



Knights of Columbus

FOURTH DEGREE

Patriotic degree of the Order.

ASSEMBLY 2420 January 2011 Newsletter

News:

- ✦ It's been a while since I've sent out a newsletter. My internet was cut off for a while after my stepson apparently downloaded a few copyrighted movies (no, not x-rated!). It's working now.
- ✦ Here's some quotes for the new year:

“If you think about it, everything begins with a thought. First the thought, then the word, then the deed. The deed eventually becomes habit and habit hardens into character. This is why our thoughts are so important. Got any thoughts about the changes you want to make in your life?”

- Georgia Nicols

“A good man is not a perfect man; a good man is an honest man, faithful, and unhesitatingly responsive to the voice of God in his life.”

- John Fisher

Our service to God, Church, and Country is no different. Everything is hard at first but gets easier with repetition.

- ✦ For the second time this year, a federal appellate court rejected a constitutional challenge to the Pledge of Allegiance. On November 12, 2010, the First U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston affirmed a lower court decision in New Hampshire dismissing a challenge by the Freedom from Religion Foundation. The First Circuit held that a New Hampshire law requiring that public schools provide a period for the voluntary recitation of the Pledge does not violate the U.S. Constitution. The KofC again joined the case as a “defendant intervenor” and was represented by The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty.

Past Events:

- ✦ Memorial Masses: A Memorial Mass was said for PFN Mark Richards at St. Johns last month on December 7th, 2010. Also arranged for five more Memorial Masses to be said for PFN Mark Richards at St. Mary's Church. SK Juan Benjamin asked his son Father Matt to say them. In addition, a Memorial Mass was also said for SK Samuel Campis, who was 4th Degree but not in our Assembly.
 - ◆ Resolution of Condolences were presented to both.
 - ◆ “In Memoriam” forms will be provided to the families also after the Memorial Masses have been said and after a Chalice, communion cup, or other religious item has been presented to inform the family that this has occurred. I bought some frames for these. Need to order several copies of the “In Memoriam” form (Form 1455, \$0.25 each) as I do not have any.
 - ◆ Note: CCC Jim Frank stated he will ask the Campis family if his Regalia is available.
- ✦ Please pray for Don Murphy, a parishioner who died a few weeks ago (not a Knight).
- ✦ Please pray for SK Rich Webber & family. If anyone can help him find a job please talk to him.
- ✦ Galaxy of Lights, December 17th – Lots of Knights – almost 900 cars. They very much appreciated Bill Moeller's money counter with the cash from all those cars! The Pot Luck was very good also.

Thanks to all who brought stuff. NOTE: There will be a Soup Appreciation Dinner for those who volunteered at a time to be announced.

- ✱ Chapel Light changing – December 18th –thanks to Bill Moeller, his contraptions, and everyone who helped. However, I already see a light bulb out!
- ✱ There was a picture taking of the new national Abortion flag that was designed locally and being presented to Father Jerabek by several Knights. This flag will be carried when he goes with students to the Jan 22 Abortion demonstration in Washington.

Present Events:

- ✱ It is a new year and dues are due - \$15. Checks preferred – give to FC Joe Morton - he is tracking membership. Mail to Assembly 2420, PO Box 252, Madison, AL 35748. Please, separate checks for Council & Assembly. Reminder letters going out soon. NOTE: Active military & clergy are exempt.
- ✱ Assembly 0004 proposed a 2011 Valentines Day Sweetheart Dinner February 12th at Holiday Inn with all local Assemblies invited. It has been cancelled due to not enough tickets sold. They will try again next year & may be interested in teaming with us.
- ✱ Committees:
 - ◆ Flag – (Danny Garcia) still on hold for architect to work the design. An architect different from the schools is being used.
 - ◆ Bunco – (Tom Hart) Occurs on the 2nd Sunday of the month after evening Mass at 7pm – bring \$5/person and a covered dish. Everyone is welcome – you don't need to have a partner and it is very easy to learn. Much of the proceeds are given back as prizes and the remainder goes toward charity. The November 14th and December 14th Bunco nights were fun and everyone brought great food. The January 9th, 2011 Bunco was cancelled due to the big storm coming in then. The next one is scheduled for February 13th. See you there.
 - ◆ Garbage Pickup on Shelton Road – (Danny Garcia) 4th Saturday of Month at 9am. The last one was moved up a week in November due to Thanksgiving and the December one was cancelled due to the holidays. The next one would have been January 22nd but has been cancelled due to the snow and the mud left over afterwards. We meet at the Texaco at Shelton and Madison Blvd. As always it depends on the weather. I will send out a reminder when it get closer. Thanks to SKs Bill Moeller, Juan Benjamin, and John Horch. Thanks to SK Juan for loaning me his safety vest.
 - ◆ Blood Drive – (Dan Frische) (3rd Saturday of even numbered months):
 - ◆ The last blood drive, on December 18th was 27 people/27 units.
 - No golf coupons were given out because they expired at the end of December. A new agreement between the Red Cross and golfing places is being worked. Don't know what it will be or when it will be available. The Golf coupons were very popular.
 - ◆ Next one will be Saturday, February 19th, from 9:30 to 2:30 in the Parish Hall. SK Jason Esteve has already requested the notice be put into the bulletin.
 - ◆ The Red Cross has been using several POCs for the Blood Drive which has caused some confusion. We are trying to reduce it to just two: SK Joe Morton as he goes regularly to the Red Cross and Dan Frische as he runs the blood drive. Easier said than done.
 - ◆ There has been a steady decline in donors. Much has been attributed to competition such as the bloodmobiles, workplaces which have blood drives and then let people go home early, and the rules that developed due to aids and mad cow disease but we certainly can do better than this. If anyone has any ideas on how to increase the blood drive participation, please let me know, particularly with respect to young people. I know some of them give at the St. John's school blood drive though.
 - ◆ Note that the Red Cross will no longer call so when John Horch sends some of you call lists, please take it seriously.
 - ◆ The Red Cross blood drive plaque (in Church office) had not been updated since 1998. I am getting it updated but it only has room up to 2007 (John Horch had all the older totals and I had the recent ones). Therefore SK John Horch has asked the Red Cross to give us another plaque to continue. They said they would. Following are the totals:

- 1998 – 371 people/337 units
- 1999 – 399 people/370 units
- 2000 – 435 people/393 units
- 2001 – 361 people/325 units
- 2002 – 291 people/260 units
- 2003 – 376 people/347 units
- 2004 – 288 people/255 units
- 2005 – 326 people/295 units
- 2006 – 321 people/308 units
- 2007 – 301 people/265 units
- 2008 – 276 people/251 units
- 2009 – 220 people/201 units
- 2010 – 195 people/179 units

✱ Color Corps Commander – (CCC Jim Frank)

- ◆ Presently the Honor Guard procedure is pretty adhoc and when it has been needed, I was not sure what needed to be done and by who. Therefore, after asking a lot of questions, I am trying to write up and standardize the procedure. At the end of this newsletter is my first draft. I'm asking that all those involved with the Honor/Color Guard (and anyone else) to review it and send comments to me.

Continuing Events:

- ✱ I am still working the Yearly Activity Reports (Fraternal Service Form) due January 31st.
- ✱ 1st Friday, 1st Saturday and holy hour – Friday, February 4th and Saturday, February 5th. Mass is at 8:30am followed by a Holy Hour. I encourage everyone to participate in this every month.
 - ◆ NOTE: After the next 1st Saturday and holy hour, there will be another installment of the Mens' Religious Seminar led and taught by Paul Semmons. Please attend – they are quite rewarding.
- ✱ Every second Saturday is a Rosary led by Father Mackey at the abortion clinic at the northwest corner of Lowe and Madison (612 Madison St). He does this every Month driving up from Scottsboro and it is listed in SK Juan Benjamin's Right to Life emails. Note that abortions are performed every Wednesday and Saturday there and there is a serious group who is at them both every week led by Miss Joyce and Major Fecteau. These have been successful and babies (and Mothers) have been saved. They try to have a Rosary led by a Priest every Saturday but cannot always get one. Recommend this to all. Because of limited parking, carpooling is recommended.
- ✱ Please remember to bring stuff for the soldiers. It is much appreciated as Chris Garcia attested to at the last Council meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- ✱ Anti-Abortion demonstration: January 15th in Birmingham with the Bishop. SK Juan Benjamin (256-830-8182) will be going and will carpool. He is leaving at 7am. I believe that Jim Kaelin is also getting a group together (256-325-2131).
- ✱ Anti-Abortion demonstration: January 24th (Monday) in Washington. The national abortion protest – 40 CHS students are going & others. In videos of the event from past years shows a lot of Regalia. Maybe a group of us can attend next year in Regalia. SK Danny Garcia says some groups rent a bus.
 - ◆ The 38th memorial march commemorates the anniversary of the US Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision on Jan 22, 1973 that legalized abortion. If it falls on a weekend it is moved to Monday.
- ✱ 1st Degree on Sunday, January 16 at 12:45pm and registration at 12:15 in Guntersville.
- ✱ 2nd Degree on Saturday January 22, probably 11am at 4080. There must be at ≥ 25 entrants to happen.
- ✱ 3rd Degree on Saturday, February 6 (probably also at 4080). There must be at ≥ 25 entrants to happen.
- ✱ 4th Degree on February 19th at Our Lady of the Valley Church, Birmingham, AL 35442.
 - ◆ 1 pm registration, 2 pm Exemplification, 5:30 pm Mass, 6:30 pm reception and banquet.

- ◆ Will need: Form 4. Must be 1st degree at least 6 months. Include member #, 1st degree date, 2nd & 3rd degree dates, signatures of Financial Secretary of Council (Ron Belz) and FN (Dan Frische) and FC (Joe Morton) of Assembly. It is \$70 and the participants receive a 4th Degree Social Baldric, a 4th Degree lapel pin, and one banquet ticket. Additional tickets at \$25. The cut-off is January 22nd.
- ◆ Note that they also have requested a Historian and Defender of the Faith for the ceremony.
- ◆ I will approach the new 3rd Degrees, Jonathon Diener, Jerome Villareal and Nathan Dyer as well as John Phillips and any other 3rd Degrees in the Council about joining the 4th Degree.
- ✱ There will be a District Quarterly Corporate Communion Saturday, January 29th, at St. Jude Catholic Church in Scottsboro and hosted by the Fred J. German, Sr. Council 7679. An Honor Guard has been requested.
 - ◆ For questions, call or email either Bob Abril, the Grand Knight at 256-259-7909 and ihabril@scottsboro.org or Joe Flaherty, the North District Marshall at 256-638-8694 or 256-638-7596 or cell 256-899-3315 and jflahert@farmerstel.com. RSVP is required by January 21st.
 - ◆ This will be more than just a Corporate Communion. There will first be a Mass at 5:30pm (Honor Guard requested to meet at 5:00 pm). This will be followed by a Blessing of the Project Moses 10 Commandments Monument. This will be followed by a Celebration Dinner. The whole event will celebrate several things:
 - ◆ 1) Successful Project Moses placement of the 10 Commandments Monument on St. Jude Property.
 - ◆ 2) Blessing of the Monument.
 - ◆ 3) Father Alan Mackey's Birthday.
 - ◆ 4) Kof C District 1 Corporate Communion.
 - ◆ For a small donation, a Ham Dinner & side dishes plus beverages of tea, coffee, soda, beer & wine will also be provided.
 - ◆ For the Honor Guard, Father will want to do a procession out to the monument and then perform the blessing (not a long ceremony). After the blessing, will go into the hall for the blessing before the meal and then have dinner.
- ✱ They will need Chalices for the small Chapel addition (as well as other supplies). At previous meetings, both Council and Assembly, discussion resulted in deciding to donate the Chalice that was previously for Vocations in the names of several deceased Fourth degree members (Matthew Crane (wife Carolyn), Gene Wegner (wife Maureen), Mark Richards (wife Sue), and Samuel Campis (wife Mary)). Their names would be engraved on the Chalice. However, this action has been put on hold. We will wait until the Chapel is almost finished. Then they will decide what they need (in April/May timeframe). If they really need something else (e.g. Communion cups), we can donate those instead.

Other Stuff

- ✱ Membership – presently 49 members
- ✱ We recently retired a lot of flags. I am considering we sell flag kits and/or replacement flags. Will have to ask Father if ok. Am calling several places such as Alabama Flag and Banner, searching the internet, and looking around town (Lowe's, Target, etc.) to get quotes and GK Danny Garcia has received info from another Council which sells them year-round. Will need to sit down and determine what we should sell. After getting all the info together, may assign a committee to decide what to sell.
- ✱ Plating: I have searched for local companies who can do plating. I would like my scabbard re-plated. I will be getting info from them and estimates. I will pass on the information to others who are interested. It may end up costing more than a new sword & scabbard.
- ✱ I received a letter from Supreme which requests that each of the 118 District Masters raise \$300 from their district to pay for the 90 new Chalices and Well Patens needed for the seminarians at the new Cuba Seminary. I am told that our district basically consists of the entire state of Alabama. There are probably 30 Assemblies in Alabama which means we should donate at least \$10. I would like to do much better than that. There is no due date on the letter so I propose we vote on it at the next

Assembly meeting. The checks need to be made out to “Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Cuba Seminary” and mailed to the Supreme Master with the Assembly number on the check.

- ✱ Some time ago, I received 12 new Color Guard pins which are a combination of the 4th Degree emblem and an American Flag. They were previously separate. I passed some of them out at an Honor Guard event and put the remainder in the KofC Podium. At the last Assembly meeting, SK Jason Esteve stated that the pins were only for Color Guard functions and not for Honor Guard functions. We had been using them for both because of the statement in the memo that came with the pins which stated that all in the “Color Corps (Honor/Color Guard)” must have the same pin or all will have none for the sake of uniformity. I will be ordering some more so that everyone who has full or partial Regalia and participates in Honor/Color Guard functions has one. The order #PG-745-US is used on the Form #1 and are \$3.50 each plus shipping and are ordered from the Knights of Columbus Supply Department.
- ✱ Still need nominations for Patriotic Service Awards.
 - ◆ Presently have Chris Garcia, John Grimes, John Beck (retiring?), Schwerts?, Gracier?

Vivat Jesus

Dan Frische, Assembly 2420, FN

2010 – 2011 Fraternal Year Officers (term is July 1st to June 31st)

Faithful Navigator -Dan Frische

Inner Sentinel – Juan Benjamin

Faithful Captain - Jim Frank

Outer Sentinel – Jason Esteve

Faithful Comptroller - Joe Morton

1st yr Trustee – Charles Wesolowski

Faithful Pilot – Tom Scott

2nd yr Trustee – Pat Haas (moved up from 1st)

Faithful Purser – Bill Moeller

3rd yr Trustee - Tom Hart (moved up from 2nd)

Faithful Scribe - Miguel Rodriguez

Faithful Friar - Deacon Skip Grafinati (appointed by FN)

Faithful Admiral - John Horch

Color Corps Commander – Jim Frank (appointed by FN)

Presently, there is no defined procedure for setting up an Honor Guard. I had very little idea of what I needed to do and who needed to do it. What actually happens seem rather adhoc. For instance, presently, we seem to only find out if someone in the Parish has died by word of mouth, which does not seem adequate. Therefore, after talking with a number of members, including the CCC Jim Frank, I have tried to write down a standard procedure to be followed. Since I am no expert at this, I request all to review this and send their comments back to me to incorporate. Thanks, FN.

HONOR GUARD STANDARD PROCEDURES

The Assembly automatically assumes that the Color Corps will provide an Honor Guard for a 4th Degree Knight in our Assembly (unless the family does not want one). The Color Corps can also provide an Honor Guard for:

- a. A 4th Degree Knight that is not in our Assembly, if requested by the Knight's family.
 - b. A 4th Degree Knight's spouse, if requested by the 4th Degree Knight.
 - c. A 3rd Degree Knight, if requested by the Knight's family.
 - d. Anyone, at the request of the Assembly.
- 1) The Bereavement committee learns of all Parish deaths quickly. A Knight on the committee will notify the FC (FN, if FC not available) as soon as possible when a Church member has died.
 - a. He will also provide any other applicable information available on the deceased including the family contact and funeral arrangements (date, time, location, funeral home, etc.).
 - b. SK Miguel Rodriguez is on the Bereavement committee and will perform this.
 - c. SK Miguel Rodriguez' backup is SK Jim Frank who is also on the committee.
 - 2) The FC (or FN, if FC is not available) will look up the name and determine if the deceased was a Knight (or a Knight's spouse).
 - 3) If the deceased is a Knight (or Knight's spouse), the FC will determine (if not already known):
 - a. What degree the Knight is.
 - b. The family contact info.He will then provide this information to the CCC (or FN, if not available).
 - 4) The CCC (or FN, if not available) will contact the family to determine their wishes. If they desire an Honor Guard, he will:
 - a. Coordinate with the funeral home.
 - b. Scout the service location, if necessary.
 - c. Plan out the Honor Guard details. Note: An Honor Guard is provided at the visitation & can also be provided at the funeral (CCC's decision).
 - 5) The CCC will then send out the date, time, location and other particulars to those on the Color Corps list and request volunteers.
 - a. He will use a Color Corps list that the CCC and/or FC will keep current.
 - b. It lists the Color Corps members who have full or partial Regalia and their contact info.
 - c. He may also set up a time and date for a practice prior to the event.
 - 6) The Color Corps will meet at the Honor Guard location with their Regalia. The CCC will have arranged a room for the Color Corps to change into their Regalia.
 - 7) The CCC will go over the plan with the Color Corps members and lead them during the event.
- Note: Father can request the Color Corps supply pallbearers when needed, by calling the CCC or FN.
Note: The Color Corps also provides Color Guards. They usually lead the Madison Street Festival parade each year and other events as required. Again, this is planned, coordinated, and led by the CCC.