

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Avon Park & Sebring, FL

July 2007

Grand Knight's Report

My Brother Knights,

I'm still on vacation so I have no report this month. Aren't you lucky?

OK this was prepared by the editor and not the Grand Knight! He will be back soon ... so get ready!



Deacon's Corner

Dear Brothers;



Before I start the July "Deacon's Corner" Mary Rose and I would like to thank all of you for your prayers, notes, and Mass cards. as well as your comforting thoughts for our daughter Sheila and us as well. They came at a very opportune time so that we knew that with so many prayers her entry into the arms of our lord would surely take place. We are confident we have another angel in heaven.

In the Gospels of (Matthew 22;30, Luke 20;36) "The soul of man will not die for they are equal unto angels and are children of God."

Death----the ultimate mystery. Is it an ending or a beginning? Should one rejoice at its coming or feel sorrow? And what is on the other side? These questions have been asked over and over again as humankind and Mary Rose and I struggled to understand this greatest of all mysteries.

Emily Dickinson referred to death as "a wild night and a new road." This was the perception of the people in the Reformation period. Death began to be perceived as the final stage of growth, a function of life rather than a function of sin. At this time, the center of interest in humankind's destiny shifted from the final judgment at the end of time to the immediate judgment of the human soul. and a new understanding of death began to emerge.

I mentioned that we have now another Angel in heaven, well the angels role in death became a favorite subject of Reformation artists who depicted the battle between good and evil (symbolized by angels and demons) vying for a dead person's soul. Many paintings portrayed angels protecting not only the dying person but also the dying person's family while other angels defended and delivered the person's soul from evil.

There is a painting by a reformation artist, "Charles S. Pyle" depicting a beautiful angel ascending into heaven bearing a person's soul in her tender embrace. This soul is depicted as an infant symbolizing the new beginning in eternity. This is how Mary Rose and I depict Sheila's journey into heaven. I pray that we all receive this type of delivery into the arms of our Lord.

God's message, delivered by an angel, inspires, encourages, and motivates the dying person to win the last earthly battle, to accept the inevitability of death and the victory of new life that comes with it.

Again thank you for your prayers and thoughts.

Deacon Jim

Florida State Knight of Year

He is our Council Financial Secretary, Webmaster, Program Director, & Bingo Chairman, our Assembly Comptroller and Color Corps Commander who volunteers at all events, and now the Florida State Council Knight of the Year.

Congratulations PGK Mike Flood, Florida's Knight of the Year for Fraternal Year 2006-2007.

Help Wanted !!!

At 9:00 AM on Saturday, July 7th we would like to give the hall an overall general cleanup. Specifically, we are planning to remove and power wash all of the filters from the kitchen stoves and air conditioners; to scrub and buff the floors; and to give the hall an overall "house cleaning".

What is needed is your help! This is a chance for the Knights and Columbiettes, wives and youth to come together and help.

Following the clean-up burgers and dogs will be served.

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@earthlink.net. 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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471-2205

Friday Night Movies for July

July 6th – Spy Game

Superstar Brad Pitt teams with Academy Award® -winner Robert Redford in this pulse-pounding action thrill-ride. When a top-secret, unauthorized mission goes bad, CIA agent Tom Bishop (Pitt) is captured - and sentenced to die. With just 24 hours to get him out alive, Bishop's boss Nathan Muir (Redford) must battle enemies abroad and the system inside the CIA to save his friend. Now, the clock is ticking and the race is on...as the deadliest game of all explodes into the spectacular, adrenaline-fuelled thriller that ABC Radio says "Sizzles with suspense!"

July 13th – Traffic

A patchwork of stories about various factions of the drug trade, including dealers, abusers and the law enforcement officials who pursue them. Mexican policeman Javier Rodriguez works on and around the border with his close friend and fellow policeman Manolo Sanchez, under Mexico's number one crime fighter, General Salazar. Confronted with temptations of power and money, Javier resists them but finds himself--and Manolo--caught in a web of corruption that leads to an untenable situation. Back in the U.S., Ohio State Supreme Court Justice Robert Wakefield is named by the president as the new anti-drug czar. Collecting information, the uncompromising and conservative Wakefield prepares to supervise the country's task forces and partner them with Mexico's. But, at home, he and his wife Barbara must deal with their increasingly drug-addicted teenage daughter Caroline.

July 20th – Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon

Two master warriors are faced with their greatest challenge when the treasured Green Destiny sword is stolen. A young aristocrat prepares for an arranged marriage, but soon reveals her superior fighting talents and her deeply romantic past. As each warrior battles for justice, they come face to face with their worst enemy - and the inescapable, enduring power of love. Set against 19th-century China's breathtaking landscape,

July 27th – Chocolat

Vianne Rocher and her 6-year-old daughter move to a small village in southern France, near Toulouse, and open a chocolate shop across from the church, just as the town is preparing to observe Lent. The parish priest is horrified, especially since Vianne keeps her tempting shop open on Sundays. In time, the arrival of the mother/daughter team and their shop transforms the conservative and religious locals into open-minded, fun-loving people.

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Youth

Vacant

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Worthy Brothers,

Congratulations to the following Brothers who took their 3rd Degree on June 2nd, in Lakeland: John Bock; Brum Paul Stephens; and Ronnie Sliwicki. I also congratulate all the newly elected officers for the 2007-2008 Fraternal Year.



I am pleased to report that Hiram Pedraza, PGK, PFN, of Pope John Paul I Council #7245, Lake Placid, has been appointed District Deputy, effective July 1st, for this district which will now be number 43. Hiram can be contacted at PO Box 2097, Lake Placid, FL 33862, 863-699-2013, or pedraza1939@yahoo.com

I started this month's report with congratulations and will end it the same way. (What better way to conclude my reporting as DD).

Congratulations to David Alford, Grand Knight, and his industrious brothers, of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Council 11284, Buckhead Ridge, for earning the following awards in Division 1 for the 2006-2007 fraternal year, which were distributed at the recent State Annual Meeting in Orlando. **These awards represent the best in the State!** The Giuseppe Award; Top Public Activity Award; Youth Activity Award; Church Activity Award and Council of the Year Award.

Fortunately, Pope John XX111, Council 5441 in Sebring did not return empty handed from the annual meeting. All of the members should be proud that the Knight of the Year for the State of Florida is from your Council, Congratulations PGK Mike Flood. I urge all members to attend the July 10th meeting. I plan to present Mike with his trophy at this meeting and all of us should be proud that he has earned this award and show him our support. This is one of

(Continued from column 1)

the most difficult awards to obtain and Mike has received two.

I sincerely wish all the new officers nothing but a very successful and rewarding fraternal year. My time is ended as DD, but rest assured, I will be around to assist or guide you and I will do my best to help.

Vivat Jesus,

Don Sliwicki DD #40

Insurance Corner

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS A CATHOLIC MEN'S FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION WITH INSURANCE PROGRAMS ONLY AVAILABLE TO 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 / VARIABLE LIFE 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.

**Mike McDonough
3341 Richardson St,
North Port, FL 34288**

Columbiettes

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

Congratulations to Marianne Cecere, Maureen Stephens, Alvina Beyer, Rita Harrington, Johanna Souther and Betty Fairfield on receiving their Major Degree. It was a beautiful ceremony. Thanks and appreciation to all the Sister Columbiettes who made finger sandwiches, helped with set-up, clean-up and for supporting and attending the Major Degree.



Maureen Stephens, Marianne Cecere and Betty Fairfield have graciously offered to be chairpersons for our Abused Children's dinner-show in February. Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!

We will have tickets and posters ready at our first meeting in September for our Fashion Show which will be November 15th.

Prayers and Thanksgiving to all our Military men and women and our Honorary & Charter Members. Special Prayers for Mary Ann Estgen, Kathie Phillips, Joyce Wurtz (my mom) and my new granddaughter Chloe Frances.

Birthday wishes to all those born in July and a Happy 4th of July to all!

Fraternally,

Alma

Pro-Life

Expanded Pro-Life Program!

Ed Cronin

Pro Life Chairman

Bishop Frank Dwane, through the Diocesan Respect Life Department, has invited all Knights of Columbus councils in



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his diocese, to join with parish Respect Life and CCW representatives to form a cooperative effort to advance the Respect Life and Pro-Life agenda. The new organization was given the title, "Coalition For Life Leadership". My wife and I attended the first organizational meeting in Port Charlotte and were asked to begin organizing in Highlands County.

We have found a very enthusiastic spirit of support from almost everyone we contacted. Two brother Knights, John Bock and Rudy Cecere and their wives have been especially helpful and we thank them for their support.

The purpose of the new coalition is to join all Respect Life and Pro-Life efforts together so that we can accomplish more through joint action than any individual organization can alone. I am pleased to announce that our first efforts have created a, "critical mass" resulting in our first Highlands County Coalition meeting. Representatives of nine parish organizations, from the three Highlands County parishes have expressed interest in participating and there may be more.

The first County meeting drew nine people representing five organizations. It was an opportunity to meet each other and to discuss possible joint action later in the year. It was a good meeting ... but only a beginning.

Our council should be proud of its Pro-Life record as summarized in last month's Knights in Action. Thank you, on behalf of all the Unborn Children who are at great risk. Pray to stop abortion.

Vivat Jesus

**Adoption
not
Abortion**

Military Ball

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

I want to thank all of the Knights and Columbiettes that came to the military ball. It was a nice event for the first year and I'm sure it will get better in the future as we learn from our mistakes. A special thanks to Andy & Diane Mish, Jack McLaughlin, John Schumacher, Ann Flanagan, Alvina Beyer, Maureen Martin, Loretta Schnoor John & Joy Garrison for all of their help, and a special thanks to my wife Mary.

Veterans Services

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

The Highlands County Veteran Services Office and the veterans they serve are in need of your assistance. Wheelchairs, canes, walkers and other durable medical equipment are donated for distribution to the veterans who do not qualify for Medicare, have no insurance coverage or are unable to pay for the items.

The supply of durable medical equipment has dwindled to very few items. If you have items in your garage or attic you no longer require, please donate them to the Veterans Services Office. They will find them a new home and make a veteran's life a little easier. Items can be dropped off at the hall or you can call Mike Basile (382-4550).

CMBA Report

Bill Reagan, President

This month we renewed the contract with All Star Properties for the sale of the council property that fronts US 27. Since Shelby Crossing is being built the realtor said that several groups have shown interest in the property.

Members of the CMBA Board will be meeting with the Emergency Management Office concerning the

status of the \$200,000 grant that will be used to build the new building/shelter. Everything remains in place and the board will keep the membership informed if any changes occur.

Good of the Order

Scott Giles, Sick & Distressed Chairman

The council point of contact for cards for our sick, hospitalized, and deceased members is Scott Giles. If you know of someone that we should send a get well card or memorial card to, contact Scott by phone at 835-0007 (home) or 202-0537 (business), or by Email at chefscott1909@hotmail.com. Unless you call Scott we have no way of keeping up with our fraternal obligations.

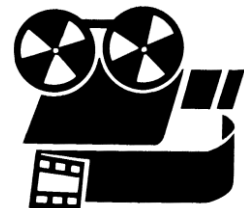
Keep in your prayers Art Paek and any other Knight, wife or widow that is sick or in need of our prayers. Remember also our men and women in uniform who are in harms way while defending our way of life.

Friday's Nights

The council hall is open every Friday night at 5:00 PM with a meal served around 5:30 PM and a movie at 7:00 PM.

The bistro-type meal costs \$5.00, and varies each week. Beer, wine and soft drinks are available for purchase at the bar. See the calendar for a list of the meals and movies for Friday nights in July and August.

Come down and join your fellow Knights, wives and Columbiettes, and have an enjoyable evening. The Friday Night Social is open to members and their guests.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

July Birthdays

Joseph M. Colangelo	02	Anthony Castro	13	Felix S. Tavaréz	26
Col Michael D. Bianchi	03	Robert T. Wilson	19	John T. Bock	26
Rev John K. O'Sullivan	04	Irene Garappolo	21	Diane M. Cronin	26
Lawrence J. Bagley	07	Josef Reis	21	Michael E. Flood PGK	26
Margaret Faulhaber	08	Kenneth L. Geiger	24	J. Jay Murphy	27
James E. Smithson	08	Edward A. Stephan	24	Francis W. Stanton	27
James E. Quillan	10	Percy E. Ames Jr	24	Bruce F. Walker	28
Delores Kucinski	12	Bolivar Rivera	25	Anthony V. Lomonico	30
Walter H. Ponichtera	12	Lawrence L. Amiedi	25		

July Anniversary's

Joseph & Leah G. Grecko	July 5, 1952
Juan & Araceli Rosa-Colon	July 18, 1991
Joseph & Patty Meegan	July 18, 2002

What Is Patriotism?

Perhaps the best definition of patriotism is "love of the land and its people." Most of us who live in an urban environment might not have the same feelings about land that our more agrarian ancestors felt, but we still become attached to places. Familiarity in this case breeds affection. Who doesn't feel affection for the areas where they were born, grew up and lived?

A patriotic love of land, of course, means our own nation — that land within the borders of the United States. The land immediately on the other side of the borders — say, in Canada — might look just like our land, but it isn't. Southerner or Yankee or Westerner, we are all Americans. Despite the similarities, the United States and Canada are distinctly different countries with different forms of government, different cultures and different traditions.

What makes us unique as a people is certainly not race or ethnicity or religion. We're a hodgepodge of those things. What makes us unique is that we do not take an oath to a politician or to a political party or even to a government. Our oaths in this country are to the Constitution, that written charter of government and basic rights.

Teddy Roosevelt, one of the few geniuses to occupy the White House, once said that an American citizen should stand by a public official only so long as and to the extent that the public official stands by the Constitution. This is entirely consistent with America's founding philosophy. If we have to choose between a politician and the Constitution, we must choose the Constitution. To support a politician who doesn't support the Constitution is to be disloyal to the very thing that makes America, America.

That being the case, it would be a good idea for all Americans to read their Constitution. It's not a lawyer's document. It was written in plain English by some very intelligent men and was intended for public consumption. There are some ambiguities that could lead to honest disagreement about the meaning, but they are mostly on minor points. Americans should also read The Federalist papers, a collection of newspaper articles written during the constitutional ratification debate. Love and concern for our land and our people is the patriotic duty of every American. How about supporting all of the American people?

June
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July
2007

August
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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 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM KC Directors Mtg	3 7 PM 4th Deg	4 Independence Day 5 PM Picnic at Hall	5	6 5 PM Bar Open 5:30 PM Lasagna 7 PM Movie - Spy Game (Robert Redford & Brad Pitt)	7
8	9 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	10 7 PM Council Mtg	11 5:45 PM Bingo	12	13 5 PM Bar Open 5:30 PM Sloppy Joe's 7 PM Movie - Traffic (Catherine Zeta-Jones, Michael Douglas & Dennis Quaid)	14
15	16 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	17	18 5:45 PM Bingo	19	20 5 PM Bar Open 5:30 PM Sheppard's Pie 7 PM Movie - Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon (Winner of 4 Academy Awards)	21
22 9 AM Brunch & Social	23 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	24 7 PM CMBA Mtg	25 5:45 PM Bingo	26	27 5 PM Bar Open 5:30 PM Meatball Subs 7 PM Movie - Chocolat (Johnny Depp & Juliette Binoche)	28
29	30 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	31				

July
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August 2007

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:45 PM Bingo	2	3 5 PM Bar Open 7 PM Movie - TBA	4
5	6 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM KC Directors Mtg	7 7 PM 4th Deg	8 5:45 PM Bingo	9	10 5 PM Bar Open 7 PM Movie - TBA	11
12	13 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	14 7 PM Council Mtg	15 5:45 PM Bingo	16	17 5 PM Bar Open 7 PM Movie - TBA	18
19	20 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	21	22 5:45 PM Bingo	23	24 5 PM Bar Open 7 PM Movie - TBA	25
26 9 AM Brunch & Social	27 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	28 7 PM CMBA Mtg	29 5:45 PM Bingo	30	31 5 PM Bar Open 7 PM Movie - TBA	

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