



Troop 52 Gazette



Charles Doback, III Earns Eagle

On April 12, 2017, Troop 52 welcomed their latest Eagle Scout in a ceremony held in the Caroline Shaw Fellowship Hall of the Union Congregational Church. The Eagle Court of Honor for Charles Doback, III was attended by his proud parents, Charles, Jr. and Joan, his sister Rebecca, Maternal Grandmother Joan McMahon, fellow troop members, friends and well-wishers.

Charlie, who was born and raised in Naugatuck, followed a winding path to Eagle. It started as Cub Scout in Pack 60 in Southbury. From there, his path led him to Oakville where he joined Troop 52 to be with his cousin and uncle, both of whom were active members. He joined the Spartan Patrol where he honed his leadership skills as their Patrol Leader. Afterwards, Charlie was the Troop Quartermaster where he dedicated a lot of time and effort to ensure troop equipment was in good working condition. Since February, he has been a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster and, even though he is no longer Quartermaster, he still helps Tim Martin maintain and organize the Troop's equipment.

For his Eagle Community Service Project, Charlie and his team of Boy Scouts, adult leaders, and volunteers landscaped an area of the church grounds. He replaced shrubberies that were overgrown; spread crushed stone ground cover and bordered the area with cobblestones. He also poured a concrete sidewalk which connected the playground area with the existing walkway. The highlight of the project was the placement of a beautiful stone bench.

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Scouts Recognized During Troop Court of Honor

The troop held a Court of Honor on March 29, 2017 to recognize recent rank advancement, earned merit badges, and the induction of new Boy Scouts. Fellowship Hall was bustling with activity as nearly every Troop 52 Boy Scout was in attendance along with parents, grandparents, family members, and friends of the troop. In addition to the awarding of rank and merit badges, the following Boy Scouts were recognized:

Robert Rizk was recognized for selling the most Christmas Ornaments. The 2016 Troop 52 Ornament was a depiction of the Memorials in center of Oakville of which Robert sold an impressive 45. Because of his efforts and rest of the Troop 52 Boy Scouts, the troop will continue the tradition for 2017 and will soon announce this year's design.

Steven LeClerc was recognized for being the most active Boy Scout. Steven participated in 91% of troop functions and activities and in doing so, was as a role model for the younger Boy Scouts.

Griffin Relyea, Jesse Kaye, Mike Hanis, Joshua Garceau, Ryan Robinson, and Alex Pillis were recognized for their work with Cub Scout Pack 52. Keith Acuna was recognized for his work with Cub Scout troop 140. The seven Boy Scouts demonstrated tremendous leadership skills as Den Chiefs. Through their hard work and dedication, they instilled in the Cub Scouts skills and values that are important to being a scout.

Second Annual Troop 52 Classic Deadline Approaches

The second annual Troop 52 golf tournament is just around the corner and last minute details are being ironed out. The event, which will be held on June 24, 2017 at Crestbrook Park in Watertown, will be even bigger than the first. The deadline to sign up for the tournament is June 10th.

In addition to the raffle table, 50/50 raffle, draft beer, and barbeque steak dinner, the golfers will be treated to a lunch of unlimited hamburgers and hotdogs. Registration for the tournament is \$130.00. For non-golfers, the barbeque dinner, which will be served in the evening, is \$35.00. A fee of \$20.00 will be charged for late registration.

The Scout Report by TJ MacLean

ALL ABOUT ME

I am TJ MacLean, 11 year old boy in 5th grade. I am working toward Eagle Scout because I just want to be an Eagle Scout. I am a member of the Atomic Badger Patrol. The disability I have, S.M.A, is called Spinal Muscular Atrophy. Since I have it, I can't walk. Just because I can't walk and am in a wheelchair, doesn't mean that you have to treat me differently. Try to help me whenever you have the chance!

The Troop 52 Gazette is proud to announce a new column written by a recent addition to our troop. Each edition will contain an interview written by TJ. If you have an idea or know of someone from the troop who should be interviewed, let him know.

Advancement

Troop 52 is proud to announce the following Boy Scouts recently advanced in rank:

Luis Gonzalez	Tenderfoot	02/15/17
Chace Relyea	Scout	04/26/17
Jason Hanis	Scout	04/26/17
John Vito	Silver Palm	05/10/17
Dino Langin	Scout	05/31/17
Jaidan Carter	Tenderfoot	05/31/17

The following Boy Scouts earned Merit Badges this quarter:

Matthew Beres	Cit. in the World
Joshua Garceau	Camping
Brandon Lynn	Auto Maintenance
Brandon Lynn	Cooking
Brandon Lynn	Cit. in the Community
Brandon Lynn	Cit. in the Nation
Brandon Lynn	Cit. in the World
Brandon Lynn	Family Life
Brandon Lynn	Personal Fitness
Nicholas Quicquaro	Env. Science
Joshua Scalo	Camping

Special Note: John Vito passed his Board of Review on May 10, 2017 and earned his Eagle Silver Palm. John is only the second Boy Scout in our troop's storied history to earn the distinction.

History of Troop 52 Books Still Available

A Century of Character, Honor and Good Deeds, A History of Troop 52 Oakville (1911 - 2016) is still available for purchase. The book is 121 pages long and contains many historical photographs. Either stop by a troop meeting or contact Bob Beres at (203) 768-5176 or rberes@tr52.com. The price is only \$15.00 each. To have a copy mailed, please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling. All proceeds from the sale of the book benefit the troop.

Scoutmaster's Corner

Joe LeClair, Scoutmaster



Following the annual Memorial Day parade, citizens participated in solemn speeches, prayers, and a wreath presentation. During part of this, a local civic group shouted and laughed to each other, seemingly oblivious to what was happening and to the seriousness of the occasion. Amidst the clamor, 13-year-old First Class Scout Nico Wenis (left) made us proud as he presented Troop 52's wreath with the respect the ceremony deserved.

It was cold with a chance of heavy rain on the day of the parade, but thirty-eight of our Scouts marched with the troop, their school band, or other groups. I am so proud of our boys!

Two of our Eagle Scout candidates completed community service projects this spring. Brandon Lynn redesigned the storage area near the stage at the church, painted our new chair racks that were built by Oscar Bartlett, and made repairs to and painted the walls of the stage. The area is now neat, clean, and efficient. Meanwhile, at Holy Cross High School, Nicholas Quicquaro renovated the courtyard in time for this year's graduation. Volunteers cleared debris, trimmed trees, painted borders, planted flowering shrubs, and installed a new bench.

In July our high school Scouts will fly to the Bahamas for a week of sailing the Abacos Sea. The young men will sleep and cook their meals on the boat, navigate, and work the sails when they're not fishing, swimming, and diving for conch.

Eight members of Troop 52 will work at Camp Mattatuck this summer. Andrew Beres will return to the camp office. Matt Beres and Will Daddario will teach nature. Spencer Dodge and Charlie Doback will work with the Scoutcraft Department. John Vito will work in Handicraft, and Mike Hanis and Sam Goetz will be on the Webelos camp staff. Forty Scouts from Troop 52 are expected to camp in Cedar Campsite during the final week of the season.

After camp closes for the season, a second team of high school Scouts will head up to New Hampshire's White Mountains to hike the Presidential Range!

All these activities would not be possible without the generosity and commitment of our many adult leaders. The three summer trips will have fourteen leaders who are twenty-one years old or more. A sincere thank you to everyone who makes our program possible.

Memorial Day Parade 2017

On Monday morning, Troop 52 assembled at Adams Plaza to continue a tradition as old as the troop itself. 28 Boy Scouts and 12 adult leaders marched with the troop in the 2017 Memorial Day Parade. The route went uphill along Main Street to the Gazebo in Watertown. The column of Boy Scouts which included the town's other two troops, 55 and 140, was led by our troop. Several more Troop 52 Boy Scouts marched with their school's band or the High School Robotics team.



Troop 52 marching up Main Street during Watertown's Memorial Day Parade

Before the event, several Troop 52 families, listed below, volunteered and decorated graves and monuments throughout Watertown. Flowers were donated by the Watertown/Oakville Veteran's Council.

Mt. Olivet Cemetery - Hardt Family
Watertown Gazebo - Relyea Family
Gazebo Monument - Braun Family
Civil War Monument - Braun Family
WWII Monument - Braun Family
St. James Cemetery - Acuna Family

Memorial Day, which was also known as Decoration Day, has been a part of our troop's tradition or over a century. In 1912, only six months after the troop joined the Boy Scouts of America, our troop took part in their first Memorial Day event. Oakville Boy Scouts and the Boy Scouts from Watertown marched alongside one another in the town parade. Afterwards, the troops entertained onlookers with their skill at military drilling.

(Eagle Scout Doback continued from Page 1)

Hogan Eng, a leader and mentor of Nonnewaug High School's Robotics Team, Team Beta, spoke on Charlie's behalf. He praised Charlie for his hard work and detail-oriented leadership. Charlie served the team as their Vice President and was a Dean's List Award Finalist. His teammates even presented him with a special award for his contributions to Team Beta.

As a student at Nonnewaug High School, Charlie is a member of the National Honor Society and has been recognized twice as a scholar athlete as a member of the golf team.



Our newest Eagle Scout, Charlie Doback, III, discusses Merit Badges with our oldest scout, Joseph LeClair, Jr.

Service Projects

Brandon Lynn Makes Improvements To Church Hall

Brandon Lynn recently finished his Eagle Community Service Project which benefitted the Troop's sponsor, the Union Congregational Church. The project was completed during the weekend of April 22nd. Brandon and his team of helpers which included Boy Scouts, adult leaders, and volunteers, patched and repainted the stage area and ceiling, built a large securable storage closet, boarded and insulated an unused window, painted the new chair racks and reorganized the storage area near the stage. Friends and family generously donated to the project which paid for lumber, sheet rock, paint, and other supplies. Brandon's project took six weeks to complete.

Nicholas Quicquaro Refurbishes Holy Cross High School Courtyard

Nicholas Quicquaro held his Eagle Community Service Project on April 28th which benefitted Holy Cross High School. Nick and his group of Boy Scouts, and adult volunteers refurbished the courtyard area of the school. All day, Nick and his team of helpers planted flowers, pruned branches, raked leaves, painted flower boxes, and cleaned the gardens. At the end of the day, the courtyard was brought back to its former glory and was completed before this year's graduation.

For photos of the Community Service projects please see page 6.

Outdoor Program

On the weekend of April 22nd, the troop enjoyed a damp weekend in the woods at Session Woods in Burlington. The Boy Scouts and adult leaders had a terrific time and agreed to return to the rustic camping area in the near future.

9 Boy Scouts and 6 adult leaders from Troop 52 took part in the Hick Finn Camporee held at Camp Mattatuck on May 14th. Patrols competed against other Mad River District patrols and raced around Lake Kenosha in rafts built specially for the event. Inclement weather, however, significantly shortened the weekend-long camporee into a half-day event. Even though the weather was damp, it did not dampen the scout's enthusiasm.



Troop 52 Boy Scouts at Session Woods in Burlington on the weekend of April 22nd (above) and a Patrol on Lake Kenosha during the Huck Finn Camporee (below)



Cub Scout Pack 52 News

The Cub Scouts of Pack 52 marched in the Memorial Day parade and led the Boy Scouts up Main Streets. After the parade, several Cub Scouts placed a wreath at the WWII monument. Their presence was noticed and appreciated by the local veterans who had gathered for the event.

In other Cub Scout news, their annual flower sale was held on Mother's Day weekend and was a huge success. Members of the Pack helped patrons carry flowers back to their cars and were a huge help. All proceeds from the sale go back to the pack and pay for books, advancements, and trips.



Pack 52 Cub Scouts gather before the Memorial Day parade at Adam's Plaza.



Pack 52 Cub Scouts laying a wreath at the WWII monument after the Memorial Day parade.



Before and after photographs of Nick Quicquaro's Eagle Community Service Project at Holy Cross High School.



The new closet built during Brandon Lynn's Eagle Service project at the Union Congregation Church.