

Andrew Keller Trail to Eagle Scout

A very busy life....typical of successful young people...and Eagle Scouts. Andrew Keller doesn't have a lot of spare time. His trail to Eagle has been busy, fun, interesting, and exciting.

On June 27, 2007, Andrew became the 112th Eagle Scout in Troop 677.

Andrew has served as Patrol Leader, Chaplain's Aide, and Troop Guide. He has attended four summer camps – two at Swift, one at Sakima, and one at Famous Eagle. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow.

Andrew completed Junior Leader Training Camp (NYLT) in 2006. He went to the 2005 National Scout Jamboree in Caroline, VA. And the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford, Essex UK. He is looking forward to the 2010 National Scout Jamboree which will mark the 100th Anniversary of Scouting in the U.S. Andrew is hoping to participate as one of the youth leaders, possibly SPL of his Jamboree troop.

Andrew's Eagle Scout Service Project was to lead the construction of one purple martin house, three bluebird houses and four bat houses for the Pond Athletic Association. Andrew's idea for a project came when he discussed potential projects with his neighbor who is one of the grounds managers at the PAA. They discussed how with the expansion of the fields, they were having a harder and harder time controlling insects and how they were concerned about spraying chemicals. The houses are all designed specifically for the animal and help to promote a healthy, active population of beneficial animals and birds that will help to control insects with the use of pesticides or other chemicals.

Andrew is a Freshman at Lafayette High School where he is in the orchestra and is enrolled in all honor classes.

While in Crestview Middle School, he was in all challenge classes. He received the Young Achievers Award in 2006, was on the honor roll all three years of middle school, receiving the Amphora award in 2005 and 2006.

He has been an active volunteer both in and out of Scouts. Along with various service projects completed as part of Scouting, Andrew also regularly volunteers as an Instructor Aide for the American Red Cross, where he is certified to assist in the teaching of First Aid and CPR certification classes. He also had his 15 minutes of fame earlier this summer when he appeared on Fox 2 News in an interview following his day of volunteering with Living Lands and Waters on a clean-up project along the banks of the Mississippi river.

Andrew's hobbies and interests include travel, music, reading, camping, hunting, and spending time with his family. Andrew made many new friends at the World Scout Jamboree and is continuing these friendships via email. He hopes to continue these experiences at both the next National Scout Jamboree in 2010, and the next World Scout Jamboree in 2011 in Sweden.

Andrew's parents are Rain Ackley and Jim Keller. Jim is active in the Troop, District and Council. Andrew has a sister, Aine, and two brothers Shayne and Sephen. All of them are proud of Andrew's achievement as an Eagle Scout.

You can send your congratulations to Andrew at agkeller@sbcglobal.net.

Now Andrew can fly with the rest of the Eagle Scouts.