

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Avon Park & Sebring, FL

Issue 2008-07

July 2008

Grand Knight's Report

Richard Carlson, PGK

My Brother Knights,

As you probably know, the Deputy Grand Knight and I recently attended the Florida State Council Annual Convention. It was a tremendous eye-opener for me. I had no idea there were so many things that I was doing wrong or not at all. The largest area of omission was the timely completion of the necessary forms and reports. In other words, no job is complete until the paperwork is done. I watched council after council receive awards and accolades for achievements we may have competed for; but, as no reports were submitted, we were not considered. This, I promise, will not happen again.

Another area that made a lasting impression on me is that of "respect," or the lack of it in our council. The First Degree Exemplification very clearly points out the proper way to express yourself at a council business meeting. When a member wishes to speak, he raises his hand and, when recognized, he rises from his seat, addressing the Chair by saying, "Worthy Grand Knight," while saluting at the same time. This is another area in which I have been lax. If you attended the June meeting, you heard me address this issue. Please show the proper respect for the Grand Knight or any other officer.

(See GK Report - Page 4, Col 1)



Deacon's Corner

Rev. Mr. James McGarry

Brother Knights and Columbiettes,

In St. John's Gospel, 15:4-5..... Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." In this Gospel our Lord refers to growing in love with Him. Many people today take the love of our lord for granted.

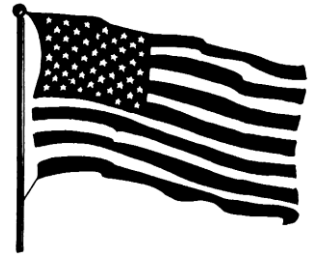
Dear brother knights, when this happens, even the most rewarding day can seem long and troublesome. When one spouse or even another member of the family, is experiencing more rapid spiritual growth, there's a danger of being critical instead of encouraging growth in others.

Most people resist being told what to do! Even if one person is uncomfortable with something then the spouse or other family member who is spiritually ready, should go ahead to initiate and lead those activities. The point is not to nag, but to encourage one another. Encouraging literally means "putting the heart into people"---giving someone a heart or desire for something. Leading by example allows the Holy Spirit at work within that family member. Like it is written in the Gospel, "Remain in Me and I will remain in you", you will see and



Upcoming Events

- Jul 1st - NO 4th Deg Mtg
- Jul 4th - Independence Day
- Jul 8th - Council Mtg (7 PM)
- Jul 8th - NO Columbiette Mtg
- Jul 21st - 1st Degree (8PM)
- Jul 22nd - CMBA Mtg
- Aug 23/24 - 4th Deg Exemp Coral Springs
- Nov 23/25 - 4th Deg Exemp Orlando



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, who can be reached at jack.mclaughlin@embarqmail.com or by phone at 471-3295. 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.

OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. James McGarry
385-6608

Grand Knight

Dick Carlson, PGK
471-2134

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471-3295

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471-6381

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314-9188

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314-9754

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

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Ray Goers
471-2205

July Birthdays

Joseph Colangelo	02	Kenneth Geiger	24
Col Michael Bianchi	03	Lawrence Amiedi	25
Gerald Jankowiak	04	Bolivar Rivera	25
Margaret Faulhaber	08	John Bock	26
James Quillan	10	Michael Flood, PGK	26
Delores Kucinski	12	Diane Cronin	26
Robert Wilson	19	Frank Stanton	27
Joseph Demske	20	J. Jay Murphy	27
Josef Reis	21	Bruce Walker	28
Irene Garappolo	21	Anthony Lomonico	30

July Anniversary's

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

Anniversaries, Birthdays & Patrons

If you wish to have your & your wife's name listed in the newsletter under Birthday's & Anniversaries, please fill out the information below and send to the FS. I have the birthdays for all the Knights.

Name of wife _____, birthday
____ month ____ day, no year please.

Anniversary ____ month ____ day ____ year.

If you wish to be a patron for the newsletter, please add \$ 5.00 to your bill. Patron YES NO (circle)

If your address has changed, please furnish us with the new one.

Much thanks

Mike Flood F/S
301 Bassage Rd.
Sebring, FL 33875

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: in the Knights of Columbus :
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DD #43
699-2013

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471-3295

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314-9188

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385-4032

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314-9188

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402-0423

Family

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Youth

Steve Ashley
385-4980

Membership

Joe Grecko
314-9754

Retention

Steve Ashley
385-4980

District Deputy

Hiram Pedraza, DD #43

My Brothers All:

I've decided to use an article from the Supplement to the May 30th Knightline to share a very powerful message with you. I think it clearly addresses a solution to the apathy that is present in our Order. After reading this article, think about the message and where you can fit in.



24 Hours Can Help Change the World

In today's world, a man faces multiple commitments to his spouse, children, workplace, community and Church. Every day the hours available to meet these responsibilities seem to dwindle while the commitments themselves seem to grow. It can be daunting for today's man to find time to volunteer.

Imagine if you were able to tell a man that if he could give just 24 hours a year to the Knights of Columbus he could make a positive difference in his community and Church. Below is an illustration of just how little time it takes to be an active member of the Order. Even with this minimal commitment he can be an important part of his council and reap the benefits membership offers to him and his family. When talking to a prospect about joining our Order, try breaking down the time commitment in this way:

Six hours a year on a council sponsored Church, community, council, family or youth project of his choosing.

Four hours a year attending two council meetings. (If they are well run, interesting meetings he might even come back for a third.)

Four hours a year enjoying (with his entire family) a council social function such as a dinner, dance, picnic, etc.

Four hours a year volunteering at the council's annual drive for people

with intellectual disabilities, Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition, K of C Soccer Challenge, the Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest, or similar event.

Four hours a year attending, with his family, two corporate Communions or council prayer services at his parish.

Two hours reading the council bulletin, council Web site and the Supreme Council Web site.

That's only 24 hours a year, which practically any man can fit into his schedule. When you present the time commitment of joining the Order in this way, it doesn't seem very intimidating at all.

Once a man becomes a member and sees how rewarding being a Knight is, he'll want to dedicate more of his time to the Order.

If your council doesn't conduct some of the types of programs mentioned above, consider implementing them or similar ones. If your council doesn't have a newsletter consider starting one - it is the best way to keep your members informed and active.

There are 8,760 hours in a year. By giving the Knights of Columbus 24 of those hours (less than .3 percent), a man can be a better Catholic, a better father, a better husband and a better person.

Think of the difference the Knights of Columbus can make in our communities if these men join us. We only have to let each qualified prospect know that he has the time - only 24 hours - to join and make a difference in his Church and community.

God Bless!!

Hiram

Good of the Order

Remember in your prayers and thoughts Loretta Schnoor recovering from a stroke; Rufus Bonifas Remember our Brother Knights, Columbiettes and their spouses in need of prayers and our military men and women who are serving in harms way protecting your freedom.

Columbiettes

Marie Carlson, President Elect

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

I'm happy to be writing my first article as incoming president.



September 26-28, 2008, the 3rd & 4th Degree Knights and Columbiettes will host the 53rd Annual FL State Council Golf Tournament. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Columbiettes to participate in a joint project with the Knights. Yes, my Sisters, there is money to be made! The profits will be shared by the Fourth Degree, the Third Degree, and the Columbiettes, with participation determining the amount of each share.

I need volunteers to help with registration on Friday at the Quality Inn, from 12:00 - 3:00 PM, and at the Council Hall from 4:00 - 7:00 PM. Help will be needed selling 50/50 and raffle tickets, during registration, at the Friday night dinner and at the banquet (Saturday). For you golf enthusiasts, we need help on the golf course (Sun'N Lake) for: the "hole in one," "closest to the pin," and "long drive" contests. Solicitation for Tournament Program Ads, Hole sponsorship, and door prizes should be coordinated through the tournament directors and me.

We need to have our volunteers in place before our September meeting. Please call me at 863-471-2134 or email me at mcarls8@aol.com with your work schedules, please.

Remember to always ask Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney, the Blessed Mother, St. Theresa, and St. Joan of Arc to intercede for us in all our charitable works.

Marie

The Natural Choice is Life

(Grand Knight Report from Page 1)

Membership, as always, continues to be a priority. We must see our numbers grow. I ask each of you to think of your friends, neighbors, and associates as potential members of our Council. Yes, they do have to be Catholics in good standing with the Church. When our Membership Director asks for your help, the proper answer is, "Yes, how can I help."

Our council needs to develop a Second Degree Team. Anyone interested in learning a small or large part, please let one of your council officers know. There is tremendous personal satisfaction in furthering the work of Venerable Father Michael McGivney.

Sincere thanks to those of you who have agreed to become one of our Directors. A few more openings have to be filled, so, expect a call. Continue to enjoy your summer and keep our Council in your thoughts and prayers. God bless all of you.

Dick Carlson, GK

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

Please don't forget July 4th, America's birthday. Fly that flag proudly! Be safe and enjoy your Independence Day weekend.



The completion date for the new Veterans Services building is running a little behind due to all of the paperwork that has to be approved by the County Administrators and the Federal Government; but the building will be built, hopefully by early spring.

Remember our veterans, both past and present.

God Bless America as we celebrate her 232nd birthday!

Mike

(Deacon's Corner from Page 1)

feel the Holy Spirit working in you.

It all begins in being responsible for personal growth and love for God. It makes all our family members hungry for that experience, the experience of the Love of God. Love for God is contagious. It makes all family members yearn to experience God's love.

Have a blessed summer,

Deacon Jim

Convention Report

Jack McLaughlin, DGK

As most of you know, GK Dick Carlson and myself attended the 104th Annual Florida State Convention in Orlando the weekend of 23-25 May. The Report Book that contains all of the state-level reports is available at the council hall if you are interested in reviewing the contents.



- Here are a few of the highlights of the reports:
- There were six new Councils formed this year and 18 Council re-activations.
- The State Council is currently above their Supreme Membership goal.
- Councils are urged to use the Membership Coordinator assigned to their district.
- Council's are urged to recognize and report their Knight and Family of the month.
- Delegates were elected for the Supreme Convention in Quebec.
- Florida currently has 18 certified 2nd Degree Teams - we need to form one in our District to serve central Florida.
- Florida currently has 5 certified 3rd Degree Teams, which have

conducted 20 Degrees, with 4 more scheduled in June.

- Supreme and the State are encouraging councils to get involved with their local Boy Scout and/or Cub Scout programs. There are currently 800 Councils or Assemblies sponsoring troops in Florida.
- The new state website is up and running. It has three unique functions: the External Website (floridastatecouncil.com) which is an open website that provides access to public information concerning the Knights in Florida; The Internal Website or Content Management site (my.floridastatecouncil.com) which is an external and internal site that allows access to the state content management system and requires a password for most functions; and an official spam-compliant list-server that provides E-mail Newsletters and Alerts, a service for which you must signup. The slide show that was presented at the Convention can be viewed for additional details - (floridastatecouncil.com/information/index.php?page_id=71).

53rd FL State Golf Tourney

Don Sliwicki, Co-Director

We are now ready to begin soliciting sponsors for the tournament. Contact Jack McLaughlin for the forms that you'll take with you to the business, and provide him with a list of what businesses you are going to visit.

We need 28 volunteers for the weekend of 26-28 September to make this work. Check your calendar and see if you can afford a three-hour shift of Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Call Jack and he can give you additional information.

Don



May 19th 1st Degree at Council 5441 Sebring



May 20th 2nd Degree at Winter Haven



June 7th 3rd Degree at Port St. Lucie



Memorial Day Ceremony at Lakeview Memorial Garden

State Deputy's Banquet at State Convention



DD#43 Hiram & Nancy Pedraza



GK Dick & Marie Carlson



DGK Jack & Judy McLaughlin

Quick Facts about the Knights of Columbus

- **FOUNDED:** 1882 in St Mary's Church in New Haven, CT by Father Michael J. McGivney.
One of the oldest U.S. life insurance companies operating today
- **RANK:** In the top 5% of all U.S. life insurance companies, based on total value of assets. In the top 2% of the insurance industry for financial strength, based on net operating gain before dividends. Ranked among the Fortune 1,000 companies for total revenues. Our solvency ratio is 117.6%, one of the highest in the industry
- **TYPE:** Mutual life insurance company. Policy owners mutually share in the surplus of the company through dividends, thus receiving their insurance at a minimum cost
- **DIVIDEND HISTORY:** The Knights of Columbus has paid out more than \$5 billion in dividends to our policyholders over our history. That's more paid as a "living" benefit than our total death benefits paid out
- **INDUSTRY-WIDE RECOGNITION:** The Knights of Columbus has always received the highest possible rating from:
 1. Insurance Marketplace Standards Association (IMSA) Seal of Approval for the Highest Ethical Business Practices
 2. Standard & Poor's (AAA) Extremely strong
 3. Best's Insurance Reports (A++) Superior*Only 4 out of over 2000 life insurance companies have this distinction*
- **PORTFOLIO:** Permanent/term life insurance, long-term care, annuities, & IRA's
Over \$60 billion of life insurance in force

FOR BROTHER KNIGHTS BY BROTHER KNIGHTS

Our mission is to protect our Catholic members at the lowest possible cost and to allow them to share in the profits of their organization through dividends and member benefits.

In 2006, after all dividends and guaranteed interest was paid to our policyholders, the Supreme council was still able to give \$21 million to our charities.

We ask every member to utilize our insurance and annuity program.



For more information, call Knight
Mike McDonough at (941) 228-5656
Member since 1987 F.I.C and M.D.R.T.



Commander Joseph T. O'Callahan, SJ

Assembly #1723

OFFICERS

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Rev. Mr. Max Severe
382-9402

Faithful Navigator

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471-3295

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382-4550

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Faithful Admiral

Hiram Pedraza
699-2013

Faithful Trustee (1 year)

Charles Wiseman
699-2186

Faithful Trustee (2 year)

Don Sliwicki
402-0423

Faithful Trustee (3 year)

Andy Mish
402-1402

Navigator's Report

Jack McLaughlin, Faithful Navigator

Each of your newly elected Assembly Officers for the 2008/2009 Fraternal Year are identified in the column on the left with their phone numbers - feel free to contact any of them to address any issue.

As you've read in last month's newsletter, we are not having a meeting in July. Please remember to mark your calendar for the August 5th meeting, which will be held in Lake Placid at 7:00 PM.

As I see it, the main issues facing our Assembly are: we have only a minimal balance in our treasury with no identified source of income other than dues; and have no planned social events. I want to address the latter at our August meeting with the membership. As to the former, we have already identified a source of income if the members are willing to work.

Our first fundraiser of the year will be working at the FL State Council Golf Tournament being held in Sebring this year. The event is jointly hosted by Council 5441, Assembly 1723 and the Columbiettes. The profits from the event will be shared between the three organizations based on the support provided by each. We are now ready to begin soliciting sponsors for the tournament. If you can visit a business in your area to solicit program ads, hole sponsors on the course, or for door prizes, contact me for the forms that you need to take to the businesses you are going to visit, and let me know who you are going to see. We need 28 volunteers for the weekend of 26-28 September to make this work. Check your calendar and see if you can afford a three-hour shift of Friday, Saturday or Sunday (or all three if you can). Call me and I can provide you with details.

I want to thank PFN Mike Flood for his efforts as our Color Corps Commander. Due to his efforts we've been present at many functions as the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus. Mike has agreed to continue as our CC CDR, and I've appointed him to that function in accordance with our By Laws.

Lastly, I'd like to recognize PFN Al Phillips and the effort he put forward attempting to make our Assembly a better organization. We all probably should accept responsibility for not supporting our Assembly better than we have in the past, and resolve to do better this year and in the future.

Remember Independence Day on July 4th and fly your flag proudly.

Jack

Cruise Anywhere, Anytime & Have a Great Time

If anyone is interested in taking a cruise let me know. At the convention I had contact with a fellow Knight who is a travel agent. He books cruises to Europe, Australia, the Greek Isles, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, Alaska and the South Pacific. He books on Royal Caribbean, Celebrity, Princess, Norwegian, Cunard, Crystal and many others.

The deal is we get 10% of his commission on any booked cabins. If we have anyone that does annual cruises we may be able to get a group together between our Assembly, our Councils and Churches we could have a good time and raise some cash for the Assembly.

If anyone is interested, let me know and I can work with you. ***Jack McLaughlin***

Knights of Columbus
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*** To be a patron for the newsletter, please send \$5 to the council home and mark it as patron. Your name will run for one year. If you will take note, each name appears with a small number on the Patron List. This is the number of the month that your name expires. If your name is in **BOLD** and **ITALIC**, this will be the last time that your name runs, unless you renew your patronage. The council thanks you for your patronage.