



Knights of Columbus St. Martha Council



Volume 1, Issue 11

May 2008

GRAND KNIGHTS REPORT

“From the dawn of the Republic, America’s quest for freedom has been guided by the conviction that the principles governing political and social life are intimately linked to a moral order based on the dominion of God the Creator. The framers of this nation’s founding documents drew upon this conviction when they proclaimed the “self-evident truth” that all men are created equal and endowed with inalienable rights grounded in the laws of nature and of nature’s God.”

----- Pope Benedict XVI, Remarks at White House, April 16, 2008

Thanks be to God for the witness and spiritual leadership of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI and thanks be to Him for enabling our Pope to share that witness with us on his most recent visit to our nation!

In honor of the Pope’s first visit to the United States, the Supreme Knight has decreed that all First Degrees between February 2008 and the end of the Columbian Year will be in honor of Pope Benedict XVI. Accordingly, all Brothers making their First Degree during this time will be receiving commemorative certificates. All Brothers sponsoring a new member will receive a commemorative coin in honor of the Pope.

I offer my congratulations to our three newest members: Doug Perkins, Tom Kozlowski and Jim Daugherty. They made their First Degrees back in March. All have taken their Second Degrees also.

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Council Meetings

8p.m. Thursday

May 08, 2008

June 12, 2008

July 10, 2008

Grand Knight's report, continued

I extend my thanks to all who helped out with the CCD Communion Breakfasts. In March and April, we hosted three breakf

asts for the students and their families and one breakfast in honor of the CCD Teachers and their families.

The State Convention will be held May 15-18 in Wildwood. Due to my Reserve service obligations, I will be unable to attend. However, the Council will be well represented at the proceedings. Deputy Grand Knight William Wright and PGK Robert Morris will be the Council's delegates to the convention.

In March, Pope Benedict XVI declared Father Michael J. McGivney "Venerable." If you are not already a member of the Father McGivney which is leading the efforts for his canonization, I encourage you to sign up at www.fathermcgivney.org. Membership is free.

In closing, I leave you with the words of Pope Benedict XVI from his Homily at Yankee Stadium on Sunday, April 20, 2008:

"Let us turn to Jesus! He alone is the way that leads to eternal happiness, the truth who satisfies the deepest longings of every heart, and the life who brings ever new joy and hope, to us and to our world."

Vivat Jesus

District Deputy Comments

Gentlemen,

The Council is coming up on the end of Spring and the Summer months. Now is the time to re-establish yourself in the Council. The State Convention is coming up and soon after that the Council Election of Officers will be held. Come to the meeting and make your voice heard. This is **YOUR** Council. Too many of us are sitting home, not coming to meetings or events that the Council is running. The Council needs your help just as much as some other organizations you may belong to.

I understand there are a lot of requests for your time, and that you cannot be at everything. But, by coming to a meeting once in a while and showing your interested in what the Council is doing, maybe we can get some new members involved from some of your other organizations. The Knights of Columbus is an important part of the Community and Parish, and **YOU** are an important part of the Knights of Columbus.

Congratulations to Anthony Grato, FDD, and his wife Maryann on another great Pride in Our Priests Dinner, held April 29, at Doolan's in Spring Lake. There was 415 people in attendance, including 125 priests, making this the best attended dinner in the history of the State

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Spring and Summer seasons.

John A. Gazis

News on Organ Donation

Organ, tissue and bone marrow transplants save thousands of lives each year, but many people do not receive the transplants they desperately need because there are not enough donors. More than 100,000 people nationally and over 3500 in New Jersey are on waiting lists for transplants, yet thousands of patients die each year while waiting for the "miracle of life."

The State Council program is designed to promote awareness among members of the Knights of Columbus and the general public as to the importance of organ, tissue and bone marrow donation to help others in need. Too many people in America have not signed donor cards and have not discussed donation with their families.

The State Committee's goal is to heighten public awareness and to reach as many people as possible to make the compassionate decision to be an organ, tissue or bone marrow donor and to have their families and friends become donors as well.

The State Chairman, Carl Buscher, based in Northern New Jersey, was one of those people on the waiting list for a kidney transplant. After four years he received a call that a perfect match had been found for him and he had life saving transplant surgery in December 2002. Now he has been free from dialysis three times a week for over five years.

The State Vice-Chairman, Norbert (Skip) Niszczak, our committee member for South Jersey, is a volunteer with the Gift of Life donor program based in Philadelphia, which covers eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and all of Delaware. When his son died suddenly, Skip and his wife donated their son's liver and two kidneys so that others might live. Skip speaks to councils, health fairs, high schools and others regarding organ and tissue transplantation.

I am a member of the committee and work out of Ocean County and Central New Jersey. I was on dialysis for over two years before receiving a perfect match kidney from my daughter in August 2006.

As you can see, even though there are only three of us, we have a large mission, and we are up to it. For example, Skip and I will be staffing a table at the forthcoming Knights of Columbus State Convention. I have been visiting flea markets, craft fairs and plan to continue this. I will also be planning several days at the Ocean County Fair, visits to carnivals being held by fellow councils, and visits to Allaire State Park exhibitions. If you are interested in joining me for any of these, please give me a call at 732-920-2420.

Council Officers

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Grand Knight	Bryan Dickerson	(732) 295-4574	grandknight@kofc7926.org
Dep. Grand Knight	William Wright	(732) 920-2420	deputygrandknight@kofc7926.org
Chancellor	Richard Stanton	(732) 899-4021	chancellor@kofc7926.org
Warden	Brian Harper	(732) 899-9933	warden@kofc7926.org
Financial Secretary	Robert Molzon	(732) 458-2052	financialsecretary@kofc7926.org
Recorder	Theodore Kelly	(732) 840-0792	recorder@kofc7926.org
Treasurer	Robert Kehoe	(732) 714-8212	treasurer@kofc7926.org
Advocate	Robert Brogan		advocate@kofc7926.org
Inside Guard	Carl Apgar	(732) 657-8942	
Outside Guard	Mario Pontecorvo		outsideguard@kofc7926.org
3 Yr Trustee	Robert Morris	(732) 295-1103	3yrtrustee@kofc7926.org
2 Yr Trustee	Richard Mastronardi	(732) 899-4428	2yrtrustee@kofc7926.org
1 Yr Trustee	Michael Tuohy	(732) 920-7339	1yrtrustee@kofc7926.org

Membership Committee Message

The important news for this newsletter is that we held our membership Blitz on the weekend of April 12 and 13. I am very pleased to report that we had 6 men indicate an interest and leave us their names and addresses. We will add these to our other lists and begin providing all of them additional information on our council specifically and invite them to breakfast and a short presentation on the Knights of Columbus. We also were able to give away several form 100s which we hope will be returned. Other interest was shown in potential transfers from other councils. We even had one young man who wants to be a Squire. He will be referred to another council that has a Squires Circle. Some of you may think that this is not a great response, based on your past experiences, however, I believe it was a great showing, but most important of all we were able to put our council and its' deeds before St. Martha's parish.

This is not all! Remember that we have an ongoing members' membership drive for new recruits and we have prizes as follows:

2 recruits	1 cannon	6 Prizes avail.
3 recruits	1 larger cannon	2 Prizes avail.
5 recruits	Museum quality Napoleon cannon and limber	1 avail

Remember that prizes are available on a first come, first serve basis. As soon as you get 2 members (and several already have 1 member) you may take one of the smaller canons or leave it and try for 3 or 5 members. It is my opinion, that in a church-related fraternity, such as ours, a person to person contact among our friends and associates is the very best way to invite a new member.

The Nominating Committee has recommended the following slate of Officers for the 2008 – 2009 Columbian year.

Title	Name
Grand Knight	William Wright
Dep. Grand Knight	Richard Stanton
Chancellor	Carl Apgar
Treasurer	Robert Kehoe
Recorder	Ted Kelly
Advocate	Robert Brogan
Warden	Brian Harper
Inside Guard	Ronald Bond
Outside Guard	James Dougherty
Trustee 3 rd Year	Bryan Dickerson, PGK
Trustee 2 nd Year	Robert Morris, PGK
Trustee 1 st Year	Richard Mastronardi, PGK

**Nominations from the floor will be accepted on the night of the election,
June 12, 2008**

Birthday Boys

The following Brother Knights are celebrating birthdays in the upcoming months.

May

Sigmund M. Klinowski	5/1/1917
William J. Pollack	5/1/1942
Michael A. Travisano, JR	5/2/1965
John J. Richards	5/3/1941
Sean K. O'Donnell	5/4/1961
Dennis R. Duggan	5/5/1968
Patrick M. Garzillo, PGK	5/7/1941
Edward J. Gargiulo	5/8/1916
Bryan J. Dickerson, GK	5/13/1973
Thomas Tamburo	5/15/1921
Charles J. Rott	5/18/1947
Robert J. Bolan	5/22/1950
Francis R. Sanok	5/23/1933
Joseph Murphy	5/23/1958

June

Deacon. John J. Haney	6/4/1932
Edward O'Grady	6/5/1953
Frank M. Cicalese	6/8/1930
Walter J. Pawlikowski	6/9/1924
Donald J. McKeon	6/11/1937
Carl J. Stallone	6/11/1942
Robert F. Brogan	6/11/1968
Thomas H. Applegate	6/12/1956
Warren C. Frey, FDD	6/13/1923
Clarence R. Maurer	6/15/1915
Gary W. Stogdill	6/15/1958
Francis W. Groff	6/17/1933
John M. Farrell	6/18/1967
Robert Constantino	6/21/1947
Robert A. Cinotti	6/22/1948
Carl J. Apgar	6/23/1950
Luis A. Neris	6/24/1964
Kenneth L. Sarro	6/25/1956
Edgar L. Zaremba	6/27/1952
Thomas F. Kelty	6/28/1927
John B. Mc Grath	6/29/1939
Edward J. Beards	6/30/1911
James Larkin	6/30/1929

From the desk of Deacon Vince Ricciardi

We all have defense mechanisms that we've developed over time, often without being aware of it. In times of trouble, the behaviors that have worked to get us past challenges with the least amount of pain are the ones that we repeat; even when part of us knows they no longer work. Such behavior is a natural response from our mental and physical aspects. But because we are spiritual beings as well, we have the ability to rise above habits and patterns to see the truth that lay beyond. And from that moment on, we can make choices that allow us to work directly from that place of truth within us.

Most of our defense mechanisms were developed in childhood; from the moment that we realized crying would get us the attention we craved. Passive aggressive ways of communicating may have allowed us to get what we needed without being scolded, punished or laughed at, so we learned to avoid being direct and honest. Some of us may have taken refuge in the lives of others, discovering ways to direct attention away from ourselves entirely. Throwing ourselves into projects or rescuing others from themselves can be effective ways to avoid dealing with our own issues. And when people are truly helped by our actions, we get the added bonus of feeling heroic. But while defenses can keep away the things we fear, they can also work to keep our good from us.

When we can be honest with ourselves about what we truly desire, then we can connect our desires to the creative power of the spirit within us. Knowing that we are one with God of the universe allows us release any need for defense. Trusting that power, we know that we are exactly where we are meant to be, and that challenges bring gifts of growth and experience. When we can put down arms raised in defense, then we are free to use our hands, minds, hearts and spirits to mold and shape our abundant energy to create and live our lives.

We never walk alone, God is always with us. He walks along side us when we need a hand to hold. He walks behind us when we need the encouragement to move forward. He walks in front of us when we need protection and he carries us when we falter and fall. We are always in His hands even when we give way to Satan! God is there and all we have to do is ask God to come to our assistance. There is no greater power than God all that we ask all that we seek comes from Him.

Many of us have been given the gift of a child to nurture and show the way. We are entrusted to bring them to faith in God. At their baptismal you were asked to vow to raise this child in the catholic faith. It all began then and there. As they become older many parents say, "He or she will make their choice to attend church or not," WRONG! You were empowered by God to bring them to our faith community.

Stop and think if your Mom or Dad said, "It's OK honey you make the decision whether you need God in your life"? Would you make the right choice? I think not, because we know whether we want to admit it or not that God is our center. Maybe we only pray when we are in need, or something is really wrong. Then we go running to God and ask for his Help and "*God grants it, in His Time, not ours*".

Yes our defenses come in so many ways because we want to shine in the eyes of others, but there is only one set of eyes we shine in, no matter what and those are of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. As always when you open your eyes just say, "Thank you God for this day, send your blessings upon me".

Then watch the great day that begins for you! But don't forget to get out of bed first.

To our Mothers may you have a wonderful and blessed Mothers Day. May the light of the Lord shine upon you, this day and every day.

God's Blessing to all,
Deacon Vincent P. Ricciardi, Sr., E.A.D.M., PFN

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				May 1	2	3
4	5 8 pm – Our Lady of Lourdes Assembly Meeting	6	7	8 8:30 a.m. A.C. Bus Trip Harrah's ----- 8pm - Council 7926 Business Meeting	9	10
11 Mothers Day 7am – 11am Family Communion Breakfast @ Council 7926	12 8pm – Chapter Meeting @ Council 8603	13 8pm – First Degree @ Council 8415	14	15	16 State Convention @ Wildwood	17 State Convention @ Wildwood
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29 8:30 a.m. A.C. Bus Trip Taj Mahal	30	31

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jun 1	2 8 p.m. Assembly 2143 Meeting	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 8 p.m.Ocean County Chapter Meeting	10 8pm First Degree @ Council 8415	11	12 8:30 a.m. A.C. Bus Trip Trump Marina ----- 8p.m. Council 7926 Meeting	13	14
15 Father's Day 7am-11am Family Breakfast	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 8:30 a.m. A.C. Bus Trip Taj Mahal 8 p.m. Council 7926 Social Meeting	27	28
29	30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5