



The Lookout



2013-14 Fraternal Year, Issue 5

December 2013

Grand Knight's Message



Brothers,

As December is upon us, we come to the half-way point of the fraternal year. Looking at what we have done the past six month's, Father Diamond Council has kept up its reputation as one of the most active Councils in Virginia, and, I would like to think, one of the most fraternal. In November, we had events ranging from the Chili Cook-off, to feed the homeless, to the Crèche Lighting. These are the sort of fraternal events that were both personally enjoyable and enriching for the spirit. A hearty thanks to all who helped out with the Council's events in November. We gain much more from our experience in the Knights of Columbus if we all put a little in.

For November, I want to recognize Al Leightley as our Knight of the Month. Al stepped up to help Tom Gross in the collection of the food baskets for our support of Saint Vincent de Paul's Thanksgiving food basket program (Brother Knights provided over 50 baskets for needy families). And he went above the call of duty to manage the delivery of the baskets to the families. Our Family of the Month for November is Bill and Kathy Weich. Bill and Kathy put in a great deal of time planning and putting on the spaghetti dinner for the Crèche lighting. This is a great fraternal event that allows the Council to come together with members of the St Leo the Great Parish Community to celebrate the start of Advent. Thanks to Bill and Kathy for all of their hard work with this program.

In December, the Council has a number of events that help celebrate the fraternal na-

ture of the Order. We are honored to have the K of C state Icon of the Immaculate Conception coming to St. Leo's. We have the Council Christmas party, three weeks of Christmas tree sales and Christmas and New Year's KOVAR collections. All of these provide you with an opportunity to share the Advent and Christmas seasons with your Brother Knights. Read on in this edition of the newsletter to get more details on each of these events.

But with all of these activities added to our own personal events and Christmas preparations, I think it is important that we not forget the real reason for the Season. This realization hit me the other night as I was preparing for a slew of activities while watching *A Charlie Brown Christmas* with my kids. In the cartoon, amidst the bedlam of preparing for the Christmas pageant, one character stopped, stood up, and quieted the hustle to explain what Christmas was really about. He simply said:

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were so afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth

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Deputy Grand Knight's Report



Vivat Jesus, Brothers!

First of all where did November go. And now we are in December, one of the busiest months of the year. This is the month that we need the Knights to stand up and offer support.

The Council currently has the *Keep Christ in Christmas* card sales ongoing. James Hogan is leading this effort. Cards are sold after each Mass and now are being sold at the Christmas tree lot. If you can offer help, please call James at 703-385-1292.

We are now in the midst of our largest council fundraiser - selling Christmas trees. All Knights are assigned to a team and a schedule has been published. Please consider working on two or even three shifts. If you do not know which team you are on, please contact Tim Tilson at hmslydia@msn.com. On Sunday December 15 is the annual Santa Breakfast.

Santa will visit the Family Breakfast after the 7:30 and 9am masses. Photos will be taken. Additionally the Gold Team will be cooking their trademark wonderful omelets and great hotcakes. NOTE: Due to the larger crowds, the breakfast will be held in the Parish Activity Center aka the school gym.

Now for some fun. The annual Knights Christmas party is being held on Saturday the 14th of December from 6pm to 11pm.

Patrick McGuire, Deputy Grand Knight

————— Note from our Financial Secretary —————

The Financial Secretary collects and records your dues and issues your membership cards. He is also responsible for maintaining member records. The system allows for recording dates of achieving each degree, as well as personal data. He records all changes in membership, including transfers, withdrawals, incapacitation, and deaths.

David J. Todd, Sr., PGK, FDD, PFN
Financial Secretary

Bowlers Needed!

Brothers,
Every year, our council has run a bowling league for about 14 weeks starting the weekend after New Year's Day. Those who have bowled in the past are certainly welcome to return. Additional teams and individual bowlers are invited to join as well.

Details from the past (some of which may be voted on the first night):

- Not a sanctioned league (no sanctioning fees),
- Mixed teams of four (at least one woman and at least one man on each team, with a team total of four),
- Location: BowlAmerica Fairfax near Fairfax Circle,
- Dates: Sundays at 6:30 PM starting January 5. Meet early week 1.
- Knighthood NOT required of team members.
- Individual bowler handicaps are used in the scoring. Last year's cost: \$16 per person per week (price determined week 1),
- Bowl three games each week,
- Teams formed the first week,
- Substitutes can be included on a team,
- Pre-bowling is allowed but not post-bowling.

All skill levels from the entire community are welcome! Please contact Dave Whitcomb at dwhit04@aol.com or 703-591-7739 for more information.

Columbiettes' Corner

All wives of Knights are Columbiettes and are more than welcome to join us at our monthly meetings or at any of our other events. Meetings are held in Providence Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month starting at 7:30pm. If you would like more information or would like to be placed on the email distribution list to be kept up to date with meetings and our events, please contact me at 703-385-2146 or drop me an email at clinch5va@yahoo.com.



Julie Clinch, President



Father Whitestone celebrates "Lighting Of The Crèche" in front of St. Leo's Catholic Church. This is a new crèche sponsored by the Knights and built by Brother Knight John Cesarini.

Upcoming December Council Events

Christmas Tree Sales Began - Dec. 1



Tree team #4 stands together at the lot in front of St. Leo's Catholic School waiting for customers to arrive. Left to right are Nate Rasmussen, Nick DeSantis, Ron DeSantis, Jim Smith and Dave Whitcomb. Jim Smith is the oldest active Knight at 93 years old.

Nursing Home Bingo — Dec. 9

Each month the council runs a bingo game for the seniors at the Fairfax Nursing Center.

Brothers and their families are encouraged to meet on Monday at 7:15pm to help out. We are usually finished by 8:30pm. What a wonderful opportunity to give the most valuable gift—your time and love. Call Tim Tilson at (703) 273-9436 to volunteer.



Council Meeting — Dec. 10

This meeting will be a regular business meeting and the only one this month. Rosary starts at 7:30pm led by Deacon Maurer followed by the start of the meeting at 8pm.

Rosary to End Abortion — Dec. 14

We will meet at 8:00am on Saturday in front of the church to pray the Rosary. It doesn't take more than 45 minutes for the entire 20 decades and is a great way to start your day. Come join us, and bring the whole family. In the event of inclement weather we move inside the church next to the statue of Mary. We usually have a very good turnout.



Council Christmas Party — Dec. 14

The Knight's annual adult Christmas party will be held in the hall from 6-11pm. The cost is \$15 per person which

includes the entrees of roast beef, ham, turkey, potatoes, vegetables, salad, rolls & butter. Beverages include beer, wine, soda & water. Please bring a dish. If your last name is A-I (dessert), J-R (appetizer or salad), S-Z (side dish). There will be a contest for the ugliest sweater! RSVP to Greg Hartley at pghartley@hotmail.com or 571-238-6273.

Breakfast With Santa — Dec. 15

Bring your whole family to the Knight's breakfast to be held in the gym after the 7:30 & 9am masses. (Note the location change.) Santa will be available for a photo opportunity while he listens to wishes and hands out candy canes.

Grey GOSTs — Dec. 17

All knights are welcome to join some of the older guys for a monthly social meeting starting at 11am followed by a luncheon at 12 noon. Usual wrap-up is around 1pm.

Christmas Basket Deliveries — Dec. 21

Drivers are needed to deliver Christmas food baskets and presents to those in need starting at 10am. If you can drive please contact Tom Gross at 703-273-0631. Once you are given your baskets to deliver you will be directed over to CubeSmart on Draper Drive for presents to complete the Christmas package. As usual, the Knights provide food vouchers for perishable items such as milk, bread & turkeys.

Feed The Homeless — Dec. 21

Meet at The Billy's no later than 11:15 a.m. to caravan to the CCNV (Center for Creative Non-Violence) homeless shelter at 2nd and D St. NW. We'll be serving a home-cooked meal to approximately 500 people. Small shoe box gifts labeled for Man/Woman/Child are needed and will be handed out by Santa. Call George or Thelma Billy at 703-323-6470 for details and if you can volunteer to help. This is the 18th year the Council has supported this worthy project.

Tree Lot Cleanup — Dec. 23

Sales of Christmas trees winds down so cleanup of the lot in front of the school starts at 9:30am. After the lot breakdown and it is raked any leftover trees (hopefully none) will be cleared. Anyone who can help please show up ready to work. Depending upon time, the trailer will be moved then or on December 28.

KOVAR Collection — Dec. 24 & Dec. 31

Knights will be collecting money outside the ABC Stores in Fairfax. All proceeds go directly to the state-wide program. KOVAR stands for Knights of Virginia Assisting the Retarded. If you can help please contact Dan Purtil at dpurtill@gmail.com.

Knights and Their Families Honored

Knight of the Month
October
Al Leightley

Family of the Month
October
Bill & Kathy Weich



The 1st Annual Chili Cook-off happened on November 17 in Providence Hall. There were 12 entries and many happy taste testers. While there were citations given to certain chilis such as most unique, the grand prize winner was the Purtil Family. The winners from left to right are Molly, Dan (PGK), Harriet, wife Yvette, and Anne. We are told that Molly was the real master mind behind the winning chili.

To kick off the Advent Season, the Council's 7th Annual Spaghetti Dinner was held Saturday, November 30 in conjunction with the Creche Lighting. Over 90 people attended the dinner, and enjoyed a nice evening of fellowship and delicious Italian food. Special thanks to PGK Bill Weich and his wife Kathy for coordinating the event, to Mike Purtil for preparing the scrumptious meal, and to the Clinch family and all who helped set up, serve, and clean up-making the event such a great success.



Use Food Cards to Buy Presents (Gift Cards) for your Loved Ones A Great Deal for Everyone !

Food Gift Cards (AKA scrip) for Giant, Safeway and Shoppers Food Warehouse is sold by our council. Profits go toward the Scholarship funds and St. Leo's PTO. Call Greg Skorupski at 703-978-8280 or email — gregskisr@aol.com for information. Available at Providence Hall every weekday at 3:00 PM or at meetings.

How does it work? Father Diamond council buys food gift cards at a discount (5% for Giant and Shoppers Food Warehouse, and 4% for Safeway). We sell them to anyone at face value. If you, your family, friends or neighbors shop at any of these stores you can help the Council raise money for our scholarship funds.

March For Life

2014

The 41st annual March For Life gets underway next year on Wednesday, January 22, 2014. The Virginia Knights offer support services as marshals that help with everything from crowd control to collecting money.

Father Diamond Council has collected money for the March since 1994. All the collected money goes to the National Right to Life Committee to help defray the cost of the March. We've been asked to help again in this effort and are looking for volunteers to collect money at the March and to count the money once it's returned to Providence Hall after the March.

We need your help because the more collectors we have the more money we collect. When we have over 20 collectors we are successful. Knight collectors line the March route and ask for donations. Last year we had over 30 collectors and it was one of our best years. Marchers leave the rally area and march down Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court on Capitol Hill. Our Knights cover the first leg of the March with donation buckets.

We'll rent a bus again this year and leave Providence Hall as a group around 10:30 am on Wednesday the 22nd. We ask for a \$10 donation for the bus transportation. We ask volunteers to get to the Hall before 10:30 to pick up Marshal jackets and baseball caps. We have to arrive at the site before noon as DC police close the area off when the rally starts.

We've had many family participants over the years so if you have wives or teenage kids or grandkids bring them along. The kids that attend Catholic schools usually get a day off to attend the March. We have been blessed to have several participants from Paul VI in 2012 and 2013.

If you can volunteer please let us know before January 5, 2012 as we have to get solicitation permits from the DC authorities. Contact Mike Plumstead at 703-250-2367 or mplumstead@verizon.net

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Message

Insurance Check-up for 2014

An insurance check-up can be as important as an annual physical. Unlike many other products, you don't just need money to obtain life insurance, long-term care or disability income insurance. You also need good health, and no one knows when your health could change.

Did you take time out of your schedule last year to meet with me? If you did, thank you for seeing me and helping secure your financial future. I will be in touch with you to schedule your annual review to verify that everything is heading in the right direction. We'll make sure that if your goals and budget have changed, your plan still works for you.

If you didn't have a meeting with me last year, I hope you will answer my invitation this year. It's a wise idea to have an expert look at your finances. Schedule some time to visit with me, your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, and I'll provide an insurance check-up that will quickly identify any gaps in your family's life insurance program.

Did I mention my check-up is free of charge? When was the last time you received something for free that could be providing value to you and your family for generations? And I'll come to your house when it fits your schedule. Call me today.

Dennis Riley, FICF, Field Agent



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Advent Begins Tree Sales Begin 8:30PM Giants@Redskins	2	3 7:30 PM Officers' Meeting	4	5	6	7 4:55PM Immac Concept Icon Proc
8 1PM Chiefs@Redskins	9 Immaculate Conception 7:30PM Mass After - Holy Hour & Icon Recessional 7:15PM Bingo @ Ffx Nursing Ctr	10 7:30 PM Rosary 8:00 PM Business Meeting	11	12	13	14 6PM Council Christmas Party 8AM Rosary to End Abortion
15 Breakfast with Santa in PAC 1PM Redskins@Falcons	16 7:00PM Columbiettes	17 11AM Grey GOSTs- wives invited	18 7:30PM Fr Malloy Assy Mtg	19	20 <u>1PM Food Transfer</u>	21 11:30AM Feed the Homeless 10AM Delivery of Food Baskets
22 1PM Cowboys@Redskins	23	24 <u>KOVAR at ABC stores 12 - 6</u>	25 CHRISTMAS!	26	27	28
29 1PM Redskins@Giants	30	31 <u>KOVAR at ABC stores 12 - 6</u>	1 New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary	2	3	4

January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 1PM Redskins@Giants	30	31 KOVAR at ABC stores	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5 Bowling League Starts	6	7 7:30PM Officers' Meeting	8	9	10	11 State Qtrly Mtg in Richmond
12 9AM Corporate Communion	13 7:15PM Bingo @ Ffx Nursing Ctr	14 7:30 PM Rosary 8 PM First Degree/Reg Mtg 7:30PM Rosary	15 7:30PM Fr Malloy Assy Mtg	16 8PM Second Degree	17	18 11:15AM Third Degree
19	20 7:00PM Columbiettes	21 11AM Grey GOSTs	22 March For Life	23	24	25
26 Family Breakfast	27	28 7:30PM Rosary 8PM Business Meeting	29	30	31	1

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Scout Sunday Breakfast	3	4 7:30PM Officers' Meeting	5	6	7	8 8AM Rosary to End Abortion
9	10 7:15PM Bingo @ Ffx Nursing Ctr	11 7:30PM Rosary 8PM Regular Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17 7:00PM Columbiettes	18 11AM Grey GOSTs	19 7:30PM Fr Malloy Assy	20	21	22 Columbiettes' Mardi Gras

Officers, Directors, and Program Chairmen—2013-14

Officers

Grand Knight	Matt West	703-359-4652
Chaplain	Deacon David Mauer	703-273-5369
D Grand Knight	Pat McGuire	703-218-2986
Chancellor	John Eldred	703-932-1322
Financial Sec.	David Todd, Sr.	703-352-2724
Treasurer	Herb Zimmerman	703-385-9455
Recorder	Jeffrey Wolfhope	703-273-7531
Lecturer	Greg Hartley	703-352-2797
Advocate	Ed Cuccias	703-408-0180
Warden	Jose Costacamps	703-717-5341
Inside Guard	Nate Rasmussen	703-385-8007
Outside Guard	Joseph Burg	703-385-8007
Outside Guard	Dan O'Malley	703-385-8007
3yr Trustee	Dan Purtill	703-641-8948
2yr Trustee	Greg Skorupski	703-978-8280
1yr Trustee	Nelson Clinch	703-385-2146

Program Directors

Programs	Pat McGuire	703-218-2986
Church	Mike Purtill	202-251-8424
Community	Jose Costacamps	703-717-5341
Council	Jeff Stevens	703-385-8007
Family	Patrick Leffas	703-436-2717
Youth	Mike Tocci	469-877-3285

Committee Chairmen

Charity	Tom Gross	703-273-0631
Admissions	John Eldred	703-932-1322
Retention	Greg Skorupski	703-978-8280

Vocations	John Eldred	703-932-1322
Budget & Fin.	Herb Zimmerman	703-385-9455
Hall Mgt	Mike Purtill	202-251-8424
Frat. Benefits	Dennis Riley	703-450-6100
Providence Hall	Kitchen	703-385-8007

Project Chairmen

1st Deg. Team	Dennis Makurat	703-383-0233
2nd Deg. Team	Dave Todd, Sr	703-352-2724
Blood Drive	John Brophy	703-425-7169
Bowling Team	Dave Whitcomb	703-591-7739
Christmas Trees	Tim Tilson	703-273-9436
Car Raffle	Nelson Clinch	703-385-2146
Fall Festival	Tim Hogan	703-385-1292
Family Breakfast	Joe Monnin	703-266-9741
Food Drive	Al Leightley	703-273-2089
Fourth Deg.	Dave Todd, Jr	703-463-1499
Group GOSTs	Larry Novack	703-978-6137
KCIC	Dave Todd, Sr.	703-352-2724
KOVAR	Dan Purtill	703-641-8948
Newsletter	John Eldred	703-631-6480
Parish Picnic	Tim Tilson	703-273-9436
Right-to-Life	Mike Plumstead	703-250-2367
Scout Troop	Roger Rosenberger	703-591-7750
Scrip	Larry Novack	703-978-6137
Fraternal Prayer		
Contact	Jack Cotner	703-323-5785
Email Updates	Nelson Clinch	703-385-2146



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Card sales are doing very well. Cards can be purchased after almost all masses in the church vestibule until December 22nd and are also available at the Knight's Christmas Tree trailer 3:30-9pm M-F & all day on weekends.

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peace, good will toward men.'" (Luke 2:8-14)

For all of the parties, presents and pageantry that we put into our lives during the run to up to Christmas, I think this simple verse, recited by a children's cartoon character in 1965, really focuses on what is important to remember this Advent as we make ourselves ready for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Our Lord. If we miss this message, we're really missing the reason for the party. Thanks for the reminder Linus.

Join me my Brother Knights in keeping Linus's simple recitation in your heart as we enjoy the parties and rejoice in festivities that the Council has planned in the Advent and Christmas seasons. On behalf of me and my family, I would like to wish each of you and your families, a merry and peaceful Christmas.

Vivat Jesus!

Matt West
Grand Knight

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