

On the Trail to Eagle  
Chris Graham  
Eagle Scout - September 3, 2003

On September 3, 2003, Chris Graham became an Eagle Scout. Like many Eagle Scouts, Chris is a talented and very involved young man.

Chris is a senior at Lafayette High School where he is a member of the Outdoor Skills Education Program (OSEP), and the Committee of 520. These two programs are at the invitation of the faculty and Principal Dan Edwards. These programs recognized leaders in the high school and teach them teamwork skills through challenging activities in and out of the school. Chris says that his experience in Scouting gave him the ability to be an even better leader and member of a team in these two programs.

Chris is a talented musician and has played string instruments since he was in the fourth grade. His first exposure was to violin. In the fifth grade, he chose the string bass. He has continued to play string bass since the fifth grade and today is a member of the Lafayette High School Symphonic Orchestra where he is the first chair. He has auditioned for the past three years in the All Suburban Orchestra and was selected for the All-State Orchestra consisting of 150 musicians.

Chris also sings and plays rhythm and lead guitar in a group called "Never-the-Less." The group plays blues and rock music, and has performed at Cicero's in the U-City loop. Chris owns five guitars, and just purchased a mandolin so he can learn to play it.

Chris was active for eight seasons in baseball, something his father, Jeff, has a passion for. Jeff has played three years in the St. Louis Cardinals Legends Camp in February where he plays against former Cardinal baseball legends.

Chris works for a friend, Mike Conroy, in a lawn management and landscaping business, and has worked two summers for Passiligia's Nursery near Lafayette High School. These jobs have led Chris to begin planning for a career in landscape architecture. Chris is considering the University of Kentucky and Kansas State, both of which have excellent landscape architecture schools.

As a Scout, Chris has been the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide (Inner Circle). He is a member of the Order of the Arrow. He completed five summer camps, all at S-F. He and his father went to Philmont in 2000. Chris was a member of the Order of the Arrow ceremonial team from Troop 677. Chris says that Scouting has taught him to be a well-rounded person. He has learned multiple skills he will use throughout his life, in particular, teamwork skills. Chris says Scouting has taught him how to behave and to be a decent citizen, to be prepared for everything he does, and values he will continue to live by.

Chris's mother, Karen, was active in Cub Scouts as a Den Mother and Webelos Mother. His father, Jeff, completed Wood Badge, served as summer camp Scoutmaster for three years, published the Troop newsletter for four years, attended five consecutive summer camps, and was Chair of the Cooking Crew at Advancement University for 3 years. Chris has two sisters, Sara and Emily, both in their twenties.

Now Chris can soar with the rest of the Eagles.