



KNIGHTLY NEWS

ST. RAPHAEL COUNCIL

#14171



Volume 6, Issue 2

March 2012-April 2012

The Grand Knight's Corner



By Tom Casey

Happy Easter to all!

Our Annual Friday Fellowship Fish Fry has gone another year! The food was great, the wine and beer flowed (except for week 1, and, the fellowship was terrific!) Cuomo's new building is finished and the food and service was tremendous. Dave Gotowko and his partner, Tom, once again, out did themselves. Our thanks go out to all Knights, Ladies, and, ministries who helped out this year.

The Spring Membership Drive was held this year in conjunction with Founder's Day. We conducted the drive along the same lines as the Fall Drive of last year, across 2 Weekends. Many thanks go out to those Knights who helped by manning the Narthex after the Masses and to those young Knights who spoke at the one reactivation. We also have about eight new Form 100s to process and get to a First Degree. By the Way, our next regularly scheduled First Degree is the fourth Tuesday evening in April (April 24th)

Dave Bedel, our Financial Secretary, has sent out dues second notices. Currently, we have about 40 brothers who have not paid their dues. Please remember that your 2011 card expired on March 31. Pay your dues as soon as possible. The dues are only \$35 per year. Paying

on time will prevent you from receiving follow-up past due invoices and also save the Council postage. Once your payment is received, you will then be mailed your 2012 membership card.

Invoices were sent out to all in early January. Please let Dave know if you did not receive it. Checks for \$35 can be made payable to:

Knights of Columbus, Council # 14171

Please mail your payments to:

David Bedel
471 Prairie Knoll Drive
Naperville, Illinois 60565

The Council is sending several St Raphael students to the State of Illinois Spelling Bee Finals this year. Also, several students were qualified to compete in the State Final Free Throw competition this year. One young lady has qualified to compete in both events!!! Congratulations to all of them! Also, we have had a number of St Raphael students qualify for the State Finals of the Alcohol Awareness and Drug Abuse Poster Contest this year!

Our first Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up was held March 31. There was a lot of great participation, and I understand that the work was completed quite quickly.

A Nominating Committee has been formed for the purpose of composing a proposed slate of officers for the coming fraternal year. The slate will be announced in May with voting to take place in June. I have sent out an e-mail to the general distribution list regarding the elections, including a listing of officer positions with

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their responsibilities. If anyone would like to be considered for an elective office, please let one of the Committee know (Jim Russell, Tim Rogers, Fred Reed, Norm Bishop, Tom Burns, Chuck Burkart or I). Nominations can always be made from the floor, as well. See the letter below which explains the officer responsibilities.

On March 17, the second annual Euchre Night was held at the home of Brother Dan Short and his lovely wife, Angela. It was quite a party as it encompassed a St. Patrick's Day Celebration as well. About 36 Knights and Ladies were in attendance, and, I understand the celebrating went well into the early hours of Sunday morning.

March 24 saw the Feast of the Annunciation Banquet for Life at Sts Peter & Paul Ministry Center. The Council sponsored a table and there were also a number of additional members of the Council in attendance.

On April 6, there was a living Stations of the Cross at the Planned Parenthood facility in Aurora as well as a living rosary. Also, on the 3rd Saturday of each month, there is a gathering of Prayers for Life outside of the Planned Parenthood Facility in Aurora.

The Council will be hosting a Board Game & UNO Night on the Fourth Tuesday of April in the DeLaSalle Room after the scheduled First Degree. This is an event for couples as well as singles.

In May, we will be participating, once again, in the 40 hours devotion (May 16 thru 18). Please contact Carl Ritzel for further information.

As a final note, please do not forget the Pro-Life Rosary each Monday evening at 7PM in the Chapel, which is right off the Narthex of the Church.

That's all for now!

Peace, God Bless, and,
VIVAT JESUS

Tom

OFFICER ELECTIONS

By Tom Casey

Dear Brother Knights,

Our Council will be electing officers during our June business meeting. The lifeblood of the Knights of Columbus is its members and their acts of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. The leadership of the Council is largely, but not totally, dependent on its officers and how they attend to their office and its responsibilities.

I ask you to read this letter, reflect on it and ask yourself "**What can I do**, as a Brother Knight, to further the cause and needs of our Council and the Knights of Columbus".

The success of our council is directly related to our members and the giving and sharing of their individual talents. You are invited to become active and take a leadership role. This can be accomplished in several ways. Become a Council Officer, take over a committee chairmanship, assist the chairman of a committee that interests you and finally, think about what we should or could be doing and then make it happen.

Our June 12th meeting will be the election of Council Officers for the coming year. All offices are open for election except five: Financial Secretary, appointed by Supreme Council, Chaplain and Lecturer, appointed by the Grand Knight, and the 2 and 3 year Trustees. Anyone interested in being an officer or chairing a committee or anything else, is asked to contact one of the members of the nominating committee, or, myself, namely:

Tim Rogers (815) 439-3435
 Chuck Burkart (630) 983-7942
 Jim Russell (630) 226-0644
 Fred Reed (630) 305-7753
 Norm Bishop (303) 475-0608
 Tom Burns (630) 527-0419

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A COUNCIL OFFICER: He is to understand his office and its responsibilities, to attend all regular business and officer meetings as they are called. Exceptions are understood. We all have busy lives and many things to attend to, but we need your talent and expertise.

The following pages describe officer's responsibilities and functions. This does not include Directors/Chairman of committees as they are appointed by the Grand Knight.

1. GRAND KNIGHT

He provides the vision, motivation and direction of the council. He is also responsible for the physical, spiritual and financial welfare of the council. He presides over council meetings, acts as an ex-officio member of all committees, appoints a membership and program director, convenes officers for a monthly meeting, and ensures that his signature appears on all checks drawn. He oversees recruitment, mentoring and induction and is an active participant in a variety of programs representing the council in the community, church and at council sponsored events. Oversees the vocations program within the council. The Grand Knight is a member of the Advisory Board with general supervision of the council's Columbian Squires Circle and the Ladies Auxiliary. He has the authority to delegate as needed for the betterment of the council.

2. DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT

He is second in command. He assists the Grand Knight with council affairs and fulfills all duties assigned to him by the Grand Knight. Should the Grand Knight be absent from a council meeting, the Deputy Grand Knight will preside. He is the chairman of the council's retention committee and also a member of the Advisory Board charged with overseeing the council's sponsored Columbian Squires Circle. He as well as the Grand Knight will represent the council at

community, church and council sponsored events. He is an active participant in a variety of programs, one of which is recruitment and vocations.

3. CHANCELLOR

He has a variety of responsibilities. Primarily, he assists the Grand Knight and the Deputy Grand Knight in the execution of their duties and oversees the council in both their absences. He is charged with strengthening the member's interests in council activities. Will provide a variety of outside speakers at meetings that will provide the membership with Catholic principles and provide opportunities for Christian service. The Chancellor is chairman of the admission committee, the Vocations committee and a member of the Columbian Squires Circle ceremonial team.

4. RECORDER

He is similar to a court reporter or secretary. He is responsible for maintaining a true record of all transactions of the council and its correspondence. He will be responsible for outgoing information and publication matter to the Supreme, state publications regarding council activities. Will keep and provide church newsletters with various information regarding current Knight programs. Minutes of meeting will be available, and should be detailed once recorded at the next regular meeting.\

5. TREASURER

He is responsible for the safekeeping and maintaining records of all council funds and accounts. He is responsible for depositing money into the council's accounts and provides a certificate of such monies to the Grand Knight. He is also responsible for payment of all expenses. He will establish an approved yearly budget and will monitor council progress in adherence to the budget.

6. LECTURER

The Lecturer is appointed by the Grand Knight to provide both educational and entertaining programs to the council. He is responsible for the “Good of the Order” portion of the meetings. In order to provide members with informative and educational programs, he must be knowledgeable and aware of all council programming.

7. ADVOCATE

The Advocate is the legal representative of the council and serves as the council’s attorney at trials and investigations of any interest to the council. While he does not need to be a member of the legal profession, he should be familiar with the council by-laws (#30), methods of Conducting a Council Meeting (#1937), and Robert’s Rules of Order.

8. WARDEN

He is the “watchdog” for the council property and degree paraphernalia, except the property of the financial secretary, treasurer and recorder. He is also responsible for setting up the council chambers for the next meeting and ceremonial work. During meetings, ceremonies exemplifications, and all other council functions, he will appoint and supervise the inside and outside guards. He is responsible for all council property and the cleanliness of the council hall.

9. OUTSIDE GUARD

The guards have similar responsibilities, but distinct differences. The outside guard tends to the outer door admitting visitors and members to the inner door.

10. INSIDE GUARD

The guards have similar responsibilities, but distinct differences. Once the outside guard brings members to the inner door, the inside guard checks to make sure that their membership cards are current.

11. TRUSTEES

The trustees consist of three members elected by the council and the Grand Knight, who serves as chairman. They oversee the work of the financial secretary and treasurer, and with the Deputy Grand Knight serve on the council’s retention committee. During council elections, only the three-year trustee is voted on, with the others moving on to become two and one-year trustees, respectively. Historically the outgoing Grand Knight becomes the 3rd year Trustee but this does not have to be followed and is left up to the nominating committee. The Trustee’s will assist and advise the Grand Knight as needed.

We hope this information is beneficial to all of you and that you will better understand the responsibilities of each office. The above information was taken from K of C pamphlet #4241 5/01. You can also go to the website, www.kofc.org, for more information.

Deputy Grand Knight’s Corner

By Bruce Kleckler

Special Olympics

Over the past 40 years, the Knights of Columbus has raised and donated more than \$382 million to programs for people with intellectual and physical disabilities. Among the larger gifts of time and money the Order makes annually is to Special Olympics and other programs for people with



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intellectual and/or physical disabilities.

The Knights' commitment to Special Olympics and to hundreds of grassroots programs for people with intellectual and physical disabilities is an expression of its belief in the intrinsic worth of every human being. The Knights of Columbus believe that the Special Olympics are nearly unparalleled in their ability to show the intrinsic worth and dignity of every single human being. These games don't just build strength and character and the athletes and participants; it only takes a few moments with the competitors to be inspired by the force of their determination, and the true sense of God's love.



Although the Special Olympics have grown in recent years, they still need our continued support. The Special Olympics are too wonderful to overlook, and the Knights of Columbus are

committed to bringing the games to all corners of the globe.

The next event our council will participate in will be a Track and Field Event at North Central College on Saturday, April 29, from 9 am until 3 pm. Contact Joe Hlava at 630-357-4202 or joehlava@sbcglobal.net for more information and to volunteer.

Fourth Degree Report



By Chris Prazak, Fourth Degree Captain

On Saturday February 11, 2012 our Council was honored by having 4 new Sir Knights Exemplified into the Patriotic Degree. The St. Raphael Council #14171 Fourth Degree Exemplification Class of 2012 are Worthy Sir Knights Jeff Craney, Dr. Dan Short, Bill Skedd and Bruce Skedd. Brothers we welcome you as new Members of

the Bishop Romeo Blanchette Assembly #3044, and the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus!

The Exemplification is a huge event, and a wonderful experience, with many memories to last a lifetime. It is also a very full day, and unfortunately our eldest Council Member, Brother Bill Skedd was feeling a bit under the weather, unable to attend the Exemplification on that day. Bruce Skedd, Bill's son, had conversations with the Former Master Ray Biliskov, and Master Paul Isherwood concerning his Dad's immediate desire to become a Sir Knight. To our fraternal leaders I'm grateful, as we were informed that Bill was deemed to be a Sir Knight in the 4th Degree by our Worthy Master.

During the banquet of the Exemplification, two Members of our Assembly were honored with the Masters Medallion, an award acknowledging service by a 4th Degree member for his dedication to his parish, his community, and to the Knights of Columbus. Our Faithful Friar Fr. Jim Antiporek was well deserving of this award, and Chris Prazak was very much surprised, to be included in the same category as Fr. Jim. I'm very humbled by this honor and I thank everyone involved with our Council & Assembly for their confidence in me. See photo of Chris accepting the award below.

After the banquet, the Regalia Raffle was drawn up in the hospitality suite. I was assigned the duty of drawing the winning ticket. The Winner for the set of Regalia for 2012 was G.K. Eddie Collins of #1369, which is actually the second win in a row for Mr. Collins. I was then dismissed from any further drawing duties!

Only a couple of weeks after the Exemplification our Council and Assembly have just experienced a great loss. Our Brother and new Sir Knight William O.Skedd "Bill" passed away on Friday Feb. 24, 2012. Bill was not only one of our newest Sir's, but he was also our eldest Brother Knight at the age of 95. I liked Bill a lot, and learned more about his life through a great eulogy by his son Brother Bruce. His service in WWII, his strong faith, support to his family, and being a strong union man and steward, an accomplished ballroom dancer, and semi

pro basketball player were some of his duties and talents. I'll always remember him as a quiet man with a constant smile. An Honor Guard was requested by Bill's family, and I must admit we had a very busy weekend with the fish fry and dinner dance, so I got the word out late to our Sir Knights. I'm very proud of our Fourth Degree Sir Knights for rallying and assembling together to give our Brother Bill an Honor Guard, in great number and with a respectful good bye, at his wake and funeral. Thank you Worthy Sir Knights, it's truly an Honor to be your Brother and Captain! Peace to you and yours, Chris Prazak.

At the Exemplification Chris Prazak was awarded the Master Medallion. Below is a photo of Chris accepting the award and a photo of Chris and Stacy leaving the dais.

Below are some more pictures from the Fourth Degree Exemplification. As can be seen, everybody is having a great time. I am sure you will recognize the Sir Knights.



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Insurance Field Agent Update



By Frank Kerkemeyer

Four parts of retirement: Phase two

In a previous article (Phase one), I discussed protection and how Knights of Columbus products can provide it for you and your wife in your retirement years. The next phase of retirement is accumulation of cash.

Those life insurance policies you purchased, if they are permanent plans, carry a savings element that helps with accumulation of wealth. Another good option is a Knights of Columbus retirement plan or annuity with a guaranteed interest rate. After basic protection, you spend your working life preparing not to work...for the day the paychecks stop. Factor in here also your pensions, government benefits and other savings you've acquired over the years.

Some experts will tell you that you should prepare for retirement with a plan that calls for 70% of the income you had pre-retirement. I think that falls woefully short; plan on the 90% range. Consider this: what are you giving up that translates to 30% of your income? You still have to eat, you will travel more (going to see the grandchildren), taxes need to be paid, and on and on. Be careful of that 70% arbitrary rule.

Four parts of retirement: Phase three

My previous two articles (Phase one and two) discussed important steps that lead to retirement. But what happens once you reach that goal? You've got free time to pursue your interests, visit friends and family and relax. It's a beautiful thing indeed.

You've now entered the de-accumulation phase. You will start to spend down the assets you have

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accumulated during your working years. Remember: a 60-year-old man has a 20% chance of making it to 95! A 60-year-old woman has a 30% chance. And there is a 40% chance that at least one member of a married 60-year-old couple will make it to 95. That's a long time to live off of accumulated cash while you don't work. Save, save, save, so you will be able to de-accumulate.

As a Knight, you have access to a product that is designed to make saving safe and easy. Our annuity is designed to provide guaranteed long-term security. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into this annuity over time can provide income at retirement that you cannot outlive. With that guarantee comes the fact that no one has ever lost money put in a Knights of Columbus annuity (remember, absolute safety of principal) and consider the value you are getting.

Contributing money to an annuity can also have positive tax implications (always check with your tax professional on these matters). And our annuities offer a competitive interest rate, consistent with our primary goal of absolute safety of principal.

Take some time to meet with me and I will help with your retirement planning and will explain fully the benefits of selecting our annuity, along with the benefits of our top-rated life insurance, disability income and long term care insurance plans. As you consider options as you proceed toward retirement, think about one thing guaranteed to help you and open a Knights of Columbus annuity.

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

Important but Old News

This news just missed our deadline and was not published in the last Knightly News. On Sunday January 15, 2012 the Council held a major degree and the follow Knights from our Council completed their third degrees. Please congratulate them on this milestone. Let's hope they receive the Fourth Degree soon.

John Taylor	Mark Reinsbach
Joe Varghese	Bill Foye
Neil Wisker	Mike Manly
Donovan King	Ron Goodin

February:
 Florence Doughney
 Caimin Flannery
 Amber Burns
 Jack Lefevour
 Jim Brine
 Nancy Hall

Jack Healey
 Tom McHugh
 Phil Wagner
 Dave Schulz
 Chuck Burkhart
 Pat Hlava

March:
 Lori McInerney
 Mary Kay Kuducis
 Florence Doughney
 Jim Brine
 Betty Williamson
 Chuck Burkart

Bill Skedd
 Ida Myers
 Denise Arnold
 Joe DiGiovanni
 Pate Hlava

Note from Your Editor— We really need Your Articles and Photos on Time. . Please send your pictures, news and articles to me by the 3rd Tuesday of each month! Thanks,
Ted Schultz
Ted Schultz- Editor
 Phone: 630-244-3402, Email: tschultz@sbcplus.com

Please Pray For

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 February and March 2012 Good of the Order)*

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Knights Mass	April 15, 2012
Victor Cardosi Awards Dinner	April 21, 2012
First Degree	April 24,2012
Board Game/Uno Night (tentative)	April 24, 2012
State Convention	May 4-6, 2012
Memorial Day Parade	May 28, 2002
Blood Drive	June 16, 2012
Intellectual Disabilities Drive (store fronts)	Sept 14-16, 2012
Intellectual Disabilities Drive (street corners)	Sept 21-23, 2012

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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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