



Katelyn Kesinger

Cummings, Kansas

American Flag Etiquette

Katelyn Kesinger has been a Girl Scout for 12 years and is in Troop 8184 in Service Unit 801. She is currently a sophomore at Maur Hill – Mount Academy.

Katelyn's Gold Award project addressed the issue of a lack of knowledge about the proper ways to dispose of the American flag. When flags are damaged, Katelyn found that some people throw them away rather than respectfully retiring them. For her project, she coordinated proper flag retirement and burning ceremonies and educated the public on proper flag etiquette. It is her hope that through education and resources for properly retiring flags, her community will be more respectful of the flag and the people who fought for it.

Katelyn worked with local Girl Scouts, Daughters of the American Revolution and her family to create the presentation, brochures and conduct the flag ceremonies. Since the American flag is an international symbol of the American people, Katelyn believes a greater respect for that symbol will improve relations and increase respect. Through this process she learned confidence and leadership by giving presentations and speaking to the public. The Gold Award helped Katelyn find her voice, one of the greatest privileges of being an American.

Because of Girl Scouts...

I'm more confident in myself and I know I can be a leader.