

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Avon Park & Sebring, FL

September 2007

Grand Knight Resigns

As you may, or may not know, PGK Don Schnoor resigned the office of Grand Knight on August 6th. Don will continue to actively participate in council activities, working in the areas where he is needed or has a personal interest.

The Council thanks Don for his leadership and efforts to make this a more active organization.

The immediate effect of Don's resignation is that we must have an election to fill the vacant seat of Grand Knight. In accordance with Pope John XXIII Council 5441 By-Laws, Article 2, Section 5, this serves as notice to the members that a Grand Knight will be elected at the September 11th Business Meeting.

At the August 14th Business Meeting nominations were opened from the floor to fill the vacancy for the position of Grand Knight, and DGK Dick Carlson was nominated. No other nominations were made at the time and nominations were closed until the September meeting. If any 3rd Degree Knight is interested in the position of Grand Knight notify any officer of the council (identified on page 2 of this newsletter), or make sure that you attend the September meeting. If Dick is the only candidate and is elected as Grand Knight, the Deputy Grand Knight post will need to be filled. Please consider either position and step up to lead your council for the next fraternal year.

**Saturday Meals & Bar
discontinued effective
September 1, 2007**

Deputy Grand Knight

Dick Carlson

As Deputy Grand Knight, I would like to take this opportunity to express a few thoughts. ***In my opinion, we must actively work towards unifying our Council.*** Right now, there are far too many splinter groups (or cliques) each with its own agenda, each guilty of name-calling or dissension, and each doing more harm than good to the order. I don't pretend to have a simple or quick one-step solution to this problem, but to pretend it doesn't exist is just plain wrong. As Deacon Jim wrote, "Jesus has a specific task in life for each and every one of us."

I firmly believe part of that task is to help one another help our Council. We are a group of Catholic gentlemen, God-driven men, who can step up to the plate and make a difference. I ask you, please, if you ever have a problem (and you will) with anything any of our officers say or do, come to them directly and resolve it. Let's eliminate the "he said ... she said" rumor factory.

Another area requiring our immediate attention is recruiting. As Father Time works his way with each of us, it becomes more and more apparent that we need new, active brothers. I ask each of the parish coordinators to solicit any help, suggestions, or ideas from their pastors.

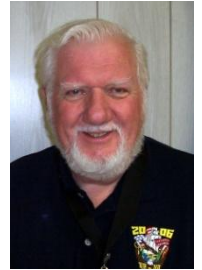
Finally, I would like to see an effort made to improve relations with our sisters, the Columbiettes. These ladies are a vibrant part of our organization, not our stepchildren.

Dick Carlson, DGK

Deacon's Corner

Dear Brothers;

These past couple of weeks has been very testing for me. I have gone through several eye surgeries, not allowing me to drive at night or get around easily. Thank God the healing is taking place but this has limited my exposure to the outside world. Hopefully God will allow the corrective healing to take place and I can get back into the normal swing of things.



The September Deacon's Corner, since summer and swimming activities are still here, will be about swimming and floating. When we are at the beach, swimming in the ocean, we have to do one of two things. We have to decide whether we want to swim or float.

(See Deacon's Corner – page 3)

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.

OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. James McGarry
385-6608

Grand Knight

Vacant

Deputy Grand Knight

Dick Carlson
471-2134

Chancellor

William Reagan
385-4032

Recorder

Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

Financial Secretary

Michael Flood, PGK
471-6381

Treasurer

Raymond LaCount
382-9120

Lecturer

Vacant

Advocate

Jim Hollywood
382-0118

Warden

Paul Stephens
402-1811

Inside Guard

John Schumacher
382-8648

Outside Guard

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Trustee (3 year)

Joseph Grecko
314-9754

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

Raymond Goers
471-2205

State of the Council

Mike Flood, Financial Secretary & Bingo Chairman

In order to understand why I have an in-depth knowledge of the council finances, here is a description of my duties as Financial Secretary, from Section 139 of the Charter, Constitution and Laws of the Order as published by Supreme. (To keep a record of the financial and business transactions of his council; the amount of money received and from what sources, the amount paid to the Treasurer and for what purpose, the amount of all orders drawn against the Treasurer, stating to whom paid and for what purpose. Be the accountant of his council, keeping said accounts, so that same will show complete and accurate financial standing of the council and its members at all times.)

I'm still trying to digest our last Business Meeting. All of this negative business about Don our Past Grand Knight is hard for me to understand. A lot of his ideas were mine, such as Friday/Saturday nights for dinner and then cards or movie, breakfast on the fourth Sunday of each month, anything to see if we would interact as Brother Knights. Don always brought his ideas to me to get another opinion, some of them I disagreed with. We tried holding dances, Oktoberfest, Fourth of July picnic, Christmas weekend, etc. Don tried to get the members involved in many ways but failed at motivating them to do any thing except come to a Business Meeting. All of the negativity towards Don is also indirectly aimed at me. I've been told that some members were trying to bring charges against him at Supreme. If so, I can only think that these charges would filter down to me as well.

In regard to the new building that is being planned, at this stage I'm totally against it. Our members only want to turn out for the Business meeting and that's all. To use the hall one day a month is a waste of money. Our members don't want to support our Bingo on Wednesday by helping out, our list of helpers is at the critical stage. It won't be too long until we have to cancel Wednesday Bingo like we did Friday Bingo. At this stage it makes sense to sell everything and move to the church or hold meeting once a month at Homers. Why pay about \$160 per day (average of our utility and insurance bills) on a building that is only used one day a month? If we want to keep the building, we have to get involved and start using the building for various functions.

Our members voted at the last business meeting to turn the kitchen over to the Columbiettes. The kitchen brings in an average of \$160 each Bingo session, or \$8,320 annually, which we will now lose. The council budget for this year is \$0 balance budget, so where do we come up with the extra \$8,320 to maintain our approved expenses? Is it our job to support the Columbiettes?

As Bingo Chairman I have done my best to bring our Bingo to a very profitable and friendly game for our players. This also includes the Kitchen and what they serve. I did not like the kitchen under the Columbiettes and was very happy

(See State of the Council – page 3)

CMBA BOARD

President

Bill Reagan
385-4032

Vice President

Mike Basile
382-4550

Treasurer

Jim Hollywood
382-0118

Secretary

Andy Mish
402-1402

DISTRICT DEPUTY

Hiram Pedraza
DD #43
699-2013

COLUMBIETTES

Alma Almeida
President
385-4069

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Program Director

Vacant

Membership

Vacant

Church

Vacant

Community

Vacant

Council

Vacant

Family

Vacant

Youth

Vacant

(Deacon's Corner from Page 1)

Most of us want to do a bit of both. When we tire of swimming we like to float, but when our floating carries us beyond the safe zone, then we swim again, to get back where we are secure. It seems, however, that we cannot do both together forever. The whole experience of the dark night or the cloud of the unknowing appears to be the Lord's way of trying to make floaters out of swimmers. He, "our Lord" it seems, definitely wishes us to float. He wants us to have as *our* goal our total surrender to the flow of the tide of our lives. Truly our Lord is leading us somewhere; our floating is not to be an endless, directionless, and circling in a fathomless sea. Our Lord would like us **trust Him enough** to relax, to leave the goal of life wholly to Him, and to believe in that trust.

Only those who are totally secure in their love for God, can live out fully every present moment. The freedom of spirit and joy in living out the gift of every present moment can only be achieved by our unwavering trust in God. During all our prayer lives, we have been swimmers most of the time. St John of the Cross points out, "The truth is that we will be doing quite sufficient if we have patience and persevere in prayer without making any effort contenting ourselves with merely a peaceful and loving attentiveness toward God."

When we have learned to float and to be at home "floating" with God, we can see by our own experience the meaning of St. John's words. We still do not understand the mystery of floating, and almost inevitably there will be moments of self-doubt when we wonder whether our whole prayer life may be an illusion, or perhaps we are "just lazy." Believing in God's love for us can and will keep us afloat doing His will for ourselves and for others and helping them "FLOAT,"

Go in Christ and enjoy the water,

Deacon Jim

(State of the Council from Page 2)

when we took it over. At present we pay the Columbiettes \$150 a month for their help. If this change takes place then please look for another Bingo Chairman, as we are no longer improving our Bingo Nights.

Food for Thought,

***Mike Flood
FS & Bingo Chairman***

Columbiettes

Welcome Back
Sister Columbiettes,

I hope you all had a refreshing and enjoyable summer, and are ready for another challenging year.



We will be having Installation of Officers on Saturday Sept. 8, at 11:00am at the hall. I extend an invitation to all Columbiettes to attend.

Our first meeting will be Sept. 11 at 7:00pm. Those of you who ordered a new name badge at our May meeting, they will be available at our meeting, so don't forget your \$3.00. Fashion Show tickets and posters will also be ready.

There will be a Chapter meeting Sept. 18 in Winter Haven.

This year we will once again be collecting old cell phones and inkjet cartridges.

Congratulations to all Sister Columbiettes, we have once again been awarded the Margaret Mary Mangan Award in recognition of all our achievements for the year 2006.

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

Special prayers for Patty Meegan, Mary Ann Estgen, Dick Caracaus(Beth's Husband), Pat Spayd and all our Sister Columbiettes and Brother Knights who will be

traveling back to Florida, that they arrive safely.

Birthday wishes to all those born in September.

Fraternally,

Alma

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

Donations for homeless vets and their families will be accepted through September 13th. Specifically needed are personal hygiene products, i.e. soap, shaving cream, razors, shampoo, brushes and combs, nail clippers and nail files, as well as feminine hygiene products. New underwear and pajamas would be appreciated as well. Small gift items are always welcome, such as are prepaid telephone cards, note paper, pens, postage stamps, and new or used books. Drop off donations at the Hall as soon as possible. All donated supplies are going to the WPB Homeless vets.



A Luau will be held October 6th at the Knights of Columbus Hall from 3-9 PM to benefit the Veterans Assistance Program of Highlands County. Dress is "Hawaiian Casual". The menu will include roast pig with all of the trimmings and a cash bar with beer and wine available. Contests include: a limbo dance; best Hawaiian dancer; best Hawaiian shirt/Mumu; most original costume; best sandals; and, most authentic costume.

Cost is \$35 per couple or \$20 for a single. Get your tickets early from Mike Basile (382-4550).

3-5 PM Social with live music
5-7 PM Pig Roast Dinner
7-9 PM Costume judging and more ...

God Bless America !

Around the Council



New 3rd Degree Members

From right to left are FDD Don Sliwicki, and Council 5441's newest 3rd Degree members; Ronnie Sliwicki, Paul Stephens and John Bock.



Charitable Donation

GK Don Schnoor presents a check for \$1,338.65 to The Highlands Special Stars.



Charitable Donation

GK Don Schnoor presents a check for \$1,338.65 to The Highlands County Ridge Association.

September Birthdays

Fred Szabo	02	Suzanne Brauer	15
Dr Albert J. Bajohr Jr	03	Edward A. Syjut	19
Anthony Musto Jr	04	Rev J Peter Sheehan	24
Elaine Flynn	04	Anthony Odierno	24
Walter Urbanski	08	John A. Detota	26
Arthur M. Dupree	10	Michael J. Basile	26
Thomas A. Meekins	10	Robert A. Clark	30
Amada (Amy) Bouffard	13	John E. Eichstadt	30
Michael C. Drury	14		

September Anniversaries

Jerome & Jean A. Lesniak September 15, 1962

John & Elizabeth Bock September 21, 1946

**Reminder that Saturday dinners are
discontinued as of September 1, 2007**

August
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

September 2007

October
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 Labor Day 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM KC Directors Mtg	4 7 PM 4th Deg	5 5:45 PM Bingo	6	7	8
9	10 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	11 7 PM Council 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 7 PM CMBA Mtg	26 5:45 PM Bingo	27	28	29
30						

September
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

October 2007

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 PM Civil Air Patrol 7 PM KC Directors Mtg	2 7 PM 4th Deg	3 5:45 PM Bingo	4	5	6 FL KofC Golf Tournament (Bradenton) 3 PM Vets Council Luau
7 →	8 <i>Columbus Day</i> 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	9 7 PM Council Mtg	10 5:45 PM Bingo	11	12 <i>Columbus Day</i>	13
14	15 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	16	17 5:45 PM Bingo	18	19	20
21	22 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	23 7 PM CMBA Mtg	24 5:45 PM Bingo	25	26	27
28 9 AM Brunch & Social	29 7 PM Civil Air Patrol	30	31 <i>Halloween</i> 5:45 PM Bingo			

Knights of Columbus
Pope John XXIII Council # 5441
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Col Michael & Debbie Bianchi¹⁰
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Sophie Bradford²⁻⁰⁹
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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.