

Finishing Strong!

Troop 870
Star/Life to Eagle Workshop

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Participants

- Star and Life Scouts and their parents

Star Scouts

Scout	Rank Earned	Gr.
Marshall Godwin	9/08	11
Kyle Ludovice	1/09	10
Allen Vinson	1/09	10
Alec Fluharty	2/09	8
Jeffrey Myers	2/09	8
Matt Lovelace	2/09	8
Alan Stepchinski	3/09	8
Daymond Crucian	7/09	8
Michael Fodroci	7/09	8
Andrew Kuhlman	9/09	9

Life Scouts

Scout	Rank Earned	Gr.
Stefan Balciunas	4/07	11
Nick Mucha	8/07	11
Jared Dalpe	9/07	11
Kevin Van Kirk	3/09	10
Eric Stone	3/09	10
Kevin Davis	8/09	10
Brad Paul	9/09	9
Ryan Ramirez	9/09	10
Andrew Eaton	9/09	10
Kevin Roan	9/09	10

Why are we doing this?

- In the last couple of years, the troop has had about **3** Eagles per year and we were able to deal with each one as they came together (this has typically meant as their 18th birthday approached)
- Today, there are **20** of you that could Eagle in the next 2 years. Said differently, that's nearly 1 Eagle project per month beginning with Nick Mucha's!
- Consequently, the troop needed to have a better way of handling the hundreds of small moving parts this will entail
- Waiting until the last minute has NOT been the optimal or most satisfying approach

Today's Objectives

- We ARE informing scouts and parents to eliminate or reduce surprises
- We ARE encouraging you to **Finish Strong!**
- We are NOT trying to force you to do something you don't want to do
- We are NOT telling you the troop will drag you all the way through this Eagle process

Thank You's for Reviewing this Material

- Troop 870 Eagle Scouts
 - Daniel Muratore
 - Brendan Dalpe
 - Kevin Moss
- Troop 870 Eagle Parents
 - Audrey Muratore
 - Lizette & Jaime Moss

Deadlines

- Technically,.....
 - BSA: 18th birthday to have your Eagle Scoutmaster Conference
 - SHAC: 180 days after your 18th birthday to complete your Eagle Board of Review
- However,.....
 - You don't get another shot at Eagle.
So DON'T wait till the last minute.

When is the Best Time to Eagle?

The troop is happy for you to Eagle any time, but doing it right before you turn 18 causes you to miss some opportunities!

Although you are eligible to become Eagle up until you turn 18 – here are some reasons to consider doing it earlier:

- Eagle is a significant accomplishment to highlight on any college applications you plan on sending out (this means you need to become Eagle by your Junior year in HS)
- Achieving Eagle right before you turn 18 doesn't give you the opportunity to put your Eagle to work within the troop. Younger scouts do benefit considerably by your continued involvement after you Eagle.
- Younger Eagle Scouts find the leadership opportunities within the troop very rewarding (JASM, Advising Eagle Candidates through the process, special projects, etc) AND these leadership experiences are a noteworthy item for the college resume.
- Time commitments in High School ramp up as the Senior year approaches ... do what you can early!
- Allow time to complete the requirements at a normal pace vs. rushing at the last minute – more rewarding / less frustrating for both the Scout AND the parents (& the troop!).

Last Eagle Required Merit Badges

- Typically, they are
 - Personal Management
 - Family Life
- Each includes a **three** month component. Don't get surprised by procrastinating on these!

Q: What Makes a Good Project?

- Answer: One that meets the requirement:

“While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a **service project** helpful to any religious institution, school, or community. (The project should benefit an organization other than Boy Scouting.) The project idea must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your Scoutmaster and troop committee and the council or district before you start.

You must use the [Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook](#), BSA publication No. 512-927 (printed after 8/1/2009), in meeting this requirement.”

Q: Give Leadership?

- Teaching your volunteers
- Using your resources efficiently & effectively
- Giving direction to the participants

Q: What Makes a Good Project?

- Response: OK, but what does that mean?... =)
- There isn't any other firm guidance, but it might help to put consider recent Eagle projects done by scouts in our troop

Recent Projects from T870

Scout	Description of Project	Organization	Approx. # of Hrs.
Daniel Muratore	Invertebrate specimen collection	A&M Galveston Sea Campus Kids	231
Kevin Bradbury	Food drive	Interfaith Caring Ministries	200
Tim Ness	Landscaping residence	Sean Ashley Foundation for Autism	151
Bayard Nicklow	Landscaping residence	Sean Ashley Foundation for Autism	141
Brendan Dalpe	Parking Lot expansion	Interfaith Caring Ministries	178
Kevin Moss	Painting picnic tables	Seabrook Parks Dept	228
Patrick Turley	Mini-Carnival	Pasadena Homeless Shelter	?
Alan Mohn	Park benches, swing	UBC park	163
Matt McNicholl	Fitness program	UBC field for home-schooled kids	197

Q: What Makes a Good Project?

- So.....our 'typical' Troop 870 Eagle project has involved **about 180** man hours (including the Eagle candidate, scouts, friends and adults) and has helped all kinds of organizations.
- When envisioning yours, consider your impressions of the magnitude, complexity and community value of these other projects and tweak your concept accordingly

Q: What Makes a Good Project?

Other Considerations

- Challenging enough to build a Scout's confidence and skill level, but not overwhelming
- Able to be planned and led by the Scout himself with minimum parent involvement
- Hands on work at a skill level that allows the younger Scouts in the troop to be involved (e.g. digging, painting, hammering)

Other Eagle Projects in the News

- Recently in Eagletter Magazine (www.NESA.org): 3 simultaneous Eagle projects from 1 US troop performed in Guatemala:
 - Installed a water treatment system
 - Expanded a school library, clothing & sports equipment
 - Tackled massive erosion problem at school
- CNN.com – Alex Griffith put in a playground at the hospital from which he was adopted in Russia: 800 hours and \$60,000 donated
- **Message: The Sky is the Limit!!**
- Be creative
- Make this project something you can brag about on your college application!

New Eagle Advisor Process

- Based on the need to better handle the flood of guys working toward their Eagle, I've decided to change how we handle the advisor role.
- In the past, we've done this as a team – taking turns as different SM's have time to take on the responsibility.
- This has led to some inconsistencies and communications frustrations in a process too important and complicated to handle by committee. So we're going to try centralizing this role.
- This is similar to how the SM's have concentrated the Den Chief Liaison role with ASM Mr. Lynn Godwin.

New Eagle Advisor Process

- ASM-in-training Mr. Steve Bauder will now take the point in handling each Scout's Eagle process advising.
- Steve is an Eagle Scout himself. He's also the dad of an Eagle Scout and has previously served as Eagle Advisor for his older son's troop.
- This will free up me as well as ASM's Mr. Steve Ludovice & Mr. Ben Edwards to maintain focus on the core troop program which is not as Eagle-centric.
- We're going to try this for 6 months. At that point, we'll see if it needs tweaking to better meet the needs of the troop.

See 'From Here to Eagle Checklist'
for specific detailed information

See article in Eagletter Magazine, Fall
2009, 'From Arlington to Antigua,' pp.
8-9, for example of triple Eagle project