



July

The Bishop Boylan Bytes

The Newsletter of the
Bishop Boylan Assembly 0198
Knights of Columbus
Woodstock, IL



2016

Greetings Faithful Sir Knights of Assembly 0198! All Our Brother Sir Knights, Brother Knights and Friends!

Welcome to the first edition of our new Newsletter, the **Boylan Bytes!**

On July 13, 2016, the Assembly conducted the first business meeting of the new Fraternal Year, with newly elected Faithful Navigator **Greg Verbick** at the helm.

In his opening comments, the FN talked about the newly created **Star Assembly** award. After outlining the requirements and benefits, he stated that he would like to have the Assembly strive to achieve this in its premiere offering. After a lively discussion on the merits of attempting this, it was unanimously decided to “try” and see how we do.

While the Fourth Degree is forever known as the Patriotic Degree, signified by the Honor Guard in Regalia for our Bishop at Confirmations and pastoral installations, we can also be found at funerals of departed Brother Sir Knights and many individual local parish functions, such as **Corpus Christi, Right-To-Life Masses, Family Prayer Masses**, to name a few.

To give you a little more insight into the **Star Assembly** award, here are the main points and requirements.

Publish and Distribute a monthly newsletter
Submit Officers list annually to Supreme
Create and attain a ‘membership goal’ for the Fraternal Year
Apply for the 4th Degree Civic Award

which includes:

Patriotic Awards Program (Requires 4 events)

These could include:

Flying the Flag
Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance
Patriotic Catholic American wrist bands
Flag Retiring ceremony
Blue Mass
Cemetery Flags (placement)
Food Drives

And list can go on! It is up to us to form a committee or committees, then suggest, plan, document and submit these activities. A lot of work, but even at this first discussion, many ideas were brought forth.

On other items at the meeting, we talked about the many Honor Guards we have performed over the past year, and those that are already being planned. It is really

amazing how many of us have Regalia and show up for these events. In the case of Confirmations and other functions that the Bishop is at, we have enough time to schedule attending. But in the case of funerals and wakes, these often come with very short notice, as can be expected. Yet **Bishop Boylan Assembly** has a history and a reputation for great turnouts. A part of that is the newer Sir Knights joining the 4th Degree and the Assembly, and getting their Regalia. There are even those that will 'borrow' the items from a fellow Sir Knight who can't make the event. To that end, we need to start a 'Degree closet' to keep extra items that some of us have that can then be used for this.

As we go on this year, we will examine more of the **Star Assembly** requirements in detail. If you want the whole list now, we will email that to you. Let me know at membership@kofc3880.org and I'll send a copy. For now, think about the Membership Goal. We don't have a number yet, but are sure that Supreme will get us one! Carry a Form 4 with you and talk to your Brother Knights in your Councils. Over the last 10 or 12 years we have grown to an Assembly of over 300! (even though we see less than 10% of that at our meetings... kind of like a lot of Councils though. However, at that July meeting I counted 14 of the 21 present wearing one of the red Assembly shirts!) That's 60%! We have the shirts available to order, either the Red Polo or the Red Tee. I have order forms for that as well, ask away and I'll send that, too. Who am I? I am Past Faithful Navigator John Stefani. That is my e-mail above as Council 3880's Membership Director. I have been given the job of the initial newsletter editor.

I will begin getting these to all members with an e-mail right after each meeting to help keep all of us up-to-date.

Thoughts and comments, send those on as well.

Next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be in October in Rockford. We need the completed Form 4's to **Faithful Comptroller Dan O'Connell** by the September meeting. That one is on September 14th, or bring them to the *next* meeting, Wednesday, August 10th at Holy Apostles Church, upstairs, at 7:30. They are short meetings and it would be great to fill the room!

Vivat Jesus! John