

Summer Edition 2023



ABS Today

A Publication of the Association of Baptists for Scouting



ABS Eagle Scout Corner

Association of Baptists for Scouting would like to recognize the following scouters for reaching the highest rank in Scouting. Congratulations for a job well done.



Eagle Scout Christopher Odom

The Association of Baptist for Scouting is proud to recognize Christopher "Chip" Odom. He received his rank of Eagle Scout on September 19, 2023. He is a member of Troop 858 within the Chattahoochee Council in Opelika, Alabama. He is the son of Woody and Genia Odom.

Chip led a team of 17 youths and adults in building four square picnic tables for a local school for his Eagle Service project. The school is using the tables for additional seating during outdoor events and lunch. The tables have been a crowd pleaser where students and staff have been very appreciative of the new additions.



Chip participated in many scouting activities such as derby car racing and family campouts prior to becoming a cub scout. He watched his older brother enjoy the scouting program and knew early on that he wanted to be a part of scouting, too. He followed in his brother's footsteps in becoming an Eagle Scout as well.

He is a Member of the Order of the Arrow and has served in the roles of Patrol Leader and Patrol Quartermaster.

Outside of Scouting, Chip is involved in the National Honor Society, Church Youth Group, Trinity Singers, Drama Club, Basketball, Tennis, Advanced and Jazz Bands.

Congratulations, Christopher Odom for completing your goal of Eagle Scout. We are honored to recognize you and your achievement in Scouting.





Eagle Scout Dominic Francis Roche, Jr



The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Dominic Francis Roche, Jr for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in September. Dominic is a member of Troop 320 in Manchester, Maryland. He is the son of Dominic Roche and Sadie Thomas.

Dominic's Eagle project involved building a disability access ramp at Mountain View Bible Camp with help from Troop 320 and the



Hanover Area Young Marines. The ramp replaced an old 18-foot wood ramp that was aging. The new ramp is a 2-piece ramp using composite wood on top to help it last longer and make it easier to move when needed.

Dominic was recently responsible for a 70-mile hike through Laurel Highlands.



(Dominic is on the far right.)

Dominic likes working with his hands and has helped several of his friends with their Eagle projects this year. He helped build a new playground at the Nature Center, including a parents' bench which

Dominic designed and carved the back of the bench. The bench has the Boy Scouts' fleur de lis on the left, a carving of the troop and scout information in the middle, with the symbol of the sponsor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, on the right.



He also helped his dad build a cross for their church, Manchester Baptist Church, to use during outdoor service. Dominic used his artistic skills to complete the cross.

Dominic has completed over 157.5 community service hours and is often the first to volunteer at his church. He has helped in the church with the babies and toddlers and can often be found in the sound booth. He is an active member of the youth program at his church.

Dominic is not only a scout, but a member of the Young Marines. He recently received the rank of Gunnery Sergeant and has started the process of joining the United States Marines when he graduates from high school this spring by entering the Marine Corps Delayed Entry Program.

Congratulations, Dominic Francis Roche, Jr. for fulfilling your goal of Eagle Scout! ABS is proud of your determination.



Eagle Scout Andrew Runion

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognized Andrew Runion for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Andrew is the son of Andy and the late Amber Runion. He is a member of Troop 600 in the Cape Fear Council, Elizabethtown, North Carolina.

Andrew began his scouting experience as a Cub Scout with his parents' encouragement and support. When he entered Boy Scouts, his father became his scout master.

In September 2018 Hurricane Florence dumped more than three feet of rain in the White Oak area washing away a walking trail bridge at Harmony Hall Plantation. The trail was closed until 2023, when Andrew decided to rebuild the bridge for his Eagle project. Andrew planned, prepared, and received help from his troop and local businesses, who hauled away debris and brought necessary beams to the site. Andrew noticed one day that the local groundskeeper used a golf cart to get around the property. Andrew planned the bridge's width to be wide enough for the golf cart to cross.

Andrew's parents were active in scouting for many years and dreamed of seeing Andrew achieve Eagle Scout. Andrew's mother died before Andrew reached Eagle. In her memory, Andrew dedicated the bridge to the memory of his mother.

Paige Runion, Andrew's stepmother, says, "Andrew is a very bright and thoughtful young man. It is evident his mom and dad have done a great job raising him."

Congratulations, Andrew Runion, for a job well done. The Association of Baptists for Scouting is proud of you.



Removing debris



Bridge's completion



Plaque in memory of
Andrew's mother

Paige, Andrew, and Andy Runion

