

Record 1175 Eagles Take Flight

Written by Admin

Wednesday, 22 May 2013 00:00



Members of the newly emerged C. Travis Traylor, Jr. Eagle Class of 2012 gathered on Sunday, May 19th, at Crowne Plaza Hotel near Reliant Park for the annual Gathering of Eagles Reception hosted by the Eagle Scout Association of the Boy Scouts of America's - Sam Houston Area Council (SHAC).

The newest class of Eagles were honored along with eight current Eagle Scouts who received the National Outstanding Eagle Award for their outstanding achievement at the local, state or regional level. The prestigious National Distinguished Eagle Scout Award was presented to Charles J. Jacobus, Sr.

Reflecting on his Eagle Scout experience and historically the largest class of 1,175 Eagles who have logged 172,000 hours of community service and contributed \$2 million in labor and materials for their service projects. Travis Traylor Jr., who was recently awarded a Silver Buffalo recognition for service to youth on national level, charged the new class with its role going forward, "You follow in the footsteps of many famous men who were Eagle Scouts and went on to become leaders in this country. You have a great legacy to live up to. It is your duty to put back into Scouting the teaching and training you have received to benefit other young men who will follow you."

Eagle Scout Dalton Owen, Troop 93, accepted the Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams Sam Houston Area Council Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award for building an amphitheater and butterfly garden for Cedar Bayou United Methodist Church.

Fox 26 news anchor and Eagle Scout José Griñan showcased examples of service to the new Eagles by recognizing eight Outstanding Eagle Scouts who have served at the local, state or

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regional level. “As we celebrate 97 years of Eagle Scouts in the Sam Houston Area Council – and the leadership and service that have followed in those Eagle’s lives – we challenge you to look ahead from this pinnacle that you now enjoy – to even higher peaks that you will scale – and to consider this question – what will your life of service look like?” asked Griñan.

Griñan presented the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Outstanding Eagle Scout Award to seven outstanding Eagles who have demonstrated outstanding achievement at the local, state or regional level. Receiving the prestigious recognition were: Daniel G. Ownby, Director of Buckeye Partners, Eagle Class 1984; Charles E. Schneider, Chief Financial Officer for KBR, Inc., Eagle Class 1977; Frank D. Tsuru, President and CEO of Momentum Energy Group, Eagle Class 1977; John P. Wilkerson, CFO and Executive Vice President for Cobalt International Energy, Eagle Class 1972; John R. Curry, Founder and Former CEO of Gulfex, Inc., Eagle Class 1972.; Brian G. Smith, President and CEO of BSC, Eagle Class 1975; David W. Hawes, Principal of the firm Hawes Hill Calderon, Eagle Class 1966; Clay C. Williams, Executive Vice President and CFO at National Oilwell Varco, Eagle Class 1979.

The National Eagle Scout Association established this award to recognize adult Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievement at the local, state, or regional level. The first were presented in 2011 and the Council has now presented 23. It is intended to exemplify the significance of a lifetime of devotion to profession, avocation, community and beliefs -- at a sacrifice to oneself and ones family.

A National Court of Honor was then convened for the presentation of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award to real estate attorney Charles J. Jacobus, Sr., Eagle Class of 1962, who is listed among the U. S. News and World Report’s 2012 Super Lawyers. Presenting the award was United States District Judge David Hittner, a Distinguished Eagle and National Boy Scouts of America representative.

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award was established in 1969 to recognize Eagle Scouts who are known nationally or internationally, who have achieved fame or eminence in their field, and who have a strong record of voluntary service. Only those who earned the eagle rank 25 years previously are eligible.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement in the Boy Scouts of America. After completing the rigorous designation requirements, the member is an Eagle Scout for life and joins a small delegation of prominent leaders nationwide. An estimated two million Boy Scouts

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have earned the award since 1912 and less than four percent of all Scouts earn the award.

For more information about the Eagle Scout Association for the Sam Houston Area Council, please visit <http://www.samhoustonbsa.org/eagle-scout-association-houston>.

About the Boy Scouts of America

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship and leadership, and develops personal fitness.

About Sam Houston Area Council

SHAC delivers the Boy Scouting program to over 50,000 youth in the Greater Houston Area, covering a 16-county area, with the help of nearly 20,000 volunteers and 1,300 chartered partners. The Scouting program serves youth from first grade through age 20 in the areas of outdoor skills, personal fitness, leadership, and lifelong ethical values.

About The Eagle Scout Association--Sam Houston Area Council (SHAC)

The Eagle Scout Association is a fellowship of Eagle Scouts living and working anywhere in the service area of the Sam Houston Area Council, formed to attract and motivate Eagle Scouts to support each other and the Scouting program through networking, mentoring and events.

Eagle Scouts have completed rigorous requirements. A candidate for Eagle Scout must be an active member serving in a leadership role, adhere to the principles of the Scout Oath and Law and demonstrate this in daily life. The rank of Life Scout with completion of ten merit badges must be achieved. The candidate must then earn ten more merit badges to reach a total of 21. Select badges must be included among the 21 such as First Aid, Citizenship in the Community,

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Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Personal Fitness, Emergency Preparedness or Lifesaving, Environmental Science, Personal Management, Swimming or Hiking or Cycling, Camping and Family Life. A candidate must also plan, develop and lead others in a service project benefiting another organization and take part in a Scoutmaster conference. References are requested and an Eagle Scout Board of Review is completed.