

Volume 4, Issue 1

July, 2014



# 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 KNIGHT'S REPORT



### CHANGE IS...?

My Brothers,

The first time I saw this question was on a job application for HB Zachary a long, long, LONG time ago, when I was in my twenties. I was applying to go to Moscow to help build the new U.S. embassy. Being young, and full of "vim and vigor", I didn't take the appropriate amount of time to consider my answer. I wrote in "bad".

Now, if you asked me the same question today, my answer would be "inevitable". Change is all around us every day. We can TRY to resist it, but it is going to happen regardless of our efforts.

Our parish, and our council are experiencing this right now. We all love Fr. John. To lose him is upsetting, disappointing, painful, etc. However, if we get out of ourselves and look at the greater good, we can see that our loss is the Diocese's gain. While we would love to keep Fr. John for ourselves, we have to recognize that Cardinal DiNardo picked the PERFECT man to go to the seminary and help "mold" our future Priests.

We are in the midst of change at our parish, and in our council. I have met Fr. John Cahoon (soon to be known as Fr. John II). He is an absolute joy. He is funny, smart, and has a HUGE family here in Houston. I have already asked him to be our council's Chaplain, and am waiting for his response. I can only imagine that it will be affirmative.

I pray that we may all have the wisdom, and the patience, to be "flexible" with the changes upcoming in our future. And most importantly, continue to support our new Pastor and make our parish stronger than ever.

Your Brother in Christ

Jerry

### Inside this issue:

Supreme & State News	2
Insurance News	2
DGK Report	3
Council Photos	4,5
The DD's Report	6
Birthdays	7
Prayer Intentions	7
Council Officers	7
Council Events	8
Council Calendar	8



## NEWS FROM SUPREME

Citing the Knights of Columbus' strong presence in Catholic communities and its members' loyalty, ratings agency A.M. Best reaffirmed the K of C's rating of A++ (Superior) for financial strength.

The rating announcement marks the 39th consecutive year that the Knights of Columbus earned A.M. Best's top marks. The Order has \$94 billion of life insurance in force and \$21 billion in assets under management. No insurer in North America is more highly rated than the Knights of Columbus.

"Our top rating from A.M. Best underscores our commitment to our members and their families," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "We were founded to protect the financial futures of Catholic families, and we take that obligation seriously. In our sales, operations and investments, we keep in mind that Knights and their families are more than customers, they are members of our fraternal family."

Supreme Knight Anderson added: "We credit our commitment to our members, our excellent sales force of agents who are all Knights of Columbus, and our commitment to our Catholic values, which are the keys to the work we do."

Earlier this year, the Knights of Columbus was named a 2014 "World's Most Ethical Company" by the Ethisphere Institute — an independent center for research promoting best practices in corporate ethics and governance. It was one of two companies named in the "life insurance" category, and one of fewer than 150 total companies worldwide.

A.M. Best noted that the rating of the Knights of Columbus "reflects its strong fraternal and insurance presence within the Catholic communities in the United States and Canada, its strong risk-adjusted capitalizations as measured by Best's Capital Adequacy Ratio, and its consistently positive statutory operating results." It added that the Knights of Columbus "has a strong affinity with its large membership base through its charitable programs and competitive portfolio of life insurance and annuity products."

## NEWS FROM STATE

In the past decade Texas membership has grown to 101,220 Knights and their families. The Order overall continues to grow and build upon its rich tradition of charitable work and spiritual formation. Various new charitable initiatives, as well as ongoing partnerships with organizations such as Special Olympics, have given Knights countless opportunities to practice what John Paul II called "a charity which evangelizes."

We continue working with our outreach program and pregnancy resource centers, providing greater spiritual support for men and women in the military and playing a significant role in World Youth Days are just some of the many ways that the Order has worked in recent years to promote a true culture of life. Our stance on Pro-life world-wide is unprecedented and as the Order grows so does the pro-life movement.

When it comes to helping those in need, our work has just begun. Our continued membership growth does make a difference in the charitable work of the Order, our church and community. We as an Order have contributed more than \$1.4 Billion in charitable contributions in the last ten years; 70 million hours of volunteer service; \$158 million in charitable contributions and 418,800 blood donors.

Please take a moment to register and join the 1.8 million member family oriented organization that has a history of success in membership, programming, charity and community service. We make a difference daily in our church and communities.

- State Deputy Jim Collins

## INSURANCE NEWS

### ***Annuities: More Flexible Than You Might Think***

Annuities are easily misunderstood, in part because of their name. When you "annuitize" the money in your annuity (the money you've paid in, plus the interest it has earned), you've chosen to receive monthly payments for life, or for a fixed period.

However, annuitizing this money isn't your only option. You may also treat an annuity like a Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC). That is, you can use the annuity as a way to accumulate savings and earn a steady interest rate. You can make withdrawals from the annuity for any reason, although you may then owe income tax on some, or all, of the withdrawal amount. And, if you do choose to annuitize, you also have several payout options.

The point is, these products are flexible enough to serve a variety of needs.

Contact me if you're interested in setting up an annuity as an RRSP, spousal RRSP, RRIF, a non-registered account, or a TFSA account. Call Leo Lowdermilk at (832) 338-6269 or (800) 460-2706. Or email him at [Leo.Lowdermilk@kofc.org](mailto:Leo.Lowdermilk@kofc.org).



## DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT



Brothers

As we begin this new fraternal year I am excited about the many opportunities we have to serve. There are many forms of service but the Knights of Columbus offer us the chance to give back to others.

Soon we will be sitting down to put together our calendar for the upcoming fraternal year. This is your chance to come out and let your voice be heard in regards to what kind of services or programs you would like to see us undertake.

The Knights have 6 main areas that we traditionally focus on: Community, Council, Family, Pro-Life; Youth and Parish. All of these areas need a chairman and ideas to help us grow as a council. Won't you please take some time and consider stepping up to help us in making these programs beneficial to St. Angela Merici and the surrounding community? Remember when you joined the Knights? What was it that made you want to join? I encourage and challenge you to remember that call and to act on it.

Come out to a meeting, participate in the programs and remember why you joined this great council! I for one will be making the effort to get more involved, I hope you will too.

I also want to take just a moment and send out a big thanks to our Worthy Past Grand Knight Gary Bentz for bringing back the newsletter. This valuable piece of information will help you to stay up to date with all of our council activities and past events.

Please take the time to read it, share it with your family and support it by sending in articles, pictures and other information that you think would be beneficial to its success. I hope to see many of you at the next meeting.

Vivat Jesus,

Gary Blanchette

Deputy Grand Knight



# FATHER JOHN'S FAREWELL RECEPTION



Father's farewell cake



Fr. John arrives at St. Laurence



Father receives a photo book of council pictures



Fr. Roy speaks to the crowd



Father speaks to the crowd and says goodbye



Our GK gives Father a 4th Degree sword plaque

**Remember:** If you participate in any Knights of Columbus events or activities and have pictures, please forward them to Gary Bentz at [gsbent@flash.net](mailto:gsbent@flash.net) so we can have them for our Council records and also so that they may be published in the newsletter.



# COUNCIL PHOTOS



Father was presented with a check from the council for the parish building fund. This put our total donation over \$38,000



The Family of the Month for June was the Ferich Family



June's Knight of the Month Leo Lowdermilk



Our Lady of the Month in June Betsy Mudra



Fr. John says the opening prayer for officers' installation



The incoming officers line up to be sworn in



## DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT



Greetings Brother Knights !!

By receiving this newsletter everyone recognizes you as a member of the Knights of Columbus, the world's greatest Catholic men's fraternal organization – Can I have an “AMEN”...

In Matthew Chapter 5 versus 14-16

***You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.***

Just as our Lord challenged those NOT to hide their light, so too must we as Knights of Columbus let our light shine to ALL. In our parishes, are we known to be a member of the Knights or do we “hide” our light under the bushel?

While the Fourth Degree is recognized as the Visible Arm of the Order, should it not also be the Third Degree that shows others what it means to be Charitable, United, and Fraternal?

So, questions asked. What are the answers. Each one of us can come up with a list of things to do to show we are Knights, but let's look at a couple of 'easy' ones:

With Summer now upon us, most won't be wearing suits and ties to Mass... But why not wear our Council colors? Break those shirts out of the closet where they sit for 28 days a month and let the parish know how 'stylish' we are.

For those of us 'purists' who feel the need to wear the coat and tie, you can still let others know you are a Knight by placing your name tag in the pocket of your jacket, and also wear the emblem of the Order on your lapel.

Whether in KC shirt or jacket, adorn them with not only the emblem of the Order, but also the ACE Wings, and a Charity Pin and Special Olympics Pin. Guaranteed to have people ask when you got your pilot's license, or what the pins mean.

The council sponsors Corporate Communion at least four times throughout the year. These need to be attended 'religiously'. Why? For the Corporate Communion, what better way of displaying that you are a Knight than being with your brothers and their families. Whether you sit as a council, or spread amongst those worshipping with you, when asked to stand and be recognized, make sure YOUR family stands with you. Look to the Calendar for the date and Mass for the Corporate Communion.

Simple, but easy ways that we, as Knights, can let OUR light shine. As I close out this month's message, let me offer a quick 'tease' for what is to follow. Curious? Check out Matthew Chapter 13 versus 3-9.

VIVAT JESUS !

(Don't know this greeting? Become a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knight)

Dennis Trainor, District Deputy, District 74



## OFFICERS FOR NEW FRATERNAL YEAR



### Council Officers Information

Grand Knight	Jerry Bishop	jerry.bishop@wholefoods.com
Deputy GK	Gary Blanchette	gary_blanchette@comcast.net
Chaplin	Fr. John Cahoon	frcahoon@staericigh.com 281 778-0400
Chancellor	Ken Stilling	STILLS63@YAHOO.COM
Recorder	David Sepulveda	das@terraassoc.com
Advocate	Tim Alcorn	tpalcorn@yahoo.com
Lecturer	Fernando Hess	fehess2@gmail.com
Warden	Steve Goolsby	sgoolsby@entouch.net
O. Guard	Paul Yasilli	pauyasilli@gmail.com
In. Guard	Melwyn Machado	MELWYNMACHADO@YAHOO.COM
Trustee 1 yr	Jeff Boettiger	jboettiger@slb.com
Trustee 2 yr	Jerry Tomasello	jtomasello@rectorseal.com
Trustee 3 yr	Bill Tallas	rocky1@windstream.net
Treasurer	Colin Kiernan	cmkiernan44@comcast.net 281 499-4067
Financial Sec	Ron Frerich	rjfrerich@earthlink.net
Program Dir	Tom Robinson	trobinson7902@gmail.com
Membership Dir	Nikolaus Kinzie	kinzie13@gmail.com
Insurance Agent	Leo Lowdermilk	leo.lowdermilk@kofc.org 800 460-2706

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

JULY 04 TIM ALCORN, 05 MATT LEYDEN, 06 RENE BROUSSARD, 08 WES KUBESCH, 09 GARY BENTZ, 14 CHRIS AGOSTNELLI, 24 Neil Tecson, 26 PHIL SUMANG, 28 Joe Aranda, Jr., 30 Gerald Lemire, 31 David Sepulveda

### Our Prayers Are With You



Please remember the following in your prayers:

Father John Rooney at his new assignment at St. Mary's Seminary.

Our Men and Women in uniform both living and deceased

Our Holy Father and all of the clergy especially our new Pastor Father John Cahoon.

The innocent unborn.

Our DGK Gary Blanchette asked for prayers for his niece Ann Marie Hazen who is hospitalized with an infection, Red Stephenson who passed away, Eric Schmeltekopf who was in a severe car accident, and for the continued good health of Fr. Roy Oggero.

Bro. Bill Copenhaver, Jared Goolsby

St. Angela Merici Parish.

The intentions of all our Brother Knights.



- July 4—Happy 4th of July!
- July 10 - Regular business meeting at PLC after 7 PM mass.
- July 12—PLC Workday at the PLC at 8 AM.
- July 15—4th Degree Assembly meeting at Council 4204 Hall at 7 PM
- July 17—Officers' meeting at the PLC after 7 PM mass
- July 21—First Degree at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Sugar Land
- July 22—State Convention planning meeting at Council 3077 at 7PM.
- July 27—VA Hospital visit. Meet at the PLC at 7:30 AM.

# July 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 <i>Regular business meeting</i>	11	12 <i>PLC workday</i>
13	14	15 <i>4th Degree meeting</i>	16	17 <i>Officers' meeting</i>	18	19
20	21 <i>1st Degree at STA</i>	22 <i>State Convent meeting</i>	23	24	25	26
27 <i>VA Hospital visit</i>	28	29	30	31		

- Aug. 2—PLC Workday at the PLC at 8 AM.
- Aug 7—Regular business meeting at the PLC after 7 PM mass.
- Aug 19—4th Degree Assembly meeting at Council 4204 Hall at 7 PM.
- Aug 21—Officers' meeting at the PLC after 7 PM mass.

# August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 <i>PLC workday</i>
3	4	5	6	7 <i>Regular business meeting</i>	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 <i>4th Degree meeting</i>	20	21 <i>Officers' meeting</i>	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



**May God continue to bless our Council and St. Angela Merici Parish. May He guide us and lead us to serve Him by serving our fellowman through our many council activities.**

