

COUNCIL 15240 LENTEN FISH FRY – WHERE DID WE BEGIN?

By Mike Ezzell

You may have heard the phrase “There is no such thing as a Chance Encounter”, or possibly the phrase “There are no coincidences in life”. You might also be under the impression that the St. Francis Lenten Fish Fry began as a result of the efforts of the undersigned. However, I can neither take the credit, nor be blamed!

The next time that you see our brother, Jack Terrazas, and especially if you have enjoyed the service hours and camaraderie during the last few years on those Fridays during Lent at Henke Hall, give him a word of thanks and a pat on the back. This is how we began, back in the waning days of 2011.

It seems that some of us who were new to the Knights of Columbus, but anxious to find a good charity fundraiser, were tossing ideas back and forth. I remember talking about parish spaghetti dinners, taco sales, barbecue sales (but, of course the Men’s Club was already doing that) and other ideas. The Lenten Fish Fry idea, however, came from “somebody who knew somebody, who knew somebody...” In other words, one of those “No Chance Encounters”. Jack Terrazas was the first somebody, and mentioned to me that he and his wife Denise had become friends with an individual who owned a restaurant known at the time as “Mr. Cod”. The restaurant was located just down the street from St. Francis, on De Zavala Rd. Jack indicated that the fish was good, the fries, Hush Puppies and coleslaw were good, and the owner was very friendly. The restaurant owner’s name was José Luis Gonzalez Roa. José Luis was from Mexico, and he and his wife had come to San Antonio for the purpose of opening a restaurant business. It seems that José Luis had purchased the “Mr. Cod” franchise from an individual in London (where, of course, Fish n’ Chips is a VERY popular dish). José Luis intended to make “Mr. Cod” an everyday (or at least a San Antonio) name. José Luis and his wife Beatriz had been parishioners at St. Matthews Parish, just around the street and down the corner from our own parish. Knowing that José Luis and Beatriz were Catholic, Jack told us that he thought he could enlist the aid of José Luis to help us start a Lenten Fish Fry at St. Francis. And José Luis became our second “somebody”.

Jack and I met with José Luis several times during the fall of 2011, and José Luis was very receptive to the idea. Not only did he offer us his restaurant and kitchen as a training ground (just ask Mike Portele or Bob Bonner, who attended a couple of training sessions at Mr. Cod with lots of our brother Knights to learn how to properly bread and fry fish), José Luis also offered to purchase the Atlantic cod, fries, Hush Puppies and coleslaw provide his “secret sauce” and recipes, sell everything to the Knights at virtually his cost, store it in his walk-in cooler and freezer, and provide it to us as we needed it. And so it began.... Bob Bonner, do you remember those trips up and down De Zavala Rd. on those Fridays evenings, fighting traffic and hoping to get to Henke Hall with the fish and other food supplies from

Mr. Cod on time for us to serve? Sadly, Mr. Cod later succumbed to many months of road construction on De Zavala road that prevented prospective customers from getting to his restaurant.

In 2012, we were lacking in kitchen equipment. In fact, we had none! Well, it seems that José Luis had another friend, Dale Curry. Dale owned (and still does) a business by the name of Action Catering. José Luis and Dale had done some business together, so José Luis introduced Jack and me to Dale. And so, Dale was the third “somebody”. Dale had the equipment for deep frying large quantities of cod, French Fries and Hush Puppies. Not only that, Dale Curry generously volunteered his services and his equipment for every Friday during Lenten Season 2012. He also provide further training to the “cooks”. For those who remember, I doubt that there was a single Knight who spent more time on the grounds of St. Francis of Assisi parish during that first Lenten Season than Dale Curry. He was there early on each Friday, towing his equipment on a trailer behind his truck, and he stayed late, until everything was cleaned and put away. Not only that, Dale would not let us pay him for his time or his equipment. You may know Dale, since he and his staff have provided excellent fare for the Knights of Columbus Valentine’s Dance for last year and this year. If you get a chance, give Dale a pat on the back also.

Attached are a few photos of that first season in 2012, showing Dale Curry and our first Master Fish Fryer, John Knape hard at work at Dale’s mega deep fryer. During that first season, we only had one fryer, so all of the products went in either in sequence or at the same time, depending on our needs.

By the next year, it was clear that we needed our own equipment. We looked around, and found a Restaurant Supply Company in Austin that specialized in used equipment. I guess you could say John Oberman, the owner of that company, was our fourth “somebody”. He knew what our needs were, and he knew that we were on a very tight budget. John put together (literally!) three propane-fired deep fryers, and a propane -fired flattop grill at a price we could not refuse. Now, that took a vote of our entire membership at the time, since it was well beyond any budgeted expenditure and well beyond the amount that could be approved by the officers of Council 15240. I believe that the vote to approve the expenditure and purchase the used equipment at one of our regular monthly meetings was virtually unanimous!



Since 2012, we have added a few more pieces of equipment, a few more kitchen implements, and lots of supplies. Just ask Bob Bonner. Since 2012, we have served over 3000 plates of fried and grilled fish in Henke Hall. Since 2012, our generous Brother Knights have shown up on each of those Lenten

Fridays (and sometimes on Ash Wednesdays) at the rate of, sometimes, 30 or more volunteers a night, providing countless service hours to cook, serve, and clean. Our parishioners have come to regard the Council 15240 Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry as something of an institution, and we have many, many repeat customers each year and each Friday during any given Lenten Season. We continue to improve the food that we serve and the way that we serve it. We also continue to receive the generous service hour contributions of our brother Knights. You can see some of the smiling faces in the photographs that are included here, including that of our own current Grand Knight!

As you can see, there are many individuals who deserve a pat on the back for the individual contributions and ideas that have been brought forth to make this a successful, annual fundraiser for Council 15240. The “somebodies” who made a difference all came together in these “No Chance Encounters” to build something for which we can all be proud. We are truly blessed by the efforts of so many who have provided so much cheerful volunteerism to our service organization. We hope to continue to improve, continue to grow, continue to raise charity funds, and continue to serve our parishioners and others on Lenten Fridays well into the future.



Special Olympics

Last year our council formed a committee to take over the Special Olympics events for our San Antonio KC Chapter. We were given the funds to buy the equipment and we keep it stored at our parish. Brothers Bob Bonner and Carlos Ortiz have been diligent in keeping the equipment clean and in working order.

We have just been given the schedule of events for 2015 and our first event is February 28th at Roosevelt High School. We are preparing and serving 600 hot dogs to participants. Food and drinks are donated by Sysco Foods.

There will be opportunities for us to serve throughout the year. Some events require us to help with skill sets and others just to prepare and serve meals. GET INVOLVED. This is a very worthwhile and rewarding activity. Watch for email announcements and signup sheets at meetings. We can always use volunteers. For more information, contact Ernest Perez-- perez_ernest@swbcglobal.net.

40 Cans for Lent

Brother Knights, we are off to a slow start to our 40 Cans for Lent program. A visit to our St Vincent de Paul office shows the great need we have for canned goods. There are many individuals and families that depend on the St Vincent de Paul groceries for their subsistence. Sometime we can become complacent because we do not see these people in need and therefore do not have to think about them. Remember, a big part of our mission is “charity” and here is a great way to answer that call.

We need to raise 5000 pounds of canned goods. There is a bin in the hall by the gathering space at the church for you to deposit the cans before or after each mass. You may also bring them by the St Vincent de Paul office. Our next meeting is right before Easter, so you bring your cans to the meeting. Officers can bring them to the officers meeting.

Let's meet our goal so that our council can qualify for the \$500 rebate from our Supreme Office. **Bring in your 40 cans!**

Grand Knight's Message - February 25, 2015

Brother Knights,

Worthy Brothers I pray that your experiences through the Christmas and New Year holiday season was a time of family enjoyment filled with a sense of just how much God loves each of us. I always feel refreshed with a big bump of hope during the Christmas season and I'll get another big bump at Easter.

Our council remained busy during the Holiday season and the first two months of this year. In December we hosted the joint Assembly/Council Christmas Party and co-sponsored, with the Men's Club and the Women's Council, the Parish Christmas in Assisi Dinner/Dance. Also, we organized the committee to plan the celebration to give honor to our Lady of Guadalupe and then provided for a reception in Henke Hall afterwards.

In January and February we managed to attend the mid-year District Meeting, successfully complete the mid-year council audit, cooked for the initial Mini-Marriage Retreat, put on a very successful Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance, and supported nine of our brothers becoming Fourth Degree Knights. We also held a very enjoyable "Open Meeting" on January 26 where we were able to honor our new fourth degree knights, our eight Honorary Life Members and a new Honorary Member. We have completed our first Lenten Friday Fish Fry and have five more to go. Future events being planned include bus trips to the casino in Louisiana, golf tournaments and a wine tasting event in Henke Hall. Lots of stuff going on!!

We need your help to accomplish these events and other activities where other ministries within our parish or our St. Francis religious ask for our help. Some requests are beyond what we can do and there are others that we can help with. We are Knights of Columbus, Catholic gentlemen; we joined because we believe in the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. It's what we do. Not everyone is in a situation where they are available to help all the time but I believe most everyone could provide one or two hours a month. For the guys, and you know who you are and everyone else knows who you are, that work as much and as hard as you can, how much of a lift is it to see a new face working beside you? It's huge!! A good example is last Friday's Fish Fry.

We have 151 members in our council currently and for the last seven meetings we averaged 47 members in attendance (31%). We are envied by many, many councils who can't break single digits in attendance.

All I can ask for is your best effort in attending our monthly General Membership Meetings and please get involved and help when your busy life allows it. My final note is to the guys who are always there when asked, *Thank you from the bottom of my heart.*

Your Brother in Christ,

CJ Fremin – Grand Knight Council 15240

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI LADIES AUXILIARY

FEB 2015

To date, we have 27 members in our Ladies Auxiliary. Please call Janet Piedra (210-218-8626) or Donna Fremin (210-827-1682) if you are interested in joining the St. Francis Ladies Auxiliary organization. You will be an active member that supports St. Francis Knights of Columbus 15240 in many various ways. Consider joining even if you are not able to attend meetings. We can use your talents!

This past quarter, we continued to support the St. Francis Knights of Columbus in different ways. Listed are some of the events we participated:

- **Assembly/Council Knights of Columbus Christmas Social.** This past December Vicki Layer chaired a committee to decorate Henke hall for the annual Assembly/Council Knights of Columbus Christmas Party. The decorations were beautiful and the Christmas party was a success. Oh, by the way we also had a lot of fun.
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration.** We helped the Knights plan Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration this past December. The celebration consisted of a mass and celebration in Henke Hall.
- **St. Francis Knights of Columbus Valentine Dance.** We designed, made the decorations and decorated Henke Hall for the second annual St. Francis Knights of Columbus Valentine Dance fund raiser. The dance was a big success. Of course, the decorations were beautiful! If you didn't attend, you can support this fund raiser next year.
- **Annual Knights of Columbus Fish Fry.** We support the Knights in their Lenten Fish Fry fund raiser by providing cakes to sell at the Fish Fry. We need baked cakes to sell at the Fish Fry events during Lent. Fun is had by all selling cakes each Friday. So, bring a cake and come join the fun! Dates for the Fish Fry are Feb 27th, March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th and April 3rd.

Save the Date
















Meet and Greet Brunch June 6, 2015, 11 AM to 1 PM. Plan to attend our annual "Meet and Greet Brunch" for all the ladies of St. Francis who have a family member in the Knights of Columbus. You may attend even if you are not an auxiliary member. Treat yourself and come have fun and meet other ladies with family member(s) who are Knights.

Martha Salas
















President St Francis Ladies Auxiliary

March 2015 - St. Francis of Assisi Council 15240

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>1</p> <p> David A. Abrams Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p> 4:00pm Lenten Fish Dinner  Peter F. Braeuler</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time begins</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p> Deacon Jim H. Hewson</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p> 7:00pm Potential Knight Inquiry -- Membership Meeting in Library @ SFA</p>	<p>13</p> <p> 4:00pm Lenten Fish Dinner</p>	<p>14</p> <p> Robert R. Gonzales Major Degree @ Holy Trinity Council 9967</p>
<p>15</p> <p> Ramon Tellez, Jr.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00pm Officers' Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick St. Patrick's Day 7:00pm Assembly 2102 Meeting @ Holy Spirit</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00pm ASA KofC Chapter Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>St. Joseph 6:30pm KofC 1st Degree Ceremonial @ Council 4140, Camp Bullis Road</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Vernal Equinox  4:00pm Lenten Fish Dinner</p>	<p>21</p> <p> Alexander B. Berry</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30pm General Business Meeting  Larry A. Litzmann</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p> 4:00pm Lenten Fish Dinner</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p> Reynaldo M. Rios</p>	<p>1</p> <p>April Fool's Day  Pat W. Hoffmann</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Good Friday  Jaime Piedra</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Holy Saturday Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass</p>

April 2015 - St. Francis of Assisi Council 15240

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Palm Sunday	30	31  Reynaldo M. Rios	1 April Fool's Day  Pat W. Hoffmann	2 Maundy Thursday	3 Good Friday  Jaime Piedra	4 Holy Saturday Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass
5 Easter Sunday Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass  David M. Schnettler	6	7  John F. Squatrito	8	9  7:00pm Potential Knight Inquiry -- Membership Meeting in Library @ SFA	10  Father Lawrence J. Christian	11
12	13	14  Frank Moralez	15 Tax Returns due 7:00pm ASA KofC Chapter Meeting	16 6:30pm KofC 1st Degree Ceremonial @ Council 4140, Camp Bullis Road	17  Jose M. Borrero	18
19  Carlos H. Mata	20 7:00pm Officers' Meeting	21 7:00pm Assembly 2102 Meeting @ Holy Spirit  Ernest Perez	22 Earth Day	23  Kenneth W. Cadena	24	25  Kevin Joseph Kelley Major Degree @ St. Anthony de Padua Council 8738
26	27 7:30pm General Business Meeting	28	29	30	1  Richard E. Doucette  Edgar Morales	2 Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass

May 2015 - St. Francis of Assisi Council 15240

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 7:30pm General Business Meeting	28	29	30	1 Richard E. Doucette Edgar Morales	2 Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass
3 Philip and James, Ap. Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9 Richard A. Bellacosa
10 Mother's Day	11 Gilbert E. Rodriguez	12 Richard D. Soat	13	14 Matthias, Ap., Ascension Day 7:00pm Potential Knight Inquiry -- Membership Meeting in Library @ SFA Chris A. Bunch	15 Brian J. Dunn	16
17	18 7:00pm Officers' Meeting	19 7:00pm Assembly 2102 Meeting @ Holy Spirit	20 7:00pm ASA KofC Chapter Meeting	21 6:30pm KofC 1st Degree Ceremonial @ Council 4140, Camp Bullis Road Sal Bernal	22 Patrick T. Oaks	23
24 Pentecost Anthony R. Dodge	25 Memorial Day 7:30pm General Business Meeting J. Jeremy Shaw	26 John P. Soudah	27	28 Raleigh B. Chen Rudolfo P. Muniz	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday Visitation of BVM	1 Christopher L. Gartner Jose A. Caldera III	2	3 Ronald B. Layer	4 Corpus Christi Ronaldo Rodriguez	5	6 Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass George R. Tate

June 2015 - St. Francis of Assisi Council 15240

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p> <p>Trinity Sunday Visitation of BVM</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Christopher L. Gartner Jose A. Caldera III</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Ronald B. Layer</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Corpus Christi Ronaldo Rodriguez</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass George R. Tate</p>
<p>7</p> <p>James D. Romine Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Hector R. Villasenor MD</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00pm Potential Knight Inquiry -- Membership Meeting in Library @ SFA Jeffrey G. Jung</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bryan Morgan</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Aaron A. Huron</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Flag Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00pm Officers' Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00pm Assembly 2102 Meeting @ Holy Spirit</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00pm ASA KoC Chapter Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30pm KoC 1st Degree Ceremonial @ Council 4140, Camp Bullis Road</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Sacred Heart of Jesus</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Major Degree @ Holy Spirit Council 786</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Father's Day, Summer Solstice Rolph N. Sequeira</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:30pm General Business Meeting Edward M. Woodruff</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>John the Baptist</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Peter and Paul, Ap. Jay Talamantez</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Michael L. Tschithart</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Thomas, Ap. Independence Day observed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Independence Day Wear Council shirt while attending Holy Mass</p>

WEBSITES, FACEBOOK, & EmailOur council: kofc15240.orgFacebook: [Facebook.com/kofc15240](https://www.facebook.com/kofc15240)ASA chapter: kofcsac.orgTexas council: tkofc.orgSupreme: kofc.orgParish: sfasat.orgGrand Knight: GrandKnight@kofc15240.orgWeb Master: WebMaster@kofc15240.org

KnightLine is the Official Newsletter of and published by the Knights of Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Council 15240 on a quarterly basis for its members as a not for profit 501©8 corporation.

Members are invited to submit articles to the editor by the 23rd of the month for the next issue. Please send in news of Knight's events. Photos, drawings, and graphics are welcome as long as they do not infringe on copyrights. Send changes of home address, phone number, or email address to the Financial Secretary.

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Mail or email articles for the newsletter to the editor.

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Rev. Lawrence Christian, Pastor, encouraged the founding of St. Francis of Assisi Council on March 15, 2011.

Council 15240 is pleased to recognize the Fourth Degree Exemplification of nine brother knights. The class from our council included Father Servando Guerrero, Jose Perez-Becerra, Cullen Coltrane, Dan Hollas, Carlos Mata, Pedro Mendez, Tom Moryl, Carlos Ortiz and Ed Woodruff. The Exemplification took place on January 24, 2015 at St. Brigid Catholic Church in San Antonio. The class included over 80 knights who became Fourth Degree Knights. The class was reminded of the four core principles of the Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism with the Fourth Degree designated as the Patriotic Degree of the Order. Following the Exemplification, the new Sir Knights attended mass at St. Brigid which was then followed by a social and banquet. The Knights of Columbus Council 15240 congratulates all of our new Fourth Degree Knights. See the council website for photos.

**C.J. Fremin
Grand Knight****Ronald B. Layer
Past Grand Knight****Rev. Larry J. Christian
Chaplain****Robert B. Bonner
Deputy Grand Knight****Daniel R. Hollas
Chancellor****Phillip D. Thompson
Recorder****Raul Salas
Financial Secretary****Carlos R. Ortiz
Treasurer****Michael Ezzell
Advocate****Jaime Piedra
Lecturer****Cullen P. Coltrane
Warden****Michael A. Coronado
Inside Guard****Kyle M. Unruh
Outside Guard A****Jorge Garza
Outside Guard B****Ronald B. Layer
Trustee 3rd Year****Carlos H. Mata
Trustee 2nd Year****Ernest Perez
Trustee 1st Year****Derek Rabey, Jr.
District Deputy, District 45**

**Service Program Personnel
2014-2015**

Robert B. Bonner
Program Director

Deacon Jim Hewson
Church Director

John Kenneth Martinez
Vocations Chairman

Juan Cruz
Community Director

Richard E. Doucette
Culture of Life Director

Dennis E. Stephen
Health Services

Stanley F. Cernosek, Jr.
Council Director

Stanley F. Cernosek, Jr.
Public Relations

Ernesto Perez
Family Director

VACANT
Youth Director

David P. Gomez
Columbian Squires

Daniel R. Hollas
Membership Director

Ronald B. Layer
Recruitment Committee 1

C. J. Fremin
Recruitment Committee 2

Michael Ezzell
Recruitment Committee 3

Michael Ezzell
Retention Chairman

Michael D. Gilsdorf
Insurance Promotion

Juan Cruz
Fund Raisers Chairman

Pray for Our Sick and Distressed

Morris Tallman, Jorge Escobedo, Jack Verhagan, Ken Cadena, also Jo An Mata, wife of Brother Carlos Mata



Past Grand Knight Ron Layer receiving the council's 2013-2014 Star Council Award from District 45 District Deputy Derek Rabey, Jr.



Past Grand Knight Ron Layer receiving the council's 2013-2014 Lone Star Award With Distinction from District 45 District Deputy Derek Rabey, Jr.