



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

SCOUTING DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL Eagle District - Last Frontier Council - BSA



FAMILY AFFAIR – Eagle District was represented at the state capitol on March 7, 2011 by (L-R) Kara Lampe, Pack 337 Committee Chair; Jeff Lampe, Troop 77 Scoutmaster; Zach Lampe, Bear Cub in Pack 337 and Derek Lampe, Eagle Scout and Chief of the MaNu Lodge of the Order of the Arrow. Derek accepted the Governor's citation in the House Chamber and presented his Report to the State as part of Scouting Day at the Capitol events.

Scouting's Report to the State of Oklahoma – March 7, 2011

My name is Derek Lampe and I am a senior at Edmond Memorial High School. I have been involved in Scouting for 11 years, earning the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest award, and the rank of Eagle Scout, Scouting's highest rank, and two Eagle Palms.

I am an active member of Troop 77, Edmond, OK, whose charter organization is First United Methodist Church of Edmond. I am also active in the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society. I serve as the Lodge Chief for MaNu Lodge No. 133, Last Frontier Council, which has over 1,200 members. As Lodge Chief, I am the highest ranking youth in the Last Frontier Council and serve on the Board of Directors.

The Last Frontier Council encompasses 24 counties, from Logan County to the north, Hughes County to the east, Beckham County to the west and Cleveland County to the south. It is divided into 10 districts serving over 9,500 youth involved in Cub Scouting, Venture Scouting, Sea Scouts and Boy Scouts. During 2010, 209 youth within Last Frontier Council earned the rank of Eagle Scout, including me.

In the Last Frontier Council, we are proud of the properties and camps we own and utilize. Our premiere summer camp is Slippery Falls Scout Ranch, which is located in Johnston County, just north of Tishomingo. We also have Camp George Thomas, located just west of Apache, Camp Sasakwa, just south of Sasakwa, Dripping Springs in Custer County and John Nichols Scout Ranch, formerly known as Camp Kickapoo, just west of Moore. Mr. Henry Meinders has gifted Diamond H to the Scouts in eastern Oklahoma, where we camp, backpack, canoe and mountain bike. These camps are enjoyed by youth throughout the year who camp in the great outdoors of Oklahoma.

The Boy Scouts of America is a non-profit organization and we depend on donations from the United Way and other organizations to help bring Scouting to the youth in the Last Frontier Council. Our Friends of Scouting goal this year is \$998,000 and we won't reach this goal unless the community and businesses support our effort.

I appreciate the opportunity to bring the message of Scouting to our state legislature today, and would echo the words Mr. Gene Rainbolt, the chairman of BancFirst, gave in his presentation for our annual FOS breakfast, Tuesday, March 1, 2011. Mr. Rainbolt stated how different this country and state would be if each person lived by the Scout Oath and Law. I challenge you to find another organization which teaches duty to God, duty to country, duty to others and duty to self.

From the time we are Tiger Cubs, we learn how to properly present, display and salute the flag of the United States of America. The Boy Scouts of America is one of two organizations authorized to conduct flag retirement ceremonies.

This May, I will graduate from Edmond Memorial High School and enter college. I challenge the legislature of the State of Oklahoma to be forward-thinking in how they approach the business of the state. The decisions you make and the legislation you pass will determine the future for my generation. As Scouts, we live that point of the Scout Law which challenges us to be thrifty. I ask you, as Senators and Representatives, to create an environment within Oklahoma that insures my generation will be able to stay within the borders of this great state and raise our families and enjoy the opportunities of the State of Oklahoma.