



Eagle Scout Celebration Week | February 21-27, 2021
Eagle Scout Service Project Description
Demetrius Tsoukaladakis

The Eagle Scout project I chose to do was building a new flag rack for the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery located in Marana. My family has a lot of background in the military with both sides of my family being involved in both the Air Force and the Army I have always had a major amount of respect for those who have served. I wanted to give back and pay my respect to the many veterans that have served and have passed on. This was my opportunity to give back. My grandpa who served in the Air Force introduced me to the cemetery manager, Mr. Brad Bendixen, and we discussed how I could help improve the cemetery. We decided that I would build a new flag rack to hold all of the service branch flags during their ceremonies that they hold for veterans as well as provide a new path for an Eagle statue that they had made to honor those who have given their lives for our country.

I started with the flag rack since it was going to be the centerpiece of ceremonies that were going to be held. I spent a few days designing the rack and figuring out the best way to present all of the branch flags. I decided to use a curved base plate and attach the flags to the back all at equal levels to avoid any hierarchy. I also designed it to be temporary that way it could be moved in and out of the space. After deciding the base I worked on the symbols for each branch. I decided to keep the formality of the space and use the same design style that was already present at the cemetery with discs that protruded off of the base with each of the branch's symbols cut out of them. With this in mind, I also chose a black base color and a brass accent for the symbols and flag holders. I worked with Santa Rita Steel to get all of the pre-fab pieces cut and then worked with Anderson Painting and Arizona Powder Supply to get the pieces painted. After getting everything ready I worked with Gumbati Construction to fabricate the flag rack. Then I delivered it to the cemetery and assembled it. After presenting it to





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Mr. Bendixen he talked to the state and they decided that it should be a permanent piece of the structure and had it put into the foundation.

On the day of my project, I also built the path for the new statue that they had ordered. With the sand provided from Pioneer Landscaping and the bricks supplied from the cemetery, I started planning out the path. I started by measuring out where the statue would be and keeping in mind that the cemetery wanted to put benches next to the path I designed and laid it out. After doing so we poured the sand into the outline and leveled it out that way we could start laying the bricks. When deciding how to lay the bricks I wanted to keep in mind the usefulness of the path, the cemetery wanted to be able to put the names of people who have donated on the bricks, and the amount of space for the bricks. After deciding on a path we started laying out the bricks. During this process, we also started filling in the spaces between the bricks with sand that way they would hold up against the weather and prevent them from moving and still be able to be taken out to inscribe. Of course, none of this would have been possible with all of the wonderful people that provided their services, supported me along the way, and the people who directly volunteered at my project.

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