

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Roy A. Brown III, Jr. Past Governor  
Name 630-399-3058 - Cell  
Company Downers Grove Moose Family Center #1535  
Phone 630-968-4550 - Lodge  
Fax 630-968-4509  
Email MrMoose@RABIII.com  
Website [www.DGMoose.org](http://www.DGMoose.org)



## **Darien Scout works on Eagle Project at Downers Grove Moose Family Center**

A staple of the Downers Grove community since 1930, the Downers Grove Moose Family Center #1535 located at 1030 Warren teams up with Darien Troop #97 for Life Scout Ryan Hawkins to work on his Eagle Scout Project. Ryan contacted the Lodge #1535 to see if there were any projects that needed to be completed.

Ryan Hawkins scheduled an appointment with Jr. Past Governor Roy A. Brown III, Jr. Governor Tom Moran and Administrator Michael R. Pelling and went on a tour of the building. Ryan took notes, asked a lot of questions, and took a few pictures while in the lodge. A few weeks passed and Ryan presented us his ideas for a project. Ryan's proposal was to take our first floor storage and turn it into an organized storage room. The lodge's Board of Officers approved Ryan's proposal and he went to work collecting materials and money to complete the project.



On Saturday, September 28th, Ryan and his team of Scouts and adults arrived at the lodge by 7:00am. By noon, the first floor storage room was completely stripped, a coat of primer paint was put on the walls, and all the unwanted materials were placed in the basement or in a dumpster. By 3:00pm the first coat of paint was on the walls. This was a good start.

On Sunday, September 29th, Ryan and his team arrived at the lodge by 7:00am and went right to work. Ryan managed to have his team work on both cleaning and painting at the same time, and he stayed in total control. Ryan had scouts sweeping, moving, cleaning and hanging things. By 2:00pm, Ryan had completed all the work in his plan.

Ryan's team of 30 plus people spent a total of 200 plus hours working on his Eagle Scout project in our lodge. All materials were donated by friends, scouts, family, and suppliers. There were 21 scouts that helped with the project and 9 adults along with numerous friends and family members. If this project was done as a job and bid for material and labor, it would have cost the lodge \$1500 to \$2000 to complete. The Downers Grove Moose Family Center was privileged to work with Ryan Hawkins on his project to finish this requirement on his way to becoming an Eagle Scout.

Boy Scout Troop 97 meets in Darien, IL, a southwest Chicago suburb. The troop serves young men ages 11-18 from Darien and many surrounding communities. They are part of the Des Plaines Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Troop 97 has been in existence for over *52 years* and celebrated their 50th anniversary in the end of February, 2008! Troop 97 is most proud that they have had 62 Scouts reach Scouting's highest rank - Eagle Scout.

Moose International is an organization of 900 thousand members that are active in four nations dedicated to bettering the lives of children and the elderly in need, and helping to make communities better places in which to live. Along with other units of Moose International, the Loyal Order of Moose supports the operation of Mooseheart Child City & School, a 1,000-acre community for children and teens in need, located 40 miles west of Chicago; and Moosehaven, a 63-acre retirement community for its members near Jacksonville, FL. Additionally, Moose Lodges conduct approximately \$90 million worth of community service annually.

For more information on the Downers Grove Moose Family Center #1535 or Women of the Moose Chapter #973 visit [www.dgmoose.org](http://www.dgmoose.org) or contact us at 630-968-4550

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