



# Knights News

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



## Grand Knight's Report

SK Dave Johnson, Grand Knight

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Greetings Brothers,

It is my distinct pleasure to announce that we are an award winning council this fraternal year! I got to take a long walk to the big stage with inspirational music playing and 500 people cheering about the merit of our council. It was as proud as I've ever been of 544! Thank you gentlemen for being such an excellent example of faith and service to our families, church and community. We worked very hard for this well-deserved recognition and you are to be commended.

- Golf Tournament** - We had 3 teams (12 men) representing 544. This alone is a VERY strong showing!! One of our teams came in 3rd in the golf tournament.
- State Deputy Award** - This is the "get all your paperwork submitted" award! - Much appreciation to Bisell's vision and Chris and others' punctuality and accuracy on the many forms. There were more than 16 forms submitted accurately and on time
- Chaplain's Award** (We were one of 10 qualifying councils, out of 94 councils in TN)
  - \*Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Snow Shovel team
  - \*Rosary before meetings, special topics presented, Knights Corporate Communion
  - \*RSVP to support postulants, Solicit and meet clergy needs, and support vocation promotion
  - \*Food For Families (Room in the Inn, Parthenon Towers, Loaves and Fishes donations)
- Membership Award** (We were one of 10 qualifying councils, out of 94 councils in TN)
  - \*Organization - Membership, Retention and Admission Chairmen and Committee
  - \*Membership Drives - Shrimp Boil and Superbowl Parties
  - \*e-mail campaign to new prospects working a prospect spreadsheet
  - \*8 new members - we are on track to beat our goal of 11 new members with 3 new candidates and 2 inactive knights re-joining the order as 544 brothers.
- Community Service Award** (out of 94 councils in TN, 544 had the #1 Community Service Project for our Parthenon Towers Party) The winning application details are as follows:

*The brother knights of 544 hosted a party for 150 of the low income elderly and special needs tenants of the Parthenon Towers housing complex in inner city Nashville.*

*Promotional: The Annual Parthenon Towers Party, hosted by the Cathedral Parish Nurses and Council 544 will be Wednesday, December 7th. Parthenon Towers is a Metro Housing and Development Agency property, and is one of four in the area which provides affordable government assisted housing for the elderly and disabled. Each year our council partners with the Parish Nurses to host a Christmas party for the residents. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 4PM. The party starts at 5:30PM. Knight volunteers help to meet, greet and seat the residents for their dinner, as well as serving and cleanup. The nurses are in charge of the decorations, appetizers, drinks and deserts. This long-running event is the highlight of the year for many of the residents, and*

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March / April,  
Issue 5

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### Highlights

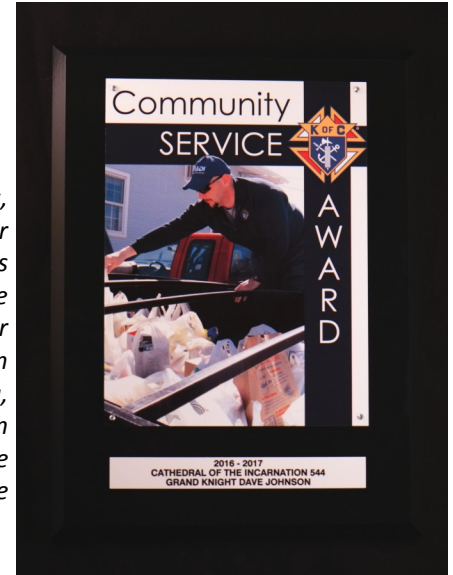
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## Grand Knight's Report

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*is always a blast for the volunteers. We hope to see you there.*

*We prepared and served a full BBQ pork and chicken meal including appetizers, entrees and dessert. The championship caliber BBQ was cooked as a group for over 14 hours. The party was coordinated in conjunction with the parish nurses who decorated, organized entertainment and filled gift bags with goodies for the tenants in need. Our pastor, Fr. Ed Steiner led the blessing and served as MC. Our associate pastor, Fr. Dan Steiner, with his restaurant background, was a boss in the kitchen. He pulled every bit of the chicken. There was great food, dancing, singing, and celebration. The room was filled with smiles and a massive success on several fronts. We engaged our religious leadership. Many parishioners were there serving together and building parish camaraderie. The needy recipients were blessed with a fun night of fellowship!*



We are on track for Star Council, needing just 3 more identified prospects to receive their Initiation and 2 more brothers to become insurance members by June 30th. We were only 3 measly criteria away from the Bishop's Award. We'll get this next year! The whole State of TN is doing better - TN is on track to achieve the State Circle of Honor for the 1st time in 6 years.

In conclusion, while this recognition is fantastic and very well deserved, there was not a single thing we have done this year that we haven't been doing for quite some time. We have only recently shifted our focus to spreading the word to the State and Supreme organizations about our awesomeness. I love you guys.

Vivat Jesus!  
Dave

### 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

#### Pancake Breakfast

May 7, 8:30 am  
Fleming Center

#### Program Meeting

May 7, 12:00 noon  
St Albert Hall, 3rd Floor

#### Council Meeting

May 10, 7 PM  
Room 305, St Albert Hall

## Annual Awards

### **Knight of the Year** - Terry Doherty

Terry has jumped right in with both feet. As a brand new knight, he decided he was well suited for membership coordinator and asked for the position. Even with no real sales experience, he has actively pursued and recruited many new knights. The council is on track to reach our annual membership goal for the first time in several years. Terry is a great listener and asks great questions. He is always upbeat and his enthusiasm is absolutely infectious. Terry was a major contributor to our Round Table Planning sessions. Terry dutifully attends all of the council events and is always accompanied by his beautiful family. He loves the knights and thinks joining is one of the best things he has ever done. He wants to provide everyone the opportunity to become a knight.

### **Family of the Year** - Terry Hill Family

Terry and Alice are positively one of the most active families at the Cathedral. Having Terry in charge of anything means that you actually have 2 people working diligently on the task at hand. Terry and Alice are a team and do EVERYTHING together! Furthermore, they dutifully attend everything they can. They organize an annual See's Candy sale involving the event marketing, product ordering, purchase, order taking and booth sales before and after masses for sales and delivery. They are present for every minute. They have raised over \$7,000 for the council and Cathedral Charities in the past 4 years.



## Membership Report

*Terry Doherty, Membership Director*

Congratulations and welcome to the newest members of our council; Brothers Ben Noll and Michael Beal, son of our esteemed Deputy Grand Knight Chris Beal. Both of them joined on April 8<sup>th</sup> during an excellent first-degree exemplification (now officially called the "Admission Degree") held at our very own Cathedral. Along with them were three new members to the Vanderbilt council, making for a very successful day for the Knights. Ben is in Software sales and is originally from the great city of St. Louis Missouri, where undoubtedly we get some of our best Knights. As a 6'7" man who used to play for the St. Louis Rams, he is hard to miss! Michael is finishing up his Senior year at Franklin High School. At 18 years old and having a recent ACT score of 35 (highest is 36), he is likely to enter our order as not only the youngest Knight, but also the smartest! We are so glad to have them both.



With the addition of Ben and Michael, the total number of new Knights for this fraternal year at #544 is brought to 9, leaving us only 2 shy of the 11 needed to achieve the prestigious Star Council status. These last 2 members will likely be added to our council in the next few months. Several men who are finishing RCIA and becoming full members of our Catholic community have reached out to us and expressed a true interest in joining our ranks. I have met with them and hope to invite them to some of our upcoming events like the Pancake Breakfast on May 7<sup>th</sup>. I will be unable to attend that particular event, but I know that after meeting and interacting with the members of our great council, they will feel right at home and further pursue their admission. However, please do not

lessen any efforts to continue recruiting and sending me those names! Thanks again to all those brothers who have brought us the names of the men that have already joined us this year. The next local Admission Degree is unfortunately not until June 12 at St. Henry. There are a few that are taking place as close as Ashland City (May 14<sup>th</sup>) which we could potentially utilize if need be.

For those seeking the 2<sup>nd</sup> (Formation) degree or 3<sup>rd</sup> (Knighthood) degree, there are also unfortunately no dates listed on the state website through the rest of the year. I am sure that will change. I will communicate with our District Deputy and keep everyone up to date.

Vivat Jesus,  
Terry

## Pancake Breakfast

The Cathedral Knights Council will be hosting a pancake breakfast on May 7th in the Fleming Center. Breakfast is served from 8:30am - 11am. This is way more than just pancakes. There will also be hash browns bacon, eggs biscuits and gravy. So, be ready for a breakfast feast. The proceeds will be to benefit our council's adopted Dominican Postulant, Sister Sesilia Taufaa from Australia in residence at the St. Cecelia Dominican Motherhouse. Cost is \$8 per person, \$25 per family.

## Council Officers

### Grand Knight

Dave Johnson  
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615-585-3675

### Deputy Grand Knight

Chris Beal  
the5beals@gmail.com  
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### Financial Secretary

Chris Crane  
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617-869-6345

### Chancellor

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

### Recorder

Dan Gibbons

### Treasurer

Terry Hill

### Advocate

Frank Steiner

### Warden

Roy Silveira

### Inside Guard

Stuart Littleton

### Outside Guard

Tony Roberts

### One Year Trustee

John Mitchell

### Two Year Trustee

Mark O'Neill

### Three Year Trustee

Bisell McWilliams



## Program Personnel

### Program Director

DGK Chris Beal

### Church Director &

### Vocations Chair

Tom Costa

### Community Director

Chad Wilhelm

### San Gennaro Coordinator

Chad Wilhelm

### Council Director

Andrew Lay

### Family Director

Mark O'Neill

### Youth Director

Stuart Littleton

### Boy Scout Leader

Dave Lavell

### Culture of Life Director

Roy Silveira

### Choose Life Sign

Stuart Littleton

### Membership Director

Terry Doherty

### Committee Members

Tom Costa

Tony Roberts

Ian Turnbull

### Retention Chair

Ken Thomas

### Committee Members

Trustees of Council 544

### Webmaster &

### Newsletter Editor

Bisell McWilliams

## Postulants' Dinner

Council 544 was well represented at this year's Postulants Dinner by the Pohlid, Doherty, Johnson, and Hill families. They were blessed to share a table with our adopted postulant, Sister Sesilia Tuafaa. During the event, GK Dave Johnson had the pleasure of awarding Council 544's Knight of the Year to Terry Doherty, and Family of the Year to Terry & Alice Hill.

The council's cake—provided by the Johnsons—sold for \$1,400, and our table purchased a dessert for \$1,100 (with \$600 of that coming generously from the pockets of our attendees to supplement the council's budgeted \$500 donation). All told, the event raised over \$18,000 in support of the Dominican Sisters.



Left to Right (Standing) Kathleen & Roman Pohlid, Terry & Nicole Doherty, Meg & Dave Johnson (Seated) Sr Sesilia Tuafaa, Alice & Terry Hill



# 114th Tennessee State Convention

From April 28th—30th, GK Dave Johnson and PGK Bisell McWilliams joined 130 other delegates, representing 74 of Tennessee’s 94 councils at the 114th Tennessee State Convention. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with brothers from across the state to celebrate the successes of the past fraternal year, and to share ideas and lessons as we plan for the coming year.



PGK Bisell McWilliams takes notes during a business session. GK Dave isn’t AWOL, he’s just hard at work in a break-out committee.



GK Dave Johnson (far right) hard at work on the Appropriations & Per Diem Committee.



GK Dave Johnson catching up on council business during a break in the election meetings on Sunday.



PGK Bisell McWilliams & Amanda McWilliams



## Field Agent's Report

*SK Stephen Regan, FICF*

Brothers,

Do you know anyone whose life or career has drastically changed during these years of economic downturn? It's very likely that someone in your immediate or extended family or group of friends is facing financial uncertainty. Maybe there's a possibility that you (or your spouse) could change employers, or even lose your job.

Too many people have often relied on group term life insurance as their only safety net. Often, this insurance is an employee benefit provided at low or no cost. The existence of this coverage might convince someone that personally-owned life insurance is not necessary.

But only having "through work" insurance can leave you and your family vulnerable. Most group life insurance policies are limited in amount, which may be tied to salary or some other benchmark. These numbers are often capped, and this cap may be dangerously low when compared to your family's actual needs. In fact, a detailed needs analysis that evaluates your specific situation, will likely show that any employer-provided coverage falls short.

In addition, the amount of group insurance offered is almost always reduced, sometimes dramatically, when you retire. You could one day find yourself without coverage, and if your health has changed (which it will as you age), you might also find yourself unable to secure individual protection. At the very least, it will definitely be more expensive.

While group life insurance can help, it does not replace the need for individually owned life insurance. I'll be happy to meet with you and provide a no-cost needs analysis, so you'll know exactly where you stand.

Vivat Jesus!

Stephen



**SK Stephen Regan, FICF**

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## Council 544 Necrology 2016-2017

William C. O'Connor

Peter J Coode

William C Gregory

Richard McHenry

John Damberg

Richard A Francis

Richard E Arnold

Michael W Spray

## Fourth Degree Opportunities

The only remaining Middle Tennessee opportunity to take the Patriotic (Fourth) Degree this fraternal year is November 4th, 2017 in Clarksville. The next Nashville ceremony is April 14th, 2018. Contact GK Dave or Membership Director Terry if you would like to participate.



### Prayer Requests

- **Health and Healing for Bishop David Choby**
- **Health and Healing for Brother Ken Thomas**
- **For the repose of all departed brothers of Council 544**
- **For the Holy Father's intentions**