



LUTHERAN SCOUTING

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 3

WWW.NLAS.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2018

NLAS Election Results and Installation of Officers 2018

NLAS is pleased to announce the results of the election of officers to serve on the 2018-2020 executive board. The newly elected officers are:

- Wendy Cibils – President-Elect**
- Wayne Stuckey – Secretary**
- Phill Lawonn – Treasurer**
- Rev Dana Narring – Member-at-Large**
- Loren Meinke – Member-at-Large**

Along with President-Elect Matthew Rogahn, the new officers were installed at the NLAS Annual Meeting at Philmont Training Center on Monday, July 16.

NLAS thanks Robert Moreno, membership chairman, for conducting the election. Thank you to all the members who voted. A special thanks to the Scouts of Troop 106, chartered to Christ the King Lutheran Church in New Brighton, MN, for their assistance in tallying the votes!

NLAS is truly blessed to be served by these dedicated and talented individuals. Welcome to the new Board officers!



Pictured left:
Wayne Stuckey passes the gavel to Incoming NLAS President Matthew Rogahn

Pictured right:
NLAS executive board members at PTC: Matthew Rogahn, President; Wayne Stuckey, Secretary; Loren Meinke, Member-at-Large; Pr. Sherman Martell, NLAS Head Chaplain



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

THERE IS A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING!

As I sit here in my office penning (typing) this missive for the NLAS news letter I am watching a female Downy Woodpecker feeding one of its young. As I look further out into my mini-prairie back yard I see Grackles doing the same with their young as well as the dreaded invasive European Starlings - all taking care of their offspring.

I'm sure they don't know why they do it other than a baby bird flapping its wings with an open mouth and fussing makes them want to stuff something in the gaping hole to shut them up! That, however, might not be a totally accurate summation of their reasons. But we have baby squirrels, baby rabbits and little racoons all rummaging around in our back yard looking for free food, free for them anyway!

It is that time of the year! It a time for everything!

I love the Book of Ecclesiastes. The 3rd Chapter is that great series of "Time for Everything," lists. "Time to be born time to die, time to weep and a time to laugh."

My wife and I recently attended the funeral of a friend our age. The service was in the Lutheran Church. The pastor gave a marvelous sermon basically saying there is a time for everything under the sun and thanks be to God through our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that when our friend's time came, he died in that faith.

I scan the obituary column in our daily paper every morning to see if I'm in it...just kidding, but I find an increasing number of people whose "time had come" being born in the same decade as me - the 1940s!

I also find my high school classmates turning up in the obit column with increased frequency - it's sad. But then I remember 5 of my high school classmates, Vietnam veterans, who will forever be 19. My wife's cousin lies in France and has laid there since 1944. That's really sad.

And yet babies are born every day - birds, animals and humans. When you stop and contemplate it, the whole world seems to be one big revolving door - dead going out one door, those born coming in the other and what you do in the between time - called life - is the deal breaker that decides which door of death you go out in - Heaven or Hell.

Since predestination is not a Lutheran doctrine we must rely on the words and promises of a man whom we've never seen; someone that no one alive has actually seen. A man who came from the stars and said He was God and if we believed that He was God He would forgive us of our sins and when it's our time to go through the door of death, He'd be waiting on the other side to take us into His world.

Reputedly one of the brightest men in the world, Steven Hawking, died recently. He didn't believe in God, didn't believe that Jesus was his Savior. He received a knighthood (OBE) from the Queen of England and the Presidential Medal of Freedom from the President of the USA yet the Bible says that the wisdom of man is foolishness to God. To quote Mr. Hawking, "There is no heaven or afterlife...that is a fairy story for people afraid of the dark."

I'm not afraid of the dark because Jesus is my light. I'm not nearly as smart as Hawking and I don't see the world like he did but I see life and I've seen death and I found life in the death of one Man - Jesus. I find it so sad that non-believers with mental and physical pain will carry that pain a hundredfold into eternity simply because they do not believe the promise of Jesus.

As the great hymn of Michael Joncas 'On Eagles' Wings' says, "He will raise us up on Eagles' wings, make us to shine like the sun!" Those who deny Christ don't shine like the sun they only see the dark hole of hell...oddly enough 'black holes' in space was something Hawking was a world authority on.

The NLAS's mission and creed is to proclaim the simple childlike truth to all youth who participate in our Church's youth programs - and to even the most educated among us. "From the lips of children." And all God's people said AMEN!

Chaplain James Hoke, NLAS Member since 1982

President's Wayne Stuckey's Report to the NLAS Annual Meeting

07.16.18



The focus for NLAS over the past year has been on relationships – renewing and strengthening old relationships and establishing new ones.

E-newsletters: data mining for Lutheran charter partners. P.R.A.Y. assisted in pulling email addresses for top unit leaders registered with Lutheran chartered organizations from the charter roster provided by BSA. We have sent three joint NLAS-PRAY e-newsletters. Response has been very successful. We introduced NLAS to many BSA leaders, and increased awareness of the religious emblems program for Lutheran youth and of the Scouting in the Lutheran Church conference.

BSA National Scout Jamboree: NLAS had a witnessing exhibit in the Duty to God and Country area of the 2017 BSA National Scout Jamboree. Over 6000 knot crosses were tied and gifted during the Jamboree. In addition to the exhibit, we showed the video "Reformation Rock" by Lost and Found (from the LCMS 2016 National Youth Gathering) during Protestant worship. The video was followed by an "introduction" by NLAS Head Lutheran Chaplain Rev Sherman Martell and Eagle Scout Zachary Rogahn.

GS-USA: Matthew and Kristin Rogahn attended the National Interfaith Committee for Girl Scouting at the GS-USA conference in Columbus, OH on October 6, 2017. The conference was organized by Deb Hazelwood of P.R.A.Y. and hosted by GS-USA Professional Jennifer Allebach, Vice President of Girl Experience. Also attending was GS-USA National Volunteer Rev Carol Rahn, Faith Engagement Team Lead, and representatives from the Buddhist, Catholic, Jewish, and United Methodist relationships committees.

American Heritage Girls: I was privileged to

attend the American Heritage Girls AGH-Inspire leader conference June 7-9, 2018 in St. Louis-Chesterfield, MO along with Matthew and Kristin Rogahn and Rev Mark Kiessling, Director of Youth Ministries for LCMS. The NLAS exhibit promoted the Lutheran religious emblems, troop and adult leader recognitions, and taught the tying of knot crosses to AHG leaders. Many wanted to take the skill back to their units to teach their senior girls, who will pass it along as a faith lesson to the younger girls in their troops.

Scouting in the Lutheran Church: NLAS presented the Scouting in the Lutheran Church conference at Philmont Training Center during week of July 15-21, 2018. The conference is designed for Lutheran congregations, schools, clergy, and all Lutheran Scouters who want to learn more about using Scouting as an outreach ministry to young people and their families and how to employ the religious emblems program to encourage growth of faith in youth.

World Scout Jamboree: The 2019 World Scout Jamboree will be held at The Summit on 22 July – 2 August 2019. The Jamboree is being run by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). Three NLAS board members are serving on the host International Service Team. Reid Christopherson is Jamboree IST Commissioner for the Central Region. Pastor Sherman Martell is coordinating worship services. Pastor Rick Egtvedt is a chaplain.

Lutheran worship at National Jamboree: On September 19, I sent the NLAS Jamboree Worship Resolution to Paul Moffat, chairman of the NRRC. The resolution expresses the desire of the NLAS to provide a liturgical Lutheran worship experience for the youth and adults of the 2021 National Jamboree and beyond. Paul responded that the request is fair and allowed. The only hurdle between now and then is determining the location and facility at the Summit. About 2,100 scouts identified themselves as Lutheran on their 2017 Jamboree registration. NLAS should address this again as soon as discussions begin on Jamboree 2021 chaplains and wor

ship space & time.

BSA affirms importance of Duty to God:

The BSA National Executive Board adopted a resolution affirming the importance of Duty to God in the BSA. The resolution states that the commitment of the organization to Duty to God is unwavering and reaffirms its unequivocal commitment to the Declaration of Religious Principle as a fundamental component of the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

Local Lutheran Scouting Associations:

We continue to have mixed results in developing ties with local Lutheran Scouting Associations (LSAs). Local LSA's remain an important part of the fabric of support for Scouting in the Lutheran Church. The local LSA's are "hands and feet" that carry out priorities shared with the NLAS. While they are not part of the NLAS organization (since 1994), they are vitally important to promoting common goals at the local level. We could use suggestions on how to connect with and support them. What more can NLAS do for the local LSA's?

Recognition of Trent and Terri Christian:

NLAS recognized Trent and Terri Christian for long and impactful service to the NLAS on February 11, 2018. The Rev Joe Warnke read and presented to Trent and Terri certificates of Life membership in NLAS at a special service at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Griffin, GA. They were also presented NLAS Life member belt buckles. NLAS thanks Robert Moreno for taking over the responsibilities of membership chair and for conducting the NLAS election of officers. NLAS thanks Pam Ciccarello for assuming duties as layout editor and publisher of *Lutheran Scouting*.

I have truly enjoyed my service as President of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting. I enjoyed the challenge of renewing and establishing relationships with our historic youth serving partners, and in introducing our organization and its mission to more adult leaders. These challenges have not been fully addressed. Initiatives so far have had little impact on increasing NLAS

However, I am confident in the ability and determination of the new executive board to continue ministering to young people in the name of our national church partners through our youth serving agencies.

We are truly blessed to be served by these dedicated, talented individuals. I look forward to working with them.



In Memoriam

NLAS was saddened to learn of the passing of long time member Paul Kubica, Jr. of Albuquerque, NM.

Paul received the St. George award in 1982 and the Lutheran Lamb in 1998. He attended the Scouting in the Lutheran Church course at PTC in 1988 and the 1989 National Scout Jamboree. Paul was retired and a member of Faith Lutheran Church (LCMC) in Albuquerque.

NLAS extends condolences to friends and family. Go in the peace of Christ.

**A Tale of Two Cities
(and Two Meetings):
BSA National Annual Meeting
and AHGInspire leader conference**

By Wayne Stuckey

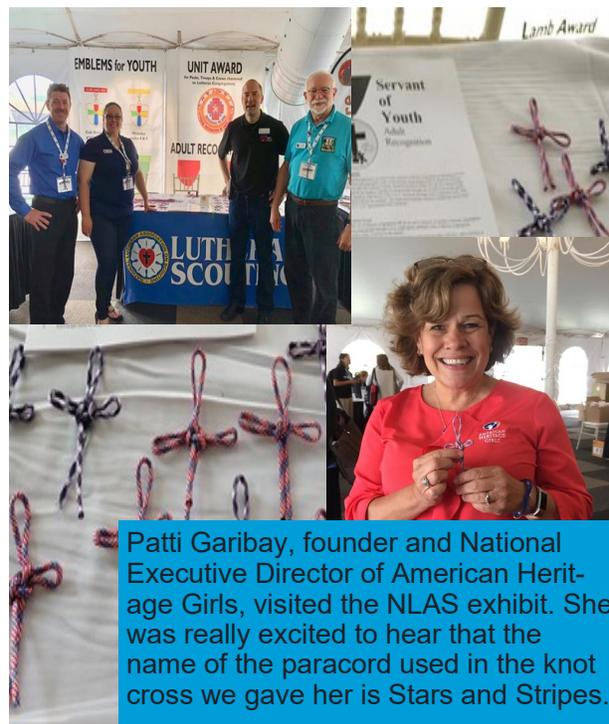
I was privileged to attend the **BSA National Annual Meeting (NAM)** in Dallas, TX, 22-25 May 2018 as representative from NLAS to the BSA National Committee, Religious Relationships Support Committee (NRRC). A prominent message that we heard during the NAM is that BSA is finished with major membership changes and “we are in execute mode.” Paul Moffat, chairman of the NRRC, read a draft statement affirming the importance of Duty to God in the BSA and saying the commitment of the organization to Duty to God is unwavering. The BSA National Executive Board adopted this resolution reaffirming its unequivocal commitment to the Declaration of Religious Principle as a fundamental component of the mission of the Boy Scouts of America. Randall Stevenson, outgoing national chairman said “The Scout Oath begins with Duty to God. Everything else flows from that. If Duty to God were ever to be removed, then the rest of the Scout Oath is open to debate.”

Randall Stevenson gave an address on family scouting. BSA is changing to serve families in an evolving cultural market but we will never compromise on our mission and core values. The important thing to remember is that admitting girls to Scouting is not a mandate. It is an opportunity to engage girls in Scouting and the decision to set up girl troops and girl dens is up to the chartering organization. In some places in the Cub Scout pilot program, there was addition of one new boy who was never part of Cub Scouting for every 2-3 girls admitted to the program (reaching out to family). Child development studies show that in the Cub Scout and 11-13 years age group, boys and girls develop best in same sex environments. That is how family scouting is set up. BSA is not abandoning its commitment to the development of boys. “We mass produce leaders of character.”

In the National Committee meeting, two new members were elected to the National Key 3. **Jim Turley**, the former chairman and CEO of Ernst & Young and a 25-year Scouting volunteer, was elected national chair. **Ellie Morrison**, an assistant Scoutmaster from Waco, TX who has developed proven methods for creating and growing Scouting units, was elected national commissioner. With Chief Scout Executive

Mike Surbaugh, Turley and Morrison form the National Key 3.

I was also privileged to attend the **American Heritage Girls AGHInspire** leader conference June 7-9 in St. Louis-Chesterfield, MO along with Matthew Rogahn and Kristin Rogahn and Rev Mark Kiessling, Director of Youth Ministries for LCMS (and LCMS representative to the NLAS Board). NLAS set up an exhibit to promote the Lutheran religious emblems and to teach the tying of knot crosses to AHG leaders. Tying knot crosses is a skill they can take back to their units and teach to their senior girls who can pass it along as a faith lesson to the younger girls in their troops. We passed out Lutheran religious emblems fliers from P.R.A.Y., AHG Lutheran Recognition of Excellence (for troops), Lamb and Servant of Youth applications (to recognize leaders), and NLAS applications/ information sheets. It was a blessing to interact with AHG leaders. We delivered the message that the Lutheran religious emblems are those administered through P.R.A.Y. The religious emblems program offered through P.R.A.Y. has been reviewed and approved by the national Lutheran church bodies. It receives Lutheran recognition because it involves conversations and interviews with the youth's pastor, and the pastor signs off the final requirements. Some pastors prefer to instruct the whole course while others may delegate instruction to trusted instructors.



Patti Garibay, founder and National Executive Director of American Heritage Girls, visited the NLAS exhibit. She was really excited to hear that the name of the paracord used in the knot cross we gave her is Stars and Stripes.

Closing of the Glacier's Edge-Sinnissippi Lutheran Scouters group

NLAS was saddened to receive the following note from the long-serving and faithful members in the Glacier's Edge-Sinnissippi Lutheran Scouters group:

*In celebrating the 500 year anniversary of Martin Luther and all of the Christian understanding and belief that has transpired over the centuries, part of that development was the spawning of major LUTHERAN involvement in the Boy Scouting program, and the importance of being **reverent**, and encouraging the boys (and families) with their spiritual growth. The Glacier's Edge-Sinnissippi Lutheran Scouters group has unfortunately decided to dissolve, thus ending a proud and valuable organization that had served thousands of youth and adults since beginning in **1978**, actually pre-dating the N.L.A.S.!*

*Our purpose has been about providing a chaplain at summer camp for cub / boy scouts, and promoting Religious Emblems Awards. We celebrate the fact that our efforts have truly benefited thousands with helping them become "Prepared for Life" with regard to having a **Duty to God**. We have seen some local scouts grow to be professional Lutheran Pastors, as well as many others volunteer to serve as troop or camp chaplain for a week or longer. Lutheran Scouters has helped with the Boy Scout ideal of building character and virtue within the hearts of young men.*

Of note – member Phil "Doc" Selgren

mitment to the program has been greatly appreciated. Orv Collins, Dick Rindfleisch, Bob Hornby & Bob Schendel also have had long-time membership.

As our group in Southern Wisconsin dissolves, we pray that all other Lutheran Scouter groups continue being active and strong in their regions.

Additional Closings – Hawk Mountain Council and LSA of Maryland

Within the past few weeks we have also received notice of the closing of the Lutheran Religious Relationships Committee of the Hawk Mountain Council and the Lutheran Scouters Association of Maryland. The Hawk Mountain Council sent a generous donation from the final distribution of the Lutheran Religious Relationships Committee's funds which are greatly appreciated. We will use these funds to promote outreach into the community by our Lutheran charter partners, and to foster growth of faith in youth and their families.

Local Lutheran Scouter Associations (LSA's) remain an important part of the fabric of support for Scouting in the Lutheran Church. The local LSA's are "hands and feet" that carry out priorities shared with the NLAS. While they are not part of the NLAS organization (since 1994), they are vitally important to promoting common goals at the local level. NLAS truly welcomes and appreciates the contributions of faithful members of the LSAs nationwide and encourages Lutheran Scouters to participate in or establish local Lutheran Scouter Associations.





President's Perspective

A few thoughts:
Past, Present, Future

Matthew Rogahn, NLAS President

As the Rogahns piled out of the family's 1977 Chevy Monte Carlo at Philmont Training Center in 1981, little did I realize that it was the beginning of my Boy Scout years spanning some four decades. Along the way three factors shaped who and what I am: my Christian faith, my family, and the Boy Scouts of America.

At the just completed 2018 Lutheran Conference on Scouting, a well-seasoned Scouter mentioned, "As far as uniform square knots are concerned, I look for the three at the bottom: Youth Religious Growth Emblem, Eagle Rank, and Adult Religious Recognition. The rest above follow from the three that are the foundation." It is my hope and prayer to continue to build on that foundation as President of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting.

Doing so means endeavoring to fill some mighty 'big shoes' which began with Ron Adolphi in 1979 through Wayne Stuckey, our most recent Past President. As NLAS faces some real challenges and great opportunities, I need to call on all members to help me and the executive board to cover the following important goals which continue and strengthen the current focus of NLAS:

- Enhance relationships with youth serving agencies including Girl Scouts, American Heritage Girls, Camp Fire, 4-H, and others.
- Strengthen relationships with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and with some of the other 40 Lutheran Synods/Groups.
- Continue to have effective presence, mission, and ministry at National Jamborees.
- Continue event booths at ELCA and LCMS youth gatherings AND establish booths at GSUSA and AHG conferences.
- Expand NLAS membership, participation and opportunities.

I also ask you to join me in a little Bible study of the mission and ministry outreach of Jesus. Please take some time to consider His approach to those often-considered outsiders in need of His care as in John 4: 1-30; AND His directive to His saving presence to all ages including the very young as in Mark 10: 13-16.

Together we continue, grow, and share!
Blessings!

Send NLAS News Items

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is **October 22, 2018**. Send Association and other news for the Lutheran Scouting newsletter to Pam Ciccarello at eaglesnest0810@att.net.

Please include

- 'NLAS' in the subject line
 - be certain to spell out acronyms
 - provide city/state/council
- for events, be sure to include the date.
Photos are welcome.



A Publication of National Lutheran Association on Scouting

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We are a resource for youth and adults who wish to know more about the religious emblems program, endorsed by the Lutheran Churches for members of Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA, American Heritage Girls, 4H and Camp Fire USA.

NLAS Mission

To equip Lutherans and other Christians to minister to young people, using the programs of our partner youth serving agencies.

NLAS Vision

That all young people and their families are exposed to Jesus Christ and have an opportunity to know him as Lord and Savior

The mission and visions statements were accepted by the NLAS Executive Board on October 12th, 2002