

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Avon Park & Sebring, FL

Issue 2007-12

December 2007

Grand Knight's Report

My Brother Knights,

Oktoberfest (or should I say November-fest?) is now behind us. Although it was a condensed version of prior affairs, those attending enjoyed the music and the food. Heartfelt thanks to the *Columbiettes*:



Marie Carlson, Maureen Stephens, Anne Flanagan, Lorraine Fields, Alma Almeida, Carmel Cano, Beth Caracaus, Edie Urda, and the *Knights*: Paul Stephens, Mike Flood, John Schumacher, Bill Reagan, Carmine Aurigemma, Bill Fields. The work these people did made the success of our evening possible. And, yes, the Oktoberfest was a profitable function.

The *Columbiettes* Fashion Show and Luncheon was also a great success, thanks in part to the "male models"!

A Christmas party for needy children is scheduled for Saturday, December 8th at 1:00 PM. Gifts for the children and lunch for all will be provided. Also, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there. (We request that the larger Knights refrain from sitting on Santa's lap!) In addition to participants from the Childrens' Home Society, we will reach out to children in both parishes.

Attendance at our Fourth Sunday Breakfasts continues to grow. On October 28th, we were not quite prepared for the number of guests and sincerely apologize to the last group who were not properly fed. Efforts are in place to assure that does not happen again.

Most of us agree that the addition of a Friday night "Bingo" would enhance our finances. Both parishes have expressed interest in this; but, as yet have made no commitment. Because of this, I have asked the President of the *Columbiettes* to see if they would be interested in providing the necessary floor workers. Naturally, any financial terms, questions, or concerns would be subject to council approval.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, a telephone call list will be in place to inform you of Council meetings, deaths, social events, etc.

We will soon be celebrating the Season of Advent, a time we await the Coming of Christ. We too have our own advent to consider --- the coming together of our Council. We have taken positive steps in that direction and must continue to do so. God bless you all and may you and your families have a Blessed and Joyful Christmas

Dick Carlson, GK



Deacon's Corner

Brother Knights and Columbiettes,

The Liturgical year opens on the First Sunday of Advent with the words of the psalmist, "No one who waits for you is ever put to shame." (Ps 25:3).



As our days become shorter and our nights darker, the Church prepares to celebrate the coming of Christ.

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered: as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.

Advent is not an easy season to celebrate. This time of "joyful expectation" is easily overshadowed

(See *Deacon's Corner* - page 3, col 1)

Knights in Action is a monthly newsletter published by the Knights of Columbus Pope John XXIII Council No. 5441, Sebring, FL 33870. The council was granted its charter on May 26, 1963 and meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

The editor is Jack McLaughlin, who can be reached at 471-3295, or jack.mclaughlin@embarqmail.com. Any Knight, whether from Council 5441 or another council, may submit articles for publication. Please submit articles by the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication.

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385-6608

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314-9754

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Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

Raymond Goers
471-2205

December Birthdays

Patty Meegan	04	Caroline Furgala	21
Thomas L. Lawrence	06	Gordon L. Flynn	22
Carmine Aurigemma	10	Ruth Tomek	23
Sandra McLeod	10	Lester M. Wills	23
August J. Arehart	10	Thomas L. Burden	25
Ramon F. Rivera	12	Carole J. Dumbleton	25
Raymond W. LaCount	13	Daniel A. Roche Sr	26
Fred M. Nugent	13	Claude G. Ruel	27
Thomas P. Barabas	13	Daniel C. Pemble	27
Peter Buzzek	17	Rev John H. Belfield	28
Vicki Sandin	18	Leo J. Fitzgerald	28
James G. Hollywood	18	Henry M. (Bud) Pieracini	29
Jean A. Lesniak	18	Charles V. Lindsey	30
Donald E. Fitzwater	20		

December Anniversary

Bolivar & Palmira Rivera	December 8, 1951
Donald & Olivia Sliwicki	December 22, 1979
Ambrose & Janet Brooker	December 27, 1967

Good of the Order

Keep in your prayers and thoughts Deacon Max, Art Paek, Michael McLeod, Paul Reiter's son James, Ray Whitlatch, Scott Giles. and all of our Brother Knights and wives that are in need of your prayers

Remember also all of our men and women serving in harms way to protect our freedom.

Merry Christmas



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385-4032

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382-4550

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Jim Hollywood
382-0118

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Andy Mish
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DD #43
699-2013

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402-0423

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314-9188

Youth

Stephen Ashley
385-4980

Membership

Joseph Grecko
314-9754

Retention

Stephen Ashley
385-4980

(Deacon's Corner from Page 1)

by Christmas preparations, which as we can see in all the stores around Sebring, have been going on since Halloween. The Scriptures though at this time, invite us during this time to be on guard, to watch, to be ready, and to prepare. Everything about our worship should reflect the season. Our green vestments of Ordinary time and the splendid white of Christ the King are left behind and replaced with hues of purple, deep blue and grey.

Among the figures of Advent, Mary holds the prominent position. She is the one who, having heard the message of the angel, conceived in faith the Word-made flesh. Two particular Marian feasts occur during Advent; the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. While these feasts would call for additional festivity, it is important that they be celebrated in the context of the Advent season.

My brother Knights and Columbiettes, we should make every effort to resist the temptation to plan Christmas parties and concerts during Advent. The Christmas season follows for such activities. Advent would be and is an ideal time to renew such activities with the family or personally, morning prayers or evening prayers, especially on Sunday. Remember, the family that prays together, stays together.

A quote from our wonderful past pope "John Paul 11": "Advent is therefore preparation for a great and glorious change. Advent is nothing other than annual meditation...on the work of salvation and sanctification, the work of grace and Love, which the Lord "began" and continually "begins" in every man and woman and in every generation down to the last coming of Jesus Christ, when this work shall be brought to completion".

***From Mary Rose and myself,
Merry Christmas and a happy and
healthy New Year!!***

Deacon Jim

Columbiettes

Seasons Greetings My Sister Columbiettes,

I'm proud to say once again that our Fashion Show was a BIG hit. It was not as big a crowd as in the past but everyone enjoyed themselves. Our hats off to our Chairperson Beth, Maureen ... our ticket sales lead and for cooking the strudel, even though you were exhausted ... Fay & Carmel for making the posters & tickets, ... Sophie for running around town putting up posters and taking care of all the publicity ... Adele for getting all the models and clothes from the stores ... Edith for decorations, and to all behind the scene cooks, preparers, set-up, servers, clean-up & wardrobe crew, Kay for always being there when we need you, to Millie, Maureen, Peggy B, Loraine F, Anne, Marie, Vicki, Joan, Palmira, Rita, Marianne, Carmel, Lucille, Betty, Carolyn, Alvina & Flossie. To Carolyn, Lucille, Flossie and Edith for handling the Raffles. To our marvelous models : Anne, Marie, Alvina & Palmira and our handsome Knights Andy & Dick. Thank you Carrie for donating the Afghan, Andy for the Collectible Doll, Ed Cronin for the cash donation and to all the Knights for their support.

Thanks to Maureen, Marie, Sophie, Mary S., Carmel, Edith, Anne and Beth for helping with the Oktober Fest.

Dec. 8th will be the Christmas Party for the Children at 1.00 pm at the Hall.

Dec. 11th is our Christmas Dinner at 6.00 pm followed by a short meeting, No uniforms ... dress festive. Please remember to bring new towels, washcloths, and McDonalds gift cards, and a covered dish if you signed up for one.

Dec. 23rd it the Brunch Social at the Hall.



Dec. 30th is our Corporate Communion Mass at St Catherine's at 10.30 AM Mass.

For those who are traveling for the holidays have a happy and safe trip.

Prayers & Thanksgiving to our Military Men & Women, our Charter and Honorary Members.

May the soul of Harry Sandin rest in peace - Amen.

For the Columbiettes we have not seen in along time ... We miss you.

Birthday Wishes to all those born in December.

To all my Sister Columbiettes & Brother Knights a very happy & blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

Finally, - ***Dues are due!!!***

Fraternally

Alma

"It's the little things that mean the most."

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

The Veterans Day Parade was great, as was the ceremony at the Veteran's Park for the re-dedication of the Purple Heart Monument. There were about 150 people there and the benediction was given by Father Sheehan.

One of the items of significance discussed at the monthly County Board of Commissioners Workshop was to consider a tax break for military residents in combat zones. No action was taken at this meeting.

(See Veterans - page 4)



(Veterans from Page 3)

The commissioners are still taking bids for the new Veterans Affairs building. More information will be available after next month's meeting.

The benches that were donated by Cmdr. Joseph T O'Callahan Assembly (4th Degree) and the Purple Heart Society will be dedicated on December 7th at a ceremony beginning at 1 PM at the Medal of Honor Park in front of the Highland's County Health Department (7205 S. George Blvd.). **Everyone is invited, especially veterans. Consider coming out and supporting this event.** Cookies and punch will be provided afterwards.

Mary and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

God Bless America !

Mike

Pro-Life News

Ed Cronin, Pro-Life Chairman

**ROE v. WADE Rally
Sunday, January 20, 2008 2:00 PM**

The 35th anniversary of the infamous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision permitting abortion throughout our country is coming next month. Most of us cannot make the huge annual protest march in Washington DC for a variety of reasons. We can however, make known our support right here in Highlands County. Our council, along with other member organizations of the Coalition for Life Leadership, will hold a rally on Route 27, in front of the K of C. hall.

We will conduct a silent, prayerful demonstration while holding Pro-Life signs alongside Rt. 27. There will not



be any interaction with passing traffic. No shouting slogans, no frantic waving of signs or other distractions. Supporters will be free to come and go as they please. The plan of operation is based on the long established Life Chain Program held throughout the country, including Avon Park and Lake Placid.

The Coalition for Life Leadership will reach out to the Sebring Ministerium to invite other faiths to join with us in this common cause. It is imperative our council support this Pro-Life, Ecumenical activity with full participation. Newspaper coverage will spread the event throughout Highlands County and we need full turnout of our Knights, Columbiettes, families and friends to make a meaningful showing.

PLEASE support this rally with your presence and prayers for the Unborn.

Remember, this is God's work, not merely ours.

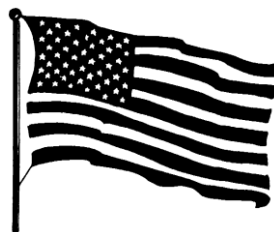
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADES

The council has offered to provide Pro-Life signs to enhance the Christmas Floats of church groups in local parades in December. So far, only the Life Teen Group of St. Catherine Church has shown interest in participating in the parade. We have a supply of hand held signs with Pro-Life slogans and a new five feet banner with the slogan,

"CHOOSE LIFE - YOUR MOM DID! "

Vivat Jesus

Ed

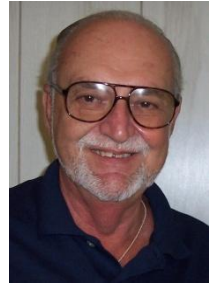


4th Degree Report

Al Phillips, Faithful Navigator

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS.

Every year we see more and more businesses, and organizations doing their very best to make Christmas a commercial event, rather than the Holy Day that



it is. This is just another way to tarnish all that is right and just. One Nation Under God. *We as Knights have a mission to Keep Christ in Christmas.* When we are wished a "Happy Holiday", respond "You mean Merry Christmas don't you"?

We have an opportunity to be soldiers for Christ, don't let it slip by. Sir Knights ... **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**, in your home and in your heart!

We are planning a trip the week before Christmas to visit the Veterans at the Bay Pines VA Center in Tampa. Please join us - for more information contact Mike Basile 382-4550.

Remember to make your plans now for the Valentines Day Dance Feb 14th, at the K.C. Hall. More information will be available in the near future.

This past month we met at the Knight's Hall in Lake Placid - what a great event - and the meal was outstanding. I think for the good of the order we should consider meeting there every other month, to give our brothers a better chance of attending meetings.

Remember in your prayers our Men and Women serving in harms way as well as there families.

Kathie and I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. God Bless You and Your Family,

Sir Knight Al Phillips, FN

CMBA Election

At our December Business Meeting there will be an election to fill the 1-year term that will be expiring at the end of this year. The new term is for 3 years and we wish to thank Paul Devlin for his term on the Board of Directors. If you wish to fill this vacancy, please be at the Business Meeting.

Our current CMBA Directors for 2007/2008 are:

Andy Mish – 3 year
Don Schnoor – 2 year
Jim Hollywood – 2 year
Paul Devlin – 1 Year

CMBA Articles of Incorporation

At our December Business Meeting (December 11th) there will be a vote to update the CMBA Articles of Incorporation. The proposed changes were provided to all in attendance at the November Business Meeting for their perusal. Please attend this important meeting.

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November
S M T W T F S
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30

December 2007

January
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM Officers & Directors Mtg	4 7 PM 4th Deg	5 5:45 PM Bingo	6	7 1 PM Dedication at Medal of Honor Park	8 1 PM Needy Children Christmas Party
9	10 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	11 6 PM Christmas Dinner 7 PM Council Mtg 7 PM Columbiette Mtg	12 5:45 PM Bingo	13	14	15
16	17 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	18	19 5:45 PM Bingo	20	21	22
23 9 AM Brunch & Social	24 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26 5:45 PM Bingo	27	28	29
30 10:30 AM Corporate Communion St. Catherine's	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>					

December
 S M T W T F S
 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
 30 31

January 2008

February
 S M T W T F S
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 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
 17 18 19 20 21 22 23
 24 25 26 27 28 29

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2 5:45 PM Bingo	3	4	5
6	7 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM Officers & Directors Mtg	8 7 PM Council Mtg 7 PM Columbiette Mtg	9 5:45 PM Bingo	10	11	12
13	14 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	15	16 5:45 PM Bingo	17	18	19
20	21 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	22 7 PM CMBA Mtg	23 5:45 PM Bingo	24	25	26
27 9 AM Brunch & Social	28 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	29	30 5:45 PM Bingo	31		

Knights of Columbus
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