



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Georgia-Carolina Council

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MARI GRUBY BECOMES CSRA'S FIRST FEMALE EAGLE SCOUT

Local Scout makes history in earning Eagle Scout Rank.

AUGUSTA, Ga. – Mari Gruby makes history as first female Eagle Scout in the CSRA.

Gruby was honored this week for earning the Eagle Scout rank as a member of Troop 2319 in Grovetown. The recognition makes Gruby the first female Eagle Scout in the Georgia-Carolina Council's 100-year history.

Gruby started the Scouting program at the age of 14 in Venturing Crew 108 and joined Scouts BSA Troop 2319 in February 2019. She had to work very diligently to complete the requirements in two years before aging out of the program. She said her main focus after joining the troop was to earn all of her ranks and plan her Eagle Scout project.

Her project was to build a nature sensory education board for the special education classes at Euchee Creek Elementary School. She emphasized how important it was to develop leadership skills to complete this project. The project took five months to complete.

Gruby has also served on the Robert E. Knox Scout Reservation summer camp staff for three years, and any free time she had was spent working on Merit Badges. Along with completing the necessary merit badges to earn the Eagle Scout rank, Gruby also completed five additional merit badges to earn the Bronze Palm with her Eagle rank. Gruby is the first in her family to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. She said to anyone working on completing their Eagle Rank, "Keep going, you've got this!"

Scoutmaster Julie Thornton added, "It was my honor to be Mari's leader. Troop 2319 was founded so that girls like Mari would have the opportunity to benefit from the Scouts BSA program. Troop 2319 was lucky to have Mari set the standard for excellence in our troop and lead the way for all of our future

Eagles. We are lucky to have her remain with the troop as an Assistant Scoutmaster where she will continue to lead and mentor. “

Gruby graduated from Grovetown High School on Saturday and will attend Augusta University in the fall to study Pre-Elementary Education.

The Georgia-Carolina Council serves more than 1,600 area youth and 700 adult volunteers providing mentorship and guidance in 16 local counties, including Richmond, Columbia and Aiken. About 15% of the membership is female in the Scouts BSA program. Over 5,000 CSRA residents are Eagle Scouts. To join Scouting today, go to gacacouncil.org, or contact the Scout office at (706) 733-5277.

For more information or to coordinate additional media coverage, please contact Rebecca Stiles, District Executive for the Georgia-Carolina Council, at (706) 733-5277 or Rebecca.stiles@scouting.org.

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