



The Knight Watch

Our Lady of Fatima Council 9597 - Chartered June 24, 1987

Newsletter Edition: December 2014

Regular meetings, 7-8:30pm: Business - 2nd Tuesday, Social - 4th Tuesday

1985 Miller Street, Lakewood, CO 80215 - Parish Hall, Knights Room



Grand Knight Michael Majeres	303.550.6632
Deputy Grand Knight Keith Mobley	303.462.0413
Financial Secretary Dale Culuris	303.619.0110
Program Director Dave Schneider	303.988.2510
Membership Director Peter Aberle	303.506.5905
Newsletter Editor Marcus Ritosa	330.212.8853

Grand Knight's Knots

Happy New Year! As we begin a new liturgical year and prepare to celebrate the Nativity of Jesus Christ, let's look forward to the great things we will accomplish as a council and as knights for our parish, our community, and the universal Church.

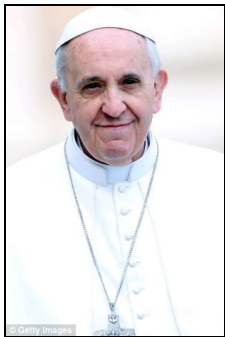


There are three important items that I want to mention here. The first is that we have received new council vests. You've probably seen your brother knights in their sharp blue vests, with the order's emblem embroidered on the back; now is your chance to join them in "knighting it up"! Vests are \$52, and there is a limited number available. Contact the Dale Culuris or myself to get one soon. These help us to improve the council's visibility when we help around the parish, as well as acting a recruiting tool. Keep those Form 100s handy ...

Next, our council submits a "Summary of Fraternal Activity" report to Supreme each January. Supreme uses that to justify the order's non-profit status to the IRS, as well as to document all the good work that Knights do nationally. Included in this newsletter is a council survey, to help me and the other officers more accurately complete that form. Please include any time you spend on volunteer activities, whether they are KofC related or not, and mail it to us or drop it by the parish office. Contact me with any questions.

Finally, many of you got to meet our new insurance field agent, Dan O'Hayre, as well as our General Agent, Joe Biltz at the last business meeting. Please take the time to meet with Dan and give him the opportunity to earn your insurance business.

I want to ask for nominations for Knight of the Month, and Family of the Month. This is an excellent way for you to recognize the amazing things your brother knights do. Look to KofC9597.org for the latest news and announcements of council activities. Have a good month, and make it a great month for Council 9597! Vivat Jesus!



Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December

That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will.

That parents may be true evangelizers, passing on to their children the precious gift of faith.



Happy Birthday Brothers!

God has blessed the following brothers with another year of service to our Lord in December: Paul Narey (23), Michael Whitefield (43), Lewis Berger (87), John O'Grady (85), Gerard McClory (72), Anthony Traverson (51), Dale Culuris (73), Steven Whitney (55)

Years of Service Anniversaries

These brothers have completed years of service to the Order this month: Gerard McClory (17), John Browne (12), Stan Collins (12), Keith Mobley (10), Marcus Ritosa (5), Steven Whitney (3), Bob Burns (3), Michael Majeres (3), Paul Narey (3)



Newsletter Contributions

If you would like to submit something for printing in next month's newsletter, please send a draft to Marcus.Ritosa@gmail.com no later than Dec 26th.



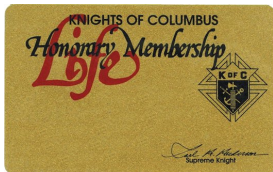
Knight of the Month, Stan Collins

Council 9597 is pleased to name Brother Knight Stan Collins the November 2014 Knight of the Month for a variety of efforts to move our council forward. 3rd Degree Knight Stan Collins has provided the Council invaluable service in scheduling for the Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, commonly referred to as "The Tootsie Roll Program". Brother Stan tirelessly recruited members to staff each scheduled Saturday, ensuring each knight the opportunity to support our brothers and sisters with intellectual disabilities through requesting donations from the general public. Brother Stan also participated more than his share of shifts, even filling in at the last minute when a scheduled knights could not fulfill their commitments. This effort demonstrates that Brother Stan Collins has shown great charity for others and his Brother Knights of Council 9597. For these reasons and the countless other ways that Stan lives out our Order's principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, Stan is a worthy recipient of this honor.



From the Financial Secretary:

by Dale Culuris, Financial Secretary



Brother knights, please take a moment to examine your 2014 membership card and note the portion that states the dues have been paid to December 31, 2014. I am preparing the 2015 council dues notification and 2015 council membership cards. You are probably asking yourself, "so I'll get it in the mail" and "why is he telling me this now?" The answer is simple: Let's save a stamp on both ends of the process! By me bringing your 2015 membership card and you bringing your checkbook or cash to the December 9th council business meeting, then you can be issued your 2015 membership card. The Council dues are \$32 for a regular member and \$10 for our few Honorary members. Stamps are currently \$.49 each so let's save a bunch of stamps for the council and one for yourself.

So, let's "Team Work" this process and get our 2015 council membership cards on December 9th! Save a stamp for the council and for yourself. Mark your calendar! Vivat Jesus!

From the District Deputy:

by Dale Culuris, DD36 for Team 36

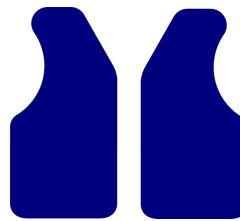
Each of us knights has taken on the mantle of service to our Order and to follow its principles. Our basic principle is Charity. As I visit the four councils in District 36, it is apparent that this basic principle is active as councils raise funds for their parishes, schools, the poor, and the religious. This Christmas will see councils honoring the greatest gift given by God to mankind after the creation of the earth: The birth of Jesus. Remember the signs that proclaim: "Keep Christ In Christmas," and post them proudly so the world may see that this is not just a season for giving gifts and attending parties, but that it is a time to reflect on the gift given by God to the human race – his Son, Our Lord, the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

Remember also that Charity begins at home, and our Order has done much to follow this concept. Charity comes in many forms, and we can best recruit new members as they witness our acts of charity. Membership is not about numbers! It is about obtaining a new Catholic gentleman over 18 into the Order so that he can follow in the footsteps of those Knights, and then take the Order along the journey to assisting the needy and downtrodden. Find that man, show him your passion for Charity and he will find the path to Knighthood by the light of your example!

Vivat Jesus! Merry Christmas!



Council Vests Available

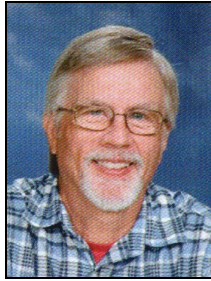


Council vests are finally available. Ten brother knights had made a full or partial deposit and should make arrangements with the Financial Secretary, Dale Culuris, to get their vest (and complete payment, if necessary). There are also nine vests of varying sizes available to any brother knights on a first come, first served basis. The cost is \$52, which is the actual cost to the council. These are attractive blue vests embroidered with the emblem of the order, our council name, and number. They are perfect for any council or parish function, so "Knight it up!" Contact Dale at dalec303@me.com or 303.619.0110 to get yours!

Fraternal Service Program

by Dave Schneider

Our Knights of Columbus council can work wonders and has the ability to change our community for the better. To be successful, our council must bring service projects from concept all the way through completion.



In the October newsletter, I talked about my responsibilities as Program Director and mentioned six program areas. In the next few months, I will introduce each program area and outline some ideas we have for council activities. Though we have done a lot in the past, I'm confident there are new and different ways our council can be a force for good. One example of innovation from 2014 is the Beer Pairing Dinner. Some of our newer brothers came up with the idea, and with a lot of hard work, we earned money to help purchase ultrasound machines for the pro-life initiative. This was a great success. If you have a new idea for a service program, please bring it to the council, for the benefit of our community.

The first program area I'd like to describe is called "Church Activities." As a fraternal organization of Catholic men, the Knights have strong ties to the Church. From local councils to the Supreme Council, the Order has the power to help strengthen the Church through offering members and their families opportunities to grow in the faith. Through sponsoring Church-related activities, the Knights of Columbus continue to show that they are, as Pope St. John Paul II said, "the strong right arm of the Church." These are the Church Activities that our council has planned for the coming year:

- Lay Minister Service
- May Crowning
- Nursing Home Communion Delivery
- Serra Club
- West Deanery Clergy Night
- Devotions Soup Supper
- Keep Christ In Christmas
- Colorado Peaches for Catholic Seminarians
- Holiday decoration of the church
- Adoration Chapel Program
- Parish Picnic Assistance



Are any of these activities up your alley?

Keep Christ in Christmas Party

by Dale Culuris



I find secular, commercial Christmas a real challenge as I try to envision a manger scene with a little jolly fat guy in a red suit resting in the straw. Doesn't fit, does it? Nope. Instead, I recall the true reason for the season and the

importance of passing this memory along to the younger folks. To proclaim the greatest gift given to the human race, Council 9597 and Assembly 2551 are sponsoring the annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" Family and Youth party so that our families can re-experience the story of the birth of Christ and of how St. Nicholas showed us in the 4th century that caring for the poor (Charity) is a most worthy pursuit. After the 5pm Vigil Mass on Dec 6, we will share a community dinner starting at 6pm. The Council and Assembly will provide turkey and ham along with mashed potatoes and delicious gravy. Families are encouraged to bring a favorite side dish to share. Finally, there will be an opportunity for the children to receive a gift from their family. If you have not attended this wonderful event in the past, please consider joining your brother knights and their families!

Coats for Kids

Our November pancake breakfast was a huge success in support of Catholic Charities' "Coats for Kids" program. We were able to purchase two cases of coats, providing for twenty-four needy children attending three of Denver's poorest parochial schools. The coats were distributed this past Friday, November 28th. "Way to go" and a big pat on the back to everyone who participated at the breakfast and the distribution! Assembly 2551, including the 4th degree knights from our council and 3 other councils, bought and donated two additional cases of coats.



We tried out apple cider pancakes last month, and they were a big hit. The next pancake breakfast will be on Sunday, December 21st, in the OLF parish hall. If you can help out with the breakfast, just come ready to work.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Affix
Stamp
Here

Our Lady of Fatima Council 9597
% Our Lady of Fatima Parish
1985 Miller Street
Lakewood, CO 80215

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Major Degree Exemplifications



There will be a Major Degree (2nd and 3rd) Exemplification in Brighton on Saturday, January 24. Registration starts at 11am accompanied by light food and refreshments. 2nd Degree will start at 1pm, with the 3rd Degree immediately following. Entertainment is offered for the wives of the candidates from 12:30-4:30pm. Mass will be celebrated at 5pm, with a social and banquet immediately following Mass. All 1st degree knights are encouraged to attend. Call Michael Majeres at 303.550.6632 for details.

Vivat Jesus!

2014 ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER WORKSHEET

Last year, the Knights of Columbus donated over \$170 million to charitable and benevolent causes and more than 70.5 million hours of volunteer community service to aid the less fortunate. **To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council Office, please complete the information requested below and either return it to the address on the reverse side no later than January 5th or bring it to a meeting prior to that.** This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of service volunteered by our members during 2014.

Our summary of this information is mandatory to win Star Council and state awards, and must be received by the Supreme Council by January 31, 2015. That is why it is so important that you complete this and get it turned back in as soon as you can total your 2014 information.

Special instructions:

DO include any hours that you worked on other council activities such as the Peaches for Seminarians, the Tootsie Roll Drive, Monthly Breakfasts, Beer pairing Dinner, setting up for council function, etc.

DO include any visits and hours in these categories that your spouse or children worked.

1. Number of *visits* you made in 2014 to the:

Sick - caring or visits _____

Bereaved - visits of condolence, funerals _____

2. Number of *times* you served as a blood donor during 2014 _____

3. Estimated *hours* of volunteer service during 2014:

Church Activities - any service in **all** church related activities _____

Please indicate the Parish name _____

Examples: All aspects of liturgy, help on facilities, schools,
religious education, vocation projects, other misc. church

Community Activities - service in **all** community related activities _____

Examples: Elderly, physically disabled, human needs, pro-life (including 40 Days for Life),
hospitals/institutions, health services, community wide projects

Youth Activities service in **all** youth related activities _____

Examples: Freethrow Challenge, Scouts, youth groups, youth welfare, athletics,
Big Brothers/Sisters, and any other misc. activities for youth

Misc. Activities - service for **any/all** areas not outlined above _____

4. Number of *hours* of fraternal service during 2014:

Sick/disabled household chores transportation, tutoring, counseling, etc. _____

COMMENTS:

(Please fold in thirds, tape shut on all sides, stamp, and mail)

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