



# Penn-Del Tips

The official newsletter of the American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania and Delaware

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## From The President

First the bad news...

I'm sorry to report to you that Executive Vice President, Joe Kapes, has resigned from his position on the Board. It goes without saying that we will all miss him. It was always great to work with Joe!

These new appointments to the Board are the good news...

Robert Stein has agreed to accept the position of Central Corridor Director. We hope that next year Bob will move into the position of First Vice President. Rusty Hertzler has agreed to serve as Executive Vice President. We feel very blessed that the Lord has lead these two men to serve. In order to maintain some continuity in leadership, I have agreed to serve as President for another year.

ABMOPAD will be participating in the co::lab training program. This program is offered by ABCOPAD to help and guide us as we reshape our organization's vision for the future. We will keep you posted about our progress.

Please pray with me that the Lord will allow us to continue the work that's been started to move our retreat in a new rejuvenated, 21st century direction! AMOPAD Men, let us know how we're doing! Don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you!

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## Youth Director's Update

Looking back at the 2014 retreat we had an awesome weekend! 17 young men joined approximately 150 other men at Shippensburg University. We had a great time playing games, worshiping, learning about the topic of forgiveness, and just hanging out!

This fall I tried to contact each of the youth who attended the retreat and follow up on how life is going. Encouraging them with school work, sports, and other community activities and asking for prayer concerns. This was a rewarding process for both the students and myself.

I look forward to seeing everyone again next year at the retreat and continuing to grow our youth program!

Kyle West, Youth Director

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## **A New Resurgence**

If you missed the AB Men's Retreat in the last two years, then you have missed some of the best retreats in recent years. We were inspired and challenged by the two speakers, Dr. Jeff Johnson in 2013 and then by Rev. Gordon Douglas in 2014.

The workshops are greatly improving. Last year's comments were: "The Best Workshops Ever!" For instance our workshops consisted of "Wounded Warrior"; "Reaching the Millennial Generation"; "Humble Servants"; "Daring to Live by Faith"; "Faithfully Leading Beside Your Pastor"; "Transforming Sinful Habits into God-Pleasing Patterns"; and "Boy Scouting in the Baptist Church".

We continue to be blessed by Pastor C.G. Coats and the AB Men's Praise Band, and by Bob McQue, Sr. and the AB Men's Choir. Also, Kyle West has directed a terrific Youth Program each year, with 17 young men attending last year. The food and the sleeping quarters have vastly improved.

The 2015 Keynote Speaker will be Phil Downer, the President of Discipleship Network of America in Tennessee. D.N.A. is a nationwide network of people committed to following Christ's life of winning and teaching others to become disciple makers. He will also lead a workshop on marriage. The retreat will take place at Shippensburg University on July 24-26, 2015. As we did last year, a complete list describing all workshops and the retreat will be published by March, 2015.

I hope and pray that you are just as excited and enthusiastic as I am in what this retreat means and how it will inspire our Christian witness for Jesus.

Pastor Bob Coats

Advisor to the A.B. Men of PA and DE by Communication with Pastors and Churches

## **Layman of the Year**

How is the layman of the year selected? The first step starts with you! No one is considered unless he is nominated by an ABMOPAD Layman. Have you observed someone who stands out as a servant of Christ, and a servant of his fellow men (and women)? Submit a nomination! The forms give suggested guidelines for the submittal. The forms are in the center of the program booklet for each annual retreat, and on the WEB Site ([www.abmopad.org](http://www.abmopad.org)). Once the nominations are received, they are submitted to a committee composed of the last three Laymen of the Year. The submissions are retained for three years. If your nominee is not selected within the three years after submittal, submit again. Everyone must know someone who deserves the recognition for his service. The selected Layman of the Year also serves as an effective testimony to other laymen for ways that they can serve Christ.

## **Board of Managers**

Your Board of Managers needs your help. Due to a job promotion, and serious family responsibilities, our Executive Vice President found it necessary to resign from the board. Rusty Hertzler has agreed to serve as Executive Vice President, but we need other laymen to join us in some of the other vacant positions. Please consider supporting our ministries to the laymen of Pennsylvania and Delaware by giving some of your time as a member of the board.

Go to our WEB Site at [www.abmopad.org](http://www.abmopad.org) to investigate positions that are available, and then contact President John Kofroth at [john.kofroth@outlook.com](mailto:john.kofroth@outlook.com) to volunteer.

## **A Man I Consider A Faithful Servant By Rev. Dr. Kevin Walden**

Over the past few years I have come to know a man in Factoryville who is a leader in his church and in the Abington Association (Scranton area) of churches. The man I am talking about is Ron Stock. What impressed me about Ron, is that he is a relatively new Christian. He respected God for a long time, but until a few years ago didn't make a true commitment to Christ. But after making that commitment, he began to take his new faith seriously. His church, First Baptist of Factoryville, even elected him as a deacon. He is now the head deacon. Ron has attended several of our ABMen's Retreats. At the 2013 retreat Ron came to a workshop on "Sharing Your Faith Without An Argument." Ron took the workshop content and challenge to heart. When he got home, he prayed about what God wanted him to do. After a time of prayer, he started a Bible Study at work with the blessing of his boss. The association was so impressed with Ron's commitment to Christ, that they just recently elected him to be the moderator of the association. He is a bright light for Jesus in the Northeast portion of our region, and I thought you might like to know about this faithful servant. Let's all pray for Ron – especially that he might continue to grow in faith and commitment to Jesus.

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