

Atlanta Archdiocesan
Catholic Committee on Scouting

Newsletter

Volume 7 Number 2

September 2008

Welcome New Members

The Atlanta Archdiocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting would like to welcome the following new members to our Committee. Fr. Tim Gadziola is the new Chaplain for the Atlanta Area Council Boy Scouts of America and Fr. Jim Mecili is the new Chaplain for the Northwest Georgia Boy Scout Council. We would also like to extend a welcome to Lou Ann Piantieri, the new Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia Council Representative and Girl Scout Training Chairman and Shana Estabrooks, the new Flint River Council Boy Scout Representative.

Pillars of Faith

Very few Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts earn their Religious Emblems while in scouting. Even fewer go on to earn all four of them—Boy Scouts: Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII; and Girl Scouts: Family of God, I Live My Faith, the Marian Award—May the First Disciple and The Spirit Alive. To earn all four of them is a monumental feat. It is the highest award Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts can earn after receiving all four of their Religious Emblems. The Pillars of Faith recognition is new having just been approved by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting at their Biennial Conference in Louisville in 2008. The program originated in the Diocese of Colorado Springs. There are two awards: the Pillars of Faith—Duty to God for Boy Scouts and the Pillars of Faith—Service to God for the Girl Scouts. The name and design of the award represent the fact that the four Religious Emblems are like pillars, supporting the Scout's development in and appreciation of his/her Catholic faith. The Religious Emblems are the pillars not the roof. The design also includes the Church, Bible and cross, other essential elements in faith. Scouts who have earned all four Religious Emblems in previous years are also eligible to receive the Pillars of Faith award. For more information on either of these awards, please contact Mary Ellen Yeomans at 770-977-2883 or meyeomans@bellsouth.net.

Footsteps of American Saints Introduced

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting has introduced a new patch activity program for both youth and adults called "Footsteps of American Saints". This new activity program encourages youth to learn about several different individuals who have shaped the landscape of Catholicism in America. This religious activity honors those men and women who led heroic lives of faith. Their words, deeds and devotion to prayer and the sacraments, inspire all American Catholics. In the Church calendar for the United States, some have the title of "Saint" and are venerated by the universal church, while others have the title of "Blessed" and are venerated by the local church. Some also have the title of "Venerable" and, while on their way to becoming a "Saint", may be venerated by Catholics. All of them sought to follow Jesus.

The goal is to share the lives of several Saints so that the youth may relate to what these people have done and maybe look to these individuals as role models. The program will start out with five Saints and five new ones will be added each January. The Saints with memorials will be introduced first, then Saints with optional memorials. The following Saints are available for 2008: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Saint John Neumann, Blessed Kateri Takekwitha, Saint Peter Claver and Saint Isaac Joques. For a complete listing of all the Saints included in this program and the requirements for earning the patches, please see the National Catholic Committee's website at www.nccs-bsa.org and go to Awards, Recognitions and Patches section. This is available to both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of all ages.

International Awareness Recognition

The International Catholic Conference on Scouting, a world wide organization, offers to Boy and Girl Scouts of all levels as well as Scouters the opportunity to earn a Pin and Patch and/or Medallion Recognition. While the program has been in existence previously, the activities have either been expanded or been completely revised and new activities added. There are now four levels of activities—Cub Scout/ Brownie/Daisy Requirements (1-5 grade); Younger Boy Scout and Girl Scout Requirements (6-8 grade); Older Boy and Girl Scout/Venturing and Scouter Requirements. The ICCS provides an opportunity for its members to come together as friends in the Catholic Church. It links the Catholic Church and the Scouting Movement all over the world. It contributes to the education of young people through Scouting from the point of view of the Catholic faith. It develops and enhances the spiritual dimension of Scouting in the World Scout Movement. The Pope appoints priests to work with the ICCS as chaplains or ecclesiastical associates. This is an activity of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting's International Committee and not a religious emblem program or award. The requirements may be also be found on the NCCS Website under Awards, Recognitions and Patches.

Rosary Patch

The Rosary Patch Series has been extended indefinitely. All four Mysteries of the Rosary (Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious) have now been introduced. In addition to the four sets of Mysteries, there is a fifth Rosary Patch—Pray the Rosary. The requirements may be downloaded from our website www.aaccos.org or from the NCCS website www.nccs-bsa.org. Some of the questions may require some research (biblical reference), however, the purpose of earning the patch is to further your understanding of the birth, ministry, passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ in addition to learning how to pray the Rosary. Each patch is \$4 and may be earned by Tigers, Brownies, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts (Juniors, Cadettes and Seniors), Boy Scouts, Venturers, and Adults. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mary Ellen Yeomans at 770-977-2883.

Marietta and Athens Boy Scout Troops Take Top Honors

The Atlanta Archdiocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting held its annual Archdiocesan Scout Recognition Mass on Saturday, May 3, 2008 at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church. Archbishop Donoghue was the principal celebrant. The Scout Mass honored all young people for their hard work and adults for their contributions to Catholic Scouting within the Girl Scout, Boy Scout and Camp Fire programs.

The following Girl Scout was awarded her **Marian Award, Mary the First Disciple—Elizabeth Anne Z., Catholic Center at the University of Georgia.**

In addition to the Marian Award, the **Ad Altare Dei Award** was presented to the following boys: **Immaculate Heart of Mary**—Thomas C., Evan G., Patrick G. and Kevin G.; **Prince of Peace**—Joseph F. and Michael J.; **Sacred Heart—Milledgeville**—Seth L., Brian P., James P., Jonathan P., Ryan T. and Sean T.; **St. Andrew**—Jeremy C. and Alexander L.; **St. Benedict**—Deron M., Joshua M. and Kevin V.; **St. Brigid**—Josh B. and James S.; **St. Catherine of Siena**—Matthew B., Troy D., Nick E., Matthew K., Alec L., Joseph N., Michael N. and Joshua S.; **St. James Catholic Mission—Madison**—Noah G. ; **St. James the Apostle—McDonough**—Louis P.; **St. Joseph—Athens**—Eli B., Peter K., Decian T. and Richard Y.; **St. Joseph—Marietta**—Mark B.; **St. Monica**—Sean F., James L. and Matthew L.; **St. Peter Chanel**—Spencer S. and Vincent S.; **St. Philip Benizi**—Josh G., Patrick H., Joey H. and Marco S.; **St. Thomas Aquinas**—William B. and Karl H.; **St. Thomas Moore**—Corey H. and **Transfiguration**—Daniel B., Dillon G., Ezekiel H., Austin H., Danny H., Alex L., Devin O., Nathan P., Patrick S., Ryan T. and Peyton W. We also had three young men receive their **Pope Pius XII Award: St. Anthony of Padua**- Clarke S.; **St. Philip Benizi**—Chris G. and **Transfiguration**—Stephen R. In addition to receiving their Pope Pius XII Award, Clarke S. and Chris G. both received the **Pillars of Faith—Duty to God Award**. It is the highest award a young person can receive after they have received all four of their Religious Emblems.

In addition to the above Religious Emblems, we recognized Scouts and Scouters with their **International Awareness Award**. The recipients included Francis Cronin, **Holy Cross**; Violet P., Andrew R., Stephen R., Patrick T. and Ryan T., **Catholic Church of the Transfiguration** and Frances V., Joey V. and Vickie Voll, **University Catholic Center at Emory**.

Adults were also recognized for their contributions to Catholic Scouting and the youth. Lisa LaPointe, **St. Catherine of Siena**, received the **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award** for Girl Scouts and Robert Gillespie, Martin Grace and Thomas Moorman, **Immaculate Heart of Mary**; Will Grasse, **Our Lady of LaSalette**; Louis Pesce, **St. James the Apostle**; Rebecca Deitsch and Leanne Penman, **Catholic Church of St. Monica**; Susan Dimmett, **Catholic Church of the Transfiguration** and Victoria Voll, **University Catholic Center at Emory** received the **Bronze Pelican** for Boy Scouts. The Bronze Pelican is a diocesan award while the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is a national recognition. The **St. George Emblem is a national recognition** approved by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting to recognize the recipient's outstanding contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youth in the Boy Scout program. This year's recipients included Francis Cronin, **Holy Cross**; Gary LaPointe, **St. Catherine of Siena** and Shana Estabrook, **St. Mary Magdalene**.

Besides individual awards and recognitions, several units in the Archdiocese were recognized for their outstanding service during the past year. The following Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops were recognized with the **National Catholic Quality Unit Award** sponsored by the Boy Scout National Catholic Committee on Scouting: **Pack 827, Catholic Church of St. Monica; Pack 422, St. Catherine of Siena; Pack 1776, Catholic Church of St. Ann; Troop 75, Catholic Church of the Transfiguration; Troop 422, St. Catherine of Siena and Troop 1776, Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of LaSalette 8376, Catholic Church of St. Ann. Cub Scout Pack 4900, St. Michael the Archangel** was the **runner up of the Golden Medallion Award for Cub Scout Packs for Region 14.**

This is a **national award** and only one Pack, Troop and Venture Crew can receive it from each of the fourteen Episcopal Regions of the United States. Each year at the discretion of the Archdiocesan Chaplain, the **Chaplain's Cup** is awarded to the Boy Scout Pack, Troop or Crew or Girl Scout Troop who has had outstanding participation in scouting programs during the past year but was not selected for their respective Bishop's Trophy. The 2008 recipient was **Boy Scout Troop 326, Knights of Columbus Council 6514, St. Joseph's—Athens**. The final unit award for the afternoon was the Bishop's Trophy which all Catholic units both Boy Scout and Girl Scout should strive for and apply for each year. Judging for the trophy is comprised of two min objectives: Scouting and Religion. Considered under the Scouting objective is the size of the Unit in regard to the number of advancements and service projects for the Church and community. The Religious objective covers Religious Emblems, Days of Reflection, Retreats and religious campouts. **The 2008 recipient of the Boy Scout Bishop's Trophy was Boy Scout Troop 75, Catholic Church of the Transfiguration. The Archdiocese has two trophies—one for the Boy Scouts and one for the Girl Scouts. No Girl Scout Troop applied for the Girl Scout Bishop's Trophy in 2008.**

The last award given was one that recognized the **Archdiocese of Atlanta as a Quality Diocese**. We joined many other (Arch)Dioceses across the country in this recognition. There are criteria to be followed in order to be considered and this is **Atlanta's FIFTH YEAR IN A ROW** to be recognized with this honor. This award was introduced in 2002.

Girl Scout Alternate Medal Programs

The Archdiocese of Atlanta has instituted additional Religious Medal programs—Ave Maria for Brownies, Regina Coeli for Juniors and St. Agnes Award for Cadettes and Seniors. These new programs do **NOT** replace the National Religious Emblem programs (Family of God, I Live My Faith, Mary, the First Disciple and The Spirit Alive). These new programs are in addition to the others and should only be used by girls who have **completed** their initial emblem program and are not ready to begin their next program because of their grade/level in scouting. Contact Mary Ellen Yeomans for more information.

Girl Scout Millennium Patch Program

We, in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, have instituted a Girl Scout Millennium Patch program for Girl Scouts of all ages. The requirements are posted on our website www.aaccos.org or may be obtained from Mary Ellen Yeomans at 770-977-2883. Upon completion of the program, a request for patches should be sent to Mary Ellen Yeomans. The patches are \$1 each and may be earned by all levels of Girl Scouts including adults.

ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

(please check our website for additional information and updates)

<http://www.aaccos.org>

- September 12-14, 2008** **Adult Scouter Development Training/Retreat Covecrest Retreat Center, Tiger, GA (Boy/Girl Scout Leaders/Counselors)**
- September 13th** **Quarterly AACCOS Meeting, Covecrest Retreat Center, time TBD**
- October 11th** **Archdiocesan Scout Retreat for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts 6th Grade and older, St. Andrew Catholic Church, Roswell, 10 AM-6:30 PM (5:30 P.M. Mass included)**
- October 24-26, 2008** **Boy Scout Duty to God Encampment, Bert Adams Scout Reservation (4 PM Mass celebrated at Bert Adams)**
- November 15th** **Annual Boy Scout Expo, Jim Miller Park, Marietta, GA, 10 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**
- January 24, 2009** **Annual AACCOS Program Planning Meeting, All Saints Scout Hut, 9 AM**

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Chaplain	Monsignor Bill Hoffman	770-540-0559
Assistant Chaplain	Fr. Robert Frederick	706-864-4779
Chairman	Tom Bender	770-978-8190
Girl Scout Emblems	Shirlee Wiener	678-362-6388
Boy Scout & Cub Scout Emblems	Tommy Treat	770-973-2007
Membership Chairman	Bill Leach	770-594-2462
Membership Vice Chairman	Shirlee Wiener	678-362-6388
Secretary	Mary Daube	770-682-0304
Treasurer	Vicky Voll	404-636-7730
Communications Chairman	Mary Ellen Yeomans	770-977-2883
Boy Scout Training Chairman	Deacon Tom Gotschall	770-490-9436
Girl Scout Training Chairman	LouAnn Piantieri	770-924-2110
Knights of Columbus Liason	John J. Jedlicka	770-722-9614
Webmaster	Will Grasse	678-977-7826

COMMITTEE BSA CONTACTS

AAC Religious Relations Liaison	Tom Bender	770-978-8190
Atlanta Area Council Chaplain	Fr. Tim Gadziala	404-758-8861
NE GA Committee Chair	Phil Krajec	770-513-9039
NE GA Council Interfaith Comm.	Leo Schiltgen	678-755-1084
NW Georgia Council Chaplain	Fr. Jim Miceli	706-290-9000
Flint River Council	Shana Estabrooks	678-423-0913
Central Georgia Council	TBA	
Chattahoochee Council	TBA	
GA Carolina Council	TBA	

COMMITTEE GIRL SCOUT CONTACTS

The GS of Historic Georgia	LouAnn Piantieri	770-924-2110
The GS of Greater Atlanta, Inc.	Shirlee Wiener	678-362-6388

CAMPFIRE USA CONTACTS

Georgia Campfire Representative	TBA	404-527-7125
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Website <http://www.aaccos.org>