

FEBRUARY 2, 2014

Happy New Year to all our Catholic Scout leaders, parents, scouts and families!

Please take a few minutes to read through this correspondence. Please forward the email to Catholic scouts you know in your troops, parishes and schools. We need to continue to spread the word about our programs and events. My motto for 2014 continues to be "**Fan the Flame**"---the flame of the Holy Spirit who works through us to inspire our young men and women and bring them closer to Jesus Christ and a better understanding of our Catholic faith....and the flame of scouting which embraces scout spirit- to live by the tenets of the Scout Oath, Law and Promise. Thank you! Kathy

**>>>>Calling all Scouts!!! IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER for our "Walk in the Son" Catholic Scout retreat.** The retreat is next **Saturday, February 8**, with camping available Friday and Saturday nights. Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, American Heritage Girls are all welcome. Come with your **troop, pack or FAMILY!** Activities include a "faith hike" when hikers will not only enjoy the beauty of South Mountain but will listen to presentations along the trail about our Catholic faith; make crafts, work on a special service project and enjoy talks by the South Mountain Park rangers, World Wildlife Zoo, Adobe Mountain Birds of Prey, and AZ Hiking Shack in the afternoon. Mass will be celebrated at 4:30 pm followed by dinner at 6:00 and an evening campfire program at 7:30. **Don't miss this special retreat... SIGN UP TODAY!**

Please visit our website at [www.phxdccs.org](http://www.phxdccs.org) and click on the RETREAT tab to find the registration form, permission slip, schedule and other information. Online payment can be made through PayPal or payment can be mailed to the registrar. Details are on the registration form. Please contact [gkeating@sttheresaphx.org](mailto:gkeating@sttheresaphx.org) or [kpolo55@gmail.com](mailto:kpolo55@gmail.com) if you have questions.

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR SCOUT PARENTS AND TROOPS!!! This retreat is a GREAT opportunity for a scout to live his/her Duty to God and enjoy fellowship, faith and fun with other Catholic scouts, leaders and families!**

**>>>>GOOD NEWS!!!!** The **Scouter Development Leader Retreat** scheduled for January 11 was rescheduled to **March 29, 2014**. This is open to leaders in all areas of Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, American Heritage Girls etc. Please spread the word and encourage fellow leaders to come to this inspirational day at the Franciscan Renewal Center celebrating our faith and scouting!!! A flyer with the information about the retreat is attached. Please **RSVP to Kathy** at [kpolo55@gmail.com](mailto:kpolo55@gmail.com) asap to reserve your space for this special event.

**>>>>February and March are months for "Scout Sunday" celebrations!** February is the anniversary month of the founding of BSA and GSUSA recognizes their anniversary in March! If you get a chance, please take some pictures to document any ceremony, special activity or service. We would love to add them to a photo gallery showing our Catholic scouts in action.

**>>>>Applications for the Doerr Scholarships** are due March 1. Five scholarships of \$2000 each are awarded annually to high school seniors. Qualifications include: Eagle Scout, active in a unit and earned either Ad Altare Dei or Pope Pius XII. The application and detailed information can be found at this link: <http://nccs-bsa.org/national/EJDoerrScholarship.php>

**>>>>Applications for the St. George Trek** are now being accepted. The trek is open to youth who will be at least 15 years old by July 1, 2015 and not yet graduated from high school. If you know of a scout who is interested, please have them contact [kpolo55@gmail.com](mailto:kpolo55@gmail.com) for further information. We are allowed to send two candidates maximum. There will be some financial aid available. Learn more at: <http://nccs-bsa.org/ScoutUnits/StGeorgeTrek.php>

**>>>>Eagle Scout Recognition**---Do you have an Eagle Scout that you would like to honor with a certificate from the Knights of Columbus and/or the National Catholic Committee on Scouting? Please contact James Moore at [jmoore237@cox.net](mailto:jmoore237@cox.net) or Kathy Polowski at [kpolo55@gmail.com](mailto:kpolo55@gmail.com) to order the certificates.

**>>>>The Safe Environment Foundation Course "Protecting God's Children for Adults"** is being offered at Holy Spirit Parish in Tempe on Saturday February 15, 2014 from 9-Noon in the Social Hall. This is an opportunity for leaders in Catholic units who have not yet taken the foundation course to come and fulfill that requirement. Subsequent courses can

be completed online. Please visit the following link to register for the class.

<http://www.safeenvironmenttraining.org/classes.php>

>>>>**Pope Paul VI Catholic Quality Unit Award** --If your BSA unit qualifies for this award for 2013 please notify Kathy Polowski at [kpolo55@gmail.com](mailto:kpolo55@gmail.com). You are encouraged to make this award your **GOAL for 2014!** Cooperation, Development and Program are the key elements for success. For more information about this award or to download the application form, please visit the following link: <http://nccs-bsa.org/ScoutUnits/CatholicQualityUnitAward.php>

>>>>**The NCCS 43rd Biennial conference** is being held in Irvine, CA from April 24-27, 2014 at the Hilton John Wayne-Orange County Airport. For more information go to the following link:  
<http://nccs-bsa.org/national/AnnualMeeting2014.php>

>>>> The annual **Scouting in the Catholic Church conference** at the Philmont Training Center runs from August 3-9, 2014 and is an excellent way for leaders to learn about the programs and activities that NCCS has to offer, to realize the relationship between God's calling for us and our Catholic youth ministry within scouting, to meet other great scouters from around the country, and of course, to explore Philmont and the area—truly God's country! Kathy has fliers available or you can visit the Philmont website for conference descriptions. <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/PTC8PGE.pdf>

>>>>Mark Your Calendars....

Catholic Committee on Scouting Quarterly meeting---April 9, 2014, DPC, 6:30 pm, Rm. 104

Religious Emblems Boards of Review---April 16, 2014, DPC, 6:30 pm.

Annual Religious Recognition Ceremony—May 4, 2014, location and time TBD

Religious Emblems Counselor (REC) Training—May 31, 2014 at the DPC, 8:30 am.

Minutes from January's quarterly meeting can be found at [www.phxdccs.org](http://www.phxdccs.org) under the MORE tab.