



Marshall Council 966

# Knights of Columbus

PO Box 1672, Marshalltown, IA 50158

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## Thoughts from the Grand Knight – Matt Herrick

This week, starting Wednesday, we are finally having our annual Tootsie Roll Drive. We had some mis-starts due to difficulties with permissions at our primary sites. Please check out the [kofc966.org](http://kofc966.org) website for volunteer sign-up for those events. If you're not a computer person, just talk to any of the KC officers and we'll get you signed up.

Our other annual event at this time of year is the KC Memorial Mass. This year we are honoring 12 of our fallen members and a deacon. They are:

Al Barten, Thomas Fries, Don Goodman, Robert Hartwig, Larry Hartzler, Donald Jansen, Virgil Klaas, Laurel Phipps, Don Spence, Les Stalzer, John Stubbs, James Trowbridge, and Irv Vaske.

Please plan to come to the mass and supper on November 5<sup>th</sup> starting at 6PM.

We are still working a few loose ends on the climate survey. We have a number of dedicated knights who agreed to make calls and collect information. I really appreciate their support on this and ask you to take their call and give them honest and useful feedback. This survey is going to be key in determining what direction we want to take our council and what we can do to better serve each other. I would like to point out "we" means all member knights, not just officers. We want to be inclusive in our goal setting and offer activities that benefit all our members and the greater community. So please look at this as a positive opportunity for growth and revitalization of our council. Thanks for your cooperation.

## Excerpts from the minutes of the September meeting

- Some members still have outstanding dues balance—if that's you, please send in your dues to the treasurer or financial secretary. Contact info is near the bottom of this newsletter.
- Steve Seberger motion to allow those affected by the tornado to have their dues waived, if they request. Seconded by Dave Staron. Motion carried.
- Bob Cook motion that 50% of the Golf Tournament profit go for disaster relief and 50% go to St. Francis School. Dave Staron seconded. Because this is more than \$500, motion is tabled for a second approval at the next council meeting.
- **Tootsie Rolls** rescheduled for October 24, 25, and 26.
- Steve Seberger motion for that money from Tootsie Roll drive be divided evenly between ARC, CIRSI, and MIW as in years past. Eldon Schneider seconded. Motion carried.
- **Climate Survey** -- Continue with survey, turn in results by December meeting.
- **Harvest Ball**--November 3 at Impala Ballroom.
  - Request for knights to help with serving – Steve Seberger volunteered, others welcome
- **Memorial Mass** -- November 5 (replaces November council meeting) at St. Henry at 6PM
  - Father Grady will celebrate Mass
  - 13 to be remembered; 6 from St. Henry, 3 from St. Mary and 4 not sure (probably from Veterans Home)
  - Unanimous decision by members to include Irv Vaske
- Father Don's house is being remodeled by Brian Burlage and Vince Frederick. They may need help.
- Some possible changes to meeting time, date, location, and format were discussed.

- May need help with replacing floor in the child care room in St. Mary church basement.
- Gary Pusillo has several apple trees on his property. Eldon suggested council members help gather apples for Emergency Food Box.

### **Editor's commentary**

I took the opportunity again this year to attend the Christ Our Life conference in Des Moines. It was well attended again by over 5000 people. My brother John, who is also a KC member, and his wife drove up from Kansas City. They were inspired by the experience as I was and they plan to sign up when it comes around again in 2 years. I would recommend it to any Catholic

Bishop Robert Barron gave one of the keynote addresses, but he also commented on his need to leave immediately for Rome where he has been called by the Pope to meet with bishops from around the world to discuss the evangelization of our youth. To underscore the importance of this effort, i.e. the evangelization of our youth, Bishop Barron cited a statistic that among Catholic youth today (age 19 – 29) 50% deny they have any church affiliation. Gentlemen, these are our children and grandchildren. We have failed them. We fail them when we fail to show them our example of a life with God at the center, where they can plainly see that prayer, worship, respect, and Christian values are lived every day in our homes. We fail them also when we don't protect them from sinful and evil influences that can so easily enter their lives if we take a hands-off approach. It is necessary for mothers and fathers to take responsibility for what their kids can see and do on their smart devices and what entertainment they have access to. And lastly, we fail them when we don't teach them about their Catholic faith, and set an example of being interested in lifelong learning about our Lord and what he can teach us. When we do ask the church to provide religious education, sacramental preparation, and faith development experiences for our children, are we as supportive of those programs as we can be?

When a boy or girl is involved in a sport, isn't it usually Dad that helps them learn what they need to know, helps them practice the pertinent skills, makes sure they get to practice, and cheers for them at games? And isn't it Dad who sometimes volunteers to coach the team, or officiate games, or help out the coaches? These are great ways for a father to show his kids that they are important and to help them develop physically and emotionally. Isn't it equally important for a father to help prepare his kids for a lifetime of Christian living and eventual entry into heaven? I urge you Dads and Grandpas to examine where you are with this and where you need to be – with your example, with your protection, and with your own education and support of education.

As a protection measure, Matt Fradd, another speaker at the conference, specifically recommended protection software for smart devices available at [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com).

Another speaker, Renee Bondi, is a quadriplegic who was injured in a freak accident years ago. She related a time when, in order to heal from some sores that developed, she had to spend 7 months in bed on her stomach, and she couldn't even turn her head from side to side without help. Asked how she copes with such difficulty in her life, she related her S.O.S. technique. Sanctify, Organize, Surrender.

Sanctify means to consciously keep your thoughts on positive, holy, pleasant, uplifting things. Intentionally avoiding dwelling on the negative in any situation.

Organize means to get your priorities back to the proper order, which is: God, Spouse, Family, Work, Everything else.

Surrender means to put your suffering in God's hands. Offer it up to Him; ask Him to help you, but accept His will. And also submit to his will when you're feeling well, so He can work through you.

I hope you will consider attending the Christ Our Life conference in 2020.

God bless you and your families.

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#### Interim leadership established for Knights of Columbus Insurance

Thomas Burkhard, Senior Vice President, Field Management, and Ronald (Ron) Franzluebbbers, Senior Vice President and Chief Actuary, have been appointed as interim executive leaders of Knights of Columbus Insurance, effective May 14, 2018.

[Read More](#)



#### K of C: Most Ethical

The Knights of Columbus has been recognized by the Ethisphere Institute as a 2018 World's Most Ethical

Company for the fifth consecutive year.

#### Knights of Columbus Surpassed \$100 Billion of Life Insurance in Force

This milestone was achieved despite continuing adverse conditions affecting the insurance industry.



#### Knights of Columbus Set Charitable Giving and Service Records

The Knights of Columbus set a new all-time record last year for charitable donations and

service hours with \$177,500,673 in donations and more than 75 million hours of service.

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