



Knights of Columbus

Council, No. 1031

Reading, Massachusetts 01867

Visit Our WEB Site at www.readingkofc.org

THE SWORD AND ANCHOR JANUARY 2014

***Charity – Unity – Fraternity – Patriotism
Live your Faith!***



My Brother Knights,

I hope every one of our families had a great Christmas. We lost one of our Brother Knights, Mil Dixon this December. He was always at our meetings with suggestions and ideas in what and where we should be going.

Here we are into another year in which I hope our Council will continue to grow, continue to support our many functions and charities, and maybe add additional ones. I am open for suggestions and ideas. It is always great to have the members helping at these events but we need others to help spread the load. I would like to see more brothers at our meetings, our social events and volunteering to help out as

needed.

Let's all make this the year that we increase our participation in Council Activities. And remember brothers we practice; Charity-Unity-Fraternity-Patriotism and we live and practice our Faith as Catholic Gentlemen.

Yours in Christ
Len Ebert Grand Knight

Sick and Vigil:

Remember to keep PGK Tim Knowles and Jim Knowles in your prayers there are both recuperating from recent injuries.

Our brother Knight and current Council Trustee Mil Dixon died at home on December 11. Mil was 88 years old and had been a Knight since 1951. He will be greatly missed. Continue to remember his wife Anna and their family in your prayers.

If you know of any brother or family member in need of prayers or assistance, communicate these needs to Ernie Arsenault for inclusion in the newsletter. ernea101@gmail.com.

A GOOD KNIGHT THOUGHT

A few years ago on New Year's Day a six-year-old boy was trudging down Main Street in a small New England town, dragging a glistening new red wagon with a tiny baby passenger. The passenger was actually the statue of the Christ Child from the manger of his neighborhood church.

Horrified, the boy's mother ran down the street after him to reprimand her son sharply. *"You shouldn't have taken the baby Jesus from the manger—everyone's looking for him!"*

"But, Mother," the boy protested, wide-eyed, *"I promised the Baby Jesus that if He gave me a wagon for Christmas; He would have the first ride in it. He kept his side of our bargain, now I have kept mine."*

An amusing story to be sure, but the boy exemplifies two things sorely needed in our lives today. First, the appropriate thanksgiving to God for all his blessings (which we spoke of in a past *"Good Knight Thought"* around Thanksgiving), and Secondly, the boy teaches us the importance of keeping our promises to God, as he did, (by finding a way to give the baby Jesus the first ride in his new wagon as promised!)

As we all know, this is traditionally the time of year for making resolutions—*promises to ourselves and to God*—but also the time to ask ourselves if there are resolutions from the past that we have not honored —perhaps promises to be renewed now and worked on over the coming year—promises only we know we have failed to keep in the past.

Time to wipe the slate clean and begin again! But this time as with the little boy in our story, we must make practical goals and not let anything or anyone stand in the way!

DEACON NEIL

Christmas Open House:

We held our annual "Children's Open House" at Enos Hall on Sunday December 1 from 1:00 to 4:00. This is the day of town's Tree Lighting Ceremony. It is usually well attended as we provide arts and crafts for the children and hot chocolate as they await the tree lighting at 4:30. This year Mother Nature did not cooperate and provided a cold rain. That kept the numbers down but as you can see the members were ready.

Special thanks to John, Karen and Rachael Silva and the entire Ebert family for helping out.



Lounge Christmas Party:

The annual Xmas party for members and guests was held on December 14 in the lounge. Again Mother Nature tried to interfere, this time with a sizable snow storm but it hardly slowed things down. A great time was had by those that were able to come.

January Birthdays:

1/1 Marcel Boisvert, John Hoell, Lenny Merullo, 1/2 Jim Sullivan, 1/3 Brian Desmond, 1/5 Peter Broderick, 1/6 Bill Cotreau, 1/8 Frank Andrews, 1/9 Tom Connery, 1/12 Tim Griesmer, 1/14 Fr. Darin Colarusso, 1/15 Peter DelGreco, 1/21 Charley Fallon, 1/22 Fred Litterio, 1/23 Paul Cummings, 1/24 Andrew Gori.

Your Help is needed to update our Records:

If your birthday is incorrect let us know. Email John Silva at jasilva397@aim.com or call 781 944 4285.

Birthday Reward:

Visit the lounge during the month of your birthday and Steve will be happy to present you with a free drink of your choice.

K of C Penalty Kick Challenge:

Our Annual Soccer Penalty Kick Challenge was held on September 15th. There were 22 boys and girls from ages 10-14 that participated in the competition.

Liam Merlin, Ryan Pryputniewicz and Alyssa Pryputniewicz advanced and won at the Regional competition in October, then advanced to the State level in November winning trophies for their skill.



K of C Basketball Free Throw Competition:

We need help with the Basketball Free Throw competition. This event was restarted last year after being dormant for a few years. Each year when the state Knights of Columbus holds the finals right here in Reading we all agree that we would like to be part of this event for the youth of Reading.

This is a **free** event. The initial competition will be held at the Reading YMCA on January 25th at 3:45. Many hands are required to help make this a success. So if you would like to assist at this fun event please sign up at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044CADA2EAB9-knights>.

Contestants may enroll at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044CADA2EAB9-kofc>

The Charities of the Reading Knights:

Charity, the first word of our motto is truly practiced by our Council.

The Council recently voted to donate \$100 to the Special Olympics of Massachusetts.

Annual Dues:

Our Financial Secretary Charley Fallon has done a great job getting bills for the Annual Dues to us in a timely manner, the earliest in years. Let's support his efforts by responding in kind so as to avoid the cost and labor needed to send out second notices.

Support Our Advertisers:

Our advertisers help to defray the cost of this Newsletter, Please give them your support.

Advertising Space:

There are some advertising blocks available for 2014. The annual cost for a single block is \$40; the double block is \$80.

The Sword and Anchor is a relatively inexpensive way for our advertisers to communicate their business to the local community. The income that is derived from these Ads helps us to live the first leg of our order, which is Charity.

Your help is needed to find potential advertisers. Ernie Arsenault (ernea101@gmail.com) can assist with the details.

Support the Lounge – Hours of Operation:

Mon, Tues, Wed. - 4:00 to 9:00

Thurs., Fri. Sat. - 4:00 to 11:00

Knight's Calendar-at-a-glance:

Jan. 14	8:00 PM	Council meeting
Jan. 25	4:00 PM	Basketball Free Throw Competition at Reading YMCA
Jan. 28	8:00 PM	Council meeting

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