

Troop 810 Eagle Court of Honor Guide

Congratulations. I am sure now that your Scout has made the rank of eagle that you are wondering what to do about his Court of Honor. Where do I start, what do I do? An Eagle Scout Court of Honor is a time for the Scouts family, friends and Troop to come together and share in the Scouts journey to Eagle Scout. We have many resources available to you.

- ❖ Pick a few dates that work best for your family and friends to be able to attend. Verify with the Committee Chair and Scoutmaster that the proposed dates do not interfere with the Troop Calendar. Friday evenings or Saturdays when the Troop is not camping are suggested. The ECOH should not be scheduled when a Troop meeting is on the calendar.
- Choose a location to hold your Eagle Court of Honor. If you choose St Francis DeSales, you must confirm with the church that the Worship Center and Kilduff Hall are both available that day.
- Once your Court of Honor date has been set, start mailing out those Commendation letters to the dignitaries as advised by Council when your Eagle application was dropped off. Some dignitaries may contact you and want to attend. If you wish to have someone special, you are responsible for contacting their offices to arrange it. You can find the most current mailing lists on the Baltimore BSA website http://www.baltimorebsa.org/program/eagle-scouts/eagle-scout-forms/29983
- Choose a location that is special to the Scout to have a flag flown in the Scouts honor. Most BSA camps will do this or politicians can have it flown over the State House as well. You will need to purchase the flag, mail it with an instruction letter and include a postage paid package to mail it back to you. This flag will be folded at the ECOH ceremony. Another idea is having a flag from a passed family member be the flag presented perhaps in memory of them. Again, the decision is yours.

- ❖ Invitations to the ECOH can either be mailed or emailed. Most Eagle parents will agree that it is easier to email the invitation.
- ❖ The Troop will supply the items necessary to perform the ECOH ceremony including a framed Eagle Scout Certificate, Eagle medal and patch, Eagle parent pins and one mentor pin.
- Our Troop has about 20 centerpieces available. These may need to be freshened up. They are stored in the shed and you can get them at any time prior to your COH.
- ❖ Typically we set up 25 tables of 6 chairs each. You will need about 4 rolls of plastic table cloth to do this.
- ❖ If you choose to have a meal and/or refreshments for your guests, you must make those arrangements yourself. You can either prepare the food or have the reception catered. While there is no required cost or menu most Eagle parents estimate that they spend anywhere from \$1,000-2,000 on the ECOH reception. Remember that you are feeding Scouts, and they eat a lot. ② Although you the parent are making these arrangements, adult members of our unit will be there to handle the preparation, serving and cleanup of the reception. You are to enjoy this time with your Scout and loved ones and let others do the work. <u>This is</u> YOUR celebration as well.
- ❖ You can bring your Scouts memorabilia to display. We know you have kept everything your scout has done over the years. (Books, certificates, cub scout stuff, trophies, awards, summer camp projects, pictures, eagle project book, commendation letters, etc.)
- ❖ Have your Scout use a script like the example below to complete the ECOH ceremony script. You are welcome to customize this and make it your own. Sit down with your scout and determine whom from our Troop he would like to participate in this ceremony. Choose someone that speaks well in front of crowds and speaks loud and clearly as the Master of Ceremonies. He will need to contact each of those people to verify that they can attend.
- ❖ Complete an ECOH program. (Tip: Do not print one for every person coming; half of the people who attend do not take them.)
- If you are holding your ECOH at SFDS:
 - You will need to pick up the keys to the Worship center, Maintenance room for the Worship Hall, Kilduff Hall, paper closet in Kilduf Hall from the Church office during business hours. (They are usually closed on Friday evenings and Saturdays)

0	Plates, bowls, cups, napkins and utensils are available at no additional fee through SFDS. It is highly recommended that you verify that the items are available in the supply closet before your COH date.



Dr. Christopher Wassif Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop 810

DATE

Addressee

Dear Name,

The Scouts, Leaders and Committee Members of Boy Scout Troop (810) take great pleasure in announcing that SCOUTS FULL NAME has completed the requirements and having been examined by an Eagle Scout Board of Review on EBOR DATE was found worthy of the rank of Eagle Scout.

In honor of this achievement, we have scheduled an Eagle Scout Court of Honor on ECOH DATE at ECOH TIME. We would greatly appreciate a letter or certificate acknowledging his achievement. We will compile it with other acknowledgments and place in a scrap book commemorating this special occasion. Please mail this directly to:

SCOUTS NAME C/O SCOUTS PARENT NAME ADDRESS

Thank you for taking time from your extremely busy schedule to help our community recognize the achievements and service of Eagle Scout Dalton.

Sincerely Yours in Scouting,

Dr. Christopher Wassif

Dr. Christopher Wassif Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop 810 Phone: (410) 375-1516

SCOUT

Court of Honor Ceremony Script

Participants:

EAGLE SCOUT SCOUT

EAGLE PARENTS

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

VIPS Family members

INVOCATION

HONOR GUARD 5 Scouts
COLOR GUARD 5 Scouts

SCOUTMASTER

NESA PRESENTER

SPECIAL GUESTS Try to limit to 3
STORY TELLERS Try to limit to 3

EAGLE SCOUT NECKERCHIEF

FLAG PRESENTERS 1 reader and 2 flag folders

EAGLE CHARGE

PROGRAM HANDER-OUTERS: 2 Scouts or family members

BUGLER

SEATING: Left front pew for Honor Guard

Left second pew for Color Guard

Right front pew for Parents

Right second pew for other family

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Good afternoon. My name is MASTER OF CEREMONIES, and it is my honor and privilege to serve as master of ceremonies for today's special celebration. On behalf of the family of SCOUT and Boy Scout Troop 810, I welcome all of you to Scouting's greatest moment, as we bestow the rank of Eagle Scout on a very deserving young man, SCOUT.

It is indeed a great honor that we recognize today, so I do ask for your attention throughout the ceremony. Please be so kind as to turn off your cell phones at this time. Flash photography is more than welcomed. Immediately following the ceremony, a reception will be held at Kilduff Hall. For those not familiar with the church facility, just follow the crowd across the parking lot. And so, without further ado, let us begin. Honor Guard, please escort our Eagle Scout and his family forward.

Honor Guard: Honor Guard escorts each family member forward in the following order:

LIST ORDER

Family enters right-hand pews, Honor Guardsman salutes Mr. MASTER OF CEREMONIES and then enters the left-hand pew sitting at the end closet the Eagle Scout. Remain standing.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, Honor Guard. At this time, I ask that everyone please rise for the presentation of the colors. **SENIOR PATROL LEADER** Stuff, our Senior Patrol Leader will lead our color guard.

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: moves to the front. Color Guard, advance the colors. Scout Salute.

Color Guard: Color Guard brings in flags in the following order:

NAME with the American Flag

NAME with the Maryland Flag

NAME with the Harford County Flag

NAME with the Troop 810 Flag

NAME with the Owl Patrol Flag

Stand at your flag and face the audience. The American Flag should be held straight up while all other flags are angled forward.

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: Please join me in The Pledge of Allegiance. Those not in uniform, please place your right hand over your heart.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Tew! Color guard, post the colors.

Flags are posted one at a time, beginning with the American Flag and proceeding in the order they stand. Remain with your flags.

Scout Sign. Please join me by repeating the Scout Oath:

On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, **SENIOR PATROL LEADER** and Color Guard. Everyone please be seated.

Color Guard: Proceed to seats in the left second row behind the Honor Guard.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Will our Troop Scoutmaster, **NAME**, please come to the front to officially open this Court of Honor?

SCOUTMASTER: Takes place behind the stump with hatchet in hand.

By the authority vested in me by the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America, the Baltimore Area Council, the Harford District, and Troop 810, I hereby declare this Court of Honor open for the sole purpose of bestowing the rank of Eagle Scout upon **SCOUT**.

Drives the hatchet into the stump and returns to his seat.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, **NAME**. At this time, I ask our **INVOCATION SPEAKER**, to come up to the podium to lead us in the invocation.

INVOCATION SPEAKER: Invocation and a word or two

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you INVOCATION SPEAKER. I would like to invite FLAG PRESENTER NAMES forward for a special presentation of the Scout Law.

FLAG PRESENTER READER: Make way to the stage

FLAG PRESENTER FOLDERS: Meet at the top of the aisle. Unfold the flag for display with the Scout who is not folding the flag holding the blue field end.

FLAG PRESENTER READER: The flag you see before you this afternoon has flown only one time, at one place and for one reason; in honor of SCOUT attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. One of SCOUT's most exciting Scouting Experiences was in ENTER DETAILS where SCOUT and other members of our Troop, some of which are here today, ENTER DETAILS. This flag was flown in honor of SCOUT at ENTER WHERE AND WHEN FLAG WAS FLOWN.

FLAG PRESENTER READER: A great American, John Wayne, passed away many years ago. One of his last public appearances was at a dinner. He was riddled with cancer and knew he was close to death. The purpose of the dinner was to benefit a land purchase for a Scout Reservation called John Wayne Outpost Camp. At this dinner, Wayne recited the Scout Law. Then he did something unusual. He said the twelve points of the Scout Law are "nice words". "Trouble is" he continued, "we learn them so young we sometimes don't get all the understanding that goes with them. I take care of that in my family. As each boy reaches the Scout age, I make sure he learns the Scout Law. Then I break it down for him, with a few things I have picked up in more than half a century since I learned it."

Then Wayne proceeded to explain the importance of the Scout Law, breaking it down for the guests at the dinner; much like he would have for his grandson.

FLAG PRESENTER FOLDERS: One Scout holds the blue field end of the flag while the other makes a fold when Mrs. Lisa recites each point of the Scout Law.

FLAG PRESENTER READER: With each fold of this flag, we are reminded of the high ideals of Scouting, as expressed in the Scout law.

A Scout is Trustworthy. (*FIRST FOLD*) The badge of honesty. Having it lets you look any man straight in the eye. Lacking it, he won't look back. Keep this one at the top of your list.

A Scout is Loyal. (SECOND FOLD) The very word is life itself, for without loyalty we have no love of person or country.

A Scout is Helpful. (*THIRD FOLD*) Part sharing, part caring. By helping each other, we help ourselves, not to mention mankind. Be always full of help — the dying man's last words.

A Scout is Friendly. (FOURTH FOLD) Brotherhood is part of that word. You can take it in a lot of directions — and do — but make sure and start with brotherhood.

A Scout is Courteous. (FIFTH FOLD) Allow each person his human dignity, which means a lot more than saying "yes ma'am" and "Thank you, sir." It reflects an attitude that later in life you "wish you had honored more ... earlier in life." Save yourself that problem. Do it now.

A Scout is Kind. (SIXTH FOLD) This one word would stop wars and erase hatreds. But it's like your bicycle. It's just no good unless you get out and use it.

A Scout is Obedient. (SEVENTH FOLD) Start at home, practice it on your family, enlarge it to your friends, and share it with humanity.

A Scout is Cheerful. (*EIGHTH FOLD*) Anyone can put on a happy face when the going's good. The secret is to wear it as a mask for your problems. It might surprise you how many others do the same thing.

A Scout is Thrifty. (NINTH FOLD) Means a lot more than putting pennies away, and it's the opposite of cheap. Common sense covers it just about as well as anything.

A Scout is Brave. (*TENTH FOLD*) You don't have to fight to be brave. Millions of good, fine, decent folks show more bravery than heavyweight champs just by getting out of bed every morning, going out to do a good day's work, and living the best life they know how against a lot of odds. Brave. Keep the word handy every day of your life.

A Scout is Clean. (*ELEVENTH FOLD*) Soap and water help a lot on the outside. But it's the inside that counts and don't ever forget it.

A Scout is Reverent. (*TWELFTH FOLD*) Believe in anything that you want to believe in, but keep God at the top of it. With Him, life can be a beautiful experience. Without Him, you are just biding time.

The Scout holding the blue end of the flag carries the flag to **SCOUT** and presents it to him while the other Scout Salutes him.

FLAG PRESENTERS: Return to their seats.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, FLAG PRESENTER READER. At this time I would like to invite SPECIAL GUEST forward to make a special presentation.

SPECIAL GUEST: Presentation

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, SPECIAL GUEST. I would now like to invite SPECIAL GUEST forward to make a special presentation.

SPECIAL GUEST: Presentation

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you **SPECIAL GUEST**. At this time I would like to invite a few people to say a few words and recall some fond memories of **SCOUT**. Would **STORYTELLER** please come up and share some of the good times you have shared with **SCOUT**?

STORYTELLER: Says a few words

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you **STORYTELLER**. Now I'd like to ask **STORYTELLER**, to come forward to say a few words.

STORYTELLER: Says a few words

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you STORYTELLER and lastly I'd like to ask STORYTELLER, to come forward to reminisce and say a few words about SCOUT.

STORYTELLER: Says a few words

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you **STORYTELLER**. Now it is time for me to take a moment to describe some of the things you see on display before you.

First, our Troop Seal has been adorned with a new blue star. Our seal was designed to be an evolving piece of troop history, with a blue star being added to the yellow field with each new Eagle Scout. **SCOUT**, today a blue star has been added in your honor.

Second, our Troop's perpetual Eagle plaque likewise has a new name engraved upon it. At this time, I would ask that **SCOUT** to come forward to remove the tape to reveal his name as the newest member of the Troop's Eagle nest.

SCOUT: Comes forward and removes the tape. Remain standing.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Third, a special gift was donated to the troop by one of troop 810's recently honored Eagle Scouts in memory of a young man named Josh Woolmer who passed in October 2009. Josh was awarded the rank of Eagle posthumously. The Eagle statue you see before you represents the highest rank a Scout can earn. Currently, in this statutes claws is SCOUT's Eagle Medal. Our hope is that Josh's Scouting Spirit will be infused in this Eagle Medal and Josh will continue to fly high on Eagle's Wings. We all know, in spirit, Josh was with you throughout your Eagle project and he will continue to assist future Eagle projects whatever they may be.

Lastly our Troop Eagle Banner which has been signed by all of our Eagle Scouts with the date of their earning Scouting's highest rank. **SCOUT**, I ask that you sign and date the Banner, signifying your Board of Review date of December 6, 2016.

SCOUT: Signs and dates the banner.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: It is the hope of the Troop's leadership that many more stars and names will be added to these historical artifacts over the coming years. **SCOUT**, since you are already up...as you may know... it is customary for our newest Eagle Scout to say a few words, so I ask you to share with us your thoughts for today.

SCOUT: SCOUT SPEECH

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you SCOUT. I believe there are many young men here today who will soon be standing in your boots in the very near future. I hope your words will help motivate them to continue to set the Eagle rank as their goal. SCOUT, as we move to the presentation portion of this Court of Honor, I ask that you please take a position next to our ceremonial stump and ask that NECKERCHIEF PRESENTER to come join him.

SCOUT: Moves behind the stump and stands on the Boy Scout Seal.

NECKERCHIEF PRESENTER: Performs the neckerchief ceremony, says a few words and end with a Scout handshake. Then returns to his seat.

SCOUT: Remains standing.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, NECKERCHIEF PRESENTER. SCOUT, how does that new neckerchief feel? SCOUT has requested that EAGLE CHARGE PRESENTER be the one to administer the Eagle Promise and to give him the opportunity to pledge himself to the ideals of living as an Eagle Scout. Would EAGLE CHARGE PRESENTER please come to the front?

EAGLE CHARGE PRESENTER: Comes to the front of the aisle and stands in the middle. At this time will all Eagle Scouts here with us today please come forward? This is a chance for you to rededicate yourself by repeating the Eagle Scout Promise with our new Eagle Scout. Please line up behind **SCOUT** with your left hand on the shoulder of the Scout in front of you.

Eagle Scouts: Line up with hands on the shoulder of the person in front of you.

EAGLE CHARGE PRESENTER: SCOUT, becoming an Eagle Scout is a great accomplishment and a great responsibility. Much will be expected of you in the future. It is my honor to lead you in the Eagle Promise. Please make the Scout sign and repeat after me.

I reaffirm my allegiance	Eagle Scouts repeat
To the three promises of the Scout Oath	Eagle Scouts repeat
I thoughtfully recognize	Eagle Scouts repeat
And take upon myself	Eagle Scouts repeat
The obligations and responsibilities	Eagle Scouts repeat
Of an Eagle Scout	Eagle Scouts repeat
On my honor I will do my best	Eagle Scouts repeat
To make my training and example,	Eagle Scouts repeat
My rank and my influence	Eagle Scouts repeat
Count strongly for better scouting	Eagle Scouts repeat
And for better citizenship	Eagle Scouts repeat
In my Troop	Eagle Scouts repeat
In my community	Eagle Scouts repeat
And in my contacts with other people	Eagle Scouts repeat
To this I pledge my sacred honor	Eagle Scouts repeat

Eagle Scouts: Shake **SCOUT**'s left hand in order and return to your seats. Remember...Scout shakes. **SCOUT:** Remains standing.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you guys. Could I please call **NESA PRESENTER** forward for a special presentation?

NESA PRESENTER: SCOUT, in recognition of your accomplishment, Troop 810 presents you with a 5 year membership into an elite organization, the National Eagle Scout Association. I present you with your certificate and your lapel pin. Wear this pin in social events on your sport coat or jacket so other Eagle Scouts will recognize you as their brother.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you, **NESA PRESENTER**. We have now finally come to the moment we have all been waiting for. I ask that **EAGLE PARENTS** now step forward to join their son.

EAGLE PARENTS: Move forward and stand next to SCOUT.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: SCOUT, it goes without saying that you would not be here tonight, if it were not for the support and encouragement of your parents, not only in scouting but in all parts of your life. As a symbol of all they have made possible, I ask that you now honor your mother and father with the Eagle Scout Parent Pins.

SCOUT: Pin your parents.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: The foremost responsibility of an Eagle Scout is to live with honor. To an Eagle Scout, honor is the foundation of all character. He knows that "A Scout is trustworthy" is the very first point of the Scout Law for a good reason. An Eagle Scout lives honorably, not only because honor is important to him but also because of the vital significance of the example he sets for other Scouts. Living honorably reflects credit on his home, his church, his troop, and his community. May the white of the Eagle badge remind you to always live with honor.

The second obligation of an Eagle Scout is Loyalty. A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, school, and nation. His loyalty to his troop and brother Scouts makes him pitch in and carry his share of the load. All of these help to build the loyalty that means devotion to community, to country, to one's own ideals, and to God. Let the Blue of the Eagle badge always inspire your loyalty.

The third obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be courageous. Courage has always been a quality by which men measure themselves and others. To a Scout, bravery means not only the courage to face physical danger, but also the determination to stand up for the right. Trusting in God. With faith in his fellow man. He looks forward to each day, seeking his share of the world's work to do. Let the red of the Eagle badge remind you always of courage.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: For a century now, proud moms have been pinning the Eagle Scout medal on their sons. Tonight, **EAGLE MOM** joins the thousands that have gone before her and leaves a legacy for the many that will follow. Mom...the honor is all yours.

EAGLE MOM: Pins medal on SCOUT.

SCOUTMASTER: SCOUT, by the authority of the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege to pronounce to this audience that you are now and forever will be, an Eagle Scout. Congratulations!

SCOUTMASTER: Presents Eagle Scout Certificate. Applause.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Everyone, please remain standing.

BUGLER: Plays Taps.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Thank you BUGLER. Everyone, thank you again for sharing in this ceremony to celebrate our newest Eagle Scout. After the retiring of the colors, please join us for the reception in Kilduff Hall across the parking lot by way of a short receiving line where the adults are invited to personally congratulate SCOUT on the way over.

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: Please rise. Color Guard, retire the colors.

As the Color Guard prepares to move SENIOR PATROL LEADER calls Scout Salute.

Color Guard: Retires the colors.

SCOUT, **EAGLE PARENTS**: Follow the colors up the aisle to form a receiving line just outside the foyer doors.

When the Color Guard enters the Foyer SENIOR PATROL LEADER calls tew.

SENIOR PATROL LEADER: This Court of Honor is now closed. Thank you for joining us today for **SCOUT**'s special celebration.