



# Troop 23 – Hot News

## May 4, 2020

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### **GOOD NEWS!**

There's lots of info in this week's Hot News but wanted to start off with some good news - here are just some of the things our Scouts have been getting done during this time!

Congratulations to Dane Olson for passing his BOR for 1<sup>st</sup> Class! He went through 30 minutes of intense debate and he did great! Dane is interested in leadership and is looking to run for patrol leader. Congratulations Dane!

The **Tomahawks** held their first virtual Patrol meeting. Thanks to Doug and Gavin Kachelmuss for hosting the meeting. The boys elected Quinn Dowell as the new Patrol Leader. Lucas Yates has volunteered to be the scribe, and Bo Dowell will be Quinn's APL. The patrol discussed progress on advancements, and made plans for their next meeting.

The **Ranger** Patrol also had a meeting and discussed that (most)everyone is generally happy about school being out, and everyone is exercising/getting outside and being healthy. Here's what some of the Rangers have accomplished lately:

- Ben S completed the Merit Badges to get his Silver Palm when he has his Eagle COH. He suggested horseback riding at the last meeting for next year.
- Ryan B is almost done with 2nd Class, just has swimming test, BOR, and scout conference to go.
- Jack D is helping a lot around his home, and is really looking forward to go to Galena for the Grant Pilgrimage next year, and to Summer Camp for fishing, sculpting, and welding.
- Jacob H is doing a lot of service in his neighborhood. He handed out 70 (!) hand sanitizer bottles to neighbors and is helping make masks. He is looking forward to Summer Camp, and is also helping younger scouts (like Dane O) with skill reviews-this is greatly appreciated!
- Josh L is 2 advancements, a BOR, and a Scout conference away from 1st Class! He is working on his Cooking and Family Life Merit Badges. He is looking forward to Summer Camp, doing service hours cleaning up the road in front of his house.
- Matt M has completed 3 Merit Badges (Basketry, Leather-Working, and Electronics) and is working on more. He has cleaned up at 2 Forest Preserves (Hidden Lake and West DuPage) for service hours, and is looking forward to Summer Camp.
- Jacob S is looking forward to his trip to Philmont with a different troop (and will find out in early May if he is still going in June). He recently got a new job at Mathnesium and is happy to be working for them!
- Justin S has been working on Environmental Science Merit Badge and helping around his home and neighborhood. He suggested that we talk to friends, family, and neighbors and find out if they need help in this time.

### **ADVANCEMENTS:**

An Advancements Q&A email was sent out last week with lots of information on how Scouts can keep moving forward during this time. Please make a point to review all the information in it. Some key points from the email:

Scouts with advancement questions should FIRST check with their Patrol Leader, then SPL and then their Patrol Adviser. While Adult Leaders are always available to Scouts, the scouts should continue to recognize that the troop is Scout-led, even during this time.

If you have completed all rank advancements other than requirements that cannot not be completed due to the shelter in place order, you CAN have your Scout Master Conference. First make certain that your Cyber information, advancements sheets, and Skills Review (if applicable, and see the Q&A email for details on what a Skills Review is) have been turned in to the Advancements Coordinator.

### **MERIT BADGE WORK:**

If you wish to work on a Merit Badge please remember to connect with Mr. Jeffers and get a Blue Card. You can also request a Merit Badge book from our troop library. You can "order" them by contacting Mr. Jeffers, and then pick them up at his office. Also, if you have Merit Badge books and are done with them, please return them to Mr. Jeffers so other scouts can check them out. Older scouts are urged to donate any Merit Badge books to our library once they are done using the book. We are especially short on Cooking Merit Badge books, so please return them or donate them to the troop by dropping them at Mr. Jeffers' office; 127 West Willow Avenue.

### **SUMMER CAMP NEWS:**

Three Fires Council and Camp Freeland Leslie have cancelled our Troop's scheduled week of camp. Based on Leader and Scout availability, as well as approval by State & County Boards of Health, we hope to attend CFL the week of July 19-25 (for scouts who want two weeks the "second" week would potentially be July 12-18). If you were registered for summer camp you should have received an email from Julie Carlson asking for your availability for July 19-25. To help with the Troop's Summer Camp planning please reply to that email by **May 15**.

The Ryan Mademann Campership is funded through a generous legacy by the family of a former scout who passed away in 2009. The Campership provides \$200 to two Scouts to cover a portion of the cost of summer camp. It is a merit award based on a Scout's essay describing his goals for the upcoming summer camp. Applications are due by **June 15**. For more details and to submit your application, see our troop website at <https://troop23wheaton.org/about/happenings/2020-camperships/> . Any questions please contact Brian Dunbar [dunbarbrian83@gmail.com](mailto:dunbarbrian83@gmail.com)

### **RECOGNITION FOR EAGLE SCOUT GRADS:**

Monday, **May 18**, we are going to meet in the parking lot of First Pres at 6:45 p.m. to kick off a drive-by parade to recognize our Eagle Scouts that are graduating from High School this year. The route is being crafted and will be shared prior to that date. We hope to have as many Scouts and Scout families participate as possible to give our graduating Eagle Scouts a fun send off!

### **EAGLE COURTS OF HONOR:**

Eagle Courts of Honor scheduled for May will be moved to August or Sept on a Monday evening. Details will be announced as they become available.

### **ON-GOING SERVICE HOURS OPPORTUNITY:**

Whenever Scouts have free time while we are all at home, they can earn service hours for community clean-ups. Plan a walk around your neighborhood or at a local park and pick up trash along your route. Be sure to wear gloves and protective gear. Email or text a photo of you doing the work, the route you cleaned, and time spent to Deb Evans ([devans2960@gmail.com](mailto:devans2960@gmail.com) or 312-286-5214). Also, have an adult, preferably a parent, email Deb a note acknowledging your work. And remember the Scout Law, a scout is trustworthy.

### **CALENDAR UPDATES:**

Check here <https://troop23wheaton.org/about/happenings/2020-calendar/> for the current schedule.

### **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND/OR FEEDBACK, PLEASE CONTACT:**

- Jeff Jeffers, Scoutmaster at [frankejefers@yahoo.com](mailto:frankejefers@yahoo.com)
- Brian Dunbar, Committee Chairman at cell: 501.554.0016