



Volume 30, Number 1

The Knight Newsletter

Of S.K. Gerry Gauthier Council 10209

www.kofc10209.org



August 2010

Grand Knight:

SK Tom Natoli.....

Financial Secretary:

SK Chris Jistel

Chaplain:

Rev. Fr. James Martin, CSC280-4460

Deputy Grand Knight:

SK Gayle Ferguson.....

Chancellor:

Deacon John Pickwell.....443-6395

Recorder:

Bill Hoagland.....

Treasurer:

SK Albert Villegas.....

Advocate:

SK Bob Fonseca

Warden:

SK Bob Meny

Inside Guard:

SK Henry Casas.....

Outside Guard:

Brian Tuohy.....

1-year Trustee:

Carlos Mendoza.....

2-year Trustee:

Bob Natoli.....

3-year Trustee:

SK David Moore.....

Lector:

.....

Insurance Agent:

SK Brandon Kraft.....476-3761

Respect Life Representative:

SK Ken & Lady Maria Moore.....

Newsletter Editor:

SK Sean McGee.....280-6701

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<mailto:sean@mcgeeclan.us>

MEETING NOTICE

K of C Council # 10209 Meets

Where: St. Paul Church-rooms 5&7

When: Monday, August 2nd

Time: 7:00 pm

Join the Yahoo Group!

Join the KofC10209 Yahoo Group and get email notices of upcoming events! Simply send an email to kofc10209-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and you'll be signed up!

Grand Knight Report

Brother Knights,

Thank you for trusting me with your confidence this year. The installation ceremony was a fun evening with close to 20 Knights in attendance. Thanks Mike Moreno for pinch-hitting for John who was out of the country.

I'd like to begin by thanking David Moore and the past officers of the council for their time and efforts this past year. Quite a few things were accomplished and I am honored to try to build on the past year. I also want to thank the past Grand Knights that I have had the pleasure to observe. I have met with several of them over the past month and they have shared their experience and wisdom.

I would also like to thank all the fellow officers for volunteering this year. This includes many who are heading up committees and running with various activities. We clearly have the potential for a great year. This summer we will have our youth Essay and Poster contest- Thank you Carlos for heading these up.

We are fortunate to have a great council with about 40 active men. As most of you know there are Knights, in leadership positions, in nearly every church organization.

Recently the officers developed a budget that will be presented to the council. It is a balanced budget. We agreed to have less fundraiser and to put more manpower behind the 5 events. There will be two off site sales, one on site sale, a passbook sale and the golf outing. We'll get the dates to you soon so you can plan on participating.

There are 41 activities that our council is involved in and we'll share the calendar a few months ahead of time so if you are interested you can participate. If you would like to become more involved please let me know, we have a couple of positions that will be filled in August.

I have a few new ideas I'd like you to consider.

1. I'd like to ask each of you to ask someone to be a Knight each quarter. That means you'll be asking a minimum of 4 people. If you are like me, you may at first feel a little awkward asking someone. But if you believe, like I do, that being a Knight and helping the Priests and Church is one of the most important ways you can give honor and thanks to God, and then you'll realize that you are really doing a great favor for the future candidate. Many Knights like me needed an extra nudge to get involved. There are many people who think they do not have time for the Knights. Often those that think they do not have time have not analyzed where their time goes. When they realize how much fuller their lives are after working with the Knights they will learn how life could be spent. You know the saying do what you enjoy and you'll never work a day in your life.

2. Try and have a few more family gatherings. In a way of getting the family involved -we'll have a wife appreciation after one of the corporate communions, and a family event after another. I believe by involving the family you we'll all have more fun. (I still visualize Ken sacrificing his body and running through the fence in the outfield to catch that kickball at the Knights picnic)

3. Start to plan on how we will be involved with the direction of the new St Paul facility- whether it is a new church, renovation or something else. As the leaders of the church we have a chance to make an impression and set an example. We have time for this, as the new facility is 3-5 years away- but it is not too early to be thinking ahead.

4. I hope to get to know you all more and make sure if there are things you would like to participate in that we help each other. Gayle as the Deputy Grand Knight will be maintaining all the activities and events and ministries.

I ask you for your prayers, as you will be in mine, to help me and have some patience as I learn how to be a Grand Knight. If you have suggestions or recommendations please let me know.

Once again thanks for this great honor and I look forward to serving you, St. Paul and Our Priests this year.

Fraternally,

SK Tom Natoli

Grand Knight

Insurance Agent Report

Only Two at the Top

The mission of the Knights of Columbus was established by Fr. McGivney and detailed in our charter. The first purpose of the Knights as listed in our charter—rendering financial aid to our members, our families and the beneficiaries of members and their families—established our insurance program. Our vision, today, of how to achieve it is defined by presenting to our Brother Knights the best possible products overseen by the best possible insurance system.

I've mentioned before our ratings by A.M. Best and Standard & Poor's—A++ (Superior) and AAA (Superior)—the highest offered. I've mentioned before that the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association certifies us for our ethical business practices.

During July, it was announced that we are one of only two insurance providers who can boast both those claims—the highest ratings in the industry while maintaining the most ethical practices in the industry.

This doesn't surprise me and shouldn't surprise you. Why more companies aren't up there with us? I don't know, but I know why we are. We are a fraternal benefits society. Our sole purpose of providing insurance is to provide for your needs. No stockholders. No fat cats at the top of the company. Only Brother Knights working to fulfill the vision of Fr. Michael McGivney.

The fraternal year is 1/12th in the books and the school year is about to start. Now is the time to review your current life insurance plan or look at starting one. Been sitting on an old 401(k), IRA, 403(b) or SEP and want to roll it over to something guaranteed? Curious about what long-term care insurance can do? Now is the time. Give me a call or send me an e-mail. There are plenty of other companies you could be doing business with, but none can do all that the Knights of Columbus can do.

God bless and stay safe these final days of summer!

Brandon J. Kraft

Field Agent

512-476-3761

brandon.kraft@kofc.org

District Deputy Report

Brother Knights,

We come to the end of another successful fraternal year. The order has topped over 1.8 million members. The new year brings new leaders in our local councils, Diocese and State. Our new State Deputy is Tony Herreth. Bill Harris will become the Diocese Deputy for the South Austin Diocese.

We also move to a new District, District 127, but you are still stuck with me. Thank you to the outgoing officers, and best of luck to the incoming officers.

Let's hit the ground running July 1st, keep inviting Catholic Gentlemen to join us. If you have only made your First degree, make a promise to yourself to attend a major degree. There will be two major degrees in the South Diocese before the end of the year, August 1st in Kyle and October 9th in Buda. If you haven't talked to your insurance agent, or it has been while, give him a call and learn about the great products the order offers to all of its members.

John Massey
District Deputy 127
Council 8156
Assembly 1099

Proposed Budget

Attached to this newsletter is the proposed operating budget for the Council for the 2010-2011 Fraternal Year. You should review the budget and suggest any amendments to the budget in the August Meeting as we will be voting on the budget under new business.

For the Good of the Order

This morning we said good-bye to our lovely exchange student daughter. The good-bye was not easy because we truly love Laura and will indeed miss her. Vicki and I are now lost in a big empty house, being new "empty-nesters" again for the third time. Each time was difficult because it is always difficult to let go of someone you love, even when you know it is the correct natural progression of life. The first time was when our daughter married and although we still had Robby at home, so we weren't truly "empty-nesters" at that time, we still missed having Leigh Anne in our home. Then Robby left to go to college and when we had adjusted and were really enjoying our life together, Janka became a part of our family and after having her as a daughter for 6 months she returned to Slovakia. Now this morning we said good-bye to Laura at the airport and she is on her way back to Germany after spending nearly 11 months as our daughter.

On August 7, 2009, we met Laura for the first time when we picked her up at the airport in Austin. At that time Laura was a houseguest and we wanted to do our best to make her comfortable and her stay in America rewarding for her. After a few months she was no longer a house guest but truly a loved daughter, she began to call Vicki mom and me dad. We developed that relationship as we learned to know who Laura was and she learned to know us. We did not develop this loving relationship by spending only one hour a week together – we spent everyday together, we ate together and did things together everyday. Some things we did were just routine living things like doing minor household chores together, especially Laura and Vicki, with cooking and cleaning up, sitting in the same room watching a TV program, playing cards, going to Mass together, etc.

We all should have a relationship with Jesus as close and as loving as we had with our children. But just as we did not learn to know and love our children by spending only one hour per week with them, we can't expect to know Jesus if we only spend one hour a week on Sundays with him. We need him to be a part of our everyday life and we need to set time aside everyday for him. We should talk with Jesus everyday, and I don't mean only to him by reciting prayers, but listen to him also. Real conversation goes two ways. Let him speak to you in your heart by giving him a few minutes of silent, quiet time. You can also listen to his words to you by reading from the bible each day; the bible was inspired by God so the words, though written by humans, are his words. As you read them, contemplate on the words spoken to you – what is Jesus saying to you? And each Sunday when we go to Mass, we should be going because we love Jesus, not because it is an obligation. If we go to Mass because we are afraid that if we don't we may not like where we end up when we die, then we are being selfish, just trying to buy fire insurance. Rather we should be going to Mass because we love Jesus and want to be with him.

When we left Laura at the airport and saw her disappear after the security clearance heading toward her gate, though sad, we began to feel a tinge of joy in our hearts from already reliving the memories of the past 11 months, and knowing that we can visit her and her family in Germany in the future and we can continue our relationship by email, phone, Skype, etc. Likewise, when we truly get to know Jesus and truly love him we will begin to look joyfully to the time we can be united with him in heaven for all eternity. But until that time, take every opportunity to spend time with him, but not only at home for a few minutes, and on Sundays, but make the effort to go visit him in the chapel, or participate in weekday prayer opportunities. Not because you feel an obligation, but because you love Jesus. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone felt the sorrow of separation and joy of anticipation of the next Mass or prayer meeting

every time they left church? Rather than rushing out after Mass, we would leave slowly, eagerly awaiting the next opportunity to go to Mass.

God Bless you
SK Lee Jan

Prayer Box

Please Pray for: Henry Casas who is recovering well. Fr. Barry, Fr. James, Karen Cottrell, Pat Taylor, Louis Palacios, Joe and Josie Reschman, Marilyn Pickwell, Herman and Agnes Bunn, Our Military, the sick members of St. Paul Parish, Cheli Cartledge, and Howard Hoagland.

2011 Passbooks are on the Way

While I don't think the 2011 Passbooks will arrive in time for the meeting I should have books available in the second week of August. The Austin edition is \$25 this year and includes loads of money saving coupons for restaurants and local businesses in our area. It makes a great gift and is something people will want year after year.

Take advantage of our early opportunity to offer a few books for sale at your workplace or school. The council receives approximately \$5 per book so it is a great fundraiser for us.

I will have books for sure by the September meeting. You simply take a few, bring back money for books sold and return unsold books later in the year. You are out of pocket nothing!

Thank you for your support. Please contact me if you need books right away and I will do my best to get some to you.

-SK Sean McGee – seanmcgee@yahoo.com 680-0367

Calendar Review

August 2010

- Monday, August 2nd – Council Meeting – 7pm in Room 5&7
- Saturday, August 7th – Men's Club Workday at 8am by BBQ pit
- Monday, August 9th – 4th Degree Meeting – 7pm
- Monday, August 16th – Officer's Meeting at 7pm in Kitchen
- Thursday, August 19th – First Degree Ceremony in Grace Hall 7pm setup

- Monday, September 6th – Council meeting at 7pm in Room 5&7

Newsletter Articles

The next Newsletter Articles are due by Monday, August 30th. Submit your articles to Sean McGee at sean@mcgeeclan.us or by calling 680-0367.