

# Knights of Columbus



## Perkiomen Valley Council #3633

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

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**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**



Volume 10

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No. 5

### Grand Knight's Message

Things, at least for me, always seem to take at least twice as long to complete these than thought. So it is with the Council planning at the start of each Fraternal Year. Ideas abound but the details can be very time consuming. In addition, we had a few unexpected events this summer that were not on the radar, which you will read about inside this newsletter. The relic transfer required coordination among the three parishes, one other council and of course our brother knights who came to my rescue to make it happen. We had a special request from the Missionaries of Charity to sponsor a day outing for their summer program and that was both a very gratifying and rewarding experience. Again, thanks to those who helped and especially the Kirbys for their gracious hospitality. The rescheduling of the golf outing resulted in a great day for the golfers and the Council. Thanks to Don Barbuto, Bill Kirby and all those who helped with making the day a success.

With the appointment of a new Church Director, we are diligently working to come up with a schedule for the year. I encourage you to support these activities as that is one very positive way we can show the pastors that the Knights are involved in the life of the parish. We are trying to have at least one evening prayer event at each parish between now and June, one Saturday informal communion breakfast with each pastor and some special Lenten service at each parish. Keep an eye open and do not forget to check our web site as I keep this updated with upcoming events ([www.kofc3633.org](http://www.kofc3633.org)). Manuel Pena has continued to do a great job with making changes to the site and keeping it looking fresh.

This is the year of the priest. We, as Knights, have been dedicated to supporting and aiding our priests in any way we can. One major way to support our priests is to let them know who we are and to make a personal offer to assist them. They need to get to know who are the Knights in their pews. Another way is via Council sponsored activities. This year, we are hoping to have a dinner to honor all the priests of the three parishes and do this in conjunction with our Christmas dinner for Knights and spouses. This is currently in the planning stage but we should have something concrete in the next month.

I need to close with a thought prompted by some comments I have received from various members about the role and influence of Knights and why we tend to be so vocal on what may seem to be a narrow set of moral issues. Recalling the one criterion for being a Knight, we must understand what that question meant, "Are you a Practical Catholic as understood by the Church?" According to our guidelines, "a practical Catholic is one in union with the Holy See and regulates his life according to the teachings of Christ and the Church and endeavors to observe the commandments of God and of the Church.

A practical Catholic strives to have a greater knowledge of the teachings of Christ and his Church and to accept, respect and defend the Church's authority to teach, govern and sanctify the faithful. A practical Catholic supports the Church in her defense of marriage and family life and in her crusades against divorce, abortion, pornography and all the evils of today."

That in a nutshell explains why we may seem to be activists when it comes to the defense of life and speak out against those societal trends that are against these fundamental teachings and beliefs. As a Knight, I cannot apologize for standing up for my Church and her positions and must be ready and willing to weigh all that I do in light of what best allows me to fulfill my pledge to be a Practical Catholic. I hope you will too! *Prosit. GK Joe Bondi*

### 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>Sept 13<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Wednesday- <b>Sept 23<sup>rd</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	
Sunday- <b>Oct 11<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Wednesday- <b>Oct 28<sup>th</sup></b> at 7:00 PM	Sunday- <b>Oct 18<sup>th</sup></b> at 9:00 AM Memorial Mass & Communion Breakfast St. Eleanor's

### Exemplification Schedule

Exemplification of the Fourth Degree – Sunday, October 11, 2009. Dolce Hotel (formerly the Hilton Hotel) in King of Prussia. Candidates Fee is \$70.00. Eligibility requirements are having taken your First Degree before April 11, 2009, currently a Third Degree member in good standing and a citizen of the United States. The dress code is strict; Black Tuxedo, White Formal Shirt (straight collar), black cummerbund (no vests), black socks, black shoes. More information to follow.

There are several 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree exemplifications but none in the immediate area. Joe Stephey ([steeleguy@verizon.net](mailto:steeleguy@verizon.net)) should be contacted for information and will be contacting eligible men to arrange for transportation.

**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*



### **2009 Memorial Mass & Breakfast:**

The Annual Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast will be held on Sun. Oct. 18th. The Mass will be at 9:00 A.M. at St. Eleanor Church in Colledgeville. We urge all Knights to wear a sport coat and tie or suit and tie and 4th degree Knights to wear their tuxedo and social baldric. Seats will be made available in the front pews so we also ask that you arrive early. We definitely want to make our presence felt. The breakfast will be immediately thereafter at the St. Eleanor's School Hall (Campion Hall). The cost of the breakfast will be \$8.50 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 10 years of age. Children under 3 eat free. As you are aware if you've come in the past it is an excellent buffet breakfast. Our speakers this year will be Kurtz Family who run St Joseph's house in East Fallowfield and currently have about 19 children they have adopted. They also run the St Philomena School and were featured on ETWN's Life on the Rocks several months ago. Please put this on the calendar since this is one of our key events which are always well attended and worthwhile spiritually and socially. Call Tom Kinney at (610) 831-0239 or at [ctyom@comcast.net](mailto:ctyom@comcast.net) or Chuck Sauermelch (610) 489-2636 or [cf3amdg@verizon.net](mailto:cf3amdg@verizon.net) for reservations.

**Golf Outing:** Thanks again to Don Barbuto and Bill Kirby for a very successful outing again this year. Despite the postponement due to the soggy June, the outing on August 7 was attended by 103 golfers enjoying probably one of the most beautiful days of the summer. Steaks were as good as ever, 50/50 drawing was \$415 and many prizes and raffle items went home to happy golfers. The Council net for this event was over \$7,600 which will help fund our many activities of the coming year.- **SPEAKING OF GOLF:** One of our members suggested the idea for a Knights Golf League

- **Where:** at Bella Vista for either a Wednesday or Thursday night league starting around 4 PM. The price would be \$17 to walk or \$24 to ride the nine holes. Play would alternate one week from the front nine and the next from the back nine. We could have closest to the pin and/or longest drives each week.
- **Fees:** Initiation fee of maybe \$25-\$50 would cover for prizes and a get together at the end of the year. We could play different formats on occasion to make it somewhat interesting or different (better ball seems to be one used). The head pro at Bella Vista would take care of handicaps and making up the score cards each week.
- **Teams:** Maximum number of teams should be held to around 20 teams, but even 10 teams would be worthwhile. I don't think we need to limit the number of teams either, as we could even have two leagues if too many showed interest. Then we could maybe utilize both Wednesday and Thursday nights. Who knows?
- **The Course:** Bella Vista is one of the premier courses in the area and would be appreciated by the players. The food is also very good there and you will be treated well by the staff.
- **Contact-** Contact Paul Roy at [FSIROY1@AOL.com](mailto:FSIROY1@AOL.com) to express your interest/opinion

**Picnic:** It was indeed disappointing to cancel the Council Picnic this year. Out of respect to the Kirby's who have been more than gracious hosting the picnic in the past and given Matt's situation fighting leukemia and recovering from the transplant, we decided to move the picnic to another location. Due to the lack of response to several options for other locations (7 responses out of over 70 emails), the GK decided to cancel the picnic this year.

**Attention Verizon Wireless Customers!** Bill Bushey had advised that the K of C has a group deal with Verizon for cell phone service. Your Editor went to the Verizon store on Ridge Pike in Royersford (by the Target & Giant). I presented them with my current membership card and now I get a discount on my Verizon cell phone bill. It was easy, do it today! JW

**Scholarship Program:** The Pa State Council offers \$3000.00 college scholarships to sons and daughters of PA Knights each year. Criteria are: candidate must be a practical Catholic, candidate for graduation in a recognized four year high school or its equivalent during January-June 2010 and make application for entrance to a College, University or School of Nursing before receiving payment of the scholarship. College or school may be under Catholic or non-Catholic auspices. Candidate must file a properly completed application form no later than December 31, 2009 and bear all appropriate signatures. Scholarships are funded by the proceeds of the C.O.A.L. books. Candidates must file the application by the above date and also register to take the ACT or SAT tests given in PA and test results must accompany the application. Please contact the Grand Knight for applications or at the PA State Council Web site at [www.pakofc.us](http://www.pakofc.us). Four (4) scholarships are available to the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

**Seminarian Support:** Upon the recommendation of Fr. Jeffrey Rott, the Council has agreed to provide support for Mr. Robert Ianelli, a second Theology seminarian at St. Charles. In addition, a letter was received from Mr. Daniel Arechabala, a brother Knight who has been accepted to St. Charles in III College this fall. The Council has voted to support both of these candidates at the \$600/year level. Supreme will return \$100 for each Seminarian supported to the Council.

**Financial Secretary:** Louis Gentner has been nominated to replace SK Dan Pennetti as Financial Secretary for the Council. Although the nomination has gone into Supreme, at this writing, his appointment has not been confirmed but we are expecting that shortly. You can expect to start receiving your dues notices and other communications from Lou in the not too distant future.

**Relic of St John Vianney:** At the request of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the Knights of Columbus Councils were requested to assist with the transfer of the relic to their respective parishes following a schedule developed to transfer eleven relics to all the parishes in the Archdiocese each week beginning July 30<sup>th</sup>. Given the three parishes we serve and the need to pick up the relic the first week in Philadelphia at the Carmelite Monastery, a bit of coordination was needed. Thanks to DGK Dave Gullick, Bob Buda and Joe Bondi for assuring that the relic arrived at St Eleanor on July 30, St Mary on August 6 and BTC on August 20. The relic traveled from St. Mary to St. Philip Neri August 13 through the 20 and was the responsibility of Fr. Leo Letterhouse Council

**Blood Drive:** With the success of the June drive and the approval of Council to continue to participate in organizing blood drives at St. Eleanor, we are looking at the next date of October 12 for the next drive. This will be a one day event from 1 PM to 7 PM. Larry DiPiano, a member of St. Eleanor who has coordinated blood drives for the past 10 years will work with our members to help with many of the logistics necessary to make the drive a success. So far, I have six (6) brother Knights who have volunteered to be the phone committee for this and the next drive scheduled for December 28/29 at St. Eleanor. PGK Bill Kirby continues to coordinate the drive at St. Mary's and the drive at BTC is still in the planning stages. However, this is a new effort for the St. Eleanor Knights and one that we hope we can sustain for years to come. Besides, we have been given a challenge by Bill that he is going to beat us in the number of pints he schedules at St. Mary (our drives tend to run within a week of each other as scheduled by the Red Cross). If anyone wants to help with phone calls for either of the drives, please contact Bill or Joe Bondi.

**COAL (Chance of a Lifetime):** This year we have decided to minimize the effort for our COAL drive given a number of other activities. We are sending three books to each member who participated in the COAL drive last year as well as all new members. A change in procedure is that we are asking each member to sell 7 tickets and keep one free ticket for himself. Thus, a return of \$7 per book is asked and returns are requested to the GK by October 3 so as to reap the maximum profit from the drawing. If all participate, we can reach a goal of selling 255 books which is 87% of what was sold last year with a lot of effort on the part of many. For those who did not receive books in the mail (mailing went out August 17) or who wish to receive additional books, please contact Joe Bondi at (610) 489-6394 or at [joseph.bondi@verizon.net](mailto:joseph.bondi@verizon.net) and he will get books to you.

#### **Missionaries of Charity Activities:**

1. Renovation of outdoor Gazebo- DGK-SK Dave Gullick continues to be the foreman for the work going on at that convent on DeKalb Street for the Missionaries of Charity. We are currently working on renovating an outdoor 'gazebo' structure by installing some paneling in the ceiling, painting and installing an enclosure around the building perimeter. Work will continue for a few weeks and Dave has been assisted by Bob Buda, Tom Kinney, Jay Amore and Joe Bondi. The Council donated \$500 toward building materials to complete this job.

2. Day trip for children in the day program- The Sisters run a 5 week summer program for children in the area and do a 'field trip' each week. Mother Noreen requested a trip to a 'farm' recalling the Kirby's had a farm. PGK Bill and wife Saunie graciously opened their home to about 40 children, several aids and three of the sisters on July 31 (see our web site for some photos of some very happy children). The Council paid for pony rides and lunch for all. The Kirby's generously allowed the children use of the pool and patio. This was quite a day and thanks to SK Dick Heath, SK Dave Gullick, SK Tom Kinney, George Finnin, Lou Gentner, Bob Buda and Joe Bondi who helped 'manage the crowd'.



## **CRAB CAKE SALE**

***Capt'n Chucky's.*** Voted best crab cakes on the Main Line for the 4th straight year.

Place YOUR order @ **\$5.00 per crab cake** – an incredible DEAL

Crab cakes will be ready for ***pick up*** at **St. Eleanor's School Lobby**

**(St. Mary and BTC Locations to be announced)**

**Monday, November 23rd - 5:30 to 7:30 pm**

**Orders can be placed by calling**

**267-278-1562, or Email [scottshirley1957@msn.com](mailto:scottshirley1957@msn.com)**

**Impress your family and friends with these easy-to-heat seafood treats!**

(You can store the crab cakes in the fridge for 5 days or freeze for later use.)

**Please make checks payable to Knights of Columbus Council 3633**

*And mailing to: Scott Shirley at  
335 R Glad Way Collegeville, PA 19426*

**Orders must be placed NO LATER THAN 12 noon on Thursday November 19th.**

**New Program Directors:** We are pleased to announce several changes in our Program Directors:

- First, SK Richard Heath has agreed to assume the position of Church Director. In this capacity he will be working with Chuck Sauermelch, PGK Matt McCloskey and Jim Crawford to plan activities at each of the three parishes. These will include our Saturday quarterly Communion Breakfasts with the Pastors, priest visitations to the Council Business Meetings, Rosary and other services and a special Stations of the Cross Liturgy for Lent.
- Secondly, Dan Mitchell and Andy Gesek will be joining Mike Zavrotny as co-chairman for Youth activities. They will organize the Free Throw Championship Competition in January and have some ideas for other father/grandfather/child activities.
- On the Fundraising side of things, Scott Shirley has agreed to take over as Fundraising Chairman and will be assisted by Mike Melroy. They are focusing on the Crab Cake Sale right now but have a few ideas to add to the mix of our regular activities of golf outing, Christmas sign project (to be chaired by SK Dan Keefe) and COAL drive.
- Last but of course not least, Joe Coco is taking on the role of Admissions Chairman and will be working closely with Membership Chairman SK Joe Stephey to plan our membership drives and information nights for the coming year.

Thanks to all who have agreed to take on new responsibilities for the Council!

**Field Agent's Message:**

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 Insurance calculator  
<http://www.kofc.org/un/insurance/index.cfm>

**The Foundation: Building a Financial Plan**

I was once talking to a man who was a carpenter by trade, now retired. He learned his trade from a carpenter from Germany. That German carpenter, he said, taught him the secret to building good houses, he said, and repeated it often - "you've got to make it plumb and square!" Perfectly straight and perfectly at right angles. Then the house will have a good foundation and then you can add all the extras. But if you build a house on a cockeyed foundation, one that is not "plumb and square" the house will go up crooked and all the extras and trimming will mean nothing. That house will not last long, or it will be ugly.

If you were building a house would you start with the roof? Of course not, you start with the foundation, the roof comes last. That's how you build things from the ground up. As obvious as that may be, many of us don't follow that same logic when we go about building our financial house.

When we think about financial planning we tend to think about investments or the portfolio. How's the performance, how much do we have in stocks, etc.? Viewing financial planning as being synonymous with investing is like building a house starting with the roof. They're both important, but not at the exclusion of the foundation.

When it comes to building a house the foundation is the poured concrete that supports the rest of the home. Without a strong foundation, the house will be weak and vulnerable to collapse. The same is true with your finances. Without a strong financial foundation it's difficult to have a sound financial plan. There are only two choices: you either build on a solid and deep foundation or you build on a shallow and weak foundation.

So what is the foundation of a financial plan? What is that one thing that must come before all others? It is the cash flow. Everything else stems from a positive cash flow. What do I mean by a positive cash flow? Simple. A positive cash flow is when more money comes through the door than goes out the door. In other words, income (after taxes) is greater than expenses.

It may be easier to understand positive cash flow than to have positive cash flow. For the most part, our income is what it is; it's pretty static. Most of us earn X amount of dollars per week and that's the income part of your cash flow: fixed. The good news is that the variable part of the equation, expenses, we have some control over. Getting expenses down and income up (if possible) is the first step in developing a sound financial plan. Without excess cash flow it is not possible to implement the rest of your financial planning goals. Every goal starts at the same place. It starts with the foundation.

So if you're tired of watching the stock market and your investments yo-yo daily? Disturbed by ethical and moral lapses in the business world? Searching for a silver lining on today's dark clouds? The Knights of Columbus is that silver lining. Our products are safe, secure, dependable and backed by the financial strength of more than 127 years of smart investing. We've been through troubled times before. World War I, The Great Depression, World War II, and the ups and downs of the '60s, '70s and '80s. We weathered these storms, and this current one is no exception. We stand strong thanks to our history of a strong foundation and making sound financial choices and avoiding unstable markets. Take advantage of the life insurance, IRA's, Roth's, annuities, and long-term care insurance products offered exclusively to members that meet your needs, fit your budget and provide guaranteed protection for your family, without threat of loss. If the current economic and market environment has taught us anything, it's that a strong foundation is essential to weather the storm.

Only four companies have ratings that match ours (A++, Superior, from A.M. Best; AAA, Extremely Strong, from Standard & Poor's) and are certified by IMSA (Insurance Marketplace Standards Association) for our ethical practices. There's no doubt about it. As the foundation goes, so goes the house.

How Solid Is Your Foundation? Give me a call to see what the Knights can do to help strengthen your foundation.

**Luke 6:48** Jesus said it is like that with the foundation of our faith as well. "That one is like a person building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when the flood came, the river burst against that house but could not shake it because it had been well built."

Fraternally, *Bill Bushéy*

## Parish News

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

Communion Breakfast October 18. Invite your friends to hear the Kurtz Family speak about their ministry.

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

Parish Family Day- September 13- check parish bulletin for details.

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

Thanks to all those who helped make the Funnel Cake Booth at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Summer Festival a success. Although there was rain, the cakes kept coming thanks to the efforts of Dick Heath, Chris Cusatis, Tom Kinney, Mike Melroy, Dave Gullick, Sam Augustine, Joe Bondi, Ben Boldin, Lou Gentner Joe Stephy, Joe and Louise Coco.

**September Birthdays:**

Bill Bushey, Tim Cahill, Dan DePaul, Michael Duvinski, Lou Gentner, Frank Genuardi, Nick Golato, Bill Hall, Ed Kaeser, John Kolcun, Jack Paris, Chris Rosekrans, Fran Ruggiero, Bill Shelow, John Wirant

**October Birthdays:**

Richard Donovan, Richard Gentleman, Ed Hinson, Austin Kurtz, Michael Limcango, Dan Roslin, Brother Charlie Schreiner, Scott Shirley, Andrew Thomas.

**September & October K of C Anniversaries:**

Deacon Jim Burns – 5 years

Chris Cusatis – 25 years

Dan Signore – 30 years

John De Carr – 35 years

Frank O. Genuardi – 55 years

*Thank you for your service, Gentlemen!*

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

## Prayer Needs

**Seminarians & Clergy:** Msgr Foley, Fr. Joseph Keating, PGK Brother Charlie Schreiner, Bob Ianelli and Dan Arechabala

**Deceased:** Phil Bono, Sr., SK Robert Rau, Renee Roberts, Lorraine DeMedio

**Sick:** Matt Kirby, Ed Marinelli, Barbara Weiss, Nina Fanaro, Deacon Burns, Nick Buffardi, Mike Melroy, Pete and Tanya Kaeser, Ed Pires, Rick Simon, Peg Mason, Dorrie Boswell, Reggie Hill, Marcia Capaldi, Marla Pennypacker, Don Kaeser, Lorraine DeMedio, Bill Miller, Mary Anne Petitto

**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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**K of C Perkiomen Council #3633**

**P.O. Box 116**

**Schwenksville, PA 19473**