



Piercing Arrow

November 2016

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Diocese of Kansas City- St. Joseph, Missouri

Chairman's Report

The diocesan committee charged with promoting scouting in the Catholic Church is off to a good start. Catholic scouting retreat was a success in September with plans underway for next year. Multiple groups are providing training for religious emblems in Ad Altare Dei. I hope your unit is involved with one of them.

Our group is made up of a variety of leaders addressing the needs of scouting in general, and Catholic Scouting in particular. We provide training for religious emblems, care of the chapel at Bartle scout camp, assignments for Sunday services, and an annual retreat promoting the last point in the scout law; reverence. We are local leaders like you going one extra step for our youth. Last summer I attended the annual course, Scouting in the Catholic Church, at the Philmont Training Center. A valuable learning opportunity with our own chaplain, Fr. Joe Powers, as one of the staff members for the week.

The committee now meets at St. Mark's parish in Independence on the third Wednesday's of most months at 7:00. I invite a leader from your unit to attend. Our next meeting is January 18 where a topic of discussion includes the bats roosting in the ceiling of the chapel. Please join us.

John Swartz

Chaplain's Report

I ask every unit committee to appoint a coordinator for religious emblems and activities then send his/her contact information to me. This will enable me to keep you abreast of the latest updates and available activities outside of the newsletter.

Did you know that there are opportunities to recognize adults in your units who have supported Catholic Scouting? These include the Bronze Pelican which is awarded by a diocese and the St. George Emblem which is awarded by the National Catholic Committee. The adult does not have to be Catholic or registered with BSA. See the article on Page 5 within this newsletter and nominate someone today.

If you are not chartered by a parish then I urge you to meet with your pastor to discuss it. Why? Because BSA's protection against challenges over the admission policy applies only to units chartered to a church. I will make myself available to answer questions or address concerns.

During these Advent days, let us take time to reflect on how much God loves us - enough to send His only Begotten Son in our human nature for our redemption! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts and in your actions.

Fr. Joe Powers

Religious Emblems Counselor Training Available Spring 2017

We are planning to hold a Catholic Religious Emblems Counselor training session in either March, April or May of 2017. This session would be held on a Saturday morning, or perhaps a Sunday afternoon. Two individuals have expressed interest so far. If

you know anyone who is interested in becoming a trained Catholic Religious Emblems counselor for the Ad Altare Dei and St. Pius XII religious emblems, please contact Thomas Jewitt at oubrioko@yahoo.com or 816-537-6104 so that we can set an appropriate date. Thank you.

Board of Directors Election

The election of the 2017 Catholic Committee on Scouting Board of Directors has taken place at the November membership meeting. The 2016 officers were unanimously retained in their present positions. They are:

Chair, John Swartz

Vice-Chair, Mike O'Neil

Treasurer, Joe Griggs

Secretary, Thomas Jewitt

Member-at-Large, Bill Kattner

Committee Chairs are listed in the Committee Contacts Section below.

Award Application Deadline

The Committee is seeking applicants for the Bronze Pelican, St. George and St. Jean Baptiste De la Salle Awards. The deadline for submission for this year is: January 1, 2017. See Page 5 for details.

The applications can be downloaded from the Committee Website: <http://Catholicscouting-kcsj.com>

Membership Report

You Can Still Support Us

Membership

Our Membership roster is 169 strong. As of November 18, we have received responses from 56 members who have donated a total of \$1,820.00 to our annual effort to support, promote and advance Catholic Scouting in the Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph.

If you have not yet responded to the annual membership appeal mailed to each member this past January, you can mail your remittance to me at the address listed below. Your tax-deductible donation

can be made payable to: Catholic Committee on Scouting. Many thanks to each of you for your continued interest and support.

Thomas Jewitt, Membership Chair
Catholic Committee on Scouting
4384 SW Breezy Point Lane
Lee's Summit, MO 64082-4716

Mark Brayer Retires

Mark Brayer has retired from the Heart of America Council. Mark's most recent position was Director of Support Services. He is a member of St. Mark the Evangelist in Independence, Missouri.

Donald F. Dekat, NCCOS Supporter Dead at 96



Donald F. Dekat, 96, of Independence, Missouri, passed October 14, 2016. A Mic-O- Say memorial ceremony was held on October 23, at Muehlebach Funeral Care, in Kansas City. The funeral was held at Nativity of Mary thereafter.

Born September 29, 1920, in Flush, Kansas, Donald graduated in 1939 from Flush High School, and moved to Kansas City. On Aug. 24, 1942, Don entered the Army Air Corps at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. He was stationed at Gulfport Field, Mississippi, as an airplane and engine mechanic. During his military tenure Don

was honored with several medals and honors. While in the service, Don married Ruth (Doll) on July 21, 1945. Together they had two sons and one daughter.

Don was very involved in different Catholic clubs and organizations such as Knights of Columbus, Holy Name Society of St. Joseph Catholic Church (Flush, KS), Holy Name Society & Usher of St. James Catholic Church (KCMO), Eucharistic Minister of Nativity of Mary Catholic Church (Indep.),

Don became involved in scouting when his oldest son, Joe, crossed over from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. At Troop 54, he soon became an Asst. Scoutmaster. His interest in scouting led him to join the Catholic Committee on Scouting, where he served for nearly thirty (30) years. He was Sachem (Rumbling Thundercloud) in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and served multiple roles within Boy Scouts of America. He was awarded the District Award of Merit by Blue Elk District and the Silver Beaver by the Heart of America Council.

National Committee on Scouting News

Mr. George Sparks and Father Kevin Smith were installed as National Chair and Chaplain last April. They will lead and guide the Committee for the next three years under the banner of 'Renew-Rebuild-Rejoice'. Father Joe Powers, our Chaplain, was appointed Associate National Chaplain of the NCCS.

The National Catholic Quality Unit Award – Pope Paul VI.

The new requirements will use the bronze-silver-gold model found in BSA's Journey to Excellence award. The change will enable units to be recognized for their efforts while striving to reach the topmost level.

Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII religious emblems

These awards are open to all Venturers and Explorers. Advise your units.

Learning for Life

A program suitable for use in Catholic schools has been developed.

Last, but not least, NCCS is now on **Facebook**.

2016 Religious Retreat Report

More than 100 scouts and scouters converged on Camp Prairie Schooner the weekend of September 9-11, 2016 for the annual retreat, sponsored by the Catholic Committee on Scouting. This year's theme was "Mercy in Motion" with Saturday morning activities focusing on the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy. Members of the community working in ministries specific to the works of mercy were on hand to talk with the scouts about why their work is important to the community. The Retreat Committee would like to recognize those that gave their time on Saturday:

Clothe the Naked – Donna Ryan/St. Mary's Outreach

Feed the Hungry, Give Drink to the Thirsty– Deacon Dan Brink

Bury the Dead – Tara Havard, Speaks Funeral Home

Visit the Imprisoned – Deacon Ken Albers and Corey Christlieb

Visit the Shut-Ins – Jeff Gilbert, St. Mark's pastoral care

Shelter the Homeless – Cathy Asher, Crossroads Homeless Shelter

Scouts also took part in 2 campfires, crackerbarrel, rappelling, gaga ball, board games, a 9/11 memorial prayer service and Mass.

Adults were able to take part in National Catholic Leadership Development and Religious Emblems Counselor Training on Saturday.

As always, great food was a part of the retreat. A big THANK YOU goes to Bill Kattner, John Swartz, R. Scott Smith and Jim LaScala for preparing delicious meals all weekend. "Chris Cakes" provided breakfast on Sunday.

This retreat wouldn't be possible without many dedicated people over several months giving their time and creativity to this process.

Our youth staff this year included:
Martin Morgan, Spencer Engelman & Tristan Spooner, all of Troop 221
Ben Thomas, Ethan Mitchell, Logan Mitchell & Adam Milam, all of Troop 161

Our adult staff included:
Thomas Jewitt and Bob Stockdell, Retreat co-chairs, with
Deacon Ken Albers, Bill Kattner, James Milam, Jim LaScala and Paul Morgan.

A special THANK YOU to:
Dennis Ryan for providing our sound system again this year.

John Ryan for facilitating National Catholic Leadership Development

Dave Tracewell and Homer & Katie Radford for facilitating the Religious Emblems Counselor Training

Greg Wieberg for providing music for Mass and, last but certainly not least,

Father Joe Powers. His continued leadership, encouragement and advice are a valuable part of this retreat and the Catholic Committee as a whole.

Check out the CCS website:
www.catholicscouting-kcsj.com for a gallery of photos from this year's retreat.

The 2017 Retreat will be the weekend of September 8-10. We always welcome youth and adults that want to be a part of the retreat committee. If you're interested, please contact me.

Mary Stoner, Retreat Chairperson

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Chair: John Swartz: 816-523-5758
Vice Chair: Mike O'Neil, 816-436-4804
Chaplain: Fr. Joe Powers, 816-842-0416
Secretary: Thomas Jewitt, 816-537-6104
Treasurer: Joe Griggs 816-651-4869
Member-at-Large: Bill Kattner
Religious Emblems: Mary Stoner, 816-509-7702
Religious Activities: Ken Fuenfhausen, 816-529-29711
Membership: Thomas Jewitt, 816-537-6104
Unit Relations: Cathy Albers, 816-313-9953
Scouter Development: John Ryan, 816-833-1141
Vocations: Vacant
Communications: R. Scott Smith, 816-588-3377
Bartle Maintenance: Scott Baird, 816-363-3742
Emblem Counselor Training: Dave Tracewell
John Pileggi, John Wesling
St. Joseph Committee Chair: Shannon Clark, 816-232-0477
Director, Diocesan Youth Ministry Office: Michael Nations 816-756-1850
Heart of America Council Liaison: Nick Traxler 816-942-9333

Father's Day Celebration at Camp Bartle



There was a Father's Day celebration of the Eucharist at Chapel of the Twelve Apostles at Bartle this past summer. St. Peter's Troop 118 gathered with their Pastor, Fr. Steven Cook (far left) following the afternoon Mass. Dr. David Safely, camp scoutmaster, led 37 boys and 14 full time leaders through the 10 very warm days.

Application Information for Catholic Committee Awards

The **Bronze Pelican Emblem** is a diocesan recognition defined by the Catholic Committee on Scouting with the approval of the bishop. It may be presented to any adult working in the Scouting Programs under Catholic auspices, to Catholics in Units not partnered by the Church, and to those who have made significant contribution to Scouting in the field of Catholic relationship. It may be given to Catholic men and women, including priests and religious, or to non-Catholics.

The purpose of this emblem is to recognize an outstanding contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youth in the Scouting Programs. See the website for the application and guidelines for consideration. <http://Catholicscouting-kcsj.com> Deadline: January 1, 2017

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting®, acting through the local diocese or eparchy, may award the **St. George emblem** to members of the laity and clergy, Scouters and non-Scouters alike, who have made significant and outstanding contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youths through Scouting. The recipients of the emblem are to be sought after and selected by an active committee of the (arch)diocese/eparchy. Nomination forms should give a detailed description of how the nominee provides outstanding contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youths through Scouting in the Catholic Church. It is improper to nominate oneself or one's immediate family members. General Scouting achievements do not qualify a person to receive the St. George emblem. See the website for the application and guidelines for consideration. <http://Catholicscouting-kcsj.com> Deadline: January 1, 2017

The **St. John Baptist de la Salle Award** award is intended to recognize persons who have continued to contribute to the mission of the Kansas City-St. Joseph Catholic Committee on Scouting by the sharing of time, talent or treasure over a lengthy period of time. The award may be given to any individual, regardless of gender or religion, laity or religious. Nominee must have been awarded the St. George Emblem at least 5 years prior to this nomination. The Kansas City-St. Joseph Catholic Committee on Scouting may bestow a maximum of 3 awards annually. See the website for the application and guidelines for consideration. <http://Catholicscouting-kcsj.com> Deadline: January 1, 2017