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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**ST. ANGELA MERICI COUNCIL NO. 14617
MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS**

THE KNIGHT RIDER
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.kofc14617.org

GRAND KNIGHTS REPORT



My Brother Knights,

I hope all of you had a great Mardi Gras and now are beginning your Lenten season with fasting and reflection. I give up alcohol every year for Lent but with all of the worries this year I debated a long time as to whether I needed the grace or a drink more. The grace won out but it may be tough so keep me in your prayers.

We had another great month last month and our council continues to move ahead. Father John asked us to present our monthly awards for Family and Lady of the Month at mass. On Feb 8th we introduced our past winners to the parish and awarded our Family Award to the Tecson family and our Lady of the Month to Janice Dixon. We surprised Father by giving him a certificate for being an Honorary Life Member of the Knights. I was able to tell the story of our first closed meeting when we "considered" tossing Father out of the meeting because he didn't have his membership card. Everyone seemed to enjoy it and it was great to recognize these people, who do so much for the parish, in front of the congregation. We will continue this every month at the Sunday mass immediately following our regular monthly meetings so try to attend that mass and support our award winners and your council.

There was a Major Degree on Feb 14th at St. Thomas More and I am proud to say we had 6 Knights go through. Almost as good was the fact that we had another 6 Knights who were 3rd Degree Knights who showed up and supported their Brothers who went through. It was a great day for everyone. Again I want to urge all of you who are still First Degree Knights to consider finishing your journey to full Knighthood in our Order by attending a Major Degree Ceremony. There are several scheduled in the weeks ahead. If you want to attend please let Brother Colin know so he can make the arrangements with the host council. If you are an officer of the council or if you are considering running for an office you must become a 3rd Degree Knight. As we are a new council we were allowed to have First Degree Knights hold office during our first year. However the new fraternal year begins on July 1st and when will elect officers in June, the candidates must be 3rd Degree Knights. It is my goal to have every member of our council a 3rd Degree Knight. Why is that important? Because our Order is built on the three principals of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. And each **CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

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Points of Interest to all Council Members:

WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please go to our new website at www.kofc14617.org and login using the password you were sent. You may change your password and also update your member profile to be sure we have your information correct.

INFORMATION CHANGES: If you have a change of address you are asked to contact Brother Ron Frerich so that we can update our records. Email changes to Ron at rjfrerich@earthlink.net.



NEWS FROM SUPREME

With the philanthropic giving index down 22 percent, and the economic crisis affecting nonprofit organizations nationwide, the Knights of Columbus and Fairfield University's Center for Faith and Public Life hosted a summit Feb. 27 to discuss the role volunteers play in helping their communities to recover from the financial crisis. The summit, "A Nation of Neighbors Helping Neighbors: A Summit on Volunteerism as a Response to the Economic Crisis," was held at the Marriott East Side in New York City. Executives from more than three dozen educational, corporate, charitable and governmental organizations discussed the ways volunteers and volunteer organizations can respond to community needs made increasingly acute by the economic crisis. The organizations include Habitat for Humanity, United Way, the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, the National Fraternal Congress of America, the New York City Coalition Against Hunger, General Electric, the Food Bank of Greater New Jersey, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network, Goldman Sachs and Volunteers of America. In a Jan. 23 speech at Fairfield University, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson called for the summit and laid out a vision of what it could accomplish. "If greed – one of the worst aspects of human nature – helped push us into this crisis, then one of the best aspects of our nature – generosity – will be necessary to help pull us out of it," Anderson declared. New York Governor David Patterson sent a letter in which he applauded participants for focusing on "how we can harness the energy of this renewed commitment to service to fuel our great Nation's turnaround." The summit sponsors, he said, "remind us of the power of volunteerism to unify and to bring light and hope to so many." The summit featured three panel discussions with speakers from top national and regional volunteer organizations and programs. Additionally, all attendees participated in roundtable discussions on the issues raised during panel discussions

NEWS FROM STATE

Put the Knights of Columbus and One Nation Under God on Your License Plate!

The Knights of Columbus is an organization of Catholic men who serve others and have fun! We should be proud to proclaim our faith and our order; just as we might our alma mater or sports team, after all we are on the same team. With a K of C License plate we proudly proclaim that we are a Knight, a Catholic and that America is "**One Nation under God!**" Brothers we can do all of this for a net of \$8.00. Yes a license plate will cost you \$30.00 however \$22.00 of that goes to our Infirm Priest Fund. Therefore we urge every Knight and especially those of you in Leadership positions to purchase a license plate and tell the world who you are.

These plates may be purchased for automobiles or trucks. They are also available with the handicapped logo if necessary. If you desire personalized plates, they are available for an additional \$40 annually.

There is not any reason for not having Knights of Columbus plates on your vehicles! Order yours today!

To order your Knights of Columbus license plates go to:

1. www.texas.gov 2. Under ONLINE SERVICES click on - Order Specialty License Plates 3. In upper left corner click on - Order Specialty License Plates 4. Follow the instruction on the page.

Hurry!!! Let everyone know that you are proud to be a Knight of Columbus.

INSURANCE NEWS

WILL YOU BE READY ?

Will you be ready to change occupations when you reach your company's mandatory retirement age? If you do not have an adequate monthly income at that time; there is a good chance that you will be working at low paying, part time jobs just to maintain a decent standard of living.

Well over 50% of the people who retire need supplemental income because they find that their retirement benefits and company pension plans cannot keep up with inflation and ever-rising costs of living. And no one wants to drastically reduce their standard of living after they have spent their working years trying to raise it.

We want you to enjoy your retirement years in dignity. Let me help you plan to be comfortable.

Call me today for an appointment. Leo Lowdermilk at (832) 338-6269 cell or (800) 460-2706.



COUNCIL NEWS

- Feb 8th at the 9 AM mass Father John asked us to present our monthly awards for Lady and Family of the Month in front of the congregation. We began by introducing our previous winners for these awards and then we presented our lady of the Month to Janice Dixon and our Family of the Month to the Tecson family. We then surprised Father John by presenting him with an Honorary Life Member Certificate and two HLM Lapel pins. [See pictures below](#)
- Feb 8th afternoon the District held the District Free Throw Contest at St. Theresa's gym. And Nick Moccia and Dante Gianetti did a great job representing our council. [See pictures on Page 6](#)
- Feb 14th Council 3910 hosted a Major Degree ceremony at their home parish St. Thomas More. Our council was well represented by not only 6 candidates, but by 6 Third Degree Knights who came to support their Brother Knights. Many of our Knights were asked to participate as part of the degree team. [See pictures on Page 6](#)
- Feb 25th was Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Many of our Council began their Lenten season by attending 7PM mass at the PLEX and receiving ashes. Thanks to the many Knights that showed up early and set up the altar and all of the chairs, and than stayed after mass and put everything back in storage.
- Feb 27th was the first Friday of Lent and many of our council attended and helped out our neighboring councils with their parish fish fries. It's great fun to work with our Brothers from these councils as many of you have been working these events for years with your prior councils. It's hard work but always fun.



Our February Lady of the Month Janice Dixon



The Tecson Family is February's Family of the Month



Our past monthly winners are introduced at mass



Our Honorary Life Member Fr. John. Surprise!



FATHER JOHN'S CORNER



GOD KNOWS BEST...GOD ALWAYS HAS HIS REASONS

There is a Jewish story about a Rabbi named Asher. He lived during the time when the barbarians roamed all over Europe creating chaos. Often the barbarians would attack people as they traveled. They would attack villages and kill the people and steal their cattle and valuables.

One day Rabbi Asher had to make a long journey by himself. He knew it would be dangerous but he had no choice. He set out on his journey taking three things: a rooster... a donkey and a small oil lamp. The rabbi took the rooster to wake him up each morning (like me he loved to sleep late!). He took the donkey to carry him on the ruff roads. Lastly he took a small oil lamp so that he could read his Bible each night before going to bed. One night Rabbi Asher came to a village, hoping to stay for the night. The villagers were suspicious of him and sent him away. The rabbi did not become angry. He simply said to himself, "**God knows best, God always has his reasons.**"

So Rabbi Asher camped out under the stars near a stream outside the village. He lit his lamp to read his Bible. But the wind kept blowing out the lamp. Finally, Rabbi Asher gave up and said to himself, "**God knows best, God always has his reasons.**"

Around midnight the rabbi suddenly woke from his sleep! He discovered that a robber had stolen his donkey. He also discovered that a wild animal had killed his rooster. The rabbi did not grow angry. He simply said to himself, "**God knows best, God always has his reasons.**"

The next day Rabbi Asher learned that during the night some barbarians had attacked the village. They killed all the people and took their cattle and valuables. Had Rabbi Asher stayed in the village the barbarians would have killed him too. The rabbi also learned that the barbarians had come to the stream outside the village, looking for travelers. Had they seen him reading his Bible and using the oil lamp or heard his donkey or heard the rooster crow they would have killed him and taken what little he had. That night Rabbi Asher knelt to say his prayers. He looked up to heaven and said, "**Lord, you know best, you always have your reasons.**"

The story of Rabbi Asher reminds us that you and I need to look upon everything with eyes of faith. The story reminds you and me to keep placing our lives into God's hands. You and I need to remember that ..."God knows best, God always has his reasons."

Peace, Fr. John

Council Officers Contact Information

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in the Knights of Columbus

Our Prayers Are With You

Please remember the following in your prayers:



Father John Weyer's soul. May he rest in peace with the Lord

The soul of Renny Blanchette the father of DD Gary Blanchette

The soul of Charles Alford

Our Men and Women in Uniform both living and deceased especially Gabriel Machado deployed in Afghanistan

Our Holy Father and all of the clergy

The innocent unborn

St. Angela Merici Parish



- March 4—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- March 8—Major Degree Council 2801 Rosenberg at 10:00 AM
- March 10—Archdiocese Galveston/Houston Chapter meeting at Council 3077 at 7:00 PM
- March 17—4th Degree meeting at KC Hall at St. Theresa's at 7:30 PM
- March 25 - Officers' meeting at 7:30 PM
- March 25—Day of the Unborn
- March 27—29—4th Degree Exemplification at Lake Jackson, TX.
- March 29—Founder's Day

March 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Business meeting 7 pm	5	6	7
8 Major Degree	9	10 AGH Chapter meeting	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 4th Degree meeting	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Day of the Unborn Officers' Mtg	26	27 4th Degree Exemplifica-	28 4th Degree Exemplifica-
29 4th Degree Exemplifica-	30	31				

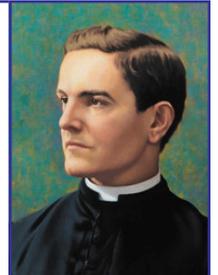
- April 1—Regular Business meeting at 7:30 PM
- April 7— Archdiocese Galveston/Houston Chapter meeting at Council 3077 at 7:00 PM
- Easter Sunday and Easter Egg Hunt
- April 14—4th Degree meeting at KC Hall at St. Theresa's at 7:30 PM
- April 15th—Officer's meeting at 7:30 PM
- April 19th—Family Picnic for parish at Camp Sienna from 2 PM to 5 PM.

April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Business meeting 7 pm	2	3	4
5	6	7 AGH Chapter meeting	8	9	10	11
12 Easter Sunday	13	14 4th Degree meeting	15 Officer's meeting 7 pm	16	17	18
19 Family Picnic	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



As we enter this Lenten Season, may we continue to grow in our love for our Lord and for our neighbor. As Knights of Columbus we have a wonderful example of love of God and love of neighbor in our founder Father McGivney. Let us ask him to pray for us that we will continue to grow in Faith and Charity. St. Angela Merici and Father McGivney, Pray For Us





Competitors at the District Free Throw Contest on Feb 8th



DD Gary Blanchette announces Free Throw Winners



Bros. Jerry, Dennis, Victor, Wes, Mark & Matt. Our new 3rd Degree Knights February 14, 2009



Our new 3rd Degree Knights with Council supporters

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT—*continued from page 1* degree ceremony teaches one of these principals. Of course once you have completed these, you have the option to become a 4th Degree Sir Knight which teaches the principal of Patriotism. So look at the schedule for the Major Degrees and please sign up. There is a 4th Degree Exemplification coming up in Lake Jackson on the weekend of March 27th. See SK Ron Frerich for information.

We are planning several activities in the coming months. We will have an Easter Egg hunt at the PLEX on Easter Sunday after mass for the small children in the parish. Be looking for information and be ready to sign up to help. We also plan to hold a family picnic for the parish at Camp Sienna on April 19th. Again details will be forthcoming and we will need your help to make it work smoothly. There are many more projects being considered by our Activity Directors and as those develop there will be opportunities for everyone to help.

We now have a Lecturer. Deacon Kevin has accepted that position and we are working on some programs to make our monthly meetings not only more entertaining, but also more informative on a wide range of issues for our members and for their families. And yes we will open those meetings to your wives so they can benefit from our Lecturer Program as well. It is a challenging program for us with our limited facilities, but I know Deacon Kevin will make it work and I'm really looking forward to getting it started. Again more details will follow. Another new program we are beginning is our VA hospital visitations. This program is exactly what the name implies. We along with other councils, send Knights to visit the men and women in the local VA hospital. Brother Dennis O'Driscoll has volunteered to organize this for our council. We also have signed on to help mow the grass at the convent for the Dominican Sisters in Missouri City near Holy Family. We are one of several councils that will be scheduled periodically to go and mow for the nuns. You get lunch from the sisters out of the deal! Its an exciting time as we grow. Get involved. We need every one of you! God Bless. Gary