

The Presbyterian Scouter

<http://www.presbyterianscouters.org>

From the President--

Getting together is a beginning,
Keeping together is progress,
Working together is success!

The 211th General Assembly with a NAPS booth and the "Duty to God" breakfast was a tremendous success!

For those who attended and participated, please accept my heartfelt thanks for a job well done! Special recognition must be given to your executive committee and others who accomplished the task with hard work and dedication. Special kudos go to Eliot and Fran Kerlin and their committee for Texas hospitality; and the guys and gals for actively attending the Presbyterian Scouters booth.



Our impact at GA was evident. Paul Myers stated it is safe to assume that almost everyone knew we were present. This was evident by the booth, Scout uniforms, and the amount of literature that was distributed to Commissioners and guests. Our real highlight was the "Duty to God" breakfast. Dr. Herbert Valentine, a former Moderator, sent a letter of invitation to all Executive Presbyters, in addition to our selling tickets through the GA.

We were fortunate to have Frank Diaz as our guest speaker and have Pat Brown, a former Moderator, as the emcee. Our National Chaplain, the Rev. Dr. George Hupp rendered a prayer for the late Dr. Winchester. In addition to the very moving testimonies of the Scouts and Scouters, Frank Diaz was presented the God and Service Award. Combined, they provided a very successful program.

After this rush of success it may seem that we are accomplishing our mission. However, what IS our mission? Simply stated "Our mission is to develop Scouting in Presbyterian Churches to teach religious values". Our objectives are clearly stated in our membership application pamphlets.

Are we accomplishing our mission? Meeting our objectives? What impact are we members of NAPS having on the Scouting program? How effective is our organization? And what can we do to become more effective?

These are difficult questions that can be accomplished by the participation of every member. First, we need leadership to form or complete NAPS action teams at Synod and Presbytery levels to interact, coordinate, and assist local BSA councils. Our Vice-President has accepted the responsibility for this effort. He needs your support.



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Eliot Kerlin has provided a summary of the financial reports for the fiscal year, which ended on May 31, 1999. At that time, with no unpaid bills, he was able to state:

Bank Balances		Expenses for the year	
Checking	\$10,007	Patches and Awards	\$ 891.00
Money Market	5,971	Funeral Flowers	57.00
TOTAL	\$15,971	Duty to God Breakfast	777.00
		Postage	839.00
Income for the year		Printing	602.00
Dues	\$5305.00	Phone	304.00
Pins and Patches	363.00	T-bill purchase	1346.00
Meals	196.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4816.00
Interest and Other	720.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$6584.00		



NAPS Participants join in at PTC

A group of NAPS members were led in sessions during the week of July 11-17 by our National Chaplain **George Hupp** and Treasurer **Eliot Kerlin**. After a morning session of a combined group of all faiths the NAPS members were able to break out as a separate group and discuss things pertaining directly to our organization.

Participants included:

- Eliot and Fran Kerlin, Ft. Worth, TX
- Rev. Dr. George Hupp, Cincinnati, OH
- Bob and Sandy Vincent, Alexandria, LA
- Don and Nancy Blake, Orange, CA
- Pete Myers, Oceanside, CA
- Gene Foley, No. Cape May, NJ

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PRESIDENT - from page 1

Concurrent with organization, we need to increase our membership and recognize our fellow Scouters for their work with the Church and with Scouting.

Your officers are considering goals. I want to solicit each member for your thoughts and ideas. Someone advised me that all you have to do is establish priorities and do them — 10 at a time.

Let's work together for success!

Shalom,

Jim

LOOKING FOR THAT MEMBERSHIP CARD?

Part of the changeover process to the new National Secretary meant that some forms would not work on a different printer. Rather than start processing membership cards for only a few of the members we are looking at other options and other forms we can use. We hope you understand the delay.

NAPS Members Are Offered The Chance To Help Those Who Are In Need Because Of Hurricane Floyd

Alpha Phi Omega is a National Service Fraternity which was formed by Scouts in College who wanted to continue their Scouting Spirit and Activities while studying. One of their Chapters is Kappa Upsilon, which is at East Carolina University. They are accepting donations for help in the area and are working with the Red Cross to receive non-perishable items and get them distributed.

If any members of NAPS wish to help we have arranged a contact with a member of the Fraternity there. Here is the information he told us just September 23rd:

"My name is Alex Cheek and I am an older brother of Kappa Upsilon chapter here at East Carolina University. I have been here in the middle of Floyd since the beginning."

"We have 29 feet of water in the Tar River, and just got our water supply back today. However, it is contaminated because we have had oil spills, and hog/turkey feces contamination. This will continue indefinitely as while the water goes down, the problems go up."

"Here are some stats:

At ECU, we have 4,000 students that are displaced, meaning out of apartments. 3/4ths have lost everything they own here, up to and including clothes, their cars, and apartments."

"In Greenville, 10,000 are suffering. 5,000 are in emergency shelters, which have to be scaled back this week to get the schools ready for kids to go back to school. We don't know where they will go. All major federal agencies are here, including FEMA, Red Cross, and more. We are under a indefinite state of emergency, with the National Guard and a temporary police force of 150 from across the state patrolling the town."

"Our town is facing increased looting, arson, theft and assault."

"All of this comes as the officials continue to pull out more fatalities. 136 were found today in Princeville, the Oldest Chartered African-American town in the United States. 45 were found in a trailer park community here in Greenville, and on my campus a 18-year-old college freshman was found -- after being missing for 5 days."

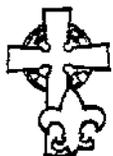
"What do we need? And how can people help?"

"Basically anything in the form of non-perishable items except clothing, the Salvation Army and Red Cross have these.

"I am here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and more than willing to serve as a "on the scene" contact. If you wish to send supplies I will be glad to have them distributed. I have been operating as the receiving station for donations from Alpha Phi Omega chapters for the Red Cross and can continue to do so."

"The mail address for items to distribute is: Hurricane Floyd Relief Fund (this allows donations to be included as tax deductible), c/o Alex Cheek, Box 20011, Greenville, NC 27834."

Non-perishable and clean-up items have the greatest need. Anything NAPS members can do will be greatly appreciated. For cash donations contact: Hurricane Floyd Disaster Relief Fund, Office of the Governor, 20301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0301 or pay with a Credit card by calling (888) 786-7601 or (888) 835-9966. Through the church send to: Presbyterian Church (USA), Central Receiving Service, Section 300, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202.



KIDS LETTERS TO GOD

Dear GOD,
Maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother. - Larry

Dear GOD,
If You watch me in church on Sunday, I'll show You my new shoes. - Mickey

Dear GOD,
Are You really invisible or is it just a trick? - Lucy

Dear GOD,
Is it true my father won't get in Heaven if he uses his bowling words in the house? - Anita

Dear GOD,
Did You mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident? - Norma

Dear GOD,
Did You really mean "do unto others as they do unto you"? Because if You did, then I'm going to fix my brother. - Darla

Dear GOD,
Why is Sunday school on Sunday? I thought it was supposed to be our day of rest. - Tom L.



SCOUT SUNDAY

Has your unit planned its Scout Sunday events? Have they talked to the Pastor, the Elders, or anyone else they may need to notify? Are your youth part of the service?

Since Scout Sunday doesn't come until February some people put it off on their calendar to plan after Christmas. Unfortunately, waiting like that only makes things harder. Some Pastors plan church services -- in part or in whole -- a lot farther ahead than that, and you need to be a part of their planning.

MEET THE MEMBERS

Brooks Gardner is a native North Carolinian from Mebane, a town in the central portion of the state between Greensboro and Durham. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro with a Bachelor of Arts in Geography.

Brooks has been involved as Scout leader for 20 years. He served as Scoutmaster for many of those years with Troop 43 in Mebane. On June 1, he stepped down as Scoutmaster and is currently serving as Committee Chair. He has served as Assistant Council Commissioner, District Commissioner, Roundtable Commissioner. In addition, he earned BS, MS, & Ph. D. in Commissioner Science. Recently, he served on Camp Staff at Cherokee Scout Reservation as a Commissioner.

His career includes employment with the North Carolina Judicial Department with the Administrative Office of the Courts, serving as an Assistant Clerk of Superior Court in Alamance County and Guilford County. He has been a purchasing agent, a radio dj, a town administrator, and is presently a substitute teacher. In addition, Brooks served as the Mayor of Mebane for 9 years.

A member and Elder in the Mebane Presbyterian Church he has taught Sunday School, sang in the choir, served on the Board of Deacons and is presently a member of the Worship Committee.

His wife Carol is a retired Math and Physics teacher. She is the Music Director at Hawfields Presbyterian Church and a member of NAPS.

And if your congregation does not support a Scout unit, there is an even greater need to provide a Scout Sunday for your congregation to realize all the things their youth members participate in and to make sure religious awards are recognized. Contact your church and become part of our 90th anniversary celebration!



SIGNS UP! Garfield joins Cubbing to help with recruiting.

Use Garfield for Cub Recruiting

By now everyone should know that Garfield has decided to become a Cub Scout and will be with BSA to help encourage Cub Recruiting for the next two years.

His creator, Jim Davis, has allowed Councils near his home to use Garfield's image for other things, including Sagamore Council's 1997 JSP. It wasn't a long discussion to get Garfield to join up.

Many different items are available from National Supply, from pencils to plush toys, and units and leaders can try to find ways to use them to their best advantage.

Garfield brings Odie along with him on this adventure, and while we won't know the ending for two years, it was obvious that the Cubbing Spokescat would be a big draw.

Will Garfield make it to Webelos? Will he live up to the old slogan "Scouting Rounds a Guy Out" after too many servings of lasagna? We'll see....

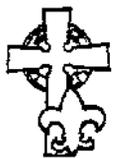
NAPS TO HAVE BOOTH AT YOUTH EVENT:

The Dawn ...an Epiphany

Working with both the Relationships Division and Venturing, NAPS will have a booth at the special year-end event the Presbyterian Youth have planned for December 28-January 1. "We plan to man the booth with Venturers and a few Scouts. They can come either on their own or with their Crew," said the youth/NAPS member in charge, Matt Petrik. "Our goal is to show off Venturing, all of Venturing. Venturers or Crews can work one day or the entire event. In exchange for working in the booth, those who work as exhibitors will also get a pass that will allow them to attend the events and concerts." That would mean that Venturers would need to pay only for their transportation and housing and meals while at the event, saving themselves the cost of the registration fee.

"Giving up a few hours in the booth each day, those who join us would also get an opportunity to visit the workshops and the other exhibits, as well as meet 30,000 other young people from around the country."

Interested Crews or Venturers should contact Matt, who is currently at college, by contacting his father, Secretary Tom Petrik. He can be reached by calling him at home (847)297-4407 or at work (708)352-4611 or writing to him via e-mail (ec92@aol.com). Flyers were sent to 38 councils in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky offering this opportunity to Venturers, so if you live in the region you may be able to ask your District Executive for more information. You can also check out the program for the event at the website at <http://horeb.pcusa.org/dawn>.



Meet your National Officers

Eliot Kerlin

Eliot started his professional career in Mechanical Engineering at Convair Aircraft, in Nuclear Aircraft Material Research. Later he was Lead Engineer on Nuclear Rocket Material Research in Triple Environment of Reactor Radiation, High Vacuum and Cryogenic Temperatures. During this time, he earned his Masters degree in Nuclear Energy and Professional Engineer. His latter years with the same facility - called General Dynamics, Lockheed and Lockheed Martin Tactical Aircraft Systems - was spent in various Engineering Project Offices preparing and negotiating engineering statements of work with the US, Australian and Japanese Air Forces. Eliot retired May 31, 1999, after 43 years.

He started his Scouting career fifteen years ago when he asked to join the Cub Scout Pack Committee when his son joined as a Wolf. Later he was Assistant Cubmaster and then Cubmaster for a Pack with 120 boys for two years. When his son crossed over the bridge to Scout Troop 326, he joined the Troop as Scoutmaster to keep it going. He has attended Philmont Scoutmaster Skills Training and also received his Wood Badge Beads. The Troop grew from twenty to sixty boys, and during his six years as Scoutmaster, five adults received their Wood Badge Beads and fifteen boys became Eagle. Since then he has served as Assistant Scoutmaster, as Troop Committee Member and later as a Unit Commissioner.

While Scoutmaster, the Troop went to Philmont four times and Sea Base twice. Many of his Scouts also attended the 1989 National Jamboree. Eliot was lead Scoutmaster for the three units of the Longhorn Council contingent to the National Jamboree. In 1988 he was Assistant Scoutmaster of the Longhorn Council Scout Training program - Silver Tomahawk. In 1997 he was on the National Headquarters Staff of the National Jamboree in "Lost and Found" and at the NAPS display booth.

For the past five years Eliot has served as Treasurer of The National Association of Presbyterian Scouters. On two occasions he has attended Philmont Training Center conference on "Scouting in Church's Ministry".

Eliot was active in the 1997 General Assembly (GA) in Albuquerque. This June he was active with the PCUSA GA meeting in Fort Worth as both a volunteer and working with Scouting in the church. He was responsible for local arrangements for the NAPS "Duty to God" Breakfast held during the GA activities.

Eliot has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for fifty years and served in various capacities including Elder, Superintendent of Adult Sunday School Classes and commissions.



THE DAWN...AN EPIPHANY

Is your unit chartered to a Presbyterian Church? Youth from age 12 to 21 and young adults are invited to join the other youth at the end of the year event the Presbyterian Youth Connection calls "The Dawn...An Epiphany from December 28 to January 1 in Indianapolis. Participants will have opportunities for worship, workshops in leadership skills and more, and exhibits to explore. Plus each evening will have additional worship and concerts.

More information is available from PCUSA in Louisville, as well as from Presbyteries and Synods. It includes a video and booklets for distribution to interested individuals.

The cost per individual is about \$115.00 but several local churches are providing a place to stay at a reasonable cost. Participants are responsible for their own transportation and meals.