



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HOT SPRINGS COUNCIL 6419

Knight Watch



VOLUME 27, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2015

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Grand Knight's Article



It seems only yesterday that the January newsletter was put together, and here it is time to do the

March report. Too quickly time rushes by. Part of our time was spent replacing the Joey G Kitchen floor with porcelain tile. We now have a very clean updated floor that will last for years. We thank you, **Joey G**, and your crew who did all the labor intensive work to get this job finished. And while doing the floor Joe and his crew were also making notes, taking measurements etc. for the next building project: the addition to *Spirit Hall*. This project will begin soon. Joe and his crew will need help in many areas from dirt and

concrete work to wood, metal, and electrical work. Please let Joe and his crew know when you can help. The goal is to have the job completed before the April 10 Rummage Sale starts. If any group can pull this off it's the Hot Springs Knights of Columbus builders under the supervision of Joe Giompoletti.

The above is not the only council activity completed or in progress since the start of 2015. There was the always fun Rib Tickler dinner, featuring Joe's five-star barbecued ribs followed by the usual joke fest. Joey G and his kitchen assistants provided us a mouth-watering dinner. That the ribs would be top-notch is a given. But Joe's assistants, including **Bob Koch** and **Chuck Pavlovich**, created some of possibly the best baked beans I've ever tasted. **Joe Kanospic** once again volunteered his fine stage voice to be our M.C. for the evening This event, with the help of many clean, non-political jokes, provided us a fine entertainment of good

food and entertainment. I'm guessing that I failed to name all who helped not only with this particular occasion but to the many others we enjoy with social events, including the ladies who give their time and their culinary creations as a fine addition to our many party menus. Thanks to all.

Our Columbian Squires, led by **Dayton Meyers**, continue their exemplary work.. They have brought in three new members this month while also helping with the St Mary's Cultural Event. These Gentleman do this while also being altar servers either at St. John's or St. Mary's Church. And I should mention at this time I've seen the same group of young gentleman helping at most all the other events sponsored by the churches and the Knights of Columbus. At least three of them, including Dayton, **continued, p. 2**

Charity Rummage Sale Rushing Upon Us!



When the April **Knight Watch** is finished, many of us will have entered the critical get-ready-fast mode. Hardly six weeks separate us from the Friday, April 10 opening date. At the moment dealing with some of our coldest weather, snow and ice thrown into the mix, it's scary to dwell on what all must be done between then and now.

We continue to collect very nice

donations, with two large donations last week and another larger than ordinary for the following week. We've just collected, in addition to nice furniture, two of the best collections of tools that we've had. Priority items still needed are tableware, kitchenware, bedding/linens, costume jewelry, and decorator items. Also high on our list of needs are large appliances. We have no refrigerators, washing machines, dryers, or kitchen ranges.

Another Rummage Sale matter of importance is advertising expense.

Advertising is crucial; it is also expensive. For the last three years or so we have had **Carol Andrews**, wife of council member **Jack Andrews**, use her talent to our advantage by taking charge of advertising our Sales. She has made contacts with local publications, not only *the Sentinel-Record* but also monthly publications like *On the Go* and *Life and Home*. In the newspaper she has arranged for large display ads, classified ads, and almost always a very nice feature article with pictures (the latter free).

concluded, p. 4



The Fourth Degree Assembly will next meet with a business meeting at 6:30 p.m. on March 19 at *Giampoletti Hall*. **Joe Giampoletti** will once again treat us with one of his fine dinners. Barbecued ribs, pulled pork, or still something else? We'll have to be there to find out and to enjoy! That day also happens to be the birthday of **Mike Tucker**, so we may just give our best effort with the "Happy Birthday, dear Mike" song.

Our February 19 social meeting with our wives and guests brought out 35 people to *El Padriono's Mexican Restaurant* on Albert Pike. The food was good but the service unfortunately was unac-

ceptable, reminiscent of a long evening at *Ruby Tuesday* a couple of years ago. Even though the restaurant was called a month in advance for reservation and again with an approximate number at noon on Thursday, the staff was unprepared for our sizable group. One waitress just can't be expected to give acceptable service.

Bishop Anthony Taylor has asked representatives from our Assembly to provide an honor guard at the 10:30 a.m. Mass of Our Lady of Fatima Church in Benton. The special event will be The Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World, one of the authenticated

miracles dating back at least to 750 A.D. **[See *Arkansas Catholic*, p. 5, February 21]** The Exhibit will feature 160 panels showing 145 Church-documented Eucharistic miracles—miracles that most Catholics know nothing about. This Exhibit is now touring Catholic churches in Arkansas. It will be displayed, at no cost to the public, at Our Lady of Fatima gymnasium from February 28 to March 11. It will be in the gymnasium from noon until 3 p.m. We will need a good number of knights to guard the Exhibit, enough to permit a rotation so that no one will be in place too long. If you can help, please inform **Ed King, he Commander of the Guard at 276-8975./Don Sass, Faithful Navigator**

Grand Knight's article, continued

was present to help Friday night at the Knights of Columbus fish fry at St. Mary's Parish Hall. I should also mention that these young men work many of the other events at our two churches and our Knights of Columbus Council while at the same time keeping up with their school work. These are our future knights! We appreciate all that they do.

Newton White (past Grand Knight) has been working hard to advance our current knights through all the degrees. Newton and his secretary Vicky have been trying to ensure that the Second and Third Degree Exemplification will run smoothly this Sunday, March 1. Newton reports that approximately 60 candidates are expected, at least 11 of those form our council. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., a lunch will follow at 12:15 and the Exemplification at 1 o'clock. The ceremony should end around 4 o'clock.

A few days earlier our own First Degree team, including Newton, exemplified three new members into the council. And while

this was happening, Newton simultaneously was—and is—planning a Fourth Degree Exemplification as the recently named State Master. He and his team continually strive to make certain that all members can become more than just card-carrying uninvolved knights but rather knights fully developed in both Third and Fourth Degrees, knights who have pride in what they accomplish as Catholics and as members of the Order. On a personal level, Knights of Columbus has helped me to realize that my being a Catholic involves much more than attending the obligatory weekend Mass. We thank you, Newton, and your team as well for all that you do.

Fourth Degree Faithful Navigator **Don Sass** and **Ed King** as Commander of the Honor Guard, at the request of Bishop Taylor, are putting together our Fourth Degree Assembly's involvement in regalia at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Benton on March 8. It involves Mass and a display of famous documented Eucharistic miracles. **[See *Fourth Degree* article, p. 2]**

They will need help from other members of the Honor Guard. Please contact Don or Ed.

Dennis Bosch has been changing door locks at not only *Giampoletti Hall* but of our other buildings as well. At this point, the job is not finished. At present, the keys from the past continue to work, but when all is finished, we will enter the buildings by punching in codes (not all the same). New keys will also play a role. but also a key pad so that if your memory works you should be able to punch in a code and gain entrance. Thank Dennis for ushering us into the new presence even if kicking and screaming.

As two of our fine council officers, **Joe Dierks** and **Charlie Cook** are somewhat in the "behind the scene" category. The reason for that is they are so busy working with notes and anything qualifying as the printed word. (names, places, dates, events, etc.)—those details that get credit for us at District, State, and Supreme Levels for all those accomplished by the council. All in charge of an event can assist Charlie and Joe by making sure they get the details they need, details that

continued, bottom p. 8

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Father George Sanders, JoAnn Carter of ChangePoint, and David Meyers [See Grand Knight's article, regarding presentation of \$8400 check to ChangePoint Pregnancy Crisis Center]

From Father George Sanders:



Have you ever caught yourself playing with your cell phone, then looking up just in time to see you are drifting off the road? I have. I

told myself that I was

going to look at only one little thing (which seemed rational and necessary at the time, although it never really is.) But before I knew it, my attention was diverted for more than the intended moment, and I found myself no longer mentally present behind the wheel. Kind of a scary thought, right? You have to wonder how many cars you pass each day are temporarily "controlled" by a mentally absent driver.

Distraction happens not only in car but also in life. That is why we have Lent. It is a time for us to put down the distractions, so to speak, and drive, intentionally. Life is rife with distractions, some intended, some not. Vaca-

tions are an example of intentional distraction, and they can be very good and healthful. Every now and again everyone needs to unplug and find some time of recreation to recharge our batteries, a mental and physical break to our ordinary routine. But it is the *unintentional* distractions that often invade our lives unexpectedly. Depending on how we handle them, they can often draw our attention away from critical things (like driving) and lead us to focus on secondary and often non-important tasks (like posting to Facebook or searching for something on the Internet.

Rightly done, Lent is a period of time when we intentionally put down the distractions. We refocus on the important things in life, like our soul and our relationship to God and our fellowmen. Like a well-deserved, planned vacation, Lent is meant to rejuvenate the soul, to break through the busyness of our lives to contemplate what is really important, enduring and our sure source of joy.

If you are reading this note and realize

you are still distracted and haven't yet had the presence of mind to stop "driving while blind," purpose in your heart that for the next several weeks, through the Grace of God, you will "hang up and drive." Refuse to allow the hum and whirl of daily life to distract you from what is really important, finding your way to God.

Father Alan Hospitalized

Father Alan Rosenau, while with his son, who lives in Bentonville, was hospitalized. Details are few other than we are called upon to pray for him.



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Spotlight on David Meyers



David and Darla with Dayton and Lexi

During his childhood council member David Meyers saw a good bit of the world, spending the first four years of his life in Tapei, Taiwan. He was born on Halloween of 1960 in Taipei, Taiwan. David was one of nine children who bounced from one military base to another. His father was a Communications Intelligence officer with the Air Force.

His first move was to Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, but it wasn't long until the family was on the road—or rather in the air—another time for a move to Paris, France, where his father was assigned to SHAPE: Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe, with NATO. Not long after the transfer, Parisian authorities decided they no longer wanted SHAPE in France. With that circumstance, David's father was put in charge of moving all Air Force communications systems to Belgium, just outside Brussels.

In the absence of an American school, David attended a state school, where for lunch he was not offered milk or a similarly acceptable drink but beer instead! As a second grader, he didn't imbibe but confesses that had he been in high school he would have drunk his share.

Military families never seem to stay in place for long, and so it was with the Meyers family. Next came Altus Air Force Base in Altus, Oklahoma. With the paint hardly having time to dry in their new home, David's family moved again....back to Taiwan! Then back to Altus! The next—and last—assignment proved to be intolerable. In 1976 Iran was a dangerous assignment just as it is today, not only for a military man but especially for his family. Each day his father's travel route from his living quarters to his job changed so that would-be assassins could only guess where to set up. After six months of enduring these dangerous circumstances, he informed his superiors that with 30 years invested in military service, he was retiring. And he did, taking his family back to the States. Because one of David's older sister had married and lived with her husband in Austin, the parents chose Austin as their retirement home, having been encouraged by their daughter to take advantage of Austin's attractive offerings.

At this point David, a sophomore in

high school, enrolled in an Austin high school, graduated there, and then enrolled in the University of Texas. He remained there three years, not long enough to graduate. Without a diploma he headed for Houston to take on his first professional employment with Avis, where he negotiated contracts for business travelers. There he remained for three years.

Then he headed for Hot Springs. When people from other parts of the country move to Hot Springs, the inevitable question is "Why Hot Springs?" In David's case, he had known Hot Springs well even as a child. Both of his parents were Hot Springs natives, his father having at one time been an administrator at the old Army-Navy Hospital.

[Here David introduced an interesting side story regarding his father's family: His father's three sisters attended St. John's School and all three became Benedictine nuns, lived in the convent then located by the school, and taught at St. John's School before the Bishop gave that assignment to the Sisters of Mercy.]

Upon his relocation from Houston to Hot Springs, David took on a job totally unlike his Avis job: With no experience beyond waiting tables **continued, p. 6** as a teen, he began a five-year stint

Rummage Sale, concluded

Carol has also made face-to-face contact with Hot Springs business people soliciting very generous donations to go toward the significant advertising costs, including newspaper, radio (two stations), flyers to distribute about town, and save-the-date postal cards mailed to past customers (currently 380 addresses in the database). Carol has the postal cards ready to mail and has printed 70 flyers. She has also compiled a list of businesses that in the past

have contributed from \$50 to \$150. The practice is not to approach the same contributor to donate for two successive sales. With that in mind, Carol has one list of those who contributed to the last sale and another list who contributed to the Spring 2014 Sale.

She has already done much of the work for the Spring 2015 Sale, **but she is ready for another person to approach the business people to request a donation. She continues**

to do the rest of the work. With Carol's list, who will volunteer to make these contacts? Perhaps two (or three) people would work together. With advertising expense totaling more than a thousand dollars, **we hope to avoid taking that money from the Rummage Sale profits.** There are multiple people among us who could do an excellent job with this. Let two or three of those people come forward! **Jim Lockwood**

From Our Insurance Agent: Ask Eligible Men to Join!



Today I want to discuss the growth of the Order. Membership growth is the fuel that keeps this great fraternal engine running. All our charitable work at the local, state, and national levels result from our hard-working members. And more members equal more CHARITY.

We know that the membership blitz is a tried and true way for councils to get more men to join. We see these pushes often in March in celebration of Founders Day, and again in October. These drives are successful because brother Knights

have increased visibility speaking or presenting during and after Masses and at special events. We must remember that we have a duty to ask each and every Catholic gentleman to join our ranks for the good of the Church, the Community, and the Order.

During the rest of the year we often “forget” to ask men to join and to bring their families into the Knights of Columbus family. You probably know an eligible Catholic man you could ask today. What if the only reason he hasn’t joined is that no one has asked him yet?

When telling a prospect about the strengths of the Order, don’t forget our greatest fraternal benefit: our insurance program. This is often a “selling point”

to a potential member who remains on the fence. Many members become members simply to be able to purchase coverage to protect their families. Soon after, they realize the good our charitable works do for their community, and they are proud to be members.

As your professional Knights of Columbus agent, I look forward to helping us grow in fraternity in any way I can.

Fraternally,
Randy Schnoebelen, FICF
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St. Pat’s Day Party Just Ahead!



Chairman **Joe Kanopsic** is once again preparing to host our annual St. Patrick’s Day party on Saturday, March 14 three days shy of the official date. The bar will open at 5:30 p.m. And the traditional corned beef dinner will follow at 6:30. Our host

apologizes up front for the absolute necessity to increase the ticket cost to \$20 and offers the explanation that since last year the cost of the corned-beef has almost doubled. The corned beef will come from Oaklawn Jockey Club.

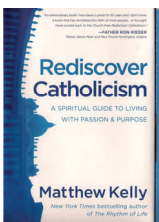
Entertainment will be provided by

the Irish Dancers of Hot Springs School District, led by Amy Bramlett. At least one item from Kahn’s Jewelry will be raffled.

Lucky Leprechaun will be present. So get out your green and come out for an evening of good food and a lot

of fun.

Time Running Out to Get Tickets for Evening with Matthew Kelly!



With the well-known apologetics writer and speaker scheduled to speak Friday evening, March 6 at 7 p.m. in St. Joseph’s Church in Conway, time is short to secure tickets. Anyone interested in evangelization should consider taking advantage of this occasion when Kelly will be this close to Hot Springs. His **Rediscover Catholicism** of course was the first book chosen by our council to give to worshipers at Christmas Masses of both St. John’s and St. Mary’s Churches. To get a last-minute ticket, go to Dynamic Catholic.Com. Tickets are going for \$39 each.

Speaking of Apologetics and Evangelization

With Easter about five weeks off, the period for collecting donations for the Easter apologetics book or CD, probably “A Minute in the Church, Volume 2” is brief. To date we have committed donations of about \$800. These books cost only \$1 each plus postage, but we need more donations to get the 1200 copies for both St. Mary’s and St. John’s. Will you help? If you’re able to contribute, please notify Jim at 282-7027 or 525-7022.

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





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After three years in Galveston David must have known that Arkansas was to be his permanent home. He thought he was also ready to put the restaurant business behind him and let a good wind send him on a different tack. Upon his return to Hot Springs, he took a job in Industrial Sales with A. W. Chesterton Company based in Stoneham, Massachusetts but doing business in Arkansas. But in 2000 with five years behind him in sales, the itch for the restaurant business returned and, with his brother, started with a home located on a hill beside Lake Hamilton off 7-South developed Lago Vista, an Italian restaurant located in the spot of the later J & S Italian Villa before it burned to the ground. Looking back on that venture, David assesses that they outclassed the market, offering niceties and a menu at a price the public found prohibitive. In short, the business failed.

It was during the Lago Vista period that **Darla Thomas** entered his life. Actually, they had met casually back in the late 80's during the Arlington Hotel years, but it was not until 2001 that they reconnected and began a serious relationship. A year later—August 2, 2002, when David was 42 years old—he and Darla married in a civil ceremony in Banff, Alberta. David explains that although he grew up Catholic, during the period he was in Houston, he had drifted away from the Church and at some point fell under the influence of the Baptist Church and for a period was a Baptist. He remained away from the Catholic Church for about 10 years.

At the time of their marriage Darla had a daughter **Lexi** from a marriage that ended with her husband's death. Their son **Dayton**

David Meyers, continued

(1985-1990) as manger of restaurants at the Arlington Hotel. In 1990 he left Hot Springs for a couple of years to be Food and Beverage Director of Little Rock's Camelot Hotel, now the Doubletree.

In 1992 David put Arkansas behind him until 1995. It was back to Texas, this time to Galveston to be Food and Beverages Director at San Luis Hotel on Seawall Boulevard.

c o n c l u d e d , p . 9



Knights of Columbus 6419

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March Calendar

- 12 Council Meeting, Giampoletti Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 St. Patrick's Annual Party, Giampoletti Hall, 5:30 p.m. social; 6:30 dinner
- Fourth Degree Meeting, Giampoletti Hall,
- 19 6:30 p.m.



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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: Deacon Lee Lechner, Bob Kortenber, Jim Reiter, Barbara Reiter, Dennis Wood, Patrick Thompson (Dawn and Bill's son), Oscar (Buddy) Gloor, Joe Petruk, Tony Shields, Doug Bolwerk, Joe Palmere, Gwen DeGrucio, Dick Smith, Gil Gibbons, Carole Ecklund, Greg Meggers (son of George and Barbara), Mary Morrison, Father Alan, Larry Heisserer, Ilse Purkott, Beverly Priest, John Andrews, Frankie DeGeorge, Stephen Stoddard, Matthew Stoddard, Valerie Poe, Deacon Dave Briselden, Rick Sands, Conrad Stein, Laura Mazzia, Deacon John Connell, and Fr. Raymond Rossi



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March Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Charles Kessler | 16 Rodney Myers |
| 2 Hans Purkott | 17 Barry Owens |
| 3 John Steinhaus | 18 Tom Giusti |
| 4 Paul Selig | 19 Mike Tucker |
| 10 Peter Guersky | 21 Anthony Valinati |
| 12 Jim Elder | 22 Ferdinand Blais |
| 12 Fr. Gregory Hart | 25 Gil Gibbons |
| 13 William MacSorley | 28 Emilio Avila |
| 15 Marc Hayes | 29 Ben Laux |
| 16 Harold Hager | 29 Brett Roby |



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Second Notice

The annual **Knights Inc.** meeting will be held after our April 9 council meeting. The financial report will be presented at that time, and a copy of the report will be posted for your review on the website under Members Only "Budget" a few days in advance. The current board members and officers are: **Grand Knight Andy Anderson**, **Bob Kortenber**, President; **Charlie Cook**, Secretary; **Dennis Bosch**, Treasurer; and **Stan De Gruccio**, member.

Election of board members will be held and nominations for the board will accepted from the floor. The Grand Knight, as stated in bylaws, is automatic and is not included in any voting. Current board members plan to stand for re-election. **Next column, bottom**

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All members of Council 6419 in good standing (*your dues must be current*) are voting members of Knights Inc./**Dennis Bosch**

Grand Knight's article, concluded

ultimately will benefit our council. We can help these two men by making their yearly reports easier. We are enormously grateful for the dedicated, efficient work of Joe Dierks and Charlie Cook. Thank you, men!

And, finally, I want to express our pride in and gratitude for the hard, diligent work of **David Meyers** and his team who have produced, again, a fabulously successful baby bottle campaign. **\$8400** for ChangePoint to save lives of the unborn! Fabulous! Thank you, David, for all that you do in support of the Pro-Life Movement. You are a blessing to so many, including our council./**Andy Anderson, Grand Knight**

David Meyers, Concluded

was born the following year. David and Darla entered Lexi in St. John's School in Pre-K and she remained at St. John's as long as there was a grade for her. She is now a sophomore in high school. Dayton entered the Pre-K program at St. John's in 2007 and is now a seventh grader there.

It was the St. John's school experience that brought David back to the Church and also Darla as a new Catholic. It was **Father Bill Thomas** who was instrumental in David and Darla's getting their marriage recognized by the Church and in leading the way for David's return to the Sacraments and Darla's entry into the Church. These steps would begin a period of David's immersion in school and church activity and, in time, Knights of Columbus as well. David would serve three years on the St. John's School Board, two of those as president. And those experiences would heavily involve him in school activities, one of those the annual St. John's Bazaar.

On March 14, 2010, David became a member of Knights of Columbus Council 6419. He has proved that he is not one to get membership and then sit quietly on the sidelines. For David membership has translated to a whirlwind of council activity.

Consider these accomplishments since he attained council membership: He helped originate the annual golf tournament for the benefit of St. John's School, an event that thus far has raised thousands of dollars for the school. With **Newton White** he organized the annual Baby Bottle Campaign in St. John's and St. Mary's Churches to help support the pro-life work of ChangePoint, the local pregnancy crisis center. With **Father West** and **Father George** present, a check for more than \$8600 will be presented to ChangePoint next week from the Baby Bot-

tle Campaign that just ended. A similar amount was raised last year. These funds have helped change the minds of many women who were planning to abort their unborn babies.

David and Newton began our annual Vocations Celebration, a wonderful dinner evening in *Giampoletti Hall* with the purpose of generating funds in support of our Diocesan seminarians. It's a fun evening attended by **Bishop Anthony Taylor**, several priests and other religious.

Also with Newton, David organized our first-ever Columbian Squires organization, consisting of young men who are now being groomed not only for immediate service to the council, our two churches, and the community but also, at age 18, for future knighthood.

In addition to these impressive contributions, David serves as overall Program Director for our council.

Last fall he stepped up to chair our annual Drive for People with Disabilities, traditionally called "The Tootsie Roll Drive." David showed his ambitious, creative nature by expanding the collection sites to the Hot Springs Civic Center after learning that a large number of bikers would be swarming into Hot Springs for a weekend in September and that Country-Western singer Trace Atkins would be performing that weekend at the Convention Center. The various locations on two different dates necessitated considerably more collectors than we've had in the past. His efforts combined with those of all the volunteer helpers generated more than \$8000 chiefly for the local First Step School but also for the "I Can Dance" group and for the State Council's charity.

David's son **Dayton** is an important part of this story. Now in his last

year at St. John's School, David is the epitome of the ideal Catholic teen. For years he has been one of Fr. West's most reliable, most dedicated altar servers. In fact, he is the only one who serves at the altar every week. He is devoted to the Faith and at this time is carefully evaluating the possibility of being one of our future priests. Things change of course, and there's a lot of time between



David and Son Dayton Work the Right to Life Booth at the Garland Country Fair, September 2014

now and the seminarian program, but the priesthood—at least at this time—remains a very real possibility for his future.

Dayton is a charter member of our Squires group and currently is serving at its president. When the Squires are involved in a service project with our council members, for the church, or for the community, you will see Dayton front and center in the action. His father and mother understandably are very proud of him. But he stirs pride and appreciation in his peers and our council members as well.

Father and son serve as models for service to others. They bless both Council 6419 and our Columbian Squires. Thank you, men.