



The Presbyterian Scouter



April, 2005

Volume 11, Issue 2

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Luggage Tags and hat pins will be distributed to hordes of Scouts at the National Jamboree at the NAPS booth in the Relationships Division portion of the merit badge midway. The hat pins are miniatures of the NAPS logo.

NAPS PREPARES FOR ONSOUGHT OF SCOUTS AT NATIONAL JAMBO

Some 3,500 luggage tags and 10,000 hat pins have been ordered by NAPS to be given away to Scouts and Scouters visiting the NAPS Booth at the National Jamboree at Fort A. P. Hill from July 25 to August 3 as NAPS' six-person delegation braces for an onslaught of visitors.

The Relationships Division portion of the ever popular Merit Badge Midway is located this jambo near the visitors parking lot, and expected to see a lot of traffic as a result from visitors as well as the normal mob of Jamboree Scouts and Scouters.

Heading the delegation will be Wray Johanning, President; Rush Hart, Treasurer; Elliot Kerlin, Immediate Past President, Elaine Foley, Robert T. Workinger, and Joseph Larrance.

NAPS has had a display booth at the last four National Jamborees, reports Kerlin, who headed the last delegation.

"Last time, we found it was very enjoyable talking to the dedicated Presbyterian Scouts and Scouters that came to the tent to get literature and ask questions about NAPS. One of the requirements for the religious chest patch is to talk to a member

(continued on page 4 - See JAMBOREE)

From the President

NAPS TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW P.R.A.Y INITIATIVE

Things have not slowed down! In February, we worked with the BSA and shared a booth at Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators. Scott Cummins staffed the booth from NAPS. Scott thanks for the help. (Please see the article on APCE Convention)

At the end of March, I went to Louisville to The Office of the General Assembly to negotiate the new Covenant for NAPS. The session went well, and I believe we are set for another two years. Following that, I will be attending the BSA National Meeting and Religious Relationship Committee in Grapevine, TX. Then in July, six NAPS members will be attending the 2005 National Jamboree at Fort A. P. Hill in VA.

We are going to participate in a new initiative by P.R.A.Y. titled REAP (Religious Emblems Awareness Program). The motivation behind REAP is that only less than 3% of the youth in Scouting earn a Religious Award at all levels. REAP will contain elements of advertising in Boys Life and Scouting Magazines, Mailings to Pastors, COR's and Unit Leaders. The mailings will place emphasis on the Religious Awards Program.

REAP will create new patches for activities at the High Adventure Bases and Council Summer Camps. The programs in the field will make use of the Unit's or Crew's Chaplain Aide to verify participation. The High Adventure portion of REAP has been tested at Philmont with great success.

Next year there will be 10 Councils that will be trial Councils for the Summer Camp Program. Mark Hazelwood will be presenting a week long course at Philmont Training Center this Summer on Religious Awards during Relationship Week. Each of the trial Councils will receive 2 scholarships to the course from P.R.A.Y..

Just a gentle reminder in order for NAPS to be a viable organization we must start activities at the local level. If you decide you can take the initiative to do so I will insure you receive all the help NAPS can give,

Yours in Scouting,

Wray

PS: If you have an Eagle Court of Honor and wish a letter of congratulations from NAPS just e-mail me with the details. And in the same vein if you know of or participate in a God and Service, God and Cuntry or Celtic Cross Presentation let the editor know about it give him the details and send him pictures of the event.

Venturing...A High School Youth Group Out-Reach Ministry

by Dave Richardson
BSA Relationships Division

If you have ever asked a teenager, "What did you do want to do today?" The likely response would be a one word response such as "Nothing".

The Boy Scout's Venturing program could be the answer to your Youth Ministry needs. Venturing is a program for high school aged youth, which is coed and a match for most youth groups. Youth ages 14 through 20 can participate in this high adventure program.



Typical programs might include backpacking, snorkeling, scuba, rock climbing, as well as mission study and community service projects. Churches can use the Venturing program to supplement the efforts of the local church for ministry and mission work.

There are six experience areas on which Venturing focuses. Citizenship, Leadership, Social, Outdoor, Fitness and Service are components that the BSA instills in its Venturing program.

Venturing brings these areas as well as adult mentors together with interested young people. You might say that Venturing is a catalyst for growth. Growth in character, in spirit, and service to others.

New Presbyterian Units Started

Scouting continues to expand in Presbyterian Churches. Through 2004, Presbyterian churches adopted 37 Packs resulting in 684 new Cub Scouts, 38 new Troops, resulting in 393 new Scouts, and 51 new Venture Crews with 286 new Venturers.

Churches have long recognized the value of a character education program such as scouting. Many have used scouting as an outreach program to meet the needs of youth in their communities.

Nationwide, the Presbyterian church is the the fifth largest chartering church with over 130,000 youth involved in nearly 4,000 units. Presbyterian youth earned over 2500 religious emblems. This represents the seventh largest group in scouting.

Editor's Note: There are also several very practical reasons for Churches to embrace Venture as a high school aged Youth program: They have access to Scouting's wide variety of camps and high adventures, Scouting's youth and adult leadership training programs and resources, and their trip, activities, and leaders are covered under the BSA's liability policy as are all of Scouting's programs.



Surprise, Surprise! Jonathan S. Shouse, left, had just finished announcing the coming Scout Sunday in February at the Third Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va., when he was presented with both the God and Service Award and the Celtic Cross Award for his service to Scouting and the Presbyterian Church. Jonathan played a key role for NAPS at its last meeting at General Assembly in Richmond. And in March, he received the Silver Beaver Award from the Heart of Virginia Council. He's show here with the senior minister, Dr. Steve Hartman.

Synod of the Living Waters

Hawley Hegar, Director

Sequoyah Council Publishes Religious Award Recognitions

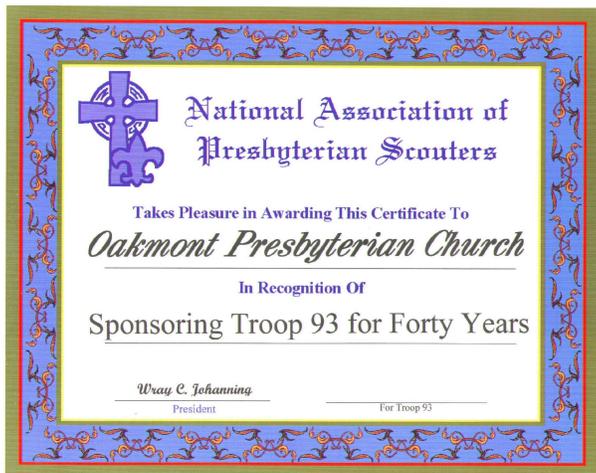
Thank goodness Spring has arrived! Time to start thinking about Summer Camp, Jambo and doing what we do best: CAMP! My home Council, Sequoyah, has started publishing a list of Scouts that earn their religious badges in each bi-monthly issue.

I will be attending the Section 6N Conclave at Camp Yocona in Randolph, Mississippi, on the weekend of April 22-24th. There I hope to spread the message of our group and our mission.

I will also be in attendance at the Piedmont Appalachian College of Commissioner Science on the weekend of May 13-15th at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, NC. Which is also the home of our own Holston Presbytery! There I hope to continue to spread the word of our Group and mission.

It is with great pleasure that I announce that veteran Scouter Jack Kilbreath of Troop 3 in Sequoyah Council was presented the God and Service Award. A previous recipient, Anna Booher, also from Sequoyah Council, was presented the Silver Beaver at the Council Awards Banquet on March 14th. Congratulations to two very deserving Scouters that continue to serve our youth.

As time passes on, I am speaking to more and more about our organization and religious awards in general.

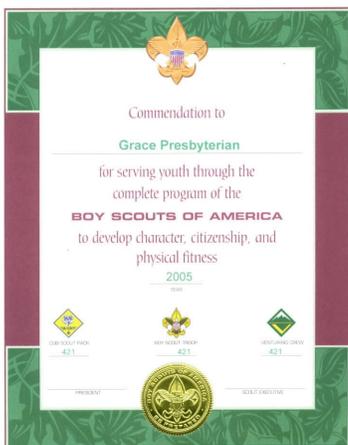


Did You Know?

NAPS Also Recognizes Churches, Units, Youth

The National Association of Presbyterian Scouters not only provides adult recognitions to Presbyterian Scouts through the Celtic Cross Award program, it also provides certificates for Churches and Units for long service and letters from NAP's president to those earning the Eagle Scout Award.

“Complete Program” Certificates are provided to Presbyterian Churches which sponsor all three of the Scouting programs, Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and either Varsity Teams or Venture Crews.



In 2004, three were awarded, and thus far in 2005, one.

The Presbyterian Unit Award of Excellence

was established in 1990 to recognize outstanding leadership and youth participation in Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Varsity Teams and Venturing Crews and Ships chartered by Presbyterian congregations or associated organizations

This recognition is made on an annual basis from applications submitted jointly by the

Chartered Organization Representative, The Pastor or Head of the Chartered Organization, and the Unit Leader.

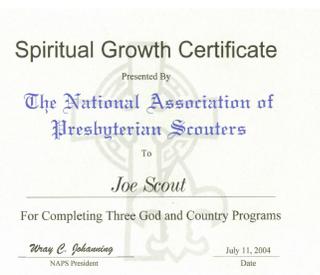


Factors considered in the awarding of this recognition include:

1. Quality Program as recognized by the Boy Scouts of America.
2. Youth membership participation in the appropriate religious growth program for their age level.
3. Unit participation in worship services.
4. Representation of chartered partner members on the unit leadership team.
5. A unit service project of significant contribution to the church.

The God & Country Spiritual Growth Certificate is presented to any boy or girl that is a member of the Presbyterian Church or a member of an unit sponsored by a Presbyterian Church, and has completed three of the four God and Country programs.

In 2004, four Spiritual Growth Certificates were presented by NAPS, and thus far in 2005, two, with the latest going to John Robert Yates, Omaha, NE.



Special Recognition Certificates are presented to note significant activities and events, as the one presented this year to the Oakmont Presbyterian Church for sponsoring its Boy Scout Troop for 40 years, shown above the article headline.

In 2004, NAPS presented six Recognition Certificates, and thus far in 2005, two.

Eagle Scout Congratulation letters are sent by the current NAPS president, to be presented at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor, and personally signed by the President.

(Requests for the awards should be sent to Rush Hart, NAPS treasurer, except for the Unit Award of Excellent which should be sent to NAPS Unit Award Committee (P.R.A.Y.), PO box 6900, St. Louis, Mo 63123)



LUGGAGE TAGS, a hit at the last Jambo, which kept Fran Kerlin, above, busy printing and assembling them, are expected to be a hit this year, also.

Jamboree...FROM PAGE ONE

of your faith and have them sign the requirement page. Many Scouts came by that were members of Presbyterian units but didn't have a church of their own and asked if we would sign the visitation requirement – which we did.”

“ There were also many Scouters that didn't know that we existed and took NAPS applications and literature,”recalled Kerlin, who headed the delegation then.

There are many Presbyterians that are going to Jambo who do many tasks to support the youth that are there.

The guest Minister for the Sunday worship at one of the two Protestant services, for which about 6000 attend, is Dr. Don Campbell, Director of Congregational Ministries Division of PC(USA).

The chaplain staff will include Dr George Hupp, Rev Rusty Cowden, Chaplain Eugene Foley, Kenneth Wonderland, William Findley, Martha Carlson, Gordon Mapes, Joseph Simpson and Richard Spears.

At least one NAPS member, Bruce Wilson, is attending as a Jambo Troop Scoutmaster, Troop 1114 from the Lake Huron Area Council. Other NAPS members attending the Jambo are urged to email the editor, corbms3@bellsouth.net, so that they can be recognized in July issue.

The National Association of Presbyterian Scouters

April 09, 2005

OUR PURPOSE:
To develop SCOUTING in Presbyterian Churches to teach and recognize religious values.

OUR MEMBERS:
Dedicated SCOUTERS who desire to see Scouting in all its forms grow as a program for Youth Ministry in our congregation.

OUR GOAL:
To have SCOUTING at every level for all ages up to age 21 in each and every Presbyterian Church; to have SCOUTING for all levels for the youth of our Church and our community; to have our membership available to help in the development of our youth in each and every congregation.

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Website Getting a New Look --- A new website look and updating is underway for NAPS. thanks to John DiSalvo, Elder at Park Lake Presbyterian Church in Orlando, who volunteered to take on the project with fellow elder and NAPS' Publications Secretary, Corb Sarchet. To view the work in progress, go to the test site www.johndisalvo.com. After it is updated, the site will revert to the NAPS domain name.

Philmont and Faith Experiences Combine at Relationships Meetings

Presbyterians interested in combining a Philmont experience with learning more about Scouting and its religious relationships are urged to attend the 2005 BSA Relationships Conference at the Philmont Training Center, Cimarron, NM, from August 7 to 13.

Several courses will be offered of interest to Presbyterians, explained Dave Richardson, BSA Relationships Division. The courses are attended by Scouters, lay members, and clergy.

The courses are “Religious Emblems for Youth and Adults,” “Scouting in the Church’s Ministry,” and “Scouting—A Homeschooling Resource.” A fourth course, “Membership/Relations,” also offered, is designed for council and district Scouters concerned with membership and religious relationships.

Plans are also being made for a special course at a later time especially for Presbyterian Scouters, laymen and clergy, as was held at Philmont in 2004.

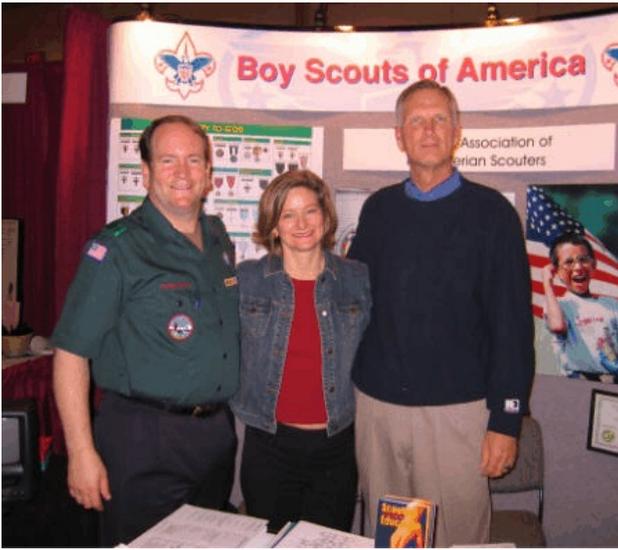


WHILE ADULTS LEARN, older youth can experience the beauty of Philmont’s many backcountry hiking trails.

“Conferences permit ample time for family activities, day hiking and other recreation,” reports Richardson. “There are staff-led programs for infants through adults which include hiking, tours to nearby points of interest such as Taos and Santa Fe, handicrafts, games, and outdoor activities—plus Cub Scout day camp, Boy Scout summer camp, and a backcountry Venturing program.”

Fees, which include all meals, lodging, and conference and program materials, are \$360 for the week for conferees, \$260 for spouses and children over 20; \$210 for ages 6-20; \$140 for ages 3-5; and \$50 for two and under.

More information on Philmont and its wide array of training courses for 2005 can be found at their website, www.scouting.org/philmont or by email to trainingcenter@philmontscoutranch.org.



Manning the Scouting Booth for NAPS and BSA at the ACPE conference were Scott and Kathleen Cummings, left, and David Richardson, BSA Relationships Division.

Greetings from Vancouver BC; NAPS Tells Its Story at ACPE

By P. Scott Cummings

It was a pleasure and a privilege to be "on message" with Dave Richardson, from National BSA Relationships Division, at the ACPE conference in Vancouver, BC, in February.

Kathleen and I have really enjoyed the experience. I had the opportunity to respond to the comments and questions of many folks - from teachers throughout rural America to the socio-political overlay brought by Princeton seminarians!

Frankly, the most frequent question I have heard went like "what can you do to help us revitalize our high school youth group" and other related concerns. When adding to that the frequent surprise expressed at learning about how Venture is for both sexes, and the Learning for Life curriculum begins with first grade (and includes the learning disabled, which is perhaps the biggest story - yet to be told - for APCE) - it tells me that NAPS could conduct a very dynamic and successful marketing campaign throughout the PCUSA.

Another element to consider for building the reach of NAPS (scope, depth and breadth - so-called "market penetration") is to utilize online discussion forum web log formats. Nothing increases participation like inviting folks into a

conversation. NAPS could easily put up a site doing these things,,market it nationwide using the internet (and some outreach to key managers of targeted lists of Presbyteries around the country, and by giving 'briefers' to press/communications coordinators as well), and provide a comprehensive 'Links' pages as referral/activation mechanisms to "Integrating Scouting Programs Into Your Existing Youth Ministries" with Learning for Life and Venture resources; "Beginning a Boy Scout Troop or Cub Scout Pack With Your Church as Charter Organization"; "Growing Your Troop or Pack's Size AND Quality"; and "Achievement and Recognition in One's Religious Duties - Lifelong Growth In Christ's Calling" about the awards/criteria/ordering, etc.

And finally, a page inviting 'tell us your stories' and 'send us your pictures' for NAPS' promotional use as well.

Given enough bandwidth, we can achieve this (and world peace), to paraphrase Bill Gates.

I feel a sense of urgency about this for a couple of reasons:

1- the sheer number of people (who knew nothing about about so many of these aspects of Scouting) attending this conference - if they are not getting that story from us - they 'sure as shooting' are not getting it from mainstream media.

2- Scouting has an awesome story to tell. It is fun to tell it, and many new friends are out there to join in the telling.

3-American society (and no matter how one feels about the election results) has in the wake of our recent presidential elections opened up in dramatic ways to the concepts of values. We need to leap into that breach. NAPS can (I am quite confident) completely change the paradigm of receptivity toward Scouting in important ways - but I can guarantee you that this portal will close as the next election cycle comes around. This means, at most, an eighteen month clock.

To take a look at a communication tool, check out this tool: <http://www.freeconferencecall.com>. Maybe we could chat about this sometime.

Yours in Scouting,

Scott



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

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

to assist Presbyterian congregations to become chartered partners with BSA
to assist local Councils in establishing units in Presbyterian churches
to foster individual religious growth of Presbyterian youth
to promote the use of unit Chaplains and Chaplain Aides
to support the chaplaincy program in summer camps
to encourage recognition of and to recognize Presbyterian clergy, laymen, and organizations for their contributions to youth and Scouting
and.....

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

We Welcome These New or Renewed NAPS Members!

Daniel Beebe, Nashport, OH
Donald S. Cleaver, Durham, Nc
Geoffrey S. Goll, Salem, OH
Rick Heath, Decatur, AL
Robert Hubble, Bucyrus, OH
Ben H. Love, Cedar Park, TX
Stephen J. Phelps, Hunntindon, TN
Reginia Schrecengost, Avonmore, PA

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Your Presbyterian Scouter
for April, 2005

TO: