



# Knights of Columbus

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

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# General Membership Meeting Minutes May 5, 2020

Due to required Social Distancing the General Membership meeting of Council 7667 was held using ZOOM. The log-on information was sent out to all members by an email from Grand Knight Chuck Kuzma. The Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Grand Knight Chuck Kuzma with 21 members initially on line.

Minutes from previous meeting were approved as distributed.

## Report of Admissions: (Franklin Bevel)

- We have two new applications; Bruce Stinard is signed up for the online exemplification.
- A new form 100 is available on line. Please use this form if you recruit a new candidate. Note that only the Grand Knight or Financial Secretary or the candidate can input the form online.

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

- The new Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity will be presented as an online Exemplification by the Supreme Council on Thursday May 7. There will also be exemplifications on May 14 at 6 and 9 p.m. and May 17 at 6 and 9 p.m.
- There was an email about the Knights Shed. The shed has to be removed to make way for construction related to the new building. There is a lot of worthless stuff in there but some things that we use regularly, like the Christmas and Tootsie roll stuff. We will be cleaning it out and moving the good stuff to an area in the new garage that Deacon Gary has designated for our storage until the new building is complete. Once all the valuable items are moved the shed will be opened up for any knight to take whatever they can use. See the Grand Knights email for more details.
- **Correspondence:**
  - Received two letters: One from the Majella house that is a new ministry; a house for unwed mothers. It is incorporated as a 501c charity. It came with a cover letter from Bishop Wack. Letters will be forwarded to the officers to review and decide if we will support this effort in some way.
  - We received a letter from Supreme discussing the challenges that are a result of the CORVID19 pandemic. On May 5 the Knights of Columbus is participating in a fundraising drive and a generous donor has agreed to match all donations up to \$250,000. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$200. It passed unanimously.

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

As of April 7, 2020 the report is as follows:

- General Fund Total \$18,963

## Financial Secretary Report: (Brother Greg Smedley)

Financial Secretary Report as of 30 Apr 2020

April Expenses: \$3826.01

Date	Warrant	Written To	Amount	Notes	Authority
3-Apr	38	Chuck Kuzma	35.00	Online Registration	B

				Convention Fee	
3-Apr	39	Florida KofC Charities/Raffles	132.00	Raffle Ticket Sales Pike/Honeyman	B
3-Apr	40	Ray Herard	1000.00	Diocese Seminarian Disbursement	B
3-Apr	41	William Gibson	1000.00	Diocese Seminarian Disbursement	B
7-Apr	42	Rosary Makers	75.00	Quarterly Donation	B
7-Apr	43	Randall Honeyman	35.00	Online Registration Convention Fee	B
7-Apr	44	KofC Supreme Council	49.01	Council Account for Crucifix	FS
7-Apr	45	NCO	1050.00	Quarterly (\$150), F/D Dance (\$400), & Easter Donation (\$500)	B/G
7-Apr	46	Holy Name of Jesus	450.00	Quarterly Donation	B

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

**March Income:** \$1573.00

Date	From	Amount	Notes
11-Mar	Bingo	540.00	3/6 Bingo
11-Mar	Pasta Dinner	732.00	3/7 Pasta Dinner
16-Mar	Bingo	301.00	3/13 Bingo

*After March there was no income due to COVID-19 Pandemic*

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

We have a slate of officers nominated for the next year with the exception of Warden. Fran Huttie is currently Warden and will continue if necessary but due to other commitments would like to step down. Talking with Christopher Saul as a possible replacement. Will know soon.

We will have elections coming up. An email will be sent to all members asking if there are any nominations for any officer position up for election. Please check with the member you might nominate to ensure that they are willing to serve.

This is the slate of officers selected by the nominating committee:

#### **KofC Council 7667 Slate of Officers 2020-21**

NAME	Office	Y = Election Required N = Appointed, not elected
Billy Starnes	Grand Knight	Y
Ryan Novack	Deputy Grand Knight	Y
Franklin Bevel	Chancellor	Y
Fran Huttie	Warden	Y

Jim Reese	Recorder	Y
Ken Laird	Treasurer	Y
Ellis Boudreaux	Advocate	Y
Greg Reese	Inside Guard	Y
Randy Honeyman	Outside Guard	Y
Greg Smedley	Financial Secretary	N
Chuck Kuzma	Trustee	N
Paul Robert	Trustee	N
Matt French	Trustee	N
Deacon Tom Elsesser	Lecturer	N
Rev. Stephen Voyt	Chaplain	N

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

- The two checks were sent out this week. The RSVP report is ready to send. One check has been cashed, waiting on the other one to be cashed. Brother Ken will check on this.

### **\* 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)**

- The RSVP report is ready.

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

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

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

- On hold due to pandemic.

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

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

- Family of the Month: Tim and Anna Pugh
- Knight of the Month: Ken Laird
- The write up of the great things these Knights are doing is at the end of the minutes.

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

- Starting planning for Cards and billboard.

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

- NCO is distributing money in lieu of food. They are accepting donations of money to help with this. Donations can be put in an envelope marked NCO in the collection or mailed to church.

### **Scholarships: (Brother Mike Contratto)**

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

- On hold due to pandemic but it was planned so we still get credit for this.

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

- We are not sure how we will be able to interface with the kids due to the pandemic but will be looking for guidance on this.

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

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

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

### **Scholarship Program: (Brother Mike Contratto)**

- We got a total of 13 applications. 6 came from our parish. The three primary graders have finished their grading and will review their work and will have a recommendation of the top 4 by the end of the week.
- We don't have any idea of how the schools will announce the scholarships to be given out this year. It might just be a phone call to the recipients.

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

- The rummage sale was scheduled for May. It will be cancelled for this Spring.

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

- The Life Runners will be having “virtual” run/walk with each person doing their own run/walk and praying for life.

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

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

- Brother Tim made contact with Sunland but they don't know what things will be like by then. They still do not have any cases of Covid yet so that was good news. Our contact, Maria, will get with her boss and let us know as soon as there is a decision. Looking at possible dates for the picnic of September 12 or 19.

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

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

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

- No Report.

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

- Tim is going to get some of the key bingo operators together to start planning on how we will open as soon as we have the ok to do so and how we will meet the requirements when we are told what the requirements will be.

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

- Pasta is suspended until further notice. May start looking at doing take out from parish hall when we can.

## **Unfinished Business:**

- None

## **New Business:**

- A slate of officers with the exception of the Warden has been submitted for the membership to consider. The recorder read the list of nominees. There was a motion that the recorder cast one unanimous ballot for the slate of officers as listed. This was accepted unanimously. The recorder cast one unanimous ballot for the slate of officers

with the exception of Warden. The following slate of officers with the exception of warden was elected:

**KofC Council 7667 Slate of Officers 2020-21**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>Office</b>
Billy Starnes	Grand Knight
Ryan Novack	Deputy Grand Knight
Franklin Bevel	Chancellor
TBD	Warden
Jim Reese	Recorder
Ken Laird	Treasurer
Ellis Boudreaux	Advocate
Greg Reese	Inside Guard
Randy Honeyman	Outside Guard

- Brother Mac Blythe gave a report on the dissolution of the Columbians of Niceville-Valparaiso. There was an email from the Grand Knight to the members explaining this with a group of slides attached. The slides of this report are attached to these minutes. The Grand Knight has prepared a letter to the Columbians authorizing this dissolution. It will be sent forthwith. The Grand Knight thanked all the Board Members of the Columbians that have served throughout the years especially Brother Mac Blythe who chaired this final effort.

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

- There will be an on line exemplification for the Fourth Degree and the cost is only \$50. We currently have 11 form 4's for this on line exemplification this Saturday. Our Goal was 6 so we should get double Star Assembly. Additional form 4's are still coming in.
- Color Guard for Confirmation was cancelled since seating is so limited and Bishop Wack didn't want to restrict the numbers of family members allowed to make room for the Knights color guard.

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

- The market is kind of flakey right now. While the long term gain in the stock market is about 7% short term change in value can be considerable different. Cash value life insurance has guaranteed gains and there are also dividends that increase tax free. Brother Tim can give anyone that is interested additional information.

**District Deputy Report: (DD Steve Zajac)**

**DD Notes**

**May 5, 2020**

- The District is in good shape. Council 7667 only needs 3 more members to reach Star Council. There are 2 good prospects in line to join so it is within reach.
- Council 15744 in DeFuniak will make their numbers but please pray for Grand Knight Steve Cole; he is very ill and has requested to step down as Grand Knight.
- There is a lot of information about these times and it is being pushed to the Grand Knights. Watch your emails as the Grand Knight is forwarding this information to the members.

<b>KofC PRAYER REQUESTS</b>	
	Dated - May 5, 2020
Father Seb	Herm Hernandez
Father Angelo	Tom Kessinger
Deacon Jim & Carolyn Cox	Eric Gulbranson
Deacon Lou & Katherine Marini	Carmen Hank
Deacon Jack Trevano	Tom Kraus
Gabriel Chavez	Barry Lambert
Naomi Clarkson	Tracy McMorrow
Gina Contrato, Sister Of Mike Contrato	Vincent Mayfield
Erma Dezel	Kathleen Moran
Repose of the soul of the Mother of	Erica O'Connell
Ken Elliot	Peggy O'Grady
Repose of the soul of Theresa Kelly	Lynn Pabis, sister of Tim Pugh
Benedict, sister of Charlotte Eschmann	Tee Reese
Repose of the soul of the sister of Father Seb	Nicole Robert
Steve Cole	Annelyse Smedley
Evie Fox	Sharon Soehren
Eric Frodesen	Jean Thompson
	Brian West



## Meeting Closure:

- GK Chuck closed with the Knights Prayer and the meeting was adjourned.
- Next general membership meeting is June 2, 2020 at 7 p.m. If Parish social distancing is still in effect this meeting will also be on line. An email with details will be sent out.

## After-meeting Social:

Since the meeting was held on line and it is Cinco de Mayo and Taco Tuesday the Grand Knight adjourned attendees with the hopes that the members have taco's and beer available at home.

## *Happy Birthday June Brothers!*

Lawrence E Carney	6-1
PGK John E Quinn	6-1
Oscar David Valenzuela Sr	6-2
Robert J. Bartleson	6-6
Francis X Reidy	6-7
Stephen A Sharpe	6-7
Christopher J Beattie	6-8
James M Moore	6-8
David R Underwood	6-11
Joseph A Pedone II	6-12
Leo P Tisa	6-12
Matthew M Berggren	6-16
James C Underwood	6-16
Samuel J Underwood	6-16
Mark S Schniepp	6-18
Timothy J Pugh	6-19
Michael W Restey	6-19
Daniel M Delaune	6-20
Sean E Marshall	6-20
Robert M Schwartz	6-20
Markus Rudolph Deiters	6-23
Paul A Armitage	6-24
Robert J Provost	6-24
Paul M Fox	6-25
Richard A Sposato	6-30
George R Vaillant	6-30

## **FAMILY OF THE MONTH**

**April 2020**

**Timothy (Tim) and Anna Pugh**

Brother Tim and Anna Pugh worked hard this year in many parish and council related activities. They have been very active members of the Holy Name of Jesus parish since they joined our parish a little over eight years ago. Brother Tim has served the role as our district insurance field agent and his wife Anna is his office manager and administrative assistant. They can be counted on to accomplish this job above and beyond the required duty description, and have assisted many Knights and their families in attaining financial stability and helping the widows of recently passed members in the district. His outstanding role as our insurance agent in our district has earned him a distinction as one of the top insurance and financial advisors in the KofC, accomplishing acceptance into the Supreme Knights Club twice. Tim and Anna are ready to answer the call of the Grand Knight when volunteers for any activity are called for. Tim 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, the fraternal benefits sessions, membership drives, KofC degree ceremonies, social events such as activities in the Family Life Center, Spelling Bees, Tootsie Roll Drives, Sunland Picnics, and Keep Christ in Christmas card sales and poster contests. The Pughs can always be found supporting the Council Bingo games, Tim as a team captain, cashier, and caller and Anna works in the kitchen as well as preparing mouth-watering desserts. They and the other members of the four Bingo teams have been instrumental in the success of the activity in producing over 70% of the income used in charitable, community, and council support. This equates to over \$30,000 per year and it provides the bulk of the funding needed to support the council budget. This contribution of time and talent for just the bingo activity alone exceeds 300 man-hours per year for each of them. They both also demonstrated outstanding energy, perseverance and leadership in their role as the leader for hosting the annual picnic for handicapped members of the Sunland facility. 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 activity includes the support of a number of fellow Knights and their family members in purchasing and preparing the food and drinks, transporting the food and cooking grill from Niceville to Marianna, and then cooking the food and helping to serve the meals. Some 60 residents and 22 staff members of the training facility typically receive meals. Together, Tim and Anna started the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest several years ago, and Anna continued in the role of judge for this year's contest. Tim's proactive activities in recruiting and insurance sales have resulted in our council earning Star Council Status in the past eight years. Tim is the captain of our council's First Degree team, which required him to staff and train the roles and to schedule and coordinate the exemplifications. This is a busy role, since our council has inducted numerous new members in the last eight years of attaining Star Council. He is now an integral part of the new degree program that allows each first degree candidate to fulfill what was previously the second and third degrees in a single ceremony. Tim regularly supports the Handicapped Citizens Drive for our council. He and the other volunteers work at store entrances in the local area and collect contributions, while handing out a vast quantity of tootsie rolls to the contributors. This year over \$2000 was submitted to the State Council to help various groups assisting the handicapped. Brother Tim helped with a Parish Family BBQ sponsored by the Council. He, along with 18 other knights and their wives spent over five hours setting up the Family Parish Center, cooking the food, serving the food, and then performing clean-up. Tim and other brother Knights grilled and served over 800 hamburgers and hot dogs to over 300 members of the parish. They both are involved with Pro-Life group activities, including peaceful anti-abortion protests near the entrances to the several clinics in the area. Tim is a member of our parish's Security Usher team, and sponsored two young parishioners as they made their Confirmation. As KofC insurance field agent, Tim contributes funding to many KofC social activities, including Golf outings for Knight councils and the "Brite Stars" annual fund-raising event for St. Mary's Catholic school in Fort Walton Beach. Tim and Anna also volunteer to assist these other councils with pancake breakfasts, bbq lunches, ministry fairs, and membership drives. Tim is a Fourth Degree Sir Knight and is a member of the assembly Color Guard for funerals, parades, and visits by the Bishop. Along with fellow Sir Knights, Tim distributes snacks for the patients at the local VA clinic. Brother Tim volunteered to be an active planner and participant for the past five years at all the Father-Daughter Dances sponsored by the Knights. Every year about 300 people attend 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. The Dance is supported by over 22 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. Knights processed pictures real-time, and everyone walked out of the Dance with professionally styled photos. This past event, he manned the sign-in table as the attendees registered at the door. Anna is also an active and long-time volunteer for the Red Cross and Hospice organizations. The Pugh family embodies and exercises those Christian traits reflecting the principles of our order -- charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The support of families like theirs help form the backbone of today's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus charitable activities.

## **KNIGHT OF THE MONTH**

**April 2020**

### **Paul (Ken) Laird**

Our Brother Ken has for 21 years has been a stall worth supporter of the Knights and this Council. He has served the important role as the KofC Council Treasurer for three years and has volunteered to again serve in this capacity during the upcoming fraternal year. He can be counted on to accomplish this job above and beyond the required duty description. He is ready to answer the call of the Grand Knight when volunteers for any activity are called for. He is a mainstay in our numerous Council operations in helping the project leaders of various activities to set up the hall and get everything, including the kitchen operation, ready for the onslaught of other workers and participants. This includes normal council or executive board meetings, social events. Ken and his wife Michele are conscientious supporters of parish programs. For the past several years Ken had a lead role in organizing the Sunland Christmas Party which is for over 50 severely handicapped adults. This annual event involves providing of food for the handicapped, their family members, and staff of the agency. Ken receives the men and women's gift lists from the Sunland facility and delivers these lists to Knights and wives from HNJ and COR parishes. This task also included coordination with the multiple individuals and organizations that that support this great annual event. Brother Ken helped in this past year's Ministry Fair recruitment drive which helped to explain the KofC activities to parishioners looking to expand their parish involvement. Our Brother and his wife are both very active in supporting the Program Activities of the Council. He attends all Council meetings and always makes positive contributions to the lively discussions. Both Ken and Michele serve as team member substitutes in the preparation and execution of the monthly pasta dinners (a council event after the first Saturday Mass every month). The pasta dinners collect hundreds of dollars for charity programs supported by the Knights, while also providing members of the parish with an excellent dinner on Saturday nights at a very reasonable cost. Typically, over 100 people show up for the monthly pasta dinners. Ken provides intermittent yard care and miscellaneous assistance for the widow of one of our deceased brothers. Ken is a member at large of the Columbians and was instrumental in tracking down historical financial data that was required for a time-sensitive submission to the IRS. These efforts led to the final tax payments required to close out the Columbian Group after we transferred all the available funds to help finance a new Parish Ministry Building construction. Ken was a greeter for the last three Father/Daughter dances and was a member of an improvement committee formed to restructure and sustain the bingo program. Every year about 300 people attend the Father/Daughter 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. The Dance is supported by over 22 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. The white storage shed on the Parish land next to the new Maintenance. Building was in disrepair and was planned to be torn down at the end of May. The GK asked for volunteers to empty it out before then. The building is a storehouse for all the Council stuff that no one could bring themselves to throw out over the years. Brother Laird volunteered to lead the effort to clean it out and dispose of all the unnecessary items. He took photos of all the trophies and plaques stored in there for historical purposes (there were at least 100 of them). They were all dusty, dirty, moldy and many are broken, but to some they may have sentimental value. Some of the ones in better condition will be provided to the Special Olympics group, and they can re-use them as prizes for various events and competitions. Whatever was left was loaded into Brother Jim Reese's trailer and hauled to the dump. Michele is an active member of the Parish Finance Committee, using her experience as the previous bookkeeper. The support provided by these two wonderful people help form the backbone of today's Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus. Their work with the Parish and Church activities is evidence of their solid Catholic credentials. They are trying to "walk in His footsteps." This knight and his wife exemplify the ideals that so many of the KofC periodicals describe.

# **Mission Accomplished!**

Columbians Inc., of Niceville-Valparaiso  
a 501(c)(2) holding company for  
Fr. Howard J. Lesch Council 7667

## **Overview**

The Columbians Inc. of Niceville-Valparaiso is a 501(c)(2) non-profit holding company for KofC Council 7667, acting, in KofC terminology, as a Home Corporation.

The Columbians were formed shortly after our council was formed, holding land and monies invested in various forms over the years, e.g., CDs, mutual funds, etc.

The purpose of our Columbians was to hold/raise funds so that, one day, our council could have a home of its own, i.e., buy or build a council hall.

We are now anticipating the council spaces to be built as part of the HNJ Ministry Building, just north of the Parish Hall. We are realizing the dream of our brothers of the past four decades. The Columbians have served their purpose.

## **Who are members of the Columbians?**

The Columbians is made up of all the same members of Council 7667 in good standing. The Columbians' Board of Directors meets every other month to address Columbians business.

Our BoD includes four elected officers, two other elected Directors, two appointed at-large Directors, and three trustees. We serve three-years terms. Your fellow Council 7667 brothers have served as Directors over the years.

We have Articles on Incorporation filed with the State of Florida and we are governed by our by-laws.

## **Dissolution of the Columbians**

The Columbians exist to serve Council 7667. They have served their purpose and its mission is accomplished. By an almost unanimous virtual vote of council members, the Columbians are to begin steps to dissolve as a Florida corporation.

The Columbians have met IRS filing requirements for 2019. We must:

- Distribute remaining assets (zeroing out our accounts),
- complete required dissolution filing of papers, and
- file a final tax return (990-EZ) for 2020.

## **Distribution of Assets**

What were Columbians' assets? Investment dollars and land  
- Our Columbians built up over \$400k over the years, and

- the Columbians owned over an acre of land contiguous to HNJ property Investments turned to cash.
- Last investments were mutual funds held with Vanguard Investors.
- Resulting cash (initially \$315k in December 2019) passed to HNJ Building Fund.

#### Land

- Land with Rosary Path was donated to the parish/diocese in December

## **Final distribution of cash**

The remaining cash held until recently by Vanguard in a money market account was just over \$118k. It was transferred on Friday, 1 May 2020 to our Columbians' checking account at Synovus Bank. Before the transfer, there was just over \$1600 in that checking account.

We have had to use an accountant, the same accountant used by our diocese, to handle our IRS dealings over the past year. We still have final accountant fees to pay, but after that is complete, and also a fee for filing dissolution papers with the State of Florida, there should be approximately \$116k remaining to send to HNJ.

Approximately \$31k of the \$116k will actually be held as council "soft cost" funds for the new Ministry Building, funds managed in a separate account for the council by the HNJ bookkeeper. This should allow for another \$85k going to the Building Fund, bringing total donated there to \$400k.

## **Closing out the Columbians**

The BoD will complete a final audit.

We will prepare and file the final IRS form 990-EZ for 2020.

We will send the remaining funds to HNJ.

We will file the dissolution form with the State of Florida.

We will make a final report to Council 7667 at an upcoming Business Meeting and close the record of the Columbians.