

## John Swann

### Eagle Scout Badge

Everyone here tonight applauds John Swann for the completion of his Eagle Scout Badge project. His parents, Shelly and Bud, his grandfather and namesake, Delbert Swann, his uncle, cousins and other family members and his Eagle Scout contemporaries all know the hard work, dedication and inspiration it took to get here today. The Swann family has good reason to be proud on this occasion.

However, no one applauds this project more than The Caswell Horticulture Club and the Yanceyville community. Together we are the recipients of John's Eagle Scout project. It is our club and the Historic District of Yanceyville who will most benefit from John's idea to make the historic courthouse square complex a more people friendly place. This Walking Tour will benefit Heritage Tourism and encourage Downtown Revitalization.

When John first came to us (as a teenager, no less) with this wonderful idea we were stunned! Why hadn't we thought of this? A Walking Tour of our gardens! Since 1996, when we were founded, The Caswell Horticulture Club has designed, planted and maintained the gardens in the courthouse complex which include The Historic Square, the Memorial Garden and Path, the Veteran's Walk, The Courtyard Garden and the Arboretum. However, there have been times when we wondered if anyone was aware of our efforts.

Now, thanks to John, we have directional signs which identify each garden with arrows pointing to the next garden. The signs are tastefully done and blend with the wrought iron fence that surrounds the courthouse. Again, thanks to John, the casual visitor to our town can

take a stroll through our gardens, stop for a look at our magnificent courthouse, walk past the old jail and one-room school house and into our educational native plant arboretum. Now all our efforts to beautify this landscape seem worthwhile.

To complete this project John has printed a well organized, beautifully illustrated Self-Guided Tour Brochure which will be available at the Historical Museum, the Historic Courthouse and in kiosks at various locations. When the shelter at the arboretum is completed the Horticulture Club plans to celebrate John's efforts with a publicized "Walking Tour Day". John has more than done his part for his community and for the Caswell Horticulture Club. We are extremely grateful to him and proud of his accomplishments.

Thank you, John!

Pat Ewalt  
Caswell Horticulture Club