

Another Eagle for Troop 316

Kyle Bunnell, of Boy Scout Troop 316, formally received his Eagle Scout Award at a ceremony on April 8, 2006 at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church Fellowship Hall. In attendance were over 60 family, friends and fellow Troop 316 scouts and leaders. Kyle Bunnell, a junior at Apex High School, is the son of Rick and Joanne Bunnell. His grandparents came down from New Hampshire for the ceremony, grandfather Richard Bunnell and his wife, Merna, and his grandmother, Irene LeMay, and her husband John. Their presence made it a very special event for the younger Bunnell.

Many special local guests were in attendance, Susan Long, Crosswinds District Commissioner, Father David Fitzgerald, St Andrew's Pastor, and Charles Fossett, and Bob Connick of the Cary-Apex Elks Lodge. All of Crosswinds District's eagle awards are funded by the Cary-Apex Elks Lodge. Kyle's eagle ceremony was deep in tradition with fellow scouts lighting 12 candles signifying the 12 points of the scout law. There were 9 fellow Eagle Scouts in attendance including Frank Jackson, a member of the troop committee, who read the Eagle Charge and explained to Kyle the inherent responsibilities of being an Eagle Scout.

Kyle's grandfather, Richard Bunnell, read a poem he wrote for this special day about his grandson, it was a very touching and emotional poem. The Elks Lodge presented Kyle a certificate along with an American flag. In addition to the Elk's flag, Senators Dole and Burr each sent Kyle a U.S. Flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol. Kyle presented one of the flags to his grandfather for his military service to our country as well as the service of his five brothers.

A book of congratulatory letters from all five living U.S. Presidents, senior federal, state and local government officials, along with several general officers was presented to Bunnell. He also received a poster of the U.S. Army Golden Knight demonstration team, signed by all the jumpers.

Rick Bunnell was Kyle's Pack 162 Cubmaster in New Hampshire and is currently the Troop 316 Scoutmaster. He shared several humorous stories about his son's travels through scouting, particularly winning the Pinewood Derby and his recent Philmont backpacking trek. Kyle was the lead scout for his crew at Philmont, a national Boy Scout camp located in the Rocky Mountains. The two Bunnells travel through scouting together over a ten year period.

For his eagle project Bunnell led a group of volunteers to build elevated sandboxes for the Early Childhood Center at St. Andrew. The children 3-5 years in age now have a strong and stable play area, replacing old and potentially dangerous sand boxes.

Troop 316 is sponsored by St. Andrew Mens Society and meets at St. Andrew's at 7:00 PM every Tuesday. Anyone interested in joining Troop 316 should contact Rick Bunnell, Scoutmaster, at 303-3672 or Lloyd Allen, Committee Chairman, at 380-1254.

Please visit the troop's website for additional information.
<http://home.earthlink.net/~troop316/id22.html>