

KEVIN MACKLIN

Troop One's 27th Eagle Scout, November 2005



What you are doing now?

I just graduated from New Mexico State University with a B.A. in Anthropology. At the same time, I was also commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army and I am branched as an Air Defense Artillery Officer. However, I am on an educational delay from the Army for a year to get my master's degree. I am getting my master's at the Rothberg International School at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israeli Studies: Society and Politics. I will not be attending the Troop 1 reunion because I will have started college in Jerusalem.



Are you married?

No.

Kids (names and ages)

None.

Favorite Troop One Memory

Well, I think it was in about 2006. We decided as a troop to go snow camping at Philmont Scout Ranch because it was difficult for us to go to Philmont in the summer. Unlike most of our snow camping, Philmont had enough snow for any type of winter hiking. We decided to use snowshoes and we pulled out gear on sleds. What entailed was probably the most snow a Troop 1 campout has ever seen. After leaving base camp, we traveled out into the woods to a Philmont campground and we made snow quinzhees with the couple feet of snow on the ground. However, on our first night it snowed between 1 and 2 feet and it continued throughout the next day. Being expert campers as we are, this shouldn't have been a problem, except that all the extra snow caused our makeshift snow caves to cave in on them in the middle of the night. I was in my snow cave with Stephen Meyer and Patrick Turney, and I remember going to sleep that night with the snow about a foot and a half above my face in the cave. Next thing I remember was waking up at two in the morning with the snow cave ceiling two inches from my face. Not only that, all of the air holes in the quinzhee were covered up completely with snow, which drastically raised the temperature in our cave to about forty degrees. This caused the snow to melt and I remember waking up almost soaked with water. Terrified, I woke up Stephen and Patrick, who to me did not seem too worried. I quickly dressed and got outside, and I informed Andy Braman what happened. We quickly jumped in an extra tent set up to hold supplies and a few hours later some sleeping bags were thrown in and we were sleeping happy. We found out a couple interesting things the next day. Almost everyone else's snow quinzhee's caved in on them, but were less concerned than us and did not get out. And, the fact that it was the longest period I ever remember sleeping in my life, which covered about sixteen hours. Next thing I knew, we were packing quickly to leave and we ended up staying our last night at base camp.

Words of Wisdom (to new/existing scouts, up and coming Eagles), how Eagle has helped you in life, etc.

Make it be known. It's okay to flash around that you're an Eagle Scout, especially when you're going for a job. You're an Eagle, represent what you know is right. Don't follow the crowd and don't be a sheep. You are trained to be an outstanding citizen and by now you know what the difference is between right and wrong. And if you see something not right, fix it.