

Troop 997
Life to Eagle Seminar
February 23, 2012

Thanks for attending the Troop Life to Eagle meeting tonight, as you know becoming an Eagle Scout is a journey, and it can seem long and challenging at times. But as you have heard from those that have gone through it before, accomplishing the rank of Eagle is going to well worth the hard work and effort. Here at Troop 997, we want to help you succeed on your trail to become an Eagle and will do what we can to help you along the way.

Many of you attended the District Life to Eagle Seminar on February 6th, where you received a lot of good information on how the district process works. That power point presentation can be found on the troop website at: <http://www.ofallontroop997.org/news1.html> as well as on the Council site. Tonight is not to go over all of that again, but to add to that evening by talking about what process we have here at Troop 997 to help scouts be successful while going through this process. Our goal is not to hinder your progress, but to help you be successful while going through your Eagle Scout project and become an Eagle Scout.

Time Log: Every Scout needs to keep an up to date list/spread sheet of time spent working on your Eagle Scout project. This time log needs to contain information kept separately on time you yourself spent, as well as time others spent. In the workbook at the end you will need to break down your hours of time spent: yourself, others scout youth, others non-scout youth, others scout adult, others non-scout adult, so please take time to make yourself some kind of spread sheet/list to keep track of this from the beginning when you start thinking about your Eagle Scout project. This time log will be reviewed along the way at your different troop board of reviews.

Eagle Scout Application: You can find the application, referred to as the Red/White/Blue at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-728_web.pdf Keep track of your original application, as this is the one that you will eventually send to National BSA.

Eagle Scout Workbook: Please download and read, and ask your parents and coach/mentor to read as well, the Eagle Scout workbook. Follow this in order and it will make it an easier process to go through. You can find the workbook at: http://scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-927_fillable.pdf please note that this file is fillable, it does not expand, as you type though the text gets smaller to fit more into the block – so what is recommended is that you type in the blocks until you think the text is too small to read and then put the rest of the text on an additional page and type “see page #” where the rest of that description will be. *“Only the official workbook may be used No. 512-927”.*

Before you begin, have a conference with Scoutmaster Boiles to let him know what your project is going to be, talk about it, and make sure that it is a good Eagle Scout project.

Troop 997 coach/mentor – In troop 997, we would like for every scout to work with a coach/mentor. It benefits each scout to ask someone that you can work comfortably with, talk with, ask questions, and get guidance on your Eagle project. You will work with your coach/mentor in preparation for your Troop Boards, as well as help you prepare for District Boards, attending with you as your adult if you would like – they are a second set of ears during your reviews and will also help take notes for you. It is not officially a requirement to have a coach/mentor, but it is highly recommended. Think about it this way – using a coach/mentor helps you to prepare for your different reviews, without one your troop boards will be handling that responsibility and you will most likely have many more troop reviews necessary to go through the process. Your coach/mentor must be registered with the BSA and up to date on Youth Protection training (it needs to be done every two years).

The Troop steps to getting through your Eagle Scout project will break down into 3 different steps:
Step 1 – Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal – pgs 7-10 (use fundraising pgs 17-18 now if needed)
Step 2 – Eagle Scout Service Project Final Plan - pages 11-16
Step 3 – Eagle Scout Service Project Report - pages 19-20

On page 6 you will need to fill out your contact information. On this page in the block "**Council or District Project Approval Representative**" you only need fill out name, email, and phone. The information for those: Elizabeth Francies eaglebt@gmail.com 636.219.5596. For the rest of the blocks, please contact me for any numbers or information that you may need.

Step 1 – Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal

This section is the first section that you will focus on and fill out, pages 7-10. This will give information and descriptions of what you are planning to do for your Eagle Scout project.

On page 9 in the block "**Preliminary Cost Estimate**" you need to write in how you will fund your project – Please check to see if your fundraising fits the following criteria: *"contributions from the candidate, his parents or relatives, his unit or its chartered organization, parents or members of his unit, or the beneficiary. All money left over, regardless of the source, goes to the beneficiary"* If it does not fit these criteria, you will need to fill out pages 17-18 now and have it at your proposal review(s). Our Council has put this approval responsibility on the District Boards and it would need to be approved when you go for your District Proposal Review, so it would need to be presented at your troop board(s) in preparation for your district review. More specific information on fundraising on pages 17-18.

Once you have all of your information complete on pages 7-10, you will then contact me to have a Troop review scheduled for yourself. Please keep in mind that the troop schedules many reviews, and I need to time to coordinate with the adults to make sure we can hold your board, so please contact me ahead of time (not the day before). When I'm scheduling troop boards, I do ask your coach/mentor to sit in on the review with you. Once I get a board scheduled for you, I will contact you to verify. When you come to a troop review, you always need to dress in a full Class A uniform, including merit badge sash, bring 4 copies of your workbook, a pen/pencil to take notes.

Troop Reviews: With the new 2012 workbook, I am finding it is beneficial to try to have the same adults that sit on your proposal review continue to meet with you for your plan, and final reviews. It helps your meetings to move along as everyone knows the project and what step you are at in the process. I'm hoping that this helps keep the process moving along for you, and it is nice for the adults on your board to see your project from a proposal all the way through you becoming an Eagle Scout!!

On page 10, you will need your signatures before you can contact Ms. Francies to schedule your district review. You will need the following signatures:

Candidate's Promise - Your signature

Unit Leader Approval - Mr. Boiles – Scoutmaster

Unit Committee Approval - Mr. Munzer – Committee Chairman (signed after successful troop review)

Beneficiary Approval – your contact from the benefitting organization that can sign

ONLY after you have the above signatures, you can then contact Ms. Francies at eaglebt@gmail.com to schedule your project proposal district review. When you hear back from her with a date and time, please invite your coach/mentor or another adult (non parent) to join you and attend your review. Council or District Approval – this will be signed at your District Board of Review (note: you cannot do fundraising, purchase supplies, or begin work on your project before you have approval.

Step 2 – Eagle Scout Service Project Final Plan

"A Scout who is prepared will complete the final plan and ask a project coach to review it with him"

This section is being left under the responsibility of each troop to make sure it gets done correctly. It used to be that the District handled these details, but with the new workbook, that has been handed over to each troop to handle how they think best benefits the scout.

This part of the Eagle project workbook is where all of the details of your project get worked out. You will need to take time, to think about all of the aspects of your project and then plan them out in this section. It is extremely beneficial during the step to utilize having a project coach/mentor as he/she can sit with you and help guide you through this more detailed part of your project. Keep in mind this part is not new, it was previously done before any approval was done. Also, now, the details are more clearly asked and laid out to help you as an Eagle Scout Candidate have all the pertinent information necessary to have a successful project. The goal of this section is to help scouts succeed.

For Troop 997, you will need to contact me to schedule a troop review for this section prior to doing the actual "build" of your project (bring 4 copies and wear your full Class A uniform) – once again, our goal in the troop is to help you to succeed the best that we can, and we feel that having a review over your plan before you build will benefit you the most. This review is not about little picky details, like a philips vs flat head screwdriver, it is more to see if you have laid out a plan that will help you be successful in leading others through your project. You must be able to provide leadership, and this is one of those checkpoints where we can look at your project and make sure that will be done.

Once you have met with the Troop Board and they ok your plan, you are good to move forward with doing your project. Pick dates, announce it to the troop, have sign up sheets, do your project.

Step 3 – Eagle Scout Service Project Report

This is the section where you will share how your project went. You'll have space for changes, be able to tell how you showed leadership and share if there were any challenges while being the leader. You can show your pictures of your project and everyone can see your final result. You will log the total hours spent by all preparing and working on your project. This is really where you give the results of different aspect of your project.

Once you have filled out all of the questions in this section, you will need to again contact me to set up a Troop Eagle Project Final Board of Review for you. When it is scheduled, I will confirm date/time with you and remind you to bring 4 copies and wear your full Class A uniform.

Your troop board will go over the written aspects of how your project went with you as well as other information that you will need to know for your Final District Eagle Project Review. They will ask a variety of questions regarding your project, showing leadership, your time and experiences in scouting, saying the Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan, telling them what each part of the 1st Class Scout Badge represents, and some other thought provoking questions about your experiences.

There are signature blocks for this section of your workbook:

Candidate's Promise – where you sign confirming *"On my honor as a Scout, I was the leader of my Eagle Scout service project and completed it as reported here"*

Completion Approvals:

Beneficiary Name – contact at the benefitting organization signs once the project is completely done

Unit Leader Name – Scoutmaster Boiles will sign this block, and usually signs it once your Troop Board of Review says that you are ready to go for a District Board of Review

Written Letters of Recommendation: This is on the Red/White/Blue, and the form letters and envelopes will be in your white Life to Eagle envelope. Plan ahead and give these out to people that know you and would be able and willing to write you a letter of recommendation to become an Eagle Scout. The list on the Red/White/Blue are guidelines, but you should have a variety of people write you letters, they should not all be from one place/organization. This helps showcase you in the many different aspects of your life. Always thank them in advance for taking the time to write the letter, and keep in contact with them once they agree as to when you can come back to see them and pick up the completed letter. All of your letters stay sealed and are only opened by your final District Board of Review. As stated above, you will need to have these letters with your paperwork for Council verification, so keep that in mind and don't wait until the last minute to ask people to write one for you.

Once you have these signatures, you will need to take your complete **ORIGINALS;** Eagle project workbook, completed Red/White/Blue Eagle Scout application, all 21 merit badge cards that you are using towards your Eagle Rank, 4 Sealed letters of recommendation, all put in your white envelope and take it to the scout office (either on Page or West Pine) – they will keep it to check your records and verify that all information included is correct. Once verified, they will call you to pick it up. Now, after you have picked it back up and have their signature on your Red/White/Blue you should contact Ms. Francies at eaglebt@gmail.com to set up your final District Board of Review. She will not make your appointment for a final review unless you have everything signed off and verified by Council. Once you hear back from her with your date and time, please invite your coach/mentor to join you in your review, as well as your parents who will be waiting to see you as soon as you complete it!!

Now you will need to take your Completed Original Red/White/Blue to the Scout Office, they will send it to National (you will not get this back, so if you would like to keep a copy please make one before you drop it off). They will call you when your Eagle Scout paperwork comes back for you to pick up and then plan your Eagle Scout Court of Honor. The troop has an Eagle Scout COH book in the library if you are interested in checking it out to use as a reference.



Special Eagle Scout Badge for 2012:

Do you know who Arthur Eldred is, and why we celebrate his achievement 100 years later? Arthur was the very first Boy Scout to earn the Eagle Scout award, and he did it in Oceanside, NY in 1912. Requirements for Eagle Scout were quite different then – First Class Scout was the highest rank, and the Eagle award simply recognized a Scout who earned 21 merit badges. No Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project was required then either! (The service project requirement was first instituted in 1965.) The exact requirements have changed many times over the years, including required merit badges, leadership requirements, and a specified amount of time at each rank. Whatever the requirements, however, more than 2,000,000 boys have earned Eagle Scout rank in the last 100 years.

Are you going to be one of them this year? If you're a Life Scout, you might want to set your sights on earning your Eagle in 2012. Scouts who do so will receive a special rank patch, commemorating the 100th anniversary.

Please let me know if you have any questions, need an Eagle Scout packet, or if there is anything I can do to help you through this exciting part of your scouting career. I look forward to seeing each of you attain the rank of Eagle Scout in the future.

As Always, Yours in Scouting

Mrs. Krull

Asst. Scoutmaster, Troop 997

Krullx6@charter.net

636-240-5540