

# NAPS News

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

Spring 2013

Volume 22, Issue 2



## Welcome to the spring issue of NAPS News.

### Here's a rundown of what's inside:

**NAPS Launches New Journal.** NAPS is publishing *NAPS Stewardship Journal*. This periodical is intended to inform members about important issues and their impact on Northumberland County. We look forward to your response to the first issue and to suggestions for future issues.

**NAPS Scholarships Awarded.** Four Northumberland High School graduating seniors received scholarships of \$500 each. > > > >

#### 2013 Creek Cleanup Set for September 28.

Boat captains are needed for the Little Wicomico area cleanup from Cockrell's Marine Railway. Volunteers also needed for the set-up, lunch, and take-down.

#### Carbon Dioxide Emissions Reach Record Level.

Scientific instruments have shown that the concentration of carbon dioxide has reached an average daily level of 400 parts per million. It's a milestone that has not been equaled in millions of years.

**NAPS Funds NHS Project.** Adam Parker completed his Eagle Scout Project with the help of a \$2,100 donation from NAPS to build a new shelter outside the renovated greenhouse for the PAES program.

#### NAPS Adopt-A-Highway Succeeds in the Rain.

Nine volunteers stuck it out in the rain and cold and filled 16 bags of trash along Route 200 in the Wicomico Church area.

**CCL Changes Meetings.** The Northern Neck Chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby will move its meetings starting July 2 to 7:00 p.m. at the Northumberland Library.

**NAPS Financial Report and Membership Report.** The message here is, "renew your membership."

**Memo from Bill.** President Estell discusses how NAPS keeps busy.

**Out and About with NAPS.** Find out where NAPS will be spreading the word this summer.

*To keep up with NAPS on a daily basis, check our web site: [www.napsva.org](http://www.napsva.org).*

– Jay Walker, Editor

## EDUCATION

The Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship (NAPS) awarded scholarships worth \$500 each to four Northumberland High School graduating seniors at a ceremony in the school auditorium, Monday, May 20.

Scholarship winners are (left to right) Caitlyn Cralle, Elizabeth Hudnall, Julie King, and Summer Newsome pictured with NAPS Scholarship Chair Myrtle Phillips (left) and NAPS President Bill Estell (right).

According to Phillips, all four worked very hard while they were at school and also participated in lots of school activities.



*Dear NAPS Scholarship Committee,*

*Thank you so much for the very generous scholarship! I feel honored to have been selected, and I greatly appreciated it. I know it will go a long way towards my college fund (with) which I am really looking forward to attending James Madison University. I enjoyed seeing the picture in the newspaper of the recipients and again, thank you so very much.*

*Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Hudnall*

## NAPS Calendar

**NAPS Board Meetings** are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at 9 a.m. at the Union First Market Bank in Burgess, unless otherwise noted.

July 10, Wed. .... NAPS Board Meeting

July 20, Sat. .... Display Booth, Tavern Farmers Market, Heathsville

Aug. 14, Wed. .... NAPS Board Meeting

Aug. 17, Sat. .... Display Booth, Tavern Farmers Market, Heathsville

Sep. 11, Wed. .... NAPS Board Meeting

Sep. 28, Sat. .... Annual Creek Cleanup, Cockrell's Marine Railway

Oct. 9, Wed. .... NAPS Board Meeting

Oct. 12, Sat. .... NAPS Fall Social, Bay Quarter Shores Club

Nov. 13, Wed. .... NAPS Board Meeting

Dec. 11, Wed. .... NAPS Board Meeting

## NEWS

**NAPS Launches New Journal**

NAPS has launched *NAPS Stewardship Journal*. This periodical is intended to inform members about important scientific and ecological issues and their impacts on Northumberland County.

The contents of the first issue include:

“[Impacts of Climate Change on the Weather of the Northern Neck, Part 1](#)” by Dr. Gregory T. Haugan. Part 1 of a three part series focuses on weather and the jet stream.

“[Chesapeake Bay Ecology, Menhaden Fishery Management, and Recommendations for NAPS Members](#)” by Ida Hall.

The menhaden fishery is a good example of the need to understand how all the marine life of the Bay interact for sustainability. Here’s what you can do.

“[Contemporary Climate Mythology](#)” by Dr. Gregory T. Haugan. Here are five facts that dispel the myths and point to the need to recognize the impact of climate change.

“[Stewardship of Waterfront Property](#)” by Dr. Lynton Land.

The cardinal rule for waterfront owners is “keep it out of the water.” This article provides helpful advice and explains why keeping it out of the water is vital to the health of our waterways.

All paid-up NAPS members will receive the Journal as part of their membership. (See separate Membership Report.) We look forward to member responses to the first issue and suggestions for future articles. Also, we encourage those who have not responded to our renewal reminders to bring their membership up to date.

## NEWS

**Carbon Dioxide Emissions Reach Record Level**

by Greg Haugan, PhD

The level of the most important heat-trapping gas in the atmosphere, carbon dioxide, has passed an important milestone, scientists reported in late May, reaching a concentration not seen on the earth for millions of years. Scientific instruments showed that the gas had reached an average daily level above 400 parts per million.

Justin Gillis of the New York Times said that this is: “... just an odometer moment in one sense, but also a sobering reminder that decades of efforts to bring human-produced emissions under control are faltering.” The level at the time of the Industrial Revolution was approximately 290 ppm and the current rate of increase is approximately 2.5 ppm per year.

From studying air bubbles trapped in Antarctic ice, scientists know that going back 800,000 years, the carbon dioxide level oscillated in a tight band, from about 180 ppm in the depths of ice ages to about 280 ppm during the warm periods between. The evidence shows that global temperatures and CO<sub>2</sub> levels are tightly linked.

Indirect measurements suggest that the last time the carbon dioxide level was this high was at least three million years ago during an epoch called the Pliocene. Geological research shows that the climate then was far warmer than today, the world’s ice caps were smaller, and the sea level might have been as much as 60 or 80 feet higher.

For the entire period of human civilization, roughly 8,000 years, the carbon dioxide level was relatively stable near the 280 ppm upper boundary. But the burning of fossil fuels has caused a 41 percent increase in the heat-trapping gas since the Industrial Revolution, a mere geological instant, but scientists say the climate is beginning to react, though they expect far larger changes in the future.

Ralph Keeling, who runs a CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring program at the Scripps Institution of

## NEWS

**CCL Changes Meeting Times**

NAPS partner Northern Neck Chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) has changed its meeting time to the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., starting July 2. The location remains the Northumberland Public Library in Heathsville.

NNK CCL Group Leader and NAPS Board Member Greg Haugan explains: “The previous time of 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. was set to coordinate with a national telecom involving all 90+ chapters with an appropriate speaker. This schedule involved too many conflicts. Besides, all telecoms are recorded so they are available for playback at the Tuesday evening meetings.”

The new format will include leading with a speaker or discussion topic related to climate change and of particular interest to CCL supporters in the Northern Neck. The July 2 meeting will feature Dr. Judy Lang discussing “Coral Reefs: Ours to Conserve or Squander” and her personal experiences in coral reef ecology, including ocean acidification. Following an open discussion, national and Northern Neck CCL activities will be reviewed.

Prior to the July meeting, Dr. Haugan will be part of a CCL group attending a conference in Washington, June 25-26. Activities include visits to all members of Congress. He has appointments with Senator Warner and Representatives Wittman, Scott, Rigell, and Forbes of Virginia. The districts of all four congressmen converge in the Newport News, Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach area, which is one of the most critical parts of the country threatened by sea level rise and storm surge.

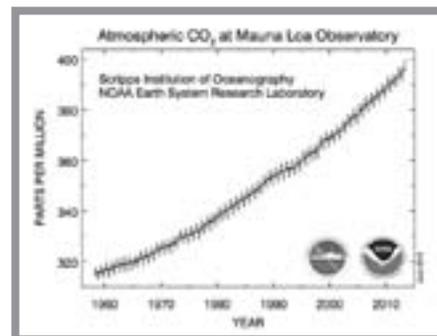
“They will be requested to become ‘Climate Heroes’ and work together to get carbon fee and dividend legislation passed in order to mitigate the impacts of climate change,” said Haugan.

Oceanography in San Diego, said a continuing rise could be catastrophic. “It means we are quickly losing the possibility of keeping the climate below what people thought were possibly tolerable thresholds,” he reported.

Dr. Keeling’s father, Charles David Keeling, began carbon dioxide measurements on Mauna Loa and at other locations in the late 1950s. The elder Dr. Keeling found a level in the air then of about 315 parts per million. His analysis revealed a relentless, long-term increase superimposed on the seasonal cycle, a trend that was dubbed the Keeling Curve.

Countries have adopted an official consensus danger level of approximately 450 ppm which correlates to a 2 degree Celsius rise in the world’s average temperature (3.60° F).

“Unless things slow down, we’ll probably get there in well under 25 years,” Ralph Keeling said.



LOCAL

## NAPS Adopt-A-Highway Succeeds in the Rain

Nine stalwart members braved the rain and cold, Tuesday, April 30, to pick up trash along Route 200 in the Wicomico Church area as part of the NAPS Adopt-A-Highway program. The participants were Bill Estell, Kathy and Walter Brodtman, Charles Smith, Susan Carter Hughes, Andy Kauders, Mike Ahart, Lynton Land, and program chair Janice Mahoney.

“We picked up 16 bags of trash. All in all, everyone was very good natured about the situation and we were done by 2:30,” Mahoney reported.



Neither rain nor cold kept these NAPS members from the April 30 Adopt-A-Highway pick up. Pictured are Bill Estell, Kathy Brodtman, Walter Brodtman, Charles Smith, Susan Carter Hughes, and Andy Kauders. Not in the picture were Mike Ahart and Lynton Land, plus photographer Janice Mahoney.

She adds that special attention goes to Mike Ahart, because his partner did not appear. “So Mike did one of the hard sections of the road single-handedly. Get ‘er done was the attitude,” she said.

The next NAPS Adopt-A-Highway pick up will be in October.

LOCAL

## 2013 Creek Cleanup Set for Sept. 28

This year’s NAPS Creek Cleanup will take place on Saturday, September 28, concentrating on the Little Wicomico area. The launch and lunch site is Cockrells Marine Railway.

“We need boat captains who will take responsibility for one stretch or arm of the river,” said co-chair Lynton Land. In addition, volunteers will be needed to set up the lunch, sort the trash, and clear the area after lunch.

Once again, Northumberland High School students will be welcome to help on the boats. Last year 10 boats collected over five tons of trash on the waterways from the mouth of Cockrells Creek to the Glebe Point bridge. The staging area was the old Mila steamboat landing on property owned by Pamela Russell. Glenn Lester, one of the captains, went back to the site, got the smashed up canoe out of the dumpster, took it home, and repaired it.

SCHOOLS

## NAPS Funds NHS Project

Completing an Eagle Scout Project over a year in the making, Adam Parker and members of the Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) officially opened the Northumberland High School PAES greenhouse and shelter, Saturday, April 13. The project was substantially funded by a NAPS donation of \$2,100, which was earmarked for building the shelter. The NAPS Board approved the donation after a review of Parker’s detailed cost analysis and a first-hand visit to the site.

“This was a huge project both physically and financially. Thanks to contributions from many community groups, we were able to replace the concrete blocks that held up the greenhouse tables with wooden legs that make moving around the greenhouse easier. We were also able to build the shelter that will provide protection from sun and rain for students as they work and sell,” Parker said at the ribbon cutting.

In a letter addressed to Members of NAPS, Parker wrote in part, “It is with great excitement that I announce the completion and extend my thanks for your financial support of my Eagle Scout Project. Your donation of \$2,100 helped to fund the much needed improvements to the Northumberland High School PAES Greenhouse. Overall, you helped me raise over \$4,000 in financial and in-kind donations to not only build a shelter and retaining wall, but also to make improvements in the greenhouse and build an outdoor worktable.”

Asked after the opening what he had learned from the Eagle Scout project, Parker replied, “I learned a lot of things, but the most important was concentrate on the details – there were many details.”

## NAPS FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 2013

The total NAPS working budget is approximately \$7,000. Of that amount, \$2,000 went to four Northumberland High School scholarships. The other major expense was the Eagle Scout Greenhouse Shed Project. Administrative costs include the newsletter and mailing expenses. At present our Revenues are running about \$1,000 behind last year.

As shown to the right, we currently have \$4,840.36 in the checking account and \$20,224.27 in two CDs for a total of \$25,064.63, and currently have a budget deficit of approximately \$1,500 for the year. Depending upon the generosity our membership, we hope to break even on the costs of the River Clean-up project scheduled for September 28 and the Fall Social scheduled for October 12.

Starting Balance 1/1/2013	\$6,343.73
<b>REVENUES:</b>	
Dues	\$4,427.50
Donations	\$40.00
Other	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$4,467.50
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Administration	\$1,190.46
Donations & Scholarships	\$2,000.00
Membership & Newsletter	\$40.97
Events	\$167.10
Projects	\$2,572.34
Other	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$5,970.87
Current Year Net	(\$1,503.37)
Cash Balance 6/6/2013	\$4,840.36
Other Assets - Certificates of Deposit	
CD-NNSB#1	\$8,986.52
CD-NNSB#2	\$11,237.75
Total Other Assets:	\$20,224.27
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$25,064.63</b>
<i>Submitted by: Gregory T. Haugan, Treasurer; June 6, 2013</i>	

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## Memo from Bill

NAPS has had a busy and productive spring. Several NAPS members were on hand for the 13 April opening ceremony of the Northumberland High School Greenhouse PAES Pavilion. An Eagle Scout project of Adam Parker of Boy Scout Troop

250 that NAPS supported by providing the total funding of material for the new pavilion. Adam's project successfully provided an outstanding facility for the students of the PAES program to sell the plants and herbs they had grown to the public.

The Master Gardener Seminar "Gardening on the Northern Neck" gave NAPS an opportunity to participate as an exhibitor and spread the word to a wider audience of what NAPS does and the programs we support. Greg Haugan and Lee Allain received many inquiries concerning "why don't we have a NAPS-like organization in our county?" Maybe next year there will be.

The Spring Roadside Pick-Up on 30 April expertly organized and executed by our own Janice Mahoney was a successful if somewhat damp effort. The rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the nine volunteers and several full orange bags lined Route 200 for VDOT pick-up. For a period of time the highway was returned to its pristine condition. We'll be back in the fall.

On 20 May NAPS awarded this year's \$500.00 scholarships to four NHS seniors at the annual Award Ceremony Senior Chapel. Under the direction and watchful eye of Chairman Myrtle Phillips I had the pleasure to present the scholarships to Caitlyn Cralle, Elizabeth Hudnall, Julie King and Summer Newsome. A truly impressive ceremony exemplified by these four outstanding young women of our community.

NAPS will have a booth this year at the Heathsville Farmers' Market in July and August. Events like this help get our message out to the public and to provide the information needed to ensure the environmental quality we all want for Northumberland. You can help. NAPS needs your involvement and support in our efforts. Renew your membership if you haven't yet done so and consider volunteering for the Annual Creek Clean-Up at Cockrell's Marine Railroad on 28 September and the NAPS Fall Social at Bay Quarter Shores on 12 October.

We want to keep NAPS strong and the environmental challenges in front of the Northumberland community. Best to you and yours,

*Sincerely, Bill Estell, President*

## NAPS Officers & Board Members

### NAPS Officers

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### NAPS Board of Directors

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## OUTREACH

### Out and About with NAPS

NAPS started this spring with an appearance at the annual Master Gardeners Seminar, "Gardening in the Northern Neck" in March. This year the booth was inside the conference room, rather than the tight quarters up stairs.

This summer NAPS will be out and about some more. Look for us at the Tavern Farmers Market in Heathsville on Saturday, July 20, and Saturday, August 17. These are ideal dates for attracting second-home summer vacationers, as well as house guests of full-time residents.

Another outreach program is the reprinting of the popular Paddlers Guide just in time for the season to look for places to take kayaks and canoes. The Guide lists marinas and other launch sites and how to find them.