



## *eBridge* *NCCS* Newsletter

National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

December 20, 2008

### Your December To Do List

#### **NCCS members**

Annual Membership dues reminder - Due 1/1/09 (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org/business/joinNCCS.php>)

NCCS Regional Training – Registration due 1/1/09  
(<http://www.phxdccs.org/2009region13meeting.php>)

NCCS Annual meeting – 4/21-25/09 Galveston, TX (Save the date. More information to follow)

Scouting in the Catholic Church – 6/21-27/09 (<http://nccs-bsa.org/activities/philmont.php>)

#### **Catholic Unit leaders**

National Catholic Quality Unit Award – Pope Paul VI (<http://nccs-bsa.org/emblems-awards/ppaul6.php>)

Gold Medallion – Due to Diocesan CCS Chaplain by 1/5/09; due to Regional Chair/Chaplain by 1/15/09 ([http://nccs-bsa.org/emblems-awards/gold\\_med.php](http://nccs-bsa.org/emblems-awards/gold_med.php))

Encourage your Catholic Eagle Scouts who will be graduating in 2009 to apply for the Doerr Scholarship (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org/business/EJDscholarship.php>) (Due 3/1/09)

#### **Diocese Chairs and Chaplains**

Quality Diocese Award – Submit before 3/15/09 (<http://nccs-bsa.org/emblems-awards/qualitydiocese.php>)

Award for Excellence – Due 1/1/09 (<http://nccs-bsa.org/emblems-awards/awardexcellence.php>)

St. George Trek – 7/21-8/5/09 (<http://nccs-bsa.org/activities/trek.php>)

Applications and requests for financial assistance due 1/1/09

**The National Catholic Committee on Scouting® wishes everyone a Merry and blessed Christmas, and prosperous New Year.**

**Welcome new readers**

We would like to welcome over 340 new eBridge readers this month. As part of your NCCS membership, your email address was added if you were not on the list before, and you are a Diocesan or Region Chair or Chaplain, or have attend Scouting in the Catholic Church in 2006 or 2007, or attended a Biennial Conference in the past three years. If you would not like to receive future eBridge newsletters, you can follow the instructions on the bottom of this newsletter to unsubscribe.

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **Phoenix Training Registration Closing Soon**

Registration for the NCCS Regional Training to be held January 9-10, 2009, in Phoenix, AZ will close on January 5 to allow the committee time to order food and materials. If you have not registered yet, please go to <http://www.phxdccs.org/2009region13meeting.php> for information and to download the registration form. For information, please contact Tony Madonia at [atmadonia@aol.com](mailto:atmadonia@aol.com). There is still plenty of room, so register today!!

### **College Scholarships Available**

For the past five years, the NCCS has been awarding scholarships to Catholic Scouts in their senior year of high school who have earned both their Eagle or Silver award and the Ad Altare Dei or Pope Pius XII religious emblem. This school year, there will be five awards of \$2000 each.

The scholarship was originally funded by John and Julie Doerr in memory of their father, Emmett J. Doerr, an active Catholic Scouter. Emmett Doerr was the first recipient of the Brother Barnabas Founders Award. He was also recognized with the Silver Antelope, Silver Beaver, and the St. George medals. Emmett's love for Scouting, especially Catholic Scouting, is the reason why the Doerr family wants to ensure that his legacy continues. Last year, the NCCS voted to match the Doerr family contribution.

Eligibility requirements and the application can be found on the NCCS website at <http://www.nccs-bsa.org/business/EJDScholarship.php>. The deadline for submitting an application is March 1, 2008.

"We are counting on the local diocesan committees and Catholic Scouters to spread the word of this opportunity to all their graduating Scouts", says Bill Davies, NCCS National Chairman. "They are the ones who have contact with the Scouts and can make the difference."

Edward P. Martin

Vice Chair-Finance

## **New Program to Plant Seeds for Vocations via Serra Venturing in Catholic High Schools**

Many Catholic priests and religious men and women serving the Church today began their discernment, or found support for their budding vocation interest, during High School and/or in Scouting. Serrans across the country are invited to be part of a new movement to offer Serra awareness and discernment opportunities for youth in Catholic High Schools, through Serra Club chartered Venturing crews. Please see <http://www.serraus.org/> for more information.

Homer Radford

## **NCCS welcomed at NCCYM Meeting**

The biennial National Conference of Catholic Youth Ministers (NCCYM) was held December 4-7 at the Cleveland (Ohio) Convention Center. Thousands of youth and campus ministers, religious education leaders, performers and artists, and volunteers from every level came together for inspiring keynotes, challenging workshops, dynamic prayer and worship, helpful networking, extensive resources, and good-hearted entertainment. The NCCS was represented with a booth staffed by George Sparks, Associate Director of BSA Community Alliances; John Ribar, Vice Chair; Msgr. James Kolp, Region 6 Chaplain; Ed Martin, Vice Chair; and Ed Gargiulo, Past National Chair.

Hundreds of youth ministers visited the booth to learn more about the purpose and programs of the NCCS. Many related their own past and current experiences with Scouting and others were just curious how Scouting could be used as a program of youth ministry. The NCCS has been an exhibitor for several years. In addition, two of our own Executive Board members, Jack Thompson and Fr. Bob Guglielmone, were recognized at this event for their service in past years to Catholic youth through Scouting.

The NCCYM is the largest adult conference for Catholic Youth Ministers in the country. It is sponsored biennially on even numbered years by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry in order to help form and transform adults ministering to youth in the Catholic Church.

## **NCCS National Election Results**

The NCCS Nomination Committee has advised the result of the recent election. Those elected:

John Halloran – Chair Elect  
John Ribar – Vice Chair  
Jerry Scanlan – Vice Chair

The candidates will be installed at the April 2009 Board Meeting to be held in Galveston, TX. John Halloran will serve a one-year term as Chair Elect. At the 2010 Board Meeting he will be installed as NCCS Chair for a three-year term. John Ribar and Jerry Scanlan will each be installed for a two-year term as a Vice Chair at the Galveston Board meeting.

I want to extend a special thank you to Dave Moskal and Tony Madonia for being candidates. The contributions by all nominees are greatly appreciated by the NCCS.

Regional positions affirmed:

Region 4 Chairman: Sam Bridgeman

Region 6 Chairman: Al Tarlo, Sr.

Region 9 Chaplain: Rev. Joseph B. Powers

Region 12 Chairman: Deacon Roy Harrington

Region 13 Chairman: Don Ellefsen

Region Chairmen and Chaplains take office January 1, 2009 and are sworn in at the Annual Meeting in April.

Bill Davies - National Chair

National Catholic Committee on Scouting

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **NCCS Participates in World Council**

The International Catholic Conference for Scouting holds a World Council meeting every three years. This year it was held in Rome, from November 20-23, 2008. The highlight of the meeting was Past NCCS Chairman Bray Barnes' re-election to a second three-year term as Deputy Secretary General of ICCS. Baldur Hermans of Germany was re-elected Secretary General. Our Delegates were NCCS International Committee Chairman, Lynn Horne and NCCS International Committee Advisor Fr. Roger LaChance. NCCS was also represented by Fr. Bob Guglielmone, ICCS World Chaplain, Fr. Leo LeBlanc, ICCS Americas Region Chaplain, Bray Barnes, ICCS Deputy Secretary General, and International Committee member Scott Harvey.

The Dutch Antilles was elected to membership in ICCS and our Region during the first business meeting.

Over 125 ICCS members from 32 countries attended. The agenda included: reports on the activities of our officers during the last triennial; discussion of the financial situation of ICCS, led by our Treasurer; regional meetings (Europe, Middle East, Africa, Inter-American, and Asia-Pacific); and meetings of four Working Groups regarding aspects of the Future Plans of ICCS. It is planned that they will continue meeting via the Internet during the next three years.

Regional Secretary Dr. Rolando Rocha of Bolivia and Regional Chaplain Fr. Leo LeBlanc of NCCS led the Inter-American Regional meeting. Regional Committeeman Lynn Horne, and the contingents of USA, Ecuador, Brazil and Bolivia established five goals for the next three years. These include having more members pay their dues and thus again become voting members of ICCS and our Region, increasing attendance (countries and leaders) at our annual Regional Conferences, holding training conferences in association with our regional meetings in Panama and Brazil and all future sites, and encouraging other countries (especially Mexico) to join ICCS.

If you are interested in joining the International Committee of ICCS or attending the next Regional Meeting in early 2009, please contact Lynn Horne at [lvismpresident@aol.com](mailto:lvismpresident@aol.com).

## **REGIONAL NEWS**

### **Region 10 Conference a Success**

The Diocese of Fort Worth hosted the 2008 Region X Conference held on November 7-8 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Grapevine, TX. Representatives from a number of diocese shared strategies for success, discussed challenges with potential solutions and a website <http://www.angelfire.com/tx6/patch/REGIONhome.html> was created to allow easy access to conference program helps. In addition, a commemorative patch portrait has been produced that features a map of Region X, the image of St Paul commemorating the Vatican Pauline Year celebration, and white crosses symbolizing the seat of each diocese in Region X. Unbeknownst to organizers, Bernie Denker attended our conference on her birthday ... but we acted quickly and surprised her with a cake and candles. Peg is an officer of the Oklahoma City CCS and has facilitated religious programs and done Boy Scout boards of review. Diocese of Ft. Worth Bishop Kevin Vann celebrated mass for attendees. Contact John [Ryan.John.Ryan@cmc.com](mailto:Ryan.John.Ryan@cmc.com) for more information.

## Prayers

All those who protect and serve our nation, states, and local governments, especially those in harm's way, and those who will not be with their families during the Christmas season.

All those who have been affected by the world economic conditions.

## WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS

This is a new section where we will welcome new members and send congratulations to new and existing members.

- Fr. Jim Altman – Chaplain Diocese of La Cross, WI

## OTHER INFORMATION

Next eBridge deadline 1/10/08. Next The Bridge deadline 3/15/08. All articles should be sent by this date to [nccsnews@nccs-bsa.info](mailto:nccsnews@nccs-bsa.info) or posted on the NCCS Information Board.

Yours in Christ and Scouting,

The NCCS Newsletter Team

Please send your Newsletter items to: [nccsnews@nccs-bsa.info](mailto:nccsnews@nccs-bsa.info)

We reserve the right to spell check and edit content for clarity.

We will try to include your article in the next monthly *eBridge* newsletter, but may withhold the article until we can confirm/clarify content. For longer articles, please send a few brief paragraphs and a link to the full article on your website. Forward this eBridge to your fellow Catholic Scouters. For new registrations to the *eBridge* and to read the NCCS Information Board go to <http://www.nccs-bsa.info>.

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