



Boy Scout News

Do you know what to do with an old, worn American flag? The American flag is a symbol of this great country, so you can't just throw it out in the trash!

Boy Scout Troop 241 held its 3rd annual Flag Retirement Ceremony here at AELC on Sunday evening, May 24. Twenty Scouts and 12 leaders participated in the ceremony. About 200 tattered and torn flags were collected throughout the year.

First the flags have to be prepared by separating the blue field from the stripes. After raising Old Glory on the flag pole and joining in the Pledge of Allegiance, each Scout carried a prepared flag to Scoutmaster Robert Bruno, who saluted each flag and then put it in the fire. All leaders present also saluted each flag one last time

before being placed in the flames. As the flags burn, the leaders read poems and information about the flag.

When all flags have been burned and the ashes have cooled, the grommets are removed from the ashes, and one is given to each Scout who participated in the ceremony. The Scouts wear them proudly on a carabiner. The ashes are then buried at Berks County Memorial Gardens.

The Scouts collect flags, not just the Stars & Stripes, but any symbol of our country, such as state or military flags, year round. If you have

one at home, work, or perhaps a neighbor has some that are worn, feel free to bring them to the church office. The flags will be retired next year on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend.

