

Appendix B - Catholic Scouting and the Dubuque Diocese

Introduction

Scouting enjoyed national and local acceptance by the Catholic church almost immediately after the Boy Scout movement was chartered in America.

National Acceptance

An article in the August 28, 1919 *Scouting* magazine proclaimed “Catholics heartily endorse Scout Program”. The author stated that the aim of the National Catholic War Work Council, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America, is to increase the number of Scout troops chartered by Roman Catholic Churches to at least 1,000 within a year. This National Catholic War Work council financially endorsed the idea by providing funds to hire 15 men for the next year or more to help organize the new troops. The article mentioned that there were 587 troops under the leadership of a Roman Catholic Scoutmaster, and of these, 300 were chartered to a Catholic church.

Bishops of the Catholic church, along with national leaders in the Boy Scouts of America, jointly developed what would be referred to as the *Plan of Cooperation*. The Boy Scout Executive Board gave full approval to the plan in March, 1933. Under this plan, the Boy Scouts of America recognized the interest of the Catholic church in the spiritual welfare of Catholic youth. Catholic leaders recognized the BSA as an approved program of the Catholic church. Bishops retained responsibility for the spiritual welfare of Catholic Scouts; the BSA provided program and facilities for use by Catholic partners.

By 1937, every Diocesan Scout Chaplain and Diocesan Lay Chairman was entitled to be commissioned annually by the BSA as Special National Field Scout Commissioner. This was a national commission.

Local Acceptance

When the Dubuque Council was first chartered in 1917, two of the original troops were chartered by Catholic parishes. Rev. John Theobald served as Scoutmaster for Troop 2, chartered by St. Raphael's Cathedral Parish. Troop 6 was chartered by St. Patrick's Catholic Parish.

The push to introduce Scouting and involve Catholic boys in Dubuque would continue. Special Field Commissioner F. X. Hogan visited Dubuque in November of 1919 to promote the Boy Scout program to religious leaders of the Catholic parishes. At the time, 5 of the 8 Catholic parishes within the city chartered a Scout troop. The following year, Edward Roach, Field Secretary of the National Catholic War Work Council and Special Field Executive of the BSA, visited Dubuque parishes to promote Scouting.

Involvement of local leadership was also accelerating. In February, 1929, Scout Executive Harold Baker announced that Archbishop James John Keane of Dubuque was selected to serve on the Bureau for Catholic Extension of the Scout Movement, which was part of the National Council of Catholic Men. His service ended prematurely. The Dubuque Area Council issued a proclamation mourning his death in August, 1929.

Boy Scouts from troops chartered by Catholic parishes participated in the 3rd annual Archdiocesan Catholic Action Week in 1934. Scout participation in daily events included serving as ushers and flag escorts at various services held at parishes. Scouts from Troop 11, chartered by St. Mary's Orphanage, served as sentinels at a service held at the college auditorium.

In February 1937, the celebration of "anniversary" Scout week formally began for many Scouts when the Most Rev. Archbishop Francis J. Beckman, S.T.D. addressed the Catholic troops and Scout leaders in St. Raphael's Cathedral. By the end of 1937, the Archdiocese of Dubuque had 27 Boy Scout troops under Catholic leadership. At the time, only 12 archdiocese nationwide had more Scout troops.

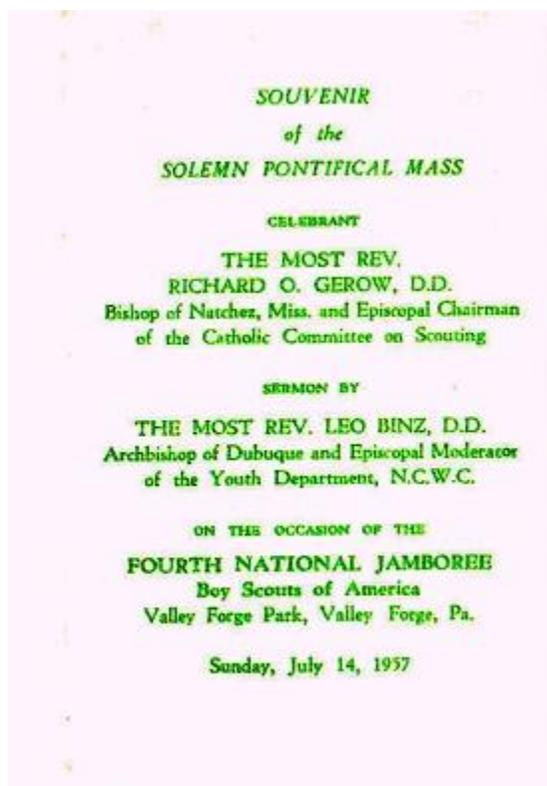
The Dubuque Diocese continued to demonstrate support for Scouting by providing strong adult leadership. Archbishop Beckman appointed H. J. Lott as the Lay Chairman for the Dubuque Archdiocese in 1938. A total of 1,444 Scouts had enrolled in one or more of the 28 Boy Scout retreats held in the Archdiocese in the past 5 years. For Catholic adult Scout leaders, 1938 was the first year that "Scouter retreats" were held, thanks to Diocese-provided leadership.

Upon the appointment of His Excellency, Father Thomas Kelly, Father John R. Goodman of Lisbon replaced Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain Father John Theobald. (Theobald had served as the first Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain.) At the same time, John Wieneke was appointed Area Chaplain for the Northeast Iowa Council. Monsignor John C. Wieneke was appointed as Scout Chaplain in the spring of 1943.

National Scout Jamborees

Of the 25,000 Scouts in attendance at the 1937 National Scout Jamboree, 3,500 or 14% were Catholic Scouts. Mass, the central act of Catholic worship, was celebrated daily in 20 sectional camps. His Excellency, Archbishop Beckman delivered the sermon at the July 4 Pontifical Field Mass. This Mass was held at the base of the Washington Monument. He also gave the benediction at the Grand National Convocation on Sunday, July 4 at the jamboree. At the time, Reverend Francis J. L. Beckman S.T.D. served as honorary vice-chairman of the Bishop's Committee on Scouting.

Beckman would not be the only local leader to provide noteworthy service at National Scout jamborees. Reverend Edmond Cooney served as a jamboree chaplain at the 1950 National Scout jamboree. Archbishop Leo Binz, chairman of the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference (N.C.W.C.) preached the sermon at the Field Mass at the 1957 National Jamboree.



Program for Catholic Mass at the 1957 National Scout Jamboree

Challenges to Scouting During World War II

In September of 1942, the Archdiocesan Committee held a special meeting. In attendance was the Most Reverend Archbishop Beckman, who stressed the need to carry on and extend Scouting in wartime. Area Chaplain Monsignor John Wieneke facilitated meetings held in both Waterloo and in Mason City to address ways of finding and training youth leaders for Scouting in the parishes.

National Catholic Committee on Scouting

Among those who provided leadership at a national level to the help develop cooperation between the BSA and the Catholic church was Victor Ridder. Ridder's leadership helped to form a committee for the extension of Scouting among Catholics. This committee became known as the Catholic Committee on Scouting.

It was this committee, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America, created the *Plan of Cooperation*. Leadership in the development of this plan included Bishop Francis Clement Kelly of the Los Angeles Diocese. The plan of cooperation served to foster a partnership between representatives of the Catholic church and the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1919 a letter of endorsement for Scouting was secured from the Vatican. Hundreds of Scouts troops would soon be formed following this endorsement. In 1923, the Knights of Columbus made Scouting their official program for boys whose ages ranged from 12-15. Bishop Bernard J. Sheil in Chicago began his Catholic Youth Organization in 1928 with Scouting as one of its first phases and one of its firm foundations.

To help implement the Plan of Cooperation, the national Catholic Committee on Scouting proposed three sections in terms of organization: (1) a committee of bishops, (2) a committee of priests (included all Diocese Scout Chaplains), and (3) a committee of laymen (Diocese Lay Chairman). In the late 1940's, however, the " lay portion" of this plan had not been activate.

Frank Schneider, chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Archdiocese of Dubuque, reported in the December 24, 1933 *Telegraph Herald and Times*, that Archbishop Francis J. L. Beckman had been named honorary vice-chairman of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. Beckman would contribute support and leadership to this committee for many years.

Members of this national committee were bishops and archbishops. The purpose of this committee was (1) to promote the formation of Boy Scout troops among Catholic boys; (2) to assist local councils in securing the cooperation of Catholic authorities; (3) to bring to the attention of pastors and others the benefit of the Scout program, (4) to help Scoutmasters administer their Scouts troops in accordance with the requirements of church authorities concerning the religious duties of Catholic boys.

Chaplains Conferences

The first Annual Conference of Diocesan Scout Chaplains was held in Mendham, New Jersey 1934. The following year, the conference was held in conjunction with the National Catholic Charities Conference in Peoria, Illinois.

The event provided the opportunity for clergy to discuss a variety of topics that helped them to ultimately achieve their goal of ministering to Catholic youth through the Boy Scout program. Attendees of this event served as an advisory group.

Each conference provided the opportunity for chaplains to point out the need for interpretation of policies, or to ask for action from either the Boy Scouts of America or the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Conference discussions among attendees revolved around common themes.

Dubuque Diocese Hosts 3rd Annual Conference

The Dubuque Diocese hosted the 3rd Annual Conference of the Catholic Committee on Scouting from October 13-15, 1936 at the Julian Dubuque Hotel. Over 40 Catholic Diocesan Scout Chaplains attended the conference. The conference was held as part of the 5th Annual Catholic Action Week activities.

The conference officially opened on Wednesday, October 14, with morning presentations, followed by discussion, on the following topics:

- organizing and supervising the diocesan committee, presented by Rev. W. J. Conway of Erie, Pennsylvania
- The diocesan program of troop organization, presented by Rev. Terrance Brady, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Boy Scout retreats, presented by Rev. J. C. Wieneke of Cedar Falls

The Note Book
BY THE OBSERVER

Spain in Spain
The secular papers do not comprehend at all the importance of the struggle in Spain. It is the struggle for the liberty and civilization of Western Europe against the slavery and anarchy of Communism. It is the struggle for the survival of the West against the East.

Communism in Spain
The Communist movement, with its various allies, gets the upper hand, although they do not enter all the territories of Spain, although they remain independent of all influence, a starting point will have been established from which revolution will emerge.

Communism in Spain
The Communist strength in Spain resides in Catalonia, captured by Communism and its allied horde of revolutionary agents. If Communism and its preponderance, Catalonia will be the seat of the arts and will also furnish the physical base, finance, and brains of the greater city of the country, the workshop of Spain and its harbor as well as chief taxpayer. Catalonia has enormous mining power, a speech akin to the French and a literature all its own. It is far the largest number of people who can see the machinery of Communism.

U. S. SCOUT CHAPLAIN'S COMMITTEE

GREAT MISSION GROUP STARTED BY LAY WOMAN

Girl's Idea Origin of Greatest Mission Society of Church
New York. The idea of Greater Mission, Catholic laywomen's mission group, started by a lay woman, was described in the "Catholic Mirror" magazine, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the United States.

Plan Meeting of Chaplains
Washington. Typical of a more Catholic chaplains in state and federal institutions will come to their own, that a network between the three chapters in the U. S. Catholic University of America, the National Catholic Chaplains' Association, and the National Catholic Chaplains' Association.

Preachers in Debate on Papal Letter
The Rev. Fr. J. J. Conroy, pastor of St. John's Church, Dubuque, is one of the preachers who are taking part in the debate on the papal letter.

New York Saint



Plan Meeting of Chaplains
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Shaw Aids Campaign to
A campaign of the Shaw family is being conducted in the city of Dubuque.

TO MODERNIZE TEXT OF NEW TESTAMENT

Revision Will Make Bible Easier to Read
New York. Revision of the New Testament to make it more readable to modern Americans is the chief purpose of the Catholic Bible Commission, which is in connection with the National Council on Bible Translation.

Fire Perils Famed Shrine Near Quebec
Quebec, Oct. 13. The threatened fire perils to the shrine of the Virgin Mary near Quebec.

Says Protests Hohn Church
The protests against the Hohn Church are being heard by the authorities.

Iowan Honored



Sisters Receive Scholarships
Alumnae Reviewed 3,740 Films
The sisters have received a total of 3,740 films for their studies.

Archbishop's Letter

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE
Dubuque, Iowa
To the Reverend Clergy, the Religious and the Laity of the Archdiocese of Dubuque,
Dearly Beloved:
"Peace be to you and grace from God the Father and from Our Lord Jesus Christ."

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Says Protests Hohn Church
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MEET FOLLOWS ARCHDIOCESE'S ANNUAL RALLY

Catholic Action Week
Brings Many Fine Discussions
With Catholic Action Week upon its pleasant and profitable mission, Catholic Action Week, Monday and Tuesday to the national convention of the District, Catholic Action Week, the City of Dubuque, Iowa, is being held in this city.

Sisters Receive Scholarships
Alumnae Reviewed 3,740 Films
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Figure. Scouting received headlines in "The Witness" in October, 1936.

Two national-level dignitaries gave talks at the lunch sessions. They were Victor F. Ridder, a New York City publisher and secretary-treasurer of the national Catholic Committee on Scouting, and Region 8 Scout Executive Fred G. Davie.

Facilitators for the Wednesday afternoon sessions were Reverend William LaBodie from Cincinnati, and Kenneth Cook from New York, assistant to the National Director. The discussions focused on cooperation between individual troops and the larger Scouting organization.

The Wednesday evening program featured two speakers and was open to the public. Monsignor J. M. Wolfe from Dubuque told the crowd that Scouting addresses the needs of youth without the need of regimentation and without focusing on military, political, or social policy. Dr. Ray O. Wyland, the BSA National Director of Education and Relationship, spoke on "The Vitality of Scouting".

Agenda: Thursday, October 15

9:30 a.m.	Speaker / Presenter / Facilitator	Topic
	Rev. Peter J. Quinn	Boy Scout Camp Chaplain Service
	Rev. Leo O. Wedl	The Holy Name Society and the Parish Scout Troop
	Rev. Gerald Lambert	What Societies in the Church Should Sponsor a Scout Troop
12:30 p.m. Lunch	Rev. Dr. Edward Roberts Moore; first national director of the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Honorable Victor F. Ridder, Catholic Committee on Scouting. Mr. William J. Campell, Chairman of Lay Committee	Program for Lay Committee
2:30 p.m.		Roundtable discussion on topics suggested by attendees
6:30 p.m.	Dinner: Julian Dubuque Hotel	
7:30 p.m.		1. Pageant by Scouts of the Northeast Iowa Council. 2. Address: Scouting as I Know It (Honorable Victor F. Ridder). 3. Address: Catholic Action and Scouting (Most Rev. Francis J. L. Beckman, S.T.D.) 4. Closing Remarks: Rev. Dr. Edward Roberts Moore

Leadership at Annual Subsequent Conferences

The early church leadership demonstrated a vision for how the Boy Scout program could help the Catholic church minister to Catholic boys. Even among well-meaning pastors, discussion of differences helped them to evolve and somewhat standardize a sense of direction that was best for all. Father Beckman, and Rev. Theobald were active participants in both the discussion, presentation of topics discussed at the annual Diocesan conferences, and ultimately the policies adopted for ministering to Catholic boys for future generations.

Reverend Theobald's involvement with the Annual Conference of Diocesan Scout Chaplains wasn't simply limited to networking at conferences with religious leaders interested in Scouting. Contributions he made outside of the actual conference were distributed as reference material, and even used as discussion topics during the

conference. He authored a paper, for example, titled *National Scout Sunday* that was published in the proceedings of the 5th Annual Conference of Diocesan Scout Chaplains. He would later author a paper entitled *Retreat Manual for Boy Scouts*.

At one conference, Reverend Theobald facilitated a discussion on the observance of Scout Sunday. Conference topics in other years included:

- whether Catholic boys should be exposed to prayers lead by non-Catholics during summer camp, such as grace being said prior to meals and prayers at closing campfires.
- whether Catholic parishes that chartered Scout troops should only serve Catholic boys, or accept non-Catholics.
- whether to allow Catholic boys to join neighborhood troops, or to try and encourage them to join a troop chartered by a Catholic church.
- whether there should be a merit badge for religion. The BSA did not reject this idea, but representatives from Protestant, Jew, Mormon, and Catholic denominations agreed that the basis for requirements was difficult to meet the needs regardless of religious denomination.

Some of these issues/concerns were discussed for a period of years. The 1952 Scouting for Catholics was a 56-page booklet published by the Catholic Committee on Scouting. It articulated the following:

Church units are definitely labeled as Catholic, Protestant, or Jewish. A Catholic parent who permits his boy to join a unit affiliated with a non-Catholic church has this matter definitely on his own conscience. This creates an obligation for the Scout chaplain or the pastor to endeavor to help that parent form the right conscience. Scouting for Catholic boys can best be carried out in a closed church unit.

The Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference brought a proposal that was subsequently adopted at the October 12th, 1938 annual dinner meeting of the Bishop's Committee on Scouting. The request was for the Catholic Committee on Scouting broaden its scope to embrace supervision of all Catholic youth work. Among the three individuals that the group voted to work out implementation plans were Bishop Sheil, Chairman; Archbishop John J. Cantwell; and Archbishop J. L. Beckman.

National issues, not directly related to the Boy Scout program, helped to focus discussion among Catholic leaders interested in the promotion of Scouting. Economic pressures resulted from both the Great Depression of the 1930's and later as the result of World War II. The wartime reduction in the availability of potential leaders was a concern to not only the BSA leadership, but Catholic leaders as well.

The 9th Annual Conference, scheduled for October, 1942 was cancelled due to the request of government officials. Gas rationing was among the factors that prompted the request, as most attendees to such a conference would require travel. This resulted in requests from many Scout Chaplains about the possibility of holding smaller sectional meetings and invite local Scout Chaplains. National conferences for diocese Scout chaplains would not be held until May of 1947.

Boy Scout Retreats

An activity common to the Dubuque diocese and adopted nationally by many other diocese to serve Catholic Scouts were Boy Scout retreats. Locally, the driving force for these was Father John Theobald.

A total of 144 boys attended a Catholic Retreat, held at Camp Burton from June 21-24, 1934. The two sessions of the Catholic Retreat in 1936 attracted 44 and 69 Scouts, compared to the 52 and 42 Scouts that attended summer camp at Camp Burton.

Boy Scouts from Marshalltown were also part of the Dubuque Diocese. The first retreat for these Scouts, held at Wild Cat Canyon Scout camp near Eldora, was held Jun 29-July 2, 1934. Rev. John Theobald conducted the camp, which was attended by 32 boys and 5 adult leaders. Among the adult leaders was Scout Executive Lyman Osam, Scout Executive of the Central Iowa Area Council. This retreat was under the special protection of Don Bosco, the recently canonized patron of youth. It was the first Scout retreat held under the patronage of this saint.



Figure. Scouts preparing to worship at the 1935 retreat



Figure. Group photo at the 1935 retreat held at Camp Ingawanis.



Figure. Presentation of the flags at the 1935 retreat at Camp Ingawanis

The 50 participants at the August 13-16, 1936 retreat at Camp Ingawanis had previously spent 4 days camping as part of the standard summer camp experience. Father Theobald served as retreat master. He was assisted by the following seminarians from Dubuque: Merlin Hamsmith, Justin Kress, and Joseph Krajeswki. Two Lone Scouts participated in the retreat, in addition to Scouts from Waterloo, Cedar Falls, Sumner, Independence, Protivin, Crescok, and Elma.

Rev. Theobald also authored a proposal submitted and discussed at the 1937 Chaplains Conference, and distributed nation-wide to all diocese. The paper provided advice on how to plan for, staff, and conduct a Boy Scout retreat. As the champion for this type of event, he used this model to successfully conduct retreats for many years in the Dubuque diocese. At various times, retreats were held at the following locations:

- Camp Chicagami, conducted by Father Roseliep

- Camp Ingawanis, conducted by Father Cooney
- Camp Waubeek, conducted by Father Steiert

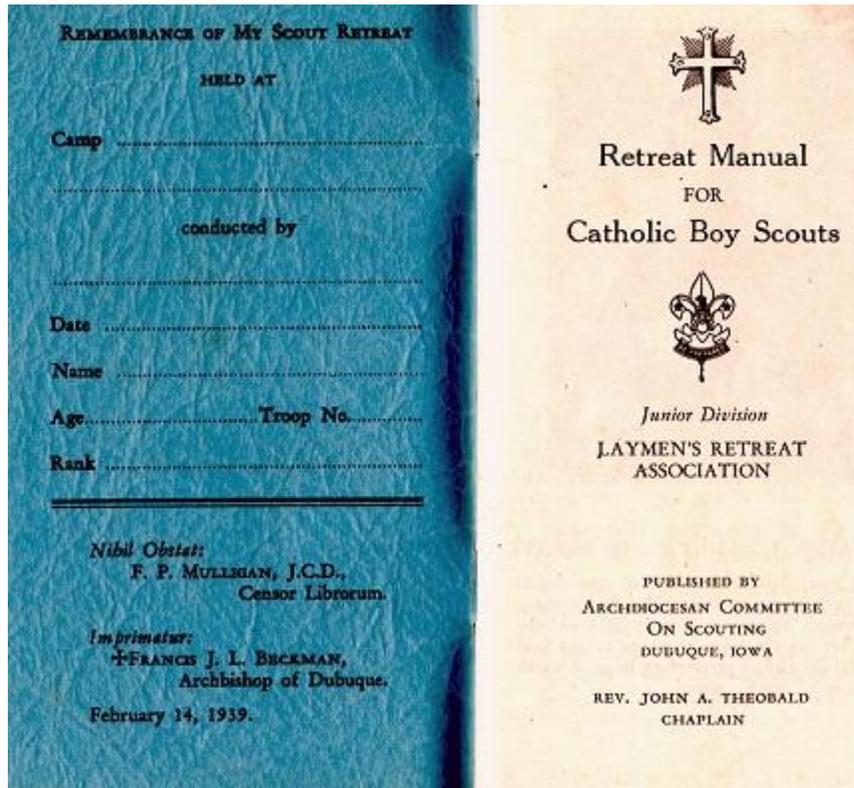


Figure. 1939 Retreat Manual for Catholic Scouts

Preparing for the retreat

The Dubuque diocese held several retreats during the summer of 1946. The general retreat program was planned by Archdiocesan Chaplain Monsignor John C. Wieneke.

1. **Organization.** In the Archdiocese of Dubuque, retreats are conducted under the direction of the Junior Division of the Archdiocesan Laymen's Retreat Association, under the direction of the Diocesan Director. The local Boy Scout council provides the camp.
2. **Operations.** The diocesan chaplain is responsible for the retreat program. The chaplain and his assistants assume responsibility for the spiritual and religious phase. The local camping committee assumes responsibility for the health, safety, and comfort of the campers.
3. **Staff.** Retreat staff consist of retreat staff (retreat-master and seminarians) and camp staff. The retreat-master never assumes the role of disciplinarian. The seminarians serve as provisional Scoutmasters. Camp staff have responsibility for activities, games, craft work, and issuing orders.
4. **Recruiting.** Toward the end of March, the diocesan chaplain contacts the camping committees, through the Scout Executive, of the various Boy Scout councils within the diocese. This is to establish the date of the retreat. Six weeks prior to the retreat, the retreat chaplain sends a letter to the pastor of every parish, informing them of retreat details. Pastors should announce the retreats at the

- pulpit during church. Lay chairman contact the Scoutmasters, who subsequently inform the Scouts. Typically a retreat should not exceed 60 boys. Ideal attendance is closer to 40.
5. **Registration** and cost. Scouts register for the retreat at the local Scout office. The camping committee determines the cost, based on expenses needed to cover expenses and conduct the camp.
 6. **Duration.** The retreat lasts two full days and three nights. The retreat begins with supper on the first evening. Hymns are rehearsed after the opening supper.
 7. **Patronage.** In the Archdiocese of Dubuque, the camp retreats are held under the patronage of St. John Bosco, the patron of Scouting in the Archdiocese. The shrine is a project built at each retreat and decorated by the boys.
 8. **Activities.** The retreat program is based on the principle of Don Bosco that a judicious blending of prayer and play develop the best characteristics of the boy. Recreational activities include swimming, games, and handicraft. Religious activities include morning Mass, conferences, spiritual reading, campfires, and private and public devotion.
 9. **Conferences.** Twenty-minute, heart-to-heart talks are between the retreat-master and the boy.
 10. **Special Features.** In retreat camps, it is the custom for boys to recite the rosary after heading to their tents at night. Tent leaders lead the recitation. Another practice is to have each boy join with the servers in answering the prayers at the morning mass.
 11. **Silence periods.** Silence is recommended during the period of private devotion, and from the time of the evening campfire until after the morning Mass. Request the silence period. Enforced silence is of questionable value.
 12. **Personal conferences.** Each boy is required to have a personal visit with the retreat-master. The purpose is announced publically at a large-group conference.
 13. **Resolutions.** Resolutions are matters of private importance in the retreat. Typically encourage boys to make one constructive resolution and two corrective resolutions.

Campfires during the Retreat

During the opening night campfire, cover the purpose of the treat. "Youthful saints" was a potential topic for the campfire on the second night. Campfires were intended to be a religious exercise, and it was conducted with a spirit of devotion. A sample campfire schedule:

1. Light the fire
2. Hymn: Come Holy Ghost
3. Story: (10-minute maximum)
4. Litany of Blessed Virgin
5. Story: (10-minute maximum)
6. Hymn: Holy Ghost
7. Evening prayers
8. Song: Blessed be God
9. Inspiration: The Good Turn to God: Silence for the night
10. Scout Oath and Law

Sample Retreat Program

6:30 a.m.	Reveille
6:50 a.m.	To the colors
7:00 a.m.	Morning prayers (church call)
7:10 a.m.	Holy Mass
7:45 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00 a.m.	Camp Duty (fatigue)
9:00 a.m.	Conference (assembly)
9:30 a.m.	Private devotions
10:00 a.m.	Conference (assembly)
10:30 a.m.	Swimming
11:30 a.m.	Return to camp
NOON	Lunch
12:20 p.m.	Rest period
2:00 p.m.	Rosary and spiritual reading (assembly)
2:45 p.m.	Conference (assembly)
3:15 p.m.	Private devotions
3:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross (Church Call)
4:00 p.m.	Swimming
5:30 p.m.	Return to camp
5:55 p.m.	Retreat
6:00 p.m.	Supper
6:30 p.m.	Game period (assembly)
8:00 p.m.	Campfire
9:00 p.m.	Call to quarters
9:15 p.m.	Taps

In 1938, Father Theobald reported at the 5th Annual Conference of Diocese Scout Chaplains that within the Dubuque Diocese, 34 Boy Scout retreats have been held during the past 6 summers.

A retreat during the summer of 1938, conducted at Camp Burton by Father Krocheski, was attended by 160 Scouts. During the retreat, Scouts from Troop 6, chartered by St Patrick's Church, built a rustic alter for use at the camp.

In 1940, 6 Catholic Scout retreats were scheduled. A 2-day retreat was held during one of the summer camp sessions. Tuesday and Wednesday was set aside for retreat work.

The popularity of the retreat program continued to grow, and by 1952, courses were being taught nationwide at seminaries by the Catholic Youth Organization Director or Diocese Scout Chaplains.

The Catholic Committee on Scouting held the annual retreat at Camp Klaus on September 21-23, 1962 for over 100 boys and their leaders. Chuck Golinvaux and Tom Burkhart fed the participants, and Father Robert Swift and 40 Sisters delivered a program that help inspire Catholic boys in their work as Catholic Scouts.

During the 1972-1973 timeframe, the second council retreat in recent years was held at Camp Klaus. Father Dennis Kuennen, the council chaplain, and Sister Marlene Schueller were retreat masters. Several troops were represented by the 68 Scouts who attended.

Dubuque Area Council Recognizes Service of Catholic Leaders

The Dubuque Area Council awarded the Silver Beaver awards first time in 1934. Two of the three Silver Beaver recipients were those who had provided significant service to Catholic Scouts.

Frank Schneider began his Scouting career in 1927 as the Scoutmaster of Troop 8, chartered by St. Mary's Catholic Church. He served as chairman of the troop organization committee, and later served as chairman of the Archdiocese Catholic Committee on Scouting.

Rev. John A. Theobald began his involvement in Scouting in 1917, when the Dubuque Council was first chartered. His involvement would continue until 1944. Theobald served as Scoutmaster for Troop 2, chartered by St. Raphael's Cathedral, from 1917-1918. For the next decade, he was significantly involved in many district positions, most notably leadership training. Rev. Theobald went on to be a pioneer in developing and hosting retreats for Catholic Scouts. He also would serve for several years as the Scoutmaster for Troop 11, which brought Scouting to boys who lived at St. Mary's Orphanage.

Holy Year Pilgrimage

Twenty-five Scouts and leaders participated in a Holy Year Pilgrimage Tour. The Catholic Committee on Scouting sponsored the tour. The nearly 2-month activity began on July 13, 1950. The group returned on September 2. Scoutmaster for the trip was Dubuque-native A. A. (Al) Kirk. At the time, Kirk was the Assistant Scout Executive of the Chicago Area Council and the Executive Director of the Catholic Committee on Scouting.



Figure. Dubuque native A. A. Kirk, left of Pope XII

The highlight of the trip was a special audience with Pope XII. The contingent was the first in the 40-year history of the Boy Scouts of America that BSA members had been photographed in uniform with a Supreme Pontiff. The Pope blessed the "25 pilgrims" on behalf of the 430,000 Catholic BSA Scouts.

Soon after the pilgrimage, Kirk replaced Ken Cook as the Director of Catholic Relationship Services. He served in this role until his retirement in June of 1966 after 40 years of service to the BSA. Kirk would also serve as executive secretary of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. In 1960, Pope John XXIII named A.A. Kirk as a Knight in the Order of St. Gregory the Great.

Local Catholic Committee on Scouting

Frank Schneider, Chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the local diocese, reported in the March 1, 1934 edition of *The Witness*, that there were currently 702 Catholic Boy Scouts and 20 Catholic Boy Scout troops within the five areas of the Archdiocese. He also reported that the first meeting of the local Catholic Committee on Scouting was held October 15, 1933 in Cedar Falls. Attendees included Catholic area representatives appointed by Archbishop Beckman, and Boy Scout executives from the

council's that were based in Dubuque, Waterloo, Mason City, Marshalltown, and Cedar Rapids.

Marvin D. Marr from the Hawkeye Area council served as Chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting in 1953.

Scouts wanting to receive their Ad Altare Dei award at the February 11, 1962 ceremony at the Christ the King Chapel had their board of review on December 31 at 2:00 p.m. If a unit had 6 or more boys needing a special review, however, they could contact Father E. L. Cooney of Ryan, or Father Robert Swift of St. Joseph Prairie in Dubuque.

Father Duane Raftis was the Northeast Iowa Council Catholic Chaplain in 1966.

The Knights of Columbus Council #510 paid the fees for a chaplain to be at Camp Klaus during 1970. Lloyd Goodendorf, committee chair since 1968 for the Catholic Committee on Scouting, reported to the Northeast Iowa Council Executive Board that for the second time in recent years, a Scouter Development retreat was held during the spring of 1972. Attendees were representatives from various troops in the Dubuque district that were chartered by a Catholic church. Members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting served as instructors for the retreat, which was held once per week for five consecutive weeks. A similar retreat held later that September attracted 62 participants.

Father Loras Otting agreed to serve as Chaplain for all six weeks of the 1973 summer camp season at Camp Klaus. Goodendorf reported that this committee had provided a council chaplain at Camp Klaus for four of the past five years, at no charge to the council.

Lloyd Goodendorf report to the Northeast Iowa Council Executive Board at their May 23, 1974 meeting that they had an active 15-member committee that had accomplished much during the past year. They had made improvements to the chapel at Camp Klaus, hired a camp chaplain, participated in a "Day of Reconciliation", and had raised \$1,200 through the Knights of Columbus as well as Catholic-chartered units and benefactors. These funds were used to pay expenses at retreats, religious emblems, and chapel upkeep. Northeast Iowa Council Scouts had earned 12 Ad Altare Dei awards and 16 Pope Pius XII awards.

Sister Marlene Schueller attended the Catholic conference at Philmont in 1974. The following September, she held a retreat at Camp Little Cloud (Girl Scout camp) for Scouts who hoped to work on the Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII awards in time to have them presented the following February.

Effective November 1, 1975, Rev. Lyle L. Wilgenbusch, a member of the faculty of Wahlert High School, was appointed to the Archdiocesan Chaplain and Spiritual Director of Boy Scouting, in addition to his duties at Wahlert High School.

Awards

A "religious award" is not a Scouting award. It is a church award conferred upon a Scout by his pastor or religious leader. The first of these church awards was the Ad Altare Dei Cross award.

Catholics leaders involved with the Scout program expressed hope that other religious groups would embrace the idea of a Scout earning a church award such as the Ad Altare Dei Cross award. Two primary objections surfaced pertaining to this concept:

- opposition to a temporal award in recognition of acts of piety. The reasoning was that debases the high motive of spiritual piety and devotion to the church
- extrinsic awards may prove motivation for youth who may not respond to spiritual motivation alone

The objections didn't last. Clergymen who were originally reluctant or tolerated the Religious Awards Plan soon welcomed it. Ray O. Wyland, the Director of Division of Relationships for the BSA, authored an article in the January, 1947 issue of *Scouting* magazine. Titled *The Story of The Religious Awards*, Wyland described the growth of what was then the relatively new program known as the Religious Awards Plan. As part of this plan, 12,000 awards had been presented to boys of the Protestant, Jewish, and Catholic faith.

Wyland stated that although the details differed, each of the awards had a similarity of purpose.

1. To help the Boy Scout become more faithful in the fulfillment of his religious duties
2. To encourage him in the practice of his daily devotions
3. To deepen his appreciation of his spiritual heritage by increasing his knowledge of the teachings and practices of his religion
4. To provide incentive for making his religion practical in service to his church and community

Ad Altare Dei Cross Award

The Ad Altare Dei Cross award was pioneered by Father James Dolan from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The award was first inaugurated in 1926.

The concept of the award was very well received. As national adoption was considered, requirements to earn the award evolved. Standardized requirements was a common topic of discussion among diocese chaplains over a period of years.

For a boy to earn the award in 1938, for example, he had to be a First Class Scout who served as an "altar boy" for 250 service hours. A gold bar that was placed across the ribbon was earned after an additional 250 hours of service.



Figure. In the 1930's, the Ad Altare Dei Cross Award included a Scout sign.

The concept of the award was well received. As national adoption was considered, requirements to earn the award evolved. Standardized requirements was a common topic of discussion among diocese chaplains over a period of years.

By the spring of 1942, 2,584 crosses had been awarded nationally. Diocese-specific requirements continued to emerge. Over time, the requirement of serving as an "alter boy" was dropped. Scouts could apply and accumulate, as part of their 250 hours to earn the award:

- singing in the choir
- attendance at meeting for groups such as the Junior Holy Name Society
- participating in parochial religious study clubs

In March of 1940 the award was formally accepted for adoption nationally. At the time of national adoption, however, each diocese developed its own requirements that generally followed the plan outlined in the manual *Scouting for Catholics*.

The Dubuque Archdiocese determined in 1940 the following requirements for the Ad Altare Dei Cross award:

- 250 hours of service as an "alter boy". Up to 200 of these hours may be earned prior to becoming a First Class Scout.
- at a minimum have earned the rank of least First Class Scout
- certification from the pastor or the sisters to attest to the boy's decorum and fitness
- knowledge requirements for the sacred vessels, knowledge of the Mass, and identification of its various parts

The 1952 edition of *Scouting for Catholics* indicated that the requirements for the Ad Altare Dei award had evolved to emphasize two points: (1) encourage a more intimate boy involvement in Mass and reward faithful performance in his duty with service at the altar of God, and (2) broaden the boy's horizon and help him associate Scouting with the teachings of his home, school, and church.

The Spring, 1940 version of the Chaplains Bulletin, published by the Catholic Committee on Scouting, reported feedback on the initial design of the award. Both the Bishops

Committee on Youth, and the BSA objected to having the Boy Scout sign superimposed on the cross. Thus, the medal that was previously being issued to Scouts who earned this award was not the medal that was approved for national use.

The Spring 1943 Chaplains Bulletin reported that due to the popularity of the award, over 2,000 awards were earned during the first half of the year. Because of restrictions on all metals for war purposes except for domestic silver, the bronze crosses had to be made from silver for the duration of World War II. As a result, the cost went from \$1.00 per award to \$2.50. Plastic and steel were both considered as bronze replacements, but were ruled out due to their high cost.

In 1944 the Catholic Committee on Scouting authorized a ribbon bar pin. Scouts were instructed to wear the cross on formal occasions or parades, and the ribbon bar on activities such as camping trips and hikes. This ribbon was available to Scouts for many years.



Figure. During the 1940's and 1950's, Scouts could have their names engraved on the back of the medal by the manufacturer at 3 cents per letter.

On Scout Sunday in 1944, 12 Scouts were presented with the Ad Altare Dei award from the Dubuque Diocese.

In the fall of 1945, an Ad Altare Dei *National Minimum Standards* committee, with chaplain representatives from all 12 BSA regions, were appointed to develop a national-standard set of requirements. After deliberations that lasted for several months, the group voted to allow a Catholic Scout to earn the award even if he were not a member of a Scout unit chartered by a Catholic church. Approval from his pastor was required, however. The final set of requirements was intended to parallel, in "spiritual realms", the Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks.

Nationally, more than 18,000 Scouts had earned the Ad Altare Dei Cross award by the spring of 1949.

Saint George Award

St. George is the Universal Patron of the Boy Scouts. The Saint George award was first available as a national award in 1954. The award was presented to Catholic Scouters to

recognize an outstanding contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youth in the program of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Northeast Iowa Council's Catholic Committee on Scouting hosted the St. George Award presentation at St. Joseph's Church in June of 1973. His Excellency Bishop Francis Dunn presented the awards. Three local Scouters were among those who received the St. George Award: Merlin Ellis, Lloyd Goodendorf, and Sister Marlene Schueller.



Saint George Award



Figure. The first three adults to receive the Saint George Award from the Dubuque Diocese were presented their awards at an April, 1955 ceremony. Pictured (L to R) Archbishop Leo Binz of Dubuque, Leo Dunbar of Cedar Falls, Don Maresh of Cedar Rapids, and Arnold Stierman of Dubuque. A crowd of approximately 200 witnessed the ceremony which was held at St. Patrick's school in Cedar Falls.

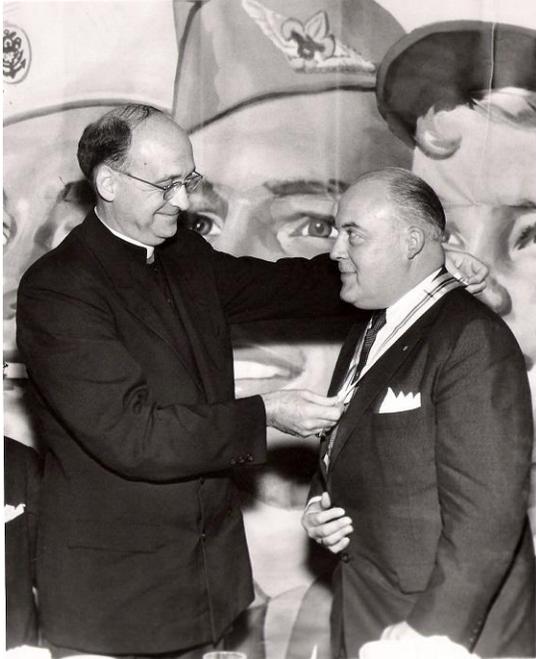
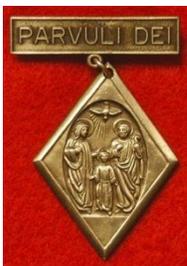


Figure. Archbishop Leo Binz presents the Saint George Award to A. A. Kirk.

Another Saint George award was presented during a Catholic Action dinner held at Bunker Hill golf course in November of 1955. The recipient was Dubuque native A. A. Kirk, the Director of Catholic Relationships from the National Council.

Parvuli Dei Award

The idea of a religious award that could be earned by Cubs was first presented formally at the 12th Scout Chaplains Conference in 1952. The idea was essentially tabled until the formal adoption of the St. George award for adults was adopted nationally. By 1954, 17 dioceses had adopted a religious awards program for Cubs.



Parvuli Dei Award

A special committee to study the adoption of religious awards for Cubs was adopted by Monsignor George Dowd, the national director for the Catholic Committee on Scouting. A. A. Kirk, along with Dowd and Monsignor John Wodarski met with the committee to study and determine the general philosophy for such an award.

The conclusion was that the objective should be the development of the awareness of the presence of God in daily life through the Cub Scout program.



Figure. Cubmaster Roger Westemeier, top left, along with the 1980 Parvuli Dei award recipients from his Dyersville pack.

Pope Pius XII Award

The first Pope Pius XII award presented in the nation was presented to a Newark, New Jersey Explorer Scout on Scout Sunday in 1960.

Reverend Edmond Cooney served on the 12-person Pope Pius XII committee which helped define requirements that an Explorer Scout had to complete in order to earn this award.

On Scout Sunday in 1973, the following Northeast Iowa Scouts were the first to receive the Pope Pius XII award in the state of Iowa:

Daniel Gasell	Troop 25
Gregory Meyer	Troop 25
Gary Nauman	Troop 16
Robert Oppelt	Troop 25



Figure. Pope Pius XII Award



First Girl Receives Award

Scouting awards were presented at St. Joseph's Church in Dubuque on February 3, by the Most Rev. Francis J. Dunn, Auxiliary Bishop of Dubuque. For the first time in the State of Iowa, a girl, Jacqueline Rupp, of St. Anthony's Parish received the Pius XII award as an explorer scout. The Ad Altare Dei award is given for a year of service to the Church by a First Class Scout and the Pius XII award requires an additional year of study

and service. The exception to the rule is the Explorer who has not been in scouting before, which allows girls to take part in scouting activities. The explorer may earn the award by fulfilling the requirements of study for Christian Doctrine and by giving a year of service to the Church. The Pius XII award can be earned only after the Ad Altare award is granted.

Not pictured - Kelly Rupp

Figure. The Most Rev. Francis J. Dunn presented religious awards at a February 3, 1974 ceremony at St. Joseph's Church in Dubuque. Among the award recipients was Jacqueline Rupp from St. Anthony's Parish, who became the first female in Iowa to earn the Pope Pius XII award.

Awards for Leaders who serve Catholic youth

A few years after the Ad Altare Dei Cross award was being awarded to Scouts was seeing increased popularity, the idea surfaced that some type of recognition for adult Scouters might be appropriate. Chaplains were receiving repeated requests from lay leaders in some of the diocese to use the Ad Altare Dei Cross award for outstanding service to Catholic youth, and to stimulate the interest of adults in the spiritual development of Catholic youth through Scouting.

The first meeting of the *Chaplains Continuing Committee* was held in New York in September of 1948. Each of the 12 BSA regions had one representative on this committee. A topic presented at this first meeting was church recognition for Scouters. The national director accepted the concept for study and asked for recommendations at the next National Scout Chaplains Conference.

The Diocese of Davenport, it was discovered, had an honorary recognition known as the *Nazareth Cross*. The Archdiocese of Baltimore awarded the *Archbishop Curley Memorial Medal* to Scouters for outstanding service.

The *Catholic Den Mothers Award* was approved and used by some as a diocese award. Some chaplains felt that since they could only award one St. George award per year, they were not going to have it presented to a Den Mother. No records exist of a Den Mother being awarded this Catholic Den Mothers award in the Dubuque diocese.

The Archdiocese of New York had awarded *Pro Juventure* medals (gold Pelican). The New York diocese was also studying for the past year a plan to recognize Scouters. The plan being prepared was for an award to be known as the *Bronze Pelican Award*.

The Bronze Pelican Award was introduced for recommendation to be adopted nationally at the 12th National Conference of Diocesan Scout Chaplains in April 1952. The New York Diocese proposed that since 17 diocese are already using the Bronze Pelican Award, that this award be adopted nationally as a church award to recognize adult Scouters.



Figure. Bronze Pelican Award

The significance, it was stated, was that the Pelican is a symbol of Christ and Charity. There is a legend that when food fails, the Pelican feeds her young with her own blood. It is especially appropriate that the Pelican be the symbol of Catholic men engaged in Boy Scout work among our Catholic life, and symbolizes the work of these men giving so generously of their time and energy for the spiritual welfare of our Catholic boys in Scouting.

Necessary support didn't exist to make the proposal beyond the discussion phase. There was concern with the fact that this was a legend, and not fact. Other concerns were that

this is not a widely-known story, and the Pelican symbolism wouldn't be understood by Catholics or non-Catholics.

As late as 1964, Adult Scouters Awards Committee proposed to attendees at the Annual Conference of Diocesan Scout Chaplains that the Bronze Pelican Award serve as an intermediate award to the St. George award. This idea did not gain sufficient support.

Although the Bronze Pelican award has not been adopted nationally, the Dubuque Diocese has awarded 6 individuals with this award as of 2013. These individuals are

2006 Monsignor Lyle Wilgenbusch

2011 Gerry Holbach

2009 Archbishop Jerome Hanus

2012 Gladys Oppold

2013 Curtis DeWulf

2013 Aaron Randolph Jr.



2013 Bronze Pelican recipients at the Archbishops Mass: (L to R) Aaron Randolph, Gladys Oppold, Curtis DeWulf, Archbishop Jerome Hanus, Monsignor Lyle Wilgenbusch, Gerry Holbach

Presenting Catholic Awards

In the Dubuque Diocese, it has been a tradition for many years to hold a mass and present awards to all Catholic Scouts who have earned a religious award in the previous year. St. George award's were also presented to adults during the same mass.

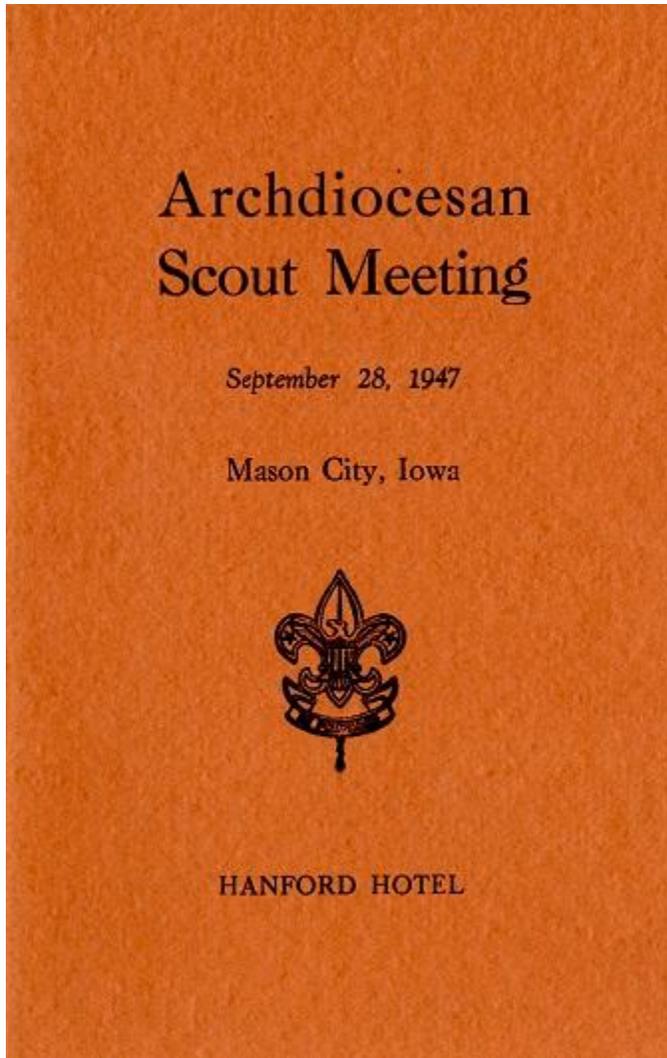


Figure. The awards presentation was commonly made to a group of recipients. This 1947 presentation was made in a ceremony for Ad Altare Dei recipients.



Figure. Archbishop Jerome Hanus (top center) and Fr. Lyle Wilgenbusch, at the 2004 Archdiocese of Dubuque Mass and Religious Emblems Recognition