

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Sebring, Florida

Issue 2009-06

June 2009

Grand Knight's Report

Jack McLaughlin, FDD

Having skipped the August Business Meeting, it is time to begin doing the business of the Knights of Columbus. Mike Flood, Frank Stanton, JP Fane, and myself attended the District training seminar conducted by the State in Wachula on August 1st, where lots of information was passed out that will be useful to us as we re-build the Council.

Two of the trainers were from Bradenton and are members of their 2nd Degree team. They volunteered to bring their team to our area to put on a 2nd Degree for all of our 1st Degree members. I am working on getting a 3rd Degree in our area for all of our 2nd Degree members - stay tuned! Remember that you need to be a 3rd Degree Knight to hold any of the elected offices.

As you can see from the listing of Council Officers on the next page, many of the elected offices are still not filled. We've had several members step up, but still need to other positions filled. The office of Chancellor, Warden, Inside Guard, 1 Year Trustee and Advocate are all open. If we can't even fill the elected offices ... We've had several Knights step up to fill several of the open offices, but still need more.

You do not have to be a 3rd Degree Knight to be a Program Director or to assist. The Council needs Directors for Church, Council, Family, and Youth programs, and individuals to head up the Vocations and Membership functions. If you want to ease your way into the organization and get involved contact Frank Stanton or myself.

(see Grand Knight - Page 3, Col 1)

Deacon's Corner

Rev. Mr. James McGarry

June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus I will focus on the Heart of Christ and His Blood. With all the attention given to other aspects of our faith we sometimes overlook the bleeding heart of Jesus. I will bring into focus that there is Life in the Blood of Christ. I even might call this months "Corner" *The Power of the Blood of Christ*.



Now that we are receiving the precious blood at Mass we will feel it, under the ceaseless and immediate love sharing of the heavenly life, we will be filled and satisfied with that love. There is hope that, through a better knowledge of and a more perfect trust in the blood, the Spirit will more powerfully pour out *"the love of God...in our hearts"* (Romans 5:5). There is nothing to prevent our hearts from being filled with the love of the Lamb and our mouths from being filled with His praise here on earth by faith. Each experience of the power of the Blood will become increasingly an experience "of the love of Jesus."

"Heavenly Joy, through the Blood of the Lamb," will be the portion of all here on earth, who, with undivided heart, yield to its power. My brother knights, in redemption, we have learned what those in heaven say and how they sing about the Blood. Let us pray earnestly that these tidings may have the effect on us that our Lord intended. We have seen that to live a real heavenly life, it is necessary to

(see Deacon - Page 3, Col 3)

Upcoming Events

- Jun 2nd - 4th Deg Mtg - Lake Placid
- Jun 9th - Council Mtg (7PM)
THIS IS TUESDAY NIGHT - THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE CONCIL HALL, NOT THE HOUSE
- Jun 10th - 1st Degree
- Jun 13th - Council cleanup day - **PLEASE VOLUNTEER**
- Jun 14th - Flag Day
- Jun 16th - Columbiette Chapter Meeting - Lake Wales
- Columbiettes - no summer meet



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 Thursday 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

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Deputy Grand Knight

Frank Stanton
835-1031

Chancellor

Vacant

Recorder

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Financial Secretary

Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Treasurer

Ray La Count
382-9120

Lecturer

Jack O'Sullivan, PGK
385-8080

Advocate

Don Schnoor, PGK
385-8832

Warden

Vacant

Inside Guard

John Schumacher
382-8648

Outside Guard

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Trustee (3 year)

Don Schnoor, PGK
385-8832

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

Ray Goers
471-2205

June Birthdays

Jerome Lesniak	03	Richard Flis	08
Robert Glaab	04	Rev. Mr. James McGarry	17
Joan Reiter	11		

June Anniversary's

Edgar & Diane M. Cronin	June 22, 1957
Bruce & Priscilla Walker	June 24, 1691
Albert & Carole Dumbleton	June 30, 1956

Good of the Order

Remember in your prayers and thoughts Rudy Cecere, John O'Shea, Rufus Bonifas, Raymond Whitlatch, and Jack Earhart.

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.

Council Donations to Handicapped

The funds raised this year during our council's Tootsie Roll Drive for the Handicapped were presented to our donor organizations by Grand Knight Jack McLaughlin and Ed Cronin on May 22nd. Ridge Area Arc received a check for \$1,500.00, and Special Stars received a \$600.00 check.



Council 5441 Knights present checks from annual drive for the handicapped on May 29th. Pictured from left to right: Ed Cronin, Ronnie, an athlete with Special Stars, Linda Wells, Director of Development for Ridge Area Arc, and GK Jack McLaughlin.

CMBA BOARD

President

Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Vice President

Frank Stanton
382-8853

Treasurer

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Secretary

Ed Tomek, PGK
453-6379

DISTRICT DEPUTY

Hiram Pedraza
DD #43
699-2013

COLUMBIETTES

Marie Carlson
President
471-2134

PROGRAMS

Program Director

Jack McLaughlin
471-3295

Church

Vacant

Vocations

Vacant

Community

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Pro Life Couple

Ed & Diane Cronin
314-9188

Council

Vacant

Family

Vacant

Youth

Vacant

Membership

Vacant

Retention

Vacant

(Grand Knight - from Page 1)

handicapped; a YTD listing of CMBA expenses; spoke briefly about all of the Memorial Day services coming up in our immediate area; and read a letter from our seminarian, advising us that he will be ordained next year, and thanking us for our support.

Now the **GOOD NEWS** - my meeting with Father Jose on May 8th was awesome - it could not have gone better nor been more upbeat! Our Pastor is 100% behind us, and willing to work with us to help us succeed! For those of you that don't know, Father Jose is a 1st Degree Knight. I asked him to consider transferring to our council, after we get our act together. I covered all of the items that I presented to you in last month's newsletter article with him and the following items:

- Showed Father the programs my previous council did in Ohio and told him that we would develop Church, Family, Youth, Community, and Council programs along similar lines
- That we would like to recruit as soon as possible at all Masses and address the congregation from the altar at end of each Mass to explain who we are, where we've been, and where the council is heading
- Father Jose would like to see the Columbiettes working with our council and St. Catherine's
- Father offered to let us hold a monthly Pancake breakfast at the parish hall if we want - sees it as a parish communal event
- Offered us the parish hall to hold dances and fund raisers - coordinate with parish calendar
- Told me that we can hold our meetings in what is now our council hall - after the parish purchases the property - available Tuesday nights - just coordinate with parish calendar
- Father Jose said that the sale of our property is still at the Diocese - awaiting final approval but he believes that it should move along fairly rapidly

• Church bulletin - Father Jose said that he would add the Knights and Columbiettes to the "Ministries" listing with a POC and contact number and that he would like a "stock" article for Knights and Columbiettes to run weekly in the "Other Ministries and Organizations" section of the bulletin (***Our info ran in the bulletin of 16/17 May***)

- Father said that he would also include any events that the Knights or Columbiettes were holding in the parish bulletin - also put everything in the Spanish bulletin
- Father has offered the use of the parish Email list that the Parish uses for notifying members of upcoming events - my action to coordinate with the support staff at the parish.

All-in-all a very productive meeting, and I look forward to working with Father Jose and our parish as we build our council.

And finally more GOOD NEWS - we recruited at all Masses the weekend of May 16th & 17th. Thank you to all of our Brother Knights that supported this short-fused event. Because of your efforts we were very successful and have signed Form 100's for a re-activation and a new Knight. I will also be contacting another nine probable new members before the end of the month. ***A first step toward re-building our council!***

Come to our meetings. They will be run IAW the Order's guidelines and last an hour or less.

Jack



(Deacon Jim - from Page 1)

abide in the full power of the Blood. The Blood bestows the right to enter heaven.

Let us open our hearts wide, ever wider. Let us firmly, and ever more firmly, believe in the ceaseless cleansing by which the great eternal Priest Himself will apply that Blood to us. Let us pray with burning desire, that nothing---yes, nothing--- may be in our hearts that does not experience the power of the Blood. My brother Knights and Columbiettes, let us "unite" joyfully, and ever more joyfully, in the song of the great multitude, *"Thou hast redeemed us to God by thy Blood."* (Revelation 5:9).

Dear Brother Knights and Columbiettes, may our lives here on earth become what they ought to be: one ceaseless song to *"Him that loved us, washed our sins in His own Blood, and hath made us kings and priests and queens unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever Amen"* (Revelation 1:5-6).

God bless you all and have a healthy and beautiful summer. Mary Rose and I have graduations (2) to go to, and then a Grandson's wedding and then head to N. H. to visit family.

Take care and drive safe!

Deacon Jim & Mary Rose

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

The new Veterans Service Office will be dedicated on June 3rd at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited!

Remember to fly the colors on Flag Day, June 14th as well as every other day. Keep our veterans in your prayers and thoughts.



Mike

Columbiettes

Marie Carlson, President

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

A giant "thank you very much" to all our Columbiettes who helped us close the Knight's break-fast season at Our Lady of Grace in May. We're very grateful for the help we received all year. A breakfast for our graduates and their families will be held on May 31st.



June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let us devote some time in prayer to His Sacred Heart, so that He will shower His love upon us every day.

At our May meeting, we had our election. Alma and Adele worked diligently to make this happen. The new slate of officers follows: Beth Caracaus -- President; Mary Stefanakos -- Vice President; Vicki Sandin -- Financial Secretary; Caroline Stoner -- Treasurer; Adele Markland -- Secretary; and Anne Flanagan -- Sentinel. Ladies, thank you very much for accepting these offices for the coming year.

The Columbiette state officers will host our final Chapter Meeting on June 16th at Lake Wales. As always, officers should attend these meetings. If you cannot attend and you are a delegate or an alternate, please call Millie Bacher at 863-967-7940 to be excused.

Ladies, continue praying for the defeat of the "Freedom of Choice Act" and all the other pro-death legislation that comes before our lawmakers. Please let your congressmen and representatives know how you feel about these socialistic, horrible laws. Ronald Reagan said, "*If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under.*"

Our Columbiette Auxiliary #5441 voted to end our year with the May meeting. This was my final meeting as president, and this newsletter is my final column. It was a great experience to lead our Columbiettes this past year. We've been through a lot of activities and hard work, which was an absolute joy for me. Please welcome your new president with helpful willingness. She will lead you through a great year of charity, fraternity, and spiritual deeds, so you may grow in love and caring for each other.

May our patrons, the Blessed Mother, St. Theresa of The Child Jesus, and St. Joan of Arc, intercede to God for us throughout the summer. Please pray to Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney, who started the Knights, to bless us in our endeavors for the coming year.

Fraternally,

Marie

CMBA Report

Mike Flood, President

Council Banner –

Anyone who knows where our Council Banner and stand, are, please let myself or the Grand Knight know. We need to find it and return it to the Council Hall. The banner would be expensive to replace.



Property Maintenance & Upkeep -

We would like to start a work party on the second Saturday of each month at the Hall. The first will be from 9AM to 1PM on June 13th.

The grass needs to be cut on both properties and the grounds need to be cleaned and weeds pulled. We also need council possessions moved from the Hall to the House. The hall also needs to have trash removed.

We need volunteers, as paying someone will be extremely costly, especially if they have to cut the

lawns. If you can volunteer a few hours, please call Mike Flood 414-0945

Pro-Life Rosary for Unborn

Ed Cronin, (Pro Life Chairman)

Diocesan Post Card Campaign to Florida Congressional Delegation Opposing Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA)

Further to last month's article, I can report over 1,000 sets of post cards were distributed at the weekend Masses, April 18/19. We even had a limited number of Spanish language cards which were distributed at the 12 Noon Mass at St. Catherine.



In total we had at least 25 volunteers passing out sets of post cards; Knights and families, Columbiettes and Council of Catholic Women. The priests of St. Catherine all gave strong endorsement from the altar and parishioners actually came out of Mass looking for their post cards.

Pro-Life Talk: Our Lady of Grace, Knights of Columbus Council

I was invited to speak to the new K. of C. council at Our Lady of Grace Church at their social meeting, April 23. The subject was Pro-Life activities in K. of C. councils. It was easy to address this group since most of them were old acquaintances.

Our council's Pro-Life booth was displayed with a number of the promotional items with Pro-Life slogans. The theme of the presentation was for them to develop their own program and display booth and to look for opportunities to bring the Pro-Life message into the community.

Novena for Life Mass - Monday, May 25, 12 Noon at St. Catherine.

The Novena of Masses for Life continues through November, with the climax on the Feast of the

(see *Right to Life* - Page 5, Col 2)

District Deputy

Hiram Pedraza, DD #43

My Brother Knights All:

As we approach the end of the Fraternal Year, I would like to thank all the Knights of Florida State District #43 for giving me the opportunity to serve as your District Deputy and for having confidence in me. The past two years as your District Deputy have been a rewarding experience for Nancy and me. I trust that I have served you well.



It is with great regret that I have to inform you of my resignation as District Deputy as of June 30, 2009. There are numerous reasons why I need to step down. Having been retired and my wife working, I have kept pretty busy in serving my community (which I enjoyed immensely), however, now that she has retired we have plans on enjoying retirement together.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone for all their hard work and effort and support that have been bestowed on me. I leave with many pleasant memories and experience that will be with me for a lifetime. It has been a true pleasure meeting so many wonderful Knights and I hope to stay in touch with all. Without your help I would not have been able to do the job by myself.

May our Lord continue to bless you and my predecessor and enlighten all to the opportunities in the future.

Vivat Jesus

Hiram

Vocations Are *Everybody's* Business

(*Right to Life* - from Page 4)

Nativity, December 25th. Approximately 40 people come to these Novena Masses with faithful attendance but very few Knights. It is a shame more Knights do not attend because it was the Knights of Columbus who brought this devotion to St. Catherine. The Pro-Life program of our council is one of the few points of pride we enjoy. All Knights and families are urged to assist at these special Masses.

Vivat Jesus

Ed

Insurance Corner

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men's fraternal organization with insurance programs only available to members!

Do you insure the goose that laid the golden eggs or the eggs?

Most of us insure our "stuff" but not ourselves. You have homeowners and car insurance but not life and long term care insurance. But if you look at the odds, you realize that stuff comes and goes but our life and health is most important. 100% of us will die. 50% will end up in a nursing home. .5% will have a car accident. .1% will collect on our homeowner's policy. You are the goose and when you die, you stop producing golden eggs "income". Before you die, you may cost your spouse and kids \$150,000 in nursing home expenses. Insure yourself first and for larger amounts than you think.



Does your pension die when you die? Get cut in half?

Times are hard enough now. How will your spouse survive with a

drop in income when you die? To make matters worse, your spouse can only keep one social security check, another drop in income. You need more life insurance. K of C life insurance is inexpensive and pays a very dividend in America.

What's the highest tax in the land?

How about 45% for federal estate taxes. Don't think it affects you, think again. If you are worth \$1.5 million today, in 10 years @ 7% you doubled your money to \$3 million. If you're not sure, give me a call. You need to know about splitting your estate, the onetime exemption, and annual gifts.

Call brother knight Mike McDonough 941-228-5656. Long term care and annuities also available.

Flag Day

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Flag Day, is a day for all Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag, its designers and makers. Our flag is representative of our independence and our unity as a nation ... one nation, under God, indivisible. Our flag has a proud and glorious history. It was at the lead of every battle fought by Americans. Many people have died protecting it. It even stands proudly on the surface of the moon.

As Americans, we have every right to be proud of our culture, our nation, and our flag. So raise the flag on June 14th and every day with pride!



How the Words “Under God” got into the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America originated on Columbus Day in 1893. It contained reference to Almighty God, until in New York City on April 22, 1951, the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus adopted a resolution to amend the Pledge of Allegiance as recited at the opening of each of the meetings of the 800 Fourth Degree Assemblies of the Knights of Columbus by the addition of the words “under God” after the words “one nation”. The adoption of this resolve by the Supreme Board of Directors had the effect of an immediate initiation of this practice throughout the aforesaid Fourth Degree Assembly meetings.

At their annual State Meetings, held in April and May of 1952, the State Councils of Florida, South Dakota, New York and Michigan adopted resolutions recommending that the Pledge of Allegiance be so amended and that Congress be petitioned to have such amendment made effective.

On August 21, 1952, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, at its annual meeting, adopted a resolution urging that the change be made general and copies of this resolution were sent to the President, the Vice President (as Presiding Officer of the Senate) and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The National Fraternal Congress meeting in Boston on September 24,, 1952, adopted a similar resolution upon the recommendation of its President, Supreme Knight Luke F. Hart. Several State Fraternal Congresses acted likewise almost immediately thereafter.

At its annual meeting the following year, on August 20, 1953, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus repeated its resolution to make this amendment to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag general and to send copies of this resolve to the President, Vice President, Speaker of the House, and to each member of both Houses of Congress. Form this latter action, many favorable replies were received, and a total of seventeen resolutions were introduced in the House of Representatives to so amend the Pledge of Allegiance as set forth in the Public Law relating to the use of the flag. The resolution introduced by Congressman Louis C. Rabaut of Michigan was adopted by both Houses of Congress, and it was signed by President Eisenhower on Flag Day, June 14, 1954, thereby making official the amendment conceived, sponsored, and put into practice by the Knights of Columbus more than three years before.

In a message to Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart at the meeting of the Supreme Council in Louisville, August 17,1954, President Eisenhower, in recognition of the initiative of the Knights of Columbus in originating and sponsoring the amendment to the Pledge of Allegiance, said:

“We are particularly thankful to you for your part in the movement to have the words ‘under God’ added to our Pledge of Allegiance. These words will remind Americans that despite our great physical strength we must remain humble. They will help us to keep constantly in our minds and hearts the spiritual and moral principles which alone give dignity to man, and upon which our way of life is founded. For the contribution which your organization has made to this cause, we must be genuinely grateful.”

In August, 1954, the Illinois American Legion Convention adopted a resolution whereby recognition was given to the Knights of Columbus as having initiated, sponsored and brought about the amendment to the Pledge of Allegiance; and on October 6, 1954, the National Executive Committee of the American Legion gave its approval to that resolution.

SPECIAL POEM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS!!

A row of bottles on my shelf caused me to analyze myself.

One yellow pill I have to pop goes to my heart so it won't stop.

A little white one that I take goes to my hands so they won't shake.

The blue ones that I use a lot tell me I'm happy when I'm not.

The purple pill goes to my brain and tells me that I have no pain.

The capsules tell me not to wheeze or cough or choke or even sneeze.

The red ones, smallest of them all go to my blood so I won't fall.

The orange ones, very big and bright prevent my leg cramps in the night.

Such an array of brilliant pills, helping to cure all kinds of ills.

But what I'd really like to know.....Is what tells each one where to go!

Commander Joseph T. O'Callahan, SJ

Assembly #1723

OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Max Severe
382-9402

Faithful Navigator

Jack McLaughlin, PFN
471-3295

Faithful Captain

Mike Basile, PFN
382-4550

Faithful Pilot

Dick Carlson
471-2134

Faithful Comptroller

Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Faithful Scribe

Sean Dolan
465-6720

Faithful Purser

John Schumacher
382-8648

Faithful Inner Sentinel

Paul Stephens
402-1811

Faithful Outer Sentinel

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

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

Pope John XXIII Council P

Navigator's Report

Jack McLaughlin, Faithful Navigator

Our final meeting of this Fraternal Year will be at Lake Placid on Tuesday, June 2nd at 7:00 PM. Those members in the Avon Park and Sebring area can meet in Council 5441's parking lot to carpool down if interested. We will leave by 6:30 PM so our election meeting can begin on time.

Thank you to all of the Sir Knights that fell out for the Memorial Day service at Lakeview Memorial Garden on Saturday May 30th. I was proud to be at that service with SK Mike Basile, PFN, SK Andy Mish and SK Dick Carlson. We laid a wreath at the memorial that was donated by CDR Joseph T. O'Callahan, SJ Assembly during the service. Also thanks to Knights who directed the parking.

I'd also like to thank SK's Andy Mish, Hiram Pedraza, Mike Padron, Joe Meegan who represented our Assembly at the dedication of the new Veteran's Service Office on June 3rd.

As this is my last article as your Faithful Navigator, I thank you for the privilege of having served our membership during the past fraternal year and look forward to working with our newly elected officers. Please support them!

Vivat Jesus

Jack

Introducing Our Assembly's Seminarian

When you decided to support a seminarian at the last meeting by making a RSVP donation, I contacted the Diocese of Venice, Office of Vocations, and was provided a seminarian the next day. His name is Eric Scanlan - here is his photo and a short bio ...



Eric is 24 years old. He was born in Fairview Park, OH. His family moved to Fort Myers, Florida 23 years ago. Eric has just completed his second year of Pre-Theology at the Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH. He originally graduated from the University of Florida in Gainesville in 2007. Eric will be going into his first year of Theology, attending the Pontifical North American College in Rome beginning this September. Eric enjoys reading, playing sports, working out, and listening to music.

**Knights of Columbus
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