

# **EAGLE CEREMONY**

## **JORDAN AKDOGAN**

June 29, 2008 ----- 12:30 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

**Committee Chairperson, Troop 175, Debbie Heck**

This Eagle Scout Court of Honor is now called to order. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Debbie Heck, and as the Committee Chairperson of Troop 175, it is my privilege to welcome you to this Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jordan Akdogan.

Would everyone please stand for the presentation of the Colors followed by the Eagle Escort.

*(Audience stands. John to podium.)*

### **PRESENTATION OF COLORS AND EAGLE ESCORT**

**Senior Patrol Leader, Troop 175, John Flesher**

Scouts, Atten-SHUN!

Color Guard, present the colors! Scout Salute!

*(The Color Guard, Eagle Escort, and Eagle Scout, advance to the front down the center aisle.. The Color Guard moves to their respective sides and faces the audience. The Eagle Escort escorts the Eagle Scout to the first seat on the first row on the right side next to his parents. The Eagle Escort then takes their place on the front row to the right of the Eagle's parents.)*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**Senior Patrol Leader, John Flesher**

Please now join me in saying the Pledge of Allegiance

*(Troop flag bearer dips the Troop Flag.)*

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.

Color Guard, Post the Colors!

*(Wait for them to do so.)*

Two!

Please remain standing.

Would all Scouts and Scouters present please raise your hand in the Scout Sign and join me in saying the Scout Oath, followed by the Scout Law.

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.

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly,  
Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful,  
Thrifty, Brave, Clean, Reverent.

Two.

Please be Seated.

*(John may be seated.)*

**RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

**Committee Chairperson, Debbie Heck**

At this time we would like to recognize all the Eagle Scouts here with us today. Will all the Eagles in the audience please stand? Thank you. Please be seated.

We would also like to recognize our special guests with us here today

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## **THE TRAIL TO EAGLE**

**Randy Klinger and Bryan Maxwell**

*(The "Voice of the Eagle" speaks using the microphone from in the building.)*

(Randy) "Will Eagle candidate Jordan Akdogan please step up to the front and face the audience.

*(Eagle steps up to center stage.)*

(Bryan) "This is the Voice of the Eagle. The Eagle whose heights you have struggled hard to reach. We remember well when you first came to the base of the cliffs, and how you looked up with ambition and determination. Look back for a moment; look down the cliff you have climbed; look at the experiences you have encountered in your ascent. These experiences should not be forgotten. You should profit by making sure adverse experiences do not occur again. Experience is a valuable teacher, if you heed its teachings."

(Randy) We remembered when you took your first step upon the trail that leads upward. With that first step you began to build yourself physically, mentally, and morally. You started living the Scout Oath and Law. All the while you were on the trail, we watched you study and we saw you learn by doing. First, you were only a Scout.

*(Scout \_\_\_\_\_ steps forward and faces the audience)*

(Bryan) Then your brother Scouts called you a Tenderfoot, and they were right; you were indeed a Tenderfoot Scout.

*(Tenderfoot \_\_\_\_\_ steps forward and takes his place to the left of the Scout, facing the audience.)*

(Randy) So, you reached the first ledge and there you were greeted by a large group of Second Class Scouts.

*(Second Class Scout \_\_\_\_\_ steps out and takes his place to the left of the Tenderfoot, facing the audience.)*

(Bryan) Some, like you, were stopping to catch their breath before continuing along the trail. You began to study more, you worked harder, and almost before you knew it, you came to another ledge, the ledge where the First Class Scouts dwell.

*(First Class Scout \_\_\_\_\_ steps out and takes his place to the left of the Second Class Scout, facing the audience.)*

(Randy) There you found a tempting green meadow by a clear stream bathed in the sun. Here you were tempted to remain. Yes, you could have remained there to live in First Class glory, but your ambition stirred you on. We remembered your advancement to Star Scout.

*(Star Scout \_\_\_\_\_, steps out and takes his place to the left of the First Class Scout, facing the audience.)*

(Bryan) The trail from First Class to Star rank was not as difficult as it had seemed. This spurred you on, again you climbed further. The trail was steeper and less worn. Fewer scouts were headed in your direction. You looked down and saw the crowds below you. You looked up and saw a few above you, and with the same determination with which you started your climb, you continued up the trail. Soon you earned the badge of Life rank.

*(Life Scout \_\_\_\_\_ steps out and takes his place to the left of the Star Scout, facing the audience.)*

(Randy) The heart badge was then placed on your uniform. You will never forget the thought in your heart. This feeling has been experienced by all Scouts on reaching the ledge of Life Scout. Now I am close to the Eagle, I will carry on. The trail became tougher, but more interesting. The original principles, the Scout Oath and Law, now had a fuller meaning. Your understanding of them was greater.

(Bryan) Yes, we have watched your character unfold and become more manly. We have watched your leadership expand into a valuable asset. We have watched your mind develop and your wisdom increase. We have watched all these things in you and now that you are on the threshold of your goal, we welcome you, for you have done your climbing in a true Scout-like manner. This is the Voice of the Eagle.

*(Scouts return to their seats.)*

## **REVIEW OF EAGLE RANK CRITERIA**

Kathy Corbin, Advancement Chair

The awarding of the Eagle Badge is an important and serious occasion, the climax and the goal for which a Scout works for many years. It is an occasion for pride and joy, and a time for serious contemplation. It is the culmination of the efforts of the various leaders of this Troop. The Eagle Award is the highest and most coveted rank in Scouting; the last major step in the advancement program. Less than 1 out of 50 scouts (or 2%) in the United States reach the rank of Eagle. At this point, we trust you have achieved our purpose in the building of character, training of leadership, and the practice of service.

To become an Eagle Scout, a Scout must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, including 12 of which are required. He must serve actively in a troop leadership position for a period of six months after achieving the rank of Life Scout. While a Life Scout, he must plan, develop, and carry out a service project helpful to a religious institution, school, or community in a manner worthy of an Eagle Scout. He must demonstrate, through the testimony of character references and otherwise, that he lives by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life. Finally, he must appear before a Board of Review.

Jordan has been an active member of Troop 175 for 6 years. He has earned a total of 34 merit badges and has served as Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide. He is also Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow.

Jordan's Eagle Project was rebuilding several houses here at the Safetyville Complex in North Ridgeville.

As Advancement Chair of Troop 175, it is my pleasure to report that after a thorough review of his qualifications, Jordan Akdogan has qualified for the rank of Eagle Scout and is entitled to receive the Eagle Scout Award.

## **THE EAGLE CHARGE**

**Speaker** \_\_\_\_\_

Jordan, I have the honor of giving you the Eagle Scout Charge on this occasion of your elevation to the highest rank in Scouting.

The Boy Scouts of all nations constitute one of the most wholesome and significant movements in the world's history, and you have been counted worthy of the highest rank in its membership. All who know you rejoice in your achievement.

Your position, as you well know, is one of honor and responsibility. You are a marked man. As an Eagle Scout, you have assumed a solemn obligation to do your duty to God, to country, to fellow Scouts, and to mankind in general. This is a great undertaking. As you live up to your obligations, you bring honor to yourself and to your brother Scouts. When you fail, you bring down by so much the good name of all true and worthy Scouts.

Your responsibility goes beyond your fellow Scouts to your country and God. America has many good things to give you and your children after you; but these things depend, for the most part, on the character and leadership abilities of her citizens. You are to help her in all that she needs most. She has a great past. You are here to make her future greater.

I charge you to undertake your citizenship with a solemn dedication. Be a leader, but lead only toward the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you hold, to the highest level of service to God and fellowman. So live and serve, that those who know you will be inspired to the finest living. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their skills and abilities to the common good. Build America on the solid foundation of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship, and reverence to God, and whatever others may do, you will leave behind a record of which every Scout may be proud.

## **THE EAGLE SCOUT OATH**

**Scoutmaster Greg Coghlan**

Will all the Eagle Scouts present please join us on stage for the Eagle Scout Oath?

*(Eagles in the audience form a line or arc behind speaker and Candidate.)*

Jordan, would you and your fellow Eagles please give the Scout Sign and repeat the Eagle Scout Oath after me:

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

Two!

Our fellow Eagles may be seated.

*(Eagles in the audience are seated.)*

## **THE PRESENTATION OF THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD**

**Greg Coghlan, Scoutmaster**

Will the Eagle Escort bring the parents of the Eagle candidate forward?  
*(Mother takes her place on the Eagle's left; father takes his place on the Eagle's right.)*

Jordan, by the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege to pronounce you an Eagle Scout, and it is with distinct honor and pleasure that I present you with the Eagle Scout Award, which I will ask your mother to pin over your heart.

I now ask your father to present you with the Eagle Scout Certificate signed by the Chief Scout Executive and the President of the United States.

No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from Jordan's mother which have helped lead us to this day. As a symbol of what his mother helped make possible, the court now asks Jordan to present his mother with a miniature Eagle pin.

Jordan, your father has stood by you over the years and has offered his encouragement and assistance. As a symbol of what he has contributed to your attainment of this award, the court now asks you to present him with a miniature Eagle pin.

I now present to you Eagle Scout Jordan Akdogan.

*(Lead applause)*

Now I would ask Troop 175 Eagle Scout \_\_\_\_\_ to come forward for some more presentations.

**PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE, NECKERCHIEF, AND GIFT**  
\_\_\_\_\_, Troop 175 Eagle

Jordan, on behalf of the Scouts, adult leaders, and other Eagle Scouts of Troop 175, I now present you with our Troop's Eagle Scout Honor Roll Plaque. This, along with our original plaques, contain the names of all the Eagle Scouts from our Troop. I should note that Jordan is the 32<sup>nd</sup> Eagle in our Troop's 32 year existence. Unfortunately, you don't get to keep this plaque - it will be prominently displayed in the back of our meeting hall at the VFW.

*(He presents him with the plaque & shakes his hand.)*

However, we felt bad about presenting you with a plaque that you can't keep. So, the Troop has arranged for something that you can keep, and wear as part of your Uniform.

*(Present him with the Eagle Neckerchief.)*

The Troop has also purchased a small gift for you ...

*(Present him with other gift.)*

May I congratulate you, Jordan, and remind you that Scouting should now become an even greater tie between son and parents, binding you even more closely together as a family. To you Eagle Scout Jordan Akdogan, I express the confidence that you will honor Scouting with your life and service, as today Scouting honors you.

I now ask our Eagle Escort to convey Jordan's parents back to their seats.

*Wait for them to do so.*

## LETTERS OF CONGRATULATION

\_\_\_\_\_, Troop \_\_\_\_\_

As has been stated before, earning the Eagle Award is an honor and a privilege not all obtain. Others, outside our troop understand this.

*(If any are present)*

Some of our honored guests here today have some presentations they would like to make.

*Guests come forward & read their letters, presenting them to Jordan.*

Jordan has also received letters from some other people who could not join us today. At this time I would like to ask a few Members from the Troop Committee to come forward and read some of them.

*They choose a few **interesting, short** ones and read them.*

In addition to these, the other letters we have received will be on display during the Reception after the Ceremony.

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## **SCOUTMASTER'S REMARKS**

Greg Coghlan, Scoutmaster

*Blah, Blah, blah...*

I now present to you Eagle Scout Jordan Akdogan, who has a few words to say.

## **THE EAGLE'S REMARKS**

Eagle Scout, Jordan Akdogan

*Gives a short speech thanking all who helped him get to this stage, or anything else he wishes to say.*

*Also present Mentor's pin(s)*

## **CLOSING**

**Committee Chairperson Debbie Heck**

Thank you all for coming today to share in the celebration of Jordan's Scouting achievements. After the ceremony is over, I invite you to attend, on behalf of Jordan and his parents, a reception in the Safetyville Building.

I now declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor adjourned. Please stand for the retiring of the Colors.

## **RETIRING OF THE COLORS**

**Senior Patrol Leader John Flesher:**

Color Guard, front and center!

*Wait for them to assemble*

Scouts, Atten-SHUN!

Color Guard, retire the colors! Scout Salute!

*The flags are removed from the flag holders and taken to the back.*

Two!