



# The Presbyterian Scouter



<http://www.presbyterianscouters.org>

## From the President

This issue starts a series of articles to be continued in subsequent issues to bring the members information on the Regional Officers, activities, and future plans. The Regions provide the body and strength of NAPS as they are closer to the members. The founding fathers envisioned a strong regional structure to work directly with the local council religious relation groups and churches to encourage Scouting in the Presbyterian Church. This would include helping to start new units, and working with the Religious Emblems Display (R.E.D.) Team to foster the PRAY Religious Awards program.



The national officers meet with BSA National in Irving and PCUSA General Assembly staff to consider ideas, issues, and programs for Scouting.. We are also able to gather information on new developments and provide to the Regional Officers and members. A good example: For the past six months, I have been working on making available to the members the "BSA Today" newsletter. The National Office is still reviewing the request. The BSA Today is published every two months by the National Religious Relations Group Office and contains plans and ideas by the many religious groups and new or changes to policies by BSA National. I think you would find it very informative. In the past issues NAPS has had seven articles.

A handbook has been developed to aid the Regional Directors in formulating plans and programs. The following pertinent information is included:

Introduction and history of NAPS, our Mission Statement, legal documentation and policies, chapters on Church ownership of the Scout Units and Bible based materials, religious awards, instructions for members to work with Churches to start new units, materials for Chaplain's Aide, Covenant relationship with Presbyteries, the organizational structure and responsibilities of NAPS, operational procedures and a list of available materials.

Also included are three tables: Job description for Youth Ministry Staff, National Executive Committee and National Officers and their job descriptions.

A training session was held at Philmont in July this year for the officers and members. It provided information on NAPS relationship with Presbyteries and getting the word out about NAPS. Emphasis was made regarding the promotion of PRAY God and Country programs and techniques of building NAPS at the local levels. Plans are in the making for a NAPS Breakout Session at the Religious Relations Week at Philmont in July 2003.

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## Regional News



### Northeast Region

*Eugene Foley – Director (856) 964-3184*

The Northeast Region of the BSA continues to have the only regional Religious Relationships Sub-committee. At the meeting held October 11 in Jamesburg, New Jersey, NAPS members David Gingras of Medina, Pennsylvania and Eugene Foley of Camden, New Jersey represented the Presbyterian Church. The regional organizations can continue to be an effective means by which the different religious organizations can coordinate with one another in the nation's most densely populated region. This has resulted in coordination of several statewide weekend events within the region that have joined the Presbyterians with other groups for retreats, camporees and walks with religious themes.

NAPS will be represented at the Twentieth World Jamboree by our own Eugene Foley whose duties will include Religious and Spiritual Activities as a member of the International Service Team. Foley has been Chaplain Coordinator at Philmont, Chaplain at the Florida Sea Base and National Jamboree Staff assisting in the NAPS booth where tens of thousands of youth and leaders are given a chance to meet NAPS officers and volunteers.

Special thanks goes out to Fran & Artie Falk for their work in New York. Long-time volunteers for Presbyterian Scouting, the Falks have made significant contributions in their organizing efforts. As important as the work they do locally, their initiative has helped to set a standard and example for other volunteers. All volunteers are strongly encouraged to share their experiences with NAPS so that we all may learn and benefit from the successful (and even the not so successful) efforts at making Scouting stronger for our future leaders.

*Artie and Fran Falk - Secretary (718) 479-9541*

At the 1997 National Jamboree, Artie and Fran Falk became excited about the things that Scouting was doing for youth. They talked to people in the NAPS booth and found the things we are doing at the National level they could do at the local level. They have worked to build the Queens Ecumenical Religious Relation Group into a very significant force giving out over 80 medals last year at a banquet honoring the youth who have completed their age appropriate materials in the God and Country program. They have sent letters to all churches in two of the Presbyteries offering assistance in starting a Scout Unit. They have one new Scout unit and are working on others. See the story about them in the September NAPS newsletter.

## Mid-Atlantic Region

*Steve Smith (910) 642-4098*



The Mid-Atlantic Region welcomes Steve Smith as its new Director, just in time for the new year. Steve lives in Whiteville, North Carolina and is both an Elder and a Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church (USA) of Whiteville and owns his own business, Interim health Care. In addition to having been the church treasurer he also recently co-chaired their Strategic Planning Committee. He has a 15-year old daughter and a 17-year old Eagle Scout son who will be the Eagle Class Spokesman at the 2003 Cape Fear Council Annual Banquet. Steve has been a Cubmaster, Webelos Den Leader, Assistant Scoutmaster, and is now the Troop Committee Advancement Chairman. Not content to remain solely in North Carolina both he and his son attended the 1997 National Jamboree, the 1998 World Jamboree in Chile, Florida Sea Base, and participated in a Philmont Trek in 2000. He has attended the Philmont Training Center, National Camp School, Wood Badge, and is a member of the Order of the Arrow. He was his council's first Webelos Resident Camp director and co-chaired the 1996 *Together Again* council-wide camporee for Cub and Boy Scouts. In 2000 he was chosen as the Logistics Chair for the 5,000 Cub and Boy Scout council-wide camporee. He the recipient of the Cape Fear Council District Award and was awarded the Silver Beaver in 2000.

## South Atlantic Region

*Stephen J. Taylor (864) 579-8607*



The new South Atlantic Regional Director is Stephen J. Taylor of Spartanburg, SC. He currently serves as Scout Executive for the Palmetto Council covering six counties of upstate South Carolina. An Eagle Scout, Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow and former Lodge Chief, he has served as a Deacon and an Elder in the church. Previously he served as Scout Executive in Alexandria, LA and was also on council staffs in Savannah, GA; Jacksonville, FL; Greenville, SC; and Knoxville, TN.

Newly selected, as Regional Secretary is Neal Stanford of Conyers, GA. He currently sells chlorine for city and county water treatment plants worldwide. Neal had previously been a Field Director with the Atlanta Area Council responsible for the Council Religious Relationships Committee as well as a District Executive with the Coastal Empire Council in Savannah, GA. Neal has also been a Deacon and an Elder in the church. Jay Ruton has joined the regional committee. Jay has been extremely active in Scouting programs for more than 32 years and has held a number of Presbyterian Church lay positions over the years.

The Region is currently looking for a Regional Chaplain in order to complete its officers. Additionally, the Region is advocating the organization of new units chartered to Presbyterian churches, recruiting new youth members, earning the National Quality Unit Award, and increasing the number of youth religious emblems earned.

## Trinity Region

*David Gringas – Director (610) 299-4863*



Isabell Helmrich has been the Director for many years and is retiring. We really appreciate her dedicated service. However, she will continue to help NAPS by being the contact to the Presbytery where she developed a covenant relationship.

Our new Director for Trinity Region is David Gringas. David is a Life member of NAPS who previously served as NAPS Treasurer and Northeast Region NAPS President. He is a member of the Northeast Region Relationships Committee and presently serves as the Bronx Council Commissioner. Previously he was the Manhattan Council President and served on the Executive Board of the Greater New York Councils (GNYC). He is an Eagle Scout with six Palms and has two Eagle Scout sons. He has served in Special Guest Reception at the last four National Jamborees and was on the International Service Team (IST) at the World Jamboree in Chile. He is a Colonel in the New York Guard and served on active duty last year for the Response and Recovery phases of the World Trade Center incident.

He is a recipient of the Silver Beaver, Silver Antelope, God and Country, God and Service, Whitney Young, Spurgeon, James E. West and Shofar Awards. He is employed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in Philadelphia. He attends Swarthmore Presbyterian Church in Swarthmore, PA.

## Mid-America Region

*Mike Cheeseman – Director (316) 634-1566*



Mike has continued promoting the Scouting program among a community of divided Scouters and with a shrinking group of volunteers. The answer to these numerous concerns, for us, has been in the training of Chartered Organizational Representatives (CORs). This group, as you can guess, is not always comprised of registered Scouters. To make a long story short, they leaped the bounds of Scouting in some cases in the interests of promoting the God and Country Program. For example, they have encouraged Scouts to earn the God and Country Award, but at the same time this was a small fraction of the church group earning the award. To put it another way, they have sought out God and Country candidates, but not always in the usual places. Currently, three Korean Churches in Wichita are now working with the God and Country Program; the Korean Methodist Church, the Korean Baptist Church, and the Korean Presbyterian Church. The Korean Presbyterian Church Youth Group has recently completed the God and Country Program. Out of 20 candidates, only two were registered with BSA and two registered with GSA. As a NAPS representative, Mike sees this as a victory for Scouting, as well as a victory for the other candidates who were included.

*Wray Johanning – Secretary (636) 391-0734*

Recently Troop 260 had its first Court of Honor. In the grand scheme of things, it was a modest affair. But Wray had seven proud young men and beaming parents. Wray continues: “It makes

me humble to consider I was a part of the unit for a year, and it was my baby.” Wray is currently serving as Active District Commissioner and Vice Chairman of a new District.

Wray reports that he has contacted the Moderator, the Executive Presbyter and the Clerk of the Presbytery. It looks like he will be able to have a booth at the Feb. or March 2003 Presbytery meeting. He is also gingerly approaching the subject of a Covenant with the Elija Parish Lovejoy Presbytery.

Wray has met with a very positive environment for Scouting. He found out the Clerk of the Presbytery was a Scout with very good Scouting experience and has offered his support. Good News.

Wray will be at the APCE meeting in Denver supporting the NAPS booth in January.

## Rocky Mountain Region

*Al Klein – Director (435) 586-4419*



Except for Salt Lake City and Denver, the congregations of the Synod of the Rocky Mountains are quite widespread, usually one to a community throughout the Rocky Mountain West. This geographic makeup differs much from other synods where the population is denser. This also often requires different forms of communications.

Recently, we have sent NAPS literature and promotional materials to the several Presbyteries, encouraging a fuller relationship with BSA to the end that the congregations may minister to their youth and to those of their communities as to the great values of Scouting, particularly the religious programs, an essential effort in these days. We are hopeful to realize growth in this important matter.

Al Klein retired at the end of 2002. We appreciate all that Al has done for NAPS and wish him well with his future plans.

*Bob Matchett – Secretary, Incoming Director (303) 756-9352*

Bob lives in Denver and will be able to attend the Booth at the Association of Church Educators (APCE) meeting in January. He will also be the local contact for NAPS during the General Assembly in Denver in May. Bob will be helping with the Booth and getting local Scout units to participate.

Bob, an Eagle Scout and recipient of the Silver Beaver, has been involved in Scouting for many years. He is an Elder at Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church and serves on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry for the Denver Presbytery

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) is working with the BSA National Relationships Division in distributing the new religious emblems video entitled, Promoting Duty to God (Religious Emblems), No. 05-883. Although the Relationships Division will provide two videos to every council this fall, additional videos will be available from P.R.A.Y. Videos may be downloaded from the P.R.A.Y. web site at [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org) or they may be purchased at a price of \$6.00.

The religious emblems video is an interfaith resource promoting the religious emblems of ALL faiths. It is 7½ minutes long and is designed to be used in council and district training events and in presentations to individual units.

Also available from P.R.A.Y. are several resources to be used in conjunction with this new video. These resources are available at [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org).

- Promoting Religious Emblems: Round Table Presentation (10 minutes)
- Promoting Religious Emblems: A Council / District Training Syllabus (50 Minutes)
- Religious Emblems Presentation Script: A Presentation by Unit Leaders to Scouts and their Parents
- Increasing Membership through Religious Emblems

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Video Order Form

\_\_\_\_\_ (Quantity of videos) x \$6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ (total amount due)

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Scout Sunday Service 2003

*Rev. Rusty Cowden, National Chaplain*

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

L: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it.

*P: He has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.*

L: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

*P: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts. Let us worship you O God.*

**Hymn** Presbyterian Hymnal # 469 "*Morning Has Broken*"

**Prayer of Confession**

*Lord you have loved us, but we have taken you for granted. We see your love in each sunrise, in your Word to us, in signs of the faithful everywhere. Evidence of our love for you is far too often not to be found anywhere. Help us to be your people in word and in deed. Let our light shine out as a beacon for you. We pray humbly before you, Amen.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Our hope is in the name of the Lord. Thanks be for the love of our savior, Jesus, the Christ, in whose name we find forgiveness.

**Scripture** (lectionary for 2-9-03)

Isaiah 40:21-31 *To whom will you compare me? says the Holy One*

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c *Praise for God's care for Jerusalem*

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 *Free from all, but slave to all*

Mark 1:29-39 *Jesus heals many and preaches throughout Galilee*

**Sermon thoughts**

From the gospel passage a parallel could be made between healing (as a good work) and "do a good turn daily". The notion of Jesus constantly traveling, experiencing the outdoors might also be tied scouting hikes and campouts.

From the epistle, Scouting's teamwork and the concept of older scouts sharing skills with younger scouts might be used as an example of Paul's point here

**Hymn** Presbyterian Hymnal #387 "*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*"

**Presentation of Religious Awards** (available through P.R.A.Y.)

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

Dearest Lord, we come before you this morning, in this time of corporate quiet and corporate prayer, to give you thanks. We thank you Lord, for the incomparable way in which you have shown your love to us. You have given us food and raiment (*you can say clothing or even shelter here if you want. I used raiment because I am quoting the*

*Philmont grace*) and life and opportunity. You have led us into green pastures and beside still waters.

Help us Lord, to be a people who are prepared to be your disciples. Help us to be a people who are prepared to hear your voice, to listen to your call, and to follow in your way.

Lord we lift up to you those for whom we should pray this day: The sick, the lonely, the fearful, and the estranged. Be with them Lord. Show your love and your grace to them.

Lead us to them, that we might share your love as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Lord, all of these prayers we lift up to you both humbly and boldly, for we pray them in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, *Our Father...*

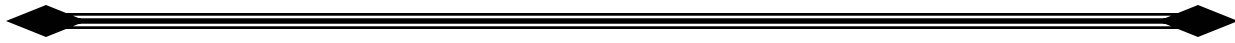
### **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, may that which is given here, and that which remains with us, be used to further your Good News. Amen.

**Hymn** Presbyterian Hymnal #339 "*Be Thou My Vision*"

### **Benediction** (2 Peter 3:18)

So grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.



## Celtic Cross Presented to Donnie Malone

The Celtic Cross was presented to Mr. Donnie Malone, Grayson Ky. For his dedicated service to his church, youth, and Boy Scout troop. Donnie is an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 160, chartered by the Bayliss Presbyterian Church. In addition to his Scouting work, Donnie is also an Elder in the church, a Sunday School teacher, youth group leader, and a current member of the Transylvania Presbytery Judiciary Committee.



Rev. Harry Spickler (L) presents the Celtic Cross to Donnie Malone.



## ***NAPS Future Activities***

January 29 – February 1, 2003	Meeting of the <b>Association of Presbyterian Church Educators</b>	Adams Mark Hotel, Denver Colorado	NAPS Booth to be staffed by Bob Matchett and Wray Johanning
February 4, 2003	<b>Religious Relations Sub-Committee</b> and <b>Relationship Committee</b> meetings	Irving, Texas	Eliot Kerlin attending
23 May, 2003	<b>NAPS Covenant Reviewed by Congregational Ministries Division</b> committee meeting		Eliot Kerlin attending
May 24 – May 31, 2003	<b>215<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meeting, Presbyterian Church (USA)</b>	Colorado Convention Center, Denver Colorado	
	<b>NAPS booth</b> open during exhibit hours	Colorado Convention Center, Denver Colorado	Staffed by NAPS National and Regional members
May 27 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 – 11:00AM	<b>NAPS Business Meeting and Planning Session</b>	Adams Mark Hotel, Plaza Court 2, Denver, Colorado	Open to all NAPS members
May 27 <sup>th</sup> 12:30 PM	<b>NAPS Luncheon <i>Scouting in the Church Ministry</i></b>	Adams Mark Hotel, Plaza Court 1, Denver, Colorado	Cost - \$27.00
July 6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2003	<b>Scouting and the Church's Ministry</b>	Philmont Training Center	Special Presbyterian breakout sessions
Early October, 2003	<b>Course for Presbyterian Leaders and Educators</b>	Philmont Training Center	Program under development – <b>watch for complete details in the next newsletter!</b>
October, 2003	BSA Religious Relations Sub-Committee and Relationship Committee meetings	Marriott Hotel, Irving, Texas	Eliot Kerlin attending