



The Presbyterian Scouter



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Convent Relationship Accomplished; Fall Philmont Conference on Schedule

Here it is summer again. This spring has been a busy one. We have accomplished many things. Most notably



NAPS now has a covenant relationship with Presbyterian Men and I have been asked to put on a seminar at one of their regional conferences in the fall. Second I met with our representative from General Assembly and discussed our future relationship and Covenant with the PC(USA).

When the dust settles from the reorganization in Louisville NAPS and GA will generate a new Covenant. It was agreed that our current Covenant, although it expired April this year, will remain in effect until a new Covenant can be drafted and approved. I also attended the BSA National Meeting and the Religious Relations Meeting in Atlanta.

There has been some discussion about the Goal of \$8,000 to send Gene Foley to the World Jamboree this summer. Just to preclude any further questions about the amount of the Goal. The Goal was estimated by me. And was based on the following:

Payment to BSA\$	4,000.00	(This payment has been made)
Transportation	2,000.00	(Estimated, Gene must make his own arraignments. and will not benefit from the charter rates that some Councils have benefitted from.)
Local Transportation	1,000.00	(Estimated)
Unknown Expenses	1,000.00	(Estimated)
Total Estimated Expenses	\$8,000.	

I believe this is a prudent estimate based on the facts that we know. I can assure everyone that only actual expenses, documented by receipts, will be paid. If there is any overage and I doubt there will be any, will remain

in the Chaplains Fund. This fund is segregated from our General Expenses and is designated to support BSA Chaplains Activities, primarily at the High Adventure Bases.. Just as an update on the current status of the donations we have received just over \$4,000. Just as a reminder if you have not donated towards this fund there is still time to do so. .

I the past 3 months NAPS has recognized at least 6 new Eagle Scouts with both a personal letter from the President and a Certificate. Just as a reminder to all our member this service is available to all Presbyterian Scouts who attain the rank of Eagle. However, we cannot recognize these fine young men if we do not know about them.

The NAPS Fall Conference again will be held at Philmont Scout Training Center in Cimarron New Mexico. Which is located in the Sangre de Christo Mountains. The title of the Conference is "Forging a Link" between Scouting and the Presbyterian Church. In addition to 21/2 days of informative conference sessions. We will schedule a trip by 4 wheel drive to the back country and evening activities. As well as a chance to visit the historic Ville de Philmonte the Waite Phillips home and the St. James Hotel, the stopping off place for most of the worst characters in the lore of the West.

On a personal note in the past month I have made two trips to the hospital for heart problems. I am fine now by the grace of God and thanks to modern medicine, some great Doctors. I am now the proud owner of a pacemaker and like the Energizer Bunny running on battery power. (I have come to the conclusion hospital bed manufactures spend millions of dollars on research to figure out where to put the lumps to make the beds as uncomfortable as possible. If haven't tried one lately don't.) On that note, I wish you good Scouting

Yours in Scouting,

Wray

Just Another Boring Day in Paradise: Presbyterian Chaplain Reports from Sea Base Summer

NAPS Regional Director Gene Foley is busy this summer serving the Lord through Scouting. A 15-year veteran Sea Base Chaplain, Gene has again returned to the Florida Sea Base as solo chaplain for the summer. He serves more than 10,000 Scouts and leaders whose high adventure venue is the Florida Keys.



Despite Philmont's noteworthy geographic size, Sea Base aims to be larger by virtue of its use of the Atlantic Ocean as its venue. Gene's "parish" includes the Sea Base in Islamorada, Brinton Environmental Center exactly fifty miles further down the Overseas Highway on Summerland Key and Big Munson Island, which can only be reached by taking a boat ride of about six miles from the Brinton Center and wading ashore.

Gene's first chaplaincy for the Boy Scouts of America was at Sea Base in 1992. At that time, there was no chapel and services were held adjacent to the central "quad" where he often had to compete with volleyball for the attention of crews. In the fall of 1993, Gene returned to Islamorada to participate in the dedication of a beautiful chapel, built with the support of NAPS and fourteen other national religious scouting associations and committees.

Sea Base Chapel is located in a quiet corner of the property, looking out onto the harbor that is the center of the sailing and boating programs. Assorted sailing and diving boats are found here. The Florida Sea Base operates the largest private fleet in the Florida Keys.

Gene will schedule more than 100 chapel services during the summer season. Additionally he will meet with crews to talk about the Duty to God program, religious emblems programs, and the relationships that the Boy Scouts have with organizations like NAPS. He particularly enjoys offering prayers and blessings as boats depart from Sea Base and the deeper water port in Marathon where the larger sailing vessels are launched.



While every day is busy for Gene, Sundays are the busiest. In addition to early morning services at Sea Base, where the chapel is no longer large enough to allow seating for the participants and the launching of the tall ship *Heritage of Miami* from Marathon, he travels to Brinton Environmental Center and Big Munson Island for full-scale chapel services.

Big Munson Island supports ten to twelve crews whose week is spent on the uninhabited natural hammock island. There are no roads to Big Munson, so the chaplain gets a ride on one of the power boats kept at Brinton Environmental Center, or perhaps he shares a ride on a skiff delivering water and food to the island. Boats are not permitted to land at the island, so the chaplain wades the quarter-mile from the floating dock to the coral sand beach to conduct chapel services and visit the crews. Gene uses his best efforts to get back to Brinton Center before sunset. The reason is obvious.

Like Big Munson, the Brinton Environmental Center has no chapel, and the chaplain must make use of the campfire ring. As is the case with the Sea Base, chapel services are held on a remote point of land across the harbor from the busy program area.

The Florida Sea Base benefits greatly from the contributions of NAPS and other such organizations. In addition to supporting the building of Sea Base Chapel, NAPS has supported the Chaplain directly. In 2006, Chaplain Gene received travel support to and from Florida to serve as Florida Sea Base Chaplain. This year, Gene has received support for participating as the Protestant Chaplain for the Boy Scouts of America at the Jamboree which marks the centenary of world Scouting.

Gene describes our work succinctly, "Because of NAPS support, we are reaching thousands of youth with the Word of God... Our presence at the World Jamboree not only serves our own contingent, but shows the world that America is a place where many religions can stand side by side as we teach our youth respect for the world we live in, as well as for one another.

Individually, we are but drops of water in the ocean. Together, we are able to rise up from the depths and sound as thunder in praise of our Lord!

Triennium & Jamboree Draws Venturer Elder

By John Washburn

I'm a 17- year-old Eagle Scout, Presbyterian Elder at the Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA, and the Southern Region Boatswain (that's the equivalent of "President" in Sea Scouting) on my way to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and then to Jamboree.

The editor t asked me to write a few words about what I expect to be doing over the next four weeks, and then write a follow-up about my experiences for the next issue of the NAPS newsletter.

The Presbyterian Youth Triennium takes place every three years on the campus of Purdue University in Indiana.

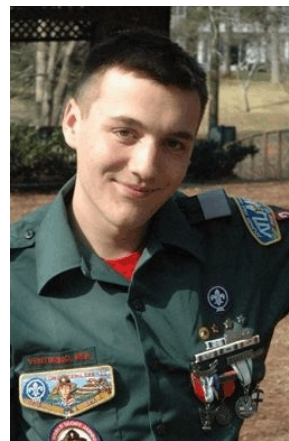
This year, 5,000 high school and college-age Presbyterians from Canada and the US, including both the PC(USA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, gathered to celebrate "Hope in Our Midst".

The schedule calls for Bible study, worship, small group discussions, fellowship and recreation, service projects, a seminary fair and an exhibit hall.

My passion is organizing Presbyterian youth who are interested in environmentalism, and the PC(USA) staff in Louisville have made it possible for me to set up a display in the exhibit "Hall of Hope".

This will feature information about Presbyterians Restoring Creation and trifold displays celebrating what Presbyterian youth are doing to offer hope to God's amazing creation. Scouting will be a big part of this because at least two of the projects were done for the BSA Hornaday Award, and one was a Girl Scout Gold Award Project.

I'll be home on Sunday evening, July 22, and early the next morning, I'll fly to Houston, TX, which is



the gateway city to the World Scout Jamboree for the Southern Region Venturing Crew.

Our crew met in Baton Rouge at the end of March to get to know one another and learn what to expect.

We're a great group with a lot of diversity and great advisors. One of the Jamboree traditions I'm looking forward to is the "swap": I'm going well prepared with a couple hundred patches and three different uniform shirts.

On August 1st, two Scouts from every nation will be ferried to Brown Sea Island, where Scouting started 100 years ago, to celebrate Scouting's future, and I've applied for that special opportunity.

I hope all of you get to participate in Scouting Sunrise events in your own Councils.

I know there will be lots of Scouts at Triennium, and Presbyterians at Jamboree who never have an opportunity to meet, so I'll be setting up Facebook groups where we can share our experiences and memories.

Maybe those will inspire a lot more Presbyterian Scouts and Scouters to attend Trienniums and World Jamborees in the future.

Yours brother in Christ,

John Washburn

WSJ Crew 231 Chief and SR Boatswain

Note: John is a Venture Silver Awardee, just finished a term on the Youth Council in the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, an Elder on the Presbytery's Committee on Outreach, and co-Chair the Caring for Creation Committee of the Presbytery.



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

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

to assist Presbyterian congregations to become chartered partners with BSA

to assist local Councils in establishing units in Presbyterian churches

to foster individual religious growth of Presbyterian youth

to promote the use of unit Chaplains and Chaplain Aides

to support the chaplaincy program in summer camps

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

and.....

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

We Welcome These New NAPS Members!

Jeffrey D. Wilson, 2725 Glen Point Circle, Richmond, VA 23233-6979

Billy Kelemen, 23 Maple Ave, Florida, NY 10921

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Your Presbyterian Scouter
for July-September 2007

TO: