

FATHER DIAMOND COUNCIL



*Wishing You a
Blessed
Christmas*



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THE LOOKOUT



2020-21 Fraternal Year, Issue 5 www.6292.kofc.com

December 2020



Grand Knight's Message

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas! After a busy

November highlighted by providing food to others through the Feed the Homeless (organized by George and Thelma Billy) and Thanksgiving Food Baskets events, we are now in the midst of our Christmas tree sales which started out strong aided by mild weather. Also this month, on December 7 (the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack), we will be honoring brother Knight Jim Smith on the occasion of his 100th birthday with a parade. Please see more details later in this edition and consider participating. Finally, State Deputy Brian Ripple has challenged councils statewide to raise \$100,000 for the Virginia Special Olympics through the virtual Polar Plunge 2021 to benefit the intellectually disabled. You can help our council do its part as follows:

Ctrl/Click on this link: [Search 2021 Polar Plunge \(specialolympicsva.org\)](http://Search2021PolarPlunge(specialolympicsva.org)) Then select an amount and enter council number 6292 in the Team search field. From there, you can click on "DONATE."

If you need any help just email specialolympics@vakofc.org, or call: 202 352 7955

Wishing you all a very happy and blessed Christmas season.

Vivat Jesus!

Mark Walther, Grand Knight

**Pray the
Rosary
Daily**

*We wish everyone a
Happy Liturgical New
Year !!*



Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Brothers,

I hope that you all are doing well and had a lovely Thanksgiving holiday. This year has

been different due to the virus, and unfortunately, will continue that way through the end of the year. This will be especially hard this Christmas, with health experts discouraging small social gatherings beyond our immediate households. While this means a small celebration at home with our immediate household, for many of our brother Knights, or other friends and family, it means celebrating alone. I encourage you all this Advent and Christmas season to reach out to those you know who live alone to check in and make sure they're doing okay. Practicing physical distancing does not mean that we should be forgetting anyone.

A special thank you to the Clinch family for all the hard work they have done with our pie and chili fundraisers. These programs have been an excellent example of creativity and innovation, allowing for fellowship and interconnectedness through these difficult times, all while raising money to help KOVAR and fulfilling the first principle of our Order, charity. Also, thank you to all those others who helped to make those events possible.

Thank you as well to all the Brother Knights and their families who contributed to our Thanksgiving food basket program. That food goes to feed those in our community facing food insecurity. Your generosity, as always is greatly appreciated. And a special thank you to Joe Burg, our Charity Chairman, for again taking the lead on organizing and facilitating the event.

I wish you all a prayerful Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year,

Kevin Kleponis, Deputy Grand Knight



KOVAR is listed with both the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and United Way of the Greater Capital Area. **CFC - #42569**

United Way Campaigns in the Greater D.C. Area - **#8838** and the Com-

monwealth of Virginia Campaign - State Employees - **#200467**

If you or any family member make contributions through these campaigns, please consider KOVAR. If you do, please make a copy of your receipt and include:

Council number 6292

Council membership number

Signature of person contributing

Send or give this receipt to Gib Flodine KOVAR Chairman.

There are two ways you can donate directly by check:
Make checks payable to KOVAR.

1. Send a check to:

KOVAR

5588 Needleton Ave

Woodbridge VA 22193

Please place Council #6292 in the memo field

Make check payable to Knights of Columbus 6292

2. Send a check to;

Knights of Columbus

St. Leo the Great Church

3700 Old Lee Highway

Fairfax, VA 22030

Please place KOVAR in the memo field

Donations can also be made online through www.vakofc.org.

Again please enter Council #6292 in council number field.

Treasurer's Report – October 31, 2020

INCOME for October \$4,660.35 (Jambalaya, Scrip Sales, Yard Sale)

EXPENSES for October \$2,582.69 (Devine Mercy Care, Food baskets Lamb Center)

ACCOUNT BALANCES:

United Checking \$26,677.38

United Checking (2) \$ 1,329.51

Invest Fund \$46,207.35

RTL Fund \$ 4,527.10

Building Fund \$45,447.09

KOVAR Collections (\$ 98.07)

PKD & VKCCI Collections (\$ 172.19)

Net Assets \$129,618.17

Bill Lane, Treasurer

Chancellor's Report



Thank you all for your help in last month's recruitment drive. Thank you also for continuing to find new member recruiting opportunities each day as we continue to strive toward our goal of 20 new members.

Please feel free to pass on my contact information to anyone you meet who is interested in learning more about becoming a knight.

Thank you for your continued efforts.

Vivat Jesus,

John Johnson, Chancellor

Past-Financial Secretary Message IMPORTANT

I would like to thank all of the members for their support during my tenure as your Financial Secretary. As a reminder, your 2021 dues notices will be coming out soon.

If you are using a processing center for the payment,

PLEASE remember to change the address where your payment is sent. This is especially important because my old address will not work as I have moved. (I mention this, as I have received payments forwarded to me by one of my predecessors.) Send the payment to the new Financial Secretary, Herb Zimmerman at 3510 Burrows Ave, Fairfax, VA 22030.

Thank you Herb for taking on this position,

David Todd, Sr.—Past-Financial Secretary

December Birthday Wishes

Name	Day	Name	Day
Jeff Fernandez	4	Jaime Argandona	20
James Smith	6	Joe Kanyan	21
Sam Gaboury	7	Timothy Malloy	23
Shae Mc Millan	9	Matthew Rodjom	24
Michael Pipan Jr	11	Peter Coniglio	25
Bill Weich	12	Albano Garcia	27
Kevin Mc Grail	13	Tim Hartzell	27
Herb Zimmerman	13	Patrick Kiechlin	27
Michael Mc Kinley	14	Bill Mundy	27
Eugene Ransom Jr	14	David Pizzano	27
Alexander Navarro	15	Dennis Howley	28
Doug Bricker	18	Patrick Murray	28
Paul Buchmann	18	David Whitcomb	29
Tony Kirkwood	18	Andrew Dudik	30
Anil Arakal	20		

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Knights of the Month—November 2020

November is a very busy month for the charitable donation of food. Thankfully, **Joe Burg**, our Charity Chairman, was once again at the helm for our Thanksgiving Food Baskets Project to help those in the local area facing food insecurity. Joe effectively communicated the need and our membership responded with both packaged food (48 baskets) and monetary donations (over \$2,000). He also personally participated in and/or organized volunteers to help with accepting the food drop-offs at Providence Hall, hauling the food out to clients' cars from the Hall, delivering food by car to select clients, and transferring the leftovers to the Old Parish Hall for later distribution by St. Leo's Social Ministry, with whom he coordinated all these activities. We extend our thanks to **Joe Burg, our Knight of the Month for November**, for his tireless work.

John Cesarini contributed his well-honed carpentry and fix-it skills to helping a resident in need at the Waples Mill Mobile Home Community. The resident required an immediate fix for the roof over a shed. John was able to quickly assess the situation and devised a way to install a tarp securely as a temporary roof cover (though it sounds simple, in practice it is much more complicated), buying valuable time for the resident to decide on a long-term solution. John followed this act with hours volunteered at the Thanksgiving Food Baskets Project where he helped to haul food from Providence Hall out to recipients' waiting vehicles, and the leftovers to the Guadeloupe Room in the Old Parish Hall. We congratulate **John Cesarini as our second Knight of the Month for November**.

FAMILY of the MONTH

Family of the Month—November 2020

One devoted family's labor of love revolves around providing food to those in need in our local community, not just around the holidays but year-round. Adam Gruendl, a 32-year member of the Knights, and his wife, Diane, are known for volunteering their time on a continual basis to working with the St. Leo's Social Ministry food pantry. The work ranges from receiving, weighing, stocking and organizing the donated packaged food to distributing it to clients who arrive curbside on pick-up days. One event resulting in a large influx of food, the Scouting for Food collection, saw the two of them working over nine hours to help process all of the donations. The following weekend, they were both there to help as our council worked in concert with the food pantry to organize and distribute the Thanksgiving Food Baskets. The Gruendls are a wonderful example of selfless hard work in service to their neighbor, and are our November Family of the Month.

Many KofC Activities in November



John Cesarini helping a Social Services Client to secure a storage shed



Hal Guidry, Charlie Kraiger, Mark Woznak, Tom Gross, Al Leightley, Joe Gesker, and John Cesarini installing the Creche



Mark Walther, John Cesarini, & Adam Gruendl (right) loading food baskets into cars



Charlie Kraiger delivering Food Baskets



Carolyn McGuire, Julies Clinch, Sue Schroeder, Kathy Weich, Mike Purtill, & Bill Weich—The Chili & Corn Bread Crew.



Over 90 orders sold.

Happy 100th Birthday to Our Council's Oldest Knight Jim "Horse Collar" Smith



Jim Smith was born on December 6th 1920 in Cleveland, Ohio. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1939. He became a electronics/communications specialist and volunteered for the famous USMC unit "Edson's Raiders" in 1941. In 1942, Jim with the "Edison Raiders" deployed to the Solomon Islands where he fought in two battles: Tulagi and Guadalcanal (Edison's Ridge). He earned a Silver Star in each of these battles and also awarded the Purple Heart.

After World War II, Jim was married and was employed by Remington Rand. He lived on Cedar Avenue in Fairfax for several years where his first two children were born. Jim joined the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in 1950. During his time in the agency, Jim served overseas at Taiwan Islands, Manila, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Germany and the United Kingdom. Jim came back from overseas in 1960 and his family had grown to five children. He bought and still resides at the first home built in Old Lee Hills on Colony Rd. Jim was assigned to a number of state side assignments including training sites for other agents. After his last assignment in London, UK, Jim retired from the CIA in 1989 as a Senior Executive Service Officer. He and his family returned to his home on Colony Road at that time.

Since retirement, Jim has been active in St Leo the Great Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, as a Rugby Referee, and also became a World Champion Skeet Shooter. Jim has two recorded history videos of his WWII experiences. The first is on display at the Marine Corp Museum in Quantico and the second is displayed at the WWII Memorial in New Orleans ([James "Horse Collar" Smith, 1st Marine Raider Battalion | The National WWII Museum | New Orleans \(nationalww2museum.org\)](http://james%20Horse%20Collar%20Smith,%201st%20Marine%20Raider%20Battalion%20The%20National%20WWII%20Museum%20New%20Orleans%20nationalww2museum.org)). He also participated as the USMC Representative at the ground breaking ceremony in 2000 for the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC.

On December 7, the 79th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, under the coordination of Brother Knight Al Leightley, **The City of Fairfax and the Knights of Columbus will hold a parade in Jim's honor.** The order of the parade thus far is:

- Fairfax City Police
- 4th Degree Color Guard and contingent
- Fairfax City Fire Dept.
- American legion Motorcycles
- Motorcade of Well Wishers
- Dignitaries & Proclamations - Mayor, Commissioner of Revenue, State Senator & State Delegate

We have received authorization from **Country Club Hills Pool, at 6622 Old Post Rd**, to use their parking lot to stage the event. **We will form up at 3:15 and kick off by 3:45.** We will stop the parade in front of Jim's house on Colony Road so that the resolutions can be presented to him.

Please plan to join us to honor Jim, a great Knight of Columbus and a great American.

4TH Degree Report

On the afternoon of Saturday, October 31st, nearly 300 Knights here in Virginia received the lessons of Patriotism, becoming 4th Degree members. Eight of these new Sir Knights are from Fr.

Diamond Council. Congratulations to:

- Rev. SK Christopher P. Christensen
- SK James G. Beauchamp
- SK Philip E. Colleti
- SK W. Terry Fowler
- SK William P. Lane
- SK Kyle B. Mandeville
- SK David J. Nava
- SK Marc R. Surette

We are awaiting word on the next 4th Degree Exemplification to be conducted in Virginia... it will be sometime in the Spring.



Feeding Homeless in DC

On Saturday, November 21, George & Thelma Billy assisted by Julie, Greg & Nelson Clinch, Ramon Madan, Joe Monnin, Anil Arakal & daughter, Sheena Eldred, George & Nancy Rosenkranz, David Bacungan, and many other "Friends of Thelma" served 300 meals at the shelter in DC. Each meal consisted of Turkey, stuffing, mashed



potatoes, yams, vegies, rolls. This year we had our "Tom Turkey" mascot show up to help distribute the food.



This year's annual March for Life in DC will be held on Friday, January 29, 2021. The Virginia Knights offer support services as marshals to 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 March for Life Education and Defense Fund 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. 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 Friday, January 29th. 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. Please wear a mask or we can provide you one. We will be trying to adhere to CDC guidelines as much as possible during this event.

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 for several years.

If you can volunteer please let us know by December 30, 2020. **Contact Mike Plumstead at 703-250-2367 or mplumstead@verizon.net** if you have any questions.

Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser for KOVAR a Success !!

Thanks to the help of many individuals, we were able to raise an additional \$500 for KOVAR. Combined with the \$2,100 from Chicken Pot Pies we have now raised approximately \$2,600 for KOVAR via the KofCKitchen6292 that KOVAR Chairman, Gib Flodine, and Head Chef, Julie Clinch, have created.

Their clever use of social media for promotion and the KofCKitchen6292@Gmail.com address for taking orders, has created a new and efficient model for future KOVAR fund raisers. We are looking forward for the next food event!!

Scouting for Food Assistance & Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive


Once again, our Charity Chairman, Joe Burg, has lead our Council in a very successful Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive. This year Joe and several other Brother Knights assisted Social Services with two food events. On Saturday, November 14, the Boy Scouts from this parish conducted a Scouting for Food campaign. Our Council provided St Leo the Great's Social Services ministry manpower (including Gib Flodine, Mark Walther, Francisco Klein, Adam Gruendl, Charlie Kraiger, Ken Miller, Stephen Rodgers and George & Thelma Billy) to sort and weigh the thousands of pounds of food collected that day. We stored some of the overflow food temporarily in the KofC hall.

On Friday and Saturday, November 20 & 21, Joe Burg's Council volunteers including Nelson Clinch, Mark Walther, Charlie Kraiger, Sipa Sikaulu, John Cesarini, Jason Johnsrud, Adam Gruendl (volunteering with Social Services Ministry), Scott Gaboury, and Joe Burg received 40 baskets of food donated by brother Knights and assembled another 8 baskets of food from what was stored in the hall. Many of the recipients were able to drive up to the KofC hall where our team loaded the food into their cars. All the time maintaining safe social distancing and following all CDC guidelines. Personal protective Equipment (PPE) was provided to all volunteers by Social Services. We also delivered baskets of food to the homes of 13 families that were unable pick up their food at the KofC Hall.

Monetary donations from our membership exceeded \$2,500 this year which helped us fill out our food basket commitments and also provide food Gift cards from Giant and Safeway to all food basket recipients to buy their turkey and other perishable items.


December 2020

The December calendar has been updated based on the latest information and directives from, the Diocese of Arlington, local, state and federal Government and the Supreme Council. Please watch your emails for last minute updates.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1 7:30PM Of- ficers Meet- ing	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 7:30PM Ro- sary 8:00PM Busi- ness Meeting	9	10	11	12 8:00AM Ro- sary to End Abortion
13	14 7:30PM Ladies Gift Wrapping (tentative)	15 11:00AM Grey Gost Luncheon (tentative)	16 7:00 4th Degree Mtg	17	18	19 10AM Food & Gift De- livery
20 Santa Breakfast CANCELLED	21	22	23	24	25 Merry 	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

January 2021

The January calendar has minor updates based on the latest information and directives from, the Diocese of Arlington, local, state and federal Government and the Supreme Council. However, at this time we do not know which "PHASE" we will be in by that time. Revisions to the January Calendar will be distributed via the Council Membership Email server as well as the January LOOKOUT newsletter.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1 	2
3	4	5 7:30PM Officers Meeting	6	7	8	9 8:00AM Rosary to End Abor- tion
10	11	12 7:30PM Rosary 8:00PM Busi- ness Meeting	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 11:00AM Grey Gost Luncheon 7:30PM Ladies Meeting	20 7:00 4th De- gree Meeting	21	22 March for Life In DC	23 3:00PM Youth B'ball Challenge
24	25	26 7:30PM Rosary 8:00PM Busi- ness Meeting	27	28	29	30

Officers, Directors, and Program Chairmen—2020-21

Officers

Grand Knight	Mark Walther	703-766-5054
Chaplain	Father Nguyen	703-273-5369
Deputy GK	Kevin Kleponis	305-804-1407
Chancellor	John Johnson	802-236-2192
Financial Sec.	Herb Zimmerman	703-623-6299
Treasurer	Bill Lane	703-585-4634
Recorder	Evan Frejo	405-831-6435
Lecturer	Keith Morrison	703-304-8540
Advocate	Nelson Clinch	703-385-2146
Warden	Mike Purtill	202 251 8424
Inside Guard	Charlie Kraiger	703-667-0241
Outside Guard	James Beauchamp	703-915-3504
Outside Guard	Philip C Krebs, HLM	703-587-0610
3yr Trustee	Gib Flodine	703-201-0477
2yr Trustee	Dan O'Malley	703-385-2010
1yr Trustee	Joe Gesker	703-435-4811

Program Directors

Programs	Kevin Kleponis	305-804-1407
Faith	Herb Zimmerman	703-623-6299
Family	Pat McGuire	703-209-5288
Community	Dan O'Malley	703-385-2010
Life	Gib Flodine	703-201-0477

Committee Chairmen

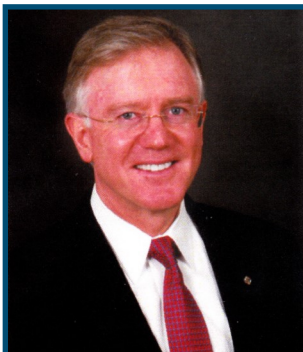
Charity	Joe Burg	484-883-9537
Admissions	John Johnson	802-236-2192
Retention	Joe Gesker	703-435-4811
Vocations	John Johnson	802-236-2192
Budget & Finance	Mark Walther	703-766-5054

Hall Manager	Herb Zimmerman	703-623-6299
Frat. Benefits	Ralph Heinze	703-850-7718
Ins. Promotion	Ralph Heinze	703-850-7718

Providence Hall	Kitchen or Office	703-385-8007
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Project Chairmen

1st Deg. Team		
2nd Deg. Team		
Bowling Team	Dave Whitcomb	703-591-7739
Christmas Trees	Tim Tilson	703-273-9436
Car Raffle	Dan O'Malley	703-385-2010
Comedy Knight	Herb Zimmerman	703-623-6299
Email Updates	Nelson Clinch	703-385-2146
Fall Festival	Tim Hogan	703-385-1292
Family Breakfast	Pat McGuire	703-209-5288
	Tim Tilson	703-273-9436
Food Baskets	Joe Burg	484-883-9537
Fourth Deg.	David Todd, Jr	703-463-1499
Fraternal Prayer	Jack Cotner	703-323-5785
Gray GOSTs	Al Leightley	703-273-2089
KCIC	James Hogan	703-385-1292
KOVAR	Gib Flodine	703-201-0477
Newsletter	Herb Zimmerman	703-623-6299
Night of Magic	Pat Leffas	703-436-2717
Parish Picnic	Tim Tilson + deputy	703-273-9436
March-for-Life	Mike Plumstead	703-250-2367
Scout Troop	Roger Rosenberger	703-591-7750
Scrip Sales	Tom Gross	703-273-0631
St. Patrick's Party	Pat Murray	703-383-3436



Edward P. Cuccias
Cuccias Law Practice

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Representing adults and teenagers in Traffic cases & Criminal cases throughout Northern Virginia



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

THE ABBATE AGENCY

www.abbatekofc.com

Ralph Heinze, Field Agent

Office: 1-866-868-1492

Cell: 703-850-7718

Visit our website for more information: www.abbatekofc.com

Like us on fb: www.facebook.com/Abbatekofc



Giant and Safeway Food Cards Buy Food - Buy Gift Cards — Support the Knights

Food Gift Cards (AKA scrip) for Giant, and Safeway is sold by our council.
Profits go toward the Scholarship funds and St. Leo's PTO. Call Tom Gross at 703-273-0631 for information.
Available at Providence Hall before or after meetings.

How does it work? Father Diamond council buys food gift cards at a discount (5% for Giant and 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.

How you can save even more by using Safeway food Gift Cards?

Safeway sells gift cards for many stores (Home Depot, Kohls, Toys-R-Us, Bed Bath & Beyond, I-Tunes, Marriott, Best Buy, Barnes & Noble, Nordstrom, Sears, Macy's, Old Navy, Southwest, etc.). They can be purchased using Safeway Scrip. Win - Win

**KNIGHTS OF
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FATHER DIAMOND
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Website
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