Spirit of Adventure

Eagle Scouts and the Making of America's Future

By Alvin Townley

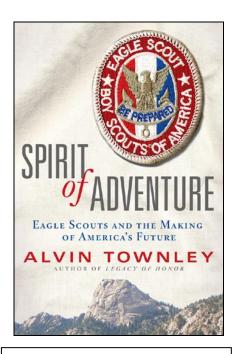
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In *Spirit of Adventure*, acclaimed author Alvin Townley discovers how a new generation is continuing the adventure of Scouting and shaping America. The book reveals how young Eagle Scouts are living lives that are adventurous, extraordinary, and significant.

Spirit defines the spirit that marks this rising generation, and explores how Scouting helped instill these Eagles' sense of leadership, adventure, and service to others.

An adventure in itself, the book follows the author across America and around the world as he uncovers Eagle Scouts pushing their limits and serving others. The journey takes him to Australia's Great Barrier Reef, the cliffs of Red Rock Canyon in Nevada, the Appalachian Trail and Philmont, rural villages in Africa, inner city classrooms, NFL fields, and an aircraft carrier underway in the Pacific Ocean.



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The Eagle Scouts he encounters capture the spirit of Scouting and represent the Movement's future. The book will be the first to investigate the next generation of America's leaders and will establish the role Scouting values and experiences played in their development. Unmatched in scope, significance, energy, and diversity, *Spirit of Adventure* tells a compelling story that will inspire young people and adults alike, and will reintroduce Scouting to America.

Representative Eagle Scouts include:

- Navy SEALs
- Olympic skiing medalist
- Coral reef marine biologist
- N.O.L.S. rock climbing instructor
- Purple Heart veterans from Iraq
- Peace Corps volunteers in Africa

- NFL Super Bowl starting lineman
- CBS *Survivor* contestants
- Highly successful entrepreneur
- Pilots and crew aboard carrier USS Nimitz
- Backcountry rangers
- Teach for America corps members

Two representative stories:

Two cousins fled Sudan at age twelve and arrived in a violent Nebraska housing project. "Only three people were brave enough to come into our apartments," one said. "The police, Jehovah's Witnesses, and our Scoutmaster." The Omaha Scouting program changed their lives forever...and now they plan to change life for thousands of Africans by undertaking an ambitious project to provide clean water.

Against all odds, twin brothers from a poor neighborhood became accomplished surgeons, and have since completed two dangerous and independent medical missions into Afghanistan to serve women and children. The pair was supported only by the local militiamen they hired; caves were common operating rooms. Now, local Afghans know them as *doganagy*, or "same face healers."

Spirit of Adventure by Alvin Townley

A global odyssey with a new generation of leaders who are living an adventure while serving others around the world.



Clockwise from top left: Philmont Scout Ranch staff alumni outside Cimarron, New Mexico; Surgeon Vince Moss in Kabul, Afghanistan; China Care founder Matt Dalio with orphans in Beijing, China; marine biologist Eric Treml, PhD, above the Great Barrier Reef, Australia; AT (far right) with Peace Corps volunteers in Benin, Africa; pilots and crew aboard the USS *Nimitz*, Pacific Ocean.

About Alvin Townley

Alvin Townley has spent three years traveling across the country and around the world to explore the legacy of Scouting. In an adventure spanning thousands of miles, he has met with Eagle Scouts from all walks of life. In 2007, St. Martin's Press released his acclaimed first book, *Legacy of Honor. Spirit of Adventure* will be released in May.

An Eagle Scout and brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, the author completed high adventure treks at Philmont Scout Ranch, Northern Tier Canoe Base, and the Florida Sea Base.

He graduated from Washington & Lee University, and has worked in the U.S. House of Representatives, helped manage global strategy for a \$9B international firm, served his *alma mater* during a \$240M campaign, and coached track at Marist School in Atlanta.



Spirit of Adventure introduces America to a new generation of leaders – young Eagle Scouts who are leading lives of purpose and adventure. To meet these young men, Alvin traveled the globe, diving in Australia, surfing in Hawaii, rock climbing in Nevada, venturing into Africa, and cruising home aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Nimitz*. He discovered an inspiring story of service and leadership.

Legacy of Honor, his first book, explores how Scouting has influenced American life. In writing the book, Alvin met with the nation's top leaders, including Eagle Scouts Michael Bloomberg, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, Defense Secretary Robert Gates, J.W. Marriott, Jr., and Jim Lovell of Apollo 13. He also recorded the stories of a Tuskegee Airman, a POW from Vietnam, a September 11 NYPD hero, Hurricane Katrina relief workers, and many others.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates called *Legacy of Honor* "inspirational," and **President Jimmy Carter** said, "These Eagle Scouts will inspire readers to become leaders in serving others."

Alvin lives in his hometown of Atlanta, Georgia, and travels often to share his message.

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