



THE KNIGHT CAP



APRIL 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,

If you read the March copy of the Columbia magazine you may have seen the article titled "Fathers in Faith." The article describes the similarities between St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our founder, the venerable Father Michael J. McGivney. Both men had aspirations in their lives that were altered. The heavens – opened up to Joseph when confronted in a dream by an angel. Father McGivney, leaving his aspiration to become a Jesuit, followed his father's wishes pursuing a vocation to priesthood that eventually lead to the founding of the Knights of Columbus.

We celebrated the feast of St. Joseph this past March 20th as well as the 135th anniversary of the founding of the Knights of Columbus on March 29th. I will send you the full article via email in the next few days for your enjoyment to find out what St. Joseph and Father McGivney would say to Knights today.

Pegi and I wish you and your family a Blessed Holy week and a Happy Easter.

Fraternally,

George Lamoureux

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2017

- 6 Council Business Meeting – 7:15 pm
Rosary at 7:00 pm
- 6 Council Blood Drive
- 9 Palm Sunday
- 9 Annual Council Easter Hunt Scramble
- 13 Holy Thursday
- 14 Good Friday
- 15 Holy Saturday
- 16 Easter Sunday
- 21-23 State Convention
- 22 Adopt-A-Road Clean-up
- 23 Divine Mercy Sunday
- 26 Chapter Meeting
- 27 Officers & Directors Meeting
- 30 Deceased Knights Mass
- 30 Widow's Spring Breakfast

May 2017

- 4 Council Business Meeting – 7:15 pm
Rosary at 7:00 pm
Nominations of Officers for FY 2017-2018
- 7 Mother's Day Breakfast
- 14 Mother's Day
- 28 Ascension Sunday
- 29 Memorial Day

June 2017

- 1 Council Business Meeting – 7:15 pm
Rosary at 7:00 pm
Election of Officers for FY 2017-2018
- 3 Annual Golf Play Day
- 4 Pentecost
- 11 Trinity Sunday
- 14 Flag Day
- 18 Feast of Corpus Christi
- 18 Father's Day
- 26 St. Rita Council 37th Charter Anniversary
- 30 End of Fraternal Year 2016-2017

Clip & Post

HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY!



Ruel Anos, Michael Cook, Steve Frieders, John Kruse, David Liskey, Alvin Lynch, Paul Maffioli, Terry Niedzwiecki, Derrick Novak, Jared Sadewater, Eugene Stankiewicz, William Wargo and Adam Wykes.

Happy Birthday!

IN NEED OF PRAYER

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

Bederka family, Joe Biamonte, Colleen Bill, Richard Buske, Linda Faber, Mike DeFrancisco, Red & Margaret Hasenyager, Stella Jacobs, Dorothy Levine, Clarise McGinn, Fran Medina, Jerry Pennington, Larry Peters, Frank Ridings and Joyce Stankiewicz, 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 Thomas Podraza in your prayers. Brother Podraza recently passed away on March 2nd. Brother Thomas was 40-year Knight. Please keep Brother Thomas and his family in your prayers during this time of loss.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Please remember Gloria Novak, mother of Brother Jim Novak, in your prayers. Please keep Brother Jim and his family in your prayers during their time of loss.

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Worthy Officers, Dear Brothers,

I hope this letter finds you well!

Thank you for answering the prayers of me, and more importantly, Pope Francis. This month, he asks us to pray "That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life." Your support for seminarians and future religious does that.

It's sad, but the biggest opposition often comes from those who should be most supportive, the parents. I am so grateful that my mother always supported what I thought God wanted for me. We all know that that is the only way to be truly happy. So, when we pray for priestly and religious vocations, let's pray also for the parents of people with priestly/religious vocations. God is never outdone in generosity.

Until next month, know that I remain

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



COUNCIL & MEMBERSHIP REPORT



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.

Knight of the Month



Congratulations to our February Knight of the Month, Brother Don Hall. Brother Don was selected by the Grand Knight for his stepping up to help with the Free Throw competition, attending Mardi Gras and helping to clean up afterwards. Don is a visiting Knight that has

been attending our monthly meetings. Thank you to Don for all of his hard work and help on Council events. Congratulations Brother Don on being selected as February Knight of the Month.

Family of the Month



Congratulations to our February Family of the Month, Dan & Lynell Campbell. Dan & Lynell were selected by the Grand Knight for all of their hard work on the Family Swim Night event and most especially for chairing and working on Mardi Gras. It was their enthusiasm for

the event that made it such a huge success. Thank you Dan & Lynell for your guidance. Congratulations!

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.

PROGRAM REPORT



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

Lenten Soup



On Monday evening March 20th after the 5:30 pm Mass, the St. Rita Council helped to provide the Lenten Soup. The kitchen crew manned the kitchen and set-up the tables for the soup. Thanks to the generosity of Brother Knights, we had 17 crockpots full of soup, including a mystery soup, and served over 100! Thank you to everyone who prepared soup, help set-p, serve and clean up. Following a great bowl of soup, attendee's listened to a wonderful talk by Deacon Jason Stewart.



Soup DuJour's

Special Olympics Polar Plunge



On Saturday March 4th Bill Osborne, Natalie Watson, Jim Watson, Mike Ruzevich and Adam Wykes took the plunge for Special Olympics at Olsen Lake. The St. Rita Knights have participated in the Polar Plunge for the last 7 years when Bill Osborne first approached Brother Knights about joining him in the activity. There was a nice article in the Rockford Register Star featuring the group. The groups costume this year was Classic Monsters. Bill was Godzilla, Mike was Frankenstein, Jim was Dracula, Natalie was the bride of Frankenstein. Adam rounded out the group as the Wolfman. The team place 3rd in the costme contest. They would like to than everyone for helping them to raise over \$1300 for Special Olympics.



Arrrrrgggghhhhh!!!!!!

CHURCH REPORT



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.

From the Chancellor, Brian Soltys

Deceased Knights Mass

Our Council will be honoring our deceased Knights on Sunday, April 30th at the 8:30 Mass. If you would like to participate in any of the ministries, please call me (Brian) at 815-494-6442; I thank you in advance for your interest in doing so. If you cannot serve but do want to attend that Mass, we will have a reserved section. Additionally, if you have any Knights apparel, please wear it to show a sign of solidarity for our Brothers that have found Eternal Peace. Lastly, we will be changing things up a bit for this semi-annual Mass, so please try to attend this one on the last day of April to observe the changes; I think you will like them.

As is recent tradition, immediately following that Mass, we will host the Knights' widows for breakfast at the Cherry Valley Café. Although I was unable to attend this event last held on November 6th, I am grateful to those that attended that breakfast because apparently we had a record turnout of Knights; let's try to duplicate that effort as we honor our deceased Knights and their widows this year. Thank you so much for your participation. Contact John Mann (332-2496) to make your reservation for breakfast.

CHARITIES REPORT



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.

As we all know as Brother Knights, charity does not consist of gifts of money alone. Therefore, this month we would like you to remember in your hearts and prayers those Christians and other religious minorities that are being persecuted in the Middle East. Please remember the men, women & children who are being executed or driven out of their homes. Please take time to say a special prayer this month for an end to this persecution.

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.

Council Blood Drive



The Council's annual Blood Drive will be here sooner than you think. The Blood Drive is scheduled for Thursday, April 6th. (First Thursday of the month).

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.

St. Rita Pro-Life Club



Prior to the March business meeting, several young ladies and gentlemen and their counselor Jean Peterson from the St. Rita Students for Life Club presented their experience from the "March for Life" in January. The group presented a PowerPoint presentation of their trip and activities during their pilgrimage. They talked about the Masses and prayers they participated in during the trip. Each of the students also spoke on what activity touched them the most. Following the presentation, the group answered several questions from the Knights in attendance. Thank you to the students & Jean for coming and presenting their program.



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.

Family Bowling

The family bowling event at Cherry Bowl on Sunday, March 12th was a great time. Over 50 kids and adults enjoyed two hours of bowling, three different sets of trivia questions, raffle prizes and "guess the quantities" prizes which made for a fun-filled afternoon. A big thank you to Mike & Lisa Ruzevich for chairing the event. THANK YOU!



The Lanes were filled with Family Bowlers

YOUTH REPORT



The Youth Director for the 2016-2017 fraternal year is OPEN. If you are interested in the position, please contact GK George Lamoureux at 222-9569 for more information.

District Free Throw Competition



The Regional Free Throw Competition was held on Sunday, March 12th at Holy Family. Representing St. Rita Council 7624 were Ella Faught (Age 9), AnneMarie Ruzevich (Age 13) Ryan Tucker (Age 10) and Frank Koopman (Age 12). Congratulations to Ryan Tucker on placing first and will be headed to the State Finals! Go Ryan!

FOURTH DEGREE



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 March Fourth Degree dinner & business meeting was held at Giovanni's in Rockford and was hosted by Belvidere Council 735. There was a good turnout of Knights for the evening. A regular business meeting was held after dinner.



The April Fourth Degree meeting will be the Annual Clergy Night Dinner to honor our Priests on Tuesday, April 19th at the Hoffman House. Our active and retired Priests and Deacons will be invited to join us for dinner in appreciation and celebration of their vocation. Dinner cost is \$20.00. To help off-set the

dinner costs, you may sponsor a Priest for \$20.00. See your Fourth Degree newsletter for details.

EASTER CANDY SCRAMBLE & EGG HUNT



The annual Easter Egg & Candy Hunt will be on Palm Sunday, April 9th at 1:00 pm. The committee is gearing up to purchase and test candy and surprises for the event. The Hunt will tentatively be held in the field adjacent to the school near the cafeteria parking lot.

Please mark the date and bring your children and grandchildren to the event. There will be some activities for young and old alike. It's a great afternoon of fun. Don't forget to bring a basket to collect your candy and a smile to help brighten the day! Let's pray for a nice bright sunny day!

In case of inclement weather, the alternate site for the Hunt will be the St. Rita gymnasium with the same start time.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS



The Nomination committee will soon be meeting to put together a Slate of Officers for the upcoming 2016-2017 fraternal year. We are looking for a FEW GOOD MEN. If you are interested in becoming an Officer of the council or would like more information on the duties of an Officer, please contact GK George Lamoureux or any of the Trustees, John Logli, Andy Schachtner or Craig Stear. It's an experience you don't want to miss.

DUTIES OF AN OFFICER

Are you interested in becoming an Officer? But don't know what it entails. To give you an idea of some of the main responsibilities of a position, a brief explanation has been provided.

Grand Knight

The Grand Knight is the leader and representative of the Council. He presides over Council meetings, appoints committees, and sees that Council paperwork is reported to Supreme & State. He is the representative to the District, Chapter and State Convention meetings.

Deputy Grand Knight

The Deputy Grand Knight is the second in command and fills in for the Grand Knight at Council meetings in his absence. He is the Chairman of Programs. He is the second representative to the District, Chapter & State Convention meetings.

Chancellor

The Chancellor assists the Grand Knight & Deputy Grand Knight in the performance of their duties. He is a spiritual leader and the Vocations Chairman.

Treasurer

The Treasurer is the custodian of all Council funds and keeps an accurate and balanced book of the Council funds.

Advocate

The Advocate is the attorney of the Council and should be learned in the Supreme, State and Council By-laws.

Recorder

The Recorder keeps the minutes of the business meeting. He provides the previous business meeting minutes for review.

Warden

The Warden of the Council is responsible for setting up the Council chamber prior to the meeting or First Degree, distributing jewels, and inspecting membership cards.

Outside & Inside Guards

The Outside & Inside Guards guard the outside & inside chamber doors and inspect membership cards for entry into the meetings.

Please note that all Officers must be a Third Degree member in good standing.



Saint Rita Knights of Columbus Council 7624
6254 Valley Knoll Drive
Rockford, IL 61109

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROCKFORD, IL.
PERMIT NO. 4384**

Return Service Requested



KNIGHT SCENES – EASTER WISHES



**THE OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
OF ST. RITA COUNCIL 7624
WISH ALL KNIGHTS AND THEIR FAMILIES
A BLESSED EASTER**

ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE

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

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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 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. For Supreme information, log onto www.kofc.org. If you have any items for the newsletter, please let Jeff Peters know by phone (520-8277) or e-mail at jtp7481@comcast.net.

