

# SJND News

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## Michael Proffitt '20 Earns All 137 Boy Scout Merit Badges

***Post Date:***



**Michael Proffitt** was required to earn 21 merit badges on his way to becoming an **Eagle Scout**. It's the highest rank in Boy Scouts; **only 2.5 million boys** have achieved Eagle rank since the award was first presented in 1912.

But the California teenager recently joined an even more exclusive group when he earned all of Scouting's available merit badges - **currently 137** - a feat achieved by fewer than 450 boys in the history of the organization, according to **meritbadgeknot.com**, an unofficial but authoritative site that tracks the achievement. On average, there are 800,000 enrolled in scouting annually and approximately six percent enrolled in Eagle. Only 0.02 percent of those Eagle Scouts accomplish this.

From the Lost Coast Trail of Northern California, to the Great Barrier Reef, Michael logged over 2074 leadership days, 259 miles hiked, 119 overnight camp nights, 145 service hours, 50 scuba

hours for advanced scuba certification, 411+ class hours and 16 bugle calls learned.

Michael, a member of Troop 1015, sponsored by the Alameda Elks Lodge, traveled to three states including Nevada, West Virginia and North Carolina, to obtain this goal. He attended the Las Vegas Merit Badge Expo in 2017 and 2018, as well as a day class at the University Of Nevada School Of Dentistry in 2016. Michael also attended the 2017 National Jamboree in West Virginia where he received Exploration and Mining in Society Merit Badges. On a separate trip to North Carolina, he earned the Farm Mechanics and Skating badge.

In his home state of California, Michael traveled as far north as Redding for Model, Design & Building, and as far south to San Diego for Oceanography. Seven of these Merit Badges were earned on the Historic USS Hornet in his hometown of Alameda, Calif. Michael attended five different Boy Scout Summer Camps and was inducted into the Order of the Arrow in 2018.

For his Eagle project, Michael gave back to the Alameda Little League fields he grew up on for seven years, where he built and installed 64 equipment cubbies in the dugouts for the Major and Minor baseball fields. The project required many different teams, staged production and labor outings. In collaboration with the local Alameda Little League association, private businesses and various skilled craftsmen, Michael pulled off the project on time, under budget and received unanimous accolades.

The date of the Court of Honor ceremony to honor Michael's achievement has yet to be announced.

From all of us at SJND, congratulations, Michael!