



knights of columbus

Our Lady of Fatima Council 9742

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Knights at Fatima: Our Council Newsletter

Issue #01 15 March 2004

Editor's Notes

Robert Haack

As you all know, it has been some time since our Council last published a Newsletter. The notion of reviving it was suggested by Brother Bill Brine at the first meeting of the Executive in this Columbian Year 2003-04. The Executive agreed that this was a great idea, particularly so as a means of keeping informed those Brothers who do not attend Council General Meetings on a regular basis. But, as always, the question arose of who could (or would) take this on. After some reflection, I agreed to undertake this added responsibility, and in December presented my concept to the Executive, who approved it. Briefly, what I envisage for the publication are permanent sections for the Grand Knight, Chaplain, Program Director, and Editor, with additional contributions to be sought from all other Officers and Members; as a minimum, each of the main Program areas (Church, Community, Family, Youth, Council) will, ideally, have some coverage in each issue. Also envisaged is a section with the schedule of upcoming events for a period of about three (3) months ahead, as well as a section with reprints of articles on substantive topics of interest to Catholics (as space permits).

What to call it? The Newsletter was historically called *'The Fatima Fax'* - in part, I am told, because when it was first published, facsimile machines, which were still a bit of a novelty at the time, were used to send it out to those Brothers fortunate enough to possess one of these gadgets; and in part, because it was alliterative. Technology has marched on, and I felt that a new name was needed - specifically, *'Knights at Fatima'*, indicating both the independent existence of this Council of the Knights of Columbus, and at the same time, its connection to and with the Parish. Subsequent to some discussion, the Executive agreed that this would be a suitable *appellation*, and I have reflected this duality in the logos used at the top of each page.

The initial target for publication was four (4) issues in the balance of the Columbian Year, namely 30 January, 30 March, 30 May, and 30 June 2004, with submission deadlines two (2) weeks prior to publication dates. With the benefit of hindsight, that has turned out to be somewhat over-optimistic - this first issue being some seven weeks behind "schedule", you will undoubtedly have noticed that I have chalked it up against March! Hopefully, I shall have the next one out in more timely fashion.

This first issue is being published in a sufficient number of hard copies for the entire membership. Subject to the usual *caveats* regarding technical compatibility, it will also be posted on the Council Web site. It is hoped that future issues will be produced electronically for viewing on, and downloading from, our Council Web site; only a limited number of hard copies would be made, chiefly for mailing to the older Members who no longer attend meetings on a regular basis, and for those few among us who are not technologically with it.

A final word on content - contributors have been as rare as hen's teeth, so this first issue presents only a recap of what we've done so far this Columbian Year, and the schedule of events remaining. More meat next time... in addition to the recap (which will be shorter, covering only the period from this issue to the next), and an updated schedule of events, I hope to have a variety of contributions (please!!!), as well as an editorial on the topic of the year, same-sex marriage'.

Vivat Jesus!

Happenings in Columbian Year 2003-04

The Editor

During the summer months of **July and August**, while most of us loafed (comparatively speaking), life in the Order went on. We were notified by Supreme that our Council had once again won the prestigious **Star Council Award**. State informed us of the **re-appointment of Brother Bernie Hurley as District Deputy**, Ontario District No. 01. State also informed us that this is the 100th Anniversary of the Ontario State Council, and that they had set an ambitious **target of 4,000 new Members** for 2003-04 (the average recruitment has been about 1,500 per year over the last 5 years). The Deputy Grand Knight, Brother Bill Brine, set up a **Council Web Site** on the Internet, and made it **operational** (www.KofC9742.org). The Grand Knight and various other Officers mapped out a tentative **plan and budget** for the year, and a pile of material was sent out to all Members - regular meeting schedule, proposed list of activities, list of Officers, membership list. In late August, the Executive met to review and finalize the plan and the budget, thus setting the stage for action.

We kicked off on the first Tuesday of **September** with the **Rosary** and the **Knight's Mass** (you all know that we do this on the first Tuesday of each month from September to June, right (?) - so I won't mention it again). The Mass was followed by the **Installation of Officers** presided over by our District Deputy, Brother Bernie Hurley, with a Fourth Degree Honour Guard to provide some additional pageantry to the ceremony. The proposed **Activity Plan and Budget** for the year were reviewed at the General Meeting, and the Activity Plan was approved. The first **Parish Pancake Breakfast** was held shortly afterwards, with Brother Tim Ross as KIC (Knight-In-Charge of the event); it proved to be quite a success. This was followed by the **CNIB Bingo Night**, which we conduct, and for which we provide the monetary prizes - a good time was had by all. Brother Leo Cooney presented work which he had done on a collection of **Parish Christmas Cards**, which consist of various pictures of the interior of the Church and a suitable message; this will serve as a fund-raiser for the Parish.. We also held a **First Degree Exemplification** presided by Brother Terry Howard, assisted by the rest of his First Degree Team.

October did not start at all well. We were informed by the new owners of the Fairlawn Independent Grocer that they were **terminating the Tape program** which had been a reliable money-maker for a number of years, with relatively little effort on our part. Also, the **Oktoberfest Dinner** (KIC Brother John

Davidson), which was scheduled early in October due to the unavailability of the Parish Hall in the latter portion of the month, had to be **cancelled** because there was just not sufficient time to organize the event in the short time frame after the Parish Pancake Breakfast. October being a **Marian month**, we led the **Rosary** before each evening Mass - with the change to the Mass schedule last May, these now take place only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with the result that we get to do in Church only the Sorrowful Mysteries and the Luminous Mysteries. At the General Meeting, the **Proposed Council Budget for 2003-04** was approved; as in the recent past, over 65% of the Budget is for charitable activities, with continuing emphasis on charities in the West end of Ottawa, and some help for a limited number of foreign charities. The **Parish Christmas Cards** put together by Brother Leo Cooney went on sale, and were doing well. We attended a special Mass for **St. Joseph's Feast**. Later that month, we had a recruitment booth at the **Parish Ministry Display**, as a result of which we signed up 3 new Members, and picked up 1 potential prospect. We also held a **First Degree Exemplification** presided over by Brother Terry Howard. The teaching of the **Rosary at Notre Dame High School** (KIC Brother Don Yantha) resumed with a new format, with each Grade 7/8 class devoting one whole Religion period (about one hour) during the school year to the Rosary; this provides ample time to cover the history and meaning of the Rosary, the Mysteries, and the various prayers, and to recite a complete set of five decades.

Early in **November**, we **assisted the Ladies of Fatima** to set up and to run their annual **Church Bazaar**, which was extremely successful. Planning got underway for the **2004 Basketball Free Throw Competition** (KIC Brother Jacques Dextraze). Six of our Members decided to advance to the highest Degree of our Order, and were **exemplified into the Fourth Degree** in a most impressive ceremony. Congratulations to **Sir Knights Peter Cromwell, Robert Haack, Alan Knoll, Tom McGovern, Ron Strittmatter, and Max Ulyett**, who are now also Members of **Fr. J.L. Reynolds Assembly No. 1670**. Brother Maurice Charlebois donated one of his original oil paintings to the Council, to do with as Council pleases (it was ultimately decided to raffle it off). In the middle of the month, we started the sale of the **Christmas Cakes** from the Cistercian Monks at Oka (proceeds of which are split between the Monks and the Campaign Life Coalition); these sold like hotcakes (!), and more had to be ordered for the following week. Later in the month, we held a **Knights' Memorial Mass**, in remembrance of deceased Brothers of our Council; an Honour Guard was present, and there was a simple reception following Mass. **Four of our Members** were exemplified into the **Third Degree** at the semi-annual Third Degree Ceremony. Somewhere along the way, a handful of Brothers prepared the 2004 Parish Offertory envelopes and boxes, a menial but highly necessary and important task - good job, guys, and thanks (since I doubt that anyone else has done so). And another class was taught the **Rosary at Notre Dame High School**. Unfortunately, all was not happiness and light; there were some truly sad news at the end of the month, when **Brother Gerry St. Jean**, Past Grand Knight of our Council, **passed away**; a large number of Brothers attended the wake, and the Funeral Mass.

And so we came rather rapidly upon the **Advent season**, a traditionally busy time of the year (as if we didn't do anything the rest of the time ...). Up first were the **Christmas Creche Set-Up**, and the **Light Up for Christ** ceremony and Mass. A few days later, we received some bad news - our **Deputy Grand Knight** (and Past Grand Knight) **Brother Bill Brine resigned his position** due to the fact that he was moving back to Nova Scotia to look after his aging parents. This was a serious blow indeed, since Bill had quietly but efficiently organized any number of activities over the years; he will be sorely missed. The **Children's Christmas Party** (KIC Brother Peter Cromwell) was a success, and the carols, gifts, and refreshments were enjoyed by all. The evening of the same day, the **Council Christmas Dinner** (KIC Brother Bill Brine) took place at Macie's Restaurant, with a good crowd attending. We also helped out at a **Christmas pageant at Our Lady of Fatima School**. The **Basketball Free Throw Competition** was completed at **Our Lady of Fatima School**. Last, but not least, was the **set-up of**

the Christmas trees and lights just before Christmas.

January started off on the **left foot**, literally, as a number of Brothers and their spouses took **dancing lessons** from Brother Robert Haack - in all, 8½ couples participated in this, learning a few basic steps in each of 4 different rhythms, in preparation for **Ladies' Appreciation Night** in February. Our Chaplain (and Brother in the Order), **Fr. Dan Dubroy**, who had also decided to advance to the highest Degree of our Order, but was not able to attend the November 2003 ceremony, was **exemplified into the Fourth Degree** in a ceremony at **Fr. J.L. Reynolds Assembly No.1670**; congratulations **Sir Knight**. The final tally on the **Parish Christmas Cards** put together by Brother Leo Cooney came in as sales of 2,524 cards (out of 4,000 printed), netting a tidy profit for the Parish. The **Crèche** and **Christmas Trees** were taken down, and put away for use in the next Advent season.

At the Council General Meeting, **Brother Don Yantha** was elected **Deputy Grand Knight**, filling the vacancy left by Brother Bill Brine. In the annual **Survey of Fraternal Activities**, a total of 7,268 hours of volunteer time were reported for 2003. A **"Fathers' Lunch"** held in appreciation of our clergy was attended by 3 Priests, 3 Deacons, and 37 Knights. Yet another class was taught the **Rosary at Notre Dame High School**. We then organized the second **Parish Breakfast** of the Columbian Year, which was a great success. Our remaining schools participated in the **Basketball Free Throw competition** altogether, 58 children (30 boys, 28 girls) from our schools competed at this level. The **Semi-Annual Audit** was completed satisfactorily. We held a **First Degree Exemplification**, presided over by Brother Terry Howard. The **Grand Knight** went on an **extensive Pacific/South Seas cruise** until the latter part of March 2004, leaving the Deputy Grand Knight to hold the fort.

February marked the beginning of the sales of **Arthritis Raffle Tickets**, 1,400 books of tickets have been received, and KIC Brother Jim Forestell would like to sell them all! We held a **Breakfast** for the **Hockey Old Timers' Association** (KIC Brother Mike Crowley), which was both fun, and profitable. Several of our participants in the **Basketball Free Throw Competition** qualified to compete at the **District level**, and one actually went on to the **Regional level** - well done! The Council General Meeting elected the Grand Knight, **Brother Russ Allan**, and the Recorder, **Brother Robert Haack**, as our **Delegates to the State Convention 2004**; no **Alternates** were elected. **Brother Alan Knoll and his wife Cathy** celebrated their **50th Wedding Anniversary** on Friday, 13 February 2004 - God bless you both. The **Ladies' Appreciation Night** (KIC Brother Robert Haack) was based on the concept of a "Soirée Dansante" ("An Evening of Dance and Romance") - the ambiance of a good Supper Club, with music and dancing during cocktails, during the meal, and afterwards. The event was a great success, enjoyed by all who attended. The Brothers and spouses who took dancing lessons acquitted themselves honourably on the dance floor - congratulations to all. The teaching of the **Rosary at Notre Dame High School** proceeded apace, with yet another class done. We conducted an **Open House** on the last week-end before Lent; our Pastor allowed a few minutes for a brief recruitment speech at the conclusion of each Mass, and display tables with brochures and literature were set up in the Parish Hall. The net result of these efforts was 2 new candidates signed up, and 3 good prospects who will be followed up. On relatively short notice, we successfully ran a second **CNIB Bingo Night** (KIC Brother Ron Burrows). Before we knew it, Ash Wednesday came upon us, and we started the **Way of the Cross** (KIC Brothers Terry Howard and Max Ulyett), which takes place before the evening Mass each Tuesday and Thursday during Lent.

At the Council General Meeting in **March**, Members were informed that a **Nominating Committee**, chaired by Brother **Joe Byrne**, had been established to seek out and report on a slate of candidates in April 2004, for the annual elections in May 2004. We held another **First Degree Exemplification** presided over by

Brother Don Yantha. And that's it so far in March ...

Coming Attractions

Knights' Communion Breakfast on Saturday, 20 March 2004; Mass at 09:00 a.m., followed by breakfast at 09:45 a.m.; guest speaker Fr. Pierre Ingram, on "The Importance of the Eucharist in the Life of a Knight"; ticket price \$12.00, well worth the cost. Tickets available from Brian Marley-Clarke or Don Yantha.

Renewal of Marriage Vows being planned for Sunday, 09 May 2004 (Mothers' Day); details are still in flux, particularly as to whether all couples will be at a single Mass, or whether they will be spread out between Masses; to a great extent it will depend on the numbers. An Honour Guard will be organized to add to the ceremony. Stay tuned ...

Parish Breakfast (No.3) on Sunday, 25 April 2004 - the usual deal.

Garage Sale on Saturday, 01 May 2004; it's almost here, so start going through your possessions, and set aside stuff which you want to give to us; must be in reasonable shape (no real junk, please); electrical and electronic goods, and mechanical appliances, must be in working order.

Did You Know That (Interesting Tidbits re the Order)

The Order is geographically concentrated in the **United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Guam,** and the **Dominican Republic?** There is a **limited presence** in places such as the Bahamas, Panama, Guatemala, the Virgin Islands, Costa Rica, and Saipan.

"States" (or State Councils), for **purposes of governance of the Order**, reflect the geographic reality of the States in the U.S., and the Provinces in Canada? Each of the 50 States, the 10 Provinces, and the District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.), are a "State" in the Order. The Philippines is divided into 3 "States" - Luzon, Mindanao, and Visayas. Mexico is divided into 2 "States" - Northern Mexico, and Central-South Mexico (not very original, eh?). Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and Guam each count as a "State". In total, **there are 69 "States"**, each headed by a State Deputy (in our case, Robert Cayea). In the other countries with smaller presence, the Supreme Knight appoints a "Territorial Deputy", who is somewhat like a District Deputy (e.g. Bernie Hurley), but is given more authority because there is not a State Deputy in the chain of command.

Membership in the Order was 1,661,121 as at 15 November 2003? What with the Membership Blitz from both Supreme and State, it is possible that we will reach 1,700,00 by the end of this Columbian Year.

Local Councils (such as ours) **numbered 12,274 as at 15 November 2003?**

The Average Age of the Membership is 56 years? (OLF 9742 is an "old" Council, reflective of the Parish population!).

The Average Age of NEW Members is 41 years? (Which means the Order is doing well at attracting younger men, thus rejuvenating itself in the process).

Face Value of all Insurance in force exceeded U.S.\$48 Billion as at 15 November 2003? That is an awfully large pile of coverage...

Total Contribution of Volunteer Time by the Order was about 61 Million hours in 2002? (Figures for 2003 will not be fully compiled until some time this summer). Based on an average work week of 37.5 hours, that comes out to over 31,000 Person-Years (which here in Ottawa would make a fair-sized Government Department).

Total Charitable Contributions of the Order exceeded U.S.\$128 Million in 2002? (Figures for 2003 will not be fully compiled until some time this summer). Of this total, **Supreme gave out about U.S.\$22 Million**, while **States and Local Councils gave out over U.S.\$106 Million**

In 2002, Ontario State was the single largest contributor, for the 1st year in a row? We gave **over U.S.\$9 Million** - the **runners-up**, distant at that, were **Illinois, Québec, California, and Texas** each of whom gave **U.S.\$5 Million** (give or take).

The Vicarius Christi Fund (Vicar of Christ Fund), established in 1981 with an endowment of U.S.\$20 Million, the income from which is given to the Pope for his personal charities, has **given the Pope over U.S.\$35 Million since its inception?** Last year (October 2003), the Fund gave the Pope U.S.\$2.5 Million.

Events Schedule for Balance of CY 2003-2004

As at 15 March 2004

March 2004

- 16 Tuesday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Thursday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Saturday Knights' Communion Breakfast - Mass 9:00 a.m.; Breakfast following Mass
- 23 Tuesday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Thursday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Knights' Mass (Day of the Unborn Child) 7:00 p.m.
- 29 Monday First Degree Exemplification (OLF 9742) - Candidates 7:00 p.m.; Ceremony 8:00 p.m.
- 30 Tuesday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.

April 2004

- 01 Thursday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.
- 06 Tuesday Way of The Cross 6:20 p.m.; Knights' Mass 7:00 p.m.
Executive Meeting 7:35 p.m.
- 09 Friday Good Friday
- 13 Tuesday General Meeting 7:35 p.m.
- 25 Sunday Parish Breakfast (after all Masses)
- 30 Friday Garage Sale Set Up 9:00 a.m.

May 2004 (Marian Month)

- 01 Saturday Garage Sale 10:00 a.m.
- 04 Tuesday Knights' Mass - Rosary 6:20 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.
Executive Meeting 7:35 p.m.
- 06 Thursday Rosary 6:30 p.m.
- 09 Sunday Renewal of Marriage Vows; Roses for Life
- 11 Tuesday Rosary 6:30 p.m.
General Meeting (Elections) 7:35 p.m.
- 13 Thursday Rosary 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Monday First Degree Exemplification (OLF 9742) - Candidates 7:00 p.m.;
Ceremony 8:00 p.m.
- 18 Tuesday Rosary 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Thursday Rosary 6:30 p.m.

25 Tuesday Rosary 6:30 p.m.

27 Thursday Rosary 6:30 p.m.

June 2004

01 Tuesday Knights' Mass - Rosary 6:30 p.m.; Mass 7:00 p.m.

Executive Meeting 7:35 p.m.

08 Tuesday General Meeting 7:35 p.m.

09 Wednesday Steak and Awards Night

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