

The Silver Knight News

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State Deputy's Message



Worthy Brothers and Sir Knights,

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to the Knights of Columbus mission in the Nevada jurisdiction. Your dedication to serving Catholic parishes, communities, and families is both inspiring and humbling.

As we reflect on October's accomplishments, let's recognize the dedication the Knights have to uplifting those in need. Your willingness to offer your many talents, prayers, and kindness during these times of uncertainty has had a profound impact on the many. By conducting discrete acts of service, solidarity continues

Continued next page

The Silver Knight Newsletter is a production of the Knights of Columbus Nevada State Council

Editor: David Varon
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Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.

Viktor E. Frankl

State Deputy's Message

to prosper in our shared mission. This year's guiding principle is **"For the Good of the Order,"** both a rallying cry and a solemn commitment that transcends all minor disagreements, personality conflicts, and well-intentioned protocol errors.

Prioritizing a Council's well-being compels membership to align daily efforts with this simple principle: putting the Good of the Order ahead of all other interests. This fraternal year's theme returns us back to the basics: prioritizing service to others over self. As members of the world's largest Catholic men's fraternal organization, being in the Knights of Columbus transcends any secular notion of being "just another social men's club." Knights are practicing Catholic men who are united by a shared charitable spirit, strong fraternal bonds, patriotism, and a staunch commitment to human dignity of life during all stages. This includes supporting the rights of the unborn, caring for elderly shut-ins, protecting the poor, and defending widows and orphans. As Knights, we are obligated to support our priests, nurture vocations, and build up fellow Catholic men by leveraging the outstanding "Cor" initiative.

During November, please recommit yourself to being a prominent witness to the "Good of the Order" as apostles of Christian family life who are inspired by our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney. **Strongly encourage Catholic men who are not Knights to join our order. The world urgently needs more Knights during these very challenging times.**

Vivat Jesus!

David M. Clarke
State Deputy
Nevada State Council
Knights of Columbus

Message from Regional Growth Director

Brothers and Leaders,

As we put a bow on the first quarter of this Fraternal Year and move into the second, it is a good time to evaluate where we are and what we are doing, so we can plan for where we want to be and what we need to do to be successful this Fraternal Year.

On the Council level, does Supreme have your Officers, Directors and Chairmen on file so we can communicate the tools and information you and they have available to make your job easier?

Is your Council Safe Environment Compliant?

Has your Council contacted your Fraternal Benefit Agent to schedule a parish-wide Fraternal Benefit Event? Has it been published to the parish?

Have your Program Directors and Chairmen published a calendar of upcoming events so our members and the parish can plan to attend?

Has your Membership Team scheduled and published your upcoming opportunities for new members and their families to join our Family (CUF Degrees) AND are we recruiting TO those events?

Finally, have each one of us, Supreme, State, District and Council member, asked just one eligible Catholic man and his family to attend one of our events, participate in one of our activities and finally to join our Order yet this year?

If the answer to any of these questions is “no” or even “not yet”, when will it happen? If not now, then when and if not each one of us, then who?

Remember – EARLY IS EASY

Fraternally,

Chuck Davlin

Regional Growth Director – West

Chuck.Davlin@kofc.org

203-500-1302

Forces beyond your control can take away everything you possess except one thing, your freedom to choose how you will respond to the situation.

Viktor E. Frankl

Message from the EFF Director

"Calling the Men Who Aren't Here"

Brothers, I want to talk about something that's been weighing on my heart.

Too often, when we Knights gather in council or assembly meetings, the Grand Knight or Faithful Navigator tells us that we don't do enough, we must step up and do more, etc.

But we're the men who are here. Why are we being scolded? Then we end up talking about the men who don't show up. We say, "Men don't lead anymore. Men don't pray. Men don't step up." And while that may be true -- that's not us. We show up!

You're here. You do show up. You're leading, serving, fighting to grow closer to Christ.

So, let's stop spending our time talking about the men who aren't doing enough and start strategizing how to reach them. Because sitting around talking about "what's wrong with men" won't change a thing. But a group of men on fire for God, united in purpose, can ignite a parish.

Let's shift from complaint to commission. Jesus didn't waste time complaining about who wasn't following Him. He looked at the ones who were with Him and said, "Go." He sent them out two by two to call others in. That's our mission too. We are not victims of a passive culture; we are ambassadors of Christ's kingdom.

So instead of asking, "Why don't men come?" let's ask, "How do we go get them?"

Who in your circle needs a personal invitation, a word of encouragement, or simply a brother to walk with?

Let's start building bridges, not walls. Men who aren't involved often feel one of three ways: unworthy, unneeded, or uninvited. Maybe they've drifted, failed, or been burned by hypocrisy. Our job is not to judge them, but to reach out to them.

Continued next page

*When we are no longer
able to change a
situation - we are
challenged to change
ourselves.*

Viktor E. Frankl

Message from the EFF Director

Saint Paul said, "I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some." That means we meet men where they are -- on the job site, at the gym, in the pew after Mass. We don't need a new program; we need personal outreach.

Let's inspire by example. Men follow strength, authenticity, and conviction. If we want other men to join us, they need to see something real in us: joy, purpose, courage, and brotherhood. They should look at us and say, "Whatever those guys have... I want that." So yes, let's be the men who show up, but let's also be the men who bring others with us.

Brothers, the harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. You are the few.

God has placed you here not to talk about what's missing, but to mobilize the mission. Let's turn our conversations from criticism into creativity. Let's plan outreach, form mentorships, and invite one man at a time.

Because the truth is -- the men who aren't in attendance, won't just wander in. But they will follow the example of men who stand firm in faith, act with love, and lead with courage.

So, let's stop talking about men not doing enough and start being the men who call the rest back to battle. I challenge each one of you to find one man, a fallen Knight or a man in the parish or whoever in the next 30 days and personally invite him to some Knights of Columbus event. Go after that one lost sheep and report back what you found. Godspeed brothers.

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Melton PGK

DD13

Evangelization, Faith Formation Director

Nevada State Council

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*Life is not primarily a
quest for pleasure, as
Freud believed, or a
quest for power, as
Alfred Adler taught,
but a quest for meaning.
The greatest task for any
person is to find meaning
in his or her own life.*

Viktor E. Frankl

Note from State Historian

“Respect Life Month” *Schedule More Exemplifications!*

Council updates are as follows:

- I continue to be in contact with our District Deputies and Grand Knights to make sure each Council has a respective Council Historian, for this new Columbian year and going forward. The Council Historian will assist the State Historian in reaching into the respective Council archives for access to the noteworthy events or activities of the Council and Brother Knights. In some Councils this role will reside with the Grand Knight, due to the size of Council membership. Please be prepared to discuss who is best suited for this position on your Council. As always, this is your chance to tell and record your Council’s continuing story!
- In concert with Worthy State David M. Clarke and myself, we recommend Councils setting up a “cloud based” storage system for each Council’s records, photos, activity accounting, etc. The continuity of record keeping can then be documented/updated over the continuing “Columbian Year” by the Council Historian.
- Please use my email address: jmichael_brady@att.net to assist in adding any historic documentation, as indicated above, to capture the Nevada State history of our Fraternal Order. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with you, my Brother Knights

*Decisions, not conditions,
determine what a man is.*

Viktor E. Frankl

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Remember: The message Blessed Michael McGivney continues to have for us, that we carry on the work he began 143 years ago, when he gathered a group of Catholic men in the basement of St. Mary’s Church in New Haven, CT.

Continue to Celebrate Father Michael J. McGivney’s “Blessed” status!

KofC's Coats for Kids Program - Nevada



Program Overview:

The Coats for Kids program was launched in 2009 by the Knights of Columbus to provide new winter coats to children in need, particularly in cold climates. Since its inception, the program has grown into one of the most visible charitable activities of the Order. By 2023, the program had distributed over one million coats across the United States and Canada. In November 2023, the one-millionth coat was celebrated at Annunciation Catholic School in Denver, Colorado, with Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly present. In recent years, the Knights have distributed more than 100,000 coats annually, with approximately 200,000 projected in 2023. The program operates in 49 U.S. states (including Nevada) and all 10 provinces of Canada. Distribution also extends to Native American reservations, First Nation communities, and military bases.

Specifics for Nevada:

While the national program includes Nevada among its participating states, there is limited public documentation specifically detailing the history of Nevada's involvement. Local Councils in Nevada have participated in distributing coats through parishes, schools, and community outreach, but statewide statistics are not widely published. We need to make a better effort in celebrating, announcing and tracking this outreach with our community partnerships and maintain publishable state records.

When a person can't find a deep sense of meaning, they distract themselves with pleasure.

Viktor E. Frankl

Knight in the Light Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Sir Knight Tom Melton, PGK and PFN

I am a devoted husband, father, and proud Catholic man. I've been blessed with a loving wife and children who are the heart of my life and my daily motivation to stay rooted in faith and purpose.

Professionally, I've built a career marked by hard work, integrity, and a commitment to serving others. Whether leading teams, solving complex problems, or offering support in times of need, I've always believed that true success is measured by how you impact the lives of others.



It wasn't always clear to me what truly mattered most. Through a life-changing experience, I came to realize that putting God first in everything I do is the key to a meaningful and successful life. That awakening reshaped my priorities, deepened my relationships, and gave me clarity about my mission as a Catholic man.

That mission led me deeper into the Knights of Columbus. Becoming a Knight was more than joining a Catholic men's group, it was a call to action. It gave me a brotherhood rooted in truth, service, and faith, and it challenged me to be bold in living and defending the Catholic faith.

As I grew spiritually, I realized that I couldn't just wait for change; I had to lead it. I found that I needed to take the lead in creating opportunities for men to encounter Christ, especially through the Cor initiative. Too many men are isolated, spiritually stagnant, or drifting without purpose. Cor offers a powerful way to change that. It's a brotherhood where men grow in holiness, sharpen each other, and become the leaders their families and parishes need.

Through Cor and our Faith in Action programs, I've seen lives transformed, starting with my own. Being a Knight has given me the tools, the support, and the fire to serve the Church with discipline, courage, and joy.

Now, service to Christ isn't just something I do, it's who I am. And every day, I strive to live out the truth that when God is first, everything else falls into place.

*Life is never made
unbearable by
circumstances, but only
by lack of meaning and
purpose.*

Viktor E. Frankl

Council 12877 Gathers Coats for Kids



*Everything can be taken
from a man but one thing:
the last of human freedoms
- to choose one's attitude in
any given set of
circumstances, to choose
one's own way.*

Viktor E. Frankl

This year Our Lady of the Desert Council 12877 in conjunction with Immaculate Conception Parish in Sparks purchased 24 cases of coats and with the BOGO (buy one - get one) match from Supreme, they will distribute more than 500 coats to needy families in Northern Nevada this winter.

Under the umbrella of the State Council, 17 Nevada Councils purchased 94 cases of coats and will distribute more than 1,100 warm winter coats to families in Nevada.

Congratulations and Thank You to all who were able to participate in the Program for 2025-26!

Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge



Each month, Archbishop William Lori – Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus – selects a brief passage from the Gospel reading of one of the Sunday Masses of the month. This month we look at Luke 18:13, the Gospel for Oct. 26.

“But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’”

This is the core of the human spirit ... If we can find something to live for - if we can find some meaning to put at the center of our lives - even the worst kind of suffering becomes bearable.

Viktor E. Frankl

The parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector relates back to our August monthly challenge about humility. The Pharisee exalts himself before God, extolling his superiority and keeping of the law. Meanwhile, the tax collector prays with humility, seeking mercy for his sins. Our culture stresses the importance of “self-esteem,” but we must also remember that all of us are sinners in need of God’s mercy. We should never approach God in a spirit of pride, but always humbly on our knees — confident of his loving mercy.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, the month dedicated to the holy rosary, I challenge you to pray five decades of the rosary daily, asking God for humility and mercy.

Questions for Reflection:

Have there been times in your life when you pridefully compared yourself to others, like the Pharisee in this parable? Do you perform a regular and careful examination of conscience so as to remain humbly aware of your sinfulness? What other steps can you take to become more like the tax collector in this parable?

Message from Pro-Life Directors

We invite you to recruit brothers, families, and friends, to the Life cause, as Life Directors or participants in regional Life events.

Our Life initiative offers you a **checklist of activities** and a **regional calendars** of Life events that will help you grow membership, build faith, create a culture of life, and see faith in action. Help answer the calls from our Lord, our Supreme Knight Kelly, and the Nevada Catholic Conference to support Life.

The pro-life fight is difficult, but we are seeing victories. 2 quick updates for you:

- Abortion is legal in Nevada up to 6th month of term.
 - But did you know **over 40 years ago**, Nevada passed **a one parent (with judicial bypass) notification law to protect minors from getting an abortion without parental involvement or knowledge.**
 - There is no right to parental consent for minors in Nevada.
 - The bad news - while the law remained on the books an injunction has stopped it all these years.
 - After Roe v Wade was overturned, NV Right to Life (NVRTL) sued. This year, despite a Planned Parenthood appeal, NVRTL prevailed.
 - **The law is finally in effect – 40 years later!**
- Assisted Suicide
 - About 10 states permit it. This year Nevada and 19 states tried to enact Assisted Suicide laws or to remove so-called guardrails from such laws. But a coalition of the faith-based, handicapped, disadvantaged, veterans and medical professionals managed to defeat the attempts in 17 of the 19 states including Nevada.
- Praise God for his faithfulness and calls for Prayer and Persistence in support of Life from conception to natural death.
- You can learn more from Brothers involved in the Life cause.

Success, like happiness, is the unexpected side effect of one's personal dedication to a cause greater than oneself.

Viktor E. Frankl

~ Steve Brown and Mark Gilmour



In October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. The USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities aims to help Catholics understand and value the gift of human life and help build a culture that cherishes and protects it.

“Life: Our Sign of Hope,” reflects the ongoing Jubilee Year of Hope. Through the gift of our Baptism, Our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to be a member of his body thereby, demonstrating the invaluable dignity of the human person. This mystery invites us to be witnesses to the hope of the resurrection by promoting and defending the precious gift of life.

Take action by participating in the Respect Life Novena which is being offered October 22-30, 2025. You can sign up to receive the daily prayers by email or text message! Do this by going online to www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month-novena

How to Build a Culture of Life

Read the full version at respectlife.org/culture-of-life

Watching the news and reading the headlines, we may feel helpless seeing the heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. How do we respond? Changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts. When we encounter Christ, experience His love, and deepen our relationship with Him, we become more aware of our own immeasurable worth and that of others. His unchanging love is the source of our God-given dignity, which, therefore, cannot be taken away. When someone is facing great trials, we need to walk with them on their journey, intercede for them, and be open to sharing Christ’s love however He directs. We simply need to follow where He leads.

This is a summary of a USCCB Respect Life Program article by the same name and is reprinted with permission. © 2019, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

If we have faith, we call out to God and we beg him for healing. But when our faith is rewarded, what then? Do we take our miracle and run? No, we must return to the source of our healing to say, “You have changed me, Lord. Now help me change others.” ©LPi

Council 13897 Hosts UNR Luncheon

Knights and Ladies of St. Robert Bellarmine Council 13897 in Fernley, NV hosted a student luncheon at the Newman Center on the campus of UNR. They served Pulled Pork Sandwiches to more than 200 students.



L-R Dorthy Taylor, Jos'e L'opez, Paula Hafer, Terri Cox, Don Cox, WSD Dave Clarke and James Cox

*The one thing you can't
take away from me is the
way I choose to respond
to what you do to me.*

Viktor E. Frankl



L-R Brothers Rudy Forster, Ted Schmidt, State Secretary Leo Carew III, DD Brian Hanifan and James Cox

Columbus Day Dinner at St Robert Bellarmine



*Our greatest freedom is the
freedom to choose our
attitude.*

Viktor E. Frankl



Cordon Bleu Chef
and Brother Knight
James Cox cooked
up an amazing meal
comprised of stuffed
green peppers, green
beans, cornbread,
and strawberry cobbler
for desert.



St. Rose Holds Annual Ministry Fair



St. Rose of Lima held its annual Ministry Fair the weekend of October 11/12 after each Mass. Thirty-four ministries were represented by their respective leaders at tables set up in the parish hall. The Knights had a large table in the center of the room. Ten men expressed interest in our Order, but only four came to the exemplification on Tuesday night.

Knights were prominent in other ministries. Here are some examples.

Brother Tom Cushman leads "That Man Is You!" program. "I have led this ministry for four years," said Tom, "We meet at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings." He invited any Knight from the Council to stop by.

Brother Dan Dondero heads up the EMHC Mass table. He had an eye-catching display of grapes and a small loaf of bread. He was pleased with the six parishioners signed up for EMHC training. "We always need Eucharistic ministers," he said.

Brother Knights Ken Donajkowski and Sean Heenan team-teach the OCIA/Journey in Faith program. Ken explained they hold OCIA classes every Tuesday night throughout the year.

SK Tom Gurgi manages the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the Homebound ministry. "This is a very rewarding ministry," said Tom. "The homebound are always so thankful for us."

SK Don Eberlein as Head Usher recruits, trains and schedules ushers for Sunday Masses, funerals, weddings and other church functions.

"The Knights of Columbus render an invaluable service to our parish," said Fr. Dariusz Miskowicz, pastor of St. Rose of Lima.

*What is to give light must
endure burning.*

Viktor E. Frankl

Confessions Still Sealed in Washington State



*The meaning of my
life is to help others
find meaning in
theirs.*

Viktor E. Frankl

In May of this year, Washington State Gov. Bob Ferguson signed SB 5375 into law. SB 5375 required members of the clergy to advise a proper law enforcement agency of any report of child abuse or neglect that he or she has learned about. This included priests hearing confessions.

The Department of Justice, Washington State's Catholic bishops, and several Orthodox Churches, filed lawsuits against the bill. The Catholic Church has always protected the privacy of persons who confess to a priest by prohibiting priests from speaking about anything disclosed in the session. If a priest violates this seal of confession, he will be excommunicated.

On Oct. 10 Washington State agreed with a court judgement and permanently stopped trying to force priests to violate the Seal of Confession or face imprisonment. "This is a victory for religious freedom and for common sense. Priests should never be forced to make the impossible choice of betraying their sacred vows or going to jail," said Mark Rienzi, president and CEO of Becket, one of the legal groups that represented the Catholic bishops.

"Preventing abuse and upholding the sacred seal of confession are not mutually exclusive — we can and must do both," said Jean Hill, the executive director of the Washington State Catholic Conference, which represents the state's bishops in matters of public policy. "That's why the Church supported the law's goal from the beginning and only asked for a narrow exemption to protect the sacrament. We're grateful the state ultimately recognized it can prevent abuse without forcing priests to violate their sacred vows."



Knights of
Columbus®

HONORING ALL
WHO SERVED

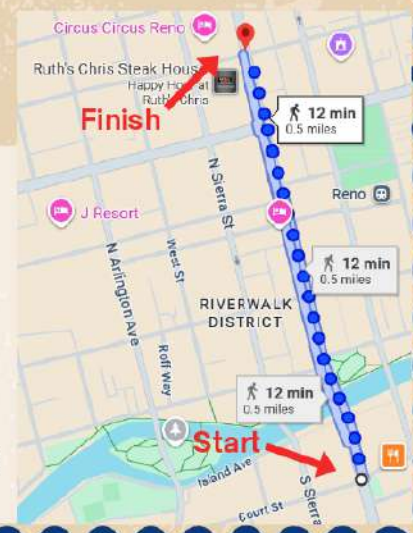
RENO, NV VETERANS DAY PARADE

VETERANS

★ ★ ★ DAY ★ ★ ★

11.11.2025

Arrival Time: No later than 8:30 AM
Meet Up: St. Thomas Parking Lot
Depart for Parade Staging: 9:00 AM
Staging Area: Court St. & S. Virginia
Parade Start Time: 11:11 AM
Parade End Location: 5th St. & S. Virginia



Questions? Contact
Steve Brown 775.391.7780 or Robert Schumacher 775.470.0946



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®



Saturday, November 15
Doors open at 5:00 - Dinner at 6:00
at
Immaculate Conception Church Hall

Tickets \$30.00 Includes 1 Bingo Card

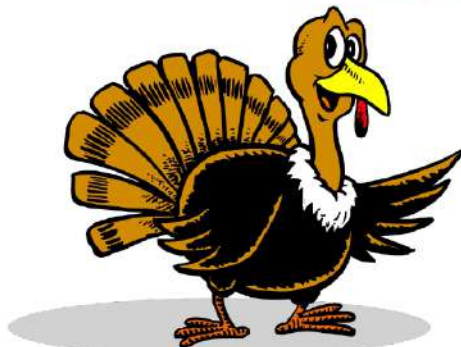
Children \$15.00

\$1.00 Raffle Tickets - \$5.00 50/50 Drawing

9 Bingo Game Winners get \$50 Cash Prize

\$500 Cash Blackout Prize

Win Many Many Awesome Prizes from the Raffle



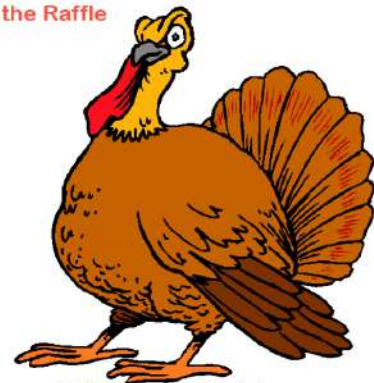
GK "lil" Richie

Turkey Dinner

With all the Fixings

Mixed Drinks

Beer * Wine * Soda



DGK Terry Walsh

Tickets on Sale Now at the Church Office

At the Knights Table after All Masses

Proceeds Benefit Knights of Columbus - Council 12877 Charities

Must be present to win



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
INVITE YOU TO THE

— ★ ★ ★ —

ANNUAL
VETERANS
Dinner

A FREE event to honor our
brave heroes

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 8, 2025
6:00–9:00 PM

IN THE ST. THOMAS MORE
COMMUNITY CENTER
(130 N. PECOS RD., HENDERSON, NV 89074)

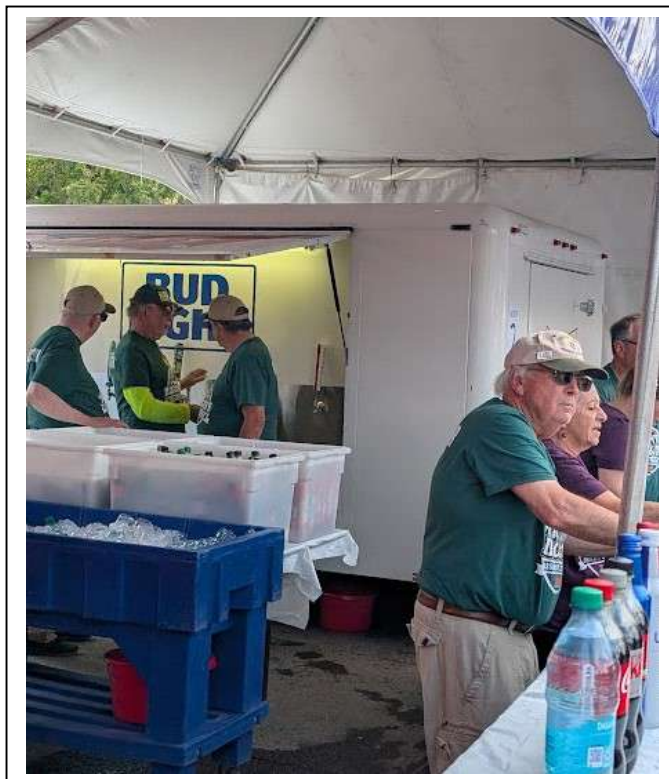
TO RSVP, please contact
Allan Shockley at 725 274-2485

This Month's Photos

Council 4928's Nugget Rib Cook Off

Between Wednesday Aug. 27 and Monday Sep. 1, dozens of Knights and Ladies volunteered to work at the annual Nugget Rib Cook Off in support of our mission for Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

Twenty-six volunteers put in a combined total of 552 hours in planning and on-site work over five days and earned over \$7000 for our charitable programs such as Coats for Kids, Reno Diocese Seminarians, and Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada.

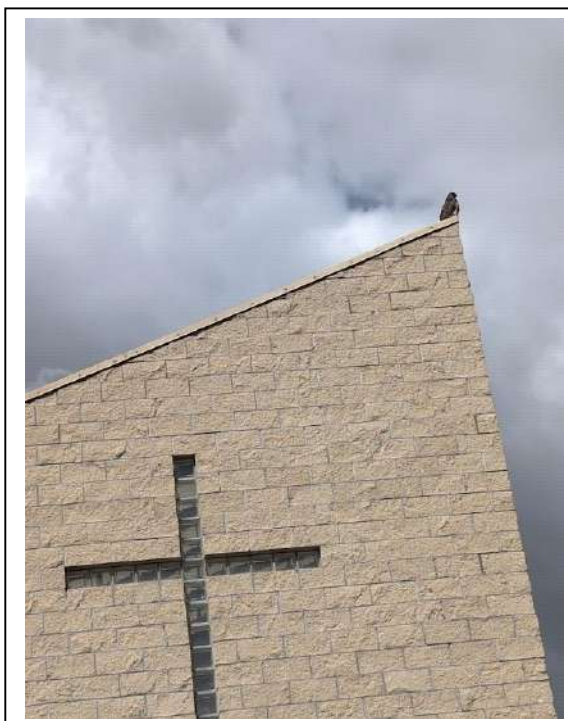


This Month's Photos

Council 4928's Drive-Through Barbecue

We planned for and executed our newest first-time fundraising event – The Drive-Through Barbecue - which was held on Oct. 3. 250 tickets were sold for complete drive-through meals that offered ribs, pulled pork, or brisket, along with a corn muffin, beans, and a choice of coleslaw or potato salad. Despite a stormy start of bad weather, it was a SMASHING SUCCESS!

Special thanks to Todd Goforth, Robin Pagni, and Arnoldo Olivares (seen in the first three photos) for their lonely but critical roles as traffic coordinators.



I'm not sure if the hawk was a good or bad omen for the stormy start of the event:

This Month's Photos

Council 4928's Drive-Through

Ponderosa Knight Devron Gonzalez hauls out another pot of the beans



In the end, the sun came out, and it was a good event!

Thanks to Volunteers: John Bell, Robin Pagni, Chris Pagni, Anup Abraham, Devron Gonzalez, Dave Schebetta, Todd Goforth, Arnaldo Olivares, Bryan Recla, John Caldwell, Judi Caldwell, and Morgan Liddick.

