



# COUNCILAIRS

## Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

April 2015

### **Grand Knight's Message**



It is Easter and Pentecostal season; the 50 days after Easter leading to Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is known as the “Birthday of the Church,” and for good reason: it’s the day that the apostles began their ministry to the world. The classic image we all have in our heads is of God baptizing the apostles with the Holy Spirit and fire, and the apostles becoming so filled with holiness and purpose that they cried out in all tongues to the people, spreading the good news. That’s the flashy, miracle part that we tend to focus on, but all things said and done, multilingualism is not the most important thing the apostles received that day. No, the most important blessing of Pentecost was confidence.

Prior to this day, the apostles were in hiding, afraid to go out and preach Jesus’ word to the people, in fear of what retributions that they could, and as we know ultimately did, receive. But God’s blessing on Pentecost gave the apostles the inner strength necessary for the journey ahead, the determination to preach the truth in a world that would hate to hear it. As Knights, we all hear that same calling, to preach the truths of our faith in a world that may find them unpopular or outdated. It is our duty and privilege to minister to all peoples, and fully live up to our name as the Catholic (meaning universal) church.

Bel Air Council’s ministry, our Journey of: “Creating a Presence” in our Catholic Community is continuing to take hold. We are seeing a rebirth within our organization and we are confidently spreading the

good news about Bel Air Council and the Knights of Columbus. Parishioners at St. Mark know who the Knights are and what they stand for. The upcoming assistance at The John Carroll School and the funding of a Senior Scholarship is beginning to shape a presence in the Catholic High School. The recent Community Service Awards Reception again enabled our Council to spread the word about the Knights of Columbus and our Council as we honored community servant leaders who are also members of Bel Air Council. The St. Margaret Elementary School contacted us this year to find out about another “Catholic Knight with the Orioles” game weaving a tighter relationship with our local Catholic Elementary School and parish.

Our Council has displayed the confidence to reach out to our other Catholic organizations to speak up and be leaders in our community. Join us as during these exciting times.

Vivat Jesus,

**Stephen Conley**, Grand Knight, 443-417-7538,  
[knightsfc@gmail.com](mailto:knightsfc@gmail.com)

### **District Deputy**

Blessed Easter to all my Brother Knights and their families. After a tough winter, Easter and the return of spring are most welcome. At our spring meeting, our state chaplain, Fr. Milton Jordan announced that he is hopeful that the Knights of Columbus will introduce a new prayer for those who are terminally ill. He believes that through prayer those who are terminally ill may be cured and through the power of prayer there may be some miracles that could be attributable to Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney and thus advance his cause for sainthood.

Congratulations to my brother Knights who took the first, second or third degrees during the month of March. I also want to recognize the district's second degree team who did another great job at the degree on March 12. Our team can always use more help with

## **Bel Air Council 4714 Monthly Schedule of Events**

First Tuesday - **7:30 pm** - **Business Meeting** - open to KC members only

Second Tuesday - **7:00 pm** - **Home Corporation Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

Third Tuesday - **7:00 pm** - **Social Meeting** - open to general public

Fourth Tuesday - **7:00 pm** - **Officers' Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

All Fridays - **7:00 pm** - **Bingo** (board is lit) - open to the general public

speaking and non-speaking parts and we need support from ALL of the councils in the district. Thank you to Former District Deputy Walt Williams for agreeing to organize the team this year. Thank you to Bel Air Council for hosting a first degree on very short notice on March 4 welcoming two new members to the council.

My sincere appreciation to everyone who helped out with the church drives throughout the district during March. It's always positive to make the Knights of Columbus more visible to our fellow parishioners. Thank you to Bel Air Council for continuing the tradition of recognizing the best firefighters, police and Catholic teachers in their community at the Community recognition event on March 17.

### **State Events**

•Thursday, April 30, 12:30 p.m. Golf tournament - Ocean City Country Club

### **District Events**

•Saturday, April 11 (10 - 12) - district meeting at Good Shepherd Church, Perryville

•Thursday, April 16 (7:30 p.m.) - first degree at St. Ignatius Council

•Friday, April 24 (7:05 p.m.) - Knights out with the Orioles vs. Red Sox at Camden Park.

### **Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights Events**

•Thursday, April 9 (8:00 p.m.) Bishop Sebastian Council #5058, 7910 Harford Rd. Baltimore, MD 21234

•Congratulations to Mike Sallese, our regional advisor, who was named interim president for the remainder of the fraternal year.

**Richard Belmonte**, District Deputy #16,  
[rbbelmon@gmail.com](mailto:rbbelmon@gmail.com)

## **Fraternal Benefits**

### *Ask Eligible Men to Join*

Today, I want to address the growth of the Order. Membership growth is the fuel that keeps this great fraternal engine running. All of our charitable works at the council, state, national and international level are thanks to our hard-working members. And more members equals more charity.

We know that the membership blitz is a tried and true way for councils to get more men to join. We see these pushes often in March, in celebration of Founder's Day, and again in October. These drives are successful because brother Knights have increased visibility speaking or presenting during and after Masses and at special events. We must remember that we have a duty to ask each and every Catholic gentleman to join our ranks for the good of the Church, the community and the Order.

During the rest of the year, we often "forget" to ask men to join and to bring their families into the Knights of Columbus family. You probably know an eligible Catholic man you could ask today. What if the only reason he hasn't joined is because no one has asked him yet?

When telling a prospect about the strengths of the Order, don't forget our greatest fraternal benefit: our insurance program. This is often a "selling point" to a potential member who is on the fence. Many members become Knights simply to be able to buy coverage to protect their family. Soon after, they realize the good our charitable works do for their community, and they are proud to be members.

As your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, I look forward to helping us grow in fraternity in any way that I can.

**Edward A. O'Keefe**, CLU, ChFC, CASL  
<http://okeefefinancialplanning.com>

## Why We Offer Insurance



Before you think about how you and your family would use life insurance, how your council members can benefit from our insurance program, or what products and options you would need, there's a more basic question that needs to be answered: Why do the Knights of Columbus care about life insurance? The answer is simple: Providing financial protection for Catholic families has been at the core of our mission since the beginning.

### Two Problems, One Solution

The drive to offer financial protection for Catholic families comes from our venerable founder, Father Michael J. McGivney.

In the summer of 1873, as a young seminarian in Canada, he was forced to leave theological studies and return home to aid his family after the sudden death of his father, Patrick. "He was reeling," it says in his biography Parish Priest. "He packed his belongings, knowing that he would never return to Sainte-Marie, and went home."

"Money for tuition was no longer available," the authors continue. "Even if the McGivney family could survive without Michael's financial support, it was not clear that he could survive without help from them — or someone." Michael was able to continue his studies only after receiving a scholarship from the then-Diocese of Hartford.

Less than a decade later, as an associate pastor at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., Father McGivney was faced with an all-too-similar situation.

One of his parishioners, Edward Downes Jr., was forced to quit the seminary after his father died unexpectedly. He returned home to New Haven to support his mother and 12 siblings.

In those days, the court had the right to assign children to public institutions if it had reason to believe that their families could not properly care for and support them. Unless they were represented by a financially secure guardian in court, the teenage Downes boys would be removed from their family.

On Feb. 6, 1882 — the very same day as the first meeting for what would become the Knights of Columbus — Father McGivney appeared in court to stand as guardian for Edward's brother Alfred. The court accepted, yet Father McGivney was frustrated by the recurring nightmare of financial hardship.

"Even though he was only a young man," Parish Priest says of Father McGivney, "he was filled with a lifetime of anger and frustration at the sense of doom that settled over nearly every family that lost its wage earner. ... On the afternoon of February 6, he was more determined than ever that what had happened to the Downes family need not happen to anyone else."

### The Mission Begins – And Continues

In that spirit, Father McGivney set off with "entrepreneurial zeal" to found the Knights of Columbus. In his own words, Father McGivney wanted the organization to "to unite the men of our Faith throughout the Diocese of Hartford, that we may thereby gain strength to aid each other in time of sickness, to provide for decent burial, and to render pecuniary assistance to the families of the deceased members."

He knew what life was like without that assistance. The initial system of "life insurance" designed by Father McGivney was a simple one, a pass-the-hat system through which each member could help support his brother Knights.

As the organization grew council by council, state by state, and country by country, so too did the insurance program. The pass-the-hat system was transformed into one of the largest and most highly rated life insurance programs in North America.

The Knights of Columbus has passed many milestones and received many accolades along the way: \$97 billion of life insurance in force, 39 consecutive A++ (Superior) ratings for financial strength from A.M. Best, 14 consecutive years of sales growth, and designation as a 2014 “World’s Most Ethical Company,” but all that is secondary.

What matters most is that we continue to fulfill Father McGivney’s mission of offering and providing financial protection for Catholic families. 2015 is not 1882. Times are different. Laws are different. Economies are different. But even for those families who may have slightly more than next-to-nothing, insurance protection can be the difference between getting by and getting evicted. In its role as the premier Catholic life insurer, the Knights of Columbus continues to provide a valuable and noble service.

That’s why we offer life insurance.

It’s not for the \$8 billion in annual sales volume, or the \$97 billion in force, or the 1.8 million policies on the books. It’s not the amount that counts, but the impact of those dollars.

It’s the homes saved, the college tuitions provided, the Catholic funerals paid for and the families shielded that create the legacy of protection that would make Father McGivney proud.

It’s those things that are the hallmark of the Knights of Columbus Insurance program.

As we remember Father McGivney’s legacy and the mission he set forth for our great Order, take the time to reach out to your dedicated Knights of Columbus field agent — who is himself a brother Knight — and see what we might be able to offer to you and your family.

## **Council Activities**

### ***Pot of Gold***

There was no drawing in March. The drawing at the April meeting will remain at \$50.00.

***Tom Sutera***

### ***Sick and Deceased***

Please remember in your prayers David Kerber, son-in-law of Paul Zarachowicz; Martin Buchanan; Al Kramer; Bill Edge; Tom Krista; Vernon West; and Edie Krebs, wife of Ron Krebs. Pray for the recently deceased Brother Ralph Durham and Brother Nick Miele.

***John Knapstein***, 410-692-9823, [jdk92048@aol.com](mailto:jdk92048@aol.com)

### ***First Degree News***

Many, many thanks to our first degree team, who exemplified the first degree practically on the spur of the moment, having been given but one day’s notice to prepare. Originally, a video degree was scheduled for Wednesday, March 4; but when our business meeting on March 3 was postponed for lack of a quorum due to inclement weather, the team was summoned to present the degree live at the postponed business meeting and responded splendidly.

If you are interested in taking part on the first degree team, please contact me at [kgm4714@gmail.com](mailto:kgm4714@gmail.com) or 443-409-4186.

***Kevin McNamara***, Team Captain

### ***Fourth Degree News***

Congratulations to our new Sir Knights, who participated in the exemplification of the fourth degree at Frederick on March 7. S/K Tom Greul, the Worthy Master, has indicated that an exemplification is being planned for the September time frame. While we don’t have an exact date, place, and time for this ceremonial yet, any third-degree Knight in good standing is eligible to join the patriotic degree of the Knights of Columbus. Contact Kevin McNamara, Wayne Davis, Bernie Classon, or any fourth-degree Sir Knight for information on the fourth degree and a Form 4 so you can take part in the patriotic degree!

***Kevin McNamara***, Past Faithful Navigator

## **Community Activities**

### **Community Service Awards**



Bel Air Council presented its annual Community Service Awards at its March social. Honorees and dignitaries present included David Meneghini, District Warden; LTC Jeff Kyburz, Military Officer of the Year; Cpl. Joe Peters, Police Officer of the Year; Eric Tiso, Warden and program MC; Tom Vierheller, Catholic Teacher of the Year; Kevin McNamara, Deputy Grand Knight.

Bel Air Council presented its annual Community Service Awards at the March social. This year's honorees are:

#### **Cpl. Joseph Peters, Harford County Sheriff's Office, Police Officer of the Year**

Cpl. Joe Peters was raised in a large Catholic family being the youngest of five and attended St. Mark's in Catonsville, Immaculate Heart of Mary in Towson, and in 1989 graduated from Calvert Hall College. His life improved immensely 16 years ago when he married Kimberly at IHM. They are currently members at St. Mark of Fallston and are blessed with two amazing sons Reilly Joe, age 8, and Calen Bryan, age 3.

Joe has been a police officer for 21 years, starting his career with the Baltimore Police Department in 1994, and for six years worked patrol in the Eastern District and Southern District. In 2000 he transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division, Sex Offense Unit. Joe and another detective exclusively worked cold cases from 2006-2008 apprehending six serial rapists in the first year alone. The oldest cold case he closed was almost 20 years old, occurring on Christmas Eve 1989.

Joe has been awarded a Life Saving Award for locating a male wandering a wooded area who had

taken too many pills. Joe carried him out of the woods to an awaiting ambulance likely the only reason the man survived the incident.

In 2008 Joe lateraled to the Harford County Sheriff's Office. He worked patrol in the Northern Precinct until Nov. 2011 when he transferred to the Criminal Investigation Division. He has worked both property crimes and major case units, and was recently interviewed and recorded a TV special involving a high profile case from Joppa. The TV special is planned to air this spring on Investigation Discovery.

In Aug. 2014 he was promoted to the rank of corporal and assigned to the Special Investigations: Intelligence Unit. In Feb. 2015 he was transferred to the Northern Precinct Patrol where he currently is supervisor for the 4-12 shift.

One year ago, in March of 2014 he joined the Knights of Columbus and is a third degree Knight. He looks forward to continuing to grow in his faith, and serve as part of this wonderful organization.

#### **LTC Jeff Kyburz, United States Army, Military Officer of the Year**

LTC Jeff Kyburz is a graduate of the United States Military Academy and has a Master of Business Administration from Indiana University and a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the National Defense Intelligence College. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 2009 and is now a member of Bel Air Council 4714. Jeff took his second degree on March 12 and is looking forward to taking his third degree on March 20th.

Jeff has over 25 years of military service and has conducted operations in Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea, including tours in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is currently assigned to Aberdeen Proving Ground and specializes in Nuclear and Counter-proliferation.

For the past several years Jeff has been a service academy selection panel member for Congressman Harris, a West Point Admissions Liaison Officer, and is a board member on the Upper Chesapeake West Point Society. He is also a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Military Officers Association of America.

Jeff married Kelly a short 25 years ago, and they have been blessed with three daughters and two sons. Kelly is also an Army officer working at the Pentagon.

**Mr. Tom Vierheller, Catholic Teacher of the Year**

Tom Vierheller was born in Parkersburg, WV and attended Wheeling Jesuit University where he met his wife of 34 years! They have been blessed with four children. After seven years in the U.S. Marine Corps Tom settled in Forest Hill, joining the Knights of Columbus and Bel Air Council in 1993 and serving as 1st Degree Chancellor on a state recognized 1st Degree team for five years.

Tom has coached in the Bel Air and Fallston Recreation programs for 15 years covering Lacrosse, Football, Soccer, and Basketball at the recreation, travel and club levels. For six years Tom has been a Coach at John Carrol covering Men's Varsity and Junior Varsity Basketball, Women's Junior Varsity basketball and Men's Varsity indoor lacrosse.

For the last 14 years Tom has dedicated himself to teaching at the John Carroll School. He established and co-moderates the school's first Student Honor Council; provides tutoring for students in English and Religion; serves as mentor for students in disciplinary trouble; has chaperoned numerous student trips, including an exchange trip to St. Petersburg, Russia and senior class trips to Washington D.C. (Arlington National Cemetery and The National Holocaust Museum). Tom has also coordinated numerous school wide fundraiser projects for charity and worked to establish the foundation for the Student Diversity Committee (over 70 international students from 12 countries)

Tom also shapes the school environment: he has served on the Faculty Executive Committee (advising the school principal on matters regarding faculty) for five years, chairing the committee for three of those years; served as the Faculty representative on the Board of Trustees for three years; serves as mentor for new teachers; and from 2006-2013 served as Dean of Students.

Last year Tom coordinated a service-learning trip, the first of its kind for John Carroll, for ten students. The program went to the Dominican Republic, working in conjunction with an organization called "Cambiando

Vidas" "Changing Lives." The team built a house for a very needy family in just six days. Tom is presently in the process of organizing the second trip with 14 students, hoping to continue growing the program in the future!

Our dinner was provided by Newport Terrace's new in-house caterer, Sharon Potocki of luv2ktr.

*Kevin McNamara*, Deputy Grand Knight

**Catholic Ladies Service Organization**

Finally! We have survived the harsh weather and were able to hold our first meeting of 2015 on March 10th! At our March meeting we prayed for all our ailing members especially Margaret Stallings, Maria Vigliante, Pat Wilhelm, Norma Miller, and Frank & Jean DiAngelo. Please also remember Dolores Fantacone's sister, Terry Troiano, in your prayers.

Our annual audit was completed by Mary Sporney and Virginia Berkowitz and they found everything in order. Karen Warner reported that our IRs reports are now complete and all in order. Thank you Ladies for your expertise.

We will be participating in the Perry Point VA Hospital Car Show and Cookout which will be held in June 14, 2014. This is Flag Day so we will be dressing in Red White and Blue. The Cook-Out and Car show has always been a lot of fun for everyone. There are usually about 125 vintage cars to admire and reminisce over. We will be manning one of the booths. Last year we served Rita's Ice and soft drinks. If you would like to participate please let me or Pat Lijewski know in advance because we need to submit the names of volunteers due to security issues.

Easter will be April 5 this year. Be sure to do your Easter Duty. Consult your parish bulletins to find the dates and time for local penance services.

Our annual reports for the State Convention in Ocean City have been submitted. Categories are Year Summary, Best Recurring Event and Best New Event. We are still waiting for the results of the Bob Evan's fundraiser. Sharon DiMatteo has been in contact with the corporate offices and should get a full report in the next week or so.

Our Saint of the Month for April is St. Catherine of Siena and our color is Purple.

Card night will be April 13, 2015 - 7 pm. Come join us for the 3F's. (Fun, Friends and Food) Our next meeting will be April 14, 2015, - 7 pm. Looking forward to seeing you.

*Dee Kozlowski*, President CLSO

## **K of C Named as a World's Most Ethical Company**



3/9/2015

*The Ethisphere Institute recognizes the Knights of Columbus' commitment to ethical leadership for the second year in a row.*

The Knights of Columbus has been recognized by the Ethisphere Institute, the global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices, as a 2015 World's Most Ethical Company®.

The World's Most Ethical Companies designation recognizes those organizations that have had a material impact on the way business is conducted by fostering a culture of ethics and transparency at every level of the company.

Being a two consecutive year honoree underscores the Knights of Columbus' commitment to leading ethical business standards and practices ensuring long-term value to key stakeholders including customers, employees, suppliers, regulators and investors. The Knights of Columbus is one of only four companies in the Life Insurance category honored this year.

"For more than 130 years, the Knights of Columbus has been protecting the financial future of Catholic families and providing charity to those on the margins of society," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson.

"That founding principle of helping those in need is at work in every aspect of our business, guiding our corporate governance, our professional agency force, our investments, and our day-to-day business operations. It is this continued commitment to our foundational, Catholic principles that is the key to our ethical, sustainable and successful business model."

"The World's Most Ethical Companies embrace the correlation between ethical business practice and improved company performance. These companies use ethics as a means to further define their industry leadership and understand that creating an ethical culture and earning the World's Most Ethical Companies recognition involves more than just an outward facing message or a handful of senior executives saying the right thing," said Ethisphere's Chief Executive Officer, Timothy Erlich. "Earning this recognition involves the collective action of a global workforce from the top down. We congratulate everyone at Knights of Columbus for this extraordinary achievement."

The World's Most Ethical Company assessment is based upon the Ethisphere Institute's Ethics Quotient™ (EQ) framework developed over years of research to provide a means to assess an organization's performance in an objective, consistent and standardized way. The information collected provides a comprehensive sampling of definitive criteria of core competencies, rather than all aspects of corporate governance, risk, sustainability, compliance and ethics. The EQ framework and methodology is determined, vetted and refined by the expert advice and insights gleaned from Ethisphere's network of thought leaders and from the World's Most Ethical Company Methodology Advisory Panel.

Scores are generated in five key categories: ethics and compliance program (35%), corporate citizenship and responsibility (20%), culture of ethics (20%), governance (15%) and leadership, innovation and reputation (10%).

The full list of the 2015 World's Most Ethical Companies can be found at <http://ethisphere.com/worlds-most-ethical/wme-honorees/>.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Bel Air Council No. 4714**

23 Newport Drive

Forest Hill, MD 21050

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