Accepting the task of administering NAPS funds, Ft Worth businessman, Steve Baker will serve as the financial officer of the corporation, responsible for the custody of funds received and the disbursing of funds where authorized. He will submit a detailed financial statement of NAPS accounts biannually to the Board of Directors. Further, Steve will develop an annual budget to be approved by the Board of Directors, and carry out any other duties as may be assigned by the president.

[All new and renewed membership information will now go to Steve.]

As secretary, NAPS Sun Regional Director, Dr Liz Shelby will take notes of all called meetings of the association, Board of Directors and the Executive Committee; and will distribute minutes of these meetings to all members of the Board. She will maintain a file of the NAPS membership and give notice when membership fees are due. Liz will distribute a biannual report on membership to members of the Board. She will serve as the purchasing officer for the association, and is charged with carrying out any other duties as may be assigned by the president.

As secretary, Dr Shelby will hold custody of the NAPS corporate seal. She will also represent NAPS on the BSA Religious Relations Task Force.

Camille Travis, our new liaison with BSA Headquarters in Irving, made all the arrangements and facilitated the teleconference. This is not the first time Camille has worked with us. Some of you may have met her at the NAPS booth at the APCE (Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators) conference in San Jose a few months ago.

Camille has an extensive background in developing innovative programs and working with large groups, especially in scouting. Keeping up with our conferences, helping get the gear to the booth, and providing general background assistance have made Camille a vital member of the NAPS family. Because of her, the communication network functioned well for our initial foray into electronic meetings. We are delighted to welcome Camille officially and thank her.

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PAST PRESIDENTs (Permanent members of NAPS Executive Council)

– Eliot Kerlin, 1817 Ems Re. E., Fort Worth, TX 76116, 817-737-0730. efkerlin@flash.net

– Wray Johanning, 309 High Meadows Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011, 636-391-0734, wray-diana@mindspring.com

– Joseph A. Larrance, 3790 Maid Marion Ave, Traverse City, MI 49686 231-349-404, papa.joe@charter.net

– Eugene A. Foley, 301 SW Lincoln St., Apt. 906, Portland, OR 97201, Cell: 609-214-3162, or 505-225-5572, gfoley@cpcbsa.org

VICE-PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAM – Dr. Paul Deason: 4815 Agave Dr., Los Cruces, NM 88001, 505-524-9881, deasonp@zianet.com.

SECRETARY – Liz Shelby, 5604 Shoaleza Ct., Austin, TX 78756, 512-458-9889, scrubarun@austin.rr.com

TREASURER – Steve Baker, 5620 Charlott St, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 817-312-2855 napstreasurer1@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR / MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – Amanda Ballenger, PO Box 2097, Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29070 803-920-4061, napseditor@gmail.com.

WEBMASTER: David McMann, 2209 Hunter Drive, Anderson, SC 29625 864-933-7267, davidmcmann88@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN – Currently unfilled.

BSA RELIGIOUS RELATIONS TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVE for NAPS, Liz Shelby (see Secretary listing)

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

ALASKA-NORTHWEST –

COVENANT – LAKES AND PRAIRIES – Warren P. Kraft, 1625 Villa Park Dr., Oshkosh, WI 54904, 920-420-2019, warrenkraft@yahoo.com

LIVING WATERS – vacant

MID-AMERICA – vacant

MID-ATLANTIC – Chip Reinhardt, 17 Sanderling Ct., Durham, NC, 27713, 919-489-6858, rmlaw@nc.rr.com

NORTHEAST – Robert F. Schlegel, Jr., 4053 SE 39th Circle, Ocala, Florida, 34480-4954, 516-815-2816, rfschlegel45@cox.net

PACIFIC – ROCKY MOUNTAINS – Neal Humphrey, 3104 N 2400 E, Layton, Utah 84040. 801-510-3881 wpcrevNeal@icloud.com

SOUTH ATLANTIC – Ronald Kuebler, 6601 Eastbrook Rd., Columbia, SC 29206, 803-787-6889, linqualperfection@usa.net

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII – vacant

SOUTHWEST – Paul J. Deason, 4815 Agave Dr., Los Cruces, NM 88001, 505-524-9881, deasonp@zianet.com.

SUN – Liz Shelby, 5604 Shoaleza Ct., Austin, TX 78756, 512-458-9889, scrubarun@austin.rr.com

TRINITY – Rodney Keitt, 1611 Haworth St, Philadelphia, PA 19124, 215-264-7164, cazzy4944@aim.com or rdnern2@gmail.com.

NON-VOTING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

SECRETARY EMERITUS – Jack H. Schrimsher, 2401 NW 88th St., Kansas City, MO 64154, 8160-436-2409, jackschrim@aol.com

TREASURER EMERITUS – John “Rush” Hart, 2416 Ryan Place, Fort Worth, TX 76110, 817-924-0800, rushart@sbcglobal.net

EDITOR EMERITUS – Corb Sarchet, 107 Lake Darby Place, Gotha,FL 34734 407-297-8798 corbms3@bell south.net

NAPS WELCOMES NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS LISTED AS VACANT. PLEASE SEND INFORMATION TO PAUL DEASON.
Rada elected moderator of 221st General Assembly on first ballot

Heath Rada, a retired ruling elder who served the American Red Cross as CEO of the Greater Richmond chapter and president of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education, was elected moderator of the 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Saturday evening (June 14) on the first ballot.

Serving with him as vice moderator will be Larissa Kwong Abazia, Church of Forest Hills, a multicultural, multiethnic congregation in Queens, New York.

Rada received 52 percent, or 331, of the votes. John Wilkinson finished second with 157 votes (25 percent), while Kelly Allen was third with 143 votes (23 percent).

Gene Foley Retires As NAPS President

Gene joined Scouting in 1965 at the age of 12. In Troop 233 at the Willow Glen United Methodist Church in San Jose, California, he actively participated in their monthly campouts, attended summer camp in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and their annual backpacking trips into the Emigrant Basin Wilderness Area. He earned the Eagle rank, was elected by his troop to the position of Senior Patrol Leader and was honored as the troop’s Camper of the Year in 1969. He graduated from Junior Leader Instructor Training, attended the 1969 National Jamboree, served as a Den Chief for several years and was elected the first Chapter Chief of the Order of the Arrow in his district.

Upon turning 18, Gene began volunteering as an adult; initially serving as an Assistant Scoutmaster for his own troop, but also as an Assistant Cubmaster for an inner-city Cub Scout pack. When he traveled to college in Hartford, Connecticut, he immediately volunteered there with the local pack in Manchester. Since then, he has served in most unit positions in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturing, Exploring and Sea Scouts as he moved around the country in his profession.

Gene began his Scouting at the national level in 1992, working as a chaplain at the BSA Florida National High Adventure Sea Base in the Florida Keys. The following year he was the Chaplain Coordinator at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. In addition to his work and travel as President of the National Association of Presbyterian Scouters, he was a member of the Chaplaincy Committee of the Religious Relationships Task Force at the BSA National Council. He has served as chaplain at several National and World Jamborees, and was the preacher at the first chapel service for youth participants at the Bechtel Family Summit as the senior chaplain at the Jamboree Shakedown in 2012, and came back as a Chaplain Coordinator at the 2013 National Jamboree, responsible for Basecamp Foxtrot, which included the first co-education Venturing crews and the international contingents.

Gene has been honored several times by the volunteers he has worked with. He is the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award, District Award of Merit, the God and Service Award from the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Daniel Carter Beard Community Service Award, the Whitney Young Service Award, Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow, and others. He is also a Baden Powell Fellow, a James West Fellow, an Order of the Arrow Legacy Fellow and Heritage Society member. In recognition of his work with the Boy Scouts, he was inducted into the DeMolay Legion of Honor, and has been granted by the federal government’s President’s Call to Service Award for Lifetime Achievement.
THE TELECONFERENCE ALSO RE-ELECTED OTHER OFFICERS.

Amanda Ballenger remains Vice President of Membership and Communication. As such, she is required to assume the role of the president at any regular or called meeting of the corporation in the absence of both the president and vice-president for program. She will succeed to the office of president in the event the positions of president and vice-president of program both become vacant.

Currently, the role requires her to develop and implement programs to retain current members and add new ones, and work with other appropriate organizations to promote membership.

The role of Communications Director complements the Membership role, as the Director must serve as chairman of the Publications Committee, preparing and publishing a regular newsletter, as well as informational brochures, press releases, and similar items and documents promoting the organization and keeping members, Presbyterians, Scouts, Scouters, and the public informed of the organization, its ideals, goals and activities.

Additionally, the Communications Director shall prepare and submit articles for publication in church, Scouting and similar publications. Amanda is responsible for maintaining the NAPS web page, which she does as editor of the web site in close partnership with the very talented Webmaster

David McMann, a Silver Beaver who works internationally creating corporate IT systems.

Regional Directors reviewed in the last newsletters remain the same. However, NAPS would like to thank Northeast Director Bob Schlegel for his service as a Commissioner at the Detroit General Assembly this June.

Recruiting Advice from a Pro: Practical Help from Ask Andy.com

No matter where one goes in Scouting, the question of how to improve recruitment arises. Sometimes your editor is especially taken by one of the gems offered in that wonderful Scouters advice column, Ask Andy.com. If you haven’t tried it yet, here’s a free sample. (free subscriptions are available on the web.) Here’s a recent sample touching on the thorny, every-present issue of how to recruit when a leader has had a controlling interest to the point that recruiting new leaders is difficult. Most of us have been there and done that. Here is Andy’s “very useful take on that situation.

Sorry that the outgoing CC hadn’t trained his own successor in the past 2 years. He’s been “doing everything,” of course, because most likely he’s a lousy delegator. (Lousy delegators always use the rationale that “no one else is willing to step up,” when in fact they don’t want anyone to step up because then they won’t feel gloriously fulfilled and wholeheartedly needed.)

Here’s what to do, step-by-step...

1. On 5×7 index cards, write the positions in the pack that need to be filled for the coming year. Then buy some masking tape.

2. The present CC calls a mandatory meeting of all parents. (No children)

3. You, the CC, and your District Executive gather ahead of time. Before the meeting starts, you and the CC tape the index cards to the front wall, positions facing toward audience.

4. The CC starts meeting with introductions by name all around. He recognizes and thanks all pack leaders in past year or so, announces he’s moving on with his son, and now it’s time for “next generation” of pack leaders.

5. The CC points to cards and reads them one-by-one. He tells group these need to be filled right now. He uses a few sentences each to describe what each entails.

6. The CC waits. Nobody moves. CC tells ‘em: If you’re smart, you’ll get up here and grab a card first—that way, you get the job you want, instead of something you don’t want. Then he steps aside.

7. Folks finally “get the message” and take cards. As they do this, you record who took which cards, and then new CC calls for a leaders meeting next month on a specific date, time, and location (you already have this info in your hip pocket).

In the unlikely event that nobody gets the message, it’s time for the D.E. to step up and tell these parents what will happen to their sons if there are no volunteers for this pack to run. That’s it. Don’t be shy. It works if you believe it’s going to work.

Happy Scouting!
[And thanks to AskAndy.com for good advice and permissions]

Bradley Long, a PC(USA) Pastor from Virginia and a BSA Commissioner, recognized with a DSA from NOAC, joined in our first teleconference. Bradley is an advocate for all things scouting and a dedicated NAPS member.
RECOGNIZING LIFE MEMBERS OF NAPS:
A New Column Dedicated to our “Circle of Life” Members

Over the past year, some members of the Executive Committee and Directorate have spoken of the great work and support shared by our life members. The sacrifices and endurance, support and service of this group through NAPS, BSA, and other agencies have encouraged many of us to be and to do more ourselves. In light of all this, a new category has been created to celebrate those Life Members, those whom we are calling our “Circle of Life.” To honor our Life Members, it is hoped to publish news of some who stand out for their personal achievement and contributions. It is hoped that members will send in their stories or stories of other life members, celebrating lives lived to the glory of God and service to humanity.

It is very fitting that the first Life Member selected be a member who was provider of the monitors for the NAPS tent for the very first Jamboree held at the Summit Bechtel. We were in dire need of help in funds and equipment to provide a video program dealing with the Protestant Reformation. Because of his instant and extremely generous response to our immediate and crucial need for the first Summit Jamboree, Philip Pfeffer becomes the first chronicled member of our new “Circle of Life.” It also seemed appropriate as he has given much of his life and energy to the publication and distribution of the written word while seeking to serve the Living Word. Without more preamble, we present our Life Member, Philip M. Pfeffer:

Phil is President and CEO of Treemont Capital Inc., a private equity investment company with lead investment positions in companies engaged in several industries. The firm’s investments include a reverse logistics company where big box retailer customers’ returns are sold to end users thru brick and mortar and online retailing and wholesaling; single, multi-family and light commercial real estate development; and home décor manufacturing and outdoor furniture manufacturing and repair. Other investments include data analytics and reporting; genetics testing; oil exploration and development and micro-computer and tablet wholesaling and distribution.

Prior to his quasi retirement, he served as President and Chief Operating Officer, Director and member of the Executive Committee of Random House, Inc., headquartered in New York City, the world’s largest English-language book publisher until the very successful sale of the company to Bertelsmann A.G. The revenue and profits of Random House increased significantly during his tenure.

Prior to joining Random House, Phil served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Ingram Distribution Group Inc. headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee. Under Phil’s leadership, total revenue of the Ingram Distribution Group Inc. profitably grew from $36 million to $12 billion. Ingram Micro Inc. (NYSE: IM), one of the Ingram Distribution Group Inc. companies, is the largest worldwide distributor of microcomputer products and was taken public in 1996. Ingram Book Group, another Ingram Distribution Group company, is the largest wholesale distributor of trade books in the world, and Ingram Entertainment Inc. is the nation’s largest distributor of video games and theatrical DVDs.

The Ingrams Distribution Group Companies served more than 170,000 domestic and international accounts from 64 distribution centers. Under Phil’s leadership, the Ingram Distribution Group Inc., was twice awarded the Tennessee Governor’s Award of Excellence for service companies.

While at Ingram, Phil served as Executive Vice President and as a member of the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee of Ingram Industries, Inc. (the parent company of the Ingram Distribution Group). He continued to serve on the Board of Directors of Ingram Micro Inc., Santa Ana, California until his retirement in 2001. He now serves on several corporate and not-for-profit organization boards.

Additionally, Phil served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity Endowment and as Vice Chair for the Opportunity through Excellence Capital Campaign for Southern Illinois University.

He is a member of the Executive Boards of the Lincoln Heritage Council and the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America and is the Past-President of
the Shawnee Trails Council of the Boy Scouts of America serving Western Kentucky and Southern Illinois. Phil serves as a Regent for Life of the National Eagle Scout Association and on the Aquatics Task Force of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Phil also served as a member of the Southern Region National Eagle Scout Association Scholarship Selection Committee, as a member of the Executive Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Board of the YMCA of Middle Tennessee and as a member of the Board of the Leadership Nashville Alumni Association. Having participated as a member of the Young Presidents’ Organization (YPO), Phil currently serves as Moderator of the Memphis-One Forum.

His most cherished honors include being presented the Silver Antelope Award by the Boy Scouts of America and recognized as a Distinguished Eagle Scout. He received the National Distinguished Service Award of the Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity; the Southern Illinois University Distinguished Alumni Award; the Benjamin Gomez Award for Distinguished Contributions to the U.S. Publishing Industry and the Silver Beaver Award from the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He is the Eagle Scout Class of 2013 Honoree for the Middle Tennessee Council.

He also received The Cliff Dochterman Award, the Scouting Service Award for Rotarians, the 2007 YMCA Volunteer of the Year Award (YMCA Strong Award) with his wife, Pam, and with Pam the 2008 Humanitarian Award from Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity. He was presented the National Water Safety Congress Letter of Commendation in recognition of his contributions to aquatics-related youth education and safety. He is a Paul Harris Fellow in The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. He was named Entrepreneur of the Year by Lipscomb University in Nashville.

He received his Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Chemistry in 1965 and his Master of Arts in Economics in 1966 from Southern Illinois University. Phil completed postgraduate studies in Economics at Vanderbilt University as a National Science Foundation Fellow, and holds an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Southern Illinois University, 1997. Phil and his wife Pam are recipients of

Southern Illinois University Distinguished Service Award.

Phil is a U.S. Coast Guard licensed Captain commissioned in the United States Merchant Marine and has received Master designation. He and his wife are members of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Phil and his wife Pam have been married for 49 years and they have three sons, three daughter-in-laws and six grandchildren (located in London, UK; Nashville, TN and Palo Alto, CA). They are founding members of Christ Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Nashville. Pam and Phil currently reside in St. Petersburg, Florida, Nashville, Tennessee and Silverthorne, Colorado.

**Editor’s Note:** We congratulate Phil Pfeffer on a distinguished career and his commitment to scouting. NAPS is pleased to have this opportunity to highlight the Pfeffer’s contributions to God, church, NAPS and scouting. We look forward to highlighting others in the Circle of Life, those who committed to a NAPS’ Life Membership. We depend on such commitment to uphold the role of faith in scouting and to represent those of Presbyterian/Reformed tradition in scouting. Recommendations for future honorees may be sent to: Editor, PO Box 2097, Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29070.

A Working Relationship: Covenant/Lakes and Praries

Regional Director Warren Kraft Brings Home the Bacon

Actually, Warren is in role of commissary director, hauling a mil crate of ground beef patties for the participants’ lunch at NYLT.

Kraft is a commissioned lay pastor assigned to the Melnick (WI) Presbyterian Church, serving as chaplain in a variety of summer camp settings. Although commissary director for the Bay-Lakes Council Youth, he also serves as chaplain to the 35-member staff and 84 participants in mid-June.

After summer camp with his home troop at Many Point Scout Camp, Warren returned to chaplain at Twin Lake Scout Reservation near Waupaca, WI, conducting twice weekly services a the Webelos Resident Camp.

Warren was recently named Lead Chaplain for the 2015 National Order of the Arrow Conference at Michigan State Univ.
State College, Pa:  
2013 Report from Troop 32

Troop 32 has been continuously chartered by the State College Presbyterian Church since 1914. We have just completed our 99th year and are eagerly making plans to celebrate our 100th year in the near future. The Troop is currently comprised of 46 scouts, 13 parents participating as committee members, and 14 adults actively serving as Assistant Scoutmasters. This past year was another very successful year of scouting as our troop continued to grow and be very active.

The Troop participated in 14 camping activities during 2012 accumulating nearly 1,100 total nights of camping. The troop participated in both short and long term camping events during which we visited several BSA camps including Goose Pond (Poconos), Mountain Run (Pennfield), Anderson (Tyrone), Bashore (Harrisburg) and Butler (Cleveland OH). Most recently the troop went on high adventure trip to Florida.

A total of 32 Scouts and 5 adults attended a week long summer camp at Camp Merz in Mayville NY. The Troop’s program this year also included backpacking on the Old Loggers Path near Williamsport and the Chuck Keiper Trail East Loop in Sproul State Forest as well as camping at Ricketts Glen State Park, the Juniata Valley Council Spring Camporee at Bald Eagle State Park, putt’s Landing on Raystown Lake, Prince Gallitzin State Park and Beauty Run Camp (Snow Shoe).

One highlight of the year was the three day trek completing the East Loop of the Chuck Keiper trail north of Snow Shoe. This is one of the most challenging hiking trails in Pennsylvania. Another highlight this year was our Honors Trip to Cleveland which included tours of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Cleveland Toboggan Chute and the Football Hall of Fame. The Honors Trip is an annual event open to scouts who have achieved First Class rank and have a minimum of 10 hours of community service during the year. Twenty scouts along with 5 adults made the trip to Cleveland.

Each year the troop has an outstanding record of service to the community and this year was no exception. In 2013, 10 different service projects were supported by the troop and every scout participated in at least one service project. Several of the service projects were in direct support of the Presbyterian Church. Each spring and fall the Troop holds workdays to help maintain the church grounds. In total the scouts provided 600 hours of community service in 2012. This total does not include another 188 hours contributed by adult leaders.

The Troop is proud of the outdoor skills, knowledge and achievements demonstrated by the scouts. The scouts earned 52 rank advancements, 217 merit badges in 2013. Eight scouts earned scouting’s highest award during the year, the rank of Eagle Scout bringing the total number of Troop 32 Eagle Scouts to 160. We have several scouts who are on their last steps to earning Eagle, and many Life Scouts who are working on this significant rank advancement. The Troop is blessed with outstanding adult leadership. These adults devote much time and effort to providing the Scouts with an outstanding and varied array of programs. All of our adult assistant scoutmasters have attended training and are certified as leaders.

The members of Troop 32 are very grateful to the State College Presbyterian Church for its support. With the congregation’s continued support, the Troop Committee and Scoutmasters of Troop 32 will continue to lead a program of activities that will allow the scouts to explore leadership and to grow and develop as responsible young men. I would welcome any member of the congregation to contact me with questions or concerns, or to attend a meeting. We meet each Thursday evening at 7:30 in the Westminster Room.

Report by Ted Graef, Scoutmaster
Pictures supplied by Karl Reichard
2014 Scout Sunday. Purity Presbyterian Church, Chester SC.

Troop 182 from the Presbyterian Church, Palatine, Scout Sunday Feb. 9.

It was a wonderful worship service!

**K.t. Ockels**
Thanks to Rev. Rob Warren at Meadowview Presbyterian Church in Louisville, KY for having such a great service for Scouting Sunday. Troop and Pack 108 thank you!

**Stephen Phelps**
Scout Sunday was observed Feb 9 at First Presbyterian Church, Huntingdon, Tennessee. Troop 73 participated in the service, and the message was delivered by Assistant Scoutmaster Mark Jones, a ministerial student at Memphis Theological Seminary. Minister Arthur L. Lodge enjoyed a well-deserved break.

**Margaret Ann Snow**
One reason I am happy to be a Presbyterian is that when the congregation is having communion, and finds the bread to accidentally be garlic bread, no one became unglued about it. True story.

**Important Note from Kurt Pleim:**

Friends, after almost three years of praying and waiting, I was ordained this last Sunday as a teaching Elder in the PCUSA! Just wanted to share the good news. I am hoping to get a troop started in the church that has called me as their pastor.

[Note from the Editor: Kurt was one of our most active Chaplain’s at the first Jamboree at Summit Bechtel. Congratulations, Kurt! We think they are blessed!]

**Scout Sunday at First Presbyterian Church of Anderson, SC**
- Picture 2 supplied by Webmaster David McMann

********************************************
14 Year old Eagle Scout Daniel Bolan is Recipient of the Orange County, Florida’s Citizen of the Year

[Ed. Note: On April 28, Keith Hastedt added a Baden-Powell quote to the NAPS Facebook page;]

Expect a great deal of your Patrol Leaders and nine times out of ten they will play up to your expectation; but if you are going always to nurse them and not to trust them to do things well, you will never get them to do anything on their own initiative. (1910)

This quote ties in beautifully with the achievement of a 14 year old Eagle Scout from Orange County, Florida.

In 2012, Daniel Bolan of the Central Florida Council became the top seller of camp cards and won a ride to school in a race car driven by NASCAR’s Scott Lagasse Jr! Obviously, the event recognized a hard-working scout and was a major support for the next year’s sales, as well as a most attractive lure for more youth to scouting.

Not to rest on his laurels, now 14 year old Daniel saw a urgent need for community healing and cooperation and set to work,

As reported on the Central Florida Council Website: “On June 18, 2013 following a year of planning, recruiting volunteers, acquiring materials and donations, Eagle Scout Daniel Bolan completed his Eagle Scout Service project by dedicating "Mercy Garden" in one of the most challenging communities in Central Florida along Mercy Drive.

This Eagle project brought a diverse population from the African American, Hispanic and Caucasian communities together, working hand in hand to create a rallying point in a neighborhood where dealing of drugs and violent acts are common everyday occurrences. By bringing the community together in a peaceful environment, the garden is intended to stem the senseless acts of violence in the community by honoring those who have in the past died as a result of that violence.

The dramatic scope of this project resulted from donations of cash, materials and services valued and more than $52,000.00. At the dedication ceremony, attended by more than eighty people, including public safety officers, political and community leaders, Daniel recognized the volunteers who contributed 687 hours to take "Mercy Garden" from the vision of a young Scout to reality. The impact of this project was recognized at a recent Board of County Commissioners meeting where Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs presented Daniel the 2013 Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award." NAPS Salutes Daniel Chris & Becky Bolan, parents and models for this exceptional scout. Former NAPS President Eliot Kerlin found this story.

For more background on the Mercy Garden past history:
COLUMBIA, SC –
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN SCOUTS

“A Scout is Cheerful:

Laughter and broad smiles fill the dining room at Camp Barstow when Troop 330’s Boy Scouts stop eating and start talking. That is typical of this band of Scouts who exemplify that “a Scout is cheerful.”

The boys range in age from 11 to 16 years old, but you couldn’t tell it from the way they all equally enjoy the conversation. It’s a special relationship that every troop aspires to but doesn’t have. Credit that to the boy leaders and their scoutmasters. Scoutmasters Rick Wilson and Frank Williams often are right in the middle of the fun. Mr. Wilson says “It helps to be the oldest kids in the group.”

The troop is sponsored by Westminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, where Pastor George T. Head and numerous others who are dedicated to Scouting have made sure that the Scouting program continues to flourish. Westminster has sponsored a Boy Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack for more than 50 years.

Westminster foreshadowed the need for Faith-Based Scouting long before the current movement began. When the church was founded in 1961, one of its very first missions was to establish a Boy Scout Troop. Cub Scouts soon followed and the Scouting program at Westminster has never looked back.

The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are treasured assets of the church, participating in church work days, running the Haunted Chapel and other booths at the Fall Carnival, preparing church suppers, and, among other things, performing Eagle projects that improve the church’s facilities and grounds.

The troop has a long list of Eagle Scouts, including the Scoutmaster’s son, Rob Wilson, who received his Eagle award in 2006, making him the third generation of Eagle Scouts in the family. In fact, the day before the troop left for summer camp, they attended an Eagle Scout ceremony at the church for Austin Williams, Mr. Williams’ eldest son.

One of the current Scouts in position to become an Eagle is Life Scout Solomon Goodwin. Solomon is the Senior Patrol Leader, the ranking boy leader in the troop. Two years ago Solomon was the Boy Scout chosen to represent all other Boy Scouts in America in presenting the BSA’s Annual Report to the Nation in 2012. Solomon, along with the representatives of Cub Scouting, Exploring, Venturing, and Sea Scouting, met the President, Supreme Court, Members of Congress, and cabinet heads of the federal government. Solomon represented his fellow Boy Scouts with honor and distinction.

Troop 330 has a rack full of Spirit Sticks from summer camps in the past. Spirit Sticks are a Boy Scout tradition recognizing the troop that shows the most Scout Spirit during the week of summer camp. Its Scouts have been to Philmont, BSA’s flagship high adventure camp in New Mexico. They also have attended many of the National Scout Jamborees held since 1964.

Westminster’s Unit Committee is led by Henry Sinclair. The unit’s yearly program plan, approved by the Committee, includes at least one major activity every month. Activities like campouts, hikes, and summer camp, as well as participating in service projects for the church and community during the year.

Cheerful service is a cornerstone of Scouting as well as Christian servant leadership, so Westminster’s Scouts are regular volunteers at numerous events, learning to put their words into action.

“One step towards happiness is to make yourself healthy and strong while you are a boy, so that you can be useful and so can enjoy life when you are a man.” — Baden-Powell
Earlier this year, our NAPS President (seen here with a participant) worked with Camille Travis of BSA at APCE in San Jose, CA. Thanks for “holding the fort” for us there!

During General Assembly in Detroit, the booth across from that of NAPS was PC(USA)’s Austin College of Sherman, Texas. The college’s mascot is a kangaroo. Carey Anne Meyer-LaSor thought it amusing and snapped this photo when Gene Foley faced off with their “Fighting ‘Roo.” Gene reports large turnouts and many parents with Eagle fledglings stopping by to exchange greetings and information.

Scott earned his Bronze Award, Religious, recently and is now working on his Gold ward. He is greeting and collecting the offering on 1st Sundays of each month to meet some requirements for Gold Award at the Nancy Freeman Stringer Chapel, Methodist Oaks Retirement Community, in Orangeburg, SC. Scott notes they celebrate their second anniversary as Venture Crew 6 on July 31. Congratulations!

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church  Pleasant Hill, CA

God and Life, Four Star Award/God and Service Adult Award
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church held their Scout Sunday service February 9, 2014. Awards presented included 5 God & Life, 4 of which are also Four Star recipients, and 1 God & Service adult award.

Pictured left to right: John Fenoglio (Mt. Diablo Silverado Council Scout Executive and member of PRAY National Board of Directors), Reverend Wendy Komori-Stager (Associate Pastor at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church), James M. (BSA Troop 444), Alana C. (BSA Crew 444 & GSUSA Troop #31578), Brandon C. (BSA Troop 444), Claire M. (BSA Crew 444), Emily A. (GSUSA Troop #30478), and Courtney Mizutani (PRAY Counselor, BSA Leader) Thanks to PRAY and Courtney, a prized NAPS member.

Boy Scout Troop 111 Memorial Day Flag placement.
Brandon Cemetery - Cranberry, PA. May 24th, 2014.
Submitted by David Smude

K.t. Ockels wrote at thanks to their minister on our Facebook page: here it is for all of us:

Thanks to Rev. Rob Warren at Meadowview Presbyterian Church in Louisville, KY for having such a great service for Scouting Sunday. Troop and Pack 108 thank you!

(How nice to see ministers who work with scouts recognized! Those who want to thank ministers/staff: ever thought of adding a Celtic Cross for next year?)

And for fun, from the Happy to be a Presbyterian Website: “Someone has to say it--once upon a time, the legend goes, someone chastised a Presbyterian elder by saying, "The Presbyterian Church is cold and dead!!" The elder rose the occasion and said, "That MAY be, but if it is, we got that way decently and in order!!!!"
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

National Association of Presbyterian Scouters [NAPS]

By completing this application, I agree youth are a mission field and a barely tapped reservoir of hope, faith, and strength, living and serving among us. As a NAPS member, I pledge my support to our scouts and to my fellow Scouters. As a Scouter, I will initiate action and respond to opportunities for service through the church’s network of believers and through Scouting. I will uphold the Boy Scout oath and serve as example of Boy Scout Law.

Print Name: ___________________________ Cell phone: ___________________ Home phone: ___________________________

Address: _____________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________ Scout or Youth Affiliation: ________________________________

Church and Address: ________________________________ Council Name: ______________________________

Check items that apply: New Member _____ Renewal membership ____. Check items that apply: Associate Membership ($15) _____ Annual membership ($25) _____ Five Year Membership ($100) _____ Ten Year Membership ($200) _____ Life Membership ($450) _____ Extra Patch: $5 ____ Lapel pins ($10)