

## A Path to Eagle Paved With Friendships

Harry Reinhardt Achieves BSA Scouts Highest Rank



For Harry Reinhardt, the uphill path to Eagle was paved with great friendships and character development. Amid a heavy school load, Scouting requirements, sports, community service, and despite pandemic challenges, Henry earned Scouting's highest rank and honor, Eagle Scout in February, 2021.

"I watched him evolve into a citizen of his community," said Henry Reinhardt, father and former Troop Committee Chairman of three years. "His life and projects showcased his desire to give something meaningful back to his community and the Town of Redding."

One of the greatest lessons learned along the journey was that "to get what you want in life, you really have to push yourself through thick and thin," said Harry, "because nothing is handed to you." Above all, Henry realized that being a good citizen means "following the rules even when no one is watching."

Harry earned 32 merit badges, spanning a wide range of skills and an exploration of interests that often lead to careers and lifelong hobbies. He served his Troop as a Patrol Leader, Scribe and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. High adventure experiences included a unique aquatic program at Florida Sea Base on Matecumbe Key in 2018 and a kayak river trek in Class IV rapids at Summit Reserve in West Virginia in 2020. At Joel Barlow, he participated in soccer, volleyball, tennis, Safe Rides, and the Joel Barlow Society.

"He was someone I felt comfortable with mentoring my children," said Lenore Pranzo, parent of two boys in the Troop. "He quietly and humbly led younger Scouts." "He was older and wiser, and gave them appropriate insight into high school life, but treated them like peers and never like little kids."

“I took my time while climbing the rungs,” Harry stated about his journey to Eagle. “I made sure to ask for help and made use of the many Troop resources.” A BSA Scout becomes an adult at eighteen and is no longer eligible to earn a youth member’s rank. Harry finished his work just days before his 18th birthday. “I’m most proud of Harry’s goal to achieve Eagle as close as possible to the maximum age so as to get the most out of the program,” said his dad, Henry. “His greatest hurdle was juggling a very challenging high school and sports schedule.”



In addition to 21 mandatory community service hours throughout the program ranks, an Eagle candidate must demonstrate leadership of others while performing a community project. Henry renovated the outdoor reading area at Mark Twain Library that involved repairing the steps, refinishing the benches and landscaping the newly remodeled area.

By far, his favorite part of Scouting was “the friendships created and strengthened throughout my time in Scouts,” said Harry. “I made friends with younger kids and older kids too, some of whom I would've never thought that I'd one day be friends with.” His advice to other Scouts that might feel overwhelmed in the process is to “reach out to any older scout or leader for help because they will undoubtedly be happy to provide it.”



Henry’s future plans after graduating from Joel Barlow in June 2021 include attending college and pursuing business and entrepreneurship.

Troop 15 offers their deepest gratitude to Harry for his service to the Troop and congratulations on his success. For more information about Redding Troop 15, visit our website at [www.ReddingTroop15.org](http://www.ReddingTroop15.org) or contact Jacob Cedusky, Committee Chairman at [jcedusky@gmail.com](mailto:jcedusky@gmail.com).