



VOLUME I, ISSUE I



The Meridian Knight

March 2017



Council Officers

Chaplain - Fr Matthew Simmons

Grand Knight - David Viger

Deputy Grand Knight - David Klutz

Financial Secretary - Richard Norman

Chancellor - Robert (Bob) Leo , PGK

Treasurer - John Harwell

Advocate - Roland Stewart

Recorder - Frank Polizzi, PGK

Lecturer - John Bennett, PGK

Warden - Howard McCarty

Inside Guard - Frank Sharp

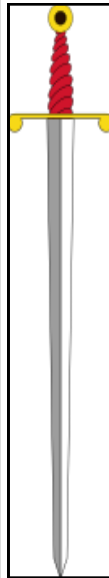
Outside Guard - David Stephens

Trustees

Patrick J (PJ) Carter, PGK

John Maloney, Sr., PGK

Mouise Richards, PGK



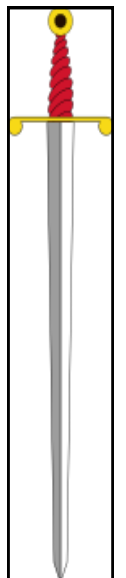
The Main Principles of
Our Order are

Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism



Newsletter Editor

George Walston

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PROTECTING FAMILIES FOR GENERATIONS



We Thank You Lord for all that
you give us freely

**Chaplain
Fr. Matthew
Simmons**



*Please continue to pray
for vocations. We Need
more priests*

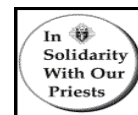
**Grand Knight
Dave Viger**



During the month of March, it is natural for us at St. Patrick to focus on our patron saint. This year, we will celebrate the feast with festivity in part due to the ordination of our Brother Knight, Mr. Nick Adam. I do want us to focus as well on the patron of St. Joseph parish during this month which includes one of his feast days. God entrusted to St. Joseph the custody of His Son. Since the Son is the Word of God, we can follow the model of St. Joseph in enriching our lives by the Word of God.

We are responsible to teach the Word to the next generation and make sure that the Word is revered in our homes. St. Joseph gives us a model as well of the dignity of work and the importance of work in support of families. Through his intercession, we can pray for adequate work and wages for those families in need. From the Gospel account of the presentation of Jesus in the temple and the sacrifice they made there, we get the sense that St. Joseph and St. Mary lived a simple life. Simplifying our lives helps us to focus on God and deepen our faith in His provision. We are less likely to trust in ourselves and have more time to spend developing our relationship with God in Jesus Christ. During this season, we ask for the intercession of this saint as we strive to be good men in our families and parishes.

Fr Matthew



Brother Knights,

I want to extend a sincere “Congratulations!” to our Brother Knights who participated in the Knighting Degree – Brothers Frank Washington, Trey Grissett, Chad Lint, Tyler Oakes and Joe Birzer completed their journey to full Knighthood in our Order! I also want to thank the Brother Knights who made the trip with me to Starkville to show their support at the degree! They were Rick Norman, PJ Carter, PGK, John Kasper, PGK, Larry Birzer, and Bob Leo, PGK

As most of you know, the 113th State Convention will be held in Tupelo April 28th through the 30th. Our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight Dave Klutz will be working with each of the Program Directors to get the end of the year write-ups done. We will also be selecting our Knight and Family of the Year to represent our Council at the convention. We have several well deserving Knights and Families – picking one of each will not be an easy task!

March 1st is Ash Wednesday, the first day of lent and a time for each of us to renew our baptismal commitment! In our Holy Father’s Lenten message, he made three very special points for all of us to remember: **1. The other Person is a gift.; 2. Sin blinds us.; and 3. The Word is a Gift.** You can read and reflect more on Pope Francis’ full Lenten message online at

<https://www.catholicv.com/blog/pope-francis-message-lent>

I pray that God will continue to Bless you, your families and our country!

Vivat Jesus!

Dave Viger



Lets give a great big welcome and congratulations to our five newest Knights who have advanced to Full Knighthood in the 3rd Degree

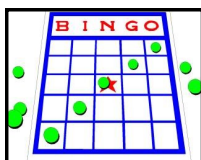
L to R: Tyler Oakes, Chad Lint, Joe Birzer, Trey Grissett, and Frank Washington

*Gentlemen, you are now in a position to run for any officer position in our council that tickles your fancy.
Welcome again to all of you . (Editor)*

Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage

<http://www.kofc802.org>

Bingo
Bob Leo, PGK



We have just received our new license to operate our bingo program for another three (3) years. I would like to thank everyone involved who filled out the required documents to help in obtaining the new license. I know what an inconvenience it was for you, and I thank you very much.

On a more serious note, we had a problem at one of our bingo sessions, we received a counterfeit fifty dollar bill, it was an old looking wrinkled up and creased bill, you would never suspect it to be counterfeit, but it was, when I brought it to the bank it was discovered.

I am asking each floor worker or any worker that handles money, to be on the lookout for these bills, especially \$100.00, \$50.00 and \$20.00 bills. If a customer hands you a \$100.00, or a \$50.00 bill please direct them to bring it to the office window cashier, we have purchased a machine that will verify if the bill is authentic or not, DO NOT bring it to the window yourself, as we need to be able to identify the person, and take possession of the bill.

Again I would like to thank Brother Knights Tyler Oakes and Chris Foster, on the great job they are doing in making up the Intermission and Special packs. Remember that they are saving the council numerous hours so that we won't have to have pack parties. When you see these two young brother Knights give them a big thank you.

Bob Leo
Bingo Manager

Council
Taupule' (Tau) Iosia



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Knights and their families who helped with the Super Bowl party and Sweetheart night. Comments about the events have been positive. In addition, between the two events, we raised over \$1,300 for priest education.

March 17th I will be asking for help for Nick Adam's ordination as a deacon at St Patrick. I'm asking for 7 servers to help portion out the menu, salad, and desserts that evening. The church bulletin will have more information.

Again, thank you for all the support.

Tau

March Birthdays



1st Thomas Carl & Mayo Osorio **3rd** Ken Napierkowski **6th** Terry Lanterman & John Maloney, PGK

7th Marvin Nance **9th** Gary Koca & Robert Kochanski **15th** Minh Duong **19th** William Vollar



21st Russell Huntley **28th** Bob Connor & Frank Washington **29th** Patrick Quito **31st** David Henson



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**4th Degree
John Harwell**



As we move into March and the beginning of Lent, do you remember our late President and Brother Knight, John Kennedy's famous quote "*ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country*"? I had a thought as I pondered on it. This Lent, let us ask not what God can do for us but what can we do for God. Each day I plan to ask that question. Maybe I can do something better, or maybe I can do something differently and be a better contributor to my family, church and community. Hopefully, each day I can better serve Christ.

Looking back, we held our flag raising on Monday, the 20th, at St. Patrick Cemetery. This on again, off again, on again, event has a nice story behind it. I had cancelled it because the rope on the flag pole was broken. On Sunday, the 19th, SK Roland Stewart went by the cemetery to check the flag pole. While he was there, Ralph Walters was walking his dogs around the cemetery. Ralph suggested that Roland check with Innovative Fabrications on B Street. Later, Roland went by there and Zane Royal, the owner, was in his shop. As Roland was explaining what he needed, Zane's phone rang. On the other end was Steve LaBiche. During the conversation, Zane mentioned what Roland needed. Steve asked Zane who was with him and Zane told him it was Roland Stewart. Steve spoke a few more sentences and when they hung up, Zane said "I am getting my lift

ready and will head out to the cemetery, but we will need some manpower to move this lift. We then put out several texts to anyone who could come out to the cemetery to help. The following people came; SK Roland Stewart, SK David Viger (GK), BK Tyler Oakes, SK David Stephens, Steve LaBiche, and his son Maurice. Getting the lift from the road up to the flag pole and back down proved to be a difficult task. It involved 3 different trucks, a four wheeler, going first forward and later in reverse along with some manual labor. Roots were cut, dirt was dug out along the slope and such. A 3 minute job at the pole of putting the new rope up was in total about a 2 hour job. Zane let Maurice ride with him in the boom up to the top (about 30 feet). I think Maurice enjoyed the ride quite a lot.

A big thank you to Zane Royal for providing his lift at no cost on a Sunday, when his shop was closed, Roland Stewart for his initiative in making this happen and the guys who helped at the cemetery. I said later that this was a "God Thing" as too many things happened in just the right time to be just a coincidence. I will give Zane a plug here. His business is Innovative Fabrications , 1110 B Street in Meridian. His phone number is 601 485 1400. Please call on him if you ever need that type of assistance. Last but not least, I did tell Father Matt that we

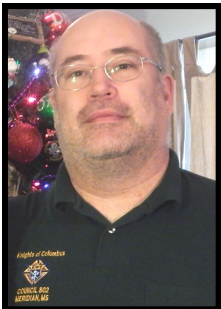
would not bill the parish for the landscaping performed at the cemetery. LOL. After all of this was completed on Sunday, we were then able to reschedule the flag ceremony which did happen on Monday at 8:00am. The following people were present: David and Adrian Viger, Roland Stewart, Donna White and her daughter, Christy and her granddaughter Gracie, Nelda Bennett (John was ill), Teresa LaBiche, PJ Carter, John Harwell, Bob Leo, Dewayne Klutz and Tiffany Browning. Tiffany played a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem on her flute as the flag was being raised. Thank you Tiffany!! At 5:00pm, Tom Zettler, Bob Leo, Roland Stewart and I retired the colors.

In March, the Honor Guard will participate in Nick Adam's Diaconate ceremony at 6:00pm on March 17th at St. Patrick Church. If you are in the honor guard and wish to participate, please contact Commander Bob Leo. We are excited and looking forward to this special day. With that, I hope you all have a good March.

Faithful Navigator
John Harwell
1 COR 12 4-7



**Dep Grand Knight
Dave Klutz**



Don't Give up Chocolate, become a better Catholic. By the time you read this we will have begun our Lenten journey towards Easter. The season of Lent is about our baptismal journey. It leads us to a deeper understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, laying down our lives in some small ways, as we follow Jesus through the Paschal Mystery.

The readings in the Sunday liturgies especially give us the opportunity to remember how God has worked through time calling his people to salvation and fulfilling his promise in Jesus Christ. It is a time of personal penance, caring for others, and listening more attentively to the readings from Scripture that bring alive today God's intention for the world.

Visit <http://dynamiccatholic.com/catholic-moments/lent-easter/> for ideas on Lent and to learn more about our Lenten traditions.

Dave Klutz
Deputy Grand Knight

Congratulations to the Following Honorees



January Knight of the Month
Frank Washington



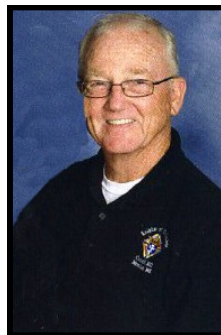
January Family of the Month
Bridget and John Harwell



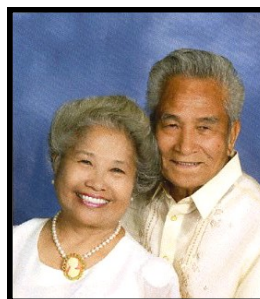
Knight of the Quarter
October, November, December
Darrell Hover



Council 802 Knight of the Year 2016
Howard McCarty



Council 802 Family of the Year 2016
Liberty and Salvador (Sal) Moreno



Assembly 1251 and State
Sir Knight of the Year 2016
Salvador (Sal) Moreno



Please Congratulate these Knights and their Ladies when you see them

Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage

<http://www.kofc802.org>

**Pro Life
Darrell Hover**



Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion in our lifetime

Brother Knights

As a reminder, the 40 Days for Life campaign started on March 1st and will run through April 9th. Please join us in prayer and fasting. Our local Kickoff Event for 40 Days for Life is on March 1st beginning at noon on the corner of N. State St. & Fondren Place in Jackson. I will ask you to pray a short prayer during each business meeting during this time.

The following was taken in part from the 40 Days for Life newsletter: The president of the Pontifical Academy for Life, Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, visited the 40 Days for Life headquarters in Bryan, Texas -- the former Planned Parenthood abortion center that now serves as our offices -- and said that what you're doing is a "work of miracles."

This was the first time Archbishop Paglia had visit-

ed a former abortion center. He said the place was once a "house of pain and great trouble, and especially great loneliness" ... but it has been transformed into a "house of life."

The Pontifical Academy for Life is the Vatican office that serves as a voice for the sanctity of human life. As the Pope's appointed representative, Archbishop Paglia is the Catholic Church's authority on life issues ... and his visit was a great honor.

Archbishop Paglia gave 40 Days for Life his official endorsement last fall, after learning about the effort that he described as "life blooming like a flower." He complimented 40 Days for Life for "working with all Christians to share the love of Jesus Christ to change hearts and minds. Changing laws is not enough; we must change hearts and minds."

Upcoming events: The annual Pro-Life Spring Banquet at First Baptist Church, Jackson is on Thursday April 6th. The Walk for Life campaign will be held in Jackson on June 10th, 2017. Biking for Babies takes place from July 11-16th pedaling over 2,500 miles on four routes to raise awareness and support for pregnancy resource centers across the country. Any takers?

God bless each of you. Have a great day every day. LIFE IS A GIFT.

Darrell Pro-Life

**Community
Roland Stewart**



We had our February visit to EMSH on Thursday, February 23rd. The theme for this visit was Mardi Gras. We gave the residents Mardi Gras beads and served them ice cream and cake. Fun was had by all. Please give some thought to joining us on March 23rd, at 6:00 pm, as we continue our visits to these men and women. I can guarantee that you will get much more out of these visits than you put into them.

I would like to thank Bob Leo, his granddaughter Lauren, Tom Zettler, David Stephens, Eric Ross, Frank Polizzi and Dewayne Klutz for joining me in this very important function of our council. If I have missed anyone, please forgive me.

Roland

As mentioned above, our next visit is on March 23rd, at 6:00 pm. Also, I would like to let you know that from now on, we will refer to these visits as being to The Pines at East Mississippi. That is the new name for the Nursing Home.

Roland

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<http://www.kofc802.org>

**Youth
????????????**



(From the Editor:) As Brother Dave Klutz stated in the February Newsletter, it has come time for him to step down from this “temporary” position as the “Acting” Youth Director for our council.

It is with a great deal of admiration and appreciation that I say to David; “Job well done good and faithful servant”. Maybe someone else will step up to the plate and take on the responsibility of our council’s Youth Chairman.

It is a crying shame that a council our size can’t find five knights to serve as directors. You may not notice, but there is another directorship not in this Newsletter, and that is our Family Director. Our thanks go out to Bob Leo, PGK for faithfully serving in this capacity for the past several years.

We have brought in quite a few new members in the past year or two, and yet no one has made the decision or effort to actively participate in our council’s activities.

As Dave mentioned in the February NL, the following upcoming activities will not take place unless someone steps up to the plate.

- Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest**
- Free Throw Contest**
- Easter Egg Hunt**

George Walston, Ed

**Seminarians Corner
Deacon Nick Adam**



Brother Knights,

Thank you so much for swiftly and generously responding to my request to house so many seminarians for the evening of my ordination. A special thanks to Grand Knight Dave Viger and Brother John Harwell for helping me spread the word.

Reflecting upon this year of my formation I have realized that so much of what I have learned in the past five years is now being put into practice. When I began my time in the seminary I remember being struck dumb when I was told that it would take 6-8 years of education to become a priest, but now I realize that this time is a gift. It is a gift because the formation staff at the seminary has to teach us 2,000 years’ of doctrine, spiritual and liturgical practice, and pastoral applications, and they have to do it in *only* 6-8 years.

In the past few months I’ve noticed that I have been teaching much more, and not just in formal settings. I have been teaching catechumens every week in a local parish, and I have been talking with fallen away Catholics on airplanes. I have been helping to register new parishioners in a diocesan database, and I have been answering the questions of a curious non-Catholic Christian on the street corner. I tell you this just to say that formation works. The investment that has been made into my education by all the faculty and staff at Notre Dame Seminary is paying off. The money that people and organizations (like the KCs) generously give for priest education works, and I am so thankful for it. As I prepare for diaconate ordination, I know that there is still plenty of work to do and even after I am completely done with school my education will never end. The Lord always urges us on and I pray that I will continue to grow until the day I die, but I’ve just noticed that my education has made a turn from a passive education to a very active one, and I am so excited to continue to use what I have learned in the parish following ordination!

- Nick

Please continue to pray for vocations. We Need more priests

**Membership
David Stephens**



Brother Knights,

I trust you all took my advice and recognized your Special Sweetheart on Valentine’s Day. Our next Membership Drive is planned for the weekend of March 11th & 12th after each Mass. As stated the last time we had a drive, we will need “A Few Good Men” to assist with recruitment during that weekend. Let me know if you are willing to help after one or more of the Masses (601-938-5757). “Membership is truly a team effort!” Let’s Go Team!!!

Exemplifications in March:

- 3rd Degree – Saturday, March 11th, 12:00-3:00 p.m.; D’Iberville
- 2nd Degree – Saturday, March 18th, 10:10-1:00 p.m.; Natchez
- 1st Degree – Tuesday, March 21st, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; KC Hall, Meridian

We had our last **First Degree Exemplification** on **Tuesday, February 21st** where we welcomed Ryan Sidlovsky into our council. **Our next First Degree Exemplification is scheduled for March 21st** – there is still plenty of time to recruit potential Knights to join us!

All of you 1st and 2nd Degree Knights, please contact GK David Viger and let him know if you wish to be a candidate for either the 2nd or 3rd Degree Exemplification listed above.

Additionally, Knights planning on attending and observing any of the out of town Degree Exemplifications should notify Grand Knight David Viger of your intentions.

As always, we are “*in search of*” new members. Seek out those who you believe might be interested and qualified, then plant a seed...

All who continue to help recruit new members, thank you!

Fraternally,

David Stephens,

Membership Director

**Church
Sal Moreno**



Fast and Abstinence Rules for Lent:
Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, March 1st**

Abstinence: All persons who have completed their fourteenth year are bound by the law of abstinence, Which means that a person is bound to abstain beginning the day after one’s fourteenth birthday. The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat and foods prepared with meat or meat by-products

Fast: All adults are bound by the law of fast from the beginning of their nineteenth year up to the beginning of their sixtieth year. The law of fast means that adults are bound to fast from the day after their eighteenth birthday until the end of the day of the fifty-ninth birthday. The law of fast allows only one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of a day, and prohibits eating between meals.

In the United States, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence only.

Exceptions: Women who are pregnant and persons who are sick are not bound by the law of fast.

The Lenten season has been for the last few years a busy time for the Knights of council 802. Stations of the Cross, First Communion, Confirmation, and the RCIA breakfast are some of the things that we have been doing and sponsoring. However, this year we are limited to doing only a few activities due to some changes in our church schedule and activities. As of now, our church program schedule is to sponsor an RCIA breakfast on Saturday morning, April 8. I hope you all have a Blessed Lent.

Sal Moreno
601-681-6111

Please continue to pray for vocations. We Need more priests



March 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Please wish a Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 3	 Abortion Kills the Innocent	 Please continue to pray the Rosary for an end to Abortion in our lifetime	 1 Ash Wednesday  Bingo 6pm	 2 Adoration 12 Noon til 8 pm	 3 Stations of the Cross and Fish Fry St. Patrick 6pm	4
5	6	 7 1st Degree Business Meeting 7:30pm	 8 Bingo 6pm	 9 Adoration 12 Noon til 8pm KC Council 802	 10 Stations of the Cross and Fish Fry St Joseph 6pm	11 3rd Degree D'Iberville Membership Drive after 5pm Mass at St Patrick (Need Help)
12 Membership Drive After 8:30 Mass at St Joseph and 11 o'clock Mass at St Patrick (Need Help)	13	 14 2nd Degree Team Practice 6PM	 15 Bingo 6pm	 16 Adoration 12 Noon til 8 pm	 17 St. Patrick's Day Deaconate Ordination of Nick Adam 6pm St. Patrick Church	18 2nd Degree Natchez
19	20	 21 1st Degree Exemplification 6:30pm if applicant Business Meeting Follows at 7:30pm	 22 Bingo 6pm	 23 EMSH Visitation 6pm Adoration 12 Noon til 8 pm	 24 Stations of the Cross St. Patrick 6pm	25
26	27 <u>April Newsletter Deadline</u>	 28 4th Degree Meeting 7:30pm	 29 Bingo 6pm	 30 Adoration 12 Noon til 8 pm	 31 Stations of the Cross St. Joseph 6pm	