

**J. Babis**

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|| Come ride The River ----- <http://www.theriver.com/> ||  
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**From <@pucc.PRINCETON.EDU:owner-scouts-l@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU> Tue  
Mar 11 17:06:02 1997  
Return-Path: <@pucc.PRINCETON.EDU:owner-scouts-l@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Received: from pucc.PRINCETON.EDU (smtpc@pucc.Princeton.EDU  
[128.112.129.99]) by cap1.CapAccess.org (8.6.12/8.6.10) with SMTP id  
RAA02819; Tue, 11 Mar 1997 17:06:02 -0500  
Received: from PUCC.PRINCETON.EDU by pucc.PRINCETON.EDU (IBM VM  
SMTP V2R2)**

with BSMTP id 6054; Tue, 11 Mar 97 17:01:04 EST  
Received: from TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU (NJE origin MAILER@TCUBVM) by  
PUCC.PRINCETON.EDU (LMail V1.2a/1.8a) with BSMTP id 3446; Tue, 11 Mar  
1997 17:01:04 -0500  
Received: from TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU (NJE origin LISTSERV@TCUBVM) by  
TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU (LMail V1.2a/1.8a) with BSMTP id 9133; Tue,  
11 Mar 1997 16:02:15 -0600  
Received: from TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU by TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU (LISTSERV  
release 1.8b)  
with NJE id 9130 for SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU; Tue, 11 Mar  
1997  
16:01:30 -0600  
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TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU (LMail  
V1.2a/1.8a) with BSMTP id 9129; Tue, 11 Mar 1997 16:01:29 -0600  
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V2R2) with  
TCP; Tue, 11 Mar 97 16:01:24 CST  
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(PMDF  
V5.0-5 #20456) id <01IGDRETQD7K0033UI@ALPHA.IS.TCU.EDU> for  
Scouts-L@ALPHA.IS.TCU.EDU; Tue, 11 Mar 1997 15:59:57 -0600  
(CST)  
Received: from lizard ([199.108.120.43]) by mx1.Dynasty.Net (Netscape  
Mail  
Server v2.0) with SMTP id AAA333; Tue, 11 Mar 1997 15:59:44  
-0600  
X-Sender: blkeagle@mail.dynasty.net  
MIME-version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Pro Version 3.0.1 (16)  
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT  
Message-ID: <3.0.1.16.19970311225551.2d0fbc1e@mail.dynasty.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Mar 1997 22:55:51 +0000  
Reply-To: "(MAJ) Mike Walton (settummanque, the blackeagle)"  
<blkeagle@DYNASTY.NET>  
Sender: Scouts-L Youth Group List <Scouts-L@tcu.edu>  
From: "(MAJ) Mike Walton (settummanque, the blackeagle)"  
<blkeagle@DYNASTY.NET>  
Subject: Re: Eagle Project Question  
X-To: Kellen Daniel Mr WPC/Digital <Daniel.Kellen@WPC.AF.MIL>,  
Scouts-L@tcu.edu  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

**In-Reply-To:** <c=US%a=\_%p=DMS%l=WPC-EXCH-NTS0-970311101045Z-2001

@wpc-exch-nts02.wpc.af.mil>

**Status:** RO

**X-Status:**

**Dan Kellen posts from across "town" (Ramstein AB is about 20 kms or 16 miles from downtown Kaiserslautern):**

>As a fairly new SM, I am now faced for the first time with Life Scouts  
>looking for an Eagle project.

>

>My quandary is that I don't know what is expected of me. What level >of support am I expected to provide in their search for a project?

As much as you need to, Dan....most Life Scouts will have had two opportunities to see what constitutes an "Eagle project" by their earlier participation in service projects without being the "guy in charge". As an Eagle candidate, he should be the one finding, coordinating, planning, executing and evaluating his own project to benefit the community in some way.

Give him some "leads" but let HIM decide on which things he can handle and which are "over his head" to do. Give him names of resources that he can utilize, but let HIM call or contact them (and after you've talked with him and after he'd called or contacted them, you might want to followup and give some clarity to why he called...) but let HIM take the lead effort on this...this too, is part of the project process.

Then, after he has made the initial contact, he should be writing this up in the Life to Eagle Workbook, and getting the necessary approvals, starting with the organization or group that his project will benefit, then you as his Scoutmaster and then the District's Advancement Chair...BEFORE he starts out.

>Once they have an idea, who makes the phone calls to determine if the  
>affected organizations (beneficiary) will allow/accept/approve that the  
>project proceed?

The Eagle candidate should be making all of the initial calls and contacts. If he needs "emotional" or physical "backup", you may tag - along, but let HIM make the calls and the contacts and all of the legwork...it

is HIS project and he needs to know that doing this isn't "saying that I'll help the Thrift Shop this week" , waltzing over to the shop, putting in 20 hours of work, and that's it. It requires coordination and permissions, and in many cases as exists in our military communities, it also requires permits or special memorandums from the community saying that "this is a good thing and we support it".

Your main job should be to make sure that your Eagle candidate is going about it the right, safe and correct way, that those involved know that he's NOT there to paint fences or signs but rather to do something which should be meaningful and needed by the members of the community, and finally to HELP him to get the necessary support if that's what he needs.

But let HIM ask YOU for that help and support, and try not to do anything until he has done it first!!

Hope that helps....CU at Roundtable!!

Settummanque!

(MAJ) Mike Walton ("no such thing as strong coffee,...") (502) 827-9201  
(settummanque, the blackeagle) <http://www.vhm.com/~uscardnl/>  
174 Chapelwood Dr., Henderson, KY 42420-5036 kyblkeagle@aol.com  
blkeagle@dynasty.net or waltonm%po2.hq@taacom.army.mil

---FORWARD in service to youth ----