

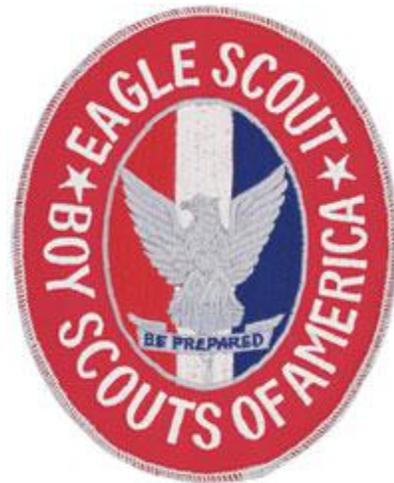


Life to Eagle Packet

**Boy Scout Troop 17
Roanoke, Virginia**

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Dear Life Scout,

Congratulations on attaining the second highest rank offered by the Boy Scouts of America. Achieving this rank is a testament to your perseverance and character. You have learned many great skills; you have provided many hours of community service, and you have learned a great deal about citizenship and leadership. If you end your Scouting career today, you will have accomplished all of what Baden Powel, the founder of the Boy Scouts, hoped you would.

The Eagle Rank is the highest rank that can be earned in the Boy Scouts program. A Scout who attains this rank is a young man who likes Scouting, who has mastered the basic Scout skills, and who feels a certain duty to share with younger Scouts his knowledge. He is organized, is an accomplished leader, and has a certain character that shows his honor and good citizenship. The Eagle Rank is not so much a symbol of accomplishment as it is recognition of the type of person you are. Before continuing in the rank advancement process, you must ask yourself if you are this type of person. Do you enjoy Scouting; have you learned the Scout skills; and do you want to serve Scouting by sharing your knowledge with the younger Scouts in your Troop? If you feel that you are the person of an Eagle Scout, then Troop 17 wants to help you attain this rank.

The attached Troop 17 Eagle Resource Guide will help walk you through the process from Life to Eagle Rank. Troop 17 also has a Troop Eagle Coordinator that will walk with you along the way. This Troop Eagle Coordinator, your Troop's Advancement Chair, and your Scoutmaster are ready to provide assistance.

Congratulations on your accomplishments in Scouting. This final rank advancement will place you with an elite group of young men of character, and for the rest of your life others will recognize you for being an Eagle Scout.

Yours in Scouting,

R. Gordon Poore
Scoutmaster – Troop 17

Life to Eagle Timeline and Checklist

| Activity | Date Completed | Notes |
|--|----------------|-------|
| Obtain and read a copy of the Troop 17 “Life to Eagle Packet” and meet with Troop Eagle Advancement Coordinator. | | |
| Maintain an active leadership position in the Troop for a period of at least six months. Participate in at least 50% of Troop functions. | | |
| Make a plan for completing any remaining merit badges including both required and non-required badges. | | |
| Obtain and read a copy of the Eagle Service Project Workbook and meet with organizations to begin to select your Eagle project. | | |
| Once you have selected your project, recruit and meet with your Eagle Project Coach. | | |
| Complete the Project Proposal parts one and two and obtain the necessary signatures (pages 10 and 17). Submit the proposal to the Troop 17 Eagle Committee who will review it and pass it on to the Eagle Board. | | |
| Once final approval has been obtained in writing from the Eagle Board, begin work on the project phases as described in your proposal. | | |
| Request the five (or six) letters of reference and follow up until they are received by your Scoutmaster. | | |
| Once your project is complete, prepare the Eagle Application notebook including application, references, statement of ambition, and final project report. | | |
| Meet with Troop 17 Unit Committee Chair for his approval and signature. | | |
| Meet with your Scoutmaster (prior to 18 th birthday) for the Scoutmaster’s Conference and deliver your completed Eagle Notebook. | | |
| Once the Eagle Notebook has been reviewed by the Eagle Board, they will contact you and your Scoutmaster to schedule your Eagle Board of Review. You and your Scoutmaster can schedule the Eagle Court of Honor and presentation ceremony at your convenience. | | |

The Eagle Scout Application Instruction and Notes Boy Scout Troop 17

The Eagle Scout Rank Application (form number 512-728) is a two page color form that can be found online on the website of the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA.org). This application must be completed in ink or typed and must be included with all the other supporting documents when the Eagle application is turned in to the Scoutmaster at the final Scoutmaster's Conference. The Troop 17 Scoutmaster or Advancement Chairperson can provide a detailed report of a Scout's advancement history including merit badges, leadership positions, and rank advancement dates that will be helpful in completing this application. Here are some notes and suggestions about how to complete this application.

1. Dates: All dates on the application must include the month, day and year. Make sure the dates reflect at least 4 months as a First Class Scout before earning the Star rank, 6 months or more as a Star Scout before earning the Life rank, and currently a Life Scout for 6 months or more. Remember that the date of your Board of review for each rank is the date that the rank is earned, not the date of the Court of Honor.

2. References: The Scout should obtain confidential letters of reference from five (or six if employed) individuals who know the Scout personally. The letters of reference should be returned to the Scout or the Scoutmaster in sealed, unopened envelopes. The letters of reference will be read only by the District Eagle Board of Review and then destroyed; neither the Scout nor the Scoutmaster should read these letters. Troop 17 has a sample letter the Scout can use to request these letters of reference. Five references are required; a sixth (employer) is optional. One of the general references may be his Scoutmaster. Confidential reference letters are required by the Council to help in the certification process and to determine that a candidate lives by the principles of the Scout Oath and Law. If there is a question as to "religious leader", the person shown should be the person best able to testify as to the Scout's adherence to the "Duty to God" portion of the Scout Oath and to the 12 points of the Scout Law. In cases where the Scout, by conviction, does not feel that it is necessary to belong formally to an organized church and seeks to practice religion in accordance with his own personal convictions, a letter of reference should be written by someone who can attest to the Scout's convictions and lifestyle supporting those convictions.

3. Merit Badges: Be sure that at least 4 Eagle required merit badges were earned prior to the Star Rank, and 3 more Eagle required (a total of 7) were earned prior to Life Rank. If an error was made in the past, attach a letter from the Unit Advancement Chairman explaining any discrepancies.

4. Leadership Positions: The Scout will list here only leadership positions held since his Board of Review for Life Rank. In order to satisfy this leadership requirement, the Life Scout must actively serve in a leadership position approved by the Scoutmaster for a

period of no less than six months. While serving in this leadership position, the Life Scout must attend at least fifty percent of all meetings and outings in order to attain credit toward rank advancement. These participation requirements are described in greater detail on page eleven of the Troop 17 Orientation Guide. If you are unsure if you have successfully completed your leadership requirements, review this item with your Scoutmaster long before your Scoutmaster's Conference.

5. Eagle Service Project: “While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give Leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.” Don't be overwhelmed by the scope of this requirement. When the Life Scout approaches this requirement in an orderly fashion and allows enough time for completion, the Service Project is no more challenging than many of the other requirements. The Eagle Service Project section of this Guide will help you accomplish this task providing you information on everything from selecting the project to documenting the finished work. Remember, you must have your project proposal approved by the District Eagle Board of Review before you begin any work on your project.

6. Statement of Ambition and Unit Leader Conference: You will need to write a brief one to two page paper stating your “ambitions and life purpose” and also listing any leadership positions held or honors received from your religious institution, school, camp, community, or other organizations in which you have been involved. This paper needs to be included with the application in the final Eagle Application Booklet.

The Eagle Scout Rank Application is now ready to be included in your Eagle Application Booklet to be signed by the Unit Committee Chair and the Scoutmaster at the final Scoutmaster's Conference.

EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: _____ UNIT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

DATE OF APPLICATION: _____

EDUCATION

SCHOOL: _____ GRADE: _____

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYER: _____ POSITION: _____

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

POSITION: _____ DATES: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OTHER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: _____

REMARKS

APPROVALS

Scoutmaster: _____

Unit Committee Chair: _____

REQUIREMENTS

| REQUIREMENT | COMPLETED | DATE |
|--|-----------|------|
| 1. BE A LIFE SCOUT FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS | | |
| 2. ATTEND AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT OF ALL MEETINGS AND OUTINGS | | |
| 3. COMPLETE A SERVICE PROJECT | | |
| 4. COMPLETE A STATEMENT OF AMBITION AND LIFE PURPOSE | | |
| 5. COMPLETE A UNIT LEADER CONFERENCE | | |
| 6. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 7. COMPLETE A DISTRICT EAGLE BOARD OF REVIEW | | |
| 8. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 9. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 10. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 11. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 12. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 13. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 14. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 15. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 16. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 17. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 18. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 19. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |
| 20. COMPLETE A SCOUTMASTER'S CONFERENCE | | |

The Eagle Scout Service Project

“While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give Leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.” The organization being benefited, however, cannot be the Boy Scouts of America. In addition to helping a worthy organization, the purpose of the Eagle Project is to help the Scout develop and demonstrate his organizational and leadership skills. Scouts also learn how to work directly with and in many cases lead adults in accomplishing the Project. Don't be overwhelmed by the scope of this requirement. When the Life Scout approaches this requirement in an orderly fashion and allows enough time for completion, the Service Project is no more challenging than many of the other requirements. Remember, you must have your project proposal approved by the District Eagle Board of Review before you begin any hands on work or fundraising. Your Troop 17 Eagle Advancement Committee and your assigned Guide can help you get started.

The best place to start learning about the requirements and process for the Service Project is in the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook and the accompanying Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal booklet (publication # 512-927). The Workbook and booklet can be downloaded and printed from the Blue Ridge Mountains Council Website or from the website of the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA.org). The Eagle Applicant should print a copy of the Workbook and booklet and use the hard-copy version to record his notes and progress. When preparing forms to be submitted to the Eagle Board, the information can be typed into the online



form and printed out.

The first step - selecting your project: After reviewing the Project Booklet and getting some idea of the scope and process of the Eagle Project, I recommend an Eagle applicant visit two or three organizations in which he has an interest and discuss with an officer of that organization potential projects for which they may have a need. Your Scoutmaster maintains a list of project requests from different organizations. Develop a list of several organizations and several projects from each organization and select a project in which you have a genuine interest. Having a real interest in your project will make the process and the work much more enjoyable and rewarding. You will want to select a project that provides a significant and lasting benefit to the organization, but be careful not to take on something far beyond the scope of your abilities. Be careful not to bite off more than you can chew.

The second step – getting your project approved: After you select your project, you will want to recruit a Project Coach. This Coach is someone who has the skills and knowledge specific to the project you select. This Coach can help you start filling in the information in the Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal on pages eight through ten and

Unit Committee Chair Meeting and The Scoutmaster's Conference

Once you have satisfied all the requirements for Eagle Rank, you will need to compile this information in a notebook so that your Troop Committee Chair, your Scoutmaster, the Council and the Eagle Board of Review may examine your work. You will organize with labeled tabs in a three-ring binder the following documents:

- Completed Eagle Scout Rank Application.
- Your five (or six) letters of reference in unopened envelopes.
- Your Statement of Ambitions and listing of positions held in other organizations.
- Completed Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook.
- Your Eagle Project Presentation including the letter of pre-approval from the Eagle Board and the letter of final acceptance and approval from the organization for which you performed the project.

Once this notebook has been prepared, you will need to schedule a meeting with the Troop 17 Committee Chair and then with your Scoutmaster. The Troop 17 Committee Chair will review your Eagle Application materials and if acceptable will sign and date the Application. Only after all the materials (including the sealed letters of reference) have been put in this presentation notebook and after the application has been signed by the Unit Committee Chair does the Scoutmaster's Conference occur. The Scoutmaster's Conference is the final step in preparing for the Eagle Board of Review. If approved by the Scoutmaster, the Eagle Applicant will leave the notebook and all materials with the Scoutmaster to be turned in to the Scout Office. The Scoutmaster's Conference must occur before 12:00 midnight the night before the Scout's eighteenth birthday. The Blue Ridge Mountains Council will review the Eagle Application and materials presented; they will check all the information against the national Scout advancement records; and they will date stamp the materials. If everything is in order, the Council Scout Executive will sign the application, and the Eagle Board of Review will be informed that they need to contact you to schedule your Eagle Board of Review.



The Eagle Board of Review

The Big Lick District Eagle Board of Review consists of twelve to fourteen adult Scout volunteers most of whom are Eagle Scouts. They meet twice a month to review Eagle Service Project proposals, to make recommendations to Eagle Applicants regarding their Project proposals, to review final Eagle Application materials and to conduct the final Boards of Review for Eagle Candidates. Once all the Eagle Application materials have been submitted to and approved by the Council, the Eagle Board will be notified and they in turn will contact the Eagle Candidate and his Scoutmaster to schedule the Eagle Board of Review. Remember – the clock ticking toward the eighteenth birthday deadline stops at the Scoutmaster’s Conference; the Eagle Board of Review does not need to take place before the Eagle Candidates eighteenth birthday. The Eagle Candidate will appear before the Eagle Board with his Scoutmaster or other adult troop leader wearing full Class-A uniform including all appropriate insignia and patches. The Eagle Board of Review is an opportunity for the Candidate and the Eagle Board to reflect on the Candidate’s scouting career. There is no preparation necessary for this meeting. The Eagle Board is simply a review of what the Scout has experienced during his Scouting career, how he has developed, and how he may carry his Scouting experiences forward in his life. After the interview process is complete, the Candidate and his Troop leader will leave the room while the Eagle Board deliberates. When the Eagle Candidate returns, he will be informed of the decision of the Eagle Board. If the Eagle Board congratulates the Candidate for successfully passing his Board of Review, then he at that moment becomes an Eagle Scout. The appropriate awards will be ordered by the Council Service Center, and a convenient time will be scheduled to present the award of Eagle Rank to the Scout at his final Court of Honor.



Sample Request for Letter of Reference for Eagle Scout Applicants

Feel free to personalize this letter any way you please. You need to obtain letters of reference from five specific people (six if you are employed): a parent or guardian, a teacher or principle, a preacher or religious advisor, an employer (if any), and two other references which can include your Scoutmaster. Make sure to write the reference person's name and address on the return-address part of the envelope so you will know which letters you have received; make sure to write "Eagle Reference Letter for John Lifescout" on the bottom of the letter; and make sure to put postage on it and address the return envelope to:

*Robert Brailsford – Troop 17 Eagle Coordinator
2950 Rosalind Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24014*

Date: _____

Mr. or Mrs. _____

I am in the process of completing my application for the rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America. I have been a member of Troop 17 for ____ years and have successfully completed all the previous ranks through Life Scout.

My Eagle application must contain five letters of reference in unopened envelopes addressed to my Scoutmaster. These letters will only be opened and read by my Eagle Board of Review and then they will be destroyed. Would you please consider writing a letter of recommendation for me? Specifically the Eagle Board is looking for your thoughts on how I live my life according to the Scout Oath and Law.

Please write a letter of recommendation for me to the Eagle Board of Review, Big Lick District. I have supplied a self-addressed stamped envelope that will send your letter to my Scoutmaster, Mr. Robert Brailsford. He will then deliver the unopened letters of reference to the Eagle Board.

Thank you so much for your help and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

John Q. Lifescout

Enclosed: Self-addressed stamped envelope.

V 6/2014