

TRICORNE AWARD

Tim Reiss, Saturday February 22, 2020

Good afternoon!

Good things come in 3s, and they are all “heady.” A horse that comes in first place in the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness Stakes and the Belmont Stakes wins the *Triple Crown*; a soccer player who scores 3 goals in a match has done a *hat trick*; and an NBA team that wins its third national championship in a row has done a *3 peat*.

3s are no less important in Scouting. There are *3 duties* - to God, country and self; *3 promises* – to keep yourself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight; and our leaders are known as the *Key 3*.

You are the first Scout in Pathway to earn the 3 highest ranks in each of Scouting’s 3 branches: traditional Scouting, Venturing and Sea Scouts. And so we needed to find a 3-some way to celebrate your own “heady” accomplishments. Thinking about our rich history as Americans, and remembering that part of your Eagle Scout promise invokes the pledge of sacred honor made by the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, we found a 1776-era 3 cornered hat; a hat that represents your 3 revolutionary awards.

Tim, you and I first met at your Eagle COH. I recall that the VFW presented you with a very sharp knife, today you received another knife and a very sharp sword for your Quartermaster award, and now we present you with a very *sharp hat* award – sartorial pun fully intended.

The first rule of Scouting leadership is to lead by example. All of you have heard about the many ways Tim has set the best of examples. Let me share two more: Tim is the first Eagle Scout member of our

Advisory Council, a senior leadership group of former council presidents and key Scouters that I will be joining soon enough Tim holds his own with them. But more recently, Tim led the OA crew at our Camporee in October, a 3 day Scouting extravaganza at Busse Woods for 5,189 Scout members, families and friends. When I introduced Tim to a group of Scouting VIPs, he couldn't get away fast enough – not because he didn't like the adults, but because he needed to rally his troops back to work. I'd be shocked if anyone told me he slept a wink that weekend. In fact, I've seen Tim's back much more than his face, because he's always running to another chore.

Tim, you literally stand “head and shoulders” above many, and we want to make sure people see you coming. So, your Pathway to Adventure Council is proud to give you the first Pathway Tricorne. You are the first of what is likely to be a very small but very distinguished group. We're happy to put a hat on your head, too. If you want, you can choose the color and type of fabric or leather of your tricorne, and we will affix to it the 3 symbols of your achievement. We know you would wear it with pride, and be recognized for the outstanding young man that you have become.

These 3 ranks are important recognitions, yes, but they come with an important, life-focusing challenge – a challenge to continue what you have been doing, to help other people at all times, and to invite others to join you.

And so I close by saying *congratulations*, Tim, and *thank you* Michael and Stacy for all that you have done, but more importantly for all that you *will do*, for Scouting.