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# Knight Shift

**Hot Springs Council 6419**  
**Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903-2292**  
[www.hotspingsknights.org](http://www.hotspingsknights.org)



### Council Plans Two Lenten Fish Frys

Chairman **Mark Layton** has announced plans for two fish frys at St. John's gymnasium during Lent. Last Lent the council conducted only one such event. Mark your calendars for Friday, March 2 and Friday, March 30. Although the other Friday meals are served free of charge, because of the expense of such large operations, we must sell tickets at a cost of \$7, except that children under 5 will eat free and tickets for those from 5 to 10 will be \$4.00. Tickets, unlike last year, will not be sold after Masses but will be available at other times from council members and also bought at the door. Based on the success of the first event, we may sell tickets after Masses for the second event. This information is being offered in February because the March 2 date comes too early in the month to advertise it in March *Knight Shift*.

Currently we plan a menu of fish, fries, hush puppies, slaw, bread, and a choice of water or tea. To-go orders will be available. (**Grand Master Chef Joe** is free to alter the menu if he sees fit.) We will need as many "hands on deck" as possible to make these events as successful as our one effort last year was. We will need workers for two different shifts: from 3 to 5:30 and from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Come forth!

**Knight Shift** is published monthly by Knights of Columbus Hot Springs Council 6419 Editor, Jim Lockwood

### Director of "The Caring Place" Speaks at Giompoletti Hall

What a wonderfully informative evening it was! It was an occasion that we're sorry to have been missed by so many. The evening began at 6 p.m. on Thursday, January 26, with 38 people present. First, following a prayer offered by **Jim DeGeorge**, those present enjoyed a fine potluck dinner, the main offering being pulled pork prepared by our **Chef Joe Giompoletti** (just one of the many reasons the council hall bears his name). As always, it was cooked to perfection. Thanks to all who brought side dishes and desserts.

Then came the featured event. **Lynn Reeves**, long-time director of "The Caring Place" located at 101 Quapaw Avenue, told those present of The Caring Place history and of the services provided for victims of Alzheimer's who come there two or more days each week. A monthly support group is also offered to family members, who share their experiences, how they cope, etc. Lynn spoke with ease, with detail, and with great compassion. Clearly she is the right person for her demanding job. When her presentation was finished, she took many questions from her audience, who were well aware that this dreaded disease has either already affected or will affect at least one person in their families—and some of them directly. It was clearly a topic of great interest. Lynn welcomes tours of their facility. The Caring Place has received many accolades from near and far for its work. We are fortunate to have such a program in Hot Springs. It was created by and continues under the auspices of First United Methodist Church but welcomes both clients and volunteer workers from all faiths. It exists on public donations. Knights of Columbus Charity Fund is currently providing \$400 each month toward operating expenses.

### Grand Knight's Report



February starts the beginning of the busy part of the year. The first event following the Council meeting on February 9 is the District Free Throw Contest in Mena on February 18. All the winners from our January 28 council contest are entered into the district contest. I plan to accompany any contest winners to the district event. [See local winners on p. 2] **Paul Ruckstuhl**, our Youth Director, may also accompany the winners. The State K of C contest will be held in Conway on March 4. Any council representative who wins the District contest can go to Conway and compete. I may attend if we have a winner at the District level.

We are blessed again this year with a 2nd & 3rd degree exemplification at our hall on Sunday February 12. Our council currently has 39 "1st Degree only" Knights on our roster, four live in other states. The 35 local Knights have been notified of the exemplifications, with more details to follow. We also expect knights from other councils to participate with potentially up to 60 knights attending. The 3rd degree exemplification is an all-new format and I have heard several compliments regarding the content. I suggest you plan to join us that afternoon and witness the revised ceremony.

While we have assembled all the money needed for the ultrasound machine including the \$700 installation fee, Change Point has still not either obtained the state sales tax exemption certificate, or raised the money for tax if a sales tax exemption is not possible. We have a total of \$29,500 for this project. The Hot Springs Council received accolades at Change Point's fund-raising event at First Baptist Church on Saturday January 21. I hope for the benefit of Change Point, the attendees at the fund-raising event eclipsed our donation. I have not heard the outcome.

On February 19, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, Council 6419 will conduct another fundraising Pancake Breakfast in the Parish Hall following all morning Masses at St. John's Church. Chairman **Randy Schnoebelen** of course needs cooks and servers as well as ticket sellers and crews for setting up and then cleaning up when it's finished. Tickets, as previous, will be \$5.00 each, with children 10 and under eating free.

Lent, which begins February 22, will bring the start of two Friday fish frys after Stations at St John's. Event Chairman **Mark Layton** has Friday, March 2 as the first date with the second on Friday, March 30. The original February 24 date was changed because the gym was unavailable. [See **Mark's "Fish Fry" article in opposite column for details.**]

Our recruiting goal of 12 is almost a fact with 5 approved Form 100's pending and the Village council offering a 1st degree at the last Sunday of January. We now have 11 of the 12 needed and two candidates indicating they will be available to attend the January 28 exemplification ceremony. **Dennis Bosch/Grand Knight**

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### Massive Clean-up Underway

For a year or so, Council 6419 has wanted to clean-up the forested area of council property between our buildings and Spring Street. Excessively hot weather, drought conditions, or other commitments have interfered with intentions. But not now. On Wednesday, January 18, a team of dedicated workers gathered at the edge of the work site and began the tedious task of clearing brush, including long, vicious briar tendrils reaching far into the trees, cutting stunted trees jammed against or too close to good trees. **Joe Giompoletti**, showing his versatility, replaced his chef's hat with a forester's hat, climbed onto either his backhoe or his bushhog and went to work with the clearing process. (ANOTHER reason *Giompoletti Hall* bears his name). **Don Sass, Dick Smith, Tom Gilleran, Iturba Percefull, Lenny Didier, and Jim Lockwood** cut vines and small growth with loppers, gathered them up and loaded a trailer to move them to the steadily growing burn pile. The following Tuesday, January 24, the same crew plus **Bill Thompson, Dennis Bosch, Leonard Buchholz, and Leonard's son-in-law Tom** (who just moved with his wife to Hot Springs from Las Vegas) were on hand to continue the work. Already, we can see remarkable improvement. BUT...completion of the job is far off, and a number of work sessions must follow. The goal is a small forest of well-spaced pines, an aesthetically pleasing scene and one in which pines can thrive. [See Pictures, Insert Page]

Come join our crew. During lunch breaks we've enjoyed Joe's hamburgers and pulled pork and, on the second outing, delicious Polish sausage made by **Jack and Carol Andrews**. If you have a chain saw, bring it along. Long-handled loppers would also be helpful. The job ahead needs others to join in. The next outing will be Tuesday morning, January 31. Others will follow.



### Death Claims Two Council Members

First, **Earl Robbins**, age 92, died at Mercy Hospital in Hot Springs on January 8. Then, on January 20, **Father John Burkus** died at age 98.

Earl, born on June 25, 1919 in Covington, Kentucky, was a long-time resident of Hot Springs, having served in different capacities in the community. He was a city alderman for six years and a justice of the peace for more than 30 years. He was known as a fine automobile mechanic when he was operations and service manager of Market Street Garage for 20 years. Following that, he was employed by Hot Springs Public Schools as high school auto mechanics instructor, retiring in 1986. Earl was a covert to the Catholic Church. He became a Knight of Columbus in 1988, serving both the council and St. John's Church through the years. For many years he was a regular usher at St. John's 8 a.m. Mass. The Rite of Christian Burial was celebrated on January 13 at St. John's with **Fr. Alan Rosenau** as the celebrant and **Deacon Joe Harrison** as the homilist. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery. The council extends condolence to Earl's wife of 70 years **DeDe** and to his sons and their families.

Father Burkus, following a long period of infirmity and sickness, died on January 20. Fr. Burkus was born on December 3, 1913, in Lithuania, where he was ordained a priest June 15, 1940, and where he remained until 1949 when he immigrated to the United States to work with Lithuanian communities in Pennsylvania and later in Michigan. Eventually he

....continued, next column

served with the Diocese of El Paso, remaining there until 1975, when he retired from active ministry and relocated to Hot Springs, where there is a Lithuanian community. Father became a member of Knights of Columbus Council 6419 in 1985 and later a member of the Fourth Degree Assembly, for which he served as chaplain for several years.

### Local Winners of Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

The local winners of the January 28 Annual Council Free Throw Contest are Adrian Masias, 10-year-old, boys; Ashton Patrick, 11-year-old girls; Sarah Rudder, 12-year old girls; Marcus Hayes, 13-year-old boys; Meredith Hayes, 14-year-old girls. Our turnout was only mediocre. Winner in each category received a nice basketball.

### From Father West

During February we find on our Church calendar a couple of things of great significance to us as faithful Catholics. One is a great and joyous celebration, and the other a sober and stark reminder of the fleeting reality that is our earthly life.

The second day of this month we celebrate the great Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. On this fortieth day following the celebration of our Lord's birth at Christmas, we recall the moment when the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph carried the Christ Child into the Temple, that He might be formally offered by them in service to God. On this occasion, the Prophet Simeon declared the Lord to be a "light unto the Gentiles and the Glory of Israel."

But we can easily overlook another aspect to this hold day: the sadness and hardship promised to Mary. To our Blessed Mother, Simeon said, "And your heart, too, a sword shall pierce." Imagine how haunting those words must have sounded. Mary most likely began to feel in that very moment the first sharp pains of the sword of sorrow predicted for her. Even so, we see in her nothing but peace and a resolute spirit to accomplish everything God would give her to do.

February also brings to us Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the holy season of Lent. "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return," we hear while receiving the ashes. How sobering .....continued, p. 3

### First Degree Knights Eligible for Upcoming Exemplification

An Exemplification for Second and Third Degree knighthood is rarely available in our council hall. We have one perhaps every three years. So our candidates usually have to travel to other councils, sometimes a good distance away. But on February 12 an Exemplification will be conducted in Giompoletti Hall, with registration beginning at noon. Our First Degree members should take advantage of this opportunity to attain Second and Third Degree status in one afternoon. These members are **John Andrews, Vance Arlotta, Ayala Aurelio, Zachary Buttrum, George Callahan, Andrew Casey, Peter Couch, Monte Dilick, Charles Failla, Sean Faust, Walter Frazee, Vicente Gonzales, Marc Hayes, Roberto Hazera, Tony Hoenig, David House, Scott Hrdlicka, David Johnson, Ed King, Ronald King, Stephen Libby, Larry Martin, Edwin Medley, Derek Monroe, Austen Radimer, John Riddell, George Schwass, Jeffrey Seikel, Sam Selig, Grant Shiver, Todd Shiver, Guillermo Vallejos, Mark Webber, and James Womack**. Members who sponsored these candidates for First Degree have a responsibility to do all they can do make sure these men are present for the February 12 Exemplification. There are no dress requirements although a tie is suggested with nice shirt and slacks. Following the ceremony a meal will be served. The next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be conducted in Harrison on Saturday, April 14. Details will follow in March *Knight Shift*.

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### February Birthdays

- 3 **John Davis**
- 5 **Kevin Coakley**
- 6 **Robert Long**
- 9 **Edward Daven**
- 9 **Joe Palmere**
- 12 **Joe Magnini**
- 12 **Tony Torres**
- 13 **Roberto Hazera**
- 13 **Ed Sharkey**
- 15 **Steve Dunn**
- 15 **Tony Pollock**
- 15 **Conrad Stein**
- 16 **Ronald King**
- 16 **Rick Sands**
- 16 **Paul Sturman**
- 19 **Tony Hoenig**
- 20 **Austen Radimer**
- 20 **Kenny Scott**
- 20 **Charles Smith**
- 22 **Bob Fiedler**
- 25 **James Rosamond**

### 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, Marge Knoth, Valerie Poe, Fr. Bill Thomas, Deacon Dave Briselden, Ruth Heithaus, Rick Sands, Conrad Stein, Jolene Sharkey, Jim Maguire, Ed McManus, DeDe Robbins, George and Sue Marshall, Mary Ellen Kagel, Laura Mazzia, Rosemary Pultz, and Doris Reis.**

### February Calendar

- 9 **Officers Meeting, Giompoletti Hall, 6:00 p.m.**
- 9 **Council Meeting, Giompoletti Hall, 7:30 p.m.**
- 12 **Second and Third Degree Exemplification, Giompoletti Hall, Noon registration (see Grand Knight's article, p. 2)**
- 16 **Fourth Degree Assembly, Giompoletti Hall, 6:30 p.m.**
- 18 **District Free-Throw Contest, Mena (See G.K.'s article, p. 1)**
- 19 **Pancake Breakfast, St. John's Parish Hall (see article, p. 1)**
- Mar 2 **Fish Fry, St. John's Gym (See article, p. 1)**

### Father West's article, continued

is this message. Within just a few words, the Church reminds us that life is brief and that we can expect difficulty.

But all is not for naught. We must face the stark realities of life as did our Blessed Mother at the Presentation. With faith we move from day to day, knowing that the ultimate goal is a great and glorious one. May we carry within us that attitude of Mary as we begin the discipline of Lent, knowing that God is allowing us the grace of spiritual transformation through the sacrifices

### From Our Insurance Agent "Having Only 'Through Work' Insurance Doesn't Always Do the Job"

Do you know anyone whose life has been drastically changed by the recent recession and economic downturn? With the employment numbers rising, (the jobless rate was 9 percent-plus in 2011, the highest since 1983), it's very likely that someone in your immediate or extended family or group of friends is facing financial uncertainty now. With this uncertainty, there is a real possibility that you (or your spouses) could lose your job or change employers.

Too many people have relied on **group term life insurance** as their **only safety net**. Often this insurance is an employee benefit provided at low or no cost. The existence of this coverage might convince someone that a personally owned life insurance policy is not necessary.

Having only "through work" insurance doesn't work. This way of thinking should be a thing of the past for many reasons. Most forms of group life insurance are limited in amount, which may be tied to salary or some other benchmark. These numbers are often capped, and this cap may be dangerously low for your family's actual needs. In fact, without a detailed needs analysis, any

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