

# 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

July-August 2010

No. 4

### Grand Knight's Message

When I was 18 I saw a quote from Franklin Roosevelt; "**Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy, forget in time that men have died to win them.**" I was an NROTC midshipman at the time and was joining a long line of naval officers that extended all the way back to John Paul Jones. Being a part of something greater than myself is one of the reasons I joined the U.S. Navy, and later, the Knights of Columbus.

As I reflect on my upcoming term as Grand Knight, there are other quotes from which I draw inspiration:

First and foremost is from Venerable Servant of God, Fr. Michael J. McGivney. His council, San Salvador Council No. 1 had a hard time getting members – harder than Councils 2, 3 and 4. When pressed for how to get members he stated, "**We get membership by our works**".

Another quotation comes loosely from the public portion of the First Degree Exemplification – "**The Knights of Columbus is, was, and will always be a brotherhood bound by the lessons of Charity, Unity and Fraternity... We take these principles seriously – and we strive to make them a part of our lives**".

Strive – why did our forefathers choose that word? Why not say "try" or "do our best" or "make every effort"? Strive also means "struggle" – and I think we do sometimes struggle to make these principles a part of our lives. I know I do.

These three lessons... don't forget the efforts of your predecessors, get members from your works and make our principles a part of your life resonate in my thoughts on being Grand Knight.

I've been a Knight since 2005. I have a full time and demanding job. I have three kids under the age of 13. I'm active in Boy Scouts and have other hobbies to consume my time. Being a Grand Knight is going to be difficult... but many hands lighten a heavy load.

I'm thankful for the other men who have volunteered to be Council officers. Their efforts are critical to our collective well being - but no more critical than your own.

Over the next year I will endeavor to organize our efforts on six fronts: 1) Charity, 2) Fraternity, 3) Fund Raising, 4) Youth, 5) Communications, and 6) Membership.

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**COUNCIL CALENDAR**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>July 11<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Wednesday- <b>July 21<sup>st</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Council Picnic- Sunday July 18 <sup>th</sup> Dan Keefe's home - see below
Sunday- <b>August 8<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Wednesday- <b>June 23<sup>rd</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Parish summer festivals at BTC and St. Mary's – see Parish News below

## Knights of Columbus Perkiomen Valley 3633 Family Picnic



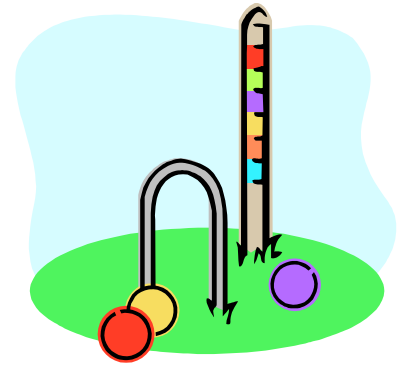
Fun in the Sun

Where:

Home of Dan and Sharon Keefe  
6 Faraway Farms Ct  
Collegeville, PA 19426

When:

Sunday, July 18th 2:00 – 6:00 PM



Cost: \$5 per family + bring picnic item (salad, side or desert)  
Burgers, Hot Dogs and Drinks provided

PLEASE RSVP:

[daniel\\_d\\_keefe@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel_d_keefe@yahoo.com) or call 610-620-5516

**Grand Knight's Message continued:**

I'm looking for a chairman for each of these programs to coordinate the activities within each program over the coming year. **Not to lead the activities.** Each activity should have its own leader, different from the chairman, to minimize the burden any one Brother Knight must carry. Here are my thoughts for what each program area will include.

**Charity** – For the last two years I've maintained a budget for ad hoc requests, gathered information on requests as they are received and presented them to the Council for consideration. I would include our blood drives in this important program area as well. I need someone to fulfill this role going forward and organize our charitable efforts. Our compass always points to charity.

**Fraternity** – Men become a Knight for a variety of reasons. Fellowship is an important and overlooked aspect of being a Knight but it's really the reason that the Knights of Columbus was formed – to look after each other. I'd like someone to coordinate two things in the next year. Those two things can come from ideas like a bus trip (with families) to New York City to see a Broadway play, a trip to a Phillies baseball game, a Habitat for Humanity build (on a Saturday), deep sea fishing off Cape May, a bus trip to Rome and the Vatican, a father-son/daughter golf tournament, etc.. There are many things we can invite people to do as a council – and as long as a few people go then it's a fraternal event. I'm looking for someone to coordinate just two events over the next 12 months. This program area would also include coordinating Council activities like a Christmas Dinner and Council Picnic, etc.

**Fund Raising** – This is an important area for the Council as it fuels many of the others. It would include oversight of the 2011 Golf tournament, crab cake sales, COAL tickets, ARC, and any other efforts where we collect money from the parishes. Again – the chairman isn't expected to lead these efforts – someone different must lead each one or the burden is too great to bear. I need someone to coordinate our fund raising efforts.

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**Grand Knight's Message continued:**

**Youth** – This is an important area where we may do a lot more in the future. Someone is needed to organize what we will do from recognizing altar servers, essay contests, Free Throw Championship and potentially even a Squires Circle. Again, someone different should lead each event but a chairman is needed to organize our overall Youth program.

**Communication** – This includes our newsletter, website, recruiting pamphlet, bulletin announcements, and other get-the-word-out efforts we'll need in the coming year. Coordination with the other program chairmen will be important but the better this area is organized the better our Council will be perceived by our parishes.

Finally **Membership** – Where do our members come from? From the same place Fr. McGivney's did - from our works, the works of the five program areas above. I need someone to coordinate logistics for candidates and shepherd them to their first degree. Any member that brings a new member in is expected to sponsor and guide them through the three degrees – this is critical as anyone who has had a Brother Knight sponsor them through the degrees can attest. I need someone to help coordinate our membership efforts.

So, there are six program areas where *your* efforts are needed... Charity, Fraternity, Fund Raising, Youth, Communication and Membership. Where and how you participate is your decision, but I need a chairman for each area – if the Holy Spirit moves you. When something is everyone's job, it's no one's job. I'm asking you – the person reading this newsletter to get involved. Without a chairman and the leaders supporting them, these activities will not develop.

I will also need an active Parish Representative to coordinate council efforts specific to each of the three parishes. The Parish Representative role is critical and must be able to attend business meetings. If the Parish Representative role is not active, the events at that parish will reflect it. A final quote is from a deceased Brother, Sir Knight John F. Kennedy "Do not ask what your Council can do for you, ask what you can do for your Council".

As in our principle of Unity – every member must contribute. One way you will contribute is by having an email address and using it. All future newsletters will be sent electronically – saving a Brother Knight's time and Council printing and postage charges. We'll make exceptions for honorary life members or extenuating circumstances, **but we will migrate to emailed-only newsletters.** Another way you can contribute is to attend Council meetings – sure, you may be busy but I am too – and I'll be there. Council meetings put faces with names and ensure Council business has every voice heard. Please attend at least one meeting a quarter.

In conclusion, I'm ready to be our Grand Knight and I will "strive" to do my best but I will need your active participation. When I consider all that needs to be done I have to admit that it's a daunting list. Like anyone, I will have to prioritize and some things will not get done if it falls to me to do. However, if the six program areas above all do two really great things in the coming year, that's twelve really great things the Council has going for it.

Vivat Jesus!

GK SK Dan Keefe



## COUNCIL NEWS



**Election of Officers:** During the June 13 Council meeting, the following Brother Knights were officially elected as officers:

GK	SK Dan Keefe	Trustee 3 yr,	PGK SK Joe Bondi
DGK	SK Scott Shirley	Trustee 2 yr	PGK SK Reggie Hill
Chancellor	SK Matt McCloskey	Trustee 1 yr	PGK SK Pat Cahill
Recorder	SK Robert Donaghy		
Warden	SK Tom Kinney	<b>Home Association</b>	
Advocate	Todd Marinelli	President	Dave Gullick
Inside Guard	SK Jay Amore	V.P.	PGK SK Reggie Hill
Outside Guard	James DiCianni II	Recorder	SK Bob Donaghy
Treasurer	SK Richard Keckley	Treasurer	SK Rich Keckley

Congratulations to all of our new officers!

**New Council Chaplain-** We are extremely honored to announce that Fr. Robert W. Povish has agreed to be our new Council Chaplain! Fr. Povish is a resident at St. Eleanor Parish and serves as Chaplain at Graterford Penitentiary. Although his schedule will likely prevent him from attending our regular Council meetings, Fr. Povish is looking forward to getting involved in a variety of our Council's activities.

**ARC Drive-** Despite some very difficult issues such as the economy and the restriction on the part of ACME to allow collection at their Limerick Site to only one day, thanks to the efforts of committee chairman Bob Sciubba, Larry Pennypacker and Dave Gullick, the Council sent a check to the PA State ARC Chairman for \$2,753.26. It is worthy of noting that John Signore, our lone solicitor (son of Brother Knight Dan Signore) turned over \$460. John begins his personal campaign in March and ends in June, standing many hours outside local businesses in Schwenksville and Skippack. John was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the Council when he attended as a special guest the June dinner meeting at the Colledgeville Diner.

**Golf Outing-** Thanks to Chairman PGK Sam Augustine and co-chair PGK Bill Kirby, the golf outing was an outstanding success this year at the Gilbertsville Country Club. We had 119 golfers signed up, 29 Hole Sponsors, some very excellent prizes and lots of help from PGK Reggie Hill, Joe Stephey, Joe Genuardi, Joe Gothie, Dave Gullick, John Kendall and PGK Joe Bondi. A profit of over \$9,600 was realized and will go a long way toward funding our charitable works during the coming fraternal year.

**June Dinner Meeting-**A total of 22 members and spouses attended the dinner at the Colledgeville Diner on June 1st. John Signore (see ARC Drive) was a special guest and was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by then GK Joe Bondi. Fr. Robert Povish, addressed the group on the topic of the Clergy Sex Abuse scandal. He also made a strong appeal to the Knights (Fr. is a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knight) to get involved with our youth and work with the parishes to help our young people develop a deeper understanding of their faith and foster greater participation in the life of the church.

**Blood Drives** The American Red Cross collected 76 usable pints at the blood drive at St. Mary on Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> and 66 usable pints at the drive at St. Eleanor's on Thursday and Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to chairman PGK Bill Kirby and all of the Brother Knights who helped in recruiting donors for this important cause.

**Membership News-** Congratulations to our newest Sir Knights, Fr. Jeff Rott, SK Lou Gentner and SK Jason McLead who achieved the honor of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree at the May 30 exemplification. Congratulations to Joe Genuardi who recently achieved his 1<sup>st</sup> degree.

Recent membership drives organized by Joe Stephey held at BTC and St. Mary's in June resulted in promising leads for men wishing to join our ranks.

#### **50/50 winner**

Jim Diccianni won the 50/50 at the June 13 meeting and went home \$161.00 richer. Jim is the first winner since SK Lou Gentner won it on 5/17/09. Congratulations Jim!

#### **Altar Server Award Certificates**

Certificates were awarded to Altar Servers from St. Eleanor's, St. Mary's and Blessed Teresa who are graduating from the 8th Grade.

#### **Graduation Awards**

Graduation awards were distributed to the following students from each parish school:

St. Eleanor - Fr. O' Neill Award Winner, Arianna Petrille  
St. Eleanor - Most Improved Athlete Award Winner, Tyler Mehallick  
Bl. Teresa - Fr. O'Neill Award Winner, Gabriella Tammaro  
Bl. Teresa - Most Improved Athlete Winner, Kirk Cherneskie  
St. Mary - Fr. O'Neill Award Winner, Emma Dyson  
St. Mary - Most Improved Athlete Award Winner, Brandon Caiola

The winners were selected by representatives from the schools. Congratulations to all of the award winners!

#### **Catholic Investigative Agency Documentary**

An important documentary for all Brother Knights to view is available at <http://www.realcatholicv.com/cia/02fake/>. Please view it when you have the time. This program uncovers some fundamental issues underlying George Soros and other liberal forces to undermine Catholics in the upcoming election. Much of the information cannot be found elsewhere.

#### **Newsletter Editor PGK John Warner**

Special thanks to PGK John Warner for his dedicated service as Editor of the Council newsletter for the past 4+ years. Effective with this edition, Joe Gothie has assumed the responsibilities as Editor.

**Presentation at Pope John Paul II High School**

On Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, a contingent of Brother Knights, including GK Dan Keefe, PGK Reggie Hill, PGK Joe Bondi and Joe Genuardi, led by Jody Shollenberger (pictured below) made a presentation with a donation of \$750 from the Council to Fr. DeLacy at the newly completed Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford. The presentation took place upon the return of incoming PJPII students from the Kyros Retreat. This was an important first step for our Council in establishing critical support for the school's youth ministry program.

**~ Cup of Joe ~**

Yes, after a two year hiatus, the musings of now PGK Joe Bondi return. Some may groan, others yawn, and some may actually enjoy my comments. Please let me know. It is important to get feedback and also ideas for topics. Let me know at [joseph.bondi@verizon.net](mailto:joseph.bondi@verizon.net).

*Transitions*- that is the topic for this issue. Transitions are always difficult because they demand change of attitude, change of priorities and change in position or maybe in this case, authority. Transition also brings with it some introspection as one looks back on a job and evaluates how well or how badly it went. Lastly, transitions involve goal setting and this becomes the subject of introspection since one will look back on goals set at the previous transition and again setting goals for the new situation. I will not dwell at all on looking back on my goals when I became Grand Knight two years ago as that was the subject of my GK's message in the May-June Newsletter. However, let me muse on some of the other aspects of this topic.

One of the primary questions one receives when transitioning to a new situation is: 'what are you going to do with all the time you will now have since you are not doing what you had to do before'. I think one way of dealing with that is to take the theme from our new GK's message. We must strive to do our best in all things. Being a Knight is something I value and believe in. It will be difficult not to stay involved but the goal will be to focus on one area that I can contribute to and do it well. If each of us finds a niche, our works will be visible and others will follow. Ultimately, I think it is important that others recognize me as a Knight of Columbus and evaluate what that means by what they see me do. Our Compass always points to Charity!

In the opening paragraph I mentioned changes in priorities and attitudes that come with the transition. How difficult it is to measure what another does by the yardstick we use to measure ourselves. This is always a temptation and one that will require discipline. I say this not only for myself, but suggest we all take the attitude that if we want to see something done, or do not like the way it is being done, get involved. Give a bit of yourself. One thing I have learned over the years is that everyone has wonderful ideas and nobody else benefits from them until they are shared.

Lastly, let me say a few words about priorities. The most difficult thing I do is get my priorities straight. It is so much easier for me to see that something needs done and just do it, despite other things that I have promised myself or my family (wife especially) that I was going to do. I intent to work on that quality and set priorities both for all those things I would like to be doing with the Knights and focus on only those that I can handle within the overall scope of all my priorities.

***Prosit!***

PGK Joe Bondi

## Parish News

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

Christ Renews His Parish is a spiritual weekend designed to foster growth in one's personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The Men's Weekend is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Contact Dave Russo for more information at [davbet@comcast.net](mailto:davbet@comcast.net) or (610) 650-0876.

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

Our support is needed to run the Funnel Cake booth at St. Mary's summer festival on Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 PM-6:00 PM. Contact SK Matt McCloskey at [mk.mccloskey@verizon.net](mailto:mk.mccloskey@verizon.net) or (610) 454-1207 if interested.

**Blessed Teresa of Calcutta: (Parish Representative- Jim Crawford)** We have been asked to provide some manpower for the Funnel Cake booth at the BTC Carnival on August 26th-28th. We could use four men per night, two from 5:30 PM-8:00 PM and two from 8:00 PM-11:00 PM. This is an opportunity for Brother Knights from BTC to step up to the plate and both learn the process and be visible to the parish and let them know that you belong to the Council. We made a strong pitch for new members last week at all the masses and are trying to show a presence. THIS IS THE TIME. Contact PGK Joe Bondi at [joseph.bondi@verizon.net](mailto:joseph.bondi@verizon.net) or (610) 489-6394 if interested.

### **July Birthdays:**

John Antosh, Edwin Brennan, Joseph Buckley Jr., George Finnin, Terrence Green, Joseph Heayn, Joseph Lasorda, Robert O'Donnell, Manuel Pena, Mark Rodrigue, Chuck Sauermelech, Scott Tighe, and David Weatherbee.

### **Anniversaries:**

July: Dave McMahan-10 yrs, Paul Brady-15 yrs.  
August: Tom Lukens-5 yrs, Dave Weatherbee-5 yrs.

## Prayer Needs

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

**Deceased:** Rose Kaeser, Theodora Sharkey, Walter Drye.

### **Sick:**

Ken Poorman, Richard Heath, Rose Bondi, Nina Fanaro, Mike Sarro, Marylee DiBella, Isabella Donaghy, Robert Donaghy, Sr. Helen Bancho, Reed Family, Rita Cotugno, Kirby Family, Mike Burek, Matt Kirby, Mike, Eloise Brown, Read Family, Young Family, Joan Capalongo, Lisa Dougerty, Kenneth Hill, John Smith, Hill Family, Donna Gullick, Tanya Kaeser, Bob Houck, Peg Mason.

**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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