



Knights of Columbus

BISHOP RUOCCO COUNCIL, No. 9275
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Knight Reader

May 2008

Grand Knights Report

April was another busy month for our Council, as we held our Anniversary Dinner, hosted a BLUE MASS, Special Needs Bowling, attended Boston Catholic Men's Conference at BC, attended a Night of Reflection at the Abby, and held a First Degree at our home in Westford.

The Council's 22nd ANNIVERSARY DINNER at Lenzi's was an enjoyable event for our brothers and their wives. Chuck Carroll was honored as the Knight of the Year, for his many contributions to our Council. Barry Bell presented Perpetual Memorial Certificates on behalf of the Council to Joanne Gorham and Kathy Clark, and Harold Coughlin was honored as the worthy District Warden for the Barry Bell.

The Council's first ever BLUE MASS, to recognize and honor our Chelmsford Police and Fire personnel, was a big success. This Mass was held at St Mary church on Saturday, with the Bishop Delany 4th degree leading the Police and Fire Honor Guards into the church. Fr. Donohoe and Fr. Ventura concelebrated the Mass, and a small reception was held afterwards in the Hall. A nice front page article, with pictures, in the Chelmsford Independent gave recognition to the K of C for sponsoring this event. A similar Mass is planned for Westford and Littleton next year.

We are still looking for brothers to step forward to fill our officer slate for the next Fraternal year. Adam and Gene will need your help to continue our great works.

In May, we have the Annual K of C State Convention, nominations for Officers, and our Social Night at Cameron Center (Game night).

May all your accounts, including the one with the Good Lord, always be in balance.

PAUL RIGAZIO
(pauljrigazio@gmail.com.)

“Look to Jesus, the Living One, and repeat what the Apostles asked: ‘Lord teach us how to pray.’ Prayer will be the salt that gives flavor to your life, and leads you to Christ, humanity's true light.” Pope John Paul II

2007-2008 Council Officers

Grand Knight – Paul Rigazio *** Deputy Grand Knight – Adam Heroux *** Chaplains – Fr. Ventura & Fr. White
Chancellor – Eugene Bartos *** Financial Secretary - David Breen *** Warden – Jason Monahan *** Recorder – Fran Burke
Treasurer – Charles Carroll *** Advocate - Thomas Kelley *** Inside Guard - Joseph MacShane *** Outside Guard - Gerald Curtin
Lecturer - Michael Mancini *** 3rd year Trustee – Harold Coughlin *** 2nd year Trustee – Richard Curtis *** 1st year Trustee – Anthony Cotroneo

Upcoming Events

May 5	Planning Meeting	May 19	First Degree in Tewksbury
May 12	Business Meeting & B&G Election	May 27	Social Meeting (Game Night)
May 18	Third Degree at Wilmington		

Grand Knights Slate of Officers

The tentative Officers slate for the coming fraternal year is as follows:

Grand Knight	Adam Heroux
Deputy GK	Gene Bartos
Chancellor	Fran Burke
Warden	Jason Monahan
Recorder	To be determined
Treasurer	Gerry Curtin
Lecturer	Mike Mancini
Advocate	Tom Kelley
Inside Guard	Al Hanley
Outside Guard	Steve Conte

We need brothers to step up to an Officer position to continue our Council's great and many works. Contact Paul Rigazio or Adam Heroux. The elections will be held during the business meeting in June. Please consider serving your council.

Sick, Vigil and Congratulations by Gene Bartos, Chancellor

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. Please pray for the following brothers and their families and caregivers. Paul Barker, Tom Canelas, Sr., Ray Kelly, Robert Moore, Joe MacShane and Helen MacShane. Vigil: Genevieve Forrest (mother-in-law of Harold Coughlin). 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 Gene Bartos (farmergb@aol.com), Barry Bell (kofcnews@yahoo.com) or Armand DiLando (adilando@comcast.net).

Special Needs Bowling Another Success!

Thanks to the 14 Brother Knights that made this event a success. We had 45 kids at this year's spring bowling and pizza party. The value of this event is clear by the smiles of the kids when they enter the bowling lanes, the bigger smiles when some of the pins go down and the biggest smiles when the pizza arrives. The kids and their families consumed 17 large pizzas. Another first, we had a lot of new bowlers from the KIDS (Kids in Disability Sports).

The 4th of July is right around the corner

You cannot tell by the weather but it's true! The Council will again be participating in the Annual Chelmsford Celebration by marching in the Parade, building a float, and operating our booth. Brothers will be needed to march, build the float, and man the booth, selling our great hot dogs, hamburgers, and Sal's pizza. Adam Heroux and Gene Bartos will need your help to continue the great community support we provide.

Ordination of one of our Brothers by Barry Bell

Paul Sullivan will be ordained to the priesthood at a Mass that will be held on Saturday, May 24 at 9:00 am and will take place at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, 1400 Washington Street, in Boston's South End. The next day he will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Bridget's Parish in Framingham (830 Worcester Road) on Sunday, May 25, at 12 noon. All of the Knights of the Chelmsford-Westford Council are welcome to attend. You may all remember that Paul is a member of our Council, along with his brother, Rev. John Sullivan, and he is the one we have been supporting with the RSVP program and his journey to Mexico.

Perpetual Memorial Society by Barry Bell

At the Anniversary Dinner, Paul Rigazio presented the Knight of the Year to Charles Carroll. Also at this event, I presented to Kathy Clark and Joanne Gorham certificates for the State Knights of Columbus Perpetual Memorial Society. It was a very moving tribute and I have been thanked by many for the words spoken. I have also been asked by many to print a copy so that members who were not there could understand what we did.

“Good evening all. I know the litany has been read to honor dignitaries that are here tonight. I am here to honor two gentlemen who are not here.

Worthy District Warden Harold Coughlin:

Please escort to a seat of honor, Joanne Gorham and Kathryn Clark.

I was in Worcester at the District Deputy/Grand Knight’s Conference on January 5 & 6th this year. At Mass they had a beautiful plaque on display next to the altar. After mass I read the names on the plaque and although I recognized some of the names, I did not know all of them. The title of the plaque was Perpetual Memorial Society. It was explained to me by Immediate Past State Deputy, Richard Guerriero, that this is the FIRST plaque of the Perpetual Memorial Society.

When I got home I went on line to the State Web Site to find out more about the plaque. It noted that the Names of the Society will be published on the State Web Site; at least 100 masses will be said annually in the name of the Society Member; the names will be on a brass plate on the plaque; the plaque will be displayed at the State Convention, and the family will receive an Enrollment Certificate.

During the January Business Meeting of the Bishop Ruocco Council, I brought up the Perpetual Memorial Society and by a unanimous vote, it was voted to enroll David Gorham and Paul Clark.

David G. Gorham was a charter member of this Council which was started on April 19, 1986. This is the 22nd Anniversary Dinner of that event which was started by David and 30 other men. Some of those men are still members of our Council – Anthony Cotroneo, William Crittenden, Raymond Dunn, Matt Falcone, Joseph Ferreira, William Floyd, George Goguen, Raymond Kelly, Alexander LeCourt, Roderick MacLellan, and Brian Muise.

David was also a Charter Officer that year as the Recorder and moved up the Chairs and was elected Grand Knight for the 1988-1989 Fraternal Year. As Grand Knight they had a pot luck dinner for the installation, a 100 club party, gave out Thanksgiving Dinners and planned the 1st summer outing.

David was honored as Knight of the Year in 1988, as we are doing this evening for Chuck Carroll.

David was a member of the 4th Degree as a member of the Bishop Delany Assembly.

Another honor bestowed upon David was on March 25, 1991 when he was Roasted by his brother knights.

Paul E. Clark became a member of the council within its first year by taking his first Degree on January 1, 1987. He became a 2nd, 3rd Degree, and 4th Degree member also of the Bishop Delany Assembly.

He was very active in the Council and was elected to the position of Grand Knight for the 1991-1992 Fraternal Year just 4 years after becoming a Knight. While he was Grand Knight, he brought a Tommy Makem Concert to the Council and it was the biggest fund raiser for the Council.

Paul was honored as Knight of the Year in 1994 and on March 23, 1998 he was the one we Roasted.

There are so many events we do at the Council that have the thumb print of Paul Clark but I think we can all say that when Bottle Drive or Fourth of July Parade or Council Truck are mentioned, Paul Clark is the one we immediately think about.

David is the man who asked me to become a member of the Knights of Columbus and David and Paul are the men who showed me HOW TO BE a member of the Knights of Columbus.

I personally was very much honored to stand as part of the Honor Guard at the Wake and Funeral of both these brothers and it is with great pleasure that I present these Enrollment Certificates to Joanne and Kathy on behalf of the Bishop Ruocco Council Knights of Columbus.”

Men's Conference and Lantern Award by Barry Bell

It was a great honor to be a member of the Honor Guard for the Men's Conference and Lantern award the weekend of April 19-21. I tend to look for one phrase that I can remember to sum up an event. At the Men's Conference it was said "you can not follow Jesus from a distance". To get the most out of something, you need to participate. This theme was carried out during this wonderful event. I do hope that Boston College helps with the event in the future as it was a beautiful setting. Yes there were issues, but all can be solved and I think the continuity of one place will help grow this meaningful event. Cardinal Sean O'Malley spoke eloquently at both events. He did mention that he would be wearing his red socks at the Pope's Mass at Yankee Stadium. He said that he would bury them out in the outfield. When I saw him Monday at the Lantern Award, I asked if he was successful at burying his socks and his response was priceless. "God knows I tried"

Knight Notes

With the \$389 raised at the April bottle drive, we have now raised \$1,303 this year for St. Mary's religious ed. Our thanks to PGK John Lamplough for his efforts in this area. *Many brothers attended the Archdiocese men's conference this year and enjoyed hearing some dynamic speakers. *Deacon Bob Dzuris did a great job at the council night of reflection in April. The food and the company were great as usual. *Our Council is still striving to recruit new members to our great Council. We need ten new members to reach our Star Council goal of TEN. Fran Burke, our membership chair, has issued a challenge to all brothers; a pair of Lowell Spinners tickets for the brother who recruits the next or most new members. *At the May business meeting we will hold an election to the Building & Grounds committee. *The Pro-Life Mass will be held at St. Catherine's, on Saturday, 7 June at 8 AM. We should provide staffing (one or two altar servers, at least one EME, a lector, and someone to bring up the gifts). *The next issue will be published in early June. Keep in mind there will be no newsletter during July or August, so please plan ahead. Please send any articles for the next issue to Armand DiLando at adilando@comcast.net no later than May 15.

"It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels" St. Augustine.