

# Eagle Scout Court of Honor

For

**Nicholas R. Mabe**

Saturday December 10, 2005 12:00 pm

VFW Post 9871

North Ridgeville, Ohio

## **AGENDA**

Opening

Introductions

Flag ceremony

Invocation

The Law of Life

The Trail to Eagle

The Call of the Eagle

Certification of Candidate

Eagle Scout Charge

Eagle Scout Trail

Presentation of Eagle Scout Award

Fond Parents

Letters of Congratulation, Stories, Scoutmaster's Comments

Address by new Eagle

Eagle Scout

Benediction

Closing

Flag Procession

Reception

# Eagle Scout Court of Honor

For

## **Nicholas R. Mabe**

Saturday December 10, 2005 12:00 pm

VFW Post 9871

North Ridgeville, Ohio

### ***Adult Participants***

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES**..... John Volchko  
**Invocation/Benediction**..... Rev. Nick Yoda  
**The Call of the Eagle** ..... Randy Klinger  
**Fond Parents**..... Sue Mabe  
**CHARGE Administrator** ..... Bryan Maxwell  
**SCOUTMASTER**..... Greg Coghlan

### ***Scout Participants***

**Senior Patrol Leader** ..... Nick Corbin  
**The Law of Life** ..... Justin Griffith  
**Trail the Eagle**..... Greg Coghlan  
**Eagle Scout Trail**..... Branden Heck  
**Eagle Scout** ..... Jordan Akdogan

**Eagle Honor Guard** ..... Justin Griffith  
..... Tyler Cameron  
..... Jordan Akdogan  
..... Branden Heck

## Introductions

**JOHN** Good afternoon. My name is John Volchko, a Committee Member of Troop 175. On behalf of our Troop we would like to welcome everyone here as we honor Nicholas Mabe for attaining Scouting's highest rank, the Eagle Scout Award. This is a great moment worthy of celebration.

Before opening this Eagle Court of Honor, I would like to recognize some people. Would all the past and present Troop 175 adult leaders and committee members please stand at this time?

*Pause while they stand.*

This group of leaders guided Nick through his years as a Boy Scout. We would like to thank you for your time and efforts you have all given him and the other Scouts in our Troop.

*Lead applause.*

Thank You, you may be seated.

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

*Wait for them to stand.*

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.*

## Opening Ceremony

**JOHN** Senior Patrol Leader Nick Corbin, will you lead us in the opening flag ceremony?

**NICK CORBIN** Will everyone please rise?

Those in uniform will render the proper hand salute. Those not in uniform, please place your right hand over your heart

Color Guard, present the colors!

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

Color Guard, post the colors!

**NICK CORBIN** Please now join me in saying 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!

Color Guard, dismissed. Please be seated.

**SCOUTMASTER** As Scoutmaster of Troop 175, Great Frontier District, Heart of  
**GREG COGHLAN** Ohio Council, Boy Scouts of America, I declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Nicholas Mabe now open and in session. We will now have the invocation by Reverend Nick Yoda.

**REVEREND**

*Gives the invocation.*

**NICK YODA**

**JUSTIN**

**The Law of Life**

**GRIFFITH**

The tree that never had to fight

For sun and sky and air and light,

That stood out in the open plain

And always got its share of rain,

Never became a forest king,

But lived and died a scrubby thing.

The man who never had to toil

Who never had to win his share

Of sun sky and light and air,

Never became a manly man,

But lived and died as he began.

Good timber does not grow in ease.

The stronger wind, the tougher trees,

The farther sky, the greater length,

The more the storm, the more the strength,

By sun and cold, by rain and snows,

In tree or man, good timber grows.

SCOUTMASTER  
GREG COGHLAN

## Trail the Eagle

Will the Eagle escorts please bring Eagle Candidate Nicholas R. Mabe forward?

*Pause for Nick and the seven scouts*

Now, far away, loom the hazy outline of the Eagle Summit, flanked by the lesser ranks that represent Star and Life. To the newcomer, they are a long way off, but they will come a lot closer as the light from the spirit of Scouting continues to spread.

Do you remember when you were the new Scout and the thought of becoming an Eagle seemed a long way off or even an impossible goal to achieve.

Look back at the experience you have encountered in your striving to reach this high achievement. This experience should not be forgotten. You should profit by making sure the adverse ones do not occur again. Experience is a valuable teacher if you will heed its lessons.

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.

SAM DOLL

(A Scout steps out holding poster of the Scout badge and reads this message taped to the back:) **I am the Scout. My badge represents the international brotherhood of Scouting which I have joined.**

Do you remember when you took your first step upon the trail to become an Eagle? With that first step you began to grow physically, mentally, and morally. You started living the Scout Oath and Law. Soon you had attained the Tenderfoot Rank.

NICK CORBIN

(Tenderfoot steps out holding poster of the Tenderfoot badge and reads this message taped to the back:) **I am the Tenderfoot. My three points stand for the three points of the Scout Oath: Duty to God and to country, duty to other people, and duty to yourself. You will find me on the mariner's compass, forever pointing the way to the north star and a safe journey in life. On my face are two stars representing truth and knowledge. The shield is an emblem of a nation molded together in justice, and an eagle guards the freedom of my land.**

Once inspired by the Spirit of Scouting, you will not stay a Tenderfoot for long. Putting simple achievements behind you, you quickly climb to the rank of Second Class Scout.

**TYLER  
CAMERON**

(Second Class Scout steps out and joins Tenderfoot Scout and reads:) **I am the Second Class. The ends of my scroll are turned up in the willing smile of a Scout. On my face is the motto, "Be Prepared," and suspended from me is the knot, tied to remind you of the slogan of the Boy Scouts of America, "Do a good turn daily."**

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 topped the first summit on the Trail to Eagle when you receive the First Class Badge.

**CHRIS SZABO**

(First Class Scout steps out and takes his place:) **I am the First Class. I was a Tenderfoot and laid my course by the stars of truth and knowledge, and girded myself with the righteousness of justice and freedom. I added a smile that I might be a friend to all and bound myself together with the knot of duty to others.**

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

**BRANDEN  
HECK**

(Star Scout steps out and takes his place:) **I am the Star. Now that I can stand alone, I have the right to improve on my own. To me goes the honor of choosing my field. Before me lies a horizon of endless opportunities.**

The trail from First Class to Star rank was not as difficult as it had seemed. This spurred you on, and again you climbed farther. The trail was steeper and less worn. Fewer Scouts seemed to be 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. Gaining the next summit was not easy.

**CODY  
HERMAN**

Much leadership, service and hard work had to be done. Soon, you earned the badge of Life rank.

(Life Scout steps out and takes his place:) **I am the Life. I have shown the whole world that scouting is in my heart. I have mastered the knowledge of subjects that will benefit my country and my fellow man. I am ready to reach for my wings to fly.**

While the Life Scout is a much coveted position and deserves much credit, the Eagle Trail does not stop there. It still leads on to the summit. Its pathway narrows and steepens considerably as it winds its way along the narrow ledge. It becomes tougher and more trying. Many things have to be done in order to conquer these last miles. Additional merit badges were earned. Your leadership and service to others were tested through your Eagle Service Project. Only those with the greatest amount of persistence and courage are able to gain this thrill of victory. You were on your way to Eagle.

**JOE  
PANACCIONE**

(Eagle Scout steps out and takes his place:) **I AM THE EAGLE . . . Since the beginning of time, man has used me and my brothers as a symbol of Royalty, Power, Victory and Valor. My strength and courage has inspired men throughout the ages.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I am prepared to stand for the virtues of freedom, strength and pride.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I am prepared to serve my God, My Country and My Fellow Man.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I am prepared to stand for Honesty, Truth and Integrity.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I am prepared to lead others and to accomplish set tasks to the best of my ability.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I am prepared to cross all lines of race, creed and nationality.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I am prepared to be self reliant and resourceful.**

**I AM THE EAGLE . . . I AM PREPARED.**

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.

### **The Call of the Eagle**

**RANDY**

**KLINGER**

I am the voice of the Eagle. I speak for The Eagles whose summit you have struggled so hard to reach. We remember well when you first came to the base of our mountain, and how you looked up with ambition and determination.

Pause for a moment, and look back over the trail you have climbed: Look back at the adventures you have encountered on your ascent. These experiences are a valuable teacher if you but heed them. We remember when you took your first steps upon the Boy Scout trail.

With your first step you began to start living the Scout Oath and Law. You began to build yourself, physically, mentally, and morally. Your brother Scouts then called you a Tenderfoot -- and they were right, for you were indeed a tenderfoot.

But not for long. For as you climbed, you soon reached a turning in the trail, and you were greeted by a large group of friendly Second Class Scouts.

Some, like yourself, were stopping to catch their breath, before continuing along the trail. But you studied more, you worked harder, you continued your climb, and soon came to another turning, the place where First Class Scouts dwell. There you found a green, flowered meadow close by a crystal clear stream, sparkling in sunshine. Many other Scouts rested beside the murmuring waters. You were tempted to remain. But your ambition spurred you, and you continued your upward venture.

We next remember your progress when you turned the trail to become a Star Scout. You found the trail from First Class had been an optical illusion, not as difficult as it had first seemed. This inspired you to push onward, to climb higher. But now the trail was steeper, and less traveled. Fewer Scouts seemed headed

in your direction. You looked back and saw crowds below you. You looked up, and saw very few above. Yet, with the same determination as you started your climb, now enhanced by experience and firm resolve, you continued to push up the trail.

Soon you turned another corner on the trail and the heart shaped badge of the Life Scout was placed on your uniform. You will always recall the thoughts in your heart at this moment, it has been experienced by all Scouts reaching the ledge of Life: "Now I am close to the Eagle, I will carry on".

But the trail now grows tougher and fainter, many seem to falter along the way. The original simple principles of the Scout Oath and Law take on a fuller meaning, as your understanding grows greater.

We have watched your character unfold and become more manly. We have watched your leadership ability expand into a valuable asset. We have watched your mind develop and your wisdom increase. Yes, we have watched all these things in you.

And now, that you are standing at the summit of the trail, in the glory of sunshine and wind and cloud at the threshold of your goal, we applaud you and welcome you, for you have done your climbing in a true Scout-like manner.

## **JOHN**

The Eagle Scout badge is a recognition of the National Council Court of Honor through our local Heart of Ohio Council and our local troop Court of Honor.

The Eagle Scout Progress Award we are presenting here today, represents accomplishments in Scouting skills - 21 merit badges including 11 specifically required ones; in teamwork as a member and leader of his troop or patrol; and in Scout Spirit represented by living the Scout Oath and Law.

The Eagle Scout Progress Award is achieved by only about one percent of all boys in Scouting in the United States. It represents ability to be of service to others in times of life saving emergencies.

## **JOHN**

It represents an understanding of community and nation, and a willingness on the part of the wearer to help others. It stands for a job started by a boy when he joins Scouting to a job finished. Not finished in that he is done in Scouting, but now prepared to return to Scouting what Scouting has given him.

The Eagle Scout Progress Award stands for strength of character. It is also a symbol of what a young man has done, but more importantly, it represents what the young man will be in the future as he grows to manhood.

Not every boy, nor every Scout, can qualify for the high rank of Eagle because –

The physical requirements are strenuous as set forth in the required merit badges.

The mental standards are high and require much more than average perseverance.

An even more important requirement for the Eagle Progress Award is the personal character of the Scout as reflected in his right attitudes toward God and the ideals of Scouting. These are reflected in his cooperation and service to others in his church, in the home, school and his community. You must have a very high degree of spirit of cheerful service to others, which is one basis of good citizenship.

Our investigation reveals that Eagle Scout Candidate Nicholas Mabe has these requirements for the personal character and good citizenship, in addition to the technical requirements.

Nick joined Cub Scouts as a Tiger Cub in the fall of 1993 in Avon Lake. At Pack 334 he earned his Arrow of Light on February 8, 1999. Nick earned his Scout, Tenderfoot, and Second Class ranks at Troop 300 in Avon Lake. Nick joined our Troop in November of 1999 and earned his First Class rank on February 3, 2000. He then earned Star on July 13, 2000 and Life on July 12, 2001. It took another four years to complete his Eagle Requirements.

**JOHN**

Nick earned a total of 23 Merit Badges, which is 2 more than the 21 that are required for Eagle.

He has held many Leadership positions in the Troop including:  
Assistant Patrol Leader (*2 times*)  
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader  
Order of the Arrow Troop Representative (*2 times*)  
Senior Patrol Leader  
Troop Guide (*2 times*).

In addition to the many hours of service time he performed for the other ranks, he also completed an Eagle Service Project. For his Eagle Project, Nick organized Scouts and friends to collect items for the City Mission in Cleveland. Nick collected food, cash, diapers, baby food and clothes donations and presented it to the City Mission this past June.

An Eagle Board of Review was convened on September 22, 2005 to review Nick's qualifications, where they unanimously decided to award him the rank of Eagle Scout.

Before we continue, I would ask that all other Eagles present join us on the stage. *Wait for them to assemble behind the Candidate.*

**BRYAN**

### ***Eagle Charge( #4)***

**MAXWELL**

Eagle Scout Candidate Nicholas Mabe, you will raise your right hand in the Scout Sign. (*pause while he does*) You will listen to the questions now asked to you, and if your answer is "Yes", you will indicate this by saying in a clear voice the words "I Do".

Do you promise to continue your allegiance to the government of the United States of America, and to keep its greatest interest foremost in your mind?

Do you promise to serve and assist all worthy people at all times in every way that your training as an Eagle Scout will enable you to be of service?

Do you promise to continue to support the troop with

which you are now registered as long as that support may be needed and you are able to do so?

As an Eagle Scout you become a guide of other Scouts below you. You become an example in your community. Remember that your actions are then a little more conspicuous and people will expect more of you. To falter in your duties would not only reflect upon you, but your fellow Eagles. The torch you carry is not yours alone, but ours.

**BRYAN**

### **Eagle Scout Promise**

**MAXWELL**

To seal your acceptance to the Code of an Eagle Scout, I ask that you and your fellow Eagles raise your right hand in the Scout Sign and repeat after me.

*Say the following and pause after each line to allow the Eagle(s) to report it.*

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.

**BRYAN**

To this I pledge my sacred honor.

**MAXWELL**

Two. Your fellow Eagles may be seated.

Will the Eagle escorts please bring the parents of our new Eagle forward.

**BRANDEN**

**HECK**

### **The Eagle Scout Trail**

The Eagle Scout, whose notable achievement

We honor here tonight, has just completed

A long, long Trail.

He started months ago as a Tenderfoot, the

Gateway to the Trail, With Scout Good Turns

And Motto, "Be Prepared."

Then Second Class and First, with the outdoor life,

The open roads with nights beneath the stars,

And service to community and troop.

Now pinnacles of Star and Life were scaled,

On one hand learning skills and pioneering,

While following the daily Scout ideals.

Of service in the home, the church, the school -

Not merely winning many merit badges,

But living out the Scout Oath and Law.

And yet the Eagle Scout who stands before us

Has not attained the summit. No, instead he's

Really just embarking on a trail much greater -

That of Scouting Leadership, and, with the

Spirit of a true American, is ready to defend

Our Way of Life.

## Award Presentation

**JOHN**

Scoutmaster Greg Coghlan, to you as the troop leader this court gives this Eagle Progress Award pin. You, who provided the long hours of untiring leadership, may you now pass it on to the guiding hand of the parents to pin upon the new Eagle Scout.

*Scoutmaster gives to father, who gives to mother, & she pins it on her son.*

We now ask you to pass the Eagle Scout certificate from the National Council to the parents to present to their son.

*Scoutmaster gives it to parents, father presents it to son.*

And now, Eagle Scout Nicholas Mabe, the court of honor gives you this miniature Eagle Mother's Pin. As your first official duty, you may present it to your mother whom you love, and who has assisted you to attain this highest Scouting Honor.

*Eagle pins miniature pin on his mother's collar.*

For your second official duty this court gives you this Eagle Father's Pin as a thanks for all of the fatherly advice and guidance along the trail to Eagle.

*Eagle pins miniature pin on father's collar.*

These miniature pins are emblematic of parental faith, love, and encouragement, without which very few Scouts are able to reach this highest position in Scouting. Your parents are privileged to wear these always - as mementos of this occasion.

**JOHN**

Will the Eagle escort please take Mr. Mabe back to his seat.

**SUE MABE**

**Fond Parents**

Fond parents watch their boy where he stands,  
Apart from his comrades tonight,  
As they place on his camp-battered tunic a badge  
An Eagle, the emblem of right.

It seems just a few short months have passed  
Since he joined with the youngster next door.  
How proud he was then of his new Scout pin  
As he told them the message it bore.

But the years have gone as he struggled along  
To learn what the Scout Law's about.  
He practiced them daily, the Oath and Law  
Until now he's an Eagle Scout.

You may smile in your worldly old wisdom at this  
And say "Why, it's only a pin?"  
But I tell you no honors he'll gain as a man  
Will mean just as much to him.

The red, white, and blue of the ribbon you see  
Are the symbols of honor and truth.  
He learned how to value those fine attributes  
In the glorious days of his youth.

And the outflinging wings of that Eagle that rests  
On the breast of this knight of today,  
Are the things that will lift him above petty deeds  
And guide him along the right way.

Yes, it's only a pin, just an Eagle Scout badge,  
But the heart that's beneath it beats true,  
And will throb to the last for the things which are good.  
A lesson for me - and for you.

**JOHN**

Will the Eagle escorts please take Mrs. Mabe back to her seat.

Eagle Scout Nicholas Mabe, the entire brotherhood of Scouting  
congratulates you through me today, and the Eagle ranks open to  
welcome a new member.

*Lead applause.*

## Other Awards & Letters

**JOHN** Now I would ask Troop 175 Eagle Scout Jim White III to come forward for a special presentation.

**JIM WHITE III** 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, along with our original plaque, contain the names of all the Eagle Scouts from our Troop. I should note that Nick is the 29<sup>th</sup> Eagle in our Troop's 29 year existence. Unfortunately, you don't get to keep this plaque - it will be prominently displayed at our meeting hall at the VFW.

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

**JIM WHITE III** However, we felt bad about presenting you with a plaque that you can't keep. So, the Troop has arranged for a couple of items that you *can* keep. The first is an Eagle Neckerchief to wear as part of your Uniform.

*Present him with the Eagle Neckerchief and put it on.*

**JIM WHITE III** The second is a small gift for you ...

*Present him with other gift.*

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

**JOHN** *Say this only if any guests will talk.* Some of our honored guests here today have some presentations they would like to make.

*Guests come forward, read their letters, & present them to Nick.*

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

*Troop Scouters come up to read Rick Simon's letter, Letters of Congratulation, and any guests who have a story to share.*

Are there any guests who have a story about Nick that they would like to share?

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

### **Scoutmaster's Comments**

**JOHN** Our Scoutmaster, Greg Coghlan, now has a few comments about Nick's Scouting career.

**GREG** *Say something short, but meaningful.*

### **Address by New Eagle**

**JOHN** I now present to you Eagle Scout Nicholas Mabe, who has a few words to say.

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

*Also, present Mentor Pin.*

## Poem

**JORDAN**

### Eagle Scout

The Scouts gave you a challenge,  
And you've met it faithfully my friend,  
But it's quite hard to understand  
Just all it will mean in the end.

An Eagle Scout, you've reached the top,  
Or have you only just begun?  
I'm betting that you will not stop  
With so much glory to be won.

For life holds out a challenge too,  
A mountain high for you to scale,  
And with the training Scouts gave you,  
There's really no such word as fail.

And so as you press on ahead,  
You'll find it's made much work like play,  
And as the tasks before you spread,  
They'll find you ready, so I'll say.

Congratulations Eagle Scout,  
The world before you now is spread,  
Scouts taught you much what life's about,  
Prepared you well for what's ahead.

**JOHN**

The Reverend Nick Yoda will now give the Benediction.

**REVEREND**

Benediction

**NICK YODA**

## 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.

**JOHN** I would once again like to ask Scoutmaster Greg Coghlan to come forward to officially close this Court of Honor.

**SCOUTMASTER  
GREG COGHLAN** By the authority vested in me by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, I now declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed.

**SCOUTMASTER  
GREG COGHLAN** I now would like to call forth our Senior Patrol Leader Nick Corbin to lead us in the retiring of the colors.

**NICK CORBIN** Would everyone please rise for the retiring of the colors.

*Wait for everyone to stand and the Color guard to line up.*

Scouts, Attention!

Color Guard Front and center!

*They take their places.*

Color Guard, retire the colors! Scout Salute!

*The color guard takes the flags to the back of the hall.*

Two!

**JOHN** On behalf of Troops 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.