Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook

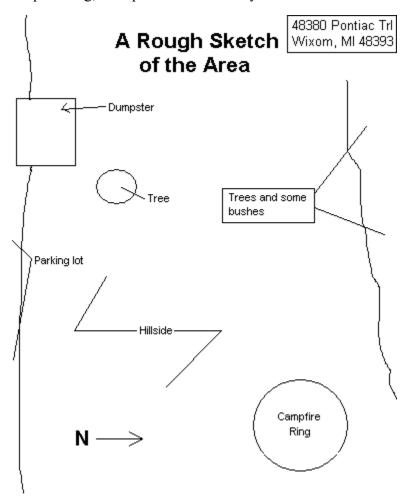
| Scout's name: Address: Telephone No.: | Jeff Walden 2569 Marchar Wolverine Lake, MI 48390 248.624.9387 |
|---|---|
| Unit No.: District: Local council: | Troop 326 Ottawa Clinton Valley Council |
| Unit leader's name: Address: Telephone No.: | Rick Squires 2132 Jason Drive Commerce Township, MI 48382 248.363.7779 |
| Unit advancement committee person's name: Address: Telephone No.: | Glen Milligan 392 Rosario Lane White Lake, MI 48386 248.698.1258 |

Describe the project you plan to do.

The church I attend in Walled Lake, St. Matthew, expanded several years ago into a new sister church in Wixom. St. Matthew, Wixom, was built on purchased property, which still needs some work to make it fully useful. Also, given the church's somewhat unorthodox style of worship (Sunday evening services as opposed to the traditional Sunday morning service, with the more laid-back atmosphere of almost a coffee house-style of discussion), it naturally has different needs from those of the original St. Matthew in Walled Lake. As it also serves as a day care, the differences are further compounded.

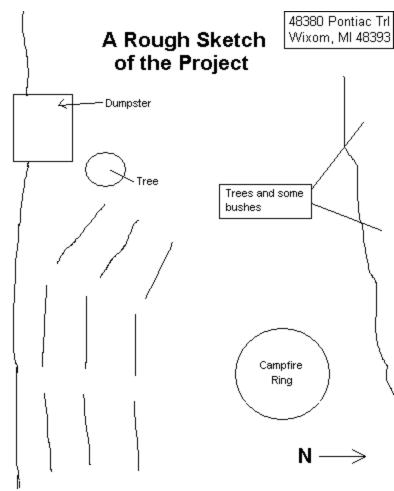
When I approached St. Matthew for suggestions for an Eagle Scout project, they directed me to Wixom. My initial contact was with Jay Harrison, who mentioned the possibility of constructing an amphitheater. After a meeting with Jay Harrison and the church's Deacon Scheler, I decided that constructing an amphitheater for St. Matthew, Wixom would be my project.

The area of the proposed amphitheater is the side of a small hill at the end of the church parking lot. There is a large tree in the back of the area that will slightly overhang the amphitheater. The hill has a relatively gradual slope, although there is a small chance that some leveling will be needed. The slope of the hill makes it a comfortable seat, even though Wixom desires something more permanent. At the foot of the hill is a small campfire ring, with picnic tables nearby for seats when needed. Picnic tables, of course,



are not ideal seats on a sloped hill, however, and they are also not permanent. Consequently, the new amphitheater will have long benches embedded into the ground beneath. The hope is to add enough benches to seat 50 people comfortably. Given that it will often be used by the day care, the benches must easily fit the small children who will use them most.

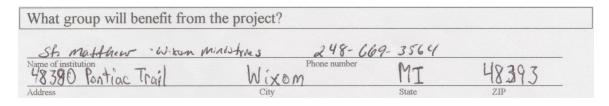
The amphitheater area is small for any large audience, but it can easily fit 50 people, which is the goal for constructed seating. More may be added depending on the actual space when measured. The benches will probably be in three rows with two aisles. Given the relatively poor quality of the ground



underneath, the posts for the benches will need to be sunk deeply into the ground (almost certainly more than 40"). Depending on the exact location of the benches, the campfire ring may need to be moved. Among the supplies I'll require for this are the actual wood (for the benches and posts), shovels (for miscellaneous digging), saws (for cutting wood to size), stakes (for visually mapping out the locations of bench posts and benches), a power auger (I've been told the ground can be particularly hard), manpower (supplied by my troop), and materials necessary to protect the wood from weather (if the wood used isn't already treated). (I imagine other demands will come up as

the project continues.) In addition to talking with Deacon Scheler and others from St. Matthew, Wixom, I also plan to consult with a landscaper on the exact layout of benches, campfire ring, and stage area for campfire leaders. A professional landscaper will be helpful with creating a good setup, and he would certainly have more experience at the task.

While this project will require work, it certainly won't be impossible. It will help me earn the rank of Eagle Scout, and it will help St. Matthew, Wixom by giving them better facilities for the work they do.



My project will be of benefit to the group because:

St. Matthew, Wixom has a campfire area right now, but given that it is currently limited to a few picnic tables, it isn't particularly comfortable over longer periods of time. The side of a hill may be functional as a place to sit, but it is hardly ideal. Additionally, the picnic tables must be moved out and back, which may not be easy if the day care needs to use the campfire area. If St. Matthew, Wixom has an amphitheater with permanent seating, the amphitheater will focus attention on the speaker. It will eliminate the setup and teardown of picnic tables. Finally, it will increase the seating available in the campfire area.

camptire area.

This concept was discussed with my unit leader on

The project concept was discussed with the following representative of the group that will benefit from the project.

3-2-09

- J. She 2-26-04 Date of meeting 248.669.3564 enor Representative's Phone number Representative's title

PROJECT DETAILS

Plan your work by describing the present condition, the method, materials to be used, project helpers, and a time schedule for carrying out the project. Describe any safety hazards you might face, and explain how you will ensure the safety of those carrying out the project.

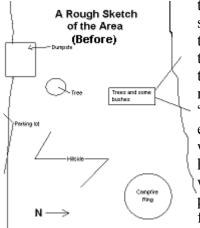
If appropriate, include photographs of the area before you begin your project. Providing before-and-after photographs of your project area can give a clear example of your effort.

Description:

The Project Idea

For all my life, my family and I have attended church at St. Matthew Lutheran, Walled Lake. Naturally, an Eagle project through my church would be an obvious idea, so I began my search for a project through Pastor Paul Moldenhauer. He referred me to another person, Lorrain Liszewski, the Director of Support Ministries. She told me that h2o (also known as St. Matthew, Wixom – our sister church) had a couple possible projects I might undertake.

h2o was completed within the last few years as a way to serve the city of Wixom, one of the fastest-growing communities in Michigan. As Wixom is a growing community,

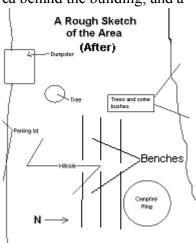


the age of its residents is naturally lower than in more stable communities. To meet the needs of Wixom it is therefore quite different from typical churches. Compared to traditional churches, its services are very contemporary; they're even on Sunday nights as a way of making them more accessible. h2o promotes these church services as "coffee house worship" because they're so different, and each service has a coffee bar to provide drinks for those who desire them. In addition to weekly church services, h2o also runs a Christian day care during the day on weekdays. The property consists of a church building, a parking lot, a small grassy area behind the building, and a

few acres of woodlands extending back to some

railroad tracks.

Deacon Scheler of h2o had an idea for a project that sounded intriguing. The grassy area behind the church building had a campfire ring; it was used, but the lack of seating other than picnic tables was an annoyance when using the campfire ring. Dragging picnic tables into place and sitting on the ground were the only seating options. The picnic tables weren't even viable if the day care wished to use them because of the hassle of managing the children while moving the picnic tables. Deacon Scheler's idea was to install permanent seating in the area so that it could be more easily used. Using benches instead of picnic tables



would eliminate seating setup time, and it would make larger-scale use of the area easier

and more comfortable for the audience. I decided this project was viable and chose it as my Eagle Scout project.

Planning

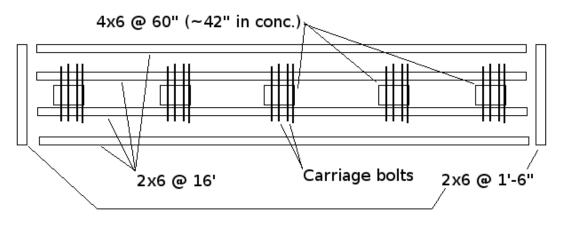
A brief list of some of the issues considered or under consideration:

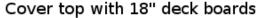
- Bench design (detailed below)
- Post hole digging using a power auger
- · Layout choices with advice from a landscaper
- · Manpower for fundraising and project itself
- Money for supplies, food for workers, etc.

These items will be coordinated mostly through Troop 326. I will also ask some friends from St. Matthew to help as well; together these groups should easily provide me with the numbers to complete the project in a reasonable amount of time.

Bench Design

The design for the benches was formulated after consultation with Home Depot. The benches are of a relatively simple design; each of the six benches is 16' (not including an additional 3" for two outer 2x6 boards to enclose the bench structure). The basic design is shown to the right; I hope to seat 60 people on the six benches. A design sketch is shown below:





Bench Materials

- 24 2x6-16' (untreated, will be sealed)
- 2 2x6-12' (untreated, will be sealed)
- 15 4x6-12.60CCA (treated)
- 4 boxes 1/2x8 carriage bolts
- 120 nuts
- 120 washers
- 504 screws
- 13 1x12-12 deck board
- 2 5-gallon Thompson's Water Sealer
- 1 sprayer

Main boards the length of each bench

Outside "bookend" boards

42" in ground/16" out, a little leeway

4 carriage bolts bind 2x6-16' boards/posts

- To fasten carriage bolts
- To fasten carriage bolts

To hold deck boards/2x6 wood together

- Covering for top of each bench
- er Wood sealer to protect the wood

To put water sealer on wood

Project Construction Tools

- Power auger for post holes
- Power saws for deck boards
- · Drills for carriage bolt holes
- Wrenches/etc. for tightening bolts
- Power saws for cutting the two outer boards for each bench
- Sprayer for wood sealer

I expect many of these tools will be supplied by my family and helpers at the project, as they are ubiquitous home improvement tools. Some may be purchased if necessary, though I do not believe this will happen. The largest item (the power auger) will be rented from Home Depot for Friday, June 4^{th} – the day before the project; we will use it to drill the holes on that day and will return it when finished. Renting such an auger from Home Depot will cost \$56.00. If I can procure the donation of an auger for a day, this will help, but it will not be necessary to the success of the project.

Project Cost

| \$8.82 24 | 2x6-16' (untreated, will be sealed) | \$211.68 |
|------------|---|-----------|
| \$6.11 2 | 2x6-12' (untreated, will be sealed) | \$12.22 |
| \$19.97 15 | 4x6-12.60CCA (treated) | \$299.55 |
| \$46.75 4 | box $1/2x8$ carriage bolts | \$187.00 |
| \$.20 120 | nuts | \$24.00 |
| \$.20 120 | washers | \$24.00 |
| \$20.97 2 | 5# box 3" screws | \$41.94 |
| \$17.40 13 | 1x12-12 deck board | \$226.20 |
| \$49.97 2 | 5-gallon Thompson's Water Sealer | \$99.94 |
| \$14.991 | sprayer | \$14.99 |
| \$55.991 | 4hr. power auger/bit from Home Depot | \$56.00 |
| \$20.00 | Fuel for power auger | \$20.00 |
| \$3.00 50 | Food for one helper (fundraiser or project) | \$150.00 |
| Total: | | \$1367.52 |

Fundraising

Given the large cost for this project, fundraising will be a must. I estimate \$1367.52 for the project cost as demonstrated above; to pay for this I plan an all-day can and bottle drive on May 8th, 2004. I intend to promote this fundraiser through troop meetings and personal phone calls to every Scout in the troop. Also, recognizing that flyers alone are somewhat ineffective at communicating about the fundraiser, I intend to personally call every troop member to make certain that every Scout knows about the fundraiser (and in a second round of calls the project itself). While using the fan-out process does have its advantages, personal contact is what will be needed to successfully market it to troop members.

The meeting point will be my house at 2569 Marchar in Wolverine Lake, and the area of coverage will be local neighborhoods. In order to maximize the money earned, I intend to distribute flyers through these neighborhoods on Tuesday, May 4th with as many willing troop members as I can get. The flyers will quickly tell who is doing the fundraiser, when we'll come and pick up the cans, what to do if the house has no cans

(make a donation), and where the house can drop off any cans or can deposit receipts that are not collected. On Saturday the fundraiser will run from roughly 9am to 5pm. Assuming a minimum of ten people can work at all times (I fully anticipate having at least 15 due to the personal phone calls), this would mean that each person must collect roughly \$17 per hour of work – certainly a feasible amount if flyers are distributed. Donations received at the time of the fundraiser from those who do not have cans and bottles to give will also help in this respect.

I also hope to have some of the project's needs donated independent of the can and bottle drive. I do not expect to receive a great amount of donations, however, so what I can get will be deducted from the total cost of the project.

The Project

During the week I will buy the wood and supplies. Through General Motors, my dad will get a pickup truck as a company vehicle. Using this pickup we will transport the wood to my house. With the help of a few friends the untreated wood will be prepared and sprayed with Thompson's Water Sealer during the week.

The project itself will occur on Friday, June 4th and Saturday, June 5th. On Friday the supplies will be transported from my house to h2o. Additionally, the holes for the bench posts will be drilled, and the untreated wood will be sprayed with wood sealer. Everything will be covered with tarps from troop members, and the holes will be surrounded by barriers to prevent accidents. The next day, Saturday, the benches will be built and put into the ground, completing the project.

Time Projection

These figures are only rough estimates, but I believe they are as accurate as possible. I estimate the total projected amount of time spent on my project will be as follows:

| Component: | Hours | : Who: |
|--------------------------|--------|--|
| Project planning | 40 | |
| Cans/bottles flyering | 20 | 6 people for 3 hours (Troop 326) |
| Cans/bottles fundraising | 130 | 15 people for 9 hours (Troop 326) |
| Project | 120 | 20 people for 6 hours (Troop 326 & church) |
| Total | 310 ho | ours |

Wrapup

While this project will not be easy to complete, it is certainly doable. With enough help from Troop 326 members and friends from St. Matthew I will be able to finish this project. It will provide benches to a church and day care to replace prior use of picnic tables. It will give h20 yet one more way to serve the needs of Wixom through Christian worship. Finally, it will serve as a project for me as I work towards becoming an Eagle Scout.

"Before" Photographs



Approval Signatures for Project Plan ind approved by were reviewa

IMPORTANT NOTE: You may proceed with your leadership project only when you have ...

- Completed all the above mentioned planning details
- Shared the project plans with the appropriate persons
- Obtained approval from the appropriate persons

CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT

Record the progress of your project. Keep a record of how much time you spend planning and carrying out the project. List who besides yourself worked on the project, the days they worked, the number of hours they worked each day, and the total length of time others assisted on the project.

If appropriate, list the type and cost of any materials required to complete the project. If your original project plan changes at any time, be sure and document what the change was and the reason for the change.

<!-- insert timesheet printout here from Timesheet.sxc -->

<!-- insert income/expense sheets from "money tallies.sxc" -->

Materials List

(see expenses list for costs for each group of items purchased)

| Material | Quantity |
|--|----------|
| Bottle drive neighborhood flyers photocopies | 450 |
| 2x6-16 boards | 24 |
| 2x6-8 boards | 3 |
| 1 gallon container deck sealer | 2 |
| 5-gallon Thompson's Advanced Water Sealer | 1 |
| Carriage bolts | 36 |
| Washers | 36 |
| Nuts | 36 |
| 1 yard pea gravel | 1 |
| 4x4-12 pressure-treated posts | 9 |
| 4x4-8 pressure-treated posts (for blocks inside benches) | 3 |
| 5/4x12 deck boards | 24 |
| Box of screws | 1 |
| Large pizza for bottle drive helpers | 6 |
| Large pizza for project help | 5 |
| 12-packs of pop | 9 |
| Containers of doughnuts | 4 |
| Trash bags (not all used) | 120 |
| Bags of potato chips | 3 |
| Gallon orange juice | 2 |
| Bags of candy | 4 |
| Project picture processing | 1 |

Requested Side Project Materials

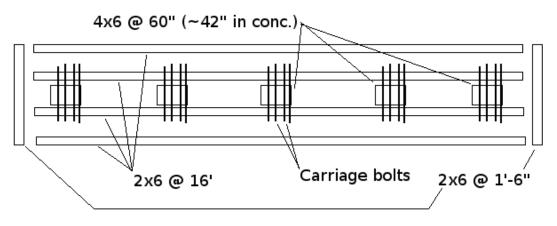
| Material | Quantity |
|--------------|----------|
| PVC fittings | 12 |
| Primer | 1 |
| PVC pipe | 2 |

Changes

List any changes made to the original project plan and explain why those changes were made.

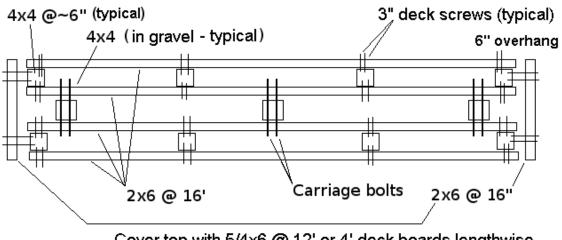
The primary changes made to the project plan dealt with the benches themselves. This didn't surprise me, as when I designed them I knew they were definitely overengineered. Downsizing the strengths of the materials used saved quite a bit of money, particularly as I didn't really expect to raise the full amount I had projected I would need from one bottle drive.

The plans for the benches before the project were as follows:



Cover top with 18" deck boards

The plans actually used were as follows:



Cover top with 5/4x6 @ 12' or 4' deck boards lengthwise

Though the underlying design stayed the same, the final design had a lot of tweaks and removals to cut costs and reduce structural redundancies. Here's a list of the changes made with reasons for each change:

| Change | Reason |
|---|---|
| Bench width changed from 18" to 16" $(16\frac{1}{2})$ " with overhanging deck boards) | Doing so saved some money by reducing the amount of wood needed for the ends of the benches. It also cut down the amount of deck board needed to cover the tops of the benches |
| Bench posts reduced from 4x6 to 4x4 | After speaking with my uncle (an architect) and my dad, I decided 4x6 posts were overkill and simply weren't worth the cost. |
| Three bench posts instead of five | My dad and uncle told me that three would be sufficient for the benches, and it saved about \$120. |
| Two carriage bolts per bench post, not four | Four carriage bolts simply wouldn't fit, and advice from adults at the project was that any more than two bolts wasn't necessary. |
| "Bookend" boards cut from 2 2x6-8 boards | The bench width change necessitated this, and it reduced the wood left over from the initial boards. |
| 4x4 blocks added to more fully support the outer full-length boards | The outer boards simply couldn't get the support I expected they could hold with the configuration I had set up. They were relatively cheap, too, so the burden wasn't too large. |
| Screws used to connect 4x4 blocks and surrounding boards | The screws provided the support for the boards by entering the blocks instead of the ends of the 2x6 boards. |
| Instead of laying deck boards the width of the bench, rotated to lie the length of it (saves much labor) | This required the purchase of one more $5/4x12$ - 12, but the labor saved more than compensated for the additional \$7.39 spent. |
| Deck boards changed to $5/4x12-12 -$ three per bench plus a fourth cut up into thirds for three lengths of bench | The 1x12-12 wood I had chosen earlier wasn't quite as fit for the job as I had thought it was. |
| Posts sunk in gravel instead of concrete to make installation/removal easier (the install area is in the way of a future building expansion) | In addition to being simpler (no waiting for concrete to dry), using gravel allows the benches to be simply lifted from the ground for removal elsewhere in the event of a future building expansion (which would encroach upon the current bench location). |
| Posts sunk in shallower holes | We couldn't get down deep enough with the power auger to drill as much as we'd wanted, partially because of the clay in the ground and |

| Change | Reason |
|-------------------------------|---|
| | partially because the drill bit wasn't quite long enough. |
| Dug two additional post holes | The church needed a way to hang promotional signs better out front, and as we had the power auger it was a prime opportunity to give a little extra with no additional expenses. |

I also had to make a few changes with respect to the actual project preparation itself. For the can/bottle drive, I had hoped to distribute flyers through the coverage area on Tuesday, May 4th; unfortunately, I wasn't able to get the response I'd hoped to get, so I made some phone calls and got help from some close friends on distributing the flyers the next day (with a final bit left over for Thursday for me to distribute for an hour or so). Were I to do this again I would simply concentrate on getting a few close friends I know who would be more willing to help; the troop didn't know me as well as it could have due to my activities in the Order of the Arrow, so it was perhaps more reluctant to help.

For the day of the can/bottle drive itself, I got snacks from the local Farmer Jack and pizza from Cottage Inn. This worked quite well, as it offered an energy boost and a chance for a rest. The snacks provided worked well; I neither ran out nor had an overly large amount remaining afterwards.

I had enough help to just finish collecting cans and bottles from the area in which I had distributed flyers. I had hoped to cover a little more area than that which had been flyered, but as I ended the project with extra money this wasn't really a problem.

| Change | Reason |
|---|---|
| Purchased deck cleaner to prepare wood for sealing | The fine-print directions on the wood sealer required the use of deck cleaner prior to sealing |
| Upgraded to a premium wood sealer from the more basic initial first choice | The basic wood sealer could only be applied to pressure-treated wood that had been aged for 30 days; this wait simply wasn't practical. |
| Decided to seal all wood (even pressure-treated wood) to be safe | Better protection certainly can't hurt, and the available supply of water sealer was abundant – I had plenty extra (I even returned 5 gallons of it) even after coating everything. |
| Successfully got a power auger donated for use during the project (saved money over rental) | I had hoped this would happen, but because I couldn't be certain I would be able to get one I hadn't counted on it during initial planning. |

After the can/bottle drive, yet more changes had to be made:

After the project occurred, I had a few more minor changes to make. These changes, however, were for the most part either benign or good!

| Change | Reason |
|--|---|
| Purchased a few extra supplies for the posts out front for signs | With the extra money there was no reason not to use it for something the church needed. |

| Change | Reason |
|--|--|
| Donated extra money to church for whatever uses they might find for it. | It's always nice to have extra money, and giving it to the church was the logical thing to do. |

Process

Organizing this Eagle project was no picnic. Initially, it required some persistence to get some help with a design. I had been told that Home Depot would be willing to do the design work for me (which would have been great), but when I was finally able to meet with them they told me they didn't. Luckily, a couple employees there worked out a rough sketch of a possible bench design for me, greatly helping me with the design process. I then had to visit another Home Depot (the other had been closer to St. Matthew, Wixom, because I figured they would be more willing to help a church located closer to them) and price my materials.

The next step in planning was to write up a proposal for the project for presentation to the troop committee. They rejected my initial proposal, but a second, more thorough effort made it past them. After presenting the project to Mr. D'Hondt from the district for final proposal approval, my project had now entered the realm of execution.

As nearly every Eagle Scout project requires funds, I next directed my attention to the can and bottle drive I had proposed. I created a flyer to distribute through the troop to gather help for the drive; I then distributed the flyer at a couple troop meetings. Recognizing also that while flyers are often persistent (I had several Scouts who told me they had several copies of some of my flyers) but are easily forgotten, I also began a phone calling campaign through the entire troop. I spent several nights working on this aspect of the project, slowly accumulating names and times to ensure the drive was a success. I also created a flyer for distribution through the neighborhoods I intended to visit during the drive. I have found that some forewarning is invaluable in increasing the success of a drive. I know the flyering was particularly fortuitous because at one of the houses that I visited, the owners told me that they would be out of town over the weekend of drive but could leave their cans and bottles (nearly \$50 worth!) outside on their porch. (When we later collected from that street, I was particularly amused to note that the driver of the Scouts who collected from the house mentioned to me before I could even ask about the house that he was amazed that the cans were almost all from one house!) With help from a few other Scouts I distributed these flyers through the target neighborhoods.

Finally the drive arrived. It ran all day, and in general collection proceeded smoothly. The afternoon was noticeably lighter than the morning, but as we collected from every house that had received a flyer I was happy. We sorted the cans and bottles into bags for receipt collection using the troop's collapsible trash cans to good effect. I had several adults returning cans and bottles constantly to Costco, whose can sorting machines made short work of many of the thousands of cans we collected. I also used a troop fly for shelter from the sun (and slight sprinkling of rain).

After the project I turned my efforts back over to the project itself. I made another flyer announcing the remaining dates I needed help (with prepping the wood, drilling the post holes, and installing and building the benches), and I distributed it at a few more troop meetings. I made more phone calls to gain more help, and I tried to get a few minor donations. I attempted to get lower prices for some of my materials by purchasing through my uncle (who gets a discount at Stock Lumber), but prices were still higher than at Home Depot. I managed to procure a power auger for free from Jerry's Rental, however, which was a great help in lowering the project cost. I also reviewed the plans some more, determining a few extra places I could save by reducing the structure of the benches.

At the start of the week of the project, I did a quick review of my project plans with my dad. I made a few last tweaks and additions to the plan, and then my dad and I went to purchase the needed supplies. After getting the supplies home the next step was to clean the wood with deck cleaner to prepare it for the water sealer. With the help of a few people from the troop I got the wood cleaned on Memorial Day, and later in the week I sealed the wood with the help of a few friends both from within the troop and from elsewhere.

After a quick visit to the church to finalize the layout of the benches, the time finally came to start the real work. On June 4th some adults from the troop spent a couple hours digging the post holes with the power auger from Jerry's Rental. Aside from the ever-present clay we encountered no real problems except that we couldn't dig as far as I'd hoped. The next day we built and installed the benches. After a lot of cutting and putting screws into the wood we put the posts into the ground and started working to get the benches up. By lunch we had made one full bench, and after several hours of work the rest were finally completed. My only remaining jobs were to finalize the finances and to write the project report you're reading now.

Reflection and Lessons Learned

No project is without its errors and mistakes, and this project was certainly no exception. My first mistake occurred even before the project was approved: I forgot to include taxes in my cost estimates for the project. While this is overlookable for small matters, when a project's total cost is well over \$1000 taxes account for over \$60 in expenses that I'd simply forgotten to calculate.

The bottle drive was another source of mistakes. My first mistake was in the number of flyers I distributed through the target neighborhoods – I distributed almost 1000, but I needed more to actually reach my initial goal. I also needed more time to publicize the bottle drive, because I didn't have as much help as I would have liked to have in the afternoon. I also didn't consider *how* I was going to make my flyer copies – my uncle was willing to make them all for me, but because of the timing he couldn't, so I had to pay for copies from Staples. Another good idea would have been pre-printed maps – it would have reduced hassle and eased the process of coordinating the efforts at covering all the streets. I should have considered more how to sort through the cans and bottles; the troop's collapsible containers were extremely useful, and I'm not sure how well I would have done without them.

Planning for the project went well, but it too wasn't without its flaws. My first was in not examining the materials I was purchasing closely; I purchased water sealer without noticing that it couldn't be applied to newly pressure-treated wood and required deck cleaner beforehand, necessitating more trips back to the store for purchases and returns. I also erred in my choice of deck board for the benches, because my initial choice was unfeasible.

Actual project prep introduced the chance for more mistakes. First, the bit I got with the power auger was too short to dig as deeply as I'd wanted; I should have asked for some method to get deeper, because the bit used was too short for the depth I wanted. Drilling the holes in the ground also didn't go as well as I'd hoped. Despite measuring out

the dimensions beforehand for each set of post holes, they still ended up misplaced when it came time to build the benches.

The execution of the project went reasonably well, but I still could have done a few things better. The first thing I could have done better was to consider the way the benches would be pieced together more completely. The method of constructing the basic building blocks of the benches was a good idea that I should have determined myself beforehand. I'm also not sure whether doing more cutting at home would have been a good idea – it would at least have been worth considering, but I barely gave it a thought.

Given the success of the project, however, it's impossible to overlook the successes involved. My first success, I believe, was the design of the benches. Overdesigning initially gave me a safety net in case I couldn't raise the funds for the project, and it kept the benches from becoming weak by setting the bar so high it couldn't possibly be lowered that far. This is also arguably a mistake too, but I believe it's more of a success than a mistake.

Another success was that I collected from every house I'd flyered. The importance of this cannot be overstated, because nothing looks worse than asking for money and then not collecting it when it's offered. It took hard work near the end to get it, but we just barely visited every one of the houses.

I also liked my method for enclosing the post holes to keep people out while they were unfilled – I simply surrounded the area with picnic tables. This was a simple, unintrusive way to keep people out that worked perfectly.

There were many other successes, too, but unfortunately by their nature they aren't as memorable as the mistakes. I do think, however, that one success remedies all the mistakes that happened and that I allowed to happen: the benches are installed and usable.

Project Successfulness

In my opinion this project was extremely successful. I accomplished exactly what I set out to do: build a set of benches for the church to use for services and outdoor activities. I raised enough funds to cover what I had to accomplish, and in the end I even had some remaining to donate to St. Matthew, Wixom. Finally, my initial, over-engineered design changed into a polished, cost-effective, and functional work that will be used for many years by St. Matthew, Wixom.

Photographs "AFTER" Photographs Including photographs of your completed project (along with the "before" photographs with the project description) helps present a clearer overall understanding of your effort.



Approvals for Completed Project

| Start date of project: | February 25, 2004 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Completion date of project: | June 17, 2004 |

The project was started and has been completed since I received the Life Scout rank, and is respectfully submitted for consideration.

Applicant's signature:

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This project was planned, developed, and carried out by the candidate.

Signature of Scoutmaster/Coach/Advisor:

_____ Date: _____

Signature of the representative of religious institution, school, or community:

_____ Date: