

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Avon Park & Sebring, FL

Issue 2008-09

September 2008

Grand Knight's Report

Richard Carlson, PGK

My Brother Knights,

This is a brief update for those of you who were unable to attend the August 12th Council Meeting. After three attempts, we finally had enough Brother Knights present to constitute a quorum.



District Deputy, Hiram Pedraza, requested that all committee chairmen be present at the District meeting he is hosting in Lake Placid on September 7th at 2:00 PM. We'll car pool from the council at 1:30 PM to the meeting.

At the conclusion of the Council Meeting, Brother Frank Stanton, VP of the CMBA, chaired the home association business meeting. A motion was made and seconded to sell our piece of land in its entirety. Discussion included selling just the front parcel of land; Friday night Bingo; our dire financial situation; padlocking the building to save operating expenses; and why didn't the CMBA propose a plan of action before now (failing to mention that there has been no one at the meetings to present it to). A vote was taken and passed with only two dissenters. You may notice the new sign in front, showing Heartland Realty as our agent.

The CMBA feels that it would be prudent for us to wait until the property is close to being sold to discuss our future plans. We have the options of buying an existing building,

(See Grand Knight - Page 3, Col 1)

Deacon's Corner

Rev. Mr. James McGarry

Brother Knights and Columbiettes,

Well summer is almost gone, it is starting to get darker earlier, and the school buses are on the road. Another year is starting, not by the calendar, but by our own time table. It's time to think "what's it's all about?" In, Colossians 1: 16, *"For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible... Everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him."* In other words, *"It's not about you!"*



The purpose of your life is far greater than your own personal fulfillment, your peace of mind, or even your happiness. Fortunately there are ways to speculate about the meaning and purpose of life. We can turn to what God has revealed about life in His Word. The easiest way to discover the purpose of an invention is to ask the creator of it. The same is true for discovering your life's purpose. **Ask God!!**

In a reading from the "Book of Exodus, chap.40: 16-21, 34-38" Moses did exactly as the Lord had commanded him. He erected a place, a Dwelling, placed it on pedestals and he spread a covering, "a Tent," over the Dwelling. "Then the cloud covered the tent and the glory of the Lord filled the Dwelling."

God has not left us in the dark to wonder and guess. He has clearly

(See Deacon Jim - Page 3, Col 2)

Upcoming Events

- Sep 2nd - 4th Deg Mtg (7 PM)
Sebring Council
- Sep 7th - Breakfast OLG (8 AM)
- Sep 9th - Council Mtg (7 PM)
- Aug 12th - NO Columbiette Mtg
- Sep 15th - 1st Degree (8PM)
- Sep 26th - NO CMBA Mtg
- Sep 26-28 - FL KC Golf Tourney
Sebring
- Nov 23/25 - 4th Deg Exemp
Orlando

Sliwicki Appointed

At the Florida State Council Organizational Meeting held in Orlando, FDD Donald Sliwicki was appointed as the Florida State Council Activities Director.

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.

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385-6608

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471-2134

Deputy Grand Knight

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471-3295

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Bill Reagan
386-5008

Recorder

Kevin Bouffard
452-1515

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Mike Flood, PGK
471-6381

Treasurer

Ray LaCount
382-9120

Lecturer

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Advocate

Jim Hollywood
382-0118

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Paul Stephens
402-1811

Inside Guard

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

September Birthdays

Fred Szabo	02	Ambrose Brooker	19
Dr Albert Bajohr Jr	03	Jan Queen	23
Anthony Musto Jr	04	Anthony Odierno	24
Elaine Flynn	04	Father Sheehan	24
Sophie Bradford	10	Marie Sampson	26
Amy Bouffard	13	John Detota	26
Michael Drury	14	Michael Basile	26
Gus Ramirez	15	Robert Clark	30
Suzanne Brauer	15	John Eichstadt	30

September Anniversary's

Jerome & Jean A. Lesniak	September 15, 1962
Edward & Mary Brosi	September 17, 1970
John & Elizabeth Bock	September 21, 1946

Insurance Corner

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

4.75% tax-deferred K of C annuity

Risk free investment. We guarantee your principal and interest, you can't lose. Start making more now. Deposit must be received by 9/30/08. The K of C pays all the fees, expenses and commissions. Membership in our order has its benefits. Should you die with the account, your spouse can assume ownership and allow the money to continue to grow tax deferred. Also it pays directly to your named beneficiary, avoiding probate. Deposits less than \$10,000 earn 4.5%. Minimum deposit is \$300.

Call Brother Knight Mike McDonough (941) 228-5656



God Bless America

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386-5008

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Frank Stanton
835-1031

Treasurer

Jim Hollywood
382-0118

Secretary

Andy Mish
402-1402

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Hiram Pedraza
DD #43
699-2013

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Alma Almeida
President
385-4069

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Jack McLaughlin, FDD
471-3295

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Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Vocations

Bill Reagan
385-4032

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Vacant

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Ed & Diane Cronin
314-9188

Council

Don Sliwicki, FDD
402-0423

Family

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Youth

Steve Ashley
385-4980

Membership

Joe Grecko
314-9754

Retention

Steve Ashley
385-4980

(from Grand Knight Page 1)

or buying a piece of land and building a new hall. Then, we have to decide if we want a hall just big enough for meetings and social events, or one big enough to include a Bingo section. In any case, our building must be one that will appeal to potential renters. As you can see, what we have is decisions, decisions, decisions! Now is the time for you to be thinking about the future of our Council. If you have any questions, ask any Council or CMBA officer. Please don't wait until the last minute to consider all the possible consequences of your action.

Supreme has directed us to participate in a "World Day of Prayer for Peace" on September 11, 2008. We may be able to do this with some veteran's program as part of the noon Mass at St. Catherine's. Definite plans will be available at our September 9th meeting.

Pray that God will bless us and guide us to the right path for both our future and that of our Council.

Dick Carlson, GK

(from Deacon Jim Page 1)

revealed His purpose for our lives through the Bible. *It is our owner's manual, explaining why we are alive, how life works, what to avoid, and what to expect in the future.* It explains what no self-help or philosophy book could know. The Bible says, *"God's wisdom ... goes deep into the interior of His purpose. It's not the latest, but more like the oldest --- what God determined as the way to bring out the best in us."*

God is not just the starting point of your life; He is the source of it. To discover your purpose in life you must turn to God's Word, not the world's wisdom. The Bible says, "It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, He had His eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living." Through His

works in you, you develop your purpose in life.

Knowing this simplifies your life. It defines what you do and what you don't do. It's impossible to do everything people want you to do. You have just enough time to do God's will. The one thing we have to remember is God gave us all certain talents and what He is going to ask us "What did you do with what I gave you?"

Some of the questions to ask ourselves, did I use them for the purpose God meant them for. What did I do with my life---all the gifts, talents, opportunities, energy, relationships, and resources God gave me. Did I waste them or did I use them for His purpose. When you fully comprehend that there is more to life than just here and now, and you realize that life is just preparation for eternity, you will live differently. Is it time for us to live differently? Remember, it's never to-late.

God Bless!

Deacon Jim

Veterans Corner

Mike Basile, Veterans Chairman

Well summer is almost over and the snow birds will be back. I hope everyone had a good summer!

The V.S.O building is going to be a little late getting started. You know how the Govt. works all I's must be dotted and all "T's" crossed. But paper work is in and the bidding for the contracts has begun.

In the next few month I will be reminding you to Vote for your candidate of choice. **"VOTE - it's your right"**. Both men and women have died to earn each of us that right ... for that right **USE IT - DONT ABUSE IT.**

Remember our veterans both past and present.

God Bless America!!

Mike

Columbiettes

Marie Carlson, President

Sister Columbiettes,

Our first breakfast at Our Lady of Grace is on September 7, 2008. Eight volunteers will be enough. We need to continue working these monthly breakfasts, showing our support for the Knights (our purpose of existing). It is a lot of fun working together and a great way to earn something for our charities. Please call me at 471-2134 if you can be there.



The Golf Tournament is fast approaching (September 26, 27, 28). We need some new items to donate to the raffle. If you have an article which can be used for this, please bring it to the Hall on Wednesdays after 3:00 PM.

Please volunteer to help at this Golf Tournament. We need help selling 50/50 tickets and raffle tickets during Friday's registration and at the Saturday night banquet. Help is also needed on the golf course for the different games. So far, there are 6 ladies (including me) who have come forward. Come on my Sister Columbiettes---we need more help. Our earnings depend on how much we can accomplish!

Thanks to all of you who have said, "Yes," when asked to fulfill a duty for the coming year. I really appreciate that. Let us move ahead and have the best year possible. I ask that the Blessed Mother, St. Theresa, and Joan of Arc, our patrons, bless us in our work.

Marie



An Open Letter to Brother & SK Knights

Don Sliwicki, State Council Director

I may regret this but I feel there are a few items that need mentioning. For sometime now I have heard both third and fourth degree officers and members state that we need to do something to raise funds. Well we committed to the golf tournament which provided all of our Council, Assembly and Columbiettes an opportunity to raise funds by soliciting advertisements, obtaining items for the raffle or basket of cheer or becoming a patron sponsor for only \$5.00.

Thus far the assistance has been disappointing and the bulk of the work has been done by only a few members. I would like to believe that most members could at least afford \$5.00 to become a sponsor so when we distribute our program to all the golfers from around the state they can readily see the support from the membership. Such a lack of support is doubly embarrassing to me first, as co-chairman of the golf committee and second, as Council Activities Director for the state, since the tournament is a state function. We still have time to accept advertisements and sponsors and items for the raffle and baskets of cheer.

I congratulate those members who agreed to take on the responsibilities of a council, or assembly officer. What I do not understand is why the officers and members decided not to have an official installation of officers. These ceremonies recognize those individuals who are willing to take on serious responsibilities. It would also afford an occasion to bring the families together and socialize. I encourage all members to recall our objectives of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

Don Sliwicki

53rd FL State Golf Tourney

Jack McLaughlin, Co-Director

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS NOW!
PLEASE READ THE ARTICLE TITLED
"STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT VOL-
UNTEERS" ON PAGE 5 AND DO WHAT
YOU CAN.**

Labor Day

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country.

The First Labor Day

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Labor Day Legislation

Through the years the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed during 1885 and 1886. From them developed the movement to secure state legislation. By 1894, 23 states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

A Nationwide Holiday

The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take were outlined in the first proposal of the holiday -- a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.

The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership -- the American worker.

Good of the Order

Remember in your prayers and thoughts Rudy Cecere, Raymond Whitlatch, Lorraine, wife of Bill Fields, and Virginia, daughter of Ed Cronin.

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.

The Natural Choice is Life

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
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699-2186

Faithful Trustee (2 year)

Don Sliwicky
402-0423

Faithful Trustee (3 year)

Andy Mish
402-1402

Navigator's Report

Jack McLaughlin, Faithful Navigator

Past State Deputy and brother Sir Knight Gary McLain has been reappointment to the position of Master, Florida District. Brother McLain will serve our order for the 2008-2010 fraternal years. Under Gary's leadership the Florida District has consistently lead the DeSoto Province in membership and new assembly development. Brother McLain is worthy of this appointment. As an assembly we look forward to working with him in keeping the Florida District number one.

At the August meeting I described four items that we could use to raise funds: (1) the FL State Golf Tournament; (2) the cruise; (3) selling "Keep Christ in Christmas magnets; and (4) a Reverse Raffle. ***Our immediate need is for workers for the golf tournament and a chairman for the Keep Christ in Christmas magnets.*** The cruise was discussed in last month's newsletter and if anyone is going on a cruise, contact me before you book. We will try the raffle as a spring fundraiser and I will head it, or at least help whoever would like to give it a try.

The magnets are a white manger scene that measures 6.25x7 inches that we can buy for \$1.25 and sell at churches and other gatherings for \$5.00. We need to order 200 which would run the assembly \$250 + \$20 for shipping ... a net of \$780. If we are going to pursue this source of revenue, ***we need a chairman to head it up ... NOW.***

As for the FL State KC Golf Tournament, we need your help now! Please step up and sell Program Book Ads, or solicit Hole Sponsors, or merchants Door Prizes. Contact Jack or Don to avoid duplicating contacts that we have already made. We also need workers for Friday-Sunday (Sept 26-28) – see the article below.

Our next meeting will be at held at Sebring Council on Sep 2nd at 7:00 PM. This will be our last meeting before the FL State Golf Tournament, which will likely be our major fund raiser for the year. Please make an effort to attend!

Jack

State Golf Tournament Volunteers

This will be the last chance to reach all of you that do not attend meetings. Please read the following and consider volunteering for at least one of these jobs. Remember that your time will generate income for Council 5441, Assembly 1723 or the Columbiettes.

We need six volunteers to assist with registration on Friday the 26th from 12-3PM at the Quality Inn and six from 4-7PM at the Hall. The job is to sit at a table and pass out items or sell raffle/door prize tickets. So far I have 3 volunteers!

We need seven volunteers to work at Sun n' Lake Country Club on Saturday the 27th and seven on Sunday the 28th from 7:30AM until approximately 1PM. The job is to sit in a golf cart and control the hole-in-one contest or the closest to the pin contest. Five volunteers will be involved at a time, with two volunteers available for relief. So far I have 1 volunteer!.

Contact Jack McLaughlin by email at jack.mclaughlin@embarqmaill.com or by phone at (863) 471-3295, or Don Sliwicky by email at donoliro@tinni.net or by phone at (863) 402-0423. ***Please volunteer some time – your help is desperately needed!!!***

Knights of Columbus
Pope John XXIII Council # 5441
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33870-2162

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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.