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Submitted by Greg Ansel



New Eagle Scouts from Troop 237 are Griffin Ansel, John Novogradac, Ian Livingston, Carter Fife and Jack Jorgensen. Photo Michael Novogradac

Boy Scout Troop 237 of Orinda honored five new Eagle Scouts, Ian Livingston, Griffin Ansel, John Novogradac, Carter Fife and Jack Jorgenson on March 20 at the Orinda Community Church. Troop 237 is chartered by the Orinda Community Church and has served the community for over 60 years with 225 scouts earning the highest rank of Eagle Scout.

Ian is a sophomore at Miramonte High School and his Eagle Project reflected his keen interest in the outdoors and the environment. Ian built nursery houses for bats and mounted them at the park rangers' station at the Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve. The four-chamber bat houses can hold up to 1,000 bats and will benefit the environment by spreading seeds, pollinating flowers and eating insects.

Griffin is a junior at Miramonte High School. Griffin, a varsity football player, wanted his Eagle Project

to benefit Miramonte and incorporate his love of sports. He worked closely with the head football coach to design, build and organize storage cubbies at Miramonte to hold the shoulder pads and helmets in the off-season. The enhanced storage facilities will store the equipment without damaging them and will extend both their life expectancy and effectiveness.

John is a sophomore at Head-Royce School. John, a varsity baseball player, met and brainstormed with leaders of the Oakland Girls Softball League (OGSL) and cleaned, organized and built shelving to store OGSL softball equipment in a secure Oakland location. As part of his project he led young people, including scouts, to clean, inventory and organize the OGSL equipment.

Carter is a senior at Bentley High School. Carter, an avid reader, wanted to find an Eagle project that would allow him to share access of quality books with readers from Oakland to Africa. Carter's Eagle Project collected unwanted books door-to-door by personal solicitation and then led a team to sort the books according to type and condition. The books most relevant to African readers were shipped to Books for Africa with the rest donated to the Oakland Library.

Jack is a senior at Miramonte High School and wanted to give back to the community. Jack's Eagle Project was to create navigational aids for First Responders to be able to navigate their way around Miramonte High School efficiently in the event of an emergency. His project included positioning and painting Compass Rose directional markers throughout the campus as well as painting classroom numbers making the campus easier to navigate for emergency medical service, fire and police responders in the case of an emergency.

For more information about Troop 237, please visit www.troop237orinda.com.

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