

Troop 45 Eagle Court of Honor

01 May 04

PREPARATION (2:00)

The ceremony will be outdoors if the weather permits; indoors in the church otherwise.

Drill Color Guard (Mr. Young)

- Color Guard (Paul Thompson, Nik Gick, Paul Fitzmaurice, Michael Balch)

Brief ceremony participants (Mr. Brown, Mr. Hoge)

- SPL (Christian Olsen)
- Escorts (Luke Kraus, Oli Simpson)
- Rehearse presentation of candidates
- Rehearse presentation of parents

Set up Display (Mrs. Hoge)

Set up flag stands, front table, and podium

Set up chairs (reserved seats for parents at front house right, for Eagle scouts front house left.)

Set up reception table (Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Logan)

PREOPENING (2:30)

Position Ushers with programs.

Greet Ms. Black and Sen. Below. Brief them as necessary.

Seat candidates the rear of the hall. (Before 3:00)

Seat the parents at the front of the hall. (Before 3:00)

OPENING (3:00)

SPL: (front and center, flanked by Rev. Brayman, make Sign)

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Please rise for the American Flag."

"Color Guard, Post"

(color guard posts colors)

"Scout Salute.... I pledge allegiance..."

"Scout Sign..... On my honor....."

"Reverend Brayman, would you please offer an invocation?"

Rev. Brayman: (invocation)

SPL: "Color Guard, dismissed." (color guard retreats.)

"Please be seated."

(Audience sits.) (Rev. Brayman sits.)

WELCOME

SPL: “Good afternoon, everyone. I am Christian Olsen, Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 45, and it is my privilege to welcome all of you to our Eagle Court of Honor.

We have three distinguished guests with us this afternoon, and before beginning the ceremony I'd like to introduce them.

- First, **Ms. Willy Black**, Moderator of the Town of Hanover, is here to represent the Town of Hanover. Welcome, Ms. Black, and thank you for coming.
- We are also very pleased to welcome **Senator Clifton Below**, of the General Court of New Hampshire. Welcome, Senator, and thank you for joining us.
- And finally, **Mr. Scott Hansen**, Scout Executive of the Sunapee District. Thank you for joining us, Mr. Hansen.”

COURT OF HONOR

Introduction, Report of the Board of Review and Opening

SPL: “Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Roger Thompson, chairman of the Advancement Committee of Troop 45, will open the Court of Honor. Mr. Thompson.” (Step aside)

Mr. Thompson: (Introductory speech) (Introduces Mr. Olsen)

Mr. Olsen: (Report of BoR)

Mr. Thompson: (Opening)

(Mr. Thompson and Mr. Olsen sit)

Presentation of the Candidates

SPL: (From station at stage left.) “Escorts, please present the candidates.” (The escorts rise, meet at the center and proceed down the aisle to the rear of the hall. The candidates rise. Carl’s escort brings Carl to front and center. He stands to the left of Carl and announces:)

Escort: “Life Scout Carl Davie Hoge!”

(Will’s escort then brings Will forward and places him next to Carl on Carl’s right. He stands on Will’s right and announces:)

Escort: “Life Scout William Bowen Henderson-Frost!”

SPL: “Mr. Scoutmaster, the candidates are assembled!” (Escorts retreat right and left to their seats and sit.)

SM: (comes forward to front and center) (personal remarks)

- (Importance of teamwork --> Neckerchief swap)(SPL assists: take old neckerchief from SM, place on table, pick up new neckerchief and give to SM for presentation)
- (Importance of ideals --> Scout Oath and Law)
- (Importance of parental support --> Introduce parents)

SPL: "Escorts, please present the parents." (The escorts rise from their seats, proceed to the center and then to the parents' row. Carl's escort offers his arm to Mrs. Hoge and leads her to stand on Carl's left. Right behind, Will's escort brings Dr. Frost to stand on Will's right. The escorts retreat to their seats.)

SPL: "Mr. Scoutmaster, the parents are assembled."

SM: "Thank you, Mr. Senior Patrol Leader."

(welcoming remarks to parents)

"Mr. Senior Patrol Leader, the candidates and the parents are prepared."

(Stands with Mrs. Hoge)

The Charge

SPL: "It is now my privilege to introduce Mr. Yorke Brown, formerly scoutmaster of Troop 45. Mr. Brown will give The Eagle Charge to the candidates and confer upon them the rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Brown."

Mr. Brown: (Remarks as appropriate -->invites Eagles in audience to rise)
(Reads Eagle Charge)
(Charges each candidate individually)
(Eagles in audience sit)

The Conferral

Mr. Brown: (Remarks as appropriate. Introduce Mr. Young)

(Mr Young rises and takes up a station by the SPL)

Mr. Brown: (Instructs on pinning process)(SPL obtains Eagle Kit and certificate for Carl. Hands certificate to Mr. Young.)

(Starting with Carl)

Mr. Young: (Reads the eagle certificate)(Assists if necessary with obtaining badges and pins)

(Mr. Brown obtains the eagle medal from SPL, shows it to audience and hands it to Mrs Hoge, who pins it on Carl.)

Mr. Brown: (Remarks concerning importance of fathers)
(obtains father pin, hands it to Carl who pins it on father)

Mr. Brown: (Remarks concerning importance of mothers -- including reminder to candidates of the traditional kiss)
(obtains mother pin, hands it to Carl who pins it on mother)

Mr. Brown: (Obtains the cloth eagle badge, gives badge to candidate, shakes hand, congratulates parents.)

Mr. Brown: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor of presenting to you Eagle Scout Carl Hoge."

(Repeat for Will)

Mr. Brown: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor of presenting to you Eagle Scout William Henderson-Frost."

(Mr. Brown and Mr Young sit)

(SPL returns to his station)

SPL: "Will the escorts please seat the parents." (Escorts proceed to the front, escort the parents to their seats--Mrs. Hoge first. Escorts sit.)

Special Recognitions

SPL: "During our preopening gathering, I'm sure that many of you noticed here at the front of the gathering, the displays of various memorabilia that we've assembled for each of our new Eagle Scouts. These displays include some significant recognitions and commendations. I'd like to ask Assistant Scoutmaster Bill Scavone to present them. Mr. Scavone."

Mr. Scavone: (Remarks as appropriate. Reads inscription for each certificate.)

- Commendation from the Town of Hanover (introduce Willy Black)
- Commendation from the New Hampshire Senate (Introduce Senator Clifton Below)
- Commendation from the US House of Representatives
- Commendation from US Senate

(Mr. Scavone sits)

Closing

SPL: “Mr. Thompson, would you please close the Court of Honor?”

Mr. Thompson: “With pride in the accomplishments of our new Eagle Scouts, their parents, their Leaders, and their fellow Scouts, I declare this Eagle Court of Honor officially closed.” (Mr. Thompson sits)

REFLECTIONS

SPL: “The Eagle Court of Honor is now complete. Troop 45 has gained two new Eagle Scouts. Speaking for all the scouts in the troop, congratulations!

Now is a time for reflection and appreciation. I’d like to begin by thanking all the people who helped make this gathering possible.

- First, Mr. Thompson, thanks to you and all the parent volunteers who have participated in the ten boards of review leading up to this afternoon.
- Are there any Merit Badge Counselors in the audience? Could you please stand for a moment? All the scouts in the troop thank you for all you have taught us.
- Mr. Brayman, we thank your congregation for offering us the use of your beautiful church.
- Many other parents, leaders, and scouts pitched in to help out in various ways. Mostly, though, I want to thank all of you for coming and supporting the troop--especially those of you who traveled great distances to be here. We’re very glad you came.
- And finally, we are grateful to Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Logan, and Mrs. Hoge, who have prepared a little reception for after the closing.

“Now, is there anyone in the audience who would like to offer a reflection on our new Eagles?”

(I’m still trying to rig this....)

SPL: “Now I’d like to relinquish the floor to the new Eagle Scouts themselves. I understand they have some reflections of their own.” (SPL sits.)

(Eagle Scouts make whatever presentations they may have.)

CLOSING

SPL: (Return to station)“Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the closing. Will and Carl, will you please lead us in the Scout Law?”

All: “A Scout is Trustworthy....”

SPL: ”Circle up.” (Instructions as necessary)

(When circle is formed and all is quiet) “Scoutmaster’s Minute”

SM: (Scoutmaster’s Minute)

SPL: “Reverend Brayman, will you please offer us a benediction?”

Rev. Brayman: (benediction)

RECEPTION

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH, REPORT OF BoR, and OPENING

Mr. Thompson: “Since 1910 the Boy Scouts of America has offered young men the opportunity to develop themselves in character, in citizenship, and in personal fitness. Each boy who enters the scouting program learns the ideals of scouting and, by participating in its activities and adventures, begins to advance in rank. The new scout quite naturally becomes a Tenderfoot, and, with more effort, Second Class. By the end of his first year in scouting a boy can earn the rank of First Class and count himself as a fully qualified scout.

But at that point, the program changes; the advancement trail steepens. The First Class Scout sees before him a bewildering field of Merit Badges. He encounters new requirements for service, for leadership, for responsibility. As the scout rises to Star, and then to Life, he sees the ranks of his companions thinning, for these advancements require real effort, real commitment, real initiative. His leaders support him, yes; they guide him, teach him, encourage him. But they also expect more of him. The farther along the trail the scout continues, the steeper it becomes. He encounters no insurmountable obstacles, but the challenges are real, and often daunting. Only a few will reach the rarified air of the realm of the Eagles.

We assemble here this evening to recognize two young men from Troop 45 who have completed the Trail to Eagle--who have climbed the heights of advancement and have shown by their deeds that they are strong in character, upright in citizenship, and fit for the rigors of adult life.

It has been my pleasure over the years since these young men joined Troop 45 to observe and monitor their progress towards this summit. I have chaired the Board of Review which evaluated their fitness to advance to each new rank, and have certified the completion of each advancement. Upon completion of the requirements for Eagle, however, they pass from our purview to that of the Eagle Board of Review. I now call upon Mr. Paul Olsen of our Troop Committee to present the report of the Sunapee District Eagle Board of Review.

Mr. Olsen: “My colleague, Mr. Nelson Therriault, chairman of the Eagle Board of Review, is unable to attend this afternoon, so on his behalf I have the privilege of presenting the report of the Eagle Board of Review.

As the highest rank in Boy Scouting, the award of the Eagle Scout Badge deserves special attention as to the qualifications of candidates aspiring to this level of achievement. Advancement to Eagle Scout requires the completion of twenty-one merit badges, among which twelve are individually specified. Each candidate is required to render specific leadership service to his troop. Each candidate must conduct a major community service project that demonstrates organizational skill, leadership, and the willingness to help others. After reviewing the satisfactory completion of these concrete requirements, the Eagle Board of Review then examines each candidate in the more abstract areas of character development and scout spirit--for herein lie the deepest virtues of the Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Board of Review of the Sunapee District, Daniel Webster Council, Boy Scouts of America, has examined the following Scouts of Troop 45, Hanover, New Hampshire, for their fitness to advance to the rank of Eagle Scout:

Carl Davie Hoge

and

William Bowen Henderson-Frost.

The Eagle Board of Review, is pleased and proud to certify to the National Office that each of these scouts is fully qualified to advance to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. Thompson, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am now pleased to report that the National Office has duly authorized us to confer upon each of these young men the rank of Eagle Scout.”

Mr. Thompson: “Very well, then: By the authority vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I do declare this Eagle Court of Honor open for the purpose of elevating to the rank of Eagle Scout,

Carl Davie Hoge

and

William Bowen Henderson-Frost.