

# Branch 853's Charles Boone Earns Every Possible Scout Merit Badge

Branch 853 Charles Boone wears his Boy Scout sash with pride. In the history of the Boy Scouts, Charles did what only a handful of Boy Scouts have done. Charles earned every merit badge – he earned 137 of them, plus 1. The plus one means that Charles earned the Computer merit badge before it was discontinued in 2014. He then earned its replacement, the Digital Technology badge that is the one extra.

If you name a badge, he has it. Robotics was his first, it was first released months after he crossed over to boy scouts. It is fitting that the last badge released, Exploration was also Charles' last badge earned.

For the Welding merit badge, Charles along with other scouts went to the company, saw the safety procedures first hand, saw the actual work place, and then experienced what the field entails. Charles worked with the Charleroi Officer Rex (police dog) when he earned Citizenship in the Community. Presque Isle Bay is where Charles earned the Small Boat Sailing badge with the merit badge counselors from the Erie Yacht Club.

For Wilderness Survival, building a shelter and sleeping outside in a snow storm in below zero temperatures proved to be warmer than it sounds. Charles earned the Hiking badge when he hiked more miles than most

people want to imagine - on one trip, over 8000 feet. As high in elevation as he hiked, Charles went below sea level in earning the SCUBA merit badge and becoming a PADI certified open water diver.

You must earn Family Life badge to become an Eagle Scout. Charles' counselor worked diligently with the group to make it fun but also a learning experience. For the most memorable activity, she gave each scout a spoon symbolizing the parent and a plastic empty Easter egg which symbolized their child. Everyone had to follow her with their egg in the spoon and not let the egg fall.

When Charles was a patrol leader, he organized a merit badge program so that his patrol can earn the Horsemanship merit badges.

The hardest thing in working on badges, was finding a merit badge counselor. When he couldn't hook up with a counselor for the Dog Care badge, he talked to the education director at Animal Friends to see if she would become a counselor. Then he took it one step further, by working with her to start a Dog Care merit badge class at Animal Friends which is now offered.

The Skating merit badge turned all of those ice skating lessons into useful fun, and genealogy was the badge which Charles learned a lot about his own family. In being a descendant of Squire Boone, brother of Daniel Boone, he learned much from a family member who already did a long history of the family back to the 1700s. Charles researching his Slovak maternal family immigration in the 1900's, found ship records and wrote down the stories to piece together interesting facts of the of coming to the States and the early life of a Slovak immigrant. With Charles being a second generation American Slovak, he wrote down the facts, heard the songs like Hej Slovaci and learned of the hardships. He enjoys learning of his heritage and the music and dance so much that he wanted to join the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

While working on the badges, Charles



found his career. After working on the Aviation merit badge at the Erie International Airport, Charles knew he wants to be a pilot. Charles, a junior at Keystone Oaks high school, is enrolled in a dual high school/college program with the Community College of Beaver County, where Charles is an A average college freshman working towards his aviation degree.

Although the Boy Scouts do not keep records on how many scouts earn how many badges, one private website says under 350 scouts, out of the millions of boys who have been in Scouts since it began in 1910, earned all of the merit badges. Congratulations Charles on such a historic achievement.

Charles is the son of Monica Rodacy Boone, former National Auditor and former National Pension Board Trustee, and Ronald Boone of Dormont, Pennsylvania. All are active members of Branch 853.

- Submitted by Monica Rodacy Boone, Branch 853 President

## Attention Rev. Stephen Furdek Ohio District 10 Members: Food, Fun, Fireworks – And Minor League Baseball - At Canal Park in Akron, OH on August 12, 2017



On Saturday, August 12, 2017, join other FCSU members in District 10, the Rev. Stephen Furdek District, for a fun evening of minor league ball as the Akron Rubber Ducks take on the Binghamton Rumble Ponies; enjoy an all-you-can-eat picnic style buffet; and watch spectacular "Bob Seger" fireworks – plus, if you are among the first 1,000 attendees – you'll receive a tin lunchbox giveaway.

All branches in District 10 are eligible to participate, including: 1, 24, 228, 319, 425, 450, 553, 714, 754, 777, 852, 855, and 862. A \$25 value, discounted tickets are available for District 10 members through participating branches. Non-members are welcome at the \$25 price.

The location is the state-of-the-art minor league baseball facility called Canal Park in downtown Akron, OH. It is situated at South Main Street between State and West Exchange Streets. Designed by the same company that developed other baseball gems, including Progressive Field in Cleveland and Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore, Canal Park also features a beautiful picnic area along the left base line.

### Come early, stay late

District 10 members will enjoy a two-hour, all-you-can-eat picnic buffet that begins when the gates open at 6:00PM. Then, from the great vantage point of the Canal Park picnic area along the left base line, you can enjoy the game that starts at 7:05PM when the Akron Rubber Ducks take on the Binghamton Rumble Ponies. The evening ends with a spectacular pyrotechnic fireworks display with a "Bob Seger" theme.

The all-you-can-eat buffet, served picnic style, includes:

- Hamburgers
- Hot Dogs
- BBQ Pulled Chicken
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Potato Salad
- Potato Chips
- Cookies
- Iced Tea/Lemonade/Water

### How to Reserve Your Seats

Reservations must be made by Friday, July 28, 2017. To reserve your tickets and for more information, please contact your local branch officers\* or District President Greg Petrasek at (330) 398-1888.

\*All branches in District 10 and their branch contact info can be found at [fcsu.com/district/](http://fcsu.com/district/) and clicking on District 10.

August 12 Highlights:

- Date: Saturday, August 12, 2017
- Place: Canal Park, Akron, OH
- Gates open at 6:00PM with lunchbox giveaway to first 1,000 attendees
- All-you-can-eat, 2-hour buffet starting at 6:00PM
- Akron v Binghamton game, starting at 7:05PM
- Fireworks after the game
- Discounts on \$25 tickets through participating branches in District 10

## Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Select Jessica Pastuszek as Mission Advancement Director

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius are pleased to announce that Jessica Owens Pastuszek has been selected as Director of Mission Advancement at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA.

Jessica had been serving as Museum Director and Corporate Communications Coordinator at Albright Care Services, Lewisburg, where she supported the fund development and marketing teams. As Director of Slifer House Museum, she developed public programming and events, solicited donations, wrote grant requests, maintained the museum collection, developed a college internship program and oversaw a team of volunteers. In her communications role, she planned and assisted in overseeing corporate events, maintained social media sites and wrote press releases and content for publications.

As Director of Mission Advancement, Jessica has a dual role to develop funding for the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and Maria Joseph Continuing Care Community in Danville. Some of her responsibilities include developing a long-range plan and annual goals to support the mission to provide compassionate care for the elderly and youth, working with leadership to establish a benevolent fund, directing the gift stewardship process, planning major events and managing the production of the annual report.

- Submitted by Sister Barbara Sable

