

Troop 171 Eagle Court of Honor Planning Information



Getting Started Choosing a Date and Reserving the Church

- First step – determine if this will be a group or individual court of honor.

There are three options for an Eagle court of honor.

- ✓ Spring or fall troop court of honor.
 - Pros - large turnout, chapel already scheduled, adds a big finish to the night.
 - Cons- makes a long program, you share the stage with everyone else.
 - ✓ Single Eagle court of honor.
 - Pros - you are center stage, this is your night, shorter program.
 - Cons - scheduling can be difficult, may not have a large turnout.
 - ✓ Multiple Eagle court of honor.
 - Pros - usually a larger turnout, share cost of invitations, focus is on Eagles.
 - Cons - share the night, balance awards, slides, etc.
- Then, set up a meeting with Scott, the Eagle Scout(s) and parents to begin planning. There are many elements to an Eagle court of honor. A group meeting, especially for a court of honor with more than one Scout makes things flow best.
 - Choosing a date – during this meeting, we can pick several dates. Currently, the best day is Sunday night. This can always change depending on church programs and troop plans.
 - Reserving the Church - When the possible nights are chosen, Scott will check with Mimi Kroenke and make reservations with the church.

Invitations

- Blank invitations are available from the Boy Scout office in Boulder.
- The Scout families do purchase, printing and mailing. If this presents a financial hardship to any family, please see Scott or Judy.
- Scott provides labels for troop members.
- If the Court of Honor is for multiple Eagle Scouts, the Scouts and their families should coordinate the invitations. The invitation may be for all of the Eagle Scouts or they may choose to have their own invitation.
- The family or families may print invitations. Many families have printed the invitations using the blank BSA Eagle invitations on personal printers.
- Invitations should be mailed three weeks prior to the Court of Honor if possible.
- Don't forget to invite current Scouts, adult leaders from your Cub Scout and Webelos days, friends and family members.

Eagle Cake and Refreshments for the Reception

- Eagle Scout chooses their own flavor. Chocolate, white, yellow or poppy seed.
- Either Scott or Judy Clark will order it from King Soopers.
- On the day of the Court of Honor, Judy Clark will usually pick it up.
- Mimi Kroenke handles punch and other refreshments. There are specific church rules on refreshments and decorations. No red punch, chocolate frosting or helium balloons.

Program

- Information furnished by the Eagle Scout on a form provided by Scott.
- Scott types and prints the program.

Slideshow Program

- Eagle Scout chooses the music. Scouts – please make sure your choice is appropriate for the setting, in a church at a Scout event with all ages of guests.
- Scout parents and Scouts use the troop collection of pictures to choose a pool of 60 – 80 pictures. They are given back to Scott to make the slideshow. The typical slideshow is approximately 40 pictures.
- If there are specific pictures you definitely want in the show, let Scott know.
- Parents and Scout can add slides if they are available. Especially nice would be slides from Cub Scouts or early baby pictures. Parents, feel free to "slide in" one or two of the classic "please don't show these to anybody" slides. They are always lots of fun. Be sure your name is on any slides you give us for the show.
- Eagle Scout responsible for choosing a guest speaker.
- If there are two or more Eagles in one ceremony, they may each have a guest speaker or they may agree on one who will speak about both of them.
- Choose program elements and person responsible from the attached list.
- Judy will order the Eagle Presentation Kit, Eagle neckerchief and slide.

Elements and Parts of an Eagle Court of Honor

- Color Guard – chosen by the Eagle Scout(s)
- Guest Speaker – see above.
- Slideshow – see above.
- Eagle Charge – this is an optional but nice part of the process. It tells the meaning of each color and part of the Eagle award.
- Eagle Scout speaking part. This is an opportunity for the Eagle Scout to thank parents, relate stories, etc.
- Scouting Coin presentation. This is a tradition was "borrowed" from another troop and started in troop 171 in 1997. Each Eagle Scout presents a Scouting coin to a younger Scout as a challenge for that Scout to also attain the rank of Eagle. The Scout coins are usually available from the Scout office. At times, when they have not been available, we have substituted a Susan B. Anthony dollar coin. It depicts an eagle landing on the moon.
- Other family presentations. There are a variety of other presentation options. Some families have presented heirloom Scout items. Others have presented flags flown over the state or US capitol. They have also presented letters of congratulation from elected officials.