



SOARING EAGLES

A NEWSLETTER OF THE EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION • GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL, BSA

Eagles Welcoming Eagles

The Eagle Scout Recognition was held Sunday January 7th at the Beaumont Dining and Education Facility (formerly known as Wright Lodge). Members of the Eagle Scout Association were on hand to provide registration and directory assistance for the new Eagles as they arrived for the reception. During the ceremony, Eagle Scout Ted Kremer gave a stirring address to the Eagle Class of 2006 and congratulations were delivered by Scout Executive John Primrose. Each Scout had their name read by Steve Silverstein as they approached the podium to receive their Eagle Lapel Pin. After the event, the ESA members assisted in the serving of refreshments for the new Eagles and their guests. An opportunity was available for the Scouts to have their photograph taken with John Primrose and ESA President Mark Weaver. After all had eaten their fill and the excitement of the day had subsided, it was time for the ESA to pitch in and help with the clean-up. As usual, this was an exciting and emotionally gratifying event welcoming the new Eagle Scouts from the year 2006. It is always a true pleasure to see so many Eagle Scouts have the opportunity to be recognized. We look forward to many Eagles joining our ranks in future years.

ESA Fall Good-turn

This years fall good-turn occurred at everyone's favorite trading post at Beaumont Scout Reservation. Every Scouter and Scout remembers the cold soda, delicious candy, and various scouting materials that are available at the trading post. However, the many years of dispensing these many jewels of joy have left their mark on the trading post in the form of wear and tear. It was therefore the mission of the Eagle Scout Association to give the trading post a new look by refurbishing the walls with new plywood which would be covered with sheets of fiberglass coverings to help protect it.

The day started with the removal of all of the accessories that had been hung on the walls for the many years this trading post had served the scouts and scouters of Beaumont Reservation. Once the ESA was able to reach the walls themselves, the refurbishing began. New sheets of plywood were placed on the walls in order to prepare the surfaces for further updating. We were able to cover all of the walls with plywood by the end of the day.

After a very productive morning, the workers took time for the usual gourmet lunch prepared by Mr. Ron Simpkins with the assistance of his son Jeff.

Holiday Luncheon a Success

Gatesworth Manor was once again the gracious host of the Holiday Luncheon for 2006. As usual, the day started with fellowship and beverage in order to allow the members of the ESA to renew old friendships and quench their thirst. A sumptuous lunch consisting of a choice of Orange Roughy or Prime Rib was served just prior to the business portion of the meeting. Joe Muller, our Council Advisor, stood in for our Scout Executive, John Primrose, who was unable to make the event and brought us up to date on events around the Greater St. Louis Area Council.

Although Joe Mueller is a tough act to follow, Steve Gomez, Assistant Special Agent in charge of the Saint Louis Division, did an excellent job. Mr. Gomez told us of the efforts of the federal government in its fight against terrorism both within our borders and internationally.

Mr. Gomez began his career with the FBI as member of the Los Angeles Division combating drugs, gangs, and violent crimes. He then led the Federal investigations into crimes occurring in Los Angeles during the 1992 riots. A few years later, he was reassigned to Washington, DC as a supervisor for the Prevention of Violent Crimes and Major Offender Department. Following this assignment, he was transferred to the Saint Louis Division in 2005 for his current duties.

The ESA has entered the World of Cyberspace!

We have acquired our own little part of the World Wide Web. We are located on the web at WWW.STLESA.ORG. On it you can find out what is going on in the organization, send us information for the Soaring Eagle, and see who is running the program this year. There is also the current calendar and the online copies of the Soaring Eagles. Stop by sometime and send us some comments.

Two ESA Members Receive Silver Beaver

At the Council's Annual Dinner, the Silver Beaver awards were again presented. For the year 2006, the Eagle Scout Association was honored by having two of its board members recognized for their contributions to the scouting program by receiving the Silver Beaver Award.

Robert E. (Bob) Palmer was the 2005-06 president of the Eagle Scout Association. His years of service began as a runner in the Order of the Arrow "Tap Out" ceremony at Camp Irondale and continued to his current responsibilities as unit commissioner and district public relations chairman. He has also assisted at Junior Leader Training Camp, now known as National Youth Leader Training, for the last three years. He has received the Gravois Trail district Award of Merit and is a Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow.

John F. Bild was president of the Eagle Scout Association in 1987-88. He chartered both Pack 645 and Troop 645 in 1987 and 1989, respectively. He served as Charter Organizational Representative for Pack 645 and Scoutmaster for Troop 645. He has served on the ESA Board and was the Co-Chairman of the campaign to renovate the Beaumont Scout Reservation Chapel along with Russel Hart. He has received his Wood Badge Beads, Scouters Award, and the Gravois Trail Award of Merit.



Bob Palmer

John F. Bild

Another Successful Fall Reunion

The 2006 Summer Camping season ended with the annual Order of the Arrow Fall Reunion. As usual, S-F was deluged with scouts and scouters seeking to renew old friendships and provide cheerful service in fulfillment of their Order of the Arrow promise. Also on hand were the newly selected scouts seeking to complete their Ordeal requirements and gain full Brotherhood in the OA.

The ESA was again on hand to provide delicious meals for those Ordeal members. As usual, breakfast was cereal and milk, only to be surpassed by a noon meal consisting of a gourmet cheese sandwich and fruit drink.

After the days labor had been completed, and the OA had fulfilled its commitment to the council, all of the Brothers joined together for a dinner consisting of Sloppy Joes, potato salad, chips, cookies, and ice cream.

Saturday evening is reserved for attending the ceremonies provided by the ritual teams to initiate Ordeal members and seal the membership of those rising to the level of Brotherhood.

In September, this year, you will have another chance to witness first hand the above events and to provide assistance to those ESA members who provide cheerful service to the Order of Arrow and the Greater Saint Louis Area Council.

Come join us all and put your best minds to the test at the First Hopefully Annual ESA Trivia Night. It will be October 6, 2007 at the Creve Coeur Community Center. For more information, keep an eye on the website or call Larry Heyman or Steve Silverstein.



The Eagle Scout Association

P.O. Box 1055

Florissant, MO 63031

Upcoming Events:

- April 21 – Spring Conclave and ESA workday
We are updating the improvements previously made to the Chapel at Beaumont. We will meet on the road at the front of the Chapel at 8:00 AM for coffee and donuts and we will break for lunch at noon.
- May 7 – Golf Tournament
The tournament will be held at Missouri Bluffs golf course with a shotgun start. at 1:00 PM with lunch being served prior to the commencement of the tournament
- May 16 – ESA Annual Meeting – **All members are invited**
General membership meeting to be held at Vago Park in Maryland Heights. Fellowship and beverages begin at 6:00 PM followed by a dinner catered by Bandana's BBQ. After dinner, there will be a short business meeting and election of the new members of the Board of Directors.

FINE ESA ACCESSORIES

We still have nice ESA accessories available! 3" patches, beautifully embroidered, are only \$2.00. Lapel pins - brass for \$2.50, special gold "50th" for \$5.00. Ceramic coffee mugs or bill-style caps are also \$5.00 (plus mailing charges for all). To order, please call Ron Simpkins at 314/291-4308, or just see him at most any ESA function.



Do you have any ESA news, or any other item that may be of interest to other ESA members? If so, please send it to us at:

The Eagle Scout Association,
attn: John W. Bild,
P.O. Box 1055
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or send it by e-mail to SoaringEagles@stlesa.org.
Thank you!