



THE KNIGHT CHATTER

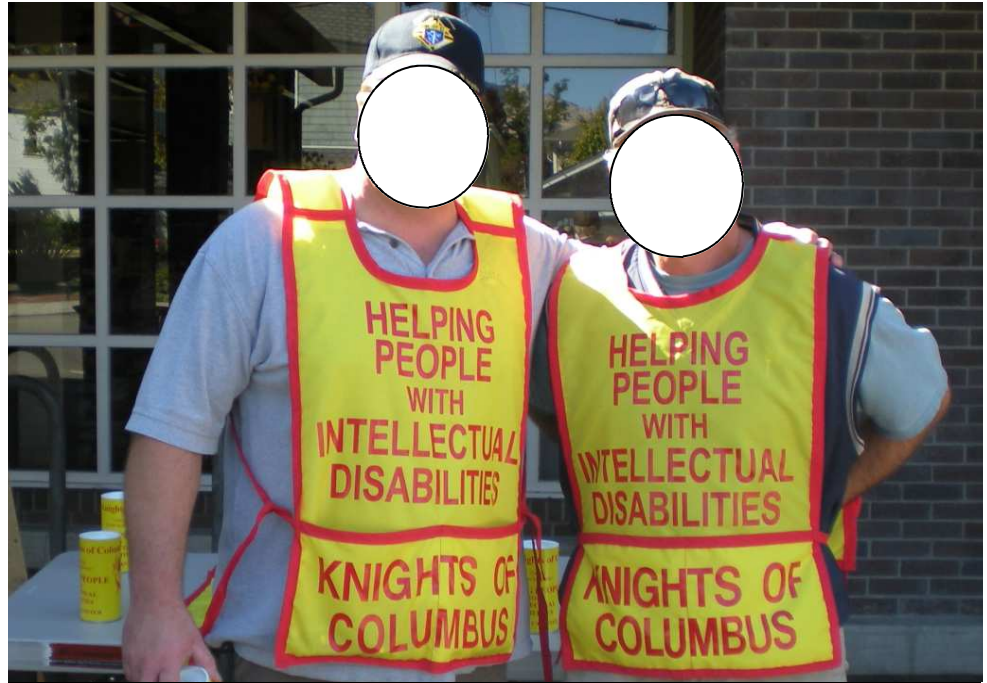
September 2011

Published Monthly, at no charge, by Rock Creek Council, 5417 W. Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

Year 74, No. 2

In This Issue

<i>Chaplain's Message</i>	1
<i>Grand Knight's Report</i>	1
<i>District Deputy's Report</i>	2
<i>Church Activities</i>	5
<i>Community Activities</i>	2, 6, 7
<i>Council Activities</i>	6,7
<i>Family Activities</i>	7
<i>Pro-Life Activities</i>	4
<i>Youth Activities</i>	3
<i>Kay Cee Club</i>	9
<i>State News</i>	3, 4
<i>Supreme Notes</i>	5
<i>Membership</i>	3
<i>O'Boyle Assembly Notes</i>	10
<i>Fraternal Benefits</i>	10
REFLECTIONS	8
<i>Seniors' Club</i>	11



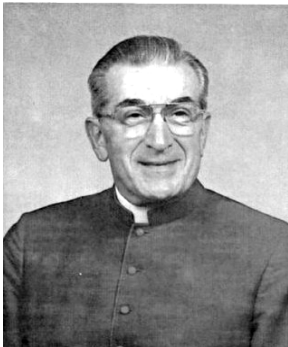
Are you in this picture? The Tootsie Roll campaign for the mentally handicapped has begun. See the story on page 2.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

REV. MSGR. VINCENT S. GATTO, KHSH

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

TERENCE RYAN



Chaplain Gatto

Dear Knights,

The Feast of the Transfiguration was held on August 6, 2011. It was not a Holy Day of Obligation. It would be wonderful if it were.

There are two events in the life of Jesus where a voice from heaven identifies Him as God's Son. One is the Baptism of the Lord, where Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan River. The other is the Transfiguration. In the Gospel for that Feast, Jesus was transfigured, with His face shining like the sun and His clothes becoming white as light. He conversed with Moses and Elijah, and was proclaimed to be God's Beloved Son. This title confirms what we hear in the first chapter of St. John's Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." This is the Word we are to listen to and head.

We hear of other affirmations of Jesus as Beloved Son of God. Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of

We hear of other affirmations of Jesus as Beloved Son of God. Peter confesses that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of

(Continued on page 3)

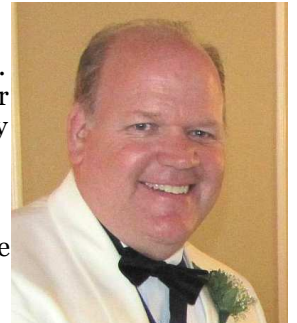
Worthy Brothers All,

WOW!! Tempus Fugit!! Time flies. I hope you all enjoyed your summer vacations and are back in the family groove with school and other fall activities. The summer was quite busy around the council with the Installation of Officers, bands in the Lounge, and other events kept our volunteers pretty busy. I want to thank all who volunteered, set up and prepared for the luncheon following the Installation. A spectacular affair.

My first month in office has been quite a whirlwind, but I am happy to report a successful Audit from our trustees PGK John Vivian, Tom Tappan, our Financial Secretary Joe Murphy, and Treasurer Doug Yeatman.

We have spoken in depth at our executive meeting and business meeting about our need to push for State Awards this year. With proper and timely reporting of our Council and Committee activities, we shouldn't have any problem attaining Double Star, as well as many other awards at

(Continued on page 9)



Grand Knight Ryan



DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT

Worthy Brothers All,

With the Supreme Convention in Denver behind us, we enter one of the busiest seasons of the year for our order. By now your council Tootsie Roll Chairman should have a calendar of collection dates and locations available so council members can sign up to volunteer.

Your Youth Chairman should contact our District Warden, Wes Chin, to let him know when you plan to conduct your council soccer shoot-out.

It is not too early to create your council's necrology for your council Memorial Mass. This necrology should be submitted to the Maryland State Council Church Activities Director, Brian O'Connor, and the McNamara Chapter Secretary Brian Werring.

If you have not hosted the Marian Icon, contact Greg McLain, Our Lady of Guadalupe ICON Chairman, under the Church Committee Chairman, to arrange a date to have it visit your council. We may be able to hold a district wide Marian Prayer Service this year and hold it at a parish within the district.

We have had a very broad recruitment effort within the district so far. All councils have held a first degree this year and it's only September! Some councils are at the fifty percent mark for their annual quota! Congratulations. Let's keep our recruitment going strong by encouraging other Catholic men to stand beside us through the first degrees in the next few months. Mark your calendars for these first degree dates and locations: September 8 at St. Manyanet, September 22 at Rock Creek, and October 11 at Saint Elizabeth.

Wes Chin and I thank all the councils for the heartfelt hospitality at each of the council installations. The Grand Knights have been gracious and kind. The receptions at each council continue to build on the rich and varied traditions. Thank you, Grand Knights, who were able to attend as many installations as you did. It is a "grand" tradition that continues alive and well.

Please remember to say a prayer for all the souls who lost their lives ten years ago on that tragic morning of September Eleventh. Always keep Mary in your heart and seek her intercession daily.

Vivat Jesus!

Richard Earenfight

District Deputy No. 18

"Mary, Make Us Always Aware"

Tootsie Roll Campaign

Brothers, as we move into the fall it means two things - football and the "Tootsie Roll" campaign. The tootsie roll campaign, a.k.a. drive for assisting the mentally challenged, is one of the best local events of the Knights of Columbus.

Several years ago, the councils in Montgomery County decided to keep the money raised in the county - in the county.

Rock Creek Council will be soliciting finds from folks throughout our area, near supermarkets, churches, and other public venues.

In return for the donations, we give folks tootsie rolls. The funds raised from the campaign go to help organizations that work with the mentally challenged in our community.

The councils in Montgomery County pool their funds, then solicit proposals from organizations that serve the mentally challenged, and then the Grand Knights jointly decide how the funds should be distributed.

Last year, the councils jointly raised close to \$45,000. There were requests for about \$120,000. As we divvy up the funds we see who gets the money and what they do in our neighborhoods. I will be looking for volunteers to help out this fall at grocery stores and after Masses at all of the churches we serve.

It's a great experience and I think you will get a lot out of it. If you can give up a few hours for a good cause, give me a call at 240-793-1169.

Mike Horan, PGK

Tootsie Roll Chairman



Remember Our Sick and Deceased

Sick and Distressed:

PGK Jack Cunningham, PGK Jim Kane, PGK Neil Dorian, Marylou Divers, Carole Hanley, Paul Horan Sr., Ellen Kerr (sister-in-law of Jamie Caulfield), Barbara Waters, Lisa Davis, Ray Pawlicki, Patricia Dee, Mrs. Floriana, Vincent Coluzze (friend of GK Terence Ryan), and those on the Seniors' Club sick list (p. 11)

Deceased

PGK Richard J. Darley, Rourke J. Sheehan, Helen Curtin (mother of Greg Curtin), Michael McKee, Lena Vargas, and Ernest Zarnick

Please keep the above folks, and all of our ailing and deceased members, families and friends in your prayers.





CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

the loving God (Mt 16:13-18). Upon this confession, Jesus begins to tell His disciples of His impending trial and crucifixion. Of course, the Gospels tell us that much of what Jesus said confused the disciples, and likely His predictions of the trials He would face were no less so. We also hear the centurion proclaim at Christ's crucifixion, "Truly, this man was the Son of God" (Mt 15:39). Only after the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost did the Apostles understand fully who Jesus was. He was the Dearly Beloved Son of God, who offered His life for our salvation. This is the core of our faith as Catholics.

So what does all of this tell us? As followers of Christ, we are called to be like Him. Just as Christ was Light to the world, so are we to be. Christ did not hide Himself away on caves, on mountains, or in the temple. He took His message of forgiveness and love to the people. Likewise, what we experience at church cannot, and must not, stay in church. We are called to bring the Good News of salvation to the world.

We do this by sharing the message verbally, but also by acting in loving ways. When we do, we show that we truly care for one another's well-being. Following the example of Jesus, we are to be charitable to one others, putting others and God first in our lives. This extends beyond family and close friends. We are to give our love to all, even our enemies. When we reflect the light of Christ to others, we are, in a sense, "transfigured." We are made to shine forth, as beacons that can bring hope and healing to others and to the world.

God bless you.

Monsignor Gatto

State Pro-Life Mass Coming Up

As part of the effort to rid our state and nation of the sin of abortion, the State Council is sponsoring a series of monthly pro-life Masses in various parts of the state. This is a recognition that the battle for life is a spiritual one, which requires a program of prayer in addition to action.

The next pro-Life Mass will be held on Wednesday, September 28, at St. Hugh of Grenoble Church (135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt). The pastor, Fr. Walter Tappe, will be the celebrant, and Fr. Paul Schenck, director of the Office of Respect Life Activities for the Diocese of Harrisburg, will be the homilist. The Mass begins at 7 pm, and will be followed by refreshments and a talk by Lawrence Grayson, on the many pro-life initiatives of the Maryland Kof C.

As this also is the start of the fall *40 Days for Life* campaign, the Rosary will be said at 5:45 pm by the Metropolitan Family Planning Clinic (5912 Greenbelt Road, Berwyn Heights). *Be a witness to Life! Join the group.*

Membership Corner

By the time you read this issue of the *Chatter* summer will be coming to an end. With the coming of fall it is time to start thinking about recruiting new member into our order. The Council will hold its next 1st degree on September 22, which gives you plenty of time to start recruiting.

Before we consider HOW to recruit, we must address the question of WHOM to recruit. There are many eligible Catholic men and their families who would enjoy participating in the Order. Identifying them is easier than you think. Here are just a few examples:

- Approach pastors for parish rosters of potential Knights.
- Add all local priests, who are not Knights, to prospect list.
- Consider ushers, parish council members, choir, lectors, men's' club, etc., as prospects.
- Welcome all new parishioners by asking them to join.
- Recruit all 18-year-old high school and college graduates.
- Add fathers, sons, nephews, cousins, brothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, grandfathers, grandsons.

All of the parishes that are a part of the Rock Creek Council have schools. Knights who have children that attend these schools have a tremendous opportunity to recruit during school activities. A perfect example is your children's sporting activities. As you are talking to other fathers during practices or games, ask if they are Knights. If they are not, recruit them. It is that easy.

If you have a potential Knight in mind bring them by the council for one of our activities or just bring them by the lounge. As I mentioned last month, Supreme has a great video potential Knights can watch titled "*Why Join*". Send your recruits to the link-

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/membership/join/whyjoinflash/index.html>

Let's make September 22nd the largest 1st degree in the history of the Rock Creek Council!

Vivat Jesus!

Art Harris

Membership/Retention Director

Youth Activities

We are in the planning stage for this year's soccer shootout. Details to follow.

Matt Dugan

Youth Activities Chairman



PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Peter and Mary Ann Ferrigno, Pro-Life Chaircouple



I find it hard to believe that President Obama and the DNC has raised over \$86 million in campaign funds in

the past three months, May-July. This might make it harder, but not impossible, to get a pro-life president in the White House in 2012. The success that the Republican Party had in 2010 might mean that if this is what the people want, maybe then too, they will be there with their votes to remove President Obama from the White House.

The AUL (Americans United for Life) is doing its part to give Congress all the evidence they need to prove that Planned Parenthood has partaken in "criminal child sexual abuse, failure to comply with parental involvement laws, assisting those engaged in prostitution and/or sex trafficking, misuse of federal funds" and other misdeeds. Today, there are a number of members in Congress who have requested an investigation into Planned Parenthood. Big bucks, on the side of Planned Parenthood, must be at work from allowing this to have already taken place.

Some bishops are asking Catholics to think, long and hard, about voting for candidates who may be supporters of the pro-choice movement. I, too, ask you, members of this Council, to do the same. Even when donating money to the Church, make sure you know where the money will be distributed. In the past, some had gone to pro-homosexual and pro-choice organizations. This is so counter-productive.

Catholics have a moral obligation to help the pro-life movement. If abortions do not bother you, what is your feeling about Planned Parenthood undermining parents and promoting sex to kids? The pro-choice movement states that those of us who wish to protect the baby are placing the life of the woman at risk. Why are they not mentioning that the dangerous RU 486 abortion drug has killed dozens of women and injured more than a thousand? Does the pro-choice movement tell a woman that having an abortion increase their chance by 34% of having a premature child the next time she becomes pregnant and that she may suffer from other pregnancy complications (according to a recent study conducted in the United Kingdom)?

One should wonder why it is taking so

long for the lawmakers to agree that there is proof that this unborn child is a "person", and therefore entitled to the same rights as any other person. Supporters of the "personhood concept" are also sure that this will give clear meaning to protecting disabled persons and the elders. Remember, *A Life at Conception Act* declares unborn children as persons defined by the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. I pray that Cardinal Wuerl will see to it that Catholics under him will be informed of their duty to protect the innocent.

Although Jewish law prohibits abortion, all four progressive Jewish movements – Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, and Humanistic – are members of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice and hold that "abortion is permitted and sometimes required to save a woman's life". This confirms their voting position in the past. However, they all feel that any woman that goes to an abortion clinic deserves to be told fully about their options: adoption, abortion, and continuing the pregnancy. Most of us know that this is not what usually takes place at abortion clinics.

God Bless.

Prayer Warriors for Life

All of our good works will come to naught without a solid complement of prayer. That is why a prayer group has recently been formed. It is open to everyone, but especially those who have limited mobility or are homebound because of illness, infirmity or advanced age. Gene and Ann Stallings, one of the state's pro-life couples, are leading an informal group who will try – no hard obligation -- to say a rosary each day for the souls of the children who are being aborted and for an end to abortion in this nation. You do not even have to tell anyone you are doing this. God will know.

However, if you wish to let us know that you are joining Gene and Ann, you will receive the new monthly Pro-Life News, which provides information about pro-life activities and achievements of interest to Knights and their families in Maryland. Just send your name and email address to LPGrayson@verizon.net.

For a Lighter Moment





CHURCH ACTIVITIES REPORT

Peter D. Ferrigno, PGK

Most of us are aware that there has been a reduction of Catholic priests and religious in this country, but it seems to be more prevalent in Europe, especially in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. In Europe, an increasing number of theologians are disturbed at what they see happening. They believe that child abuse by clergy as the main cause. They ask that celibacy be discontinued and to ordain women, thinking that this would put an end to this "sin of the Church".

Why do these theologians not see that this would be a departure from the Catholic faith? One has to wonder if the Church could change. It has been in existence for almost 2000 years, and it seems that this makes it somewhat hierarchical and may not be able to change. Time should tell.

It has been documented that child abuse is occurs also in the Protestant faiths, and at a greater rate even with their removal of celibacy and with having women priests. Knowing this you have to wonder how these theologians came to the conclusions they did. Their recommended solutions have not helped the Protestant church any. Remember this, 1.7% of the Catholic clergy has been found guilty of pedophilia. Ten percent of the Protestant ministers have been found guilty of pedophilia. The media would have you think that this is a problem only with the Catholic clergy.

Those supporting same-sex marriages say that it is the right thing to do. I say that "being a truly Catholic person is the right thing to do," knowing that many would not agree with me. What they should be saying is that this is about "giving the homosexual-rights movement what it wants". In an article I read by Joseph Dooley of Glen Burnie, MD, he stated that if you can change the meaning of one man-one woman marriage then what about the basis, legal or moral issues, of forbidding acts of incest and polygamy also on the basis of equality. This is an example of the tail wagging the dog. The government has been telling us that we cannot pray in public school and should not do many other things because it may offend

some minority group no matter how small a group they may be.

Recently, when the governor of Maryland said that he would support same-sex marriage, the Archbishop of Baltimore, Edwin O'Brien, sent a letter to the Governor O'Malley stating, "It is especially hard to fathom your taking such a step, given the fact that our requests last year for you to sponsor legislation to repeal the death penalty and support students in Catholic and other nonpublic schools went unheeded."

Remember that our governor says that he is a Catholic. O'Malley's response was, "I do not presume nor would I ever presume as governor, to question or infringe upon your freedom to define, to preach about and to administer the sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church, but on the public issue of granting equal civil marital rights of same-sex couples, you and I disagree...I look forward to working with you on other issues of mutual agreement." So much said about some of our so-called "Catholics" in politics.

It is hard to comprehend how those that support "freedom of expression" can vary so greatly. Some may say that though it is wrong to pray in our public schools, it is all right to slander the Catholic faith and find no fault in this. There was an art exhibit in Manila, Philippines in which a statue depicting Christ with the face of Mickey Mouse was felt by some acceptable. Thankfully, since their population is 85% Catholic, many in that city did not think so and had the exhibit closed down. An atheist is suing the city of New York for thinking of displaying two beams joined at a right angle, resembling a cross, found in the ruins of the Trade Center on 09-11, saying that it should not be displayed in their new memorial museum because of its Christian connotation. Also mob violence involving religion can be found today in more than fifty countries. It is no wonder that we find so many speaking against the Catholic faith every chance they can. There seems to be far too much unrest, and I am sure that it may only get worse. Let us pray that this will not happen. God Bless.

Cardinal Burke Addressed the KofC Supreme Convention

Cardinal Raymond L. Burke, Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, addressed the Order's Supreme Convention on August 2 in Denver.

He noted that we are living in "a society in which, in many respects, morality has ceased to exist." He continued: "In many so-called advanced nations, we witness an increasing tendency to deny to citizens the most fundamental right, the right to

observe the dictates of one's own conscience, formed through right reason and the teaching of the Church. We witness the phenomenon in the language of political leaders who profess to be Catholics and yet vote for legislation which violates the moral law, claiming to hold personally to what the moral law demands but, at the same time, to be obliged by their political office to follow a different law in making decisions for those whom they represent and govern."

Religion, he continued, "is not a problem for legislators to solve, but a vital contribution to the national conversation."

The Cardinal encouraged us to be hopeful, saying, "If we are, from time to time, discouraged in our struggle to meet the high standard of ordinary Christian living on our time, let us turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe, begging her intercession and imitating her total trust that God's promises of salvation to us will be fulfilled."



Your Fun-Filled Lounge

Hours: Monday Thru Thursday 4-8
Friday 4-12, Saturday 2-8 (later for football), Sunday 12-7

Fall means football and music. The lounge has a busy fall schedule lined up this year.

There will be expanded Saturday hours for all the big college football games.

Stop by on Sundays for Redskins potluck tailgates. We will supply burgers, dogs, chips and fixins - bring a side or dessert. Tailgate cost is \$5 per person.



Call the lounge for details on late games.

The lounge is kicking off the fall and



Live Music for Charity Series

winter **Live Music for Charity Series** in September with some top notch bands. All proceeds will go to the council's charity fund.

*Friday September 9 - **The River w/Lou, Jack & Dennis** (oldies, classic rock top 40) @ 8pm \$5 donation - lounge*

*Friday September 16 - **Flatfoot Sam & The Worn Out Souls** (rockin swing, dance) @ 9pm \$5 donation - lounge*

*Friday September 24 - **Drew Loure Band** (great blues) @ 9pm \$5 donation - lounge*

*Friday September 30 - **Bob Perilla & Big Hillbilly Bluegrass** @ 9pm \$5 donation - lounge*

Then we go big-time!

Upcoming Events

*Friday October 21 - **The Mellon Heads** (this is a membership drive event, sign up a non-member) details to follow - Cantrell Hall*

*Saturday October 29 - **The Nighthawks** (national touring band) Council Halloween Party - details to follow - Cantrell Hall*

*Saturday December 3 - **Tom Principato** (national touring band) Council Christmas Party - details to follow - Cantrell Hall*

The Lounge is looking for some volunteer bartenders. Call the lounge during business hours and leave a message for Mike.

Its your lounge! Enjoy it!

Lounge phone 301-530-1628

Community Activities

Rock Creek Council has adopted the stretch of Greentree Road between Old Georgetown Road and Melwood Road. The county has installed signs that say *Knights of Columbus Rock Creek Council #2797* at each end of that stretch, In return it is our responsibility to clean the road a few times a year.



Our first clean up will take place on September 24th. We will meet at the council between 12:30 and 1 pm, and ride over together. After the clean up, it's back to the council for the *End of Summer Picnic*. The first 12 folks who sign up get a free draft cup at the picnic. To sign up, call the lounge Monday through Friday between 4 pm and 7 pm at 301-530-1628.

Our next **Police, Fire and Rescue Appreciation Day** will be held on October 29th. We will be looking for volunteers for this great event to all of those first responders who serve our community. Look for details in the October issue of the *Chatter*.

Chris Ryan

Community Activities Chairman

Council Activities

End of Summer Council Picnic-

Come celebrate the end of another great summer. We are holding an end-of-summer picnic on Saturday, September 24th from 3 to 7.



Enjoy hamburgers, chicken, hot-dogs, potato salad, cole-slaw, chips and sodas. Bring a dessert or your best side dish.

Lots of games for little kids, big kids and even old kids. Pick your team for a 3 -inning wiffle ball tournament. Teams must be composed of both kids and adults.

Cost: \$5 per person / \$15 per family
Bottomless Draft Beer Cups \$5 each
Full cash bar available in lounge

RSVP appreciated - Call the lounge Monday thru Friday between 4 pm and 7pm at 301-530-1628.

Dan Doane

Council Activities Chairman



Family Potluck Cookout & Movie Night

Family Movie Night is resuming on Friday, September 16th. Doors open at 7 pm., movie begins at dark. Cost is \$5 per person, \$15 per family.



A main dish and soda, water and juice are included in the price of admission; cash bar. When you come, A-M please bring a side dish and N-Z a dessert.



The movie, to be announced later, will be geared to and suitable for young children. It will be shown outdoors, if possible. Bring a blanket.

Please let me know via email if you are coming, so we can have the correct amount of food for the event. If you have with any suggestions and/or questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

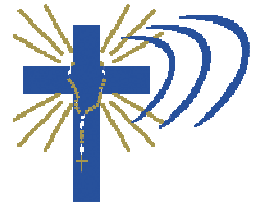
Felice D'Avella

Family Activities Coordinator
email: feliced13@hotmail.com
phone: 301-717-0784

P.S. Mark your calendars for the upcoming Family Potluck Cookout & Movie Night on Friday, October 7th.

CATHOLIC RADIO NEEDS OUR HELP

The Guadalupe Radio Network provides the only Catholic radio broadcasting in the Washington-Baltimore region.



It is heard in our area on WMET, 1160 AM. It is on the air 24-hours per day, seven days per week. Tune in! You will like it.

The station will be holding its Fall Radiothon from Tuesday, September 20th through Friday, September 23rd. They will be asking their listeners for pledges of financial support for the superb Catholic programming WMET provides all year long.

If you can, join the Guadalupe Radio Network for a Happy Hour on September 8 at Fire Station 1 Restaurant and Brewing Company, 8131 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, next to our studio in the World Building. Tickets are \$20 if purchased in advance or \$25 at the door. Purchase tickets online at www.grnonline.info or call 877-636-1160.

Volunteers are needed to "man" the phones during the radiothon. If you are able to help for a few hours, please call (301) 585-1305 or email molyf@grnonline.com.

Mike Horan, PGK

Are You LinkedIn?

The networking website, linkedin.com, is fast becoming the essential business networking tool. In this increasingly tough economy, you or someone you know is either looking for a job, trying to make connections in order to do business with a person or company, or trying to increase his or her contacts in order to land a better opportunity in the near future. The linkedin website is a platform to do this and much more. One of the much used features of the site is "groups". There are tons of groups focusing on every kind of topic or area of interest you can think of. There are plenty of Catholic groups, food enthusiast groups, outdoorsman groups and even a large Knights of Columbus group with Knights all over the country as its members. One group that didn't exist was the K of C Rock Creek Council 2797 group -- that is, until now.

I am pleased to tell you that the Knights of Columbus Rock Creek Council 2797 group is "live" on linkedin.com now and welcoming members of our council. With nearly 700 members in Rock Creek, it is only natural and sensible to offer this kind of powerful forum whereby our broth-

ers can communicate, connect and hopefully help each other. It is an easy and free way to extend the reach of the lounge and our council home. If charity starts in the home, then let's start in our council home and act charitably to one and other in these tough and uncertain times.

To join this group you must first be a registered user on linkedin.com. It is free to join if you aren't. Since this is an "invite only" group exclusive to Rock Creek members, you'll need to request membership. Search under groups on the site for K of C Rock Creek 2797. Click to send a request to join. Your request will be processed as quickly as possible. As the group membership grows, we'll start to push out content related to our faith or to business and networking that may be of interest. If enough people think it would be helpful, we can organize a linkedin class to help you learn the best way to use the tool. For now, let the networking begin! Any questions, feel free to send me a message through linkedin.com.

Jamie Caulfield

Deputy Grand Knight



REFLECTIONS ON A HERO

Lawrence P. Grayson, FDD, PGK, PFN

On Being a Catholic American Citizen

Virtually every reader of this article can say, "I am a Catholic American citizen." All those who can make this claim are most fortunate. But how many have thought about the full meaning of this statement or of the responsibilities that it implies?

Citizens are members of a nation-state. They have rights and are entitled to the benefits which flow from them. This is different from subjects who may enjoy similar benefits, which are granted as a privilege from a higher authority. Citizens, especially under more democratic forms of government, can dissent and criticize the government and can replace the governing body through free and fair elections. Subjects, with restricted or no rights, as in a dictatorship, an oligarchy or a strong monarchy, may have limited privileges to criticize the government, and can replace the rulers only through violent overthrow, as occurred in the French and Russian Revolutions.

In return for the rights they possess, citizens are expected to give full loyalty to the state, accept the obligations of helping it function and survive, and actively participate in its political and civic life. They should understand the meaning of and support the nation's constitution, accept the authority of the elected government, promote respect for the law, and participate in public consideration of matters of local and national interest.

American citizens are fortunate because they enjoy numerous liberties and rights, including freedom of speech and of religion, popular elections, representative assemblies, and the rule of law. Their nation has a constitution which defines the form and structure of government, limits the power of the central government, and makes clear that the government's power rests in the people.

In America, which was organized by the people, for the people, and is of the people, the success or failure of the government is everyone's responsibility. As a result, American citizens incur many essential obligations. They may be called to serve on juries, encouraged to engage in military service, required to pay their fair share of taxes, and expected to respect the rights of those with differing points of view.

Catholic American citizens should carry out their obligations of citizenship within a framework of religious beliefs and teachings that shape and guide their participation in

the nation's public life. Their thoughts, decisions and actions should be inspired by their faith. Catholics who truly believe in their faith must assimilate it into their inner being, allow it to shape their consciences, and use it to form their way of life.

In the democratic, but pluralistic and secular American society, the common good requires a respect for people with different beliefs and a willingness to find common ground whenever possible. This does not mean, however, that Catholics should compromise or be silent on fundamental issue of faith or human dignity. Catholics can serve the nation best by living their faith openly and unashamedly.



The Fourth Degree exemplifies Catholic American citizenship

They may do so in many ways. They may work to mold public opinion, frame issues, and encourage others to act, vote and participate in public discussions on matters that affect Catholic precepts. They should help to develop among members of the community a moral conscience on political issues, support the passage of laws that are just and consistent with the teachings of the faith, respect the dignity of each person, and promote the virtues and morality that underlie the founding pre-

cepts of the nation. They should practice the Catholic religion conscientiously and faithfully, be loyal to the Magisterium, and conduct their duties of citizenship consistent with Catholic virtues and Church teachings.

With the continued secularization of this nation, the growing view that religion should be a private matter, and so many Catholics in public life opposing Church teachings, the Knights of Columbus can be a potent force for good. Cardinal Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, who served as Apostolic Nuncio to the United States for 25 years and as Papal Secretary of State for two popes, addressed the 60th Supreme Convention of the Order in 1942. With the family then under siege from economic and social forces, he said:

"[T]he Knights of Columbus should be prepared to face their duty. Proclaim by all the means at your disposal that to conspire against the solidity of the home, to weaken its sacred bond of union, to deny it the means of decent livelihood, or in any way whatever to interfere with its God-given mission of physical and moral formation, is nothing else than a deadly attack on the security of the nation

(Continued on page 10)



GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

stake. We will get underway fast and furious during September with our Road Clean Up on our adopted stretch of Greentree Road, followed by our council picnic and clam-bake. I look forward to our First Degree ceremony on September 22. Reach out to at least one person in your circle of influence, and invite him to join. Bigger, Stronger, Faster isn't just for sport anymore.

Our families committee will be holding our first and second Family Fun Nights on September 16th and October 7th. Please contact Felice d'Avella to volunteer your time. We will need volunteers to man tables at St. Jane de Chantal's "The Time, Talent, and Treasure Fair", which will be held on Saturday, September 24, after the 5:00 pm Mass, and on Sunday, September 25 after all Masses, 8:00, 10:00, 12:00, and 5:00. Please check with your parish as to when their fairs will be.

On Saturday, we will welcome all our members and families to our end of summer picnic from 3-7pm. I look forward to meeting those of you whom I have yet to meet.

By now you will have been contacted by our Car Raffle Chairman, Emory Linder, on how we intend to sell the most tickets in the state this year. Ask Emory how you can help get us over the top.

There will be many other opportunities to get involved with the Council on the local, district and state level, which we will post on the list serve as they are forwarded to us. Also, remember to attend our council meetings. They keep you informed, and your attendance will build a stronger bond with your fellow Knights.

Remember what we stand for defend our clergy, church, and country, protect our families, aid those in need, and pray for the sick and deceased.

Vivat Jesus !

Terence Ryan

Grand Knight

Around the Kay-Cee Club

The Kay-Cee Club has done a lot over the last three years to enhance the look of the Rock Creek Mansion, especially inside. We'll continue to keep you abreast of new projects as they develop.



But, I wanted to speak about the work we're planning for the

grounds. Kevin Carlsen, Art Rawson and Johnny Purcell, contractor and member, have done a lot to beautify the property. Their latest project is constructing a walkway from the lounge entrance up to the patio. It will be lined with trees and other plants. A fire pit will be installed on the patio, as well. If you see Kevin, Art, or Johnny, make sure compliment them on their fine work.

One last note: PGK Neil Dorian has resigned from the club's board of directors, as he has been elected to as the Faithful Navigator of the Cardinal O'Boyle Fourth Degree Assembly. We wish Neil the very best in his new position.

We're looking for someone to fill the vacancy, *preferably someone with a financial background*. If you're interested, give me a call at (301) 946-3573.

I hope you had a great summer. Come on by and visit when you get a chance.

Burt Murray

President

Rental Corner



The rental season is gearing up with a few Gala Fundraisers including Westmoreland Children's Center's Country Western Fundraising Auction and Washington Waldorf School's Springtime in Paris Gala. We are a popular location for Sweet Sixteen parties, weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs, graduation and special birthday celebrations.

If you have family and friends who are newly engaged or are planning birthday parties, rehearsal dinners, graduation parties - tell them to check our new website, www.rockcreekmansion.com. It is full of information and has a series of photos showing how the hall has looked for various functions. I would be happy to schedule a tour for anyone. **And remember — members get a rental discount!**

Julie Carter

tel: 240-426-1220, email: rmansion@gmail.com



Life Insurance Awareness Month



September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. To help educate consumers about the need

for and value of adequate life insurance protection, the Life Insurance Market Research Association (LIMRA) has published the following five facts. These statistics are certainly worth considering.

Fact 1: Nearly three-fourths of North Americans agree that life insurance is the best way to protect against premature death of the primary wage earner.

Fact 2: Twenty-four million households have no life insurance protec-

tion at all. Almost one third of adults have no life insurance protection.

Fact 3: Forty-four percent of all households either don't own life insurance and believe they should, or own life insurance and believe they need more. Among those that already own some life insurance, 40 percent believe they don't have enough.

Fact 4: One-fourth of primary wage earners feel they do not have a plan in place to provide a decent standard of living for their family if they died tomorrow. Twelve percent of families would immediately have trouble meeting everyday living expenses and another 15 percent would have difficulty keeping up after several months.

Fact 5: People would like to discuss

life insurance with a qualified professional agent. They believe that buying life insurance is an important and complex financial decision. Half find it difficult to decide how much to buy, and 43 percent worry about making the wrong decision.

I'd like to meet with you in your home, at your convenience. I'll work with you to make sure your family is protected. As a brother Knight you can trust, I'll take the stress and worry out of the buying decision.

Call me – let's talk.

Fraternally,

MICHAEL PATTEN
Fraternal Benefits Advisor
240-305-6996

michael.patten@kofc.org

Cardinal Patrick A. O'Boyle Assembly, No. 386

FOURTH DEGREE

The installation of new officers, scheduled for August 28, was postponed because of the storm called *Irene*. A new date will be set soon.

Two members of Rock Creek Council are to be installed as officers of the Cardinal O'Boyle Assembly. S/K Neil Dorian will assume the position of Faithful Navigator and S/K Gregory Curtin will become Faithful Pilot.

The Installation will begin with Mass at 2:00 PM at the historic, Old St. John's Church, with a reception and dinner following at Fr. Rosensteel Council. The price of the dinner is \$20 per person. For reservations, contact SK George Carter at 301-949-2701 or ggc35@comcast.net.

For those who are not yet members of the Fourth Degree, it is time to give it consideration. There is only one opportunity each year in our area to assume this patriotic degree. The exemplification will occur in March 2012. More information will be forthcoming.

The Assembly meets at Fr. Rosensteel Council on the third Thursday of every month. The Rosary is said at 7:30 pm, followed by a meeting at 8:00 pm.

For more information about the Cardinal Patrick A. O'Boyle Assembly and its activities, contact S/K Gregory Curtin at 301-654-5543



REFLECTIONS

(Continued from page 7)

itself. In recent years, unfortunately, ghastly wounds have been inflicted on family life. Redouble your zeal, then, and firmly united in your apostolate, show yourselves loyal Catholics and upright citizens, fighting like faithful knights this holy crusade for God and Country."

In the succeeding decades, conditions have worsened, not only for the family, but for virtually all moral concepts of society. A counterforce is needed. The Knights of Columbus, serving as the foot soldiers of the Catholic Church, can be the vanguard of that movement. In a statement that is as relevant today as it was when made in 1947, Cardinal Cicognani, provided a mission for that counterforce. He said, "[A]s sons of God, you must be transformed, and in turn transform the world, by a fervent living of the Christian faith. That is the will of the Lord." Will we, as Knights, assume the gauntlet?

Book Discussion and Signing

Thursday, Sept 15th 7PM -- Fr. Rosensteel Council invites all brother Knights, families and friends to an evening of inspirational words and wit by Kevin Wells. *Burst: A Story of God's Grace When Life Fall Apart* describes how he dealt with a life-threatening brain aneurysm, the murder of his uncle, Msgr. Tom Wells, and heart-wrenching adoption scams. Kevin's humility and Irish humor are infectious.



SENIORS' CLUB REPORT

By PGK Bob Waters, President

We had 51 reservations for our annual luncheon-meeting at Alfio's. This included 12 guests, our largest number ever. We were honored to have our chaplain, Msgr. Vincent Gatto, Msgr. John Brady, Fr. Francis Alves, Fr. Justin Huber (Holy Redeemer), Fr. Kyle Ingel, Fr. Joseph Perkins, Fr. Joseph Sileo (St. Bartholomew), Br. Ed Adams, Sr. Mary Adams, Deacon Boob Hubbard, Daryll and Dorothy Bush (you all know them!). Keep inviting our clergy and sisters.

We had no chairperson for this function. But a special thanks to Jean Gordon, Helen Brennan and Darlene Coleman for their "11th hour" help! Also, thanks to Joan Brogan, Ann Doby and Hilda Stofko for making this function a big success!

Our next meeting will be a Hawaiian Party on Wednesday, September 14th. Be sure and make your reservations early so we can buy an adequate amount of food. Again, we have no chairperson for this function! If anyone is interested, please contact me. Note that we may have a parking problem for this meeting. Please carpool, if possible!!! See the advertisement below.

Congratulations to Barbara Smothers, as a new grandmother of twins!



PGK Bob Waters

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND OUR MILITARY!

PRAYER CORNER

In your prayers remember: Eureka & Elizabeth Arcand, Tom Becker, Dom Bellia, William "Will" Bello, Maggie De Bettencourt, Larry Bisnett, Lily Callowhill, Jinny Chwirut, Maureen Collins,

Jack Cunningham, Kevin Dyer, PGK Joe Falzon, Jerry Forlenza, Susan Gordon Garcia, Lois Gargano, Katharine Giodati, Bill Gordon, Carole Hanley, PGK, Frank Hayden, PSD Gene Hogan, Marie Horan, Paul Horan, Saunders Jacobsen, PGK Jim Kane, Julia Marcus, James Marketos, Clarence Mayberry, Eugene O'Neill, Ralph Oviedo, Sr. Maureen Patrice, Fr. David Pollak, Mary Rainey, Joan Reed, Bridget Shanahan, Gloria Skapik, Pilar Stark, John and Estelle Stoltz, Stephanie Suff, Ray Timm, Joselyn Walter Graham and Regina Walter, Barbara Waters, R. Joyce Waters, my cousin Bernice Wilt, Louise Young, Karen Zack, and Fran and Frank Zello.

Our condolences to the families of Jean Frank (sister of Ruth Stout), Barbara Weldon Lawrence (widow of PGK John Weldon), Mary Lou Divers (wife of a close friend of mine), Lena Vargas, Rourke Sheehan, and Richard Darley.

Council Leaders

CHAPLAINS

Rev. Msgr. Vincent S. Gatto - 301-762-2143
Deacon Robert Hubbard—301-942-1522
Deacon John Shewmaker - 301-986-8658

GRAND KNIGHT

Terence P. Ryan—301-215-9197

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT

James Caulfield—301-365-2580

CHANCELLOR

Joseph Myers—301-765-1030

WARDEN

Kevin Giblin—301-502-7735

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Joseph Murphy, PGK—301-762-2418

RECORDER

Peter Ferrigno, PGK—301-469-6099

TREASURER

F. Douglas Yeatman—301-897-3265

ADVOCATE

Kevin Kittka, PGK—301-469-8453

INSIDE GUARD

Gregory Curtin—301-654-5543

OUTSIDE GUARD

William R. Ruane—301-530-6755

TRUSTEES

1-Year—Bruce Cathie—301-571-7220
2-Year—John Vivian—301-461-3597
3-Year—Thomas Tappan—301-365-3128

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Michael Horan—240-793-1169

CHURCH & PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Peter Ferrigno, PGK—301-469-6099

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Chris Ryan—301-335-6082

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Daniel Doane—301-802-1195

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Felice d'Avella—301-717-0784

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Matthew Dugan—202-412-9982

MEMBERSHIP

Arthur Harris—301-530-4868

RETENTION

Bret Strachan—301-933-2920
Matt Chalfont—

LECTURER

Christopher Horan—301-440-4199

PRESIDENT, SENIORS CLUB

Robert C. Waters, PGK—301-493-8883

FIRST DEGREE TEAM CAPTAIN

TBD

4th DEGREE - O'BOYLE ASSEMBLY

Gregory Curtin—301-654-5543

PRESIDENT, KAY-CEE CLUB

Burt Murray—301-946-3573

PRESIDENT, LADIES AUXILIARY

Erin Dolan Bailey—301-

WEBMASTER

Matthew Flynn—301-942-8491

CHATTER EDITOR

Lawrence P. Grayson, PGK - 301-933-8731
e-mail - LPGrayson@verizon.net

COUNCIL OFFICES

LOUNGE—301-530-1628

FINANCIAL SECRETARY—301-530-2427

KAY-CEE CLUB—301-530-0258

Seniors' Hawaiian Party and Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 14
Noon — 3:00 PM

Deli platter luncheon
\$2 cash bar



\$15 per person
Pay at the door



Wear your favorite island-style outfit

Keyboard Music
By Dorothy Bush

Reservations a must! RSVP by Monday, September 12
Ted McIntosh 301-983-0918
Dora Bailey 301-963-4742

Carpool if possible — parking limited

Anniversary
& Birthday
Receptions,
Weddings,
Meetings

Rock Creek Council's

ROCK CREEK MANSION

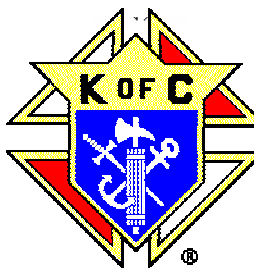
A Private Party Site in the
Heart of Bethesda

Excellent location near the
Capital Beltway, just north
of NIH.

For more information,
check the website
www.rockcreekmansion.com

Schedule a tour by calling

Julie Carter
240-426-1220



THE KNIGHT CHATTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY (EXCEPT AUGUST), AT NO CHARGE, BY

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ROCK CREEK COUNCIL, No. 2797

5417 WEST CEDAR LANE

BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814-1517

<http://www.KofC2797.org>

Non Profit
Organization

U. S.

Postage Paid

Bethesda, MD

Permit No. 7023

Address Service Requested

October CHATTER Deadline:
September 18, 2011

ROCK CREEK COUNCIL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
September				1	2	3
				4	5 Labor Day	6 Executive Committee 7:30 PM
11	12	13	14 Seniors Hawaiian Party Noon—3 PM	15	16 Family Movie Night	17
18	19	20	21 K-C Club 7:30 PM	22 Rosary 7:30 PM 1st Degree Mtg 8:00 PM	23	24 Council Picnic 3-7 PM
25	26	27	28	29	30	