

NAPS News

Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship
"Northumberland is going to grow. Let's help it grow with order and beauty."

Spring 2017

Volume 26 Issue 2



Welcome to the Spring 2017 Edition of NAPS News.

Here's what happened this season, but first, please mark your calendar:

The Annual NAPS Social is Saturday, October 14 at the Bay Quarter Shores Community Club House.

Eco-Tour Expands > > >

NAPS Awards Five Scholarships. At the 2017 Northumberland High School Senior Recognition ceremony, NAPS President Mike Ahart awarded \$500 scholarships to five graduates.

NAPS Annual Fall Social is October 14. The highlight of the event is the award of the 2017 Distinguished Citizen Award.

Greg Leaves on a High Note. Just days before leaving Northumberland County, Dr. Greg Haugan, NAPS Board member, received a County Supervisor's resolution honoring his service to the county.

Mystery at Spring Highway Sweep. The ever-faithful NAPS volunteers cleaned up Route 200.

NAPS Takes Part in Kilmarnock Climate Awareness March. More than 160 people, including many NAPS members, walked a little over one mile down Main Street.

Spring 2017 Financial/Member Report. New Treasurer Roger Gruben delivers the numbers.

Team Poseidon Goes to SeaPerch Nationals. For the second year in a row, the Northumberland Middle School was represented at the National SeaPerch Challenge in Atlanta.

Going Solar? Go Co-op. Residents of the Northern Neck are forming a co-op with the help of the Virginia Solar United Neighborhoods (VASUN).

Out and About with NAPS. NAPS set up stands at various venues this spring.

NAPS Calendar.

Memo from Mike. NAPS President discusses changes in the website.

NAPS Officers and Board Members.

To keep up with NAPS on a regular basis, check out our website: www.napsva.org.

— Jay Walker, Editor

ECOLOGY

Eco-Tour Expands

By Shauna McCranie

With an additional feature and careful timing, the student Eco-Tour June 8 funded by NAPS was doubled. A group of forty Northumberland Elementary School 5th graders took the tour that included a ride aboard the Kitt II, Danny Crabbe's deadrise boat and an on-shore visit to the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. The students were divided into two groups of 20, so that while one group was on the boat the other was at the museum and then they switched places.

On the Eco-Tour of Cockrell's Creek the students pulled their own pots and visited Cockrell's Seafood where they sampled some crab claws. At Omega Protein they learned about the menhaden industry and walked the historic streets of Reedville on the way to the Fishermen's Museum.

The 5th graders found that learning about the ecology of the Bay and history of Reedville as a fishing port could be fun.



On board the Kitt II deadrise boat, Capt. Danny Crabbe showed the students how to pull their own pots.



They sampled crab claws at Cockrell's Seafood.



The Eco-Tour included a visit to Reedville Fishermen's Museum, including a replica of Capt. John Smith's boat that he used to explore the Bay.



NAPS President Mike Ahart presents scholarships to (from left) Jada Noel, Macey Augst, Lexy Newsome, and Kaitlyn Haynie. Not pictured in the photo was David Henning, who had to be at his job.

EDUCATION

NAPS Awards Five Scholarships

By Myrtle Phillips

At the 2017 Northumberland High School Senior Recognition ceremony, June 1, NAPS President Mike Ahart awarded \$500 scholarships to five graduates. They were Macey Augst, Kaitlyn Haynie, David Henning, Lexy Newsome, and Jada Noel.

Selection of the awards this year was very close, because of the high quality of the applicants – a dilemma that we expected from the class of 2017. The process begins with the scholarship application forms. School guidance counselors work with the seniors to fill out the forms and to prepare for interviews conducted by NAPS representatives Myrtle and Don Phillips and Martha Tal-

ent. The interviews focus on high school grades, extra-curricular activities, college interests, and community service. These seniors were very relaxed and well-prepared at the interviews.

The NAPS committee was very pleased with all of the applicants. We only wish that NAPS had more money to support more graduates.

Members can help support NAPS Scholarships by contributing to the NAPS Endowment. Just mark your check “Scholarships” and the treasurer will allocate it to the proper account. Make the check payable to NAPS and mail to P.O. Box 567, Heathsville, VA 22473. The Endowment currently totals \$19,669.43.

SAVE THE DATE

NAPS Annual Fall Social is October 14

The NAPS Annual Fall Social is set for Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Bay Quarter Shores Community Club House.

The highlight of the event is the award of the 2017 NAPS Distinguished Citizen Award. NAPS is currently accepting nominations for this year’s award. The award honors an individual, team, organization, or business that advances NAPS’ goals.

These goals include improving water quality of the Bay, preserving the county’s rural atmosphere, monitoring land use policies, encouraging economic growth and cooperating with others through educational programs to target these goals.

Dinner will follow the presentation. Appetizers, drinks, chicken dinner with homemade sides, and dessert (NAPS signature ice cream sundaes) are all yours for only \$15 per person.

As always, in our volunteer-supported

organization, we need all the help we can get. While the chicken will be catered, side dishes contributed by YOU would be most appreciated. We also need help with set-up and clean-up. To do your part, please contact Janice Mahoney at 580-3154 or email to veraville@yahoo.com.

The venue, with water view, is perfect for indoor/outdoor entertaining. Bay Quarter Shores Clubhouse is reached from Rt. 360 in Claraville. NAPS members will receive a formal invitation with a form to fill out and a return envelope.

ENERGY

Going Solar? Go Co-Op

The success of the recently formed Middle Peninsula Solar Co-op (MPSC) has prompted residents in the Northern Neck to form their own solar co-op with the help of the Virginia Solar United Neighborhoods (VASUN).

The main reason for joining a co-op is cost savings. Members get approximately a 15% to 20% bulk-buy discount in addition to a federal tax credit (currently 30%).

To get started, please send an email to Aaron at VASUN (aaron@vasun.org) to let them know that you are interested in a Northern Neck Solar Co-op. You can go to www.vasun.org for more information and to sign up for its newsletter.

Some home or business owners like a back-up battery option, but most go with “net metering” whereby any extra electricity generated by their panels goes onto the grid and the meter runs backward.

NAPS Calendar

NAPS Board meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at Northumberland Elementary School (NES) starting at 4 p.m., during the school year. Meetings in June, July, and August will be at the Union First Market Bank on Rt. 360 in Burgess, starting at 9 a.m.

Jul. 11, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 9 a.m.

Aug. 8, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 9 a.m.

Sept. 12, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, NES at 4 p.m.

Oct. 10, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, NES at 4 p.m.

Oct. 14, Sat. NAPS Annual Social and Distinguished Citizen Award

Nov. 14, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, NES at 4 p.m.

Dec. 12, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, NES at 4 p.m.

Jan. 9, Tue. NAPS Board Meeting, NES at 4 p.m.

Greg Leaves on a High Note



On April 6, just days before packing up to leave Northumberland County, Dr. Greg Haugan attended the County Board of Supervisors meeting to receive "A Resolution Honoring Gregory T. Haugan," reproduced here. Greg thanked the Supervisors and there followed a cordial farewell conversation.



A RESOLUTION HONORING GREGORY T. HAUGAN

WHEREAS; Dr. Gregory Haugan received his BSME from the Illinois Institute of Technology, his MBA from St. Louis University, and his Ph.D. from the American University, and

WHEREAS; Dr. Gregory Haugan has worked with both the private and public sectors specializing in project management consulting and training course development as well as having written many books on these subjects and is Vice President of GLH Incorporated, an international consulting company, and

WHEREAS; Dr. Gregory Haugan has been appointed to Congressman Rob Wittman's Environmental Advisory Council, and

WHEREAS; Dr. Gregory Haugan has been active in the Northumberland community by serving on the Northumberland Public Library Board, the local YMCA Board, the Northumberland Association of Progressive Stewardship (NAPS) Board, and leading courses at the Rappahannock Institute for Lifelong Learning to just name a few, and

WHEREAS; the same Dr. Gregory Haugan has volunteered countless hours of his time aiding Northumberland County with the expansion of the County's two sewer plants, preparing an after action analysis for Hurricane Isabel for the County, and aided in the updating of the Comprehensive Plan as well as the Zoning Ordinance, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Board of Supervisors, with the support of the citizens of Northumberland County, hereby expresses its deepest appreciation and gratitude for Dr. Gregory Haugan's interest and love for this County, and wishes him much happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will hereby be presented to Dr. Haugan, this day, April 6, 2017.

Adopted: April 6, 2017

CLEAN-UP

Mystery at Spring Highway Sweep

By Janice Mahoney

The ever-faithful NAPS volunteers cleaned up Route 200 between Wicomico

Church and Tipers Bridge on April 18th. It was a lovely day and the weather cooperated.

start. She gave the crew a much-needed sugar surge that got us going.



Highway clean-up volunteers were from left, Martha Talent, Charles Smith, Bill Estell, Roger Gruben, John Henbest, Sandy Henbest, and Mike Ahart. Not pictured: Alice and Don Imbur and Janice Mahoney.

The mystery was the remains of a campsite discovered by Team 3, Bill Estell, Mike Ahart, and Roger Gruben. Yes, there was a sleeping bag, tent stakes, cooking equipment, a tarp, etc..., strewn along the road. Bill, Mike, and Roger worked up a sweat gathering this mess. We guessed that someone was either a very careless camper or decided never to camp again and discarded the equipment.

Special thanks goes to Susan Christopher who provided coffee and sweets in the fellowship hall of the Episcopal Church before the 10:30 a.m.

NAPS MEMBERSHIP REPORT - 2017

The table presents the current membership status versus 2016 as reflected in the numbers of paid-up members this year to date.

Membership Level	2017 Paid	2016
Business	1	4
Family	47	61
Individual	23	29
Patron	4	6
Sustaining	21	23
Student	1	1
Total	97	124

ENVIRONMENT

NAPS Takes Part in Kilmarnock Climate Awareness March

By Roger Gruben

More than 160 people, including many NAPS members, walked a little over a mile down Main Street in Kilmarnock, waving signs and chatting with spectators during the April 29 March for Climate Awareness. This local march was a sister to the People's Climate Movement march in D.C. on the same date, and drew participants from across the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula.

The Kilmarnock march grew out of a conversation at a local Citizen's Climate Lobby meeting. Jeff Wainscott, Bonnie Wilson, Judy Lang, and Bette Gruben discussed the possibility of hiring a bus to carry people from the Northern Neck to D.C. for the People's Climate Movement march. When Judy Lang couldn't find a bus for that weekend, the group decided to organize their own local event.



Wearing a NAPS tee-shirt, long-time NAPS member Dr. Lynton Land spoke to the marchers at Grace Church about the important supporters of climate change action.



Leaving Peebles, marchers carried "positive message" signs and got encouragement from passing cars and local merchants.

There was no single, formal sponsor. Instead, the organizers promoted the Kilmarnock march through their personal relationships within organizations such as NAPS, the Citizens Climate Lobby, Indivisible, the Northern Neck Native Plant Society, the Audubon Society, and the Wetlands Project. They also created a Facebook page and posted announcements on web sites operated by the People's Climate Movement, the Action Network, Organizing for Action, and others. The march eventually gained momentum in the community, with small groups independently making their own plans for participation.

The march started at the Peebles parking lot. Many people brought their own signs. Some brought extras. Very nearly everyone brought positive attitudes, reflecting a principle expressed by the organizers in the newspaper ad for the event: "bring homemade sign with positive message (what you are for rather than what or who you are against)."

It was a non-partisan, non-denominational, pro-Earth event. Throughout the march, passing drivers honked and waved to show their support. Some shop owners came out to offer encouraging words as the group ambled down Main Street.

The march ended in the parking lot of Grace Episcopal Church, where several people chose to speak to the crowd.

Art Gilbert read a welcoming and supportive statement from Reverend David May, the rector of Grace Church. Lynton Land, Judy Lang, Maureen Fairbrother, and Bette Gruben also spoke to the marchers to highlight scientific data and personal experiences, and to encourage climate activism and personal action.

NAPS FINANCIAL REPORT - 2017

This Spring 2017 report updates the one provided in the Winter 2017 NAPS News dated 25 February 2017.

As of 3 June 2017, we had \$4,266 in the checking account and our net position for the year was -\$34.30. Significant expenses contributing to the change in net include \$2,500 paid in scholarships to Northumberland graduating seniors. We also covered some expenses for the SeaPerch and virtual reality programs, and bought a ¼ page ad in the Chamber of Commerce 2017 Guidebook.

We have collected another \$1,964 in dues since the previous report.

We have made no withdrawals from the endowment fund this year.

We have a CD worth \$9,370 that matures in July of this year. Considering the rates of return available from CDs these days, we are looking for more productive and flexible options for this money.

Starting Balance 1/1/2017	\$4,290.28
REVENUES:	
Dues	\$4,894.00
Endowment	\$385.00
Other	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$5,279.00
EXPENSES:	
Administration	\$1,063.43
Donations & Scholarships	\$2,885.00
Membership & Newsletter	\$294.12
Events	\$100.00
Projects	\$970.75
Other	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$5,313.30
CURRENT YEAR NET	-\$34.30
Current Cash Balance	\$4,225.98
Other Assets	
Certificate of Deposit	\$9,368.95
Endowment	\$19,669.43
Total Other Assets:	\$29,038.38
Total Assets	\$33,294.36
Submitted by: Roger Gruben, Treasurer; June 3, 2017	

EDUCATION

Team Poseidon Goes to SeaPerch Nationals



By Holly Swann

For the second year in a row, the Northumberland Middle School was represented at the National SeaPerch Challenge in Atlanta at Georgia Tech University on May 20. Team Poseidon, Luke Swann and his new partner, Channing Reynolds, competed in a series of challenges that tested the capabilities of their underwater remote operated vehicle (ROV) and their ability to maneuver it. They qualified for the Nationals with a win at the District Competition held at the University of Mary Washington in April.

Based on experience from the 2016 competition, they modified their ROV with orange LED lights, painted it orange for better visibility, and made several changes to the flotation devices to improve buoyancy. The two-person team competed in three portions of

the overall challenge that included an underwater puzzle, an underwater rings obstacle course, and an engineering notebook/presentation.

Team Poseidon made the top five finalists, placing fifth for the underwater water challenge portion of the competition. They did not win a trophy, but they came in first place for the “SeenIt” video crew competition. The winning clip showed Luke and Channing heading to the National SeaPerch competition and singing their introduction.

Overall, Team Poseidon did amazingly well competing among huge schools, teams from Texas, Illinois, California, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Naval Academies, and more. And NAPS was among those that Luke and Channing thanked for the help in experiencing the SeaPerch adventure.

Luke Swann and Channing Reynolds, Team Poseidon, competing at the National SeaPerch Challenge.



Memo from Mike

I hope you have a fun (and hurricane-free) summer. It’s the busy season in the Northern Neck – let’s continue to teach good environmental stewardship to all residents and visitors.

NAPS’ new website (www.napsva.org)

and Facebook Page are a great way to keep up with what we’re doing – please share them with your friends and neighbors. In addition to information on NAPS and contact info, it has a searchable news blog section that is updated regularly, plus a calendar of NAPS events. It’s easier than ever for folks to join NAPS using the online form on the website. You can also sign up for automatic email alerts for when new articles or events are posted. Check it out today!

While you’re exploring www.napsva.org, please let me know your ideas on how we can improve it. We’re planning to add more community resource information soon, plus an archive section. If you have news article ideas or links you think we should add, please let us know.

NAPS’ has for 28 years worked to preserve our unique environment, with volunteers monitoring, educating, and getting their hands dirty. I sincerely thank all of our members who contribute so much every way they can. With all of the projects and initiatives we have planned and hope to add in the future, we simply need more members! Please spread the word and urge folks to check us out – I am certain that there are people out there who are looking for an

NAPS Officers & Board Members

NAPS Officers

President.....Mike Ahart 313-0274.....mikeahart@kaballero.com
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NAPS Board of Directors

Myrtle Phillips.....(Term Expires 2/2018)..... 580-8097.....myrloophil@gmail.com
 Jay Walker(Term Expires 2/2018)..... 529-9362.....jay722ksr@gmail.com
 Janice Mahoney.....(Term Expires 2/2019)..... 580-3154.....vervaville@yahoo.com
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opportunity to share their expertise to help our community.

How would you like to spend a few fun hours this year helping NAPS help your community? Contact any board member by email or phone (see list above), or send an email to stewardship@napsva.org. – this year’s events include creek, shoreline, and road cleanup parties, our annual Fall Social, and several other projects. I look forward to seeing you!

Best to you and yours.

*Sincerely,
 Mike Ahart, President*



Out and About With NAPS

NAPS has taken part in events all over the community this spring, including the 3rd Annual NAPS Earth Day Festival in Heathsville on April 15th...

It was a beautiful Saturday for the 2017 NAPS Earth Day Festival in Heathsville.



NAPS' Lee Allain demonstrated solar technology.



The Earth Day "Pledge Tree"



The NAPS Earth Day Festival was literally a dog & pony show!



The NAPS exhibit was busy at the Master Gardener's Seminar event in White Stone, March 25.



Mike Ahart tends the NAPS exhibit at the Farm & Field Day event, April 22.



Janice Mahoney chats with Sheriff Lyons and Ralph & Nancy Millar in the NAPS booth at the Strawberry Festival.