

Grand Knight's Report, continued

was a success. Several members of the Fourth Degree Assembly marched, as did some of our council members. The rain stopped just as the procession was beginning, just as it was supposed to do. Thanks to all who participated. I ask God to bless each of you every day. I thank you for all the support that you have given me as the Grand Knight and ask you to do the same for Iturba. I am now the Immediate Past Grand Knight of Council 6419./**Bob Kness**

Bill Honeycutt Loses Battle with Cancer

Council members are saddened by the recent death of **Bill Honeycutt**. For some time Bill had dealt with cancer. His death came on June 2 with his wife Mary Anne and his daughters Lynn and Lisa beside him.

What a kind, gentle man Bill was. His neighbor Ann Lee commented, "He was a saint," alluding to the many times Bill had gone to her home in response to a special need of Ann's or simply to ask what he could do for her. He sometimes did small repair jobs for her. She remembers that on occasion Bill, before her husband Al's death, would sit with him so that Ann could take care of personal matters. We knights remember that he and his little fire-engine red truck often responded to calls to collect donations for charity rummage sales. We will greatly miss Bill and offer condolence to Mary Anne and her family.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's Church on June 5 with **Msgr. Gaston Hebert** officiating. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery.



New Council Office Nearing Completion

Handyman **Dennis Bosch** saw the need for larger, better organized office space in the council hall and organized a small crew to bring it about. If you haven't been to the hall recently, you'll see something new in the northeast corner when you show up again. The existing structure has been torn out and replaced with office space almost twice the size of the old office. It is a 15' 3" x 12' 3" enclosure with a door that locks. A carpet for the floor space is ordered. Some of the old office equipment has been moved out to be replaced with other more serviceable equipment, including a nice donated desk.

Dennis has been assisted by **Tom Gilleran, Dick Smith, Jim Reiter, and Ray Kukuk**. Thanks to these men for sharing their time and talent.

Rummage Sales, Continued

As for our October sale, we continue to make fairly regular pickups of donations, and we hope to have many more. **The tentative dates for our sale are October 20-21 and 27-28.** This date will be firmed up soon—as soon as we learn the weekend set by Arkansas Knights of Columbus for the Drive for Disabled Citizens, also known as the Tootsie Roll Drive. Our sale must not conflict with that date.

Our donated items will be approximately like those of the past, though we discourage old electronics like telephones and outdated computer equipment and old luggage. **We do strongly encourage items like costume jewelry, art pieces, sets of dishes, flatware, and glassware, linens, books of fiction, and tools, AND holiday decorations.** Please keep the council in mind when you have items to donate. Suggest that your friends and neighbors do the same.



From Our Chaplain

As we come to the month of July, I want to reflect on a saint's day that has particular significance after my recent trip to Rome with the 8th grade class of St. John's School. On July 6 the Church celebrates the memorial of St. Maria Goretti. The city of her life, Nettuno, was included as a pilgrimage stop for our students because she is such a clear role model for them. Living with another family after the death of her father, young Maria caught the eye of one of the sons of the new family. His intentions toward her were not good. Alessandro Serenelli made repeated advances at the 12-year-old Maria, but her resistance was strong. She understood what was happening and clearly stated she would not give in to any sin. Alessandro's lust and anger grew until one day it overcame him. He pushed Maria into a building and made his demands. When she refused, he stabbed her repeatedly. Maria Goretti died as a martyr of purity.

But the power of her story does not end with her death. Her last words were a plea to her family, "Forgive Alessandro because I already have." The anger of the young man only grew during his first years in prison. It all began to change one night when Maria appeared to Alessandro in his cell. She begged him to return to God and the Church. From that moment he began to reform his life.

Having been a minor at the time of the murder, he eventually reached the end of his sentence and immediately went to a monastery where he dedicated the rest of his life to work, penance, and prayer. The influence that changed his life also affected Maria's mother and she reconciled with Alessandro. In 1950 St. Maria Goretti was canonized in St. Peter's Square in Rome. Maria's mother and Alessandro were sitting side by side for that glorious event.

St. Maria Goretti is a model for all youth by her purity and courage at such a young age. Her story is for all ages as a model of forgiveness. On her feast we pray that the power of her story will continue to inspire all to such virtue./**In Christ, Fr. Erik**



Fourth Degree—Footnotes

The future of the local Assembly is in question. Specifically, it is confronting a crisis in leadership. The Village Assembly installed its new officers following a dinner last Thursday evening in the basement of Sacred Heart Church. June ***Knight Shift*** reported that the Hot Springs Assembly would be part of a joint installation of officers. It didn't happen. The local Assembly was a no-show. It has several unfilled offices, including that of Faithful Navigator. Without a leader, how can there be an Assembly? The Assembly has been faltering for several months. The Fourth Degree has traditionally provided honor guards for Christmas and Easter masses as well for other ceremonial occasions such as funerals. Let's hope that this practice will continue.

Joe Dierks New Financial Secretary, continued

appointed by the Supreme Council and a filled position lasts for an unspecified period, ordinarily until the office holder submits his resignation. Cass has served our council as Financial Secretary since December of 2001, and we are grateful for his committed service. Now we look forward to Joe's tenure. Since the Financial Secretary is not permitted to hold an additional office, Joe must resign as Trustee.

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Sponsors and Ads
Please note that we have spaces for nine additional sponsorships and for two new ads on the back page. For a \$10 donation, your name can appear here as a sponsor and for \$25, you may have an ad, all running for one year.

July Birthdays

- 6 John Ledbetter
- 7 Leonard Didier
- 10 Eric Sanders
- 11 Richard Boyes
- 12 Don Pullen
- 14 Tom Gilleran
- 14 Joe Harrison
- 19 Ed McManus
- 20 Fr. Erik
- 25 Ralph Berdikowski
- 26 John Cacioppo
- 28 Norbert Schmelz
- 13 Gus Turek

Knight of the Month
Iturba Percefull

Family of the Month
Iturba and Mamie Percefull

July Calendar

- 6 Officers' Meeting, K. C. Hall, 7 p.m.
- 13 Council Meeting, K. C. Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Rosary, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Furniture Sale (subject to change to following July 22) See "Rummage Sales," pp. 1-2

"Sometimes it seems like God is difficult to find and impossibly far away. We get so caught up in our small daily duties and irritations that they become the only things that we can focus on. What we forget is that God's love and beauty are all around us, every day, if only we would take the time to look up and see them."

Matthias, Correction Weblog
11-1-03



New Grand Knight's Message, continued

madly sawing away, wearing ourselves out with a dull saw. In the long run, of course, it proves prudent to take time to sharpen the saw and achieve the goal more equitably. Notwithstanding the several knights who amaze me with their considerable contributions, it seems Council 6419, while perhaps not running itself into the ground, is significantly strained.

An argument is made that cannot be overcome that the Knights of Columbus is about the promotion of the family (now needed more than ever.) As there can be no family without children, I would like to see attention and intention brought to the needs for a Squires Circles as well as a Columbian Girls Circle.

So, with or car loaded let's put a good horse before it. I propose that we take the necessary time for due introspection, analysis, discourse, synthesis and resolution for an eloquent philosophy and statement of purpose, or mission. Then we may compile in word and picture a beautiful brochure that members may share with prospective members.

Serve God and inspire others to serve God.

Iturba Percefull, Grand Knight

Pray for our Sick

Please pray for the following council members, wives/relatives, and council friends who struggle with health problems: Joe Van Hout, Mary Turek, Dick Smith, Mary Anne Honeycutt, Otto and Deloris Wiedower, Stretch Ecklund, George and Sue Marshall, Wanda Eckhardt, Margaret Dierks, Ann Lee, Mary Ellen Kagel, Al Reis, Emily Kostka, and Emil Wencil