

A TROOP 860 LIFE SCOUT'S COUNTDOWN TO EAGLE

The majority of active scouts who attain the rank of Life Scout, unfortunately, never achieve the rank of Eagle. Pundits offer various reasons: demands from school and athletics, changes of interests, girls.... Whatever the individual reasons that may occur in a scout's life that impedes the final advancement to Eagle, one reason is often simply not knowing what to do to compete the process. It is to that end that the following is offered.

Please note the following words of caution:

- This is not a significantly difficult process, but if it were too easy, then the rank of Eagle might not be as special as it is.**
- The requirements are mandatory. Therefore, it is incumbent that one not delay. If you miss something, and you are only 16, then you should have time to correct it. The corollary is that if you miss something, and you are almost 18, there might not be sufficient time.**

1. MERIT BADGES.

A scout must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges. Of the 21, the following merit badges are mandatory:

- **Camping.**
- **Citizenship in the Community.**
- **Citizenship in the Nation.**
- **Citizenship in the World.**
- **Communications.**
- **Environmental Science.**
- **Family Life.**
- **First Aid.**
- **Lifesaving (or Emergency Preparedness).**
- **Personal Fitness.**
- **Personal Management.**
- **Swimming (or Hiking or Cycling).**

2. AS A LIFE SCOUT, YOU MUST DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- **BE ACTIVE.** Be active in scouting for at least 6 months.
- **HAVE SCOUT SPIRIT.** Demonstrate scout spirit.
- **HAVE LEADERSHIP.** Hold a position of leadership for at least 6 months (SPL, ASPL, PL, Guide, OA Rep., Instructor, Quartermaster).
- **PROVIDE SERVICE.** Complete a service project:
 - **Consider the objectives of the project:**
 - It is to be a project which is to be of service to the community.
 - It must demonstrate your ability to lead.
 - It is to be of sufficient complexity such that one, or even a few, persons are unable to complete it.
 - Therefore, it must require imagination, planning and

management.

- **Discuss the project with your Scoutmaster.**
- **Note: if you are stumped, and unable to arrive at an idea, consider calling our Troop Sponsor, the Rotary Club of Hermosa Beach, for some service ideas. The current president is Angela Peterson [310-539-4649 (W); 310-379-6369 (H)].**
- **State who will benefit.**
- **State how they will benefit.**
- **Identify the benefitting group's official.**
- **State the approximate number who will be asked to help.**
- **Start your Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook:**
 - **Download the form from www.scouting.org, and type in the full name of the workbook in the “search” box.**

- **Obtain approving signatures from:**
 - **The benefitting agency.**
 - **Your Scoutmaster.**
 - **The Troop Committee Chair, Mr. Bill O'Brien.**
- **Call Margaret Wallace, the Pacifica District Eagle Coordinator, to arrange for District approval. [(310) 371-0403.]**
- **Meet with the District representative designated by Ms. Wallace, and obtain written District approval of you project. (e.g., Mr. Leal [(310) 324-8406, 16926 Hobart, Gardena.]**
- **Plan your project & take “before” pictures.**
- **Obtain an approved date for the project:**
 - **First obtain available and preferable dates from the benefitting agency.**
 - **Present these dates to the Troop Committee Chair, Mr. O'Brien,**

to secure an approved date on the Troop calendar.

- **Prepare circulars and sign-up sheets to secure troop participation.**
- **Give notice at troop meetings at least once a week for the 4 weeks preceding the project.**
- **TOUR PERMIT. Request the Outdoor Chair, Mrs. White, to secure a Tour Permit for your project.**
- **Make sure that the Tour Permit is in your possession on the day of the project.**
- **Arrange for all supplies to be at the project site.**
- **Arrange for food and water at the project site.**
- **After completion:**
 - **Take “after” pictures.**
 - **Total your time spent planning the project.**
 - **Total the hours of others who assisted in the service project.**
 - **List the materials used to**

complete the project.

- **Identify changes made to complete the project, if any, from that which was originally planned.**
- **Complete the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook:**
 - **Type your responses to the questions posed in the workbook.**
 - **Obtain signatures of project approval from:**
 - **The official from the benefitting agency.**
 - **Your Scoutmaster.**

3. COMPLETE THE EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION.

- **Download the application form from www.scouting.org: type-in the name of the application in the “search” box.**
- **Meet with the Troop Advancement Chair, Mrs. Schreier, or Mr. Price, to verify data to be placed on the**

application.

- **Type a statement to be attached to the application, and include:**
 - **Your ambitions and life purposes.**
 - **A listing of positions held in your religious institution, school, camp, community or other organizations in which you demonstrated leadership skills.**
 - **Identify honors and awards which you received during your service.**
- **Obtain signatures:**
 - **Yours;**
 - **Your Scoutmaster's; and,**
 - **The Troop Committee Chair, Mr. O'Brien's.**

4. SCOUTMASTER CONFERENCE. Arrange with your Scoutmaster for a conference. You must be in uniform during the conference, and you must have all of your written materials available for his review in the conference.

5. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION. You must request five individuals to write letters for you.

- **Required letters:**
 - **Parents or guardians.**
 - **Religious contact.**
 - **Educational contact.**
 - **Employer, if any.**
 - **Any other two individuals.**
- **Prepare postage prepaid, pre-addressed envelopes to:**

**Mr. Bob Harada,
Pacifica District Advancement Chair
1424 W. 172nd St.
Gardena, CA 90247-5712.**

- **Give sample letters and envelopes to the individuals to whom you have requested to write recommendations for you. The letters are to be mailed directly to Mr. Harada; not given back to you for forwarding.**

6. EAGLE NOTEBOOK.

- **This is a convenient means by which to collect your materials for presentation.**
- **The typical contents of the notebook include:**
 - **The Eagle Scout Rank Application, including your statement of ambitions and life purposes.**
 - **The Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, including photos, sign-up and sign-in sheets.**
 - **Copies of letters of recommendation.**
 - **Advancements (scout rank through life).**
- **Your Eagle Board of Review will expect to receive this notebook in advance so that they may engage you in an informed interview.**

7. SECURE APPROVAL OF YOUR EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION.

- **Again, call Margaret Wallace, the Pacifica**

District Eagle Coordinator, to arrange for District approval. [(310) 371-0403.] She will probably direct you to Mr. Steve Nakama, the Pacifica District Eagle Character Board Coordinator [(310) 371-0403)].

- **Mr. Nakama, if he is designated, will review your credentials to become an Eagle Scout. This includes a review of all advancements to insure that they are in order, that all requirements for advancement have been met in the required sequence, that the Eagle Application is properly completed and that you are appropriately attired. He conducts his reviews at the:**

**Japanese Cultural Institute,
Second Floor,
16215 Gramercy Place
Gardena, CA.**

- **Upon approval of the Eagle Application, Mr. Nakama will then probably direct you for final approval of your Application to Ken Allen, the Los Angeles Area Council Advancement Chair [(310) 375-2349;**

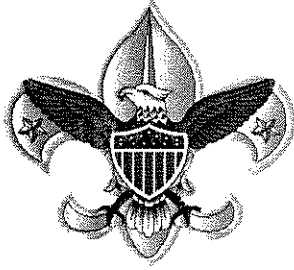
(home) (310) 375-7970; 141 Via Monte de Oro, Torrance.]

8. ATTEND A PACIFICA DISTRICT EAGLE SCOUT BOARD OF REVIEW.

- **Following Los Angeles Area Council approval, again, call Margaret Wallace, the Pacifica District Eagle Coordinator, to arrange for your Board of Review. [(310) 371-0403.]**
- **The Board of Review will be scheduled for an evening in either El Segundo, Gardena, North Torrance or San Pedro.**
- **Please mention to Ms. Wallace that Troop 860 meets on Wednesday evenings to avoid scheduling a meeting conflict.**
- **Your Scoutmaster and your parents or guardians should be present while you attend the Board of Review. They will meet the members of the Board before it convenes, but they will not be present during the review process. Rather, the Board will meet privately with you, while your parents or guardians and your**

Scoutmaster are in a separate location.

- **At the conclusion of the review, your parents or guardians and your Scoutmaster will be invited to join you. At that time the Board will announce whether or not you have satisfied the requirements to be an Eagle Scout.**
- **If the Board states that you have satisfied the requirements, they will congratulate you, and advise you that you are, then, an Eagle Scout. However, they will admonish you that your Application must be processed by the National organization, which will provide you with your Eagle Scout certificate.**
- **You and your family may then plan your Eagle Court of Honor.**



The Boy Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
Mentally awake, and morally straight.

The Boy Scout Law

A Scout is...

TRUSTWORTHY

A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is part of his code of conduct. People can depend on him.

LOYAL

A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, school, and nation.

HELPFUL

A Scout is concerned about other people. He does things willingly for others without pay or reward.

FRIENDLY

A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs other than his own.

COURTEOUS

A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows good manners make it easier for people to get along together.

KIND

A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. He does not hurt or kill harmless things without reason.

OBEDIENT

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.

CHEERFUL

A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.

THRIFTY

A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for unforeseen needs. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.

BRAVE

A Scout can face danger even if he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at or threaten him.

CLEAN

A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He helps keep his home and community clean.

REVERENT

A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.

**CONFIDENTIAL APPRAISAL OF CANDIDATE
FOR EAGLE SCOUT RANK**

_____, (____) _____, of Troop / Team / Crew _____
Candidate's Name Candidate's Phone

is a candidate for the rank of Eagle Scout. One of the important requirements for achieving this prestigious award is the confidential appraisal of a adult religious leader, and adult educator, and an adult friend. Your frank assessment of the applicant will help the Eagle Scout Board of Review to determine whether to recommend his advancement to that rank. If you do not know him well enough to provide a fair judgment, please ask him to invite another person to complete the reference. Your comments on this form will be held in the strictest confidence.

1. How long have you known him? _____

What is the nature of your relationship? Religious Leader/Teacher/Neighbor/ _____

What has been your recent average weekly contact with him (in hours)? _____

2. Is he a good leader? _____ On what do you base this response? _____

3. What are his most outstanding qualities? _____

4. Please rate him on the following Scouting qualities using for following scale: **(E) exceptional, (G) good, (F) fair, or (P) poor**. If you cannot answer any one of the qualities, please note your reason.

Trustworthiness _____ He is to be trusted. He violates his honor if he cheats, lies, or does any thing that is dishonest.

Loyalty and Obedience _____ He is loyal to all of whom loyalty is due. He must obey his parents, leaders, and all other duly constituted authorities.

Helpfulness _____ He must be prepared to help others at all times and under any circumstances.

Friendliness and Cheerfulness _____ He is a friend to all, smiling a lot and handling hardships with a positive attitude.

- Courtesy _____ He is polite to all.
- Kindness _____ He is kind to everyone, including animals.
- Thriftiness _____ He values all resources and uses them wisely.
- Bravery _____ He is courageous when confronted by danger or conflict. He stands up for his own convictions, despite the coaxing of his friends or the jeering of his enemies.
- Cleanliness _____ He is clean in body, thought, and speech; he has clean habits, is neat and clean in dress, is a clean sport, and associates with others who are clean.
- Reverence _____ He is reverent toward God, is faithful in his religious duties, and respects the religious convictions of others.
- School Attitude _____ He has a desire for knowledge and puts forth every effort to obtain a good education.
- Citizenship _____ He is a good citizen and does not shirk his civic duties.
- Morality _____ He has good moral behavior.

5. Please add any comments you feel might be helpful to the Board.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Address: _____ City, ST, Zip: _____

Date: _____

Circle One: Parent Religious Leader Educator Employer Friend/Other (over 21)

If Applicable:

Church Name / School Name / Business Name: _____

Address: _____ City, ST, Zip: _____

Please do not return this to the candidate!

Return this to the Pacifica District Advancement Chairperson noted in the cover letter.