



# KNIGHTLY NEWS

## ST. RAPHAEL COUNCIL



#14171

Volume 6, Issue 1

January 2012-February 2012

### The Grand Knight's Corner



By Tom Casey

#### Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the Fraternal Year!

We have had quite a successful year to date indeed. All of our success to date is due to the efforts of all of you, my brothers. Thank you for all your dedication, effort and hard work. I hope and pray that the rest of the year is as successful.

In the area of membership, we ended the year on December 31<sup>st</sup> with 171 brothers in our Council (up from 155 at the start of the Fraternal Year). Since the turn of the New Year, we have added two (2) new members (1 new brother and 1 transfer). We have, also, lost a brother to a transfer. While we currently are at 155% of our annual membership goal, we must not sit on our 'laurels'. Each brother should try to bring in at least 1 new member in the remaining time until June 30.

REMEMBER: Membership is a 365 day activity!!! Also, Norm Bishop, our Membership Director, has focused attention on the recruitment of new members between 18 and 30. Lastly, our Spring Recruitment Campaign will be held in March, so we will need brothers to man the stations, so to speak.

Our December Blood Drive was the best ever!! Jeff Craney orchestrated and coordinated the event and everything, as usual, went off without a hitch. WOW!!! 335 units collected!!! Jeff and his callers, schedulers, and volunteer workers are to be commended for a fine job well done!!

On January 15, we hosted a Major Degree at St Raphael. There were 10 total candidates who took their 1<sup>st</sup> Degree (1 of whom was ours), and 35 candidates who received the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees of the Order (8 of whom were ours). Congratulations to all!

January 16 was our Annual Free Throw Contest. Once again, Tom Burns, ably assisted by Dan Schwartz and a number of volunteers, did a terrific job! We had 23 participants, another first! Well done guys!

On January 24, we held a Men's Knight Out. Approximately 17 brothers gathered in the DeLaSalle Room for Fellowship, Food (Tacos), and Cards. Shortly after Midnight, Dan Schwartz and Kevin McInerney (who were fighting it out for the Championship) agreed to call it a night, and they divided the pot. Congratulations Guys!!

During our Business Meeting this month, we inaugurated a "SHOW UP" Drawing. Brothers throw \$1 in the pot when they arrive at the meeting and a name is pulled at the end of the meeting. If you are in attendance, you win the pot! If not, it rolls over! Brother DAVE CAMPOS' name was pulled out. Since Dave was not present, the pot (\$23) rolls to February.

Here is how the SHOW UP Drawing works:

When you arrive at the meeting, you will be asked to display your membership card as normal. In addition, the Guard or Warden will inquire as to your desire to participate in the drawing that evening. If you choose to participate, you will hand him \$1.00. He will record your name on a list of participants for the evening. The meeting will commence and carry on as usual.

At the end of the meeting, just prior to the Chaplain's Closing Reflection, the Grand Knight will draw 1 name from a bag containing tags bearing the names of ALL members of the Council. The name drawn will "split the pot" with the Council. Therefore, if 22 Knights participate and 1 of those is drawn, he will win \$11.00 (What is the rate of return?). If the name drawn is NOT present or is NOT participating, then the ENTIRE pot will roll over to the next regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

On January 26, an initial meeting of the new Ladies Auxiliary was held. A total of 17 ladies were present at this meeting, and, another 7 ladies expressed the desire to be involved but could not attend the Meeting due to previous commitments. The Ladies formed the Auxiliary, elected officers, and set the date for their next meeting, at which they will choose a name, and set goals and missions. They elected officers are as follows:

PRESIDENT.....Susan Lietz  
 VICE PRESIDENT.....Beverly Millars-Craney  
 SECRETARY.....Allyson Zavala  
 TREASURER..... Eva Bishop  
 TRUSTEES...JoAnn Casey, Ann Marie Susa, Kim Lamb  
 GREETERS.....Suzanne Williamson, Julie Schremser  
 PUBLIC RELATIONS...Julie Berkowicz

Membership in the Ladies Auxiliary is open to ALL Ladies who are 18 or over and are Catholic or Christian. There is NO requirement to be related to a Knight.

Coming in February, there are several events on the schedule. On February 11, the Marquette Province will be conducting an exemplification of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree in

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Lisle. Our Council has 4 candidates taking this very impressive degree. We will hold our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Dance on February 25th. This year's theme is, once again, a Tropical Luau. So, drag out your Hawaiian duds and dust off those dancing shoes and come on out for a rollicking good time! Tickets are \$32 per person and are available now from either Chris Prazak (630-363-0037) or myself (630-673-5009). Price includes dinner, music and dancing, open bar, entertainment and games. The event is open to ALL. Membership in the Knights is not required! SPACE IS LIMITED! SO ACT NOW!

On February 24, the Fellowship Fish Fry Fridays begin and continue throughout Lent. The 1<sup>st</sup> Friday is always manned totally by the Council. Dave Gotowko is again running the event, and, he could sure use some assistance. He has an immediate need for someone to step up and take control over the Beverage concession (purchasing, transporting, etc.). We also have needs for brothers to step up and volunteer for servers, etc. for that 1<sup>st</sup> Friday evening as well as for the Bake Sale table.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Euchre Night will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> at the home of Brother Dan Short. Last year's event was such a hit that this year's should be another blast! Also, the Council is planning a couples' bowling outing in March. More details to follow!

Lastly, if anyone has ideas for either Fund Raising Activities or Family/Couples oriented activities that we should consider scheduling, please contact me (630-673-5009) or [t.casey14@yahoo.com](mailto:t.casey14@yahoo.com).

You know, as I look back over this Column (which is way too long) I am reminded that the Knights are truly a Fraternal, Charitable, Service organization in the best traditions of what we all strive to attain. What better examples for us than Our Lord who washed the feet of His disciples, gave His life for us on the Cross, and provides for our needs each day through The Eucharist.

My brothers, Peace, and,  
 VIVAT JESUS,  
 Tom

## Deputy Grand Knight's Corner



By Bruce Kleckler

As you know, each year the St. Raphael Council of the Knights of Columbus conducts a Fellowship Friday Fish Dinner during the six week Lenten season for the parish and surrounding community. For each of these Fridays we ask various service organizations associated with our Parish for volunteers to assist with serving the fish dinners and this year we would like to invite members of your organization to consider volunteering for one of the Fridays. The FIRST

Friday is always served by the Knights of Columbus, and currently the other Fridays have not been committed. If you are interested in volunteering



your group for one of the Fridays please select a date and a secondary choice date; then contact Dave Gotowko -- [DAGQuest1@aol.com](mailto:DAGQuest1@aol.com) or 630-851-6303.

Each group who volunteers will also be offered the concession for the Bake Sale on the night they have volunteered; the proceeds of which will be your organization's to keep. Each Friday requires 18 - 20 volunteers plus Bake Sale staffing if your group will be conducting the bake sale.

Also coming soon is our annual Tropical Luau Dinner Dance on February 25.

Tickets will be on sale after the Masses this weekend and next. They are \$30 each

and include Dinner, Dancing, and Open Bar. Hawaiian or Tropical Dress is appropriate. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.



## FOURTH DEGREE

All Knights are guided by our first three principles of **charity, unity, and fraternity.**



Knights of Columbus  
**FOURTH DEGREE**  
*Highest degree of Knighthood.*

The Fourth Degree supports our principal of patriotism.

Any Third Degree member in good standing, one year after the anniversary of his First Degree, is eligible for membership in the Fourth Degree. The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism by promoting responsible citizenship and a love of and loyalty to the Knights' respective countries through active membership in local Fourth Degree groups called assemblies.

Our assembly was formed in May of 2007 through the efforts of Master Ray Biliskov, Jim Russell our Past Faithful Navigator and 150 committed fourth degree knights. Our chartered officers were installed on June 2, 2007 at St. Raphael's Parish.

The assembly selected their name to be titled: Bishop Romeo Blanchette Assembly after Bishop Romeo Blanchette being the first bishop to be a Knight of the fourth degree in Joliet Diocese.

Our assembly meets the second Wednesday of each month at various locations around the diocese of Joliet. The next assembly meeting will be at Our Lady of Mercy, 701 S Eola Rd on February 8<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 PM. If you are interested in taking the next step toward the Patriotic Degree contact Tom Casey at [t.casey14@yahoo.com](mailto:t.casey14@yahoo.com).

## Youth Activities

By Tom Burns

### **Knights of Columbus Council 14171 Free Throw Championship**

On January 16, 2012, the St. Raphael Knights of Columbus Council 14171 held the annual Free Throw Championship at St. Raphael's Gym. A total of 22 boys and girls came out for the competition. We thank all the participants and their parents for making this a fun and

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successful event. Congratulations to the winners and good luck in the District competition:

Angela Schuman  
 Evangelia Analitis  
 Jeffrey Niemiec  
 Taylor Hart  
 Steven Solloway  
 Alexander Analitis  
 Tyler Demtschenko



## Helpful Ideas for Conservation

By Norm Bishop

Norm Bishop, the council's Membership Director, usually has membership news but this month he has devoted his attention to conservation and wanted to share some important ideas with us for Green Goals.

**Here are a few 2012 Energy Conservation (Green) Goals to consider:**

**1. Change your camera batteries to rechargeable batteries.** Batteries are frequently disposed of. If your camera doesn't use batteries that can be recharges consider this feature in your next camera purchase. Apply this concept to other battery operated devices that you own.

**2. Change all of your light bulbs from incandescent to CFLs to LEDs.** LEDs may be more expensive but they often have a life exceeding 15years. CFL life is estimated to be 5 years. When comparing the CFL options to typical incandescent light bulbs. The incandescent fixture is often designed for a 40, 60, 75 or 100 watt incandescent light bulb. A typical CFL 100 watt equivalent light bulb uses 26 watts. A 1 kilowatt per hour or 1,000 watts per hour cost is about 10 cents. A 100 watt CFL light bulb with incentives costs \$1.99 plus tax=\$2.07 per bulb. The equivalent 100 watt incandescent light bulb is 60 cents per bulb or higher. 100 watts minus 26 watts is a saving of 74 watts every time you turn this light bulb on. If the light bulb is on one hour, it is a savings of 76 watts per hour. The cost savings to power the CFL Light bulb is 3 cents per day with four hours of use and 6 cents per day with 8 hours of use. So the CFL light bulb pays for itself in 25 to 50 days of use. It is good for the environment but also good for the pocket book. If the cost of an incandescent bulb is higher or your cost of electric power is higher, the savings will be greater.

**3. Replace one grocery item with a local or an organic item.** Consider restaurants that use local produce and meats. Typically locally grown produce or raised meat or organic goods use less chemicals and natural fertilizers. You help your local economy and the environment....also the food is healthier for you.

**4. Install a programmable thermostat for your heating and air conditioning.** Typically this device will pay for itself in about 3 months. Remember to not adjust the settings manually.

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**5. Go vegetarian for one meal a week.** It is not difficult to eat at least one meal consisting of a vegetable soup with a salad meal a week and it is quite healthy.

**6. Download Earth911's iRecycle app for iPhone or Android.** It's cool. Give it a try. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. If you don't need it...don't buy it.

**7. Clean out your garage of hazardous waste.** When your community has a weekend where you can turn in hazardous waste, please take advantage of it. Get those containers out of your garage, as these chemicals can affect you and your family. Look for an environmentally friendly alternative. Please don't flush them down the sink or put them in the trash.

**8. Do a Do it yourself (DIY) Project rather than throw something away.** Be creative. Get two more years out of the lawn mower. Replace bulbs in the string of Christmas lights. Clean your lawn mower regularly it will consume less energy. Again Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. If you don't need it...don't buy it. Try to get another year or two out of an existing appliance or item before replacing. Cheaper and cheaper quality is not "better" from an environmental or economic view. Look for the best value and higher quality, you'll like it more, you'll keep it longer and your friends will think you're a very sensible and environmentally conscious person.

**9. Start a compost pile, or use your community composting if available.** As a gardener, the resulting soil is rich in plant nutrients. It reduces garbage volume and saves space in landfills. All vegetative matter and even newspaper can be composted. Try red worm composting, those critters really make composting work and the resulting soil is excellent.

**10. Try Hyper-Miling.** Even if you do not have a hybrid vehicle, this can be both environmentally friendly and help your pocketbook. A few ideas:

- Observe the speed limit. Every 5 mph over 60 you go is equivalent to \$0.24 per gallon more in gas.

- Remove excess weight from your car. An addition 100 pounds can decrease your fuel efficiency by 2 percent.
- Don't shoot off the starting line. When you stick your pedal to the medal, you are pushing your engine to its maximum and burning up fuel much more quickly than if you were to gradually speed up.
- Pay closer attention as you drive. Last-minute stops or speeding up only to halt at a red light means more fuel burned as you accelerate again. Most drivers apply their brakes between 10 and 25 percent more times than necessary.
- Support stores as close to your home as possible and carpool with others.
- Attend a driving clinic. Fuel-efficient driving techniques are commonly discussed, and clinics are sometimes offered by experienced members.

Reference Adapted from the Huff Post "Green" website. Keep looking for those suggestions to share.

## District Deputy Update –Pro Life Fund Raiser



By Tim Rogers

Half way through the fraternal year already, time flies when you are having fun! As usual a lot of things going on but none bigger than the upcoming Pro Life Fundraiser on March 24 at Saints Peter and Paul. As most of you may recall our council hosted a very successful fundraiser in June of 2010 that resulted in the first Knight's sponsored ultra sound in the Joliet Diocese at Waterleaf Women's Center ([waterleafwc.org](http://waterleafwc.org)) in Aurora that become operational in January 2011 and is now saving lives!

This event is taking matters to the next level as half the funds will go to ongoing support at Waterleaf and also

aid in the start up of the Fr Michael McGivney Center for Hope and Healing (mcgivneycenter.com).

This is a diocese wide event that needs every bodies support to be successful. As several councils helped our cause I am appealing to all you to help make this undertaking as successful. We are making real progress at battling abortion and this will be another big step.

Please see the attached flyer. If unable to attend a donation of any size would be extremely appreciated. Please pass the word on to our parishioners for we have room for 250.

Bishop Conlon will preside at mass and attend. Fr Rocky of Relevant Radio fame will be the keynote speaker. Hurry, sign up and don't miss it!

## Insurance Field Agent Update



By Frank Kerkemeyer

### *Four parts of retirement: Phase One*

In the next four articles, I would like to discuss a goal that's on many workers' radar: retirement. To some, retirement is the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow or the reward after a long career. It's a time to relax, take up a hobby and enjoy life. Whether retirement is just around the next corner or if you have another 30 years to go, it's never too soon or too late to start planning or revise that plan.

Some experts suggest that there are four phases of retirement: protection, accumulation, income de-accumulation and care. In this article, I will tackle protection.

Protection is the base element of any well-founded financial plan; the base of the pyramid, for example. Without basic protection against premature death or the inability to earn income due to disability, the

remainder of the pyramid collapses. If you own mutual funds and die without life insurance, those funds will be needed to pay final expenses (collapsing), perhaps at the most inopportune time (after a market correction). If you own mutual funds and lose your ability to earn income due to disability and are without paycheck protection, those funds will be needed in order to pay living expenses (collapsing), perhaps at the most inopportune time (is there ever an opportune time?).

So, basic protection is a must. The good thing is that this protection is offered by the Knights of Columbus. Our whole life products and disability income insurance are designed with this goal in mind. For example, our Life Paid Up at 65 Plan is perfect for this purpose because premier payments end right when retirement is upon you. There are many other options that I can discuss with you that will fit your needs and your budget.

A newer addition to our product portfolio, disability income insurance protects your most valuable asset: your ability to work and earn money. Plans can be customized and are available to cover many professions, from farmers to lawyers.

Once you've established the proper protection, the next phase is accumulation of cash, which I will discuss in a future article. Contact me to learn more.

Frank Kerkemeyer, FIC  
Phone: 630-962-8020  
Email: Frank.Kerkemeyer@KofC.org

**Note from Your Editor— We really need Your Articles and Photos on Time. . Please send your pictures, news and articles to me by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month!** Thanks,

*Ted Schultz*

*Ted Schultz- Editor*

Phone: 630-244-3402, Email: tschultz@sbcplus.com

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## Please Pray For August

*As we go to the Lord and place these petitions before Him, let us do so with optimism, hope and faith.*

*Please remember in your prayer:  
(From the December 2011 Minutes)*

Pat Hlava	Ambur Burns
Jack La Fevour	Frank Lukes
Florence Downey	Dick Shreve
Mike O'Connor	Bill Sked
Karen DiTomasso	Jerry Craney
Barbara DiGiovanni	Suzanne
Ralph Sapino	

## DATES TO REMEMBER

*Mark your calendar for the following dates!  
More to come on future activities*

Fourth Degree Exemplification	February 11, 2012
District Fee Throw Competition	February 19, 2012
Business Meeting (moved from 2/14/12)	February 21, 2012
Ash Wednesday	February 22, 2012
Lenten Fish Fry (1 of 6)	February 24, 2012
Spring Dinner Dance-Tropical Luau	February 25, 2012
Lenten Fish Fry (2 of 6)	March 2, 2012
Lenten Fish Fry (3 of 6)	March 9, 2012
Lenten Fish Fry (4 of 6)	March 16, 2012
Euchre Night (Dan Short's)	March 17, 2012
Pro Life Fundraiser	March 21, 2012
Lenten Fish Fry (5 of 6)	March 23 2012
District Sponsored Pro Life Fundraiser	March 24, 2012
Lenten Fish Fry (6 of 6)	March 30 2012

## SUPPORT OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS AND THEIR BUSINESS.

If you would like to have your business listed in the Newsletter, please send your request to Grand Knight, Tom Casey. Once approved, send your business card size ad in a jpg format to the Newsletter Editor, Ted Schultz



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