

# Knights of Columbus



**Perkiomen Valley Council #3633**

<http://www.kofc3633.org/>

Located @ 526 Main Street, Schwenksville, PA 19473

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**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**



Volume 11

January - February 2010

No. 1

## Grand Knight's Message

Dear Brother Knights and your families. My heartiest wishes to each of you for a healthy and happy 2010. Some are starting this year without work and that is a strain and hardship to say the least. Our prayers should always be for each other and the wellbeing of all knights and families and I urge you to make employment a special intention in your daily prayers. We start this year with a note of sadness for the loss of Brother Knight Pete Kaeser and our condolences to PGK Ed and Rose, wife Tanya and his children Linda Rose and Louis.

As we enter this New Year, there are several things that are very much on my mind and some will require your help and support. First of all though, I must say a special thank you to all who made the past six months a success. We had a very successful Rose for Life Drive at the beginning of October with over \$6400 collected from the three parishes. The Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast were well attended and the Kurtz Family was an inspiration to all for their work with the 20 children they have adopted. The essay contest winners did an outstanding job deserved their recognition. The Priest and Volunteer appreciation dinner held December 3 was a huge success with all but two of our parish priests in attendance, deacons, deaconate candidates and two seminarians in attendance. Thanks again to Rich and Laura Keckley who did so much to make this a successful evening.

- SK Scott Shirley continues to do a phenomenal job of selling crab cakes. Although he did not meet his personal goal to sell 1000 cakes at the November sale, he has not given up and will be planning a bigger campaign near Lent.
- Our Keep Christ in Christmas magnets continue to be a sought after item and although not breaking any records for sales, we have sold close to 200 this year. Thanks to Dan Keefe, Matt McCloskey, Larry Pennypacker and Charlie George for their efforts.
- The last event sponsored in December was an hour of prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Eleanor on December 10. Thanks to Chuck Sauermelch who put together an inspiring program both explaining the image of Our Lady and leading the rosary and other prayers with a focus on prayers for Pro Life intentions.
- The Free Throw Competition is upon us and thanks to Dan Mitchell and Andy Gesek, this will be done with the smoothness we have come to expect from the past efforts of Dave McDermott and Jody Shollenberger. We expect to enroll maybe 250 boys and girls in the competition this year among the three parishes.
- We are moving quickly towards the ARC campaign and your help with the three market collections will be instrumental to our success. Please respond when called to take a slot.
- The informal breakfasts with the pastors of the three churches are being planned. On January 23rd, we will have breakfast with our new Monsignor Patrick Sweeney after the 9 AM mass at St. Eleanor Chapel. In February or March with Fr. Brandt and in May with Fr. McElroy.

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## COUNCIL CALENDAR

### GRAND KNIGHT:

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Please check the Council Web Site for up-to-date information [www.kofc3633.org](http://www.kofc3633.org)

<i>Business Meetings</i>	<i>Officers meetings</i>	<i>Other Events</i>
Sunday- <b>January 10<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Wednesday- <b>January 27<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Month of January- Free Throw Championship
Sunday- <b>February 14<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Wednesday- <b>February 24<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Informal Communion breakfast with Monsignor Sweeney on Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup> after the 9 AM mass
		Stations of the Cross at BTC in Linfield, Friday February 26 at 7 PM

### Exemplification Schedule

**We will be contacting many of you with the hopes of bringing many of you to your 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplification:**

Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Mother of Divine Providence Council # 14454, held at Mother of Divine Providence Parish, 333 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA19406. (The degree will be held in the Parish Center at the far end of the Church Parking lot). Candidates should arrive no sooner than 12:15 PM and no later than 12:30 PM, Degree at 1:00 PM. All candidates should make every effort to wear a wear a coat & tie.

**or**

Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at Msgr. Schuyler Council # 1333, 110 W. Market Street, West Chester, Pa. Candidates should arrive no sooner than 12:15 PM and no later than 12:30 PM, Degree at 1:00 PM. All candidates should make every effort to wear a wear a coat & tie.

### Membership:

- Congratulations to Kevin Bustard and Bill Yacovelli who completed their second degree exemplification on November 18<sup>th</sup>, at St. Albert the Great Council #7925
- Congratulations to FS Lou Gentner who was presented the Shining Armor Award for meeting the criteria of the award during his first year of membership in the Knights. Well done Lou and keep up the good work.
- We welcome brother Joe Goethe to our Council. Joe is a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knight transferring from the Phoenixville Council.
- John Giorgis has moved to Florida and will be seeking a new council. In the meantime, he and wife Joette bought a home in Port St. Lucie. John will be missed for all his work on the Respect Life Committee and the Rose Drive.

### Grand Knight's Message continued:

We will also be holding at least two prayer events, a Rosary at St. Mary's and Stations of the Cross at Blessed Theresa of Calcutta one Friday in lent. Keep an eye on the Web Site for the latest information updates.

- The Golf Drive will be chaired by PGK Sam Augustine this year and his committee is being formed. There is always need for a lot of help here. We are targeting the event for the second Friday of June.
- Recruiting is always an ongoing issue and each member should be on the lookout for potential new members to the order. It is recommended that once contact is made, that person be referred to our membership chairman Joe Stephey or to the Grand Knight who will then arrange for an interview and follow up prior to bringing their candidacy to the Council for approval. Currently, we have three candidates awaiting the honors of the first degree which we hope to accomplish this January.

Of key importance and one I wish to spend just a little pen and ink on, is the matter of elections. The nominations committee will be at work contacting current officers and potential candidates in February. We must have dedicated and knowledgeable men to serve both as officers and committee chairman if we are to continue to have a vibrant and successful Council that can attract new members. So as not to take up the entire newsletter with responsibilities, I would direct you to the web site at [www.kofc3633.org](http://www.kofc3633.org) and if you scroll down below the picture and Council News section on the home page, there is a set of tabs for "Officer Duties" and other related items. You will find a brief description of each office there. I can provide more information if needed but this will be a start. Please consider volunteering for an office. In the ideal situation, there is a progression of succession that can be followed so that if one starts as Inside Guard for example, he will begin to understand the workings of the offices and progress to a higher office with each subsequent election. Please give this matter your prayerful and careful consideration. One only gets out what one puts in. If you want a good K of C Council, you must be part of it! *Prosit!*

*GK Joe Bondi*

**Meetings:** All meetings will now officially begin at 7:00 PM. Business meetings will be preceded by the rosary beginning at 6:30 PM for those who wish to attend.



## COUNCIL NEWS



**Priest and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner-** The dinner held December 3 at Caroline Moorehead Caterers in Trappe was attended by 16 clergy, 29 K of C members and 20 spouses. We were happy to host: Monsignor Sweeney and Monsignor Foley from St. Eleanor, Fr. Povish from St Eleanor, Fr Brandt from BTC, Fr. Furey from St. Mary, Fr. Jeff Rott and Monsignor Galyo, now residing at St. Joseph's Home for Retired Priest and who gave the invocation. Also in attendance were Deacon Burns and Deacon Kubczak and their wives. Also we were privileged to host our two seminarians, Bob Ianelli and Dan Arechabala. Much to our regret, Fr. Dalin and Fr. McElroy could not attend due to clerical commitments. Thanks especially to the Keckleys who handled the invitations and many other arrangements to make the dinner a success.

**COAL-** Not to spoil our Council's record, we again went down in flames and did not have a single winner in the drawing. We are battling a grand zero in this event but we keep trying. This year we sold 230 books with the high seller being Ben Boldin with 18 books and Reggie Hill, dropping to second place after several years up front, with 11 books. Books were also sold by Dan Keefe and Larry Pennypacker at the St. Eleanor bazaar and Matt McCloskey at the St. Mary bazaar. Thanks to all who helped make this a success with a net profit of \$894.

**Blood Drives-** The blood drives at St. Mary, under the chairmanship of PGK Bill Kirby and St. Eleanor under the chairmanship of GK Joe Bondi continue to be instrumental in collecting significant numbers of pints of blood for the American Red Cross. This could not be accomplished without the efforts of so many who make the phone calls for the drive. It is worthy to note the efforts of Matt McCloskey, Bob Donaghy, Ben Boldin, Chuck Kane, Joe Stephey, James Burns, Lou Gentner, Brian Dean, Ed Kaeser, Kevin Strnad, Bob Sciubba, Dan Keefe and Bob Buda. The St Eleanor drive is co-chaired by a non-member, Larry DiPiano who does a bang-up job of organizing the hall, signing up folks after mass and coordinating the double cell collection during the drive. For the 2 days at St Eleanor's, a total of 96 people came to donate and of those the Red Cross was able to get 86 pints of blood. We will be looking for the next drive in June of 2010.

### **Home Association Information -**

If you haven't been to the Council in a while, you should attend a meeting just to check out the work that has been accomplished. The basement area has been converted to a Social Area. We aren't quite finished yet. We're currently installing a new (to us) Kitchen. To give you an idea of what's been done, the area has had closets installed, and is Heated and Air Conditioned. The second Bathroom has been renovated, and we have Hot Water from the Faucets. The renovations wouldn't have been possible without the dedication and hard work of PGK Ed Kaeser, Rich Keckley, PGK Reggie Hill, Tom Kinney, and Dave Gullick. These Brother Knights deserve recognition from the Council for their efforts, over the last year and a half. Nice work team!

Also, the Council home has been upgraded with new Roofs installed on the Main Building, the Council, and the smaller roof surfaces. New gutters and Downspouts were also installed on the Main Roof. That should take care of any roof leak issues for the next 30 years or so. **PGK SK Ed Kaeser**, President of Home Association

*Postscript per GK: The amount of money these men have saved the Council cannot be estimated. Not only have they dedicated most Friday mornings to this work, their talents have resulted in a first class meeting and kitchen space. Please come out and see this for yourself. We enjoy a social time after each meeting now in pleasant surroundings. When your GK does not talk too much at the meeting, there is ample time to enjoy each other's company and still get home early.*

### **First Degree Team-**

We would like to add member to the team especially so we have a back-up person certified for each part. If at all possible, we want to form a Second Degree Team but need YOU to participate. Having a Degree Team is a very high honor for the Council and this provides a tremendous service to the Order. By having our own teams, it is easier to assure that those wishing to become Knights do not have to wait for a degree to come available, often at a very inconvenient location. With the renovations of our Council Chambers, we are equipped to handle this. Consider contacting either SK. Dan Keefe at (610) 489-4353 or GK Joe Bondi at (610) 489-6394 for more information.

**Babies!**

The council extends its congratulations and best wishes to Ben and Kara Boldin on the birth of baby Abigail (a name that this editor is also fond of). Also Andy and Jen Gesek welcome a new 11 lb 6 oz, 23 inch baby boy! Atta girl, Jen! **JW**



**Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast- 2010** We have locked in Sunday October 10 2010 at St Mary's Church for our Mass and Breakfast. We are in need of a chairman for this event.

**SK Bill Fries-** For those who may not know, Bill now resides at Elm Terrace (ET) Personal Care Home in Lansdale. Eva passed away three years ago leaving a huge void in Bill's life. After moving to Elm Terrace, he became a well known and liked member of that community. Bill met Gladys at ET and as we were told, became close friends almost at first sight. Their friendship grew into a deeper love and on November 18, Bill and Gladys were married in the chapel at St. Stanislaus by Fr. Weber. The pictures below tell the rest of the story. They now reside in the Personal Care wing of ET and are the toast of the town. Congratulations Bill and Gladys and may God grant you many happy days together.

**“Marriage: Life and Love in the Divine Plan,”**

The USCCB just approved (November 17, 2009) the foundational document of the U.S. bishops' pastoral initiative on marriage. It passed with 180 in favor, 45 opposed and three bishops abstaining. The final document can be found online at <http://www.usccb.org/laity/LoveandLife/MarriageFINAL.pdf>.

Some quotes from a few of its 60 pages:

"We rejoice that so many couples are living in fidelity to their marital commitment. We thank them for proclaiming in their daily lives the beauty, goodness, and truth of marriage. In countless ways, both ordinary and heroic, through good times and bad, they bear witness to the gift and blessing they have received from the hand of their Creator.

We are grateful, too, for all those who work with young people and engaged couples to establish good marriages, who help married couples to grow in love and strengthen their union, and who help those in crisis to resolve their problems and bring healing to their lives. ... At the same time we are troubled by the fact that far too many people do not understand what it means to say that marriage—both as a natural institution and a Christian sacrament—is a blessing and gift from God."

"Couples too often reflect a lack of understanding of the purposes of marriage. There is a loss of belief in the value of those purposes when couples readily treat, as separate choices, the decisions to get married and to have children. This indicates a mentality in which children are seen not as integral to a marriage but as optional."

"We intend this pastoral letter to be a theological and doctrinal foundation. It can be a resource to help and encourage all those who are moving toward marriage, who are journeying in married life, and who are accompanying and assisting those who are called to the vocation of marriage."

"Marriage, this clinging together of husband and wife as one flesh, is based on the fact that man and woman are both different and the same. They are different as male and female, but the same as human persons who are uniquely suited to be partners or helpmates for each other."

And the above are only from the first 10 pages. This document was well written and should be a great resource for Marriage Preparation programs, Couple Retreats and Workshops, etc. Please read it.

God Bless  
George Finnin

### **Thank You**

I want to thank all of my Brother Knights who came to our side to provide comfort after the death of my son, Peter. It was wonderful seeing the Honor Guard standing watch during the viewing. Thank you very much. Words can't express the appreciation that Rose and I, and Pete's wife, Tanya feel for all of the acts of kindness, and the expressions of sympathy from the Council, and from so many of you. This has been a very trying time for our family, and your support has helped us endure this painful loss. Again, we sincerely thank each and every Member of the Council who kept us in their prayers.

God Bless you all. **PGK SK Ed Kaeser**

### **Field Agent's Message:**



William G. Bushéy, Sr. FICF, CSA  
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Insurance calculator  
<http://www.kofc.org/un/insurance/index.cfm>

## *Tempus Fugit. Time Flies.*

The older we get, the more that statement seems to ring true. Especially as we prepare to ring in another new year. I hope that 2009 was a healthy, prosperous year for you and your family. Mary Kay and I hope you and your family had a Blessed Christmas and wish you a prosperous New Year. And to help make next year a bit more prosperous, give me a call to find out how to make your CD's pay more, how to maximize your pension and your 401k. And for most, one of the best things you could do in 2010 is convert your IRA to a Roth IRA to take advantage of the change in the tax code.

Fraternally, *Bill Bushéy*

## *Parish News*

### **St. Eleanor: (Parish Rep. Charles Sauermelech):**

We congratulate our new Monsignor Patrick Sweeney upon his appointment by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to Chaplain of Mercy with the title of Monsignor. Msgr. Sweeney is a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knight and we send him our prayers and best wishes for continued blessings as he leads the people of St. Eleanor.

Communion Breakfast Jan 23 after the 9 AM mass in the chapel at St. Eleanor. Breakfast location to be determined.

### **St. Mary: (Parish Rep. PGK Matt McCloskey):**

**Keep an eye on the Web Site for a date to meet for the Rosary after the 7 PM mass one Thursday evening.**

**Blessed Teresa of Calcutta: (Parish Representative- Jim Crawford)**

The Knights are scheduled to lead the Stations of the Cross, on February 26, 2010, beginning at 7:00pm. This is the 2nd Friday of Lent. We will need to meet at the former St. Clare Church in Linfield by 6:30 PM. We will be using the Divine Mercy Stations of the Cross and we are still looking for a few Knights to help lead the Station reading, carry the Cross and candles. Please contact GK Joe Bondi at (610) 489-6394 or Jim Crawford (610) 409-8381 if you can help lead the Stations.



### **January Birthdays:**

Angelo Butera, Rev. John T. Coates, Ray Crouse, Adam Cusatis, PGK Bill Fries, Kevin Gallagher, Kevin Gillespie, Jeff Goudsward, Rev. Francis Kelly, PGK Bill Kirby, Dennis Krause, Michael Krause, Tom Lukens, Tom Neafcy, Larry

Pennypacker, Anthony Rhuberg, Paul Roy, Giuseppe Scillia,  
Dan Signore

**February Birthdays:**

Joe Cahill, David Chiazza, Kevin Chiazza, John Decarr, Joe  
Kavacky, Daniel Keefe, Phil Kirby, Steve Muntzenberger,  
Dan Pennetti, John Skilton, Joe Stephey, Kevin Strnad

**January & February K of C Anniversaries:**

Alex Charyna, SK Dan Keefe, SK Dan Pennetti – *5 years*  
John Longua, Steve Raisner – *10 years*  
GK SK Joe Bondi, PGK SK Ed Kaeser, PGK SK Bill Kirby –  
*15 years*  
SK Don Cahill – *20 years*  
SK Dennis Krause – *40 years*

***Thank you for your service, Gentlemen!***

\*Anniversaries are recognized on the 5-year multiples.

# Prayer Needs

**Seminarians & Clergy:** PGK Brother Charlie Schreiner, Bob  
Ianelli, Dan Arechabala, SK. Edward Hinson

**Deceased:** Pete Kaeser, Josephine DeLong, Angela Marcello  
(mother of Mary George)

**Sick:** Matt Kirby, Dawn and Dennis Alston, Eloise Brown,  
The Hill family, Kenneth Hill, Joan Reid, Joan Campolongo,  
Lisa Dougherty, Bernard Smith, The Young Family, Karen  
D'Genaro, Dan Pennetti, Nina Fanaro, Barbara Wynne, Irene  
Buffardi, Matilda Panepinto, H. Tredwell, Tanya Kaeser, Ed  
Pires, Tom Barcia, Bob Houck, Peg Mason, Mary Anne  
Petitto, Madeline Bondi, Tony Paparo

**Special Needs:** Pope Benedict XVI, Peace in the World, Our  
Elected Officials, Our Pastors, Priests and Parochial Vicars,  
the Hungry and Homeless, those suffering depression

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