



Knights of Columbus

**St. Joseph Council, No. 8417
P.O. Box 242
Waxahachie, Texas 75168
(972) 937-8417**



October 9, 2014

Brother Knights,

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Grand Knight Perry Popp called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and the following corrections were made to the Trustees' terms of office: John Casarez is the Third Year Trustee, Ron Naizer is the Second Year Trustee, and Glenn Beck is the First Year Trustee. In addition, Membership Director Paul Vinton had introduced member Tom Collins for readmission to the Order at the previous meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to admit Tom to the Council.

The Grand Knight reported that all 42 Fantasy Football tickets were sold for a total of \$230. This money will be used to support the attendance of State Officers at the KofC State Convention. He then reminded all members that our field agent Bob Hoholick is available for appointments with members to discuss our insurance needs. The Grand Knight also called for an Officers Meeting for Wednesday October 15 at 6 pm at our Hall. Finally, he complimented all who participated in the Pro-Life Hike for Life.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Thomas Buford reported the following balances for our three accounts:

- Knights of Columbus Account: \$ 2,310
- Knights Columbian Club Account: \$ 4,095
- Knights Capital Account: \$11,652
- TOTAL: \$18,057**

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Financial Secretary Stan Holcomb reported a \$1,700.44 expenditure for Oktoberfest, while only \$1,500 was budgeted. Discussion and action on this point was scheduled for "Unfinished Business" later in the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Casino Report

Casino Director Larry Green reported that the casino scheduled for Saturday November 8 in Hawkins, Texas, is almost staffed but he needs three more volunteers.



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Pro-Life Report

Pro-Life Director Hugh Reynolds reported that the 41st Annual Hike for Life was very successful. Hugh applauded Stan “the Radio Man” Robak for his excellent radio spot promoting the event. He also thanked the 4th Degree Color Corps for turning out. Finally, he singled out two K-Ladys, Lisa Popp and Marie Beck, for their very generous contributions to the Hike. He pointed out that the Dallas Catholic Pro-Life Committee has calculated that it takes \$625 to save one pre-born life, and he needs \$215 more on his H4L team site to reach his goal. Hugh said anyone who would like to contribute can see him after the meeting.

Hugh also reported on the Life Chain, a Pro-Life Prayer Vigil held across the nation to witness for the Sanctity of Life. Waxahachie’s Life Chain took place on Sunday October 5 when pro-life supporters gathered in front of Waxahachie High School and spread out along Highway 77 as far as the Vintage Bank about a mile and a half away. There were twelve Brother Knights in attendance along with their families as well as members of other local Christian churches.

Annual Barbeque Cookoff

Stan Holcomb reported that he had arranged for the sale of BBQ Cookoff raffle tickets at the “Junk in the Trunk” city event at the downtown square in Waxahachie from 9:00 am until noon. He has also coordinated the following dates for BBQ ticket sales at Logans’ Restaurant on Highway 287 near Highway 77:

- October 24th from 5:00 to 9:00 pm
- November 7th from 5:00 to 9:00 pm
- December 12th from 5:00 to 9:00 pm

Stan asked for volunteers to help sell tickets at all of these events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Oktoberfest

As reported earlier in the meeting, the Council spent \$1,700.44 for Oktoberfest, which was \$200.44 over the budgeted amount. A motion was introduced to cover the additional cost of the meat by Ron Naizer and seconded by Art Wernersbach. The motion carried with one nay vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Allen Gradnigo reported that a Third Degree Ceremony was scheduled for Duncanville on February 7, 2015. Allen will email the Council in December with more information. A new TV, donated by Stan Robak, with repeater and antenna was installed in the Hall by Art and Stan.



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FOURTH DEGREE REPORT

Assembly 2265 Faithful Admiral Hugh Reynolds reported that the 4th Degree Exemplification held on September 27 was a great success, bringing 215 new members into the Dallas Diocese. Assembly 2265 had one new member join, Grand Knight Bobby Slovak of the Ennis Council. Our own Grand Knight Perry Popp is also hoping to join the Fourth Degree in the near future.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Grand Knight read the list of family members and friends recorded on our prayer list. We prayed on behalf of all on the list.

FOR THE EDIFICATION AND ENJOYMENT OF THE COUNCIL

Lecturer Hugh Reynolds spoke about the life and times of Father Michael J. McGivney. In his 13 brief years as a parish priest, Father McGivney's piety and compassion won the love of those he served as pastor. His Christian inspiration, leadership, and administrative skills brought him the loyalty and affection of thousands who knew him as the Founder of the Knights of Columbus. He understood the importance of fortifying Catholic men in their faith in a society often hostile to Catholics. Father McGivney also saw a need for a Catholic men's society for two further reasons.

First, many men in his parish struggled to support their families. Poverty and unemployment were common and many men died young or became disabled due to working long hours in factories under harsh conditions. Their widows and children were frequently separated by the courts unless a relative or patron could assure the court that the children would be cared for. With a small group of men in 1882, he formed the beginnings of a fraternal insurance society which has now grown into one of the largest insurance companies in the world.

Second, during the years following the Civil War, hundreds of secret societies were springing up all over the country. Many of these organizations were associated with anti-Catholic movements such as the Masons and the political "Know-Nothing" party. These groups were drawing many Catholic men away from their Church. The Knights of Columbus became a Catholic alternative for Catholic men seeking a fraternal brotherhood of like-minded men. Despite the secret rituals and initiations, the Knights of Columbus has never been a "secret society" in the same sense as other fraternal groups. Our "secrets" serve only to protect the ceremonial dignity of our Order.

Thus was born what became within a few decades the largest and most successful Catholic men's organization in the world. It was the genius of Father McGivney that he recognized and understood the psychology of men and their need to be a part of something greater and holier than themselves. The men of Council 8417 are living proof that Father McGivney was right.

Respectfully Submitted, Your Worthy Recorder and Scribe,

John O'Brien and Hugh Reynolds



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Father Michael J. McGivney – 1852-1890 **Founder of the Knights of Columbus**

