



eBridge NCCS Newsletter

National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of *eBridge*, the NCCS monthly eNewsletter. It is another channel to get the news you need as soon as possible. In the few days since the email announcement, over 140 Catholic Scouters have signed up. Over 30 Scouters have also signed up to access the NCCS Information Board which we will use to archive the *eBridge*, and provide a space for you to post questions for the standing committees and for them to answer your questions and post their information. We hope you find this a useful resource and will provide comments and feedback on how we are doing. Please pass this on to your local Catholic Scouters and direct them to <http://www.nccs-bsa.info> to learn how to sign up for the eBridge and NCCS Information Board.

National Information

2007 Standing Committees, Advisory and Executive Board Meeting Plans

It's time to start planning for the NCCS Annual 2007 meeting at the Hyatt in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin April 16-21. The standing committees use the annual meeting to evaluate what happened in the past year, plan out what they will be working on in the future, and start working on it as a group. The regional chairs and chaplains meet to learn from each other as they report and discuss their region's activities. There are plenty of awards including the Golden AAD, Spes Mundi, Silver St. George, and Jerusalem Cross. The meeting concludes with region and standing committee reports and voting on proposals presented by the committees. The 2007 meeting also present an opportunity to thank outgoing National Chairman, Bray Barnes, and National Chaplain, Fr. Roger LaChance, as they pass the torch to Chair-elect Bill Davies and Associate Chaplain Fr. Ray Fecteau, and welcome Fr. Stephen Salvador as the new Associate National Chaplain and two vice-chairs (to be elected in December).

If you interested in becoming a member of one of the NCCS standing committees, go to the website (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org/contacts.php>) to find the contact information for the Standing Committee chair and advisor and send him/her an email.

See the full story at: <http://www.nccs-bsa.org/activities/2007AnnualMeeting.php>

Knights Initiative

The Knights of Columbus, NCCS, and BSA introduced our new membership initiative this summer. Packets were sent to all Knights councils, (arch)diocesan chairs and chaplains, and BSA councils in time for the new school year. State coordinators have volunteered from 12 states and DC and are listed on our website (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org/kofc/stateCoordinators.php>). There are a few more names that we are confirming before putting them on the website. If your state is not represented on our website, contact your KofC State Scouting Director and request that they complete the web form (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org/kofc/volunteer.php>) so that his brother Knights can contact him with questions and requests to start units. You don't have to be the State Scouting Director to be the state coordinator, you only need to be a Knight and registered Scouter. Please complete the web form or contact NCCS coordinator Sam Bridgeman (Snbridge@aol.com) to volunteer.

Serra International Foundation Grant to Underwrite Venturing Units in Catholic High Schools – Serra Clubs Chartering Partner

The fastest growing area for traditional BSA programs is Venturing. The newest Catholic Venturing programs are being formed for Catholic High Schools students through Serra Clubs under the auspices of the USA Council of Serra International. The Serra International Foundation approved a \$7,000 grant to fund the program and it is being launched in the Diocese of Phoenix, Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO and Archdiocese of Kansas City in KS.

The Serra Club units will allow for each youth to grow in religious belief using the Pope Pius XII Religious Emblem, and provide opportunities for various outdoors, sports, and career-oriented resources of Venturing and Sea Scouting. This program can work with existing programs, such as high school prayer/ministry clubs, sports related and/or other clubs, or a high school can starting a "new" extracurricular program. The programs will be fully qualified under the BSA and diocesan youth protection policies.

See the full story at: <http://www.nccs-bsa.org/activities/SerraVenturing.php>

Scouting Magazine is Celebrating Scouting's 'Treasures' - Msgr. John Brady
Scouting Magazine honored Msgr. John Brady in a three-page spread in their November/December 2006 edition. Read the full article starting on page 30 of the magazine and on line at <http://www.scoutingmagazine.org/issues/current/a-john.html>.

Local Information

Congratulations to:

Watch for future local news here!

Pray for our Scouters and their families

Medical

Susan Barriball – recovering from surgery

Military

Fr. Daniel Mode, Military Chaplain

All the brave men and women in the military protecting our country

Deceased

Ruth Wong - Wife of Jimmy Wong - 10/8/06

Your To Do List:

- Tell your Catholic Scouting friends to sign up for the **eBridge** and NCCS Information Board.
- Have your units turn in their Gold Medallion applications starting December 1
- Have your units turn in their Pope Paul VI Quality Catholic Unit Awards
- Have your (arch)diocesan committee turn in their Quality Diocese Award starting December 1
- Send your news stories to the eBridge editor for next month's issue. (Stories will be forwarded to **The Bridge** editor for publication at his discretion.)
- Send your news stories for **The Bridge** before the November 15 deadline.
- Plan now for the Annual Meeting April 16-21.
- Plan now for the Scouting in the Catholic Church conference at Philmont in July 29-August 4, 2007.

See the complete To Do list broken down by area of responsibility on the NCCS home page (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org>).

Help Wanted

eBridge Assistant Editor – Once we have the format in place, we would like some help gathering the stories (reading the emails sent to the editor), sending out reminders to committee members to send in stories, condensing them into a Word document, send the document out to be proof read, and sending the corrected document to the webmaster to be sent out. If you have 3-5 hours a month (only an hour a week) and have some persuasive skills to get information and format it, please contact NCCS webmaster Tony Madonia (webmaster@nccs-bsa.org) to offer your services.

Yours in Christ and Scouting,

The NCCS Newsletter Team

Please send your Newsletter items to: eBridgeNews@nccs-bsa.info

We reserve the right to spellcheck 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. New registrations for the *eBridge* and NCCS Information Board are available at <http://www.nccs-bsa.info>.