



The Knights Scroll

Monthly Newsletter of the Albert E. Chipman Council # 11042
Knights of Columbus



Volume 5

December 2001

Council Officers

Grand Knight

Marty Thomas 478-4825

Past Grand Knight

Frank Gerloff 779-1645

Chaplain

Fr. Jim Begley 746-4911

Deputy Grand Knight

Jeff Soniat 746-9671

Chancellor

Bob Birmingham 746-9122

Recorder

Mike Martin 559-5858

Financial Secretary

Ron Reger 550-0659

Treasurer

Paul Byrnes 746-1245

Lecturer

Rich White 559-5655

Advocate

Dan Riley 746-0514

Warden

Bill Taylor 746-2077

Inside Guards

Bob Kemmler 746-7772

Dan Baird 730-3530

Outside Guards

Jeff Decker 559-4070

George Kraynak 746-4116

Trustee 3 Year

Frank Gerloff 779-1645

Trustee 2 Year

Dave DeHetre 746-1645

Trustee 1 Year

Tad Stilwell 730-9640

District Deputy

Ed Gillikin, Sr. 737-7628

Grand Knight's Message



Dear Brothers:

With Advent upon us let us not forget to "keep Christ in Christmas." It is all well and good to spread good will and cheer throughout the Holiday Season. However, don't let us lose sight that Christmas is, first and foremost, the celebration of the birth of Christ.

During Advent, remember to keep those who are sick or who have suffered tragedies in your prayers and remember that our compass always points to charity. I feel like I'm preaching to the choir as I type this message, but hopefully it will inspire all of us to spread the "good news" of Christmas throughout our communities and worksites.

To steal a musical lyric- "we surely could use a little good news today." I would like to wish you and your families a Merry (and meaningful) Christmas with hopes of true Peace on Earth.

Vivat Jesus!

Marty Thomas, GK

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Church

Ed Soniat 746-9671
Asoniat@hotmail.com

Council

Dan Auspach 730-8258
Dan@auspach.com

Youth

Chuck Toombs 1-769-1635
Chris Kinsler 343-0000
ckinsler@digucom.com

Community

Bob Kemmler 746-7772
Jim Connolly 730-1184

Family

Norm Gallagher 746-4686

Fraternal

Paul Byrnes 746-1245
John Barrow 746-3301

Historian

PGK Joe Suarez 746-4835

Crusade for Life

Steve & Debbie Preston
559-9952

KOVAR

Bob Birmingham 746-9122

Recruitment

Stephen Gerloff 730-0319

Membership

Mike Smith 550-1388

Retention

Dana Nelson 746-7481

SCAN

Mark Borysewicz 550-2895

Scouting

Mike Bonelli 779-3298
Dave Jackson 559-1649

Squires

Dave DeHetre 746-1645
kofc11042@excite.com

Telephone

Bob Gunn 746-0024

Keep Christ In Christmas

Lin Diacont 730-9047

Charity

Kirk McClure 730-7740

Cheers

Paul Byrnes 746-1245
Bill Taylor 746-2077
Tad Stilwell 730-9640

Organ Donation

Dan Baird 730-3530

Meals On Wheels

John Barrow 746-3301
Pat Gies 746-7819

Newsletter

Mike Roberts 730-4121
fdd8@aol.com (home)
mike_roberts@dom.com (work)

Insurance Agent

Daniel Kane
795-2041
pkg5@mindspring.com

FRATERNAL

BIRTHDAYS

Joe Drust	12-8
Jim Perry	12-9
Chris Kinsler	12-9
Jim Nettles	12-9
John Stajduhar	12-11
Mike Lippa	12-27
Mike Pyle	12-28
Lee Vietmeier	12-29
Bob Seifert	12-30

ANNIVERSARIES

Jack & Barbara Mc Neice	12-1-59
Chris & Ann Bevan	12-2-89
Pat & Catherine Reilly	12-11-92
Pat & June Quisenberry	12-30-60
Ed & Anne Soniat	12-30-67

PLEASE KEEP THESE Knights & FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Ross Albert**Uncle Of Lin Diacont**Walter & Clara Harris**Lisa Lippa** Jeff Decker's Father ** Dana Nelson**
Sister Of John Pohida**Dewey Pourciau**Eva Taylor**Brother Of Dave Wallo**Ann Williams**Dick Prezioso **
Laura Condon**Bob Birmingham's Mother In Law**

Entertainment Books

Still have a few left. \$30.00 makes a great christmas gift. Call Paul 746-1245 Thanks

Fund Raiser For Our Council

Dealers needed to work Casinos for the month of December on Saturdays in December (1, 8, 15) for 3 hours dealing Black Jack. Most events run from 8-11 pm. For every Knight that deals our council will receive \$35.00. Try to work this into your busy schedule and we could possibly earn \$500.00 to \$1000.00.

If you can help with this fund raiser please call
Gloria Huband at 467-4880



Chaplin's Corner

By Tad Stilwell

My Brother Knights...

Do you remember a particular Christmas that was special to you? I remember a particular one that was not so special at all.

I was about nine years old and for Christmas, my parents bought me a punching bag, a record player, and a folk music album. When I opened my gifts, my mother knew I was terribly disappointed. I could tell she knew from the look in her eyes.

I am never disappointed with anything that is given to me. But on this Christmas, I was hurt. The punching bag was blown up and had a sand base to it. When punched, it would pop back up. The record player was pretty much like a small child would use and not very fancy like other kids hi-fi record players. And the album; well, I didn't know who Pete Seeger or Peter, Paul, and Mary were much less know any of their songs. What would I say in class when school started and my teacher asked us to say what we got for Christmas? I was going to be very embarrassed.

Later Christmas Day, I blew up that punching bag and I popped the damn thing on the second punch. Now the record player did finally get used and I did play that folk music album appropriately entitled America's Favorite Folk Songs. In fact, truth be known, I was singing "If I had a hammer..." by Christmas night.

I do remember that Christmas almost every Christmas because I was disappointed, but, not for the obvious reason. I grew to be disappointed with myself on that particular Christmas. You see, my father had punished (yes, punished...my father was not "p. c.") me for punching one of my sisters and he thought that the punching bag would be a safer way to express my anger. Mom just knew I would love the

folk music and well, she was right. The record player...well, it wouldn't play loud enough to harm my ears or my parents' ears either. I wore that needle out...and the record too. What happened? I missed the love with which my parents chose those gifts and worried too much about the material value or appearance of the gifts.

I wonder how many of us are disappointed at Christmas. Are we worried if we spent enough money to get everyone on our list the right thing? Are we worried we won't get the right gifts to make our classmates jealous? I am afraid we are and so we miss the whole point of the gift; the love which is expressed between the giver and the receiver.

When God sent Jesus, I wonder how disappointed people were? A king? This kid's born in a manger like a peasant. We want someone rich and powerful. But in God's simple gift, we were given the greatest gift of all: eternal life.

I think I'll send this story to my parents. It will be their Christmas gift from me. It's not very fancy. But I'll bet its just what they have always wanted. Merry Christmas!

Tad Stilwell

Brothers,

The Christmas Parade is December 2nd in downtown Mechanicsville. Lineup is at 1:30 pm on Hanover Green Drive . Our Council will have a float in the parade which will be ridden by the Grand Knight and the Cub Scouts which we sponsor. We will also have 4th degree Knights walking alongside the float. So if you are a 4th degree plan to dress up and participate.

We need to construct the float. We will do this at Ray Santucci's house the weekend after Thanksgiving and in the evenings the week following. Anyone who can help please call Ray at 730-2340.

A special thanks to Ed and Lynn Cutwright for the use of their trailer for the float. Also, a big thanks to Ron Mullin's owner of the Shed Shop in Ashland. Ron let us use a playground made into a ship for the float. When shopping for a shed or a Christmas tree this year take a ride to Ashland and see what Ron has to offer.

Ray Santucci

Just some things to think about

Name Badges: Anyone needing name tags please see Mike Roberts at the business meeting. The council purchases the first Badge after the First Degree. Additional Badges may be purchased for \$6.00. This includes a 3rd degree emblem plus one other (Rose or Flag) emblem. 4th Degree emblems may be purchased for \$0.50. Flags may be purchased for \$0.50 (they just came in). Please see Mike at the meeting to insure he has ordered a name badge for you.

Email addresses: If you have Email and would like to be informed when the newsletter is on our web site please see Mike Roberts or Ron Reger at the council meetings. The way this works is a message will be sent to you when the newsletter is posted on the Council Web Site. If you do not get a message ... you can still go to www.kofc11042.org on the last Wednesday or Thursday of the month to see the current newsletter. Any questions see Ron or Mike. If you are not getting a mailing and do not have Email see or call Ed Soniat to insure he has your correct mailing address.

Keep Christ in Christmas: Remember to buy your cards.

Christmas Dance: The date is December 8th at the Church... Details will be given at the meeting.

Christmas Parade is December 2nd... in Mechanicsville ... See article in this printing for more info.

Degree Teams: The council's First Degree team would like to extend a invitation to anyone interested in being a back up. Please let Mike Roberts know if you are inclined to help. In addition the District Second degree team is also looking for backups... again see or call Mike Roberts for info. The First Degree team would like to hold practices in December and January to qualify anyone interested, all parts are open, You need to be a 3rd in order to take part. Second Degree Practices will be scheduled in January as well. Of course all this depends on the interest shown by perspective team members.

Church

Brothers,

A note to inform you of an opportunity to become involved in an outreach effort here in Hanover County. The Church has been requested to provide volunteers to the three retirement communities on Lee Davis Road. The facilities are Covenant House, Hanover House and Heritage Green. At Covenant House and Hanover House volunteers are needed to visit with the elder residents who do not have family in the area. Other volunteer activities would include assisting in crafts, preparing gifts, sending birthday cards and transporting Catholic residents to church on Sunday. This outreach is open to Knights and their spouses.

Heritage Green is an alzheimers and dementia community where volunteers are requested to be bingo callers, social helpers, and helpers to lead devotional and worship services.

Most of us have busy schedules, however if we can spare 3 or 4 hours a month I am sure the people in these facilities would be most grateful. These opportunities for us to help our elderly citizens would also help to further demonstrate to the community what the Knights of Council 11042 are all about. It will help us to represent our Church and well as our Council.

If you have the time to devote to this outreach effort give me a call at 746-9671.

Thanks,

Ed Soniat

**From a speech made by Capt. John S. McCain,
who represents Arizona in the
U.S. Senate:**

As you may know, I spent five and one half years as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War. In the early years of our imprisonment, the NVA kept us in solitary confinement or two or three to a cell. In 1971 the NVA moved us from these conditions of isolation into large rooms with as many as 30 to 40 men to a room. This was, as you can imagine, a wonderful change and was a direct result of the efforts of millions of Americans on behalf of a few hundred POWs 10,000 miles from home.

One of the men who moved into my room was a young man named Mike Christian. Mike came from a small town near Selma, Alabama. He didn't wear a pair of shoes until he was 13 years old. At 17, he enlisted in the US Navy. He later earned a commission by going to Officer Training School. Then he became a Naval Flight Officer and was shot down and captured in 1967. Mike had a keen and deep appreciation of the opportunities this country-and our military-provide for people who want to work and want to succeed. As part of the change in treatment, the Vietnamese allowed some prisoners to receive packages from home. In some of these packages were handkerchiefs, scarves and other items of clothing. Mike got himself a bamboo needle. Over a period of a couple of months, he created an American flag and sewed on the inside of his shirt.

Every afternoon, before we had a bowl of soup, we would hang Mike's shirt on the wall of the cell and say the Pledge of Allegiance. I know the Pledge of Allegiance may not seem the most important part of our day now, but I can assure you that in that stark cell it was indeed the most important and meaningful event.

One day the Vietnamese searched our cell, as they did periodically, and discovered Mike's shirt with the flag sewn inside, and removed it. That evening they returned, opened the door of the cell, and for the benefit of all us, beat Mike Christian severely for the next couple of hours. Then, they opened the door of the cell and threw him in. We cleaned him up as well as we could.

The cell in which we lived had a concrete slab in the middle on which we slept. Four naked light bulbs hung in each corner of the room. As I said, we tried to clean up Mike as well as we could. After the excitement died down, I looked in the corner of the room, and sitting there beneath that dim light bulb with a piece of red cloth, another shirt and his bamboo needle, was my friend, Mike Christian. He was sitting there with his eyes almost shut from the beating he had received, making another American flag. He was not making the flag because it made Mike Christian feel better. He was making that flag because he knew how important it was to us to be able to Pledge our allegiance to our flag and country.

So the next time you say the Pledge of Allegiance, you must never forget the sacrifice and courage that thousands of Americans have made to build our nation and promote freedom around the world. You must remember our duty, our honor, and our country.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Council Retreat

Our annual Council retreat will be conducted on January 5, 2002 at the home of Brother Mike Bonelli. Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning. Pizza and beer will be provided at lunch.

This year, Sr. Marie Kearns, chaplain at Regional Memorial Hospital, will be our featured guest. In addition to Sr. Marie's presentation, we will have a couple of "spiritual" excercises. We will close with the Holy Rosary.

You are invited to participate. It is a wonderful chance for renewing your spirit, for renewing your Columbian commitment, and for celebrating the Feast of Epiphany. Make your reservation with Tad Stilwell at 730-9640 or at kameja@aol.com.

Christmas Poem

'Twas The Night Before Christmas,
He Lived All Alone,
In A One Bedroom House
Made Of Plaster And Stone.

I Had Come Down The Chimney
With Presents To Give,
And To See Just Who
In This Home Did Live.

I Looked All About,
A Strange Sight I Did See,
No Tinsel, No Presents, Not Even A Tree.

No Stocking By Mantle,
Just Boots Filled With Sand,
On The Wall Hung Pictures
Of Far Distant Lands.

With Medals And Badges,
Awards Of All Kinds,
A Sober Thought Came Through My Mind.

For This House Was Different,
It Was Dark And Dreary,
I Found The Home Of A Soldier,
Once I Could See Clearly.

The Soldier Lay Sleeping,
Silent, Alone,
Curled Up On The Floor
In This One Bedroom Home.

The Face Was So Gentle,
The Room In Such Disorder,
Not How I Pictured
A United States Soldier.

Was This The Hero
Of Whom I'd Just Read?
Curled Up On A Poncho,
The Floor For A Bed?

I Realized The Families
That I Saw This Night,
Owed Their Lives To These Soldiers
Who Were Willing To Fight.

Soon Round The World,
The Children Would Play,
And Grownups Would Celebrate
A Bright Christmas Day.

They All Enjoyed Freedom
Each Month Of The Year,
Because Of The Soldiers,
Like The One Lying Here.

I Couldn't Help Wonder
How Many Lay Alone,
On A Cold Christmas Eve
In A Land Far From Home.

The Very Thought
Brought A Tear To My Eye,
I Dropped To My Knees
And Started To Cry.

The Soldier Awakened
And I Heard A Rough Voice,
"Santa Don't Cry,
This Life Is My Choice;

I Fight For Freedom,
I Don't Ask For More,
My Life Is My God,
My Country, My Corps."

The Soldier Rolled Over
And Drifted To Sleep,
I Couldn't Control It,
I Continued To Weep.

I Kept Watch For Hours,
So Silent And Still
And We Both Shivered
From The Cold Night's Chill.

I Didn't Want To Leave
On That Cold, Dark, Night,
This Guardian Of Honor
So Willing To Fight.

Then The Soldier Rolled Over,
With A Voice Soft And Pure,
Whispered, "Carry On Santa,
It's Christmas Day, All Is Secure."

One Look At My Watch,
And I Knew He Was Right.
"Merry Christmas My Friend,
And To All A Good Night."

This poem was written by a Marine
stationed in Okinawa Japan. The following is his
request. I think it is reasonable..... PLEASE. Would you
send this to as many people as you can?

Christmas will be coming soon and some
credit is due to our U.S. service men and women for our
being able to celebrate these festivities. Let's try in this
small way to pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make
people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead,
who sacrificed themselves for us. Please, do your small
part to plant small seed.

Meet me in the Stairwell

You say you will never forget where you were when you heard the news, September 11, 2001.

Neither will I.

I was on the 110th floor in a smoke filled room with a man who called his wife to say "Good-Bye". I held his fingers steady as he dialed. I gave him the peace to say, "Hone, I am not going to make it, but it is OK... I am ready to go".

I was with his wife when he called as she fed breakfast to their children. I held her up as she tried to understand his words and as she realized that he wasn't coming home that night.

I was in the stairwell on the 23rd floor when a women cried out to me for help. "I have been knocking on the door of your heart for 50 years!" I said. "Of course I will show you the way home - only believe in Me now."

I was at the base of the building with the Priest ministering to the injured and devastated souls. I took him home to tend to his Flock in Heaven. He heard my voice and answered.

I was on all four of those planes, in every seat, withevery prayer. I was with the crew as they were overtaken.

I was in the very hearts of the believers there. Comforting and assuring them that their Faith has saved them.

I was in Texas, Kansas, Mississippi, London, Quebec, Seattle.

I was standing next to you when you heard the terrible news. Did you sense Me? I want you to know that I saw every face. I knew every name - though they did NOT all know Me.

Some met me for the first time on the 100th floor. Some sought me out in their last breath. Some couldn't hear me calling to them through the smoke and flames. "Come to Me... This way.... Take my hand."

Some chose, for the final time, to ignore me. But I WAS THERE.

Most of you were not in the TOWERS that day. However, if you were there in that explosive moment in time, would you have reached for Me? Would you have heard My call to follow me?

September 11, 2001 was not the end of the journey foryou. But someday your journey will end. And I will be there for you as well. Seek Me now while I may be found. Then, at any moment, you know you are "ready to go".I will be in the stairwell of your final moments.

Meet me there.

Some Good One Liners FromEleanor Roosevelt:

Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart.

Anger is only one letter short of danger.

If someone betrays you once, it is his fault; if he betrays you twice, it is your fault.

Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.

He who loses money, loses much; he, who loses a friend, loses much more;

He, who loses faith, loses all.

Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art.

Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Friends, you and me - you brought another friend - and then there were 3.

We started our group - our circle of friends - and like that circle - there is no beginning, nor an end.

Yesterday is history - tomorrow is a mystery - today is a gift.

Out of the dust
New York
10 October 2001

[BibleNetworkNews.com] "Some people will say it's velocity or physics that put it there. To me it's an act of God," said Silecchia, who cried for 20 minutes after his discovery.



Silecchia, a Christian, found several crosses standing upright in the smoldering wreckage three days after the attack. They were crossbeams that had fallen from the top of the collapsing north tower and landed in an unusual position.

Believing them to be a sign from God, Silecchia dubbed the area "God's House," and led distraught rescue workers there to pray. Word spread as priests and pastors ministering on the site encountered the structures, and told others how startling they appeared. Silecchia led Father Jordan to the site two Sundays ago.

"It was astounding," Jordan said. "When he showed it to me, I was an instant believer."

Silecchia told the priest that the crosses should be saved for a permanent memorial. Jordan agreed, and contacted Deputy Mayor Joseph Lhota to make arrangements. The most significant of the crosses was removed from the wreckage, affixed by ironworkers to a permanent base, then placed on the high walkway over West Street.

Yesterday, some 300 people gathered there for prayer and reflection. Firefighters came. Police officers came. Construction workers, rescue personnel, Port Authority officers and others - all gathered at the foot of the 20-foot-tall cross to watch Father Brian Jordan, a Franciscan friar, bless the cross and pray for "the healing mercy of God on all Americans."

"Behold the glory of the cross at ground zero," Jordan said. "This is our symbol of hope, our symbol of faith, our symbol of healing."

The workers prayed and sang God Bless America together before returning to work. A teary-eyed firefighter said the cross helped him overcome his anger.

"We thought the devil was here, but with this cross, we know God is here," the firefighter said.

PHILOSOPHY

It is the soldier, not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the soldier, not the poet who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier, Who salutes the flag, Who serves beneath the flag, And whose coffin is draped by the flag,
Who allows the protester to burn the flag.

December 2001

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 First Sunday of Advent	3 Business Meeting	4	5	6	7	8 Christmas Dance Immaculate Conception
9 Second Sunday of Advent	10 Hanukkah	11	12 Bingo Hanover Health	13	14	15
16 Third Sunday Of Advent	17 Directors Meeting	18	19	20	21 Winter Begins	22
23 Forth Sunday of Advent	24	25 The Nativity of the Lord	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 News Years Day	2	3	4	5
6	7 Business Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Directors Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		