

# THE KNIGHT CAP



JANUARY 2017



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**SAINT RITA COUNCIL 7624**

**Chaplain**

Fr. John Evans

**Grand Knight**

George Lamoureux

**Deputy Grand Knight**

Bill Osborne

**Chancellor**

Brian Soltys

**Recorder**

Robert Collins

**Financial Secretary**

John Mann, PGK

**Treasurer**

Dan Campbell, PGK

**Lecturer**

Deacon John Huntley

**Advocate**

Ken Mattson, PGK

**Warden**

Mike Ruzevich

**Inside Guard**

David Haskell

**Outside Guard**

Jim Novak

**Trustees**

Craig Stear, PGK

Andy Schachtner, PGK

John Logli, PGK

## From the Grand Knight's Pen

Dear Brother Knights,

I hope everyone had a very Blessed Christmas this year and that we all kept Christ and Mass in our Christmas. Depending upon when you read this letter the New Year will be upon us or has arrived. I wanted to wish you and your families and loved ones a Happy New Year from Pegi and me.

As many of you know, with the turn of each New Year we begin the second half of our fraternal year. I thank all of you for all your help the first half and look forward to the second half as the Grand Knight. Please consider helping out at one or more of the events that you see in the calendar of this and future Knight Cap publications. We have a lot of great events coming up and can really use some help. Typically these next few winter months are a time to get involved and try something new. Hope to see you soon!

Fraternally,

*George Lamoureux*



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## January 2017

- 1 New Year's Day
- 5 Council Business Meeting – 7:15 pm  
Rosary at 7:00 pm
- 6 Feast of the Epiphany
- 7 District 48 Meeting
- 7 Nativity Teardown
- 21-22 Holy Family Icon at St. Rita
- 22 Council Free Throw Competition
- 25 Chapter Meeting
- 26 Officers & Directors Meeting
- 31 Chapter KCIC Poster Judging

## February 2017

- 2 Council Business Meeting – 7:15 pm  
Rosary at 7:00 pm
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 State KCIC Poster Judging
- 16 President's Day
- 18 Fraternal Dinner
- 19 District Free Throw Competition
- 19 Family Swim Night
- 25 Mardi Gras
- TBD District Free Throw Competition

## March 2017

- 1 Ash Wednesday
- 2 Council Business Meeting – 7:15 pm  
Rosary at 7:00 pm
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 19 St. Joseph's Day
- 20-26 Orderwide Admission Degree Week
- 29 Founders' Day
- TBD Regional Free Throw Competition

Clip & Post

## IN NEED OF PRAYER

Please remember those Knights, their families, and friends in need of our prayers. Especially for;

Richard Baske, Mike DeFrancisco, Rebecca D'Angelo, Steve Griffis, Alicia Huntley, Kate & Tony Kujawa, Monsignor Kobbemann, Monsignor Kurz, Jerry Pennington, Larry Peters, Joyce Stankiewicz, Robert Tanner, Sammie Vargas, Debra Whidby, Fr. Evans intentions for St. Rita Parish, all Priests of the Diocese, Pope Francis, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, all deceased, sick or unemployed Knights, those with addictions, parents of unborn children, police, firemen, EMT's, and those in the military.

## IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember Brother Jason Sturges & his family in your prayers. Brother Jason's father, Dennis, recently passed away.

Please remember Brother Dick Gorman & his family in your prayers. Brother Dick's father-in-law recently passed.

## HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY!



Patrick Bushaw, Charles Carter, Thomas Clausen, Robert Dwan, Gary Heidenreich, Duane Hinkel, James Lee, Christopher Martensen, Donald McNeil, Richard Mimier, Michael Montalbano, Charles Oehler, Ryan Pennington and James Watson.

## **Happy Birthday!**

## THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Worthy Officers, Dear Brothers,

Blessings on the New Year! Maybe I'm the only one nerdy enough to appreciate this, but the month of January was named after the false god Janus, which means doorway. Statues of him show a literally two-faced man, looking forward and ahead.

Consider your biggest regret from this past year. Why? That is a perfect place to find a good New Year's resolution. And speaking of resolutions, remember the SMART rule. A goal should be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound. If it meets these criteria, you're bound to be successful! Know that I remain

*Fraternally Yours in Christ,  
SK Rev. John R. Evans, PGK*



## FRATERNAL BENEFITS



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
*Making a difference for life.*

Did you know that you have Fraternal Benefits with the Knights of Columbus? Want to

learn more? If you would like information on the Knights of Columbus Fraternal Benefits and/or Insurance program, please contact Jason Sturges, our Fraternal Benefit representative, and he will schedule a time to meet with you and discuss your fraternal benefits opportunities. Call Jason at 815-222-7666.

## COUNCIL & MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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Craig Stear is the Membership Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. If you have questions concerning membership or need help in the recruitment of a gentleman, please contact Craig at 222-9569.

### Knights of the Month

Congratulations to our November Knight of the Month, Brother Mark McNamara. Brother Mark was selected by the Grand Knight for his work on re-furbishing the Nativity crèche. Mark took the crèche home and re-stained it, fixed the hardware and roof boards. Mark then transported it back to St. Rita and helped with the setting up of the display. Congratulations Brother Mark on being selected as Knight of the Month.

### Family of the Month

Congratulations to Rick, Kris & Anna Mimier as the Council's November Family of the Month. Brother Rick and his family were selected by the Grand Knight as Family of the Month for their help with the Nativity Blessing. Rick, Kris & Anna prepared and served cookies and hot chocolate to all of those who attended the Nativity Blessing & Lighting. In addition, you can always find the entire family in the kitchen for any breakfast or dinner the Council put on. Congratulations to Rick, Kris & Anna on being selected St. Rita Council's Family of the Month!

### Officers & Directors Winter Meeting



The Officers & Directors Winter meeting will be Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> in the St. Rita meeting room at 7:00 pm. The Grand Knight will be reviewing the events of the first half of the fraternal year and discussing and planning the events for the second half of the year. All Officers & Directors are requested to attend. We need your input have a successful second half of the year.

## PROGRAM REPORT

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Bill Osborne is the Program Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. If you have questions concerning programming, please contact Bill at 540-9178.

### SAVANT Valet Parking Event



On Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> a number of Knights spent a cold & snowy afternoon serving as valets for the SAVANT Capital Management Christmas Open House at the Rockford Country Club. We were against Mother Nature due to her giving us several inches of snow that day. This made parking more difficult than years past but with a group of volunteers that we had we were able to meet the challenge by parking and retrieving over well over 100 cars in four hours. As Michelle Angileri from Savant stated, "The Knights impress us every year and we appreciate all of your hard work you do and especially during these extreme weather conditions." Thank you to Tom Clausen,

Bob Collins, Matt Eshelman, Brian Flynn, Benny Garbacz, George Kujawa, George Lamoureux, Jim Lee, Ken Mattson, Ken McGinn, Mark McNamara, Jim & Lelia Novak, Andy Schachtner, Craig Stear, Jim Watson and Adam Wykes. Thank you to Pat Wilhelmi for donating pizzas to the volunteers following the event. A special Thank you to Scott Kaiser and SAVANT Capital Management for inviting us to work the event.

## CHURCH REPORT

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Mike McGarry is the Church Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. Any news regarding Church activities should be directed to Mike. If there are any Knights in need of our prayers, please let Mike know at 398-0853.

### First Reconciliation



Congratulations to the children of Brother Knights who recently made their First Reconciliation. Please continue to pray for them as they continue on their journey towards First Communion.

Robert Collins Brooklyn Stear

## CHARITIES REPORT

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Gary Heidenreich is the Charities Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. If you have questions regarding charitable activities please contact Gary at 229-3146.



The Vocation Raffle drawing was held at the State DD Meeting in Springfield on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, no one from the Council won a money prize. However, the BIG winners in this fundraiser are our Seminarians who benefit from your generosity. Thank you to everyone who either bought or sold a book of Vocation Raffle tickets.



This month we would like to highlight the Newman Fund. In 1883 the first Newman Campus was formed seeking Catholic Social and Intellectual Companionship. The Illinois Knights of Columbus dedicated themselves to the support of this ministry in 1917 when they began supporting the Newman Foundation at the University of Illinois.

Today, all of the Newman Campus' in Illinois are supported. The Illinois goal is for each member to contribute \$5.00. However, you can participate in the Century Donor program with a donation of \$100. For this you receive a pin, plaque and year plate. The Newman fund was our very first State program. Please consider making a donation to this worthwhile program to support our students away from home and on their campus. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Gary Heidenreich for more information.

## COMMUNITY REPORT



Ed McMahon is the Community Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. Any news or ideas regarding community activities can be directed to Ed at 399-1717.



The Council's annual Blood Drive will be here sooner than you think. The Blood Drive is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. (First Thursday of the month). However, date & time is subject to change, so please watch the newsletter for any changes or updates.

## PRO-LIFE REPORT



George Kujawa is the Pro-Life representative for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. Questions regarding Pro-Life activities should be directed to George at 222-4068.



The March for Life will take place on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. Please take a few minutes that day to say a prayer for the Unborn. Also, please keep in your prayers the St. Rita Students for Life as they make their pilgrimage to Washington D.C. for the March for Life. Upon their return, the students will give a presentation on their faith journey to the Council at an upcoming meeting. Watch the newsletter for their special presentation.

## FAMILY REPORT



Bob Collins is the Family Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year. If you have questions regarding charitable activities please contact Bob at 332-7979.

### Christmas Breakfast



Knights arrived early in the morning to help setup, cook, and decorate Wahl Hall before the annual Christmas breakfast. Breakfast was served after the 8:30 am Mass to a sold out crowd of 249 adults & kids. There was a special performance by Those Funny Little Elves and a visit from Santa himself. Thanks to the generosity of the Brother Knights, every child in attendance received a gift. Thank you to all of the Knights who came out to setup, cook, serve, and cleanup and to students from St. Rita for helping to serve. There were so many Knights, spouses and children helping out and not wanting to miss anyone, we just want to say Thank you to everyone who helped setup, serve, or cleanup. Thanks everyone!

## YOUTH REPORT



The Youth Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year is Mike Ruzevich. If you have questions or ideas for youth activities, please contact Mike at 262-7445.

### Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest



The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at St. Rita grade school are participating in the essay contest. The results of the Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest will be judged and announced on December 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Keep Christ In Christmas Poster Contest



Students from St. Rita grade school recently completed the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Congratulations to all the kids who participated. The posters have been judged and the winners are;

5-7 years	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Julianna Medrano
5-7 years	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Vanessa Tekampe
8-10 years	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Kayleigh Sippy
8-10 years	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Madeline Nelson Emma Andrist

Winning posters from each division will advance to the Diocesan level and possibly State & Supreme.

### Free Throw Contest



The annual Free Throw Competition sponsored by the Knights of Columbus "shoots" off on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> in the St. Rita gymnasium. Registration begins at 1:00 pm and free throw shooting thereafter. The event is open to all boys and girls between the ages of 9 through 14. [Please note that a copy of a birth certificate or a parents signature is required at registration to verify age.] Winners of each age division will advance to the District competition that will be hosted by Holy Family Council 13123 in February. Approximately ten (10) Knights are needed to help setup, register participants, and score free throws. Bob Boyle is this year's Chairman. Please contact Bob if you would like to help out; or show at the St. Rita gymnasium around 12 noon. Thank you.



We will also be holding the "King of the Council" free throw competition after the children's competition for those Knights in attendance; so practice your free throws!

## FOURTH DEGREE

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The St. Rita Council belongs to Bishop Muldoon Assembly 190. Wayne Jacobs is our Council contact for the Fourth Degree. If you have questions concerning the Fourth Degree, please contact Wayne at 399-2563.

The December Fourth Degree function was the annual Christmas party. The Christmas party was held Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and hosted by Council 470. From reports of those who attended, everyone had a fun evening and good dinner.

The January 17<sup>th</sup> Fourth Degree business meeting will be hosted by St. Rita Council at Lino's. Please refer to your Fourth Degree newsletter for more information. Contact Doug Wheeler or George Kujawa if you would like to have dinner. See you there!

## EPIPHANY – JANUARY 6TH

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Please remember that January 6<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Epiphany. What gift do you have for our Lord? Maybe your New Year's resolution can be an offering?

## DISTRICT 48 MEETING

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The District 48 Winter meeting will be on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. The Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, Membership & Program Directors are expected to attend. The meeting will take place at St. Bridget's parish center beginning at 10 am. Officers please contact GK George Lamoureux for more information.

## CHAPTER MEETING

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The next Rockford Diocese Chapter meeting will be on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> and will be hosted by Fr. Paul Kunkel Council 4739 at St. Mary's Church in Byron. Mass will be held in the Church at 7:30 pm with the meeting to follow. Contact GK George Lamoureux or Jeff Peters for more information or if you would like to attend.

## MARDI GRAS

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It's coming! The St. Rita Council Mardi Gras committee is busy planning the event. There will be good food, dancing to a live band, pictures and party favors. Mark February 25<sup>th</sup> on your calendar to attend an elegant evening celebrating Mardi Gras St. Rita Council 7624 style.

## FRATERNAL DUES

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It's that time of year again! You will soon be receiving your annual fraternal dues statement via email. Please take a few minutes to fill out a check and pay your dues. Please know that your dues allow us as a Council to continue to meet our Supreme & State assessments and to help meet the requests of those in need and to sponsor the many Church, Council, Pro-Life, Family, and Youth activities that we do each year. A prompt response would be appreciated. Thank you.

## YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION

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### A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION



Please consider this your personal invitation to the next Council business meeting. How long has it been since you last attended a Council meeting? One, five, ten years? Or maybe your First Degree? Maybe it's time to come visit a meeting and see and hear what's happening first-hand. After the meeting we head out to Granite City for some social time with flat-bread pizza's and refreshments. It's a great time to spend a (K)night Out with your Brother Knights. Come join us and meet some new; and get re-acquainted with some old friends. So put us on the calendar and spend a few hours with us. We look forward to you joining us at the January meeting.

## ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE

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For the month of December, the drawing for the Attendance Prize saw Pete Beke's chip pulled from the can. Unfortunately, Pete was not present to win. Come join us at the monthly meeting and you could be the next big winner

## FROM THE OFFICERS OF ST. RITA COUNCIL

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL BROTHER KNIGHTS AND THEIR FAMILIES





Saint Rita Knights of Columbus Council 7624  
6254 Valley Knoll Drive  
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**Let it  
Snow!**

**KNIGHT SCENES – CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST**

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS 2016**

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

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If you would like to read or see the pictures of this newsletter in color, please send your e-mail address to Grand Knight George Lamoureux at [GrandKnight7624@gmail.com](mailto:GrandKnight7624@gmail.com) and you will be placed on the electronic newsletter distribution list. See us on Facebook! For Illinois State Council information, log onto the Illinois State website, [www.illinoisknights.org](http://www.illinoisknights.org). For Supreme information, log onto [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org). If you have any items for the newsletter, please let Jeff Peters know by phone (520-8277) or e-mail at [jptp7481@comcast.net](mailto:jptp7481@comcast.net).

