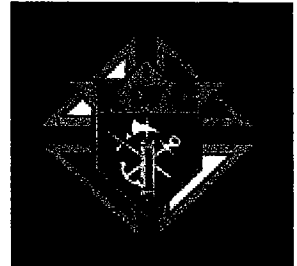


July 2008

Secaucus Knights News

Grand Knight Message



Brother Knights, I just came back from the semi annual Grand Knights meeting and State Deputy's Tom Ciborski's line of "if you blink, it will be over" really stuck with me. A year has gone by since I first took this position as Grand Knight and as I start the second term already, I think back on the first year's accomplishments and achievements this council has made but as a critical person that I am, I also think of the failures on my part in regards to membership. In 2007-2008 the council gave away thousands of dollars for charitable causes, we put up a beautiful statue for the Unborn Children, we worked side by side helping the Franciscan Sisters in Fairview getting part of their Development Center open and just recently we helped Father Corbett, a recent addition to the council membership, with a donation to get him closer towards purchasing a home in Jersey City for women coming out of prison, just to name a few. While all that is great as a fraternal society, sadly I had to say good bye to five brother knights due to non payment of dues and participation at a lot of our events is getting hard to cover. I know everyone's time is stretched with work, family life and other commitments but I ask again as I do before I take guys up to a First Degree "could you give the council just five hours in a year?" If you have not been active in awhile, five hours of either coming to two or three meetings and lending a hand at one event or attending one of our fundraisers is not a lot of time to give in a year considering there is 8765 hours in that timeframe. I am not a member of Immaculate Conception Church but when we run a Membership Blitz or fundraiser outside the doors it just amazes me how the majority of our members say they belong to this beautiful church but for some reason cannot find fifteen minutes before or after a Sunday mass to help continue that beauty. I give you my promise again that I will do everything I can to make this a stronger and more financially sound council for future Grand Knights over the next year and I hope all my brother knights will join me at some point in time during the year at a meeting or event. My phone (201)223-7967 and email mcgarrity@aol.com is always available for comments, suggestions and criticism so please feel free to contact me.

Vivat Jesus,
Neal McGarrity

Grand Knight's Notes

Can't make a meeting or event but would like to help the council continue its charitable works? See two easy fundraisers the council is running below and don't be left out!

Day after day, Knights across the State have decided to take part in our Magazine Fundraiser. They view it as an easy way to raise funds to support their many charitable efforts. The main reason we hear it is working is because members are realizing that in almost every case they are not being asked to spend any additional money. They just redirect their magazine orders through the KNIGHTS' MAGAZINE STORE located on the State's Website: www.nikofc.org, and 40% of all costs are returned to the Knights. It's that simple.

Ask your friends and family. Everyone can help. Tell them what your council will do with the funds you will earn.

Don't forget, to get full credit for your council, be sure to list your council name and number on the checkout page. Tell your supporters to list your Council Name in the Student Box (Mary Immaculate) and your Council Number in the Classroom Box (12769).

Also, remind everyone they do not have to wait for their current subscription to expire. Just look at the magazines in their home and copy their name and address exactly as it appears on the issues as they reorder. Check the renewal box on each magazine selected and your current magazine subscription will be extended.

The other fundraiser is thru EcoPhones who continue to pay the most competitive prices for cell phones, laptop computers, iPods, ink jet cartridges, digital cameras & digital video cameras. Look thru the draws and if you have a business ask coworkers to consider donating used and even damaged phones. You will be helping the council while saving the environment.

Squires Circle

I, along with Past Grand Knight Gary Jeffas and Father James Tucker, are looking into starting a Squires Circle, which is open to boys 10-18 years of age. The aim of the Squires program can be viewed from the web site <http://www.nisquires.org> it is to prepare Catholic young men to become leaders among their fellow citizens. Leadership training takes place in four activity areas: **Spiritual, Circle, Service and Membership**. For our Catholic Church to continue to grow with vocations or just membership we need our youth. If you think your son might be interested or more importantly after your son reads the web site or any information I have available and is interested, let me know. I would like to have at least fifteen to twenty young men to start a circle here at Immaculate Conception.

Centennial News

The Church Centennial is in full swing. While we are not a church affiliated organization a number of our council men are active in planning a number of events coming up at the church and could use some help. Please contact Sir Knight Brian Beckmeyer at 201-864-7093 or babeckmeyer@eslink.net to see where hands and bodies will be most needed.

Seminarian Corner

Seminarian Ramirez is one of the three men the council is currently supporting thru the RSVP program. The council gives each of these three men pin money to use where they need.

A life of joyful responsibility

We find in our life many different reasons to love. We choose some ways and discard others. The best way is to give ourselves with self respect in the life that we are living; which brings us happiness. I believe that my life as seminarian is an expression of unselfish love. I am very blessed in my life and I am happy with my vocation and all the responsibilities of this call to priesthood. To share with other people who have the same vocation, the passion and desire of service is really wonderful. I enjoy every experience and all I encounter in the seminary. I feel God's presence in my daily acts, with my brothers in formation, and especially in my personal and spiritual practice.

Nonetheless, I can not live and build this calling by myself. I believe that other people are in my life as gifts, of support and of hope in my journey to priesthood. Formation community, brother seminarians, family, friends and institutions like the Knights of Columbus, are helping me with my spiritual and material needs in order to obtain this deep aspiration. Their presence is a blessing and a valuable support in my human and professional formation. I hope to continue sharing my life with joy and to help others in their relationship with God. It is a hard responsibility, but a joy filled responsibility.

Edinson E. Ramirez

Immaculate Conception Seminary

A word from our District Deputy and our Field Agent

Brothers:

It is my great pleasure and honor that I am appointed to serve as your District Deputy. The reputation of your council for your good deeds and works precedes you. I hope to be involved in your many activities and please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance to you in any way. I look forward to meeting you personally at an upcoming council meeting.

Vivat Jesus,
Russell Petrocelli, DD
210 Jay Street
Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075
201-873-5879

Our Field Agent:

At the New Jersey Knights of Columbus State Convention in May the State Deputy from Texas got up and spoke about insurance in the order. He started off by saying one Saturday morning when he was able to enjoy a home cooked meal and read the daily paper an article in the paper really troubled him. A young man in his thirties had just recently passed away leaving behind a wife and child but had had little savings and no insurance and friends and family were going to run a bake sale and several other fundraisers to try to bury this individual and at least help pay some of the bills incurred. Now the troubling part was this young mans mass was going to be out of the church the State Deputy came from so the knights failed in the vision of Father Michael J. McGivney in bringing this man into the order and secondly in protecting the widows and children of our departed brothers. While seventy percent of all individuals have some kind of insurance policy and do not need any additional insurance the Field Agent is at your disposal for the thirty percent that may or for those in the seventy percent that want to make sure they have adequate coverage. Please contact our council agent Bob Rogan at bob-rogan@comcast.net.

Dates to remember

July 8th is the next First Degree meeting for those interested in joining the order.

July 16th council meeting for all those with a travel card

July 26th Pastaoke Night- Pasta Dinner with Karaoke Night. Starts at 6:30 and is only \$15 per person at the ICS auditorium. Tickets can be purchased from any aouncil officer.

Aug 10th Outing to Shea Stadium. Mets versus the Marlins \$25 a person. Email Neal if you are interested at mcgarritye@aol.com

Aug 17th Family Picnic at Schmidt's Woods 1 PM to 5 PM. Food, Drink, Games for the children and passes to the pool.

Aug 20th council meeting night

Aug 22nd Wrestling returns to Immaculate Conception School 7:30. \$15 a person. Jimmy "Superfly Snuka comes to Secaucus. For tickets, please see the GK -Neal McGarrity.

August 30th is our Labor Day Blood Drive. We need at least 30 donors. The drive will be from 10AM to 3 PM. If you like to sign up for a time contact (four every half hour) contact Sir Knight James Clancy at 201-863-4559 or Yluj01@aol.com.

Fourth Degree News

As newly elected Navigator of Assembly 1543, I would like to Congratulate all the newly elected officers for 2008-2009.

They are as follows:

Faithful Navigator Sk. Paul Pinkman
Faithful Captain Sk. Stanley Winters
Faithful Pilot Sk. Joe Demassi
Faithful Admiral Sk. Sal Manente
Faithful Scribe Sk. Charley Schmacher
Faithful Controller Sk. Neil McGarrity
Faithful Purser Sk. Jim Cannan
Faithful Inner Sentinel Sk. Joe Capozio
Faithful Outer Sentinel Sk. James Burke
Faithful 3 yr. Trustee Sk. Jim Ferrero
Faithful 2 yr. Trustee Sk. Phil Glackin
Faithful 1 yr. Trustee Sk. Bill Sarno

We will also be having a new Faithful Friar. As we all know, Fr. Reilly has stepped down to take care of his parish and to take some well deserved time off. We will miss him at our meetings with his guiding sermons. We are looking into replacing Fr. Reilly with Fr. Jim Tucker. (we will be calling him Friar Tuck ha! ha!)

I would like to thank Sk. Sal Manente for serving many years as 1543's Faithful Navigator and in stepping up to take on the role of Assembly Commander. We as Color Corpsman will support Sal in his new position.

Additionally, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of the out going officers of Assembly 1543 for their service and in their continued support for the new officers during the upcoming year.

My personal thank you to our Color Corps for their dedication and performance at the many call outs that are conferred on our Assembly. We are the Knights that are seen by the public and they look sharp at all our functions and parades. Our new white jackets put us in a higher category of sharpness. Keep up the good work. In June there were 8 call outs with 66 men in attendance!

Our officer's installation with 2 other Assemblies will be sometime in September, the exact date has not been determined, but you will be advised as soon as possible.

Last, but not least, our annual Vets Breakfast will be on Nov. 9th at Immaculate Conception Church Hall. We will need all the help we can get to make this event a truly successful one, I hope to see you there!

Thank you,

Paul Pinkman

P.S. Anyone who would like more information or would like to join the 4th degree, the next degree meeting is coming up in October, please contact me as soon as possible.