



Knights of Columbus

Bishop Ruocco Council, No. 9275

P.O. Box 65

Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824-0065

www.kofc9275.org

December 2011

The Knight Reader

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OFFICERS 2011-2012

Grand Knight.....

ROBERT J. CHEVALIER

Chaplain.....

REV. DAVID P. WHITE

Deputy Grand Knight.....

CHARLES F. CARROLL

Chancellor.....

JAMES V. McPADDEN

Warden.....

JASON F. MONAHAN

Financial Secretary.....

DAVID L. BREEN

Treasurer.....

CHARLES F. HIRT

Recorder.....

MICHAEL F. MORIATY

Advocate.....

HENRY BAKER

Lecturer.....

UBALDO A. MENDES

Inside Guard.....

PAUL M. PARADISE

Outside Guard.....

JOHN E. BIELEFELD

3rd Year Trustee.....

ADAM M. HEROUX, PGK

2nd Year Trustee.....

EUGENE F. BARTOS, PGK

1st Year Trustee.....

FRANCIS X. BURKE, PGK

District Deputy.....

JOHN P. DeCOURCY, PGK

Field Agent.....

STEPHEN A. WHITE

603-894-4780 kofcins@aol.com

The Grand Knight Report – Robert Chevalier

WORTHY BROTHERS:

Our Council has completed an exemplary period of Charity. With donations by our council to organizations in support of: 1) new life (Friends of the Unborn), 2) women coping with unexpected pregnancy (Pregnancy Care Center), 3) daytime respite and care for those without jobs or homes (Living Waters) and, 4) in promoting prayerful religious retreats in our community (ACTS Collaboration of Chelmsford, Westford, Littleton). Charity has been our council's focal virtue and has been demonstrated in so many ways by our Brother Knights. The work of Ken Desilets and council members in support of Special Needs Bowling is inspirational. The annual Mass of the Roses for departed Brothers was conducted with honor and reverence to those who have shared their time and generosity in our council. Thank you to Chuck Carroll for organizing this tribute.

As we pass the milestone of Thanksgiving (now filled with Turkeys and Hams won at our successful 2nd Annual Turkey Raffle),

we ready ourselves for the coming of the greatest gift to all mankind, the birth of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Each year we struggle more and more with the secular message that attempts to alter the true meaning of Christmas. This year our Council will sponsor an evening of contemplation and learning in preparation of Advent. Fr. Paul Ritt of St. John's Parish will lead a spiritual dialogue on the subject of how to Keep Christ in Christmas. This will be on November 30th (7PM to 8:30) at St. John's in North Chelmsford. We are extremely pleased that this evening of Advent Reflection has been organized by Ubaldo Mendes our Council Lecturer. This reflection is open to everyone and we urge you to come with your family and friends. What a truly great way to begin the Season of Advent!

I also want to remind everyone that our December 12th Business Meeting will be brief (very brief) and we continue with our annual Christmas Swap. Please bring a gift (suggested value of \$15) to insure that everyone has a gift to treasure - or trade - at the end of this fun evening.

Mass of the Roses by Charles Carroll, DKG

The Bishop Ruocco Council 9275 of the Knights of Columbus celebrated its annual Mass of the Roses ceremony on Saturday, November 19, at St. Mary's 4:00 PM Mass. This mass was attended by over forty-five council Knights and spouses. St. Mary's pastor, Fr. Steven Donohoe, celebrated the mass dedicated to the memory of deceased members of our council. Brother Knights Chuck Hirt, Lector, Joe Connolly, George Ripsom, and Michael Sousa (EMHC) assisted. Tables alongside the Ambo held a plaque listing names of our deceased brothers and a vase of red roses.

Following the mass, council members, their spouses, and St. Mary parishioners, adjourned to the church hall for refreshments and conversation.

The following kudos are in order: Chicki Rigazio, Liz Hirt, Dolores Carroll, Pat Chevalier, Robin Jubinville, Helen MacShane, and Carol Hanley for providing the outstanding refreshments; Ralph Nelson and Barry Bell for the plaque with names of the deceased and for the booklets distributed to all at the start of the ceremony; Harold and Susan Coughlin for setting up the Deceased Brother Knight's Table, honoring the missing Knight. The council should be commended for its support of this event.

Did you Know ?

Bill Bolger (not the infamous Billy Bulger, nor the actor Ray Bolger) was a dedicated member of the John Morrison Council Knights of Columbus during its heyday of the 50's through the 70's. John Morrison Council is the original KofC Council in Chelmsford. Bill and his family lived in Westford's Nabnasset area and was an active member of St. John's Parish. Bill was such a humble and regular guy that most people didn't know his accomplishments in life and in his career. If asked about his work, Bill would always say "I work for the Post Office". This was true, but it immediately conjured up the vision of the guy on the route who showed up each day to deliver the mail. In fact, William F. Bolger was the 65th Postmaster General of the United States following in the seat first occupied by Benjamin Franklin.

Throughout his tenure (1978-1984) Bill remained with close ties to Nabnasset, to St. John's and to his beloved Knights of Columbus. He always made time in his busy appointment schedule to receive visitors from his town, his parish and his KofC council. The phone on his desk had a red button that said "White House" so you knew he was at the top of his game....yet, he constantly made you feel as though you and the events of back home were the most important part of his day. Many of the Brother Knights in our Council remember Bill and actually got to spend time with him in his Washington Headquarters.

Our Knights are often examples of humility who achieve great things in life, but no accomplishment is greater than the individual acts of charity we perform as Knights.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following brothers and their families and caregivers: It is with much sadness that we report Roderick L. MacLellan, Sr. passed away on November 21, 2011, Bob Dzuris, Bob Wheeler, Suzanne Lovas (wife of Jim Lovas), Cathy O'Malley (wife of Mike O'Malley), Jeanne Peters (wife of Jack Peters), Barbara Smith (wife of Michael Smith), Emily Chateaneuf daughter of Marc, Elaine Fulbright, John Keville, Father Bilicky, Paul Barker, Ed & Jean Fournier, Ray Kelly, Al and Pauline Gorham. For those who are sick or in distress, please remember that you are in our prayers at each meeting and in the private prayers of our hearts. If you know of a brother knight or family member who would like to be included in our prayers, please contact one of the individual below. Also, we would like to know any births, wedding and deaths so that we may respond appropriately. Please inform Grand Knight Bob Chevalier at Bob.Chevalier@verizon.net, Chancellor Jim McPadden at JMcPad35@aol.com, or Newsletter Editor/Publisher Barry Bell at kofcnews@yahoo.com.

FIELD AGENTS REPORT by Stephen White

"The purpose of rendering mutual aid and assistance to the members of said society and their families".

- The caption above says it all! Founded in 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney, the Knights of Columbus is a pillar of financial security!
- We are in the business of paying claims. If you don't have your insurance and investments with the KofC, why not!
- Today, how many insurance companies in the world are in it solely for the **profit!** Most must satisfy their stockholders.
- We don't have outside stockholders. You as members of the KofC are our "stockholders".
- We return approximately 85% of our earnings to our members!
- We donate approximately 10% to charity!
- Only 5% needed to cover overhead!

Life Insurance --- Long Term Care Insurance --- Disability Insurance --- Annuities
Call your Field Agent Steve White for a no-obligation review today. You'll be glad you did!
Tel (603) 894-4780 email kofcins@aol.com

"There is simply no more highly rated insurer in North America than the Knights of Columbus"

Turkey Raffle by Dan Dery

Our 2nd annual Turkey Raffle was held on November 5th at St John's church hall and was a successful fund raiser for council activities. Dan Dery MC'd the evening which saw about 120 fun loving attendees and Knights "tossing their tickets in the basket" as each round of Turkeys, Hams and Holiday Spirits were awarded. Our worthy Warden (Jason Monahan) provided food for all and the night was a truly fun time. We have already reserved the Hall for November 3, 2012 and are forming a committee to plan this event. support charitable works in our council area. Thanks for your past support and please plan on attending next November 3rd.

An Evening of Reflection

by Ubaldo Mendes, Lecturer

Knights of Columbus (Bishop Ruocco Council 9275)

All great events and occasions require thorough preparation to ensure happy and successful results. This should be especially true as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Unfortunately in today's world we don't tend to see much beyond the glitz and glamour of gift giving and parties. To make this upcoming season a meaningful one in our lives, come and spend an evening at **St. John the Evangelist Church**, North Chelmsford, on Wednesday, Nov 30th from 7:00-8:30pm. **Fr. Paul Ritt** will talk about how we can experience the true joys of Christmas and share with us the treasures of this happy and blessed occasion. No better way of putting **Christ back in Christmas!**

SPIRITUAL THOUGHTS by Deacon Robert Dzuris

REFLECTION: by Mary Steiner Rice

How Great the Yield.....From a Fertile Field

The farmer plows through the fields of green
And the Blade of the plow is sharp and keen,
But the seed must be sown to bring forth grain,
For nothing is born without suffering and pain,
And God never plows in the soul of man
From which He expects and excellent yield,
So rejoice though your heart is broken in two,
God seeks to bring forth a rich harvest in you.

WISDOM OF THE SAINTS:

"It would be considered a theft on our part if we didn't give to someone in greater need than we are." Francis of Assisi

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that in due time he may exalt you. Cast all your anxieties on him, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5:6, 7

NOTES FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY by David Breen

Council Waives Dues

Dues for nine of our members have been waived by the Board of Officers in 2011.

The following reasons have been cited:

Illness(2)	Military Service(1)
Peace Core(1)	Hardship(1)
Seminary(1)	School(2)
Death in Family(1)	

Contact Dave Breen – 978-692-4873 or dlbreen@comcast.net or
5 Hearthstone Rd. Westford 01886

Scholarship Awards

Scholarship awards are available for any member or relative of a member entering a Catholic College or University for the 2012-2013 school year. Applications for the Massachusetts State Council K of C Catholic College Scholarships must be received by April 5, 2012 (Allow time for my signature as FS).. Applications are available from Dave Breen, 978-692-4873 (dlbreen@comcast.net) or directly from the State's WEB site at:

http://www.massachusettsstatekofc.org/Forms/Scholarship_Application_2011.pdf

Newsletter by Barry Bell

Articles that are to be included in the January issue of the Knight Reader need to be e-mailed to me at kofcnews@yahoo.com before **December 20th**. I was very pleased with the response for articles to the December Issue. If you see a name next to the article, that is the author of the article. No name indicates that I inserted the article. Thank you to Bob Chevalier, Chuck Carroll, Dan Dery, Steve White, Bob Dzuris, Ubaldo Mendes, Dave Breen and Paul Rigazio. Communication is most important to be fully informed. Please think of adding an article to the next issue. I am hoping to add pictures and a calendar in upcoming issues. Thank You, Barry Bell

Disabled

Four of our members are on the Disabled List.

Supreme will waive dues for knights who qualify for Disability Status. Two items, a brief letter from a doctor (or professional care giver) confirming the disability and a short form must be submitted to Supreme through the Financial Secretary. This is a one time submittal for the disabled knight but the Financial Secretary confirms the Disability Status annually. Supreme, State and Council fees are waived.

Contact Dave Breen – 978-692-4873 or dlbreen@comcast.net or 5 Hearthstone Rd, Westford

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Bills for membership dues for the year 2012 have already been mailed via the post office. Dues are due by January 1, 2012. If you have not received your dues request, please contact:

**David Breen
5 Hearthstone Road
Westford, MA 01886
978-692-4873
dlbreen@comcast.net**

Bishop Ruocco Council Budget 2011-2012

Income	Plan	Expenses	Plan
Bottle Drive	---	Advertisement - 4th Degree	\$ 125
Christmas Cards	700	Advertisement - Supreme	225
Communion Breakfast	---	Anniversary Dinner	175
		Bible School St Mary	100
Dues @ 30 x 210	6,300	Bank Fees	50
Dues Forgiven	---		
Interest on CD	60	Blue Mass	50
4th of July booth	600	Buildings and Grounds no charge	---
		Children's Christmas party	100
State Raffle	250	Church Service Award	400
Tootsie Roll Drive	---	Collation	---
Special Assessment	420	Council Roast	100
Turkey Raffle	1,000	Degree Team	50
Income	\$ 9,330		
		Fourth of July Float	300
		Free Throw/ Soccer	150
		FS Expenses	600
		GK Expenses	50
		Golf hole donations	425
		Installation	100
		Knight of the year	100
		Ladies Night	100
		Mass of the Roses	100
		Membership Drive	50
		News Letter	300
		Night of Reflection	50
		PGK/Trustee plaque	50
		Postage in Fin Sec	---
		Priests Gifts	300
		Scholarship - Dave Gorham	300
		Seminarian (less \$100 subsidy)	400
		Sick/Vigil	250
		SN Prom in charity acct	---
		SN Fair & Bowling	850
		Social Nights (3)	100
		Spinners Game	---
		State / Boston Council	125
		State Per Capita	1,600
		State/GK Convention	300
		Supreme Special Assessment	420
		Supreme Per Capita	750
		Unbudgeted Items	85
		Turkey Raffle	---
		Wreaths Across America	100
		Expenses	\$ 9,330

Special Assessment = \$2 * 210

