

## The Bronze Pelican - New Award For Catholic Scouters

After several years of discussion and development, the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Detroit Area Council, BSA, has approved awarding the Bronze Pelican Emblem for service to Catholic Scouting.



The Bronze Pelican was established by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) for the recognition of scout leaders who have contributed three to five years of service to scout units chartered by Catholic organizations or to Catholic scouts in other units.



In the Archdiocese of Detroit this award will be given in recognition of service rendered primarily at the scout unit and parish level.

To propose an adult scout leader you know, Nomination Forms and Criteria for the award are available on the CVC, BWC, DAC and GSTC (Monroe County) web site. The nomination form can be submitted electronically or mailed in. The deadline for nominations is November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Mail to: AOD-CYO Scouting  
305 Michigan Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48226  
Or E-mail: [vsouting@cyodetroit.org](mailto:vsouting@cyodetroit.org)

The need for this recognition arose because there are many scouters who have rendered significant service to Catholic scouts and scouting but who do not meet the stringent criteria for the St. George medal. The St. George emblem is awarded by the NCCS for service that is primarily at the Council or Diocesan level. The Bronze Pelican, on the other hand, will be awarded by the Archdiocese of Detroit to individuals who work directly with youth in Packs, Troops and Parishes.

The Bronze Pelicans will be awarded at the annual Scout Recognition Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in March 2009. This is the same event that recognizes Catholic Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts who earn their Religious Emblems and where the recipients of the St. George medal are honored.

Each year, the Archdiocese of Detroit awards up to five St. George emblems to scouters in the Detroit Area Council, Clinton Valley Council and parts of the Great Sauk Trails and Blue Water Councils. It is expected that as many as 15 Bronze Pelicans awardees will be honored each year in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

The recipient of the Bronze Pelican should have served Catholic Scouting for a minimum of three, or in many cases, five years. The shorter period of time might be appropriate for someone whose service intensely involves the Catholic faith (e.g. a Pack Emblems Coordinators or AAD/Pius XII Counselors Religious). The longer tenure is appropriate for a Scout Leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, and Crew Advisor) of a Catholic-chartered unit.

Catholics in units chartered to non-Catholic institutions qualify if they promoted the spiritual development of the youth in their unit (e.g. serve as an AAD Counselor, ensuring that Catholic scouts have an opportunity to get to mass during weekend campouts, getting scouts to retreats).

This emblem can be awarded to a non-Catholic who promotes Catholic Scouting.