

**SCOUTS-L**

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**EAGLE SCOUTS**

**By earning the rank of Eagle Scout you have distinguished yourself as capable of great leadership and have demonstrated that you have the discipline and life skills necessary for success in any endeavor that you choose to pursue. No doubt the road to Eagle was not always easy. Yet you were able to remain steadfast in purpose and devotion to your ideals. This marks you as a special person, one that others will look up to in the years to come.**

**Let me share a poem with you written by another Eagle Scout that you can now appreciate:**

**Trail To Eagle  
by Greg Gough ©**

**Walk upon the trail,  
that links the,  
future with the past.  
Take the Oath,  
Live the Law.  
The pathway to Eagle,  
is steep and narrow.  
Your journey will require,  
skill and fortitude.  
Your reward:  
Knowledge and Understanding.  
Enough to base a lifetime on.  
Your challenge is to;  
Take the journey,  
Join the few and  
Soar with the Eagle.**

**You have completed that journey and are ready to soar with the Eagles.  
In all that you do, I wish you the very best. Congratulations.**

**Date: Mon, 7 Nov 1994 01:45:50 -0500 (EST)**  
**From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@cap.gwu.edu>**  
**Subject: US: Eagle Court of Honor**

Although the new Eagle should be a part of the planning process and be consulted as to his wishes, I wouldn't go so far as Jonathan Dixon to have him primarily responsible. Here I would agree with Ben Parker that the Scout has already earned his rank of Eagle and shouldn't have to be responsible for planning his own Court of Honor. In some ways it's embarrassing to plan a ceremony to honor yourself and seems venal. I've seen instances where an Eagle opted for a private in-home ceremony to avoid the embarrassment of planning an event. I think that most of us would be hesitant to go all out to plan something to cover ourselves in wreaths of glory. And I know that some of you make it a point not to wear all of the awards you can, because you're not there for the award.

Once a Scout has earned the highest award he can, I think all concerned should do their best to make the awarding ceremony the best it can be to celebrate this achievement and encourage other Scouts towards the same end. Probably, the person best able to make the event a memorable production should be selected to be an advisor to the PLC on this issue and help them plan the event and make sure of adult support in the process. Adult support could take the form of soliciting letters of congratulations (it'd be great to have the Scouts do this, but you'd hate to see it fail due to the reality of teenager reluctance to write anything), obtaining special mementos (flag flown over the Capital), refreshments, press releases (including a photo for the newspaper), etc. Adult support can be critical. I can recall in my own Troop the hazards of foisting this off on the Scouts without close adult supervision. When I was to be presented my Eagle, the Scribe wrote a story for the newspaper, which it printed including the photo caption. Right under my picture were the large print, bold letters spelling out "WINS BIRDIE." :( You can imagine what happened at school for days and days afterward - hey it's the "birdie boy" tweet tweet, etc. :( Nuff said.

**Michael F. Bowman, National Capital Area Council, BSA (Used to be a Beaver)**

**Speaking Only For Myself in the Scouting Spirit -  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 08:25:57 -0500  
From: "K. Scott Lehner" <HABCrew@AOL.COM>  
Subject: EMT That Eagle.

Bill,

I couldn't find one called "It's Only a Pin" but I did find this one.....

<<<                   What is it worth?

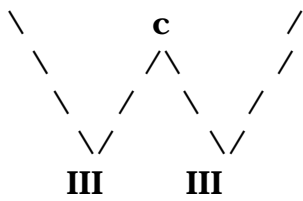
The Eagle Badge... The highest rank that a Scout can earn...What is it worth?...Well, in dollars and cents it is worth about \$6.50...Probably a dollar and a half in silver, twenty cents worth of ribbon, and the rest in manufacturing and handling costs... But, what is it really worth to you?

Think back to the time when you first became a Scout. Remember the Scout skills that you learned for each rank. And rededication to the Scout Oath and Law each time you advanced. Think of the service that you have given to your troop and other people. Is your Eagle badge worth six fifty? Of course not. Your Eagle badge is priceless. It represents everything that you have learned, everything that you have done, to be prepared, to help others and to help yourself. So now, you stand at the peak of the mountain. An Eagle Scout...now look ahead... look sharp. Way out there in the mist is another mountain...and there below is the trail to your future. It may be a long trail, or a short one, but it leads to that mountain far away. As you walk down the trail, and the years roll by, and you finally reach the end, we all hope that you can look back on the trail of life and be able to say, "I have done my best.">>>

I will ask two of the "Top Brass" here and try to get you an answer. It would be nice to add it to my files anyway.

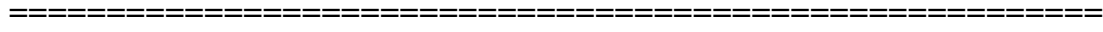
After typing this for you, I thought I might go ahead and post it the the list.

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**I used to be an Eagle...**  
**EC-400-W**  
**K. Scott Lehner \* HABCrew@AOL.COM**

**...it couldn't be any better...**



Date: Tue, 8 Nov 1994 09:13:48 -0500  
From: Henry Knowles <knowles@ESCMail.Oracle.MMC.COM>  
Subject: It's Only a Pin

## IT'S ONLY A PIN

Two fond parents watch their boy where he stands,  
Apart from his comrades tonight,  
And see placed on his camp-battered tunic, a badge...  
An Eagle... the emblem of right.  
It seems just a few short months have passed  
Since he joined with the youngsters next door...  
How proud they were then of their Tenderfoot pin  
As they told of the message it bore.

But the years have gone as he struggled along  
To learn what the Scout Law's about;  
He practiced them daily, the Oath and the Law,  
Until now he is an Eagle Scout.

You may smile in your worldly wisdom at this  
And say, "Why it's only a pin."  
But I'll tell you, no honors he'll gain as a man  
Will mean quite as much to him.

The red, white and blue of the ribbon you see  
Are the symbols of honor and truth.  
He has learned how to value these fine attributes  
In the glorious days of his youth.

And the out-flinging wings of the Eagle that rests  
On the breast of this knight of today  
Are the wings which will lift him above petty deeds,  
And guide him along the right way.

Yes, it's only a pin, just an Eagle Scout badge,  
But the heart beneath it beats true,  
And will throb to the last for the things that are good;  
A lesson for me... and for you.

**Date:** Tue, 8 Nov 1994 09:11:37 MST  
**From:** huntetb <huntetb@SMTPGATE.LDS-AZ.LORAL.COM>  
**Subject:** Thanks to all

Thanks to all of you for your quick response forgle Court of Honor Sunday.  
I have included a copy of our program for your interest.

**Bill Hunter SM T-99**  
**Arizona**

**EAGLE COURT OF HONOR**  
**JOHNPAUL KILKER NOVEMBER 13, 1994 y 4:00 P.M. MATTHEW CULBRETH**  
**The Church at Litchfield Park**

<b>Opening Music</b>	<b>Mouret: Rondeau</b>	
<b>Troop Entrance</b>	<b>Charpentier: Te Deum</b>	<b>Eagle Escorts</b>
<b>Court Entrance</b>	<b>Handle: Awake The Trumpet</b>	<b>Presiding</b>
<b>Officers</b>		
<b>Flag Ceremony</b>		<b>Agua Fria ROTC</b>
<b>Invocation</b>		<b>Sonny Culbreth</b>
<b>Scoutmaster's Minute</b>		<b>Bill Hunter</b>
<b>Eagle Procession</b>	<b>Prince of Denmark March</b>	<b>Eagle Escorts</b>
<b>Eagle Poem</b>	<b>It's Only a Pin</b>	<b>Jacob Delph</b>
<b>Keynote Address</b>	<b>James Creedon, Brig. Gen., USAF Ret.</b>	
<b>Eagle Virtues</b>	<b>Grand Entry Song</b>	<b>Chad Zaabadick</b>
<b>Hoop Dance</b>	<b>Intertribal</b>	<b>Matt Engbring/Matt</b>
<b>Lopez</b>		
<b>Examination</b>		<b>David Sparks</b>
<b>Eagle Charges</b>		<b>Presiding Officers</b>
<b>Eagle Pledge &amp; Award</b>		<b>Robert Horst, BSA</b>
<b>Benediction</b>		<b>Father L. Boyd</b>
<b>Eagle Departure</b>	<b>Chariots of Fire</b>	



**Date: Fri, 11 Nov 1994 19:47:29 -0500 (EST)**  
**From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@cap.gwu.edu>**  
**Subject: Re: Eagle Court of Honor**

**Greg,**

**You are to be commended for making sure that this young man gets some of the recognition and kindness he richly deserves and probably will not get anywhere else in his life, given the abuse at home. Sometimes Scouting is all a young man has.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F Bowman  
Used to be a Beaver, National Capital Area Council, B.S.A.  
mfbowman@CAP.GWU.EDU (mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG after 12/13/94)**

**Date:** Thu, 18 May 1995 09:24:25 -0500  
**From:** "J. Hugh Sullivan" <sullijh@NDLC.OCC.UKY.EDU>  
**Subject:** Eagle BOR Questions and BSA

Although there have been several pertinent replies on the subject, I am surprised that no one has cited a reference.

The publication, "Advancement Guidelines", on page 15, discusses what a Board should attempt to do with the review. If you haven't read the "Rule Book", how can you be qualified to sit on the Board or make comments? That is not to say one can't have opinions, it is only to express my opinion about their credibility. By their comments, I would say that John Pannell and Michael F. Bowman have read the book.

I believe that questions, where answers are opinions rather than BSA principles or facts, should be asked to determine what (and that) the candidate thinks, not to start a debate or find out what the Board thinks. That's my opinion after 21 years on the Board - 10 as Chair.

Next, The September 1992 issue of "Scouting" discusses 1. "groups who claim we will not allow them to participate in the BSA because of their differences with our long-held standards" 2. "these same individuals claim that we are infringing upon their personal rights by maintaining this position". In the first case, BSA says "they're absolutely correct"; and, on the second count, says "they're absolutely wrong".

I have not seen an intelligent reason to disagree with that position.

Flame fast if you're going to - I only have 2 days to ignore them before being off the net for 2 months.

Hugh  
Eagle, Class of '43

**Date:** Wed, 7 Jun 1995 14:19:45 +0000  
**From:** Carey Probst <hcprobst@NetHeaven.com>  
**Subject:** Eagle checklist

At Twin Rivers Council, when a scout reaches Life, he can pick up an Eagle Pack from the council office which details the paperwork procedures to follow for approval of the project and

the ultimately the Board of Review.

This is the basic checklist. In addition there are several pages of support documents, definitions, etc. which I have not had an opportunity to enter into my system.

Since I've seen several questions regarding the checklist, I've decided to send it to the list.

## **EAGLE APPLICATION**

### **CHECK LIST**

### **DATE COMPLETED**

- 1. Pick up an Eagle Application Kit from Council Service Center.**
- 2. Set preliminary verbal approval for Eagle Project idea from Scoutmaster and Troop Advancement Committee.**
- 3. Prepare written project proposal and have it approved by Scoutmaster and Troop Advancement Chairman, then sent it to the District Advancement Chairman - BEFORE THE PROJECT IS STARTED!**
- 4. Complete the Eagle Service Project as approved by district.**
- 5. Prepare a written presentation of the completed project for your Board of Review.**
- 6. Complete Eagle Application--including project report.**
- 7. Send completed application and paperwork, including Eagle Project write-up, to Council Service Center for verification of dates, merit badges and rank advancement.**
- 8. After verification the Council Service Center will return the application and letters of reference to the Troop Advancement Chairman or Scoutmaster.**
- 9. Your Troop Committee Chairman will contact the District Advancement Chairman to arrange for representation from District**

or Council at your Eagle Board of Review. The written Eagle Project should be available at the time of the Board of Review.

10. The Eagle Board of Review is conducted at a meeting of the Troop Advancement Committee, with representation from District or Council. If the application is approved, signatures are placed on the official application and forwarded to the Council Service Center for approval of the Scout Executive.
11. NOTE: Presentation of the award may not be made until the Eagle Scout credentials are received by the Council Service Center from the National Eagle Scout Service Headquarters

Date: Thu, 8 Jun 1995 00:10:23 -0700  
From: Alan Houser <troop24@EMF.NET>  
Subject: Eagle Checklist

This is the checklist that is distributed with the Eagle packets in Herms District, Mount Diablo Silverado Council. I have found it helpful, and I have seen some applications when I have sat on boards that needed it.

\*-----\* clip here \*-----\*

#### EAGLE SCOUT CHECK SHEET FOR UNIT LEADER

- \_ All information legible
- \_ Applicant's name correct and legible
- \_ Applicant's address. No abbreviations
- \_ Webelos Scout and Arrow of Light questions answered
- \_ Dates of entry into Scouting; First Class and Star Board of Review dates
- \_ At least four months between First Class and Star Scout Board of Review dates
- \_ At least six months between Star Scout and Life Scout Board of Review dates
- \_ At least six months between Life Scout and Eagle Scout Troop Board of Review dates
- \_ References checked (5 required, parents, religious, & educational)
- \_ 21 merit badges earned (day, month, year listed) (12 required)
- \_ Four required merit badges earned prior to Star Scout Board of Review date

**\_ Three additional required merit badges (7 total) prior to Life Scout Board of Review date. Credit may be given for both Emergency**

**Preparedness**

**and Lifesaving. Same is true with Personal Fitness, Swimming and Sports. (Only one from each category may be used for Eagle requirements)**

**\_ Must serve at least six months in a position of responsibility between Life**

**Scout and Eagle Scout Board of Review dates. See application for list of positions**

**\_ Service Project completed between Life Scout and Eagle Scout Board of Review**

**and prior to 18th birthday**

**\_ Growth conference date**

**\_ Applicant's signature, date**

**\_ Unit leader's signature, date**

**\_ Unit Committee Chairman's signature, date**

**\_ Eagle Application completed with proper dates**

**\_ Statement of ambition**

**\_ Scouting record & school/religious record**

**\_ Unit leader's confidential appraisal (in sealed envelope)**

**\_ Autobiography**

**\_ Before and After pictures of project included**

**\_ Advancement report completed. (Complete Leader's information, applicant's**

**name on line 1 and Eagle under rank. DO NOT SIGN SPACE JUST ABOVE**

**APPLICANT'S NAME)**

**\*-----\* clip here \*-----\***

**Hope this helps.**

**Alan R. Houser \*\* Scoutmaster, Berkeley Troop 24 \*\* troop24@emf.net**

**\*\* WWW page \*\* <http://www.emf.net/~troop24/t24.html> \*\***

**Date: Thu, 8 Jun 1995 09:38:34 -0400**

**From: Warren Williams <Warren2248@AOL.COM>**

**Subject: Re: Eagle Checklist**

**In message "I'm looking for..." posted on 95-06-03, TSarah@AOL.COM (Ted Sarah) says:**

>I'm looking for a check list that I have been told exists. This check list  
>gives the steps from Life to Eagle that the boy and troop must take. Has  
>anyone seen something like this? If so could I get a copy of it?

Here's a couple things that might help. The first is a copy of an "audit program" I use to review Eagle applications from our troop, the second is a synopsis of the Eagle application process prepared by our district advancement committee.

Hope this stuff is helpful.

YiS,  
Warren Williams

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Attachment 1  
Boy Scout Troop 18  
Eagle Application  
"Audit Program"

**1. Dates.**

- a. Birth date filled in and correct as verified with troop records.
- b. Dates for First Class and Star Awards are at least four months apart.
- c. Dates for Star and Life Awards are at least six months apart.
- d. Dates for Life Award and Eagle Board of Review are at least six months apart.
- e. Dates for merit badges are filled in and correct as verified with troop records.

**2. Required Merit Badges.**

- a. At least four required merit badges were earned prior to date of Star rank.
- b. At least Seven required merit badges were earned prior to date of Life rank.
- c. If "Family Life" merit badge is not listed as a required merit badge on the application (old copy) it has been earned.

**3. Position(s) of Responsibility(ies).**

- a. Position(s) is(are) valid (see list on application).
- b. Position(s) and date(s) indicate six months service between Life Scout and Eagle Scout Board of Review dates.

4. **Service Project.**
  - a. **Completed before 18th birthday.**
  - b. **Completed before Eagle Scout Board of Review (date).**
  
5. **Signatures.**
  - a. **Scoutmaster**
  - b. **Troop Committee**
  - c. **Board of Review Chairman**
  
6. **Board of Review Delays.**
  - a. **Documentation attached providing reason for board of review held three to six months after applicant's 18th birthday.**
  - b. **Boy Scout Division at National Office contacted for procedures in submitting applications where board of review was held more than six months after applicant's 18th birthday.**

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**Attachment 2  
Eastern District  
Andrew Jackson Council  
Boy Scouts of America**

### **Synopsis**

#### **Life to Eagle**

1. **Eagle candidate secures "Eagle Scout Project Workbook" from his unit leader.**
2. **Eagle candidate selects his project and discusses with his benefactor and unit leader and secures their respective approvals.**
3. **Eagle candidate meets with his unit's committee to discuss and receive approval of his proposed project.**
4. **Eagle candidate meets with representative of District Advancement Committee to review and secure approval of proposed project.**

**EAGLE CANDIDATE MAY NOW BEGIN HIS PROJECT.**

5. **After project is completed, Eagle candidate and unit leader certify its completion.**

**Note: References to "days" in the following items will be counted as "working days" and Saturdays and Sundays will not be counted in computing the days items are due to be submitted to the committee or Council Service Center.**

**6. Eagle candidate completes Eagle Rank Application and meets with Unit Leader for conference. Persons listed as references under Requirement 2 of the Eagle Scout Rank Application should be contacted by the candidate and he should ask them to direct their letter of reference to his Unit Leader. The Unit Leader should be sure to include the reference letters with the packet transmitted to the Council Service Center. It may require a follow-up call by the Unit Leader to have these reference letters in hand prior to the deadline date for submission to the service center.**

**7. Unit Leader delivers the Eagle Rank Application AND "Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook", in triplicate, to the Council Service Center AT LEAST TEN (10) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED EAGLE SCOUT BOARD OF REVIEW.**

**8. Council Service Center will certify the correctness of the rank advancement, merit badges, and their dates and notify the District Advancement Committee of the Eagle Rank Applications to be scheduled for a Board of Review.**

**9. The District Advancement Committee will notify the Eagle candidate and his Unit Leader of the time he is scheduled to appear before the Board of Review. Scouts will be scheduled in 30 minute intervals beginning at 7:00p.m. In the event there are numerous Eagle candidates to appear on a specified date, the Committee will schedule a sufficient number of Boards of Review to be held simultaneously. The Eagle candidate should appear before the Board of Review in Scout Uniform with the appropriate patches displayed.**



10. The completed Eagle Rank Application will be returned by the Advancement Committee to the Council Service Center, with its endorsement, for submission to the National Eagle Scout Review Committee.

11. The National Eagle Scout Review Committee will certify the candidate to be an Eagle Scout and will return the application along with the Eagle Scout Certificate to the Council Service Center. The process normally takes between 4-6 weeks, depending on the number of applications received.

12. The unit should not schedule an Eagle Scout Court of Honor until the certificate has been received at the Council Service Center from the National Eagle Scout Review Committee.

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\*\*\*\*\*end of message\*\*\*\*\*

Date: Thu, 8 Jun 1995 12:39:48 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@capaccess.org>  
Subject: Re: Boys quitting after Eagle  
To: SCOUTS-L Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

On Thu, 8 Jun 1995, Bob McGwier wrote:

> In response to Michael Bowman's tolerance based approach I would add that  
> the scout law includes Trustworthy. The Eagle charge contains a pledge  
> that cannot be misunderstood. It promises further service to his unit,  
> and scouting. This should be clearly explained to him.

Bob, I agree wholeheartedly that the Eagle charge contains a pledge and that it would be well to explain that to the Scout, if you are going to use it. However, you should remember that the charge or the recitation of the charge is not a requirement for Eagle Scout. I'm sure that you know that we cannot impose additional requirements beyond those established by National. This young man has been honest (the core of Trustworthy) and is still growing in the right direction. I think he deserves our encouragement. Likewise, I agree with the posts that suggest

consideration be given to tailoring programs to older Scouts. In addition it may be that he is ripe for joining an Explorer Post where he can associate with Scouts of his own age and continue to enjoy Scouting. Scouting was not meant to be a prison where promises of future service are exacted. Quite the opposite, we are in the business of teaching values and motivating Scouts to voluntarily give service. Part of the citizenship and character development we are striving for is helping the Scouts learn the importance of service to others. It is a core value that we try to develop. Has this Eagle Scout recognized this? We don't know any more than what was in the posting. This is for his Eagle Board of Review to Determine. He may well quit his Troop, but still carry those values and give service to his family, friends, school, community, etc. in a variety of ways. Let's not make snap judgments that this Scout hasn't met his Eagle requirements and that he has to accept future service to Scouting right now. Its not a requirement. The goals of the Scouting program are met if this Scout has better developed his character, has learned how to be a good citizen and has learned how to stay fit.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Prof. Beaver, Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 13:23:34 -0600  
From: Stan Hodge <STANH@MAIL.TDOC.TEXAS.GOV>  
Subject: Eagle Ceremonies (Long)

In our unit it is customary to present an eagle scout with a silver dollar (alright silver clad -- the silver ones have just become too expensive) with the image of an eagle on one side. We do this as a gift from the sponsoring organization -- I nice touch to keep them involved, I think. When I make the presentation, I use words somewhat like the script that follows. I use it as a general guide rather than reading it, so it never really comes out the same way twice, but if you like it, feel free to use it. The script is a rather heavily edited version of a piece I found in the book, "Rebirth of America," page 9.

#### **SYMBOLISM OF THE EAGLE**

[Call the new eagle scout by name and present the coin.] [Name of eagle]  
I present this silver dollar in commemoration of your achievement on behalf of [congregation, stake, Lion's Club, or whatever]. If you turn the coin over, you will see the image of an eagle emblazoned on the coin thus making it an appropriate token of remembrance.

For thousands of years, the eagle has been admired for its grandeur, its grace in flight, and its great size and awesome power. In so many ways, the eagle symbolizes the character traits that made America great and that must be reinstilled in each generation if we are to preserve for our children and grandchildren the freedom which God has so graciously entrusted to us.

The soaring eagle is a stirring picture of the true meaning of liberty. Assisted by his powerful wings, the eagle glides effortlessly to altitudes of over 24,000 feet and is capable of using his wings to carry other eagles to safety. Turbulent winds only cause him to fly higher and faster. To the American Indian, a falling eagle feather was viewed as an answer to prayers.

The eagle's keen eyesight enables him to be sensitive to approaching danger and to protect himself and his family. The eagle displays the sense of responsibility that is a companion of genuine liberty. He mates for life and returns to the same nest each year, making necessary repairs and additions. He takes an active role in providing for his family and in teaching his young to fly.

[Eagle Scout's Name], we need more young men like you with the character of eagles. We need more young men like you who will love freedom and who will seek to exercise that freedom responsibly, and who will ensure that it will be maintained for subsequent generations.

We need more young men like you [name of eagle] with the character of eagles whose lives will embody the principles of the Scout law. We need young men who, with quiet determination, will make lives which will be successful not only in the eyes of the world, but also in the eyes of their families as devoted fathers and husbands. We need more young men, who -- like eagles -- will provide their families with spiritual protection, the necessities of life, and daily leadership.

[Name of eagle] today you join the ranks of the eagle. Many have gone before you. Many will follow. May this coin forever remind you that, together, you are a new generation of eagles -- men who must walk in tune with the Scout law you have learned and, committed, whatever the cost, to see these principles reign in the hearts and homes, and the institutions of our land.

**What It Means To Be An Eagle Scout**  
by Greg Gough  
(Awarded Eagle Scout 3/15/72)

**It means that I have the ability to be a leader. Not of a gang or criminal organization but a leader of like minded individuals that uphold a creed, a sacred oath. A passion for life and the principals that founded the United States of America.**

**Patriotism is a loyalty I will never break. If called on I would voluntarily give my life for my country. But more importantly, I will work to make it better.**

**Duty to God is an ongoing learning and incorporating of similar moral values that ensure that I will be a compassionate and productive citizen.**

**Eagle Scout is not a patch, an award or certificate to hang on the wall. It is a way to live your life. Although the trail to Eagle is hard work and fun; it is much more.**

**The Eagle rank is an education. Each rank is a chapter. The conclusion is that by earning the Eagle rank the individual has the tools to be a responsible consciences citizen who would gladly advance the group before the individual.**

**Trail To Eagle**  
by Greg Gough

**Walk upon the trail,  
that links the,  
future with the past.  
Take the Oath,  
Live the Law.  
The pathway to Eagle,  
is steep and narrow.  
Your journey will require,  
skill and fortitude.  
Your reward:  
Knowledge and Understanding.  
Enough to base a lifetime on.  
Your challenge is to;  
Take the journey,  
Join the few and  
Soar with the Eagle.**

## **Campfire Closing**

**by Greg Gough**

**As the sun rises in the East,  
So it sets in the West.**

**Thus, setting the pace that marks each step through life.**

**It matters not; how many steps we take...**

**But how we take them and in which direction.**

**Tonight we have celebrated the adventures  
and victories of our fellow scouts.**

**Their accomplishments are many and  
we should all be proud of their progress.**

**Like our fire, our Scouting Spirit truly burns bright.**

**Now as the glowing embers of our Council Fire**

**Fade and turn to ash, soon to be picked up and scattered by the four  
winds...**

**May each of us preserve it's spirit in our heart and  
pledge to ourselves, to be our best and carry out our duty;  
to God, to Country, to Others and to Ourselves.**

**Join me now in the Scout Oath...**

## **Destinations**

**By Greg Gough**

**As I stand at the outpost  
of the new humanity and  
look to the horizon,  
will I see the Truth  
that Knowledge has suggested?**

**Or, simply find the lies that  
have been represented?**

**Should I trust my fellow man or  
go alone into the darkness to  
discover the Great Mystery?**

**And if I do go alone,  
who will know what I have found?**

**Our time is witnessing the  
dawning of a new era.**

**What we do today will be carried  
into the future by our children.**

**We have a responsibility beyond self.**

**A responsibility to the Earth,  
to the future, to our generation,**

to the circle, to the cycle of existence.  
We are but one small fragment of  
the total picture that revolves upon its self.  
We shall never know the freedom of being totally alone,  
for even alone,  
we impact all other things.  
Take with you this information,  
use it as a guide.  
Don't abuse the power that God has given you,  
but look forward to serving God.  
Remember this,  
We truly do mold our destiny,  
for we are the future.

Hi Mike, Brad, & Chris

;

In a message dated 95-10-02 01:25:09 EDT, you write:

>> I appreciate the information that you have provided on the internet.  
>> I have a question about Eagle board of review.  
>>  
>> I am concerned that our local board of review is "re-testing" our  
>> Eagle Candidates. What is "in-bounds" for such boards of review?  
>> Have you ever run into this problem before? Thanks for any advice  
>> you could give me in this area.

I hope that I can come up with a real good answer on this one.

As with any board of review the boy is not retested. This should have been done well before he reaches this point. The following is out of the "advancement Policies and Procedures Committee Guide" :

"The review is not an examination, the board does not retest the candidate. Rather the board should attempt to determine the Scout's attitude and his acceptance of Scouting's ideals. Scout spirit is defined as living the Scout Oath (Promise) and Scout Law in a Scout's everyday life. The board should make sure that good standards have been met in all phases of the Scout's life."

What I do at Eagle Boards is to first of all tell the board members that I am

there to be sure that the project meets all the requirements for an Eagle project, and that all the i's are dotted and t's are crossed. I also tell them that by the time a boy reaches this point he will probably not be turned

down, that should have happened earlier in the process. Basically, that is what a Scoutmasters conference is for. And, it should be obvious by this point if a boy is Eagle quality or not.

We then sit down with the boy and have him tell us about his project, where

the idea came from, what he learned about leadership from it, how it was funded, etc. We also talk with him about his Scouting experiences, is he going to give back some of what he has learned, his experience with merit badge counselors, his experiences with high adventure if any, etc.

But, we do not retest him on anything. This was done during the learning experience. We may kid around a little, by tossing a section of rope on the table like we are going to ask him to tie some knots. But, this is done as an ice breaker to help the boy relax.

I do between 20 and 30 Eagle Boards a year, and have been doing them for about 8 years. In that time I have never had a boy fail to reach Eagle.

There have been some close calls, where the boy was requested to go back and

complete some leadership duties. The most heart warming Eagle board that I

ever attended was for a boy with "Downs Syndrome", he did not use the handycap requirements but came up the hard way and did a darn good job of it.

Hope this has helped. If you have any other questions, please drop me a line.

**YIS & WWW**

**Ted in Ohio**

**ASTA #1888**

**Assistant Scoutmaster Troop 273 - Stow, Ohio**

**MOECOMDWS District Advancement Chairman - Great Trail Council**

**WWW Ordeal member Marnoc Lodge #151**

**Camp Visitation Specialist - Area 5/Central Region**

**\*\* Who said it only takes one hour a week!!!!!! :-)**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Mon Sep 23 23:33:09 1996  
Date: Mon, 23 Sep 1996 23:33:08 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Eagle Scout Gift**

**Wayne,**

**There is no requirement to present a new Eagle with a gift, nor a rule against it. It depends entirely on how close you feel to the new Eagle and any local traditions within the Troop that might apply. Almost always, the most important thing is that you be there to show your support and acknowledgement of this Scout's achievement.**

**In some Troops the gift idea has translated into the parents working together to make a really great scrapbook with many letters and momentos as a group gift. Some have gone on to include a supper, a desert bar, a special entertainment, or the like. At other Troops you may see the Eagle presented with various momentos, patches, pins, and other tokens related to his rank. In one case where the Eagle was headed for college, but short of tuition money, folks who came to the ceremony tucked dollar bills into a cigar box with the words "Eagle Scholarship Fund" on the top. Perhaps the most humorous gift was that of two neighboring ladies who served on a Troop Committee and usually were at opposite ends of any issue - sometimes like spitting cats. Somehow they agreed to bake a special cake for the Eagle reception. Neither one had an oven big enough for the task. Both agreed to bake half of the cake. Excitement ran high on the night of the ceremony to see what would happen - would there be a cake half round/half square? Turns out they both had perfectly matched halves and with a little judicious work with icing it looked like a single cake had been made. This gift of cooperation and repairing a worn friendship to show honor to the Eagle was his best gift.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
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**Date: Mon, 02 Oct 1995 22:26:45 -0700 (MST)**  
**From: "Chris Haggerty, Sierra Vista, Arizona"**  
**<CHAGGERTY%UABPA@CCIT.ARIZONA.EDU>**  
**Subject: District Eagle boards of Review**

**Brad, what Ted stated pretty much follows for me as well. Although I will cross some of my t's alittle bit different than he will.**

**Since a least one member of the Board of Review for Eagle has to be a District/Council Rep, that person should know what's in the Adv Guidelines and Procedures. Generally I will brief the boards I sit in on and let them know we are really interested in finding about Eagle Candidate XYZ's character and not his knowledge on specific requirements.**

**Sources for the type of questions to ask at any board of review are in the Troop Committee Guidebook and I also believe there is some information in the SCM's handbook (long time sinced I looked). Most anything in the Scout oath or Law or anything related is fair game for BOR questioning.**

**Again, I generally stress that the board is more interested in the character of the scout than his ability to tie a square knot (it's too late in the process to be playing with the requirements). I also try to ask questions that will make the socut think and maybe learn something about themselves. For example, one of the questions I frequently use when doing a board of review for an LDS scout is "Forget all constraints, money, etc. If you could go anywhere in the world to do your mission, where would you go and why." Now since most LDS male youths do a mission about 19 years of age, they are all thinking about this. However, since the church in most cases decides where they youth will go, they rarely think about where they would like to go and more important WHY.**

**I hope this input helps you a bit.**

**Chris Haggerty**

**Advancement Chair Cochise District, Catalina Council, Arizona**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Mon Oct 14 00:10:00 1996**

**Date: Mon, 14 Oct 1996 00:09:59 -0400 (EDT)**

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

**To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**Subject: Re: Life to Eagle**

**Marc,**

**On Fri, 11 Oct 1996, Robert M Lewis wrote:**

> \*\*\*\*\*  
> **On page 595 of the BSA Handbook, requirement 1 for Eagle states "Be  
> active in your troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Life Scout"  
> page 596 requirement 4 states "While a Life Scout, serve actively for a  
> period of 6 months in one of more of the following positions of  
> responsibility:"**  
>  
> **No where in these requirements does it say that the scout must attend  
2/3  
> of the troop activities, pay dues, etc. This I am assuming is in the  
> troop Bylaws. As per National, I believe that these additional  
> requirements are not necessary. SNIP**

**I have to agree with Robert that the "attendance requirements" you've mentioned are not part of the rank requirements listed. However, I would go a step further and argue that these "requirements" are improper.**

**Your unit does not have authority to add to the stated rank requirements found in BSA's Boy Scout Requirements (Current Year) and/or a current BSA**

**Handbook. These efforts at defining Scout Spirit or active service are a disservice to the Scout and in the longrun can be damaging to the Troop.**

**While we have some bedrock requirements/standards, there are some places**

**where words like "actively" are used to allow some discretion by the unit. The idea is that we should be looking at each Scout as an individual and gauging his performance based on what he is capable of**

doing and encouraging him to continue to grow; e.g. develop character, etc.

If the Scout has done his best to be active and has been of value to his fellow Scouts in a position of responsibility, we should be giving him the benefit of the doubt without some restrictive formulary as to dues, number of meetings, etc. I'd rather have a really great older Scout attend a few meetings and outings and really contribute by giving leadership and training other Scouts than a lump that attends every meeting religiously without ever being of value to anyone any day. Yet by the standards related to you, the good Scout would be punished and the worthless ding-a-ling would be rewarded.

Working with individuals is always more difficult than dealing with a formula that doesn't take quality into account. But then again the rewards are much better. My recommendation would be to trash this by-law in favor of working more closely with each Scout to encourage each to the fullest of his potential.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
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ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Mon Oct 14 11:46:08 1996  
Date: Mon, 14 Oct 1996 11:46:06 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: CDietzKS@aol.com  
Subject: Re: HELP, PLEASE  
In-Reply-To: <961009230356\_206614534@emout18.mail.aol.com>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.961014112640.25396E-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Status: RO  
X-Status:

Cindy,

Sorry to be so long in replying. I've been offline working a book for BSA

and getting ready for a trip the rest of this week.

You have presented a difficult situation, but one which comes up from time to time for all of us. I have a few ideas about your role, but first want to talk about the Eagle candidate a little.

There is a natural tendency to resent Johnny-come-latelys who have not been active in a Troop, but get interested in finishing Eagle when their 18th birthday looms. Happens often and the reaction is often the same. However, we should be giving the Scout the benefit of the doubt and cast aside these feeling and try to see whether or not he has met the requirements for Eagle.

The six months active service can have taken place anytime after he became a Life Scout. So if he was active for 8 months in a position of responsibility and then inactive for three years, that would be okay. The six months service does not have to be just before the Eagle BOR. Your SM may not have known this and his reaction was understandable, though misdirected in trying to backdate -- as well as being highly improper. Casting aside the sins of the SM, did the boy have service for six months? If so, then it should be counted and let it go.

As to the service project - it may well seem to an adult to be a joke. The real question is whether it evidenced leadership. This is something that he will have to demonstrate. If he can give a good account of his leadership, despite the fact that it could have been done better or was incomplete, give him the benefit of the doubt. Ideally it would be better for him to complete the project to everyone's satisfaction. Here the SM should be encouraging him to do so. The SM is not doing anyone a favor by trying to shield him. The boy deserves the benefit of a frank SM conference with guidance on what to do to finish. If he has thus far not evidenced enough leadership and is unwilling to complete the project, he does not deserve to be an Eagle Scout. And the application should not be forwarded.

Also the application cannot be forwarded until the candidate is registered as a Scout. If he is not willing to be registered - end of story.

Now as to your role - it sounds as though you have been put in a position that you need not be in. With an Eagle BOR the only Troop people that have a direct role are the SM and Committee Chair, who signs the application. When a District handles the BOR, the Troop Advancement Chair should not be involved in the process. It should be between the CC

and DAC period. You would be well within your rights to decline to take any further action on this matter and leave it between the CC and DAC.

Personally it sounds to me like the Eagle candidate was recruited but doesn't have his heart in it. If he really isn't interested in becoming an Eagle, then this is all a waste of time. If he really wants it, he needs help and friendly counseling by folks that care about his growth and not their own egos. Maybe the Rev. could have a talk with the SM about giving the boy some room to make his own decisions about life and some pointers about how to help the boy realize its up to him to decide and act.

Hope that this helps.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
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Date: Sat, 14 Oct 1995 09:52:07 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Jess Olonoff <jolonoff@gate.net>  
To: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG>  
Subject: Re: Eagle Scout Congratulatory Letters

Michael,

Thanks,...

I called the "Scouter's Journal" to get permission to scan the listing and send it out to members of the group (I had already received some two dozen requests) requesting same. Not only did I get permission but Terry Howerton (the Editor) sent me a copy by e-mail to save me the trouble of doing the work and greatly increasing the value of the list as well.

Terry explained that their main goal is to get more information into Scouter's hands and their reprint policy is pretty liberal. They are also in the planning stages of a Scouter's Forum with the big Online Services and plan an Internet presence as well soon!

Please find Terry's reply to follow.

**Dear Jess:**

**I am happy to provide you with this listing of dignitaries who will send congratulatory letters to new Eagle Scouts. One of our readers, Calvin Gray of Georgetown, Texas maintains this list, and has done a wonderful job compiling these names.**

**This is just a sample of the kind of things you will find published in The Scouter's Journal. Thousands of Scouter's around the United States have already discovered the new magazine. Anyone can receive a sample copy of The Scouters Journal by e-mailing to me at 73302.1205@compuserve.com or calling us at 1-800-SCOUTER. Annual subscription rate to the magazine is \$18 for six issues.**

**Yours for better Scouting,**

**TERRY HOWERTON  
Editor, The Scouter's Journal**

-----  
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**Mr. Pat Boone  
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Beverly Hills CA 90210**

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USA Today Gannett Company  
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Washington DC 20250**

**Rev. Jerry Falwell  
President  
The Old-Time Gospel Hour  
Thomas Road Baptist Church  
Lynchburg VA 24514**

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Supreme Court of the United States  
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Speaker, House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington DC 20515**

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Rancho Mirage CA 92270**

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
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**Astronaut Jeffrey A. Hoffman  
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**Astronaut Charles E. Brady  
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**Astronaut James P. Bagian  
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**Mr. Henry Cisneros  
Secretary  
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**President William J. Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
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**YiS,**

**Jess Olonoff, CM Pack-206 | Eagle - 1970, T-10 Tulsa, Okla.  
Riverglades Elem. - Parkland, Fla. | Tsa-Tsu-Hwa - Ordeal '70, Brthrhhd '71  
Lighthouse Dstrct - S. Fl. Council | Scout in NYC-Brooklyn 61-66, Tulsa 66-  
71**

**"We just might all be right!" | Boca Raton 73-74, Parkland 94-?**

**Date: Thu, 19 Oct 1995 05:40:20 -0400  
From: Dave McCullough <Mccecolsys@AOL.COM>  
Subject: Re: Camp Kline, PA**

**Jim Wood wrote on 10-16-95,**

**<<<My dad was born in 1900 and was one of the first scouts, later he earned the eagle at the age of 29! ...any one rember when adults could earn the eagle ?>>>**

**According to the book A Comprehensive Guide to the Eagle Scout Award, by Terry Grove, adults could earn the Eagle until 1965. The following is from page 1:**

**"In the early days of scouting through 1965, both boys and men could earn the rank of Eagle Scout. But since 1965, only the boy can earn this prestigious award and it must be earned before the young man's eighteenth birthday."**

**"Around 1950, the National BSA program began to frown on the adult scouter earning the Eagle Scout Award. However, some adults did continue to earn the Eagle Scout Award until 1965. In 1965, when the requirements were changed to include that a prospective Eagle Scout must hold a boy office for 6 months, adults finally were no longer able to earn the Eagle Scout Award."**

**"In the 50's and 60's, whether or if an adult earned the award largely depended on the individual Council's program emphasis. Some Councils discouraged adults from earning the award. Others encouraged the adults to earn the award, believing that an adult who earned the award would be more helpful in understanding what a boy was required to do to earn the Eagle Scout Award."**

**Dave McCullough  
Eagle Scout '80  
Boulder Dam Area Council**

**Date: Thu, 19 Oct 1995 16:54:19 -0500  
From: Utah Cox <cox@VT8200.VETMED.LSU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Revoking Eagle**

I agree with Michael Holmes contention that we (BSA) are being praised when newspapers report that an Eagle Scout has gone wrong or committed some crime. His correct reasoning is that it is noteworthy because it is the rare exception (similar to "former Sunday school teacher", etc.).

This reminds me of a study I once read (and wish I had kept a copy of) where prison inmates that were either on death row or serving life sentences were interviewed about their past affiliations. In general, they would divulge information about their religion and details of church and Sunday school attendance and about clubs and organizations to which they had belonged (both youth and adult) with one exception. Former Boy Scouts and especially Eagle Scouts would deny or hedge their answers when asked if they had ever been Boy Scouts. (Their affiliation was known from interviews with family members). It seems that they were more ashamed to admit they had strayed from the tenants of the Scout Oath and Law than those of their religious affiliation and upbringing (even though the teachings of both are the essentially the same).

Utah Cox

Date: Sat, 21 Oct 1995 12:43:28 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: Utah Cox <cox@vt8200.vetmed.lsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Revoking Eagle

Utah,

Well it was worth a try. No doubt there is a lot of truth in the study. I can remember a kid who got caught robbing a candy machine at school. He took his punishment without remorse, didn't go to confession, and otherwise seemed untarnished. A few of us knew different. He was a Scout and because of the guilt and dishonor he felt he with tears in his eyes turned in his First Class Badge to his Scoutmaster. After some long talks and some service work in private he accepted his badge back and

made it to Life. I was his Scoutmaster then in 1975.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

Date: Sat, 21 Oct 1995 08:38:07 -0500  
From: Gary Calvert <c23glc@KOCRSV01.DELCOELECT.COM>  
Subject: Eagle Dad story

Greetings Scouters and Scouts.

I read the following at my Son's Eagle ceremony. The local Exec' ask for a copy to send to the Scouting Magazine but I never heard if it was published.

Because some others have asked a few times about my Eagle dad story, I am placing it on the Internet SCOUTS-L for everyone to read and use if they like. I hope this helps others too.

**Eagle Dad - Scouting, a touching of the generations 17 April 1994**

A short story of why I have encouraged Chad to be active in Scouting, to pursue the Eagle rank, and why I remain an advocate of Scouting, and on occasions even to the exclusion of other activities.

>From time past when mankind first marked upon cave walls, through the invention of paper and the printing press only a few centuries ago, through the more recent marvels of typewriters and computers; a long legacy of history and valuable information has been recorded.

The wondrous methods and forms for passing along the many lessons and thoughts of each generation to those who followed is as varied as all the many cultures in our world today.

**The increase in speed and in volume, as each new technological advance occurs in our world has been truly astounding.**

**There now seems to be a quotation, book, or video on nearly any and all subjects to which one might have a question about.**

**The one important element of learning that can not be pasted along in any of the recording methods to date, is that personal interaction from one individual to another.**

**The ability to ask questions and get back more than just dry factual answers.**

**When communications between people occur, a unique collection of unwritten and unspoken responses are exchanged in addition to questions and answers.**

**These responses can allow a younger generation to absorb philosophies and a general sense of the values from the previous, by showing the way through setting examples, and also allow new ideas to be passed along to the generation that is doing the teaching.**

**Repeated interaction with good mentors, parents, teachers, scoutmasters, merit badge counselors, leaders, and tutors of all kinds a young person can build his own philosophies and a good set of values by which to live.**

**While Scouting may not be the only means for good interaction between generations, and it may not be a cure for all of society' current ills, I believe that Scouting provides one of the greatest opportunities for interaction from one generation to another.**

**Scouting provides more than just merit badges to be earned or camping, but a touching or connecting of one generation to the next.**

In scouting the generations may be from a very old to a very young person, or from individuals who are only just a few years apart, but still sharing common experiences.

Sadly, that type interaction for so many young people is missing at an increasing rate for each of the generations.

I hope that this explains why I am happy for Chad to have chose Scouting as a significant activity in his life, and especially glad that I had the opportunity to share much of his scouting experiences with him as a Troop Assistant Scoutmaster and as his Dad.

I also appreciate wife Janet for tolerating our frequent trips to camp, campfire smelly, sometimes muddy clothes.

And for anyone who doesn't know us well, or possibly we haven't told Chad often enough we are very proud of him and love him very much.

Thank you.

Gary Lee Calvert

Best wishes in Scouting.

Gary

Gary Lee Calvert WB9SMX  
A.S.M. Troop 568  
P.O. Box 6353, Kokomo, Indiana 46904-6353  
Work Internet = c23glc@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com  
Home Ph 317-452-1314

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 1995 23:59:31 -0400  
From: Dave McCullough <Mccecolsys@AOL.COM>  
Subject: Re: A Comprehensive Guide To The Eagle Scout Award

Disclaimer: I do not have any financial interest in this book, nor do I know

the author.

The book, **A Comprehensive Guide to the Eagle Scout Award**, was written by Terry Grove, of Winter Park, Florida. Using information gathered at the 1988 NOAC (National Order of the Arrow Conference) as the foundation, he wrote a detailed summary of the various medals, pocket patches, hat pins, ribbon bars, and square knots of the Eagle Award. Other topics touched on include the Harmon Foundation Scholarship Award, composites (medals and ribbons that don't match up), and military high school Eagle medals. There is also a listing of the required and required optional merit badges from 1910 to the present; and a reprint of an article telling a little about the first two Eagles, Arthur Eldred, and Earl Marx.

Although mainly a book for those who collect Eagle material, there is a wealth of information on the history of the Eagle.

**WARNING:** You WILL go into sensory overload with this book. The only topic that really isn't covered (although it is mentioned) is the Distinguished Eagle Award.

The book is not a publication of BSA, but is put out by Mr. Grove. It costs about \$20.00, and can be ordered direct from:

Terry Grove  
2048 Shady Hill Terrace  
Winter Park, FL 32792

I would recommend this to anyone with a deep interest in the Eagle Award.

YiS

Dave McCullough  
Eagle '80  
Boulder Dam Area Council





that time period, about one in four.

**Bill Gremillion**

**CC - T515**

**Alamo Area Council**

**San Antonio, Texas**

**...and as you might expect, father of an Eagle who wants to be an Aggie.**

**Date: Thu, 23 Nov 1995 04:21:33 -0500 (EST)**

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

**To: don newcomb <newcomb@msrcnavo.navy.mil>**

**cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**Subject: Re: Eagle scholarships??**

**Don,**

**In addition to the Eagle Scholarships already mentioned in previous postings there are Eagle Scholarships sponsored by the:**

**National Jewish Committe on Scouting,**

**The Eastern Orthodox Committe on Scouting, and**

**Several local scholarship sponsored by private businesses; e.g. Vitro Corporation has one for Scouts in the National Capital Area Council.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman**

**DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council**

**mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**Date: Mon, 27 Nov 1995 14:52:21 -0500**

**From: Mike Walton <blackeagle@HCC-UKY.CAMPUS.MCI.NET>**

**Subject: Eagletip: Scholarship Opportunities for Eagles**

**Hi folks!**

**Here's the information in following up to Don Newcomb's request. I hope that this helps others as well that are looking for ways to further motivate some of your Life Scouts toward Eagle.**

**This was taken from the Eagle Scout Service' Eagleletter:**

**"Thanks to Mabel and Lawrence Cooke, qualified Eagle Scouts can have the opportunity to soar through college.**

**Lawrence S. Cooke, Eagle Scout class of 1923, has founded the Mabel and Lawrence S. Cooke Eagle Scout Scholarship Endowment Fund in the memory of his wife Mabel. Maximum grants are for \$40,000 and pay up to \$10,000 per year for 4 years.**

**The \$40,000 is the largest educational grant awarded by the Boy Scouts of America. Winners are selected by a committee that also determines the number and size of scholarships granted each year.**

**The deadline for the scholarship is February 28 of each program year, with all applications postmarked by that date and received by the Eagle Scout Service by March 5.**

**Each candidate must be a graduating high school senior in the year in which the awards are being presented, must be currently registered in the Boy Scouts of America, and must have been granted the Eagle Scout Award prior to application. A minimum score of either 900 (combined verbal and math) on the SAT or 20 on the ACT is also required.**

**To be eligible, candidates must demonstrate financial need and obtain an endorsement from a volunteer or professional Scouter.**

**To obtain applications for the awards, candidates should contact their local Council Service Center and request form 58-702 or contact the National Eagle Scout Service S220, National Office, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Post Office Box 152079, Irving, Texas USA 75015-2079."**

**The Eagle Scout Service also accepts tax-deductible contributions to this fund by parents or others to honor of achiever Eagles, youth or adult, or in memory of a fallen Eagle (as was suggested we do collectively back last fall , when a fellow Eagle Scout from Florida, Sean Harrington, died of cancer). Contributions may be sent directly to the Eagle Scout Service office listed**

above, and please mark the check or money order "In (tribute to) (memory of) Eagle Scout (name)".

In addition, the following scholarships are also offered:

The Eagle Scout Scholarships are administered separately by the Eagle Scout

Service through a grant from the Elks National Foundation and are available

annually. The grants are \$4000, \$1000 awarded yearly for four years.

Scholarships of \$3000 non-renewable are also available. The same submission

and deadline for application as the Cooke Scholarships apply here.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution also offer \$4K and \$1K scholarships annually.

They are restricted to the current class of Eagle Scouts whom have passed their board of review between September 1 and August 31 of each year.

Applications may be requested from a local or state SAR chapter or from NSSAR, 1000 South Fourth Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40203.

The American Legion sponsors the Scout of the Year program. Up to \$14,000

is available yearly to Eagle Scouts who have submitted nomination forms and

have competed through a selection process. The nominee must be a registered

, active member of a Scout Troop or Varsity Team operated by an American

Legion Post or auxiliary unit. Applications can be obtained from the American Legion, Attn: Scout of the Year, Post Office Box 1055,

Indianapolis

, Indiana 46206. Submission deadline is February 1 each year.

The Order of the Arrow offers one or more scholarships ranging up to \$2K and

awarded to Arrowmen planning a career in the professional service of the BSA

. Applications can be obtained from the Order of the Arrow National Office, at the BSA's National Office listed above. The deadline for submission is January 15, with grants announced in June or July.

**The Carter Scholarships are for Eagle Scouts living in one of the New England States (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut) and are also \$4K (\$1000 for four years) for undergraduate education. Applications are available from Administrative Secretary, Post Office Box 527, West Cheatham, MA 02669.**

**Eleven Colleges offer their own Eagle Scout Scholarship. For more information, contact the financial aid offices of the following universities or schools:**

**Albright College, PA  
Birmingham-Southern College, AL  
Columbia College, MO  
Grand Canyon College, AZ  
Johnson and Wales University, RI  
New Mexico Military Institute, NM  
Saint Vincent College, PA  
Stanford University, CA  
Westleyan University, CT  
Western Maryland College, MD  
Whittier College, CA**

**The BSA's Exploring Division offers (while the money's still there, folks!!) several college scholarships that are available only to Explorers in certain career fields or pursuing a particular vocation:**

**\* The Law Enforcement Assistance Award is a \$1K scholarship is presented by the Secret Service to an Explorer that have performed an outstanding deed in the area of law enforcement**

**\* The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation offers four \$1K scholarships to Law Enforcement Explorers (one per Region) to support their education toward law enforcement work.**

**\* The United States Customs Service offers unlisted amounts of money to Law Enforcement Explorers whose achievements reflect the high degree of motivation, commitment, and community concern that epitomize the law enforcement profession.**

**\* The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Special Agents Association presented unlisted amounts of money to Law Enforcement Explorers for achievements related to the law enforcement profession.**

**\* The Sheryl A. Horak Law Enforcement Explorer Memorial Scholarships are \$1000 grants presented to outstanding law enforcement Explorers seeking a career in law enforcement. Contributions to this memorial fund may be sent to the National Director, Exploring Division BSA, at the BSA's National Office.**

**There are some other resources that I urge you to followup up:**

**\* your employer. Most larger corporations (and some smaller companies as well) offer either grants, loans, or a combination of both to outstanding sons and daughters of their employees (or to their employees)**

**\* community-based agencies like the United Way. In most larger communities, the United Way/Appeal/Community Chest offices have a listing of organizations that want to make a specific contribution to the community but chooses not to donate directly to the UW's pool.**

**\* churches and religious groups. Most of our larger religious organizations have organizations or mechanisms in which small grants or large loans (or work-study grants) are given to deserving Scouts.**

**\* the federal government. Yes, our government still offers (it's getting smaller each year, but they do provide) the Pell Grant and several loan programs. Also consider voluntary service through AmeriCorps (as long as they are still being funded), which allows you to work in a community in exchange for a tuition stipend or repayment on student loans or both. There's also a program called JTPA (it used to be called CETA; that's the agency through I worked for the BSA through) that have a small pool of funding to support for instance, local Councils hiring one or two volunteers to work in rural or intercity areas of their council.**

You get a small (it *\*is\** small) paycheck, supplemented by the hiring agency;  
most importantly, you get valuable experience which transfers over to WORK.

Finally, don't forget that you can sock away up to \$2K each year in a Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and can withdraw it WITHOUT PENTALTY for educational expenses up to a amount. Check with the IRS or with your tax person.

I hope that this, Don, is what you're looking for. I'll send a complete file, with all of the school locations and what they are asking for, to Jon this week so that we can include it in our growing Eagletips files.

Sorry this comes later than I stated!

Settummanque!

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Date: Wed, 10 Jan 1996 21:22:14 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: "John M. Ballenger" <73363.2157@compuserve.com>  
Subject: Eagle Dinner

John,

Thank goodness you wrote to the list. I had lost your e-mail address and wanted to send you a thank you for the generosity you showed in supporting the Eagle Dinner. When I realized that I didn't have the right address, I wrote a summary of the Dinner in hopes you'd see and know just how important your support was to a young man. You made his dreams come true and he had a wonderful time visiting with the Marines. And his father changed from a little upset at having to come to excited and glowing by the end of the evening. Dad got invited to the Marine Corps Birthday Party at the Commandant's house, a tour of Quantico and more. Heck, I was getting jealous just listening. :-) John you are living proof of unselfish Scouting in the best way. Thank you so much.

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: Wed, 29 May 1996 14:01:27 -0400

**From: Dave McCullough <Mccecolsys@AOL.COM>  
Subject: Age for Eagle & Other Stuff**

**Regarding the date at which the requirement was changed that an adult could be awarded the Eagle, it has already been written:**

**>>>Until the late 50's or early 60's, an adult could earn theEagle rank.<<**

**>>I find absolutely no reference that in that time frame, or any other, that adults could earn the Eagle rank. My references only go back to 1910, however, and I will certainly research this while at Philmont this summer.<<**

**According to the book, "A Comprehensive Guide to the Eagle Scout Award" by Terry Grove, September 1965 was when the requirement was changed. Going through the requirements, (page 93):**

**"September 1965 (Two significant changes)**

**(1) The Eagle Scout Award required that the scout must hold a troop officer position for at least 6 months, since becoming a Life Scout. This requirement finally ended the option for an adult scouter to earn the Eagle Scout Award.**

**(2) The Eagle Project was added"**

**Incidentally, the Eagle Scout Award did not become the highest award in the BSA until August 1911 (or at least the August 1911 printing of the Handbook). In 1910, there were three "classes" of scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. In the June 1911 printing of the Handbook, the Wolf Scout (award was to be a "Wolf's head") was the highest rank. Finally, in the August 1911 edition (page 43) it states:**

**"Eagle Scout**

**Any first-class scout qualifying for twenty-one merit badges will be entitled**

to wear the highest scout merit badge. This is an eagle's head in silver, and represents the all-around perfect scout"

Now while the book SAYS the award was an eagle's head, the picture of the award is of a sideways view of a flying eagle. This flying eagle was never produced as an award of the Boy Scouts of America, although the Philippine Eagle Award looks very similar to this flying eagle.

The first Eagle was awarded to Arthur Eldred, who completed his 21 merit badges by April, 1912, and was awarded his Eagle on August 21, 1912. (Eldred not only had a troop board of review, but a special board of review conducted by Ernest Thompson Seton, Dan Beard, and James West). This first Eagle was the spread-winged, perched eagle that is the same (except for a few minor modifications) that you see today.

The fourth Eagle awarded (early September, 1912) was given to a Scoutmaster, and this was the first awarded to an adult Scouter.

A few more bites (bytes?) of trivia: It was Seton who came up with Wolf Scout as the highest rank in the early BSA Scouting movement. Before any of these were awarded, Beard was able to have it changed to Eagle Scout. Beard received his Eagle, which was the only gold Eagle ever awarded, when he was at least in his 70's.

References to the above:

A Comprehensive Guide to the Eagle Scout. 1992. Terry Grove.  
History of the Eagle Scout Badge. 1985. Philip Olson. In Scout Memorabilia, Vol 20, No. 3.  
Boy Scouts of America, Official Handbook. 1910.  
Boy Scouts of America, Handbook for Boys. 1911. June 13, 1911 Edition.  
Boy Scouts of America, Handbook for Boys. 1911. August 31, 1911 Edition.

More Eagle stuff than you ever wanted to know, and then some.



By the way, the library at Philmont is great! Unfortunately, those pesky things known as "Treks," or "Training" get in the way of library research while you are there :-). Have a great trip!

YiS

Dave McCullough  
Mcecolsys@aol.com

Boulder Dam Area Council  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Date: Mon, 24 Jun 1996 17:26:34 UT  
From: Kenneth De Vilbiss <K\_E\_DeVilbiss@MSN.COM>  
Subject: Re: Eagle COH and Eagle Poem Ideas

Also, we would like to put a poem about an eagle on the inside cover of the program; but want something different than the ones we've seen over and over at our Troop's Eagle Courts of Honor. Any suggestions?  
Vicki S. Mossman Greeley, Colorado

Vicki, Here is one we found at the Taos Pueblo when we were at Philmont in 1994. We have used it in a couple ceremonies so far.

Today I Am An Eagle

The Old Ones tell of the nest  
Of the sacred bird called the Eagle

Home for her eaglets sits high,  
Touching the sky.

A mother sits proud and defiant,  
She has little ones who will soon leave her,  
She worries;

The morning has come,  
The Mysterious One's rays warm her children's faces.  
Today one will fly or fall:

A flap of wings, a screech of power,

He leaps, he is gone.

His head does not look back  
There is sadness behind.

He flies east his wings flapping power,  
He passes his cousins of the air,

HE HAS BECOME AN EAGLE.

- Howard Rainer, Taos-Creek, 1977

Hope this helps.

YIS,

Ellen De Vilbiss  
CSRC, Pk 80 - DL &TC,

K\_E\_DeVilbiss@msn.com  
Arapahoe district, Long's Peak Council

All things in moderation, including moderation.

Date: Thu, 20 Jun 1996 08:05:32 -0500  
From: "Greg L. Gough" <ggough@MAIL.ORION.ORG>  
Subject: Re: Eagle COH and Eagle Poem Ideas  
X-To: Vicki S Mossman <vsmossm@BENTLEY.UNIVNORTHCO.EDU>  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

Vicki and others,

The following are two poems that I have written and hold the copyright to. You have my permission to use these if you like them in any ceremony or program as long as credit is given. Any posting to web sites or publication in books or non Eagle Scout programs requires additional approval. Hope you like them.

The Eagle  
by Greg Gough  
I dreamed of the Eagle,  
soaring high above.  
Majestic, graceful;  
free from it's Earthly tether.  
It's presence...  
shadowing and altering reality.  
All who see it,

focus upon it.  
At times it becomes elusive  
as it dances in and out of the sun.  
Watch closely,  
do not turn away and  
miss your chance to share  
in it's spirit.  
The spirit of the Eagle can be found in  
each young Scout's eyes.  
It's presence can be felt  
by those close to achieving  
Scouting's highest honor.  
And it's essence  
is preserved and cherished  
by those known as  
Eagle Scouts!

Trail To Eagle  
by Greg Gough

Walk upon the trail,  
that links the,  
future with the past.  
Take the Oath,  
Live the Law.  
The pathway to Eagle,  
is steep and narrow.  
Your journey will require,  
skill and fortitude.  
Your reward:  
Knowledge and Understanding.  
Enough to base a lifetime on.

Greg Gough  
SM Troop 201, Ozark, MO. I used to be an Owl but I will always be an  
Eagle!

Date: Thu, 20 Jun 1996 01:43:10 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-  
L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

**Subject: Re: Eagle COH and Eagle Poem Ideas**

**Vicki,**

**The book you are looking for is "The Eagle Court of Honor Book" by Mark Ray, which sells for \$9.95 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling. The website for the book is**

**<http://members.aol.com/MarkR48512/EagleBook.html>**

**and you can order directly from the site. The book includes poems, ceremonies, etc.**

**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, 12 Jul 1996 14:58:44 GMT**

**From: Ken DeVilbiss <Ken\_DeVilbiss@stkamer.stortek.com>**

**Organization: StorageTek Corporation**

**Subject: Re: Who can attend Eagle COH**

**A very simple and eazy to carry gift for an Eagle is a silver dollar. I went to a coin shop and bought (\$8+) a new silver dollar and case. It went over pretty well. I also adapeted the following as my presentation speech.**

**For thousands of years, the eagle has been admired for its grandeur, its grace in flight, and its great size and awesome power. In so many ways, the eagle symbolizes the character traits that made America great and that must be reinstilled in each generation if we are to preserve for our children and grandchildren the freedom which God has so graciously entrusted to us.**

**The soaring eagle is a stirring picture of the true meaning of liberty. Assisted by his powerful wings, the eagle glides effortlessly to altitudes of over 24,000 feet and is capable of using his wings to carry other eagles to safety. Turbulent winds only cause him to fly higher and faster. To the American Indian, a falling eagle feather was viewed as an answer to prayers.**

**The eagle's keen eyesight enables him to be sensitive to approaching danger and to protect himself and his family. The eagle displays the sense of**

responsibility that is a companion of genuine liberty. He mates for life and returns to the same nest each year, making necessary repairs and additions.

He takes an active role in providing for his family and in teaching his young to hunt.

[scout's name], we need more young men like you with the character of eagles.

We need more young men like you who will love freedom and who will seek to exercise that freedom responsibly, and who will ensure that it will be maintained for subsequent generations.

We need more young men like you with the character of eagles whose lives will embody the principles of the Scout law. We need young men who, with quiet determination, will make lives which will be successful not only in the eyes of the world, but also in the eyes of their families as devoted fathers and husbands. We need more young men, who -- like eagles -- will provide their families with spiritual protection, the necessities of life, and daily leadership.

Jeremy today you join the ranks of the eagle. Many have gone before you. Many will follow. May this coin forever remind you that, together, you are a new generation of eagles -- men who must walk in tune with the Scout law you have learned and, committed, whatever the cost, to see these principles reign in the hearts and homes, and the institutions of our land.

Date: Wed, 4 Sep 1996 08:56:06 -0500  
From: Jon Eidson <eidson@UNIX4.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Weston's Eagle Charge

Hi All ...

Every so often, some real gems come my way unexpectedly. First

a little background. As Scoutmaster of Troop 76 in Weatherford, Texas I am one of 4 brothers who are all Eagle scouts (I am #3). My older brother's son recently completed his eagle rank this summer ... the first eagle in my family since my brothers. In planning the ceremony, we decided to ask my oldest brother Jack to do the Eagle Charge and send him a copy from the ceremony book. Of course the ceremony book says "you may use your own words" but most folks do not. My brother Jack, unbeknownst to everyone, choose to write his own charge and of course, surprised us by reading it during the ceremony.

His words apply to a lot of us.

Enjoy, Jon Eidson

PS. You are welcome to use the charge, but if you post, print, etc. it, please keep the author's name with it (you dont have to read his name out loud) ... I'm kind of proud of my brother! :)

Jon.

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#### WESTON EIDSON'S EAGLE SCOUT AWARD -- AUGUST 25, 1996

I once knew a young scout who was reluctant to meet the requirements to achieve the Eagle rank. He might have had notions that some of his friends might think that he was not cool or that they might poke fun at him. He possibly concluded that some of the girls might think he was a nerd, a geek, a dork or something even worse. Heaven forbid if he were ever caught dressed up in his uniform or if he had to blow off "hanging around" in order to attend scout activities. After all, he reasoned, it was a lot of work and he had better things to do. In the end, however, supplied with ample motivation from his parents, he squeaked by the Eagle requirements by a hair and received the award. Before the award, he had felt a tremendous rush of guilt in needing to please his parents. After the award, he began carrying another load of guilt for receiving something he believed he did not completely deserve. Oh sure, he had fulfilled the physical requirements, if only marginally. However, he knew inside that he had not fully committed his heart to the project. For this young man, the pride of the moment belonged to his parents...not him! So this new Eagle just buttoned up his feelings in

silence and moved on.

If this young man were here today, I think he would advise any scout with similar feelings that, despite those feelings, it IS OK to go ahead and do the work and receive the award without consulting friends. He would also advise that it IS OK to harbor those guilt feelings relating to his motivations. He would then explain that doing the required work, earning the merit badges and having the Eagle Medal pinned on by his mother were only the beginning of the Eagle Scout experience. . . not the end.

As this young Eagle Scout grew into full manhood and a more mature bearing replaced his youthful notions, several things came to light. Ever more frequently, he would find himself reaching back, almost in autonomic reaction, into his subconscious Eagle-Scout data base for little tidbits of information or skill to meet some daily or extraordinary demand of life. A few years later, the realization began to hit home that he had actually learned something from his scouting program. A new level of nostalgia and appreciation began to form. Upon reflection, he had re-discovered that:

- (1) Honest, wholesome and tolerant relationships with people from all walks of life were first founded in scouting;
- (2) Leadership, organizational skills and sound work habits were first practiced and tested in scouting;
- (3) Appreciation and knowledge of nature and the ability to provide root-smart solutions to common problems reflect the scouting experience;
- (4) Ability to react calmly and decisively to emergencies, large or small, is based on scout training and discipline;
- (5) Patriotic service to one's country had its formative roots in scouting; and
- (6) Respect for family, love of the flag and devotion to God were first. . . foundations of scouting.

The sum of all of these attributes may be called one's values or one's character. The aging scout now realized that he had always sensed the presence of these character attributes as if they were a second nature. The silent voice of a code of conduct and honor speaking to him from deep within. A hidden compass! Indeed, a compass aligned in no small part by his scouting experience from long ago.

However, his practice of these attributes in daily life had not

been and is not now an easy task. There had been moments of temptation or failure, always accompanied by the characteristic queasy, uneasy feelings of having done the wrong thing or from not having done his best. The consolation for such disappointments was his knowledge that as long as the character still resided within him, it could be recalled and recharged. Mistakes and missteps could be dealt with.

Nope... The process of earning one's Eagle Scout award does not end with this ceremony. Weston, you, as well as every Eagle Scout, are charged with the lifelong commitment of keeping an ever vigilant eye on that hidden compass and of making continuous corrections to your course. Such corrections will prove most self-gratifying as they scratch the itch of that deeply rooted Eagle Scout Character.

This is what the old Eagle Scout learned about himself after years of self examination. In the final analysis...he realized that he didn't do it to please his parents...his parents did it for him!

So, Weston...just in case...don't forget to thank your Mom and Dad for their wonderful gift. Congratulations and good luck!

- Jack L. Eidson, Jr.  
August 25, 1996

--ooOOoo--

-----  
Jon Eidson (J.Eidson@tcu.edu)  
Senior Systems Programmer

Information Services  
Texas Christian University  
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After the game the King and the Pawn go back in the same box.

Date: Thu, 22 Aug 1996 11:02:26 -0600  
From: Amick Robert <amick@SPOT.COLORADO.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Several Eagle Related Questions

With regard to ceremonies: we have developed one which uses a series of slides depicting Eagles and the symbolism of the Eagle to America, Scouting, the Space program and other aspects. It utilizes some of John Williams wonderful music including the olympic themes, superman, and others. We always begin the series with a slide show about the candidate from the "early" years up through his Scouting career and finally end with a nice portrait of the candidate as the final slide. Some of the



narrative is based on the poem "Where Eagles Fly" which was written in 1982 by a NESAs member.

We have loaned this show to other units upon request, and most who have seen it say it is one of the most moving and inspirational Eagle presentation ceremonies they have seen.

The slides are set up to be shown with a "dissolve unit" so they fade from one projector to the other. The music is simultaneously recorded on a second track along with "cue" tones to make the slides change in synchronization with the music.

Following this presentation we have the Scout masters of ceremonies conduct the remainder of the ceremony with the traditional candle lighting, and introducing guest speakers and presenters. One nice touch is to have a new Scout present the Eagle Badge the mother of the Eagle Candidate "in the hope that one day this new Scout will also stand here to receive his Eagle award. This is quite an honor for new Scouts and they often are very pleased to be asked to do so.

As I mentioned in an earlier post, we present the candidate with a large framed print of an eagle in flight, along with his photograph in uniform superimposed on the print, and an embroidered Eagle emblem, plus an engraved plate with his name, date of Eagle board, and date of the Court of Honor. This has meant a great deal to the new Eagle Scouts and their parents.

Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder, CO

Date: Wed, 11 Sep 1996 09:40:32 -0700  
From: Michael Cooper <mcooper@MCOOPER.SEANET.COM>  
Subject: Re: Young Eagles  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

This has been a great thread with lots of good ideas and comments, so I thought I would add one more to it.

Cheryl Singhal wrote:

>

> On Tue, 10 Sep 1996, Michael F. Bowman wrote:

>

> > 2. The requirements do not include any test for "maturity" or an "age"

- > > requirement. Tenure for leadership is a requirement.
- > > 3. Boys grow at different speeds and some may seem not to grow at all :-)
- >
- > This is a PERSONAL opinion (Mine).
- >
- > Without adding to the stated requirements, I do sometimes question
- > whether a young Scout, (say 14 or younger?) has actually Demonstrated
- > LEADERSHIP in planning, carrying out, and documenting his Eagle Project.
- >
- > And demonstrating Leadership is one of the stated requirements, quite
- > aside from tenure in a leadership position.

Since Scouting is a program for the Boy (singular intended), then when examining the Leadership merit of a boy's Eagle project, I would only examine his performance based upon what I could determine was his ability. His ability would be based upon the letters of recommendation, his Eagle Packet , and his appearance and response to the BOR. As has been stated by myself and others on this thread....age and development is an individual thing.

- >
- > I've heard of Eagle projects where the 13-yr-old was "Leader" on a
- > project involving several levels of government permits and a work force
- > consisting of his grandfather's Sunday School classmates. I seriously
- > question that a 13-yr-old exerted any form of leadership over those men.
- > Does anyone seriously believe their grandfather would have listened to
- > them at the age of 13 if GF was told to do something in a manner he did
- > not feel was best? (Geez, I can't even get GM to quit honin' her knife
- > on the curb!)
- >
- > My opinion, not necessarily shared by anyone else in the world.
- >
- > Cheryl

Cheryl...try this same senario, but insert 15 or 16, even 17 in place of the 13 and the message will not change. I currently hav a 17 yr old Jr Asst SM. I expect him to perform all the duties of a ASM based upon his abilities just as I expect my 23 yr old ASM to do the same. However, my expectation of each of them are far different from one another. Thus the same is true of an Eagle Canidate.... I expect each one to do as much as the can possibly do to accomplish and complete the requirements of Eagle based upon their own individual abilities. Each Eagle gets to

the Nest from a different flight, doing similar things and by completing the same tasks in different ways. The age of an Eagle isn't as important as the flight he took and that he landed. Some crash land exhausted and others glide in, while others circle many times before landing. Once they land they ARE Eagles.

Just my thoughts.

Michael Cooper  
Scoutmaster  
Troop 167  
Brier, WA  
Puget Sound District  
Mt Baker Council  
Lynnwood Stake

mcooper@mcooper.seanet.com

Date: Wed, 11 Sep 1996 10:36:47 -0700  
From: "Timothy J O'Leary" <tjo@CPTCHR.AFIP.MIL>  
Subject: Re: Young Eagles and Leadership  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

I am not going to get on my soapbox about Eagle age, either way.  
I AM going to get on my soapbox about leadership, though:

Leadership is about having a vision, sharing the vision, and achieving the vision. Management is about the details.

I can easily envision a young man or woman having a vision - to build a playground, for example, and the ability to share the vision and "sell it" to a group of others - adults and youth alike. The adults may end up getting the permits, and even supervising some of the work - and, in my opinion, this youth would have demonstrated leadership. I can also see a youth getting a project - say trail repair - from the local park, and convincing his troop to fix it as part of its usual fall service project. This is also leadership. The latter is, IMHO, not demonstrating any greater leadership than the former, even though the former enlisted the assistance of adults.

The leader does not need to tell folks how to do the job. He does need to figure out what jobs need to get done. If he can convince Joe Smith,

Master Carpenter, to help out on the project, then he is an absolute idiot if he does not take advantage of Joe Smith's superior knowledge. This is not abrogating leadership - it is exercising prudent leadership.

The important thing, it seems to me, is in the vision. The youth should have had a vision, and gotten the help he needed to progress towards it. The help should have come because the vision was worth sharing, and not because Dad envisioned his son's Eagle ceremony.

In the end, we must bring the focus back to the boy - not the project. If that boy can look you in the eye - with pride - and tell you that he is proud to have helped make the vision possible, then he has truly performed and Eagle project. If he gives most of the credit to others, more power to him - that's what truly great leaders usually do.

If we expect the Eagle to show leadership - doing the right things, then let's look for leadership. If we want him to show management skill - doing things right - then let's look for that. Perhaps we want them both, but we shouldn't confuse them.

Timothy J. O'Leary

Date: Tue, 10 Sep 1996 21:46:03 GMT  
From: "Bruce E. Cobern" <bec@NYC.PIPELINE.COM>  
Subject: Re: Young Eagles  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

On Sep 10, 1996 13:34:50, 'Rick Neff <rln@PSULIAS.PSU.EDU>' wrote:

>Hugh, or others,  
>Then what happens? He's met the requirements (leadership, personal  
>growth, etc. etc...). He has lofty goals beyond eagle.. has potential..  
has  
>enthusiasm...  
>Does he pass the BOR? If not. What do you tell him?

Okay, I guess I qualify as an "others." :-) I have been steadfastly trying to AVOID putting my .02+ in on this thread, but you have given me a post with a question in a form to which I feel I can respond. So, I guess it is time, once again, for one of my "Advancement Evangelist" sermons,

coming from someone who has, like Hugh, spent in excess of 20 years heavily involved in the advancement process, including but not limited to serving on just about all of the Eagle boards in my district. I am currently the district advancement chair and have previously served as the council advancement chair, just to provide some perspective.

Also, to provide perspective, I am one of those who firmly (even violently) advocates the "add nothing" philosophy. Thus, I remain an outspoken critic of "testing" (as opposed to "reviewing") on boards of review, etc. However, I also firmly believe that we have the right, if not the obligation, to set quality standards for the advancement in our troops and that we can, and should, hold our Scouts to a high standard of quality in meeting the written requirements. Thus, not just have the "do it," but "do it well." I also firmly believe that the best way to improve the advancement program in the troop is to challenge the Scouts like this and that they will rise to the challenge. The WORST thing a troop can do to "improve" their advancement process is to lower the standards.

Now that you know somewhat where I am coming from, let me address your specific situation. In general, I agree with Hugh that MOST 13 year olds are not ready for Eagle. In my experience I have seen two things happen to the "young" Eagles. Many of them leave the program early because there is a "been there, done that" syndrome which can lead to boredom, etc. The other thing that I have encountered, over and over again, is that those young Eagles who stay in the program will readily admit, several to many years down the road, that they really hadn't earned Eagle when they got it and that if they had to do it over again they would have done it slower and waited longer. Now, I know that this is not universal, which can be attested to by some of the young Eagles who have posted on this board, but my experience has shown that realization in a surprisingly high percentage of those young Eagles who have had that discussion with me.

So, now to your question. What would happen when that 13 year old appears at an Eagle board? Almost certainly he would pass, because I ABSOLUTELY do

NOT believe that the proper time to establish a slower advancement pace is at that Eagle board. However, what might also happen is that the members of the troop committee and I will have a rather frank discussion about the units responsibility in the advancement process and how it might be better if they encourage their Scouts to slow down and enjoy the program more, rather than racing through to Eagle as an end, rather than as a means to an end.

The fact is that by this point the "damage" (not the right word, but you get the drift) is done for this particular Scout and my goal is to try to get the unit to focus on things that are more important than how many Eagles they have, or how fast. (It has also been my experience that MOST of the young Eagles are NOT self motivated, and that they are being pushed by someone, either parents or leaders, either overtly or subconsciously.)

One of the young Eagles I dealt with early on asked me, after he had been told he passed is board, what I thought of 13 year old Eagles. I told him that, in general, I did not think that 13 year olds were ready but that this was not the point in the process to do anything about it. (And no, the conversation did not leave him thinking that he did not deserve it, I was real careful about that, but HE asked the question.) To his credit, he stayed with the program. However, the following summer he went on a touring trip with another district and, in spite of being an Eagle, was not even selected as a patrol leader for the trip, with the rest of the youth sort of looking down their noses at his Eagle with a "how much experience could he really have" attitude. Again, he rolled with the punches and it was not until his third summer trip with that district that he finally got a leadership position as patrol leader, but then only after the chosen pl had to be removed for rotten performance. I guess one of my points here is that the Scouts know an Eagle when they see one, regardless of whether he is wearing the patch, and the young Eagle might very well encounter some real negative peer reaction which might not always be dealt with as well as in this situation.

So, what's a unit to do? First of all, establish quality standards for what you will accept in the way of performance for advancement requirements. (Like, for example, not allowing a skill to be tested on the same night it is taught, etc.) Second, adhere to those standards. You will find that when Scouts sense that there is a certain quality level anticipated they won't even ASK for a SM conference or board until THEY

feel they have met that standard.

Third, be prepared to counsel the Scout. I remember the advice I got from a good friend who had been to Philmont when he heard I was going out.

His

advice was to take my time and absorb all of the beauty of Philmont. That the goal was NOT to get, on a given day, from point A to point B, but, rather, to enjoy the experience of getting there. Too many people hike the trails with their heads down, just pushing to get where they are going. They miss most of what there is to experience. Exactly the same thing can be said for hiking the "Scouting" trail. Counsel the Scout that he will enjoy his experience more if he slows down and takes the time to smell the flowers. Kick back, relax, absorb.

As to quality of leadership performance and active participation, I am about to say something that may sound contradictory to my add nothing philosophy. I believe that the unit should set performance standards here as well and that a Scout should be held to them. However, I also believe that the Scout should AGREE to those performance standards and, thus, buy into the process. You see, I KNOW that national will accept the fact that the Scout has held the office for the required time as having met the requirement, and, if push came to shove, the Eagle (or other rank) would be awarded.

However, our job is to prevent push from coming to shove. So much of what

I do as an advancement chairman involves getting everybody on the same page. This IS NOT or SHOULD NOT BE an adversarial encounter. We are all working towards the same goals, the Scout, the Leadership, the Committee and the District/Council.

If we can get the Scout (and his parents) to buy into the process and agree to the quality levels we expect then he will not even ASK to advance until he feels he has met the standards that HE agreed to. Further, since he will have agreed to them, they can become a valid, in my opinion, reason to

defer advancement if they have not been met. One of the things I believe is that any time a Scout is deferred he should understand that HE was the cause of the deferral, not the members of the Board. If he can look me in the eye and tell me that HE believes that he has performed to the level to which he agreed, then I am almost always going to accept that, even if I might feel otherwise.

The last question asked at EVERY Eagle board on which I sit is whether the Scout feels he has earned the rank of Eagle, and why. I have never yet deferred a Scout who has answered that question in the affirmative nor am I likely to. I have also never had a Scout answer that question in the negative. So, you might surmise, I have never deferred a Scout on an Eagle board. That is almost, but not quite, true. In the 20+ years there have been one or two. One's paperwork was in such horrid shape that the committee and I used that as a reason not to even start the board and since the paperwork was indicative of the Scout's performance at that point in time by the time he got the paperwork in order his performance had also improved. I believe that by the time he actually had his board I was the council chairman so my successor sat on the actual board.

The only other time I can recall a Scout not achieving Eagle during a board on which I sat was also during a period when I was not the advancement chair and I was sitting as a member of the troop committee. By the time we finished this particularly difficult board we never got around to asking that question. The young man was asked to try to mend some interpersonal relationships which he himself admitted he felt were important. He was advised by his "friends" (who were all Eagles, BTW) that we were just trying to give him a hard time and that he should walk away from it. To his credit, he felt that the relationships were more important than that, regardless of whether he ever achieved Eagle, so he ignored the advice of his friends, engaged in the terribly difficult task (especially for a 17 year old) of fence mending, and is proudly an Eagle Scout being, IMO, a much better one for the "pain" he endured. I am extremely proud of him for having done the "right thing" with this situation.

BTW: My troop believes in this philosophy, and we are looking at our 197th or so Eagle in 86 years, so it must work.

In summary, if a 13 year old makes it to a Board, he passes. I have seen some where I was very comfortable with it and others where I was less so. However, the SMs and Troop Committees in my district have heard me preach



**this particular sermon for many years. Some have taken heed, and others have not.**

**Now, when you move from the general to any SPECIFIC Scout, well that evaluation must be made by the parties involved in that situation, based on their evaluation of what is in the best interests of that particular young man. As long as he is truly self motivated and you feel that his advancement pace is allowing HIM to get the maximum from the program, then let him go. However, my bet is that he would still get more from the program at a more leisurely pace and that he should be so counseled. Not coerced, counseled.**

**Sorry for the length of this. I'll now try to put my soapbox away for an extended time.**

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**Bruce E. Cobern  
Advancement Chairman, Founders District, Queens Council, NY  
MC, Troop 1, Flushing, NY  
bec@pipeline.com**

**Date: Wed, 11 Sep 1996 13:55:34 -0400  
From: hilding holroyd <hilding@BLUESTONE.COM>  
Subject: Re: Eagle BOR Failure?  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
In-Reply-To: <32371161.304E@felix.TECLink.net>  
Status: RO  
X-Status:**

**On Wed, 11 Sep 1996, Warren Williams wrote:**

- > Our district conducts Eagle Boards of Review (BOR) once a month. If a**
- > boy does not pass the BOR, he may return the following month, unless**
- > there are problems to be worked out that take longer than a month. If a**
- > young man will turn 18 before the next scheduled BOR, we will schedule**
- a**
- > BOR for him before his birthday.**
- > --**
- > Warren Williams <warrenw@felix.teclink.net>**
- > District Committee, Eastern District, Andrew Jackson Council, BSA**

> <http://oscar.teclink.net/~warrenw/scouting/district/eastern/>  
>

I had replied to Warren privately, but then decided I should say something to the list.

My only question on Warren's procedures regards those midnight-hours candidates that turn in their papers the day before they turn 18. What if they "fail" the Board of Review?

I am District Advancement Chairman for Whispering Pine District in Jersey Shore Council, New Jersey. Here are some guidelines that I use:

#### **Eagle Project:**

- 1) The Scout must have the proposal for the project submitted to me **BEFORE** he does any work on the project, except for that which must be done to put the proposal together.
- 2) When it comes to me it must be approved by  
the benefactor  
the Troop Committee  
the Scoutmaster
- 3) There is a standard form for the proposal and signatutes. It must be neatly typed or written or have attached pages with the proper entries. The signatures must be on the form.
- 4) After discussion, I will approve (or not) the project and further work may commence.

Some candidates have called me up to sound out a project before they start doing major work. This is quite acceptable to me. In fact one of the Scouts in my troop did this at our meeting on Monday.

- 5) When the project is completed, there are additional reports, and signatures, that must be put in, or attached to, the Project Report.
- 6) The report package is reviewed by the Scoutmaster
- 7) The report package is reviewed by me.

#### **Eagle Application**

- 1) The candidate fills out the proper form and submits it to Council. **BEFORE HIS 18th BIRTHDAY.**

If the office is closed, then he must get the application to me. I will then note it was submitted before he turned 18, and forward it to Council.

- 2) Council reviews the forms, requests needed corrections and signs it
- 3) Scoutmaster gets the application back and submits it to me
- 4) The Scoutmaster and I schedule a date for the Board of Review.

#### **Board of Review**

- 1) **MUST** occur within 6 months of the submission of the application.

**Otherwise**

**an explanation must be sent to National.**

- 2) The makeup of the BofR is set by BSA regulations

**I like:**

**District Advancement Chairman (me)  
another District/Council level Scouter  
Troop Advancement Chairman  
a member invited by the Scoutmaster  
a member invited by the Eagle candidate  
1 other Scouter (troop or district level)**

**the Scoutmaster must attend and sit in, but has no  
contribution except to help clarify points**

- 3) **No relatives of the candidate may sit on the board**
- 4) **all decisions of the Board are unanimous**
- 5) **copies of the project report, letters of recommendation, advancement records, etc. are provided for all board members**
- 6) **the Scout usually has a display table of his own memorabilia**
- 7) **the Board of Review may occur at any time after the application is submitted, even if it is after the candidate is 18**

**Most of these probably are similar to others' procedures. Just thought I would post mine.**

<b>Hilding W. Holroyd</b>	<b>Advancement Chairman</b>
<b>Jackson, NJ</b>	<b>Troop 250, Lakewood, NJ</b>
<b>Eagle Class '68</b>	<b>Jersey Shore Council</b>
<b>Wood Badge:</b>	<b>Japeechen Lodge (Brotherhood)</b>
<b>"I used to be a FOX!", NE-IV-54</b>	
<b>"I used to be a STAFFER!", NE-IV-71, NE-II-79</b>	

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**Date:            Wed, 11 Sep 1996 13:20:13 -0600**

**From:** Amick Robert <amick@SPOT.COLORADO.EDU>

**Subject:** Re: Last on young Eagles

**To:** Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

The common fallacy seems to be that if you can delay a Scout from getting Eagle, he will, of necessity, stay in the program longer. This regrettably is absolutely the wrong approach. Each Scout should be encouraged to advance at a pace that they are comfortable with; some will race and some will plod, and some will do both; we have had Scouts race to the life rank and then stay there for up to several years, because they had other interests, and then, when it became apparent that the age 18 deadline was looming, get back into "gear" and finish their Eagle. There are Eagle Scout candidates who are "13 going on 25" and conversely there are some who are "17 going on 11." But if they have the enthusiasm and desire to do what is needed, then they should be given every opportunity and encouragement available to achieve their goal; not be diverted from their quest.

One thing that really helps is to be sure the younger Scouts in particular get lots of opportunities to sample many different experiences while they are advancing. These might include attending a National OA conference, or a "mini-adventure" backpack or canoe trip, work on summer camp staff as a counselor in training (CIT), attend National or World Scout Jamborees, go to a National High Adventure base such as Philmont or Florida Sea Base, or when they join Explorers, attend a National Explorer Leadership Conference. This tends to provide them with the "rounding" and experiential development that tend to contribute to the character development of "the right stuff" to which Eagle Scouts aspire. It might be too, that if they are doing all of these things, they will not concentrate solely on advancement, so a "natural" delay in their progress toward Eagle will occur, but on their terms and by their decision.

The "yes, but..." comment, followed by alternatives important more to the leader than the Scout, (and often used with the best of intentions) may have subtle, but devastating results which seriously impede the progress of the Scout (who will seldom challenge the presentation). It is so important to let the Scout speak freely and formulate his thoughts and decisions. Lots of open-ended questions such as "what do you think about this..." or "what is really important to you.." or "what would you change in the troop if you were in charge.." will get you some very frank, and surprisingly candid, insightful and productive

answers which if the leaders are really listening and paying attention can be invaluable in meeting the needs of the Scouts.

Ranks are important only if they are important to the Scout. Scoutmasters and Advancement committee members, with the best of intentions, or mom and dad, may be "pushing" the Scout and he really doesn't want to be pushed; so you may wind up with an unhappy Scout and the end result may be that he will not get his Eagle just to spite the leaders and/or mom and dad. I have seen this happen and it is really unfortunate.

I have known Scouts who made a conscious decision not to get their Eagle, even though they were virtual "shoo-ins" had nearly all the work done, and would have "sailed through" a board of review. At the time, one even said, "I know I may regret this decision in five or ten years, but it is my decision, and I have thought about it for a long time.." What could anyone say or do?" It was the Scout's educated decision, and to this day, he has not expressed reservations or regret; and if anyone ever exemplified the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in their daily life, this young man certainly does! He is well on his way to being a physician.

One Scout's parents told him he could not get a driver's license until he got his Eagle. Guess what? He never got his Eagle, waited until he was 18, and then got his driver's license because the parent's could no longer restrict his ability to do so. I think that had a different approach been used, the Scout might actually have been encouraged to get his Eagle.

Some times, if Scout leaders and/or mom and dad just bow out, and say to their Scout, "if this is important to you, we will help and encourage you all we can to get it, but you have to want it, and be willing to do the work and participation that it requires." Then it is his decision.

A lot of times, you can also point out to Scouts the "elephant-eating" analogy that although the work for merit badges and leadership looks overwhelming, it all happens "one bite at a time," and before you know it, all that's left are a few "morsels" to tidy up. Older Scouts, and especially Eagles

can be especially helpful in conveying this message. They also can be a powerful driving force in encouraging younger Scouts to get their Eagle, where parents and Scoutmaster's staff may not have the same credibility.

If the older Scout is one who is respected and admired by the younger Scouts, and they usually are, often a few personal words of encouragement to the younger Scouts are more than sufficient. Many Eagles have told us that their decision to get Eagle was based primarily on the night that they attended an Eagle Court of Honor for one of the older Scouts they really admired, and their resolve to get Eagle was "sparked" then and there. We often have a new Scout present the Eagle Badge to the mother of the Eagle Scout at a court of honor. This is quite an honor when the Eagle personally invites the young Scout to do this, and helps "spark" an interest in being there himself one day.

If you want to keep an Eagle Scout in the program, see that he has meaningful and exciting things to do, such as join a venture unit or an Explorer Post, or hold an important junior leadership position such as JASM, Troop Guide, etc.; these folks are gold mines of talent and are highly admired by younger Scouts; don't lose them under any circumstances. Respect them and treat them as colleagues, and for the superb resources that they are; and make sure that they have continuing opportunities for development such as the activities mentioned above (e.g., high adventure, jamborees, responsible leadership positions).

Our Explorers do their own high adventure activities, but because we are associated with a Troop, they also hold leadership positions, wear the dark green explorer shirts, and in the words of one parent, "...are ten feet tall to my son..."

Explorers are also a major incentive for younger Scouts to stay active because in their own words, "I can hardly wait to turn 14 and become an Explorer...they really do some neat stuff.." The Explorers occasionally invite younger Scouts to do some of their less challenging activities, and this also gives them a taste of what the Post is about, so they even feel more excited and enthusiastic about joining when they become eligible.

Some years ago, an outstanding Eagle Scout came back to a troop and wanted to be a part of it, but because he was never really given anything meaningful to do, and because he had more than a "full plate" with all his athletics and school involvement, stopped coming. The adult

leaders never really picked up on this in time to see their mistake, and by the time they tried to fix it, it was too late. What a waste of talent.

Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder, CO

Date: Sun, 15 Sep 1996 18:12:30 -0700  
From: Mike Montoya <mmm@IMS.MARIPOSA.CA.US>  
Subject: An Eagle's Thanks  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

Hello fellow scouts and scouters,

I just got back from our W3B Section Conclave at NAS Fallon (Top Gun) near Fallon, Nevada. The US Navy treated us very well and we had a very good time.

This afternoon, when I dropped off one of our troop's recent Eagle Scout recipients, I finally got him to give me a copy of the speech he made at his Court of Honor a few months ago. I felt that his words renewed those of us that were there, reminding us why we spend so much time in this program we call Scouting.

If I may, I would like to share these words with you now. They are from scout Adam Finney, a freshman at Mariposa High School:

-----  
I would like to thank you for coming and helping Troop 94 and me celebrate this night which I will always remember. It means a lot to me that you could all make it.

It is said that less than 2 percent of all boys who enter scouting become Eagle Scouts. This fact has been clear to me for some time now, however, it has had different meanings over my scouting career.

When I first joined scouts, it caused me to see Eagle Scouts as almost god-like figures, for I held them in the utmost respect and I knew only a few. As I advanced, I did not lose this respect, I simply began to see some of them as fellow scouts as well.

When I became of higher rank I saw the goal of Eagle in the distance. A journey away, yet within my reach. And I wondered what stopped so many other scouts from seeing this goal as a reality. What made me different

than others?

This question I thought long about, but the answer did not come to me until shortly before my Eagle Board of Review. In reflection I saw the great leadership and opportunities given to me by my fellow scouts. I saw the work and heartfelt devotion of my scoutmaster, and adult leaders, in, and outside of my own troop. I saw the guidance and time given to me by my

parents, and I saw the path which I followed on the trail to Eagle, leading me to where I was. After this, I thought again why most do not follow this

path all the way to Eagle, and I began to see why.

I realized that I did not walk this trail alone, but many people walked with me. That's why you were invited here this evening, so I could thank you. **THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS GOAL ATTAINABLE.**

But, I feel that not everyone is as lucky as myself. From the first days of my scouting career up until tonight, I feel that I have been given wonderful leadership, role models, and friends. I have been influenced by all of you, I have met you in all sorts of places. Through summer camp and

the Order of the Arrow I have been lead by numerous people inspiring me in many different ways and helping me climb some of the most difficult steps to Eagle.

So, now I think I understand why only 2 percent of all boys who enter scouting become Eagles. This is a very special group and there is not another one like it. Not everyone has you to help them and show them the way. From Eagle Projects, to meeting plans, to Ordeals, to pack checks, to guidance in my school and community, to leading by example, showing me which path to follow, I have been blessed.

And if other scouts had the support that I did from all of you, I would be willing to bet that there would be far more boys who made Eagle.

Thank you all once again, for your help and encouragement, and for coming here tonight.

Adam Finney

-----  
Thanks for your time,  
Mike



-----  
**Mike Montoya, ASM, Troop 94**            **mmm@yosemite.net**

**<http://www.yosemite.net/mariposa/clubs/t94/>**

**<http://home.yosemite.net/~mmm/>**

**"I used to be ...Faster, Lighter, & Less Gray!"**

**Date:            Sun, 15 Sep 1996 15:37:35 -0400**

**From: Paul Sweeney <sweeney@NETWAY1.MDC.NET>**

**Subject:        Re: Eagle Mother's Poem**

**To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**At 08:40 PM 9/14/96 -0500, you wrote:**

**>Paul - this is what has been used locally - never heard here of a Dad's poem**

**>- can you share that one?**

**>**

**>Signe Rogers,**

**>Newton, Kansas**

**>Quivira Council**

**>Advisor, Post 007 - High Adventure**

**>Committee Advancement Chair Troop 123**

**>Mother of an Eagle**

**>Mother of a Life Scout**

**>Mother of 2 Explorer daughters as well as the sons**

**>**

**>**

**>THE EAGLE POEM**

**>**

**>A fond mother watches her boy where he stands**

**>Apart from his comrades today**

**>As they place on his camp-battered tunic a badge**

**>An Eagle, the emblem of Right.**

**>It seems just a few short months have passed**

**>Since he joined with the youngster next door,**

**>How proud he was then with his Tenderfoot pin**

**>As he told of the message it bore.**

**>But the years have gone as he struggled along**

**>To learn what the Scout Law's about**

**>He practiced them daily, the Oath and the Law**

>Until now he's an Eagle Scout.  
>You may smile in your worldly old wisdom at this  
>And say "Why, it's only a Pin"  
>But I'll tell you no honors he'll gain as a man  
>Will mean just as much to him.  
>The red, white, and blue of the ribbon you see  
>Are the symbols of honor and truth.  
>He has learned how to value these fine attributes  
>In the glorious days of youth.  
>And the outflinging wings of the Eagle that rests  
>On the breast of this Knight of today  
>Are the things that will lift him above petty deeds  
>And guide him along the right way.  
>Yes, it's only a pin - just an Eagle Scout Badge  
>But the heart beneath it beats true,  
>And will throb to the last for the things which are good  
>A lesson for me -- and for you.  
>

Thank you, Signe! It is exactly the type of poem I have been looking for!

In addition to sharing "An Eagle Dad's Poem" with you I am also sharing it and "The Eagle Poem" with all my fellow electronic Scouters. Thank you so much for your contribution!

### "An Eagle Dad's Poem"

I saw a chubby little boy,  
In uniform of blue,  
A jaunty cap was on his head,  
His shoes were shiny, too.

His eyes were wide, expectant;  
He glowed fresh from the tub.  
His air said, "Let's get on with it!"  
This my son the Cub.

I saw a slightly larger boy,  
Much taller, leaner, too;  
He stood up straight and proud,  
In garb of khaki hue.

He now has more determination,

In his face there is no doubt;  
I'm pleased to see his confidence,  
This is my son, the Scout.

I know he'll strive to do his best,  
This bigger boy, not yet a man,  
Will grow in strength, in law and skill,  
For him, I'm sure, God has a plan.

God, guide his path, make straight his way,  
Make his goal be high, his courage stout,  
That humbly, yet proudly, I will know,  
This is \*MY\* son, the Eagle Scout!

Paul Sweeney, sweeney@mdc.net, ASM, T-7, Lowell, Ma  
Voice: (508)452-6502 Snail Mail: 20 Penn Av., Lowell, MA 01852  
"There are three things which are real: God, human folly, and  
laughter. The first two are beyond our comprehension. So we  
must do what we can with the third." -Indian proverb

Date: Sun, 15 Sep 1996 04:55:21 -0400  
From: Ed Schmitt <easchmitt@PENN.COM>  
Subject: Re: Eagle "Mom's" Poem  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

Paul I hope this is what you want:  
POEM

It's every mother's dream to see,  
her son grow tall and strong.  
To teach him what is right to be,  
to keep him from the wrong.

Mom so loves that little boy,  
and uses all the skills at her employ.  
She teaches him the things she can,  
and hopes that he'll become a man.

He learns that words can hurt or heal,  
that words can change the way we feel.  
He learns that truth is right and good,  
to treat his fellow man the way he should.

He learns that where there's greatest freedom in this world,  
there also stands his Nation's flag unfurled.  
He learns to live by faith and love,  
to always trust in God above.

The years have passed and in their wake,  
a taller straighter lad there stands.  
And mother's pride is great indeed,  
her little boy is nearly a man.

An Eagle Scout

On Sat, 14 Sep 1996, Paul Sweeney wrote:

- > My son's Eagle COH is two weeks from today. I have "An Eagle Dad's Poem"
- > that I found at the local Scout Shop. However, my wife would like to have a
- > comparable poem ("An Eagle Mom's Poem" ??). Has anyone come across such an
- > animal? I would appreciate any help.
- >
- > TIA/YiS,
- >
- > Paul Sweeney, sweeney@mdc.net, ASM, T-7, Lowell, Ma
- > Voice: (508)452-6502 Snail Mail: 20 Penn Av., Lowell, MA 01852
- > "There are three things which are real: God, human folly, and
- > laughter. The first two are beyond our comprehension. So we
- > must do what we can with the third." -Indian proverb
- >

Date: Sat, 21 Sep 1996 18:38:17 GMT  
From: "Bruce E. Cobern" <bec@NYC.PIPELINE.COM>  
Subject: Re: Eagle BOR Failure?  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

On Sep 21, 1996 14:08:30, "William H. Nest" <wnest@BGNET.BGSU.EDU>' wrote:

>Ahhh...one thing I forgot to mention about the situation with a  
>scout's 18th birthday approaching..

>

>According to National, a scout that has completed the  
>requirements for Eagle cannot be held back from receiving Eagle. If a  
>scout is not passed in his Board of Review, he can petition national to  
>bypass the BOR and award Eagle.

That's not really what national policy is. The fact is that ANY decision by a BOR not to pass a Scout for ANY rank can be appealed. That appeal goes first to the district advancement committee, then to the council advancement committee, and, finally, to national. At each step, an approval is final and a rejection can be appealed to the next step.

That is why the requirements are that any BOR which fails to pass a candidate is supposed to provide that candidate with a written explanation of why he did not pass, and what he must do in order to pass the next time.

The difference here is that, if the Scout has already reached 18 there is NOTHING that can be included in the second part of that written explanation because he has no time to take any corrective action.

Whether he chooses to appeal the decision is a separate matter. That is why I always stress that it is important for the Scout to understand that HE failed, not that WE failed HIM. If he understands that the reason he did not pass was because HE failed to meet the standards that HE agreed to meet, the likelihood of an appeal is significantly reduced. After all, it is difficult for a Scout to say to national: "I agreed to do X, did not do it, but still feel that I 'earned' my Eagle."

>I know of a few instances where this has happened in my council.  
>I didn't believe it when I first heard of it, because it really defeats  
>the whole purpose of the BOR.

Well, I wouldn't go that far. I am also not comfortable with the way this process works because, according to the statements I have heard from people at national, there is an overwhelming percentage of these "broken Eagles" that are awarded Eagle by national, and it is my feeling that this is done without adequate investigation of why the particular BOR chose not to approve the application. That is why I have preached for twenty years or so that it is important to get EVERYBODY in the process - Scout, parents,

unit leaders, until committee, and district - on the same page. If everybody understands the process, what is expected of them, etc. it is very unlikely that you will have either rejections in the first place or appeals in the second place.

--

**Bruce E. Cobern**  
**bec@pipeline.com**

**Date:** Sat, 21 Sep 1996 15:15:01 -0600  
**From:** Amick Robert <amick@spot.Colorado.EDU>  
**Subject:** Re: Eagle BOR Failure?  
**To:** Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

The issue of Scouts at or near age 18 "failing" an Eagle Board of Review brings up some points which may need closer examination:

1. If the Scout is being failed for not completing "firm" requirements such as merit badges, there is some question as to who really is accountable for that..(i.e., the Scoutmaster's Conference should be the "filter" which ensures that this does not occur prior to the candidates 18th birthday).
2. If the Scout is being failed for subjective criteria such as "Scout Spirit" or "Leadership," this is very controversial ground, and if appealed at the Council or National level, will very likely be reversed. Again, this should never be an issue going into a Board of Review if the Scout has been properly counseled and checked prior to the BOR.
3. If a failure is based on the Eagle Scout Project report, and if it is properly signed off and approved prior to the BOR, it is inappropriate for a BOR to retroactively disapprove a project report. If the BOR is dissatisfied with the results, they should take that up with the counselor who signed off on the report, but not use the issue as grounds to fail a Scout. Again, if the report is the basis for a failure, it will likely be reversed on appeal at the Council or National level.
4. The ill will and frustration experienced by any Scout who fails a BOR for reasons cited above is unconscionable and will likely be a source of bitter memories for the Eagle Scout candidate who is forced to go through an appellate process without justification. Negative reinforcement never works as well as positive guidance, particularly in Scouting. In guided

discovery, the objective is to help someone benefit from their mistakes by learning from them, and then pursuing creative alternatives; and of most importance, without allowing them to "fall off the cliff" in the process.

It is imperative that the Scoutmaster, Troop Advancement Committee and Eagle Scout Project Counselor not ever allow a Scout to get into a position where they are likely to irretrievably fail a BOR. The "i's" need to be dotted and the "t's" crossed well in advance of a BOR, and if they are not, then the responsible adult(s) should make sure that it gets "fixed" before hand. To do otherwise is a serious disservice to the Scout and even worse, a failure of the adults charged with those vital responsibilities.

There have been similar situations where younger Scouts seeking lower ranks failed a Board of review because they were not adequately prepared and reviewed by the Scoutmaster's conference. Fortunately these situations are the exception rather than the rule, but those Scouts should not ever have been placed in a position to fail, and the effect was so traumatic that some actually left in tears and others even quit Scouting.

Is it not better for the Scoutmaster to tell the Scout, "I don't think you are ready for a BOR, but let's work on some things so you can be well prepared." This may be a disappointment for the Scout, but it is far less damaging than failing the BOR.

5. The Eagle BOR should be a very special time for the new Eagle to "fly" and celebrate his long trail to Eagle by sharing his ideas, his enthusiasm for Scouting and for life; and by having members of the BOR share in his jubilation and what should be one of the most important milestones in his entire life.

Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder, CO

Date: Sun, 22 Sep 1996 16:23:01 GMT  
From: "Bruce E. Cobern" <bec@NYC.PIPELINE.COM>  
Subject: Re: Eagle BOR Failure? (long)  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

I read you post, quoted below, and several things about it bother me. Let me see if I can put my finger on them.

First of all, you and I almost always agree on our advancement attitude (I

think) so we may really not be as far apart now as it seems. I agree, fully, that these situations should be the exception, rather than the rule, and very rare exceptions, indeed. In 20+ years of advancement work I can only think of three Eagle BORs with which I have been involved which were not initially successful, although several others were tough. My guess would be that the total is somewhere between 200-300. Only one was appealed beyond the troop level and the district/council awarded the Eagle.

(Here the unit refused to hold the BOR which led to the district/council board.)

However, in spite of the rarity, the question was asked about what the consequences would be if it happened. The consequences, plain and simple, are that if a Scout who is already 18 fails his board he only has two choices - appeal or not be Eagle. There is no time for corrective action. I believe that this was the point of the original thread.

Now, as to your comments about potential causes for the failure, you seem to be saying that if a Scout finds himself in this situation it is ALWAYS the fault of one or more adults. That is just not the case. Scouts, particularly potential Eagle Scouts should, and must be made to, take some responsibility for their advancement. Thus, should he wait until two months before his 18th birthday to start personal management mb and THEN realize that he can no longer make Eagle, I don't see that as ANY adult's fault. He should have read his book. We shouldn't have to lead an Eagle Scout by the nose to every page of his handbook and show him what he needs to do. Would I feel bad? Absolutely. Would I feel RESPONSIBLE? Absolutely not. Sometimes, even if we hold their hand, they just don't get it done either. However, in those cases, we usually don't get to a Board.

As to your comment about Scout Spirit and Leadership, I agree with you, in general, that if it gets to national the Eagle will be awarded. However, that suggests two things. First, I don't think that the local BOR should even think about that during the Board. It is their job to do what THEY think is right, and I would never vote yes where I didn't feel the Scout deserved the rank just because I felt that my decision would be overturned.

Instead I would be prepared to support my decision to the best of my



ability **KNOWING** what types of things national would or would not accept. I would, however, inform the board that, should the Scout appeal, there was a good likelihood of being overturned.

The second thing suggested by your comments is that we should try to make sure that the decision is not appealed. Of course, the Scout needs to be informed of his appeal rights, but, if the board is cogent in explaining the reasons for the decision, including citing things that the Scout agreed to but failed to do, it is likely that he will realize that HE is responsible for the situation he is in and not appeal. This goes back to my prime goal in advancement - training and education. Making sure that everyone is on the same page, all the time. This **SHOULD** prevent these situations, but we don't live in Utopia so there will be times where it will just not happen.

I think your comments about the project are off base. If by your comment about it being based upon the project "report" then I might agree with you. However, if you mean that the project cannot be reason for failure, I disagree completely. One of the things that I tell EVERY Life Scout when I approve his project is that the approval is **ONLY** an approval of the concept and plan, and that the ultimate decision concerning successful completion of the project will be made by the BOR. To quote the Project Workbook: "Although the project was approved by your unit leader . . . before it was begun, the **EAGLE SCOUT BOARD OF REVIEW** must approve the manner in which it was carried out. . . ." I see failure to properly complete the project as one of the areas where a BOR is most likely **NOT** to get overturned on appeal.

I also agree with you that it would be much better for the SM, at the SM conference, to counsel with the candidate and indicate that he is not yet ready for a BOR and that he needs to do X to be ready. But, by definition, we are talking about young men who have **CHOSEN** to wait for the last minute.

Sometimes the SM doesn't have that luxury, due to the clock. If he chooses not to allow a board, and thus deny the Eagle at that level, that decision, as well, is subject to appeal. A unit **CAN** hold an Eagle BOR without the SM's signature, although I would hope the BOR would seriously consider why the signature was withheld. If the unit committee chose not to hold the board the decision can be appealed to the district advancement

committee. That was the situation in the one appeal I had. We interviewed the SM, held the BOR, and awarded the Eagle.

The bottom line is that we ALL need to work our butts off to prevent this type of situation from happening. But, sometimes, no matter what we try to do to help these young men, we find ourselves in the uncomfortable situation being discussed here. We need to know what we should do at our level, and what the options are afterwards.

I wish we were in a situation where I would be able to stop preaching the need for cooperation and unity amongst the parties because that situation would already exist in EVERY situation, but that just isn't going to happen. All we can do is to keep plugging away and working at it.

Sorry for the length of this post.

--

Bruce E. Cobern  
bec@pipeline.com

On Sep 21, 1996 15:15:01, 'Amick Robert <amick@SPOT.COLORADO.EDU>' wrote:

>The issue of Scouts at or near age 18 "failing" an Eagle Board of Review  
>brings up some points which may need closer examination:

>

>1. If the Scout is being failed for not completing "firm" requirements  
>such as merit badges, there is some question as to who really is  
>accountable for that..(i.e., the Scoutmaster's Conference should be the  
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>18th birthday).

>

>2. If the Scout is being failed for subjective criteria such as "Scout  
>Spirit" or "Leadership," this is very controversial ground, and if  
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>or National level, will very likely be reversed. Again, this should never

>be an issue going into a Board of Review if the Scout has been properly  
>counseled and checked prior to the BOR.

>

>3. If a failure is based on the Eagle Scout Project report, and if it

>is properly signed off and approved prior to the BOR, it is inappropriate  
>for a BOR to retroactively disapprove a project report. If the BOR is  
>dissatisfied with the results, they should take that up with the counselor

>who signed off on the report, but not use the issue as grounds to fail a  
>Scout. Again, if the report is the basis for a failure, it will likely be  
>reversed on appeal at the Council or National level.

>

>4. The ill will and frustration experienced by any Scout who fails a BOR  
>for reasons cited above is unconscionable and will likely be a source of  
>bitter memories for the Eagle Scout candidate who is forced to go through  
>an appellate process without justification. Negative reinforcement never  
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>It is imperative that the Scoutmaster, Troop Advancement Committee  
>and Eagle Scout Project Counselor not ever allow a Scout to get into a  
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>gets "fixed" before hand. To do otherwise is a serious disservice to the  
>Scout and even worse, a failure of the adults charged with those vital  
>responsibilities.

>

>There have been similar situations where younger Scouts  
>seeking lower ranks failed a Board of review because they were not  
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>Fortunately these situations are the exception rather than the rule,  
>but those Scouts should not ever have been placed in a position to  
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>others even quit Scouting.

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>Is it not better for the Scoutmaster to tell the  
>Scout, "I don't think you are ready for a BOR, but let's work on some  
>things so you can be well prepared." This may be a disappointment for the  
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>Scout, but it is far less damaging than failing the BOR.

>

>5. The Eagle BOR should be a very special time for  
>the new Eagle to "fly" and celebrate his long trail to Eagle by sharing  
>his ideas, his enthusiasm for Scouting and for life; and by having members  
  
>of the BOR share in his jubilation and what should be one of the most  
>important milestones in his entire life.  
>  
>Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder,  
CO

Date: Wed, 9 Oct 1996 11:31:21 EDT  
From: "Thomas C. Stoddard" <tom.stoddard@octopus.pgh.wec.com>  
Subject: Re: Subject: Re: Completion of all the requirements-standards  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

WARNING: This response is fairly lengthy.....delete or come back as you  
may  
have time or desire to proceed.

>  
> On Tue, 8 Oct 1996, Thomas C. Stoddard wrote:  
>  
> > I have. Otherwise I couldn't look the 15-year old in the eye who  
> > dutifully went through a complete 90-day project according to the  
written  
> > requirements --  
>  
> > > Bruce E. Cobern wrote:  
>  
> > > I'm sure we ALL (who have worked in Advancement over any  
extended period  
> > > time) come across the Scout who wakes up to the 3 month requirement  
for  
> > > Personal Management MB two months before his 18th birthday. I am  
also  
> > > sure that most of these Scouts somehow manage to complete the MB.  
How  
> > > many of us have looked such a Scout in the eye and said "forget it,  
> > > there is no way you can now make Eagle?"  
>  
> Bruce is once again, right on!

> May I assume you would deny the Eagle for the "near 18 year old" on that  
> basis? Seems a little "harsh" especially if the candidate was not given a  
> "heads up" by the adults who are supposed to be keeping an eye on his  
> advancement. Perhaps such such an oversight constitutes extenuating  
> circumstances which are worthy of a "second look." The counterpoint will  
> always be "well we can't do everything for them" but under the  
> circumstances it seems they have otherwise fulfilled all the requirements  
> and are only constrained by one relatively small aspect.  
>  
> Have you considered the lifelong impact this would have on a  
> Scout? Is it really worth punishing him to that degree? Is it not better  
> to look at the "larger picture" and give the Scout the benefit of the  
> doubt? He might learn far more from someone who is compassionate and  
> understanding than from having a "door slammed in his face."  
>  
> There is an old axiom that the "spirit of the law" is far more important  
> than the "letter of the law" and this axiom is utilized in virtually every  
> aspect of our society from the judiciary down through voluntary  
> organizations such as Scouting. The end product or the destination is far  
> more important than the path followed in the process of arriving so long  
> as a "good faith effort" has been made to get there.  
>  
> It is highly likely  
> that if you ask the 15 year old who has "dutifully" completed the  
> requirements, to put himself in the position of the "near 18-year old"  
who  
> is in such a situation, "how would he like to be treated?"; I would give  
> you good odds that the 15 year old would opt for similar understanding,  
> especially when the "stakes" are that high;  
>  
> And to anticipate another counterpoint: "no, we are not sending  
> the 'wrong' message;" rather we are demonstrating some humanity and  
belief  
> in the character, potential, and spirit of the Scout!  
>  
> Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder,  
CO

Again, the dumbing down of America, the lowering of acceptable  
performance  
to the least common denominator, the stretching and the contortion to  
allow

a feel-good approach to all and then we bemoan the failures of our social institutions, because we never had the courage to support standards and defend and sustain them in the front of the assault of those who refuse to accept a standard, or acknowledge a right and a wrong.

May I take your points in order of presentation and offer my observations.

1. I have given the district my "heads up". Failure to plan on your part does not constitute an emergency on mine. In our council, we have been plagued over the last couple years with these 18-year old eagles, and the contortions and angst that go with it. At some point, we need to ask ourselves the question, "Being fully informed of requirements, and expecting scouting to foster the aims of character, which includes personal responsibility, at what time do we allow that a young man can make and exercise decisions for himself?" Will we "suddenly" expect him to have these values as he turns that magical age? No, it must be inculcated as the boy moves along. And, at some point, we must ask ourselves if we are not the co-dependent ones, whose personal fulfillment relies on the achievement of others. We need to ask ourselves does this young man who has been asleep at the switch for these past 2-4 years, this young man who has contributed little if any to his troop, who has been off galivanting with the gas and the girls and all the other distractions, well, is this young man really cut of the calibre cloth that we would expect and uphold in an Eagle Scout? "Scoutmasters," I have said, "you are on notice, and I expect you to put the young men in your troop on notice. In any good conscience, there can be no lowering of the standard. It will be up to the scout to 'demonstrate' that he measures up." That message occurred in a letter at re-charter time I distributed in November of 1993. Guess what? We have not had an Eagle Scout candidate in over a year and a half now, which was in jeopardy of his 18th birthday within our district. And, this year, calendar year 1996, we have achieved a record number of Eagle Scouts for the year, more than any calendar year prior.

2. For extenuating circumstances, the personal responsibility issue still applies. No one has taken a hard line when the boy has made the case that

for factors beyond his control he was prevented from achieving rank. But, one would expect the intent of his desire to achieve rank to be known, to be expressed, and then, we can work with the situation as it evolves. But, no where should we relieve him of the consequences of his choices, for that is teaching a false ethic which will get him in trouble the rest of his life. In which case, the circumstance should be identified. Then, we can process the paperwork, allow extensions, go through the alternate requirements negotiation (notably for handicaps, but used as appropriate), and still map out a course for success-- allowing the boy to, again, decide and execute the plan, but to hold him accountable for his negligence if not completed.

3. The lifelong impact of doing this? I have been a scouter long enough to have heard young men express their regret and appreciation at this position.

They have expressed regret for not completing this goal. They have expressed appreciation that they learned this lesson early enough in their life that they were able to take from it and grow to responsible adulthood. In every instance, they have taken it to themselves, "It was my fault, I should have known better, done better, it was all within my control." And that lesson, though bitter, has served him far better in life than if we had winked and pinned a badge on his chest. Success in scouting is when we

accomplish the aims: citizenship, fitness and character - not in how many badges we present! Speaking of character, a personal aside: I know exactly when I made my personal commitment to become an Eagle Scout. It was July 20,

1969. It came while listening to Walter Cronkite as he announced the Moon Landing. Noting that Neil Armstrong was an Eagle Scout, I noticed the tear in the eye, the quiver in the voice as Walter Cronkite made the comment in all reverence, "I was a scout, and was just one merit badge short." Well, as a young scout, I was not going to let that happen to me. In acknowledging

that one has not measured up completely to a standard, the greatest of goods

can be achieved. He is not a bad person. He is not a failure in life. We still love and accept him. I tell you, considering Mom and Dad, and teachers,

and church leaders who should be inculcating values in his young life, and should be setting standards for behavior and work ethic and performance for

him, the real crime is that he gets to the age of 18 and has to have me as a scout leader finally be the first to tell him there are standards in life which we must live by, and which will be required of him. This will be true in school, on the job, in his own family one day to meet the mortgage and pay the bills. What service am I giving him if I affirm that sloth is okay, and for him to slide by, everyone will rally and let him enjoy all the fruits in the end. I see scouting as a bastion against that kind of false ethic.

4. As regards "spirit of the law" vs. "letter of the law", the spirit of the law is that he be a good scout; that he be active, that he contribute to the troop, that he make his influence, and all the values he's learning felt in the lives of friends, family, and neighbors. If the spirit of the law has been met, we aren't having this discussion, for his participation in a good program will give him plenty of opportunities to advance, and his achievement of eagle rank will be a natural consequence of his own desire. The spirit of the law is not that he should check out, sow his oats, suddenly "get religion" and come back to complete his advancement, to get his driver's license, to please mom and dad or so it looks good on a resume. I do not believe, and would ask the list members for their input, if such conduct, which is a common scenario for these cases, constitutes your standard of a "good faith effort". I've spoken to too many scoutmasters who have yearned for that junior leadership in the troop/team/post, and these boys are AWOL! No way is such a good faith effort. Scout spirit is a requirement for every rank advancement. That is the Spirit of the Law. An important lesson of life is that for every choice, there is a consequence. And a boy must learn and accept those consequences. We do him an injustice by shielding him from the consequences of his choices.

5. As regards the 15 year old who has "dutifully" completed the requirements, I \*have\* listened to them. Just last night, at our board of review, a young



eagle scout candidate was asked, "Why did you pick this innovative service project?" It was really different and interesting. Response: "Well, I wanted to do something that I thought would really make a difference. I didn't want a project that was just a throw-together thing, like so many others who don't really earn their eagle award, but just do something at the last to get the badge." That was a direct quote. I weep inside when I hear young scouts say these things. But, I have to acknowledge by experience that there is truth in it. The 15-years old eagles would probably not even respond to your question about how they would like to be treated if they were in a position approaching 18th birthday and needing some consideration for the last stretch. The 15-year olds I have spoken to despise these situations. The 15 or 16 year olds who can take pride in measuring up to a standard sense the injustice. I would counter your bet and give you good odds that the majority would say, "Hey, I did it fair and square, why doesn't he have to?" Such is what they \*have\* said to me. I had one young man come back at the age of 22 and tell me, "You should have just pinned it on Mom. I didn't deserve it." The 18-year old quicke eagles aren't fooling anyone here. In an E-Mail post I just read, a friend related of the death of her young 19-year old son, and her comment was, "He loved scouting, he was an Eagle Scout, and I mean that to say he was one of those who \*earned\* his eagle award...." What are sentiments like that saying to us? Believe me those sentiments are out there in great measure. You see, the eagle scout, of good character, will understand the part about the standard, and in a similar situation, I bet, would say, Hey, I didn't measure up. I shouldn't get the award. It is that Honor in their heart (the honor I respected in Walter Cronkite) that distinguishes these young men. And "Honor" must come first, no matter the magnitude of the stakes at risk.

6. Monday evening, we held our Council Advancement Committee meeting and in the discussion, the matter of appeals came up. Having sat on several of these appeals from other districts on the Council Committee, I can tell you unequivocally there is a bias toward the boy. Looking at the case history, all considerations are examined. Did the boy get bad counsel from an adult leader? Was the scoutmaster new, untrained and didn't know any better? Was the boy given bad or outdated literature, an obsolete form? Was his merit badge counselling up to snuff? Was parental involvement or non-involvement a contributing factor? In many instances, these issues can be observed, documented and the boy will get the award with letters of explanation as needful. But, regularly, an appeal will also come up wherein these factors are not present. He just procrastinate. Or, in one instance, a situation where he was outright caught (and admitted to) backdating to "appear" to have completed work months ago. I'm sorry young man. You have squandered your opportunity.

There's not a whole lot I can do about those choices he may have made. But, as an Eagle Scout myself, I value my own honor above all else. And I refuse to walk out of a Board of Review feeling dirty, unclean or besmirched by not standing up for the values embodied in the scout oath and law which I revere. If a given young man is going to be honored by this award, I am honor bound to the 15-year old Eagle Scout to not lessen its significance and value. As the catch phrase of the advancement program goes, I will require exactly what is written, nothing more, \*and nothing less\*.

And I will always be in position to look the young Eagle Scout in the eye, who has measured up, and can stand tall. I owe him that tradition of respect for his achievement.

--

**Tom Stoddard**

**An Eagle Scout, a Bobwhite, and a District Advancement Chairman....**

**Date: Tue, 28 Jan 1997 12:56:30 -0500**

**From: "Paul S. Wolf" <Paul.S.Wolf@ALUM.WPI.EDU>**

**Subject: Additional Eagle Scout Scholarships**

**Mike Walton <blackeagle@HCC-UKY.CAMPUS.MCI.NET> wrote:**

**>Hi folks!**

**>**

**>Here's the information in following up to Don Newcomb's request. I hope  
>that this helps others as well that are looking for ways to further motivate  
>some of your Life Scouts toward Eagle.**

**Here's another one to add:**

**The National Jewish Committee on Scouting also grants scholarships to  
Jewish Eagle Scouts. Information can be found at:**

**<http://shamash.org/scouts/awards/eagle.html>**

**Here's an excerpt:**

**> Scholarship Awards**

**>**

**> Frank L. Weil Memorial Eagle Scout Scholarship Program.**

**>**

**> Frank L. Weil was a long time chairman of the National Jewish Committee  
on**

**> Scouting.**

**>**

**> The recipient of the Frank L. Weil Memorial Eagle Scout Scholarship will  
receive a**

**> \$1000 scholarship. Two second-place scholarship awards will be given in  
the**

**> amount of \$500 each.**

**>**

**> Chester M. Vernon Memorial Eagle Scout Scholarship Program**

**>**

- > **The Vernon Scholarship was first awarded in 1993 in memory of a dedicated Jewish supporter of Scouting.**
- >
- > **The recipient of the Chester M. Vernon Memorial Eagle Scout Scholarship will**
- > **receive a \$1000 scholarship per year for four years. The scholarship is given once**
- > **every four years.**
- >
- > **Eligibility Requirements**
- >
- > **The eligible applicant must**
- >
- > **Be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout troop, Varsity Scout team, or**
- > **Explorer Post.**
- >
- > **Have received the Eagle Scout Award.**
- >
- > **Be an active member of a synagogue and must have received the Ner Tamid**
- > **religious emblem.**
- >
- > **Have demonstrated practical citizenship in his synagogue, school, Scouting**
- > **unit, and community.**
- >
- > **Be enrolled in an accredited high school, and in his final year at the time of**
- > **the selection.**
- >
- > **Submit at least four letters of recommendation and testimony with the**
- > **nomination application. One letter is required from leaders of each of the**
- > **following groups: religious institution, school, community, and Scouting unit.**
- >
- >
- > **To request an application form, No. 15-253, contact the National Jewish Committee**

- > on Scouting, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, PO Box 152079, Irving TX 75015-2079.
- >
- >
- > Selection Process
- >
- > Application to the NJCS must be submitted no later than December 31. Send to the
- > National Jewish Committee on Scouting, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, PO Box 152079,
- > Irving TX 75015-2079.
- >
- > The names of the national winner and two second-place recipients will be announced
- > by March 1 each calendar year.
- >
- > The winner and two second-place recipients will be eligible to receive their
- > scholarship immediately upon graduation from an accredited high school and must
- > utilize the entire award within 4 years of their graduation date, excluding any time
- > spent on active military duty.
- >
- > The scholarship may be used to attend a college, university, or school selected by the
- > student providing it is state accredited, above the high school level.
- >
- > Disbursement from the scholarship fund will be made jointly to the student and the
- > school. Scholarship funds may be used only to defray necessary costs of a student's
- > education.

Mike Walton: Please add this to the eagletip you are setting up.  
thanks.

--

Paul S. Wolf, PE

mailto:Paul.S.Wolf@alum.wpi.edu  
2hpwolf@cyberdrive.net  
aa854@Cleveland.Freenet.Edu

Traffic Engineer, Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office

**SIGOP, The Scouting Center on the Cleveland Freenet  
Past President, Great Lakes Region, Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs**

**From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Fri Jan 17 01:49:44 1997  
Date: Fri, 17 Jan 1997 01:49:43 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: Rodger Morris <rodger@FISHNET.NET>  
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Cracked "Eagle" Egg  
In-Reply-To: <2.2.32.19970110041510.013f2488@fishnet.net>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970117013548.22790B-  
100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Status: RO  
X-Status:**

**Both Jack and Rodger's postings hit home for me. My own son is a Life Scout that could with just a little more effort become an Eagle and may yet surprise his dad. But he has moved on to other things in high school. When I step back and reflect, I can see that his experience in Scouting has helped him tremendously - helped him to grow in many ways that wouldn't have been possible otherwise. Now when I see him taking leadership at school, staying up until 11 to do homework without being prompted, and always standing ready to help others, I have no doubt that he is still living the Scout Oath and Law. Whether he makes Eagle is up to him. If he decides not to go farther, he may or may not regret it. But somehow I can't see that decision as being the measure of his success. No I think he's already succeeded and that the Scouting program succeeded in helping him to grow.**

**Pushing a Scout to achieve an advancement is artificial and really not likely to achieve the goals of Scouting, which are character development, citizenship and fitness. Remember that advancement is only a method to achieve the goals - a carrot, if you will. Now does a "carrot" work if you have to shove it down the boy's throat and make him gag on it? Of course not. If advancement isn't the right carrot, then look at the other methods to see what will work as a carrot or challenge that will help the Scout to grow and develop.**

**Sadly, some folks would like to see numbers and think that this is the measure of success for our program. Sometimes it is the only way to**

quantify what the program is doing. However, it doesn't really work. We are dealing in intangibles at a very individual level - that of the individual Scout. If a boy is only with us for a month, a year, or two and leaves with a better sense of direction in his life, with a few survival skills, or better able to succeed in life, then we have not failed him and his Scouting experience has helped. In short we've met the real goals of the program. Let's not ever forget that.

Now, if we can do better and keep the Scout longer, we have a better chance of helping even more. This involves patience and understanding, encouragement, challenges, recognition, rewards, etc. But it sure doesn't include jamming a carrot down the throat. :-)

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Mon Jan 27 23:36:45 1997  
Date: Mon, 27 Jan 1997 23:36:44 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <scouts-l@tcu.edu>  
Subject: Worth Reposting - Eagle Information  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970127233610.12000V-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Status: RO  
X-Status:

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 1995 23:59:31 -0400  
From: Dave McCullough <Mccecolsys@AOL.COM>  
Subject: Re: A Comprehensive Guide To The Eagle Scout Award

Disclaimer: I do not have any financial interest in this book, nor do I know the author.

The book, A Comprehensive Guide to the Eagle Scout Award, was written by

Terry Grove, of Winter Park, Florida. Using information gathered at the 1988 NOAC (National Order of the Arrow Conference) as the foundation, he wrote a detailed summary of the various medals, pocket patches, hat pins, ribbon bars, and square knots of the Eagle Award. Other topics touched on include the Harmon Foundation Scholarship Award, composites (medals and ribbons that don't match up), and military high school Eagle medals. There is also a listing of the required and required optional merit badges from 1910 to the present; and a reprint of an article telling a little about the first two Eagles, Arthur Eldred, and Earl Marx.

Although mainly a book for those who collect Eagle material, there is a wealth of information on the history of the Eagle.

**WARNING:** You WILL go into sensory overload with this book. The only topic that really isn't covered (although it is mentioned) is the Distinguished Eagle Award.

The book is not a publication of BSA, but is put out by Mr. Grove. It costs about \$20.00, and can be ordered direct from:

Terry Grove  
2048 Shady Hill Terrace  
Winter Park, FL 32792

I would recommend this to anyone with a deep interest in the Eagle Award.

YiS

Dave McCullough  
Eagle '80  
Boulder Dam Area Council

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)



ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Mon Jan 27 23:37:36 1997  
Date: Mon, 27 Jan 1997 23:37:35 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <scouts-l@tcu.edu>  
Subject: Worth Reposting - Eagle Scholarships  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970127233708.12000W-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
Status: RO  
X-Status:

Date: Tue, 21 Nov 1995 10:52:47 EST  
From: Ed Helms <ESHELMS@UNIVSCVM.CSD.SCAROLINA.EDU>  
Subject: Eagle Scout Scholarships

The only Eagle Scholarships that I know of, are the ones that are mentioned in the National Eagle Scout Association newsletter. These range from \$3000.00 to \$40,000.00, and given by a variety of organizations, for information you might

want to contact NESA at: National Eagle Scout Association  
Boy Scouts of America  
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane  
PO Box 152079  
Irving, TX 75015-2079

Hope this helps,

YiS,  
E  
H

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

**From** mfbowman@CapAccess.org **Mon Jan 27 23:38:28 1997**  
**Date:** Mon, 27 Jan 1997 23:38:27 -0500 (EST)  
**From:** "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
**To:** SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <scouts-l@tcu.edu>  
**Subject:** Worth Reposting - Eagle Scholarships 2  
**Message-ID:** <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970127233802.12000X-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
**MIME-Version:** 1.0  
**Content-Type:** TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
**Status:** RO  
**X-Status:**

**Date:** Wed, 22 Nov 1995 07:12:50 -0600  
**From:** Linda Gremillion <lgremil@TENET.EDU>  
**Subject:** Eagle Scholarships

Texas A&M University offers \$2000 scholarships (\$500 per semester for four semesters) to ROTC Corps cadets who are Eagles. I can't find my literature right now, but I believe about 20 per year are available for entering freshmen cadets. BTW, the only medal "fish" are allowed to wear on their uniforms is the Eagle medal. My kind of folks.

Here it is. Twenty scholarships from \$2000-2500 over two years for Eagles AND Gold Award winners. From Sept '91 thru Sept '94 322 Eagles and Gold winners entered the Corps. Eighty scholarships were awarded in that time period, about one in four.

**Bill Gremillion**

**CC - T515**

**Alamo Area Council**

**San Antonio, Texas**

**...and as you might expect, father of an Eagle who wants to be an Aggie.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman**  
**Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)**  
**U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)**  
**ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**From** mfbowman@CapAccess.org **Mon Jan 27 23:41:59 1997**

**Date:** Mon, 27 Jan 1997 23:41:55 -0500 (EST)  
**From:** "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
**To:** SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <scouts-l@tcu.edu>  
**Subject:** Worth Reposting - Eagle Scholarships 4  
**Message-ID:** <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970127234101.12000Z-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
**MIME-Version:** 1.0  
**Content-Type:** TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
**Status:** RO  
**X-Status:**

**Date:** Mon, 27 Nov 1995 14:52:21 -0500  
**From:** Mike Walton <blackeagle@HCC-UKY.CAMPUS.MCI.NET>  
**Subject:** Eagletip: Scholarship Opportunities for Eagles

Hi folks!

Here's the information in following up to Don Newcomb's request. I hope that this helps others as well that are looking for ways to further motivate some of your Life Scouts toward Eagle.

This was taken from the Eagle Scout Service' Eagleletter:

"Thanks to Mabel and Lawrence Cooke, qualified Eagle Scouts can have the opportunity to soar through college.

Lawrence S. Cooke, Eagle Scout class of 1923, has founded the Mabel and Lawrence S. Cooke Eagle Scout Scholarship Endowment Fund in the memory of his wife Mabel. Maximum grants are for \$40,000 and pay up to \$10,000 per year for 4 years.

The \$40,000 is the largest educational grant awarded by the Boy Scouts of America. Winners are selected by a committee that also determines the number and size of scholarships granted each year.

The deadline for the scholarship is February 28 of each program year, with all applications postmarked by that date and received by the Eagle Scout Service by March 5.

Each candidate must be a graduating high school senior in the year in which the awards are being presented, must be currently registered in the Boy Scouts of America, and must have been granted the Eagle Scout Award prior to application. A minimum score of either 900 (combined verbal and math) on the SAT or 20 on the ACT is also required.

To be eligible, candidates must demonstrate financial need and obtain an endorsement from a volunteer or professional Scouter.

To obtain applications for the awards, candidates should contact their local Council Service Center and request form 58-702 or contact the National Eagle Scout Service S220, National Office, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Post Office Box 152079, Irving, Texas USA 75015-2079."

The Eagle Scout Service also accepts tax-deductible contributions to this fund by parents or others to honor of achiever Eagles, youth or adult, or in memory of a fallen Eagle (as was suggested we do collectively back last fall , when a fellow Eagle Scout from Florida, Sean Harrington, died of cancer). Contributions may be sent directly to the Eagle Scout Service office listed above, and please mark the check or money order "In (tribute to) (memory of) Eagle Scout (name)".

In addition, the following scholarships are also offered:

The Eagle Scout Scholarships are administered separately by the Eagle Scout Service through a grant from the Elks National Foundation and are available annually. The grants are \$4000, \$1000 awarded yearly for four years. Scholarships of \$3000 non-renewable are also available. The same submission and deadline for application as the Cooke Scholarships apply here.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution also offer \$4K and \$1K scholarships annually.

They are restricted to the current class of Eagle Scouts whom have passed their board of review between September 1 and August 31 of each year.

Applications may be requested from a local or state SAR chapter or from NSSAR, 1000 South Fourth Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40203.

The American Legion sponsors the Scout of the Year program. Up to \$14,000 is available yearly to Eagle Scouts who have submitted nomination forms and have competed through a selection process. The nominee must be a registered , active member of a Scout Troop or Varsity Team operated by an American Legion Post or auxiliary unit. Applications can be obtained from the American Legion, Attn: Scout of the Year, Post Office Box 1055, Indianapolis , Indiana 46206. Submission deadline is February 1 each year.

The Order of the Arrow offers one or more scholarships ranging up to \$2K and awarded to Arrowmen planning a career in the professional service of the BSA . Applications can be obtained from the Order of the Arrow National Office, at the BSA's National Office listed above. The deadline for submission is January 15, with grants announced in June or July.

The Carter Scholarships are for Eagle Scouts living in one of the New England States (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut) and are also \$4K (\$1000 for four years) for undergraduate education. Applications are available from Administrative Secretary, Post Office Box 527, West Cheatham, MA 02669.

Eleven Colleges offer their own Eagle Scout Scholarship. For more information, contact the financial aid offices of the following universities or schools:

Albright College, PA  
Birmingham-Southern College, AL  
Columbia College, MO  
Grand Canyon College, AZ  
Johnson and Wales University, RI  
New Mexico Military Institute, NM  
Saint Vincent College, PA  
Stanford University, CA

**Westleyan University, CT  
Western Maryland College, MD  
Whittier College, CA**

**The BSA's Exploring Division offers (while the money's still there, folks!!) several college scholarships that are available only to Explorers in certain career fields or pursuing a particular vocation:**

**\* The Law Enforcement Assistance Award is a \$1K scholarship is presented by the Secret Service to an Explorer that have performed an outstanding deed in the area of law enforcement**

**\* The J. Edgar Hoover Foundation offers four \$1K scholarships to Law Enforcement Explorers (one per Region) to support their education toward law enforcement work.**

**\* The United States Customs Service offers unlisted amounts of money to Law Enforcement Explorers whose achievements reflect the high degree of motivation, commitment, and community concern that epitomize the law enforcement profession.**

**\* The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Special Agents Association presented unlisted amounts of money to Law Enforcement Explorers for achievements related to the law enforcement profession.**

**\* The Sheryl A. Horak Law Enforcement Explorer Memorial Scholarships are \$1000 grants presented to outstanding law enforcement Explorers seeking a career in law enforcement. Contributions to this memorial fund may be sent to the National Director, Exploring Division BSA, at the BSA's National Office.**

**There are some other resources that I urge you to followup up:**

**\* your employer. Most larger corporations (and some smaller companies as well) offer either grants, loans, or a combination of both to outstanding**

sons and daughters of their employees (or to their employees)

\* community-based agencies like the United Way. In most larger communities, the United Way/Appeal/Community Chest offices have a listing of organizations that want to make a specific contribution to the community but chooses not to donate directly to the UW's pool.

\* churches and religious groups. Most of our larger religious organizations have organizations or mechanisms in which small grants or large loans (or work-study grants) are given to deserving Scouts.

\* the federal government. Yes, our government still offers (it's getting smaller each year, but they do provide) the Pell Grant and several loan programs. Also consider voluntary service through AmeriCorps (as long as they are still being funded), which allows you to work in a community in exchange for a tuition stipend or repayment on student loans or both. There's also a program called JTPA (it used to be called CETA; that's the agency through I worked for the BSA through) that have a small pool of funding to support for instance, local Councils hiring one or two volunteers to work in rural or intercity areas of their council. You get a small (it *is* small) paycheck, supplemented by the hiring agency; most importantly, you get valuable experience which transfers over to WORK. Finally, don't forget that you can sock away up to \$2K each year in a Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and can withdraw it WITHOUT PENTALTY for educational expenses up to a amount. Check with the IRS or with your tax person.

I hope that this, Don, is what you're looking for. I'll send a complete file, with all of the school locations and what they are asking for, to Jon this week so that we can include it in our growing Eagletips files.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

**From** mfbowman@CapAccess.org **Mon Jan 27 23:42:50 1997**  
**Date:** Mon, 27 Jan 1997 23:42:48 -0500 (EST)  
**From:** "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
**To:** SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <scouts-l@tcu.edu>  
**Subject:** Eagle Scout Scholarships 3  
**Message-ID:** <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970127233922.12000Y-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
**MIME-Version:** 1.0  
**Content-Type:** TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
**Status:** RO  
**X-Status:**

In addition to the scholarships mentioned in my other postings here are a few more sources for scholarships:

National Jewish Committe on Scouting,

The Eastern Orthodox Committe on Scouting, and

Several local scholarship sponsored by private businesses; e.g. Vitro Corporation has one for Scouts in the National Capital Area Council.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep.Dist.Commissioner-Training, G.W.Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

**From** mfbowman@CapAccess.org **Tue Jan 28 00:05:19 1997**  
**Date:** Tue, 28 Jan 1997 00:05:17 -0500 (EST)  
**From:** "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
**To:** "Ronald W. Fox" <ronfox@MINDSPRING.COM>  
**cc:** Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
**Subject:** Re: Scoutmaster Conference and Board of Review  
**In-Reply-To:** <1.5.4.16.19970127212147.2b070be0@pop.mindspring.com>  
**Message-ID:** <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.970127235936.12000c-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>  
**MIME-Version:** 1.0



**Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII**  
**Status: RO**  
**X-Status:**

**Ron,**

**You're on the right track looking at the SM Handbook for help with the Scoutmaster conference. You can get the basics there. One thing I'd recommend from experience is making sure to give the Scout enough time that you can really listen to what he is saying. Often what he says will lead you to more questions and fruitful discussion that will help him through discovery and reflection.**

**Doing the Scoutmaster conference for your son probably would be okay for you, but not for your son. He's apt to get a lot of ribbing from his pals about you taking care of him (hard or soft). And he needs to have the chance to grow the same way all the other fellas do with a leader that is neutral and fair - delegate.**

**The Troop Committee Guide is an excellent source of information on conducting Boards of Review. Visiting another established Troop and observing a BOR is also a good idea. The following is from a previous posting and quotes form the 1992 version of the Guide (the current one is little changed):**

**Please share the following taken directly from the 1992 Troop Committee Guidebook with your committee and BOR members:**

#### **BOARDS OF REVIEW (EXCEPT FOR EAGLE SCOUT)**

**"When a Scout has completed all of the requirements for a rank, he appears before a board of review composed of at least three and not more than six committee members.**

**"The review has three purposes:**

- 1. To make sure that the work has been learned and completed.**
- 2. To find out what kind of experience the boy is having in his patrol and troop.**
- 3. To encourage the Scout to progress further.**

**"The board of review is not a time to retest the Scout, but to determine the Scout's attitude and his acceptance of Scouting ideals. It is also important to review those Scouts who are not advancing. The guidance and care shown could motivate these Scouts to further achievement.**

**"The review should be conducted at a convenient time and location, such as a troop meeting, summer camp, or the home of a member of the troop committee, Scoutmasters and assistant Scoutmasters do not participate in the board of review.**

**"The board of review members should feel free to refer to the Boy Scout Handbook, Scoutmaster Handbook, or any other references during the review.**

**"Because many boys are ill at ease when talking to adults, it is important that the board of review be held in a relaxed atmosphere. A certain amount of formality and meaningful questioning should be used during the review. Use questions that require a narrative answer.**

**"Examples of the kinds of questions that might be asked are:**

- \* What do you like most in troop outdoor activities?**
- \* What new things did you do/learn on your latest campout/service project/  
troop meeting?**
- \* What did you learn/feel in giving service to others?**
- \* Why is being a Boy Scout important to you?**
- \* What are your goals in Scouting?**
- \* How will fulfilling requirement number \_\_\_\_\_ help you?**

**"These types of questions will help the boy to see the value and practical application of his efforts.**

**"At the conclusion of the review, the board should know whether a boy is qualified for the rank or palm. The Scout is asked to leave the room while the board members discuss his achievements. The decision of the board of**

review is arrived a through discussion and must be unanimous. If members are satisfied that the Scout is ready to advance, he is called in, congratulated, notified as to when he will receive his recognition, and encouraged to continue his advancement or earn the next palm.

"Scouts who are not advancing should also come before the board of review. The board should show interest in these Scouts' rank progress. Ask the kind of questions that may reveal why they are not advancing:

- \* Do you enjoy the outings/troop meetings?
- \* Which of the requirements are most difficult for you?
- \* Do you find that school activities are taking more of your time? Which ones?

"Let the Scout know that he has the support of the board of review members and that there is no doubt that he can achieve the next rank. The board's concern and supportive manner will both help the Scout's confidence and impress upon him the importance of advancement in his Scouting experience.

"At the conclusion of every board of review, it is the the committee's responsibility to prepare and turn in to the local council office a copy of the Advancement Report, and ensure that the badges earned by the boys are obtained and awarded in a timely fashion."

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org

Date: Mon, 24 Mar 1997 14:54:08 -0700  
Reply-To: Amick Robert <amick@SPOT.COLORADO.EDU>  
Sender: Scouts-L Youth Group List <Scouts-L@tcu.edu>  
From: Amick Robert <amick@SPOT.COLORADO.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Request for the Story of the Eagle (Eagle Courts of Honor)  
X-To: "John W. Lyver, IV" <JLyver@EROLS.COM>

**To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
In-Reply-To: <3.0.16.19970318151640.0a5f32d2@pop.EROLS.COM>  
Status: RO  
X-Status:**

**John, et al,**

**The following is the script authored by Tony Hibl, ASM Troop 72, Boulder, CO, for use at Eagle Courts of Honor (copyright 1996, may be used with attribution to the author)**

**(editor's note: This script is used with a slide show depicting Native Americans from early paintings or photographs and with paintings or photographs of Eagles sequenced appropriately with the narration; The final slide is a photo of the Eagle Medal. A taped musical background theme accompanies the narration which can be either read live or dubbed onto the tape. Appropriate music might be a soundtrack from a movie with a Native American theme. A "dissolve" control used with two slide projectors makes the most effective presentation and can be electronically "cued" to the tape to command the slide changes accurately.)**

**Prior to the presentation, we use a "cameo" series of slides depicting the Eagle candidate as he grows up (yes baby pix are ok if the candidate and his family supply them) up through a current "portrait" of the candidate as a closing picture. We usually use around 25 to 30 slides but more or less can be used appropriately as determined by the candidate and his family. A musical background theme also accompanies this presentation. Sometimes a poem is read during the slide show as well.**

**"Ancient Legends--The Eagle"  
by Tony Hibl, ASM Troop 72, Boulder, CO**

**"Many long years ago, before the white man invaded and settled the land that once belonged to the Indian...these first people on the American continent lived a life of peace and contentment**

**Here, in the wild, the ancient Indian civilizations adapted to its extremes. They fit themselves to earth and sky as a glove shapes itself to the hand. They were a people perfectly united with their domain...a**

people whose free manner of life blew and basked as the wind and the land itself.

The Indian revered the stupendous eagle as the thunderbird. Lightning was caused by the blink of its eye. Children were told that eagles flew up through holes in the sky, and carried messages to the the gods. Nothing matched its courage, swiftness, and strength.

Eagle Feathers were worn as symbols of honor and accomplishment, however indian warrios were only allowed to wear eagle feathers in their hair or headdress if they earned them. After a warrior performed great deeds, the tribal council presented the warrior with eagle feathers.

In much the same manner, Scouts earn awards. They present themselves before a board of review, and if qualified, are recognized for their accomplishments.

The old ones tell of the nest  
of the sacred bird called the Eagle

Home for her eaglet sits high,  
touching the sky

A mother sits proud and defiant,  
she has a little one who will soon leave her,  
she worries;

The day has come  
today he will fly or fall;

A flap of wings, a screech of power,  
he leaps...he is gone.

He has become...an Eagle.

As the Indian culture revered the eagle itself, today's society reveres those who reach the highest rank in Scouting...the Eagle Scout."

I hope this information may be of help to you.

**Congratulations to your son and to all Eagle candidates who are about to receive their Eagle medals.**

**Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder, CO**

**On Tue, 18 Mar 1997, John W. Lyver, IV wrote:**

**> I am looking for a story of why the Eagle is special (almost sacred) to the  
> Native Americans. My son would like the story told as a part of his Eagle  
> Scout presentation ceremony. If anyone has a story or a reference for  
one,  
> I would appreciate it. Please send any responses to me at:  
JLYVER@EROLS.COM**