

2025 Winter Edition



# 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 Abigail Beck

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Abigail Beck. Abigail is a member of Troop 18G in Norwela Council in Shreveport, Louisiana. She is the daughter of Suzi and Dana Beck. Abigail is the fourth female to earn Eagle in her District and the third in her family (Abigail, her older sister and her father).



She is a member of Trinity Heights Baptist Church where she is a leader and role model for the younger girls. The skills learned in scouting have given Abigail courage and desire to stand in front of her congregation and witness, multiple times.

Abigail's Eagle project allowed her to develop and coordinate the building of two Buddy Benches for two local elementary schools.

Abigail is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, a youth advisor for the OA ceremonies team, holds two National Youth Leadership Trainings, and will attend Sea Base in Key West, Florida this summer. She has earned her religious emblem.

Abigail's future goal is to pursue a career in health services, such as physical or occupational therapy.

Congratulations, Abigail for reaching the Eagle rank. May your scouting skills be a resource for life's challenges. May God guide you as you serve Him in the years to come.





# Eagle Scout Jaxxon Cook

The Association of Baptist for Scouting recognizes Jaxxon Cook for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Jaxxon is a member of Troop 198 in the East Texas Area Council in Gladewater, Texas. He is the son of Jamie and Jeff Cook.

Jaxxon's Eagle project was titled "Read to Succeed". His Eagle project involved creating small free-standing libraries for the three parks in Gladewater, Texas. The libraries are a free service to the community which allows people to come and take a book whenever they choose. At the time Jaxxon started his project the area public libraries were closed. The children and adults did not have access to free library books. The project allows people to get books whenever they want. The project continues to help serve the community by giving people a chance to read. The motto is: "Need a book? Take one. Have a book? Leave one."

Jaxxon began his scouting adventure when he was six. When he chose to continue being a scouter, he decided he would get his Eagle.

Through scouting, Jaxxon has learned and developed skills that he will utilize throughout his life. Jaxxon feels the Scouting journey to Eagle has been well worth the effort.

Jaxxon is an active member of First Baptist Church where his mission is to be a disciple and spread the word of God. He desires to start his own business one day.

Congratulations, Jaxxon. May God continue to guide you and help you as you offer your service to Him and others.





# Eagle Scout Ayden Cunningham

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Ayden Cunningham of Harrisonville, Missouri for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Ayden is a member of Troop 1003 and the son of Ryan and Angela Cunningham.

Ayden's Eagle project involved building benches for a non-profit organization, "Love the Harrisonville Square" that would enable seating at community events on the Square.



Ayden has been active in Scouting for 10 years, beginning as a Tiger Cub. As a scouter, he has been the patrol leader twice and a chaplain aide.

Ayden has earned many awards and honors through Scouting. He earned the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Nova Award-Shoot, Religious Knot, and Snorkeling BSA. He has completed 39 merit badges while working toward Eagle.

He is an active member of First Baptist Church in Harrisonville.

Congratulations, Ayden. The Association of Baptists for Scouting is proud of you reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. May God continue to guide you as you serve Him and others. May your scouting skills help you in His service.



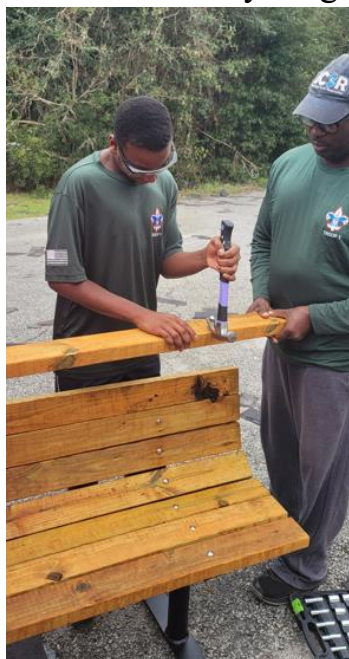
# Eagle Scout

## Ja'Karii J. Fegans

The Association of Baptists for Scouting proudly recognizes Ja'Karii Fegans for reaching Eagle. Ja'Karii is a member of Troop 1 of the Coastal Georgia Council in Savannah, Georgia. Ja'Karii is the son of Stephanie Adams and Debbie Frazier.

Ja'Karii's Eagle project involved building four outdoor benches for his school, Bethesda Academy, a small, private Christian based school.

Ja'Karii is an active member of the First Baptist Church of East Savannah in Savannah, Georgia where he is a Junior Usher, assists on the van that transports elderly and disabled members, and aspires to be a deacon. He has been in scouting for the past 8 years and has earned the God and Me, God and Family, and God and Country religious emblems.



Ja'Karii's favorite adventures have been summer camps, where he has been able to zipline, kayak, as well as indoor skydiving, and air boat riding. He also enjoyed a trip to the Kennedy Space Center. He hopes to attend the Scouting Worldwide Jamboree in Poland in summer 2027.

Ja'Karii was on the junior varsity basketball team and is a member of Firefighter Explorer Post 1756. He is interested in pursuing a career in the military, after graduation.

Congratulations Ja'Karii. You have reached your goal of Eagle. May God continue to guide you and help you use your Eagle skills to serve others for Him.



# Eagle Scout

## Ashley Fosburg

The Association of Baptist for Scouting recognizes Ashley Fosburg for earning Eagle Scout. She is the daughter of Melissa and Craig Fosburg and a member of Troop 316 in Crowley's Ridge District. She is the FIRST woman in Mississippi County and Crowley's Ridge District to reach Eagle Scout.

For her Eagle project Ashley built three benches for the newly remodeled Elementary School playground. She noticed that the kids needed a place to rest at recess.



Ashley informally joined Scouting at age 3 as a guest camper when her father joined the leadership team of another troop. She attended many functions as a guest until Boy Scouts opened their membership to female in 2019. She was among the first female in the US to achieve Scout rank. She became a member of the Order of the Arrow, Brotherhood level. Last summer she became a camp counselor at Camp Rockefeller in Damascus, Arkansas in the Aquatics Department. She has attended Swamp Base in Atchafalaya Swamp, Louisiana, where she paddled 62 miles with Venturing Crew 1.

Ashley is a senior at Armorel High School where she is a member of Beta Club, Honor Society and The Future Business Leaders of America. She is a Brown Belt in Tawkwondo. and a member of N.10<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church in Blytheville. Following graduation, she plans to attend University of Arkansas to become a therapist.

Congratulations, Ashley. May God guide you as you serve Him and others. May the skills you acquired in Scouting help you in life's challenges.



# Eagle Scout Joshua Harrington

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Joshua Harrington for reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. Joshua is the son of Rachel and Michael Harrington. He is a member of Troop 76 in the Mobile Area Council in Thomasville, Alabama and a member of the Woa Cholena Order of the Arrow Lodge. He is an active member of Pineview Baptist Church, the sponsoring organization of Troop 76.



Joshua's Eagle Project focused on helping Catholic Social Services. Josh's summer work has been pressure washing and lawncare work. When the Knights of Columbus approached the troop for potentially doing work for Catholic Social Services, the idea was given to Josh as a potential project. His team

cleaned the parking area of debris, pressure washed the areas needing painting and cleaned the outside walls of the facility. They repainted the parking lot stripes as well as the ramp to the facility and the handicapped spaces. They replaced 3 broken parking spot barriers and installed signage to deter parking by those going to the business next door during service hours. They replaced the water cut off valve.

Joshua has been active in leadership roles throughout Scouting. He served one summer on staff at Maubila Boy Scout Reservation, where he got to attend Summit Summer Experience. He has been Quartermaster for Troop 76 for several terms.



Congratulations, Joshua on a job well done. May God continue to guide you as you serve Him and others.



# Eagle Scout Declan Edward McNew

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Declan Edward McNew of Troop 159, Swamp Rabbit District of the Blue Ridge Council in Mauldin, South Carolina. He earned his Eagle on December 5, 2024. Declan is the son of Beth and Scott McNew.



Declan has a heart for students and combines that with a passion for his church. When choosing his Eagle project, Declan chose to build a Gaga Ball Pit for the playground of Henderson Baptist Church in Gray Court, South Carolina. He led 25 people in the construction of the pit. He chose to build the pit because the Gaga Ball Pit has been popular with the youth at summer camps.



His project was completed August 31, 2024 and has offered many opportunities to relate to others in a friendly game at the Gaga Ball Pit. In addition to the Gaga Pit, Declan and his team constructed drainage areas around the youth building.

Declan joined Troop 159 in the summer of 2020 and treasures the friendships and growth he has seen in himself during this time.

Congratulations, Declan for reaching your goal. May God continue to guide you as you serve others for Him. May you be able to use your scouting skills to make our world a better place. We are proud of you.







# Eagle Scout Jason Rector

The Association of Baptists for Scouting congratulates Jason Rector for reaching the rank of Eagle Scout. Jason is a member of Troop 704 in the Daniel Boone Council and the first scout to earn his Eagle in the troop. The troop is chartered by Grace Baptist Church in Brevard, North Carolina. Jason is the son of Melissa and Mike Rector.

Jason's Eagle Project involved creating the Brevard High School Student Garden at his high school. He built and placed six benches, a stone walkway and added mulch to the area.

Jason was a founding member of Troop 704, which has a STEM focus. He is an ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and has earned 54 merit badges.



As a scouter, Jason has held many leadership roles. He has been the senior patrol leader, troop guide, chaplain aide, and assistant patrol leader.

Jason's goals after high school include college, and one day opening a business which involves cooking.

Congratulations, Jason. ABS is proud of your determination to be a part of a new troop and to reach your goal of Eagle. May God guide you as you move forward. May your scouting skills help you serve others and make the world around you a better place.

# Eagle Scout Hunter Silence

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Hunter Silence. Hunter is the son of Michelle and Scott Silence and a member of Troop 47 of the Flint River Council, Coweta District, sponsored by Central Baptist Church in Newnan, Georgia.



For his Eagle Project, Hunter chose to renovate a storage room that adjoins the kitchen and fellowship hall at First Baptist Church in Newnan. The room had turned into a junk room and needed major cleaning and maintenance to get it to a usable space. The key parts of the project were to clean out the space, refinish three rusty metal doors, painting the hallways leading into the area, and building a large storage shelf. The church now has a secure, clean space to store items used in the kitchen and fellowship hall, such as tables, coolers, additional place settings, and other items.



One of Hunter's favorite adventures in Scouting was camping in Tennessee followed by completing the full whitewater rafting section of the Ocoee. He also enjoyed attending Camp Woodruff in North Georgia, where he was able to complete several merit badges and go fishing. During his last year at camp, he was able to take a leadership role and mentor younger scouts.

Hunter's future goals include attending college to pursue a career either as a game warden or going into the field of forensics. Whichever path he chooses, he will be able to use his scouting skills to help others and serve his community.

The Association is proud of Hunter's accomplishments. May God continue to guide you, Hunter, as you use your scouting skills to serve Him and others.





# Eagle Scout Benjamin Sousa

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Benjamin Sousa. Ben is a member of Troop 75 in Middle Tennessee Council. He is the son of Lindsay and Jarrod Sousa and a member of Indian Lake Peninsula Church in Hendersonville, Tennessee.

Ben's Eagle project was a multi-thousand-dollar, multi-phase project that resulted in building benches for the Hendersonville High School's Marine Corps Junior ROTC locker room as well as refurbishing and building new obstacles for



the JROTC Course, including a brand new 6-foot hurdle wall. This effort not only made the Obstacle Course usable but was also a beautification project for the area. The project required an excess of 500-man hours and more than 10 workdays to complete.

Ben's Scouting experiences include 2023 Philmont Summer Trek, Arrow of Light, 50-Miler award earned at Philmont, National Outdoor Award for Hiking (1 gold device), and Camping (2 gold devices), Recruiter badge, Paul Bunyan Award, Order of the Arrow Brotherhood, camping over 80 nights, hiking over 150 miles, service time of over 80 hours, and earning 47 merit badges.

He has held many jobs while in Scouting, including Librarian, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aide, Outdoor Ethics Guide, and Boxwell Summer Camp Staff. Ben is an Army National Scholarship winner. After graduating from college, he hopes to attend seminary to prepare to serve Jesus and his country as a military chaplain.



Congratulations Ben on setting and reaching your Scouting goals. May God continue to guide you as you serve Him.

# Eagle Scout Stetson Wilson

The Association of Baptists for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Stetson Wilson. Stetson is the son of Garland and Janet Wilson.



Stetson began his Scouting experience in 2015 in Cub Scouts and crossed over to Troop 810 of the Blue Ridge Mountain Council where he has held many leadership positions: Assistant Quarter Master, Quarter Master, Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. He was inducted in the Order of the Arrow in 2022.



Stetson's Eagle project helped his church, Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Hillsville, Virginia. The church had outgrown the fellowship hall. One of the members used a motorized wheelchair and was having difficulty navigating the crowded area. Stetson decided to make the space more accessible. The sod in front of the fellowship hall was removed and landscape paper put down and edged to help with maintaining the area. A drain was

installed at the end of the downspouts and rocks were laid. Five picnic tables were built with 2 of the tables designed for handicapped people. The handicapped person that inspired the project passed away before he was able to use the table, a plaque has been placed on one of the tables in his memory. The area has been a blessing for the church.

Stetson's favorite part of Scouting has been camping. One that stands out is in 2019 at the district's fall camporee, Appalachian Heritage Days, when the scouters camped in teepees and held various competitions including log cutting and first aid relays.

Stetson is currently in the eleventh grade and works part time with a general contractor. He wants to expand his knowledge in the field of construction after high school.

Congratulations, Stetson for reaching your goal. May God guide you as you use your scouting skills to help others.