



The Presbyterian

A quarterly newsletter from the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters
PO Box 2097, Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29070

INTRODUCING THE NOMINEES FOR NAPS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES FOR 2014-2016

Candidate for President of the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters:



Philip E. Melberg

It is an honor to present to our members Philip Melberg as candidate for President. Before presented into nomination before the Executive Board, Melberg already was chosen as the second Circle of Life member to be introduced through the new column. Thus, a longer biography appears on page 5 of this newsletter.

Appointments Made by the Executive Board

Appointments affirmed by the Executive Board include:

Dr. Liz Shelby as NAPS Secretary and NAPS Representative to the BSA Religious Relations Task Force; **Steve Baker** as NAPS Treasurer; **Amanda Ballenger** as Communication Director; and appointments of **Courtney and Craig Mizutani** as Pacific Regional Director, **Tom McClure**, as Sun Regional Director (bio included in this edition), **Paul Ke** as Midwest Regional Director and **John McKnight** as Associate Regional Director for the South Atlantic. Search continues for Regional Directors for Lincoln Trails and Living Waters. [More on these in the next newsletter.]

CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMMING



ROBERT E. ("GENE") EPLEE

Dr. Eplee has been a volunteer Scouter and registered in Scouting since 1991 as a District Member-at-Large in the National Capital Area Council. As a Commissioner, he has served as Unit Commissioner (1 year), Assistant District Commissioner (12 years), District Commissioner (4 years), Assistant Council Commissioner for Field Service (4 years), Dean of the Bachelor's Program for the College of Commissioner Science (8 years), and as a member of the National Task Force to Update the Commissioner College Bachelor Program (1 year).

In the Order of the Arrow, he has served as Brotherhood Adviser (3 years) and as Chapter Adviser (4 Years). He has served as District Training Chair (4 years), holds beads for both Boy Scout Leader Wood Badge and Cub Scout Trainer Wood Badge, and has served on Wood Badge Staff four times. He has chaired two district camporees and has staffed many more.

He served as Head Camp Commissioner for the NCAC Centennial Camporee at Goshen Scout Reservation in May 2010. He has served on National Jamboree Staff in 1997, 2001, 2005, and 2010. He was a member of the planning and logistics staff for Order of the Arrow's ArrowCorps5 conservation project at the George Washington Jefferson National Forest site (2008) and was a Council Contingent Adult Leader for the 2012 National Order of the Arrow Conference.

Dr. Eplee is a Resident Camp Assessment Team Chairman for Area 6 of the Northeast Region and a Cub Scout Day Camp

Assessor for NCAC. He is currently in his second year as an Order of the Arrow Associate Chapter Adviser and is starting his third year as the Council National Camp Accreditation Program Chairman for NCAC.

Dr. Eplee is an Eagle Scout (1976), a Silver Beaver recipient (2002), and a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow (2012). He has been recognized with the District Award of Merit (1995), the Distinguished Commissioner Award (1997), and the Doctor of Commissioner Science Award (2011). He was presented with a James E. West Fellowship at the conclusion of his term as District Commissioner in 2006.

Eplee has a notable volunteer service record in church life as well, serving as an Elder at Laurel Presbyterian Church (LPC) since January of 1990. During that time, he has served three terms on the Session, chairing the Education and Personnel Committees. He has served as Clerk of Session from January 2004 to the present. He chaired the pastor nominating committee (1998-2000) for the current pastor of the church. He served several years as a High School Sunday School teacher and a Vacation Bible School teacher. From 2006-2009, he participated in one and coordinated three church mission trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to provide Hurricane Katrina relief.

Dr. Eplee served for three years as the LPC Team Captain for the Laurel Relay for Life of the American Cancer Society (2002-2004). He then served for four years as the Vice-Chair of Logistics for the Laurel Relay for Life (2005-2008).

Professionally, Dr. Eplee has a lengthy and distinguished professional resume, one that will surely make NOVA/STEM Scouts take note. Currently, Dr. Eplee is an Instrument Calibration Scientist, SAIC who earned a BS in Physics from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and a PhD in Planetary Sciences from the University of Arizona.

Dr. Eplee has served as a satellite instrument calibration scientist at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) since September 1988, working as a contractor for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).

From September 1988 through November 1994, Dr. Eplee served as satellite instrument calibration scientist for the Far Infrared Absolute Spectrophotometer (FIRAS) on the Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE) satellite. FIRAS was a Fourier Transform Spectrometer designed to measure the spectrum of the Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation (CMBR). Dr. Eplee developed the software for the on-orbit calibration of FIRAS. He produced the first calibrated spectrum of the CMBR after the launch of the COBE satellite in November 1989. This spectrum showed that the CMBR has a blackbody

form to better than 0.005%, with an effective temperature of 2.725 K. An improved version of this calibrated spectrum was the basis for Dr. John Mather of NASA, the Principal Investigator for FIRAS, being awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for 2006.

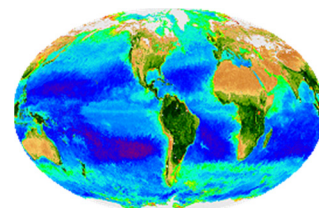
From November 1994 until the present, Dr. Eplee has served as satellite instrument calibration scientist for the Ocean Biology Processing Group at NASA GSFC. In this position, he had the primary responsibility for the on-orbit calibration of the Sea-viewing Wide-Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS) on the OrbView 2 satellite. SeaWiFS was launched in August 1997 and produced a global ocean color data set until the satellite ceased to function in December 2010. Color ratios of ocean images (over a wavelength region of 400 – 900 nm) yield retrievals of chlorophyll concentration for the images. Chlorophyll serves as an indicator of the phytoplankton population in the oceans.

Dr. Eplee produced the on-orbit radiometric calibration of SeaWiFS using lunar and solar calibration techniques, establishing and maintaining a long-term stability of the calibration at the 0.1% level over the 13-year lifetime of the instrument.

Since its launch in October 2011, Dr. Eplee has produced the on-orbit calibration for the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument on the Suomi National Polar Orbiting Partnership (NPP) satellite for NASA ocean color data processing. After only 3 years on orbit, he has developed a radiometric calibration for VIIRS, again using lunar and solar calibration techniques, that is comparable in stability to that achieved for SeaWiFS over its 13-year mission.

To date, Dr. Eplee's efforts have resulted in the production of a 17-year, multi-mission global ocean color data set, which allows oceanographers to use these data for climate change research by modeling the carbon cycle in the global oceans.

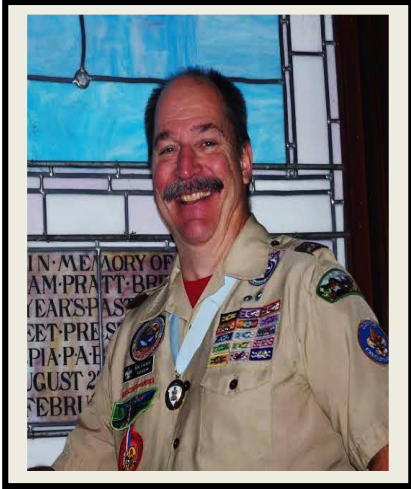
Dr. Eplee has been recognized for his professional achievements by both NASA (including awards for Outstanding Scientific Support in the Laboratory for Hydrospheric Processes in 2004 and 2014) and SAIC (Outstanding Technical Publication in the Physical Sciences for 2012).



Candidate for the Office of Vice President for Membership

Robert “Bob” Kreider

Kreider has been involved in scouting for more than forty



years. Kreider had held several positions including Scoutmaster, Roundtable Commissioner, Venturing Associate Advisor, District Committee Member, and International Representative. Bo

currently serves on the Council Executive Board for the Twin Rivers Council, NY.

Kreider shares some insights into his formative years. “I grew up in Monmouth Council, NJ, earning my God and Country and Eagle. I had the privilege of attending two National Scout Jamborees as a youth.”

More recently, since moving to upstate NY, Kreider has been awarded the Silver Beaver, Whitney Young Award, Venturing Leadership Award, Celtic Cross and God and Service award. He earned the International Scouter Award, the Distinguished Commissioner and Scouter’s Keys for Scouting, Commissioner and District Committee.

Among recognitions he treasures, Bob is a Circle of Life member of NAPS and the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA). He is a Baden Powell Fellow and a member of the Order of the Condor, He is a member of the legacy society of NESA.

Among his credits at national level, Bob served on staff at the National Scout Jamboree celebrating 100 years of Scouting in the US at Ft Hill, followed the next year as participant at the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden.

Like many of NAPS members, Bob is a member of a small, rural Presbyterian congregation. In his church, he served two terms (three years each) on session during a time of calling a new pastor. As a Sunday School teacher, Bob is involved in youth outreach, enjoying involvement with the church Cub Scout Pack through the years. The Church also sponsored a Venturing Crew.

Bob is proud of the impact of BSA in his life. “Scouting has given me much over the years and I am eager to give back. I am looking for a challenge and I believe that my experience up until now has prepared me for this new role in NAPS. I want to help energize the organization into a dynamic force.”

It would not be a complete portrait of Bob without mention of the three-legged stool that he claims makes up his life. – Scouting, church and dogs. According to Bob, his wife, Deb, and he have 28 dogs. You read that right. They are dog sledders. All but 2 of the dogs are sled dogs. They have mostly purebred Siberian Huskies, some of which they bred themselves.

With a large kennel, Deb’s full time job is dog boarding/dog grooming/dog training and the Kreiders hoping to branch into dog sled rides for profit this winter on their 113 acres.

Bob remarks that, living in the Adirondacks, they have seen temperatures as low as 45 degrees below zero. Typical winters give them 10 feet of snow. Until recently, the Kreiders provided sled rides mostly for non-profit groups like Scouts (Cubs, Scouts and Venturers), 4H, church youth and even some adults. They share the dogs in a variety of ministries. For a while, they had a Venturing Crew focused on dog-powered sports.

Indeed, one of Bob’s favorite pictures is the Venturing charter presentation in their church with a Siberian Husky sitting nicely at the foot of a Scout – all “three legs of the stool” in one shot!. Bob’s wife also does therapy work with the dogs in nursing homes and with school groups.

Additionally, Bob is a full-time employee as Information Technologist for the Adirondacks Park Agency.

What is NAPS Doing?

By Liz Shelby
Chair of the 2014 Nominating Committee

Recent summary of NAPS endeavors shows that NAPS has been very active. NAPS had representation at the 2010, 2012, and 2013 Jamborees and the 2011 World Jamboree; at the National BSA Annual Meetings for 2011 through 2014; at the Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators (APCE) meetings from 2011 through 2014; the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly meetings for 2012 and 2014; and the 100th Anniversary of LOS Scouting in Salt Lake in 2013.

At several of the meetings, NAPS displayed an exhibit and recruited new members. In addition, NAPS executives and members have created newsletters about members and the achievements of local scout units chartered by Presbyterian churches across the nation - even some events from around the world.

If you have not received the newsletter by mail, it could be that we do not have your current address. Please send name, latest address, phone numbers, email, and any other information you would like to share with NAPS or the newsletter. The editor's address: Amanda Ballenger, PO Box 2097, Batesburg-Leesville, SC29070 or email to: napseditor@gmail.com. Also, if you prefer to help NAPS save money by receiving your newsletter by email, let Amanda know.

NOW FOR OTHER NEWS:

Bradley Long represented NAPS at the Fellowship of Presbyterians/ECO (A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians) in 2014. **Steve Baker**, as well as **Fran and Eliot Kerlin**, hosted the NAPS booth.

Recently, Treasurer **Rush Hart** and Secretary **Jack Schrimsher** retired with titles of Treasurer Emeritus and Secretary Emeritus. Additionally, NAPS elected **Steve Baker** of Ft Worth as the new Treasurer, and **Dr. Liz Shelby** of Austin as the new Secretary.

Since the late spring, the Executive Board has been calling Life Members to update contact information and to recruit new members to the Board. Future activities include contact and potential visits with all of the Presbyterian factions: PCA, Reform Church, Christian Reform Church, PCUSA, and Cumberland.

If you are interested in serving NAPS as an Officer, Regional or State Director, would like to nominate someone, or have further ideas about how NAPS can support scouting in your area, please contact Dr. Liz Shelby at scubarun@austin.rr.com or by telephone at [512-458-9889](tel:512-458-9889). Dr. Shelby is head of the NAPS Nominating Committee.

Further, NAPS executives currently are busy gathering resources to share with the presbyteries to support our involvement in scouting at presbytery and camp levels. As ever, NAPS continues its many years of service for Presbyterian/Reformed interests on BSA's Religious Relations Task Force. Now is an exciting time in the life of NAPS. There are many changes coming to increase NAPS efficiency and service to and through our members. NAPS welcome all volunteers and suggestions.

This last is especially true since **all work done by NAPS is on a voluntary basis. We have no paid professional help. Volunteers and members support all we do.** That is why your input, involvement and donations make such a difference to Presbyterian Scouting. Whether you serve at national, regional, state and presbytery, you are changing lives and building the kingdom of God where you are. NAPS officers appreciate your efforts and salute you! Blessings!

OUR PURPOSE:

To develop SCOUTING in Presbyterian Churches to teach and recognize religious values.



OUR GOAL:

To have SCOUTING at every level for all ages up to age 21 in every Presbyterian Church; to have SCOUTING for all levels for the youth of our Church and our community; to have our membership available to help in the development of our youth in every congregation.

Introducing Circle of Life Member-

Philip E. Melberg

Distinguished Professional --Dedicated Volunteer

During a noteworthy career spanning five decades, Phil has increased membership, created new programs, and inspired volunteers while facilitating outright and planned gifts exceeding one hundred million dollars to further the mission of multiple nonprofit organizations.

Phil was a membership specialist, fundraiser, and staff leader with the Boy Scouts of America in Clifton, New Jersey, Cleveland, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Bethesda, Maryland, for three decades (1964-1994).

During this notable BSA career his responsibilities included membership management, camp administration, annual and capital campaigns, major gifts, special events, corporate sponsorships, publications, United Way presentations, foundation grants, long-range planning, endowment funding and planned giving.

His staff leadership positions included District Executive, District Executive (MP), Field Director, Exploring Director, Operations Director, Assistant Director of Field Service, and Development Director.

In 1966, he was awarded the Region 2 membership growth award for having the highest percentage membership increase in New Jersey for 1965. In 1971, Phil was awarded the Region 4 Boy's Life award, emblematic of being the top district in the region and having achieved all growth objectives for 1970.

In 1981, Phil created the first Exploring video to train adults and post officers in the career awareness exploring program. To promote membership, Phil designed several approaches resulting in significant membership growth in multiple BSA councils. Two examples are: The Super Steelers Scout Roundup (1982) featuring the 50th anniversary of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Link Up To Adventure featuring astronauts & shuttle (1983). In 1981 Phil completed Wood Badge.

As a direct result of his efforts, NCAC was recognized in 1986 as the top council in the nation for gifts to the BSA Pooled Income Fund. He created the Embassy Gala and Patriot Award as events to raise funds and increase involvement with new audiences. Phil started the NCAC Heritage Society in 1985 to recognize present and future commitments to the endowment fund. As a member of the NCAC finance staff he was involved in launching the Weaver Popcorn fundraising program to benefit units and the council.

In 1994, Melbergh became the first Director of Planned Giving for the National Rifle Association of America and their tax-exempt affiliates -- The NRA Foundation, Civil Rights Defense Fund, Whittington Center, and NRA Museum. During his tenure at NRA he established their Heritage Society, developed a (Continuing Legal Education) CLE program, co-coordinated a nationwide multi-impact bequest marketing strategy, created a gift of personal property emphasis, and established a volunteer network of estate planning professionals. He is a NRA Life Member and member of their Heritage Society.

In 2002, he became Vice President Westminster Ingleside Foundation. He implemented a comprehensive planned giving program for endowment, expanded the annual resident supporting fund campaign at both Washington, DC and Virginia retirement locations. Their permanent endowment fund will provide funds to ensure no resident will be required to leave due to a shortage of money.



In 2006, Phil became Senior Partner with Integrated Development Solutions of Gaithersburg, Maryland. The firm specializes in bequest and planned giving marketing programs with local, regional and national clients. An extended partnership with a web firm and full service publications firm provided a full range of resources for clients. His primary clients included food banks and gospel missions. His responsibilities included establishing a gift acceptance policy, effective donor strategies, board training, allied professional relationships and strategic planning.

A proficient fundraiser, gift planner and trainer of colleagues, he has been a presenter at Stewardship Kaleidoscope, PEER Network Conferences, NSFRE Fund Raising Days in Washington, the DC Fundraising Summit and estate planning events in twenty-five states including Alaska and Hawaii.

During his volunteer involvement with the National Capital Presbytery he served as vice chair of their local PC(USA) Bi-Centennial Fund, a presenter at their Big Event, and as chair of planned giving committee plus chair of Stewardship and Interpretation. In November 2000, to acknowledge his service, the committee and NCP established the Philip E. Melberg named endowment with PCUSA Foundation to benefit the Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church. In 2012, Phil was instrumental in developing a web site link of proven stewardship resources from churches throughout the presbytery.

A pacesetter in gift planning, he was a charter board member of the National Committee on Planned Giving [1987] and founded Planned Giving Days in Washington [1993]. In acknowledgement of his tenure as President, Vice President and Board Member of the Planned Giving Study Group of Washington, D. C., Phil was presented their Presidents Award in 1994 for a "Decade of Service and Leadership." In 2001, he was the recipient of the National Capital Gift Planning Council Distinguished Service Award. In 2012, the Investment Fiduciary Leadership Council awarded him the "Leadership Excellence" recognition.

Phil is a 1964 graduate of Missouri Valley College— American Humanics (now Nonprofit Leadership Alliance) -- CNP (Certified Nonprofit Professional). He is a member of the Partnership for Philanthropic Planning (formerly the National Committee on Planned Giving) and the National Capital Gift Planning Council.

Phil serves on the PEER (Presbyterian Endowment Education & Resource) Network Board of Directors, and was chair of their national conference in 2005. Presently he is a committee member for the National Capital Area Council, BSA, Endowment Committee and Chairman of the Northeast Region 2014 BSA Retirees Reunion annual gathering in Annapolis.

An ordained Elder, member of their Finance Committee and current chair of the Planned Giving Committee at Gaithersburg [Maryland] Presbyterian Church, Phil is a member of the Living Legacy Fellowship and previously served as consultant to their successful multimillion-dollar capital campaign.

Phil is a resident of Rockville, Maryland, and a life member of National Association of Presbyterian Scouters, Isaac Walton League of America and National Eagle Scout Association. He and his wife Evi have two adult children.



Davis Becomes Eagle Scout

James Davis, 14, of NE Presbyterian Church celebrated with his Eagle Court, August 7, 2014 at the Shandon Methodist Church in Columbia, SC.

James built a greenhouse with shelving for Brennen Elementary School.

Next, he hopes to make Varsity Cross-Country and his school tennis team.

The Duty to God "Eagle" Patch



Is Now Available

Plan to make a presentation on religious emblems and promote Duty to God in order to help Scouts earn their "Eagle" patch. Click here for sample presentation materials:

<http://www.praypub.org/dutytogod.htm>.

Visit the online store now to order the "Eagle" segment <http://www.praypub.org/store/Duty-To-God-Boy-Scouts-of-America-C10.aspx>

FOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND SCOUTERS:

By Eliot Kerlin and Liz Shelby

Below are some materials available through BSA that you can share with your local Presbyterian churches. Several of them are “bin items” that can be ordered through your local scout shop using the number provided. If you wish to view the materials, a URL listing is provided for those that can be accessed online.

1. Scouting for Presbyterian Youth - This is a 7-page fact sheet, updated March 2011, that includes a list of the various Presbyterian churches, history of the Presbyterian church involvement with scouting, the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters, and an overview of the religious awards for youth and adults.

http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/sitecore/content/scouting/about/factsheets/operating_orgs/presbyterian.aspx

2. Presbyterians and Scouting Building Values Together- (Bin No 522-974) This is a 2010 printing that is currently being updated.

3. Values of Americans – A Study of Ethics and Character (Book No. 02-849) This document was printed in 2005 and contains 61 pages that summarize a study in ethics and character conducted by Harris Interactive. The study compared men and women who had been scouts and those who were not scouts.

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/sitecore/content/scouting/about/research/valuesofamericans.aspx>

4. Values of Scouting – A Study of Ethics and Character (Book No. 02-882) This document summarizes a study by Harris Interactive and was printed in 2005. This study compared men who were never scouts, to men

who were scouts and to men who were scouts for more than 5 years.

5. Christian Ministry and Scouting - A guide for Pastors (Book No. 11-186) This 20-page document, printed in 2007, provides pastors with an overview of the scouting program and how it fits within a Christian ministry.

6. Charter Organizations Resource Guide – (Book No. 522-925) This is 192-page book was printed in 2014 and covers all types of charter organizations, setting up a local Religious Relationships Committee, establishing local faith-based committees on scouting, and a directory of charter organizations.

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/membership/pdf/522-925_wb.pdf.

7. P.R.A.Y. Awards Brochure – This brochure summarizes the God and Me, God and Family, God and Church, and God and Life programs. Frequently Asked Questions and an order form.

http://praypub.org/main_frameset.htm
(Look under Promotional Resources)

8. P.R.A.Y. Program – This online page describes P.R.A.Y. and its mission, collaborations, and history of the Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.)

http://www.praypub.org/main_frame.htm

9. Duty to God Religious Awards Brochure- This is a listing of all of the religious awards approved by BSA for the religious knot. It is also an excellent reference for the religious programs for each faith at each age group.

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-879_WB.pdf

.....

OTHER COOL SITES WORTH LOOKING UP:

Ever thought of having youth find new articles on CAMPING SAFETY as a contest? Here is a neat site to start their search:

<http://www.idahofirewise.org/safety-prevention/campfires>

(If in Idaho, note grants' section.)

For RAINY DAY INDOOR ACTIVITY, share two that were part of the STEM/Nova training exercises. Each opens doors to scientific creativity as well as lots of fun for all. The first requires lots of popsicle sticks available in Michaels or other craft./party stores. The second uses several ingredients, check the recipe.

<http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiments/popsicle-stick-chain-reaction>

<http://www.stevespanglerscienc.com/lab/experiments/glue-borax-gal#>

SCOUTING QUOTES – Support from successful persons for Scouting.

www.brainyquote.com/quotes/keywords/scouting.html



One of the many inspirational items at:

<http://www.pinterest.com/crossroadsbsa/quotes-inspiration/>

PHONE APPS THAT SAVE LIVESO

ne of your editor's favorite new finds is the free FEMA app for a smartphone and all the other really great aids for scouts and scouters that come with it.

If we are always to "Be Prepared," the **Red Cross app** has a basic handbook for every emergency and it even gives directions to the nearest hospital. For the Patrol Leader, there is even a handy test with the basic first aid text that can be used to help scouts find out what they really remember- and, if in a sudden emergency, if they don't remember, they can look it up with a hit of an app. Really convenient for those lost and hurt on Baldy or in other remote regions!

(Some areas may not have coverage- point that out to scouts.)

There are other separate, first rate apps to deal with preparations for, emergency within, and follow-up after for major threats of Tornado, Earthquake, Wildfire, Hurricane and other like emergencies. App can be loaded from the Red Cross or FEMA site free. There are also general knowledge items, such as the one

For homeowners -or scout troops helping Habitat for Humanities- or recovery from disasters, try this FEMA site for great house tips:

<http://www.fema.gov/news-release/2014/07/21/more-bang-buck-inexpensive-disaster-rebuilding-tips>

Retiring? Moving? Be sure to keep your NAPS address, phone numbers and email addresses up to date. We do our best to try to find members whose newsletter has returned to us, but would REALLY appreciate being notified of any changes.

And if you are retiring and need to be "re-tired," we can help you re- tread with service in the NAPS community. We have room for you to share a lifetime of skills. Check the Officer's list and give a call. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

SCOUTING – A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY?!

By Liz Shelby

“No man is much good unless he believes in God and obeys His laws. So every Scout should have a religion...Religion seems a very simple thing: First: Love and Serve God. Second: Love and serve your neighbor.”
(Scouting For Boys, 1908, Lord Baden Powell)

Scouting from its inception was designed to build character, develop strong morals and provide growth in spirit. That is why many of the first charter organizations were churches and synagogues. Many of the troops were considered an extension of the youth ministry of the church or synagogue. Although over the years, Scouting has tended to focus more on skills acquisition and leadership training, there is a resurgence of interest in incorporating the spiritual aspects of scouting back into the program.

So what can a troop do to encourage spiritual growth in scouts?

- For troops chartered by churches or synagogues, contact the charter organization representative about how the program can reflect the youth ministry.
- Encourage scouts to attend worship regularly at the church or synagogue of their families' choice.
- Have a troop Chaplain and scout who is Chaplain Aide
- Always say grace at each meal; pray before traveling that God watches over the troop and that it is a safe trip
- Bless each campsite upon arrival
- Have “thoughts for the day” during camp (short meditations)
- Greetings for the day (e.g., When one scout sees another during the day, he says, “The Lord be with you”; the other says “And also with you.” Another example is the Indian greeting of Namasté (pronounced “Na-ma-stay”) which translates to “To Your Spirit.” Another may be “May the force (of God) be with you.”)
- Use as a campfire activity or worship service, a discussion about what “Duty to God” in the Scout Oath means and what “Reverent” from the Scout Law means; How does God fit into the “Scout Spirit” required for each rank?
- Always schedule a worship service during monthly camping
- Open and/or close your meetings with a prayer
- Encourage scouts to earn the religious emblem in their faith. For troops chartered by churches or synagogues, contact the church to provide opportunities for scouts to work on the religious emblem.
- Encourage scouts' questioning their beliefs
- Enroll some adult leaders who feel comfortable talking about spiritual issues with the scouts

- Involve scouts in service projects with churches or synagogues (e.g., help with Vacation Bible School, provide yard work for older members, develop meditation walks or tools, build a labyrinth for meditative walks)
- Take the troop to walk a labyrinth

Troop #1 in Austin, Texas, had yet another type of “spiritual journey.” They decided to celebrate their 90th birthday (in 2001) by building an outdoor labyrinth for their charter organization, First Presbyterian Church. A labyrinth is a meditative walk used by many religions as a spiritual tool. The troop received donations from a variety of members of the church (children to elder members; a dime to checks). An owner of a bobcat donated his time to level the area, and the troop began by laying weed resistant fabric covered by donated bricks and decomposed granite. The design reflects the labyrinth laid in the Chartres Cathedral in France in the 1200's. To complete the labyrinth, the troop placed pedestals from the original church (circa 1850) around the labyrinth. Some lighting is available for nighttime walking.

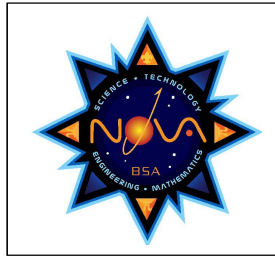
If your troop visits a labyrinth, some aspects of the labyrinth need explanation. First, the labyrinth is not a maze; there are no dead-ends – there is one path to the center and the same path out. It is a very individual experience, so it is important that each Scout honor the other Scouts' experience by not bothering them during the walk. We ask each person to pause at the entrance of the labyrinth to “center” or “clear the mind.” As the Scout walks, he will find his own pace, and some walk faster than others. It is OK to step around someone. During the walk, some people like to focus on a question, or a word, a scripture, or meditative music. (This might be a good way to have the Scouts think about what “Duty to God” means to them.) The Scouts should be spaced out at the beginning (after first has made 3 turns) so they are not “bunched up.” As the scout walks to the center, they “release” the trivia of the day. The center is for meditation. The six “petals” on the rosette represent the six days of creation – land (mineral), plant, animal, human, angels, and mystery (or the Spirit). The return retraces the same path out. Upon exiting the labyrinth, it is helpful for scouts to write down their thoughts or have materials for creating a picture or scripture. We enter in silence and leave in peace. God's blessings to all who walk!



“At its most basic level, the labyrinth is a metaphor for the journey to the center of your deepest self and back out into the world with a broadened understanding of who you are,”

<http://www.lessons4living.com/labyrinth.htm>

Recently your editor had the opportunity to attend a workshop on STEM and NOVA sponsored by the Indian Waters Council in Columbia, SC. Since then, several scouters and scouts have asked me what STEM and NOVA are. Just in case someone has not been able to attend a training program or discovered the possibilities for their packs, crews and troops, here is some basic information to start you on your way. Have fun! I did.



What is STEM and Nova?

STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

STEM is part of an initiative the Boy Scouts of America has taken on to encourage the natural curiosity of youth members and their sense of wonder about these fields through existing programs. From archery to welding, Scouts can't help but enjoy the wide range of STEM-related activities. To support this initiative, the BSA developed the Nova Awards program so that youth members have fun and receive recognition for their efforts.

Why STEM?

We live in a time of great opportunity. The spirit of innovation can help us overcome challenges and ensure a prosperous and secure future. To seize this opportunity, we must position ourselves at the cutting edge of scientific discovery and technological innovation.

Yet our country is falling behind in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This is why many professionals and educators in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics believe the United States should do more now than ever to encourage students to enter STEM-related fields. These experts say our young people need strong STEM skills to compete in the world market. We must work together to cultivate the next generation of critical thinkers and innovators.

Ten- year employment projections by the U.S. Department of Labor show that of the 20 fastest-growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation.

STEM Is the future

Fostering a strong STEM education is our best opportunity to boost the spirit of innovation. It's what we need to help ensure this country continues on a prosperous and secure journey. STEM literacy is also critical because it has a profound and growing impact on our day-to-day lives. Nature, space exploration, and any STEM-related interest reveals to us the beauty and power of the world we inhabit.

What Are the Nova Awards?

The Boy Scouts of America developed the Nova Awards program to excite and expand a sense of wonder in our Scouts. By working with an adult counselor or mentor, the various modules allow them to explore the basic principles of STEM and discover how fun and fascinating STEM can be. The Supernova awards are offered for those who enjoy a super challenge. For more information about STEM and the Nova Awards program, visit www.scouting.org/stem. Discover how the Nova Awards program helps youth be "Prepared. For Life." For more information:

<http://www.scouting.org/stem.aspx>

Welcome to Tom McClure, New Sun Regional Director



Tom started his Scouting experience at 13 as a member of a Boy Scout Troop in Topeka, Kansas in the 1970s. He earned his Eagle Scout rank at age 16, God and Country Award at 17 and was awarded the Vigil Honor at age 19.

Scouting had a profound impact on him as he was growing up, particularly in the development of his faith in God. That impact has continued in different ways as he became involved in Scouting as an adult leader with his son's Den, Pack, Troop and Venturing Crew. His son, Grant, is an Eagle Scout and Tom is also the son of a Distinguished Eagle Scout. Today, Tom is an involved leader with the Armadillo District of the Capitol Area Council. He currently serves as his District's Nominating Chair and Vice Chair; as the new Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner; as the Chartered Org Rep for his son's former Pack based at Covenant Presbyterian Church (where he and his family are active members); and as a member of the Troop 410 Committee.

Ft Worth Ship Sails to 2nd Place Win



Congratulations to Matt and Will, Sea Scouts. The two won Second Place in the Koch International Sea Scout Cup Ship 809 in Long Beach, California.

This was a great follow-up to the sweep of the qualifying Aggie Cup at Galveston. There, Alex and Jack won 1st with Rodney and Caleb nabbing 2nd place.

Very, very well done....next stop, Vellejo and the victorious ocean takeover of 2nd place- especially amazing since the crews practice with the Solarus on a small inland lake!

In the competition, the crew defeated 18 of 20 international crews plus 20 USA crews. The ship is chartered by Ridgelea Presbyterian Church of Ft Worth, Texas. Steve Baker, NAPS' Treasurer, is Scoutmaster.

Wedding Bells for Webmaster's Daughter



Webmaster David McMann, his wife - Buffy McMann; his daughter & bride Katie McMann Laney; groom & son-in-law Jordan Laney, and the McMann's son, Bryson McMann (Eagle Scout and Silver Award)

Katherine Elizabeth McMann and Jordan Wilson Laney were united in marriage on June 21, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church in Anderson, SC. Rev. Dr. Dennis Tedder officiated the six o'clock ceremony. A reception followed at The Bleckley Inn in Anderson, SC.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David James McMann of Anderson. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benny Joe Bryson of Greenville, and Mr. and Mrs. James Arthur McMann of Anderson.

The groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Paul Sherwood Laney of Mount Croghan, SC. He is the grandson of Colonel James O. Taylor and the late Mrs. Taylor of Mount Croghan and the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilson Laney of Pageland, SC.

Jordan is a graduate of Clemson University where he earned a BA Degree in Early Childhood Education. He is a Teacher at New Prospect Elementary School in Anderson.

Following their honeymoon trip to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, the couple now live in Anderson, SC.

NAPS AT THE 2014 NATIONAL GATHERING OF THE FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY (PCUSA) & ECO



NAPS Booth – l-r: the Rev. Bradley Long, Fran Kerlin and former NAPS President Eliot Kerlin

NAPS had a strong presence at a recent national gathering of Presbyterians from two different denominations. During the three day conference (August 18-20) held in Dallas, Texas, four members of NAPS (Elliot Kerlin, past president of NAPS, Scout Leader Fran Kerlin, NAPS treasurer Steve Baker (not pictured), and the Rev. Bradley dressed out in scout uniforms and staffed the booth while interacting with numerous Presbyterian pastors, elders and other church leaders about the importance and impact the Scouting has on youth.

What was this gathering and who was there?

This event was the 2014 National Gathering of the Fellowship Community, which is a recent merger of two special interest groups within the PCUSA - the Fellowship of Presbyterians and Presbyterians for Renewal. This was the largest part of folks who attended this event – folks who are part of the PCUSA and also evangelically minded.

The Fellowship Community Gathering was also going on at the same time as the ECO (A Covenant Evangelical Order of Presbyterians) national gathering and synod meeting. ECO is the new, reformed denomination that formed around 2 1/2 years ago and already has over 140 member congregations, most of whom are congregations that have been dismissed from the PCUSA.

These two groups – the Fellowship Community and ECO – have found ways to remain connected even though they are associated with two different Presbyterian denominations. Total attendance for the event was over 1,200 people.

How was NAPS involved?

NAPS, benefitting from full support of the national BSA office, were able to set up a strong exhibit for the duration of the conference. NAPS leadership engaged with pastors and elders, many of whom who have Eagle Scouts in their families and in the scouting units of their churches. Most folks reminisced positively about scouting and the values scouting teaches. There was especial interest from others regarding how their church can become more relational with units sponsored by their churches. In addition to connecting with conference attendees, NAPS was also able to provide resources to church leaders looking to scouting for enhanced ministry and outreach opportunities. Among other BSA and Presbyterian materials, NAPS leadership also offered practical advice and explained usage of P.R.A.Y. materials to foster closer family, church and community ties in faith.

Overall, this was a great opportunity for NAPS to connect with Presbyterians who have already benefited from scouting as a ministry as well as those who, through scouting, could increase their outreach and ministry). NAPS appreciated the visibility among National Gathering of the Fellowship Community leaders and thanks all who came by the booth to learn more of our mutual interests and support.

“On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to GOD and my country....”

Baden-Powell placed “duty to God” first in the Scout Oath before duty to country and explained that: “The Scout, in his promise, undertakes to do his duty to his king and country only in the second place; his first duty is to GOD. It is with this idea before us and recognizing that GOD is the one Father of us all, that we Scouts count ourselves a brotherhood despite the difference among us of country, creed, or class.”



NAPS ROLL CALL: IN MEMORIAL

A TEXAS POET LAUREATE'S ODE TO HIS DEPARTED SCOUTMASTER

TRAIL MARKER (For Jack Wilkes)

Every first Monday of the month
you would pick us up, 6:30 P.M. sharp
for Boy Scout meetings: Troop 1
at the O. Henry Junior High gym,
my school, the same space I learned
to dance in socks, doing the two step,
and how basketball was a kind of dance
from five foot tall, Coach Herman Wiese.
My traveling salesman Dad never being home,
your zeal was the only thing that kept me
in Scouts, you made it so easy, always
picking me up for meetings, weekend camps
and then helping me in securing a summer job
teaching Canoeing and Rowing at Camp
Tom Wooten. I remember how you would
go out before our camping trips and leave
Indian trail markers for us to find and follow
and how to make wild berry tea and survive
eating plants and grubs. Time and again, I
have found aspects of the ideal man in small
examples you planted in my head; in five decades
I never thought of you not surviving anything.

You were the most honest, self-resourceful man
I had ever known. I can see you now, tanned,
tall and slim with graying temples, impeccable,
Atticus Finch in a Scout uniform with your
ever present, Eagle Badge and knee socks.
After the Scout meetings, we would always
play a pick-up game of round ball, while
you would pack up the scout stuff and re-clean
what we had missed in our half-hearted attempts,
though firm, you never ranted or raised your voice.

On the way home we would frequently stop
At Scotty's Bakery, where I would buy a dozen
hot, out of the vat glazed donuts and wolf down
the entire bag before being dropped off,

After all these years, I can still feel
the huge knot of sugar, grease, and dough
tightening my gut, not unlike the feeling
I had when my old, fellow Scout Bert told me
you were gone and I had missed your funeral, and yet,
even if I had been there, it would have
been too late to tell you what I regret never saying,
simply, Thanks, Mr. Wilkes, I do not know who
I would have become without having known you
and after all these years, I am still discovering myself
in memories of your many edifying ways, trail markers.

Many of us in Scouting have found life markers in some
of the finest of Scout leaders. NAPS gives special thanks to **David
M. Parsons**, 2011 Texas State Poet Laureate, for reminding us of
all those who have given -and are giving- their lives to enrich the
lives of scouts.

For those who want a hard copy of Parson's poems,
they can purchase a copy of *Feathering Deep* from the Texas
Review Press directly or online. Permission to reprint "Trail
Maker" from there, the July 17, 2014 reprint in *Boy Scouting* and
from <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/> was graciously granted
by the author).

In obtaining the permission, several very charming
letters exchanged between the author and your editor. One
comment also seemed very worthwhile to share among those of
us still recovering from the busy summer and heading into
scouting plans for Fall:

"A late teaching friend of mine like to remind us that he
thought everyone we came in contact with, no matter
how seemingly insignificant, was an appointment with
God...and that we did not need to know what the
reasons were."

Thank you for sharing that with us too, David.

Many know that NAPS has been actively upgrading our
membership list and has focused first on the Circle of Life, or life
members. As we have been calling and writing, we have found
several members who are now camping with the Ultimate
Scoutmaster. Some we knew well and some were those quiet,
unassuming folks who laid down their lives for others without
much fanfare. It is our intent to share notice of any members
passing for we are truly "members of one body." We hope our
members will let us know of friends and colleagues who have
gone before.

You may wish to honor one influencing your life,
whether they be a leader, volunteer, sponsor, or even a special
scout. Please specify which when sending, the recognition's
name of donor, selected recipient and the name and address of
the person receiving notice of your gift to Steve Baker, 5620
Charlott St., Ft Worth, Tx 76112. NAPS will notify you and the
person you designate with a card recognizing of your gift.



Neil Ernest Munch,

passed away July 1, 2014, in Rockville, MD.

In 1948, he earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University. While at Cornell, he

was part of the Navy V-12 program, played lacrosse, rang chimes, was a member of Theta Chi fraternity, and worked at the “Cornell Radio Guild” radio station. After graduation, he was employed at Reaction Motors (NJ), where he worked for 5 years testing rocket fuels. During that time he also obtained a master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology.

He spent 30 years at General Electric as an engineer, which included work on ordnance platforms and advanced engineering projects in rocket propulsion (e.g., Apollo and Saturn V) that put men and equipment into outer space & eventually on the moon. He was awarded one of the first NASA Silver Snoopy Awards. He was also awarded the Zero Defects Award for his work to get a man on the moon. Additionally, based on a panel review by his peers, Neil was recognized by the Smithsonian Institution Libraries as being an eminent scientist with significant contributions in several fields of science and engineering.

Later in his career he worked in information systems (e.g., criminal justice system work, and alcoholic epidemiology through a contract with the National Clearing House for Alcoholism). When he retired from GE, he founded and led the Munch Engineering Corporation for 20 years.

He co-founded the Natural Philosophy Alliance (NPA). His interests focused on studies of the speed of light, resulting in over 100 published papers. In 2011, he was awarded the NPA Sagnac Support Award for Lifetime Achievement “In recognition of a lifetime commitment to excellence in scientific pursuit, as well as for leadership and organization in co-founding the Natural Philosophy

Alliance, for opening doors of communication with scientists in Russia and the rest of the world, and for inspiring the control of assumptions in thinking about fundamental physics.”

He was a lifelong Presbyterian, and most recently a member of the Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church for 42 years. He served as an elder, chairman of the Men’s Group, a trustee, and was a longtime choir member.

Another passion was Boy Scouts of America. After becoming an Eagle Scout, he continued serving as a scoutmaster for over 50 years. Further, he was a role model for countless scouts, including inspiring his two sons and two of his grandsons also to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.

Along with his wife Eleanor, they shared a passion for genealogy, spending 25 years gathering information about their families and teaching others about genealogy. This exploration of family history included travel both within the US as well as abroad.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years Eleanor Flemings Munch of Gaithersburg, Md; his four children, Cindy Munch Levy (Fred) of Newport News, VA; Bill Munch (Brenda) of Penfield, NY; Barbara Munch of Cary, NC, and David Munch (Denise) of Herndon, VA; and his 7 grandchildren, Josh Levy (Tamaki) of Honolulu, Hawaii; David Day (Becky) of Greenwood, SC; Elana Keppel Levy (Lucus) of Corona, NM; Elizabeth Munch (Firas) of Canajoharie, NY; Patricia Munch of Herndon, VA; James Munch of Atlanta, GA; and Christopher Munch of Herndon, VA.

Note: A special tribute to Neil Munch was held during the men’s retreat at Montreat in late July.

Thanks to NAPS’ Circle of Light Scouter **Philip Melberg** of the Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church, Rockville, MD for sharing this recognition.

Richard W. Burow

August 16, 1939 - September 17, 2013

Richard W. Burow, 74, of Kingsport, died on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at Bristol Hospice House following a short battle with liver cancer.



Richard was born and raised in Danville, Illinois and moved south to finish his education and live his adult life. An Illinois farm boy at heart, he managed the family farmland in Illinois after retiring from Eastman. Richard, or commonly "Dick", started his education at Illinois Wesleyan University after earning the Frank Gannett newspaper boy scholarship. The scholarship was timely, as he had eaten most of the profits from his paper route. His route ended at The Custard Cup, famous for their lemon custard ice cream.

After graduation from Illinois Wesleyan, he went on to finish a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering at Duke University. Richard met Suzanne at Duke and the two moved to Kingsport in 1966. He started work for Eastman Chemical Company as a mechanical engineer; a job he held until retirement in 1999. A member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, he served as a section, region, and national officer and received the ASME Centennial Award in 1980 and the Dedicated Service Award. He was a member of the Preston Hill Presbyterian Church.

A member of the Boy Scouts of America for over 50 years, Burow attained the rank of Eagle Scout in Troop 19 of Danville. He went to Philmont, the 1953 National Scout Jamboree, and was a patrol leader at the 50th anniversary of scouting world jamboree in England in 1957. He returned to England for the 100th scouting anniversary held at the same site. A scout leader in Kingsport since 1969, he served as Troop 255 Scoutmaster for 17 years. He helped 50 scouts attain the rank of Eagle Scout. He was honored by Scouting with the Scouter's Key, Silver Beaver, James West Society, and National Heritage Society awards.

An avid hiker, Richard was a trail maintainer. He was always curious to know if there were any "blow downs" – trees across the trail. He would don a special backpack with his chain saw and hike in to cut up the blow down and clear the trail.

Richard was an active volunteer at the Exchange Place, preparing activities for Farmfest and helping maintain the land and buildings. Too tall for military service, he loved the two days he spent with his son and the crew of the submarine U.S.S. Portsmouth underway off the California coast. He was proud to be a member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Richard is fondly remembered for his avid support of Duke University basketball and Dalmatian dogs. His favorite Dalmatian over the years was his beloved Duke.

Surviving family members include Suzanne, his wife of 50 years, sons Craig and David, and grandsons Nathan and Jackson

[Thanks to his son and to Steve Baker for notifying NAPS.]

James ("Jimmie") E. Stevens, Jr

Stevens was a professional engineer and owner of Laboratory Associates, Specialized Assays and James E. Stevens and Associates. Stevens was heavily involved in scouting as an Eagle Scout. A Circle of Life Member of NAPS, he won the Long Rifle Award, received a Silver Beaver and recognized with the first Distinguished Eagle in Middle Tennessee. He was past President of the Middle Tennessee Council and a longtime member of Belle Meade Country Club.



A graduate of Vanderbilt University (where he was Sigma Chi) and Georgia Tech (member of V-12 Navy), Jimmie, a former board member of the NRA, was a competitive shooter and coached the MBA rifle team for 25 years,

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. Memorials are requested sent to the Middle Tennessee Boy Scouts of Nashville, TN or your favorite charity.

Stevens is survived by 63 yrs. Elizabeth "Blondy" Stevens, daughter Susan (Tom) Logan, son Ed (Patty) Stevens, grandchildren John Logan, Beth (Jason) Todd, Jennie (John) Witherspoon, Katie (Brandon) Waymire, Jim (Nikki) Stevens, Brad Stevens and Hayley Stevens, 7 great grandchildren.

Edwin Kimball Neville Jr.

September 7, 1940 - June 25, 201



Ed was born Sept. 7, 1940, in Dothan, Ala.. He graduated from Marion Military Institute in Marion, Ala. and earned a B.S. in Commerce from TCU. He also completed his master's degree in hospital administration.

Moving to FT Worth, Neville loved being out of doors and Boy Scouts, earning his Eagle rank and working many years in BSA, acting for a time as a Commissioner in the Ft Worth area.. Neville loved sports, especially his Horned Frogs, and loved spending time with his grandchildren. He was a sweet and gentle family man, always generous with his time, and willing to extend a helping hand to those in need, a true scout in heart and action.

Ed was a devout Christian always active in the church beginning as a youth with Billy Graham Ministries and as a chaplain at the Union Gospel Mission delivering the Gospel to the homeless for years. He found his calling in witnessing the Gospel to inmates of the Tarrant County Jail every Tuesday evening and volunteering as a chaplain at Sanders Estes Unit on Wednesday evenings. [Thanks to Steve Baker for sharing notice of Neville's passing.]

JAMES R. MOHR

March 10, 1929 - June 26, 2014



James R. Mohr, age 85, a member of Salem Presbyterian Church, before his retirement was employed at E.W. Bliss as an erector for 18 years and was previously employed with Kent Machine, Taylorcraft and Wean Engineering. Jim served with the U.S. Army during the Korean War from 1954 to 1961.

A member of the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters, Jim was a 55-year member of Boy Scouts of America and held numerous positions in scouting. These included District Committee, District Eagle Examining Board, Camp Masters Training, Chaplain Committee, Commissioners Training, Merit Badge Counselor, OA Executive Committee, Scout Troop Leader, First Advisor for Eagle Explores, God and Country Councilor, as well as Scouting Coordinator for 25 years.

Jim received numerous awards: Celtic Cross Award from Nat'l Assoc. of Presbyterian Scouters 2002, Working with Youth Award in 1989 from Ohio State House of Representatives, AFL/CIO George Meaney Award in 1982, Commissioners Key in 1998, God and Service Award in 1989, Cub Ma ter Key - Cubbin Key and Scouters Key in 1981, Silver Beaver Award in 1989 and numerous training awards.

Jim was a member Guilford Lake Ruritan Club, life member of the Winona Ruritan Club and lifetime member of AMVETS Post 45. Jim was a 45-year member of Salem First Presbyterian Church, serving as an ordained elder since 1977, ordained deacon since 1987 and Sunday school teacher and served on the Property and Maintenance Committee. He had also been an advisor for Columbiana County 4-H programs for 30 years with the Blackburn Hilltoppers and was a member of the Rabbit and Poultry Committee. He was an active supporter of P.R.A.Y.

His wife, V. Jane (Mountz) Mohr, whom he married Sept. 5, 1958, preceded him in death Jan. 25, 2005. A daughter, Diana Lodge, and a brother, Dale Mohr, also preceded him in death. Survivors include a son, Rev. James (Jill) Mohr II, Chaplain at Westminster College, of New Wilmington, Pa.; three daughters, Barbara Pollock of Salem, Jodine (Michael) Karmazin of Salem and Jennifer (John) Zamarelli of Salem; 18 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Jim was especially known for the lovely carved crosses he made and donated to select groups for use at special functions. The NAPS cross was recently used in our display at the Fellowship Community/ECO Gathering in Dallas.



..Jim was generous with the crosses he made. He not only donated to NAPS and to PRAY, but, in the last months before his death, made sure that he had created a cross for each member of his family and all the grandchildren. His legacy will not be forgotten.

Ernest A.Knipp

October 10, 1929 – July 26, 2014



Ernest A Knipp, 84, former Vice President of NAPS in 1995, was born in Houston, TX., the only child of Ernest A Knipp, Sr. and Emma Ray Raymond (she preceded him in death). Knipp graduated from Lamar High School and received undergraduate work from Rice University and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Yale University. Knipp was married to Dorene Dranke on February 2, 2008. He had two careers. He as first a chemical engineer and then an attorney practicing in several locations in Houston, including for the state for a short time. He had a passion for computers and other electronics. He was very dedicated to his work with Boy Scouts and was of great help to other officers of NAPS. He himself was a Circle of Life member. His dedication, assistance to others, and his gentle and soft voice will be greatly missed.

Also reported as deceased:

George Amann, NAPS Life Member, formerly of 450 S Lafayette Park, Los Angeles,CA

Elsie Lucille (Shivlie) Yonkman, Lake City Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Lake City, MI
June 1, 1922 - July 27, 2013

James "Jim" Stewart Lively, Jr., 88, Nashville. TN, July 28, 1924 - February 23, 2013

Robert McBane, Sr, 323 Longstreet Dr., Wilmington, NC 28412.

Letter to the Editor on Church Sponsorship of Scouts

By Ernest A. Knipp

I want to discuss some of the things people should think about in starting and continuing a Boy Scout program. I should make clear that my perspective is that of someone in Texas, considering Scouting units in Presbyterian churches. In my area, most BSA programs are connected to churches, although other organizations can also be "chartered organizations." Even so, many of the things I say here do apply to other states and other chartered partners, but you should check out your own situation carefully.

Many churches have a variety of activities going on with a variety of relationships to the church. At one extreme, there are those which are part of the church itself (like a Sunday School class) ranging to the other extreme, those not part of the church (a person who rents space from the church to present book reviews). As it turns out, a Boy Scout unit (Cub Pack, Boy Scout Troop, etc., is part of the church itself. Suppose we use the example of a troop. The church itself owns the money in the troop's bank account, all the "troop property" (as the members think of it), and the church itself is ultimately responsible for settling any disputes that may arise.

I would like to dispose of one topic in the beginning: Girl Scouts. Currently, most adults will take the position that boys and girls must be treated equally. However, the Girl Scouts are organized very differently. A Boy Scout troop in a church is part of the church; a Girl Scout troop in the same church is an outside organization that meets there. This can lead to some practical problems: for example, if someone is moved to contribute a canoe to "the Scouts" (boys and girls), the Boy Scout part would go to the church, while the Girl Scout part would go to the local Girl Scout council. In this particular discussion, I would like to confine myself to Boy Scouts only.

Suppose that a church has decided to begin a Boy Scout program; the church must agree to the "U Annual Agreement" with the local Boy Scout council. These agreements are forms in which the details vary from one council to another to accommodate local conditions, but the most important provisions are universal. Each side (the church on one hand and the council on the other) agrees to perform certain acts; the fact that there are promises on both sides means that the form is a "bilateral contract." The agreement runs for one year and must be renewed annually. The local council is incorporated, and the church is (in general) incorporated, so that what is going on is that two corporations are entering into a contract.

I am aware that so good many people are reluctant to think of their church as a corporation, but everyone should understand what is happening. In Texas, the State Bar recommends that an organization like the church have a training session for new directors (in our case, new members of the session) and that each trainee receive a notebook to be used at meetings of the directors; at the beginning of the notebook should be three items: the articles of incorporation or certificate of incorporation, with all amendments; the bylaws; and the policies of the organization. Personally, I think this is a good practice because members of the governing board have the rules under which they operate in writing, spelled out in detail. One policy I would suggest is that certain key positions should be filled by church members. If there is an entry in the session's minutes reflecting that the annual agreement (shown as an exhibit or otherwise recorded) has been approved for another year and that the pastor or other designee is authorized to sign on behalf of the church, that should suffice.

The late Lewis Mattingly, who was a very successful scoutmaster for many years, thought that the best time to choose for unit meetings was Wednesday night, because the church itself has various adult activities on that night; it is possible to arrange things so that the various programs augment rather than conflict with each other. A cub pack can arrange to have programs for all age groups on Wednesday night, although dens who might want another meeting time can arrange to do so. I remember a conversation with a mother who had two boys who were Cub Scouts; for her, the Wednesday night schedule freed up two afternoons a week, and she and her husband could choose how they wanted to handle that night: the whole family could come to dinner at the church, or come later; one or both parents could take part in the activities they wanted. Of course, from time to time, I have had suggestions about various aspects of the re-charter process, supposedly improvements.

One idea is that if we leave out one or two steps, the result will not be binding; then, if something goes wrong and a lawsuit results, we are safe. But, because of "apparent agency" or "apparent authority," the church will be bound just as completely as if the job had been done thoroughly. The directors (session) need to know what goes on, and cannot delegate the responsibility.

This reprint article is from 2011 in gratitude to our former VP Ernest A. Knipp, for his legal aid to NAPS and for a life of service to Scouting.