

**Zach S:** "Ladies and Gentleman may I please have your attention".

"Please stand for the Presentation of Colors".

*(Lindsay/sound: starts National Anthem cd)*

**Zach S:** "COLOR GUARD advance the Colors".

*(COLOR GUARD: Zach, Joe, Josiah, Evan, Jon H., Ethan & Michael with Troop flag)*

*COLOR GUARD comes forward, stops at the head of the aisle. Then continues across the front and rotates to face the audience.)*

**Zach S:** "Will the audience please join in the Pledge of Allegiance."

**Zach S:** "Scouts, Salute!"

**Zach S:** " I Pledge Allegiance, to....

**Zach S:** "Three scouts, step forward."

*(While everyone is standing, Joe, Evan and Jon H. step out from the line.)*

**Joe B:** "The Red of our Flag represents the lifeblood of Brave Americans ready to die or worthily live for this our Country". *(Lights red candle)*

**Evan H:** "The white of our Flag is for Purity, Cleanliness of purpose, thought, word and deed".

*(Lights white candle)*

**Jon H:** "The Blue of our Flag is for Faith and Loyalty, the eternal blue of the Star-filled heavens".

*(Lights blue candle)*

*(Three Scouts step back in line)*

**Zach S:** "Color Guard, post the colors".

*Color guard post the colors, return to the line, and salute the Flag.*

**Zach S.** "Color Guard fall in."

*(Color guard returns to the line up across from other members of the troop in the aisle. Troop remains standing along pews on each side, Aaron and Dan behind them, followed by Honor Guard...during invocation and until the time Aaron and Dan are called forward.)*

**Zach S.:** "Will everyone remain standing while Pastor Ron Burns, of New Covenant Christian Church, delivers the invocation".

**Pastor Burns:** *(delivers the invocation)*

**Zach S:** "Thank you Pastor Burns. Would the audience please be seated"

"I would like to introduce our Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Dave Rider.

*(Zach S takes his place in line with troop)*

**Dave Rider:** "Thank you, Zach. Good afternoon Honored Guests, Ladies, Gentleman, Scouts and Scouters. My name is Dave Rider of Troop 316. It is my pleasure to be the Master of Ceremonies for this Eagle Court of Honor, honoring Dan Miloch and Aaron Selis.

"Today we have the honor and pleasure of recognizing Dan and Aaron for the award of Eagle Scout. The parents and Scout Leaders of this troop have labored long and faithfully to develop these young men towards responsible citizenship through the Boy Scout Program. Their efforts now culminate in the presentation of the Eagle Award. The success of these efforts, however, will only be manifested in the way these new Eagle Scouts set an example for the lives of those they touch".

**Dave Rider** *(addresses the Honor Guard:)*

"Honor Guard, please escort, before this Court of Honor, Eagle Candidates Daniel Patrick Miloch and Aaron Joseph Selis."

*(HONOR GUARD/Scouts: Steven and Chris enter, followed by Dan and Aaron, then Ben. The rest of the scouts fall in line behind Aaron and Dan as they pass and file into their assigned pew making sure to move all the way to the end of pew. Honor Guard stands at their seats in first aisle until all scouts are in pew. Dan and Aaron go on to side chairs .All scouts sit down at Ben Batdorff's command.)*

**Dave Rider:** "I will now call upon Mrs. Sheila Robbe, Troop 316's Committee Chairman, to open this Court of Honor".

**Sheila Robbe:** "By the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, I hereby declare this Court of Honor opened. The path to Eagle is long and demanding. It is a challenge that Dan and Aaron have worked diligently to attain. These young men have been blessed to have two excellent Scoutmasters to help guide them along their journey. I would like to introduce Scoutmaster John McCarthy of Troop 272, and following him, Scoutmaster David Holderread of Troop 316. They, with the help of a few of our scouts, will outline the Trail to Eagle."

*(John McCarthy comes forward. **Timmy, Josiah, Joe, Matthew, Elmo, Jim (leads out)**--come forward with badge signs, to assist in this ceremony.)*

**JOHN Mc.:** "Scouting is no doubt one of the greatest organizations in the world to foster the 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. The total development from boyhood to manhood depends on the physical, mental and moral growth expressed in the Scout Law and Oath. The skills are demanding, and the challenges so great that it's not surprising to learn that only about 4% of all boys in scouting achieve the rank of Eagle. Let us now reflect on the path that a young man must undertake to attain this high rank. Follow along, as Troop 316 leads you down the arduous steps on the Trail to Eagle!

**SCOUT** (*Timmy steps forward, Holds up Scout emblem*)

**MICHAEL R.** "I am the Scout. My badge represents the international brotherhood of Scouting which I have joined."

**JOHN Mc.:** "To become a Scout a boy must understand and promise to live by the Scout Oath and Law."

**TENDERFOOT:** (*Josiah steps forward, holds up the Tenderfoot emblem*)

**MICHAEL R.** "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 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."

**JOHN Mc:** "To earn the rank of Tenderfoot Scout, Dan and Aaron did the following:

- ✪ They were active in the troop and his patrol for at least two months.
- ✪ They memorized the Scout Oath and Law.
- ✪ They explained the meaning of each point of the Scout Law.
- ✪ They practiced these ideals in his everyday life.
- ✪ Dan and Aaron learned some First Aid skills, their first 2 knots, and they prepared for and attended their first of many camping outings with their troop.
- ✪ They had a Scoutmaster conference and a board of review.....

*(SCOUT SECOND CLASS: **Joe** steps forward, Holds up the Second Class emblem)*

**MICHAEL R.** "I am the Second Class. The ends of my scroll are turned up in the willing smile of the scout. On my face is the motto "BE PREPARED", and suspended from me is the Square Knot, tied there to remind you of the slogan of the Boy Scouts of America, "DO A GOOD TURN DAILY".

**JOHN Mc:** On the road to Second Class, these are some of the requirements that Dan and Aaron accomplished:

- ✪ They were active in the troop and their patrol for at least two months after earning Tenderfoot.
- ✪ They showed Scout spirit.
- ✪ They learned skills in the areas of map reading and the use of a compass; in fire building and cooking, more advanced first aid and citizenship.
- ✪ They had a Scoutmaster conference and a board of review.

*Pause, as **John McCarthy** returns to his seat. **Dave Holderread** steps to podium*

*SCOUT, FIRST CLASS: (**Matthew** steps forward, Holds up the First Class emblem)*

**MICHAEL R.** "I am the First Class. I was Tenderfoot and I laid a course by the stars of Truth and Knowledge. I armed myself with the love 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."

**Dave H:** "To become a First Class Scout Dan and Aaron did the following:

- ✪ They demonstrated basic orienteering skills.
- ✪ They participated in ten troop or patrol activities.
- ✪ They served as patrol cook on a campout.
- ✪ They discussed the rights and obligations of a citizen.
- ✪ They identified ten kinds of native plants.
- ✪ They demonstrated ability with knots and lashings.
- ✪ They demonstrated first aid skills
- ✪ They passed the Boy Scouts of America swim test.
- ✪ They showed Scout spirit.
- ✪ They had a Scoutmaster conference and a board of review.

*STAR SCOUT (Elmo steps forward, Holds up the Star emblem)*

**MICHAEL R.** "I am the Star. I can stand alone, and I have earned the right to improve on my own. To me goes the honor of choosing my field. Before me lies a horizon of endless opportunity."

**Dave H:** "To become a Star Scout a boy must earn a total of six merit badges, four of which must be from the required Eagle List.

- ✪ Dan and Aaron were active in the troop for at least four months after earning First Class.
- ✪ They continued to show Scout spirit.

✪ Dan earned Cooking and Shotgun Shooting. Aaron earned; Climbing and Architecture merit badges.

✪ From the list of required merit badges for Eagle, Dan earned: Swimming, First Aid, and 2 Citizenship badges. Aaron earned: Swimming, First Aid, Communications and Citizenship in the world.

✪ They did at least six hours of service projects.

✪ They served at least four months in a troop leadership position.

✪ They had a Scoutmaster conference and a board of review.

**LIFE SCOUT** (*Jim steps forward, Holds up the Life emblem*)

**MICHAEL R.** "I am a Life Scout. I have shown the world that Scouting is in my heart. I have mastered knowledge of subjects that will benefit not only myself but also my country and my fellowman. I am ready to reach for my wings to fly."

**Dave H:** "To become a Life Scout a boy must earn a total of eleven Merit Badges, including seven from the required Eagle list. These are some of the other things Dan and Aaron did to earn their Life rank..."

✪ "They were active in the troop for at least six months after earning the rank of Star.

✪ They showed Scout spirit in many ways.

✪ Some of the merit badges Dan earned were Computer, Canoeing and Electricity. Aaron earned: Metal Work and Sculpture merit badges.

✪ From the list of required merit badges for Eagle, Dan earned Lifesaving, Camping, Communications and Personal Management. Aaron earned: Personal Fitness, Camping, Lifesaving merit badges.

✪ They did at least six hours of service projects.

✪ They served at least six months in a troop leadership position.

🌟 They had a Scoutmaster conference and a Board of Review

*(The scouts (other than Dan/Aaron) file back to their seats and sit down)*

**Dave Rider:** "The Eagle Award is the culmination of the efforts of Dan and Aaron, their leaders, and their parents. An Eagle Scout must have earned at least 21 Merit Badges, in various crafts and skills. Eleven of these badges are specifically required for the Eagle rank. "

*(turn to address scouts)* "You boys who sit here with the Troop are a part of the Eagle Awards that Dan and Aaron are about to receive. As Dan and Aaron helped you learn **your** scouting skills, they were exhibiting **their** leadership skills, which is one of the top goals of Boy Scouting. Hopefully, many of you will follow Dan and Aaron's example, by going on to complete **your** Eagle Rank."

"Each Eagle Candidate must plan and supervise an Eagle Service Project. This Service Project demonstrates a Scouts capacity and willingness to exert his leadership ability in activities that are constructive and worthwhile in his community...We have tonight, representatives from each of the organizations that benefited from Dan and Aaron's Service Project, Mrs. Lydia Schuck followed by Mr. Jeremy Lantz."

*(Dave R. steps back)*

**Lydia Schuck** briefly describes the Eagle Service Project completed by Dan

**Jeremy Lantz** briefly describes how the "Fire Up for Life" ministry has utilized the Eagle Project completed by Aaron.

**Dave R.:** "After a Scout has completed the requirements for the rank of Eagle, They must be reviewed by an Eagle Board of Review, made up of members of the Troop Committee and a representative of the Council for the Ojibwas District. This Board of Review meets to assure that the Ideals of Scouting and the Esteem of the Eagle Rank are upheld.

"As a member of the Board that reviewed Dan and Aaron, I certify that after investigation, interview and examination, the Board is of the opinion that these Scouts have demonstrated that they have held to the spirit of Scouting in their daily living. The Board recommends their advancement to Eagle. And now, would Eagle Scout **Ben Batdorff** please step forward to give the Eagle Scout charge?"

*(Ben Batdorff steps forward to give the Scout Charge)*

**BEN BATDORFF:** *(turning to Dan and Aaron)* "Would the Eagle candidates please stand?"

"I speak for the Eagle Scouts of this Council. I have the honor to give you the Eagle Scout 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. All who know you, rejoice in your achievement. As you live up to your obligations, you bring honor to yourself and your brother Scouts.

Your responsibility extends to God and your country. America has many good things to give you and your children after you, but these good things depend, for the most part, on the ability of her citizens. Our country has a great past, and you can make the future still greater.

"I charge you... to undertake your citizenship with solemn dedication. Be a leader...but lead only towards the best. Lift up every task you do, and every office you hold, to the high level of service to God and your fellow man.

"So live and serve, that those who know you will be inspired to the finest living. We have too many who 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 God and to the good of mankind.

"Build America on the solid foundation 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 Candidates Daniel Miloch and Aaron Selis, I charge you to enter the Eagle Scout Brotherhood, holding without reservation ever before you, the ideals of honor and service. By repetition of the Eagle Scout Promise before your fellow Scouts, you will become an Eagle Scout. Though the words you use may be similar to those by which you joined Scouting, today they will mean more than they could have meant at any time in the past. When you pledge yourself on your sacred honor, you will be sealing your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout, with the words which closed the Declaration of Independence"

*(Ben turns to the audience and says :)*

"Will all the Eagle Scouts present today join me here, as I lead you in the Eagle Scout Promise".



*(BEN waits for the Eagle Scouts to reach the front and line up, then says:)*

"Will everyone please stand..."

"Eagle Scouts, please give the Scout Sign and repeat after me, giving your own name".

"I *(give your name)*..."*(pause)*

Reaffirm my allegiance to the three promises of the Scout Oath.*(pause)*

I thoughtfully recognize and take upon myself *(pause)*

The obligations and responsibilities of the rank of Eagle Scout. *(pause)*

On my honor, I will do my best *(pause)*

To make my training an example of my rank *(pause)*

And my influence count strongly for better citizenship, *(pause)*

In my home, in my community and in my contacts with other people. *(pause)*

To this I pledge my sacred honor."

**BEN B.:** "All Eagle Scouts except Dan and Aaron, please return to your seats. The audience may be seated. "Will Scoutmaster Holderread please come forward and present the Eagle Awards?" "

*(Ben and the rest of the Eagle scouts return to their seats)-- (Dave H. steps to podium)*

**Dave H.:** "Will Mike and Gail Miloch, the parents of Dan, and Allen and Carla Selis, Aaron's parents please come forward?"

*(Mike and Gail. Allen & Carla come forward one set of parents stand to right, one to left of Dave H. )*

**Dave H.:** **Dan, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I hereby award to you, the Rank of Eagle Scout."**

*(Dave H. turns and gives the Eagle Medal to Gail, to pin on Dan.)*

**Dave H.:** "Will you please pin the Eagle Medal on your son." ...*(Gail pins Dan)*

*(Dave H. gives Eagle pin for mother to Dan)*

**Dave H.:** ... "No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout, which has led to this achievement. As a symbol of what his mother has made possible, this Court now asks Daniel to present his mother a miniature Eagle pin."

*(Dan pins pin on his mother)*

**Dave H.:** "Eagle Scout, would you also present your Dad with this tie pin."

*(Scoutmaster gives tiepin to Dan to present to his father.)*

**Dave H.** *turns to Aaron, Allen and Carla*

**Dave H.** **"Aaron, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I hereby award to you, the Rank of Eagle Scout."**

*(Dave H. turns and gives the Eagle Medal to Carla to pin on Aaron.)*

**Dave H.:** "Will you please pin the Eagle Medal on your son." ... *(Carla pins medal on Aaron)*

*(Dave H. gives Eagle pin for mother to Aaron)*

**Dave H.:** Once again ... "No one will ever know the unnumbered acts of self-sacrifice and helpfulness from the mother of this Eagle Scout, which has led to this achievement. As a symbol of what his mother has made possible, this Court now asks Aaron to present his mother a miniature Eagle pin."

*(Aaron pins pin on his mother)*

**Dave H.:** "Eagle Scout, would you also present your Dad with this tie pin."

*(Scoutmaster gives tie pin to Aaron to present to his father.)*

**(Dave R.** *asks Mike & Gail, Allen & Carla to return to their seats.)*

**Dave R.:** " Dan and Aaron, there are a few people here today who would like to congratulate you and say a few words. "First we will hear from Dan's pastor, William Tate of Evangel Christian Church."

**Pastor Tate** *steps forward to share on behalf of Dan)*

**Dave R.** Now we will hear from Mr. Russ Mowen who has been Aaron's mentor and employer.

**Russ Mowen** steps forward to share on behalf of Aaron)

**Dave R.:** "Are there any others present who wish to share anything at this time?" (pause )

(**Sheila Robbe**, any others?)

**Dave R.:** "Aaron and Dan have each received several letters and certificates from others who could not be here this afternoon. I would like to read a couple of them." (**Dave R.** Reads 2 letters of congrats)

**Dave R.:** "We now have **Mr. Clarence Smith** representing the Chief Okemos Council who will read a letter for Dan and Aaron from the council. (**Clarence Smith** comes forward to read letter)

**Dave R.:** "Now it's time to hear a few words from Dan." (**Aaron** sits down) (**Dan** speaks)

**Dave R.** " Now Aaron has something to share." (**Dan** sits down) (**Aaron** speaks)

**Aaron:** "Would the Honor Guard please come forward?"

(**Dan, Aaron, Ben, Chris and Steven** stand, and face the scouts. Each, in turn recites a portion of "If You are A Scout"...ending in scout oath and law). All scouts then sit down

**Dave R.:** "And now I invite Sheila Robbe to come up and close this Court of Honor."

**SHEILA ROBBE:** "As Troop Committee Chairman, I would like to offer my congratulations to Dan and Aaron for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. These scouts, along with Ben Batdorff are the pioneers in our troop in attaining this rank. May they be the first of many! And now, I declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed...We welcome you to join Dan and Aaron and their parents down in the Multi-Purpose Room in the West wing after the ceremony for refreshments. Senior Patrol Leader, take charge..." (**Sheila** returns to seat. **Zach** steps up)

**Zach S:** "Pastor Burns, will you please deliver the Benediction: (**Pastor Burns** comes forward)

**Zach S.:** "Will everyone please rise and join us in singing "God Bless America"

(**LINDSAY** TURNS ON CD "GOD BLESS AMERICA)

(When done singing) **Zach S.:** "Color guard, retire the colors"(**COLOR GUARD** exits followed by Honor Guard, **Dan, Aaron** and other scouts.)