



Salute to Scouting

January 2021

Edgerton Troop delivers food for the holidays

This holiday season many families have been hit hard financially by the pandemic and needed a helping hand with necessities. Troop 29 G was there to answer the call. The Scouts collected and packed 24 food boxes to help local families at Christmas. The food was delivered to a local food pantry in Edgerton to help families in the area.



Scoutmaster, Sandy Wood, has been working with the Troop of girls since February 2019 when the Boy Scouts of America first opened its iconic program, Scouts BSA, to older girls.

Troop 29 G has performed many service projects this year, including turkey dinners at thanksgiving, raking leaves at the Edgerton Methodist Church, local park clean-ups, painting fire hydrants for the town of Edgerton, and more.

“Sandy [Wood] is incredibly proud of her Scouts. I can tell by the constant Facebook posts of earning various merit badges, like woodworking and horsemanship, and pictures of their service projects,” says Erika Dutcher, Senior District Executive. “2020 has been a year of need and I am renewed with confidence in our movement preparing the next generation as I watch Sandy’s Scouts helping community in Edgerton and beyond.”



To learn more about how to join Scouting, go to www.BeAScout.org.

Venture Crew helps Toys for Tots in Fulton County

Since 1947, the United States Marine Corps Reserve has been distributing toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. For more than 15 years, Scouts in Fulton County have been helping the American Legion in Delta, OH, carry out the Toys for Tots mission locally.

Venture Crew 265 unpacked and filled the entire legion hall with tables of toys on a recent snowy Friday evening. When families came the next day, a Scout escort helped them choose toys based on age and gender of their children. More than 35 families received toys, and the Scouts even offered gift-wrapping service.

Matthew Schroeder is one of the Scouts who served during distribution day. "It was nice to see we can still provide service to the community despite the pandemic conditions," says Schroeder, who also relayed stories of building camaraderie with fellow Scouts while they worked.



Toys for Tots believes children are one of our nation's most valuable resources. Today's children are tomorrow's leaders. When Scouting partners with Toys for Tots through local organizations such as the American Legion, it's a win-win-win situation. Scouts see hope when they escort a single mom to pick out toys for her toddler. Families see hope when they receive the generosity of the community to put gifts under their trees. Organizations like the American Legion see hope in the future watching Scouts lead, organize and carry out service to community.

Venturing is a program of the Boys Scouts of America for co-ed youth ages 14 to 21 that emphasizes adventure, leadership, personal growth and service. Crew 265 is advised by Wendy Grindstaff who has been a Scout volunteer for more than twenty-five years. Venture Crew 265 is partnered with American Legion Post #265 in Wauseon, OH.

If you'd like to learn more about joining the local Venturing program or other Scouting programs like Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA, go to www.BeAScout.org.



Scouts honor fallen Veterans by laying wreaths for the holidays

Teaching citizenship in Scouting includes helping our youth understand the sacrifices made by those who have served in our armed forces. During the holiday season, Cub Scouts from Pack 239 in Metamora, OH, laid wreaths on the graves of veterans in Toledo Memorial Park Cemetery with the help of the Wreaths Across America movement. Wreaths Across America coordinates honoring veterans at Arlington National Cemetery and more than 2,100 other locations across all 50 states, at sea and abroad.

According to Wreath's website, "In many homes, there is an empty seat [this holiday] for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country."

Past Council President, Sherri Garner Brumbaugh, also shared in remembering veterans at Maple Grove Cemetery in Findlay, OH, by organizing ceremonies and

volunteers and by providing transportation for hundreds of boxes of wreaths through donations made by her company, Garner Trucking.

"[It's] an absolutely beautiful, amazing experience every year! The volunteers that came out today truly are a blessing! Thank you to all that made today possible and our special Veterans that served to protect our freedoms!" says Brumbaugh.

Service projects like this teach more than citizenship. These activities live out the character trait of 'a Scout is Helpful' and best of all, leadership is learned through Scouting's culture of service to community.

The Black Swamp Area Council says "Thank You" to our veterans, to Past President Brumbaugh and to all Scouts who remember veterans through service to community year-round.



To learn how to become involved in the Scouting program, go to www.BeAScout.org.