



Grand Valley Council Newsletter

February 2014



February is here, even though it is the shortest month of the year, it somehow conjures up thoughts about finishing the cadet season and then realizing just how little time is left to finish all the projects and crafts that have been started. For some this may be their panic time, for others, maybe a little relief is in sight. Whatever the case let's not forget what our purpose is in being counselors is. A counselor's mission statement reads "helping boys to grow more Christ like in all areas of life". This is exemplified by realizing that these boys look to us counselors, to show them how to trust Christ with our everyday activities, duties and tasks. They are watching and learning at all times even when we think they aren't listening, they are. So here's a little advice read, 2 Timothy 1:7 *"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline"*, Don't give up now, you've started something. Have the courage to complete it and trust in Christ to help you work through it. "Work in Progress" (Cadet Theme for 2013-2014).

Next Counselor meeting- February 13 @ 1st Byron Center CRC

Workshops – ICC Certification for Counselors and Jr Counselors

– Fire Safety

Schedule Change – To all Counselors please note the April 3 Counselors Meeting that was set to take place at Beverly Reformed Church has been relocated to **Faith Community CRC**. Also, please note the date is April 3 and **NOT** April 10. According to the calendars of many area schools, Spring Break is April 4 -11. Please make note of this change.

Snow Derby – Snow Derby was a great success and yes, this year we had plenty of snow. Congratulations to the winners who were 2nd Byron CRC = Regular Sled and 2nd Byron CRC again = Recruit Sled. A sincere thank you to the host committee for all your efforts and the time spent on planning this event out.

Winter Excursion - The Excursion to 3 Mile Project seemed to go pretty well and was well attended. Lots of activities and the facilities were impressive and included, Indoor Re-ball Arena, Video Game Stations, Athletic Courts, Indoor Skate Park, in all 114 people attended and a great time was had by all.

Counselor Directories - Directories have all been distributed. Please make arrangements to get yours if you haven't received it yet. The person to contact is Gerrit Sterk. Special Thanks also go to Gerrit who put in the time to compile all this information for our 2013-2014 directories.

Congress - Congress meet this year, January 9-11 @ Plymouth Heights CRC. Many interesting discussions took place. Couple of new badges to yet be developed further is: a Dutch Oven Cooking Badge and a Pipes and Fittings Badge to name a few. If you want to know more talk to our two congressmen Don Vanderkolk or Ken Horling.

GV Council Board – the council board currently has 16 active member clubs. At our last Board Meeting it was decided to extend the duration to the Position of Counselor-at-Large to a 2 Year Term and also add the

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



Grand Valley Council Newsletter

February 2014



position of "Assistant Counselor at Large" the assistant would automatically move into the Counselor-at-Large position the following year. That being said the board positions that we will need nominations for are as follows; Vice President, Vice Secretary, Vice Treasurer, Assistant Counselor at Large and Congressman. Please prayerfully consider this calling to serve on our council board. **Each Church is being asked to submit at least one name of someone willing to serve at our February meeting.** Keep in mind as a council we would like to see a board that is represented by several churches rather than by just one or two. We appreciate your prayers as we seek Gods Guidance in this election process.

ICC Certification - A count of how many cadets and counselors that need to be at the 2014 ICC session 2 and 3 will have to be tallied. The schedule for certification is as follows:

Session 1 – Feb. 13, 2014, Counselors and Jr Counselors (for those who have never been Certified) this meeting is mandatory for those Not Certified.

Session 2 – March 17, 2014 is Monday Night at Woodhaven's Woodshed for ALL Cadets, Counselors and Jr Counselors. Knots & Lashing, Axemanship & Fire building Badges must be completed; Camp Cooking Badge must have Bookwork completed

Session 3 – May 9-10, 2014 is a Friday to Saturday, Actual Campout at Allegan Campground

Reminder = USA Citizens will need Passports for any air travel to and from Canada. Getting passports will remain outside the scope of this certification and will be the responsibility of the attendee and/or parents. Please pay Special attention to Note #1 below and the Due Dates for Camp Registration and Transportation.

Transportation Update to the International Camporee 2014:

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.

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



Grand Valley Council Newsletter

February 2014



Special Travel Arrangements to International Camp-O-Ree Available. Woodhaven Reformed Church has five remaining seats on a group airline reservation for the International Camporee. The itinerary is included below, leaving GR on Tuesday, July 22 and returning to GR on Wednesday, July 30.

UA3712Y 22JUL Grand Rapids / Chicago 120P 119P
OPERATED BY GOJET AIRLINES DBA UNITED EXPRESS
UA6193Y 22JUL Chicago / Calgary 305P 559P
OPERATED BY SKYWEST DBA UNITED EXPRESS
UA5627Y 30JUL Calgary / Chicago 328P 745P
OPERATED BY SKYWEST DBA UNITED EXPRESS
UA3708Y 30JUL Chicago / Grand Rapids 920P 1111P
OPERATED BY GOJET AIRLINES DBA UNITED EXPRESS

The cost of this airfare per person is \$517.00 including all taxes and service fees. The fare is guaranteed, however taxes and fuel surcharges are subject to change prior to ticket issuance.

If interested in reserving up to five seats, please contact Pastor Steve Petroelje at Woodhaven at 616-532-0532 or email him at pastorsteve@woodhavenministries.com

Lastly, I didn't mean to make this newsletter so long but there's a lot of information that you the Counselors need to know before we end this cadet season. Please continue moving forward and may God's work continue to flow through you and your efforts as we enter into this final push to end this cadet season.

In His Service,

Douglas DeWent

GV Council President

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