

Troop 45 Eagle Court of Honor

05 Feb 06

PREPARATION (12:00)

The ceremony will be in the DOC House on Occom Pond.

Drill Color Guard (Mr. Hoge)

- Color Guard (Will Smith, Ari Brown, Chris Jayne, James Harvard)

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

- SPL (Hidde deMuinck)
- Escort (Oli Simpson)
- Rehearse presentation of candidate
- Rehearse presentation of parents

Set up Display (Mrs. Kraus)

Set up flag stands, front table, and podium

Set up chairs (reserved seats for parents front house right, for Eagle scout with troop front house left.)

Set up reception table (Grette D'Hondt)

PREOPENING (12:30)

Position Ushers with programs. (Oli Simpson)

Greet Ms. Black and Rep. Nordgren. Brief them as necessary. (Mr. Henderson-Frost)

Greet Rabbi Gray and brief as necessary. (Mr. Brown)

Seat candidate at the rear of the hall. (Before 1:00)(Oli Simpson)

Seat the parents at the front of the hall. (Before 1:00)(Oli Simpson)

OPENING (1:00)

SPL: (front and center, flanked by Rabbi Gray, make Sign)

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

"Color Guard, Post"

(color guard posts colors)

Captain of Color Guard: "Scout Salute! I pledge allegiance..."

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

SPL: "Rabbi Gray, would you please offer an invocation?"

Rabbi Gray: (invocation)

SPL: "Color Guard, dismissed." (color guard retreats to rear of hall.)

"Please be seated."
(Audience sits.) (Rabbi Gray sits.)(Color guard rejoins the troop.)

WELCOME

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

We have two 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 **Representative Sharon Nordgren**, of the General Court of New Hampshire. Welcome, Ms Nordgren, and thank you for joining us.

COURT OF HONOR

The Meaning of the Eagle Award: Introduction, Report of the Board of Review and Opening

SPL: "Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Nicholas Collins, chairman of the Troop Committee of Troop 45, will open the Court of Honor. Mr. Collins." (Step aside)

Mr. Collins: (Introductory speech) (Introduces Mr. Brown)

Mr. Brown: (Report of BoR)

Mr. Collins: (Opening)

(Mr. Collins and Mr. Brown sit)

Presentation of the Candidate

SPL: (From station at stage left.) "Mr Simpson, please present the candidate." (The escort rises and proceeds down the aisle to the rear of the hall. The candidates rises. The escort brings Luke to front and center where they face the audience, escort on the right.)

Escort: "Life Scout Luke Emanuel Kraus!"

SPL: "Mr. Scoutmaster, the candidate is present." (Escort retreats right to his seat and sits.)

SM: (comes forward to front and center) (personal remarks leading to introduction of the parents)(SPL stand by to assist with neckerchief swap)

SPL: “Mr. Simpson, please present the parents.” (The escort rises from his seat, proceeds to the center and then to the parents’ row. He offers his arm to Mrs. Kraus and leads her to stand on Luke’s left. Mr. Kraus follows directly behind and takes up a station to Mrs Kraus’ right. The escort retreats to his seat.)

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 to right.)

The Charge

SPL: “It is now my privilege to introduce Mr. Gregg Hoge, formerly scoutmaster of Troop 45. Mr. Hoge will give The Eagle Charge and assist Scoutmaster Smith in conferring the rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Hoge.”

Mr. Hoge: (Remarks as appropriate -->invites Eagles in audience to rise)
(Reads Eagle Charge)
(Eagles in audience sit)

The Conferral

(Mr Hoge takes up a station by the SPL,)

Mr. Smith: (Instructs on pinning process)(SPL obtains Eagle Kit and certificate and hands certificate to Mr. Hoge.)(SPL stands by with Eagle Kit)

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

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

Mr. Smith: (Remarks concerning importance of fathers)
(obtains father pin from SPL, hands it to Luke who pins it on father)

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

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

Mr. Smith: “Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor of presenting to you Eagle Scout

Luke Kraus.”

(Mr Hoge and Mr Smith sit.)

(SPL returns to his station)

SPL: “Mr Simpson, would you please seat the parents?” (Escort proceeds to the front, escorts the parents to their seats--Mrs. Kraus first. Escort retreats to his seat.)

SPL: “During the span of Luke’s career in Troop 45, we have been led by three scoutmaster. Luke’s first scoutmaster was Mr. Yorke Brown, and Luke has asked him to say a few words this afternoon. Mr. Brown.”

Mr. Brown: (remarks)

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 Will Henderson-Frost to present them. Mr Henderson-Frost.”

Mr. Henderson-Frost: (Remarks as appropriate. Reads inscription for each certificate.)

- Commendation from the Town of Hanover (introduce Willy Black, Moderator of the Town of Hanover)(Ms Black makes presentation)
- Commendation from the New Hampshire Senate (Introduce Rep. Sharon Nordgren)(Rep. Nordgren makes the presentation)
- Commendation from the US House of Representatives
- Commendation from US Senate

(Mr. Henderson-Frost sits)

Closing

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

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

REFLECTIONS

SPL: “The Eagle Court of Honor is now complete. Troop 45 has gained its twenty-

seventh Eagle Scout. Luke, 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. Harvard, thanks to you and Dartmouth college for making this beautiful building available to us.
- 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.
- Many other parents, leaders, and scouts have 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. D'Hondt who has prepared a little reception for after the closing.

SPL: "Now I'd like to relinquish the floor to our new Eagle Scout himself. I understand Luke has a few words he'd like to say." (SPL sits.)

(Luke makes whatever presentations he may have.)

CLOSING

SPL: (Return to station)"Ladies and gentlemen, please rise for the closing. Luke, 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: "Rabbi Gray, will you please offer us a benediction?"

Rabbi Gray: (benediction)

RECEPTION

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH, REPORT OF BoR, and OPENING

Mr. Collins: "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 afternoon to recognize a young man from Troop 45, Luke Kraus, who has completed the Trail to Eagle--who has climbed the heights of advancement and has shown by his deeds that he is strong in character, upright in citizenship, and fit for the rigors of adult life.

It has been my pleasure over the years since Luke joined Troop 45 to observe his progress towards this summit. At each step along the way, the Board of Review of Troop 45 has evaluated his fitness to advance to each new rank, and has certified the completion of each advancement. Upon completion of the requirements for Eagle, however, Luke passes from our purview to that of the Eagle Board of Review. I now call upon Assitant Scoutmaster Yorke Brown, to present the report of the Sunapee District Eagle Board of Review.

Mr. Brown: "My colleague, Mr. Paul Boucher, 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 Life Scout **Luke Emanuel Kraus** of Troop 45, Hanover, New Hampshire, for his fitness to advance to the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Board of

Review is pleased and proud to certify to the National Office that Mr Kraus is fully qualified to advance to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. Collins, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am now pleased to report that the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America has duly authorized us to confer upon Luke Kraus the rank of Eagle Scout.”

Mr. Collins: “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, **Luke Emanuel Kraus**.