



## ***Boy Scouts of America*** ***Troop 649***

To the Parents of a Life Scout,

In becoming a Life Scout and now reaching out for the Eagle Scout rank, your son has done very well. You certainly have been helpful in this process, but for his Eagle Scout Service Project, your involvement **should be minimal**. He must do all of the planning and leadership himself. Following are a few **Do** and **Don't** tips for you. Please help him by not being "overly" involved. Don't jeopardize his success with misplaced good intentions.

- Do:** Ask your son to completely review the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook and the checklist before doing anything else. He should note everything he doesn't understand and get advice. You can help here, but be careful of offering advice better given by his unit leaders or an Eagle Project Counselor/Coach.
- Do:** Encourage your son to pick a project that meets both his abilities and interests. He will perform much better with a project he really cares about. **His Unit and District must approve the project and SIGN the appropriate space in the workbook before he can begin.** If he's not sure of approval, he should ask before beginning to plan.
- Do:** Provide encouragement and timely reminders, as necessary.
- Do:** Discuss problems and suggest solutions. Only suggest. **Don't do the work for your Scout!**
- Don't:** Push him into a project he doesn't have a good feeling about. This usually doesn't work to the boy's advantage. It isn't whether **you** like it or not. It's whether **he** does. Remember, he still has to gain the approval of his unit and coach.
- Don't:** Do any of the planning or the writing. It doesn't matter that his work is not as good as you would do. It matters that it's **his** best work.
- Don't:** Take over **his** project. You can drive, handle power tools (if part of the approved plan), and work under his leadership, but **don't take over any part of it.**

Your son is about to embark on an adventure he will remember all his life. It should be a positive, uplifting experience within his capabilities. With your support and his planning and leadership, it will be just that.

If you have any questions regarding your son's project, please contact Dr. Pat Archer, Dr. Randy Jungman, Mrs. Barbara Schettler-Jehl, Mrs. Pat Cypher or your son's Eagle Project Counselor.