

Boy Scouts of America National Catholic Committee on Scouting



Annual Report On Boy Scouting in the Catholic Church (April 2001 – April 2002)

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Introduction

Purpose of this Report This report summarizes the fundamental goals of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting and objective progress made over the past year in achieving them.

Highlights 2001 saw the following major accomplishments by the NCCS:

- Philmont and National Jamboree Chaplaincy touched the lives of 45,000 youth
- Revised Scouter Development and Pope Pius XII Programs were released. Both of these programs offer outstanding opportunities for youth and adult formation.
- Long Range Planning process initiated to evaluate NCCS effectiveness and develop objective plans.
- Membership Initiative endorsed to address need for membership renewal and growth.

NCCS Mission and Authority The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) exists to utilize and ensure the constructive use of the program of the BSA as a viable form of youth ministry with Catholic Youth of our nation.

The NCCS is a committee of concerned Catholic Laity and Clergy which is advisory to the Boy Scouts of America and relates to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) through its NCCS Episcopal Liaison.

BSA Mission It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to serve others by helping instill values in young people, and to prepare them to make ethical decisions during their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we try to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law.

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Catholic Values, Programs, and Activities

Building Units with Catholic Identity

The basic goals of Catholic youth ministry are:

1. To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today,
2. To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community, and
3. To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

The NCCS addresses these goals in several ways. We

- Encourage the formation and support of Catholic-chartered units,
 - Support Diocesan Catholic Boy Scouting Committees,
 - Offer Catholic programs complementary to the BSA programs, and
 - Provide formation and activity training for leaders and youth.
-

Dialogue on Leadership Standards

Catholic Scouting is built on standards and core values. A principal attraction of Scouting as youth ministry is its adaptability to the mission of its chartered organizations. The right of the BSA to enforce its membership and leadership standards has been the subject of several challenges and the U. S. Supreme has upheld the BSA right to freedom of association. We will continue to advocate Catholic values to the BSA.

- Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger, Episcopal Liaison, was a member of a special task force to clarify the BSA position relative to its Leadership Standards. The BSA Executive Board adopted the resolution proposed by this group in February 2002.
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Programs

We continue to develop and improve programs and activities to supplement the secular scouting program through Diocesan Scout Committees.

- The revised Scouter Development: Lay Apostolate Formation for Scouting program released in 2001 is being successfully implemented in many dioceses.
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Catholic Values, Programs, and Activities, Continued

Programs
(continued)

- The Pope Pius XII Emblem Program was revised and released for distribution at the 2002 annual meeting.
- Catholic religious emblems programs continue to be successfully implemented in most dioceses. Catholic Religious Emblems were presented as shown in the table below.

	Cub Scouts	Boy Scouts	Venturers	All Youth	Adult
2001 Catholic	30,936	4,319	1,562	36,817	843
2000 Catholic	27,277	4,639	1,022	32,938	971
2001 All Faiths	62,727	16,271	2,295	81,293	5,111

Source: Relationships Division BSA, 2002 National Meeting Emblems Report

- A Vocation Committee Handbook has been published by the Vocations Standing Committee as a resource tool for diocesan committees.
- In 1997 a program called “Into the Third Millennium” was started to raise awareness of the Christian meaning of the Millennium. This has been a very successful program with more than 20,000 patches having been earned by scouts. This program was updated in 2001 as “The Third Millennium with Jesus Christ” to remain current in the 2000’s.
- The Pope Paul VI National Unit Recognition program was renewed and simplified to encourage participation by more units. Every unit can earn this award by meeting standards related to leadership, activities, spiritual growth, etc.
- Twenty-three units were awarded Gold Medallion status for their achievements in 2001. The Gold Medallion, intended to recognize the outstanding pack, troop, and venture crew in each region, was approved for continuation through 2005.

Special Events

To give a direct witness to Catholic values the NCCS staffs several national and international events for participation by Scout youth and adult leaders.

The **2001 National Jamboree** was staffed by more than twenty Catholic priests and NCCS Past National Chaplain Fr. Dennis O’Rourke headed the Chaplaincy Corps (all faiths). Five full time volunteers staffed a midway booth. Three bishops (including Archbishop Montalvo, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States) celebrated Mass in the rain attended by more than 9000 Scouts and Leaders.

- **Philmont Chaplaincy** was successfully manned, but with difficulty. Mass was offered daily except for one day when no priest was available. Staffing appears to be complete for the summer of 2002.

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Catholic Values, Programs, and Activities, Continued

Special Events (continued)

- Twelve Scouts were regional representatives of Catholic Scouting at **Youth Congress on Vocations** concurrent with the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC). The NCCS cosponsored a display booth at the conference.
 - Three priest members of the NCCS will be present at the **World Jamboree** in 2003 (Fr. Dennis O'Rourke – Past National Chaplain, Fr. Leo LeBlanc – ICCS Chaplain for the Americas Region, and Msgr. Robert Guglielmone – ICCS World Chaplain.
 - More than 50 bishops of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops attended our information breakfast at the U. S. Catholic Conference in November, 2001. This **Bishops Breakfast** is held annually to thank the bishops for their support of Scouting and to give them an update on our activities in support of youth ministry over the past year. Highlights this year included the Mass at the National Jamboree, Jamboree and Philmont chaplaincy, and plans for staffing the 2002 St. George Leadership Trek.
 - The July 2002 **Saint George Leadership Trek** is fully staffed and will have 57 participants including a female crew.
 - The Executive Committee approved expenditures over the next two years to support an **Inter-Americas Trek**. This trek will support two crews of Scouts (24 participants) from Latin America and the United States at Philmont.
 - The NCCS is encouraging Catholic scouts to attend the 2002 **Word Youth Day** events in Toronto with groups from their dioceses. Region 1 has organized a provisional Scout/Venture group to attend from the New England area.
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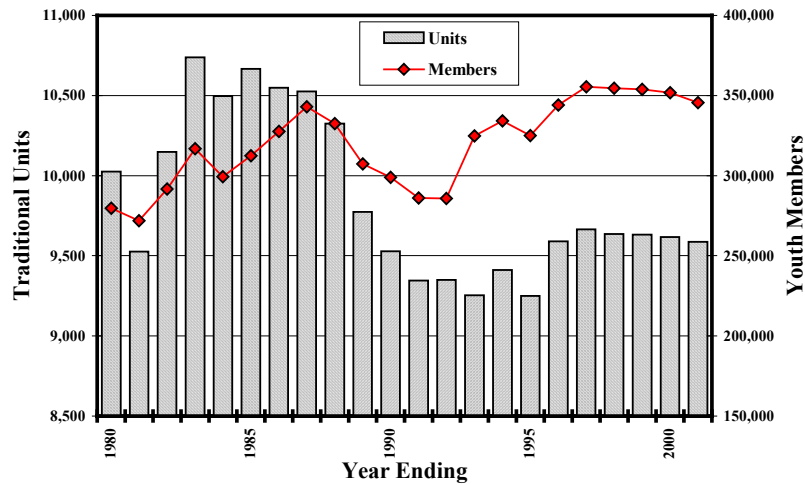
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Membership

Statistics

At the end of 2001 there were 345,568 youth registered in 9,587 traditional Scouting units chartered to Catholic Institutions. We have not achieved our Millennium goal of 10,000 units and membership has been eroding slowly since 1997.

Catholic Scouting	2001	
	Units	Youth
Cub Scouting	4,796	234,148
Boy Scouting	4,010	102,581
Venture	781	8,839
All Scouting	9,587	345,568



Membership Initiative

The Executive Board approved and endorsed a Catholic Membership Initiative outline plan in April 2002. This initiative will begin in July 2002 and end in April of 2005 with the following goals;

1. Reaffirm Scouting as Catholic Youth Ministry.
2. Increase the number of units with Catholic Organizations as Chartered Partners.
3. Encourage growth in Diocesan Committees to strengthen and support Catholic Scouting.

Every diocese and BSA Council will be invited to participate in this effort and they will be provided the resources needed to undertake a program of membership renewal and growth.

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Membership, Continued

Diocesan Reports

For several years the BSA has been converting membership databases to a new computing system. One consequence of this has been the loss of statistical data for NCCS regions and dioceses to use. Through the efforts of several volunteers, more reliable diocesan data is once again available.

Catholic Alliances

The NCCS is recognized by the USCCB as the authority to represent all Catholic Boy Scout Chartered institutions to the BSA. This is recognized as a dual responsibility: first, to build relationships with all youth serving Catholic institutions that can charter Scout units and second, to properly understand and represent Catholic youth ministry goals and objectives to the BSA. This is best done by building liaison relationships with several Catholic bodies.

- The National Chairman and Chaplain are active members of the **BSA Relationships Committee** and Religious Relationships Sub-committee and were present or represented at all of their meetings. With other Catholic members of these committees we represent Catholic perspectives to the National Council.
- **Knights of Columbus** – Since 1923 when the Knights of Columbus commended Scouting as a fruitful activity for their order, their councils have molded hundreds of thousands of youth through the Scouting program. Today the Knights charter 1165 units with almost 33,000 registered youth. In some regions more than 21% of the units chartered to Catholic units are affiliated with the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus do not currently have a formal representative on the NCCS Executive Board, but there are many members on national and diocesan committees.
- **Serra International** – A Catholic fraternal group with a strong interest in promoting religious vocations and training Catholic lay leadership. Serra has been a strong supporter of Catholic Scouting programs including financial underwriting of the Pope Paul VI National Unit Recognition. Homer Radford, a member of both the NCCS and Serra is our liaison representative and attends its annual meetings.
- **Sacred Military Constantinian Order of Saint George** – The Constantinian Order is a worldwide organization with a mission of service to others. In the United States this service extends to Catholic education, The Path to Peace Foundation, Catholic University, and Catholic Scouting. Over eleven years they have underwritten the cost of every Saint George Youth Leadership Trek at Philmont (now held every other year) and will provide the bulk of the funds for the 2002 Trek. John Condon is their liaison as an at-large member of our Executive Board.

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Membership, Continued

Catholic Alliances (continued)

- **USCCB Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women and Youth** – Barbara Anderson has taken over the liaison role formerly filled by Michelle Miller.
- **National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry** – The NCCS is a collaborating member of the NFCYM and its Executive Director, Robert McCarty, is a member of our Executive Board. Tom Nishikubo continues to be our NCYC representative and represented us at the 2002 NFCYM Annual Membership Meeting in San Diego.

Members of the NCCS Executive Board were present, with the BSA Relationships Division, to man a display booth at the 2001 National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis. About 24,000 youth and leaders attended the conference from more than 40 dioceses across the country.

- **International Catholic Conference on Scouting** – The NCCS is one of about 70 Catholic Scout Associations composing the ICCS. We are represented on the world council by our International Committee Chair, Fr. Dennis O'Rourke.

Two NCCS chaplains currently hold positions of leadership with the ICCS. Msgr. Robert Guglielmone is the World Ecclesiastical Assistant (chaplain) and Fr. Leo LeBlanc is the Ecclesiastical Assistant (chaplain) for the Inter America Region. Bob Oldowski is a member of the ICCS Intra-Americas Region Executive Committee. All of these individuals attended the general seminar in Cochabamba, Bolivia in 2001.

Cultural Diversity

The NCCS must build a foundation for diversity so that the programs can be easily adapted to any parish situation.

The immediate objective is to establish an advisory group to identify needs and programs. This year we met with the BSA Southern Region Hispanic Outreach Task Force and the Northeast Region Scoutreach Committee to explain the role of the NCCS and understand current outreach programs. The NCCS Advisory Board has been tasked to study needs and recommend an appropriate effort.

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Diocesan Committees

Support

The National Committees provide direct support to dioceses through Regional Chairs and Chaplains. Since 2000, a National Vice-Chair has had oversight responsibility for the Regional Chairs to centralize and focus communication. Communications are effected by personal phone calls and letters (E-mail), newsletters, and regional meetings and conferences. More than half of the regions hold meetings or conferences independent of the NCCS biennial meeting and about one-quarter produce a regional newsletter.

Support is also provided through the NCCS quarterly newsletter, "*The Bridge*," and our Internet Website (www.nccs-bsa.org).

Region Statistics

The Diocesan Scout Committee is the principal means to advocate, teach, and deliver Catholic Scouting.

Region	Area	Units	Youth	Dioceses	Active Committees
1	ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI	886	34331	11	10
2	NY, PR	829	26895	9	6
3	PA, NJ	1077	37297	13	13
4a	WV, VA, MD, DE, DC, Mil.	475	18295	7	6
4b	NC, SC, GA, FL	569	22135	12	9
5	KY, TN, LA, MS, AL	680	25500	18	15
6	MI, OH	955	35364	13	10
7	WI, IL, IN	1250	46189	16	14
8	MN, ND, SD	310	11368	10	5
9	NE. IA, KS, MO	781	24390	15	11
10	TX, OK, AR	587	20099	17	15
11	CA, NV, HI, Guam	700	23409	15	11
12	WA, OR, ID, MT, AK	280	8705	11	9
13	WY, UT, CO, AZ, NM,, TX	318	11575	11	11

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Diocesan Committees, Continued

Training

If the Diocesan Scout Committees are to effectively influence their diocesan Catholic communities and build units with a strong Catholic identity, their members and leaders must be trained.

- **Philmont Training Conference “*Scouting in the Catholic Church*”** – Since its inception on 1974, the focus of this annual training conference has been the formation and training of leaders for Diocesan Boy Scout committees. The 2001 conference was attended by 48 Scouters from 33 dioceses and 37 BSA Councils and was directed by John Ribar, with Msgr. Bob Guglielmo (chaplain), Tony Madonia and Joe Leister serving as faculty.
- **Biennial Conference** – Workshop content at the 2002 conference was redirected to address the training and information needs of four specific interest groups: Diocesan Committee leaders, Membership Committee members, Religious Emblem Committee members, and youth ministers. Twenty-five separate workshops were recruited and coordinated by the Training Committee.

Approximately 200 Catholic Scouters attended the 2002 Biennial Conference in Tucson, AZ. These conferences are organized to provide a forum for the general membership of the NCCS, offer training workshops, and provide an opportunity for the NCCS national committees to meet. Fewer than 20% of our Diocesan Committees were represented at this year’s conference and there is serious concern about the effectiveness of this meeting.

- **Training Committee** – In addition to the coordination efforts outlined above, the Training Committee is studying the needs of standing committees, regional leaders, and diocesan committees for training programs and tools.
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Staffing National Committees

The NCCS is constantly seeking people to serve on standing committees, task forces, boards, and as regional leaders. More than 200 volunteers offer their time and talents to serve on national committees to achieve the mission of the NCCS. Scouters can learn more about our activities at the annual Philmont Training Conference “*Scouting in the Catholic Church*”, Annual Standing Committee Meetings, regional meetings, and at our Internet Website www.nccs-bsa.org . Volunteers are invited to submit biographical information to Barbara Nestel, at N.C.C.S., P. O. Box 152079, Irving TX 75015-2079.

The Nominating Committee is charged with responsibility to search out qualified individuals willing to work on the National Executive Board.

Finding qualified regional leaders is a continuing problem. Two regions had no Chairperson in 2001 and chairs that also have Standing Committee leadership responsibilities serve two regions.

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Diocesan Committees, Continued

Long Range Plan

A Long-range Planning Committee commissioned to identify major issues facing the NCCS has submitted a preliminary report. The committee has identified improvement opportunities in seven areas: membership, programs, administration, relationships, clergy, vocations and finance. Work is continuing to produce an action plan based on these recommendations.

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Financial Stability

Financial Summary

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting saw a continued growth in its fund balances through 2001. Although the year was not strong for the economy, NCCS funds, managed by the BSA, saw some growth and stabilization. Total cash and endowment assets invested with the BSA at the end of 2001 were \$1,083,000.

- Operating funds closed the year at \$88,197, lower than normal. This is attributed to extraordinary funding for the National Jamboree Catholic display booth and Catholic Chaplaincy.
 - The Golden AAD fund closed with a \$280,446 balance. Interest from this account will ultimately fund the NCCS activities of priest volunteers. Last year these expenses were about \$40,000.
 - The St. George Fund, authorized in 2001 with a bequest by Emmett Doerr, closed with a balance of \$183,263. Interest from this fund will be used to provide support and scholarships for the St. George Trek at Philmont
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2001 Expenses

Expenses for 2001 were \$218,650 vs. a budget of \$292,074. They may be compared with expenses of \$252,295 against a budget of \$305,225 in 2000. The year to year variations are largely due to increased expenses for the St George Trek and Biennial Meeting in even numbered years. Expenses traditionally underrun the budgeted amounts due to generous in-kind contributions by lay volunteers and costs voluntarily accepted by our priests.

2002 Budget

Expenses for 2002 are budgeted at \$315,950 which is about 8% higher than 2001

Executive Board Support of Annual Fund

In 1999 the Executive Board passed a resolution that asked for 100 percent participation in the annual fund campaign by Board Members. Participation in 2001 was 35%.

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Appendix: National Leadership

Executive Committee

<u>Position</u>	<u>Leader</u>
National Chairman	Edward P. Gargiulo
National Chaplain	Rev. Donald K. Hummel
Past National Chairman	Robert S. Oldowski
Past National Chaplain	Rev. Dennis O'Rourke
Associate National Chaplain	Rev. Roger LaChance
Vice-Chairman: Finance	Bray B. Barnes
Vice-Chairman: Administration	Thomas Nishikubo
Vice-Chairman: Program	John P. Ribar
Vice-Chairman: Regions	William Davies
Vice-Chairman:	James Cordek
Episcopal Liaison	Most Rev. Gerald A. Gettelfinger
BSA Relationships Division	Donald Oblander
USCCB Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women and Youth	Barbara Anderson

Regional Leaders

<u>Region</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Chaplain</u>
1	Dave Moskal	Rev. Steve Salvador
2	Robert Jones	Rev. Kevin Smith
3	Frank Koller	Msgr. John Dermond
4a	Joe Simon	Rev. Daniel Mode
4b	Bert Johnson	Rev. Edwin Palka
5	John Halloran	Rev. Charles Morgan
6	Ed Martin	Msgr. James Kolp
7	Robert Freville	Rev. Roger Strebel
8	Carol Oldowski	Rev. Jerry Fehn
9	Robert H. Nelson	Rev. Joseph B. Powers
10	Ray Broussard	Msgr. James Anderson
11	Frank M. Diaz	Msgr. Tony Ferrero
12	James Burgen	Rev. Leo McDowell
13	Don Ellefsen	Rev. Jim Blaine

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Appendix: National Leadership, Continued

Committee Assignments	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
	<u>Standing Committees:</u>		
	Chaplains	Rev. Joe Weber	Betty Bridgeman
	Conference	Mike Kosiba	Rev. Tom Cronin Rev. Michael Donald
	Eastern Churches	Marge Dillenburg	Rev. David Michael
	Finance	Bray Barnes	Msgr. Richard LaRocque
	International	Rev. Dennis O'Rourke	Joseph DeStefano
	ICCS Region	Rev. Leo LeBlanc	
	ICCS World	Msgr. Robert Guglielmone	
	Marketing PR	Cecile Greene	Rev. Larry Manchas
	WebMaster	Tony Madonia	
	BRIDGE Editor	Chris Hoelle	
	Membership	Frank Diaz	Rev. Nick Rachford
	Religious Activities	Marie Simons	Rev. Ron Walters
	Religious Emblems	Jerry Scanlan	Rev. Dan Friedman
	Training	Ed Martin	Rev. Ray Fecteau
	Vocations	Homer Radford	Rev. Jim Oberle
	Nominating	Bob Oldowski	Rev. Dennis O'Rourke
	Advisory Board	Frank Rossomondo	Rev. Leo LeBlanc
	<u>Ad Hoc Committees:</u>		
	Philmont Training Conf.	Jerry Scanlan (Dir.)	Msgr. Tony Ferrero
		Bray Barnes	Marie Simons
	Long Range Planning	Bray Barnes	
	St. George Trek	Rev. Kevin Smith	Austin Cannon
	Membership Initiative	John Ribar	Ed Martin Gerry Scanlan
