

Scouting Matters

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June 2017

Eagle Scout Journey



Let us introduce you to Jarid Guyton. Jarid is a member of Boy Scout Troop 61 in Oquawka, IL, chartered by the Oquawka United Methodist Church and he is a new Eagle Scout. Jarid's story is not the norm, as his Eagle Service Project was 4 years in the making....

"My grandparents had been involved in Scouting for many years, and my uncle is an Eagle Scout, so when my dad and step-mom got together, I joined Scouts. Soon my dad and step-mom became leaders too. At first, as a Cub Scout it was all fun and games. I learned things and had a lot of fun, but when I bridged over to Boy Scouts, I quickly learned if I want to advance or earn a merit badge it was ME who had to take the initiative and do the work. So, when it came to my Eagle project, I knew I wanted to do something to really make an impact on our community."

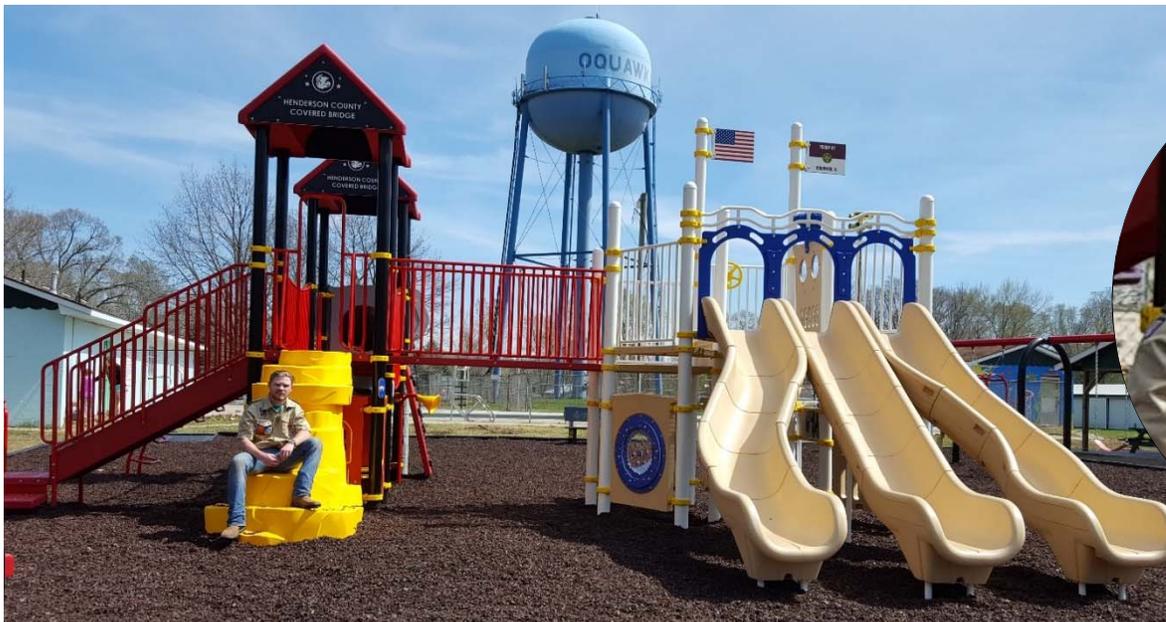
Jarid wanted to build a commercial playground, not only as his Eagle Scout project, but so the kids in his community and surrounding communities (including his two younger sisters) could have a fun, safe place to play and to bring families together. Jarid was warned by his family and the Eagle Board that this was quite an undertaking, but he was committed to make it a reality.

In May of 2013, Jarid informally surveyed families and community leaders to see how they felt regarding his idea, and was overwhelmed by the support. Afterwards, he attended Village Board Meetings, and was given approval, along with their full support.

After researching several playground companies, he met with a representative from Playcraft Playgrounds and discussed what he had in mind. Jarid says, "I wanted to design it myself and include some of the local history." He wanted to include an elephant slide that represents the infamous Norma Jean, an elephant who was struck and killed by lightning during a circus in 1972. The bridge on the playground equipment represents the historical Henderson County Covered Bridge outside of Oquawka, and the yellow climbing steps represent "Yellowbanks" which is the Indian name for Oquawka."

This Eagle Service Project quickly became a group effort. Close family and friends bonded together and formed a group called the "Friends of Jarid Guyton." From there, many volunteers joined in to make the fundraisers successful. "We had some traditional fundraisers such as bake sales, trivia night, horseshoe tourney, softball tourneys, worked concession stands, but also had some unique ones such as Battle of the Bands, Elvis Impersonator, and Cow Pie Bingo just to name a few."

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But they were going to need more. They all sat down and discussed what else they could do. "They contacted Illinois State Senator John Sullivan's office to ask about possible grants which resulted in Senator Sullivan asking to meet in person. My step-mom, and grandpa (also my Scoutmaster) took me to meet Senator Sullivan at his Macomb, IL office. At that time, no grants were available but Senator Sullivan said he was impressed with my idea, and my young age of 14."

"My grandmother later found the OSLAD (Open Space Land Acquisition Development) grant and contacted Yvonne Knapp who is a community volunteer and was her former teacher and Carrie McKillip, Community Development Educator at the University of Illinois Extension for help with applying for the grant on behalf of the Village of Oquawka. I was chosen to give a presentation in Springfield before the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) board along with 118 adults from all over Illinois. It was very intimidating; however, it paid off, as my project was one that was selected for funding."

Jarid faced some challenges during the whole grant process, though. After being awarded the OSLAD grant from Illinois Gov. Quinn in December 2015, the grants were suspended in January 2016 by the new Illinois Gov. Rauner when he took office. In August 2016, Gov. Rauner reinstated the grants and Jarid was finally able to move forward. The Village of Oquawka also formed a "Parks and Tourism Committee", resulting in additional community members getting involved.

"Since a 'Scout is Thrifty' I decided to save money and ask volunteers to do a 'Community Build'. Our playground representative put me in contact with two playground contractors from Missouri who volunteered their time to oversee the build. I was overwhelmed and very appreciative with the number of volunteers who came to help. Businesses brought their equipment to prepare the ground, unload and move heavy playground pieces in place as well as people who provided food and snacks to feed the volunteers." The playground was made possible by many fundraisers, donations from private citizens and businesses in and around the community, and the OSLAD grant. For safety reasons, security cameras were also installed to cover the entire area of the playground, pool, skate park, and basketball court.

After four years of planning and fundraising, Oquawka now has a new playground. The total hours for those involved is staggering...6,473 involving 68 different people. Total dollars spent were just under \$70,000. A memorial bench was added in memory of Jarid's brother, Jonathan Guyton, who was so supportive during this whole process but was not able to see the finished result. Jon is also an Eagle Scout and the Village decided to move the picnic tables he did for his Eagle project to the new playground area.

Jarid has learned a lot along the way. Never take anyone or anything for granted; and, to hope to someday make a difference in another person's life, like the volunteers and Scouting have made in his.



What Wikipedia says about Eagle Scout Projects

The rigorous nature of the required service project is a major step in the completion of the Eagle rank. Very often, the Eagle Project is what highlights the full impact of the Scouting program to the community at-large.

In 2012, the National Eagle Scout Association researched the total volunteer hours of the Eagle service projects ever done and it came to a total of more than 100 million hours of service. Each year, new Eagle Scouts are adding more than three million additional hours.

Camp Staff Member Qualifies for USA Swimming's, State Swim Meet



Owen Miller, Eagle Scout from Troop 60, sponsored by the American Legion Post in Biggsville, IL, is a member of our Camp Aquatics Staff at Camp Eastman and Saukenauk Scout Reservation this year. When he's not busy doing that, he is racing with the Eastern Iowa Swimming Federation.

June 4th, Owen qualified for USA Swimming's State Swim Meet in the 100-meter free style, the 200-meter breast stroke, and the 50-meter free style.

Finals are July 27th in Iowa City.

Good Luck, Owen!

Scouts From Troop 1 Take Over the Quincy Regional Airport for the Night.

The Scouts from Troop 1, chartered to Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Quincy, recently completed the Aviation Merit Badge. However, unlike a normal merit badge session, this was offered in a unique way. On a Friday night in February, the Scouts showed up to the Quincy Regional Airport. Thanks to the kindness of Airport Director, Terrance Ward, the Scouts took over the terminal for the night.

The next morning, the Scouts headed off for the biggest adventure of the outing. The Scouts toured various types of aircraft in the airport hangar buildings and then each had an opportunity to take a flight over the City of Quincy and the Mighty Mississippi River.



Pilot (and Scout Dad) Tim Smith, taught the class and took the boys for their flights. A special thanks to Mr. Smith and Mr. Ward for making this special event happen for the Troop!

Joe Henning, Fire Chief Quincy Fire Department
and Troop 1 Scoutmaster

Congratulations to 2017 Burlington Distinguished Citizen,
Mr. Jerry Sherwood



2017 Sporting Clays

Thank you to the 140 Shooters and 65 volunteers who made the *2017 Oakley-Lindsay Foundation Sporting Clays for Scouting* sponsored by Area Disposal a huge success! Over \$25,000 was raised to help fund local Scouting. Our

next special event is the *3rd Annual Top Shot*. Contact J. David Gilbert for more information at 217-224-0204 or 319-754-8413.

2017 James E. West Recipients

Jerry Sherwood

Ron Teater

Doug Peters

Heath and Kathy Richmond

William & Norma Richmond

Gerry Wagner



What Was Scout Camp Like 100 Years Ago?

The boy scout camp is in full swing. A little city of tents has appeared on the farm of William Pilkington, three miles south of Nauvoo.

Yesterday morning at 7 o'clock, twenty boys and five leaders set out from the Y. M. C. A., headed for the Pilkington camp, on the Illinois side of the river. The boys know the exact location of the camp, from being there last year, and so there was a lot of hustle along the road to see who could get there first. The bunch arrived at 11:00 o'clock and by 2:30 the tents were all set, camp was in tip-top shape, and Joe Dickson, the cook, was at bat with the bases full.

The boy scout camp is set up for ten days, and the boys will return about Saturday, the 25th. As is usually the case with campers, home-made sweet meats are mighty acceptable, and parents should not forget to send good things while the boys are in camp.

The address of the camp is Nauvoo, Ill., care Boy Scout camp.

Pilkington camp is located in one of the most beautiful spots along the river, and is ideally arranged for sanitation and healthfulness. The boys have plenty of shade, excellent spring water, and good grounds for baseball and volleyball, as well as a fine sandy beach for the three times daily swim.

A big program of games and amusements has been arranged by William Brugman, the head of the camp, and his assistants – Sunley, the bugler; Merriam, the

banker; Fulton, the musician, and Lumberg, boss tent man.

The boys are divided into four groups, and each bunch tries to outdo the others in working hard for points, as the camp is run on the merit system entirely, which eliminates all the drudgery of camp life and makes it a pleasure to "peel potatoes" and "water the elephant" because in so doing merit points are won. The following is a list of the boys in camp:

Bradfield, Elzle	Loufleck, Victor
Gibson, James	Morris, William
Alling, Calvin	Delahoyde, Harold
McCutcheon, Robert	Abell, Charles
Weissenberger, LaMont	Ward, Henry
Laporte, Cecil	Skog, Clarence
Laporte, Verne	Benner, Phillip
Hull, Raymond	Danford, John
Allen, Raymond	Collison, David
Singleton, Don	Collison, John

There are eight tents in the camp and ample room for each boy to feel free and unhampered. Lots of sleep will be indulged in, and after playing and working all day there is never any insomnia among such a bunch of lads, and they do not have to be coaxed to "turn in."



SCOUTING ALUMNI & FRIENDS REUNION

All former Scouts, Leaders, and Supporters are invited to a Scouting Alumni & Friends Reunion!
June 20th at Saukenauk Scout Reservation OR July 11th at Camp Eastman

6:00-7:30 pm **FREE** BBQ Dinner

Please RSVP for food planning purposes:
217-224-0204 or JDavid.Gilbert@Scouting.org

Help us spread
the word!



Council Leadership:

- Kevin Mineart, Council President
- Dennis Stewart, Council Commissioner
- Todd Lamison, Scout Executive/CEO

Scouting Matters Staff

- Bob Dickson, Vice President of Marketing
- J. David Gilbert, Staff Advisor
- Teresa Hardin, Staff Writer & Designer

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