



# Grand Valley Council Newsletter

## April 2014



Many Christians use these past weeks and the ones to come, leading up to Easter Sunday, called the season of **Lent**, to focus their thoughts on Jesus through prayer, Bible reading, repentance, and acts of service. Growing up, I experienced Lent as little more than a joke. “What are you giving up for Lent?” my friends would ask. “Homework,” I’d say with a smirk, or “Chocolate”. Lent was one of those things that my Catholic friends had to worry about mostly. I was sorta glad I was Christian Reformed. It never even occurred to me that Lent was something I might actually be interested in, or benefit from, or decide to keep or come to value as a way of getting to know God better. In these later years, I’ve learned that Lent is in fact recognized by millions of Christians, as well as Catholics and Orthodox believers. Personally, I’ve learned that observing Lent helps me grow in my relationship with God. It prepares me for a deeper experience of Christ’s death on Good Friday and also for a more joyful celebration of his resurrection on Easter. As we close in on the end of the Cadet Season, let’s not forget the reason he died and rose again. Remember the calling that you felt when you agreed to become a counselor. Continue on in faith and assurance that we serve a risen savior.

**Next Counselor meeting-** April 3 @ Faith Comm CRC  
Workshops – Best Projects

**Congress Report** – As a council we have been asked to take a special vote on a constitutional amendment to Article 8 of the Cadet Constitution. Corp’s has asked that the Amendment be presented and a vote be taken for approval. This vote will be taken at our April 3 Counselors meeting. Also of note, the term of service for Corps President is open for nominations. Currently this office is held by Mr. Larry DeHaan who’s term of service is ending. Interested persons must sign a form to be nominated for this position. Please see our Congressman Mr. Don Vanderkolk or Ken Horling to fill out this form. Lastly, currently 9 Churches still have not turned in their offerings in accordance with the registration form. The list of church’s still needing to turn this offering in will be available at our next counselors meeting. If your church is on this list please get in contact with your church’s Head Deacon and make sure this issue is resolved.

**Council Name Tags** – Gerrit Sterk would like a list of names of all Counselors who have begun service as a certified Counselors, and have served at least 2 years who **DO NOT** have a nametag, so that name tags can be ordered. These Counselors will receive their Nametags at the Pin & Stripe Banquet.

**GV Council Board** – We are in the Process of compiling a list of names and letters of nomination have gone out. If you are one of the nominees who receives a letter, please make note of the due dates. We will be tallying a vote before the Next Board Meeting and will notify those elected via e-mail and phone. Please prayerfully consider this calling as a way to help serve the Grand Valley Council and we also appreciate your prayers as we seek Gods Guidance in this election process.

**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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**ICC Certification** – Session 3 – May 9-10, 2014 is a Friday to Saturday, Campout at Allegan Campground. Additional Counselors are needed to help with the Campout (prefer Previously Certified Counselors but certification not required) These Helpers would only be needed for this Campout and doesn't mean you are planning on attending the International.

**Reminder to all Attending the Upcoming International Camp-O-Ree** - All USA Citizens will need a Passport for any travel to and from Canada and also please note, a "Parental Consent Form" will also be needed for those Cadets traveling without their parents. Also, please pay Special attention to the registration Deadline which is April 15 and the signatures which will be required.

**Golf Outing** – May 17 (Saturday) @ The Pines Golf Course, \$70.00 per person for 18 holes with a cart. The cost to sponsor a hole is \$55.00. This is a four man scramble format. Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. All proceeds to go towards defraying travel costs for area cadets going to the 2014 Camp-O-Ree.

**Cadet-O-Rama** – Grand Valley Cadet-O-Rama will be held on Wednesday, April 16 at Woodhaven Reformed Church in the Woodshed Building. Derby Races to start at 6:00pm Wednesday. Set-Up will be on Tuesday, April 15. Doors to open at 5:30 pm Tuesday. Please fill out the attached Derby Car Registration Form and return it to Jeff Metten at [jmet3551@att.net](mailto:jmet3551@att.net). Food will also be available for purchase both Tuesday and Wednesday Night.

**Blue Star Award** – The Blue Star Nomination committee (*Open to all Counselors who have been awarded Blue Stars*) would like to meet briefly at our April Counselors meeting to discuss nominations for Blue Stars.

**Camp-O-Ree** – The GV-RC Camp-O-Ree is to be held on April 25-26. Hopefully more information will become available at our April Counselors Meeting. In the mean time, Please reserve this weekend for a great and enjoyable way to end our Cadet Season.

**Pin & Stripe Awards Banquet** – Dinner to be held at Dorr CRC on May 8 , 2014 Thursday Night Punch Tentative Times are Punch Bowl at 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm. Please have an approximate head count at our April 3 meeting. This will be a great help to those who are planning the dinner.

In His Service,

*Douglas DeWent*

*GV Council President*

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