

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Avon Park & Sebring, FL

Issue 2008-02

February 2008

Grand Knight's Report

My Brother Knights,

Alleluia! At last, at last, a telephone committee is in place. Either Jack McLaughlin or I will call those of you who have taken a directory page with information to be passed on to council members; i.e., meetings, funerals, prayer requests, special events, etc. Please call your page each month as a reminder of the Council meeting. Recent events (a funeral home service and a Corporate Communion) were poorly attended, and are good examples of why this program is needed and will work.



Our first breakfast at Our Lady of Grace's Grogan Center was a huge success. We served two hundred fifty four (254) people. Eight knights and eight Columbiettes staffed the kitchen and dining hall, enabling us to serve a hot meal quickly. Accolades on everything, from the quality of the food to the fancy plastic flatware, were numerous. The Pastor, Father Nick, was very pleased and called it a win-win situation for the Knights and his parish. Sincere thanks to all who helped. I hope to see you again on February 3rd for the next breakfast. The fourth Sunday brunch at the K of C Hall has been canceled until further notice.

I failed in last months' newsletter to mention two people who contributed much joy and laughter to the Children's Christmas Party. Many thanks to Toby's Clowns.

The 'Tootsie-Roll Drive', is our

largest single fund raiser and will be upon us before we know it. Everyone, Knights and Columbiettes alike, needs to say "Yes" when called upon to help. It takes a lot of people to cover Albertsons, Publix, Wal-Mart, Lakeshore Car Wash, and the Mall. This Tootsie-Roll Drive is what the Knights of Columbus are all about. Every cent we collect goes to charities of our choice. Thanks to Jack McLaughlin for volunteering to oversee this drive. When you are called, and you will be, please be ready to respond, "Yes, I'll help."

Future dates to keep in mind are:

1. March 25 - A Pro-Life Rosary at the Hall.
2. April 24 through 27 - Fourth Degree Exemplification to be held at Cape Canaveral.
3. September 27 and 28 - The K of C State Golf Tournament.

May the peace of Christ and the blessings of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Dick Carlson, GK

Good of the Order

Remember in your prayers: Chancellor Bill Reagan, who is recovering from cancer surgery; Rudy Cecere, Art Paek, and Ray Whitlatch who are sick; Pat McLaughlin, brother of DGK Jack McLaughlin, who died recently from an aneurism; and a late member of our Council, Anthony Fiscella.

Remember our Brother Knights, Columbiettes and spouses in need of prayers and our military men and women serving in harms way to protect our freedom.

Deacon's Corner

Brother Knights and Columbiettes,

The church's year is a cycle of prayer. It is a succession of celebrations in which we recall the stories of our faith and through this process are brought more deeply into the knowledge and presence of God himself. Ash Wednesday, we begin the season of lent. It is a season in which we ask the Father "to help us to understand the mystery of your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect it in our lives." From understanding in the mind and heart we move to relevant living.



(See Deacon's Corner - page 3, col 2)

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 newsletter editor is Jack McLaughlin. 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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471-2134

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471-3295

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385-4032

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452-1515

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471-6381

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382-9120

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Vacant

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Jim Hollywood
382-0118

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402-1811

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John Schumacher
382-8648

Outside Guard

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Trustee (3 year)

Joe Grecko
314-9754

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

Ray Goers
471-2205

February Birthdays

Steve H. White	02	Thomas P. Hahn	14
Rudolph Cecere	05	Priscilla Walker	14
James P. Fane	06	Delores White	14
Edward J. Brosi	06	Thomas A. Urbanski	17
Dennis L. Queen	08	John R. Kulka	17
Howard A. Fleetwood	09	Thomas F. Gildea	18
Robert H. Hebert	12	Kevin J. Bouffard	21
Roger S. Jefferson	12	Francis W. Stanton Jr	24
Modesto A. Diaz	12	John P. Miller	28

February Anniversary

Albert & Katherine Phillips February 3, 1989

John & Margaret Faulhaber February 18, 2006

Scholarship Fund Big Winner

The 4th Annual Maria Dewberry Children's Luncheon was held at our Council Hall on January 12th raising over \$3000. Donna Dewberry donated the entire \$3,150 raised to the South Florida Community College through the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund Program.



Andy Mish and Judy Nicewicz present the \$3150 check to Donna Dewberry.



***Happy
Valentine's
Day***

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385-4032

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382-4550

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382-0118

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DD #43
699-2013

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314-9188

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Community

Vacant

Pro Life Couple

Ed & Diane Cronin
314-9188

Council

Don Sliwicki, FDD
402-0423

Family

Ed Cronin
314-9188

Youth

Steve Ashley
385-4980

Membership

Joe Grecko
314-9754

Retention

Steve Ashley
385-4980

District Deputy

My Brothers All:

A New Year Blessing to all my Brother Knights and their families. May your experiences rise up to meet your expectations! May your troubles be left far behind you throughout the coming year! May your life be filled with little celebrations of happiness!



Is there any better way to start the new calendar year than by recruiting a new Knight into your Council? New members will bring fresh ideas and new perspectives to your Council's events and programs. Council officers are especially encouraged to lead this recruiting push during January, and set the example for the rest of the members. One thing to consider is for Council Officers to work as a recruiting team.

Use the Shining Armor Program:

The Shinning Armor Award was established as an incentive to those who want to start making a difference as soon as they join. The focus of the award is to get new members actively involved in their Council as soon as they join. Councils can order materials for this program through the Supreme Council Supply Dept. by using a requisition Form (#1).

Papal Visit: The Knights of Columbus special incentive program is commemorating the 2008 Papal visit to the United States, April 15-20, 2008. All First Degree Exemplifications through the 2007-2008 Fraternal Year will be held in honor of Pope Benedict XVI.

The 55th Annual Florida State Knights of Columbus Bowling Tournament will be held April 19th & 20th at Shore Lanes, Merritt Island, FL.

The Florida State Council 53rd Annual Golf Tournament will be held September 27th & 28th in Sebring, FL, Hosted by Council #5441. The tour-

nament site is Sun N' Lake Golf & country Club. Contact Don Sliwicki (863) 402-0423 or Jack McLaughlin (863) 471-3295.

Re-activation of Council #13039.

Congratulations to Council #13039 in Wauchula. I had the opportunity to be there on November 4, 2007 for the reactivation of their Council. I was fortunate that with the help of insurance Agent Ron Foley and New Council Development District Coordinator, Bill Aitken, we recruited 21 new men to officially get the Council moving. It was a superb Degree and it was an honor to be a part of it. The Council name goes in the books as a Spanish Council. San Miguel Council #13039, Wauchula, FL.

The Council is doing wonderful things and now is committed to the Orders programs, but they are in need of financial assistance to help get the Council up and functioning. If you feel you can help, see me at your Council meeting or call me at (863) 699-2013. I thank everyone again for all of your support of the reactivation of the Council 13039 in Wauchula.

I regret the loss of our Brother Knight Harry Sandin. My condolences go to his widow Vicki Sandin.

May God continue to bless each of you and your families. I look forward to seeing most of you at your next Council's regular meeting.

God Bless.

Hiram Pedraza, DD#43

(Deacon's Corner from Page 1)

The season of Lent is modeled on the example set by Jesus himself. Just as athletes practice diligently, good teachers prepare meticulously, and politicians strategize their campaigns, Jesus went to the desert to prepare for his mission. He was called to bring the Good News of Salvation, but he goes into the desert first to listen to his heart. He needed to reflect on the nature of his mission and to prepare himself to carry it out. Most of you knew I went up to the

North woods this past fall to quote "I went there for the good of the soul." I went into the woods to confront the essential facts of life and reflect on God's goodness." This was my trip into the desert. I went there to gather my thoughts and prepare my next steps in my life and how I can better serve God and you. Without some reflection we cannot hope to live worthwhile lives even on a human level, much less on a Christian one.

Traditionally the desert is seen as a place not blessed by God; it is a barren place without comfort or shelter. It is too hot by day and too cold by night. It is a place where one is totally exposed. But in this aloneness, and barrenness and exposure, one can see oneself with a new clarity. One comes face to face with oneself and face to face with God. When Jesus went into the desert he came face to face with his enemy, the devil. He came face to face with his inner self.

As we pray our way around the Church's year we are invited during lent to go into the desert. Each one will have to find the place, the desert, where he or she will be present to their inner self. This may be a physical place that is away from others. It may be an inner space that is set aside in the midst of a noisy city or a busy schedule. Harder than finding the place is finding the courage to enter into it. Inside it we become still and listen to our hearts, our fears and our failures, our hopes and aspirations.

The prayer of lent is the prayer of self viewing and self acceptance. If this is done with faith, faith in a God who is loving and who has such a personal love for each of us that he sent his Son who died for us, an inner joy and energy will be released. This personal journey will bring us, together with the Church's Lenten journey, "through the Passion to the Resurrection," crowned by the "Ascension."

Deacon Jim

Columbiettes

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

I would like to start by thanking the Knights for giving us the opportunity to help them with the once a month breakfast at Our Lady of Grace which will enable us to give two scholarships in May. Sister Columbiettes, this fundraiser will also help us to give to other charities, which is one of our main goals as Columbiettes. So I ask all of you to please help when you can. Thank you to all the Columbiettes who helped with the January breakfast.



Our dinner-show in February is our main fundraiser for the year. As in the past this has always been a very successful event, and you all have always supported it and stepped up to the plate to help; and I know this year will not be any different.

Feb 3rd will be the breakfast at Our Lady of Grace - if you signed up to help please be there - if you can't call Marie.

Feb 12th is our regular monthly meeting.

Feb 21st is our dinner-show. Dinner is 6:00-7:30. The show is from 7:30-9:00. If you need tickets contact Maureen or Marianne Cecere.

Prayers and Thanksgiving to all our Military men and women, and our Charter and Honorary members.

Special prayers for MaryAnn Estgen, Helen Minard, Carrie Furgala and all the innocent children who have died senselessly.

Birthday wishes to all those born in February.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY !!

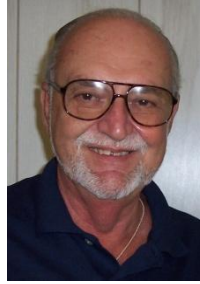
Faternally

Alma

4th Degree Report

Al Phillips, Faithful Navigator

I do hope everyone had a great time over Christmas and New Years. I know Kathie and I were hoping to have more people come to the Open House. We had around thirty, so we had a great deal of wine and cheese to eat over the next week.



It's been brought to my attention that there are a few gentlemen who don't care for some of my comments. If you have a problem, please bring it to me. We are all Knights ... Oops there I go again!

February will be our first meeting of the new year, so please bring some of your Ideas to the meeting - we do need your input to have a great year.

We need to do something for a fund raiser as things are getting a little low. So bring some ideas.

Once again I would like to commend the Color Corps for the outstanding job that has been done in the past three months - especially to our Color Corps Commander. Thank you Mike Flood - a man for all seasons.

February's meeting will be at the Hall in Sebring on the 5th of February - please come - we need you! The March meeting will be in Lake Placid.

God Bless

Al



Pro-Life News

Ed Cronin, Pro-Life Chairman

On Sunday, January 20th more than 100 people braved the cold, damp, and windy afternoon to show their opposition to the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which effectively legalized abortion through-out the United States. The highly motivated crowd met on the Knights of Columbus property, along US 27, across from the Lakeshore Mall.



The rally was intended to demonstrate their position on this vital issue to the public, the media and to candidates for public office. The protesters are trying to let publicly elected officials know what they believe about this vital issue. They expect nothing less than the overthrow of the infamous Roe v. Wade decision.

The Dred Scott decision, in the 19 Century, reaffirmed the right of slave owners to "own" slaves and treat them as any other piece of property. IT WAS OVERRULED. Other Supreme Court decisions reversed earlier jurisprudence which permitted child labor, restricted labor unions and limited liability for workers injured on the job. They were all OVERRULED as society came to realize the terrible injustice to their fellow human beings. The protesters believe the US Constitution protects the basic Right to Life for all persons, no matter how small or vulnerable they may be.

The technique used in the rally was similar to the Life Chain program known throughout the USA to demonstrate against legalized killing of unborn babies, in their mother's womb. Protesters lineup along a busy thoroughfare and hold up Pro-Life signs to passing traffic. It is a silent,

(See Pro Life Rally - page 5, col 1 bottom)

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

The new Veterans Affairs Building will be behind the Health Department Building on George S. Blvd, near the Medal of Honor Park, with an expected October-November completion date.



This year's Military Ball will be held on Saturday, March 8th at the Elks Lodge on Lakeview Drive from 6-11 PM. Dress is formal/semi-formal with tickets costing \$50/couple or \$30 for a single. There will be a 25/25/50 raffle and silent and Chinese auctions, and a live band. A full meal is included with your choice of beef or chicken. As there will only be 200 tickets printed, get yours early.

The Veterans Advisory Council is also sponsoring a raffle for a 5-day, 4-night cruise to the Bahamas. Chances are \$10 each, with 800 total chances to be sold. The drawing will be held at the Lake Placid VFS Post #3880 with a steak dinner at \$1/ounce.

For tickets or information about either event, call Mike Basile at 382-4550. **Take time to remember our veterans, both past and present!**

Mike

(Pro Life Rally - from Page 4 col 3)

dignified, prayerful protest. Participants in the rally were grateful for the many signs of support from the passing traffic.

At the end of the rally, the Knights of Columbus invited everyone into their hall for refreshments, coffee and warmth. Most of the crowd made good use of the opportunity and enjoyed the chance to share the experience with people with similar interests and passions.

Ed

Insurance Agent's Report

Mike McDonough

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS A CATHOLIC MEN'S FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION WHOSE INSURANCE PROGRAMS ARE ONLY AVAILABLE TO ITS MEMBERS!



Do You Have an IRA, 401k or other type retirement plan? Is it your intention to leave it to your wife or kids? If so, we need to talk. The K of C has a way to get more to your loved ones, TAX-FREE.

Do You Have a Pension? Does it die when you die? If so, we should talk about plans we have that could continue to give your spouse an income after you die.

Do You Have Universal, Adjustable, or Variable Insurance? If so, there's a chance that the policy could lapse or "die before you die". If you're not sure what type of plan you have, call and ask for a 20 year future values printout. Ask for the premium, cash value and death benefit. Once you get this printout, mail me a copy. Don't pay into a policy for 20 years just to end up with nothing.

For additional information contact Brother Knight Mike McDonough at (941) 228-5656, or by mail at 3341 Richardson St, North Port, FL 34288

53rd FL State Golf Tourney

Don Sliwicki, Chairman

The 53rd Florida State Golf Tournament will be held Sep 27-28, 2008, at the Sun n' Lake Golf & Country Club. Both Deer Run and Turtle Run courses will be used. The Quality Inn Conference Center will be the host hotel.



We need donations for door prizes and "Gift Packages" for the players, and items for the Basket of Cheer".

We are also in need of advertisements for our program book. Cost is \$100 for a full page ad, \$50 for a ½ page, \$25 for a ¼ page, \$20 for business card size, and \$5 for sponsors.

If you can volunteer to solicit prizes or advertising, or if you have any questions contact Don Sliwicki (402-0423), Jack McLaughlin (471-3295) or Al Phillips (314-0064).



Roe v Wade Protest Rally at Knights of Columbus Hall in Sebring

January
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February 2008

March
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 30 31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>
3 8 AM OLG Breakfast	4 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM Officers & Directors Mtg	5 7 PM 4th Deg- Sebring	6 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 5:45 PM Bingo	7	8 <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	9
10	11 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i> 7 PM Council Mtg 7 PM Columbiette Mtg	13 5:45 PM Bingo	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	16
17	18 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	19	20 5:45 PM Bingo	21 6 PM Columbiette Dinner-Show	22 <i>Washington's Birthday</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	23
24	25 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	26 7 PM CMBA Mtg	27 5:45 PM Bingo	28	29 <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	

February
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March 2008

April
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8 AM OLG Breakfast	3 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM Officers & Directors Mtg	4 7 PM 4th Deg- Lake Placid	5 5:45 PM Bingo	6	7 <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	8 6 PM Military Ball (Elks)
9	10 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	11 7 PM Council Mtg 7 PM Columbiette Mtg	12 5:45 PM Bingo	13	14 <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	15
16	17 <i>St Patrick's Day</i> 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	18	19 5:45 PM Bingo	20	21 <i>Good Friday</i>	22
23 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	24 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	25 7 PM CMBA Mtg	26 5:45 PM Bingo	27	28	29
30	31 7 PM Civil Air Patrol					

Knights of Columbus
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