

SCOUTMASTER: Everyone please stand for the presentation of the colors.

Scouts, Atten-SHUN!

Color Guard, present the colors! Scout Salute!

The flags are brought up and the Color Guard waits by the flag holders.

Color Guard, post the colors!

Everyone please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

Two!

Please be seated

SCOUTMASTER: As Scoutmaster for Troop 175, it is my pleasure to declare that this Eagle court of honor for SCOTT DOUGHERTY is now officially open.

SCOUTMASTER: [*Welcome and introduction of Ray Polson for the invocation*]

RAY POLSON:

Our gracious God and Father,

We thank you for this special day in the life of Scott Dougherty. Today we celebrate the accumulated efforts Scott has made over the years to advance in scouting. We think of all the Merit Badges he earned along the way, the oaths he learned, the character he developed, and his service to our community and fellow scouts. Little by little, month by month and year by year he was faithful, and today we celebrate this marker of faithful and hard work. So we ask You, our Lord, to bless Scott, his family who supported and encouraged him; we ask your blessing to fall upon his fellow scouts whose fellowship he enjoyed along the pathway. We thank You for the scout leaders who gave so much time and energy to develop young men like Scott. Bless them with the certainty that their work has influenced the course of many lives. We all benefit because of their sacrifices and leadership. And so our God, we pray that you would bless this celebration as we rejoice with Scott.

We pray in Jesus' Name, Amen.

TERRY SZABO To earn the highest rank in Scouting, a Scout must spend a great deal of time and effort. Therefore, the occasion that recognizes his accomplishments should be memorable. Today, we shall follow Light the Eagle trail as we recognize the accomplishments of Scott Dougherty.

When a boy becomes a Boy Scout there is within him something that we call the spirit of Scouting. This single lighted candle before you represents that spirit. Because the spirit of Scouting embodies the principles of the Scout Oath and Law, it becomes a shining beacon of inspiration. Alone, this light may seem feeble, but when multiplied by the more than three and a half million boys in Scouting around the world, it is powerful indeed. After a boy enters Scouting, the Scout Law that he promises to obey begins to guide his life. One by one, using the flame from the spirit of Scouting, we shall light the symbols for each part of the Scout Law. There are 12 parts; each is an important foundation in the building of strong character.

BEN PYCRAFT LIGHTS ALL TWELVE CANDLES

(Twelve small candles are lit as the Scout Law is read.)

A Scout is **Trustworthy**. A Scout tells the truth. He is honest, and he keeps his promises. People can depend on him.

A Scout is **Loyal**. A Scout is true to his family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and nation.

A Scout is **Helpful**. A Scout cares about other people. He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting payment or reward.

A Scout is **Friendly**. A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He offers his friendship to people of all races and nations, and respects them even if their beliefs and customs are different from his own.

A Scout is **Courteous**. A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows that using good manners makes it easier for people to get along.

A Scout is **Kind**. A Scout knows there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. Without good reason, he does not harm or kill any living thing.

A Scout is **Obedient**. A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobeying them.

A Scout is **Cheerful**. A Scout looks for the bright side of life. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.

A Scout is **Thrifty**. A Scout works to pay his own way and to help others. He saves for the future. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

A Scout is **Brave**. A Scout can face danger although he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.

A Scout is **Clean**. A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He chooses the company of those who live by high standards. He helps keep his home and community clean.

A Scout is **Reverent**. A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.

NOLAN LARSICK LIGHTS ALL THREE CANDLES

(Three large candles are lit by a Scout as the Scout Oath is read)

On my honor, I will do my best:

To do my duty to God and my country, *(light 1st candle)*

And to obey the Scout Law;

To help other people at all times; *(light 2nd candle)*

To keep myself

Physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight. *(light 3rd candle)*

TERRY SZABO In the Scout Oath the young Scout promises upon his honor to do his best to do his duty, first to God and his country; second, to other people, by helping them at all times; and third, to himself, by keeping himself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight. You see how the light from the spirit of Scouting is now beginning to grow and become brighter.

Now, in the distant, looms the hazy outlines of Eagle summit, flanked by the lesser peaks that represent the Star and Life ranks. To the new Scout they are very far away, but they will come a lot closer as the light from the spirit of Scouting continues to spread. The Scout begins as a Tenderfoot,

CHASE VANBUSKIRK LIGHTS TENDERFOOT CANDLE

The Tenderfoot badge is the first rank a Scout receives. It stands at the foot of the Eagle Trail. Once inspired by the spirit of Scouting, he won't stay a Tenderfoot very long. Putting a few simple achievements behind him, he will shortly climb to

the rank of Second Class.

LIGHTS SECOND CLASS CANDLE

The requirements for Second Class become more difficult. A Scout must learn to be self-sufficient in the outdoors and continue to render service to others. Now the Scout is ready for the challenge to attain First Class.

JOE GRAU LIGHTS FIRSTCLASS CANDLE

Although the requirements become more difficult, he keeps climbing until finally comes the day when he tops the first summit along the Eagle Trail. There he receives his First Class Badge.

COLIN ROGERS LIGHTS STAR CANDLE

A broad field of merit badges awaits the First Class Scout. More than 100 merit badges guide the Scout to explore careers, hobbies, and community interest items. The Scout needs but a total of six to conquer the Star Scout summit. Probably a lot sooner than he thought possible, the Scout finds himself standing on Star ridge. Thus, through leadership, service, and achievement, he conquers the first of three great peaks along the Eagle Trail.

BEN PYCRAFT LIGHTS LIFE CANDLE

The trail to the next summit, Life Scout peak, isn't easy. There is leadership to demonstrate, service to others, and plenty of hard work in mastering five additional merit badges and helping fellow Scouts. The higher the Scout climbs, the fewer travelers he meets along the trail. Yet there are no impossible barriers along the way. This Life Scout's goal can be achieved, but it takes real effort.

ED BAHLE LIGHTS EAGLE CANDLE

While the rank of Life Scout is a coveted one, and deserving to all who obtain it, the Eagle Trail does not end there; it leads on toward a higher summit. The pathway narrows and steepens considerably as it winds along ledges of personal achievement and mountain pastures of troop accomplishment. Mile by mile, the trail becomes more trying. Many challenges must be conquered in these last miles. Before the highest summit along the Eagle Trail can be completed, additional merit badges must be earned. Some of them are very difficult and leadership and service to others are not forgotten. Only with the greatest persistence and courage can the Scout gain the thrill of victory that comes while looking back down the trail, from the very top of the Eagle summit.

Scout Master: Eagle Scout Scott Dougherty, you are to be congratulated for reaching the highest peak of the Eagle Trail; your diligence and hard work have paid off. If you, along with your mother and father, will come forward, your Eagle Badge of rank will be presented.

You have made Troop 175 very proud. May the qualities that inspired you to this achievement continue to lead you on to even greater success in your life.

As an Eagle Scout, the eyes of all Scouting -- yes, the eyes of the world, will be upon you. The traditions of Eagle Scout are high. May you live up to those traditions, always guided by the spirit of Scouting, represented by these blazing candles before you. The Eagle Badge that you are about to receive is symbolic of this spirit of Scouting.

By the repetition of the Eagle Scout promise before your fellow members, you will become an Eagle Scout. When you pledge yourself on your sacred honor, you will be sealing your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout with the same words which closed the Declaration of Independence.

Will all Eagle Scouts here this afternoon please stand and join us to renew your Eagle Scout promise as Scott joins our brotherhood

(Pause)

Scout sign; repeat 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 an example
and my status 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 can be seated.

(Eagle badge is presented to the mother to pin on candidate's uniform.)

Scout Master: Mrs. Dougherty, pin this Eagle badge on your son's chest so that the world may know that he is an Eagle Scout.

(Miniature Eagle badge is given to the Eagle Scout to pin on his mother.)

Scout Master: Eagle Scout Scott Dougherty pin this miniature badge over your mother's heart in recognition of her love, encouragement, faith, and trust in your future. As an Eagle Scout, may you never disappoint her .

(Eagle neckerchief is given to the father to place around the neck of his son.)

Scout Master: Place this neckerchief around your son's neck to tell the world you will continue to support him as he grows into a man.

(Eagle Dad's Pin is given to the Eagle to hand to his father.)

Scout Master: Eagle Scout Scott Dougherty, present your father with this

miniature Dad's pin in recognition of his wisdom and guidance along the Eagle trail. As an Eagle Scout, may you never disappoint him.

Scout Master: Will the audience please give Eagle Scout Scott, a round of applause.

Scout Master: Scott would like to say a few words at this time.

SCOTT: *(Scott should also present any Mentor's pins at this time...)*

SCOUTMASTER: Everyone please stand for the retiring of the colors.

Color Guard, front and center!

Scouts, Atten-SHUN!

Color Guard, retire the colors! Scout Salute!

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

Two!

Scout Master: We invite everyone present to come forward to congratulate the new Eagle Scout and his parents and to join us for refreshments. Scott's letters and certificates of congratulations will also be available for viewing at this time. I would also remind everyone to sign the guest book for this occasion. Thank you for joining us today.