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LIFE

TO

EAGLE

PACKET

"THE LAST STEP"

NAME: _____

TROOP: _____

DISTRICT: _____

January 23, 2004

Dear Life Scout,

Congratulations on achieving a milestone in Scouting! Passing your Life Scout Progress review Board is truly an accomplishment.

You have now moved into the "Last Step to Becoming an Eagle Scout." Whether you are 13 or 17 1/2, the day after which you can NO LONGER become an Eagle Scout is the day before your 18th birthday. You must complete all your Eagle Requirements, with the exception of your Eagle Progress Review Board, before you turn 18. That day will be here before you realize it.

This booklet will help you organize and plan your next steps to Eagle. There are only three basic things you need to complete. They are:

- Earn a total of 21 merit badges, 12 of which are specified.
- As a Life Scout serve in approved position(s) of responsibility for
- 6 months (180 days). Note: if you are 17 1/2 you must already be in the position.
- Plan, organize and carry out as a Life Scout, your approved personal service project, providing leadership to others while carrying out this project.

Good luck and keep your goal of Eagle in sight. Use this booklet to help you identify where you are now on your trail to Eagle and to identify what you still need to accomplish. You may find it helpful if you check things off as you complete them and record the completion date. Periodically reviewing where you are may help you keep on track.

There are many people cheering for you. Some you do not even know yet, so ask for help. Remember Scouting is FUN and you need to keep advancement FUN. When it does not feel like FUN, get a pep talk from your Scoutmaster, a friend or an Eagle Scout you know.

One last thought to leave you with, as the Scout Oath says, "On my Honor, I will do my Best." Keep this thought in mind and try to live by it each day.

Yours in Scouting and Good Luck,

Council Advancement Committee

Narragansett Council Advancement Committee

Enclosed
Eagle Application Package

Merit Badge Status

<u>Merit Badges</u>	<u>Date Earned</u>	<u>Unit#</u>
1. CAMPING	_____	_____
2. CITIZENSHIP IN COMMUNITY	_____	_____
3. CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION	_____	_____
4. CITIZENSHIP IN THE WORLD	_____	_____
5. COMMUNICATIONS	_____	_____
6. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OR LIFESAVING	_____	_____
7. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	_____	_____
8. FIRST AID	_____	_____
9. CYCLING OR HIKING OR SWIMMING	_____	_____
10. PERSONAL MANAGEMENT	_____	_____
11. PERSONAL FITNESS	_____	_____
12. FAMILY LIFE	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____
16. _____	_____	_____
17. _____	_____	_____
18. _____	_____	_____
19. _____	_____	_____
20. _____	_____	_____
21. _____	_____	_____

If you earned **SAFETY** or **SPORTS** as an **EAGLE REQUIRED** merit badge for Star or Life Scout, be sure to list them on your Eagle Application.

Now that you know which merit badges are completed, let's consider which ones you should go for. You may already have completed requirements for some merit badges. Do you have a pet? How about Pets merit badge? Are you a student? How about Scholarship? Do you like to read? How about Reading? As for the Eagle required merit badges that you need to complete, check them out as many have requirements that take a 90-day time period.

Well, set yourself a goal and get started. Again, a reminder: keep it FUN!

POSITION of RESPONSIBILITY

As a Life Scout you must serve 6 months (180 days) in one or more positions of Leadership on the list approved for Eagle Scouts. Check your Eagle Application, your Boy Scout Handbook and the current year of the Boy Scout Requirements booklet.

Life Scout Date_____

Position_____ date from_____ to_____

Position_____ date from_____ to_____

Position_____ date from_____ to_____

LEADERSHIP SERVICE PROJECT

You may start planning a Leadership Service project at any time after you earn your Life Scout rank. You need to get your "Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook." You must **plan, develop** and **give leadership to others** in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school or your community. Before starting your project you must have signed approval of the organization, your unit leader, your unit committee and your district advancement committee. Complete the "Project Workbook" and get the signatures recorded in your "Project Workbook."

In identifying what you will do for a Project remember you must do the planning, organizing/developing and then provide the leadership to carry out the Project. You cannot just carry out the idea and plan of someone else. You cannot do work for the Boy Scouts. You cannot do a fundraising project no matter how needy the organization might be. You can raise money necessary to complete an approved project.

Length of your project is not defined in terms of amount of time. It is what ever is necessary to completing a "Leadership Service Project."

Note: you may give leadership to adults and while it is expected that members of your Scout unit will work on the project, you can have friends and family, too. Where power tools are used, you will need adults to operate them.

Once you complete your Project, do your write up, get it signed off and put it with your Eagle Application.

Your Eagle Progress Review Board will review your Project and may ask you questions about your Project. The Board has the final say as to the approval of your Project completion.

PAPERWORK

Like most things, once you complete the **requirements** you are not done until you finish the **paperwork**. If you have done what we suggested, you have your "Project Workbook" done and are ready to attach it to your Eagle Application. You need to fill in all the blanks on the application. Be sure it is neat and readable, as this will be given to the people who will be conducting your Eagle Progress Review Board. You need to let people know that you used them as references. Sometimes the Board will contact your references. These references should not be your Scout Leader or Unit committee person as their signature is on your application (unless one is your parent or religious leader).

While discussing references, we need to remind you that you need to get a reference letter from your school, religious leader and one other. There is a form letter to give each person who will write a reference letter explaining the requirements.

You will need to attach a statement telling us what you plan to do with your life. You also need to list positions of leadership you have held in your community. For example: class treasurer, student council, team captain, altar boy, etc.

Remember all dates in requirements #1 through #6 must be before your 18th birthday.

NOW, package your Eagle Application, Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, your requirement #6 statement and three reference letters. Keep your package to the minimum; that is, do not send pictures, articles, three ring binder, etc. Those items you should bring with you to your Board. Send or deliver it to the Narragansett Council Service Center, 10 Risho Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 or the West Bay Scout Shop at Summit Square Plaza in Warwick or the East Bay Scout Shop in the Swansea Mall.

Processing of Your Paperwork

When your paperwork arrives at the Council Service Center it will be processed for completeness. Some of the items that are checked are:

1. Is it complete?
2. Was it processed by your 18th birthday?
3. Does your application match the advancement reports on file relating to you?
4. Did you earn four Eagle required for Star and three more (total 7) for Life?
5. Are your times at each rank correct?
6. Do you have the required leadership as a Life Scout?

Once the paperwork is checked it is forwarded for the Council approval signature to conduct an Eagle Progress Review Board. The application is then passed to your District Executive for delivery to your District Advancement Chairperson.

Your paperwork is now back in your district and the Advancement Chairperson will arrange with your Troop for a time and place to conduct your Eagle Progress Review Board.

Note: This process can easily take a month.

The Eagle Progress Review Board

Make-up of the Board: An Eagle Board has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 adults. One of the Adults must be representing your District or Council and will be designated by your District Advancement Chairperson.

Presenting Yourself: Remember that first impressions are important. Wear your uniform like you want to be an Eagle Scout. Before your board think back over your Scouting experience and what you have learned and how Scouting has affected your growth and development. Review your Scout Handbook, check out what is going on in your community, state and the world.

What to Expect: It may be easier to say that this is not a comprehensive exam. In fact, it is not an exam at all. You will be asked questions that will allow the members to evaluate your Scouting experience and your understanding of it. You may be asked questions about merit badges, your future plans, current events, why you should be an Eagle Scout, etc.

The Decision: When the board members have completed the review, you will be asked to leave the room. The member will then

discuss the review and each member will make his/her own decision. If all members do not believe you should be advanced, then they must tell you specifically what you need to do. It is assumed that all members will agree that you have passed and you will be called back in and congratulated. Then, as you might guess, more paperwork - everyone completes the paperwork to be sent back to Council.

Paperwork After the Board

The Eagle Application, advancement report and Eagle page are now returned to the Narragansett Council Service Center for processing prior to forwarding to the National Boy Scouts of America (BSA). The application is reviewed and then signed off by the Council Chief Executive and is sent to the BSA in Irving, TX. At the National BSA it is reviewed again and as long as everything checks out, your Eagle advancement is approved. You are issued a National Eagle number and the various Eagle certificates and forms are returned to Narragansett Council. On receipt, your Scoutmaster is advised that your Eagle Advancement has been approved and your certificate may be picked up and your Eagle Award maybe purchased and presented to you. As you may guess, this will take a few weeks (maybe as many as 6 to 8).

PRESENTING THE EAGLE

Your Eagle will be presented at an "Eagle Court of Honor" planned by you, your family and your Troop. This cannot be done until after your Eagle Advancement has been approved by the National Boy Scouts of America and the advancement certificate has been returned to your Troop.