



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

April 2013

Grand Knight's Message

Happy Easter! May the risen Lord be with all of you and guide our council in serving Him in our community and council. Beyond Easter, it was certainly exciting to witness the installation of Pope Francis, the first Pope from the Americas. His emphasis on charity is one that our order and this council will support enthusiastically through our actions.

I'm pleased to report that four brother Knights became fourth degree Sir Knights. They are Eric Tiso, Tom Krista, George Gambichler and Mike Eaves. Congratulations to each of them and may they exemplify the best traditions of the patriotic degree.

14 (Figure 3). As we all know, Wayne is a very active member of the council, serves as council advocate



Figure 2: Family of the Month gift from Supreme

and assembly Color Corps commander. He was also chairman of the Christmas card and ornament program for the council and the nominating committee. I selected him as honored guest not only for these tangible contributions, but primarily for his general leadership in the council and mentorship for me during my time as Grand Knight. Many thanks, Wayne!

As for council business, the nominating committee developed a slate of officers for the June election. The rationale for developing the slate of officers now is to allow the new team ample opportunity to prepare for the 2013 - 2014 fraternal year. I know from experience that some of the busiest times for Grand Knights is in the time that leads up to the new



Figure 1: Newest 4th degree brothers (l to r): Michael Eaves, Thomas Krista, George Gambichler, Eric Tiso w/Faithful Navigator Kevin McNamara

I was delighted to learn that Keith and Susan Baker were selected by Supreme to win one of 100 randomly drawn Family of the Month gifts. I had never seen one of the gifts and asked Keith to share a picture of it with us through the Councilairs. Thank you, Keith and congratulations to you and Susan.

Another good news item is that PGK Wayne Davis was recognized as our council's honored guest at the Baltimore Chapter Grand Knights meeting on March

Bel Air Council 4714 Monthly Schedule of Events

First Tuesday - 7:30 pm - **Business meeting** - open to KC members only

Second Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Home Corporation meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

Third Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Social Meeting** - open to general public

Fourth Tuesday - 7:00 pm - **Officers' Meeting** - open to KC members and invited guests

All Fridays - 7:00 pm - **Bingo** (board is lit) - open to the general



Figure 3: Wayne Davis receives honored guest award at Baltimore Chapter meeting (l to r) GK Dick Belmonte, Betty Bourgeois, Wayne Davis, Bernie Classon, PGK and DD Walt Williams

fraternal year and installation. I intend to continue to lead a strong program for the Bel Air Council through my term and will do all I can to ensure a smooth transition. Now is the perfect time for newer members of the council to step forward to volunteer to take on responsibilities in the council. We all know that working together we become a strong force for good in our church and community. On a related note, mark your calendars as the council installation will be held on Sunday, July 14 at 3:00 p.m.

I'd like to thank Stephen Conley for organizing a business seminar on email marketing at our hall on March 15 (Figure 4). The seminar accomplished several goals including providing a useful business tool to some small businesses in the area, raise some money for ARC, show off the hall as a rental option for business or personal use and recruit for new members. In fact, the seminar met all of these objectives.

We had a great time at the Community Service Awards Dinner on Tuesday, March 19. My sincerest thanks goes out to Patrick and Patricia Ruckle for

organizing this awesome event again this year. Patrick's family served the meal and behind the scenes, I thank Jerry Wagner for cooking the meal, Charlie Belli and John Knapstein for tending bar and to Stephen Conley, Sharon DiMatteo and Karen Warner for helping in the kitchen. I hope I didn't



Figure 4: Joe Oricchio with email marketing class

miss anyone! It was a great team effort. Among our distinguished guests were Supreme Director Ron White, Past State Deputy Dick Siejack and his wife, Pat, Sheriff Bane and Fire Chief Hopkins. We recognized four outstanding public servants and presented a plaque and \$100 each to Deputy First Class Keith Jackson, Harford Sheriff Department; Bev Britton, Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company; Ashleigh Stall, John Carroll School; and Sean Ballweber, St. Margaret School. Congratulations to one and all and thank you to everyone who attended.

In April, we will have a very interesting social hosted by John Knapstein. Look elsewhere in the Councilairs for more information about this event. It should be of interest to "kids of all ages". At the April social, I will also be announcing the Council's Family of the Year and presenting the family a beautiful memento of the occasion. Please join with me in congratulating them.

We've had a number of new members and transfers over the past few years come into the council. Their arrival is vitally important to the council as is having a large contingent of active members who are involved with officer, director and activity leadership. Recruiting new members and welcoming



Figure 5: 2013 Community Service Awards Winners (l to r): Ron White, Supreme Director; Ashleigh Stall, Sean Ballweber; Bev Britton; Deputy First Class Keith Jackson; GK Dick Belmonte

transfers is the only way I know of to maintain the health and vitality of the council and have a cadre of members who are able and willing to take on more responsibilities in the years ahead. From personal experience, I find that to volunteer for tasks, projects, leadership positions is the best way to learn, make a contribution that I feel good about. It then allowed me to be in a position to teach the next person how to do the job and move on to more responsible and rewarding positions or endeavors.

Dick Belmonte, Grand Knight, 410-838-6329, rbelmon@gmail.com

District Deputy

My brother Knights, Having just returned from the State Spring Meeting, I have a few new ideas for your council. I can't wait to share them with you. I would love to see a full house at our Spring District Meeting on 13 April. This meeting is for anyone who wants to be part of making his council more successful. Please talk with your Grand Knight about attending with him.

It's not too late to register for the MD State Convention in Ocean City, MD on May 3-5, 2013. You should send in your registration before April 1, or you'll be required to pay an additional fee. I hope to see many of you there. Once the convention is over, we can't just coast toward the end of the fraternal year. We still have programs like the Marygold Program and the Car Raffle coming up. Also, May and June are the time for budgets and elections. Let's finish the year strong.

I'd also like to do one more 1st degree in the district before the end of May as long as we have the candidates. Don't stop recruiting new members. They're an absolute necessity to the health of your council. The health of your council depends on you!

Upcoming district events:

- 1 April - 2nd Degree at Bel Air Council home
- 10 April - 1st Degree at Havre de Grace (Good Shepherd Church)
- 13 April - Spring District Meeting
- 20 April - Fairy Tale Ball at Bishop Becker (Fire hall)

Some state activities coming up:

- 11 April - Baltimore Chapter of Grand Knights meeting
- 12 April - 3rd Degree at Sacred Heart Council
- 3-5 May - State Convention in Ocean City.

Walt Williams, District Deputy #16

Social Schedule

- April 16, 7:00 PM - April social meeting will be a presentation by a local beekeeper from Harford County. Weather permitting he will bring live bees in a demonstration hive for all to look at. Might be an opportunity to bring children or grandchildren. Following the presentation everyone will be treated to ice cream made with honey. Another ice cream social!! Hosted by John Knapstein.
- May 21, 7:00 PM - May Procession, we hope to have more information shortly – Hosted by Tom Sutera and Vic Ferrara.

Albert DiCocco, DGK

Fraternal Benefits

Do you know eligible men to join?

Today, I want to address the growth of the Order. Membership growth is the fuel that keeps this great fraternal engine running. All of our charitable works in the council, state, national and international level are thanks to our hard-working members.

We also recognize that the membership blitz is a tried and true way for councils to increase their numbers. We see these pushes often in March, in celebration of Founder's Day, and again in October. These drives are successful because brother Knights are more visible than normal, during and after Masses and at special events. We must remember to ask each and every Catholic gentleman to join our ranks for the good of the Church, the community and the Order.

During the rest of the year, we often "forget" to ask men to join our ranks and bring their families into the Knights of Columbus family. You probably know an eligible Catholic man you could ask today. Chances are that the only reason he hasn't joined already is because no one asked him.

When telling a prospect about the strengths of the Order, don't forget our greatest fraternal benefit: our insurance program. This is often an interesting "selling point" to a potential member who is on the fence. Many members come into the Knighthood simply to be able to buy coverage for their family. Soon after, they realize the good our charitable works do for their community and they are proud to be members.

As your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, I look forward to helping us grow in fraternity in any way that I can.

Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL
Chartered Financial Consultant
<http://okeefefinancialplanning.com>
edward.okeefe@kofc.org 410-569-6141

Council Activities

First Degree Team

Unless a surprise degree is called by the District Deputy, our next first degree will be at our August business meeting, August 6. If you would like to help impart our principles to new brother Knights, please

contact me at km2002@catholic.org. Not only do we need understudies for the speaking parts, but also we could use coverage for many of the non-speaking parts. I will be scheduling at least one rehearsal, preferably more than one, between now and August for two reasons. One, it will help keep us sharp during the layover between now and August. Two, for those who join the team, it will give you a chance to see how the parts work together without the pressure of an actual degree. Plus, we're working toward having the team judged by the State First Degree Ceremonial chairman with an eye toward improving our performance and perhaps earning awards at the state convention, because I believe we have some great exemplifiers covering these parts! (OK, three reasons.) So please get involved!

Kevin McNamara, PGK, First Degree Team Captain

Fourth Degree

Congratulations to brothers Mike Eaves, George Gambichler, Tom Krista, and Eric Tiso of Bel Air Council, who made their Fourth Degree on March 2 in Frederick! We're hoping to reschedule the exemplification that we tried to put on last October; more news as that comes. But there's no waiting period to become a Fourth Degree Knight any more; so if you want to become a Fourth Degree Knight, please see me at any business or social meeting or e-mail me at km2002@catholic.org.

Fraternally,

Kevin McNamara, PGK, Faithful Navigator St. Francis Xavier Assembly

TAM

April 8th is a TAM class 6-10 pm at the K of C in case anyone needs to be recertified. I think we get 2 members free.

John Knapstein

April Social meeting

There will be a presentation by a local beekeeper. He will bring live bees (weather permitting) in a demonstration box for all to see. There will be coloring books for the children, and of course honey sticks! He will have hive products for sale to include honey and items made with beeswax. Following the presentation there will be an ice cream social featuring ice cream with local honey made at a local dairy farm.

John Knapstein

May Social Meeting

There were several religious articles and statues that were donated by a member. Many are statues of the Blessed Mother. They will be on display as part of the Marian Devotion that will take place at the May social meeting. A silent auction will take place at the social meeting to buy these articles with all proceeds going to Birthright.

John Knapstein

Pot of Gold

Each month at the Business Meeting, the Council conducts a "Pot of Gold" drawing. All that is required is your attendance. The prizes range from \$5.00 to \$50.00. After there is a winner, the prize starts at \$5.00 and each month that a name is drawn and the winner is not in attendance, \$5.00 is added to the kitty until it reaches the maximum prize of \$50.00. You must be in attendance to win. See you at the next meeting! The drawing at the March meeting was worth \$50.00, and the name drawn was John O'Brien and he was not in attendance. The drawing at the March meeting will remain at \$50.00.

A Word from Your Financial Secretary

Dear Brother Knights – All members that are in arrears for their dues for this year, have received a "Knight Alert" letter. This is a reminder that you need to pay your dues for this year. The Retention Chairman will try to contact you. Unfortunately, we are not always able to reach you. We do not want to lose one single member, but we are charged for your membership by Supreme and the Maryland State Council whether you pay your dues or not. Please call me if there is a problem, or if you would like to resign from the K of C. I need a note indicating that with your signature. Please avoid the Council having to take additional action.

Tom Sutera, FS (410) 638-1096

Sick and Deceased

Please remember in your prayers all the Brothers, Ladies, Family Members and Friends who are experiencing serious health problems at this time, especially:

Brothers: Bernie Classon, (inflamed sciatic nerve), David Custer Jr., Frank DiAngelo, John Grigaliunas, Raymond Horney, Peter Kozak, Al Kramer, Vince

Lagrotterria, Ross Liberati, Vernon West, Bernie Sporney, and Bill Wilhelm.

Ladies: Olga Barkkume, Jean DiAngelo, Kitty DiDio, Juliette Drouin, Joan Keenan, Charlotte Kozak, Owena Liberati, Jean Monahan, Marguerite Ward, Martha West, and Pat Wilhelm.

Family and Friends: Dorothy Dimler, mother of LuAnne Belmonte; Bernice Wilhelm, daughter of Pat and Bill Wilhelm; Tom Ellis, son of Ann Stalling; Barbara McMillan, daughter of Earl and Anna Marie McMillan; Jean Potter, wife of Joseph Potter; John Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois; and John Zito Jr., son of John Zito, Sr.

Brothers, Ladies, Family Members and Friends: Please pray for the souls of:--

Georgia Classon, wife of Bernie Classon and mother of Tom Classon; John Spampinato, brother-in-law of Francis Stallings; Ann Stallings; and Agnes Koslowski, mother of Richard Koslowski. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace!

If you know of anyone who is in need of our prayers, please get in touch with me. The Flu Season is upon us; take all the necessary precautions.

Every time you pick up a three leafed clover you behold the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity!

Victor V. Ferrara, 410-569-4171

Community

Perry Point

Just a reminder about the Perry Point Program. For this year, the Bel Air Council is helping at Perry Point on the 2nd Sunday of the month. If you would like to join us, meet at the McDonalds's at Riverside on Rt. 543. We leave promptly at 9:30 AM. Mass is at 10:30 AM and we help wheel patients to the Chapel between 10 and 10:30 prior to Mass and return them after Mass. At the March Sunday, our Council supported the program with six brother Knights and two Ladies that joined us also. My sincere thanks to all, for their support. See you on Sunday, April 14th. If you would like more information, please call either Tom Sutera 410 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at 410 679-7058.

Tom Sutera

Culture of Life

The March for Marriage takes place Tuesday, March 26, in Washington, D.C. True, the timing isn't great; but that's the day that the Supreme Court is expected to hear oral arguments on the constitutionality of California's voter-approved Proposition 8, which protects the sanctity of marriage. Go to <http://marriagemarch.org/> for more information.

Please join the St. Joseph's Fullerton pro-life group every third Saturday morning at approx. 9:10 a.m., at the Belair Rd. Beltway Plaza, as we pray the rosary outside the Abortion Clinic there. Usually we are only there for about 45 minutes. The shopping center is just inside the Beltway (Overlea exit) on Belair Road, near the Carrabba's Italian Grill. For more information, call Jim Anderson, 443-655-2008.

Fraternally,
Kevin McNamara, PGK, Culture of Life Chair

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Happy Easter,

Hope you are filled with good spring spirits and health.

Don't forget the fundraiser at Applebee's pancake and sausage breakfast on April 27th, 8 to 10 am. Applebee's is not open to the public for breakfast, but you may buy tickets at the door. Please join us that morning, have a nice breakfast, and enjoy in the morning. Tickets for this event are available by contacting Karen Warner who is chairing the event. You may contact Karen, or call me for tickets.

On Monday, April 29th, "Julia Child" will make an appearance at the hall. Mary Ann Jung will portray Julia Child. You have seen Mary Ann in the past as Amelia Earhardt and Queen Bess. This event is sold out. Hopefully you bought your tickets in time. See you there.

Ladies from the CLSO volunteered at Perry Point in March to assist the veterans who wanted to bowl at the facility. Anyone who is interested in helping may call me for more details. This is a rewarding experience to be able to do something good for

others. The veterans appreciate the company, and the help is most needed.

If you would like to run for any office in the CLSO, please call Jean Milham who is in charge of nominations.

Card night is April 8th.

After the April 9th meeting, courtesy of the Boyds, we will have line dancing. Lessons will be provided.

Thought of the Day: Remember, peace starts with a smile.

Sharon DiMatteo, CLSO President, 410-879-7633

Reflections

Pope Francis: What Might We Expect

On Wednesday, March 13, on the fifth ballot, Argentine Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, S.J. was elected as the 265th successor of St. Peter. As pope, he chose the name Francis. Here were breaks from tradition: the first person from the Americas, the first Jesuit, the first Pope Francis to head the Barque of St. Peter.

After 35 years of continuity in Church direction, through the reigns of Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, what must we expect of this new Petrine leader? His two predecessors upheld the Church's traditional teachings against abortion, artificial contraception, same-sex marriage, and ordination of women, while striving for clerical discipline, to rein in abuses implemented in the "spirit" of the Second Vatican Council, and increase the outreach of and zeal for the faith through a New Evangelization.

In the short time since the election, certain preliminary indicators give us a clue to what might lie ahead for the Church. Like his namesake, Pope Francis is devoted to the poor and the indigent. As a cardinal, he demonstrated deep compassion for the victims of sexual diseases, even celebrating Mass at an AIDS hospice, where he washed and kissed the feet of 12 patients. At a gathering of Latin American bishops in 2007, he said: "The unjust distribution of goods persists, creating a situation of social sin that cries out to Heaven and limits the possibilities of a fuller life for so many of our brothers." Although a strong proponent of social justice, he approaches it from the concepts of charity and love, rather than with the political aspects of liberation theology.

He has been steadfast in the defense of life, staunchly opposing abortion and euthanasia. In 2005, he celebrated the Mass for Holy Thursday in a maternity hospital, where he washed the feet of 12 expectant and new mothers. Before he did so, he told them: "All of you are women who have chosen life. I, as a priest, am going to repeat the act of Jesus, and carry out a concrete act of service for women who have said yes to life. In washing your feet, I am washing those of all mothers, and of my mother, who felt me in her womb."

At a gathering of priests and laity in 2007, the then-cardinal supported life even in cases of rape saying: "[I]n Argentina we have the death penalty. A child conceived by the rape of a mentally ill or retarded woman can be condemned to death." Then in 2012, he said, "Abortion is never a solution...respect the human being small and helpless...allow birth and then be creative in the search for ways to bring it to its full development." On the morning after his election as pope, he went to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, where he prayed and while there blessed the unborn child of a pregnant woman.

When the issue of same-sex marriage arose in Argentina, Cardinal Bergoglio opposed legislation to legalize it, resulting in a public rebuke from his country's president. While the legislation was being considered, he wrote to the contemplative nuns in Argentinian monasteries, asking them to pray, saying: "At stake is the identity and survival of the family: father, mother and children. At stake are the lives of many children who will be discriminated against in advance, and deprived of their human development given by a father and a mother and willed by God. At stake is the total rejection of God's law engraved in our hearts. Let us not be naive: this is not simply a political struggle, but it is an attempt to destroy God's plan. It is not just a bill (a mere instrument) but a 'move' of the father of lies who seeks to confuse and deceive the children of God."

The new Pope has also been a staunch defender of life in its latter stages. In 2011, he denounced a culture in which the elderly are treated as if they are

disposable and worthless due to their advanced age, stating: "In Argentina there is clandestine euthanasia. Social services pay up to a certain point; if you pass it, 'die, you are very old.' Today, elderly people are discarded when, in reality, they are the seat of wisdom of the society."

Pope Francis recognizes that, as beneficial as these social actions are, they must be carried out with a transcendental purpose, with sacramental reverence. In the absence of this, he said, the Church will be nothing but a compassionate NGO [i.e., non-governmental organization]. As cardinal, he led the bishops of Latin America in developing a joint statement, called the Aparecida Document, on the situation of the Church in their region. The document states: "We should commit ourselves to 'eucharistic coherence', that is, we should be conscious that people cannot receive Holy Communion and at the same time act or speak against the commandments, in particular when abortion, euthanasia, and other serious crimes against life and family are facilitated. This responsibility applies particularly to legislators, governors, and health professionals."

In his first homily as pope, given at Mass with the cardinals in the Sistine Chapel, he spoke about the need for moving forward with the Lord and having the courage "to walk in the Lord's presence, with the cross of the Lord; to build the Church upon the blood of the Lord, which was poured out on the cross; and to confess the only glory there is: Christ crucified. And in this way the Church will go forward."

These markers are modest and do not predict future actions. They do, however, tell us something of the heart and the values of Pope Francis that will guide his decisions.

Pray for the Pope. Pray for the Church. Pray that, under the guidance of Pope Francis, we will have the courage to walk with the Lord in the face of a strongly secular culture.

Lawrence P. Grayson

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
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