



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

James A. Garfield National
Historic Site

8095 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, Ohio 44060

www.nps.gov/jaga

James A. Garfield National Historic Site News Release

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Local Boy Scouts Earn Special Recognition from the National Park Service


Mentor, Ohio – Local scouts from the Mentor area are recipients of the new *Scout Ranger Badge* and Unit Certificate, part of a newly established program developed by the National Park Service (NPS) for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. This program (Resource Stewardship and Scout Ranger Program) is designed to increase scout visitation to national parks, promote better understanding of the NPS mission among scouts and their families, educate young people about their responsibility in conserving our natural and cultural resources, encourage volunteer service, and promote good citizenship.

Scouts from Pack #175 completed the five hour Unit Certificate requirement by participating in a program on preservation at James A. Garfield National Historic Site (JAGNHS) in Mentor. Held on September 27 in conjunction with National Public Lands Day, the scouts learned the importance of saving history through the care and preservation of important landmarks and aided park rangers in identifying over a dozen historic trees on the grounds of our twentieth president James A. Garfield. When asked why it was important for the scouts to participate in such a program, Pack leader Cheryl VanDemark explained, “Garfield’s home has become their home. They are a part of it.”

Alexander Murray and Jacob Murray, members of Scout Troop 383, completed the 10 hours required to earn the *Scout Ranger Badge* at JAGNHS. They are the first scouts to complete this badge requirement at the site. Jacob, a Boy Scout, and Alexander, a Cub

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Scout, assisted park employees by raking mounds of wet leaves from under brush and trees, field tested new activities for school-aged visitors, and learned proper flag etiquette.

A special ceremony awarding the *Scout Ranger Badges* and certificate was held on Saturday December 13 at the JAGNHS Visitor Center. Photos are available online at www.nps.gov/jaga/news.htm. To learn more about the Scout Ranger program, please call 440-255-8722 or jaga_interpretation@nps.gov.

James A. Garfield National Historic Site, a unit of the National Park Service (NPS), is located at 8095 Mentor Avenue (U.S. 20) in Mentor, Ohio, approximately 25 miles east of Cleveland. The 8-acre site consists of the main house and memorial library of James A. Garfield, the twentieth president of the United States, the 1880 presidential campaign office, the 1893 carriage house, the windmill and several outbuildings associated with the Garfield farm.

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