# **Combined VMI Alumni Agencies Hire First CEO**

In a message to the VMI community last week, the

presidents of the VMI Alumni Association, the VMI Foundation and the VMI Keydet Club – Bob Louthan, Hugh Fain and Buzz Birzenieks – announced the hiring of a new chief executive officer to lead the combined VMI Alumni Agencies.



"After a thorough and exhaustive process in which hundreds of candidates were contacted and dozens of candidates were considered," they said in their statement, "we are pleased to announce the selection and appointment of Stephen M. Maconi."

Maconi graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a bachelor of science degree in ocean engineering in 1977. He was commissioned in the U.S. Navy through Naval ROTC and served for 21 years as a naval aviator, flying the P-3 Orion maritime patrol aircraft. His final assignment was as the executive officer of the U.S. Naval Academy's Physical Education Department.

After retiring from the Navy in the grade of commander, Maconi joined the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation. He was a key player in the organization and execution of the Naval Academy's first ever comprehensive campaign which raised more than \$253 million. As the Foundation's vice president for development, he led numerous fundraising efforts, cultivated and managed a staff of development professionals, and worked to coordinate the efforts of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association, and the Naval Academy Foundation Athletic and Scholarship division in support of the Academy and the Brigade of Midshipmen.

"Steve's experience, leadership ability, judgment and energetic personality suit him perfectly to serve as the inaugural CEO of the VMI Alumni Agencies," the presidents stated in their message.

Maconi will assume his duties at the VMI Alumni Agencies in late March. His hiring is the first step in the process, announced in 2016, of reorganizing the management of the VMI alumni agencies in order to gain better coordination and efficiencies in pursuit of the overall goal of advancing the Institute.

## Helping Hands

### Third Annual Samuel's Supper Raises \$2,000

The organizers of the Samuel's Supper mission project at Fairfield Methodist Church would like to thank all of those who helped with the supper and who turned out to support the event.

This year's Samuel's Supper generated over \$2,000 in contributions for the family of a local newborn who had to be hospitalized with respiratory development and infection problems this winter.

Members of not only Fairfield United Methodist but Fairfield Presbyterian Church and the community helped with the project.

Organizers hope to expand the project, now beginning its fourth year, in the future.

To make a contribution and to learn more about the project, go online to http:// www.samuelssupper.com.

# Schram Receives Scouting's Highest Honor

## Lifelong 'Scouter' Receives Silver Beaver Award

Rockbridge County resident Chip Schram received the Silver Beaver Award in February at the Boy Scouts of America Stonewall Jackson Area Council's annual recognition dinner.

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest recognition a Boy Scout Council can bestow on an adult volunteer. It is presented to those volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution to the Scouting program. Recipients are nominated by their peers; their application is presented by the local council and approved by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Like many "Scouters," Eugene C. "Chip" Schram III is a product of the program, according to the biography in the awards program. As a youth he was awarded the God and Country medal and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He currently is a member of the Order of the Arrow (Brotherhood) and a James E. West Fellow, the recipient of the Scouter's Key, Scouter's Training Award, Scoutmaster Award of Merit, and District Award of Merit.

Schram has served the on Southern District Moose Camporee staff, as day camp director and range officer, Klondike Derby, Cub Fun Day staff. On the district committee level he has served as membership chairman,



**CHIP SCHRAM** 

explorer chairman, unit commissioner, finance chairman, merit badge counselor and twice as district chairman.

During the mid-1990s, Schram was employed by the Stonewall Jackson Area Council as a district executive, also serving the Southern District. He also served as Camp Shenandoah's summer camp director.

Prior to moving to Rockbridge County in 1991, he served as a Scoutmaster in Shreveport, La., and Wake Island in the Pacific; aviation explorer post advisor in Tampa, Fla.; law enforcement explorer in Colorado Springs, Colo., and San Antonio, Texas; and district explorer chairman in Naples, Italy. He also led the first integrated Philmont trek from Louisiana in 1965. He attended Philmont Training Center Conference and National BSA Camp School.

Schram's other community involvement has included vice president of the George C Marshall Officer Association;



ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY resident and fellow Scouter Jack Glisson accepted the Silver Beaver Award on behalf of Chip Schram, who was unable to attend, at last month's recognition dinner conducted by the Stonewall Jackson Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. With him are Dan Drelin and Pete Fenlon, members of the selection committee; Judy Schram, Chip Schram's wife; and Lee Stuart Hastings, his godson.

vice chairman of the Eagle Chapter Air Forces Security Forces Association; Habitat for Humanity; Lexington Police Foundation board member; Rockbridge Regional Fair board; and Hospice Hustle committee member. He is a Paul Harris Fellow with Rotary International and serves as the liaison officer for Rockbridge County High School Interact Club sponsored by the Lexington Sunrise Rotary Club.

Schram and his wife Judy live in Buffalo Bend, Rockbridge County. He is the father of two sons, Charles and Mark, who is a Webelos den leader. Mark's son is a Webelos and his daughter is a Girl Scout.

Schram is a retired U.S. Air Force chief of police/commander of Security Forces.

# **4-H Summer Camp Registration To Start**

Four-H Summer Camp registration will begin Monday, April 3, and is open to all youth ages 9-13.

This year, Rockbridge continues the 4-H camping

Mountain Lake, with camp cluster week July 3-7.

Activities at camp include A archery, canoeing, climbing, at crafts, horsemanship, performing arts, small animals, in swimming, robotics, sports, M tie-dye basics and vet science. ca Registration forms can co be picked up and returned cl at the Rockbridge County T-

Extension office, and are accepted on a first-come basis. A \$120 deposit, nonrefundable, is required at the time of registration, and the remaining balance is due Thursday, May 11, as is all associated transportation. Financial aid applications are also available for those needing assistance, but a \$120 deposit is still required.

The Extension office is located at 150 S. Main St.,





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experience with the counties of Botetourt and Craig at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith camp paperwork. The total cost of camp is \$270 and includes lodging, meals, snacks, T-shirt, all activities, and Lexington, and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information, call 463-4734.







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