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 Deputy Grand Knight.....Newton White
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 Recorder.....Charles Cook
 Treasurer.....Zack Nehus
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 Lecturer.....James Reiter
 Inside Guard.....Tom Gilleran
 Outside Guard.....Bill Thompson

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 Two-Year.....Randy Schnobelen
 One-Year.....Bob Kness

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 Retention Chairman.....Joe Kanopsic
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Knight Shift



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Fourth Degree Assembly to Host Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance

Ready for a great prime rib dinner? Ready to dust off your dancing shoes? Well, get your tickets and come on out for our annual festive evening. The social will begin at 5 at Giampoletti Hall with dinner following at 6 and dancing at 7 to the music provided by *Blue Velvet*. The

donation bar will open at 5.

Joe Giampoletti himself will be our chef extraordinaire. He is preparing his finest prime rib along with almond-topped green beans, twice-baked potatoes, salad, dessert, wine, and coffee. Part of the evening's pleasure will be the decorations by **Dawn Thompson, Liz Sass, Sue Wood, and Carol Andrews**. And **Louis Kosarek** once again has come up with some great raffle prizes as well as an Oaklawn box seat for six to go to the winner of the door prize.

Get your tickets for \$30 each from **Zack Nehus** (681-9335) who chairs the event, **Don Sass** (767-2780), or **Louis Kosarek** (525-4741). If you're present at the parish hall this Sunday for the pancake breakfast, you may get your tickets then. A limited number will be available the evening of the dinner because Joe needs to know in advance how many prime ribs to prepare. If you want to get your ticket at the door, it is important to call in advance one of the people listed above to reserve tickets.

If you would like to reserve a table for 8, call Zack at the number listed above. Come join us for a wonderful semiformal evening.

Pancake Breakfast Set for this Sunday, December 4

The council will conduct a pancake breakfast at St. John's Parish Hall following all morning Masses this Sunday. Knights will cook pancakes, eggs, and sausage for a mere \$5, children 10 and under free. Also on hand to help out will be students from the St. John's 8th grade class, who are raising money for an upcoming mission trip to San Antonio. Net proceeds from this event will go to the travel fund for this group. So, if anyone would like to add a dollar or two extra for this fund, it won't be refused.

Several volunteer knights will be needed for setting up, preparing the food, and cleaning up.



Grand Knight's Report

Here we are nearing the end of another year with Christmas holidays upon us. May all of you have a wonderful Christmas holiday and a great New Year. However, let us remember the reason for this season, which we know is definitely not shopping for materialism.

Our council and assembly have assisted in funding three billboards as part of the "Keep Christ in Christmas" program initiated by the Hot Springs Village Council. The Benton council has also participated in the funding. These billboards are on Highway 7 North near the Village, Highway 270 west of Hot Springs, and on Interstate 30 west of Benton. All three council names are on the signs. If you do not have a "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnet for your car, contact **Ray Kukuk**, who still has a few magnets left to sell for five dollars each.

For those who did not attend the November meeting, we have cancelled our December council meeting because that would be the Thursday before the Christmas Dinner and Dance. **Our next council meeting** will be January 12.

If you change your e-mail or mailing address, please notify Financial Secretary **Joe Dierks**. We have a consistent number of returns for regular mail and e-mail. Each return of regular mail costs the council. It all adds up to be significant.

We do have one council event this month, a pancake breakfast on December 4, the first Sunday of the month (See article in adjoining column). We plan to have a recruiting table in place at this breakfast. We would like to increase membership. Also, **Dawn Thompson and Liz Sass** will display, to sell, a nice collection of Christmas decorations donated for our rummage sale.

Arkansas State Knights of Columbus second and third degree team is planning an exemplification at Giampoletti Hall in January. We have asked for it to be held either Sunday, January 22 or the following Sunday, January 29. If you sponsored someone who is first degree but has not taken the next two degrees, then it is time to call him and be there when the exemplification occurs. At present we have over 35 members who remain only first degree.

January has a few events, which need early announcement. We will have a basketball free-throw contest here in Hot Springs followed by a district contest a week later in Mena. To date, these dates are unspecified but will be announced in January *Knight Shift*.

Our Council Charity Committee, in addition to its regular monthly contributions to local charities, is working diligently to fund the purchase of a \$28,500 ultrasound, half of which is to be paid by the Supreme Council. This machine will be used by the local pregnancy crisis center, **ChangePoint**, located on Liberty Street near St. John's Church. Keeping \$3000 in reserve for emergency needs, we are ready to apply the

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Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.
Psalm 122:6

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A Joyful and Blessed Christmas to All

Grand Knight's article, continued....



rest of our balance toward the cost of this machine. Hot Springs Knights, Inc. will contribute \$2000 to this undertaking, and Arkansas Knights of Columbus will add an undetermined amount, potentially \$3000-\$4000. The bulk of the council contribution around \$6700 will come not from the regular charity fund but from the coin collection (**Remember the November article about Mitchell of Malvern who gave us his father's coin collection along with many other great items?**). To date we have sold coins for approximately \$6700. While we're nearing the end of that "gold-strike," we're not quite there yet. We set aside this money specifically for use toward the ultrasound. It was not included in proceeds from the October sale because, after all, we would like to declare an amount which realistically one day could be surpassed./**Dennis Bosch, Grand Knight**



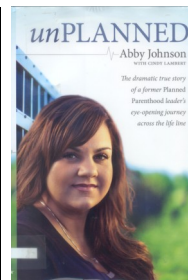
Kroger Card Update

Since August St. John's School has received \$1324.77 from our Kroger purchases. That total should be significantly more! Regrettably, far too few council members are taking advantage of this opportunity to help the school. And why is that? Kroger food prices are competitive with those from Wal-Mart, sometime better. And Kroger gasoline, especially with use of the Kroger credit card, is almost certainly the cheapest in town. So, once again, please purchase your \$5 St. John's card from the school and at the Kroger desk purchase whatever amount you choose to put on the card. Each time you use the card, St. John's will receive a 5 percent rebate. Come on! Get with the program.

You may further help the school by getting into the SCRIP Program. Check the school newsletter for the order form for gift cards. Like the Kroger cards, the school earns as percentage for every gift card purchase. Just select which cards you want and send your order form and payment to the school office. These too will make great Christmas gifts. Check this website to find out more: www.shopwithscrip.com

From Vicky Stanley

"My world changed on November 11. My precious son left this world to go and be with the Great Physician. Chris had spent 20 years preparing to be a doctor and in May of this year, he made it! Chris loved all aspects of medicine but his heart was in geriatrics. He told me one time that all he wanted was to help people move from this earthly realm to the next station without pain or discomfort. Unfortunately, Chris was battling his own demons. I would like to thank all MY knights and ladies for EVERYTHING they have done for me and continue to do. The flowers were just beautiful, and your prayers were well felt. I know our religious doctrines are somewhat different but at this time, it really doesn't matter. I know I love you and I know you love me. I know we all believe in a Superior Being named God and that is all that ultimately matters. Thank you so much for everything and may God bless you all!" **Editor's Note:** Vicki, for those who do not know, is the long-time secretary of Deputy Grand Knight **Newton White** at Instrument & Supply, Inc. here in Hot Springs. Her valued assistance to Newton has overflowed to our council. So many times she has helped us, especially with holiday and other special occasion decorations. Several council members and their wives were present to support Vicki following the death of her son Chris on November 11.



Unplanned: A Book You Should Read

Abby Johnson of College Station, Texas, wrote *Unplanned*, an account of her former role as head of the Bryan, Texas Planned Parenthood Center (where abortions are performed routinely), of her own two abortions, of her sudden departure from the abortion clinic, and of her then becoming allied with the pro-life pregnancy crisis center of Bryan. As director of the abortion clinic Abby had never been involved with the abortion process so had never seen the images and heard the heartbeats from ultrasound equipment. Then, quite unexpectedly, her life changed dramatically one day when the abortionist, short of assistance, called her to assist in an abortion. That's when she first saw an actual image of a fetus and heard its heartbeat. She was badly shaken when she saw the fetus recoiling from the probe inserted into the uterus to kill the developing baby. At that moment her life changed radically. This is a gripping book, sure to hold your attention. Anyone who questions our council's forthcoming purchase of an ultrasound will almost certainly change his or her mind after reading Abby Johnson's remarkable story. Two copies of this book are in St. John's library (in the Parish Hall, last office on the right.) A paperback copy may also be purchased from Amazon.com for \$10.19.

A Message from Father West

With the Gospel of the First Sunday of Advent, we received a message from the Lord Jesus which we are to carry with us each and every day. This vigilance, of course, is directed toward the goal of life eternal with God. Day by day, in thought, word and deed, we are to keep careful watch over ourselves in order to maintain a proper relationship between ourselves and God. If we have strayed through the commission of sin, if we have allowed our vigilance to falter, we have every opportunity to recapture a proper relationship with God through the devout and genuinely contrite confession of our sins. Advent is our annual opportunity to do the necessary soul-searching and to take whatever steps necessary to allow God to unite us more closely with Himself in preparation for the celebration of our Divine Savior's birth at Christmas.

Do we consider this Advent call to vigilance to be an easy thing? If so, we need to look at how well we live out vigilance in other ways. Recently, we had a great opportunity to test ourselves along these lines with the introduction of the new Roman Missal. Perhaps we were asked by the deacon or priest to keep close at hand any helps provided for us with the new wording of prayers and responses. Even then, what happened on that first Sunday of the new translation? Did we hold fast to the cards and missalettes and other materials provided while actually "in the moment?" Or did we only start the Mass with those things in hand and then promptly lay them aside and return to our earlier words out of habit? Did we maintain our vigilance, or did we only persevere for a brief moment? **....continued, p. 3**

Knights Raise Flags at Calvary Cemetery

On Veterans Day, November 11, flags were raised over Calvary Cemetery to honor those men and women who have served our country in military service. Those present to raise the flags were **Julian Post, Joe Dierks, Jim Reiter, Iturba Percefull, Harold Hager, Dennis Bosch, Don Sass, Joe Giompoletti, Gil Gibbons, Larry Stamps, Stan DeGruccio, Bill Thompson, Dennis Wood, Leonard Buchholz, Lou Kosarek, Joe Kanopsic, Paul Enderlin, Ray Kukuk, and Tom Gilleran.** Prior to raising the flags, all enjoyed coffee and donuts, compliments of **Don Sass.** The next flag raising at Calvary will be December 7 in remembrance of Pearl Harbor.

Dick & Becky Antoine

Tom & Barbara Gilleran

Scott & Sessie Hrdlicka

Dennis & Chris Bosch

Zack & Stephanie Nehus

Joe & Peggy Palmere

Bob & Sandy Kortener

Mark & Stephanie Layton

Mike & Mary Schnaufer Sr

Joe & Mildred Giompoletti

Stan & Gwen DeGruccio

Bill & Dawn Thompson

Bill & Marilyn Wavering

Mike & Nancy Schnaufer Jr

Joe & Sandra Cenac

Carol Ecklund

Audrey McDonald

Hugh & Pat Truesdale

Wally & Lucy Marroy

Rick & Pam Dwyer

John & Millie Connell

Charles & Carole Cook

Newton & Linda White

Earl & DeDe Robbins

David & Darla Myers

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Joe & Agnes Petruk

Dick & Jackie Smith

Gil & Karen Gibbons

Don & Rose Pullen

Dennis & Sue Wood

Don & Elizabeth Sass

Lou & Vi Kosarek

Joe & Jayne Dierks

Vali Talbot Barron

Ray & Rose Kukuk

Paul & Evelyn Enderlin

Tony & Diane Pollock

Bob & Ethel Kness

John & Denise Steinhaus

George & Sue Marshall

Frank & Sarah Maxwell

Jack & Carol Andrews

Jim & Frankie DeGeorge

Joe & Betty Harrison

Larry & Sandy Stamps

Ed & Lorraine McManus

Jim & Martha Lockwood

Julian & Kay Post

Larry & Diane Nieman

Jeremy Tedder

Harold Hager

Marge Knoth

Wanda Eckhart

Val Poe

Leonard Buchholz

Isabel Peregrn

Paul & Lee Meyers

Gust & Mary Turek

December Birthdays

1 Brad McClintock

1 Todd Shiver

3 Thomas Baltz

3 Fr. John Burkus

6 Dick Antoine

7 Bob Ward

13 Mike Schnaufer, Sr.

15 Charles Failla

26 Jim DeGeorge

26 George Schwass

Pray for our Sick

Please pray for the following council members, wives/relatives, and council friends who struggle with health problems: **Msgr. Gaston Hebert, Stephen Stoddard, Valerie Poe, Fr. John Burkus, Fr. Bill Thomas, Barbara Gilleran, Dorothy Rowley, Deacon Dave Briselden, Rose Mary Pultz, Ruth Heithaus, Rick Sands, Conrad Stein, Jolene Sharkey, Jim Maguire, Ed McManus, Earl and DeDe Robbins, George and Sue Marshall, Mary Ellen Kagel, Laura Mazzia, and Rosemary Pultz.**

December Calendar

4 Pancake Breakfast, St. John's Parish Hall, following all Masses (see article, p. 1)

7 Flag Raising, Calvary Cemetery, Pearl Harbor Day, 7 a.m.

8 No December Council Meeting

10 Annual Fourth Degree Dinner and Dance, Giompoletti Hall, 5 p.m. (See article, p. 1)

15 No December Fourth Degree Meeting.

Father West, continued.....

Of course, this is merely an example used to illustrate the point and something which has no bearing on the condition of our souls. But the point is made: true vigilance is very difficult to maintain, requiring the great assistance of God, which He readily extends to those who seek it. May we seek such help from the Lord as we embark upon the spiritually rewarding season of vigilance, the Holy Season of Advent.

From Our Insurance Agent "Don't Wait, Act Today"

When your family is hungry, you see that this need is taken care of immediately to the best of your ability. As a provider to your wife and children, your responsibilities are great and your time is spread thin. It is easy to forget important tasks or let them slip to the backburner for later.

Everything, including your health—don't put off what can't wait until tomorrow. As your professional Knights of Columbus agent, I urge you to make securing life insurance for you and your family a top priority.

It is my fraternal obligation to make sure that every member has the opportunity to protect his family with the Order's top-rated insurance products. I'll work with you to put in place a plan that will help your family when that help is what they need the most.

Your Knights of Columbus insurance program is second to none. As the premier safety net for Catholic families for more than 126 years, our insurance program makes me proud. But I'm also concerned that too many of our brother knights have not yet looked into the insurance needs of their family. I suspect that, for many of them, life insurance has drifted to the backburner until tomorrow. Don't be one of them. Move your insurance needs to the forefront today.

I'm at 501-204-9486 or randy.schnoebelen@kofc.com Call me. Let's talk.

Have a blessed Christmas.

**Randy Schnoebelen, FIC
Knights of Columbus Field Agent
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Hot Springs, AR 71910
501-204-9486**