



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

St. John The Beloved Council 11796

Grand Knight's Message

Dear Brother Knights,

July marks the beginning of the Columbian Year and with it a new slate of officers has taken over the helm of the council. I am humbled that my brother Knights have chosen to invest me with the office of Grand Knight and I hope to find myself worthy of your confidence.

Things tend to slow down for our Council during the summer months. But just because we drop back to one social meeting in July and August doesn't mean that things come to a complete stop! Our council will hold a First Degree installation on July 15th for five prospective new members to our organization. Please try to find some time to attend and welcome our new Brother Knights to our order.

Our July social meeting is scheduled for the 18th in the Parish Conference Room. I plan to emphasize the "social" part of these meetings this year. If you have any ideas for new activities you think we should try or enhancements to improve our programs, please plan on attending.

Finally, although summer is a time to slow down and recharge our batteries, don't forget that it is also a great time to reconnect with your faith and your God. Instead of reading the latest Tom Clancy book while reclining at the beach, pick up the latest *Catechism of the Catholic Church* or a copy of *Parish Priest*. On a warm summer evening, why not take a trip to meditate at the Queen of Peace statue? Before heading out for an early morning round of golf, attend daily mass (my game needs all the help it can get!). Use these glorious months to slow down and listen to God and you'll find yourself better equipped to face the world when the pace of life picks up again in the fall.

Vivat Jesus,

Bill Harris

July 2007

Knight of the Month

Terry Tasker was honored as Knight of the Month for June 2007 at our meeting on the 20th.

The award noted that Terry, a fourth degree knight, *“has actively participated in a number of our council’s events since becoming a knight just six years ago”* including *“our Pancake Breakfasts and Fish Fry’s.”* Terry was also recognized *“for organizing and ensuring the success of the Blue Mass hosted by our council and presided over by our bishop to recognize police, fire and emergency personnel who have died while in active service to their communities throughout the State of Delaware.”*

In closing, the citation described Terry as *“a professional who has shown initiative and independence in developing the public’s awareness of the Knights of Columbus’ commitment to our community and those who serve it”*. Thanks Terry for a job well done!

Family of the Month

Stephen W. Oldiges received the Family of the Month Award for June 2007.

Perhaps the most honored member of our council, Steve, who is a fourth degree knight and charter member of our council, was recognized as *“what most would define as the ultimate knight.”* A prior Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Council Director, District Deputy and current Trustee, Steve *“continues to be one of the primary organizers of our council’s monthly Pancake Breakfasts and annual Fish Fry’s. He also started and brought to fruition the first statewide Priesthood Sunday program to increase public awareness of all that our clergy do for the church and the community.”* He was also cited for developing *“arguably the finest web based communications system in the Knights of Columbus organization.”*

Steve’s wife Valerie was described in the award as *“an indispensable champion of our council and the Knights of Columbus”* who *“has committed her considerable talents and a great deal of her time to many of our culinary programs and major council events.”* She was also recognized for fostering *“the intellectual development of the next generation through her work in our school library – a contribution recognized by her recent promotion to School Librarian.”*

Laurie and Jessica, daughters of Steve and Valerie, were recognized *“for their individual contributions to our council’s programs and events.”*

The award summed up this October 2005 Family of the Month and 2004 Family of the Year as *“the quintessential Knights of Columbus Family.”* “Congratulations” seems inadequate but the supply of descriptive accolades this family has garnered has been exhausted so we’ll just say “Thanks Steve, Valerie, Laurie and Jessica.”

Change in Our Meeting Schedule

Remember that we are operating on a summer schedule now which means there will be only one meeting each month during July and August. They will start at 7:30 PM in the Conference Room on the third Wednesday of each month.

July 2007

Congratulations to Our New Officers

Council officers for the new Columbian year were elected at our June 20th meeting. Evidence of the vitality of our council was everywhere. It was the most highly attended meeting in recent memory. Two of our three parish priests (council chaplain Father Cocco and Father Adrian) were present at the meeting (Father Charlie was out of town). Three of the men elected (Pete Leccia, Jason Gassert and Jose Rodriguez) are among our newest knights. It all augers well for another great year for the council. The positions for the year beginning July 1, 2007 are:

Grand Knight	Bill Harris, Jr.	Deputy Grand Knight	Pete Leccia
Chaplain	Father William Cocco	Chancellor	Jim Hopkins
Treasurer	Bob Dayett	Financial Secretary	Ray McAllister
Warden	Dave Eppelheimer	Recorder	Dennis Connolly
Advocate	Jason Gassert	Inside Guard	Jose Rodriguez
Outside Guard	Chick Mealey	Trustee 3 Year	Kevin Duffy
Trustee 2 Year	Rich Steffy	Trustee 1 Year	Bill Matt

Congratulations and best wishes to all of our officers.

State K of C Picnic Scheduled

Our state council's annual picnic will be held on Sunday, August 19, between 1:00 PM and 6:00 PM at St Anthony's in the Hills - located on Route 7 just ½ mile north of the state line. The pastoral setting includes a picnic area, games and a swimming pool. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children under 12 and \$20 per family. This popular event is a great way to spend time with family and fellow knights in a relaxed and friendly setting. Call Picnic Chairman Brian Dennis at 797-3008 for more info.

Chess Champs Tame the Torment of Tantalus

(Reach for your *Bullfinch's Mythology* readers.) Our council sponsored the chess tournament run by Linda Brennan-Jones and her husband Tom Jones in the parish hall on Saturday June 16th. Twenty-six young players vied for trophies, ribbons and tournament honors and had a lot of fun in the process. Players and their families donated four cartons of food and a check from tournament proceeds for \$140 to Deacon Haley for the parish food closet. As an added bonus, event organizers and players set the hall up for the Pancake Breakfast before leaving for the day! Thanks go to Joe Koskol and Bill Talarowski for handling food donations and food sales duties during the event. (For those of you whose Greek mythology is a little rusty, Tantalus was a Greek who was tormented in the afterlife by having food and drink placed just beyond his reach for all eternity. He therefore represents hunger.)

Who's on First?

It's not Abbott and Costello. It just seems that way sometimes because Kevin can never remember his lines. Seriously though, we will hold our own First Degree Exemplification in the conference room on Sunday July 15th. Candidates should arrive by 1:30 PM. The degree will start at 2:00 PM. If you haven't been to a degree lately or have forgotten some of what you experienced as a new knight, this is your chance to relive the degree as an observer on an up close and personal basis. It's also your opportunity to show your support for and say hello to our newest members.

July 2007

Congratulation to the Culinary Crew

Our last Pancake Breakfast of the Columbian Year was held on Fathers' Day, June 17th. The June breakfast is usually the one with the lowest attendance of the year since school is out and vacations have drawn people to the shore and other summer recreation spots. Apparently, no one told those at the 9:30 mass though as patrons poured in after the service ended. (At least one of them was overhead saying she had to get there before Father Cocco as she raced for the door!)

Since that was the last breakfast until September, it's a good time to say "Thanks" to the nearly one hundred of you who made this event such a success every month. So, a sincere "Thank you" and a pat on the back for a job well done to Joe and Agnes Baggs, their daughters Barbara, Carol and Debbie and grandson RJ; Jack Bonis; Bob Castelli; Dennis Connolly; Tom Dawson; Bob Dayett; Rich DeLorenzo; Don, Ray and David Detweiler; Vito DiChiara; Rick Drazich; Kevin and Lois Duffy; Dave Eppelheimer; Joe and Joan Fassano; Vince Fritton; Tom Garbowski; Jason Gassert; Vince Gildea; Terry and Brien Gleason; Mike and Mary Goetz; Bert Hahn; Bill, Karen, Kathy and Brian Harris; Andy Hickey; Charles Hindsley; Jim and Joan Hopkins; Joe, Amy, Lynn and Allison Jelenek; John and Eleanor Keating; Joe and Anna Koskol; Frank Lane; Mike, Carol and Michael Laukaitis; Pete Leccia; Matty and Patsy Lennon; Brian, Michelle, Emily and Elaina Maahs; Joe and Deen Mahoney; Sam Masso; Bill and Ann Matt; Ray McAllister; Jack McCool; Stan Meleski; Ritchie Molaison; Duane Morningred; Ron Newsom; Dan, Debbie and Allison Petrucci; Bob and Pauline Porter; Jose Rodriguez; Joe Rotter; Andy Saypack; Mike Solomon; Rich Steffy; Jim Tardona; Terry Tasker; Mario Ventura; Jim and Marie Walls and especially the Oldiges Family – Steve, Valerie, Laurie and Jessica.

Decision Time Reminder

Our council maintains a mailing list of all members, their addresses, and phone numbers and, where applicable, email addresses. In the past, distribution of this list has generally been limited to council officers. The council however has grown to nearly 200 members and we hold dozens of events each year. The knights who organize those events, council directors and fellow knights who want to be able to contact friends quickly and easily have asked that the list be made available to them. It was decided at our last meeting though to give members a chance to "opt out" of the distribution before making the list more widely available. So the rules are 1) the list will be made available only to council members; 2) the list will not be sold or given to others by the council; and 3) members will be able to have their information deleted from the distribution list by letting us know no later than July 20, 2007 and asking that their information not be made available. If you wish to have your name removed from the distribution list, contact Kevin Duffy by phone at 366-1655, by fax at 366-1465, by mail at 3105 Videre Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808-3648 or by email at americor.duffy@comcast.net.

Picnic in the Park

Our erstwhile Membership Director Vito DiChiara has spoken with Delaware Park officials (and we suspect some of his four legged friends there) and arranged for our council to hold its picnic there again this year. Reserve the date on your calendar – Sunday, September 9th – and make plans for a day of family fun and dining alfresco with friends. The fun is guaranteed. Winners of the races are not. Vito only talked to the horses. They didn't talk back. Right, Vito?

July 2007

Kudos to Our Council's Carnies

The guys and gals from our council showed up in droves to support our parish carnival again this year. Since there is no list of those that volunteered, we'll just say "Thanks" and "Job well done" to all who parked cars; worked in the counting room; operated the outside venues; ran the concessions; staffed the game room; helped with the set up, clean up and breakdown; prepared food in the kitchen; and generally helped out wherever needed. We recognize that the Athletic Association is the sponsor of this event and congratulate them on an enormous job well done. It was gratifying to hear our pastor recognize the council's participation in his closing comments at mass though. Way to go team!

He's One of a Kind

Joseph Koskol was awarded the Shining Armor Award at our meeting on the 20th. Joe is the only knight in our council's history to have earned this distinction. There are five requirements set by the Supreme Council that need to be met within the first year of becoming a knight. Some of them include attendance at meetings, completing the first three degrees and recruiting a new member. Joe was presented with a certificate, a shining armor pin and a citation that stated in part *"Joe has demonstrated great enthusiasm for [our] core values ... through his participation in more than the number of programs required to earn this honor and ... he has recognized the familial orientation of the Order by encouraging and facilitating the participation of his entire family in our events. It is especially noteworthy that Joe went out of his way to encourage a friend to join the knights when physical disabilities would have otherwise prevented that friend from enjoying the benefits of knighthood."* Congratulations to a first of its kind award to a one of a kind guy!

Promote the Parish's Persona

We are a large and exceptionally active parish. There is a group or activity for every interest and every need. That includes, to name just a few, the school; Religious Education Department; Athletic Association; food closet; Prayer Group; Ministry of Caring; Legion of Mary; Parish Life; altar servers; Eucharistic Ministers; Lectors; ushers; 40+ Singles Group; Lazarus Group; Ulster Group; Amigo Project; and, of course, the dynamic and ubiquitous Knights of Columbus. We've got a great pastor and an irrepressible pair of talented, outgoing associate pastors.

The problem for those new to St. John the Beloved is that this can be a little overwhelming – an embarrassment of riches if you will. So, how to make new parishioners feel welcome and make existing parishioners feel like they are part of something bigger rather than just one of the five or six hundred other Catholics gathered for mass each Sunday? Borrowing from the big box boys (think of the greeters at WalMart), Father Adrian has asked council members to consider being greeters at Sunday mass. Volunteers for this new ministry will include representatives from many of our parish organizations but Father Adrian came to the knights first - probably because we're such a high spirited and enthusiastic bunch. Greeters will simply welcome parishioners as they enter the church before mass. Think of Sammy, our new four-legged "associate" who will greet anyone who pets him except you won't have to pet the parishioners! More information will be forthcoming in the near future.

Members Set Stage for Irish Visitors

Well, not really the stage. But Nick D'Achille and Kevin Duffy did put out a couple of hundred chairs on June 30th for a welcome session in the hall for the teens from Northern Ireland and members of the Ulster Project who are being hosted by our parish again this year. Thanks go to our knight volunteers and a warm welcome from the council is extended to our young visitors.

Note From the Editor

Kevin Duffy will hopefully have some spare time on his hands now that he's a Past Grand Knight. That means more opportunities to hone his skills in dishing out his own brand of Irish blarney and that he will continue to publish the council's monthly newsletter. Now, he's an okay writer but he's a lousy mind reader so if you have information that needs to get to the council or material you feel would be of import to our members, you'll need to let him know so he can put it in the newsletter. Contact Kevin by email at americor.duffy@comcast.net; by phone at 366-1655; or by mail at 3105 Videre Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808-3648. Information will need to be provided by the 25th of the month to make it into the next month's newsletter.

Event Calendar

July

1	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
15	1:30 PM	First Degree – Council 11796	Hall Conference Room
18	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Hall Conference Room
19	9:00 AM	Blue Rocks Baseball Game	Frawley Stadium
29	11:30 AM	Blue Rocks Baseball Game	Frawley Stadium

August

8	5:00 PM	Blue Rocks Baseball Game	Frawley Stadium
15	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Hall Conference Room
19	1:00 PM	K of C State Picnic	St. Anthony's in the Hills

September

5	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
5	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
6	TBA	Second Degree – Seton Council	345 Bear-Christiana Road
9	1:00 PM	Council 11796 Picnic	Delaware State Park
11	TBA	Second Degree – Christopher Cnsl	135 Princeton Ave, Claymont
19	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room

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