



# Knights of Columbus

## March 2020 Newsletter for Father Howard J. Lesch Council 7667

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# **General Membership Meeting Minutes March 3, 2020**

The Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Grand Knight Chuck Kuzma with 30 members present. Roll call was taken. Minutes from previous meeting were approved as distributed.

## **Report of Admissions: (Franklin Bevel)**

- Hector Bird, Senior, father of Brother Hector transferred to our council from state. He was unanimously welcomed.

## **Grand Knight's Report: (GK Chuck Kuzma)**

- The Twin Cities Women's Club asked for Bingo support. There will be more information and discussion in New Business.
- We had great support for Soup and Stations. There was plenty of food and the Shrimp Gumbo made by Brother John Griffin got special mention from Father Steve.
- The Father/Daughter Dance went well.
- Last weekend at the Diocesan Youth conference was last weekend and we had plenty of help to put things away and return the PLC to normal configuration.
- March 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Lenten Mission and the Knights in cooperation with the CCW are providing the first meal. There will be Mass at 5; Dinner at 6, and Mission at 7. The Officers authorizes the money for food and PGK Steve Zajac volunteered to cook. The women will provide the deserts. Steve will need help serving and cleaning up.
- There is a new Exemplification Ceremony combining the first 3 degrees. More information in New Business.
- There will be a Fifth Sunday Rosary on March 29. Three years ago President Trump also designated March 29 as Viet Nam Veterans Recognition Day.
- The Knight of the Year is Randy Honeyman, and the Family of the Year is Jim and Nancy Reese.
- **Correspondence:**
  - We got a letter from Helping Heroes Fly. We have supported this charity that helps unite families of enlisted military members. Pam Matt, director, notified us that due to funding shortages they are dissolving this charity. They will use remaining funds to provide flights but are not accepting any new applications. Pam did thank us for our support in the past.
  - In the bulletin for Sunday's Masses there was an insert from the Florida Bishops council encouraging all Catholic men to join the Knights of Columbus. It talked about what the Knights of Columbus is and what they do. Thank You to the parish for duplicating this and inserting it in the bulletin.

## **Treasurer's Report: (Brother Ken Laird)**

As of March 3, 2020 the report is as follows:

- General Fund Total \$22,129.33

## **Financial Secretary Report: (Brother Greg Smedley)**

**Financial Secretary Report as of 29 Feb 2020**

**February Expenses: 1,630.73**

Date	Warrant	Written To	Amount	Notes	Authority
2/4	14	Mark Williams	165.00	Ceremonial Baldric x5	E
2/4	15	Holy Name of Jesus	170.00	F/D Dance Insurance	B
2/4	16	Mitch McClaren	135.10	F/D Dance Flyer & Poster / Armstrong Printing and Graphics Inc	B
2/4	17	Gregory Smedley	69.99	Windows 365 Personal	B
2/4	18	John Rafferty	192.83	Bingo Kitchen Supplies	B
2/4	19	Ellis Bourdreaux	36.78	Pasta Dinner Salads & Desserts	B
2/4	20	Ernie Martinez	13.96	Pasta Dinner/Salad Dressing Reimbursement	B
2/4	21	Florida KofC Charities	300.00	In honor of Mary Beth O'Connor	B
2/11	22	Charles Kuzma	24.99	Council Library Book	B
2/18	23	Gregory Smedley	30.14	Office Supplies	B
2/25	24	Mitch McClaren	64.29	F/D Dance Decorations	B
2/25	25	Ken Laird	17.29	Plastic Envelopes	B
2/25	26	Steve Zajac	386.40	F/D Dance Food & Drinks	B
2/25	27	Chuck Kuzma	23.96	Office Member Tags	E

**Authority:** E Executive Officer Meeting; G General Meeting; GK Grand Knight; FS Financial Secretary; B Budget

### January Income: 4,482.10

Date	From	Amount	Notes
7-Jan	Dues	45.00	GP 104
7-Jan	T-Shirts	20.00	sold 1/3
7-Jan	KCIC Card Sales	173.00	St Michaels Parish Hetzel- Ellis
7-Jan	Bingo	630.00	1/3 Bingo
14-Jan	Bingo	819.00	1/10 Bingo
14-Jan	Dues	50.00	Gp 105
23-Jan	T-Shirts	50.00	1/8 Cloutier
23-Jan	Ties & Scarves	55.00	1/8 Cloutier
23-Jan	Bingo	856.00	1/17 Bingo
28-Jan	Bingo	655.10	1/24 Bingo
28-Jan	Florida State Council	500.00	Performance Award from State
31-Jan	Bingo	629.00	1/31 Bingo

### Trustee's Report: (PGK Paul Robert)

- There will be some positions to fill for the new fraternal year. If you have an interest in serving in some position, see one of the trustees and let them know.

### Chancellor's Report on Vocations: (Brother Franklin Bevel)

- We will be sending checks soon to the seminarians that we support.

**\* FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAM DIRECTOR: (DGK Billy Starnes)**

Report on Faith in Action Programs:

**\* Faith Program: (PGK Paul Robert)**

- No Report.

**Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP): (Brother Franklin Bevel)**

**Rosary Program: (Brother Peter Karp)**

**Building the Domestic Church Kiosk: (Brother Greg Reese)**

- The booklets are being well used and being returned to recirculate.

**Spiritual Reflection Program: (GK Chuck Kuzma and PGK Steve Zajac)**

**\* Family Program: (Brother Karl Eschmann)**

**Knight/Family of the Month/Year: (Brother Karl Eschmann)**

- Family of the Month: Mitch and Heather McClaren
- Knight of the Month: Peter Karp
- The write up of the great things these Knights are doing is at the end of the minutes.
- Brother Karl also reported that related to the Vietnam Veterans Day there will be a presentation on "LineBacker I and II" at 2p.m on March 28 at Suds-N-Cinema in Ft. Walton Beach. This was the colossal air campaign that brought about the end of the Vietnam War and the release of 591 POWs.

**Keep Christ in Christmas: (Brother Ernie Martinez & PGK Ellis Boudreaux)**

**Food For Families: (PGK Mark Williams)**

**Scholarships: (Brother Mike Contratto)**

**Consecration to the Holy Family: (PGK Tom Elsesser)**

**\* Community Program: (PGK Ellis Boudreaux)**

**Coats for Kids: (PGK Mark Williams)**

### **Father/Daughter Dance: (Brother Mitch McClaren)**

- We had lots of help and had a very successful dance. We had about 300 Volunteer hours and over 300 guests. There was an entire pickup truck of food that went to Niceville Catholic Outreach. There was \$348 remaining after expenses and Brother Mitch made a motion to also donate this money to NCO. This was unanimously approved.

### **Spelling Bee: (PGK Ellis Boudreaux)**

### **Helping Hands: (DGK Chuck Kuzma)**

### **\* Life Program: (Brother Jim Cloutier):**

- The Abortion clinic in Pensacola is operating again. Their schedule varies but the Knights are sponsoring “40 Days for Life” where they will have people praying outside the clinic every day throughout lent. If you are interested in going to Pensacola to help with this please see one of the fourth degree knights.

### **March for Life: (PGK Matt French)**

- The Life Runners will meet on March 21 at 8 a.m. at Turkey Creek Pavilion.

### **Sunland Picnic and Christmas Party: (Brother Tim Pugh and Brother Ken Laird)**

### **Christian Refugee Relief: (PGK Matt French)**

### **Novena for Life: (PGK Matt French)**

### **Round Table Chairman: (Brother Lee Green)**

- Thank you to the Knights that provided an Honor Guard for the recent Confirmation.
- There will be a rosary after the third Sunday 11 a.m. Mass.

### **Bingo: (Tim Pugh)**

- We will be honoring Brother George with the presentation of a plaque and also will have a plaque affixed to the new bingo machine.
- Since bingo provides the major portion of the monies we use for our charitable work Brother Tim made a motion that we name one of the scholarships that we award each year in honor of Brother George. This would be the scholarship that goes to one of the Catholic students in the local area. This was approved unanimously.

## **Pasta:(PGK Mark Williams)**

- No Report

## **Unfinished Business:**

- None

## **New Business:**

- PGK Steve Zajack will be the chef for the dinner for the Parish Mission on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. He will need 6 people to serve the meal and 4 people to assist with clean up. The CCW will provide the deserts.
- Brother Tim Pugh reported that we were approached by the Twin Cities Women's Club for assistance with their bingo fund raiser. This supports scholarships for women reentering the workforce to NWFSC. They would like to use our bingo equipment and the hall in to support this fundraiser. They usually do this twice a year. The first would be 9:30 to 12:30 Saturday morning in October, potentially the 10th. A knight that is trained on the equipment would actually be running the equipment. We checked all the charities that they support and none are in conflict with our values and Father Steve has approved this. Brother Tim made a motion that we support this; carried unanimously.

## **Report of the Fourth Degree: (PGK Matt French)**

- We will be attending a Fourth Degree exemplification in Montgomery, Alabama on June 20. If you are a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and would like to join the Fourth Degree please see one of us. We are currently rebuilding our Color Corp and we would welcome you. There is also a Florida Exemplification in Bradenton. It is a long way but if you want to do this we can help make arrangements.
- Six Knights supported Confirmation at St. Michael's on base.
- March 29 is 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Patriotic Rosary at Resurrection Church in Destin at 3 P.M.
- The Patriotic Essay Contest at the local schools has kicked off.
- The Assembly donated two wheelchairs to Wheelchairs for Vets.
- The Assembly donated \$250 to the Holy Angles fund.
- Confirmation at Holy Name Parish will be May 10 at 5 P.M.
- The next meeting is March 19 at Holy Name Parish Hall.

## **Field Agents Report: (Tim Pugh)**

- There is a new degree exemplification that combines the first three degrees. The new combined exemplification is about 30 minutes long. Our Degree team will have a practice on March 17. This new exemplification will no longer be secret; it is open to the public and several wives are interested in attending. Families are welcome at this ceremony.

- Insurance Tip of the Month: Keep in mind that the Tax Cuts will expire in 2025 and that means taxes will most likely increase. Moral is look at your taxable money and see if you can move it to non-taxable. Brother Tim has some products that might be able to help.
- Shameless plug of the month: The group, Klarke Services, rates insurance companies. They rate on how the cash value and dividends grow. This year's ratings just came out and we are about 3 times the industry average.

**District Deputy Report: (DD Steve Zajac)**  
**DD Notes**  
**March 3, 2020**

- Starting in April Supreme will start adding shipping to all orders.
- Make sure Council assessments are paid before April 10.
- Need to know the date for our next exemplification right away so it can be reported on Saturday.
- With the Conference coming up we always take out an ad in the program to help pay for the program. The ad costs \$500 and our share in we chose to participate is \$85. A motion was made to pay this and was approved unanimously.
- The Tootsie Roll shipment is in. Whoever is Tootsie Roll chairman needs to let Steve know how many cases we want.

Presentations:

Knight of the Month for November to Hector Bird.

Knight of the Month for January to Greg Reese.

<b>KofC COUNCIL 7667 PRAYER REQUESTS</b>	
	Dated - March 3, 2020
Deacon Jim & Carolyn Cox	Barry Lambert
Deacon Lou & Katherine Marini	Ernie Martinez
Gabriel Chavez	Tracy McMorrow
Naomi Clarkson	Vincent Mayfield
Rita Dozier	Kathleen Moran
Evie Fox	Erica O'Connell
Eric Frodesen	Peggy O'Grady
Eric Gulbranson	Tee Reese
Carmen Hank	Nicole Robert

Herm Hernandez	Annelyse Smedley
Tom Kessinger	Sharon Soehren
Tom Kraus	Jean Thompson
Chuck Kuzma	Deacon Jack Trevano
	Ignacio Zermeno & Family

### Meeting Closure:

- GK Chuck closed with the Knights Prayer and the meeting was adjourned.
- Next general membership meeting is April 7, 2020 at 7 p.m.

### After-meeting Social:

Attendees remained for a social at the end of the meeting with tacos provided by PGK Steve Zajac

## *Happy Birthday April Brothers!*

Anthony L Ordner	04-01	Vincent P Befi	04-18	Caleb M Vignolo	04-25
Carlos M Santiago	04-02	James G Elliott	04-20	Gibson S Guilles	04-26
Edward J Goodwin	04-05	Keith R Kirk	04-20	Bruce J Conti	04-29
James D Reese	04-07	Kendall R Wagner	04-20	Jakob Dwyer	04-29
Larue M Holliday	04-10	John J Christopher Jr	04-21	Eymard R Basch III	04-30
John K Griffin	04-11	Robert W Marinan	04-22	Jody R Bell	04-30
Paul D Burgess	04-15	Paul G Perkins	04-22		
William C Harrison	04-15	Ryan E Rasins	04-22		

### **FAMILY OF THE MONTH**

#### **February 2020**

#### **Mitch and Heather McClaren**

Brother Mitch McClaren worked hard this year in many parish and council related activities. He and his wife Heather have been very active members of the HNJ parish especially in the last year. He is ready to answer the call of the Grand Knight when volunteers for any activity called for. For the fifth year in a row, as our Council Director of Activities, Brother Mitch volunteered to be the Lead Organizer for the annual Father-Daughter Dance sponsored by the Knights. When the event occurred this year, 303 people attended the event. This was open to the community, and most attendees were from outside our parish. The dance was well covered by the local press as a family oriented dance, and well organized. Brother Mitch distributed over 2500 flyers all over the county to advertise the event. His wife Heather helped him to decorate the HNJ Parish Family Life Center, serve the food at the event, and the clean up after the event. Mitch is a full time Air Force Support Contractor assigned to Eglin AFB, and he did this project in concert with the time required to do the detailed planning and execution of this very important KOC program. The Dance was supported by over 30 knights and their spouses. The volunteers greeted the Fathers and Daughters, prepared and served



the food, provided individual photos of each set of Fathers and Daughters, and cleaned the Family center after the event. Knights processed pictures real-time, and everyone walked out of the Dance with professionally styled photos. The event collected over 600 pounds of canned food and a \$348 profit that Brother Mitch donated to the Food for families program. Brother Mitch also set up a Deep Sea Fishing Charter Boat for Council Knights to exhibit their capabilities to put food on the table while having fun and socializing with other Knights. He and his fellow Columbians were engaged in the planning to utilize the property lots adjacent to the Parish land and owned by the Columbians for joint use by the Parish. He actively participated with the management of the Stock profiles and checking accounts for the Corporation. He was very involved in the planning of a joint venture construction project to combine the funds of the parish and the Columbians to design and build a new facility which includes a new Council Building to perform activities such as the Bingo Program, Social Events, and meetings. He helped to write the Memorandum of Agreement between the Columbians and the Parish to transfer the entirety of the funds to support the new construction project. The funds were successfully transferred to the Parish Building Construction Fund at the end of 2019. Both our Brother and his wife provided invaluable assistance during the annual Council sponsored Sunland Christmas Party for a group of over 40 handicapped persons. Sunland is a facility located in Marianna Florida, about 80 miles from Niceville Florida, which provides full time care and supervision for adults who are mentally handicapped. This annual event involves both providing of food for the handicapped, as well as for their family members and staff of the agency, and the distribution of gifts. The council members and Ladies Sodality purchased presents for the guests and then helped "Santa" to distribute the presents to each guest. Heather was responsible for the matching of the presents with all the women guests whom attended this great event. Heather is a parent volunteer food supplier for the Sunday Night Life Teen Catholic Youth program. After Sunday Mass, the teens engage in discussions related to Bible Studies and religious topics. She is also a full-time Guidance Counselor at Plew Elementary School in Niceville. Aside from her normal duties in working with parents and students regarding education issues, she helps needy student families with regard to providing donations of clothing, school supplies and other items of necessity and also volunteers at a local food bank. She helped lead the annual Children in Crisis Fundraiser, which raised over \$4000 to support the organization. The oldest daughter Morgan attends college at the University of South Florida in pursuit of a Master's Degree program. The middle daughter Mariah is attending the University of Florida. She is an active member of the Catholic Gator Organization, and the group sponsors important efforts such as assisting with Habitat for Humanity projects to help needy families. She is also a mentor and leader for two Bible Studies programs, and a Disciple Mentor of Faith to other Catholic students. She is also a Pro-Life Coordinator and participated in a fundraiser that yielded the most money ever collected for the yearly event. The youngest daughter Macy is a member of the Niceville High School Band in the highest Ensemble Chair for the Symphonic Winds. She is on the Parish Youth Council, the Diocese Youth Board, and participates in religious topics discussions at the various youth meetings in the Life Teen programs. Brother Mitch supports his daughter at NHS by cooking at every football game and leading fundraisers for the Band. The McClaren family embodies and exercises those Christian traits reflecting the principles of our order--charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The support of families like the McClarens help form the backbone of today's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus charitable activities.

## **KNIGHT OF THE MONTH**

**February 2020**

**Peter Karp**

Brother Peter Karp worked hard this year in many parish and council related activities as a member of the Holy Name of Jesus Parish. He is ready to answer the call of the Grand Knight when volunteers for any activity called for. Brother Karp is a mainstay in our numerous Council operations in helping the project leaders of various activities in completing a number of substantial efforts by supporting our Catholic and local communities. This includes normal council meetings, membership drives, K of C degree ceremonies, and social events such as activities in the Family Life Center. As an active volunteer, he assisted in the annual Council and District Spelling Bee competition. This is an annual project involving the 5th through 10th graders in all the Niceville-Valparaiso schools and a Destin Middle School. Brother Peter assisted the judges, scorekeepers and concessionaires and the group of knights who volunteered to support the event from all the local councils, making this a real community event. The winners in each of the categories in the 5/6 and 7/8 grade breakouts won savings bond certificates and plaques. Over 60 students participated in the Spelling Bee events. Brother Peter greatly helped the effort to donate 45 coats to the Coats for Kids program for children in the local Head Start program. The knights had to order smaller sizes from a local store paid for by our Knight Council funds because the standard coats from the program were too large for the children we helped. He provided invaluable assistance during the annual Council sponsored Sunland Christmas Party for a group of over 40 handicapped persons. Sunland is a facility located in Marianna Florida, about 80 miles from Niceville Florida, which provides full time care and supervision for adults who are mentally handicapped. This annual event involves both providing of food for the handicapped, as well as for their family members and staff of the agency, and the distribution of gifts. The council members and Ladies Sodality purchased presents for the guests and then helped "Santa" to distribute the presents to each guest. Brother Peter also volunteered to be one of the primary participants in the annual Father-Daughter Dance sponsored by the Knights. Over 300 people attended the event. This was open to the community, and most attendees were from outside our parish. The dance was well covered by the local press as a family oriented dance, and well organized. His main job during the event was to collect the money and donated food items at the entry point in the Family Life Center. The Dance was supported by over 30 knight and spouse volunteers. The volunteers greeted the

Fathers and Daughters, prepared and served the food, provided individual photos of each set of Fathers and Daughters, and cleaned the Family Center after the event. Brother Peter is a very active supporter and volunteer in a number of Community Service Organizations. First and foremost, he supports the Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center, which provides services for children in the two local counties that have been abused, neglected, or assaulted. The Centers in Niceville and DeFuniak Springs bring together all the partners needed to assist children and their families from the investigation process through healing and restoring their childhood. He assists in every main fundraising event to provide the funding required to support the services offered, including wine tasting, tournaments, silent auctions, and other venues. They recently held a Twenty Year anniversary Gala Event, and Brother Peter oversaw the silent auction activities to raise additional funds for this important service. He is also an Ambassador for the local Fisher House. Fisher House of the Emerald Coast is located on Eglin Air Force Base in Northwest Florida and provides a "home away from home" so that our military families can be together during treatment for serious illness or physical/occupational therapy. Other activities include his role as an usher at Mattie Kelly events and concerts, and collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program at Christmas.

Brother Peter embodies and exercises those Christian traits reflecting the principles of our order--charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The support of knights like Brother Peter help form the backbone of today's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus charitable activities.