



THE PRESBYTERIAN SCOUTER



<http://www.presbyterianscouters.org>
Bill Case (wcase03@comcast.net) Editor

From the President

Philmont Training

Philmont was very enjoyable and invigorating again this year. The weather was cool and scenery beautiful. The “Scouting in the Church’s Ministry” course was attended by 27 people this year which is a smaller group than usually attends. The course is for of people from different denominations that do not have enough attendees to have their own week like the Catholics and Methodists. The program was well staffed and provided information very useful in Scouting. These presentations included integrating of BSA programs with Church goals and existing programs, what Scouting can do for a congregation, BSA policies and public relations, to mention a few.



Two Presbyterian special sessions conducted by NAPS were held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The first centered on our mission - “Develop Scouting in the Presbyterian Church to teach and recognize religious values”. The NAPS handbook was used for reference material for our methods of accomplishing our mission, our policies and our organizational structure. The second session was centered on things of particular interest to NAPS members, and although it was a small group of Presbyterians, all have been very active in Scouting and the “Youth Religious Growth Program”, so it was a very enjoyable interchange of ideas.

In **2004** NAPS plans to participate in two training sessions at Philmont: “*Scouting in Church Ministry*”, scheduled for 11-17 July and “*Course for Presbyterian Leaders and Educators*”, scheduled in the fall for October 4 to 8.

NAPS Philmont Picture (From left to right)

Daniel E. Ross, Clifton, VA; Dr. William Hurst, Overland Park, KS; Eliot Kerlin, Fort Worth, TX; Fran Kerlin, Fort Worth, TX; Dr. Paul Deason, Las Cruces, NM; not pictured: Thomas McIntosh, Moraga, CA.



As you read on, you may find that much of this newsletter is devoted to Philmont and our NAPS relationship with this premier High Adventure Camp. This is hardly by accident. We hope that as many Presbyterians as possible avail themselves of the fine opportunities offered both in High Adventure treks and the opportunities for learning at the Philmont Training Center (where the picture above was taken.)

Celtic Cross Presentation

The Celtic Cross Award was presented to Al Warren by Eliot Kerlin on August 3, 2003, in a private ceremony at his home. He was to have received the first Celtic Cross in a ceremony at the National meeting two years prior, problem was not able to be able to attend a meeting again precluded his



Al was Chairman of Committee for several guidance to NAPS. He Venturing Committee and He is the recipient of the Antelope, God and Service III Award and Whitney M. among numerous others.

Relationships Committee but due to a sudden health attend. We thought he would at a later date, but his health attending.

the National Relationships terms where he provided also served on the National the National Court of Honor. Silver Beaver, Silver Award, William H. Spurgeon Young Jr. Service Award

He has also been very active in the Presbyterian Church serving on several committees for the General Assembly Office and as a member on the Board of Trustees, McCormick Theological Seminary. In his own congregation in Michigan, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, he is an Elder and has served as clerk of the Session.

Presbyterian Chaplains Make Their Mark at Philmont

Three Presbyterian Chaplains at Philmont at the same time - the complete protestant core – even if it was for only one week. But it was still fantastic as it has been many years since even one Presbyterian Chaplain was on staff. I am excited that we were able to fill a need at Philmont. These wonderful Chaplains were Rev. Rusty Cowden (our own NAPS Chaplain), Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church Crown Point, Indiana, who spent 16 days at Philmont; John Stewart (one week at Philmont - prior experience as a seminary student), Christian Educator at Amity Presbyterian Church, Charlotte NC; and Scott Worsham (6 weeks), Youth leader at Kansas City, KS. Please see articles on Philmont experience by John and Rusty further on in this newsletter, and Scott's observations in our next issue.

For 2004, Philmont and the other high adventure bases need Chaplains. We are hopeful that one Presbyterian will be able to stay for the full summer, but will be happy to have some for a month at a time. Remember that as a Chaplain you will receive a stipend, have a nice brick duplex apartment and board provided for you and family. Chaplains will also have the opportunity to go in the back country with a 4 wheel drive vehicle, unless you do not want to - they are flexible as the seven different job assignments are rotated each week. It is beautiful country to have an opportunity to experience. Good fishing, too! For more information on this opportunity contact Philmont at 505-376-2281 and ask for Mark Anderson.

NAPS President Appointed Hafer Trustee

Eliot Kerlin, as a member of the BSA National Council, represented NAPS at the Religious Relationships Sub-Committee meeting and the Relationships Committee meeting in Irving. There he was a member of the Awards/Emblems committee that approved changes of two religious groups' youth materials and sent one group's back for further work.

At the meeting, Eliot was appointed to be one of the trustees of the Hafer Trust Fund that provides funds to the High Adventure Bases as a supplement to their budget. The fund has been a great help in providing for the 4-wheel drive Suburbans at Philmont, and is now considering a Chapel expansion at Sea Base.

NAPS Display

By Rush Hart

We have developed an example of a small display that can be assembled locally and used at church functions, Presbytery meetings, council events, or any other function for showing off some of the things NAPS can offer. This particular display is designed to fit on a card table. The picture below is an example of what one could look like. The board can be purchased at stores like Hobby Lobby for under \$5.00 and a list of suggested items to be posted can be obtained from Rush Hart at rushart@sbcglobal.net. Note: For a small fee NAPS will provide the color photos and art work shown in this display. *(It does make a good display as I have used this one several times. Eliot)*



Connie Huston Receives Celtic Cross

Connie Huston of Marple Township, a suburb of Philadelphia, received the Celtic Cross Award from the Session of Newtown Square Presbyterian Church (NSPC) on June 8, 2003. Mrs. Huston, a Girl Scout leader and superintendent of NSPC's Church School, is seen here wearing the Celtic Cross along with Jamie, her husband, and their children Lauren, Corine and Erin. The NSPC Session and Pastor, The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Maxwell, recognized Connie with the NAPS sponsored Celtic Cross to honor her Christian Education work with the young people of the NSPC congregation and the greater community.



Youth and Adult Religious Awards Program

By Rudy Rutan, NAPS Southeast Region Committee Member

As we look forward to another year of Scouting, let us think of what Scouting has to offer to our youth and adult Scouters. We have Camping, Advancement, Pinewood Derbies, Mall Shows, and First Aid Meets. We promote Character, Citizenship, and Physical well being as obvious parts of keeping the promise of Scouting to the youth we serve.



We need to look beyond the obvious, because there is more to Scouting. The part sometimes overlooked is the Religious aspect. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts promise to do their duty to God each time they repeat their Oath. When you look at the youth religious award requirements you should notice that they encourage involvement of the family, the church and the community; by providing the need for input from the family, the minister, and a mentor.

For this part of Scouting to be accomplished, we need our Unit Leaders, Commissioners, and Chaplain Aides to promote the religious program. From Tiger Cubs to beyond Eagle Scouts, boys look for challenges to meet, to satisfy their desire to achieve. The religious awards for each age group, can open their eyes to the working of the church and their personal relationship with God. The small push your encouragement provides could help make a big ball roll. Youth seek the youth religious award in the same manner they seek a rank, arrow point, or merit badge.



The Adult Religious Awards Program exists to demonstrate to our youth the importance we place on individuals who are fulfilling our duty to God. Unlike the youth program, the Adult Religious individual needs to be nominated identifies and highlights adult emulate, and hopefully encourage them to participate in the youth religious program of their own faith community. Do your part by nominating deserving Scouters you know.



Award seeks the recipient. An for the award. The program role models for our youth to

We need to utilize the youth and adult Religious Awards Programs to provide our youth this opportunity to achieve all they can in Scouting as we guide them to develop better Character, Citizenship and Physical, Mental, and Moral Habits. Please refer any questions to the appropriate religious Committee on Scouting, P.R.A.Y. at www.praypub.org , or Rudy Rutan (e-mail < crutan@cfl.rr.com >).

Out in God's Country. . .

By John Sawyer, Philmont Chaplain

While "the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it," a very special part of God's creation is a place called Philmont Scout Ranch. Located in the northeast corner of New Mexico, Philmont hosts over 25,000 Scouts every summer, where they encounter the wild flora and fauna, the rugged mountains, and a dedicated staff.

An important part of the staff is a group of Philmont Chaplains, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, and Mormon, who serve God as they serve their neighbors who come to visit Philmont. I had the privilege of serving as a Philmont Chaplain during the summer of 2000 (the greatest summer job ever) while I was a student at Princeton Theological Seminary and I dropped in for a week this past summer (the best vacation imaginable). What a joy it is to see the growth in leadership and stature of today's youth, to lead in worship under the bluest sky, and to meet people from all over the country (and world!). It is always an honor to serve with experienced clergy from other backgrounds and faiths as well, to work as a team and to learn from one another. During the summer of 2003, for the first time in Philmont's grand history, all three Protestant Chaplains were from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Scott Worsham, Rusty Cowden, and I were able to serve together for a week. I give thanks to God for blessing me in God's country and while I now serve in a church far away from Philmont, I want to go back whenever I can.

John Sawyer serves as the Director of Christian Education at Amity Presbyterian Church, PC(U.S.A.), in Charlotte, NC. He is a Candidate in the Ordination Process and looks forward to returning to Philmont very soon.

Philmont Recollections

By Rev. Rusty Cowden, NAPS Chaplain

This past summer I had the chance to spend sixteen days as one of three protestant chaplains at Philmont Scout Ranch. This was the first time in many years that I was able to spend so much time at the ranch. I have made several trips as a participant or faculty at

the Philmont Training Center, but I hadn't worked as a chaplain since I spent the summers of '87, '90, and 94.

This trip was especially sweet since two of my sons were also on staff, Bucko as a program counselor at Crater Lake camp, and Dan on the cabin restoration crew. Dan worked variously at Ponil, Bonita Cow Camp, and Fish Camp. This was their second and third summers as staff, and (counting the three summers they spent as kids) their fifth and sixth summers on the ranch.

I checked in about 10:30 on July 31st, thinking that my duties would not start until the next day. There was a need for a trip to North country though, so I borrowed a suburban (the chaplains have two vehicles for three chaplains) and by 1:30 I was at Copper Park, picking up an injured camper. This pace continued. I didn't take a day off, since days there are too precious to waste. On August 15th I was supposed to leave by noon, but there was a need for three chaplains (long story) at Clark's Fork, so Elder Wilson, Father Bob Hummel, and I spent our mornings dealing with that situation. I left Philmont only four and a half hours late. Not bad for Phil-time.

Many changes have been implemented since I was last a staffer. To me they seem pretty much changes for the better. One of the things I like best about this operation is that although they know they are the best (and they are), they never stop trying to be better. For one week of our time, all three protestant chaplains were Presbyterians, which was perhaps unique in Philmont's history. In any case it added to the fun.

The Need for Camp Chaplains

By Bill Case

I recently received a note from a lady in the Austin, Texas area wondering if there was any possibility that NAPS might be able to help fund the salary of a chaplain for the local Scout camp for the coming summer. Alas, I had to explain to her that NAPS wasn't financially able to support the local councils. However, there was the Austin Theological Seminary, I responded, which might have some senior students, perhaps individuals with prior Scouting experience, who might be more than willing to volunteer to help during the summer at camp.

Summer camps can provide an opportunity for us to expose youth to what may be some of their earliest religious experiences. Yes, troop camping trips frequently hold Scouts' Own services, but here there is a dual opportunity; Scouts exposed to a real minister and, gasp, real ministers exposed to Scouts in their native habitat! A captive audience, if you will.

I received an e-mail written by the Reverend Dr. George Hupp of Cincinnati (and also our NAPS Vice President) that said that the Protestant Church Committee successfully raises funds for camp chaplains by soliciting local congregations. Whether you find volunteers from among your local ministers, from seminary students, or choose to have a paid religious staff at camp, I encourage you to support the placement of chaplains at all levels of summer camping. Just imagine what the exposure might generate!

NAPS – The Web Page

Ever stopped by the NAPS web site? Hosted by our General Assembly you can find all sorts of interesting information at <http://www.presbyterianscouters.org>. It's undergone some substantial changes from last year and is yet to be fully completed. Nevertheless, you can find who your local and nation officers are, locate that article in a past newsletter that you just can't quite seem to put your hand on, can find some interesting links to other useful sites, and even find our annual examples of Scout Sunday services. If you have suggestions for other topics you feel would be of value, please drop the webmaster a note at wcase03@comcast.net and he'll see what he can do.

Regional News

Southwest Region

John Forrest, Regional Director - (602)641-7594



The Grand Canyon Council Interfaith Religious Recognition Committee presented a training course for chartered organization representatives of religious-sponsored Scout units on October 4 at the Council Office. Three of the thirty Chartered Organization Representatives who attended were responsible for units sponsored by Presbyterian churches. These Presbyterian Scouters received NAPS applications and info on the work of NAPS in the Council in a separate short meeting.

Synod of the Living Waters

Hawley Heglar, Regional Director - (423) 652-1846



After a hectic summer, with the start of Fall I'm able to concentrate and work to get the word out about who we are and what we stand for. I was able to make presentations at our Sequoyah Council Camp Davy Crocket this summer at two Cub & Parent weekends. At our various District and Council events, I always work my way through the crowd inquiring about anyone that has heard of our organization, and I have been scheduled to give a program at our Leader's Roundtable in January.

In addition to recruiting new members, we will have at least one nominee for the God and Service Award. This person should be a model to all of us and I look forward to

sharing her resume' in a future newsletter (with her permission of course). I have also been asked to join our District Committee which I have. The significance of this is that our College of Commissioner Science is held at Lees McCray College which is in Banner Elk NC, where our Holston Presbytery is located.

I look forward to working with NAPS and am easy to reach. My home phone # is 423-652-1846 or I can be reached at hheglar@mounet.com. I can also be reached through my Troop website: www.bristoltroop3.com.



South Atlantic Region

Steve Taylor, Regional Director – (864) 585-4391

Regional Director for the South Atlantic is Steve Taylor, Scout Executive for the Palmetto Council in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Regional Secretary is Neal Stanford, an independent distributor for water treatment systems and former Field Director with the Atlanta Area Council. Neal lives in Conyers, GA. Rudy Ruton, Melbourne FL is a member of the committee. No Regional Chaplain has been recruited at this time.

All Scout Executives in the South Atlantic Region have recently been sent a letter requesting that a key Presbyterian Scouter be recruited onto their Council Relationships Committee and that Presbyterians are "Scouting friendly." Scout Executives were also encouraged to promote the "Whole Family of Scouting" in Presbyterians churches within the region in order to charter more units under Presbyterian auspices.

Steve Taylor has been elected to the National Executive Board of PRAY, the national organization that handles the religious emblems program for youth service agencies.



Southern California and Hawaii Region

Peter Van Dyken, Regional Director – (661) 724-1022

We would like to welcome the newly elected officers of the Southern California and Hawaii region. Re-elected as Regional Director was Peter Van Dyken, elected as Secretary was Russell Fury, and as Chaplain, the Reverend Herbert N. Christ. These gentlemen were elected for a two-year term which will extend to July, 2003.

NAPS Future Activities

Dates	What	Where	Comments
May 19-21, 2004	National BSA Annual Meeting	Hyatt Regency, Chicago	
June 26-July 3, 2004	216th General Assembly Meeting, Presbyterian Church (USA)	Richmond, VA	
June 28 (9:00 – 5:00)	NAPS Directors' meeting	Richmond, Va.	
June 29 (9:00 – 11:00)	NAPS Biannual Meeting	Richmond, Va.	
June 29 (12:30)	NAPS Luncheon	Richmond, Va.	
July 11-17, 2004	Scouting in Church Ministry	Philmont Training Center	
October 4 – October 8, 2004	Course for Presbyterian Leaders and Educators	Philmont Training Center	Arrival and registration at 4 PM. Final day will complete in the morning to facilitate travel plans of the attendees. (Rescheduled from October 2003)

Membership and Newsletters

If you have received your newsletter through the United States Postal Service, please check the mailing address. If it says that your membership expires in 2003, immediately take the renewal application from the back of the newsletter and extend your membership for another year. Or save yourself the hassle and extend it for five years. Whatever length you choose to renew for, do it **NOW!**

Speaking of newsletters, have you considered receiving yours electronically? Advantages? Well, it arrives faster, pictures are in color, and it helps hold down our annual dues. If you'd like to be one of the first on your block to receive the NAPS news, drop the editor a note at wcase03@comcast.net, and be sure to include your full name and home town.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRESBYTERIAN SCOUTERS (NAPS)

Please use this form to renew your membership in NAPS. Please clearly print all information on the form and after completion, attach your check and mail to: P.R.A.Y, 8520 MacKenzie Road, St. Louis, MO. 63123

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Full Name: _____

Street Address; _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Council Name and Number _____

Church: _____

Church Address: _____

Scout or Youth Agency Affiliation: _____

Check items that apply: Annual Membership (\$20) Five year Membership (\$75)

Ten year Membership (\$150) Life Membership (\$350)

Extra Patch (\$2) Lapel Pin (\$5)