Amelia C.: Cultivating Confidence & Community

When Amelia C. first stepped into a Scout meeting, she was a 17-year-old who admittedly “didn’t know what she was doing”. Like many trailblazing young women in the program, she began as a “follow along” to her brother, but she quickly realized she wanted the rank for herself. Today, Amelia is one of only two female Eagle Scouts working in the Milford Council office—a leader whose journey was defined by rapid growth, environmental stewardship, and the grit to overcome the “Eagle Slump”.

Finding Her Voice

Amelia’s early days were a crash course in moving through failures. She recalls a first winter campout—perhaps at Camp Resolute—where the troop was far from “outdoorsy”. From the infamous mistake of packing ten pairs of cotton socks to realizing she hadn’t adequately prepared the full troop, these early hurdles were the catalyst for her transformation.

The version of Amelia standing today bears little resemblance to that unsure beginner. Through the program, she traded uncertainty for polished leadership and a mastery of delegation—a skill she insists she will still be using when she is 30, whether in a group project or her professional life.

Memories in the Making

Scouting wasn’t just about the hardships; it was about the humor found in the chaos. Amelia laughs about a “geocaching nightmare” at Base Camp that was supposed to take 45 minutes but stretched into two hours before the team finally gave up and spent the time talking with staff instead.

The physical challenges were just as memorable. While she wasn't a fan of lake swimming for her Swimming Merit Badge, those grueling laps were balanced by moments of pure beauty. Her most cherished memory remains a 4th of July hike up Mt. Monadnock with her crew, where they watched the fireworks from the summit—a perspective few get to experience

The Eagle Project: A Natural Legacy

Amelia's Eagle project was a labor of love for her local environment. Inspired by her own hobbies, she installed pollinator gardens at "Bumblebee Park," a local space she wanted to revitalize. Her mission was clear: encourage native plants and animals to return to the community without the use of harmful pesticides.

The path to the project was its own mountain to climb. Amelia faced:

- **Bureaucratic Headaches:** Constant back-and-forth with the town to secure approvals.
- **Supply Chain Struggles:** Sourcing and securing materials in the middle of a global pandemic.
- **Operational Chaos:** On project day, she managed the chaos by creating social distancing between three garden sites and pairing experienced volunteers with novices.

The reward was instantaneous. Watching "empty Earth" transform into a budding habitat was the exact second she realized the impact of her work. Today, her project has sparked a movement, with the town planting even more pollinator gardens in the area

Resilience and the "Eagle Slump"

Amelia is upfront and honest about the "Eagle Slump"—that period of distraction that hits many Scouts during the transition to college and graduation. She hit that wall hard, but she stayed motivated by looking back at the young girl who

once followed her brother and decided she wanted to reach the top of the ladder herself.

She completed her trail to Eagle in a staggering 24 months—a "lofty" pace that required immense drive. To Amelia, the responsibility of an Eagle Scout is about more than a rank; it's about "shining an example" and helping those further down the ladder reach the top.

Now pursuing a career as a paralegal, Amelia carries that same drive with her. If she had to sum up her entire Scouting journey in just three words, she chooses: "**Memorable. Chaotic. Driven.**".