CAC Eagle Scout on the Front Lines During COVID-19

In the ’80s David Boulware was working on the Belzer camp staff and enjoying Scouting. Today, David Boulware is one of the first doctors to receive approval from the Food & Drug Administration to conduct a pair of clinical trials to see if Hydroxychloroquine can be used to treat COVID-19.

Boulware began his Scouting journey in 1985, he was a part of Pack 394 in Plainfield, Indiana.

“I joined Cub Scouts because a lot of my friends were also doing it and it seemed like an interesting opportunity,” Boulware said.

Boulware continued through the program and became a part of Troop 101. He earned his Eagle when he was 13 and started working at Belzer on the summer camp staff. He worked on summer camp for six summers, worked on Ransburg staff for a summer, and was active in Firecrafter. While Boulware has many memorable experiences, his favorite memory is when he went to Philmont Scout Reservation. His second favorite memory is being on summer camp staff.

“I enjoyed being on summer camp staff. Back in 1988 when I was a CIT I was making eight dollars and five dollars in trading post credit. Working on summer camp staff was one of the toughest and also most rewarding jobs I have had. That’s why I continued to work there for six summers,” Boulware said.

Boulware achieved his Eagle rank when he was 13 years old and believes that when someone earns the rank of Eagle they showcase a sense of excellence.

“Being an Eagle Scout recognizes a sense of excellence in people. It’s a reflection of the work ethic and self-drive that people have. Especially when they are making sure to make all of the requirements. Being an Eagle Scout isn’t something you need to do, it’s something you want to do.” Boulware said.

Throughout his time in the Scouting program, Boulware believes there are skills that he learned in the program that he still uses today.

“I use leadership a lot in my daily life now. Right now I lead about a 50 person multinational team that’s spread over various countries in Africa and the US. I think the opportunities in Scouting like being a Senior Patrol Leader, camp staff, and Firecrafter were ways to have leadership on a small scale. These experiences allowed me to build my leadership skills to what they are today,” Boulware said.

Boulware believes that Scouting provides youth today with the opportunities to interact with people you may not interact with on a daily basis.

“Through Scouting, I got to work with a lot of great people. I got to meet a lot of people that I maybe would not have the chance to meet if I were not in Scouting,” Boulware said.

Today, Boulware is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and International Medicine at the University of Minnesota and specializes in infectious diseases. Boulware is currently doing research on drugs to aid in the treatment of COVID-19. His team’s work was most recently mentioned by President Trump at a press conference.

“We’re doing three large Nationwide studies to figure out it if it works and how well it does. We look at potential side effects and compare them to the benefits of the treatments. Our trials are enrolling Nationwide and so if people want more information, email us at COVID19@umn.edu,” Boulware said.