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Winter earns Eagle Scout Award

By Rachel George / Editor Apr 23, 2019



Robert "Davey" Winter is recognized at a Court of Honor ceremony March 23 at the Chalco NRD building.

Photo submitted by Elizabeth Winter

Another of Gretna's own has joined the elite ranks of the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout.

Robert "Davey" Winter earned the rank of Eagle Scout in September and was recognized during a Court of Honor ceremony March 23.

The highest possible achievement in Boy Scouts, the Eagle Scout rank requires a total of 21 merit badges, a community service project and board of review, among other requirements.

Since its inception in 1912, about 2 percent of eligible Scouts have earned the rank.

Winter got his start with the Boys Scouts of America as a Tiger Cub with Cub Scout Pack 363, later joining Boy Scout Troop 464 and then Troop 331.

He had long had his eye set on achieving the Eagle Scout rank, an honor his dad had earned as a boy.

“It was hard for me though and took me five years to complete,” Winter said. “Earning all the merit badges was more important to me. This is something I’d wanted to do since a Cub Scout. Only about 400 other Scouts have earned this honor and I earned 142 (badges) during my Scouting career.”

Winter knew that while construction projects are more the norm for many Eagle projects, he wanted to take a more technical approach.

Winter worked to create five shorter YouTube videos for the Chalco NRD. The videos serve to explain the laws protecting nesting eagles and ethics involved in viewing wildlife.

“My mom is a birder and always complained about people harassing the eagles,” he said. “The Chalco eagle nest is in its fourth year and to view the videos, you can scan the QR code and bring them up.”

Winter, an 18-year-old now attending the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, is a 2018 Gretna High School graduate. With the credits he earned in high school, he is already considered a junior in the school’s computer science program.

“(Scouting) taught me perseverance,” he said. “Earning all possible merit badges, finishing a Philmont trek after breaking my leg, having my scuba dive boat drift a mile away, working to be a high seller on popcorn and more, all taught me not to give up and to keep at my goals.

“A question I was asked during my Eagle board of review was, ‘If you had to add another point to the Scout Law, what would it be?’ My answer was ‘A Scout is determined.’”

rngeorge

