



Grand Valley Council Newsletter

January 2014



What gives your life joy and meaning for the coming new year? Over the new years holiday my family and I spent some time with a friend's family. You might remember me mentioning a friend of mine, who was diagnosed with colon cancer and recently suffered a stroke. We played a few card games, ate some great food, had a few snacks, and generally had a good time. I had a chance to talk with my friend for a few brief moments about his condition. I get a sense from the way he answered me, that what gives him joy and meaning in his life is now simply spending time with his family, watching his two sons grow up and do some of the things that he did. Basically he enjoys staying involved with whatever they are doing. I believe if he were to answer the question "What resolutions have you made for the coming year?" he would answer with "to spend more time just being with his family and less time being angry about something they do or did, and just be there for them no matter what". This made me think of the question "What things in life are really important to you", which I direct back to all counselors who read this newsletter. Think about the decisions you can make today that will keep you from missing out on those things tomorrow.

Next Counselor meeting- January 9 @ Dorr CRC

Workshops – Memorial Badge & Board Office Descriptions

Club dues - Currently only one church still owes dues, Please forward dues to Mike Marvin ASAP

Snow Derby - Saturday January 18 - 8:00 am at GVRC campground. Sled count to be taken at January 9 Counselors meeting. Please make plans to attend this fun outing with your club.

GV RC campground - Winter campout reservations should have all been confirmed via a phone call or email from Tim Peters. Please remember to send your rental fees in to Tim ASAP.

Counselor Directories - Directories are hopefully to be distributed. please make arrangements to get yours. Thanks once again to Gerrit Sterk who has put in the time to compile all this information into our 2013-2014 directory.

Congress - Congress will be meeting this year January 9-11 @ Plymouth Heights CRC. Please be in prayer for all the attendees as many will be traveling a great distance to attend. Also be in prayer for the Lord's guidance in the many decisions that will be made at congress this year.

Council Excursion – Excursion date is February 3, 2014 (Monday Night) to 3 Mile Project 3050 Walkent Dr NW, Grand Rapids MI 49544, Facilities are and include, Indoor Re ball Arena, Video Game Stations, Athletic Courts , Indoor Skate Park, Craft & Project Rooms. The facilities will be open for the entire council to use from 6:00-9:00 pm. Please fill out Waiver form available by downloading the form at their website www.3mp.org or by making copies of the form which will be available at the counselors meeting.

Theme for 2013-2014: Work in Progress

Theme Verse : *"In all my prayers for you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who has begun a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* Philippians 1:4-6



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GV Council Board - As we look forward to 2014, please be in prayer about allowing your name to be on the list of nominees for a council board position. As we start the nomination process this month, please be in prayer for our current board as we seek God's guidance.

ICC Certification - A count of how many boys and counselors will be at the 2014 ICC session 2 and 3. will be tallied at the January counselor meetings. Dates for Certification Classes are:

Session 1 – Feb. 13, 2014, Session 2 – March 17, 2014, Session 3 – May 9-10, 2014

Reminder = Getting passports will remain outside the scope of this certification and will be the responsibility of the attendee and/or parents. Please see transportation requirements note #1 below.

Camporee 2014: Transportation Update Here are the items that are finalized:

Total cost: \$500.00. First come, first serve. \$200.00 of the total is a non-refundable deposit which is due March 15. The remaining balance of \$300 is due May 15.

Checks or money orders need to be made payable to "Grand Valley Council Transportation Fund"

Items which also need to be submitted with your payment:

1. A color copy of the passenger's passport. (These will all be shredded after our return to Michigan.)
2. A signed medical information and release form. (A copy of the one needed by Corps.)
3. A travel permit, signed by parents or guardians and notarized by a notary public. (Banks usually provide this service.)

The three items listed above, as well as your deposit, need to be sent to:

Terry Kimber, 8223 Woodstone S.E., Byron Center, MI 49315

More details will be released as they finalized. Questions or concerns may be sent to one of the committee members. Estimates of your numbers would be appreciated.

You're considered "on the bus" when all your items have been received.

May God continue to bless you, your families, and your Cadet clubs throughout the start of this new year.

In His Service,

Douglas DeWent

GV Council President

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