



Council #11402

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# THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

*The world's largest Catholic Family Fraternal Service Organization*



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## March 2005

Volume 12 Issue 3

### Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brothers:

While I am saddened by the recent passing of Jean Stryker, wife of Past Grand Knight Guy Stryker, I am humbled by the show of support and fraternity our Council has shown during this trying time. The commitment that each Brother has shown to the cause and purpose of our Order gives me confidence that we will always stand together as strong sentinels of Father McGivney's vision. Thank you for your dedication to our Order and to our Brothers in need.

The Fish Fry project is moving forward quite well. Several new faces have mixed in with the "old hats". It is always encouraging to see Brothers working together and this event is the most visible public relations tool we have. Several men from the parish have inquired about joining our Order and I can only believe their interest is based on the camaraderie they see as we serve our parish family. Thank you for all your efforts and the positive approach each of you brings to our events.

As a Council we are progressing towards being a Star Council for this fraternal year. We still need to wrap up the membership and insurance sections. If you are interested in looking at Long Term Care, Life Insurance, or an Annuity please contact our Field Agent Rick Weber. If you know of an interested Catholic man, please invite him to our next information night. If you have not yet paid your dues, please make an effort to do so. I appreciate your effort in these matters.

*Vivat Jesus!*

**Jim Miranda**

## Goodbye Party for Romy and Linda Myszka

One of our most beloved Brothers is moving to Texas and we want to make sure he knows how much we will miss him. Please plan on joining the fun on March 12th at 7pm in McGivney Hall. We will host a potluck dinner and social for Romy and Linda, please bring a dish to share. In addition, bring your favorite Romy story so that we may all share in the retelling of his greatest hits. We will of course give our Councils special thanks to Linda for allowing us to "borrow" Romy for so many hours each year.

## 2005-2006 Officer Elections

One of the honors of membership in the Knights of Columbus is the opportunity to serve as an officer of our Council. It is unfortunate that more often than not Knights respond to the question "Will you serve as an officer?" with a less than enthusiastic response. As we begin the process of nominating and selecting our Council officers for next year it is important to prayerfully contemplate several important factors.

First, the Council cannot continue to operate and achieve a high level of service to its members and the parish without a full slate of officers. Each officer fills an important role in the Council and its programs. In addition, the Chairmen of our service committees are vital to success. In a perfect world the Council would have a full set of officers and based on our size each officer would have an understudy or assistant as well.

Serving as an Officer helps develop and showcase the unique talents and abilities of the Knights in our Council. As our Council works in service to the parish and other organizations it is easy to see who can perform electrical work or who can fry fish, but it is less obvious who can run a successful project or lead a team. Officers of the Council are given an opportunity to develop their leadership skills through program management and developing a vision for their area of responsibility. In addition, those with strong leadership skills are encouraged to guide and help for the leadership ability of other members, thus ensuring the Council has an ever increasing collection of capable leaders.

Finally, serving as an officer in the Council is a rewarding experience. The men who answer the call to serve as officer invariably find their level of commitment to the organization and the principles of our founder increased by the experience. The amount of time required to succeed as an officer depends on the position, but is rarely excessive. The reward of investing oneself in the success and work of our Order lasts a lifetime.

If you are interested in serving as an Officer for the next Fraternal year, please contact Jim Miranda or Guy Stryker.

## Renewal of Vows Mass

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a renewal of Vows at the 12:15pm Mass on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005. This annual tradition serves as an important reminder of the importance of marriage and family to our Order. Marriage is a pillar in our Order and our Catholic tradition. Recall all of the times our Lord chose a wedding to reveal part of his Divinity or to teach a much needed lesson. In addition to attending Mass and renewing their vows, this is a great opportunity to have a quite lunch as a couple or to kick off a date with the one you love. We encourage every member of our Parish and Council to participate in this event.

## Stations of the Cross – Pathway Renewal

It all started with a simple request from Brother Deacon Ray Egan for the Knights to clean the Stations of the Cross Pathway in time for Ash Wednesday. Since we had done this job a year ago, it was easy to say YES! Then, reality set in. The upper part of the path had some serious erosion due to the heavy rains of last year. It needed a lot more than a cleaning.

To the rescue came Brother Bennie, who with a truck heaping with gravel, and two of his men to do the grading work, transformed the worn out path to a smooth, safer surface. Great job, Bennie!

Then, a team of Knights went to work on the rest of the area, unclogging the drainage ditches, trimming various bushes and trees and raking the area to make the walk along the Stations a more pleasurable experience. Thanks to Brother Knights John Buchholz, Dennis Higgenbotham, Lou Hlad, Ed Krise, Jim Mammoser, Ernie Spencer and Guy Stryker for their help - and Bennie and Deacon Ray for their great supervision skills.

To get a better view of this motley crew, go to the web site and see the pictures.

## Insurance Program hits Milestone

The Knights of Columbus insurance program, which has enjoyed extraordinary growth in recent years, passed a major milestone in 2004, issuing \$6.224 billion in new life insurance, representing an annual increase of more than \$1 billion. It's the first time the increase in year-over-year sales of Knights of Columbus life insurance has exceeded the \$1 billion mark. It represents a 19.2 percent increase over 2003 sales.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal benefits society founded in 1882, with nearly 1.7 million members in the United States,

Canada, Mexico and the Philippines. The life insurance sales figures announced today pertain to policies sold to members in the United States and Canada. This year, for the first time, insurance will also be made available to members in Mexico.

2003 was also a year of strong growth in sales of Knights of Columbus insurance, and the first year in which the Order had sales in excess of \$5 billion. The Knights of Columbus now has 1.57 million life insurance policies in force, providing a total of \$53.4 billion of life insurance protection for its members and their families. During 2004, 82,288 new life insurance policies were issued, an increase of 5,095 over the previous year. The average size of a new policy issued was \$75,646. Nearly 81 percent of the new policies issued were for permanent life insurance, which continues to be the Order's primary focus.

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said that he was "very pleased with the strong growth figures for 2004, and especially proud of the fact that we now have nearly \$54 billion securing the financial future of Catholic families throughout the United States and Canada. We look forward to extending that protection to our brother Knights and their families in Mexico as well."

In addition to its life insurance policies, the Knights of Columbus has 140,000 annuity contracts in force, and during 2004 reported \$238 million in annuity sales and \$4.2 million of long-term care insurance sales.

The Knights of Columbus has received the highest ratings from both Standard & Poor's and A.M. Best, and is a member of IMSA, the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association. The Order has \$11.8 billion in assets.

## Fish Fry Update

Through four events, the Fish Fry program is in the black! Thanks to the incredible effort of so many of our Brother Knights and their wives, the Fish Fry program is a huge success again this year. While total meals served is lower than last years record numbers the participation of the Parish (and those outside the parish) is very strong. In the face of new competition from other Councils we still hold a significant edge in customer loyalty.

If you have not come out to enjoy the social activity of a Fish Fry, please do so soon. If you have not yet volunteered to help at a Fish Fry, we need you! Our most pressing needs remain setup help on Friday from 12-5 and clean up help from 7-9pm. Anything you can do to help is greatly appreciated.

## Free Throw Contest Held

The 2005 Free Throw Contest was held on 2/12/05. Turnout was lighter than normal due in part to the change in date forced by our severe Georgia winters (those Knights from above the Mason-Dixon line can stop chuckling now). Even with the smaller turnout we had a record number of Knights there to help and the contest went off without a hitch. Our local winners will participate in the District level contest on 2/26/05 and we wish them the best of luck.

## Keep in your prayers:

Our Council cares about Brother Knights and their family members who are having health problems, but we need your help to keep us informed. If you know of a Brother Knight's family needing our prayers and support, please contact the Grand Knight, Jim Miranda [jimmiranda@earthlink.net](mailto:jimmiranda@earthlink.net) or Financial Secretary, Gert Kampfer [kofc11402@mindspring.com](mailto:kofc11402@mindspring.com)

Please remember in your prayers:

### ***Brother Knight***

Tony Ardagna  
Kirby Baden  
Walter Bieszak  
Ed Koss  
Harold Norman  
Ed Pavlik  
John Stojka  
Richard Szyperski

### ***Family Members***

John DaRin's wife, Charlotte  
Paul Jeff's daughter, Bridget  
Dominic Libro's wife, Anne  
Paul Mudge's brother, Dan  
Bill Schlich's wife, Mary Agnes  
Ralph Stinson's wife, Mary Jane  
Frank Welter's wife, Margaret  
Ken Winkler's wife, Patsy

### ***Special Requests:***

Pope John Paul II  
Sal D'Ambrosio, Past State Deputy  
All those in our Armed Forces  
Our Deceased Brothers  
**Rest of Jean Frances Stryker**

## Dates to Celebrate

### ***March Birthdays***

Bob Conger	1 <sup>st</sup>
Pat Duncan	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Jim Miranda	5 <sup>th</sup>
Ray Eberly	6 <sup>th</sup>

Ken Gregg	7 <sup>th</sup>
Bob Mohalley	11 <sup>th</sup>
Frank Welter	12 <sup>th</sup>
Joe Cavallaro	13 <sup>th</sup>
Jim Scandle	13 <sup>th</sup>
George Tanguay	14 <sup>th</sup>
Kent Poltzin	16 <sup>th</sup>
John Deasy	19 <sup>th</sup>
Bill Lehman	20 <sup>th</sup>
Paul Horan	24 <sup>th</sup>
Ed Konopka	27 <sup>th</sup>
Tony Joyce	28 <sup>th</sup>
Kirby Baden	29 <sup>th</sup>

**March Anniversaries**

Walt and Carol Bieszak	36
Bernie and Marilyn Santa Maria	35
Lou and Martha Hlad	32
Mike and Ann Marie Bruno	22
Sam and Molly Portis	21
Bod and Ann Greene	6

**All Saints Council**

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## March 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Officers 6:00pm Rosary 7:00pm Business	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>FISH FRY</b> Warm-up	<b>5</b>

		Mtg. 7:30pm				
<b>6</b> Renewal of Vows Mass 12:15pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> FISH FRY	<b>12</b> Farewell Party for Romy and Linda 7:00pm
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Social Mtg. 7:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due	<b>16</b> Candidate Information Night 7:00pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> FISH FRY	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Palm Sunday	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Holy Thursday	<b>25</b> Good Friday	<b>26</b> Holy Saturday
<b>27</b> Easter Sunday	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> First Degree - in honor of Guy Stryker, PGK	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

**God Bless America**

**Knights of Columbus, Council # 11402 Dunwoody, GA 30338**

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