

Keep Christ in Christmas!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HOT SPRINGS COUNCIL 6419

Knight Watch



VOLUME 25, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2013

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Grand Knight's Article

The time draws near to say good-bye to 2013 and a BIG hello to 2014. The past year has been a whirlwind of activities, beginning with a Dinner Theater event featuring the talents of master illusionist Maxwell Blade and soon to conclude with the Fourth Degree Assembly Honor Guard's participation in the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass.

Our council buzzes with activities from January through December. Both the council and assembly sponsor seminarians through funds and prayers and provide information to our young people with an annual Vocation Celebration with Bishop Anthony Taylor. We participate in the Feast of Corpus Christi, marching from St. John the Baptist Church to St. Mary of the Springs Church. We sponsor our local Catholic school by providing funds raised through our annual golf tournament and provide the spaghetti dinner during the school's annual bazaar. We treat the altar servers from both St. John's and St.

Mary's Churches to a picnic each year at ARC-Isle on Lake Hamilton, and we provide a \$1000 scholarship to a deserving Catholic student graduating from a local high school. We sponsor our local and district Free-Throw competition each year. And in November we initiated a Columbian Squires Circle, bringing in 22 young men as charter members. Upon their reaching their 18th birthday we hope to transition them into membership in the Knights of Columbus Council [See related article, p. 2]

Our mission to raise money to help local charities continues relentlessly. Present recipients of monthly donations totaling \$3500 are Jackson House, Christian Charitable Medical Clinic, The Caring Place, Project Hope (Food Bank), Samaritan Ministries for homeless men, Safe Haven for homeless women and children, residents of local government housing (diapers and toiletries), and The Branch (providing housing and meals for residents overcoming drug and/or alcohol addiction and Change Point providing pre-natal care and other related services to women in an effort to prevent abor-

tion. The council also gives two \$1000 donations each year to St. Vincent de Paul Society, who also works to alleviate the suffering of the poor. We raise money for pro-life initiatives through "Right to Life" marches and our annual Baby Bottle Campaign. Each October council members and other volunteers stand outside several local businesses collecting donations for those with intellectual disabilities, and we provide warm coats for children in need. Our semi-annual charity rummage sales have become much anticipated events for many in the Hot Springs area. Recent years have given us several new record sales, allowing us to continue and increase our service to the community.

We also work on the state level by contributing to the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign and to the Pennies from Heaven campaign, which is a Knights of Columbus statewide reserve of cash to provide assistance to people who are suddenly faced with one kind of hardship or another. continued, p. 5

Christmas Dinner/Dance Set for December 14



The annual Fourth Degree-sponsored Christmas Dinner and Dance is scheduled for

Saturday evening, December 14 at Giampoletti Hall. The social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner to follow at 6:30. Tickets, available from **Chairman Joe Kanopsic** and **Bob Koch**, sell for \$30 each.

Chuck and Darlene Pavlovich will take the lead in preparing dinner, featuring roast loin of pork and vegetables followed by an array of pastries. Assisting will be **Wally Frazee, Joe and Janet Kanopsic** and new councilcontinued, p. 6

Council Conducts Investiture of Charter Class of Columbian Squires

Council 6419 hosted the Investiture of 19 Columbian Squires on Saturday, November 16, at the KC Hall, at 1:00 p.m. The Squires Circle from Subiaco Academy graciously sent an Investiture Team, with Chief Counsellor, **Michael Bowman**, down to Hot Springs to conduct the ceremony. New members are listed beneath the accompanying picture. Missing from the group are Mason Vondenstein and Christian Smith, who were invested a couple of days later. The new Squires elected **Richard Pellegrino** as Chief Squire, **Landon Stidman** as Deputy Chief, **Kevin Kowalkowski** as Purser, and Grant Webber as Recorder.

Following the investiture, continued, p. 6



Squires Charter Members, Front Row from left: Dayton Meyers, Collin Gallimore, J. P. Guresky, Hunter Speas; Middle Row: Kevin Kowalkowski, Connor French, Brandon Bennett, Andre Larey, Cross Cardenas; Back Row: Landon Stidman, Andrew Guresky, Peter Rick, Richard Pellegrino, Chase King, Justin Abraham, Trevor Millsap, Jamie Lockwood, Grant Weber, and Nathan Weber. Not pictured: Mason Vondenstein and Christian Smith

“Young men between the ages of 10 and 17 are eligible for membership in Columbian Squires.”

No one wants to think about one's own mortality, but the fact of the matter is that nobody lives forever.

Since the close of our October Charity Rummage Sale, our net proceeds have jumped from \$27,297.56 to \$28,027.66.

From Our Insurance Agent

Dear Brother Knights,

We are closer and closer to the end of another year. Have you met all of your goals of preparing for your retirement and having enough insurance to cover your family's needs in case of your disability or death? Tempus Fugit!!! It's easy to say, "Next year when things get better." You know as well as I know that another year goes by and things are the same. Let's

face it! No one wants to think about one's own mortality, but the fact of the matter is that nobody lives forever. The best gift of all for your family is doing something about it. When you buy an insurance policy or annuity, you are not only preparing for your retirement and for your family if something happens to you, but you are helping give to charity. This last year \$150 million dollars was given to those who are less fortunate. Believe in the Lord, as he has said,

“Whomsoever you help in my name, you will be reap ten-fold.”

God bless all! Have a blessed Christmas season!

Fraternally yours,
**Randy Schnoebelen, FICF
Field Agent
Knights of Columbus
501-204-9686**

P.S. Pray for our soldiers!
Pray for peace!

Closing the Book on the Fall Charity Rummage Sale

As reported in November ***Knight Watch***, our net income when the sale closed on October 19 was a record **\$27,297.56**. Post sales have continued to dribble in, bringing our closing net to **\$28,027.66**. So we've added almost \$800 more. This will officially close the book on

the fall sale. Sales between now and the next sale will be applied toward the proceeds of that event.

Donations continue to come in. One pick-up was made during Thanksgiving week, and two more are scheduled for the first week of December. We need as many as

we can get as long as we judge the offered items to be sellable.

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

VOLUME 25, ISSUE

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From Father George Sanders:



Back in the day when kids actually played outside after school and games like “Kick the Can,” “Hide and Go Seek,” kick ball and sandlot baseball were all the

rage, we often got together for a friendly game of “King of the Hill.” On our block in the 60’s, it was more entertainment than competition. These epic battles normally took place in my front yard, since it was a quickly sloping yard that terminated in a grassy drainage ditch before joining the seldom traveled road, providing a fairly wide, ready-made and safe field of combat. The noble pugilists included knights, maids and squires (from 5 to 12 years old) with the imagined story line more important than athletic ability. In our war games, women and children competed as well as the men in the well-timed and executed Hollywood stunt roll (You know, the kind John Wayne might have done jumping

from a crashing stage coach(being much more appreciated by the crowd than pride of place at the top.

In our neighborhood of kids, it was really a lot of fun, and everyone was welcomed to join. But what was great kids’ play loses some of its innocence and charm when we continue trying to play the same game as adults. No longer for fun, this game can be serious business with the players willing to do anything to get to the top. You probably know what I mean. In the adult game, being King of the Hill is all that matters, whether in friendly conversations, social engagements, or life in general. The weapons of warfare are jobs or positions or friends or vacations or educational/professional pedigrees; it’s a matter of who you are, what you have, whom you know and what you have done that gets you to the top. Reminiscent of professional wrestling, there are no friends, only foes in this free-for-all. Though many find themselves drawn into this

game, there are two things that one should know before thinking about joining the fun.

First, the only way to get to the top is to pull everyone else down. The only way you can win is by making sure no one stands higher than you. You must dominate all contenders. Seasoned players of the adult style of this game are experts at one-upmanship. If you went to Chicago, they have been to Venice. When you are excited about the new Ford you just bought, the words can barely escape your mouth before they begin to opine voluminously on the benefits of their BMW (“It costs quite a bit more, but it is certainly worth the price difference”). It’s the rules of the game. No one can pretend

....continued, p. 5



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Fourth Degree—Footnotes

...new to our Prayer List is **George Schwass**, who is presently dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

The big Assembly event coming up December 14 is our annual **Christmas Dinner and Dance**.

“A point of interest is that the Dallas period included **Carol’s 18th birthday** on that fateful **November 22, 1963**. **Carol** and a friend were at **Love Field** to see **John and Jackie Kennedy** disembark from their plane shortly before **President Kennedy** would be killed by a sniper’s bullet.”



The Fourth Degree Assembly met Thursday, November 21 at *Giampoletti Hall*. Those present were treated to **Joe Giampoletti’s** fine dinner of pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, green beans, garlic toast, and apple pie topped with ice cream. Mmmmm good! You guys who missed the meeting actually missed a whole lot more!

Dennis Wood agreed to assume the role of Faithful Captain, previously held by **Bill Thompson**. We learned that Faithful Purser **Larry Heisserer** is experiencing complications from diabetes and needs our prayers as he receives therapy. In Larry’s absence **Larry Nieman** will act as Assembly Purser until further notice. Also new on our prayer list is council member **George Schwass**, who is presently dealing with a cancer diagnosis. George is one of Grand Knight **Newton White’s** employees at Instrument and Supply.

The big Assembly event coming up December 14 is our annual Christmas Dinner and Dance. **[Please see article, p. 1] We will be honored to have District Master Russell J. Anzalone** and his wife present for the celebration.

The council and assembly offered a memorial tribute Sunday, November 24 honoring our beloved deceased member **Bill Thompson [See separate article, p. 9]. /Don Sass, F.N.**



Spotlight on Bob and Carol Koch

Since retiring to Hot Springs in March of 2011, **Bob and Carol Koch** have made their presence know, including at the Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist, Knights of Columbus Council 6419, Lakeside Golf Course (Bob), and the Bridge House, where both show up at least once a week for some friendly duplicate bridge. And Carol is an active member of St. John Church’s Council of Catholic Women in which she works with Sacred Heart Circle.

But of special interest to us is their joint role with our local Knights of Columbus council. They are now among the “indispensables.” Bob presently serves as Chancellor for the Council, one of his jobs being to recognize each month a different knight as “Knight of the Month” and a man and wife couple as “Family of the Month.” He continues his participation in the flag raisings at Calvary Cemetery on various patriotic holidays. He also is a member of the Fourth Degree Assembly, serving in the Honor Guard for special church celebrations such as Christmas Midnight Mass, Easter, and Rite of Christian Burial Masses for deceased knights.

Both Bob and Carol have become faithful workers for our Charity Rummage Sales, especially including the many days of preparation beginning several weeks before the actual sales. Bob, with **Dennis Wood**, takes care of the electronics—TV’s, computers, printers, radios, music players, etc. Together they test to make sure they’re in good working order, organizing, pricing, and discarding for recycle. Bob is also frequently involved in trips in and out of Hot Springs to help collect donations for our sale.

Carol has her own special niche in the working of our rummage sales. She and **Carol Cook** (wife of Council Recorder Charlie) supervise our large collection of home decorator items, including clocks, lamps, statuary, other specialty items, and some art work. Patrons frequently are generous with their compliments about the attractive displays throughout *Spirit Hall*, such as Carol’s pig collection shown here. The “Carols” contribute much to the collective presentation in *Spirit Hall*.

So it was the council’s good fortune when Bob and Carol chose Hot

Springs as their retirement home in 2011. They both had grown up in Stuttgart, the mosquito, rice, and duck capital of the world. They first met in the public high school. Bob, the Lutheran, and Carol, the Catholic had gone to separate parochial schools. In time their relationship took a romantic turn and they’ve been together ever since, though not always in the same location. After high school graduation Bob headed for Arkansas State University in Jonesboro while Carol went south to the University of Dallas, where she spent two years before returning to Stuttgart to work. [A point of interest is that the Dallas period included Carol’s 18th birthday on that fateful November 22 of 1963. Carol and a friend were at Love Field to see John and Jackie Kennedy disembark from their plane shortly before President Kennedy would be killed by a sniper’s bullet.]

After college graduation in 1968 Bob



Grand Knight's article, continued

Council 6419 participates each year in the Arkansas State Knights of Columbus Convention and this year earned the Large Council of the Year Award. Our council has hosted state organizational meetings, district meetings, and our own functions in our beautiful and well maintained council hall.

Together we raise and lower flags in honor of our presidents, our veterans, our labor force, our country's birthday, our patron Christopher Columbus, and Pearl Harbor Day remembrance. We honor the Blessed Mother and our departed council members with a Living

Rosary, and we worship together once each month for Corporate Communion in one of our two local Catholic Churches.

And.....we eat! We have Lenten fish fries, Irish dinners on St. Patrick's Day, Rib Ticker Dinners, pancake breakfasts, pot-luck dinners, our always elegant Christmas Dinner/Dance, and dinners for a few other special occasions, such as our annual Taste of Faith Dinners that raise money to provide special support for our diocesan seminarians.

These notable events could not be

done by one person or even by a few people. It takes a team; it takes a brotherhood of men (and often their wives and other supporters) working together, helping each other. Each person brings his individual skills ad God-given talents, all working toward one goal. This is the time of year that we express our thanks and gratitude for the blessings we have received. And I thank all of you for your hard work and your dedication during this past year. I also want to thank all the wives and other family members who have given of their time and talents to make our council so successful. May God bless all of you during this holy season./**Newton White, Grand Knight**

Father George, concluded

any advantage over you. He must be cast down at all costs.

One other thing that you might want to know before committing to this game is that no one ever really wins. Your coronation is but momentary, a fleeting fame, because as soon as you scrap your way to the top, someone else will try to discredit or malign you so as to ascend to your rightful

throne at the crest of the hill. That's just the way it is played. For those veterans of the game, I have noticed that they are all too often wounded, bleeding and battered, but they are still climbing that hill hoping against hope that they will finally win on the next try. In this adult game of King of the Hill, the only winners are those who have stepped far enough back to see the reality of the game and have come to see that the real winners in life have left this game in the innocence of childhood, where it belongs.

Raising of Flags, December 7



The last patriotic flag raising at Calvary Cemetery for this calendar year will be in recognition of Pearl Harbor Day, the Day of Infamy that plunged our country into World War II. Council members will report to Calvary Cemetery at 7 a.m. to raise flags and return at 4 p.m. to take them down. Flag raising will be preceded by coffee and donuts.



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Christmas Dinner/Dance, concluded

member **Stan Kowalski**.

Returning this year to provide dance music is **Larry Womack** and his fabulous **Salt 'N Pepper Band**. They performed last Christmas and return this year by popular request. Assisting Joe and Janet with decorations are veteran decorators **Don and Liz Sass**. **Liz and Sue Wood** will also display to sell some of the best Christmas decorations remaining at the end of our October Charity Rummage Sale. The Christmas raffle of the past will be omitted from this celebration.

To secure your tickets, call **Joe at 262-5829** or **Bob at 545-6118**. **Purchase of tickets at the door is strongly discouraged.** It is of paramount importance to know in advance the number of guests to ensure an adequate food supply. This semiformal event is the social highlight of the Assembly and Council year! Don't miss out on good food and drink AND good fellowship surrounded by great music and a festive holiday mood.

Purchase of tickets at the door is strongly discouraged. It is of paramount importance to know in advance the number of guests to ensure an adequate food supply.

**Council Establishes
Columbian Squires Charter Class, concluded**

the council served sandwiches, chips, and drinks to the new Squires as well as to a large group of Knights who witnessed the Investiture.

Young men between the ages of 10 and 17 are eligible for membership in Columbian Squires. Upon reaching 18, they are then eligible to become Knights.



Colombian Squires First Officers: From left, Richard Pellegrino, President; Kevin Kowalkowski, Purser; Landon Stidman, Deputy Chief; and Grant Webber, Recorder. Knights serving as Advisors are Grand Knight Newton White, Joe Kanopsic, Greg Speas, Vincente Gonzalez, and Charlie Cook. Father James West will serve as



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Pray for Our Sick

Please pray for the following council members, wives/relatives, and council friends who struggle with health problems: Dick Smith, Larry Heisserer, George Schwass, Paul Enderlin, Tom Gilleran, Ilse Purkott, George Callahan, Beverly Priest, John Andrews, Lee Myers, Frankie DeGeorge, Hayley Gloria, Stephen Stoddard, Matthew Stoddard, Valerie Poe, Deacon Dave Briselden, Rick Sands, Conrad Stein, Jolene Sharkey, Sue Marshall, Laura Mazzia, Deacon John Connell, Shirley Dvorak (mother of Jody Dvorak), Jeanette Mace, Barbara Meggers, Fr. Raymond Rossi, Dorothy Rowley, and Gust Turek (former council member now in Minnesota).

We're on the web.
hotspringsknights.org

A very merry and blessed
 Christmas to all!



○ Come Let Us
 Adore Him!

December Calendar

- 7 Flag Raising, Calvary Cemetery,
 Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration, p. 7
- 12 Council, Meeting, Giompoletti Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Fourth Degree Christmas Dinner and Dance,
 Giompoletti Hall, 5:30 social; dinner, 6:30
 Fourth Degree Assembly: No December Meeting
- 15 Corporate Communion, St. John's Church,
 10 a.m. Mass

December Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Todd Shiver | 13 Mike Schnauer, Sr. |
| 3 Rusty Baltz | 13 Luke Womack |
| 6 Dick Antoine | 15 Charles Failla |
| 7 Bob Ward | 26 Jim DeGeorge |
| 7 Stanley Kowalkowski | 26 George Schwass |
| 12 Sam Saddemi | 27 Sean Faust |

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Randy Schnoebelen

Field Agent

Knights of Columbus

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Hot Springs Village, AR 71910



Bob assesses the quality of a TV for the fall Charity Rummage Sale



Focus on Bob and Carol, continued

enlisted in the U. S. Navy. Following training in electronics school In NATC Millington, Tennessee, he was stationed at NAS Albany, Georgia, until 1972. Bob and Carol were married November 9, 1968. Bob , the Lutheran, remained a Lutheran until 1970 when he became acquainted with Coast Guard Commander Normand Ricard, a Catholic priest who gave him instructions in the Catholic faith, following which he joined Carol in the Catholic Church.

They are parents of two sons—Emil, in Fayetteville, and Bert, in Key West.

Returning to Arkansas at the end of his military service, Bob was employed by Pine Bluff Production Credit Association. When the 1980's brought downsizing and consolidation to Farm Credit entities, Bob left PCA to become a registered representative for Crews and Associates, an investment bank. In 1987 he became president of Hazen First State Bank. Two years later he transferred to First National Bank in Stuttgart as Senior Vice President. In 1991 he was named bank president. He was an active volunteer in the community and in 2005 was named Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. With Carol's support and assistance, he was elected to the Stuttgart City Council in 2008. He retired from his professional life in 2010.

Upon their move to Hot Springs (where they had dated on Lake Hamilton 50 years earlier), they quickly revealed themselves “ready and able” to serve, the chief beneficiary being Knights of Columbus Council 6419.



Bob and Carol at their home on beautiful Lake Hamilton

Council Establishes Memorial Tribute to Bill Thompson

“Several others offered special remembrances of their friendship with Bill, including Jim Lockwood with his amusing “secret” regarding the crumpled door of Reiter Hall, a secret that involved Bill and Jim and that indeed was a well-kept secret until Jim ‘spilled the beans’ at that time.”

“Time passes, but the memory of Bill remains in our hearts.”

On a cold Sunday, November 24, council members and wives gathered at 1 p.m., first in the *Giampoletti Hall*, then at the Blessed Mother’s Rock Garden to honor our fallen brother **Bill Thompson**, who in just five years of membership had given so much of himself to Council 6419 and to Fourth Degree Assembly 1892. As we were preparing for our fall Charity Rummage Sale, Bill died on October 8 at National Park Medical Center here in Hot Springs.

About 40 people were present for the occasion. After those present had lunch together, Bill’s close friend **Don Sass** and **Bob Koch** took the lead in pay-

ing tribute to Bill’s many contributions to our Council and Assembly (including the collection of boulders surrounding the rock garden. Several others also offered special remembrances of their friendship with Bill, including **Jim Lockwood’s** amusing “secret” regarding the crumpled door of *Reiter Hall*, a secret that involved Bill and Jim and that indeed was a well-kept secret until Jim “spilled the beans” at that time.

Following the personal tributes, the group moved outside to the Rose Garden for the unveiling of the bronze memorial plaque memorializing Bill. This first-ever council undertaking shows the

high esteem and love of council members and the wives who knew him so well. With the weather very cold, the ceremony was brief, beginning with prayer led by Don Sass. It ended with the unveiling of the plaque, set into concrete in a grassy area just below the statue of our Blessed Mother.

Time passes, but the memory of Bill remains in our hearts.

A special thanks to all those who organized this special tribute: **Don Sass** and **Bob Koch**, **Barbara** and **Tom Gilleran** made the food arrangements, **Bob Kortenber**, who first proposed the memorial plaque, and **Stan DeGruccio**, who secured the plaque and who was instrumental in organizing the details of the Sunday occasion.



Pictured: Dawn Thompson, her daughter Andrea and her son Patrick

Large Class of First Degree Knights Inducted

New First Degree Members, from left: Miguel Salazar, Bill Ables, Stan and Nick Kowalkowski (father and son), Antonio Gonzalez, Tom Pitts, John Vondenstein, Jason Cate, Mack Hinson, and Chris Lackey. Not pictured in group: Emilio Avila, who is shown below.



A First Degree Exemplification brought 11 new members into Council 6419 at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, November 3 at Giampoletti Hall. A good number of Knights were present for the ceremony. Following the Exemplification, those present enjoyed sandwiches, chips, and beverages. We welcome these new members and encourage them to become actively involved in council activities. Individual pictures of all new members follow.



Emilio Avila

Missing from pictures is **Thomas Pitts**:



Chris Lackey



Nick Kowalkowski



Bill Ables



Antonio Gonzalez



Mack Hinson



Stan Kowalkowski



John Vondenstein



Jason Cates



Miguel Salazar