

# Scouts contribute to history at AHEC

*Staff Report*

## Scouts contribute to history at Army Heritage and Education Center, build fence



***Life Scout Ben Fetter of Carlisle Barracks Troop 173 recently completed his Eagle Scout project at the Army Heritage & Education Center. Courtesy photo.***

Aug. 20, 2009 -- Life Scout Ben Fetter of Carlisle Barracks Troop 173 recently completed his Eagle Scout project at the Army Heritage & Education Center (AHEC).

Ben's project consisted of construction of the Frontier Garden & Wattle Fence working under the guidance of

John Kurash and Victor Elliot both employees at AHEC, and Troop 173 leaders Rusty Breitenbach and Ben's father Mark Fetter.

Ben's project was completed in two days and included planting a Frontier Garden to better demonstrate the way people grew vegetables in the 1740/1780 timeframe. One of the tasks of Ben's project was to cut down small hickory trees and limbs for wood to be used in the wattle fence and for the fence posts.

All of the hickory wood for his project was donated from Bill Dodd's farm, a supportive friend to Troop 173. The construction of the new wattle fence and planting of the garden provides educational insight about the manner in which vegetables were grown during the time period of 1740/1780.

Moreover, the fence and garden demonstrates how people during that time used fences to keep small animals out of their garden. Fellow scouts and friends of Ben Fetter assisted him on one or both days during the many phases of this project.

Removing the hickory trees from the woods and trimming the limbs to fill two truckloads of wood was one of the more difficult tasks. Hickory posts were dug into the ground two feet every two feet apart and over 50 posts were used in this garden and then weave over 100 hickory limbs between the posts. Workers had to remove the weeds from dig rows to plant over a dozen different types of garden vegetables that will be harvested this fall.

For more information on scouting or Boy Scout Troop 173, <http://bsatroop173.org/>