

Volume 8 # 8

FEBRUARY, 2014

# MOKENA KNIGHTHOOD

Love one another

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE  
ST MARY COUNCIL CALL  
Barry Cullum  
@ (708) 829 1265  
or Richard Ciancio  
@ (815) 485 0896  
WWW.MOKENAKNIGHTS.ORG



## OFFICERS 2013-2014

### SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:

Deacon Nabil Halaby

**GRAND KNIGHT** Richard Ciancio

**DEPUTY GK** Donald Zich

**CHANCELLOR** Clifford Peloquin

**ADVOCATE** Barry Cullum

**RECORDER** Michael Baker

**TREASURER** Tim Cosgrove

**FIN. SECRETARY** Daniel Michalak

**WARDEN** Vince DiFiori

### INSIDE GUARDS:

Lino Sbragia

Tom Adent, Jr.

### OUTSIDE GUARDS:

Dennis Borkowski

Joe Figliulo

### TRUSTEES:

**3 YEAR** Donald Bauc

**2 YEAR** Albert Sparks

**1 YEAR** James Peppmuller

**FIELD AGENT:** Todd Minard

### KNIGHT OF THE QUARTER

Vince DiFiore

### FAMILY OF THE QUARTER

Jim and Lorraine Peppmuller



## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1 AND SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2:

**BABY BOTTLE RETURN:** Return the "Baby Bottles for Life" that you have been filling up with money. After all Masses in the Parish Hall. Call Cliff Peloquin at 815 464 7242 to help man the table.

**MONDAY FEBRUARY 3: ASSEMBLY MEETING:** At the Council 4400 Hall, 7:30 PM.

**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11: COUNCIL MEETING:** In the Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13: THE SPELLING BEE:** Students from St Mary School and Mokena Junior High compete in this annual contest. The top three spellers go to the regional bee. The winning school displays the traveling trophy for the coming year.



Come and help or just cheer on the kids! In the Franciscan Room of St Mary School 7:00 until 10:00 PM. Contact Youth Director Tim Cosgrove at 815 485 5599 to help.

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15: DISTRICT FREE THROW CONTEST:** Boys and girls from grades 6 through 8 compete. The kids come from Mokena and other

towns in our district to compete in 12 categories. The council needs your help for this! We need officials and coaches to do the scoring. Contact Youth Director Tim Cosgrove at 815 485 5599 or be at the St Mary School gym at 8:00 AM to help.



Wear a KC shirt if you have one. The contests are from 8:30 until about 11:00 AM

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15: ST. VALENTINE DINNER AND

**DANCE:** A new annual event and council fund raiser planned by Pete Baker and Vince DiFiore, It promises to be a really nice dinner dance.



Come with your sweetheart!

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE. See the back page for details.

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22: FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION:

Several members of our Council will be exemplified into the Fourth Degree of the order. In the Sheridan Hotel in Lisle. Attendance is by invitation only.

**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25: OFFICER MEETING:** In the church hall at 7:00 PM.

# President Arvid C. Johnson, Ph.D. Biography

Dr. Arvid C. Johnson was installed as the ninth president of the University of St. Francis in June 2013. In addition to a bachelor's degree in physics (Lewis University, Romeoville, IL) and a master's degree in electrical engineering (Northeastern University, Boston, MA), Arvid holds an MBA from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill, NC), and a PhD in management science from the Stuart School of Business at the Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago, IL).

Prior to joining the University of St. Francis, Arvid served as the Dean of the Brennan School of Business at Dominican University since 2008 – and as a Professor of Management since 2001. He also serves on the Board of Trustees (including its Executive Committee) of the Illinois Council on Economic Education since 2008; as an elected member of the Lincoln-Way Community High School District Board of Education since 2009 and as President since 2011; and as an appointed member of the Village of Frankfort's Financial Affairs Committee since 2010. Arvid served as the Midwest Decision Sciences Institute's Vice President of Planning and Development from 2007-09, President-elect in 2009-10, President in 2010-11, and Immediate Past President in 2011-12.

Prior to entering academia on a full-time basis in 2001, Arvid was a principal in a management consulting firm and worked with companies ranging in size from startups to multi-million-dollar business units of Fortune 500 companies to describe, account for, explain, and exploit the variability present in their manufacturing and service processes. Arvid also has over 15 years of engineering, manufacturing, and senior management experience in a variety of business environments – including Northrop Grumman Corporation, Microwave Laboratories, and Varian Associates. He founded and served as the chair of Information Resources, Inc.'s Analytics Advisory Board from 2003-2008 – and led that company's efforts to establish a global Research & Development function that included over 120 personnel in 9 countries.

Arvid has published and presented extensively in the areas of quantitative analysis, microwave materials processing, advanced manufacturing practices, and strategic management – and holds 8 US (and dozens of foreign) patents. His extensive list of publications includes >15 peer-reviewed journal articles, >15 book chapters and custom textbooks, and >35 peer-reviewed conference proceedings. He is the recipient of numerous honors, grants and awards including the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines' Research Award (2011, 2012), the Business Ledger's Entrepreneurial Excellence Award for Service to Entrepreneurs (2010), the United States Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship/Small Business Institute Teaching Case Award of Excellence (2007), the Midwest Decision Sciences Institute Instructional Innovation Award



Dr. Arvid C. Johnson

**Brother Arvid Johnson has been a member of St Mary Mokena Council 6993 since 2002**



## Family of the Quarter

At our January meeting, Grand Knight Rich Ciancio announced that Jim Peppmuller and his wife Lorraine have been selected as the council's Family of the Quarter. Those honored with the designation are knights whose lives and council activities reflect the highest traditions of knighthood. Jim and Lorraine are very deserving!

Past Grand Knight Jim Peppmuller has been a member of our council since 1995. In the eighteen years he has devoted to the order, he has been a great example for all of us. Jim and Lorraine have been active workers and leaders at our Christmas parties, pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, tootsie roll drives and a host of other things. Always cheerful and supportive, the two are always a bright light of optimism that makes all our activities pleasant. One year Jim was even Santa Claus! (Lorraine was his helper). The council has been greatly improved by their presence. Jim presently serves the council as a trustee. Congratulations Sir Knight James Peppmuller and Lorraine!



## Knight of the Quarter

One of the really great new members of our council is Vince DiFiore. He joined us in 2011 and is already an officer, serving presently as Warden of the council. Vince is a businessman who also has a career as an entertainer. He has brought both skills to our council, bringing us his management skills as well as a knowledge of the entertainment industry. He is a wonderful addition to our membership.

Vince is presently the driving force behind a new council enterprise—the St. Valentines Day Dinner Dance. He has used his connections to obtain a really great band for the dance as well as a superb food catering service. He also plans to do some of the entertaining himself to make the event even more enjoyable..

At our January meeting, the Grand Knight announced that Vince is the new Knight of the Quarter for Council 6993. He joins a long list of great men honored by the title.

Congratulations Vince!

Vivat Jesus



Vince DiFiore

# A REALLY GREAT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE



Jodi Dilling–Gallagher

Joe Kral

Dan Michalak

The picture above was in the Mokena Messenger under the headline “St. Mary Knights of Columbus keep helping out”. The article filled an entire page with a description of our fund raising activities. It was the best article featuring our council in many years. Almost all of our fund raising efforts were discussed, as well as activities such as the free throw and spelling contests, our scholarships and the “Tootsie Roll Drive” for the intellectually disabled.

The article was occasioned by the “Coats for Kids” campaign. This year the council bought 24 coats for needy children and provided them to the Frankfort Township Food Pantry which coordinated the distribution to truly needy families. The food pantry has been supporting more families than ever this past year so that they have a very good understanding of the need and the skills to make sure that actually needy people are served. Jodi-Dilling-Gallagher is the Food Pantry Manager. Joe Kral and Dan Michalak were the committee for this project. Program Director Joe is our liaison with the food pantry. The article was written by reporter Ginger Brashinger who did a wonderful job.

The Messenger article demonstrates the importance of publicity. Our present publicity director is Tom Adent, Jr. but he is fully occupied right now going to school. Council members with publicity skills and contacts in the media are urged to contact Grand Knight Richard Ciancio. Photographers with digital cameras are also needed at all of our events.

Vivat Jesus

# Author Arthur!

It looks as if our council is becoming a council of authors. Several years ago, brother George Griffiths published his third book “Archers Arrows” about his grandfather, Judge William C. Archer. Then Joost Sluis published “Coming to Mokena” about the amazing lives of his parents. Last fall brother Brian Swift published his inspirational book “UP Getting up is the Key to Life”. Now a fourth author, brother Art Wilson, has published a great new novel

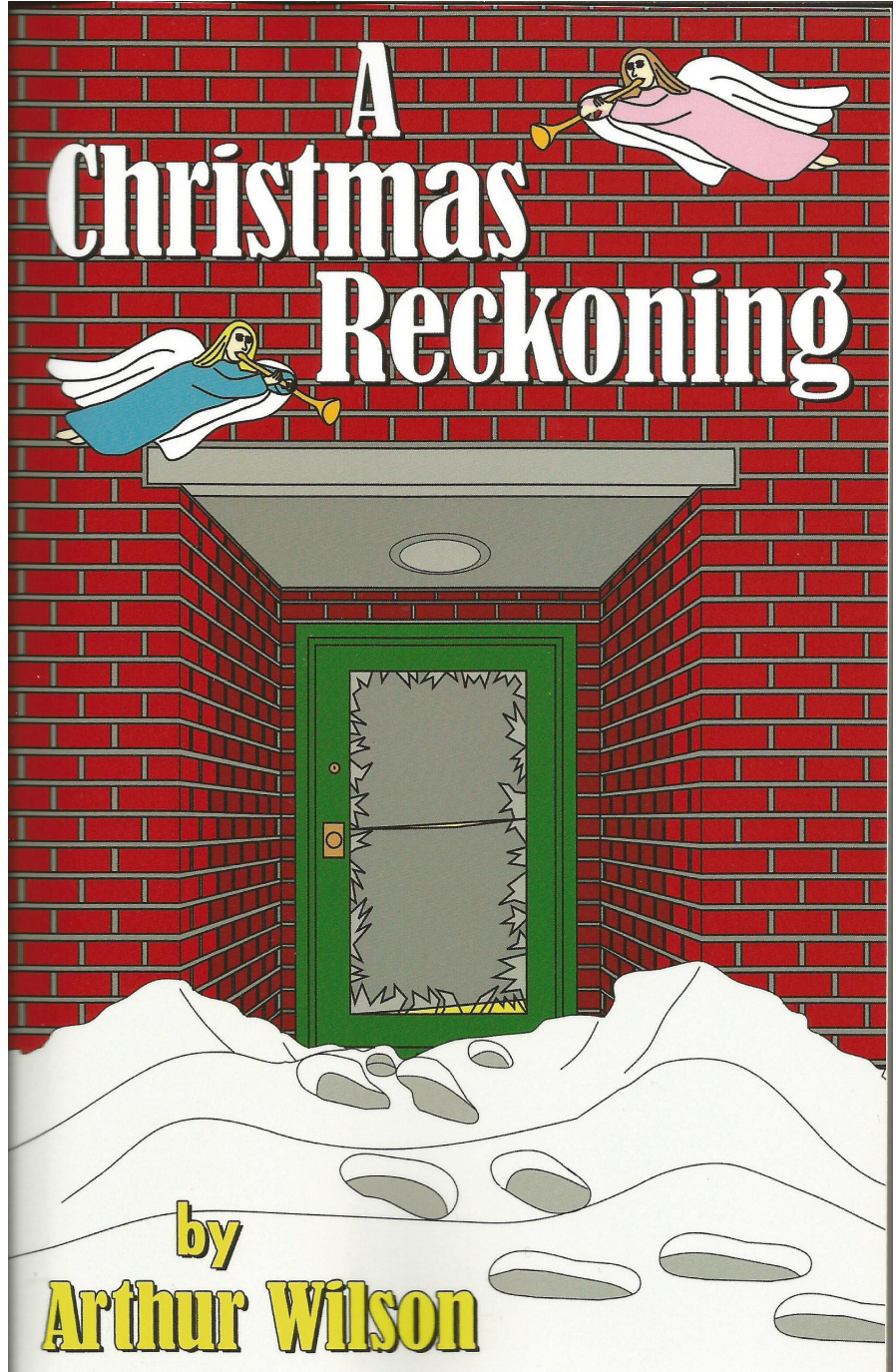
“A Christmas Reckoning”

Arthur Wilson has been a member of our council since 2008. He is a retired mechanical engineer whose favorite hobby is writing. He has started to write seriously now that he has time and is planning to publish more books soon. “A Christmas Reckoning” is a novel set in downtown Chicago on a Christmas Eve. The story concerns strangers who are forced to come together in an antique shop by an unusually severe winter storm. They end up coming together for support and mutual appreciation. The story has numerous interesting twists and turns but finally comes to a wonderful conclusion.

Art is a Chicago boy from the “Back of the Yards”. His books are built on the premise that there is a good and loving God that actively intervenes in our lives—because Art has experienced that in his own life.



Brother Knight Arthur Wilson



The books written by Sir Knight George Griffiths are available from the author. The other books, from Joost Sluis, Brian Swift and Art Wilson are all available on Amazon.com.

Vivat Jesus



*St. Mary Knights of Columbus Council #6993 Present:*

# **The Inaugural St. Valentine Dinner & Dance**

At the American Legion Banquet Hall 14414 W. Ford Dr. in New Lenox

**Saturday, February 15, 2014**

*Doors open 6:00pm | Dinner at 7:00pm*

\$50.00 Dinner

Full wait staff for family-style sit-down dinner\*. Cash Bar.

\*8 to a Table

*Bring Your Sweetheart*

Live music by **The Baked Potatoes**  
music "baked" to perfection

For Baked Potatoes fans who cannot make the dinner,  
there will be a \$5.00 cover charge from 9pm-close.

**For tickets or more information, please contact  
Vince DiFiore 773-988-1580 or Pete Baker 815-806-1499.**

Checks can be made out to Knights of Columbus Council #6993 and mailed to  
Vince DiFiore 19480 Yorkshire Dr., Mokena, IL 60448