



Flights



A Quarterly Update from the Eagle Scout Alumni Association of the Patriots' Path Council

1st Quarter 2008

IN THIS ISSUE

Our Most Senior Eagle
A Tribute to Steve Fossett
Eagle Class of 2007
Eagle Scout Hall of Fame



Honoring Our Most Senior Eagle

Beginnings:

Robert Schmieder joined Troop 25 - Elmwood Presbyterian Church, in East Orange, NJ., at age 12 in 1931. He had no idea he was embarking on an amazing 77 years of scouting and a long-standing career of service to his community. He has the distinct and distinguished honor of being the Patriots' Path Council's "Most Senior Eagle".

His first Scoutmaster was Raymond Hellman. Robert never forgot what his Scoutmaster told him. "He talked to me about the rudiments of scouting and how it would help me develop into what I could be." "I've lived with it all my life." Hellmann also said, "When you wear the uniform, wear it properly." Schmieder proudly says, "I bought my original uniform from Gelman's Dept Store...I still have it and it still fits."

Eagle Scout in the 1930's:

Bob attained his Eagle rank in 1937 and reflects on how projects have changed since he was a young Scout. His grandfather was a Woodworking Merit Badge counselor, so naturally his project had something to do with construction. Bob made a schematic of a bench table. When completed, his grandfather put the bench to the test; he stood and jumped on it and said "I think it will last." "My mom, who lived to age 98, put plants on it in her garden ...it lasted a while."

His Board of Review (BOR) was held at the Montville Church in Lincoln Park, NJ. When Bob does BOR's, he thinks it's important to ask a Scout more than just a repeat of what he did to meet rank, but to ask: "What can you do with what you learned?"

Adulthood:

Robert was later drafted into the Army Air Corp (now called the Air Force) and was stationed in England as a sergeant. Robert and his brother, as he puts it, were both fortunate to return from the war "without a scratch". When he returned, he got a job working at a Kresge Department Store in Newark, NJ, where he met a very nice girl, named Flo; they married and settled in Pompton Plains, NJ., and started raising three children.



Robert and Flo Schmieder

Outstanding Service to Scouting:

When Bob first joined Scouts, there were no Cub Packs in his town. This was surely on his mind when he started a Cub Pack in Pompton Plains, where he was the Cub master. There were about 100 kids, as it was the only Cub Pack in the area. From there, he went on to have almost

Honoring Our Most Senior Eagle (cont'd)

every job in scouting, including Advancement Chair, District Training Chairman, and over 15 years as a Commissioner for Special Scouting (formerly, Handicap Scouting). Fred Stokes, the Camping Chairman, recruited him after he retired from the Commissioner job. "This is the assignment I got the most out of and so did Flo; she did the job also." "It was so nice to see the happy faces of those kids." "I learned three things from them: patience, understanding, and being helpful." "You'd be surprised what children can do when you show them these things...it's mind-boggling." Once there was a Cub Scout, who according to his teachers, would never say a word. For three years, I would give him an assignment and he'd do it. Then one day, he said "Bob, how come you're talking so much?" From then, he never stopped talking. "I will never forget that day...it changed my life. I loved working with those kids because it made me realize how fortunate I am that my children were healthy."

Recognition: At his home, Bob has a wall full of awards and recognitions for his service to Scouting. Of note, he is the recipient of the Council's Whitney M. Young Award (1994) for his work with kids.

His wife, Flo, stood with him throughout his years of community and Scouting activity that took him away 2-3 nights a week while raising three children. "She never ever complained, always asking 'everything go ok tonight?'" Bob says, "You can't beat that kind of family support from your wife....It helped me enjoy every minute of Scouting and we've had 60 years of marital bliss because of her."

Lessons to Learn from the "Most Senior Eagle": When asked what does it mean to be an Eagle Scout, Bob replied, "There are certain things you have to live by. You are a human being in this world and you must live accordingly...it's a big responsibility." Robert also has strong beliefs in the spiritual aspects of scouting—"Do your duty to God" and "A Scout is reverent".

And finally, what scouting has meant to Robert Schmieder: "It's been the most wonderful time of my life. I've met so many wonderful people from Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers." "I hope the good Lord gives me more time to enjoy with the Scouts." We here at Patriots' Path Council, hope so too.

Steve Fossett: A Tribute

On Labor Day, this past September, what should have been a short, simple trip in a single-engine plane, possibly could have been the recently appointed NESA president's final flight. World-record holder and distinguished Eagle Scout, Steve Fossett



has been lost and not found by extensive, exhaustive searching in the deserts and mountains of Nevada and surrounding areas.

With a head for business and a heart for adventure, he excelled at every endeavor and would always reflect on his scouting experiences as playing a major role in developing his leadership abilities.

"The words of my Scoutmaster...have never left me, and I think about him whenever I take on a new challenge. His presence is always with me in those quiet moments of reflection and thanks."
— NESA President Steve Fossett. *

New Eagle Scouts of 2007**

First Name	Last Name	Troop	Dst.	First Name	Last Name	Troop	Dst.
Michael	Barbone	54	BR	Steven	Manelski	555	BR
Thomas	Barth	159	BR	Thomas	Mannion	165	BR
Seth	Brittle	156	BR	Daniel	Mariani	118	BR
Mark	Buryk	9	BR	Brian	McAvoy	50	BR
Kyle	Dickerson	67	BR	Dane	Mellan	50	BR
Trevor	Donahue	9	BR	Joseph	Monka	17	BR
Michael	Dour	50	BR	Nicholas	Muccia	166	BR
Craig	Draghi	236	BR	Matthew	Noll	160	BR
Eric	Draghi	236	BR	Jay	Patel	113	BR
Eric	Eevardi	312	BR	David	Pavlos	118	BR
Harold	Fahrer	118	BR	Thomas	Perini	50	BR
Ian	Forrester	436	BR	Adam	Persak	54	BR
Paul	Fourounjian	17	BR	Alexander	Petrakis	50	BR
Matthew	Gelsinger	236	BR	David	Pieper	351	BR
Nicholas	Grawehr	17	BR	Geoffrey	Preston	1	BR
Douglas	Gromek	1	BR	Christopher	Robinson	67	BR
Gregory	Hatcher	236	BR	Aaron	Rubenstein	166	BR
Christopher	Hendricks	236	BR	Ryan	Shello	436	BR
Matthew	Hunold	436	BR	Benjamin	Sobine	351	BR
Michael	Kannaley	145	BR	Andrew	Stevens	159	BR
David	Kent	236	BR	Michael	Strand	163	BR
Scott	Kern	351	BR	Michael	Tango	50	BR
Patrick	Knapp	555	BR	Nicholas	Tepfenhart, Jr.	236	BR
Christopher	Knapp	555	BR	Adam	Westenberger	50	BR
Justin	Knapp	555	BR	Matthew	Wiegand	1	BR
Vincent	Leone	118	BR	William	Willersdorf	109	BR
William	Ludlow II	54	BR	Derek	Zambon	351	BR
Erik	Mandeen	351	BR	Gerard	Bifulco	144	FW

* Source: EAGLETTER, Journal of the National Eagle Association Winter 2007, "From the Director", C William Steele; "NESA President Missing in Nevada" by Mark Ray.

** Eagle Scouts (March—December 2007); January—February Eagles were listed in the 1Q2007 issue of Flights. BR =Black River; FW =Fishawack; M=Munsee; RV=Raritan Valley; S= Sussex; WM=Watchung Mtn.

Eagle Scout Hall of Fame Recipients

Hal Daume - Eagle Class of 1957: Hal is married and the father of six (one an Eagle Scout), with two grandchildren (one Tiger Cub-to-be!). He is a managing partner of Inter-National Consulting Group LLC. Hal has staffed council JLT courses, NJLTC at Schiff, NJLIC at Philmont, and Powder Horn. In addition to Eagle, he earned the Explorer Silver and Silver Beaver Awards. He is a James E. West Fellow and NESA and PPC-ESAA life member.

Rich Mager - Eagle Class of 1958: Rich is a father of four and a retired teacher, having served the education system for 38 years. He currently is the Assistant Manager for the Cranford Pool & Fitness Center and is a Red Cross lifeguard and water safety Instructor. He has served as Camp Winnebago's Waterfront Director for 39 years and served on the Winnebago Camp Staff for 48 years! This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Rich receiving his Eagle Scout rank and he'll tell you, "it doesn't get any better than this."

Carl Moritz - Eagle Class of 1961: Carl started Scouting as Cub Scout in 1953 with Pack 4 of Saint Cloud School, West Orange, then Troop 4 and Post 4. He earned a B.S. degree in Forest Management from West Virginia University and his Masters Certificate in Public Administration at Rutgers. Carl and his wife, Teddy have two sons, Kurt and Ken, both Eagle Scouts, and they are proud new grandparents of their first grandchild, Justus Moritz. Carl is Director of Camping/Properties and Reservation Director at Camp Winnebago. He is an OA Vigil member, a James E. West Fellow, and recipient of the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver Award.



Dennis Toft - Eagle Class of 1971: Dennis is married to Dr. Maria Toft and is the father of five. Two of their sons are Eagle Scouts. He is a partner with Wolff & Samson, PC and has also served on several boards, including a Trustee for the NJ Chapter of the National Association of Industrial & Office Properties (NAIOP), the NJ State Bar Association – Environmental Law, the National Brownfield Association, and our own Patriots' Path Council Board of Trustees. Dennis is a James E. West Fellow and a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award.

Jeff Knapp - Eagle Class of 1974: Born in Elizabeth, NJ, Jeff worked his way through Rutgers College and Law School. He and his wife, Deborah founded The Knapp Law Firm in 1989; they have four sons, three are Eagles and one on his way. Jeff has co-authored several books, helped produce "The Ultimate Gift" movie, and lectures frequently for NJ ICLE. As a Patriots' Path Council volunteer, Jeff has served as Eagle Alumni Assoc. President, Chairman of Friends of Scouting, was on the Endowment Committee and is an Executive Board member.

New Eagle Scouts of 2007 (cont'd)

Joshua	Bingham	41	FW	Alexander	Sugrue	28	FW	Sean	Brooks	154	RV
Kyle	Bolo	41	FW	Francois	Vandame	41	FW	James	Bruno	46	RV
Andrew	Brown	277	FW	Daniel	Vohden	28	FW	Ian	Burton	89	RV
Frank	Coppola	74	FW	Nicholas	Almeida	101	M	David	Champignon	41	RV
Louis	D'Agosto	74	FW	Manuel	Almeida	101	M	Randy	Coddington	1776	RV
Daniel	DeBernardi	277	FW	Michael	Aneson	330	M	Richard	Conforti	185	RV
Jesse	Garbarino	173	FW	Nicholas	Battaglia	23	M	Michael	DeCasperis	186	RV
Michael	Hamfeldt	34	FW	Joseph	Cooney	80	M	Saahil	Dhawan	154	RV
Peter	Hoagland	8	FW	Joseph	Cowper	63	M	David	Dobrowolski	1776	RV
James	Hogan	7	FW	Mark	Cunha	101	M	Matthew	Driscoll	154	RV
Eric	Hsieh	20	FW	Andrew	Deweever	75	M	Alexander	Dundon	186	RV
Alexander	Irwin	74	FW	Michael	Dziedzic	65	M	Garrett	Eckardt	84	RV
Sean	Kennedy	7	FW	Patrick	Ernst	75	M	Gregory	Francfort	1776	RV
Alexander	Lohn	144	FW	Michael	Esteves	101	M	Michael	George	324	RV
Stephen	Martis	20	FW	Kevin	Fagan	178	M	E. Michael	Gosselin	603	RV
Christopher	McGuire	74	FW	Robert	Falco	80	M	Daniel	Guarente	95	RV
Thomas	McHugh	39	FW	Brian	Fiallo	23	M	Wayne	Hampton, Jr.	154	RV
Douglas	Morse	4	FW	Kevin	Judd	145	M	Jonathan	Hanlon	20	RV
Matthew	Mudd	212	FW	Michael	Kilroy	80	M	Charles	Jaeger	148	RV
Joseph	Naeem	69	FW	Matthew	Kohen	145	M	Garrett	Joyal	83	RV
Eric	Nordfors	69	FW	Marc	Linger	80	M	Matthew	Klein	46	RV
Adam	Orzechowski	277	FW	Michael	McKeown	145	M	Alex	Kulick	154	RV
Justin	Pagano	74	FW	Timothy	Moore	85	M	Michael	Leicht	41	RV
Alexander	Ravera	121	FW	Michael	Patricco	69	M	Aneesh	Mattoo	185	RV
Kevin	Reisch	1	FW	Frank	Pauling	49	M	Thomas	Matus	83	RV
Joseph	Ross	74	FW	Richard	Piatkowski	75	M	Collin	Maxwell	186	RV
Jordan	Sass	8	FW	Carlos	Plazas, Jr.	23	M	Lawrence	Miller II	29	RV
Richard	Soni	74	FW	Anthony	Raffaele	63	M	Michael	Mills	154	RV
				Alex	Venancio	101	M				

New Eagle Scouts of 2007 (cont'd)

William	Mills III	129	RV
Steven	Mueller	1776	RV
Thomas	Nesbitt	88	RV
Jonathon	Pelter	1776	RV
Nicholas	Perna	186	RV
David	Petrozziello	185	RV
Omar	Rodriguez	125	RV
Brian	Rosenberg	89	RV
John	Schulz	99	RV
David	Sorensen	129	RV
James	Stark	83	RV
John Lee	Swenson	185	RV
Jonathan	Sydlo	185	RV
Christopher	Varga	41	RV
Matthew	Dotten	67	S
Michael	Fanelli	191	S
Edwin	Andrews	82	S
William	Bartling	82	S
Joseph	Capozzoli	389	S
Edward	Conrads, Jr.	81	S
Matthew	Cooke	389	S
John-Paul	Couce	184	S
Antonio	Del Valle	180	S
Erik	Denison	81	S
Anthony	Flores	283	S
Michael	Galley	150	S
Robert	Gerdes	85	S
Talon	Hogan	91	S
Dean	Horacek	81	S
David	Hutsebaut	283	S
Willis	Jones	151	S
Matthew	Kleine	283	S

Jack	Marron	276	S
Benjamin	Martin	97	S
Matthew	McGarva	97	S
Brendan	McNeilly	91	S
Nicholas	Meliti	150	S
Brendan	O'Leary	150	S
Derek	Owen	82	S
Glenn	Parker	82	S
Aaron	Piomontesi	91	S
Frank	Raso	276	S
William	Schultz	283	S
Thomas	Suplicki	482	S
Brendan	Taylor	96	S
Devin	Vogel	912	S
Homer	Wanamaker, Jr.	83	S
Johnathan	Weiss	153	S
Dillon	White	82	S
Aaron	Bauer	1	WM
John	Brady	1	WM
Matthew	Brown	32	WM
Marc	Campasano	368	WM
Christopher	Casserly	33	WM
Matthew	Ciarrocca	79	WM
Michael	Cirrotti	1	WM
Eric	Courtney	79	WM
Thomas	DeJianne	177	WM
Peter	DeJianne	177	WM
Paul	Dunham	73	WM
Phillip	Efthimion	32	WM
Vincent	Fitzpatrick	77	WM
David	Helsabeck III	1	WM
Kevin	Honold	67	WM

Matthew	Jekelis	273	WM
Alexander	Kuhn	104	WM
Robert	Leeper	33	WM
Matthew	Libassi	63	WM
Richard	Lipman	368	WM
Andrew	Lucid	63	WM
Justin	Miko	228	WM
Nicholas	Mozer	59	WM
William	Oliver	203	WM
Daniel	Parrott	17	WM
Mathew	Riedinger	32	WM
Charles	Ringel	104	WM
Andrew	Roberson	1	WM
Joseph	Rodgers	368	WM
Matthew	Scharpf	79	WM
Nicholas	Sommo	1	WM
Francis	Suh	32	WM
Sean	Sullivan	72	WM
John	Taylor	72	WM
Jake	Thraen	63	WM
Richard	Toft	68	WM
Joshua	Whelan	228	WM
Timothy	Yeskoo	67	WM

There were 295 Eagles in the Class of 2007. Congratulations to you all!

Eric Kastango, ESAA President



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