

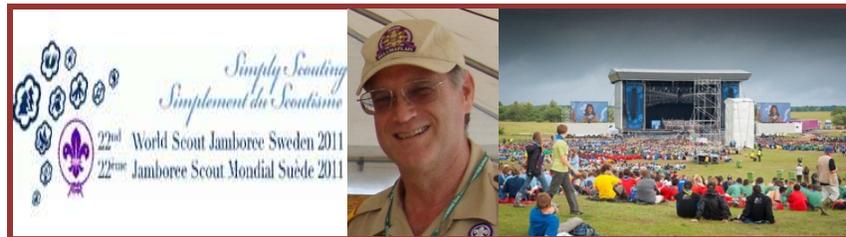


The Presbyterian Scouter



The NAPS Editor would like to thank P.R.A.Y.org for some of the photos and recognitions listed. Other recognitions note the source when available. For direct listing in the *Presbyterian Scouter* documenting your troop's achievements, email amandabtarbell@yahoo.com, or mail *Presbyterian Scouter Newsletter* Editor, PO Box 2097, Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29070. (Venture and Varsity Scouts/Scouters, we are waiting to hear from you too!) Images of any subjects must have the permission of individuals within the photo. Any submissions may be posted on the NAPS website, <http://presbyterianscouters.org>, as well as in *The Presbyterian Scouter*

Fall Issue 2011



NAPS SUPPLIES CHAPLAIN TO THE 2011 WORLD SCOUT MOVEMENT, RINKABY, SWEDEN

By NAPS President Gene Foley

It has been a continuing pleasure to serve both the church and scouting together for more than 20 years now. This summer has been no exception. I've recently returned from my volunteer assignment as Chaplain to the World Scout Jamboree held in Rinkaby, Sweden. Unlike our National Jamborees, World Jamborees do not have a chaplaincy corps, leaving the spiritual needs of participants and staff to their respective contingents. My role in Sweden, as it was more than eight years ago in Thailand, was to support the jamboree leadership in responding to religious and spiritual issues for which there is otherwise no formal program or support.

Each Jamboree has a program area devoted to presenting to participants a variety of faith groups. These groups may set up worship areas, displays and activities that show participant something new, as well as providing a friendly haven for those seeking time with members of their own faith. In Sweden, this area was called Faith and Beliefs. Directed by Charles Dahlquist of the United States and Göran Bondesson of Sweden, the Faith and Beliefs Department was responsible for providing and staffing quiet places for meditation, worship sites for the religious services, and a thematic program entitled "Be a Lighthouse."

Charles is well known in the BSA for his outstanding volunteer work as past Council President of the Great Salt Lake Council and in his many roles at the national level, currently including the position of chairman of the National Court of Honor. He has also served as the General Young Men's President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Charles

was instrumental in having me appointed to the chaplain's role, for which I am very grateful. Our national contingent chaplain in Sweden was Rabbi Peter Hyman, with whom I have worked for most of the two decades I have served as a national chaplain. Peter is a key decision maker in the processes that will determine how the faith-based programs will be presented at future National Jamborees held at the Bechtel Summit. The United States Roman Catholic Community participated with the International Catholic Committee on Scouting in an outstanding denominational display in the Faith and Beliefs area, which included an abbey for worship, a coffee nook for quiet discussion, and activity tents for participants to work on projects. Thus, our traditional four faith groups for BSA Scouts and Scouters, (Protestant, Catholic, LDS, and Jewish) were sustained at the World Jamboree.

I am thankful that there were no major incidents that required noble efforts on my part. The toughest part of my job was the location and relocation of worship sites in the various villages of the Jamboree. Other than a "missing" young IST staff member, there was little trauma among the BSA members present at this life-time event, a welcome relief from the prior two World Jamborees. Despite this "quiet" jamboree from the chaplain's standpoint, the important presence of chaplains at all of our national and international events has proven its worth in the spiritual comfort that from time to time becomes essential in the face of trauma that not infrequently threatens the happiness and well-being of our Scouts and their leaders.



2012 NAPS RETREAT AND CHAPLAIN TRAINING

By Gene Foley

Set aside the week of August 5 through August 12! We're going back to Philmont!

After years of discussion about when and where to hold our periodic rendezvous, an executive decision has been made to participate in Philmont's Religious Relations week (Week 9) at the Philmont Training Center in 2012!

For those who have never been to PTC, you'll find a casual and refreshing escape from city life as a superb staff provides for our needs, from complete family programs for all ages to extraordinary visits to the backcountry of the Philmont Scout Ranch, nestled in the Sangre de Cristo range of the Rocky Mountains in northeast New Mexico. There is plenty to do and lots of fun for everyone! but with a purpose.

Presbyterian and Reformed Scouters are invited to participate in a series of sessions designed to enhance both church and Scouting where we learn how to increase and strengthen our family membership and participation in our churches. Additionally, clergy and lay leaders will be exposed to the Scouting chaplaincies, religious emblems programs and exhibit opportunities that tie the two institutions together.

Did you know that the PC (USA) alone downsö thousands of Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops and Explorer Posts? Over 140,000 boys, young men and young women, meet at Presbyterian and Reformed churches around America.

In our sessions, church leaders will learn how to capitalize on the relationship we have with the Boy Scouts of America to help with church growth, youth development, community outreach, and even opportunities for clergy and lay leaders to serve as local and national chaplains for as little as a week, or as much as thirteen weeks each summer.

For those who are not enjoying the modern, air conditioned training facilities, there are a range of programs that include shopping trips to Taos for the spouses, backcountry treks and horse back rides for the teenagers, tours of living history sites and museums, and evening entertainment that will bring a smile to anyone's face. The relatively low cost of participating in Philmont programs, particularly in light of the superior program and amazing environment, makes the Philmont Training Center an unbeatable opportunity.

For further information about the Philmont Training Center, go to:

<http://philmontscoutranch.org/ptc.aspx>

To find out more about the program Scouting in the Presbyterian Church, or for information on financial assistance, please contact NAPS President Eugene Foley at eugeneafoley@comcast.net .



New! Commissioner Award of Excellence in Unit Service



The national commissioner support team asked a simple question: “How can we really impact commissioner service, in a manner that would improve unit program and increase retention of youth?” The decision was simple: Recognize the volunteers who are providing excellent commissioner service with a knot, and let those commissioners lead by example.

The next step was to put together a team from across the regions with commissioners at different service levels:
Craig Bailey—UC from the Northeast Region
David James—DC from the Central Region
Dwight Jekel—ACC from the Southern Region
Kevin Baker—CC from the Western Region
Doug Ferguson—AC from the Southern Region
Ellie Morrison—National Commissioner Service Recruitment and Retention Chair

None of them knew one another but each accepted the challenge to bring perspective to the project, be open and honest in communication, and timely with comments. They were true to the task and we had some lively discussions. This team worked beautifully together, working through differences of opinion to best serve Scouting. They then introduced the new commissioner’s knot to the commissioner corps.

The result of their work is an insightful, intuitive award that defines excellent unit commissioner service. The new Commissioner Service Award of Excellence was developed as a nationwide effort to engage Scouting volunteers and professional Scouters to work together in focusing on unit retention. Any registered commissioner who is providing direct unit service is eligible to earn the Commissioner Award of Excellence in Unit Service. The knot was introduced by the National Commissioner Service Task Force and approved by the national BSA Awards and Recognition Committee.

For more information and the requirements to receive the new Commissioner’s knot, please consult *The Commissioner*, the publication for commissioners and professionals. Material from this article is taken from

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsorce/Commissioners/newsletter.aspx>, (summer issue).



EVENT CHAIRPERSONS/ COORDINATORS NEEDED

Short duration, fixed commitment tasks available.

2012 will be a very busy year for us. In addition to the APCE conference at the beginning of the year, we will have a booth at the biennial General Assembly of the PC(USA). Later, during the summer, we will have an opportunity to take our families to Philmont Training Center, where we can get to know each other as our members, new officers, and those interested in chaplaincies learn how Scouting in Presbyterian and Reformed churches can change the lives of boys, young men and young women.

With all of this going on, we have opportunities for volunteers to play a variety of roles that will help these events run smoothly. The adage that many hands make light work is true...and we’ve got many hands that are willing to make things happen! To make sure that the burdens are shared equally and that none of our many hands become too calloused, we need some folks to coordinate tasks. The outlines of duties and folks who have experience in these tasks are readily available, so there’s no need to reinvent the wheel! Each role has a definite start and end date, so you wouldn’t be committing a lifetime or unknown duration...

Whether you would like to spend a few hours, or join the executive committee, give me a call! Doing a good turn daily doesn’t happen by accident – you have to make it happen. If interested, call NAPS President Gene Foley at (609) 214-3162 or email at efoley@cpcbsa.org.

SEVERAL REPORTS FOLLOW WITH SCOUTING NEWS OF WORLD JAMBOREE

FROM FLORIDA TO FOREIGN SOIL WORLD JAMBOREE REPORT AND PHOTOS BY LOGAN HOUSE (With computer assistance from Dorinda House)



A group Scout photo prior to departure from *Sweden* of Florida portion of the Southern contingent. It is a common custom to trade uniforms, scarves and hats with other international Scouts. This group of Scouts is wearing an assortment of uniforms which reflects their trading success. Logan House is fourth from the right, top row.

For fourteen days, Park Lake Presbyterian Church member and Eagle Scout Logan House of Oviedo, Florida, joined 40,000 coed Scouts from 146 countries as they formed the fourth largest city in Sweden during the 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Rinkaby, Sweden, July 27- 7 August 2011. The Jamboree, which convenes every four years, promotes dialogue between Scouters of different cultures, countries and religions through meetings and activities where the Scouts learn about current social and environmental problems. The focus is on the common responsibility we all have toward promoting peace and respect for each other.

Logan, who was elected one of the patrol leaders in the Southern US Contingent, participated in modules designed to address important current global issues. The Global Development Village (GDV) demonstrated social responsibility. The Dream Module occurred at night and explained cultural differences in various societies from birth, young adulthood, until death. Quest was a physical challenge which showed the importance of teamwork and communication. The Camp-in-Camp and the Hike-in-Hiker were two optional events in which Scouters could pair up with other Scouts of different nationalities to explore the wilderness of Southern Sweden.

While at Jambo, Logan visited the Faith and Beliefs area, a circle of large tents, each representing a different faith, from mainline Presbyterians and the large Mormon contingent to the smaller Baha'i gatherings. In each tent, Scouts from each religion of the world could ask, explain, and answer questions about their religious beliefs. Logan had the unique opportunity of visiting the Baha'i, Muslim, Jewish and Buddhist tents. He notes that it was interesting to realize the cultural differences between these religions and Christianity. Logan reports that, "It was great opportunity to learn about the different cultures and beliefs of peoples, meeting other Scouts from different countries, but all sharing the same experience. I had the opportunity to learn about a wide range of cultural/religious customs, such as Buddhist mantras, Islamic calligraphy, and Jewish wedding ceremonies.

The whole area was united by a central tent showcasing the message, "Be a Lighthouse," the motto for the Faiths and Beliefs area this Jamboree. The central idea was to exemplify a high moral character in whatever you do and to inspire others to do the same, an idea found universally in all major religious faiths." Logan also attended a Faiths and Beliefs ceremony where every represented faith made a short presentation about their faith. Since Ramadan was celebrated during the Jamboree, Logan visited the Ramadan restaurant in the evening and made many Algerian friends. "I was amazed at how

energetic the Algerian Scouts were during the day during such fasting.” Logan said, “I asked how they could have so much energy with no food or water,’ One of my Algerian friends just smiled and put his hands up in the air and said, ‘God.’”

In addition to religious representatives, political figures such as the King and Queen of Sweden, a Prince from Saudi Arabia, and the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Finland, and Sweden also were present during the two week long Jamboree. They gave practical advice and urged social responsibility and communication, given the world “is now tied together”. Particularly in view of the Norway Experience, they saw this Jambo as a “shining example” of positive change young people can make.

While there were many, many experiences memorable during Jamboree, Logan felt one of the most impressive parts was the Faith and Beliefs area. The opportunity to learn and discuss religion in an open environment among Scouts from 150 nationalities was unique. Logan said attending the World Jamboree was the best Scouting experience he has ever had. “I knew this was an opportunity I would never have again.”

The Scout shared other photos from Jamboree and his exploration of Eastern and Middle Eastern faiths. He notes that, in addition to 40,000 Scouts, visitors were able to obtain passes to visit the Jamboree, traveling through paths lined with flags from every participating country.

A central path with participating countries' flags



International Scouts. 22nd World Jamboree, Sweden



Scouts camp out at Jamboree cities



Latter Day Saints (LDS or Mormon) tent was often busy.



Baha'i tent exhibit



Hindu\ Baha'is shared tent has a religious shrine



Inside the Islam tent, there was much activity and discussion about Islamic faiths and Beliefs



The Buddhist tent was constantly busy



Links to take you to parts of Jamboree:

- <http://www.worldscoutjamboree.se>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=br9eeaWB1YA>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLA39YGUYI8>

Thanks for the coverage of the international aspects of the Faith and Belief section of World Jamboree, Logan. [Ed. Note: Logan is attached to Troop 48 of Park Lake Presbyterian Church, Ft. Gatling District,

Livermore Boy Scouts Attend the World Scouting Jamboree in Sweden

By Patricia Koning



This summer, seven lucky Scouts from various Livermore troops had the experience of a lifetime at the 22nd annual World Scouting Jamboree, where they spent 10 days with 40,000 Scouts from 146 countries.

"It was a really incredible experience," said Trevor Nigg of Troop 900. "I thought it would be sort of like other camps or National Jamborees, but it was so much better." Trevor, along with Jeffrey Beaulieu, Nickolas Fliehr, Ryan Knowles, Jeremy Martin, Michael Myers, and William Reed, traveled to Rinkaby, Sweden in late July. For these Boy Scouts, the trip was truly a rare opportunity; the World Scouting Jamboree is held every four years. Scouts must be between the ages of 14 and 17 to attend.

The Livermore Scouts joined a special troop, 703030, comprised mostly of boys from the Greater Bay Area, formed for the purpose of the World Scouting Jamboree. The troop traveled to Sweden with several adult Scout leaders, where they set up camp together. Packing for the trip was not difficult—the boys brought their mess kits, sleeping bags, and clothes just like for any other Scouting trip. They also brought their passports and left behind their tents. Those, along with food, were provided for them in Sweden.

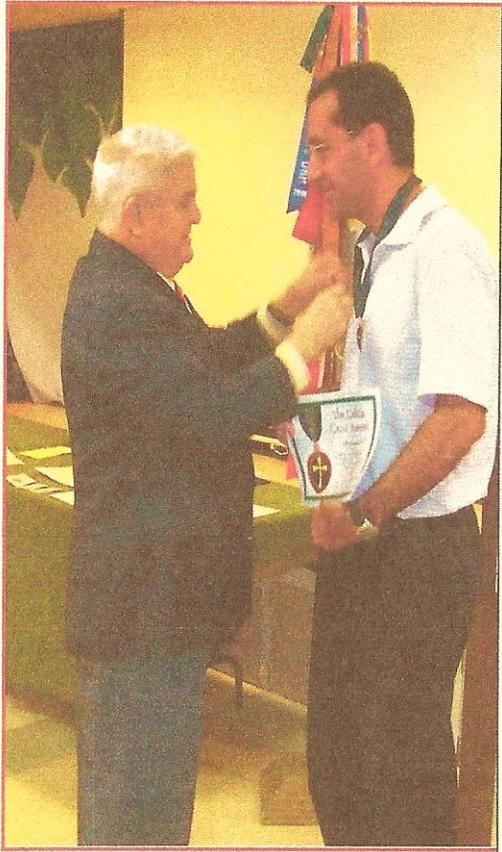
After the opening ceremony kicked off the Jamboree, the Scouts settled into a week of organized activities in the morning and free time in the afternoons. The Scouts spent much of that free time trading paraphernalia and trinkets such as uniforms, neckerchiefs, neckerchief slides, patches, pins, and hats. The point of the trading was not to accumulate stuff, but to encourage socializing among the troops from many parts of the world. However, that doesn't mean the Livermore Scouts don't cherish many of the treasures they brought home.

Some of Michael's favorite items were a pair of Dutch wooden clogs and a Mexican bottle opener. Trevor is especially proud of a jacket with four patches from different Jamborees that he received from a Thai troop and a Korean Scouting backpack. Among Jeff's most treasured items are uniforms from different countries, especially a light blue uniform from Italy, and a Dutch neckerchief slide in the shape of clogs. The trading and free time led to casual encounters with troops from other countries. Trevor spent time with a troop from Hong Kong and was surprised to learn that many of their perceptions of the United States come from television.

"They were perplexed when I said my high school is not just like 'High School Musical,'" he said. "They were also surprised that Americans can drive at age 16. It seems like in many other countries, you can legally drink alcohol before you can drive." The Scouts were impressed with a troop from Uganda who traveled to Sweden by bicycle—an approximately 7,000-mile one-way trip. Another surprise was the pervasiveness of American culture. "All of the music we heard was American, mostly pop music we'd already grown tired of," says Jeff.

Thanks to social networking, the Livermore Scouts are staying in close touch with the friends they made at the World Jamboree. Jeff has been talking to some friends from Sweden regularly on Skype. "This was the first World Jamboree where Facebook was ubiquitous," says Trevor. "It makes it really easy to stay in touch." Jeff, Trevor, and Michael are all hoping to attend the next World Scouting Jamboree, which will take place in Japan in the summer of 2015. They'll be too old to attend as Scouts, but will apply to be staff members. Jeff's father, Joe Beaulieu, attended the 2011 World Scouting Jamboree as a staff member—his first time ever at a World Jamboree. The 2019 World Scouting Jamboree will be held at The Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia. This will be the first time in 52 years that the World Scouting Jamboree is held in the United States. To learn more about the World Scouting Jamboree, visit www.scouting.org/worldjamboree. For more information on the 2011 World Scouting Jamboree, visit www.worldscoutjamboree.se.

[Ed. Note: Thanks to Patricia Koning and Ramona Silva of the *Independent News*, serving Livermore, Pleasanton, and Sunol, Alameda County, California for permission to reprint this August 27, 2011 article.]



CELTIC CROSS Award is presented to John DiSalvo, former NAPS webmaster, by Corb Sarchet, NAPS Life and Founding member.

A few years ago, John diSilva stepped in to rescue the NAPS website after a third party threatened to capture its domain name. As with all good deeds, John was "rewarded" with the opportunity to serve more, this time as NAPS webmaster for several years. John resigned this year in order to devote more time to family (wife Nancy, Son William and daughter Megan), and to church, Scouting, and his rapidly growing DiSalvo Technologies, LLC.

The former Director of Operations for Promo Only (the world's largest promotional music company), DiSalvo traveled all over the USA, and made regular visits to offices in Canada and Europe. Currently, he finds DiSalvo Technologies increasingly requiring time as demand continues to increase for projects involving iPhone and iPad app development, database development, website design and development, and web hosting.

Ceremonies took place August 30 at Park Lake Presbyterian Church during a Troop 48 Summer Court of Honor. Corb is an Elder and COR, while John is Webmaster for the Church, an Elder, and a Church School teacher. (Photo by Ed Gantt)



CALLING ALL SCOUTERS AND SCOUTS: What is happening with your troop or the troop your church sponsors? Inquiring readers want to know. Your editor is recruiting you to send in the news. Pictures with captions are welcomed. Send them to amandabtarbell@yahoo.com for inclusion in the next issue of the Presbyterian Scouter. Some items, when received early, may go directly the NAPS website: <http://presbyterianscouters.org>. The website has just been updated and the summer and fall issues of *The Presbyterian Scouter* are now online.

For NAPS members who prefer not to wait for a printed copy, please send an email to the editor: amandabtarbell@yahoo.com, requesting that you receive your newsletter by email. Be sure to use the email address where you wish to receive your newsletter.

SPECIAL BREAKING NEWS: NAPS has member churches with Scout organizations that are 100 years old or quickly approaching it. We are planning to focus on brief histories with photos of those historic church/scout pairings for the next newsletter. Please send us your brief history if you are in that range. We will accept church/troop biographies at almost any time, maybe even adding a link on the website to preserve the histories you send us. Try to keep church/scout pairings under two typed pages if you are younger than 85 years old groupings. That includes photos. For the hundred year old pairings, send what you want to share and we will see how much of it we can help you preserve and share with our national Presbyterian scouts and the national BSA office. Anyone from a hundred year old pairing planning to be at GA? Do let us know.



Troop 15 Goes to World Scout Jamboree

On July 18th – 31st, Troop 15, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Oklahoma City, took eighteen scouts and leaders to the World Scout Jamboree in Rinkaby, Sweden. Along the way, the group made stops in Paris, Normandy, and London; they camped overnight on Brownsea Island (the birthplace of scouting), traveled to Copenhagen, and then camped at the World Jamboree in Sweden.

At the beginning of the trip, en route to Paris, some in the group began reading *The Longest Day*, Cornelius Ryan's famous account of the D-Day invasion of WWII. In the buildup to D-Day, the author described in detail the great amassing of soldiers from all over the world in Great Britain, preparing for the invasion. The book described it as "the youth of the free world gathering to save the world." It was fascinating to read the depiction of the camps and accounts of camaraderie among the thousands of people, mixing from numerous countries, in preparation for that terrible battle.

That same depiction overwhelmed us when our scouts first made their way to the entrance of the World Scout Jamboree. 40,000 scouts from 250 countries were amassed in one place, and we were right in the middle of it. But in contrast to the great gathering in the buildup to D-Day, we were entering a much different occasion, the largest display of good will among nations we have ever seen. It was as though Disney's "It's a Small World" ride exploded all over a field in Sweden.

When we arrived, we were instructed to proceed to a central tower where we would take a tour of the jamboree. We never got there. Instead we were met by so many scouts from so many places; anxious to shake our hands, introduce themselves, take pictures, trade patches and such. We spent over an hour in the entryway...a jubilant atmosphere the likes of which are hard to describe. The rest of the first Jamboree day was a whirlwind of international relations as our scouts made friends from places they can scarcely locate on a map.

By the end of the day, we found ourselves on a sailing ship as the guests of a Polish Sea Scout Troop we had met earlier in the day. They invited us to share a small meal onboard their ship before they sailed off into the Baltic. It's impossible to share all the experiences we had at the Jamboree. Suffice it to say, we saw the very best of scouting. More importantly, we saw what the world can be on its best day.



Editorial note: We know this troop is in dedicated hands. In midst of getting the photos and article to the editor, Scoutmaster Brent Wheelbarger was interrupted by his wife in midst of delivery. Shortly thereafter, she gave birth to their 8.6 lb. daughter. Immediately thereafter, Wheelbarger completed organizing and sending the above photographs and article. This precocious baby seems destined to be a Venture Scout and a participant in NAPS! Welcome to the world, Ella; we are glad you are here.



The Presbyterian Scouter Recognizes:

EAGLE SCOUTS' HONOR

Mineola Troop 45 hosted a ceremony honoring six new Eagle Scouts.



“Awarding an eagle badge is an important and serious matter,” Frank D’Ella, [Troop 45](#) Committee Chairman said last Friday at the [First Presbyterian Church](#). “It is the culmination of not only their effort, but also that of their families and their troops. It is an occasion for pride and for joy, but also time for serious contemplation.”

Families, friends, and various community members and officials filled the church pews to celebrate the six new Eagle Scout inductees – an unusually high number since less than 6 percent attain the rank.

Vincent Buonincontro, Nickolas D’Annunzio, Nicholas Fiori, Perry Llanes, Glenn Peters and Zachary Rachell all completed the many requirements needed to become a Eagle Scout. “There are few things more prestigious than becoming an Eagle Scout,” said [Mayor Scott Strauss](#), a fellow Eagle Scout, during his speech to the young men.

To attain the rank of Eagle, scouts must earn 21 badges, 12 of which were required by each member and the rest electives in addition to completing their own Eagle Project. “An Eagle Scout candidate must plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project,” Eagle Scout Bryan Strauss explained. “This Eagle Project is typically one that gives back to the community in some tangible way.” The final step consists of a judgment of their progress by the Eagle Scout Board of Review.

During the ceremony a large multi-layered candelabra was carried out to the middle of the church’s aisle with each of the six inductees lighting one candle for each one of the 12 points of the Scout Law as they were read aloud. After the lighting of the candles, the six members were sworn in by Mayor Strauss. Other Eagle Scouts in the audience stood in the front of the church to reaffirm their oath as well. Following the induction, a slide show featuring the honorees was presented, including pictures of their lives through their years as Scouts.

“This is an incredible honor,” Scout Leader Steve Grosskoph said as he introduced the slideshow. “ These are six wonderful, wonderful young men. I have been so fortunate to watch them grow up.” The six Scouts were then presented their new Eagle Scout handkerchiefs by assistant scoutmaster Donald McMahon. “Everybody sends them congratulations because it’s a great thing,” McMahon said. “Many leaders in the community want to honor the boys.” Those leaders included Mayor Strauss, [State Senator Jack Martins](#), [Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel](#), and [County Clerk Maureen O’Connell](#), who presented the boys with awards, proclamations and New York state flags. In turn, the new Eagles said their own words of appreciation, honoring one person, Scoutmaster Steve Grosskoph, with a mentor pin for being an influence and inspiration during their long journey to becoming Eagle Scouts.

[Eds. Note. Thanks to Geoffrey Walter, article’s author Karissa Collucci, Hofstra, and the Mineola Patch, Mineola, NY, for permission to e material from their webpage. <http://mineola.patch.com/articles/eagle-scouts-honor>. Please go to the website for credits for the photographs and to see them in larger format.]

God and Life Four Star Award

Aaron S.

Dardenne Presbyterian Church
O'Fallon, MO

Aaron S. received the God and Life award and was also presented the Four Star medal and certificate at Troop 997 March 2011 Court of Honor.

Aaron completed all four programs at Dardenne Presbyterian church.

Here are pictures of Aaron growing up with the awards.

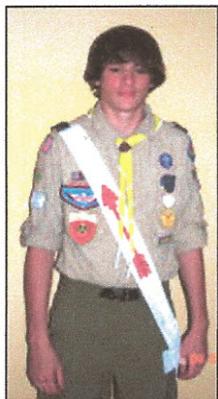
S Scoutmaster Kevin Boiles is pictured with Aaron and the Four Star Award.



God & Me
2003



God & Family
2004



God & Church
2008



God & Life / Four-Star
2011

Really neat to see that we have two Four Star Scouts in this issue. Both are to be highly commended for their dedication and high quality scouting performance!

Any more out there? Do let us hear from you. We have space waiting! Write: amandabtarbell@yahoo.com.

PUZZLE PATCH NEWS FROM P.R.A.Y.

The Fish patch segment (to complete the puzzle patch set) ceased being available online after August 1st. The Fish patch will be off the rotation for three years, becoming available again in August 2013. Call P.R.A.Y. at 1-800-933-7729 or go online to www.praypub.org to order your patches today.



AVAILABLE NOW!

The Eagle Patch is now available from P.R.A.Y. It is the next available segment in the set, which are on a four-year cycle. If you missed one, don't worry because it will come around again. If you're brand new to the program, start with the Anchor Patch (the kneeling Boy Scout).

The key to the puzzle patch is fulfilling your Duty to God by promoting religious emblems. Puzzle patches may be earned by both youth and adults. The requirements are simple: learn about the religious emblems and make a commitment to Duty to God.

Presentation resources are available from P.R.A.Y. org:
}- [Click here to order your patches online.](#)
}- [Need resources to make a presentation? Click here.](#)

Scouts Working on Duty To God Requirements Philmont 2009



As you can see, we need to restock the cabinet with your latest images. Be sure to get permission from all identifiable persons. Send photos in jpg.

(with captions) to the editor at amandabtarbell@yahoo.com

Tualatin Presbyterian's patio expansion leads to Eagle award for high schooler

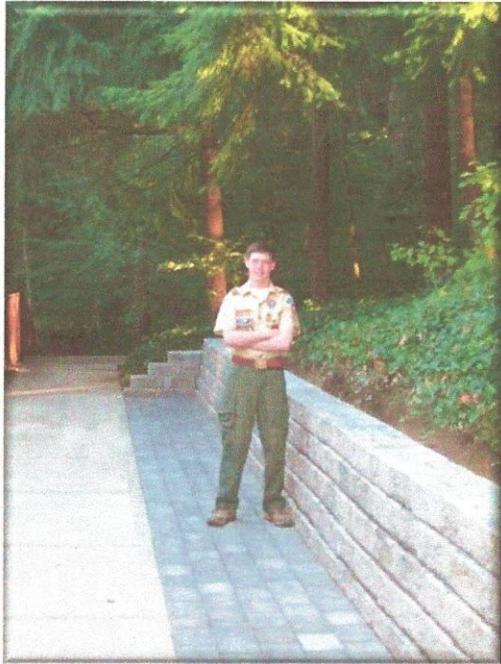


Photo Courtesy of Jackie Dannemiller

Nick Dannemiller earned his Eagle Scout award by organizing the funds and labor to extend the church patio at Tualatin Presbyterian Church

By Ginger Moshofsky

Tualatin High School junior Nick Dannemiller has earned the Boy Scouts of America rank of Eagle Scout. Earning the Eagle Scout award is the culmination of years of hard work earning badges, participating in leadership training, taking on leadership responsibilities, being a role model, planning and developing an Eagle Scout project and more.

Nick has completed the National Youth Leadership training, National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience, Troop Leader Training, earned the Paul Bunyan Woodsman Award and many additional badges and awards. He is the current elected Lodge Chief for the [Order of the Arrow's Wauna La-Mon'tay Lodge](#), which serves more than 1,500 scouts in Oregon and Southwest Washington. The Order of the Arrow is the Boy Scouts National Honor Society.

For his Eagle project, Nick organized and helped with the installation of a patio extension at the [Tualatin Presbyterian Church](#), 9230 S. W. Siletz Drive. Nick engaged the help of Boy Scout Troop 530 and the Tualatin Lions Club and organized the donation of supplies from Tigard businesses Mutual Materials, Tigard Sand and Gravel and Home Depot.

"Nick Dannemiller's Eagle Project increased the size of the side patio so it accommodates additional tables and chairs. Now during a summer potluck more people can gather outside to share food and fellowship. What a wonderful way to spend Sunday afternoon," wrote Tualatin Presbyterian Church's administrative assistant, Susan Springer, in an email.

When he is not scouting, Nick plays the baritone saxophone in the Tualatin High wind ensemble, is on the Tualatin wrestling team and volunteers at the Oregon Zoo.

There is more:

While checking for more information about Nick's background in Scouting, your editor found several facts not covered in his Eagle Project that might encourage other Scouts to new endeavors. For example, Nick is a 4 Star recipient in the God and Me ([P.R.A.Y. org](#)) recognition for Scouts who have completed the entire series) as a Cub Scout and Boy Scout.

Nick is the current OA Lodge Chief; further, he has also been invited to promote the new National Jamboree in West Virginia and to represent the Cascade Pacific Council at Summit Bechtel, our newest High Adventure Camp. Keep in mind, most of this is occurring as he begins his senior year.

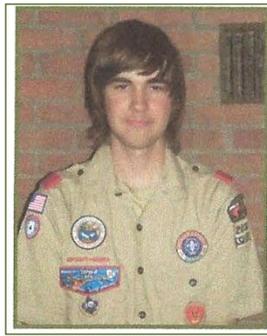
Nick, in case you do not have enough to do, you are hereby also made photographer and reporter for the *Presbyterian Scouter* to keep us posted on preparations for our new Jamboree site and High Adventure Camp

Congratulations on all of these achievements, Nick!
We look forward to having you work with us to promote Scouting and the new Summit Bechtel High Adventure site.

Eds. Note: Thanks to *The Oregonian* for permission to reprint the article in the NAPS newsletter & the NAPS website: <http://presbyterianscouters.org>.

Their website:
<http://www.oregonlive.com/tualatin/index.ssf/2011/05/tualatin-presbyterians-patio-expansion-leads-to-eagle-award-for-high-schooler.html>

Mailings are getting very expensive. To receive your newsletter quicker by Internet, send your Internet address to the editor at amandabtarbell@yahoo.com and indicate that you wish to receive your newsletter by email posting. Use the web address to check for items that soon may be between newsletters, vital postings that need quicker response, and many types of resources and filed material. We are currently searching for Presbyterians to feature in the newsletter and on the web. Venture crews and Silver Beaver news is welcomed, even sought avidly. Send in any recognition of Presbyterian or Scouts sponsored by any reformed Presbyterian Church.



TROOP 48 LIFE SCOUT RECEIVES NATIONAL SCOUT HONOR

By Corb Sarchet

Jake Beavers, 17, an Eagle Scout candidate, received the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America's National Certificate of Merit on August 30 in Summer Court of Honor ceremonies at Park Lake Presbyterian Church, Orlando, FL., home of Jake's unit, Troop 48.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Beavers, of College Park, both of whom are adult scouters in the Troop, he an Assistant Scoutmaster and merit badge counselor, and she, Mrs. Patty-Torrey Beavers, a Troop Committee member, merit badge counselor, and former District Health and Safety Officer. She is a precipitant of the Fort Gatlin's District Award of Merit for her service in Cub Scouting, as a Cub master, at Troop level and at District level.

Jake's award recognizes his application of his Scout-learned CPR and First Aid skills when he rushed to the aid of a friend of his, Michael Ryan, when he observed the youth having difficulty breathing, and took immediate action to clear the airway, place him on his side to keep the airway clear and treated him for shock, and alerted his parents on what was happening. Ryan's parents and emergency responders credited Jake's coolness and knowledge as key factors in preventing serious injury and death.

The youth, a neighbor of the Beavers, was the honoree at a birthday party, at which Jake was a guest, when apparently a spice in some Kung Pao chicken resulted in an allergic reaction which causes his throat to constrict and inhibit his breathing.

Jake is a rising senior at Circle Christian School in Winter Park, and currently a Life Scout in Troop 48 where he now serves as a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. During the summer, he has been a Park Ranger at the Ranger's Outpost, responsible for the care and safety of animals. He is a member of the Central Florida Zoo team, has served three years as a junior counselor in shooting sports at the Fort Gatlin District Cub Day Camps; and currently serves as a Nike Junior Golf Camp assistant. Jake earned his Arrow of Light in Cub Scouting and is an ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow.

Editor's Set Up for a Newspaper Article and Mailbag Items

Sometimes articles and information that seem worth sharing come from members and places one never thought to check. Recently, President Foley sent a *Port Huron (Michigan) Times Herald* article and asked me to get permission to reprint it in the newsletter. With a multitude to the emails between his helpful neighbors, Jim and Sandy Costello, we tracked Bob and Ruth Watson down as they vacationed in Florida. More emails followed with eventual article, some corrections, and photographs. These will be shared immediately following these editorial notes.

Then, I received an email from a Philmont staffer, which I asked permission to share. Shortly thereafter, I got a copy of a speech he was to make to his troop when he got home. I felt these expressed ideas, attitudes, and wisdom that might appeal to others who are Scouts, work with Scouts, or those almost 18 year olds who are considering working with any of our High Adventure camps. Just as we were "going to press," word came of another troop working to help their town after a massive fire. That too deserved inclusion, so it is added here also.

In short, the mail bag has been popping with really good material on what scouting can mean to young men. [We still need to hear from some of the Venture crews, especially those with young women. That continues to be a large hole in the reporting of what is going on in BSA now. Would someone out there please help remedy that?]

Jim Mohr

National Association of Presbyterian Scouters
Salem, OH



Pictured is P.R.A.Y. CEO Mark Hazlewood with the NAPS cross made by Jim Mohr.

One Last Item:

Before we go into the mailbag news, one more item came by email. I include it for fun before the more serious items.

Global Warming or Not, It Sure Was **Hot** Around Here!

How did we deal with the heat of this summer? We joked about it. The first part is from Corb and his brother. Thanks for the comic relief, guys! Hope you forgive me for changing some of it to Philmont's fine area for our good ole BSA folk? Seemed very appropriate this year as Philmont had to close some areas due to extreme fire hazard. For those, like our good friends in Hillsboro, TX, still with no rain since early May, Be prepared, keep safe, and enjoy the next:

How DRY was it this summer at Philmont??

A staffer out at Philmont said he'd killed a mosquito that was carrying a canteen and that the bears were seen headed into the barber shop at Cimarron.

A man in the outskirts of THE Ranch said the chicken farmers were giving the chickens crushed ice to keep them from laying hard-boiled eggs.

At Angel Fire, they caught a 20 lb catfish that had ticks on it!

But, just this week, in Raton, a fire hydrant was seen bribing a dog.

It's so dry in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas that

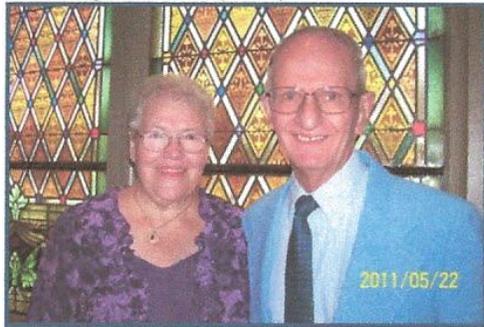
The Baptists are starting to baptize by sprinkling,
The Methodists are using wet-wipes,
The Presbyterians are giving out rain-checks, and The Catholics are praying for the wine to turn back into water. Now that's DRY!

Heard that in Texas, one of Sam Houston's congregation, a farmer, was so desperate to get water on his tomato plant that he tried to spit on it. The spit evaporated before it hit the ground! He decided that with no money from his crops, he needed to cut his electric bill. He began cooking his morning egg on the hood of his truck! Smart ole Texan. Bet he was once a Boy Scout!

Burbank Presbyterian church has found ways to deal with phones ringing during church services: Be prepared to laugh: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2_c81Nnsc0

Scouts I Recall Were Clean and Reverent

By Robert (Bob) L. Watson



Ruth and husband Bob

Original copy modified slightly by Bob, from the *Port Huron Times Herald*, June 13, 2010

I recently read an editorial written by a man relating his experience as a Boy Scout. The things that stood out in his memory were drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes on their camping trips that they had brought in from home. Since this is far different than my Scouting activities, it has prompted me to share.

I grew up in [Port Huron](#) with parents who encouraged me to join Scouting long before I became 12, the official age for joining. I joined Troop 43 because it was sponsored by the Mueller Employee Recreation Association, and my father worked in the brass shop at Mueller Brass Co. The troop met at McVety [Recreation Center](#) at that time behind the library, which now is the [Port Huron Museum](#) on Sixth Street. We lived in [South Park](#) in the south end of town. In order to attend Scout meeting, I had to take the city bus.

A neighbor, Bill Tielking, lived a few blocks up the street. [Each Wednesday night](#), he would drive into town to the Masonic Temple. When he became aware that I was taking the city bus [each Wednesday](#), he would pick me up and take me to my Scout meeting, then drive on to his lodge meeting. Looking back, I am sure this took extra time on his part to pick me up and take me home at the end of our meetings. Knowing that my [Scoutmaster](#), Ken Zuidema, was a Mason and a member of the same lodge as Mr. Tielking and was not able to attend meetings, I asked if he wasn't going to get "blackballed" for not attending meetings. He said with a smile, "No, because they feel that the work I am doing with you boys is important."

Later, we moved into town, and I was able to walk to

Scouts. Knowing that one of the Scout laws was that a Scout is reverent, I felt it was important that I find a church. Several of my Scouting friends invited me to attend church with them. With the help of the Rev. I. Alton Cressman, I joined [First Presbyterian Church](#) because he took the time to sit down and talk with me and answer my questions. With his help and his encouragement, I received my God and Country Award. I also became active in the [Senior High Youth group](#). On our [Easter break](#) in 1954, we went on a mission trip to Wooton, Ky. Since 1994, we have continued getting together with our spouses each year.

In [South Park](#), my parents and I lived on the St. Clair River at the foot of North Boulevard on Military Street. I had recently seen a film at one of our Scout meetings from the American Red Cross on water safety. My parents and I were sitting at the table eating where we had a nice view of the river and its activities. On one particular day, there was a group of small children playing on the ice. We noticed that one of the boys, who was about 5, had ventured too far and fallen into the river.

The Red Cross movie was still fresh in my mind. I visualized that I needed to grab a long pole under our front porch. I ran out to the boy, only to realize he was too young to understand to grab the pole so I could pull him in. I quickly threw the pole aside and crawled toward him on the ice as it was crackling under my feet. I grabbed him by his wet winter garments, pulled him out of the cold water and took him up to the house where we were able to phone his parents and get him some dry clothes. For this, I was among three Scouts in the United States that year to receive the Scouting Honor Medal. I later earned the required [merit badges](#) to receive the [Eagle award](#). I also received the Lincoln Trail award for hiking from [New Salem](#) to Springfield, Ill. I never had time or interest for alcohol and cigarettes. This is the Scouting I remember. +++++

[Editor's note: Bob continued in Howell as Chairman of the Activities Committee and Merit Badge Counselor. For a period each year, his group would celebrate Scout Government Day. On alternating years, he would take the Eagle Scouts to the state capital in Lansing, Michigan. The following year, they would take a group of boys based on their advancement to the Livingston County Government Offices in Howell, Michigan. He remembers all of the associations with Scouting with fondness and joy. Bob and Ruth live in Howell, MI.]

Letter to the Port Heron Times Herald editor from Dowdy:

I enjoyed reading Mr. Watson's comments on a true Boy Scout's goals. The original story on drinking and smoking is the modern day renegade viewpoint. I realize that these characters existed in the early and mid-40s, however, they did not remain as scouts. I was a Boy Scout and entered the Air Force for a 40+ year's career and credit my scouting days as a big factor in having the career that I did. Camp Chippewa on Lake Huron was good training for discipline.

My son was a Scout and also went on to join the Air Force. He, too, credits the Scouts for his decision to join the military.

Thank you, jilkins, for your comment. There were quite a few Boy Scouts from town that joined the service. It was considered an honor to be sworn in to serve our country and the world.

NAPS editor's note: In researching the article with Bob and Ruth, this also caught my attention. So, I thought you as Scouters might appreciate it as well. Here is an earlier photo of Bob and the story behind the story.



FOR SAVING A LIFE:

Kenneth W. Zuidema, left; Scoutmaster of Bay Scout troop 43, presents the Scout Honor Medal to troop member Robert Watson. The medal was presented at the evening program of the fifth annual Police-Fireman's Field Wednesday in Memorial Stadium. Watson saved a three year old boy from drowning in the St. Clair River in February, 1950; Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene L. Watson, 766 Water Street. Photo by Times Herald Photo Staff.

[Ed's note: This vintage photograph shows clearly the bravery of Bob and the value of scout training. Many youth have found in Scouting a lifelong pattern of preparation, proficiency, fidelity and community service.]

**WHY NOT HONOR THE BEST
IN PRESBYTERIAN SCOUTING
WITH A SPECIAL GIFT?**



We all rejoice in welcoming new Eagles, Order of the Arrow, Scout Leaders, Pastors, and parents of new Scouts to Presbyterian circles. Sometimes, there are large celebrations with ritual and plentiful food. Other times, it is a quieter but still warm and joyful occasion. Then there are the times when we want to recognize someone who has helped support our troop(s) over the years or for a special donation of time, money, or other service.

The NAPS membership and newsletter would be a memorable way to continue the welcome and thanks, a continuing gift of recognition. It costs little, but lasts a whole year; each issue reminding the one honored that you think highly of their achievement and gifts.

When you give the membership, if notified well in advance, a letter from the President of NAPS can accompany the gift, welcoming them to the NAPS family personally. A membership certificate, suitable for framing, accompanies the new membership, as does a NAPS' badge and lapel pin.

All of these make for presentation in a public or private ceremony that adds the option of a great photo op, with the results printed in the next edition of the newsletter or posted directly to the NAPS website.

Got someone you need to recognize or honor coming up? Give a NAPS membership and inclusion in one of the Presbyterian churches best supports for Scouting:

<http://presbyterianscouters.org/membershipindex.html>

A Philmont Staffer Reflects On His Beginnings in Scouting



By Zach Geschwilm

Before making what is my third and final pilgrimage to Philmont, I realized that this year would mark my thirteenth straight year (1998-2011) of my involvement in Scouting. This has me in a reflective mood.

Last night, as I sat listening to a group of feisty young men discussing the day's labor, I began to reminisce. Eventually, I tried to remember my very first camping trip with the BSA. I realized that I was nine years old at the time. Nine years old. Dear heaven, that first trip is already over half a lifetime ago. I am an old man compared to that boy.

One of my favorite maxims--that I invented of course--goes something like this: "When I was young, I was stupid because I was naive. Now I am old, and I am stupid because I'm prejudiced." I don't know if that statement yet applies to me, but I wonder what that young boy would think. Let's take a look at that boy. He was young, obnoxious, and introverted while being extroverted. His uncle had yet to die; thus, the catalyst for his move from Catonsville in Baltimore, Maryland to Finksburg in Carroll County, Maryland had yet to occur. Looking at a map, there really isn't much distance between those two points; but, for that boy, they would prove worlds apart. For one thing, Catonsville had black people and Carroll County did not.

This kid's defining feature to adults and children alike was his voracious reading. He was always at his happiest with his nose buried in some book, and he wouldn't have been unhappy if he could read for the rest of his life undisturbed. Perhaps as a result of this, his parents decided to get him involved in the Scouting program.

My first Scout meeting was not promising; I walked into Webelows with a uniform as naked of badges as a newborn babe: my cosmopolitan troop

was weighed down under the weight of their pins and patches. With my inferiority complex and sense of embarrassment soaring high, I muddled through the meeting wondering if I should quit. I believe what initially held me back was my Dad. He was happy to see me in Scouts, and he was the one who made the suggestion that I should join in the first place. When I accepted, he made it clear that if I wanted to quit I could do so at any time. For two days after the first Scout meeting, I wondered if I should just quit.

The thing that prevented me from taking him up on that offer was an ad in the back of a comic book. One day I am going to rediscover that ad. The ad consisted of three large letters filling the page: BSA. Each of these fat letters contained a drawing. The first was of a bunch of Tiger Cubs (the youngest scouts possible), drawing pictures in a park. That didn't grab me. I was too old for that anyway. The second was of Bears and Wolves (the next two ranks), engaged in some outdoor activity that I can't remember. Yet, the one that grabbed me was the drawing inside the A. It was a bunch of We be lows shooting arrows, canoeing, and setting up tents in the woods. COOL! So, I decided to stick with the program.

I couldn't wait for my first real camping trip. I was convinced I was going to do everything in the picture and more in one weekend. Man, was I in for a letdown. We were all sequestered in a hollow in the woods, and the Webelows (we be loyal scouts), were instructed to line up and wait for the activities to start. I was armed and ready with two weapons of choice. The first was a brand-spanking-new *Webelows Guide Book*, and the other was far more precious. It was an old, leather hostess folder from the Tomato Palace, a restaurant where my mother used to work. Its original purpose was to keep a record of which table would be served by any given waiter or waitress at any given time. A vital task to be sure, but now it served a more sacred purpose. It would be a chronicle in which I would keep record of my exploits. It would serve as the log for the entirety of my scouting career. In the end, I only kept a record for that day, and then swiftly lost interest. Thus would start a pattern of pathetic journal keeping that has held true throughout my entire life.

Finally, we got the call to start. Yes! Archery here I come! I'm going to be the next Robin Hood! I couldn't keep the chagrin off my face as the first activity turned out to be: knot tying. Oh, boy. I was and am terrible with knots. Therefore, I coasted through the lecture, got a pat on the back from the instructor for at least trying to tie a knot, and imagined dragons burning the forest as I waited for the next activity.

The next activity was a lecture on the importance of First Aid. Oh, come on! I hadn't even gotten a chance to injure someone with an arrow yet. The adults really weren't doing a good job fostering my interest. However, I must say I enjoyed the end of the activity, which was a pop quiz on various techniques in First Aid. I won easily. How did I beat my more experienced peers? Easy, I cheated. While others thought really hard to come up with the proper answer, I quickly glanced at the First Aid Section of my brand spanking new *Webelows' Guide Book*. No one noticed, and I was hailed as a medical prodigy.

The next activity involved knives. Okay, I thought, things are getting better. Then, it turned out that it was a lecture on knife safety. I was about to give up all hope. Yet, the next activity brought me back around. It was bow to build a fire. Now, most adults implicitly know that all Boy Scouts are at heart would-be pyromaniacs. I can confirm after many years of experience that this is true. Every boy present started building fires with gusto. My only disappointment with this activity, and this disappointment was shared by every Webelow there, was that we weren't allowed to build a BIG fire. Don't worry, the adults assured us, you'll get to see a *bonfire* this evening. Bonfires, we were told, are the biggest fires of all.

I cannot remember the other activities for the life of me; perhaps because I was so eager to see the bonfire, I only remember three events from that night. The first was the harmonica concert. A kindly old man who had been playing harmonica for years wanted to give us a performance. Now, I had recently acquired a harmonica from my mother (or grandmother), and I was eager to play with the old man. It was then that the old man made it very clear to us boys that he would be the only one playing. If we wanted to play, he said, "Go ahead, but please do it tomorrow."

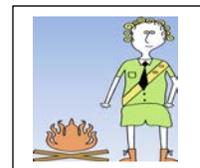
As he readied himself to play, I made ready to disobey. He played and I carefully watched his movements and mimicked them with my harmonica.

Gently, my harmonica accompanied his throughout the entire performance. Later, I overheard the old man wondering if his harmonica might be out of tune. Sheepishly, I confessed that I had mimicked him that evening. Instead of getting angry, his eyes lit up: "Boy, if you can play that good, keep at it!" He warmly grasped my shoulder and added, "I'm sure you'll make a fire player one day, and I look forward to hearing you!" I have remembered that blessing all these years later and I have not played harmonica once since that night.

The other two events I remember were significant and stupid respectively. The first was my initial time to watch a flag burning ceremony. Boys later proclaimed in hushed tones that, "The flag bled as it died." The other was that they served a *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace* birthday cake to some kid. Despite the fact that he shared with everybody, I was upset that I did not get the piece with Darth Maul's face on it. I remember nothing else of the next day.

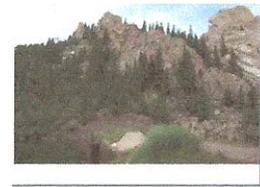
If I ever to return to that hollow, I would be unable to recognize it. Now, I sit under the same night sky in a very different part of the country on a much longer camping trip. I am being paid this time, and I am in the company of young, white men exclusively. I dare not light a fire because of the very real possibility of my burning the entire forest down. Things have been too dry in this forest for too long.

Editor's Note: Zach has returned to college, but sent a copy of the speech he made to his troop after returning this summer from Philmont. That speech follows. This is good for adults taking youth on hikes, but is well worth sharing with the troop as well. Many a problem could be nipped in bud if this advice is followed by all on trek.





Wisdom from the Trail



The following is a speech Zach gave to his troop when he arrived back in Maryland. A few of the members, including his brother, will be going on a trek at Philmont next summer. He offered this to them as a pep talk and to NAPS for peer review.

Hello, everyone. For those who don't know me, my name is Zach Geschwilm, and I am here to talk about Philmont. I had the privilege of going on a Trek with members of Troop 395 in July of 2008. When I left, I had no expectations of returning. Well, my expectations were completely wrong. I ended up working at Philmont for three summers, and I feel that I wouldn't be a good member of this Troop if I didn't pass on some of my hard-won knowledge to you.

My first summer at Philmont was spent working at CHQ Dining Hall, and while that was hard work, it really doesn't apply to you guys hitting the trail next summer. However, my next two summers spent on Conservation Work Crew do. Those who work on Work Crew are the toughest, most cantankerous, unsympathetic work horses you will meet at Philmont. They carry eighty to one hundred pound packs and hike the equivalent of smaller treks regularly. Every day involves some form of hard labor. By the end of the first work run, even the fresh-faced recruits are dirty, crass, and mean--and I am proud to say I am one of them. So, let me tell you, that there is little in the way of hardship or discomfort at Philmont that we are not intimately familiar with. Now, I'm sure that you are all familiar with the "no-dun?" stuff like hydration, hanging your smellables, wearing wool socks, and things like that. Instead, I'm going

to talk about two things that can ruin a trek; both of which spawn from the same activity: hiking.

I find hiking, even in a group, to be a solitary experience. If a group is really exerting itself on the trail, they don't waste time or breath on idle conversation. They hike quietly, each hiker in a world unto himself, with the utmost concentration. Things like conserving one's energy for the long haul, being mindful of one's surroundings, and trying to ignore the oppressive weight on your back are the order of the day. Talking is reserved for business matters: "Are we going in the right direction?" "Is Jimmy hurt?" "Are you boys staying hydrated?"

Hiking also reveals a lot of things about a person. Namely, their limitations. This is precisely why people drop out of the various

Treks every summer. They don't like being made aware of what they can't do or what they have to improve upon. However, those who stick with it also become aware of their strengths. These are the people who will gain the most from Philmont; these are the ones that will come away changed for the better. For it is only by becoming aware of both your strengths and limitations that you can grow as a human being and overcome the obstacles in front of you, obstacles that you will find not just at Philmont but in life.

In other words, Philmont teaches both persistence and tenacity. Two of the most valuable qualities one can attain. At the end of the day, it is just you and the mountain, and it is up to you--and only you--to get up it. I am not trying to disparage teamwork; indeed, a good team is the most dedicated support unit in the world; but, remember, a team can only offer support. They cannot make the journey for you. Trust me: there will be days where you do not want to continue the journey.

No matter how good most of the days are, there will always be those few days where you are going to get hurt. It is then that the twin perils of weariness and despair will try to get you. It is in these pivotal moments that you will have two options before you: quit or press on. Take my word for it: press on.

I have had many moments where it seemed that I would never get up that hill, that the trail would stretch on forever, that the day's work would break me in half, or when I felt no desire to get out of my sleeping bag. It is so tempting to quit when even the basic amenities of Base Camp seem luxurious. Yet, those who do quit regret it for the rest of their lives. They will look back on Philmont years later with a forlorn sense of longing as they wonder what could have been. Remember: pain is temporary, regret is not.

Those who do stay on receive something quite different. They get the profound satisfaction in earning their Trek. They possess the knowledge that they accomplished what they set out to do, and that no one can take that sense of accomplishment away. You cannot

cheat or take short cuts to complete a Trek. The grind of hiking in the heat of the sun (or the chill of the rain) shortens tempers, uses up patience, and sets people at odds in a dangerous way. When this occurs and, trust me, it will, the crew has to come to

a consensus as to how to make things work. I say this from personal experience: nothing is more destructive than a crew that decides to turn on itself. There have been many times I have observed a crew split into factions or alienate one of its members. This does absolutely nothing to fix a crew's current problems and only serves to make the trip miserable for all participants.

How to avoid this? Well, it begins with you. First, don't think that you are entitled to your crew's respect or support. Each member of a team has to remember that co-operation is a two way street. You have to work to help your crewmates before you can expect them to help you. You have to give respect to get respect. Second, always look for ways to set a good example. If someone is not carrying their weight, do not

take that as permission to shy away from responsibility. I hate the age-old excuse, "Well, he's not doing it, why should I?"

When someone is not being a team player, it is time to step up and be an example of what a team player is supposed to be. If they can't take a hint, don't call them out, but rather consult with the crew as to how to take care of the problem. Third, do not complain. Whining about your problems does not fix them; it only makes them worse because now your crew wants to kill you. Remember, their packs are heavy too, they are also tired, and they have to hike just as far as you. Rather than complain, seek ways to help your crew get through the day's challenges. After all, all of you are in this together.

So, get out there, support those next to you and keep at it. I wish you the best, and I hope that you will take my advice. If you do, I can't say that you will have a trip without any difficulty, but you will have a great trip at the Philmont Ranch and wherever else you travel.

Thanks for sharing your experiences in Scouting, Jake

Cranford Boy Scouts Troop 80 Ready for Hurricane Irene

By The Cranford Chronicle



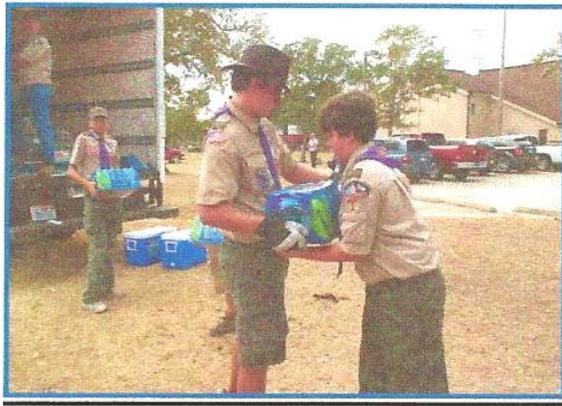
Boy Scouts from Troop 80 helped fill sandbags on Saturday at the Cranford Municipal garage at the roundhouse.

Boy Scouts from Troop 80 in Cranford took their training to the streets only three weeks after their emergency preparedness drill "Operation Cranford." Saturday, the troop was organized into a pre-storm help unit. They met early in the day to fill hundreds of sand bags at the Cranford Municipal garage at the roundhouse. Residents in the floodplain were provided with all the sand bags they needed to protect their homes.

After all the sand was distributed, the Scouts started a house-to-house help campaign along Riverside Drive and surrounding neighborhoods. The Scouts worked the entire day helping citizens in need to clear their lower living levels of valuables. Furniture, electric appliances and family mementos were carefully carried to higher grounds by the energetic volunteers. There were many hugs and tears from the recipients of the services.

One tearful senior citizen resident of Riverside Drive said "This is a wonderful town and these boys are amazing."

[Ed. Note: Thanks to Barbara Rybolt and the *Cranford Chronicle* (<http://cranford.patch.com!articles!video-boy-scouts-help-cranford-prepare-for-hurricane#Video-7S0S030>) for permission to reprint this article. Congratulations to the Scouts for their tremendous efforts to preserve their community! Well done!!



Austin's 100 Yr Old Troop Helps Town

By Liz Sheldon

Charter Rep for Troop # 1 in Austin
NAPS Regional Director

It was the end of a very hot summer in central Texas - 85 days of over 100⁰ and a severe drought! The scouts in Troop 1 were back in school. As the winds began to blow finally ushering in cooler temperatures, everyone in central Texas was breathing a sigh of relief to the end of the hottest summer ever, and the scouts were looking forward to their September camp out.

On September 4, the wind gusts reached 30 miles per hour, bending the tall pine trees into utility lines causing sparks that landed on dry, crisp undergrowth. The news stations began reporting wildfires around the Austin area due to the extensive drought conditions - first, in northwest Austin, then in Bastrop, which is about 30 miles southeast of Austin, then in Dripping Springs just southwest of Austin, and Leander, northeast of Austin - basically, Austin was being surrounded by wildfires. In the next day or so, most of the fires were extinguished, but the high winds fueled the Bastrop fire. As the winds shifted, a distinct smell of smoke filled the air. In the next few days, the Bastrop fire burned 34,000 acres and 1,600 homes. It became the largest wildfire in Texas history. Due to the first responders, all destroyed homes had been vacated, but unfortunately 2 deaths were reported.

When the scouts of Troop 1 heard about the needs of families who had lost everything, they cancelled their September campout and contacted the American Red Cross to find out how they could help. To the scouts, choosing between a campout and helping the victims was a no-brainer.

As Joshua Mireles said, "after the fires, we decided that it would be better to come out and help the Red Cross with our service." And that is exactly what they did!

The scouts spent the day unloading food, cleaning materials, bedding and clothes that had been donated. The scouts organized the supplies and kept accurate records for inventory. Robert Adams, an American Red Cross volunteer in charge of bulk distributions field operations, noted that "the Boy scouts of Troop 1 worked selflessly and tirelessly in the middle of a disaster to serve their fellow Texans." The fire was 85 contained, and the scouts worked hard under challenging circumstances. Mr. Adams noted that the Red Cross usually does not work with volunteers under 18, but the Troop 1 scouts "proved themselves" and did an excellent job. In fact, Senator John Cornyn, who was also onsite, was impressed with their maturity and dedication.

So what did the scouts learn? They saw devastation like they had never seen before. To see a disaster like this in their own community made for a lifelong memory. They were able to experience on a very real level the true meaning of living the Scout Oath (duty to God and country, helping others, staying strong) and serving their community. For news clips about the scouts:

<http://www.myfoxaustin.com/dpp/news/texas/bastrop-on-the-road-to-recovery-20110917-ktbcw#axzz1aHn0G0bZ>

<http://austin.ynn.com/content/280511/u-s--senator-cornyn-visits-bastrop-county-fire>

Ed. Note. Special thanks to First Presbyterian Church's pastor, Terry Sherry, for sharing news of the excellent work done by the Scout troop in a public letter and recognition to the congregation.

That means much to all of us.



Tired Scouts after a Hard Day's Work

Favorite Prayers

By Paul Deason
NAPS Regional Director

Our favorite prayers influence us more than we know. Over the years I've been told that it is best to make up our own prayers, and to spontaneously speak with Our Lord, that there is nothing to be gained from repeating the same things over and over again.

Those who tell me this tend to quote Our Lord's remarks about 'vain repetition.' I'm pretty sure that this is not what he meant though. For a start, left to myself, I am far too prone to repeat the same inane phrases over and over and to get stuck in my own little rut.

I need the prayers of others to teach me better, to open my eyes to the rest of the world, or even to shock me out of my own selfishness or state of being unforgiving.

Somewhere along the line, I needed to be told that 'help me' is a prayer. That the psalms speak at different times for every one of us; that it is rather lovely to find oneself wandering around the house, doing one's chores thinking, "I love you, oh, I love you," and meaning no mortal being by the words.

Then came the moment when I discovered that when I didn't know what to say, there were words in my head that fitted perfectly. From an old hymn, "Let us, like them, without one word, rise up and follow Thee". "Teach me, my God, and King", "Batter my heart", or even, "Thanks be to Thee!" They became my own words. Far from vain, they opened my spirit in ways that had been dry before.

When we visit the prayers of the Saints, not all of them old, we are learning to pray with the whole body of Christ. This is a prayer meeting which both teaches and enriches us. It may open our eyes, ears and hearts. It may teach us to grow up. And it nearly always bears generous fruit.

These prayers come from a variety of sources, and are mainly traditional prayers, some translated from the Gaelic in which they were originally written. (see also 'Prayers from Carmina Galetica - ancient Celtic prayers.)

An Old Wedding Blessing

May those who love us, love us.
And those who don't love us,
May God turn their hearts;
And if He doesn't turn their hearts,
May He turn their ankles,
So we will know them by their limping.



Be ye our angel unawares
If, after Kirk ye bide a wee,
There's some would like to speak to ye,
If after Kirk ye rise and flee
We' all seem cauld and still to ye.
The one that's in the seat with ye
Is stranger here than ye, maybe.
All here have got their fears and cares,
Add ye your soul unto our prayers, Be ye our
angel unawares.

+++++

[This next is one created years ago by your editor. It is offered in gratitude for the birth of the Wheelbarger's daughter, [Ella Wheelbarger](#), and for the birth of the great-grandson, [Callan Michael Ferguson](#), of [Wray and Diana Johanning](#). We look forward getting to know these future Scouts.]

Blessing for a Newborn

May you always have all the love you need.
May you be able to love easily and well.
May you always have good health.
May you travel as much of the world as you want to see
And may you do it with safety.
May you find work you want to do and
May you be well rewarded for it.
May God always keep an eye on you and
Always smile.

Blessings.
Welcome to the world.
You have a place here that is just yours.
Find it,
Fill it,
Furnish joy and integrity through it.

Welcome,
Welcome.
Welcome.
God be passionately in your life always.
We will hold you dear in ours.



NAPS ROLL CALL: IN MEMORIAL

NAPS offers deep gratitude for the life and contributions of **CARL LANGFORD**, former mayor of Orlando, Florida, 92, who died in mid-July of this year. Langford was the first Tenderfoot and Eagle Scout at Park Lake Presbyterian Church in Orlando.

He received his Eagle in 1934. In 1970, he was the first Distinguished Eagle in the Central Florida Council. In the 1990s, Langford received the PC(USA) God & Service Award for his long term support of Scouting and youth programs. Langford's parents were charter members of Park Lake Presbyterian Church.

His family and friends are in our prayers. We celebrate Carl Langford's many contributions with you.

[Eds. Note: This memorial submitted by Corb Sarchet]

The Presbyterian Scouter

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