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CHANCELLOR –SK Jim L. Hodge WARDEN –SK John K. Longenecker FINANCIAL SECRETARY – SK Timothy J. Surkovich
TREASURER –SK Daniel Weaver ADVOCATE – SK Edward E. Zang, Esq. GUARDS – Daniel T. Moringiello, SK Paul Detwiller, Sr.
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STAR OF THE SEA COUNCIL 4245
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



January 2021 Edition

STAR  **NEWS**

Council meetings are held on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month

Tel. 814-695-4752

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**January 2021
From the Grand Knight**



Brother Knights,

I hope you all had a blessed and joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year. When the new year started last year, it seemed weird and strange to write or say 2020, and what a weird and strange year it has been! Let’s pray 2021 will be a better year.

Our BBQ for St Vincent DePaul was a success as usual. Thanks to everyone who participated. I hope our food drive will also be a success. With all of the shutdowns starting to happen again it would be great if we could try to continue to keep our good works going so we can continue to give to the charities in need.

Starting in February our Fundraising Committee is beginning a rifle raffle. We are selling only 50 tickets at

\$20.00 each with a chance to win a cash prize for 1 number above and 1 number below the winning number. We are planning on doing this on opposite months from the ham and cheese sales.

Fun fact:

John Paul II wrote a handwritten letter to the Knights

Fraternally yours,

Ray



A New Year's Prayer

DEAR LORD

As a new year begins, We come to You and ask for Your blessing.

We pray that you would give us joy to fill our days, peace to fill our hearts, and love to fill our lives.

Thank You for the plans You have for us in this new year.

We wait in anticipation to see all You will do!

Thanking God for you and praying your new year is blessed in every way.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

AMEN

December 2020 Council Meeting Minutes

Reading of Minutes from the previous meeting:

The November 5, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as distributed by email and posted on our website.

Application for membership:

Second Reading of the application presented from Joseph Harteis from St. Michaels; sponsored by Dan Moringiello. Bill Hiergeist presented a motion to approve the application; Dan Aiken provided the second; motion passed.

Grand Knight's Report: Information presented by Ray Gregorchik:



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all brother Knights

Chaplains Report from Seminarian Brian Norris:



Thank you for your continued financial support. Brian encouraged us to continue with our Keep Christ in Christmas campaign and to keep Jesus at the center of our lives.

Treasurer's Report – Information presented by Dan Weaver:



- Beginning Balance as of November 1, 2020: \$8,815.63
- Deposits: \$0
- Disbursements: \$534.56
- New Balance as of November 30, 2020: \$8,281.07
- All details of deposits and disbursements given with no questions raised.

Reading of Bills and Communications:

We received a request for donation from Garvey Manor, Our Lady of the Alleghenies to support the Benevolent Care Fund. Dan Casey presented a motion to donate \$100; Matt Becker presented the second; motion passed.

We received a request for donation from the Pennsylvania Department of Military Affairs – Hollidaysburg Veterans Home to support the Veterans Holiday Fund. Dan Casey presented a motion to donate \$100; Dick Aiken presented the second; motion passed.

We received a request for donation from the Knights of Columbus Charities. Dick Aiken presented a motion to donate \$50; Dan Casey presented the second; motion passed. The donation will be targeted to the Culture of Life Fund.

We received a request for donation from the Miracle League of Blair County. Jim Zimmerman presented a motion to donate \$100; Gary Ellis presented the second; motion passed.

We received a request for donation from Moms House. Dan Weaver presented a motion to donate \$100; Dick Aiken presented the second; motion passed.

We received a request for donation from Family Services. Ed Zang presented a motion to donate \$100; Jim Zimmerman presented the second; motion passed.

We received a thank you note from the Jaffa Shriners for the \$5500 donation for the Shriners Hospital for Children (chicken BBQ proceeds).

We received a thank you note from the Sisters of the Sacred Heart for the \$100 donation.

Financial Secretary Report - Information presented by Ray Gregorchik on behalf of Tim Surkovich:



Tim apologized for his inability to attend the meeting.

Respective members will received the 2021 annual membership dues notice of \$38. Please mail or drop off your dues, as soon as possible. Due to Covid we expect many members to pay via the mail. If possible the council requests if you would like your membership card mailed to you kindly include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment.

The annual survey will be sent in the near future and Tim has requested that the survey be returned by January 21, 2021.

The Ham and Cheese sale proceeds were \$337.77. Tim suggested that we round this donation up to \$350. Lou Endress presented the motion to donate the \$350 to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital; Dan Norris presented the second; motion passed.

Standing Committee Reports: Fund Raising Committee: Chairman position is vacant – please volunteer.

Meeting was not held during November. The Keep Christ in Christmas billboard will be visible from December 7, 2020 through January 3, 2021.

New Business:

Dan Weaver presented information on the next chicken BBQ, which will be held on December 13th and will benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Needs Office. Please volunteer your time to help. 222 tickets have been sold to date; remaining tickets are due by 12-8-20.

The food drive donations will be collected on December 18th from 8:00-10:00 am and then delivered to the American Rescue Workers.

Dan Turcovsky provided information that the Masons – Mountain Lodge has invited all Knights and their spouses to a complimentary dinner at the US Hotel on 12-27-20 – please RSVP to Dan, ASAP.

Report of the 4th Degree - presented by Lee Zimmerman:



Next meeting will be held on December 10th at 7:00 PM at the Council Home.

Field Insurance Agent Report – presented by Mike McAndrew:

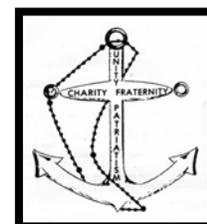


Merry Christmas to all Knights Our donation from the last meeting, was delivered to the family in need and they were very appreciative (unfortunately, the Mother passed away in November).



Please pray for the following:

- Our deceased brother Knights, Tom Matthews and Charles Hauser
- Charlie and Phil Baker
- Bill Hiergeist reported that our prayers for his Brother-in-law and his wife's cousin were very much appreciated – prayer works.
- Ed Zang spoke with Jeff Muriceak and Jeff appreciated our prayers.





2021 Hospitality Meal Volunteer List

January—Ed Zang & Ray Gregorchik
December—Brian Drum



In memory of all our Brother Knights who passed away in our councils history, especially Thomas L Matthews (Dudley), and Charles Hauser



Happy Birthday *January Birthdays*

Jeff Muriceak	1/1
Adam Hazenstab	1/2
Dee Bragonier	1/5
Walt Bloom	1/7
Ray Gregorchik	1/10
Earl Hite	1/12
Joseph McGeehan	1/17
Rich Moyer	1/17
Merle Manning	1/20
Paul Detwiler	1/21
Richard Haines	1/21
Lee Zimmerman	1/24
Ed Zang	1/25
Gary Vassalotti	1/28
Matt Becker	1/30
Charlie Baker	1/31



- Thank you to Brian Drum for the Hospitality meal at the December meeting.
- 2021 volunteers are needed, for Hospitality meals at our council meetings see Ed Dunning to volunteer.
- 2021 Dues are now due. Regular Dues are \$38. If you pay by mail and would like your card mailed to you we kindly request you include a self-addressed stamped envelope to save the council mailing costs.
- The 2021 Fraternal Survey is due by January 21, 2021. Please do your best to fill out the form and return it to the Tim Surkovich, Financial Secretary.
- We are looking for the winning ticket from the November and December Meetings. Nov 231, Dec 330. Contact Lou Endress
- We have a space available for advertisement on the Star News. A spot is \$36 for the year. Contact Tim Surkovich if you know someone that is interested.



Upcoming Events:

For the latest information visit our website:

[HTTP://www.kofc4245.org](http://www.kofc4245.org)

1/11/21 Ham & Cheese Orders Due 12 PM

1/14/21 Make Ham & Cheese Sandwiches 4 PM

1/15/21 Deliver Ham & Cheese Sandwiches



Merry Christmas!





Council Calendar

Council meetings are held on the **First Thursday** of the month at 7:00 pm. **Next Meeting: 1/7/21**
Hospitality Provided by:
Ed Zang & Ray Gregorchik

1/4/21 Fundraising Committee Meeting 6:30 PM

1/7/21 Home Association Meeting 5:45 PM

1/7/21 Praying of the Rosary 6:30 PM

1/7/21 Council Meeting 7 PM
Hospitality Provided By:
Ed Zang & Ray Gregorchik

1/11/21 Ham & Cheese Orders Due 12 PM

1/14/21 Make Ham & Cheese Sandwiches 4 PM

1/15/21 Deliver Ham & Cheese Sandwiches

2/1/21 Fundraising Committee Meeting 6:30 PM

2/4/21 Home Association Meeting 5:45 PM

2/4/21 Praying of the Rosary 6:30 PM

2/4/21 Council Meeting 7 PM
Hospitality Provided By:
Volunteer Needed



In previous years this is the time we may have been shopping for that special present, getting a tree and preparing to cook the traditional Christmas meal. This year will be different. Many will be reluctant to travel, so many may be celebrating with just the household instead of a house-full! Instead of crushes of people at the mall, our Christmas presents will be dropped at the front door by UPS, USPS or Amazon Prime. No 22 lb. turkey or ham this year for the family members visiting from far and wide; just a small one for the few of us. While this year may be different, it may get us to slow down a bit and perhaps savor the special time of year and what we really celebrate.

We turn our thoughts to themes of “Peace on Earth” and “Goodwill to Men!” We think of our Savior’s birth in Bethlehem and the beginning of this chapter of salvation history. We think of family, both the ones we celebrate with this year in person and those who might only be present on Zoom. But we’ll make it through the season; we’ll have even more to celebrate next year.

Each year I remind my readers of some important financial issues as we move through December and hit year end. As you slow down here are some financial issues to consider at the end of the calendar year.

1. Because we’re so late in the year, you may have met your individual or family deductible on your health insurance plan. Financially this may be the opportune time for some minor procedure to be scheduled; or that visit to a specialist you may have put off. The same is true about dental insurance and sometimes even for vision coverage.

2. Speaking of health insurance, do you have a Health Savings Account? Do you have to spend the money that’s in there by year end? Some plans have a “use it or lose it” feature. Do you have to make a decision about how much to contribute next year? These are a couple of time sensitive issues.

3. If you have earned income for the year, what amount will you want to contribute to your traditional IRA, Roth IRA or 401k? Are you eligible to contribute much more based on the “catch up” provision? You won’t have to make that contribution until you pay your taxes and that could be four months away; however now is the time to start making plans.

4. Speaking of IRAs, have you received your required minimum distribution for this year? If not, the Internal Revenue Service penalty is a hefty 50% of the amount you should have received!

All of these issues come with lots of rules and regulations, so don’t go it alone. Give me a call and I will be happy to discuss any of these issues... and you can do it safely, virtually with me on the computer from the comfort of your home.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:5
Vivat Jesus!

Michael

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