



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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Greetings Brothers,

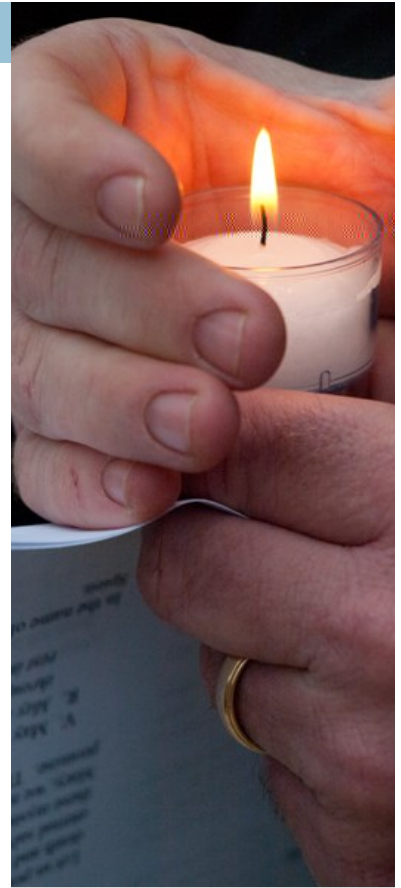
Let me begin by saying thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Grand Knight. I am humbled by the faith you have placed in me, and I am greatly encouraged by the enthusiasm and optimism you have shown for this great council's work in the year to come.

Our emphasis this year will be on *Fraternal Renewal* and *Membership Growth*. Pope Francis, in his message for the World Day of Peace 2014, writes: "Lively awareness of our relatedness helps us to look upon and treat each person as a true sister or brother; without fraternity it is impossible to build a just society and a solid and lasting peace." This recognition that fraternity must rest in the heart of good works is a lesson that our council has learned the hard way. It is well known that certain events in our council's recent history disrupted our fraternal unity, thus for a time damaging our reputation in the community and limiting our ability to run effective service programs. Thanks to the hard work of my predecessors those days are behind us. Though our council is much smaller now, we still have a strong core of faithful Knights who continue to see to the good work of our order. But we cannot rest there. There is much work to be done, and the long term witness of our order and our council is dependent upon our renewed commitment to one another, and in the growth of our membership to include all eligible men. The Holy Father has called for fraternal renewal in the Church, and as Supreme Knight Anderson observed, "The Knights of Columbus, the Church's largest fraternal organization, is uniquely positioned to answer this call."

As part of our council's focus on fraternity and growth, we are in the process of reevaluating our programming for the year. Historically successful programs will continue largely unchanged. Among these is the See's Candy sale, which under Terry's capable leadership has seen a consistent 12-13% year over year increase in revenue. Programs which have seen success in the past but have declined in recent years will be examined and either eliminated or reimagined in an effort to increase their effectiveness and to bring them more in line with our fraternal goals. The St Patrick's Day event is one of those which is up for adjustment (pg. 4). We will also be introducing new programs, with an emphasis on programs that promote family and fraternity, such as the Knights Night at the Sounds (pg. 5). Among these new programs we anticipate several which are quintessentially Columbian, such as the Free Throw Contest we will be hosting in January. By putting on events that are readily identifiable as belonging to the Knights of Columbus, we will not only help solidify our identity as Knights, but will simplify the work and thus multiply the effectiveness of each man-hour by drawing upon the materials and experience provided by Supreme.

With regard to growth, our call to expand our membership is twofold. First, it is essential to our ability to run effective service programs that we continue to grow our number of active

Continued on page 2



July / August 2014
Issue 1

Inside this issue

Grand Knight's Report	1
Upcoming Dates	2
Awards	2
Culture of Life Report	3
Officer Roster	3
Program Personnel.....	4
Programming Reports	4
Vocations Report.....	5
Event Photos	5
Financial Secretary Report.....	6

Highlights

- New Officers Listing
- Yes on 1 Campaign
- Fall Membership Blitz
- Event Photos

Continued from page 1

members. Second, we are incredibly blessed by the many benefits of our order and it is our duty to afford every Catholic man the opportunity to share in those same blessings. This is why our Supreme Knight has repeatedly instructed us that “Knights have nothing less than a moral obligation to offer every eligible Catholic man the opportunity and the privilege of membership in our Order.”

This call to active membership is, of course, about reaching out and bringing new members into the order (pg 4). However, it is also about bringing back those who are already part of our order and have simply been away for a while. For those who have been away, take a moment now and remember why you joined the Knights. Now think about what you are passionate about, and consider what one fraternal program meets that passion. With that in mind, allow me to ask a favor: *commit yourself to participating in one council program this year.* It doesn't have to be a big commitment, it can be something as simple as showing up for an event, or signing up for the rosary group and praying from home. If health, finances, transportation, or any other practical matter is your only limitation, please reach out to me or one of the other officers. We would be a poor fraternity indeed to let a brother go without a simple ride to church.

Thank you all for your faithfulness to the order and our council. I look forward to working with you to make this a most successful fraternal year.

Vivat Jesus

Bisell

“Fraternity is an essential human quality... Without fraternity it is impossible to build a just society and a solid and lasting peace.” - Pope Francis

Upcoming Dates

Council Meetings

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

Programming Meetings

4th Wednesday of the Month
7:00PM, Rm 303, St Albert Hall

San Gennaro Music Fest

September 20-21

Corporate Communion

Sep 27 or 28 - Time TBD

Titans Watch Party /

Membership Open House

October 19

See's Candy Sale

November 16 - December 22

July Awards

Knight of the Month - Mike Hosey

Brother Mike Hosey was with our council less than a year before his passing on June 14th, but in that short time he made a lasting impression on all who knew him. His passion for the Order and for serving his fellow man, most especially through the Room in the Inn program, made him a shining example of Christian Charity, the first and foundational principle of our order.

Family of the Month - The Walsh Family

The Walsh family represents 50 plus years and multiple generations of service to the Knight and to Council 544. Their continuing dedication to the Order and the Church should be a model for all new brothers.



August Awards

Knight of the Month - Andrew Lay

Andrew embodies the spirit of Fraternalism in our council. Years ago he helped establish one of our long running events, the St Patrick's Day Party. This year, as Council Director, he is working hard to grow that fraternalism in our council, starting with the very successful Knights Night at the Sounds in June.

Family of the Month - The Terry Hill Family

Terry and Alice Hill are always ready to help out wherever and whenever they are needed. No matter the type of event—be it fraternal, business, service or fundraising—if the Knights are involved, the Hills will be there to lend a hand and make sure it is successful.

Amendment 1 Needs Your Support

Submitted by Tony Grubbs,
Culture of Life Director & Yes on 1 Chair
615-970-8113, tkgrubbs@gmail.com

Please contact Culture of Life Chair Tony Grubbs for information on how you can become involved in the council's efforts to promote Yes on 1.

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

In 2000, Planned Parenthood sued our state saying the protections we had in place for abortions were a violation of a woman's privacy. In a radical TN Supreme Court 4-1 ruling we lost our common sense protections for abortion-vulnerable girls and women. Six million Tennesseans had no voice. Without these protections, thousands of unborn lives are needlessly lost each year in our state. Women come from all over to have abortions here because of our lack of regulations. We rank 3rd in the nation for percentages of out-of-state abortions and we are unable to require informed consent and unable to require that abortion facilities be licensed and inspected. The only way to save countless unborn lives is to amend our state constitution. This has been an onerous task, but we finally have the chance to restore our voices. With tireless efforts it has taken fourteen years after the horrific, murderous ruling.

In a state of emergency crisis we are reaching out to churches and supporters in an emergency plea for help to raise awareness and funds for pro-life Amendment 1 which is on the ballot this November. Through my work with the Yes On 1 campaign, I've sadly experienced many church leaders are reluctant to get involved since it's a legislative issue, but as Christ followers, Amendment 1 is a moral issue on the sanctity and protection of life-- it is a biblical command to stand and defend that which our God finds sacred and worthy of protection.

We are extremely grateful that Bishop Stika, along with his brother bishops in Nashville and Memphis, recently declared his "wholehearted full support in the effort of passing Amendment 1". I'm personally seeking your specific support of Amendment 1 because each of you are needed to change the course that is fated for thousands of innocent unborn lives each year in our state and for the health and wellness of the women and girls considering aborting them.

I urge you to speak out for life, to reach out to everyone you know and urge them to vote 'Yes on 1' on November 4th. Being silent empowers the enemy like nothing else. I'm praying continually that God penetrates your heart with true conviction to support Amendment 1 with your voice, your prayers and your generous gifts. We are in dire need of funding to fight the Goliath before us and are asking you now for immediate support. Please join as He commands us to stand for the weakest among us in this historic opportunity to glorify God in the highest and advance a culture of life in our beloved state.

- I sincerely thank you for making this a priority and I remain available to you to speak further.-

Jennifer Hicks
Yes On 1 Spokeswoman 615. 957.8282
Donate online: www.yeson1.org or by mail:
P.O. Box 111696 Nashville, TN 37222



Council Officers

Grand Knight

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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

Mike Latterell

Program Personnel

Program Director

DGK Ken Duncan

Church Director

vacant

Vocation Chair

Mark Cassman

Community Director

vacant

San Gennaro Coordinator

John Mitchell

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

Yes on 1 Campaign

Tony Grubbs

Hope Clinic Coordinator

Mike Latterell

Choose Life Sign

Stuart Littleton

Membership Director

Dave Johnson

Retention Chair

Ken Thomas

Fall Membership Blitz

Dave Johnson, Membership Director
615-585-3675, davejohnson2@comcast.net



Our Fall Membership Blitz will kick-off with a Corporate Communion the weekend of September 28th. We will attend Mass as a council with our families, and then meet up afterward to break bread together at a nearby restaurant. (Details TBA)

From the weekend of September 28th through the weekend of October 19th we will have bulletin and Mass announcements, as well as Knights in the Narthex and Fleming Center to hand out flyers, answer questions and take applications.

The main event will be a Titans Watch Party / Open House in the Fleming Center on the afternoon of October 19th. We'll have tailgate food and watch the Titans take on the Redskins on the big screen. Throughout the event we will also have presentations about the Knights and Council 544.

Dave Johnson has graciously agreed to reassume the position of Membership Director, but he would very much like to train someone new to take over the position in the near future. This Blitz would be the perfect opportunity to learn. If you would like to get involved in our efforts to grow the council this year, please reach out to Dave.

Degree Opportunities

If you have not yet completed your Second and/or Third Degree, please consider taking advantage of these upcoming dates to advance your membership. Contact GK Bisell or Membership Director Dave if you are planning to attend.

Second Degree

Christ the King - Hosted by Council 12256
Thursday, August 28th, 2014, 7:00PM

Third Degree

Holy Family - Hosted by Council 15234
Saturday, September 6, 2014, 10:00AM

San Gennaro Music Festival



The San Gennaro MusicFest, an Italian culture festival with Music City flair, will be September 20th & 21st at the Cathedral. These two days of nonstop music, authentic Italian food and drink will not only be a celebration of the Cathedral's 100th Anniversary, but will help raise much needed funds to support the Cathedral. Our council will be serving food and assisting with security for the event. Please contact John Mitchell, mitchell556@gmail.com or 813-504-3777 to volunteer.

St Patrick's Day Fundraiser

This year's St Patrick's Day event will be a reimagining of our classic fundraiser. With lower ticket prices and a more family friendly atmosphere we are seeking to open up the event to a much larger segment of the parish demographic. We believe that this will not only lead to a more successful event, but will prove to be more in keeping with this year's focus on fraternity and growth.

Knights Assist at Historic Ordination Mass

Mark Cassman, Vocations Chair

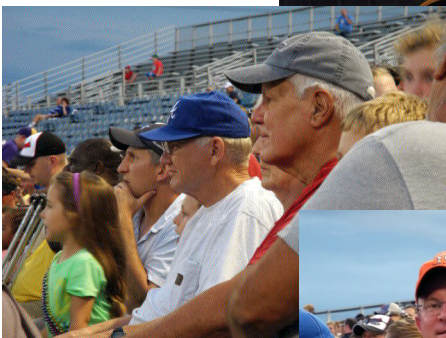
On July 26th, our parish celebrated two historic events. First was the 100th Anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral. Second was the ordination of nine men to the priesthood. Only once before has our diocese seen such a large class of priests, and that was when it covered all of Tennessee. Knights from 544 were on hand throughout the morning to provide security and crowd control for the event. Special thanks to Mark Cassman, Paul Ney, John Mitchell, Terry Hill, Jeff Duffield, Mike Latterell, Andy Gamble, Bisell McWilliams, Coplin Curtis, Tony Grubbs, Roy Silveira and Bryan Joyce for dedicating 5+ hours of their Saturday morning in service of the Church. Bishop Choby and Deacon McKenzie have both expressed their gratitude to the council for making sure that everything went smoothly.



“Thank you all for your participation in the Ordination Mass. The Bishop wanted me to pass along his personal appreciation for the work we did. I too would like to say thank you, for I could not have done it alone.” - Mark C., Vocations Chair

Night at the Sounds

Thank you to everyone who turned out for our fraternal night at the Sounds on June 29th. Everyone had a great time, and we look forward to more such evenings in the future. The event was planned by Andrew Lay and Terry Hill, and attendees included Andrew Lay, Terry Hill, Andy Gamble, Stuart Littleton, Coplin Curtis, Chris Crane, Dave Johnson, Bisell McWilliams, Dan Gibbons, Joe Bednar, Tony Grubbs and families.



Boy Scouts

Brother Dave Lavell instructs scouts from the Cathedral Boy Scouts in the finer points of the flag ceremony.



Ernest Plüs, Insurance Field Agent

At our last council meeting we met our new Insurance Agent, Brother Ernest Plüs. If you need to review your policies, or are considering getting one, please give Ernest a call today.

Ernest Plüs, PGK PFN FDD
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Financial Secretary's Report

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

Financial Secretary Chris Crane in working with our Treasurer Terry Hill and other council officers have outlined budget guidelines for the new year.

The last few years, the council has run a yearly operating deficit, forcing us to tap into historical savings to fund the year's events.

This is not sustainable, so effective this year:

- Our budget will be balanced. We won't spend more than we make.
- Council activity chairs will submit a preliminary budget at least 1 meeting prior to event for approval.
- Our primary sources of income for the year will be member dues (40%) and fundraising events (60%).
- Our spending will be allocated as State / Supreme Assessments (30%), Council Operations (20%), Fraternal Events (25%) and Charity (25%).
- Any surplus at year end will be donated or saved for the following year; any shortfalls will require additional fundraising.

Please direct any questions to the Financial Secretary.

Newsletter Delivery

Moving forward, all members with an email address on file will receive the newsletter by email only. Please be sure to add kofc544@gmail.com to your address book to ensure that council communications are not caught by your spam filter. Those without an email address will continue to receive a paper copy in the post. If you do not currently have an email on file with us, please send that info to kofc544@gmail.com. E-communications is more efficient and more economical.

Fraternal Calendar 2014 - 2015

- **July 26, 2014**
Priestly Ordination Mass at Cathedral
Knights provided security / crowd control
- **September 20-21, 2014**
San Gennaro Music Festival
Knights providing food service and security
- **September 27 or 28, 2014**
Corporate Communion
Council will attend Mass together, followed by a fraternal meal
- **September 27—October 16, 2014**
Membership Blitz
Mass announcements and tabling in the Narthex to promote membership
- **October 16th, 2014**
Titans Watch Party / Membership Open House
Titans watch party in the Fleming Center, with recruitment presentations
- **November 16—December 22, 2014**
See's Candy Sale
Sales after Sunday Masses, Nov 16, 23, 30;
Pickup after Sunday Masses, Dec 15, 22

More programs to be announced, so stay tuned.



In Memoriam

- **Brother Mike Hosey**
- **Mark Beal, brother of Chris Beal.**
- **Kathleen Wahl, wife of Larry Wahl.**

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.