

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
NEENAH COUNCIL #5514
Rich Gagner, Grand Knight**



<http://kofcknights.org/CouncilSite/?CNO=5514>

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GRAND KNIGHT REPORT:

Welcome Brother Knights, thank you for coming out tonight. A quiet month for our council. We did have the SOAR Valentines dance and Esto Vir men's conference. Every time I go to church or meetings at church I look around and there are Knights everywhere! We are a busy bunch of Catholic men even outside of official Knights activities. I thank you for all you do to help our church and community.

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH ~ JIM GRUBER

Jim Gruber has been a member of St. Margaret Mary Parish since 1968 and he joined our council last year, recruited by Joe Wojtowicz, and plans to become a 4th degree next month, in Fond du Lac, and is considering the position of Chancellor for the coming year. His career was in education: Neenah High School as a Business Education instructor, Assistant Principal, Local Vocational Education Coordinator. Jim is married to Mary Ann and they have three sons, Jason, Derek, and Logan. Mary Ann was initiated into the Catholic faith in 1972. She was involved in gathering adorers for the Twin Cities Adoration Chapel during its inception. Jim and Mary Ann are 12 noon to 6:00 P.M. Division coordinators for the Adoration Chapel. He is an Eucharistic minister and lector. He and Mary Ann are involved with the Theda Clark Eucharistic ministry program. Jim was a St. Mary Central High School board of education member for several years in the 1970's. He was President of the St. Margaret Mary Elementary School Board of Education. Re-elected in the early 1990's, he served another 20+ years on the St. Mary Central Board of Education. He and Mary Ann were designated as the prayer leaders for the \$1.2 million fund raising campaign at St. Margaret Mary. Together they initiated the monthly First Friday Rosary and the 4th Thursday Divine Mercy Chaplet. Within the last two years, children from the St. Margaret Mary campus have been participating in the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Together with St. Gabriel's parish, St. Margaret Mary Parish has co-jointly celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday. St. Margaret Mary Parish has been the host for the last several years. Jim and Mary Ann have attended more than 15 "Defending the Faith" conferences at Franciscan University, Steubenville, OH. He is focusing on receiving his 25th year attendance medallion at the Oshkosh Jesuit Retreat House. Jim tries to swim between 9-10 miles per week at the YMCA. Congratulations, Jim Gruber, Knight of the Month, March 2018.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH ~ DENNIS AND TESS RUDOLPH FAMILY

Dennis and Tess Rudolph and their children, Nikki, Luke, Jacob and Alicia, they are anxiously awaiting their first grandchild in April. The Rudolph's are members of St. Margaret Mary. Dennis has been our Council's treasurer for the past three years, has served as Chancellor, and is a 4th Degree Knight. He and Tess are members of the Living Our Faith in Haiti Committee where Dennis manages the relationship with the sister Parish in Haiti and Tess runs the annual mission trips. Dennis and Tess have been to Haiti 4 times. They are both Ushers and Dennis is a member of the Finance Committee for 3 years he used to belong to the Choir and hopes to return someday. Prior to Haiti Dennis went on Medical Mission Trips to Bolivia and Guatemala. Tess has been a Family Physician for over 25 years and is a member of Menasha's Board of Health, cooks for the Community Table Meals thru SMM and is a past Boy Scout and Girl Scout Leader. Dennis has been a Bank Auditor for over 30 years, helps Mike Bushman keep the books for the Packers concessions for the past 3 years and has helped with Tootsie rolls, Knowledge Grading, SOAR Parties, Pancake/Porky Breakfasts, Packer Concessions, and was a youth soccer coach for his children's teams. They used to be a big outdoors family – sporting events, biking, camping, fishing, boating, winter skiing. Now the family is spread and there are so many wonderful volunteer opportunities. They are also Thrill seekers – Scuba Diving, Skydiving, Bungee Jumping, Zorbing, Zip Lining, White Water Rafting. Daughter Nikki & husband Jeff Teigen did youth mission work in high school. Nikki teaches 3rd grade at St Pius campus of Xavier School system and Jeff is a High School Soccer Coach. Son Luke teaches in the Madison School system but wants to move to Colorado. Prior to teaching Luke was a YMCA Camp Counselor for 5 years and program director for 2 years. He did Student teaching in Uganda. Jacob is a recent graduate from Marquette in Communications and is working on his career in digital media and filmmaking. He went on a Mission Trip to Haiti in 2017 and made a video of events to bring back to SMM. His claim to fame is that he worked on and had his name on the credits of the pro-life film "Wraith" that was directed by Michael Sajbel of Neenah. Ali is currently studying Communication Arts at UW Madison. She studied abroad in Ireland for a semester and is interested in helping Women's groups, such as an Internship with a Black Women's Healing Group. She was invited to participate in the Telluride Film Festival in Colorado and was in the Faith Factor Youth Group through SMM while in High School. Congratulations, Dennis and Tess Rudolph and children, Family of the month, March 2018.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S CORNER:

- With this newsletter, we still have 39 members with unpaid dues for 2018. Your obligation is to keep your dues current. As I have said in the past, if you are having a problem, please call me so something can be worked out. My number is 920-722-3690.
- The absolute deadline for getting your sold raffle tickets to me will be April 17 – no later! We are somewhat ahead of last year in total sales up to the present time. A big "THANK YOU" to those who sold more.

2018	BEGINNING BALANCE	CLOSING BALANCE
COUNCIL AND MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT	\$ 2,253.51	2,822.06
PROJECT FUND ACCOUNT	19,624.46	23,642.16
SEMINARIAN ACCOUNT	8,778.57	8,904.25

READING OF THE BILLS: The following additional bills were read.

- Jon Bolwerk \$124.15 for the Valentine's Day Dance
- Art Schmeichel \$14 for mailing the January newsletter.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- We received a thank you from St. Gabriel's for donation for tuning the school piano and for the donation for the meal packing event. They also thanked us for our ongoing support.
- We received a thank you from the Autism Society for our donation.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT:

- Art Schmeichel reported that St. Mary's and St. John's parishes requested donations for food for youth nights. Trustees stated that this should be supported by the Menasha Council.
- St. Margaret Mary's asked for our financial support with the youth trip to Springfield Kentucky. Trustee's will recommend we donate \$1,000.

PROGRAMS CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- The Soar Valentine's Day dance was a success. There was an excellent turnout and the Salvation Army Facility was fantastic.
- The PB&J collection is all set for March 24-25.
- Mike Bushman passed around a sign-up sheet for the Cel O'bration Breakfast Blitz at St. Pat's on March 18th.
- The Youth Mission Trip Pancake/Porkie Breakfast is at St. Gabe's on March 18th. A sign-up sheet was passed around at the last meeting. Please bring your Knight's hats for working around food. The proceeds will be used to help fund their trip to Houston.
- There will be a 4th Degree in Fond du Lac at the Holiday Inn on April 7th. Jim Gruber is planning on attending.

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

- Mike Bushman reported that we will be doing Double Portions on March 26th. He is still working on the menu.

YOUTH:

- Rich Gagner reported that two girls from St. Mary's Middle School will be going to the State Competition for spelling in Wisconsin Rapids.

RETREATS:

- Mike Bushman reported on the Esto Vir conference in Appleton on March 3rd. 712 men attended. The procession with the Eucharist around the block was impressive. The conference was very inspiring.
- The annual retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House will be March 22 – 25.

Tootsie Roll:

- The Tootsie Roll Drive will be May 10, 11, 12 and 17, 18. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Packer Concession Stand:

- We are still looking for someone to take over for Mike Bushman in running concessions this upcoming season.

Report on 4th Degree:

- 17 members formed the Honor Guard for the Esto Vir conference.
- Mike Bushman stated that members shouldn't buy their uniforms yet. New ones are coming. If needed, Mike can lend you a uniform.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Motion made by Mike Bushman to donate \$1,000 towards the St. Margaret Mary's Youth Mission Trip. Motion seconded by Jerry Van Handel. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Bob Gehr mentioned that we need to be careful regarding our donation towards the Fox Valley Tech senior class. He mentioned that other senior events also lost funding and that we could be bombarded with requests.

DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT:

- Celebrate Founders Day on March 29th in honor of this day think about a charitable service project, special mass or conducting a first degree.
- 55th Annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations is Sunday April 22, 2018
- I need to have dates for upcoming church drives or membership drives that have been scheduled or tentative dates with each council in the district. 2 Church drives and membership drives will be mandatory for every council every year. If you are having a problem with finding volunteers for the drives let me know I have plenty of resources to help with these drives.

LECTURER:

Rich Gagner prepared and read a reading.



GOOD OF THE ORDER: We start with the Priests and Seminarians: Frs. Paul Praider, Richard Allen, Larry Seidl, Jim Kubicki, Dennis Bergsbaken, Justin Werner, Mike Carroll, Matt Rappl, Bishop Banks, Bishop Ricken, Bishop Morneau. Seminarian Patrick Costello, Deacon Dan Laurent.

Amy Paffel, Andrew Baird, Ann Lorenz, Bernice Rudolf, Bernie Kropidlowski, Bev Wickman, Bob Benson, Bob & Ceclia Greene, Bob Deopker, Bob Yost, Bruce Darni, Char Van Handel, Chuck Miller, Colin & Becky Behm, Connie Schraven, Dan Leeman, Derrick Kessler, Dick Winter, Don Wichman, Donna Bouschele, Ed Hirsch, Evan Williams, Garth Walling, George & Marge Thierung, Hannah Sherwood, Jackie Jensen, James Bosco, James Vovota, Jean Brafam, Jill Perason, John Graham, John Hanley, John Ravinsko, Joseph Morin, Joseph Mourn, Joseph Putzer, Joseph Wojtowica, Judy Kaul, Julie Griese, Jack Giese, Julie Nackers, Julie Schmidts, June Ingold, Karen Hill, Karren Sippel, Karen Stenson, Kathy Rigotti, Katie Votova, Ken Rosenbaum, Larry Easton, Lloyd Delveaux, Luanne Sipple, Marcie Gehr, Mark and Pam Franz, Marty and Lola Ruge, Mary Brandt, Mary

Jean Schuelke, Mary Kay Heath, Mary Wilkinson, Mary Younger, Michael Brickem, Mike Getchius, Mike Simonis, Naz Belbusty, Patty Van Handel, Paul Bongers, Ron Wisniewski, Sam & Cathy Neuman, Shawn Coenen, Sherry Zwicky, Sister Jolene Van Handel, Steve Wideman, Ted Dekleyn, Ted Westgor, Terry Chang, Tom Freehley, Tim Hamblin, Wally Maynard.

MEETING ADJOURNED BY RICH GAGNER AT 7:47