

# Eagle Scout Court of Honor

for

Jacob A. Rundle

16 November, 1997 2:00pm

VFW Post 9871

N. Ridgeville, Ohio

## AGENDA

Opening

Flag procession & Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

The Eagle Trail

Confirmation of Candidacy

Eagle Scout Charge & Reply

Presentation of Eagle Scout Award

Letters of Congratulation

Address by new Eagle

Closing

Candle-extinguishing Ceremony

Benediction

Flag Procession

Reception

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## ***Adult Participants***

**MC** of Court of Honor ..... Greg Coghlan  
**CHAPLAIN** ..... Mr. Jim Pettit, VFW  
**CHARGE Administrator** ..... Mr. Vince Farrell  
**ADVancement CHAIRman** ..... Jim White  
**Committee Chairman** ..... Martin Thompson  
**POEM READER** ..... Mike Tracey

## ***Scout Participants***

**TROOP EAGLE:** ..... Alex Wilson  
**Eagle Honor Guard** ..... Will Konko, Scott Volchko

**Senior Patrol Leader** ..... Rich Thompson  
**American Flag** ..... Mike Tague  
**Troop Flag** ..... Nathan Heck

**Tenderfoot Candle** ..... Randy Klinger  
**Second Class Candle** ..... Nathan Heck  
**First Class Candle** ..... BJ Schoch  
**Star Candle** ..... Greg Manke  
**Life Candle** ..... Jim White  
**Eagle Candle** ..... Alex Wilson

**Red Candle** ..... Pat Tracey  
**White Candle** ..... Nick Volchko  
**Blue Candle** ..... Mike Tague

## Opening Ceremony

MARTIN: On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 175 I welcome you here today to this Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jacob Rundle. I would now like to take this time to introduce to you the following special guests here today. *Introduce Troop leaders, past & present; other Scout leaders, VFW members, Troop Eagles, and any others.*

I would now ask Mr. Jim Pettit the VFW's Chaplain to give the invocation.

MR. PETTIT: *Gives his own invocation.*

MARTIN: I would like to call forward Senior Patrol Leader Richard Thompson to lead us in the presentation of the colors and the Pledge of Allegiance.

RICH: Please rise for the presentation of the colors... Color guard, present the colors!  
Scout salute!

*The color guard processes to the front.*

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!

Please be seated.

MARTIN: I would now like to turn the program over to Greg Coghlan, our Scoutmaster and Chairman of this Court of Honor.

GREG: By the authority vested in me by the National Council, Heart of Ohio Council, and Great Frontier District, Boy Scouts of America, I declare this Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jacob Rundle now open and in session.

## Candle-Lighting Ceremony

*Lights are turned off. Candle-lighters take their places behind rank cards*

### GREG:

Upon my chest I proudly wear,  
A badge of gold with which I dare  
To challenge you to aim so high,  
Your life will be where eagles fly.  
Five million strong, the boys and the men  
Stand up for Scouting...salute...and then  
Hark to the tale of one who knows,  
As onward...onward...Scouting grows.

*First candle is lit at Tenderfoot, then proceed, one at a time.*

I am the Tenderfoot. My three points stand for the three parts of the Scout Oath. You 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, a shield which is the emblem of a nation molded together in justice, and an eagle to guard the freedom of my land.

I am the Second Class. The ends of my scroll are turned up in the willing smile of the Scout. On my face is our motto, "Be Prepared," and suspended from me is the knot, tied there to remind you of the slogan of the Boy Scouts of America, "Do a Good Turn Daily."

I am the First Class. I was Tenderfoot and I 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.

I am the Star. Now that I can stand alone, I have earned the right to improvement on my own. To me goes the honor of choosing my field. Before me lies a horizon of endless opportunity.

I am the Life. I have shown the world that Scouting is in my heart. I have mastered knowledge of subjects that will benefit my country and my fellowman. I am ready to reach for my wings to fly.

I am the Eagle. It has been a long, hard--but wonderful -- road. I have mastered my goal. With deep humility I now stand as a representative of the best that Scouting can accomplish in the lives of boys. May I now pass on to my younger brothers a portion of my knowledge.

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

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

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

GREG: Scouting is no doubt one of the greatest organizations in the world to foster the highest ideals of citizenship. It is little wonder then that so many of our nation's greatest leaders had some of their earliest leadership experiences in Scouting. Now Scouting is changing, but one thing remains constant, and that is that the total development from boyhood to manhood depends upon physical, mental, and moral growth expressed in the Scout Oath. The skills are so demanding and the challenges are so great that it is not surprising to learn that only about two percent of all boys in Scouting achieve the rank of Eagle Scout each year. When most boys enter Scouting they picture themselves as some day becoming Eagle Scouts, but as you know, there are just too many activities and interests clamoring for their attention and the flames that were burning aspirations dim to ashes and flicker away and they stop short.

What does the Eagle badge represent? It means that a Scout has set a goal and worked to achieve that goal. The Eagle Scout badge stands for strength of character. The Eagle Scout badge is a symbol of what a boy has done, but, more important, it represents what the boy will be in the future as he grows to manhood.

GREG: I now ask the Eagle Honor Guard to escort Eagle Candidate Jake Rundle to the front.

## **Confirmation of Candidacy**

**GREG:** At this time, it is right and proper that this Court of Honor make a careful examination of the candidate. In order that all may understand the completeness of the examination, we have asked the Troop Advancement Chairman, who sat on the Eagle Scout Progress Review committee to report on the qualifications of the Eagle Scout Candidate. I now ask Jim White to come forward.

**JIM:** The first aspect in considering the candidate was Scout Spirit: putting into daily practical use, the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. In studying the character development of this young man, we obtained information from his schools, parents, and religious advisors. Jake has been an active participant in his church in many aspects. At school, he has been involved in Student Council, Odyssey of the Mind, Cross-Country Track, Wrestling, and many other activities. He is also currently involved in the Leadership Lorain County program. We believe that he is qualified in the Scout Spirit for the Eagle Progress Award, and that he will continue these habits of character in the future.

Another consideration for the Eagle Scout Progress Award is Scout Participation. Throughout his Scouting career, Jake has held many Leadership positions within the Troop including Senior Patrol Leader, and is currently a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. He has attended many activities and campouts with the Troop including Summer Camps, as both a camper and Staff, and the 1997 National Jamboree. He has earned all of the religious awards available to him, an interpreter strip, and other non-required awards. He has also been an active member of the Order of the Arrow, and is currently in two Explorer Posts. We have found in this candidate a maturing capacity and a willingness to exert leadership in activities that are constructive and worthwhile. We declare him qualified in the Scout Participation for the Eagle Progress Award.

The last subject to be reviewed for the award of the Eagle Scout Progress Award is Scoutcraft. We verified his proficiency in the various crafts and skills prescribed. This candidate has presented records of having earned 21 merit badges, all of which were certified by an approved merit badge counselor. Jake has also worked as an Instructor in the Troop and on Summer Camp Staff, imparting his Scouting knowledge to other Scouts. He is also a certified BSA and Red Cross Lifeguard. The Eagle Scout Progress Review committee has found the candidate qualified in the field of Scoutcraft for the Eagle Scout Progress Award.

GREG: In light of these inquiries by the Eagle Scout Progress Review committee, and their favorable results in each case, the Court of Honor finds the candidate qualified to receive the Eagle Scout Progress Award.

### **Eagle Scout Charge**

GREG: Having ascertained that Jake is worthy of this high honor, we are about to proceed with the Eagle Scout Charge. Before we do, I would now ask all Eagle Scouts here today to come forward and join me in a semicircle behind the Candidate. *They do.*

I now ask Mr. Vince Farrell, long-time North Ridgeville Scouter, and Jake's Eagle Counselor, to come forward and give the Eagle Scout Charge.

MR FARRELL: I have the honor to give you the Eagle Charge on the occasion of your elevation to the highest rank in 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.

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 your 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.

Your responsibility goes beyond your fellow Scouts; it extends to your country and your God. America has many good things to give you and your children after you; but these good things depend for the most part on the quality of her citizens. Our country has had a great past. You can help make the future still greater.

I charge you to undertake your citizenship with solemn dedication. Be a good leader, but lead only toward the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you hold to the high level of service to God and your fellow men. So live and serve that those who know you will be inspired to their finest living. We have too many use their strength and their brains to exploit others and to gain selfish ends. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their hearts and hands to the common good.

Build America on the solid foundations of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship, and reverence for God. Then whatever others may do, you will leave behind you a record of which you may be justly proud.

### **Eagle Scout Reply**

MR FARRELL: To seal your loyalty to the Code of an Eagle Scout, I ask that you, along with your fellow Eagle Scouts, raise your right hands 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.

May the oath you have taken remain graven on your heart always. Two!

*Mr. Farrell returns to his seat.*

## **Eagle Award Presentation**

GREG: 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.

Will the Eagle Honor Guard please escort the parents of our new Eagle forward.

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*)

No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout, which have led to this moment. As a symbol of what this mother has made possible, the court will now ask the Eagle Scout to present his mother 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, the court will now ask the Eagle Scout to present his father with the Eagle Father's tie clasp. (*he gives it to his father*)

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

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 Jake Rundle, I express the confidence that you will honor Scouting with your life and service, as today Scouting honors you.

GREG: 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 Jake is the 19<sup>th</sup> Eagle in our Troop's 21 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.)*

GREG: I now ask the Eagle Honor Guard to escort the parents of our new Eagle back to their seats.

### **Poem: Its Only A Pin**

GREG: At this time, Mike Tracey, one of our Assistant Scoutmasters, will read a poem for us.

MIKE:  
Two fond parents watch their boy where he stands,  
Apart from his comrades tonight,  
And see placed 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 youngsters next door...  
How proud they were then of their Tenderfoot pin  
As they told of 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 the Law,  
Until now he is an Eagle Scout.

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

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

And the out-flinging wings of the Eagle that rests  
On the breast of this knight of today  
Are the wings which 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 beneath it beats true,  
And will throb to the last for the things that are good;  
A lesson for me... and for you.

### **Letters of Congratulations**

GREG: Now, a few members of Troop 175's Adult Committee will read some of the letters we have received for Jake.

*Troop Scouters come up to read Letters of Congratulation.*

GREG: Jake has also received letters from other famous people. These and the ones just read will be on display during the Reception after the Ceremony.

### **Address by New Eagle**

GREG: I now present to you Eagle Scout Jacob Rundle, who has a few words to say.

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

## **Closing**

**GREG:** Seeing that there is no further business for this Court to attend to today, we will proceed to close this Eagle Ceremony.

As we put out this white candle, representing purity, may we be ever mindful of the obligation that a Scout is clean. He is clean in body and thought, he stands for clean speech, clean sports, clean habits, and travels with a moral crowd.

As we put out this blue candle, representing loyalty, may we be ever mindful of the obligation that a Scout is loyal. He is loyal to all to whom loyalty is due: his Scout leaders, his home, his parents, and his country.

As we put out this red candle, representing courage and sacrifice, may we be ever mindful of our obligation that a Scout is brave. He has the courage to face danger in spite of fear, and to stand up for the right against the coaxing of friends and the jeers or threats of enemies, and defeat does not down him.

**GREG:** I now ask Mr. Pettit from the VFW to give a Benediction.

**MR. PETTIT:** *Gives his own Benediction.*

**GREG:** Our Senior Patrol Leader, Richard Thompson, will now lead us in the closing flag ceremony.

**RICH:** 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! *They take the flags out of the hall.*

Two!

GREG: By the authority vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I now declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed. Would the Eagle Honor Guard please escort Jake and his parents out.

On behalf of Troop 175 I would like to thank everyone who took the time to be with us today, especially: *List VIPs*.

Before everyone runs away I wanted to take a few moments to remind you of a few events coming up:

- Wreath delivery Nov 24-26
- No Meeting Nov 27<sup>th</sup>, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>
- Royal Court Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- JLT Dec 12-14 (for whole Troop, great cabin, adults cook, movies)
- Dec. 11 or 18 - Coupon Book sale
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> X-mas party

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