



The Presbyterian Scouter

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National Association of Presbyterian Scouters



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2007 NAPS' Philmont Conference Oct 29-Nov 2

The Third Annual National Association of Presbyterian Scouters' Conference on Scouting and the Presbyterian Church at the Philmont Training Center from October 29 to November 2

The theme will be "Forging the Link between the Presbyterian Church and Scouting".

"We will cover subjects like Organizing an new Unit, Venturing and the Church's Youth Program, What it means to be a Presbyterian Scouter," explained Wray Johanning, NAPS president, "You will have a unique opportunity to talk face to face with representatives from PC(USA) and BSA to answer your questions."

"In addition to the Conference we will have a Cracker Barrel with cobbler and ice cream and entertainment provided by the Philmont Staff, a trip to the beautiful Sangre de Cristo Mountain Back Country a place where only the backpackers normally are allowed, and an evening trip to the historic, all be it infamous, St. James Hotel, Cimarron, NM."

"We will tailor parts of the program to meet your need and provide a opportunity to answer any of your questions. All meals are provided and housing is in heated cabins. As a personal note the food is excellent"

"I am looking forward to see as many of you as possible in October. We will have fun as well get some new perspectives on our jobs as Presbyterian Scouter."

"Your Youth Director, Pastor, as well as your COR, and Scout Leaders are invited. Put Oct 29th through Nov. 2nd on your calendar and join us at Philmont. Because the Philmont facilities are limited we will be only accepting a limited number of attendees on a first come basis. More information will be posted on the website and July issue..

President's Report

Dear Friends,

I have just returned from Louisville and meetings with the Church and Presbyterian Men. Both meetings pertained to establishing or reestablishing Covenants with NAPS.



As you are aware, PC(USA) has undergone a major reorganization in the last year and they are still sorting out responsibilities. NAPS has not had a point of contact at GA for over a year. We now have a home and a place to contact. Although, under the old rules our current Covenant with PC(USA) has expired, both parties agree we will continue to work under the current Covenant until a new one can be formed. So we are still legal, which has been an area of concern.

I met with the Presbyterian Men also to finalize a Covenant between that organization and NAPS. Past discussions and the meeting has led to the point that both parties have agreed in principal to a Draft Covenant with minor modifications. The formal signing of the agreement should be completed by the end of May 2007.

I am now preparing to attend the BSA National Meeting in Atlanta the end of May.

We have had a most generous response to our request to you, as NAPS members, to support our efforts to send Gene Foley as the Protestant Chaplin for the US Contingent to the World Jamboree in June. We thank those of you who have donated previously.

To keep you up to date, we are just a little short of 50% of our goal of \$8,000 or we have received approximately \$3,800. Gifts are still being received, however, if you have not committed now is the time to do so. Gifts or donations may be sent to our Treasurer, checks made out to NAPS and identified as World Jamboree Fund. Donations are tax deductible.

Please, Send your donations to:

Rush Hart
2416 Ryan Place Dr.
Fort Wort Texas 76110-5250

Your in Scouting,

Wray

P.R.A.Y. Saw Increase In Awards in 2006

The Program for Religious Awards for Youth (P.R.A.Y.) announced that useage of the God and Country Protestant program by units of the Boy Scouts of America increased in 2006 over 2005.

The total rose from 21,526 awards to 21,730 awards, announced Mark Hazelwood, president. Seventeen Councils had over 100 recipients—and a 25% increase over last year, he added.

The top 10 councils with the largest number of awards were led by the Heart of America Council, out of Kansas City, MO, with a whopping 777 recipients.

They were followed by the Sam Houston (TX) Council with 598; Greater St. Louis Area, 452; National Capital Area (Bethesda, MD), 451; Occoneechee, in Raleigh, NC, with 424; the Longhorn Council of Hurst, TX, with 394; Circle Ten Council from Dallas, TX, with 381;

Northern Star Council, St. Paul, MN, with 358, Atlanta (GA) Area, with 355, and Greater Alabama, from Birmingham, with 335.

Those Councils having a 25 percent increase over 2005, were led by the Indian Waters Council from Columbia, SC, which posted the largest growth percentage, going from 44 to 110 awards, a 150% increase.

The others were Heart of America, whose 777 awards was a 27% increase; Northeast Georgia, Jefferson, GA, had 303 winners, a 48% increase; Middle Tennesse, Nashville, had 260 for a 49% hike; Central North Carolina, of Albermarle, with 249 for a 66% boost;

Central Florida , of Orlando metro, a 60% increase reaching 249; Heart of Richmond with 185, a 32% increase; Baltimore (MD) area, with 182 for a 46% increase, Buckeye, from Canton, OH, posted a 38% gain with 182; Flint River, Griffin, Ga, a 33% increase with 178; blue Ridge Mountains, of Roanoke, VA, a 72% boost to 174; Cape Fear Area of Wilmington, NC, a 26% boost to 158.

Golden Empire, of Sacramento, CA, boasted a huge 128% increase going from 67 to 153; Hawk Mountain, Reding, PA, a 46% increase with 152; Tidewater, Virginia Beach, VA, a 54% gain to 134; Del-Mar-Va, of Wilmington, DE, a 46% increase to 127, and Eric Shores, of Toledo, OH, an 82% climb to 124.

“Congratulations to all of these Councils,” lauded Hazelwood, “for their promotion of the Religious Awards.”



Eagle Scout Pens Book On Eagle Scouts' Many Contributions

Alvin Townley, III, the Eagle Scout son of NAPS member Alvin Townley, has authored a new book, “Legacy of Honor: The Values and Influence of America’s Eagle Scouts,” based on his interview with more than 200 Eagle Scouts nation wide.

The new book was featured in the Jan/Feb issue of Scouting Magazine. The author was scheduled to speak at the National Boy Scout Meeting in Atlanta this May.

“Alvin sold his home, left a job he loved, and spent a year traveling around America meeting and interviewing Eagle Scouts,” his dad reports, “Jim Lovell, of Apollo 13, Ross Perot, Dr. Robert Gates (the NESAs chairman, and Bill Marriott are among the many featured in the book.”

He gained his Eagle rank with Troop 103, in Atlanta, GA, and is a graduate of Washington & Lee University. He is currently an educator.

Fort Worth Presbyterian Unit Lauded for 13 Eagles in 2006

In February, the Fort worth star telegram featured a long article on Troop 326, sponosred by the Ridgelea Presbyterian Church, reported on their program which produced 13 Eagle Scouts in 2006.

The article quoted Glen Adams, NAPS member and former Scoutmaster who now serves as Committee Chairman. Eliot Kerlin, Immediate Past President of NAPS, is also a former Scoutmaster of the unit.

NAPS To Have Moment for Mission In PCUSA 2008 Mission Yearbook

The National Association of Presbyterian Scouters will have a “Moment for Mission” in the 2008 PC(USA) Mission Yearbook, thanks to Bob Wilson, vice-moderato, and new NAPS member.

The Moment was prepared by Corb Sarchet, NAPS Communications Director. It states the mission of NAPS and how it relates to PC (USA) and how Scouting serves as a mission, outreach, and youth program for Presbyterian Churches.

It is illustrated with pictures from Church Services at the 2005 National Jamboree.

Chaplaincies Support Important NAPS Purpose

Of the many reasons for the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters to exist, the promotion of chaplaincies is one of the most tangible and meaningful.

As National Chaplaincy Chairman, Rabbi Peter Hyman, (*President of the National Association of Jewish Scouters and member of the National BSA Religious Relationship Committee and chairs the Events Sub Committee whose prime responsibility is to recruit and assign Chaplains for National and International Events*) wrote of the 2005 Jamboree:

“... the chaplaincy staff made a difference in the lives of scouts and scouters...” as he remembered the role our chaplains played during the traumatic events that might have eclipsed the once-in-a-lifetime experience of a National Jamboree for tens of thousands of boys.

NAPS Regional Director Gene Foley was one of two Chaplains at Subcamp 5, which was located on a bluff overlooking the accident that took four lives. Scores of youth and adults saw the tragedy as it unfolded.

Foley and Lutheran Chaplain Richard Vossler, spent much of the Jamboree counseling and monitoring over 1,800 temporary residents of this small knoll in the countryside of Virginia. As a pastoral counselor, Gene also accepted the call to counsel members of the troops whose leaders had lost their lives.

Thanks to the NAPS Chaplaincy Fund, Gene was able to serve as the Chaplain to the Florida National High Adventure Sea Base in 2006. The Florida Sea Base, with some 11,000 participants per year, is eclipsed only by Philmont Scout Ranch with more than 22,000 participants, with provision for up to eight chaplains.

Gene has accepted this year’s offer to continue his work as the sole chaplain at the Sea Base, where he will do nearly 100 religious services, provide counseling to participants and staff, arrange special services, notify participants of problems at home and visit the hospitals on those rare occasions when a hospital stay separates a participant from his or her crew.

Chaplaincies are an invaluable part of the Scouting movement. Unfortunately, chaplains can rarely afford to accept an offer to serve.

Gene has accepted the role of Protestant Chaplain to the United States contingent to the World Jamboree this July . This honor comes with a very high price tag: approximately \$8,000! With the rare exception of stipends offered to camp chaplains, a Scout Chaplain is usually expected to pay for volunteering, as is the case for other volunteers.

Gene and other chaplains are often dependent on the support of groups like NAPS to help defray the costs of their



extremely important work. For many youth, the Scout Chaplain is the only pastoral figure with whom they come into contact. This is an extremely effective ministry performed by truly dedicated professionals.

Please make a generous tax-deductible contribution to the “NAPS Chaplaincy Fund” with a generous check sent c/o John R. Hart, 2416 Ryan Place Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76110, the NAPS’; treasurer. A record of your contribution, with our thanks, will be returned upon receipt of your gift.

NAPS Brings Smiling Faces To Educators at ACPE Event

It’s the little things that set Scouts apart from the crowd. This year’s APCE conference in Philadelphia was no exception.

Well, maybe it wasn’t so little...our representatives at the NAPS booth, Dave Richardson and Gene Foley are both over 6’3” and could be heard at a distance with their hearty greetings and silly jokes.

Each year, participants get their checklists stamped at each booth to qualify for door prizes.

Our guys weren’t satisfied with the tiny 1/8” stickers given to them, so they did what all good educators do. They went to the dollar store for supplies. Participants visiting the NAPS booth got leprechauns, shamrocks and smiley faces.

They also got the famous Relationships Division “Space Pens,” given that nickname because these highly demanded pens, along with all the other souvenirs that conference-goers collect, take up luggage space. Participants also got luggage tags and complimentary copies of Dr. Dobson’s photographic book on boys.

Hundreds of visitors stopped to talk Scouting, taking material on NAPS, religious recognitions, Scouting and Venturing literature, and Learning for Life educational material.

NAPS was prominently located near one of the two entry doors. It’s vibrant display drew scores of folks extolling the benefits of Scouting in their churches and in their individual lives. Scouting continues to be a significant opportunity for the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches!



We Want You! **To Help Round Up New Members for NAPS**

When you network with, play golf with, go Scouting with, bump into, pray with, or otherwise connect with your fellow Presbyterian Scouters, recruit them for our team--

to assist Presbyterian congregations to become chartered partners with BSA

to assist local Councils in establishing units in Presbyterian churches

to foster individual religious growth of Presbyterian youth

to promote the use of unit Chaplains and Chaplain Aides

to support the chaplaincy program in summer camps

to encourage recognition of and to recognize Presbyterian clergy, laymen, and organizations for their contributions to youth and Scouting

and.....

to bring unchurched youth and their families in contact with Presbyterian Churches through quality, fun, and exciting Scouting programs

We Welcome These New NAPS Members!

David W. Rogers, 1763 Nicodemus Rd, New Windsor, MD, 21776

Barry Jones - 8528 Worman Drive, King George, VA 22485

David L. And Susan M. Suter, 3620 Blue Heron Ln, Rochester Hills, MI 48309

Brian S. Plair, PO Box 905, Paris, IL, 61944

Deirde S. Goldsmith, 24555 Wealdon Rd, Abingdon, VA 24210

Eric V. Beck, 502 W. 40th St, Apt. 4, San Pedro, CA, 90731

Corb Sarchet

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***Your Presbyterian Scouter
for April-June, 2007***

TO: