

**PHXDCCS QUARTERLY MEETING
JULY 30, 2014**

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Kathy Polowski. Those in attendance included Joe and Marie Maresh, Dave Girona, Jim Moore, Herb Pierpan, Nancy Welton, Tony Madonia, Tom Koncel, Scott Impecoven, and Jennie Coon.

Nancy offered an opening prayer asking for God's blessing on our efforts to inspire and support our Catholic scouts.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Secretary—Ann Colvin-Smith

Kathy reported that the minutes from the April Quarterly meeting are still in progress.

Treasurer—Mary Madonia

Mary mailed the Treasurer's report which showed a balance in the checkbook of \$1184.68. When considering outstanding checks and pending deposits the adjusted balance is \$1321.11.

Kathy reported that she and Mary had corresponded concerning setting a time frame for reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of the committee. A proposal was made and seconded to allow a 30 day reimbursement period from the date of the event or purchase and no longer. This was initiated in order to provide more timely and accurate recordkeeping. Committee members can obtain a Reimbursement Request form directly from Mary. It needs to be completed and submitted, with copies of receipts attached, as directed on the form. The vote passed unanimously and the procedure will be implemented effective August 1, 2014.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Knights of Columbus—Jim Moore

Jim reported that the new State Deputy, Larry Becker, was installed earlier in July and is a strong supporter of Boy Scouts. He is an Eagle scout from a family of Eagle scouts, including his son.

Jim made a very successful presentation to the Knights at their State Convention in June and fielded many inquiries related to Knights chartering units. He thanked the committee for the poster and other items he used for his presentation and display.

Jim reported that he has contacted the Grand Knight at the K of C Council #12313 at St. Bernard of Clairvaux to try and negotiate a successful solution to a problem with the charter. He has requested a meeting and is waiting to hear back.

NCCS—Nancy Welton

Nancy provided information about the new NCCS Membership Initiative and reviewed some statistics about the decline in scouting nationally over the past decade. The number of

“available” youth declined as did the number of units and this transferred to Catholic chartered units as well. Nancy encouraged everyone to “join the bandwagon” and promote scouting.

Grand Canyon Council—Scott Impecoven

Scott mentioned that several District personnel have informed him of their efforts as follows: Matthew Graham is working to develop a Cub Scout pack at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Avondale.

Sal Siniscalchi of Thunderbird District is working with leaders at St. Jerome to resolve some issues related to the new parish priest. This year is the 50th anniversary year of the troop and they just honored their 105th Eagle Scout. Kathy will contact Fr. Dennis and Fr. Arthur to try and obtain a successful resolution to the problems

An inquiry was made related to the \$190 EMA fee that was charged for participants that did not attend the Walk in the Sun retreat in February. Fees were based on the original estimate of 200 attendees and reimbursement was requested since actual attendance was 101 but was denied based on new GCC policies related to cancellations. Scott suggested that Kathy speak with Suzanne Hermann for a more detailed explanation and to see if the fees could be applied for future use.

GCC Interfaith Religious Recognitions Committee—Tom Koncel

Plans are being formulated for the 2014 10 Commandment Hike, held the day after Thanksgiving.

The route will be in North Central Phoenix and the hosting church will be the First United Methodist Church. Jose Amorin is making the arrangements. Part of the hike path might be along the old Murphy Bridle Trail. Dave is checking to see if the Mounted Sheriff’s Posse can help with crossing at the intersections.

There are many unique churches in the areas so it may be possible to fulfill some of the requirements of the Architecture merit badge.

ACPC Interfaith Committee—OPEN

Jennie Coon reported that the Girl Scout tea held in May was a big success. Ann Colvin-Smith offered the invocation. The tea was moved from Camp Sombrero to the Glendale Center in order to accommodate the large number of girls in attendance. Individual recognitions were presented to girls of all faiths working on the My Faith, My Promise pin and their own religious emblems. This event will most likely become an annual event held in late May.

Jennie mentioned that although some Girl Scout troops are affiliated with a Catholic School, it is a challenge to reach girls who are not in one of these troops. She encouraged everyone to make the effort to reach out to Catholic Girl Scouts not affiliated with a Catholic school. Since GS don’t have a chartered organization system it presents a difficult challenge to reach out and promote our emblems, patch programs and activities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communication—Kathy reported that Lynn has been updating the website, Nancy has been posting pertinent information on the Face Book page and Kathy has been sending a “Committee News” e-blast most months.

Membership—Kathy reported that we will be recruiting members for the Membership subcommittee. The responsibilities of this committee will include outreach to existing units in a Unit Commissioner type role and to help establish new units. Meetings with GCC to formulate strategies will be scheduled in the fall.

Planning for the Bishop’s Dinner on September 16, 2014 at the Mt. Claret Retreat Center is going strong:

- Letters to 72 parish pastors, 27 COR’s, several dozen leaders, Eagle Scouts etc. have been mailed.
- Registration can be accomplished by returning the form with payment to Ann Colvin-Smith or registering through the PayPal link on our website.
- Catering will be done by Orange Table and dinner will include Chicken Piccata with a side of veggies and angel hair pasta.
- Ads can be placed in the program to help offset the cost of printing.
- Nominations for Adult Religious Recognitions are being accepted and the form can be found on the website. Bishop Nevares will be a recipient of the St. George medal and it will be presented at the dinner along with the other recipients.
- The goal of the dinner is to promote Catholic Boy Scouting as youth ministry and to perhaps plant the seed for new unit development and/or affirm continued support for existing units.

Religious Activities---Kathy reported that it was voted at the last quarterly meeting in April to hold the 2015 Walk in the Son retreat at Heard Scout Pueblo. Date requests have been submitted to Wynn Riffle at GCC and we are awaiting the response.

Religious Emblems---Kathy reported that the May ceremony, held at Resurrection Parish in Tempe, was a big success. Thanks to all who assisted.

Nancy and Kathy held a Religious Emblems Counselor training class at the end of May for 7 participants. They are now certified and Kathy will mail certificates after checking compliance with Diocesan Safe Environment programs. Another REC class will be offered in late summer by Kathy and Ann Colvin-Smith and the date will be announced soon.

Vocations—Dave Gironda reported that the annual Seminarian Picnic, co-sponsored by the Diocesan Venturing Crew, will be held August 3. The Serra Club donates \$1000 to the Crew annually and they reciprocate by carrying out this picnic in cooperation with the Serra Club...from shopping to food prep and cooking to clean up. Seminarians and their families are guests and the dinner is a send off before the seminarians go on retreat at Mt. Claret for the week and begin to depart for their respective seminaries. The Bishop’s Venturing Crew has supported this event for the past five years and is very much appreciated by all.

BUSINESS:

Unfinished—Camp Chaplain coverage

Kathy reported that there was difficulty providing Mass and Liturgies of the Word at Camps Geronimo and R-C this summer. Fr. Ed Lucero from St. Philip's in Payson contacted Kathy and requested assistance in covering the services during summer camp. Although many contacts were made it proved to be difficult in part due to short notice but also due to the fact that approvals must be made through both dioceses since the camps are actually located in the Diocese of Tucson boundaries.

Fr. Dennis celebrated mass at Camp Geronimo on June 22 and reported that 187 people attended the service. Deacon Doug Davaz from St. Benedict's went to Geronimo two additional times and provided a Liturgy of the Word service and Deacon Paul Hursh from St. Andrew's Parish celebrate the Liturgy at R-C on one occasion. Many thanks to Geronimo Program Director and Lutheran Pastor Cindy Cone for providing a Liturgy service as well.

Kathy will be working with both Diocesan Committees and Chaplains in an effort to have priests or deacons scheduled every weekend for the summer of 2015.

New—Arizona Rosary Celebration

Kathy reported that the ARC Steering Committee has asked for 20-24 Boy Scouts to assist with the celebration by greeting guests and handing out programs. Kathy will be sending emails to recruit scouts for this service opportunity.

Kathy proposed having a mini-Walk in the Son ½ day retreat this fall for Cub Scouts and Brownies. It was agreed if a leader can be found to lead the event. Date tbd.

PROGRAM:

Calendar Planning—Discussion was held about various activities and dates and the approved dates are listed as follows:

2014

August 30-- Religious Emblems Counselor Training at the DPC.
September 16—Bishop's dinner at Mt. Claret Retreat Center
October 11—Anza Trek sponsored by the Diocese of Tucson, Mission Tumacacori
October 12—Arizona Rosary Celebration
October 22---Quarterly meeting at the DPC, room tbd.
October 26---Priesthood Sunday
November 28---Ten Commandment Hike
December __?__--Committee Christmas Party, date, time and location tbd.

2015

January 28—Quarterly meeting at the DPC, room tbd.
February 6-8---Walk in the Son retreat at Heard Scout Pueblo
February 8---Scout Sunday (Boy Scouts)
February 8--Annual GCC IF Religious Recognition ceremony
February 22—Girl Scout Thinking Day

February 28---Scoutorama at University of Phoenix Stadium, GCC IF Booth with PhxDCCS table.

March 8—Girl Scout Sunday

March 21/22—Annual Adult Leader Retreat, date and location tbd

April 16-19---NCCS Annual Meeting in Tampa, FL

April 22---Boards of Review: ILMF, Marian, Spirit Alive, Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII emblems

April 29—Quarterly meeting at the DPC, room tbd

May 3---Annual Religious Recognition Ceremony for youth.

June ?__—Priestly Ordination at St. Simon and Jude Cathedral

July 11—Quarterly meeting at Sacred Heart Parish in Prescott.

July 8-23—NCCS St. George Trek at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico

July 19-25—Scouting in the Catholic Church Course at the Philmont Training Center

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Minutes respectfully recorded by Kathy Polowski.

Next meeting is **October 22, 2014** at 6:30 at the DPC.