

St. Paul Catholic Church, Austin, Texas



Volume 31, Number 1

The Knight Newsletter

Of S.K. Gerry Gauthier Council 10209

www.council10209.org



July 2011

Grand Knight:

SK Albert Villegas 282-9330

Financial Secretary:

SK Chris Jistel..... 292-9729

Chaplain:

Rev. Fr. James Martin, CSC 280-4460

Deputy Grand Knight:

SK Kevin Russell 282-6863

Chancellor:

Recorder:

Craig 282-9330

Treasurer:

Bill Hoagland 971-6822

Advocate:

SK Bob Fonseca 282-9330

Warden:

My Van Dinh 282-9330

Inside Guard:

Anthony Palacios 282-9330

Outside Guard:

Carlos De La Garza 282-9330

1-year Trustee:

Carlos Mendoza 416-7555

2-year Trustee:

SK David Moore 416-8731

3-year Trustee:

SK Tom Natoli 301-0215

Lector:

SK Lee Jan 291-4809

Insurance Agent:

SK Brandon Kraft 476-3761

Respect Life Representative:

Bob Hecker 282-9330

Newsletter Editor:

SK Sean McGee 280-6701

<mailto:sean@mcgeeclan.us>

Church Committee Chair 282-9330

Community Committee Chair 282-9330

Family Committee Chair 282-9330

Council Committee Chair 282-9330

Youth Committee Chair 282-9330

MEETING NOTICE

K of C Council # 10209 Meets

Where: St. Paul Church-room 5

When: Monday, July 18th

Time: 7:00 pm

50/50 game jackpot is at \$121.00

Join the Yahoo Group!

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

Grand Knight Elect Report

Brother Knights,

Knights, Thank you for electing me as the Grand Knight. I look forward to serving the council. I would like to thank Tom Natoli for his leadership and all the officers who served this past fraternal year. We are fortunate to have strong leaders in our council. This next fraternal year, we will re-charter our Columbian Squires, as well as help our Women's Auxiliary grow. There are many opportunities to get involved with our council. I ask that each member invite a Catholic gentleman to consider joining the Knights of Columbus. I hope everyone had an opportunity to meet our new Priests, Reverend Hector Vega ISP, Pastor and Reverend Christian Christensen ISP parochial vicar. I look forward to another great year.

Fraternally,

SK Albert Villegas
Grand Knight

GK Report

First off welcome to our two newest Knights **Bill Jensen**

and **John McDonnell** we look forward to seeing them at our next meeting 7/18- or at our next fundraiser which will be after all the masses 7/9 and 10. The meeting on the 18th will be the initiation of the new officers , the ladies Auxiliary is preparing a reception following the meeting- all are invited and encouraged to attend.

I want to thank everyone for everything you all do to make St Paul a great Parish. As we all know, Father Hector and Father Christian will be arriving in July. The Knights, as leaders of the church, have an opportunity to make their welcome warm and smooth. Albert, Kevin, Gayle and I will be sitting with our new priests in August to see how the Knights can help them.

Father Barry and Father James said their last mass last week- I know we will be seeing them at St Ignatius and other activities with the Knights in the coming year. We thank them and wish them well. They will remain in our prayers.

The other day I looked back over the past year. It went by very fast and there were so many great times that I thought I'd share a top 10 list of memorable moments.

1-Earlier this year I heard from another council about how wonderful their neighbor looked by selling crosses to parishioners. I picked up a cross and was going to bring it to a council meeting to get feedback and see if this is something we would want to do. I was not two blocks from the house I obtained the cross from, when a van pulled up beside me. (if you know me - I immediately thought I was in trouble, or she thought I must have stolen the cross or something) Instead she explained that she was considering adopting child from another country and along with her husband have spent a long time debating and they asked God for a sign. She said the cross- which was hanging out of the car was the sign and she knew she would adopt the child. She was very emotional and could hardly speak.(I was getting chills when she spoke) Before I left she asked me If I could ride around with this cross and that it may help others. We agreed as a council to sell the crosses this year.- more on the cross later.

2-We had a fallout for Confirmation and welcomed Bishop Joe to St Paul. I will never forget the young men that looked up at Kevin (who doesn't look up you Kevin) and asked what is a Knight and what do they do. It was a look that said - I want to be a Knight some day.

3- We were asked and agreed to say the pledge of allegiance and Our Lord's Prayer with the Boy Scouts as we start both meetings at the same time. After saying the Our Father with the Boy Scouts for the first time, a family mentioned that they had never taught their children to pray. the Boys did not want to stand there silent and asked their parents to teach them the Lord's Prayer. The next month the boys and their parents prayed The Lord's Prayer with the Boy Scouts and Knights.

4-This past June the Knights participated with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in a flag retirement ceremony- this was special event. If you get a chance to see the pictures you'll see the focus in the boys eyes during this ceremony. There were close to a hundred people there - very special day.

5-At the state convention Kath and I watched Cardinal DiNardo preside with 8 bishops in a mass for the Knights- There were over 3,000 Knights in attendance. If you ever think what you do as a Knight is not important- I suggest you come to a state convention. I met people who were not officers that traveled 10 hours (one way) to attend the event. After witnessing the mass and meeting so many Knights from all over the state- I understand why.

6--Meeting Sam Szalwinski, San Antonio Knight, who heads up the wheel chair program in Texas- what a great man. After viewing a video I learned that there are many immobilized people and many who travel on their hands or elbows. Through people like Sam The Knights have helped thousands around the world.

7-Working with Brother Knights to build Sue Botta's ramp ,garden and trimming the trees. This was Knights in action and teamwork. I can assure there is no one in the council that is less of a builder than me. But I learned how to build a garden and ramp. The first day, despite maybe 7 hours in the heat, the team spent close to an hour on that last piece ,the threshold, connecting the wood ramp to the concrete patio to ensure it was smooth and would not create a bump for Sue's oxygen tank or walker.

8--The look on Denise Gran face when she was awarded the Knights Ace Wings- she is someone who gives so much to others at our church.

9-Meeting several Knights while in the Hospital- Not something I would normally do - but I learned a valuable lesson while I was in the hospital the previous year and many Knights visited- It was great to spend some time with the Knights. It was chance to learn about their life and all they have done with the Knights .

10-Wives dinner- this was a blast- watching the Knights in the two kitchens and the serving area. This was a true team work . We had a blast with Pete and my dad getting all the food for the first time. Such a great turnout of wives and Knights. I think some of the wives - especially those that said let's do this again next month - really enjoyed the service.



1 Altar Server Appreciation

11-- Clapping for each of the Altar servers as they stood up and introduced themselves at the dinner. I believe that people get too few ovations in their life- and being an altar server is most worthy of one.

12- The first degrees- every time I attend I learn something new. We may have one of the best degrees team in the country. We received many compliments this past year from councils who used our first degree to welcome their new Knights.

13-The Sue Botta project was actually three weekends and the second weekend we decided rather than move the existing planters (which were in concrete three feet deep) closer to the patio in the back yard we would build a new one. We went back to Home Depot to ask for another discount on the wood and materials. When we built the ramp the first weekend it took an hour to obtain the discount as only one person was authorized. The second time when we came in a person behind the counter said to go see Charles and that every employee in this store knows what you guys did last month and we are glad to be a part be it. Charles who gave us the discount , within minutes, and looked me in the eye and said thank you for doing this. This is one of those times when you are trying to thank them for helping out and all they want to do is thank you.

14- So now I have the cross (See #1 above) and we put in our yard for Holy Thursday at about 6 am - the first neighbor that rode by asked where he could get one.- I mentioned we would be making and selling them , he said to reserve one for him- by noon my wife received a call from a neighbor wanting to know where we got the cross and that she wanted to buy one. The Cross' lights were not even on yet.

15- The interest of the boys when we mentioned the Squires- Nor will I not forget the Mom who came back to us after they had already reached their car and said my son is very interested and I want to make sure I do not miss it, how will we know when it will start.

16- Golfing with different Knights- you never know what is going to happen in a scramble - but I can assure you, something fun and unusual occurs. Like Bob F hitting a drive 416 yards (okay he used a skirt but it was a very long shot)

17- When we announced that the ladies auxiliary would be looking into starting a young woman's group (similar to the Squires) and that after a year of planning it may start in 2012. A young lady, an altar server, fist pumped (like Tiger Woods chipping in from off the green at the Masters) and said "yes !".

18-The response and look a gentleman has when you ask him if he ever considered being a Knight. Some of the responses are too personal to share. Every man I asked felt honored.

19-Spending time with the men's club- even for an hour. They are a great bunch of guys and I also enjoyed talking and hanging around the young men that help them, several will be squires and Knights someday. And thank you to Carlos cooking for the guys after a good morning of work.

20-Seeing the ladies auxiliary after one of our meeting with big smiles, food to share and just hanging around together afterwards.

21-Knowing that several men signed up for insurance. While the feeling is good now- knowing these families will have something when they really need it will be a greater gift.

22-Seeing the Unborn statue all cleaned up and freshly painted.

23- Receiving so many thank you's from the people who played in our golf tournament. They felt like they were taken care of and they had a good time. many of these guys play in a few tournaments and really appreciated the care and service everyone provided. Kudos to Gayle and Bill.

24-Watching the satisfaction at a Special Olympics event of a bowler knocking down one of three pins. His smile and the congratulations from his teammates is what sport is all about. At this same tourney a young girl bowled an 83 it was her personal best and she received an award. The meaning of sportsmanship and sport will probably be redefined to a more appropriate setting when you see these athletes compete.

25- Cooking those monster turkey legs (They must have been on steroids) at the church fair.

26- Visiting all the churches in the area for various meeting- An old Italian tradition , my mom taught me, is to make a wish when in a church for the first time. I had the great pleasure in being more than 10 beautiful churches this year that I had never visited before in Texas.

27-Watching strangers thank and hug Kevin at the clergy appreciation dinner. Tip for all - when attending a clergy appreciation do not wear a black turtleneck with a black jacket unless you want to be called Father all night.

Okay so my top 10 was more like a top 25+ and I know I am missing many more items. I think the point is I am glad I didn't wait another year to get very involved with the Knights or I would have missed these moments. I played the I am too busy card too long. It is not about being busy we are all busy- it is about making our time count.

Did we accomplish everything- no. One rarely does accomplish all their goals in home, charity or work but what is important is that you accomplished something and that you keep making things better for the next group. I am proud of working with you all this past year and look forward to helping as a Trustee in the upcoming years and hopefully throughout the region in some capacity. I look forward to supporting our Grand Knight Albert and Deputy Grand Knight Kevin and Brother Knight Sean with the Squires this year.

Best

S.K. Tom Natoli

Insurance Agent Report

First, congrats! The St. Paul's council has grown by leaps and bounds during the fraternal year that we just completed. Not only in membership growth (200% of the goal set by Supreme) and in increased participation in the insurance program (100% of the goal set by Supreme), but in terms of programming and serving St. Paul's and the broader South Austin community.

None of this was possible without dedication. Tom as Grand Knight and Bob as Membership Director get a lot of credit for reading the numeric goals, and rightly so, but each officer, committee director and active member equally deserve credit for the dedication to plan and execute each service project or community activity. The numeric goals mean nothing if the council isn't serving others, building relationships and making Catholic families stronger. Your dedication to service is inspiring others to serve (which, after all, is the point of the numeric goals—to motivate your work to be contagious!) not only gives the council more manpower, it makes a great and lasting impact on the community.

Fr. McGivney founded the Knights to make a lasting impact on the community and to provide financial benefits to the families of Knights.

In the new fraternal year, I encourage you to keep doing what you're doing. If you haven't been active recently and are looking to make a difference in the community,

get involved with your council! If you're worried about the financial "What If's", let a Brother Knight show you some options and help you prepare.

God Bless.

SK Brandon J. Kraft, FA
Field Agent
512-476-3761
brandon.kraft@kofc.org

District Deputy Report

Brother Knights,

We come to the end of another successful fraternal year. Thank you to the outgoing officers, and best of luck to the incoming officers. Also a big thank you to the two Degree Teams we have in our District, St. Catherine and St. Paul. Between them they hosted 14 first degrees this year bringing in over 60 new Knights! Also thanks to Eddie, Brandon, the council recruiting directors and you, we were able to achieve 3 Star Councils, 2 Double Star Councils and one of the only All Star Districts in the State. 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 a major degree in the South Diocese on Sunday, August 7th in Kyle. 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.

Important dates in July:

- Monday July 4th, Independence Day, remember to fly your flag
- Tuesday, July 12th: 1st Degree at St. Ignatius
- Saturday, July 23rd: Diocese Meeting at St. Catherine of Siena
- Wednesday, July 28: 1st Degree at St. Catherine of Siena

John Massey
District Deputy 127
Council 8156
Assembly 1099

Scholarship Awards



Congratulations to our 2011 Scholarship award winners! (from left to right)

- Ariya Villegas
- Jeremy Romero
- Keith Tompkins (played by brother)
- Maria Alba (not pictured)

Summer Coupon Book Fundraiser

Brother Knights,

Entertainment Inc. the company behind the Passbooks we sell each fall has started a new fundraising program where groups can get a custom made coupon book containing 40 selected coupons and sell these books for profit. I am happy to say that our Council will be participating in this fundraiser. The books feature our council's name and logo and feature businesses located in South Austin which should help us to market this product.

Books sell for \$20 and have coupons good through the end of the year. Our council stands to make \$10 per book which is significantly higher than we make on the passbooks. The coupon books feature only 40 coupons but I have selected popular restaurants in our area as well as local car wash and some of the most popular golf coupons from the annual passbook which make the total savings possible with the book about \$400. Since the coupons are for businesses right in our neighborhood it is easier to save than ever.

I expect these books will be easy to sell. Combine that with the higher profit margin and we have an opportunity to make enough money to pay for a scholarship next year and possibly more than one.

Please consider taking a few books on consignment at the July meeting. Sell them to friends, family and coworkers and bring back the \$20 per book. Unsold books can be returned. There is no risk to you.

We need to complete this sale by the end of August when we will begin selling the 2012 passbooks. Thank you for your support!

-SK Sean McGee

Right to Life Activities

The Austin Prayer Vigil for Life will be on Saturday July 16th at St. Ignatius Parish, 126 Oltorf Lane, Austin, TX. Mass will begin at 7:00 am. Following the mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be in the church and a car caravan will travel to Austin Womens Health, 1902 South IH 35. The Rosary will be prayed at the site from 8:30 – 9:50 a.m. Refreshments will be hosted by San jose catholic Church.

Pro life Volunteer Day will be on Sunday July 24th at San Gabriel Park in Georgetown, TX. It will be from 11:30 am ~ 3:30 pm. Join us for a family day with food and games for all of our volunteers throughout the Diocese. Please RSVP by July 18th via phone at [\(512\) 949-2486](tel:5129492486) or email volunteerappreciationday@austindiocese.org

Upcoming Budget Vote

Under a separate copy is the proposed 2011-2012 operating budget for the Council. This budget will be voted on at the July meeting on Monday, July 18th.

Prayer Box

Please Pray for: Mary Cavazos, Lee Jan's Mother Josephine Jan, Antonio Garcia Sr., Fr. Barry, Fr. James, Our New Priests, Joe Reschmann, Louis Palacios, David and Mary Moore, Jeff Pain and Mother Betty Payne, Tom Baylund and Family, Carolyn Ferguson.

Calendar Review

- July 18th – Installation of Officers Ceremony 6pm; Council Meeting 7:30pm
- July 30th - Men's club workday
- July 31st – Corporate Communion
- August 1st – Council Meeting 7pm

Newsletter Articles

The next Newsletter Articles are due by Monday, July 25th. Submit your articles to Sean McGee at sean@mcgeeclan.us or by calling 680-0367.