



COUNCILAIRS

Bel Air Council 4714



Phone: (410) 893:6442

23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050

Initiated Dec 1958

May 2014

Grand Knight's Message



In May, as Knights we honor Mary; Mother of Jesus. In May, as sons and fathers we honor our Mothers and Wives at Mother's Day. In May we should think about how hard the

job of being a Mother really is. I would like to share some snippets of Erma Bombeck's Mother's Day column from May 12, 1974, "When God Created Mothers." which provides a wonderful description of Motherhood.

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into his sixth day of "overtime" when an angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." And the Lord said, "Have you read the specs on this order?"

She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; have 180 movable parts... all replaceable; run on black coffee and leftovers; have a lap that disappears when she stands up; a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair; and six pairs of hands."... "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick... can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger... and can get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower." ... The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed. "But she's tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure." ... Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek. "There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You You were trying to push too much into this model." "It's not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear." ... "It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

I believe Motherhood is the world's most difficult job, and yet the most rewarding one. It is a calling of ultimate sacrifice, a mandate to give entirely of the self for one's children. In this respect, mothers may be considered the most accurate representation of Christ: always surrounding us, filling us with love, forgiving

us when we've done wrong, and asking nothing in return.

In May, we honor these mothers with a special holiday, but as Knights we are called to serve Mary, the Mother of God, at all times, in all things, and to defend and aid mothers that we meet with our own lives. Remember this duty and follow it to the best of your abilities and you will be one step closer to truly living out your mission as a Knight of Columbus.

To all our ladies and all our Mothers: thank you for choosing life and choosing to be a Mother.

Vivat Jesus,
Stephen Conley, Grand Knight, 443-417-7538,
knightsfc@gmail.com

District Deputy

My brother Knights,

Hopefully, you're getting excited about the state convention on May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. This is an election year with 7 candidates for State Warden, so it should be interesting. I hope you can join us.

The second degree team was very happy to lead another 8 brother Knights through the second stage of their journey to full Knighthood on 7 April. This was our last second degree of the fraternal year, but there are others outside our district if you, or a brother Knight you know is interested. At the time of this writing, we also have at least two more first degrees in the district: 24 April at Bel Air and 22 May in Havre de Grace. Please make use of these first degree exemplifications as you make your final push for membership in these last few months of the fraternal year.

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 public

Memorial Day is coming up at the end of May. As Knights, Patriotism is one of the four main principles of our order. I strongly encourage you to participate in a parade, or visit a military cemetery on 26 May. We owe it to our fallen heroes to honor them on this day.

As in past years, the MaryGold program will be conducted by the Knights of Columbus on Mothers' Day. If you've never participated in this activity, you should. It will provide much satisfaction and joy, I promise you.

Upcoming district events:

- 24 April - First Degree at Bel Air Council
- 18 May - 7 June - Immaculate Conception icon in District 16
- 22 May - First Degree at Havre de Grace Council
- 26 May - Various Memorial Day events

Upcoming State Council events:

- 27 April - Divine Mercy Sunday
- 1 May - State golf tournament in Ocean City
- 2-4 May - MD State Convention in Ocean City
- 11 May - MaryGold program for Mothers' Day
- 16 May - Third Degree in Westminster (last one in our area for the year)

Remember our Worthy State Deputy's motto for this year: "While proclaiming peace with your lips, have it even more fully in your heart."

Vivat Jesus,

Walt Williams, District Deputy #16

Fraternal Benefits

The Need for Membership Referrals

As a professional insurance agent, one of the things I appreciate most is when one of my brother Knight clients or his wife refers another member to me. This

is a great endorsement of the service I provided. It tells me that they were so pleased with what I helped them accomplish that they want me to help others achieve the safe level of financial safety and security. When I meet with you, please pass along the names of those who might be able to benefit from the analysis that I provide.

On a similar topic, there is no stronger membership recruiting tool than the referral. How many of us know an eligible Catholic male who is not a member of the Knights of Columbus? Do you have Catholic family or friends, local or not, who have yet to join? Most likely, they've never been asked and don't know enough about the Order to seek out membership on their own.

If you have names of potential members, please pass them along to me or your Grand Knight. Let us know if we can use your name when we contact the gentlemen in question. It's always more effective to tell a candidate for membership that he was recommended by a current member, especially someone he knows. If the candidate is outside the area I serve or beyond the district of the local councils, I can contact the Supreme Council in New Haven, CT, to follow up on this referral.

New members are the lifeblood of the Order. All the good deeds done by the Order are driven by the members. Over the past decade, Knights have given more than \$1.367 billion to charity and provided in excess of 639 million hours of service. And our membership has merely scratched the surface in North America. Imagine the potential.

Edward A. O'Keefe, CLU, ChFC, CASL
Chartered Financial Consultant

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Council Activities

55th Council Anniversary Party

Please save the date! Sunday June 22nd at 1:00 PM. We will be having a party celebrating the 55th Anniversary of the Bel Air Council. There will be good food, good music, and lots of fun. We will also celebrate Father's Day and the annual summer picnic. Please plan on attending. The price is \$5.00 per person. Children, grandchildren are also invited. For more information call Tom Sutera (410) 638-1096. There will be more information in the next edition of the Councilairs. Hope to see all of you there!!!

Tom Sutera

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 name drawn at the April meeting was Vito Leanza and he was not in attendance. The drawing at the May meeting will remain at \$50.00.

Tom Sutera

Home Corporation

The Home Corporation has recently installed a new keyless entry security system at the hall. Effective April 7 all exterior entry door keys that were issued to members will not open any door to the building. In order to gain entry to the building an electronic fob must be used. If you feel that you have need of a fob for building entry please contact Tom Rappold or Tom Classon so that your request may be reviewed by the Board of Directors. If you still have a key it is not necessary to return it to the Home Corporation. Thank you for your cooperation.

Tom Rappold

The Marian Devotion

(Formerly known as the May Procession)

Our May Social, Tuesday, May 20th we will conduct a "Devotion to The Blessed Mother". We will have prayers and hymns and we will recite a decade of the rosary. The event will culminate with the crowning of

a statue of Mary in our hall. All of the activities will take place in the building and there will be no need for a rain date. The devotion should start promptly at 7:00 PM.

Please join us for this spiritual devotion to our Blessed Mother and promptly after the ceremony, the Council will serve light wraps, sandwiches and desserts. We look forward to seeing a nice crowd at this Social meeting. If you have any questions regarding this event, please call Tom Sutera (410) 638-1096.

Tom Sutera

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: Ray Caralle; Bernie Classon; David Custer, Jr.; Frank DiAngelo; William Edge, Sr.; John Grigaliunas; Raymond Horney; Pete Kozak; Al Kramer; Ross Liberati; Bernie Sporney; Vernon West; and Bill Wilcox, who just had knee surgery.

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

Family and Friends: Dorothy Dimler, mother of LuAnne Belmonte; Tom Ellis, son of Ann Stallings; Barbara McMillan, daughter of Earl and Anna Marie McMillan; Molly Murphy, 25 year old in a coma and needs prayers; Jean Potter, wife of Joseph Potter; Regina Pisani, wife of Joe Pisani; John Wills, grandson of Betty Bourgeois; and John Zito, Jr., son of John Zito, Sr.

May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

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

Victor V. Ferrara, 410-569-4171

Youth Activities

Cub Pack 999

On March 30, Pack 999 held the Arrow of Light Ceremony at the Church of the Nazarine. Four webloes crossed over to the boy scouts. Carson Allred moved to troop 777, Jeb Bowen to troop 265 and Joshue Parkinson and Preston Merz to troop 238. Congratulations to these young boys.

Also on the weekend of March 29/30 and April 5, the Pack and Troop 999 participated in the Harford District Scouting for Food drive. Bags of canned food were collected for the needy of Harford County.

Joe Pisani

Scout Troop 999

A Court of Honor was held on March 26 presenting 9 scouts with various merit badges for training ranging from CPR/AED, to Cooking Life Rank, Communications, Emergency Preparation, Environment, Science and Personal Fitness. In addition 7 adults received badges for CPR/AED training.

If you are interested in participating in the scouting youth activity program, please contact Joe Pisani 443-299-6211.

Joe Pisani

Community Activities

Perry Point Program

The Bel Air Council will be assisting patients at Perry Point on the first Sundays of the month. We will once again be looking for help on the first Sunday of May (4th) for our turn to aid the patients at Perry Point. If you would like to join us, we leave from the McDonalds on 543 in Riverside at 9:30 AM, or you may want to join us at the Chapel in Perry Point at 10:00 AM. Mass is at 10:30 AM. After returning the patients to their various buildings, we usually return to Riverside by noon. If you are unable to help with patients, you are very welcome to join us at Mass with Father Jonathon. If you want more information call Tom Sutera at (410) 638-1096 or Pat Dolan at (410) 679-7058.

Tom Sutera

Catholic Ladies Service Organization

Ladies, please mark your calendars for Sunday, August 10, 2014. That is the date of the CSLO Annual Birthday Party. We will be celebrating at Mamie's Restaurant at 1 pm in the Beard's Hill Shopping Center Aberdeen, Md. The Birthday party is open to all members in good standing. Sharon DiMatteo is chairing the party and will be accepting reservations. I'll have more details at the business meeting.

The executive committee met and worked on updating the rules and by-laws, the proposed 2014-2015 budget, our charitable giving plans and the activities for next year. Details will be discussed and voted on at the Business Meeting.

We are accepting nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the May business meeting and the Election of Officers will be held at the June business meeting. If you are interested in running for office please contact any of the current officers or Natalie Boyd at 410-515-0309 or Nancy Castle at 443-616-6114.

We will also be voting for the CLSO Lady of the Year at the June meeting. The Lady of the Year should promote religious, social, cultural and charitable projects within the Ladies group as well as with other outside organizations. She is the kind of person who is always available for other members of the CLSO offering a helping hand, sharing her talents or just offering moral support.

Our Saint of the Month for May is Our Blessed Mother Mary. Our color is naturally - Blue. Please wear or carry something blue to the May meeting.

Card Night is May 12, 7 pm and the CLSO Business meeting is May 13, 7pm at the Council Home. Hope to see you there.

Parting thought: When faced with two choices, simply toss a coin. It works...not because it settles the question for you, but because in that brief moment when the coin is in the air, you suddenly know what you are hoping for.

Dee Kozlowski –President CLSO 410-676-2862

REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson

The Nation's Withering Soul

"I can, so I will" has become the mantra of today's society. Science and technology have advanced at a prodigious rate, providing man with a greater control over the world in which he lives and with ever increasing capabilities to change virtually every aspect of it. He has produced material benefits and accomplished things that could not even have been imagined a few generations ago. He has viewed the outermost reaches of space, gained knowledge of the earliest days of creation, deciphered the human genome, and discovered the basic elements of life. But how are this knowledge and these capabilities being used?

Science and technology may have progressed, but the same cannot be said of morality. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. described the current imbalance as: "The means by which we live have outdistanced the ends for which we live. Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men." Then, in his acceptance speech for the Nobel Peace Prize, he warned: "If we are to survive today, our moral and spiritual 'lag' must be eliminated. Enlarged material powers spell enlarged peril if there is not proportionate growth of the soul."

Without ascendant principles to govern his increasing abilities, man has produced nuclear power and unleashed nuclear destruction, performed corrective surgery in the womb and, in the United States alone, destroyed some 56 million fetal children since 1973, learned to correct abnormalities in a woman's egg and to have a child genetically-related to three or more parents.

Reproductive science is perhaps the foremost area in which technical capabilities have outstripped morality. The result is that children are beginning to be treated as commodities and their creation as services. A couple desiring a child, but not wanting the "inconvenience" of child bearing, can have her eggs and his sperm united in a laboratory and then hire a surrogate woman to carry the child through term. Gametes from young college-educated men and women are sought after by fertility centers for resale, like consumer products, to infertile couples. In America's anything goes culture, the modern, self-absorbed couple want to design and produce the ideal baby, when they want it, by the means they choose. The idea that a child is the result of his

parents' love is giving way to hedonistic license wherein marriage, lifelong commitment and the traditional family have been reduced to options.

While scientific advances have the promise to eliminate much human suffering, in a society unrestrained by a moral code, by a belief in the inherent dignity of every human being, they threaten to create a dystopian future. We are reaching a point where each individual's biological outcome can be predicted *in utero* through his or her DNA. Diseases such as Down syndrome, Lou Gehrig's disease, and muscular dystrophy could be eliminated by genetic selection, with the "defective" pre-born children never coming to term.

Are we prepared, as a society, to expunge the imperfect among us? According to some estimates, in Western countries, more than 90 percent of children diagnosed with Down syndrome before birth are aborted. As even more accurate tests for Down syndrome are developed, no one with the condition may ever be born.

And it is not only the pre-born who are in danger. Euthanasia now is legal in many European countries. There are increasing reports of euthanizing persons who are disabled with no terminal condition, who are cognitively impaired, who are very elderly, and who, like Terri Schiavo, are in long-term comas. In the Netherlands, a healthy woman who was going blind was euthanized because she believed it would be intolerable if she could not tell if her clothes were clean, while an elderly British woman flew to Switzerland to be euthanized because she was disillusioned with modern life. Assisted suicide, which is a voluntary form of euthanasia, is already legal in several American states.

Are there limits to cleansing society of the unwanted? Will it stop at disability? Will the disposable be identified by intelligence, age, family history, genetic purity – criteria which already are used by fertility clinics in accepting donors? Will society move towards becoming genetically-perfect through genetic cleansing?

These are not unrealistic possibilities created by a fertile imagination. In February of this year, the Food and Drug Administration held hearings on gene replacement therapy. If approved, a woman who has a mutation in her mitochondrial DNA -- a condition that could result in her offspring developing epilepsy, blindness or organ failure -- could have the mitochondria in her egg replaced by a healthy version from another woman. The resulting egg would be fertilized in a laboratory with the husband's sperm and implanted in the woman's womb so a "normal" pregnancy could proceed. The resulting child would have three genetic parents. In Britain, the

therapy has been approved by the government’s Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, and only awaits Parliament’s action to be available.

While the initial justification for the procedure is to remedy a genetic defect, once perfected other purposes will likely be sanctioned. Will the legal system deny both partners in a lesbian relationship to be genetically related to a child one of them will bear? Will the many participants in a polyamorous relationship be allowed to contribute to the genetic pool? As pluripotent stem cell research progresses, will an individual be allowed to clone himself with an egg and sperm created from cells of his own body? Once initial sanction is given, a growing approval creep is hard to stop.

America – indeed the Western world – needs a spiritual renewal, the development of a public morality that can balance the scientific and technical capabilities at man’s disposal. The nation’s culture must be re-anchored in a

deep belief in God, who created men and women in His image and likeness. It must acknowledge the innate dignity of every person and guarantee the right to life from the moment of conception until natural death. It must recognize that every new discovery and every new development is not necessarily an advance for mankind.

The situation is not beyond hope. Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, shortly before his election as Pope, offered guidance to overcome the present societal narcissism:

“Our greatest need in the present historical moment is people who make God credible in this world by means of the enlightened faith they live...It is only by means of men who have been touched by God that God can return to be with mankind.”

With God’s help, leadership from the pulpit, and our actions and prayers, everything is possible. Will the Knights of Columbus be in the vanguard?

Council Calendar

	MAY	Event
		BSA Units, Troop 999, Cub Pack 999, and Venture Crew
Tue	6	Business Meeting / Council Nominations
Sun	TBD	Perry Point
Tue	13	Home Corps Meeting
Tue	20	Social Meeting - MAY PROCESSION
Tue	20	Family of the Month
Tue	27	Officers’ Meeting

	JUN	Event
		BSA Units, Troop 999, Cub Pack 999, and Venture Crew
Tue	3	Business Meeting / Council Elections
Sun	TBD	Perry Point
Tue	10	Home Corps Meeting
Tue	17	Social Meeting -55 th Anniversary Party
Tue	17	Family of the Month
Tue	24	Officers’ Meeting

The Knights of Columbus has been following the events unfolding in Ukraine. Pope Francis said: “I assure the Ukrainian people of my closeness and pray for the victims of the violence, for their families, and for the injured. I urge all parties to cease every form of violence and to pursue harmony and peace throughout the country.”

In solidarity with our Holy Father, and with the Catholic Bishops and Church in Ukraine, the Knights of Columbus is asking all of our members around the world to pray the Prayer of St. Francis that there may be a renewed dialogue and respect and a peaceful resolution to the situation in Ukraine.



Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

[Download the Prayer](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/communications/francis-prayer-for-peace.pdf)

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/communications/francis-prayer-for-peace.pdf>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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