



Phone: (410) 893:6442

COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050



Initiated Dec 1958

January 2016

Grand Knight

My brothers all, lovely ladies and faithful families,

Merry Christmas! First Lady Gilly-Ann and I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and holy new year.

We continue to make progress on our goal of improving our serve. As has been mentioned elsewhere before, we set records for this year's Tootsie Roll drive, both in total take and in bringing in over \$1,000 at one location in a single three-day weekend. Excellent work! The fruits of our labors will be mentioned later in this newsletter.

As the calendar turns to a new year, we must keep in mind that recruitment is not an effort restricted to church recruitment drives. Everyone bring one. Make it personal. Seek out a good prospect for a new Knight, show him how much the Order can add to his Catholic life, and bring his Form 100 to the council so we can vote him in. We will have at least one application on which to vote at the January meeting prior to exemplifying the degree; we have a little less than three weeks as I write this to bring in more.

Supreme Council has initiated an effort to support our persecuted brethren in the Middle East. Additionally, our Worthy Supreme Chaplain, the Most Reverend William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, has composed a prayer for our persecuted brethren, which the council will pray at the end of every business meeting starting with the January meeting. I encourage all of you to copy this prayer and pray it yourself:

O God of all the nations, the One God who is and was and always will be, in your providence you willed that your Church be united to the suffering of your Son. Look with mercy on your servants who are persecuted for their faith in you. Grant them perseverance and courage to be worthy imitators of Christ. Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations to work for peace

among all peoples. May your Spirit open conversion for those who contradict your will, that we may live in harmony. Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom, and to always seek your will in our lives. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Once again, I encourage you to wear orange to remember to pray for them, and to encourage others to do the same.

First Lady Gilly-Ann and I pray for each and every one of you, and for all of your family members wherever they may be, a holy, happy, and safe holiday season. Merry Christmas!

Vivat Jesus.

Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight

District Deputy

Dave and Kathy Meneghini, LuAnne and I wish all of you a Happy New Year. The first half of the fraternal year went by in a flash. The members of each council should be quite proud of their accomplishments during the first six months. Continue to reach out to others in the church and community and demonstrate our charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

A hearty congratulations to Havre de Grace Council for having earned the star council award in 2014 - 2015. Worthy State Deputy Stephen M. Cohen visited the council and presented the award to Worthy Grand Knight Luke Lakatta on behalf of the council. I'm encouraged that we may well have more than one (five would be great!) star council in 2015 - 2016.

I want to thank Corpus Christi Council and St. Ignatius Council for hosting first degrees during December. As a result of the degrees, the district has

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

4 new members, two from St. Ignatius and one each from Corpus Christi and Havre de Grace Councils.

If you are planning to attend the MD state convention in mid-May, now is the time to go to the MD state website and register for the convention and reserve your room. It would be nice to see many of you from the district attend this year and we'll find out who will be the next state warden.

State Events

- State Memorial Mass to be held on November 8 at St. Matthias the Apostle Church in Lanham, MD beginning with the reading of the necrology at 1:30 p.m. More information is on the state website.

District Events

- First degree at Bel Air Council January 5 at 7:30 p.m. and at Havre de Grace Council on February 18 at 7:30 p.m.
- The next second degree will be held on Monday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Bel Air Council.

Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knight Events

- January 14 - Bishop Sebastian Council #5058, 8 p.m. 7910 Harford Rd. Baltimore, MD 21234
- February 11 - Patapsco Council #1960, 7 p.m. (Ladies Night), 1010 Frederick Rd., Catonsville, MD 21228

Richard Belmonte, District Deputy #16,
rbbelmon@gmail.com

Fraternal Benefits

The Pitfalls of Replacing Coverage

You know the old saying, “the grass seems greener on the other side of the fence,” but we all know that it rarely is. The same holds true when it comes to replacing your existing Knights of Columbus life insurance with coverage offered by another company. Perceptions are deceiving. A move to the “greener” grass on the other side of the fence might seem like a

good one, but it can leave you with less green in your wallet — in some cases, a lot less. That’s why it pays to remember another old adage, “Read the fine print.”

There are many reasons to keep your existing coverage in force, whether that coverage is with the Knights of Columbus or with another company. I’ll focus on the potential pitfalls of replacing coverage here — pitfalls that an agent trying to convince you that the grass actually is greener might neglect to mention.

First, all life insurance contracts contain a contestability period, which allows the insurer to contest claims made for a period — typically two years — after the contract is issued. Chances are this is no longer an issue with your current coverage.

Second, it’s unlikely that you can obtain the same amount of coverage, for the same premium, that you were able to obtain with your existing contract. The two factors that determine how much you’ll need to pay for life insurance coverage are age and health. Certainly, you’re older now than you were when you took out your current coverage. There’s no way around that. And you have to ask yourself, has your health changed during that time? Is your blood pressure the same? Your cholesterol? Have you gained weight? All these factors can affect the amount of coverage you’ll get for your premium dollar.

If someone encourages you to replace — or worse, drop — your existing coverage, please call me. I’ll show you how your existing coverage is working for you and why replacement is rarely in your best interest.

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

Council Activities

Social Meetings

Our December social was our annual Christmas party. Many thanks to Brother John Knapstein, who

coordinated this year's party and even furnished a fun and thought-provoking Christmas quiz. Thanks also to Brother Tom Krista, who coordinated our Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest this year, and made available for our review posters from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students from St. Margaret School and the St. Mark religious education program. The Catholic Ladies Service Organization provided a great service to this annual program, selecting the top three posters in grades 1 through 5; our heartfelt thanks to the ladies for their assistance. Brother Wayne Davis also distributed our "Keep Christ in Christmas" buttons.

This year the council was able to provide three significant Christmas gifts, sharing the proceeds of our Tootsie Roll drive with representatives from the ARC Northern Chesapeake Region and the Harford Center, and the benefits of our All-Night Bingo with a representative of Birthright.

Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight



Tootsie Roll drive co-chairman Tony Lamancusa (L) and chairman Paul Zarachowicz (second from left) join Grand Knight Kevin McNamara (R) to present to Harford Center Executive Director Ginny Toy (beside Paul) and Finance/HR Manager Tim Battaglia (beside Kevin) with their letter from State Council advising them of the more than \$3,000 proceeds furnished to them from the drive.



Tootsie Roll drive co-chairman Tony Lamancusa (L) and chairman Paul Zarachowicz (second from left) join Grand Knight Kevin McNamara (R) to present to Shawn Kros, Executive Director of the ARC Northern Chesapeake Region, their letter from State Council advising them of the more than \$3,000 proceeds furnished to them from the drive.



Bingo program chairman Tom Rappold (L) and Culture of Life chairman Ted Kunkel (second from left) join Grand Knight Kevin McNamara (R) to present to Birthright Executive Director Carol Maglov a check for \$1,377, proceeds from our annual All-Night Bingo for Birthright.

Sick and Deceased

Please remember in your prayers Don Litz, Al Kramer, Bill Edge, Tom Krista, Vernon West, Ray Caralle, Chuck DuVall, Edie Krebs wife of Ron Krebs, Jean Potter, Bernie Sporney and Ross Liberati. Pray for the recently deceased Mary Sporney from the CLSO and the brother-in-law of Paul Zarachowicz, George Keugler.

John Knapstein 410-692-9823 jdk92048@aol.com

Inclement weather policy

This policy is set forth to give guidance on The K of C hall closures when inclement weather is present. All youth activities and bingo will follow the closures established by the Harford County School system for SNOW events only.

Closures for other meetings and events will follow the policy for Harford County Government. The County web site www.harfordcountymd.gov will give the latest closure information. The Harford County Government closure phone line is 410-638-3484 and has the same information as the website

The Constant Contact System will also be used to disseminate information about meetings via email.

For those who do not have computers or email capability, smoke signals will be sent from the council home 2 hours prior to the meeting

John Knapstein 410-692-9823 jdk92048@aol.com

Souper Bowl

The annual “Souper Bowl” event will be held at the January Social meeting, January 19, 2016. Bring soup or chili in a crockpot to share and compete for fabulous(???) prizes. All the entries will be shared and judged. Join us for a fun evening even though the Ravens are out. Contact Tom Rappold, 443-371-6862, to confirm your entry.

Pot of Gold



Each month at the Business Meeting, the Council conducts a “Pot of Gold” drawing. All that is required is your attendance. The prizes range from \$5.00 to \$50.00. After there is a winner, the prize starts at \$5.00 and each month that a

name is drawn and the winner is not in attendance, \$5.00 is added to the kitty until it reaches the maximum prize of \$50.00. You must be in attendance to win. See you at the next meeting! Since there has not been a winner in quite some time, the officers decided that at the December meeting, names would be drawn until a winner was drawn. The names drawn at the December meeting were Ray Potacki (twice in a row), Dave Custer, Tom McHugh, Jr., Joseph Hladky, and Peter Putz and they were not in attendance. The next name drawn was Paul Zarachowicz and he was in attendance and received a check for \$50.00. Congratulations Paul! The drawing at the January meeting will begin at \$5.00.

Tom Sutera

Program Chairs Needed

We need chairmen for our Family program and our Church program. Please step up. Contact any chair officer (GK Kevin McNamara, DGK John Knapstein, Chancellor Eric Tiso, Warden Bob Knorr) to volunteer.

Community Activities

Perry Point Program

The Bel Air Council will be assisting patients at Perry Point on the first Sundays of the month.

We will once again be looking for help on the first Sunday of January (3rd) for our turn to aid the patients at Perry Point. If you would like to join us, we leave from the McDonalds on 543 in Riverside at 9:30 AM, or you may want to join us at the Chapel in Perry Point

at 10:00 AM. Mass is at 10:30 AM. After returning the patients to their various buildings, we usually return to Riverside by noon. If you are unable to help with patients, you are very welcome to join us at Mass with Father Jonathon. If you want more information call Tom Sutera at (410) 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at (410) 679-7058.

Tom Sutera

Tootsie Roll Program

Once again, I would like to thank all Brother Knights who participated in the October 2015 Program. It took 73 members to fill one or more of the 120, two hour spaces.

We broke last year’s record by collecting \$6,737.00, to be divided by the “ARC” and the “Harford Center”, after expenses.

Money collected was as follows:

- Double T Diner - \$2,843.00 – 42.2% - 3 weekends and 9-1 on Sundays
- Redner’s, Forest Hill - \$2,014.00 – 29.9% - 2 weekends
- Harvest Fair, Fallston - \$1,257.00 – 18.7% - 2 weekends
- Giant Foods, Rock Spring - \$622.00 – 9.2% - 1 weekend

Total collected - \$6,737.00.

A special thank you to all weekly captains; Jack Fuchs, Bob Cassilly, & Tom Krista, who volunteered for two weeks each, plus Joe Klein and Tony Lamancusa for one week each. Thanks also to Chuck Lasek, who made reminder calls.

May God Bless all of you for volunteering your time.

Paul Zarachowicz, Chairman

Church Activities-

First Friday at St. Margaret Church

Once again the Bel Air Council supplied a luncheon for the senior citizens of the St. Margaret’s first Friday group. The menu this year was baked ham, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, rolls and butter, and apple sauce. Sincerest thanks to helpers and cooks, Ross Liberati, Frank Caan, Charles Belli, Paul Roeger, and yours truly. We fed around 250 seniors as they enjoyed Christmas music from an extremely talented

band from Edgewood High School. The many helpers from the First Friday Group that gather and serve the meals and the wonderful boys and girls from St. Margaret's School that helped with clean up and serving desserts. A special thanks to Mary Jane Zarachowicz for chairing this wonderful Christmas event again this year.

Tom Sutera

St. Mark Blood Drive

The December St. Mark Blood Drive was held on Thursday, December 10 from 2:00pm to 7:30. We collected 35 units of blood. Our goal was 32 units. Council members who are St. Mark Parishioners helped out by signing potential donors after the Masses on the two weekends preceding the blood drive. Many thanks to those brother knights who helped with this successful blood drive. Each unit of blood has the potential of saving up to 3 lives.

Joseph Pisani

Youth Activities

Troop 999



The troop camped out at the Broad Creek Scout camp grounds on November 20 through November 22. During the camp-out, the scouts ventured on a night hike (and no one got lost). During the outing that weekend, the scouts practiced tying knots, map and compass reading. Seven scouts and three adults enjoyed the camp out.

On Wednesday, December 2, an Eagle Board of Review was held for two life scouts. Both scouts, Josh Card and Ven Widder passed the board and became the latest scouts to join our long list of Eagle Scouts. Thank you to Eric Tiso, (also an Eagle Scout), for his participation on the BOR.

Pack 999



The cub pack visited the Forest Hill Heights, (formerly the Rock Spring Village) to sing Christmas Carols for the elderly folks residing there. This is an annual event for the cub pack. The youngsters sounded pretty good during their rehearsals.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship



The council level competition for the Free Throw Championship will be held at the John Carrol School on Saturday, January 16, 2016. Council members will serve as administrative aid while members of the John Carroll basketball team will serve as judges and score keepers. Boys and girls, ages 9 to 14 will be allowed to participate in this event. Winners of each gender and age group will move onto the district level. The district level competition will be held sometime during the month of February. Flyers have been distributed to The John Carroll School, St. Mark Church Youth Ministries, and St. Margaret School to attract competitors.

Joseph Pisani

First Degree

The next first degree in Bel Air Council is scheduled for our first business meeting of the new calendar year, January 5, 2016. Brothers on the team, and brothers who would like to take a role, please come together for a rehearsal on Tuesday, December 29, at 7pm at the hall.

Kevin McNamara, Team Co-Captain

Fourth Degree



The next exemplification of the fourth degree is scheduled for March 2016 at the Francis Scott Key Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Frederick (details when they become available). If you would like to become a fourth degree Knight, there's still time to get your application submitted. E-mail me at kgm4714@gmail.com so we can get a Form 4 into your hands and vote you in.

Kevin McNamara, PFN

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Hello Everybody,

Happy New Year Everybody! Hope you had a great Christmas.

Now that 2015 is a memory, I thought it would be nice to touch on some of the highlights of the past year. Looking back on 2015 there were lots of great moments and some terribly sad ones too.

In the spring, we began holding luncheon meetings. Everyone seemed to enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and fellowship not to mention the tasty meals. We renewed our support of the Sharing Table, St. Margaret's First Friday lunches and Maura Donnelly our Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) Missionary. We had a terrific time at our Annual Birthday Party held at The SteeleFish Grille. We announced Our Lady Of The Year, Sharon DiMatteo. The CLSO Christmas Party was held at Giovanni's and we had a great time feasting, singing. Everyone received a bottle of 'Grinch Pills,' guaranteed to sweeten up even the grouchiest Grinch.

We participated at the Perry Point VA Hospital Annual Fair and Car Show and at the Memorial Day Picnic. We also hosted two bingo parties. When the day is done and we compare notes, no one can figure out who had more fun, the Veterans or the volunteers. We also volunteered at the annual FIELDS Christmas party, another event so gratifying it hardly seems we are working – it's just fun.

Our fundraising efforts were very productive - Virginia Berkowitz created a beautiful Bingo Bag

which we raffled it off at the Friday Night Bingos. The Knights were kind enough to help us fill the bag with special treats which made it even more enticing. Karen Warner crafted a beautiful Harvest basket which was raffled off. Our Breakfast at Applebee's was cancelled due to a threatened severe hurricane. Fortunately the hurricane did not materialize, but Chair Lady Sharon DiMatteo and I thought it was better to cancel rather take a chance. Nevertheless, we made a profit because most of our benefactors, who bought tickets, refused a refund and donated the money to us. Thank you everybody for your generosity.

On the other sad side of the ledger, we lost three dear friends this past fraternal year. Frank and Jean DiAngelo and Mary Sporney left us to return to the loving arms of Our Dear Lord. We will miss them and remember their goodness and all the great times we shared. On the positive side we should remember that now we have three very special pals in heaven.

That sums up my brief summary of 2015. Now we have to work hard and pray fervently to make 2016 a year to remember.

Our Next Business Meeting will be held on January 12, 2016 at the Silver Spring Mining Company, at 12:30. Our Saint of the Month is St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and our color is Dark Blue. Wear or carry something dark blue to our next meeting. See you there.

Dee Kozlowski, President CLSO, 410-676-2862
mtmama624@aol.com





A new documentary illustrating how St. John Paul II was a driving force in liberating Central and Eastern Europe from communist rule, inspiring a “revolution of conscience” that was pivotal in the collapse of the Iron Curtain in 1989, made its national debut on Dec. 6 with a special screening at the Copernicus Center in Chicago, a cultural hub for the city’s large Polish community. In attendance were Robert Rusiecki, deputy consul general of Poland in Chicago; Larysa Gerasko, consul general of Ukraine in Chicago; and Marijus Gudynas, consul general of Lithuania in Chicago.

Liberating a Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism had its TV premiere the following night on WTTW in Chicago. The film generated a high rating for the PBS member station and will be distributed nationally by PBS this coming March.

Narrated by actor Jim Caviezel and featuring original music by renowned composer Joe Kraemer (Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation, Jack Reacher), the documentary features rare archival footage and exclusive interviews with former Polish president and Solidarity founder Lech Wałęsa; papal biographer George Weigel; John Paul’s lifelong assistant, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, archbishop of Kraków; Richard Allen, Ronald Reagan’s National Security advisor; and numerous others.

“The spiritual dynamic that John Paul II brought behind the Iron Curtain was absolutely essential in the liberation of the continent,” said Carl Anderson, the film’s executive producer and CEO of the Knights of Columbus.

“We often think of political or economic forces changing history, but John Paul II understood that men

and women live and die for great ideas. They live and die in defense of human dignity, and therefore, he was essential to this new birth of freedom on the European continent,” he added. Anderson worked closely with John Paul II as both head of the Knights of Columbus and during his service as a White House official under President Ronald Reagan.

The 90-minute film chronicles Karol Wojtyła’s remarkable rise from an underground seminarian and amateur playwright to cardinal archbishop of Kraków. Further, it brings to light how Wojtyła’s ascension to the papacy in 1978 struck fear in the heart of the Soviet Politburo. As archbishop, Wojtyła developed tools for resistance to communist rule that were grounded in defense of human rights and the reclaiming of Poland’s Catholic identity. Historians and journalists, with access to recently declassified KGB documents, help to illustrate the vast Soviet campaign to counteract John Paul II’s moral crusade. The documentary follows the wave of free thought that swept through the Soviet bloc as a result of the pope’s epic nine-day pilgrimage to Poland in June 1979.

“John Paul II sowed the seeds that would later give birth to the Solidarity movement,” said Anderson. “Without his spiritual support Solidarity’s success would not have been possible, and without Solidarity you do not have the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Revolution of ’89.”

A national TV distribution in the United States and a theatrical distribution in Poland is planned for spring 2016.

For more information about the film, visit jp2film.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bel Air Council No. 4714

23 Newport Drive

Forest Hill, MD 21050

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