**Troop 52**

**Court of Honor Ceremony 1/9/22**

All Scouts are in the back room lined up by patrol.

With a nod from the Scoutmaster…

Scouts will file in and be seated by patrols in ABC order except for the color guard patrol.

E.G., Blue Wolves, Panthers, Red Cobras, and Sharks.

Color Guard Patrol (e.g. Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders), will stay at the back for the flag ceremony.

SPL & Co-Masters’ of Ceremony will be seated in the front row.

**7:00 pm - Call to Order**

(The Senior Patrol Leader comes to the podium to begin the ceremony.)

**Martin Becker:**

​**This Court of Honor is now called to order.**

**Good evening ladies and gentlemen.**

**My name is Martin Becker and**

**I am the Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 52.**

**It is my honor to welcome you.**

**The Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders will now come forward for the presentation of the colors.**

 ***(The SPL comes forward and completes the flag ceremony.)***

**Presentation of Colors**

**Color Guard Patrol Leader Martin Becker:**

​**Please rise.** (give the audience time to rise)

​**"Scouts Attention.”**

​**"Color Guard, present the Colors. Scout salute."**

**​"Color Guard, post the Colors. Scout salute."**

**​"Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance."**

**​"TWO." ​**

**"Please join us now in the Scout Law.**

**Scout Sign. A Scout is..."**

**​"Please join us now in the Scout Oath.**

**On my honor..."**

**​"TWO."**

***(The color guard walks to the back of the room.)***

**​"Color guard, dismissed."**

(Color Guard patrol is seated and Color Guard Patrol Leader is seated. Chaplain’s Aide steps up to the podium)

**Keller Farnsworth:**  ​

We are here tonight to recognize the achievements of members of our Troop.

But first, we must remember that a Scout is always reverent.

Please rise and bow your head and I will lead you in the Invocation.

**Keller Farnsworth: (Insert prayer here)**

Let us Pray: Gracious God Almighty, we invite you to join us tonight as we celebrate the accomplishments of the Scouts of Troop 52. Thank-you for all the blessings that you have given us, both as a Troop and as individuals. Be with us and guide us as we meet tonight as a family of Scouts, parents, and leaders. Help us to do those things which bring glory to and Your Holy Name. Thank-you for hearing our prayer tonight, for we offer it in the name of the One who created all and provides us with all we need. Amen.

**John Gallagher:**

​Thank you for attending this evening and I welcome you to the Troop 52 Court of Honor.

We are here to recognize and congratulate members of our troop for their achievements and accomplishments.

I will now hand over tonight’s program to our Co-Masters’ of Ceremony ​

*​*

* Landon Bates
* Drew Campbell

who will lead tonight’s recognition of earned Merit Badges, and

* Martin Becker
* Mr. James Ezell, Scoutmaster

who will lead the recognition of Rank Advancement.

***(John Gallagher sits down and Masters’ of Ceremony***

***Landon Bates & Drew Campbell will come to the podium.)***

**Merit Badge Recognition**

Landon Bates:

Now we will recognize the Merit Badges that have been earned since the last Court of Honor ceremony.

The Boy Scout Merit Badge program allows young men to explore many fields, helps them round out their Scouting skills, and introduces them to subjects that will become lifelong interests and perhaps rewarding careers. In addition, advancement establishes a pattern of setting positive goals and working to achieve those goals, which is a critical life skill.

As your name is read, please come forward to receive your Merit Badge from Mr. Ezell. We will hold all applause until the last Scout has been awarded his Merit Badge.

***(Landon Bates and Drew Campbell will alternate reading off Scout’s names and badges earned.)***

**Drew Campbell:**​ This completes our list of Merit Badges earned. Congratulations to you all.

***(Drew and Landon sit down.)***

**Rank Advancement**

**Martin Becker and James Ezell**

(come to the podium)

**Martin Becker:** Advancement is the process by which members of the Boy Scouts of America progress from rank to rank in the Scouting program. Advancement is simply a means to an end, not an end in itself. Everything done to advance and earn these ranks, from joining until leaving the program, should be designed to help the young person have an exciting and meaningful experience. Education and fun are functions of the Scouting movement, and they must be the basis of the advancement program.

**James Ezell:** A badge is recognition of what a young person is able to do, not merely a reward for what he has done. The badge is proof of certain abilities, and is not just a reward for the completion of a task. Each boy progresses at his own rate. Advancement is not a competition between individual Scouts, but is an expression of their interest and participation in the program.

**Martin Becker:**

Advancement is one of the Eight Methods used by the Boys Scouts of America to achieve the Three Aims of Scouting; Character, Citizenship, and Fitness. To earn the highest rank in Scouting, that of Eagle Scout, each Scout must spend a great deal of time and effort learning and demonstrating a set of skills that should serve him well in the outdoors and more importantly, throughout his lifetime. Therefore, the occasion that recognizes these achievements should be memorable. Tonight we will progress down the Trail to Eagle as we recognize the accomplishments of our fellow Scouts.

Before we begin recognizing the ranks, please give the Scout sign and all join together in reciting the Scout Oath.

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

**Scout Rank Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:** Will the following Scouts advancing to the Rank of Scout please come forward.

**Landon Bates, Jaxson Riener**

The Scout rank is the initial rank as you become a Boy Scout and it shows you, your fellow Scouts, and your leaders that you know and understand Scouting’s basic premises. It all starts with reciting the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout motto and Scout slogan, and showing that you know what each one means. This is important, as these are the underlying guidelines to doing the right thing and the “North Stars” for Scouts.

To earn the Scout rank, you need to explain what Scout spirit is and also show how you have demonstrated Scout spirit! Know the Scout sign, salute, and handshake and also explain when each should be used. You will also are able to describe the elements and significance of the First Class badge, explain the patrol method and the types of patrols used in your troop, and able to describe your patrol emblem, flag and demonstrate the yell!

By doing this you are taking small steps towards your next big step in your journey to the rank of Tenderfoot. Are you ready to embark on your next step? If so, say yes.

(Scouts reply – yes.)

(Mr. Ezell hands out the awards and shakes each Scout’s hand. Start applause, Scouts return to seats.)

**Tenderfoot Rank Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:** Will the following Scouts advancing to the Rank of Tenderfoot please come forward.

**Chase Doggett**

Tenderfoot is the first rank on the path to Eagle. The Chinese have a saying: “A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.” There’s a lesson for us in that saying. In Scouting, as in life, the rewards do not come to those who sit back and wait but to those who continually take steps, both large and small, towards their ultimate goal. Since you joined Troop 52, you have repeated the words of the Scout Oath many times. You have also learned many skills, which will serve you well as you travel on the Boy Scout trail to become an Eagle Scout. This is your first step on the Boy Scout journey, your Tenderfoot rank. As you look over your Boy Scout Handbook you will probably find lots of interesting things you want to investigate. By doing this you are taking small steps towards your next big step in your journey to the rank of Second Class. Are you ready to embark on your next step? If so, say yes.

(Scouts reply – yes.)

(Mr. Ezell hands out the awards and shakes each Scout’s hand. Start applause, Scouts return to seats.)

**Second Class Rank Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:**

Will the following Scouts advancing to Second Class Rank please come forward.

**Nick Dawson, Rohan Konda, Maron Sfeir, Jake Royal, Ian Schneider**

Second Class represents the second major step in the Scouting experience. You earn the rank of Second Class by continuing to work on the skills you need for Scouting and your life beyond Scouting. The experience of Scouting can lead you in many different directions. Only you can decide the path you want to take. Just like a compass and map are useful for finding your way through the woods, you can use the Scout Oath and the Scout Law to chart your journey on the trail to Eagle. As you receive your Second Class Rank, you have begun to chart your own course through Scouting and you need to continue to follow your path.

If you take a close look at the Second Class Badge. The ends of the scroll are turned up as a reminder of the willing smile of the Scout. On the scroll is the Boy Scout motto “Be Prepared” and a knot is tied there to remind you of the slogan of the Boy Scouts, “Do a good turn daily.” You have committed these things to memory and deserve to be acknowledged for that. Are you willing to continue on your path in Scouting? If so, say yes.

(Scouts reply – yes.)

(Mr. Ezell hands out the awards and shakes each Scout’s hand. Start applause, Scouts return to seats.)

 **First Class Rank Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:** Will **Andrew Block, Brooks Chalfant and Nick Dawson** please come forward.

The First Class Rank represents a significant step on the Eagle Trail. First Class Scouts have learned to abide by the code to which a true and mature Scout is forever bound, his personal honor and the Scout Oath and Law. Scouts earning this rank have mastered outdoor skills and can be counted on to take care of themselves and others in just about every outdoor setting. First Class Scouts have advanced from a novice to an expert and enjoy being in the outdoors for longer periods of time. As we present you with your First Class Badge and Rank advancement card, we charge you to continue your development as a Scout so that you may better serve others.

In your next steps in Scouting you will learn the skills which will help you guide others along the path of Scouting. You will earn the next ranks by learning from fellow members of your community. Merit Badges will teach you various areas of knowledge your community may offer and service to that same community will help develop your pride and confidence in what you do. Junior leadership in your patrol and within Troop 52 will help you take on more responsibility as you grow as a Scout. The guideposts for your next steps in Scouting are the Scout Oath and Law. We congratulate you for achieving your First Class Rank and ask if you are willing and able to accept the responsibilities as well as the privileges that accompany the Rank of a First Class Scout? (Scouts reply – yes.)

(Mr. Ezell hands out the awards and shakes each Scout’s hand. Start applause and Scouts return to seats.)

 **Star Class Rank Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:** The Scouts being recognized for earning the Star Rank tonight are taking a huge step on the path toward Eagle. Will **Aaroosh Kolli and Connor Schulenberg** please come forward.

These Star Scouts are now being admitted to an elite group within our Troop, a group which provides Scouting leadership and knowledge to our less experienced Scouts. These young men have the privilege and duty to give leadership, guidance, and inspiration to younger Scouts who will follow their lead. Their willingness to do so is a pledge of service and a sign that their understanding of the ideals of Scouting is growing. The Star Scout Badge they will wear is a constant reminder of the star of service that guides them on the trail to manhood and ultimately the Eagle Rank.

You are no longer only a First Class Scout; you are a Star. Even though you have the support of your parents, you now can stand alone. You have earned the right to improve on your own. The Star on your new badge will guide you like the stars in the sky and lead you to your next step, that of Life Scout. The Star you have earned will also guide those who come after you as they look to you for leadership and encouragement. The Scout participation, spirit, and service you completed to earn this rank will guide you and others like a star to further advancement.

 **(Mr. Ezell comes to the podium.)**

**Mr. Ezell​:​** As you work towards completing Merit Badges for the next Rank of Life Scout, you will be a constant source of help to your fellow Scouts. They’ll be counting on you for leadership and guidance to show them the way. You are taking on more responsibilities to Troop 52 and its success. Are you willing to accept your new role as a Star Scout?

(Scouts reply – yes.)

(Mr. Ezell hands out the awards and shakes each Scout’s hand. Start applause, Scouts return to seats.)

 **Life Class Rank Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:** We would like to recognize the following Scouts who have earned the Life Rank. Will **Tyce Bogdon** please come forward.

The rank of Life Scout is one that few Scouts achieve. Scouts earning this rank have done so by showing that they possess the true Spirit of Scouting. They have mastered the outdoor skills required to obtain the rank of First Class, practiced their service to others to become a Star Scout and finally gained a true understanding of Scout Spirit through hard work and perseverance to earn the rank of Life Scout.

The path they are traveling, the path towards Eagle, requires an even deeper understanding of service to others. What they learn as they continue is that badges have no substance without the Spirit and Service offered willingly towards their fellow man.

In receiving your Life Rank tonight, you are approaching your last step on your path toward becoming an Eagle Scout. You have shown you can lead your troop in service and pass down the knowledge you have received from those who went before you. Tonight, you are entering that select group who will directly work towards accomplishing the goal that waits at the end of the trail...the Eagle Rank. In doing so, you must not only give service, you must also lead others in performing a service project of your choosing. Your willingness to do so will be a pledge of your own commitment and a sign of your understanding of the ideals of Scouting. When you are finished with the requirements set before you, you will indeed be worthy to join those very few who are Eagle Scouts.

**Mr. Ezell:** May the Life Scout badge that you wear be a constant reminder to pursue a life of service that will shine as a guide to lead you on the trail. The heart shape of the badge is symbolic of life and courage. For you, now, the Scout Oath and the Scout Law will mean more than ever before. You will strive to make them the keys of your conduct. This miniature badge is for your mother or father to recognize their love, encouragement, and faith in you. The shape of your new badge symbolizes life and growth. You must continue to grow in Scouting, but at the same time, share your knowledge and skills with others. Are you prepared to meet these obligations?

(Scouts reply – yes.)

(Mr. Ezell hands out the awards and shakes each Scout’s hand.)

**Mr. Ezell:** WILL ALL SCOUTS WITH THE RANK OF LIFE SCOUT PLEASE STAND. THESE YOUNG MEN ARE THE CORE LEADERSHIP OF TROOP 52. PLEASE LOOK AROUND AND TAKE NOTE OF WHO IS STANDING.

THEY HAVE PROVEN THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES IN THEIR SCOUTING SKILLS. THE SAME SKILLS THAT SOME OF YOU WILL STILL HAVE TO MASTER AS DEVELOPING TENDERFOOT, SECOND CLASS, FIRST CLASS AND STAR SCOUTS.

THESE YOUNG MEN CAN HELP YOU SO DON’T BE SHY. SEEK THEIR HELP, ADVICE AND TEACHING WHENEVER YOU NEED IT!

(Start applause, Scouts return to seats.)

***(Volunteer Readers take their seats)***

 (Mr. Ezell will come to the podium.)

 **Eagle Rank Ceremony**

Mr. Ezell:​

* Arthur Blake
* David N. “DJ” Brown
* Trace Cottey
* Jamie Ezell
* John Gallagher
* Parker Grovatt
* Henry Kelbaugh
* Brogan Leonard
* Nick Longmore
* Tarun Rajanala
* Philip “Tommy” Wright

please come forward.

 To earn the Rank of Eagle Scout, these Scouts: Were active in Troop 52 for at least six months after earning their Life Scout Rank Demonstrated the Scout Spirit. Earned at least 4 additional elective merit badges. Earned at least 6 additional Eagle required merit badges. Served at least 6 months in a troop leadership position. Completed a Scoutmaster conference. Were reviewed by a Board which included District Representatives as well as members of Troop 52. They also planned, developed and gave leadership to others in a service project that benefited the community.

 ***(start applause)***

T​he pathway to Eagle is described as a steep trail leading up to three peaks. The trail starts with the Tenderfoot Rank and continues through Second and First Class Ranks before the real mountain climbing begins. The path is marked with Merit Badges, leadership responsibilities, service projects, and the practice of Scouting’s skills and ideals. Throughout your journey, you have learned many things, you have taught others what you have learned and you have conducted yourself as an example to other Boy Scouts, your peers and many onlookers who you will never know. Please join me in congratulating Troop 52’s newest Eagle Scouts! (start applause) Now, I would also like to recognize those among us that have attained Scouting’s highest honor, the Rank of Eagle Scout. Would everyone in the room that has achieved the rank of Eagle please stand. (applause)

**Eagle Pinning Ceremony**

(Mr. Ezell returns to the podium.)

**Mr. Ezell​:​** Now, will the families of **Arthur Blake, David N. “DJ” Brown, Trace Cottey, Jamie Ezell, John Gallagher, Parker Grovatt, Henry Kelbaugh, Brogan Leonard, Nick Longmore, Tarun Rajanala, and Philip “Tommy” Wright ​**please join their Scouts on the stage. We would like to further recognize the accomplishment of the newest Eagle Scouts of Troop 52.

We remember when you took your first step on the trail which leads to the Eagle Rank. With that first step you began to grow; physically, mentally, and morally. You started living the Scout Oath and Law. While you were still new on the trail, we watched you study and we saw you learn by doing and soon you pushed on. The trail leading you from Scout to Star Rank was not as difficult as it had first seemed. This spurred you on and again you climbed higher. But, this part of the trail was steeper, less worn and more narrow, and fewer Scouts were headed this direction.

You looked down the path and

saw the crowds below you, you looked up and saw just a few above you; and with the same determination with which you began your climb you continued on the trail. Soon you earned the Rank of Life Scout. “Life Scout,” you thought, “Now I am closer to the Eagle. I will definitely carry on.” Here is where the trail became even tougher and also more interesting. The principles you learned way back at the beginning of your journey—the Scout Oath and Law—now had a richer, fuller meaning. Yes, we have watched you. As your character unfolded and you became more mature. We have witnessed your leadership transform you into a valuable asset. We have watched your mind develop and your wisdom increase. We have watched all these things in you, and now you have reached your goal and we welcome you, for you have done your climbing in a true Scout-like manner.

The presentation of the Eagle Rank advancement is an important and serious event, the climax of a goal for which a Scout works many years. It is an occasion for pride and joy, and a time for serious contemplation. It is also the culmination of the efforts of these young men’s many Scout leaders. The Eagle Scout Award is the highest and most coveted Rank in Scouting—the last major step on the trail in the advancement program. Fewer than 4 percent of all Scouts in the United States reach the Eagle Scout Rank. At this point, we trust you have achieved the pinnacle of Scouting through the building of your character, training of your leadership, and the practice of your service. Congratulations to you!

(Whichever Scouts want to participate in the pinning call them forward.) Please step forward and your Mother will place the Eagle pin on your shirt and your Father will place the Eagle neckerchief around your neck. ​(wait for that to be done.) Now you can present your Father with his distinct Eagle pin and your Mother with her pin as well. ​(wait for that to be done.) Would you please let us know who you would like to receive your mentor pin? (wait for that to be done.) Congrats to you. Would you like to say a few words? ​(pause) ​ How about a round of applause for these fine young men! ​(\*\*Whatever you want to add\*\*) (Parents and Scouts sit down.) (Mr. Ezell stays at the podium.)

**Palm Ceremony**

**Mr. Ezell:​** ​**Arthur Blake, David N. “DJ” Brown, Brogan Leonard, Parker Grovatt, and Riley Farnsworth**​ ​can you and your families stay up here a little longer.

Some people think after becoming an Eagle, a Scout has reached the end of the trail. As these guys know, they are mistaken. They have continued to lead, serve, and grow as an Eagle. They have expanded their Scouting knowledge and shared their expertise with new Scouts joining the troop.

These Bronze, Gold and Silver Eagle Palms represent the completion of additional merit badges over and above those needed for Eagle. Five for a Bronze Palm, five for a Gold Palm and five additional for a Silver Palm. Throughout Scouting, the number 3 keeps coming up. There are 3 parts to the Scout Oath (God, others & self), three levels of Scouting (Cubs, Boys & Venturing), and even three fingers in the salute. For a Scout to reach the level that these young men have attained it takes a team of 3 - the individual, his family, and his Troop. Congratulations!

**Eagle Rededication**

**Mr. Ezell (Charger):** Would all the Eagle Scouts in the audience please stand and form a line here please. I have the honor to give you the Eagle charge on the occasion of your elevation to highest rank in Scouting. The Scouts of all nations constitute one of the most wholesome and significant movements in the world’s history. You have been judged by the Boy Scouts of America of being worthy of the highest rank in this great movement. All who know you rejoice in your achievement. Your position, as you know, is one of honor and responsibility you are a marked man. As an Eagle Scout, you have assumed a solemn obligation to do your duty to God, to country, to your fellow Scouts and to mankind in general. This is a great undertaking. As you live up to your obligations you bring honor to yourself and to your brother Scouts.

To all Eagle Scouts, you will now rededicate yourself by repeating the Scout Oath. Repeat it slowly, as you stand here. Resolve to demonstrate the perseverance that has brought you this far.

**Eagle Scouts:** On my honor---l 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.

**Mr. Ezell (Charger):** Your conduct along the trail has been excellent. You have rededicated yourself to the principles of Scouting, but one more thing is important …your future. As an Eagle Scout, you become a guide to other Scouts of lower rank. You become an example in your community. Remember, that your actions are now a little more conspicuous and people will expect more of you. To falter in your responsibility, would not only reflect upon you, but on your fellow Eagles and all Scouting. The torch you carry is not only yours, but is ours also.

 I challenge you to enter this Eagle brotherhood, holding ever before you, without reservation, the ideals of honor and service, by the repetition of the Eagle Scout Promise before your fellow members, you will become an Eagle Scout. Though the words you use are similar to those by which you joined Scouting, they will mean more now 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 close the Declaration of Independence. Scout, parents, and guests, please stand.

**Mr. Ezell (Charger):** [Eagle candidate/s], please make the Scout sign, and repeat after me:

“I reaffirm my allegiance---to the three promises of the Scout Oath---I thoughtfully recognize and take upon myself---the obligations and responsibilities of the rank of Eagle Scout—On my honor-- -I will do my best--- to make my training an example---my rank and my influence-- count strongly-- -for better Scouting---and for better citizenship,---in my troop---and in my community---and in my contacts with other people---to this I pledge my sacred honor.

**Special Awards & Adult Leaders Recognition**

**Mr. Ezell:​** I would like to start this portion of the program by beginning it with a Thank You. I have the privilege of turning our attention to the adults of Troop 52. Our Troop is a boy led Troop but, it truly could not function without the support of our many volunteers…​(Call the adult leaders to stand for recognition for another year in service.)

**(SPL to approach the podium for closing)**

Closing Flag Ceremony **SPL**​:​

**Martin Becker:** Thank you to my Co-Masters of Ceremony this evening, **Landon Bates & Drew Campbell**. Also thank you **to John Gallagher** & **Keller Farnsworth** for your assistance and to **Mr. Ezell** and all the Adult volunteers of Troop 52. We wouldn’t be as successful a troop without your time and dedication.

**Closing Flag Ceremony**

**Martin Becker:** Everyone please stand for the retiring of the colors.

​

(Color Guard Patrol Leader Martin Becker come to the podium and calls the Color Guard Patrol forward to retire the colors.)

**Color Guard Patrol Leader Martin Becker:**

**I declare this Court of Honor completed.**

**Thank you and good afternoon.**