



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958
December 2016

<http://belairknights.org>

Grand Knight

In the wake of the general election, I'm sure that for each of us there is reason for rejoicing and reason for disappointment. But the election is behind us. Now it is time for us as Knights to roll up our sleeves and get back to work. The problems we confront on a daily basis, the concerns that demand our charity, are not going to resolve themselves magically. That's why we're here.

As I write this, the council memorial Mass was yesterday. I'm glad for the persons who attended; would that more were able to turn out. If you were there, you recall Father Michael's stirring homily. One of the points that impressed me the most was that gathering as we do every year is merely a pious nicety without the power of Christ giving our prayers the ability to reach across time and space to our noble Knights and lovely Ladies who have gone on before us, assisting them to complete their purgation so as to stand before the throne of God the Father.

For those of you who missed the business meeting, I would be remiss not to mention that this year's Tootsie Roll campaign more than surpassed last year's, itself a record — but not any more! Our brothers and others collected a grand total of \$10,843! For the first time this year, St. Margaret parish opened itself to our efforts, to the tune of \$2,848. Think about that for a moment: Even without their contribution, we had already broken last year's record! With it, we SMASHED that record! The mid-term meeting is going to be very interesting this year. There are way too many people who contributed to this effort to name them all here. Not only were the usual stations covered, but St. Mark allowed us to collect at their four Masses, along with the eight Masses we covered at St. Margaret! That's a lot of people, under the organizational leadership of Paul Zarachowicz and Tony Lamancusa. To those of you who covered a shift or two or four or ten, we applaud you all!

I've heard, through some of the brothers, a little — how should I say it? — annoyance at last month's announcement of the cessation of the printed version of the Councilairs. I know there are those who for various reasons do not receive the newsletter through e-mail. I agree, our decision to suspend that operation was regrettable. Unfortunately, it was also necessary. We just no longer had enough names on the mailing list to qualify as bulk mail, which means we are unable either to use or to justify the cost of the bulk mail permit, which means those copies put in the mail would require first class postage. And that we can't afford either.

Our membership goal for the year is 20. We are conducting an Admission Degree at our December 6 meeting, and we have (at this writing) one candidate for Bel Air Council. So please plan to attend and support our incoming brother through his degree. Everyone knows a Catholic man who would make a good Knight. Today is a great day to recruit a good Knight. If you get his signature on a Form 100 in the next week or so, please contact our membership chairman, Mike Mooney (443-386-9699, mcmooney@gmail.com), so your candidate can be brought before an admissions committee before the December 6 degree. If we have new prospects by then, we will conduct a vote prior to the exemplification of the degree.

This is nominally the December issue of the Councilairs. Nonetheless, First Lady Gilly-Ann and I wish each and every one of you, and your families, the warmest and best Thanksgiving.

Please remember to wear orange, at least to Mass, in support of our persecuted brethren in the Middle East who are made to suffer, sometimes to the point of death, for their faith.

Vivat Jesus,
Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight

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

Council Chaplain

As we are in Advent, it might be difficult for us to think of Christmas. But that is what we need to do. Advent means "coming". We often think that we await the "Birth" of Jesus, but that divine event in human history has already taken place. What we await is a new birth of the Mystery of the Incarnation within us this Christmas.

To open up our minds, hearts and souls to the Mystery of the Incarnation, we need to begin with a renewed understanding of what took place with the Annunciation to Mary. We often think of this event as a private affair between God and Mary. It is not. St. Luke's Gospel makes it very clear that The Annunciation is the fulfillment of all God's previous actions in our history from the Creation covenant to the Covenant with David.

A covenant is a legal, life binding relationship between two parties. In Israel's history, it is a life binding relationship between God and His People. In it, Israel agrees to serve the purpose and plan of God started when the Word of God called forth all of creation from God's desire to divinely sustained being. In the Annunciation, The Word of God comes to Mary and she opens up her life to that Word so it can become flesh and dwell in human history.

In Mary's acceptance of God's Word into her life, the Creation Covenant's promise and purpose becomes flesh in Jesus. In the very human life, He lives, Jesus freely chooses to fulfill the covenant with God in every life decision. He accepts God's values as His; God's plan as the plan of His life; those God loves as those He will love, and what God has promised to do to fulfill the divine side of the covenant relationship as His own obligation. To those ends, Jesus lives, dies and is raised up.

This Advent, we prepare our minds, hearts and souls to join Jesus in fulfilling the covenant as God has

promised to all creation. With and in Jesus, we look to enter human history and others' lives in an Incarnation of God's Word of promise. We are open, like Mary, to be servants of God's being faithful to the Word of God's covenant promise. When we try to do so, the birth of Jesus brings deeper meaning and worth into the world and into our lives.

Fr. Michael

Fraternal Benefits

Your Shield of Strength

As the economy begins to shake off a half-decade of turbulent times, the Knights of Columbus is celebrating 14 consecutive years of insurance business growth.

We've weathered the storm when others haven't, because it's not our first. We've weathered the storm when others couldn't, because we know how to navigate. We've weathered the storm when others made costly mistakes, because we don't take on unnecessary risk.

Our strength is undeniable. More members than ever before see it, and are using our shield to protect their families. Are you?

If you need life insurance – and chances are you do – why would you look anywhere else? Let us be your shield.

Did you know that the Knights of Columbus is one of the largest life insurers in North America? The Knights of Columbus has surpassed \$96 billion of insurance in force, and is a member of the Fortune 1000.

Did you know that the Knights of Columbus consistently earns the highest possible ratings for its ethical business practices and sound investment strategies?

A.M. Best, a global leader in the rating and analysis of insurance companies, has given the Knights of Columbus their highest financial strength rating (A++, Superior) for 39 consecutive years. There is simply no more highly rated insurance company in North America than your Knights of Columbus. And, last year, the Knights of Columbus was named a “World’s Most Ethical Company” by the Ethisphere Institute.

Did you know that providing financial benefits for members was the reason that Venerable Father Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus?

Our founding charter from 1882 makes it clear, the Knights of Columbus’ primary goal is “to render financial aid to its members and the beneficiaries of members.”

Did you know that the Knights of Columbus offers a full, top-quality product line of life insurance, disability income insurance, long-term care insurance, and retirement annuities?

We have products and solutions to fit your family’s needs and budgets. I am available to provide a complementary, comprehensive analysis to assess your situation.

Did you know that there are a number of products and services that you may be eligible for, just for being a Knight?

Whether it’s our family fraternal benefits program, our survivor benefits, or our Personal Planning workbook, there are a lot of ways that the Knights of Columbus Insurance program can benefit you and your family.

There might be quite a bit that you don’t know about Knights of Columbus Insurance and about the fraternal and financial benefits of your membership. Join the hundreds of thousands of your brother knights who use our shield as their protection.

Contact me today to find out more.

Edward A. O’Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL

<http://okeefefinancialplanning.com>

Council Activities

Family of the Month

Our November Family of the Month was our own Eric and Roxanne Tiso. Eric, of course, is the council’s Chancellor as well as the chair of our Coats for Kids project. In addition, Eric organized our memorial Mass this year, and with Roxanne’s delicious assistance provided our post-Mass repast.

Eric and Roxanne have two children, 11-year-old Sophia and 8-year-old Ian. Eric grew up in Salisbury. Roxanne grew up in the Rosedale area of Baltimore County, and moved with her family to Bel Air when she was 13. They met at what was then Salisbury State University (like Towson U, Salisbury has since dropped the word “State” from the institution’s name) and dated all through college. They were engaged at Christmas 2000 after Eric completed graduate school; they married on July 20, 2002. While they moved around Harford County several times, they have always worshipped at St. Mark parish. The family now lives in Forest Hill.

Eric joined Bel Air Council in May 2011. He has served as the council’s Warden as well as being its current Chancellor. He and Roxanne are part of St. Mark’s Spark family ministry, where they meet other families in the parish and get to know them. Eric is also a part-time substitute teacher for religious education. Roxanne is a network administrator for a contractor on Aberdeen Proving Ground; Eric is a city planning supervisor in Baltimore. Sophia is an altar server at St. Mark; she is also taking lessons on viola. Eric advised that he tried to learn French horn, but he gave up on it. (There’s a joke in there somewhere.)

November Social

Father Michael celebrated our annual memorial Mass at November’s social. As was mentioned in the grand knight’s message, Fr. Michael’s homily was particularly stirring, and revealed to us the many layers of meaning in the gospel reading, Zacchaeus in the tree as Jesus approached Jericho, intending to pass it by. Similarly, Father’s homily had many layers, connecting the continuing presence of Christ’s crucifixion in the liturgy to our continuing prayers for and remembrance of our fallen brothers and ladies.

Our additions this year to our remembrance and prayers listed:

- Robert Fitzpatrick
- Bernard Sporney
- Rosario Liberati, FDD, PGK, PFN
- Donnell Balmert, PGK
- Charles Mack
- Victor Ferrara
- Nicholas Delich
- Daniel Mauk, Jr.

And certainly not least:

- Mary Sporney



Admission Degree Team

Our next degree is scheduled for our December 6 business meeting. We are always looking for understudies to cover our speaking parts. Please see Kevin McNamara or Tom Classon to volunteer for this team.

Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight

Patriotic Degree

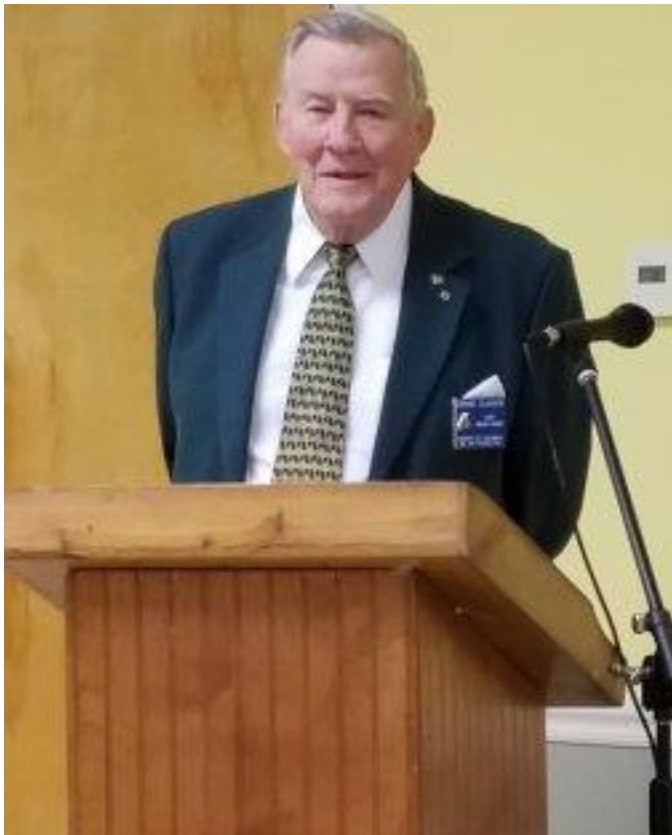
St. Francis Xavier Assembly meets at Newport Terrace on the third Monday of every month. All you need to become a member of the Patriotic Degree is to be a third-degree Knight in good standing and to put a completed Form 4 into the hands of any assembly member so the assembly can vote upon your application and help you prepare for the next exemplification of the degree. The next scheduled exemplification is Saturday, March 4, 2017, at the Princess Royale in Ocean City.

Kevin McNamara, Grand Knight

Sick and Deceased

Please remember in your prayers, Al Kramer, Bill Edge, Tom Krista, Vernon West, Ray Caralle, Chuck DuVall, John Grigaliunas, Edie Krebs wife of Ron Krebs, Jean Potter and Frank Kresslein. Remember recently deceased Brother Daniel Mauk in your prayers.

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



Our December social will be a Christmas party; and we're hoping to have representatives from both ARC Northern Chesapeake and the Harford Center on hand to present them with their share of our Tootsie Roll campaign. Please plan to attend.

Hall Steward

Paid Bartenders needed. We are renting the hall for more events now and bartenders are needed. If you want to bartend at parties or events let me know. Some parties are soda and coffee only. You will work with experienced bartenders and there is NO requirement to be trained in alcohol awareness before you can work.

Special thanks to John Sanza, Dave Sandborn, and Tim Knapstein for their work in the hall restrooms renovations, and Karen Warner for her assistance in interior decorations.

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

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! The name drawn at the November meeting for \$50.00 was Terry Lijewski and he was not in attendance. The drawing at the December meeting will be \$50.00. Being the last drawing of the year, we will continue to pull names until a winner is in attendance.

Tom Sutera

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

Community Activities

Food Collection

Anna's House is expanding their programs and will be in need of non perishable food supplies. The Knights of Columbus has a food donation program that this will fit into. Whenever you come to a meeting at the council home bring a can good. Over 300 pounds has already been donated.

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

FIELDS Christmas Party

The FIELDS Christmas party will be held on December 15th from 5-8 pm in the Newport Room. Our social meeting for this month will be our Christmas party. Please bring a gift for Birthright, ie diapers, blankets, baby items., etc.

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

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 December (4th) 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. If you want more information call Tom Sutera at (410) 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at (410) 679-7058. Our thanks to all of our members, wives, and friends that have helped us aid our veterans this past year. God Bless All of You. Merry Christmas and have a Very Happy New Year!

Tom Sutera

Tootsie Roll Program

Once again, I would like to thank all Brother Knights who participated in the October 2016 Program. It took 76 members to fill one or more of the 120, two hour spaces.

We smashed last year's record by collecting \$10,843.00, to be divided by the "ARC" and the "Harford Center", after expenses.

Money collected was as follows:

- St. Margaret Church & Mission, \$2,848.00, 26.2%, 1 weekend
- St. Mark's Church, \$890.21, 8.2%, 1 weekend
- Double T Diner, \$2,726.00, 25.1%, 3 weekends and 9-1 on Sundays
- Redner's Forest Hill, \$1,957.50, 18.7%, 2 weekends
- Harvest Fair Fallston, \$1,531.00, 14.1%, 2 weekends
- Giant Foods Rock Spring, \$830.00, 7.6%, 1 weekend
- Miscellaneous - \$60.50

Total collected - \$10,843.21.

A special thank you to all weekly captains; Jack Fuchs, Tom Krista, and Al DiCocco who volunteered for two weeks each, plus Bob Jump and John Schaffer for one week each. Thanks also to Chuck Lasek, who made reminder calls, and to my co-chairman Tony Lamancusa.

May God Bless all of you for your valuable time.

Paul Zarachowicz, Chairman

Youth Activities

Troop/Pack 999

Troop/Pack 999 has officially been chartered for the year 2017 by the Mt. Ararat Masonic Lodge located at 136 E. Gordon Street in Bel Air. Although they tried to stay in Forest Hill, they were unable to do so to varying reason with various would be sponsors. Going forward, I'm sure they have found a good home.

State Soccer Challenge

The State Soccer Challenge was held on Sunday, November 6 at Archbishop Spaulding High School in Millersville, Maryland. Two of our council winners who eligible for the state competition were no shows. About 60 boys and girls participated in this fun event. Sadly, this number is down from the 110 competitors of last year.

Rosary Project

The Rosary Project for St. Margaret and St. Mark is progressing well. St. Mark parish has recently been completed with 44 rosaries for the First Communion Class and 55 rosaries for the Confirmation Class of 2017. First Communion Rosaries are white for the girls and blue for the boys. The Confirmation Rosaries are Red in honor of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Both sets of rosaries were blessed by Fr. Michael Buttner at our business meeting. Many thanks to Dee and Dick Kozlowski for making those rosaries. Dee is currently working on the St. Margaret order which is substantially larger than St. Mark. The first Communion Class requires 162 rosaries and the Confirmation Class requires 110 rosaries.