

Knights in Action

Pope John XXIII Council #5441

Sebring, Florida

Issue 2009-09

September 2009

Grand Knight's Report

Jack McLaughlin, FDD

Having skipped the August Business Meeting, it is time to kick off our fraternal year and put a plan in place for this year. Mike Flood, Frank Stanton, JP Fane, and myself attended the District training seminar conducted by the State in Wauchula on August 1st, where lots of information was passed out that will be useful to us as we re-build the Council.



Our District Deputy is currently arranging for a 2nd and 3rd Degree to be held in Wauchula on the same day in September. As of press time the date is not yet set. As soon as I know the date we will be contacting all of our 1st and 2nd Degree members to see if you want to take the final steps to Knighthood. This will be a great opportunity - try to make it!

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, One Year Trustee and Advocate are all open. If we can't even fill the elected offices ... We've had a few Knights step up to fill some 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

(see Grand Knight - Page 3, Col 1)

Deacon's Corner

Rev. Mr. James McGarry

My Brother Knights & Columbiettes

It is great to be back from a long vacation. We put over 9000 miles on the speedometer. Were they worth it? Well all I can say is Mary Rose and I, on every mountain top and rafting on the rivers, especially the Colorado, we were truly in the presence of God's Majesty. No mere human could have designed the beauty that we were privy too. At every stop, one of the first things we did was pray and thank God for all He has given us as individuals and as a country. We truly realized we are all truly blessed and loved by our God.



Being loved by God is the topic I would like to address to you my Brother Knights and Sister Columbiettes. How can we understand God's loves for us and how can we transfer that love to others? We should never forget "love begins at home." Yes today, we are having a terrible time, because we have so many broken and unhappy families.

They don't pray together. There is no sharing. There is no "Joy" of serving each other or others. Think about that my brothers and sisters. Do we share with each other in our family of the Knights and do we wish each other the peace and love of God? What is causing this unconcerned attitude of not serving each other and our Catholic family? What is it that we love more than each other?

(see Deacon - Page 3, Col 2)

Upcoming Events

- Sep 1st - 4th Deg - Sebring (7 PM) - Council 5441 Office Building
- Sep 8th - Columbiettes (7 PM) - Council 5441 Office Building
- Sep 8th - Council Meeting (7 PM) - Old Council Hall
- Sep 9th - 1st Degree (8 PM) - location undetermined
- Sep 11th - World Day of Prayer and Peace
- Sep 12th - Council Home Clean-up - (9-12) **Volunteers needed**
- Sep 25th - Novena for Life Mass - St. Catherine Church (12 Noon)
- Oct 4th - Breakfast at St Catherine (8 AM)



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

V a c a n t

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

V a c a n t

Warden

V a c a n t

Inside Guard

V a c a n t

Outside Guard

Modesto Diaz
314-9188

Trustee (3 year)

Don Schnoor, PGK
385-8832

Trustee (2 year)

Carmine Aurigemma
385-5097

Trustee (1 year)

V a c a n t

Council Officer Election Notice

This announcement in the Council Bulletin serves as notice to all members that in accordance with Article 2, Section 5 of Council 5441's By Laws the Business Meeting of September 8th will be an election meeting to replace and/or fill the following offices for the current fraternal year: Chancellor; Advocate; Warden; Inside Guard; and, Trustee for 1 year.

September Birthdays

Dr. Albert Bajohr	03	Jan Queen	23
Anthony Musto	04	Rev J. Peter Sheehan	24
Michael Drury	14	John Detota	26
Gus Ramirez	15	John Eichstadt	30
Ambrose Brooker	19	Robert Clark	30

September Anniversary's

Jerome & Jean Lesniak	September 15, 1962
Edward & Mary Brosi	September 17, 1970

Good of the Order

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

Remember our Brother Knight Jack Arehart who passed away on July 21, 2009. Remember also Charles Cocca, who we just recently found out died.

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.

World Day of Prayer and Peace

September 11, 2009, is the eighth anniversary of the terrorist attacks in the United States. This solemn event will be marked by the fourth annual Orderwide World Day of Prayer for Peace



God Bless America

CMBA DIRECTORS

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 #43

Hiram Pedraza, DD
699-2013

Angel Hernandez, DW
245-8713 ©

COLUMBIETTES

Beth Caracaus
President
452-0782

PROGRAMS

Program Director

Frank Stanton
835-1031

Church Vacant

Vocations Vacant

Community

Ed Cronin
382-3477

Pro Life Couple

Ed & Diane Cronin
382-3477

Council Vacant

Family Vacant

Youth Vacant

Membership Vacant

Retention Vacant

(Grand Knight - from Page 1)

Vocations and Membership duties. If you want to ease your way into the council and become active, contact Frank Stanton or myself (phone numbers are on page 2).

JP Fane has volunteered to head up a monthly breakfast that the Knights will run at St. Catherine Church on the first Sunday of each month beginning on October 4th. This will be our first fund raiser since we had to drop Bingo due to a lack of workers. When we ask for help at our September Business meeting, please step up!

For those members that missed Father Jose's comments in the July 26th St. Catherine Bulletin, I've included it below for your reading.

I am looking forward to all of our Snowbirds returning and joining us in building our new Council programs.

Jack

Sale of Council Hall

St. Catherine July 26th Bulletin

I am happy to inform you that, officially, St. Catherine Church has purchased the Knights of Columbus property, which includes the Hall but not the house in the back, located on Highway 27 North, at the price of \$273,470.50.

I want to personally thank the Knights of Columbus for their generosity to St. Catherine because the property is valued at a much higher marketable price.

St. Catherine School will be using what was once the Youth Center. We needed a special place for our youth ministries (Life Teen and Edge) and for other ministries. The timing for the purchase of the Knights of Columbus (K of C) property was perfect, since school will begin in mid-August. Our youth ministries, Life Teen and Edge, and other ministries will be able to use the K of C Hall once it is made ready. This new step in St. Catherine history offers me the opportunity to

invite you, as members of St. Catherine Catholic Church, to be part of our growth and become more involved in our active Parish and School. Please share your ideas and suggestions for the K of C Hall to be used in an efficient way.

Father Jose

(Deacon Jim - from Page 1)

It is the unbridled ambition for things and for status, something that interferes in our lives, that we love more than our K of C family or sometimes even more than our own family. I never tire of talking about family life and of my desire for families to be holy and united, "where love reigns among all family members."

Jesus spent most of His time repeating on earth one thing, "Love one another as God loves you. As the Father has loved me, I love you. Love one another" (Jn 15:9)

When we look at the cross, we discover how much Jesus loved us. When we look at the tabernacle, we know how much He loves us now. That is why it is very important for us, if we really want to love and to be loved, to learn to pray with sincerity and humility for each other.

Mother Teresa was quoted as saying this about prayer,

"The fruit of prayer is faith. Prayer leads us to say, "I believe."

"The fruit of faith is love. Faith leads us to say: "I love."

"The fruit of love is service. Love leads us to say, "I want to serve."

"And the fruit of service is Peace."

Go with the love of Christ,

Deacon Jim



Columbiettes

Beth Caracaus, President

Dear Sister Columbiettes & Brother Knights,

As you all know, our President Beth had a fall and broke her hip. She is in the Rehab Facility and is doing as well as can be expected. I am helping her with her President duties until she is capable of taking them over. Right now I am still up north and will be attending the Supreme Convention beginning September 10th in Philadelphia. I will give you that report at our first meeting in September.

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. It's almost over and soon we will be back doing our Columbiette business. I should be back in Sebring by the end of the month. There is a DD meeting in Stuart and I will be attending. WE do not have the calendar set for our Auxiliary yet. We will be working with our Knights and Auxiliary Officers to set that up. The Regional meeting is going to be in South Florida - date and place will be announced later. All Officers are expected to attend this very important meeting.

If anyone needs to contact me my cell phone # is 863-273-4876. I am available to all. Our 1st meeting for the upcoming Columbiette year is Sept 8th at 7 PM in the house in the back of the hall.

Will close this with a prayer to our Blessed Mother that she asks her Son Jesus to heal Beth and get her back on her feet soon.

May the Blessed Mother, St. Joan of Arc and Sr. Theresa watch over us and bless our endeavors.

God Bless,

Vicki Sandin

Beth Caracaus, President's helper

Vocations Are Everybody's Business

Pro-Life Committee Report

Ed Cronin, Chairman

With gratitude to Fr. Frank Pavone, the following is taken from his book, "Ending Abortion, Not Just Fighting It".



The False Dichotomy of Pro-Choice Politicians

It has been a particular sadness to the Bishops of the United States and to Catholics active in the Pro Life movement that so many Catholic politicians have succumbed to the pressures exerted by Pro-Abortion advocates. Many of these politicians resort to the explanation that they are personally opposed to abortion but they do not feel they can impose their personal judgment upon others.

How can a public servant claim to serve the public and ignore the systematic destruction of a whole segment of the public he claims to serve? Ask yourself the question, "If that politician can't respect the life of a little baby, how can I expect him to respect mine?"

In their own defense, some make the following arguments:

1. "We have to govern everybody."

That is precisely our point. That is why we oppose the Supreme Court decision that says, "The word 'person', as used in the Fourteenth Amendment, does not include the unborn."

2. "The Government shouldn't be involved in abortion."

In fact, the government became too involved in abortion when, in 1973, it overstepped its authority and asserted that it could decide who has the right to live and who doesn't. The government should

stop pretending that it is the source of the right to life. Let it start acting as the guardian of that right, instead.

3. "The law should not impose religious beliefs."

We don't want it to. The law that says you can't take my life does not require you to believe anything about my life. It just says you can't take it. All the Pro-Life movement is saying is to extend that protection equally to all members of the human species.

4. "There are many issues."

Of course there are, and the reason is that human life and dignity is threatened in many ways. Deny the equal right to life of all and you undermine every legitimate cause at the same time.

Here we are in September 2009 and the national administration is moving hell bent to force through an omnibus Health Care Reform Bill that no one seems to fully understand and cannot clearly explain it to the American public. The Pro-Life movement has a right and a duty to be suspicious of this monster change and the possibility of it being a Trojan Horse in the area of the bogus "Right to Abortion".

We should look to our Bishops and loyal Catholic legislative leaders to guide us in analyzing the new 'Obamacare' bill. Don't be stampeded into accepting it at face value!

Vivat Jesus

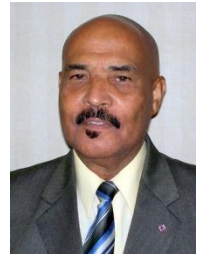
Ed

The Natural Choice is Life

District Deputy

Hiram Pedraza, DD #43

My time has not ended ... who said I resigned? In my last newsletter article, I said goodbye to all of you. Well guess what? I received a call from our State



Deputy, Douglas J. Murray and he made me an offer that I could not refuse. He then proceeded to tell me that I had been re-appointed for another term as your District Deputy ... and here I am to serve you and our Order. Angel Hernandez, who is currently our District Warden, and myself have agreed that our primary goal will be to help every council in the district achieve the Star Council Award.

This year we will be starting a major membership drive throughout the District from September to January. Grand Knights and their Membership Coordinators should be planning for the Drive. We find that most Councils do not have a year long membership plan with established dates and goals. As a result, we've been losing recruits during the first three months. We find ourselves fighting an uphill battle by year end to meet our membership quotas. Each council's GK and DGK is expected to fully support each of the council's Blitz dates between September and January. Because I have four Councils, plan the Blitz so that each Council has a different weekend. Membership Chairman should also cover all of the Masses.

Remember that we lead by example, I also would like to see the Insurance Agent invited to participate in your Blitz. He is your best recruiter, so use him to your advantage. To be continued.

Vivat Jesus

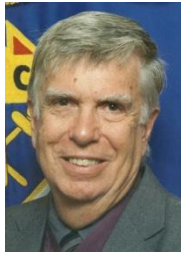
Hiram

*Discover a World of Good Things
in the Knights of Columbus*

CMBA Report

Mike Flood, President

As many of you have heard, the council hall and property has been sold. We were able to sell it to St. Catherine Church to help them grow the school. They will move many of the Parish activities out to our old building and begin to convert the buildings they own into classrooms to expand the school. Having a Catholic School in Highlands County is a great initial step for schooling our youth.



The majority of the money from the proceeds of the sale has been placed in a seven month CD to allow us time to plan for the future of our council. We still own the house on Prospect Dr., which will become the Council Office Building. It will be our council's official home and be available for meetings.

The CMBA Board of Directors has approved spending money to clean the house, replace the two toilets that were leaking, had cracked ceramic, and were stained beyond cleaning. We are looking to hire a lawn service to trim the bushes and plants and to remove all of the vines one the back of the property. The undergrowth is so high in the back that you cannot even see the trees and plants along the property line.

We are also looking for someone to clean and maintain the inside of the house to make it look presentable for meetings and visitors..

We'll keep you informed as to what we wish to do, or better yet, why don't you come to one of our meetings to see what is being planned for our future. We need member input prior to making decisions.

We also need to identify volunteers, that can work a few hours a month to maintain the property by cutting the grass, edging and

trimming, etc. We all know that paying a commercial vendor will be costly. If you can volunteer a few hours, please call Mike Flood 414-0945

Mike

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.

Labor Day -

HOW IT CAME ABOUT; WHAT IT MEANS

"Labor Day differs in every essential from the other holidays of the year in any country," said Samuel Gompers, founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor. "All other holidays are in a more or less degree connected with conflicts and battles of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day...is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation."

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.

Founder of Labor Day

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a co-founder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those "who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold."

(see Labor Day - Page 6, Col 1)

(Labor Day - from Page 5)

But Peter McGuire's place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, N.J., proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic.

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. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

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. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year four more states -- Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York -- created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By

the end of the decade Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, 23 other 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 character of the Labor Day celebration has undergone a change in recent years, especially in large industrial centers where mass displays and huge parades have proved a problem. This change, however, is more a shift in emphasis and medium of expression. Labor Day addresses by leading union officials, industrialists, educators, clerics and government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio and television.

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.

GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

The man whispered "God, speak to me" - And a meadowlark sang. But the man did not hear.

So the man yelled "God speak to me!" - And the thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen.

The man looked around and said "God let me see you" - And a star shone brightly. But the man did not notice.

And the man shouted "God show me a miracle" - And a life was born. But the man did not know.

So, the man cried out in despair. "Touch me God and let me know that you are here!" - Whereupon God reached down and touched the man. But the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

He listens and fulfills each and every request.

Remember not to be so busy that we don't listen too!



Commander Joseph T. O'Callahan, SJ

Assembly #1723

ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Max Severe
382-9402

Faithful Navigator

SK Dick Carlson
471-2134

Faithful Captain

SK Mike Basile, PFN
382-4550

Faithful Pilot

SK Frank Stanton
835-1031

Faithful Comptroller

SK Al Phillips, PFN
385-2858

Faithful Scribe

SK Mike Padron
385-1942

Faithful Purser

John Schumacher
382-8648

Faithful Inner Sentinel

SK Ricardo Gonsalves
699-2421

Faithful Outer Sentinel

SK Joe Meegan
382-3520

Faithful Admiral

Vacant

Faithful Trustee (1 year)

Charles Wiseman
699-2186

Faithful Trustee (2 year)

Andy Mish
402-1402

Faithful Trustee (3 year)

Hiram Pedraza
699-2013

Navigator's Report

Dick Carlson, Faithful Navigator

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held at the Grande Beach Resort Hotel in Naples, on August 28 and 29, 2009. I know we have one candidate from Council 14717 in Avon Park, hopefully, there will be others. The Exemplification will take place Saturday, August 28 at 10:00 am in the main ballroom. It would be nice to have many Sir Knights there to support all of the candidates.

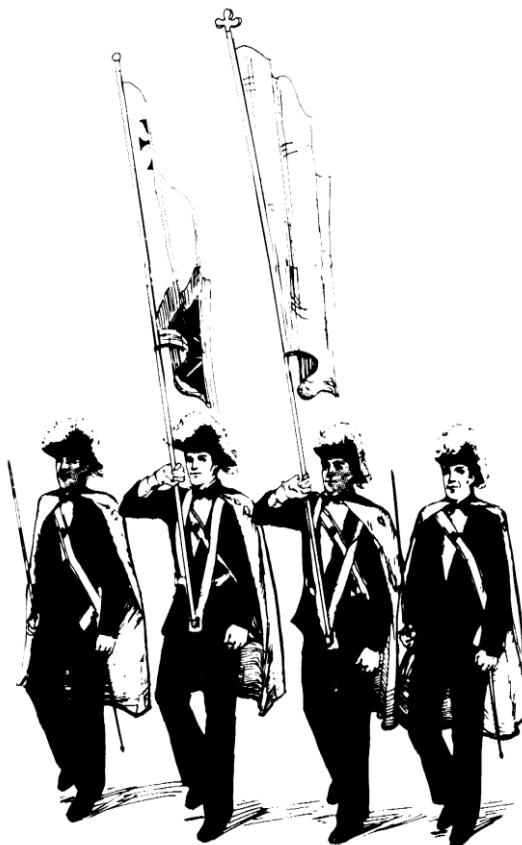
A very special thank you to PFN Jack McLaughlin and all of the officers who served the Assembly so well during the 2008-2009 Fraternal Year. Hopefully, your knowledge and expertise will trickle down to me and the other new officers. I am looking for a PFN to fill the position of Admiral which is vacant.

Our next meeting will be held at 1520 Prospect Drive, Sebring (the house behind Council 5441 Hall) on Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00 pm.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, be safe and well.

God Bless,

Dick



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.