



NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING®

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Arizona hosts Biennial meeting at Fort McDowell Resort

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting was held at the Radisson Fort McDowell Resort, in Scottsdale, Ariz. from April 26 – 29 with approximately 120 members present. The meetings began on Tuesday, April 26 with the Executive Committee meeting, as well as meetings of the Religious Emblems, Training and Religious Activities Committees. Mass was celebrated with Bishop Robert Guglielmo, Bishop of Charleston and USCCB Liaison to the NCCS. A “Wild West” dinner and entertainment program followed.

The annual Bishop’s luncheon was on Wednesday and included presentation of the Silver St. George and Jerusalem Cross (see separate story on these awards). Thursday’s activities began with the traditional “Breakfast of Champions” and the rest of the day was devoted to various committee meetings. Most Reverend Eduardo Nevares, Auxiliary Bishop of Phoenix, celebrated the Mass. The evening concluded with a reception hosted by the Phoenix Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting and the NCCS Banquet.

Key items discussed at the meeting included:

The news that we are still losing Catholic-sponsored units. From April, 2010 until March, 2011, we lost another 177 units. Although the unit losses seem to be slowing down, we still have not ‘stopped the drop.’ Chairman John



Halloran urged those attending to “do anything you can do to energize the diocesan committees to address this problem. All, and any efforts will be greatly appreciated.” He pointed out that the up side is that during the same time period we gained 3,447 new youth members.

NCCS has a new BSA Advisor, Matthew Budz, Community Alliances Team Leader, replacing George Sparks when George retired earlier this year. See the accompanying story elsewhere in the Bridge for more details. The NCCS looks forward to developing a closer and more prosperous relationship with him and BSA.

Bray Barnes, Jack Coughlin, Father Leo LeBlanc and Chip Travers have been appointed to another year as members of the Executive Board. Bishop Gerald (Padre) Gettelfinger was elected to his first term. Padre will be enjoying his retirement from active ministry, and this summer he will be a full time Chaplain at Philmont. Members-at-large to the Advisory Board who were re-elected to 5-year terms are Robert McCarty (NFCYM Director), Marie Simons and John Thompson. Members newly elected were Father Jerry Fehn, Robert Freville, Russ Kock, David Moskal, Robert Oldowski and Dwight Stephenson (American Heritage Girls – Chair, Board of Directors).

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UPCOMING EVENTS

St. George Trek Philmont

July 7-22, 2011

Scouting in the Catholic Church Training at Philmont

July 10-16, 2011

NCCS Executive Committee Meeting Irving, Texas

October 11-12



A copy of the Annual Report, summarizing the fundamental goals of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting and objective progress made over the past year in achieving them is now available on the NCCS Website at <http://www.nccs-bsa.org/> The report covers the period April 2010 to April 2011 and has been prepared for the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America.

Did You Know . . . ?

By Bob Oldowski

Up until 1998, the NCCS operated without any bylaws. For many years the NCCS operated under a Plan of Organization. This described the officers, committees and general purpose of the NCCS. Much was not formalized, including procedures to make changes. Keep in mind we are a Church committee, not a Scout committee, whose purpose is to use Scouting as a youth ministry.

For several decades the BSA employed and provided professionals whose job focused on Catholic relationships and who served as our Executive Secretary (executive director). In 1992 BSA reduced that position to just a liaison role. Since then the NCCS has been run totally by volunteer members.

This major change compelled the NCCS to develop a set of bylaws to govern the organization. Long in development, NCCS members in 1998 finally approved and implemented a set of bylaws, which we follow today.

Over all these years we continue to have an administrative secretary who resides at the national BSA office. Since our founding 75 years ago, we are also fortunate to have a bishop designated by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) serving as a liaison from that body. Our bylaws clearly lay out the role of each.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of :

Sister Mary Ruth Krack, O.S.B., a member of the congregation of the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana and former St. George Trek advisor.

Dorothy Danaher, the first woman to ever be elected to the position of National Vice-Chair for NCCS and was among the first group to be awarded the Silver Saint George Medal. She was an ardent and generous supporter of all NCCS activities, and a past Chairperson for Catholic Scouting in the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Cub Scout Patrick Rider, from the Diocese of Lake Charles and who died of cancer shortly after receiving his Parvuli Dei Award.

Frank Fox, Diocesan Chair of the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

Don Marshall, Diocesan Chair for the Diocese of Trenton, N.J.

Bob Connelly, a Ft. Worth Scouter, who was involved in Catholic scouting in the Ohio area (20 years), in the Buffalo Diocese in New York (10 years) and in the Ft. Worth Diocese in Texas (50 years).

Msgr. Louis Meyer, Archdiocese of St. Louis—A longtime supporter of youth.

As a reminder, we have the Memorial Plaque at Philmont where we inscribe the names of those deceased. It requires a minimum of a \$1,000 from one person or smaller amounts from many persons. Tom Nishikubo, Gordon Stieffel, Truman Stacey and Sammie Reggie have been recently added to it.

If you wish to remember any of the above names or others, please send your donation to Nancy Watts at the National office with a note on who the donation is for.

(Reprinted by permission from the Arlington (Va.) Catholic Herald April 7 issue)

Scouts feed the people

A local Cub Scout pack plans to feed 250 children for an entire year with a new service project.

By KATIE BAHR
Catholic Herald Staff Writer
(Arlington, Va.)

Everyone knows Cub Scouts can hike, camp, earn badges and do good deeds. This month, Cub Scout Pack 91 at Holy Trinity Church in Gainesville will prove they can do even more as they purchase and pack 91,000 meals — enough food to feed 250 children for an entire year.

The project was planned by Cubmaster Matt Moore, a parishioner of Holy Trinity, based on a suggestion by Kellie Ross, co-founder and president of House of Mercy, a food pantry and thrift store in Manassas.

The project will use a meal-packing program at House of Mercy, where volunteers pack vacuum-sealed bags of vitamins, minerals, grains and freeze-dried vegetables. The cost for each meal is 25 cents. The Scout's project will cost \$22,750.

Family members and friends of the Scouts have started a fundraising organization, Friends of 91 Thousand, to raise the money to pay for the meals. To raise awareness of the project, the Scout pack has developed a strong web presence with its site 91thousand.net, a Facebook page and a Twitter account. On April 16, Friends of 91 Thousand will hold a wine and cheese gala, with all proceeds going toward the project.

As of Tuesday, only 20 days after the project's launch, the group had already raised enough money for 30,781 meals.

Moore said it's been "a really remarkable thing" to see how quickly the project has come together.

"I don't know that anyone can visualize what 91,000 of anything is — it's a massive amount of food and compassion for people you'll never meet," he said.

For the project to work, Moore says Pack 91 needs help from the community — prayers, donations and helping hands on April 30.

"People can pray for us, they can donate anything — it's a quarter for a meal, so \$10 is 40 meals and anything anyone can give is huge; we'll take any dollar figure," he said.

Once the money is raised, the Scouts, along with their family and friends, will all work together to pack the meals April 30. Moore expects as many as 600 volunteers will participate, and the event will last four hours with live performances by local musicians.

Moore says the project has been a way to educate the Scouts about world hunger. They have not yet decided where the food will be sent, but they have been learning about different countries with food shortages.

"The Cub Scouts are really fascinated about the idea that they can help kids," Moore said. "They were shocked when they found out how many people die from hunger issues around the world and especially how many of them are children."

He hopes this large-scale project will help the Scouts realize how much good they can accomplish in the world and instill them with a desire to do more.

"Cub Scouts may not be big, but they can do big things," Moore said. "If you think of a group of 80 boys ages 6 to 10, you think chaos, but if you let them and you give them the tools to do it, they can do amazing things. Why should we expect less?"

"We want them to be able to do it and to be able to look back years later and say, 'I was a part of this.'"

Katie Bahr can be reached at kbahr@catholicherald.com.



Photos courtesy of Matt Moore, Pack 91

Four Catholic Scouters honored with Silver Saint George Award recognizing long and significant service to Catholic Scouting

Four Catholic Scouters were honored with the award of the Silver Saint George Award at the biennial meeting for their significant service to Scouting in the Catholic Church at the national level. The award was first presented in 1997 and only 76 individuals have received the award. This year's recipients were Chip Travers, Margaret Dillenburg, Robert Freeville, and Father Michael Hanifin.

Chip Travers, of Tucson, Ariz. is a Graphic Designer. Since 1992 he has been an active adult leader in the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing. Chip is an Assistant Scoutmaster and Crew Advisor, and also serves at the district and council level. He has been an active participant of the Diocese of Tucson's Catholic committee on Scouting, most notably leading the nationally recognized Anza Trek each fall at the Tumacacori National Park for Arizona's Catholic Scouts and Scouters. Chip is an active member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Tucson where he is an Youth Minister, and 35-year member of the Knights of Columbus.

Margaret Dillenburg has been actively involved in Boy Scouting for more than thirty years. She started as a Cub Scout Den leader when her sons, Joe and John were active in scouts

beginning in 1975. For the last 14 years, Margaret has served on the Northern Lights Council and the Scranton, Penn. Diocesan Catholic Committee. She has been active on the National Council, serving on the National Board from 1991 to 1994, and, worked as Cub Scout Exhibit Chair for the National Jamboree in 1993 and 1997. She has chaired the Committee on Eastern Churches for Region 15 from 1999 to the present. She received the Silver Beaver in the Viking Council in Minnesota in 1990, the Silver Antelope for the Central Region in 1997, and the St. George award from the Scranton, Penn. Diocese in 1998.

Bob is from Sheboygan Falls, Wis. and has held leadership positions in Scouting for the last 25 years. During this time he has held unit positions in both Cub and Boy Scouts units. He has also held leadership positions at the council level, including Assistant Scoutmaster for a National Jamboree troop, Council Jamboree Coordinator, Wood Badge Staff and Junior Leader Training Course Director. In Catholic Scouting he has been chairman for the Bay-Lakes Council Catholic Committee for the Milwaukee Arch-Diocese, and for the past 9 years has served as the Region 7 Chairman. Bob has received the Silver Beaver, is

active member of Blessed Trinity Parish in Sheboygan Falls, where he is an usher, and Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus.

Father Michael Hanifin is the founding pastor of Santa Clara de Asís Catholic Church in Yorba Linda, Calif. As a youth Father Michael was involved as a Cub Scout, Webelos, Boy Scout and Explorer. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in July of 1972. In the last 15 years he served as a Religious Emblem Counselor, and since 2006 he served as the Diocesan Scout Chaplain for the Catholic Committee on Scouting. He is a lifetime member of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, where he serves as Associate National Chaplain. He has been a Philmont Chaplain in numerous years and in 2006 and 2009 he participated as an advisor on the Saint George Trek. This summer he will return to Philmont to be an advisor on another Saint George Trek. In 2008 he was the Course Advisor for the "Scouting in the Catholic Church" Conference.



The 2010 NCCS Silver St. George recipients are: Chip Travers, Margaret Dillenburg, Robert Freeville and Father Michael Hanifin. They were presented the award at the Biennial Meeting of the NCCS in Phoenix, Ariz. in April, 2011.

Chairman thanks NCCS members for giving their time, talent and treasures

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Results of the 2011 elections were: Region 1 Chaplain Father David Federici; Region 2 Chair remains Ed Winterkorn; Region 3 Chair remains Joe Wagner; Region 6 Chaplain remains Msgr. James Kolp; Region 7 Chair is Charles Keskel, Jr; Region 12 Chaplain remains Father Leo McDowell; Region 14 Chair is James Weiskircher; Region 15 Chair remains Margaret Dillenburg; and Region 15 Chaplain remains Father Nick Rachford. Gerard Scanlan was re-elected to his final term as a Vice-Chair, and Susan Barriball is our newly elected Vice-Chair. Other changes are George Sparks replacing James Cordek as Membership Chair; Father Michael Weglicki (Religious Activities Advisor) appointed as Region 5 Chaplain; and Father Stephen Brandow (Region 5 Chaplain) was appointed as the Religious Activities Advisor. Father Scott Woods stepped down as Vocations Committee Chair, and Father Ken Shuping has agreed to replace him. Invitations have been sent to La Red (strengthen communication, collaboration and support between dioceses, institutions, and individuals ministering to Hispanic youth and young adults) and the Knights of Peter Claver to send a representative to serve on the Advisory Board.

It was reported that this year's St. George Trek is full with a standby list. Father Gerard Gentleman (Director), Chris Manning (Logistics Director), Father Kevin Smith and Austin Cannon (Advisors) are to be commended on their very successful efforts. There will be seven crews, to include one for the young women, to Philmont from 7 – 22 July and the next Trek will not be until 2014 because the National Jamboree will be going back to its original 4 year cycle date. The other good news for the Trek is that the Sacred Military

Constantinian Order of Saint George has raised its donation from \$15 thousand to \$20 thousand. The Trek is the Order's major philanthropic endeavor.

Other good news reported was that the 'Scouting in the Catholic Church' course at Philmont Scout Ranch from July 10 – 16, 2011 has 30 registered participants. Chairman Halloran said, "Even though 30 is a good number, please encourage members of your diocesan committees to come, especially your Chair and Chaplain, if they have not attended the course. We'd love to see more than 40 participants attend this great training." The staff for the course is Father Stephen Salvador (Advisor), Susan Barriball (Past



Course Director), Virginia 'Ginger' Dushek (new staff member) and John Halloran as the Director.

Other items discussed included the recent confusion created in one of our Dioceses because of the Catholic Mutual's Unaffiliated Organization Agreement. This agreement deals with organizations that meet on Parish property but are not part of the Parish. Some of the Pastors who charter BSA unit(s) required those units to sign it. However, there is a statement in the agreement that "unit(s) chartered were not part of and were not affiliated with the Parish." Because of the concerns on this issue the NCCS and BSA were able to work the misunderstanding out with Catholic Mutual and those units did re-charter. The chairman will prepare a letter to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops to address this issue and to have these

BSA unit(s) who are chartered by those organizations exempt from signing the agreement.

The NCCS is in the process of finishing the design for the Venturing Silver Certificate and the Certificates should be ready for issue shortly.

A number of requests have come from the dioceses asking for permission to put position patches (i.e. Diocesan Chair, Chaplain, Committee Member, etc) as a shoulder patch design for the uniform and standardizing the Pillars of Faith patch and or pin (given to a Scout who completes all four Religious Emblems). The Executive Committee voted not to endorse any requests at the national level. However, as long as the NCCS or BSA brand is not used, the local Committees have flexibility to utilize them if they so desire. If the NCCS or BSA brand is to be incorporated into any design it must be approved either by the NCCS or the national office of the BSA.

Finally, the NCCS is working on updating some material, including the Ad Altare Dei participant's manual which should be in print by the end of July. The 'Why Consider a Catholic Scouting Ministry?' booklet has been updated with an introductory letter from our new Episcopal Liaison, new pictures and a new format. Finishing the translation into Spanish is all that is left to be done. We are also looking at translating this booklet, a few other promotional materials and the Cub Scout Religious Emblems into other languages depending on quantity and cost. The Knights of Columbus have approved the Father McGiveny patch that will be used for the soon to be released Father McGiveny requirements under the Footsteps of American Saints program.

Chairman Halloran ended the meeting by stating, "things are happening and we are moving in the right direction. Thank you for your time, talent and treasures"

Quality Diocese Award –2010



- Region 1:** Norwich, Worcester, Burlington, Hartford, Providence, Springfield
- Region 2:** Albany, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Mayaguez, New York, Ogdensburg, Rochester, Rockville Centre, San Juan
- Region 3:** Camden, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Metuchen, Newark, Paterson, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Erie, Trenton
- Region 4:** Arlington, Washington
- Region 5:** Baton Rouge, Biloxi, Birmingham, Covington, Houma-Thibodeaux, Jackson, Knoxville, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Lexington, Louisville, Memphis, Mobile, Nashville, New Orleans, Owensboro
- Region 6:** Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Youngstown
- Region 7:** Evansville, Green Bay, Joliet, Madison, Milwaukee, Peoria, Springfield, Superior
- Region 8:** Saint Paul-Minneapolis, St. Cloud
- Region 9:** Jefferson City, Kansas City-St Joseph, St Louis, Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Wichita
- Region 10:** Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Ft Worth, Galveston-Houston, Oklahoma City, San Antonio, Tulsa
- Region 11:** Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Jose
- Region 12:** Portland
- Region 13:** Colorado Springs, Denver, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Santa Fe, Tucson
- Region 14:** Atlanta, Charleston, Charlotte, Palm Beach, Raleigh, St. Petersburg, Venice

Helpful hints offered on how to prepare for the 2011 federal tax season

Although we are past the tax filing date, now is a good time to think about how to keep records for our taxes for next year. Here us a quick review (courtesy of the Theodore Roosevelt Council BSA) on the subject of federal taxes.

As a general rule you are allowed a charitable tax deduction for unreimbursed, out-of-pocket expenses directly connected with the performance of services in support of the Scouting program. If they are considered personal, living or family expenses, they will not be deductible. So, for example, the cost and upkeep of your Boy Scouts of America field uniforms will be tax deductible because they are necessary, and only appropriate, for Boy Scouts of America use. However, the cost and upkeep of a dress uniform -- the blue blazer and grey slacks used at many regional and national Boy Scouts of

America meetings -- would NOT be deductible because of the potential for personal use of the items.

Deductible travel expenses include: air, rail and bus transportation; out-of-pocket car expenses; taxi and shuttle fares between hotel and airport or station; lodging costs; reasonable meal costs. These expenses will only be deductible, though, if there is "no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation, or vacation" in the trip. Also, you cannot deduct travel, meals, lodging, or other expenses for a spouse or children. So, for example, because of the large portion of volunteer service you would render attending the Philmont Training or a biennial meeting, your expenses would be tax deductible (even if you had a great time!) But, if you attended a meeting in Florida and golfed every day, or spent a few days at Disney

World after the meeting, you would likely lose much of your travel expense deductions for the trip.

If you use your car for the benefit of the Scouting program, you can either deduct actual expenses (such as gas, parking, tolls, etc.), or use a standard mileage rate of 14 cents/mile for reimbursement. You cannot deduct any portion of general repair, maintenance, depreciation, or insurance. Of course, you can deduct any donations made to the NCCS, your local Council or Troop.

Donors should, of course, keep good records, (up to seven years) for all expenses incurred as a volunteer to the Boy Scouts of America. However, the potential for tax deductions has always been less motivation than the opportunity to offer volunteer service to Scouting. The Boy Scouts of America has no resource as valuable as the time and efforts of its volunteers!

Long time NCCS member, Father Joe Carroll to retire

Father Joe Carroll, a long time NCCS member and Catholic Scouter, who has spent decades caring for San Diego's homeless and disadvantaged



will retire in July. Carroll became a television fixture in southern California over the years as he asked for donations to the St. Vincent center, which spun off into seven villages caring for the homeless throughout the Southwest.

Even though he is retiring, Father Joe said he will stay busy as a full-time fundraiser. He said he also hopes to catch on as a chaplain on a cruise ship.

NCCS certificate available for Venturing Silver Award

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) now has the Venturing Silver Award Certificate ready for issue. It will cost the same as our Eagle Scout certificates and can be ordered at <http://nccs-bsa.org/pdf/NCCS%20Misc%20Order%20Form.pdf>. It was designed to show the ongoing partnership and collaborative effort between the NCCS and BSA. Please get the word out on this so that our deserving young Catholic men and women in Venturing, who earn this award, can be properly recognized by the NCCS.

National Gold Medallion Recipients for 2010

REGION 1

Pack 570, Newtown, Conn. and Troop 711, Albion, R.I.

REGION 2

Pack 130, Rochester, N.Y., and Troop 618, Lancaster, N.Y.

REGION 3

Pack 3, Plainfield, N.J., Troop and Ship 201, Jenkintown, Penn.,

REGION 4

Pack and Troop 283, Newark Del.

REGION 5

Pack 308, Prospect, Ky., Troop 241, Memphis, Tenn. and Crew 86, Foley, Ala.

REGION 6

Pack, Troop, Team and Crew 420 of Cincinnati, Ohio

REGION 7

Pack 102 of Indianapolis, Ind., Troop 368 of Evansville, and Crew 393 of Evansville, Ind.

REGION 8

Pack and Troop 374 of Bloomington, Minnesota

REGION 9

Pack 214 of Liberty, Mo. and Troop 643, St. Ann, Mo.

REGION 10

Troop 9 of Houston, Texas and Crew 304 of Ft. Worth, Texas

REGION 11

Pack 811 of Brea, Calif. and Troop 148 of Temecula, Calif.

REGION 13

Pack 280, Albuquerque, N.M.

REGION 14

Pack 45, Tampa, Fla., Troop 10, Venice, Fla., and Crew 115, Aiken, S.C.