

Ryan Robinson's Eagle Scout Ceremony

January 3, 2014

Opening

Terri Good afternoon, my name is Terri Szabo, the Committee Chair for North Ridgeville Boy Scout Troop 175. By the authority vested in me as a representative of the Heart of Ohio Council and the Boy Scouts of America, I declare this Eagle Court of Honor for Ryan Robinson to be open.

At this time I would like to introduce our Master of Ceremonies Ben Pycraft.

Ben As we begin, I would like to ask Pastor Tom Joyce, of Fields United Methodist Church to come forward and give an invocation.

Pastor Tom *Give Invocation*

Ben Please rise 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!

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!

Ben And now, a few of our Scouts will help to show us the meaning of our flag's colors.

Brian Ortoski, Michael Grau and Thorin Bartlebaugh come forward

Brian The red of my flag is the lifeblood of brave men ready to die or worthily live for this, our country.
Light the red candle.

Michael The white of my flag is for purity, cleanliness of purpose, thought, word, and deed.
Light the white candle.

Thorin The blue of my flag is for faith and loyalty, like the eternal blue of the star-filled heavens.
Light the blue candle.

Ben Please be seated

Recognition of Eagles

Ben At this time we would ask that all Eagle Scouts in attendance please rise, please state your name, troop number and the year you became Eagle Scout.

Wait for them to do that

Ben Thank you for joining us today.

Lead applause

Ben will nod at Ed Bahle to escort Ryan down the aisle

The Eagle Trail

- Ben We will now trace Ryan's Trail to Eagle.
- Ben We remember well when you first came to the base of the cliff, 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 lessons.
- We remember 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.
- Ed Bahle *Lights the Scout Candle*
A Scout is Trustworthy. A Scout is Loyal
- Ben Next, as you started living the Scout Oath and Law, your brother Scouts called you a Tenderfoot Scout. You learned about the three parts of the Oath: Duty to God and country, Duty to others, and Duty to self.
- Kameron Akdogan *Lights the Tenderfoot Candle*
A Scout is Helpful. A Scout is Friendly.
- Ben Soon, you reached the first ledge, and there you were greeted by a large group of Second Class Scouts. To reach the rank of Second Class, a Scout learns to work with members of his patrol and he begins to develop patrol spirit.
- Miguel Vega *Lights the Second Class candle*
A Scout is Courteous. A Scout is Kind.
- Ben 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. When a Scout reaches the rank of First Class in Troop 175, he is really first class. He is an expert in the outdoor skills of camping, cooking, hiking, and first aid.
- Scott Dougherty *Lights the First Class candle*
A Scout is Obedient. A Scout is Cheerful.

Ben 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 in First Class glory, but your ambition stirred you on. We remember your advancement to Star Scout. A Star Scout learns to work with younger boys in the troop, passing along the knowledge he has gained.

Gabe Vega *Lights the Star candle*

A Scout is Thrifty. A Scout is Brave.

Ben The trail from First Class to Star rank was not as difficult as it had seemed. This spurred you on, and again you climbed further. The trail was steeper and less worn. Fewer Scouts seem 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. A Life Scout demonstrates leadership in the troop, and takes part in community service projects. Soon you earned the badge of Life rank.

Andrew *Lights the Life candle*

Kubit

A Scout is Clean.

Ben 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 becomes tougher, but more interesting. The original principles, the Scout Oath and Law, now a fuller meaning. Your understanding of them was greater. The rank of Eagle is Scouting's highest award. The Eagle Scout must earn the specified number of Merit Badges and must plan, develop, and carry out an extensive service project, giving leadership to others. He must also serve as a troop officer for a specified time.

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.

Ben *Lights the Eagle candle*

A Scout is Reverent.

Eagle Charge

Ben I would now like to introduce Greg Coghlan-Scoutmaster of Troop 175 to give the Eagle Charge and Eagle Promise

Greg As a representative of the Eagle Scouts of the council, I wish to welcome you to the brotherhood of Eagle Scouts. Only two percent of the boys who enter Scouting achieve what you have here today. The requirements are demanding but fair. Your achievement is recognition of your perseverance and ability.

But I am not here to talk of your past accomplishments, which are great, but of your future opportunities. Thirty-three years ago, I received my Eagle award, and in the years since then, it has constantly enriched my life.

It will yours. Of course, when you go to a Scouting function, you will be recognized as a doer, and you will have the opportunity of standing among leaders.

But I think that your Eagle award will have meaning far beyond Scouting itself. You are a marked man and your achievement will follow you throughout your life. The things you done, the leadership and sense of honor you have developed will mean more to you than a certificate and a piece of ribbon. You will have more opportunity to be of service to your fellow man through your school, your work, and through Scouting, because you know you can do.

In the years to come, you will casually meet people who are Eagles too, and there will be an instant bond of comradeship. You have each shared a common experience; you each know that the other can be trusted. The comradeship among Eagles extends throughout the world of Scouting and into the larger world beyond. For the rest of your life, you travel as a marked man, an Eagle Scout. Welcome!

Eagle Candidate Ryan Robinson I charge you to enter this Eagle Scout brotherhood holding the ideals of honor and service. By the repetition of the Eagle Scout promise you will become an Eagle Scout. When you pledge yourself on you sacred honor,' you will be sealing your loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout with the words which closed the Declaration of Independence.

Eagle Promise

Greg At this time I would like to invite all Eagle Scouts present, to come forward and rededicate themselves by repeating the Eagle Scout Promise with our new Eagle Scout.

Wait for it...

I will now ask you to make 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 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!

Presentation of Award

Greg By the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege and pleasure to pronounce you an Eagle Scout. May the oath you have taken remain graven on your heart forever.

Before we move forward, I am sure you will agree that some special persons should be accorded the privilege of standing with you and in some measure sharing these high honors.

Would Ryan's parents please come forward?

Greg In recognition of the motherly care and encouragement throughout Ryan's Scouting career, we ask his mother, to pin the Eagle Badge over his heart.

In recognition of fatherly advice and guidance along the trail to Eagle, I ask the father of our new Eagle, now to present his son with the Eagle Scout certificate and personal letter from the Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America.

No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout which have led us to this night. As the symbol of what this mother has made possible, the court now asks Ryan to present to his mother a miniature Eagle pin.

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

As Ryan's parents return to their seats, I would ask fellow Troop 175 Eagle Scout Gabe Vega to come forward for some more presentations.

Gabe Ryan, 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 Ryan is the 42nd Eagle in our Troop's 39 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 and 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

Gabe We now ask Mr. White and Mr. Kubit to come forward to read a few of the letters of congratulation we have received for Ryan.

They do

Ben Now our Scoutmaster has a few remarks to say...

Scoutmaster's Remarks

Greg *Say something...*

Address by New Eagle

Greg Now I would like to introduce Eagle Scout Ryan Robinson who has a few words to say...

Ryan *Ryan says something and gives out his Mentor Pin(s)*

Closing

Ben I would like to ask Pastor Tom to come forward and give a benediction.

Pastor Tom *Says something...*

Ben Please rise for the retiring of the Colors. 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!

Terri I now declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed.

Thank all of you for coming today. Please join us in fellowship hall for a reception