

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

For

Thomas Habenicht

Sunday March 25, 2001 2:00 pm

VFW Post 9871

N. Ridgeville, Ohio

AGENDA

Opening

Flag procession

Invocation

The Eagle Trail

Confirmation of Candidacy

Eagle Scout Charge

Presentation of Eagle Scout Award

Letters of Congratulation

Address by new Eagle

Closing

Flag Procession

Benediction

Reception

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Adult Participants

COMMITTEE MEMBER John Volchko
CHAPLAIN Rev. Phil Kunz
SCOUTMASTER..... Bill Rundle
CHARGE Administrator..... Greg Coghlan
NARRATOR Jim White (Sr.)
ADVANCEMENT CHAIR JoAnne Klinger

Scout Participants

TROOP EAGLE: Alex Wilson

Senior Patrol Leader Randy Klinger
American Flag..... Cory Kokensparger
Troop Flag..... Bryan Maxwell

Scout Law #1-6 Candles Nick Volchko
Scout Law #7-12 Candles Tyler Cameron
Oath Candles Bryan Maxwell

Opening Ceremony

Light the Spirit of Scouting candle.

JOHN: On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 175 I welcome you here today to this Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Tom Habenicht. Before opening this Eagle Court of Honor, I would like to recognize some people. Would all the past and present Troop adult leaders, committee members, and members of Tom's board of review please stand at this time? *Pause while they stand.*

We would like to take this time to thank you all for your time and efforts you have all given this troop and its Scouts. We appreciate your sense of commitment to these young men and all that you have done to make them and this Troop a success. Please except our thanks!

Lead applause. You may be seated.

JOHN: I would now ask that all Eagle Scouts please stand.

Wait for them to get to stage. Before us stands an elite group of men. As you may have noticed when I requested they stand, I did not say current and former Eagle Scouts. This is because there is no such thing as a former Eagle. Once you become an Eagle you are one the rest of your life! You become a part of a very special fraternity. One that is as old as scouting itself. Let us honor this special group with a round of applause!"

Leads applause. Congratulations to you and thank you! You may now be seated.

JOHN: I would now like to take this time to introduce to you the rest of the special guests here today. *Introduce other Scout leaders, VFW members, Eagle Counselor, and any others.*

I would now ask Rev. Phil Kunz to give the invocation.

REV. KUNZ: *Gives his/her own invocation.*

JOHN: Senior Patrol Leader Randy Klinger, will you lead us in the presentation of the colors?

RANDY: Please rise for the presentation of our country's colors... Color guard, present the colors! Scout salute!

The music(Star Spangled Banner) starts, after which the color guard processes to the front, and waits for the music to end.

Color guard, post the colors.

Color Guard places the flags in the holders, then steps back.

Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. I Pledge Allegiance... To!

Color guard, retreat!

Color guard takes its seat

Please remain standing.

JOHN: By the power vested in me by the Boy Scouts of America, I now declare this Eagle Court of Honor, for Thomas J. Habenicht open and in session!

Narrator to the lectern. Lights are dimmed.

The Eagle Trail

JIM: Tom's trip to Eagle has been long and challenging. Through it all, he has used the principles of the Scout Law and Scout Oath. Would all Scouts and Scouters please join me in slowly saying the Scout Law. Scout Sign!

A Scout is Trustworthy. *Candle Lighter #1 lights candle.*

Loyal. *Candle Lighter #1 lights candle.*

Helpful. *Candle Lighter #1 lights candle.*

Friendly. *Candle Lighter #1 lights candle.*

Courteous. *Candle Lighter #1 lights candle.*

Kind. *Candle Lighter #1 lights candle.*

Obedient. *Candle Lighter #2 lights candle.*

Cheerful. *Candle Lighter #2 lights candle.*

Thrifty. *Candle Lighter #2 lights candle.*

Brave. *Candle Lighter #2 lights candle.*

Clean. *Candle Lighter #2 lights candle.*

Reverent. *Candle Lighter #2 lights candle.*

Two! Please now also join me in saying the Scout Oath. Scout Sign!

Light 1st candle. On my honor, I will do my best: To do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law;

Light 2nd candle. To help other people at all times;

Light 3rd candle. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

Two! You may be seated.

Candle Lighter #3 takes candle to start of Eagle trail and waits for Tom.

JIM: Tom's journey started a long time ago in the summer of 1995, when he started on his trail to Eagle.

JIM: He started as a Scout, learning the meaning of being a scout. (*light Scout candle*)

JIM: Then a little farther down the trail, he learned the basics of camping and being in the outdoors. He became a Tenderfoot (*light Tenderfoot candle*)

JIM: He learned the more responsible duties of camping, leading him to do more in the troop, as he became a Second Class Scout. (*light 2nd Class candle*)

JIM: About half-way through the trail, he learned more advanced rules of camping and prepared to lead others. He was now a First Class Scout. (*light 1st Class candle*)

JIM: Here the way became steeper because he not only had to work his own way up the trail, but he had to show younger scouts the way and help them through the trail. He had now earned the Star rank. (*light Star candle*)

JIM: The closer he came to the end of the trail, the more he had to go back and show younger scouts the trail to Eagle, making him a better leader, scout and person. He was now a Life Scout. (*light Life candle*)

JIM: Now close to the end of his hard trail, he had the greatest of obstacles. He continued to teach the younger scouts, better than he ever had before, and advanced his knowledge of the world by earning more merit badges. He also demonstrated to his troop and his city all of his gratitude for supporting him on my long road by leading a service project to improve the city.

Scouts take their seats.

Candidate to stage center and turns to face audience.

Confirmation of Candidacy

JIM: I would now like to call forward JoAnne Klinger, our Troop Advancement Chair, to confirm Tom's candidacy for the rank of Eagle.

Wait for her to get to the stage.

JIM: The first requirement for the rank of Eagle Scout is to be active in the troop and patrol for at least 6 months as a Life Scout.

JOANNE: Tom was a Life Scout for well over 2½ years, and during that time was active in our troop, attending many campouts and activities.

JIM: The second requirement is to show Scout Spirit.

JOANNE: Tom has consistently shown Scout Spirit by living up to the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life at home, school, church, and Scouting events.

JIM: Thirdly, a candidate must earn a total of at least 21 merit badges, which is 10 more than he needed for the rank of Life Scout. These must include 12 from a list encompassing basic skills such as citizenship, first aid, physical fitness, camping, communications, family living, emergency preparedness, and financial management.

JOANNE: In addition to the required merit badges Tom earned: American Heritage, Art, Astronomy, Canoeing, Collections, Mammal Study, Oceanography, Reptile Study, Sports, and Weather

JIM: Next, the Life Scout must serve for at least 6 months in one of the approved Junior Leadership positions.

JOANNE: Tom served as Senior Patrol Leader, as well as other Leadership positions in the Troop.

JIM: The last requirement is to plan, develop, and give leadership to others, while a Life Scout, in a service project which benefits a school, church, or community. This project must be approved by the Scoutmaster, Troop Committee, and the District before starting.

JOANNE: Tom's project consisted of painting and refurbishing a pavilion North Ridgeville's South Central Park.

After a review of the requirements and Tom's obvious fulfillment of them, the Board of Review, comprised of troop Committee and District members, approved him to receive the rank of Eagle Scout on September 9, 2000. His application was then forwarded to the Council and National Offices for final approval.

Eagle Scout Charge

JIM: I now ask Greg Coghlan, an Eagle Scout, and Tom's first Scoutmaster to come forward and give the Eagle Scout Charge.

GREG: Before I begin, I would ask that all other Eagles present join us on the stage. I have the honor to give you the Eagle Charge on the occasion of your elevation to the highest rank in Scouting.

Tom, as an Eagle Scout, the eyes of all Scouting - yes, even the eyes of all the world - will be trained upon you. Let me remind you that the tradition of the Eagle is high. May you live that this tradition may always be upheld and preserved. May your ways of life always be guided by the spirit of Scouting, as symbolized by these blazing candles before you. May the Eagle badge that you are about to receive be symbolic of this fine spirit of Scouting. The Boy Scouts of all nations constitute one of the most wholesome and significant influences in the world's history. You have been counted worthy of this high rank in the Boy Scouts of America. All who know you rejoice in your achievement.

To seal your acceptance to the Code of an Eagle Scout, I ask that you raise your right hand in the Scout Sign and 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 the rank of Eagle Scout. - On my honor - I will do my best - to make my training and example - my rank and influence - count strongly - for better Scouting - and for better citizenship - in my troop - in my community - and in contacts with other people. - To this - I pledge my sacred honor.

Two. In further recognition of your acceptance, would you now light the Eagle candle? *Tom does so and return to his place.*

I would now like to ask Bill Rundle, our current Scoutmaster to come forward for the presentation of the Eagle Award.

Eagle Award Presentation

BILL: Will the Eagle applicant escort his parents to the stage? *He does so.*

BILL: By the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor, Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege and pleasure to pronounce you an Eagle Scout, with all the rights and privileges thereunto appertaining.

No words of this Court of Honor could do justice to the devotion and patient perseverance with which his Leaders and parents have helped this Eagle Scout toward worthy manhood. In recognition of this, it is very fitting that this young man receive his Eagle Scout Progress Award from the hand of his mother. I now ask the mother of our new Eagle to pin the Eagle Award on his chest. *(she does so)*

As a rich dividend of fatherly advice and guidance along the trail to the Eagle Rank, I will ask the father now to present his son with the Eagle Scout certificate from the National Council. *(he does so)*

Tom will now present his parents with symbols of his new rank.

TOM: *(Or his own words)* No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from my mother, which have led to this moment. As a symbol of what she has made possible, I would like to present her with the miniature Eagle Scout lapel pin. *(he pins it on her lapel)*

As a thanks for the fatherly advice and guidance along the trail, I would like to present my father with the Eagle Father's tie clasp. *(he gives it to his father)*

Bill gives the new Eagle the Scout Handclasp, shakes hands of parents. Parents return to their seats.

BILL: May I congratulate you 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 Tom Habenicht, I express the confidence that you will honor Scouting with your life and service, as today Scouting honors you.

BILL: Now I would ask Troop 175 Eagle Scout Alex Wilson to come forward for a special presentation.

ALEX: On behalf of myself and all of the other Eagle Scouts of Troop 175, I wish to welcome you into this elite group. I now present you with our Troop's Eagle Scout Honor Roll Plaque, This contains the names of all the Eagle Scouts from our Troop. I should note that Tom is the 24th Eagle in our Troop's 25 year existence. Unfortunately, you don't get to keep this plaque - it will soon be prominently displayed in the back of our meeting hall at the VFW. *(He presents him with the plaque & shakes his hand.)*

BILL: The Troop also has a gift for you to keep.

Presents gift to Tom and shakes his hand.

Letters of Congratulations

BILL: As has been stated before today, earning the Eagle Award is an honor and a privilege not all obtain. Others, outside our troop understand this. Some of our honored guests here today have some presentations they would like to make.

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

BILL: Tom has also received letters from some other people who could not join us today. We would now like to convey their thoughts to Tom, by reading some of the letters received by them.

Troop Scouters come up to read Letters of Congratulation.

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

Address by New Eagle

BILL: I now present to you Eagle Scout Tom Habenicht, who has a few words to say.

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

Closing

JOHN: Attainment of a worthy goal has been realized here today. One, that no matter how much is said about it, or how eloquently stated, cannot be properly justified with words. Years from now, when the medals and patches have been put away and everything seems to have changed, one thing, one very special thing will remain You will still be an Eagle Scout. I now declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed.

Our Senior Patrol Leader, Randy Klinger, will now lead us in the closing flag ceremony.

RANDY: Would everyone please rise for the retiring of the colors. Scouts, Attention!

Color Guard Front and center! *They take their places.*

Color Guard, retire the colors! Scout Salute!

The music(Taps) starts, after which the color guard takes the flags to the back of the hall, and waits for the music to end.

Two!

JOHN: I now call upon Rev. Kunz to adjourn this Eagle Court of Honor with a benediction.

REV. KUNZ: *Gives his own Benediction.*

JOHN: On behalf of Troop 175 I would like to thank everyone who took the time to be with us today, especially our honored guests.

I would also like to encourage everyone to join us for refreshments in the back of the hall.