

Knights of Columbus

Council, No. 1031

Reading, Massachusetts 01867

Visit Our WEB Site at www.readingkofc.org

THE SWORD AND ANCHOR JANUARY 2017

*Charity – Unity – Fraternity – Patriotism
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!!HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Brothers;

I would like to thank the membership for the privilege of being your Financial Secretary for the past three and half years. As the Supremes' representative to the council I must maintain the Reading Council Membership Roll. Make sure it is kept current and appraise Supreme of changes to addresses, phone and email numbers, deaths and the suspension of Brothers who no longer wish to be members.

An important duty and one where I would most normally interface with the membership, is the collector of dues. You should have already received your annual the bill for 2017. Note that our Council recently voted to increase the dues to \$52.00, details of which are included in this bulletin. I would greatly appreciate your immediate response to avoid the effort and cost of a second mailing. The mailing also includes Mass State Council Raffle Tickets of \$15.00 per book, these are voluntary. All monies collected are sent to the Council Treasurer Brian Nowicki for deposit to our account at the Reading Cooperative Bank.

Members who have attained the age of sixty-five years and who have been members of the 3rd Degree for twenty-five consecutive years are designated as Honorary Members and pay \$12.00 per annum which covers all of Supreme and Mass Council levies. Honorary Life members are those members who reached the age of 70 years; they pay no charges and levies.

I also assist the membership committee of Bob Baynes and Dick Coco in recruiting new members. We explain what we do with brochures and posters. We process the membership by all new members complete a Form 100 and collect dues and initiation fee before go to the 1st degree ceremony and later 2nd, 3rd degree and 4th degree ceremony. We have been successful at Town Day and Recruitment drives at St. Agnes and St. Athanasius.

Sick and Vigil:

Frank DelGreco, the son of Brother Peter DelGreco passed away on Dec. 12. Frank was the husband of Maria and the father of Marissa DelGreco. Our prayers are with Peter and family at this time.

A GOOD KNIGHT THOUGHT

REIGN IN THE TURMOIL SURROUNDING US:

As we complete our celebration of the Christ Child's birth and enter the slower and more silent "dead of winter," this thought spoke to me from some rough notes of my readings—*sorry I've lost the exact reference*—but it pointedly asks us to consider if we are searching for God's peace in our daily lives, or if instead we are we caught up in the cacophony of negativity hurled at us through social media and the news—day after day—even *hour after hour*?

We live in a world that is constantly abuzz and technologically over-connected. We are continually exposed to scenes of trauma, sorrow, and disaster from all around the world. We can't completely block out the world but we can search for **stillness**, and define what stillness means in our own lives. Whether we find it through music, prayer, meditation, poetry, art, a long walk in nature, enjoying lunch with a friend, or reading a beautifully written book, stillness **is** within our reach.

And we **MUST** as scripture teaches: **Be still and know that I am God.**

Let's take advantage of a chance to *slow down* and enjoy some peaceful stillness as the flakes fall!

DEACON NEIL

January Birthdays:

1/1 Marcel Boisvert, 1/2 Jim Sullivan, David Tuttle, 1/3 Brian Desmond, 1/5 Peter Broderick, 1/6 Bill Cotreau, 1/8 Frank Andrews, 1/9 Tom Connery, 1/10 Ron Pomerleau, 1/12 Tim Griesmer, 1/14 Fr. Darin Colarusso, 1/15 Peter DelGreco, 1/21 Chris Colorusso, Charlie Fallon, Richard Fallon, Nick Marrangoni, 1/22 Fred Litterio, 1/23 Paul Cummings, 1/24 Andrew Gori, 1/29 George McHugh

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.

Lounge Christmas Party:

The annual Xmas party for members and guests was held on December 17 in the lounge. A great time was had by all and the many treats were certainly enjoyed.

Christmas Open House:

We held our annual "Children's Open House" at Enos Hall on Sunday November 27th from 2:00 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 was a little slow probably due to the unseasonably warm weather.

Chairman DGK Dick Coco thanks all who helped to make this event a success.



Dues Increase:

At a meeting held on 12/13 the council voted to increase the annual dues from \$38 to \$52. This is the first increase in approximately 20 years and is needed to offset the agreement that was made in June to pay the HBC \$100 per month as rent for our use of the building. This increase will assure that our ability to support our many charities is not impacted by this rental agreement.

It was also voted to authorize the Grand Knight to decrease the dues for any member that finds it difficult to pay.

Recruitment Drive:

All Brother Knights are asked to help out at the upcoming recruitment drive to be held after all Masses. It will be held at St. Agnes on the weekend of Jan. 7-8 and at St. Athanasius the weekend of Jan. 14-15.

You are asked to meet after Mass to have coffee and doughnuts as we greet potential new members and hand out material.

Last year's drive brought in 26 new members; it would be nice to repeat that this year.

You can register to assist at:

St. Agnes;

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044cadae2eab9-stagnes1>

St. Athanasius;

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044cadae2eab9-stathanasius1>

New Advertisers:

We are looking for new advertisers.

The **annual** cost for advertising is \$40 for a single space (approximately 1 x 2 inches) and \$80 for a double space.

You can contact me at ernea101@gmail.com, if you have an interested new advertiser.

K of C Basketball Free Throw competition:

This is a very popular event for the community and although regionals are held at Coolidge Middle School later in the year our council has not always taken part in it due to lack of leadership. Thanks to PGK Mike Canavan who has once again volunteered to chair this event. It will be held Saturday, January 28 from 3:00 – 4:30 PM. at the Reading YMCA.

We had a very successful event last year with 24 youngsters (boys and girls from 9 – 14 years old) participating.

Plenty of help is needed. If you are able to assist please sign up at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044cadae2eab9-knights>

Participants may register at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e044cadae2eab9-kofc>

Home Builders Corp.

There will be an important meeting of the HBC in the lounge on Tuesday Jan. 17 at 8:00. All members of the Council are also members of the HBC. You are urged to attend to show your support to the Brothers that are working to maintain our building.

Support our advertisers, they Support us!!

Council Calendar:

Jan. 10	8:00 PM Council Meeting
Jan. 24	8:00 PM Council Meeting
Jan. 28	3:00 PM Free Throw at the YMCA

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