

The Presbyterian Scouter



<http://www.presbyterianscouters.org>

THIS IS YOUR TIME....

Included in this issue is a nomination form. If you or someone you know is a NAPS member who would like to serve at the Regional or National level and you would like to nominate them for any of the positions, this is your chance to get them started in the process. We have a nominating chair who will receive all suggestions and will lead a committee in determining which people should be recommended for election to office, just like your home church does every year.



The National Officers put in a great deal of time keeping track of records and getting Scouting promoted at shows and events across the United States, but if you feel there is someone who could do a better job and is willing to serve, nominate them and send the enclosed form to the Chair of the nominating committee.

NAPS WILL HAVE A BOOTH AT EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

From January 31, to February 3, 2001, NAPS will have a unique opportunity to inform Christian educators about the opportunities for Scouting and the Church to work together. This gathering draws over 1000 educators, ministers and educational staff members from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Reformed Church in America, Christian Reformed Church in North America (Education Office) and the Reformed Church in America.

The Association of Presbyterian Church Educators - Conference 2001 will be held in the Sheraton Hotel, in Birmingham, Alabama. This is an annual event for Christian educators, clergy and lay Christian education volunteers.

For 2001 the theme is "Living Into God's Gift of Community." Rev. Eugenia Gamble, Dr. Christopher Hamlin, Rev. Magdalena Garcia, and Kevin Harris will lead Plenaries.

Want to try a new website address???

The National Board decided to purchase a domain name for ourselves. After a little thought about how many people we might attract with some other names, we finally decided on www.PresbyterianScouters.org and paid for rights to it for a decade.

The preprinted address at the top of the newsletter will still work, just as using the new address will. You get to decide which you want to use, they take you to the same place on the web.



NAPS MEMBER RECEIVES SILVER BUFFALO

If you look at the award recipients from the National Meeting in SCOUTING magazine you will see that one of the Silver Buffalo recipients picture is in Black and White. That's NAPS member Al Wilson, retired automotive company executive who serves as Chair of the National Religious Relationships committee.

Al has long supported not only Scouting but NAPS and the entire membership should be proud he received this well-deserved recognition.

FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At the Officer's meeting held by NAPS the evening before the Duty to God Breakfast there was one major item discussed that all should know about. It was moved and approved to provide a donation of \$1000 to the High Adventure Chaplaincy fund, which helps keep Chaplains at all of our national High Adventure bases.

This is a significant increase. In 1999 we donated \$300, \$100 for each base, and two members added a matching donation to help get things going at Canoe Base and Sea Base, for a total of \$500.

The check was written and presented the next day to the head of Relationships, Donald G. Oblander, who had come to General Assembly to attend the Duty to God Breakfast.

If there are others who would wish to donate to the High Adventure Chaplaincy Fund, NAPS Treasurer "Rush" Hart will gladly collect the donations and forward them to the national office. If you wish to give, send your check to:

"Rush" Hart
2416 Ryan Place Dr.
Ft. Worth, TX 76110

The Presbyterian Scouter

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NAPS member Sam Rue acted as the local contact for our General Assembly Duty to God Breakfast. He also received the God and Service Award with others at the Breakfast.

ERRATA

Our apologies, but mistakes do happen. In an effort to get the newsletter out before GA so we could hand out the new issue at our Duty to God Breakfast I made the mistake of forgetting to update the date of the newsletter and the volume and issue numbers.

Sometimes you learn on the job the hard way.....





God and Service Awards presented to distinguished volunteers

by Emmett H. Barfield, reporting for the 212th General Assembly

Long Beach, June 27 - The National Association of Presbyterian Scouters held their annual General Assembly Breakfast at Covenant Presbyterian Church of Long Beach.

The high point of the meeting was the presentation of the God and Service award to four distinguished Scouting volunteers. Reminding this gathering that this award is uniquely a Presbyterian award for service to the Boy Scouts of America, President James H. Snyder presented this year's awards to John Herndon, III, Eliot Kerlin, Fran Kerlin, and Sam Rue.

Lee Martin, Scout Executive for the Long Beach Council witnessed to breakfasters on the value of Scouting in the lives of young men and women. "I found Christ through Scouting," acknowledged Scouter Martin.

He shared the volunteer philosophy that a hundred years from now it will not matter what someone's bank account was, or in what kind of house a person lived, or the kind of car that was driven. But the world will be different, because that person was important in the life of a boy. He challenged the group by asking "Are you going to be the one, is the church going to be the organization to effect change (through Scouting) in these young lives?"

A special certificate of recognition was presented to the Rev. Herbert N. Christ, stated clerk of the Presbytery of San Diego for his efforts in promoting and establishing Boy Scout troops in his presbytery and the surrounding area.

The meeting was closed with a quote from Robert Service, "A promise is a debt unpaid and the trail has its own strong code."

The benediction was given by the Rev. George F. Hupp, Jr., National Chaplain, National Association of Presbyterian Scouters.

Rocky Mountain Region News

Al Klein

NAPS Scouters Larry Cummings and Brad Phelps received their Wood badge beads in ceremonies, 15 July. both are former Scoutmasters of Troop 360 chartered to Community Presbyterian Church, Cedar City, Utah and are Elders. Larry, an associate advisor for the Order of the Arrow, was presented the District Award of Merit earlier in the year. Brad, Cedar Breaks District Leadership Training Chairman, is a Silver Beaver Scouter. Both are recipients of the God and Service Award.

With this issue you will find something special. Every time it is reprinted there is an attempt made to provide one copy of the religious award information, usually in the form of the poster, to every unit.

We were fortunate at General Assembly to have the newest version, a four-fold that shows the awards and gives details about how to contact each of the agencies involved in presenting the awards.

We made arrangements soon after to make sure each NAPS member got a copy of this flier, made to fit in with all the other items the National Office has printed for use in a three-ring binder.



Meet the Members

Rex L. Lettie

Rex L. Lettie has been a member of NAPS for the past 10 years. As a Boy Scout in the Bucktail Council (DuBois, PA), he earned God and Country Award in 1970 in the Punxsutawney Presbyterian Church and the Eagle Scout Rank in 1972.

As an adult Scouter, he served as Bucktail Council Training Chairman for 4 years. For 10 years, he was the Chartered Organization Representative for Pack #2 and Troop #2 of the Clearfield Presbyterian Church. For 3 years, he was the Cubmaster of Pack #2. He is currently a member of the Bucktail Council and Executive Board and the Troop #2 Committee. Rex has attended Boy Scout Leader Woodbadge and has been awarded the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver. In August of this year he became a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.

Rex was a Deacon in the Punxsutawney Presbyterian Church and an Elder in the Clearfield Presbyterian Church. He assists with Junior Church and has served as table parent and bible study teacher for the church's "Logos" afterschool program.

Rex resides in Clearfield, Pennsylvania with his wife, Pam, and two children. Jacob, age 11 crossed into Boy Scouting this Spring after earning his Arrow of Light Award. Melanie, age 9, has been active in Girl Scouting since first grade.

Religious Relationships Week at Philmont Training Center - 2001

Once again, all NAPS members will receive an invitation to attend this week-long course. These are mailed out sometime soon after the end of December so we make sure as many members as possible receive this wonderful opportunity.

You have a chance to spend a week at Philmont Training Center and completing this training course to allow you to better help back in your home council when it comes to developing programs to increase Scouting in both numbers of Units and numbers of Youth, plus we usually have special break-out sessions where we are given the opportunity to discuss problems that are unique to our faith.

If you want to consider this you might make sure your calendar is marked now for the week of July 8-14 so you can attend.

PLANNING AHEAD -- GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001

The executive board decided there will be a training session open to all NAPS members at Louisville on Saturday, June 9, 2001 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. The training will be before the start of General Assembly, but close enough to it that the membership should get a chance to visit the exhibit floor. More details will be included in the next Presbyterian Scouter.

A luncheon is also in the planning stages for June 12, 2001 in conjunction with the General Assembly meeting.

Our goal is to provide the local council with something they can use as a vehicle to increase Scouting in the community. The Relationships Division has already contacted the local Scout Executive and they are excited about the opportunity we want to provide to them.



THE YEAR OF THE CHILD

One program that began with the General Assembly was declaring the Year of the Child. If your unit can, in any way, help your local church in developing events for this program, please step forward and volunteer to help their programs move ahead.



WANT THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY PATCH?

We've got two - count them, TWO options for you!

You can fill out the form below and send it along with your payment of \$4.00 per patch to our Treasurer at the address provided. OR you can sign up a new NAPS member using a copy of the application form shown below which includes a line at the bottom where you need to write in your name as the recruiter. **Every NAPS member who brings in a new member using this form will get ONE 15th Anniversary patch FREE for each new member.** FINE PRINT: to get a FREE anniversary patch you must sign up a new member USING THE FORM BELOW. If we don't have this form showing who signed up the new member, we cannot issue a free patch.

So take this page to a photocopier and get everyone who ever was involved in Scouting at your church to join now! And, just a hint, you might go ahead and purchase a patch for yourself and take that free patch and give it to the person you recruited as a gift to say "Thanks for Joining and supporting Scouting in the Church"....

Patch Order Form

Mail this form to "Rush" Hart, 2416 Ryan Place Dr. , Ft. Worth, TX 76110 with your check:

Please send me _____ copies of the NAPS 15th Anniversary patch at \$4.00 each. My check is enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Application for Membership -- National Association of Presbyterian Scouters

Youth are the future and they are the Church. I pledge my service and support to Youth. As a Presbyterian Scouter or Associate member, I will take action or respond to opportunities for service through the Church and through Scouting. I will be a light for the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters.

PLEASE PRINT

DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ HOME PHONE _____

COUNCIL NAME AND

NUMBER _____ CHURCH _____

ASSC. MEMBERS CHURCH _____ YOUTH AGENCY AFFILIATION _____

SIGNATURE _____

CHECK ITEMS THAT APPLY:

- /_New Member/ /_Associate Member/ /_Renewal Member /_Lapel Pin (\$5.00) Extra Patch (\$2.00)
- /_Annual Membership (\$10.00) /_Five-year Membership (\$40.00)
- /_Ten-year Membership (\$75.00) /_Life Membership (\$200.00)

Make your check for the total amount due to NAPS and attach it to this form. Form and check should be sent to: Programs for Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.), 8520 MacKenzie Rd., St. Louis, MO 63123

RECRUITED BY:(please print) _____



GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOTES

By Jim Snyder

NAPS attended the 212th General Assembly in Long Beach. We provided an exhibit booth and the Duty to God Breakfast.

The breakfast was well attended and is one of our major activities. We were fortunate to have as our guests Rev. John Herndon, a candidate for Moderator and as guest speaker Mr. Lee Martin, Long Beach Scout Executive. More on that later.

The Booth was located right along the main aisle from the entrance to the exhibit hall and we seemed to receive more inquiries than in the past.

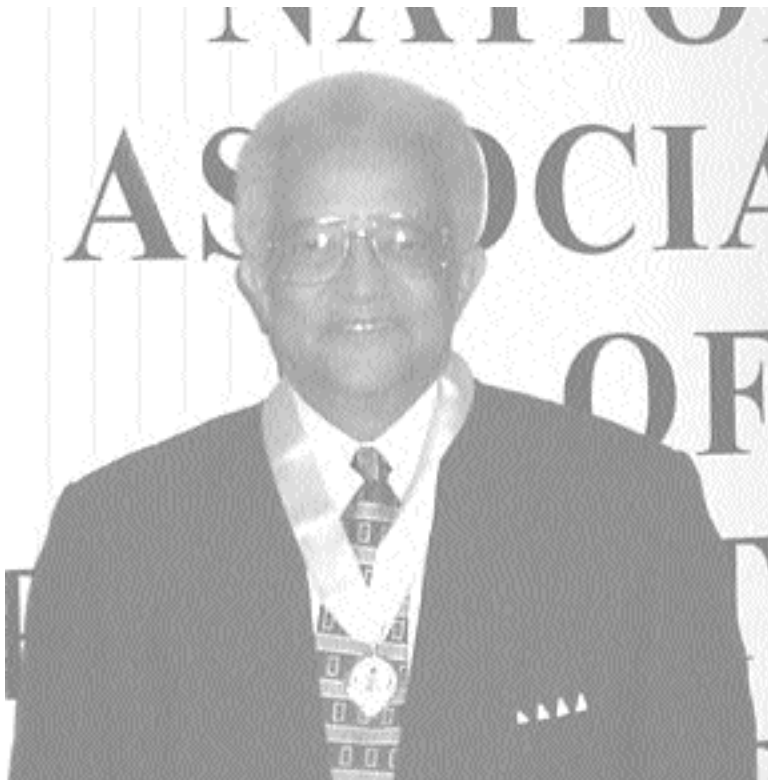
Lee Martin provided an extremely personal and very inspirational message for the guests at our Breakfast. Without going into total details, we felt it was important to share his message with all the members so they can try to use it as an inspiration when working with units.

Mr. Martin has a different business card than most. On the back is that statement often quoted throughout Scouting: "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different, because I was important in the life of a young person." Its there because it means more to him personally than to some others.

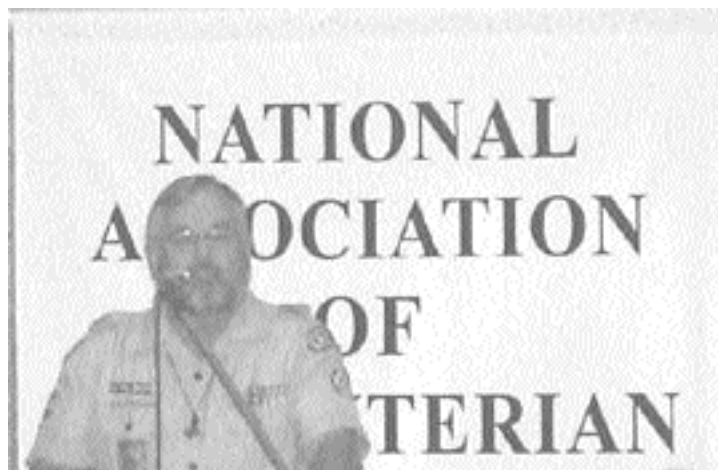
At a young age he found himself in a foreign country and in jail. His parents would not come and get him out. He sat there and realized exactly how his life had been changed by this experience, how he had made mistakes, how he had erred. At one point he was about to give up hope when someone came and bailed him out.

That person was his Scoutmaster. And there were rules and stipulations that came with being released, and there were expectations. Because of these, Mr. Martin found himself deeply involved in Scouting and his church. And he found he was drawn from his old habits into new ways, the ways of Scouting and religion, that allowed him to escape the life he had allowed to develop.

Remember his experience as your youth and units develop.



John Herndon, III, was the recipient of the God and Service Award after being nominated by the Executive Board of the Association



Scout Executive Lee Marvin testified before the assembled Scouters and guests at the Duty to God Breakfast.