



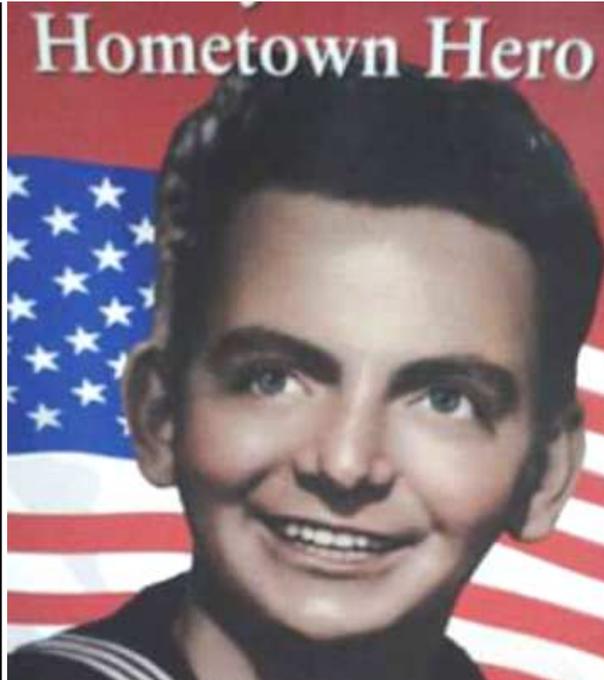
THE KNIGHT CHATTER

May 2018 Published Monthly, at no charge, by Rock Creek Council, 5417 W. Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

Year 80, No. 10

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Who is the young sailor who is proclaimed a "Hometown Hero"?
 Hint — He is a member of Rock Creek Council.
 Answer on page 11

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

FR. MARK HUGHES

Brother Knights,

In a few weeks, four men will be ordained as Catholic Priests for the Archdiocese of Washington . While this is not a large number, it is the end result of an excellent program operated by our local Church.

Currently, we have 78 men in the Seminary for the Archdiocese. This is a huge number for any diocese, let alone one that is moderate in size like Washington. We send our theologians (graduate school level) to 4 different seminaries (Mount St. Mary's, Rome, Catholic University and Redemptoris Mater). We have 38 people at this level.

We also have 40 others at the college or pre-theology level. Of these, 27 men are at St. John Paul II Seminary (next to Carroll High School). This is a brand new seminary opened by Cardinal Wuerl a few years ago, and recently expanded to accommodate the large number of men who will finish their college degree or philosophy studies before entering

(Continued on page 2)



Fr. Mark Hughes

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

JAMES SCHNEIDER

Worthy Brothers,

I had the opportunity a couple weeks ago to hear the story of a young man from Detroit who wanted to buy a home for his ailing mother. They could live together, while he took care of her.

While his mother didn't have much money, he worked extra hard to put down money for the home. They ended up meeting a gentleman who had the perfect home, and the gentlemen said that the young man reminded him of himself. The young man purchased his ideal little two-story Detroit home from the man in the middle of October. A week later his lawyer called him. There was a lien on the property of over \$75,000 and the bank wanted the \$75,000 to be paid off by the end of the week. The young man had been swindled. He got talked into purchasing the home quickly and no title search had been done.

The young man didn't want to tell his mother, so the first night he called everyone he knew to help him. He asked to

(Continued on page 2)



Grand Knight Schneider



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

the theology program (4 years of study), where they will prepare for ordination. We have 13 others who are studying at the Redemptoris Mater Seminary (also owned and operated by the Archdiocese in cooperation with the Neocatechumenate Religious Community).

Two-thirds (52) of the students in the program come from the Archdiocese. They represent 31 of our 139 parishes. The other third (26) of the students are mostly international seminarians who study at the Redemptoris Mater Seminary. It is very important that we continue to support these men in prayer and through our contributions to the Cardinal's Appeal, where the funds to operate this excellent program originate.

Other numbers of interest come from the list of 2015 Worldwide Statistics, collected by Georgetown University's CARA Program:

Priest 415, 656
 Diocesan 281,514 (68%)
 Religious Orders 134,142 (32%)
 Priestly Ordinations 5,947
 Graduate Level Seminarians 55,988
 Religious Sisters 670,330
 Religious Brothers 223,128
 Permanent Deacons 44,627
 Catholic Population 1.285 Billion

Sincerely,

Fr. Hughes

Nominees for Council Officers

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of nominees for council officers for the fraternal year beginning July 1. Two additional nominations were added at the meeting. Additional nominations can be made at the meeting on June 5, after which the slate will be closed and elections held. The nominees are:

Grand Knight — Joe Doniger, Joe Stewart
 Deputy Grand Knight — Joe Stewart, Jon Schneider
 Chancellor — Jon Schneider
 Recorder — John Daria
 Treasurer — Charles Gormley
 Advocate — Joe Murphy
 Warde — Mike Houlihan
 Inside Guards (2) — Mike Nass, Ivan Galic
 Outside Guards (2) — Alex Lieb, open
 Trustee 3-year — James Schneider
 Convention Delegate — James Schneider
 1st Alternate Delegate — Joe Stewart
 2nd Alternate Delegate — Terence Ryan

Note: Persons who will serve due to prior-year elections or by position are:

Trustee 2-year — Rich Heim
 Trustee 1-year — Jamie Caulfield
 Convention Delegate — James Schneider

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

work extra shifts; he begged for an extension on the property; he couldn't let his mother down. The night before the end of the week he called his lawyer asking him to speak to the bank, to hold off the eviction that was coming the next day. His lawyer told him that the bank wouldn't even talk to the young man, that he needed the \$75,000 in 24 hours or his mother and he would be evicted.

With his down payment money gone, nothing saved and burning through all his options, the young man sat on top of an unpacked box and wept. He felt nothing but failure. He had promised his mother so many things and he had let her down. His mother came in from the other room after hearing her son sobbing and asked, "What is wrong son?"

"Mom, they are taking the house away unless we come up with \$75,000 tomorrow." He went over the whole tax lien story and when he was through his mother sat there and smiled.

"Son, it's alright. We don't need this house as going up and down the stairs have been horrible on my arthritic knees."

"Well why didn't you tell me Mom?" the son asked.

"Because you were proud of this house, for all the work you had done to get the down payment. There was no way I could take that away from you. I am proud of you for getting this house. We could live in a shack, but we don't need this house as long as we have each other."

The son looked in retrospect and realized he had never thought about what his Mom wanted, but what he wanted to provide for her.

Happy Mother's Day to all the Mothers, Wives and Grandmothers out there!

Vivat Jesus!

James

Grand Knight

Knight of the Month

This month's Knight-of-the-Month is **Jerry Truman**. Jerry's non-stop charity work is unheard of. He works extremely hard at raising money through different avenues to help those around him. This is all on top of being a great person to see around the Council. Check out some of his and his family's work:

www.facebook.com/TrumanCharitiesMD/

Thanks, Jerry, for all you do for some many folks in need.

James Schneider

Grand Knight



DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT

Worthy Brothers All,

As my two-year term as District Deputy winds down and I look back on my successes and failures, I wish I had been more consistent in providing a monthly article for the District's Council Newsletters. Again, this month, at the last minute, I think there is nothing important I need to convey to my Councils, so I asked myself, "What is important to me?" Being the Advocate (as the KofC calls it) type, or the Association Parliamentarian (as I was in my previous life in the Parent Teacher Associations of my two boys' schools), I decided I would write about important Laws and Rules of our Order as defined by Supreme and the local Council Bylaws. This topic may be a sleeper for most, but is something I care deeply about and don't believe is well understood by the membership. In my IT world, I would say, "if standards aren't enforced, chaos will ensue."

There are two main documents that define how Knights of Columbus Councils are to operate, the first being the Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus (governing the Supreme, State, and Subordinate Councils), last updated in 2017. The second document is the local Council Bylaws where a predefined template is made available to Councils by Supreme with eight optional elements the Council is allowed to define themselves. Those are: 1) Annual Dues, 2) Initiation Fee (if one exists), 3) Quorum, 4) Maximum Amount Paid per Transaction at a Regular Business Meeting, 5) Relief Fund Amount (if one exists), 6) Number of Masses (if any) Held for a Lost Brother, 7) Financial Secretary Compensation, and 8) If the Lecturer is Included as an Appointed Officer. Unless you use the template defining the eight variables, it is very hard (if not impossible) to get (customized) Bylaws approved by the Supreme Council.

While (as a Parliamentarian) I would suggest that every law and rule outlined in those two important documents should be enforced in every Council, there are some I consider to be absolutely essential and that need to be enforced at all times. The most important rule on that list is that *all* Council expenditures need to be properly approved by the Membership and/or as outlined in the documents referenced. This is usually made much simpler by approving (and revising) a yearly budget. When the

membership needs to approve any amount greater than \$500, the proposed spending needs to be presented at one Business Meeting, and then approved at the next Business Meeting by a two-thirds vote. One-off spending (i.e. under \$500) needs to be approved by the Council at a Business Meeting. I have often seen a discretionary amount included in the Budget for the Grand Knight to pay small incidental bills as needed. Most non-profit organizations require this type of membership approval. Once approved by the Council, the proposed spending is then forwarded to the Trustees, who also need to approve all spending or send it back for reconsideration by the Council. There are no optional provisions in the Laws and Rules of the Order in this regard!

The other check-and-balance required by the Laws and Rules of our Order that I believe to be most important is how money is to flow into and out of the Council. All bills and income are required to come through the Financial Secretary, be checked as authorized by the Council, then passed to the Treasurer for action (with the proper vouchers attached). A report is required for both receivables and expenses at each Business Meeting. The Treasurer is tasked with making *all* deposits and writing checks to pay authorized expenses. Only the Treasurer and the Grand Knight are allowed (and required) to sign all checks, although the Deputy Grand Knight can sign for the GK in his absence. No one can sign for the Treasurer, and there is no option for *anyone* else than those three Officers to sign checks for the Council. This well-established process is the most important check-and-balance required to ensure that Council funds are handled appropriately.

There are many Laws and Rules of our Order, and I wish I could be more concise so that I could cover more of them in this article, but those two items are, in my opinion, the two most critical laws that cannot be ignored. If anyone is interested in the Laws and Rules of the Order (or in my beloved Roberts Rules of Order), I would be happy to discuss these topics over a Budweiser (or two) at your convenience. I don't expect any takers!

Joe Stewart

District Deputy No. 18

Time is running out to win a trip to Ireland

Supreme will award ten couples an all-expense paid trip to attend the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland, August 22-26, 2018. For every member you recruit until June 30th, your name will go into a pool. On July 1st, ten names will be drawn at random. The more men that you recruit, the greater the probability you will have to win this once-in-a-lifetime trip. For more information about the World meeting of Families 2018, please visit:

www.worldmeeting2018.ie.



CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Peter and Mary Ann Ferrigno, Culture of Life Chaircouple



Vice President Mike Pence, at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention, stated that he believes that with all of us doing what we can, that the “sanctity of life will be restored”. He gave this statement for he sees that “the passion and love demonstrated by young pro-life activists bring hope for the fu-

ture. The vice president remarked that President Trump has been working to limit abortion on demand, stating that the president has supported the Mexico City Policy, which prohibits taxpayers funding to groups that promote or provide abortions overseas”.

It is a shame that our Senate recently failed to pass the 20-week abortion ban, called the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. This would prohibit aborting a child after twenty weeks. This bill had been passed by the House of Representatives in October 2017. As it so happens, 14 Catholic senators, 12 Democrats and 2 Republicans, voted against this bill. One has to wonder what type of Catholics the fourteen were. I am sure they are “Catholic” in name only. There are twenty-one states that have banned aborting a child after twenty weeks.

It is a shame what is happening to a school in which I spent four years as an undergraduate and four years as a dental student. It has changed so drastically. Georgetown University recently approved what they call Crossroads LLD. This means that they are opened to students who may not have Catholic values and are openly practicing homosexual activities. There may be good reason why they are doing this, perhaps to enroll more students, but I do not see how they are being Catholic in nature.

With Planned Parenthood on the offensive for this coming

midterm election to defeat some pro-life governors, the pro-life Republican Party must be on its guard – the Democratic Party unfortunately has demonstrated that it does not want pro-lifers in the organization. Any pro-life movement will only survive by the retention of most pro-life politicians. It has been stated that Planned Parenthood performed over three hundred thousand abortions and received \$543.7 million in taxpayers’ funds just this past year.

What is not stressed enough is the harm that a woman does to herself following an abortion. According to an earlier study, found in the *British Journal of Psychiatry*, women face an 81 percent increased risk of mental health problems following an abortion. They also are subjected to having an increased risk for anxiety (34%), depression (37%), alcohol abuse (110%), and suicide (155%). It was concluded that it is three times more likely that a woman could lose her life from an abortion than from childbirth.

According to an article in the *National Catholic Register* by PGK Larry Grayson, “the Office for Civil Rights proposed a new policy to protect the conscience rights and religious freedom of doctors, nurses and other medical professions so that they would not be coerced into participating in medical procedures, such as abortion, sterilization and assisted suicide”. With pro-abortion Justice Anthony Kennedy stepping down, a pro-life justice replacing him could make a big difference for changing or even overturning *Roe v Wade*. The chance of President Trump selecting a pro-life replacement is quit high.

The tendency for decisions that respect life improved with the selection of Justice Neil Gorsuch. Hopefully, Justices Ruth Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer, may retire during a Trump presidency, providing opportunities to add one or two more justices who favor the pro-life position.

God Bless.

Americans of All Political Persuasions Favor Substantial Abortion Limits

More than three quarters of Americans would limit abortion to, at most, the first three months of pregnancy, according to a new Marist Poll. That number has consistently been about three quarters or more for the past decade.

This year, the survey found that 76 percent of Americans want such limits. Strong majorities of Republicans (92 percent), Independents (78 percent) and Democrats (61 percent) agree, as do a majority of those who identify as pro-choice (60 percent).

The poll also found that 63 percent of Americans would ban abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy, while 60 percent oppose using tax dollars to pay for abortion.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said that the survey shows clearly that abortion cannot “be thought of as a

partisan issue since majorities of Democrats, Independents and Republicans all agree that it should be substantially restricted.”

A majority of Americans continue to consider abortion “morally wrong” (56 percent). That number grows to almost two-thirds (64 percent) for abortions sought in the cases of unborn children with genetic issues like Down syndrome. And by more than 15 percentage points, a majority of Americans say that medical professionals and organizations with moral objections should not be forced to perform or provide insurance coverage for abortion.

About 4 in 10 Americans say abortion is a “major factor” in how they vote in presidential (42 percent), congressional (45 percent), and local (38 percent) elections. For more detail, go to www.kofc.org/un/en/news/polls.html#/



CHURCH ACTIVITIES REPORT

Peter D. Ferrigno, PGK

A number of our cardinals were most pleased that our current pope stated that the church has been too focused on abortion, contraception and marriage. By doing this, the Church is losing its members. Cardinal Lewes had stated some years ago that the Church has to catch up with changes in society, even if it still doesn't admit divorce. In some countries, such as Brazil, "people are no longer rejected at the altar, because they are divorced and remarried". In the eyes of the secular left, Pope Benedict was being genuinely Catholic. Maybe this is the reason Pope Francis replaced him.

You may remember, back then, four supreme justices, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, John Roberts and Samuel Anthony, voted against same-sex marriage, while Ruth Ginsburg, Steven Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan voted for same sex marriage. Then, Justice Kennedy broke the tie by voting to legalize same-sex marriage. The reason for the vote of approval from the majority was that to deny "equal dignity", would "brand gay people unworthy and humiliate their children".

Bishop Daniel Thomas of Toledo, at a pro-life conference, stated that politicians who publically support abortion and euthanasia, do not share fully and practically the faith of Christ". He believes that Americans must "be citizens who bring our faith into the public square, engage, inform and politically be active for life, for marriage and for reli-

gious liberty". At one time, "the importance of marriage, family and fatherhood were the standards of society", but we find this no longer to be the case. He went on to say that we are doomed "to drift into oblivion by the fickle winds of popular mentality of the current age".

As Americans, we should support the Conscience Protection Act which give greater strength to prevent forcing doctors and nurses to perform abortions. Gov. Phil Bryant of Mississippi signed a bill that would protect unborn babies from abortions after fifteen weeks, except in the case where the life of the mother may be at risk. His reason is that this would make the chance of adoption possible should the mother not want the child.

According to an article in the *National Catholic Register*, by Mark Brumley, he stated that the word "Reformation" as applied to the Church has truly been misused. The proper word should have been "Revolt" or "Revolution". His reason is that the word "Reformation" connotes a change for the better. So you can see why a Protestant may want to use that word, but not those of the Catholic faith. The Church has made favorable changes throughout the many years, but not like those of the Protestant faith, who gave up remaining Catholic. Our church has demonstrated that one can make changes, improvements, without a total break away.

God Bless.

Support Our Teachers

The Council will conduct its 29th Annual Teacher Appreciation Dinner on Friday, May 11. This is the occasion each year that we invite all of the teachers, their principals and pastors from the parishes we serve to come to the Council for an evening of relaxation, fun, camaraderie and recognition.

Your help is necessary to support this worthwhile and important event. Consider entering the 50-50 raffles AND/OR becoming a program sponsor.

Sponsors will be listed in the Teacher Appreciation Program for the evening. Donations of \$25 will be listed as "Patrons." \$50 or more will be listed as "**Gold Sponsors.**" \$100 or more will be listed as "**Diamond Sponsors.**"

Donations must be **received by May 1**, to be listed in the program. Make your checks out to Rock Creek Council, with a note that it is for the Teacher Appreciation Program. Checks should be given to the Grand Knight, Treasurer, or Financial Secretary. For more information, contact Wes Chin at wmchin987@gmail.com

Tickets for the 50/50 raffles are printed on page 8 of this issue of the Chatter.

Cardinal Patrick A. O'Boyle Assembly, No. 386

Brother Knights,

The Archdiocese of Washington District is conducting the Fourth Degree Exemplification on April 7 at Good Council High School in Olney. All 3rd degree brother Knights are eligible to join this highest degree of the Order. Candidates can begin the process by signing up now, and completing the other forms and payments as the Exemplification draws closer.



If you have any questions regarding the degree, its activities and functions, contact me at neildorian@yahoo.com or 301-237-0552, or speak to any of the many Sir Knights in our council.

Meetings of the Assembly are held on the third Thursday of each month, beginning with the rosary at 7:30 pm, with the formal start at 8:00 pm. A complimentary dinner is served at the end of each meeting. Don no hesitate to contact me for more information.

Neil Dorian, SK
Past Faithful Navigator



Save the Date

80th Council Anniversary
Celebration
and
New Officers Installation

Sunday, July 15

10:30 AM Mass

at Holy Redeemer Church

Banquet at Rock Creek Mansion

about 2:00 PM

Pro-Life Prayer Vigil

LeRoy Carhart, a late-term abortionist who kills babies in the womb up to the point of birth, is located in the Medical Building at Wildwood Shopping Center on Old Georgetown Road.

There is a continuing prayer vigil and public education campaign held each Monday from 9 AM to 11 AM. For details, contact Dick Retta (dickretta61@verizon.net; 301 538 2500) or check PrayforBethesda.com. In addition, prayer groups meet there on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM, and on Wednesday mornings at 900 AM.

Club News



**Hours: Monday Thru Thursday 2-10
Friday 2-Midnight, Saturday 2-11, Sunday 2-8,**

The Friday Night menu features items from the Smoker, including BBQ spare ribs, smoked pulled pork and chicken, burgers, dogs quesadillas, salads and more. Great food. Don't miss it.

Thursday, May 3, will be baseball night, featuring Walter Johnson alum, Bethesda native and Major League Baseball analyst on ESPN's Baseball Tonight, Tim Kurkjian. Light Appetizers will be available. There will be a cash bar and 50/50, with all proceeds going to The Children Inn at NIH.

Saturday, May 5 will be the next Trivia Night. Registration starts at 7:00 pm, play begins at 7:30. There is a \$10 team registration, with the winning team taking all. Teams can have up to 6 players. The competition is 6 rounds of 10 questions each. Food will be available.

Sunday, May 20, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, there will be the Spring Fling Dance Party, featuring The Dave Phenicie Band. There will be 50/50s, raffles, door prizes, with a cash bar and food available. Admission is only \$5, with all proceeds going to The Children's Inn at NIH.

And as always, the several large TVs will be tuned to our local sports teams and all big games.

It's your lounge. Have fun — And don't forget to sign the BOOK!

Lounge phone: 301-530-1628

Mike Horan: 240-793-1169

ROSARY AT 7:30 P.M.

**We pray the Rosary
before our meetings on
the 1st and 3rd Tues-
days of each month**

**The Rosary is a
proven, effective
prayer in meeting indi-
vidual and national
needs**

Come and join us!



Remember Our Sick and Deceased

Sick and Distressed:

Leslie Ibáñez (wife of PGK Tony Ibáñez), PGK Roberto Ibanez, PGK Victor Khayat, PGK Peter Ferrigno, PGK Vince Bunag, Glenda Bunag, PKG Joe Murphy, Greg Curtin, Brandon Waters (grandson of PGK Bob Waters), Jim Manwaring, and those on the Seniors' sick list (p. 11)

Deceased:

PGK Bill Morris, and Frank Rossomondo, Jr.

Pray for our ailing and deceased members, families and friends.



*Spring
Fling
Dance
Party*

**LIVE MUSIC BY
THE DAVE PHENICIE BAND**

**50/50s
RAFFLES / DOOR PRIZE**

**PROCEEDS GO TO
THE CHILDREN'S INN
AT NIH**

**ROCK CREEK COUNCIL #2797
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
5417 W. CEDAR LANE
BETHESDA, MD 20814
INFORMATION 240-793-1169**

**SUNDAY MAY 20, 2018
4:00 TO 8:00**

TICKETS \$5.00

CASH BAR & FOOD

**BBQ SPARE RIBS
SMOKED PULLED PORK & CHICKEN
SAUSAGES & JUMBO HOT DOGS**



Knights of Columbus
Rock Creek Council No. 2797



Drawings
May 11, 2018

Drawings
May 11, 2018

5417 W. Cedar Lane
 Bethesda MD 20814

Twenty Ninth Annual
CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS
APPRECIATION 50-50 Raffles

Raffle 1 \$ 10 per chance, 3 for \$20

Raffle 2 \$ 25 per chance, 3 for \$50

Guaranteed minimums are \$200, and \$100, but we are sure to exceed that, as we have in prior years. Please respond as soon as possible, May is right around the corner. Allow several days before drawing date for delivery, or drop off your check at the Council. Chances of winning - about 1 in 60 or better. \$35 gets one chance in each raffle, enter one raffle or both drawings. \$70 gets 3 chances in each drawing.

You do NOT need to be present to win. Drawing during the event, May 11 at about 8 PM

All net proceeds are used for the Teachers Program to benefit our schools: **St. Jane De Chantal, Holy Redeemer, Holy Cross, St. Bartholomews, Our Lady of Lourdes, Mater Dei and Little Flower**

Copies of this form are acceptable. USE address labels to make the entries easier...
 Make checks payable to **Rock Creek Council #2797. Mail to above address, c/o Treasurer**

Drawing 1 \$10 per chance, 3 for \$20 Name/Addr Phone \$ 10	Drawing 1 \$10. per chance, 3 for \$20 Name/Addr Phone \$ 10	Drawing 1 \$10. per chance, 3 for \$20 Name/Addr Phone \$ 10
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Drawing 2 -\$25. per chance, 3 for \$50 Name/Addr Phone 3/\$50	Drawing 2-\$25. per chance, 3 for \$50 Nam/Addr Phone 3/\$50	Drawing 2 -\$25. per chance, 3 for \$50 Name/Addr Phone 3/\$50
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WANTED: Sponsors for our Teachers Program. Donations of \$25 will be listed as “Patrons” in this years program. \$50 or more, listed as “**Gold Sponsors**” \$100 or more, listed as “**Diamond Sponsors**”. Donations must be **received by May 1, 2018** to be included in the program.



REFLECTIONS

Lawrence P. Grayson, FDD, PGK, PFN

The Devil in Our Lives

“The Christian life is a constant battle... against the devil, the prince of evil,” Pope Francis stated in his recent apostolic exhortation, *Gaudete et Exultate*. In this call for holiness, the pope warns that in our struggle against evil in today’s world “we should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech or an idea.” Rather, the devil is “a personal being who assails us.” Francis cites Pope Paul VI, who described the devil as “a living spiritual being, perverted and perverting. A terrible reality, mysterious and frightful.”

Yet, regardless of the papal declaration, a recent Gallup poll found that 27 percent of adults living in the America do not believe in the devil and another 12 percent are not sure if he exists. If people dismiss the existence of the devil, they are not prepared to resist him and, as the pope says, “he takes advantage of it to destroy our lives, our families and our communities.”

If the devil exists, where is his influence seen in America today? Almost everywhere. Immorality continues to infiltrate and dominate great segments of society. The nation is awash in pornography, contraception, casual sex, cohabitation, and abortion, and we are inundated with licentious television shows, movies and art. Marriage has been redefined, homosexual behavior is acceptable, gender is becoming a choice, euthanasia is growing, and sexual abusers and predators seem to abound in all walks of life.

Within the past few months, a U.S. Senator, a movie star, a Hollywood mogul, a late-night television host, and a prominent newscaster were among many others accused of sexually harassing women. Each summer, thousands of people attend the Burning Man Festival in Nevada’s Black Rock Desert, where they can express themselves without bound, including engaging in orgies of “love in all forms.” In late October 2017, the National Park Service withdrew its initial approval for the placement of a 45-foot tall statue of a nude woman on the National Mall; the reason given was that it would likely damage the Mall’s turf and soil – nothing was said about the statue’s appropriateness for the millions of children and families who visit the site annually. In March, the Los Angeles City Council reached an agreement to permanently maintain the Playboy Mansion, the legendary venue for hedonistic parties, debauchery, and gatherings of self-indulgent celebrities. With even monuments being created to depravity, the moral culture of America is becoming reminiscent

of that of ancient Rome.

While many people do not believe in the devil, there are others who worship him. For the past two Christmas seasons, a teacher in Boca Raton, Florida, has put up a large Satanic pentagram in a public park near a crèche. It was accompanied with quotes like: “In Satan We Trust” and “One Nation Under Anti-Christ.” In January 2017, when the time came to remove the display, a group of Satanists carried the pentagram to the Nativity scene chanting “Hail Satan!” Last October, a group of devil-worshippers demanded that the Boston City Council allow them to perform a Satanic invocation at a council meeting. The request was denied only on the grounds that Satanism is not a recognized religion.

The march toward moral licentiousness across the nation is relentless. Its supporters are fiercely determined to impose their agenda on everyone, regardless of the religious beliefs and traditional moral principles of others.

Its opponents, in contrast, are too tolerant, too complacent, for it is easier to ignore an evil than to confront it. Many people take a position such as: as long as it doesn’t affect me, I really don’t care what others do; or, we should be tolerant of others and not judge their actions; or, I am only one person, there is nothing I can do.

But each accommodation of a moral wrong makes it easier to allow an even greater evil. The acceptance of sexual freedom was followed by the consent of homosexual behavior, which led to same-sex unions and then gay marriage. Now there are calls to decriminalize and recognize polygamy. As each incursion on traditional morality is given legal status or accepted by society, the intense pressure of public opinion and accusations of bigotry and unlawful discrimination are being brought to bear against those who wish to maintain orthodox religious beliefs and practices.

While man’s fallen nature and personal choices should not be dismissed for their effect on the state of morality in the world today, neither should the influence of malevolent spiritual beings. Yes, the devil is real. In driving God from public consciousness, America is creating a culture without absolute standards of right or wrong, decency or indecency, moral or immoral. It is becoming a society that condones casual sex; that no longer values families as the bedrock of society; that treats pregnancy as an im-

(Continued on page 10)





Ask Eligible Men to Join



Kevin Nolan, FIC

Today, I want to address the growth of the Order. Membership growth is the fuel that keeps this great fraternal engine running. All of our charitable works at the council, state, national and international level are thanks to our hard-working members. And more members equals more charity.

We know that the membership blitz is a tried and true way for councils to get more men to join. We see these pushes often in March, in celebration of Founder's Day, and again in October. These drives are successful because brother Knights have increased visibility speaking or presenting during and after Masses and at special events. We must remember that we have **a duty to ask each and every Catholic gentleman** to join our ranks for the good of the Church, the community and the Order.

During the rest of the year, we often "forget" to ask men to join and to bring their families into the Knights of Columbus family. You probably know an eligible Catholic man you could ask today. What if the only reason he hasn't joined is because no one has asked him yet? Just ask any Catholic Gentleman you may meet or know to get a cup of coffee together and you can explain our mission in a little more detail. Just ask and they will drink!

Kevin Nolan

KEVIN NOLAN, FIC
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REFLECTIONS

(continued from page 9)

pediment; that considers persons with physical or mental impairments and the very elderly as dispensable.

People who believe in God cannot be complacent while the forces of libertine progressivism overwhelm society, whether one considers these advances the result of societal narcissism or satanic influence. While action to change society is necessary, alone it will not be effective. To combat evil, prayer is essential.

Pope Francis, in *Gaudete et Exultate*, presents a way to proceed: "For this spiritual combat, we can count on the powerful weapons that the Lord has given us: faith-filled prayer, meditation on the word of God, the celebration of Mass, Eucharistic adoration, sacramental Reconciliation, works of charity, community life, missionary outreach." And we should not ignore Mary, Mother of God. In a January homily, the pope said that where Mary is "the devil does not enter... Let's make the Mother the guest of our daily life... Let's entrust all to her every day."

Welcome to Our New Members

Two new members joined our Council. Welcome to:

Richard Furcolo, a 3rd degree member and parishioner of Little Flower, transferred in.

And **Peter Magnanelli**, who became a member of the Council in 1949, but whose membership lapsed without his realizing it after he moved to Frederick, was reinstated. Incidentally, Peter is now the oldest member of Rock Creek at 98-years young and active.

We are pleased that both of you chose to join us. We hope that your membership the Council will be enjoyable and satisfying.

Rental Corner

We are gearing up for a fun-filled spring and summer of rentals. Folks have a ball at the Rock Creek Mansion. You can too!

Please continue to mention the Rock Creek Mansion to friends/family/associates who are planning weddings, mitzvahs, milestone events and celebrations of life.

And keep us in mind for your own family engagement parties, anniversary celebrations and, of course, weddings. Rock Creek Council members get a 50% rental discount!



Julie Buckingham Carter

Event Coordinator

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 email: rcmansion@gmail.com
 website: www.rockcreekmansion.com
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SENIORS' CLUB REPORT

By PGK Robert Waters, President

When I came back from Florida and its 80 degree temperatures, I returned to frigid cold weather. In my six weeks in the Sunshine State, I attended spring training baseball games at 10 different stadiums. Now its back to our Bethesda activities.



PGK Bob Waters

We did not have a function in April and there will not be one in June. We need someone to volunteer to run each party, if we are to have one. In June, we will have a meeting.

During the St. Pat's Party, there wre 20 late reservations. This was after our caterer, Mike Horan, had ordered the food! We will have stricter cutoff times for future functions. It is not fair to the folks who meet the deadlines to have others ignore them and then have to spread the food to fit a greater number.

We plan to hold our annual picnic in July. This function requires a lot of help. If you want it to be a success, volunteer to help. The more helpers, the better.

In our special prayers, please remember our long-time member PGK Bill Morris. Our condolences to Jennie and Bill's two families. Also, remember a special

friend, Mary Hodges Foll, who is sick.

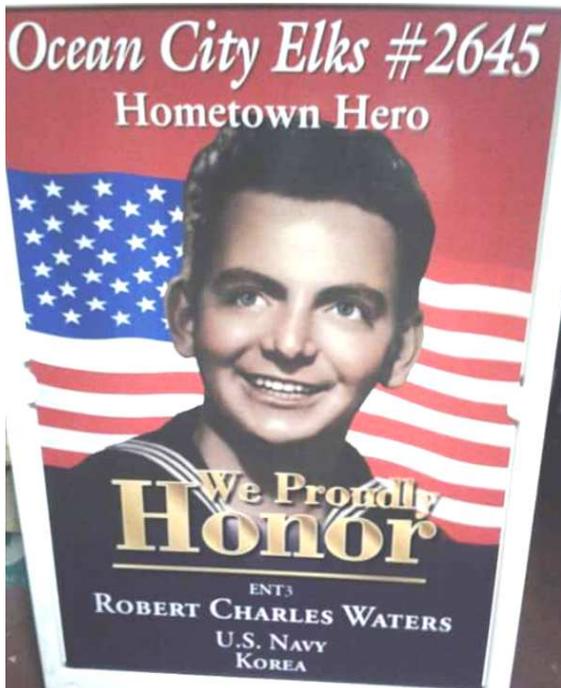
Dues for 2018 are \$15.00 and should be provided ASAP.

Check your e-mail and upcoming issues of the Knight Chatter newsletter for the dates of future functions.

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND OUR MILITARY!

PRAYER CORNER

In your prayers remember: Eureka and Elizabeth Arcand, Dorothy Bush, Lily Callowhill, Maureen Collins, Kevin Dyer, Helen Fincutter, Susan Gordon Garcia, Lois Gargano, Katharine Giodati, Bill Gordon, Joselyn Walter Graham , PGK, Frank Hayden, Marie Horan, Saunders Jacobsen, Alex Lee, Julia Marcus, James Marketos, Joe Murphy, Eugene O'Neill, Ralph Oviedo, Sr. Maureen Patrice, Fr. David Pollak, Mary Rainey, Joan Reed, Anne Ryan, Bridget Shanahan, Midge Shanahan, Gloria Skapik, Pilar Stark, Estelle Stoltz, Stephanie Suff, Alex Swanke, Marge Swanke, Susan Tise, Regina Walter, Barbara Waters, Louise Young, and Fran and Frank Zello.



The Ocean City Oaks Lodge #2645 conducts a Boardwalk Banners Program to recognize residents of Worcester County who serve or have served in the Armed Forces.

Each year, it places 40 banners on poles along the Ocean City boardwalk. This year, veterans off World War II and the Korean War, as well as residents who are on active duty will be honored.

On May 3, this year's group of banners will be raised, and among those being recognized is our PGK Robert Charles Waters. Bob served on the USS Forrestal (CV-59), an aircraft carrier commissioned in 1955. Bob, a proud plank owner, was on board in the ship's early years.

Congratulations, Bob!

Council Leaders

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Deacon John Shewmaker—301-986-8658

GRAND KNIGHT

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THE KNIGHT CHATTER

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June CHATTER Deadline:
May 25, 2018

ROCK CREEK COUNCIL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May		1 Rosary 7:30 PM Business Meeting 8:00 PM	2	3 Lounge: Baseball Night	4 ← State Convention	5 Lounge: Trivia Night
	6 →	7	8	9	10 Ascension of the Lord	11 Teacher Appreciation Night
13 Mother's Day	14	15 Rosary 7:30 PM 1st Degree 8:00 PM	16 K-C Club 7:00 PM	17 O'Boyle Assem. Rosary 7:30 PM Meeting 8:00 PM	18	19
20 Spring Fling 4:00—8:00 PM Pentecost	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		