



# Knights News

Knights of Columbus Council 544  
Cathedral of the Incarnation  
Nashville, TN

## Grand Knight's Report

Bisell McWilliams, Grand Knight  
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Dear Brothers,

Last November, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced a new initiative and direction for the Order. Entitled *Building the Domestic Church while Strengthening our Parish*, this initiative seeks to refocus the energy of the Knights back to the first principle of our order: the service and protection of the Catholic family in partnership with the local parish. Realization of this goal will require that councils must integrate more fully into the life of the parish, in many cases shedding programming that duplicates parish efforts while focusing on supplementing and supporting parish led ministries.

When first I listened to the Supreme Knight's speech in which he laid out this initiative, I was struck by just how well our council already embodies this renewed vision. Many years ago we made the move from home association to parish based council, and since then our programming has continued to evolve. With each step we have moved away from being an independent organization that runs parallel to the parish, and towards becoming an indispensable force that moves integrally within the parish.

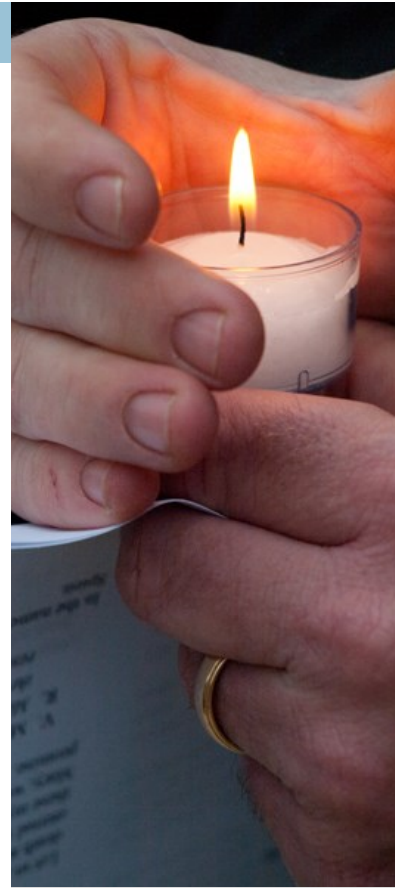
One need only look around any Cathedral event and see the red badges permeating the room to recognize the fruit of this evolution. Room in the Inn is a parish ministry, yet Knights constitute much of its leadership and volunteer group, and the council is only a phone call away when emergency nights arise. Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers are not under the direction of the council, but tap the shoulder of a few Knights at the beginning of Mass and all is covered. Neri Nights, Altar Servers, and the Boy Scouts are not Columbian groups, but we have successfully channeled our fundraising expertise to partner with and empower them to raise their own funds through jointly hosted pancake breakfasts.

Furthermore, in our own programming, we suspended our Saturday evening, adult oriented events when it became clear that we were only competing with the San Gennaro committee, and instead listened to our pastor and refocused our efforts on the gaps in Cathedral programming: namely Sunday afternoon, family fraternal events. The results were immediate, and in his recent letter to the parish Fr Steiner spoke enthusiastically of the "humongous crowds attending the Knights of Columbus Sunday brunches and luncheons."

Supreme Knight Anderson said that "the challenge of effective leadership is to lead change not to be led by change." I am very proud of 544 and the leadership that so many of you have taken in helping to shape the direction of our council. With a quality mix of practicality and prescience you have all helped form an effective force for good within the Cathedral Parish, and I am forever blessed and humbled to call you brothers.

Vivat Jesus,

Bisell



## January / February Issue 4

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### Highlights

- New Supreme Initiative
- S\*per Bowl Party
- Event Photos
- Cathedral Capital Campaign

## Free Throw Contest - Results

One of our free throw shooters, Tobias Frank, from St. Pius X won the 12 year old boys division against the other councils/schools in our district's Free Throw Challenge. Tobias will advance to the regional Free Throw Challenge on January 24th, in Murfreesboro. It is exciting to have a shooter advance to the regional round in what is only our 2nd year of sponsoring a Free Throw Challenge. Please congratulate Tobias when you have a chance.

## See's Candy Fundraiser - Results

Thanks to Brother Terry Hill's able leadership, 2016 saw a record return on our See's Candy Sale. The sale got off to a bit of a rocky start—with shipping delays and scheduling conflicts among other issues—but Terry was able to adapt quickly and turn an uncertain start into a record year. With a significant increase in our gross sales, and an increase in payment by cash and check (which reduced our merchant fees), our net profit for 2015 was \$1,203.87. This represents a 28.6% increase over last year. We are also anticipating an additional \$250 donation from See's Candy, as a gesture of goodwill due to some of the aforementioned difficulties. Please thank Terry for his hard work over the last several years on what has become our cornerstone fundraiser.



## 2016 Dues Assessment

Your 2016 Membership Dues are now due in the amount of \$40. Please mail your check to FS Chris Crane, 7927 River Road Pike, Nashville, TN 37209, or bring it to the next Council Meeting on Feb 10th. Payment of dues is essential as they cover the operating expenses of the council, thus allowing us to focus our fundraiser efforts on the support of our various charities, all while maintaining a balanced budget. (You may not know this, but the council pays a *per capita* to Supreme for every member, regardless of that member's payment status. Thus in a very real sense unpaid dues represent a fiscal loss to the council.) If you are unable to pay your dues at this time, please reach out to GK Bisell or FS Chris. Financial difficulties will be kept confidential.

### Upcoming Dates

#### Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the Month  
7:00PM, Rm 305, St Albert Hall

#### Programming Meetings

4th Sunday of the Month  
9:30AM, Rm 303, St Albert Hall

#### First Degree @ Cathedral

February 20, 2016

#### Second Degree @ St Ann

February 25, 2016

#### Fourth Degree @ Holy Family

March 12, 2016

#### KofC Hosting Room in the Inn

March 15, 2016

#### Corporate Communion

May 29, 2016

## January Awards

### **Knight of the Month** - Terry Hill

Brother Terry always works hard on the See's Candy fundraiser, but this year he went above and beyond. He took a shipping error and several programming conflicts, and deftly turned them into our most successful year ever for See's.

### **Family of the Month** - Ian Pasek Family

In Brother Ian's short time as a 544 Knight, he and his family have made a significant impact on all of us, and have been highly active in everything we do. We wish them well as they begin the next chapter of their lives in Boston, but we will sure miss Ian's drive, enthusiasm, and precious family dearly.



## February Awards

### **Knight of the Month** - Paul Ney

Brother Paul has done a fantastic job chairing our snow shoveling efforts at Cathedral. In the best tradition of the Knights in service to the parish, he recognized a need and not only helped coordinate response, but got out there in the cold and singlehandedly cleared and deiced the Cathedral walkways on the days when no one else on the team could make it in.

### **Family of the Month** - Chris Beal Family

The Beal family is one of the most active families in our council and the parish. In addition to leading our pancake breakfasts, they are active in service at Cathedral Masses, in Neri Nights and many other Cathedral and council activities. In a year focused on the *Family Fraternal*, it is a true blessing to have such a wonderful family leading the way.

## Image Clear Ultrasound

*Submitted by Tom Costa*

As part of the mid year meeting held in Brentwood January 9th, **Image Clear Ultrasound** provided tours of their mobile clinic being operated here in Middle Tennessee. Grand Knight McWilliams, Deputy Grand Knight Duncan and myself had the pleasure of speaking with Vicki Bast, a registered nurse and ultrasound technician, about Image Clear Ultrasound and their services.

Operating from a customized motorhome, the staff of Image Clear Ultrasound (using the clever acronym I.C.U / I See You) counsel young women (and many not-so-young) who believe they are pregnant who wish to confirm their pregnancy. From the initial counseling as they come onboard the mobile clinic, the women are offered non-coercive, non-political, non-judgmental services from pregnancy testing to ultrasound. The women are referred to providers that can assist them with care and additional services. In a professional setting these women are counseled with the hope that knowing and seeing their baby through the ultrasound will likely result in a decision to keep and care for the child they are carrying.

All this is provided at no charge to the women in what is many times, a crisis pregnancy. Funding for this Christian principled service comes from donations. We were told that the Knights of Columbus had provided the ultrasound machine that was being used. Currently operating two mobile clinics in TN and about 40 nationwide, they are seeking to add another mobile clinic in the Middle TN area. You are likely to find the Image Clear Ultrasound mobile clinic operating near colleges and abortion mills. For more information visit them online at: <http://www.icumobile.org>.

## Boy Scout Update

*Submitted by Dave Lavell*

Troop 1914 held their second Christmas wreath and tree sale this past November & December. Many Knights supported us and we're very grateful! Both sales improved over the first year and they will help send boys to summer camp.

Our first campout of the year was supposed be up on the plateau the weekend that "Snowmageddon" arrived in January. We obviously had to punt. We went camping the first weekend in February in Jamestown on some property that includes an antique fire tower. The boys got to climb the tower, learn how Rangers used to locate forest fires and build wilderness survival shelters. Relatively mild temperatures meant for great camping and clear skies allowed for great astronomy lessons out where there's little light pollution.

Troop 1914 has its own Pinewood Derby track now. We'll be hosting several races for Cub Scout Packs in the area. During our March campout the boys will be horseback riding and then the April campout is fishing at Land Between The Lakes.

*Note from the GK:* As you all know, Council 544 has served as the chartering organization of Cathedral Troop 1914 since its inception. With the move to more fully integrate councils into the life of the parish, Supreme Council is requiring that councils no longer serve as chartering organizations for Scout troops and that those charters be transferred to the parish. This will happen at the end of 2016 at Cathedral. While this is disappointing for us, it will in no way change our support for, or involvement with the Scouts. Our groups will continue to support each others programming and work in the parish as we always have.

## Council Officers

### Grand Knight

Bisell McWilliams  
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770-789-3355

### Deputy Grand Knight

Ken Duncan  
kenrduncan@att.net  
615-238-1582

### Financial Secretary

Chris Crane  
christopher.e.crane@gmail.com  
617-869-6345

### Chancellor

Dave Johnson  
davejohnson2@comcast.net  
615-585-3675

### Recorder

Dan Gibbons

### Treasurer

Terry Hill

### Advocate

Frank Steiner

### Warden

Roy Silveira

### Inside Guard

Chris Beal

### Outside Guard

Jeff Duffield

### One Year Trustee

Stuart Littleton

### Two Year Trustee

John Mitchell

### Three Year Trustee

Mark O'Neill



### Program Personnel

**Program Director**

DGK Ken Duncan

**Church Director**

vacant

**Vocation Chair**

Tom Costa

**Community Director**

vacant

**San Gennaro Coordinator**

Dave Johnson

**Council Director**

Andrew Lay

**Family Director**

vacant

**Youth Director**

Chris Beal

**Boy Scout Leader**

Dave Lavell

**Culture of Life Director**

Tony Grubbs

**Culture of Life Chair Couple**

Roy & Susan

**Choose Life Sign**

Stuart Littleton

**Membership Director**

Dave Johnson

**Retention Chair**

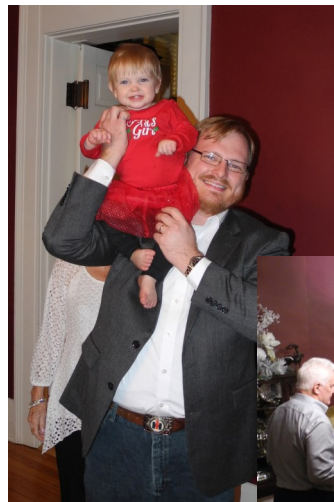
Ken Thomas

### Breakfast with Santa

Our first annual Breakfast with Santa was a great success. Despite lighter than anticipated attendance (due to a scheduling conflict with RE), everyone that came had a wonderful time. The kids were especially thrilled to have as much time as they wanted with Santa. Next year's event is tentatively scheduled for December 18th, so go ahead and mark your calendars.



### Council Christmas Party





### District Free Throw Contest



District Winners with DD Mark Holmes

### Knight of the Year (2015) / RITI



It took us a while, but we finally got Joe Bednar his plaque during Room in the Inn on Sunday, January 10th. We had six Knights show up and serve soup to the Cathedral guests on this emergency RITI night. Pictured: Roman Pohlid, Joe Bednar, Dave Johnson, Chris Crane

### Cathedral Snow Shovel Team: Snow... .... No Snow



The Council Snow Shovel Team did a great job clearing the entrances and walkways around Cathedral during our recent winter storm. We still need more volunteers for the team, so if you are interested in being on the call list please contact brother Paul Ney (pcney@comcast.net; 615-297-5266) to add your name to the list. Our goal is to have 5 - 10 brothers on call. Winter weather is an infrequent issue in Middle Tennessee and the Cathedral does not have a contract to cover snow removal. Providing this service is one very visible and concrete way our council can fulfill its duty to support our parish.

### S\*per Bowl Party



## Proposed Resolution for Council Pledge to Capital Campaign

*The following resolution was read at the January 13th council meeting, and was advanced to further reading. Final vote on the measure is scheduled for the March 9th meeting.*

### Resolution for Council 544 to Pledge to Capital Campaign

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus has put forth a newly focused mission to Build the Domestic Church and Strength Parish Life, which requires that councils move toward greater integration into the ministries and programs of our parishes; and

**WHEREAS**, the ministries and programs of our own Cathedral of the Incarnation parish are unable to fully meet the needs of our parish and community due to the burdens of the Cathedral's lingering debt and inability to fund basic facility repairs; and

**WHEREAS**, Council 544 makes extensive use of Cathedral facilities not only in service to the Cathedral but for conducting the business of the Order at no expense to the council, and

**WHEREAS**, the Cathedral Capital Campaign Making All Things New provides a detailed schedule of Gift Opportunities which includes sponsorship of the St Albert Hall classrooms for the amount of \$25,000 each; and

**WHEREAS**, Council 544 has sufficient seed funds on hand that a significant gift would neither disrupt the regular operation of the council nor diminish its ability to seed future initiatives for the council or parish; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that Council 544 will pledge \$25,000 to the Cathedral Capital Campaign for the sponsorship of our third floor classroom in St Albert Hall.

Respectfully submitted by

Ken Duncan, Deputy Grand Knight  
Dave Johnson, Chancellor  
SK Chris Crane, Financial Secretary

## Parish Roundtables

If you are a 544 Knight and attend Assumption or St Mary's, please reach out to GK Bisell if you would be interested in helping explore the formation of a Knight's Roundtable in your parish.

### Newsletter Delivery - Please Read

In our ongoing effort to manage expenses while continuing to promote communication with all of our knights who want to remain in active communication with the council, we are again reviewing our US Postal Service mailing list for this newsletter. We currently have about 120 knights who receive this newsletter electronically and about 60 more who get it via US mail. Most of those who get it via US Mail are Knights who we do not regularly see at meetings or events. To those Knights, we just need to hear from you that you still want to receive the newsletter, so please call or email Chris or Bisell. (Contact information is on page 3 of this newsletter)

## Fraternal Calendar 2015-2016

- February 7, 2016  
S\*per Bowl Party
- February 10, 2016  
Ash Wednesday (Day of Fasting & Abstinence)
- February 10, 2016  
Council Meeting
- February 25, 2016  
Second Degree @ St Ann
- March 9, 2016  
Council Meeting
- March 12, 2016  
Fourth Degree @ Holy Family
- May 29, 2016  
Corporate Communion

## Second Degree Opportunity

Calling all First Degree members. The next Second Degree opportunity in Middle Tennessee will be on February 25th, 7pm at St Ann Parish. Contact GK Bisell or Membership Director Dave if you would like to participate.

## Fourth Degree Opportunities

Calling all Third Degree Members. There will be only one Middle Tennessee opportunity to take the Fourth Degree this coming year: Mar. 12, 2016 in Brentwood. Contact Bisell or Dave if you would like to participate.

### Prayer Requests

- Continued health of Michael McGivney Schachle
- The success of the Cathedral's Capital Campaign