



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

St. John The Beloved Council 11796

From Your Editor

Dear Brother Knights,

Why are you gasping for breath and yelling “Uncle”? April wasn’t that bad. You got your taxes done didn’t you? The uncle you usually fuss about is sending you money this month isn’t he? So what if it’s your money and he’s calling it an economic stimulus package? He’s sending it back isn’t he? Quit yer bitchin. It’s May, the trees are in flower; it doesn’t get dark at 4:30 in the afternoon anymore; and that extra money you’re getting back will buy you a couple of days of a well deserved spring fling (gas not included).

It all depends on whether you see the proverbial glass as half empty or half full. Frankly, I see it as half full and sometimes a lot full. If, you’re inclined to disagree from time to time, that’s OK. When you feel that way though just think back on that one day some two millennia ago. It was a Friday and the glass certainly didn’t seem half full. Those who loved Him saw Him as the vessel that was broken, empty, shattered beyond repair. That was the day all hope seemed lost and despair triumphed. Well, not really. Three days later the vessel was whole and filled once again, Filled with love, redemption and the promise of eternal life. So, if you run into a tough spot, look beyond your own personal horizon and see life renewed all around you in the bounty of His creation. And, if that doesn’t do the trick, reach out, grasp the vessel and drink deeply of the Water of Life. You’ll be refreshed. Life may still not be a bed of roses but hope will be renewed and you’ll be ready to move forward.

And speaking of moving forward, there is lots to do in May. We honor those who have fallen while in the service of all at the Blue Mass on May 9th and those who are responsible for us being here in the first place at the Mothers’ Day Pancake Breakfast on May 11th. Give some thought too to who you want to represent you as council officers next year. Better still; consider standing for one of the offices yourself. It’s only for twelve months and can (take it from someone who knows) be incredibly rewarding.

For our newer members, think of getting involved in one or more of the council’s activities. Our seasoned members can show you how to do anything easily and efficiently; you’ll meet lots of your fellow knights and their families; and you’ll get a little exercise - all in one fell swoop.

Fraternally Yours,

Kevin Duffy
Editor

May 2008

A Brother Passes

Richard Delorenzo, 56, passed away on April 6, 2006. Rich became a member of our council when he joined the Knights of Columbus in April 2006. We mourn his passing.

Congratulations Are In Order

While some of us were scrambling to beat the tax filing deadline, fellow council member Bill Talarowski had finished that task and was getting his second degree at St Mary of the Assumption on April 15th. Five days later, Vinnie Fritton, Dave Sabato and Roger Thompson got their second degrees on Sunday, April 20th, at the Pius X council hall. We commend all four brothers on their achievement.

Two Get Third

It was tough. Officials charged Roger Thompson and Bill Talarowski with conspiring to become made men in the Knights of Columbus organization. Despite what was reported to be relentless questioning by a crack team of investigators, both men stuck to their core principles and were cleared of all charges. All kidding aside, we applaud our intrepid duo for attaining their third degree at Holy Child parish on Sunday, April 27th and welcome Roger and Bill to the rank of Sir Knight.

Blue Mass – The Correct Date

The Blue Mass was incorrectly shown to be scheduled for May 2nd on the Event Calendar in last month's newsletter. The correct date is May 9th. Bishop Michael Saltarelli will celebrate the mass at 11:00 AM. Lunch in the hall will immediately follow the mass.

For our newer members and those who have not already experienced this moving event, the Blue Mass honors police officers and fire fighters who have passed away while serving city, county or state agencies throughout Delaware. Typically, several hundred uniformed and non uniformed personnel and their families, often accompanied by ladder trucks and a mounted patrol, are piped into and out of the service by the police bagpipe corps.

Father McGivney Named Venerable

Our Order's founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, was named a "Venerable Servant of God" by Pope Benedict XVI on March 15th. Born August 12, 1852, Father McGivney was ordained in December 1884 and assigned to St. Mary's Parish in Connecticut the following month. It was there that he gathered a group of catholic men that would become the Knights of Columbus. He died at the age of 38 on August 14, 1890.

To be named a saint, one's cause needs to be presented by the person's home diocese to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome for review. If that review is positive, the pontiff can issue a decree that recognizes the person's heroic virtue and declares them "Venerable". After a miracle, attributed to the candidate's intercession, is authenticated by the church, the pope can beatify the subject. A second miracle is required for the individual to be declared a saint. The process can be quite lengthy. It took 400 years for Joan of Arc to be declared a saint.

Raise Money Without Spending Money

Our friends and Trivia Night cosponsors on the Education Committee have figured out how to raise cash for our school without exerting any energy. Hah, got your attention didn't we? Check your receipts when you shop at any Acme Supermarket. Save any that are printed on blue paper. Then, send the receipts to the school or rectory in an envelope marked "Acme Register Receipts". Acme Supermarkets will donate 1% of the total dollar amount of collected receipts to our school. Remember though, only the blue receipts are eligible for this program. Yeah, yeah, the caption said "without spending money". What you spend on the groceries doesn't count. You were going to spend it anyway. What about the "without exerting any energy" part you ask? It's part of your weekly exercise routine so fib and count the time twice when your doctor asks how much exercise are you getting?

While You're at It

Those ingenious members of the Education Committee will also be collecting empty ink and toner cartridges that usually just go into the trash. So, if you're not getting them refilled, hang on to them. Tell your friends and coworkers you'll help them go green and save the planet by taking their empty cartridges off their hands. Once the EC gets the program up and running, the cartridges will be turned into cash and used to fund various programs at our school. More details will be forthcoming.

Shock and Awe

It wasn't Baghdad and we're not referring to the Green Zone here. We're talking St. John the Beloved campus and the parish hall. The awe was the elaborate displays mounted by the 20 teams and 160 players that competed in Trivia Night this year. The Parrot Heads won the prize for best display with their beach themed table that included beach chairs and umbrella, beach toys and seasonal garb. They even brought their own sand! The team left their bikinis and Speedo's home and, after pondering potential clean up duties, the sand stayed in the car. (Thank you Lord for both decisions.) Your fellow knights, posing as the team of Dewey, Cheatem & Howe of The Three Stooges fame won the competition again this year and remain undefeated. The team was comprised of two judges (Karen Harris and Kevin Duffy), one inmate (Lois Duffy) and five attorneys (Bill Harris, Scot and Diane Behnke and Tom and Gail Webster). The council's co-sponsors - Bonnie DeMichael, Eileen Rogers and the other members of the Education Committee - deserve high praise for their efforts in coordinating this sold out event again this year. Thanks also go to Bill Matt who handled the sign in table; Ann Matt, *La doyenne de les cinquante et cinquante* (Queen of the fifty/fifty) who set a new record for the raffle; Vito DiChiara, Ray McAllister, Dave Sabato and Bob Strong who ran the bar; Dave Eppelheimer and Duane Morningred who acted as judges; Kevin Boyle who ran the projection system; and our chaplain extraordinaire Father Cocco who co-emceed the event, for a job well done. Finally, the shock referred to earlier was the enormous amount of trivia that your bother knights and their families have stored in those repositories located just above their shoulders.

No Meeting on June 4th

The Business Meeting on June 4th will not be held due to the annual parish carnival. Our regular meeting schedule will resume on Wednesday, June 18th.

May 2008

A Really Short Primary Season

Unlike our national political parties, the Knights of Columbus have a mercifully short “primary” season. Yes, it’s time to elect officers for the new Columbian Year that starts on July 1st. Officers must have obtained their third degree but that requirement can be waived where circumstances require. The elected positions are Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, Treasurer, Warden, Advocate, Inside Guard and Outside Guard. The term of office is one year. Election to an office is by simple majority of those voting. Elections must be held before July 1st and there must be three readings of the proposed slate of officer prior to the election. A candidate may nominate himself or be nominated by another knight and nominations can be made at any time. So, if you’re looking to take more of a management role in the council or have questions about what’s involved before deciding to throw your hat (or having it thrown) into the ring, contact Bill Harris at 998-7271 or wkhharrisjr@comcast.net. Elections will be conducted at our meeting on June 18th.

Pondering the Unthinkable

Who thinks the subject of insurance is boring? Okay, put your hands down. (Those of you who voted twice, put both hands down.) Insurance is something most of us don’t think about until we have to or it’s too late. Still, getting it now for your children while it’s cheap is not a bad idea. Planning far into the future to avoid having your life savings disappear in a couple of months when you’re 75 and need assisted living or nursing home care is something most of us should at least consider doing. Things are getting tight these days with prices soaring in the grocery isles and at the gas pump but starting an annuity for \$300 is still a good idea. Thanks to our field agent Jim Mullen, Jr. who provided an insurance night Q and A at our meeting on April 16th though we at least have some idea of what we should be looking for in the way of insurance. If you were at the meeting and have questions or you couldn’t attend the meeting and want to look into the wide array of insurance products provided by the Knights of Columbus, contact Jim at (302) 373-0372 or james.mullenjr@kofc.org. Don’t worry; Jim’s not the strong arm type. (It’s a good thing too because most of us are twice his size.) He’ll just answer your questions and provide some suggestions. The decision to buy or not to buy is entirely yours.

Put Your Talents to Use

It’s no secret that our council has some very talented knights in it – plumbers, carpenters, accountants, electricians, business owners, medical professionals, computer experts, etc. All of us need these services from time to time. It’s also no secret during these uncertain economic times that, for those needing a service, every dollar counts and for those able to provide a service, additional income is always welcome. So, for those of you with the skills and a little spare time, let us know if you’re interested in turning those skills into a few extra bucks; bartering your skills with others who are able to fix something you can’t; or you’re willing to offer free advice. We’re not talking major renovations for free here. We’re talking about a fellow knight who wants to fix up the yard and needs some landscaping advice or service; a council member with a leaky faucet who doesn’t want to pay \$350 for a plumber for 15 minutes; a small business owner who needs help setting up a web page; etc. Let us know what your skills are or what you’re willing to do and your availability. We’ll keep a service directory and, when a fellow council member asks if we know anyone who’s good at (fill in the blank here), we’ll put them in touch with you and you can take it from there. For additional information, contact Kevin Duffy at americor.duffy@comcast.net or 366-1655.

May 2008

Oh, The Sacrifices We Make For Our Brother Knights!

Our thanks go to Kevin Duffy, Vinnie Fritton, Bill Harris; Steve Oldiges, Debbie Petrucci, Fran Sarro, Mike Solomon, and Jim Walls for staffing this year's Tootsie Roll Drive on April 19th and 20th. Special thanks go to Brian Moore and to his Junior Executive Assistant (and son) Donovan for coordinating the event. All funds collected during the drive benefit the mentally handicapped and the Delaware Special Olympics. And, no, the sacrifice mentioned earlier to wasn't a reference to staffing the 7:00 AM mass (though our hats are off to Brian for his commitment to the cause), it was the one made by your editor who had to open the candy and then consume it (well, can't let it go to waste) in order to report the treats contained no salt and no appreciable trans fats.

Council to Recognize Mothers

Steve Oldiges and his hardy crew of *artistes des gastronome* have planned their annual Mothers' Day Pancake Breakfast for May 11th. In addition to a fabulous breakfast of pancakes, eggs, ham and beverage prepared by someone other than mom, each mother will receive a fresh rose to recognize her special day. All that's needed is you so come on out and volunteer a few hours. Your mother would be proud of you!

A Sound Suggestion for Long Term Security

Thinking of retirement? You should be. Then consider putting your money to work for you in a Knights of Columbus annuity. These annuities pay a very competitive interest rate, consistent with our primary goal of absolute safety of principal. And with a Vantage Annuity you can lock in that competitive interest rate for a full five years. This is retirement income that you cannot outlive – guaranteed! With the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee you an income at retirement that you cannot outlive. The fact that no one has ever lost money left in a K of C annuity really will provide you with peace of mind. As you ponder all the things that may or may not work out as you proceed toward retirement, think about one thing you can do to help yourself – opening a K of C annuity. It is reasonably priced, guaranteed, and controlled by someone you trust – YOU! Contact Jim Mullen, 302-373-0372 (james.mullenjr@kofc.org) to get your annuity started.

Council Collecting Carnies to Harness Horseless Carriages

It will soon be June and time for the parish's annual carnival. The parking lots will be full and with our council members' help, all those horseless carriages will be positioned with skill and aplomb i.e. our customary confident composure and self assurance. If you can help any evening Monday June 2nd through Saturday June 7th between the hours of 5:30 and 8:00 PM, contact Matty Lennon at 998-4863 or geodisplayart@comcast.net.

Event Calendar

May

4	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
7	7:00 PM	Council Rosary	Conference Room
7	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Business Meeting	Conference Room
7	7:30 PM	Nominations for Council Offices	Conference Room
9	11:00 AM	Blue Mass	SJB Church
9	12:00 PM	Blue Mass Reception & Luncheon	SJB Hall
11	7:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
21	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room
21	7:30 PM	Nominations for Council Offices	Conference Room
29	6:30 PM	Sandwiches Emmanuel Dining Hall	Parish Hall

June

1	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
2 – 7	5:30 PM	SJB Carnival Parking	SJB Main Parking Lot
15	7:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast	Parish Hall
18	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room
18	7:30 PM	Nominations/Election of Officers	Conference Room

July

6	7:00 PM	First Degree – St. Pius X Council	Scott & Lancaster Sts, Wilmington
16	7:30 PM	Council 11796 Social Meeting	Conference Room