

THE COMPASS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE PIUS XII COUNCIL 4765

Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish

February 2009

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Congratulate and welcome our two newest brothers; Joe Gibbs and Dave Marion. They made their First Degree on 15 January. We expect that they will make their Second Degree on 12 February and thus be eligible to make their Third Degree this year. Third Degree exemplification will be held on 29 March 2009.

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

ARC collection will be starting soon. Word has it that PA will be lowering or eliminating its contributions to ARC, that will make this year's effort that much more important to this wonderful organization. Signup sheets will be available at the next meeting.

CHAPLIN'S REPORT

Thanks to all for your continued help and support. Mom seems to be settling in. The current economy seems to be bringing out more and more people, desperate for help. One effect of this is the need for us to upgrade and re-think the security of the business office and CARES staff. Any suggestions on helping to balance the need of those with real business with the need to provide security to our staff are greatly appreciated.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Three names were read and approved for the next First Degree.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Officer's Meeting	February 26
First Degree	February 10
Second Degree	February 12
February Officer's Mtg.	February 26
Next General Meeting	March 3

(Formal Meeting)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Secretary Report: 2009 dues are now due. Please see Russ if you have not received your invoice or have any difficulties.

Membership: A First Degree will be held at the Council on Tuesday 10 February. A Second Degree will be held on Thursday 12 February at

Regina Coeli. Report times for these events is; 7:00 PM at St. Thomas Aquinas.

Council Social: John Wallover is already hard at work on next year's Council Social. The event is scheduled for Saturday 14 June, (see John, I finally got this date right) at Regina Coeli Hall. John will be contacting St. Michael the Archangel council to invite them to participate in this as well. John will be looking for help with menu, etc.

Degree Team: Remember what it was like making your First Degree? Interested in being part of the Council's degree team? Contact Al Scheck, he has openings for back up roles.

Golf Outing: Next year's golf outing is scheduled for May 2. Thanks Rich for the early start. Rich will again be looking for volunteers. Any time that you can give Rich is greatly appreciated. Let's not let Rich down, this is an important fund raiser for the council.

St. Patrick's St. Joseph's Dance: Once again Joe Kelly has volunteered to head this committee. Joe has the date set for Saturday 14 March. He will be looking for volunteers for; set up, clean up, selling 50/50's, etc. Please do whatever you can to help our Joe and the rest of the committee for this event.

50th Anniversary Celebration: Rick Kelly and his team are making great progress on our 50th Anniversary celebration. Plans are for the celebration to take place at Georgine's on Sunday 19 April. Tickets prices are \$45.00 per couple. See Rick for more details. The team is in need of any help you can give, so - please make it a point to help them out.

50th ANNIVERSARY

1 April 2009 marks the Council's 50th Anniversary. This momentous event needs to be an all out, big time celebration. A committee is forming for directing this event. There have been a lot of good ideas so far, but we still have a long way to go. Please get involved if at all possible. Kyle Berna is going to build a Power Point

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism

presentation showing the history of Pope Pius XII Council. Please help out by giving Kyle, or Jim Berna, any pictures, stories, or history of the Council. Kyle did an excellent job with a Knights of Columbus Power Point and we are confident that he will outdo himself with the 50th Anniversary; he just needs your help.

SICK LIST

Please keep the following brothers and / or their family members in your prayers:

- Joe Powell, (Rich & Sean's father)
- Derek's Niece
- Mom Crehan
- Mary Powell
- Ida Daulbert
- Officer Chris Jones Family
- Friend of Tony DiTommaso
- Special Intentions

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

February Lou Balot

UPCOMING EVENT NOTICE

1st Degree @ Council	Mar 10
2nd Degree @ Regina Coeli	Mar 12
St. Patrick's Dance	Mar 14
Home & School Beef & Beer	Mar 28
3rd Degree Exemplification	Mar 29
50th Anniversary Celebration	Apr 19
(Date updated)	
Ladies Anniversary Dinner	
4th Degree	May 30
Council Social Event	Jun 14

DID YOU KNOW?

Roman Roots

The history of Valentine's Day is obscure, and further clouded by various fanciful legends. The holiday's roots are in the ancient Roman festival of [Lupercalia](#), a fertility celebration commemorated annually on February 15. [Pope Gelasius I](#) recast this pagan festival as a Christian feast day circa 496, declaring February 14 to be St. Valentine's Day.

Valentines Galore

Which St. Valentine this early pope intended to honor remains a mystery: according to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, there were at least three early Christian saints by that name. One was a priest in Rome, another a bishop in Terni, and of a third St. Valentine almost nothing is known except that he met his end in Africa. Rather astonishingly, all three Valentines were said to have been martyred on Feb. 14.

Most scholars believe that the St. Valentine of the holiday was a priest who attracted the disfavor of Roman emperor [Claudius II](#) around 270. At this stage, the factual ends and the mythic begins. According to one legend, Claudius II had prohibited marriage for young men, claiming that bachelors made better soldiers. Valentine continued to secretly perform marriage ceremonies but was eventually apprehended by the Romans and put to death. Another legend has it that Valentine, imprisoned by Claudius, fell in love with the daughter of his jailer. Before he was executed, he allegedly sent her a letter signed "from your Valentine." Probably the most plausible story surrounding St. Valentine is one not focused on [Eros](#) (passionate love) but on [agape](#) (Christian love): he was martyred for refusing to renounce his religion. In 1969, the Catholic Church revised its liturgical calendar, removing the feast days of saints whose historical origins were questionable. St. Valentine was one of the casualties.

Chaucer's Love Birds

It was not until the 14th century that this Christian feast day became definitively associated with love. According to UCLA medieval scholar Henry Ansgar Kelly, author of *Chaucer and the Cult of Saint Valentine*, it was [Chaucer](#) who first linked St. Valentine's Day with romance.

In 1381, Chaucer composed a poem in honor of the engagement between England's [Richard II](#) and [Anne of Bohemia](#). As was the poetic tradition, Chaucer associated the occasion with a feast day. In "The

Parliament of Fowls," the royal engagement, the mating season of birds, and St. Valentine's Day are linked:

For this was on St. Valentine's Day,
When every fowl cometh there to choose his mate.

This article was taken from, and more about St. Valentine's Day can be found at:
<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/valentinesdayhistory.html>

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

By the Ladies of the Knights

January Meeting	Jan 26
Vows Renewal	Feb 14
February Meeting (Nominations for Officers)	Feb 23
March Meeting (At Cesar's - Elections held)	Mar 30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Please wish the following brothers a Happy Birthday:

Mike Riccardi	Feb 1
Lou Balot	Feb 3
J.R. Ojeda	Feb 10
Derek deBeaumont	Feb 12
John Reilly	Feb 16
Dan DiTommaso	Feb 25
Bob Kringe	Feb 26
Mario Maurizi	Mar 10
Dennis Schafer	Mar 10
Sean Berna	Mar 16

ANNIVERSARIES

The Council wants all to congratulate the following brothers on their years of service:
Howard Griffiths 5 years this February
Steve O'Conner 5 years this February
Al Litz, Jr. 45 years this February
Congratulations to all you truly are an inspiration!

K of C APPAREL

You have undoubtedly seen brothers wearing; shirts, jackets and hats with the Knights of Columbus logo and Pope Pius XII Council. Ever

wondered where they got them? You can get them to, just talk to Rich Powell to place an order.

BREAKFAST SUNDAY

Breakfast Sunday is the second Sunday of each month. Lately the attendance has greatly improved, so they continue as scheduled. Let's not forget to thank John Brochon for his continued and sometimes thankless work for making the Breakfast Sunday a success. John wants all to know that it appears that the April Breakfast Sunday will be held one week earlier, on Palm Sunday.

WEB SITES

Looking for information on the Knights of Columbus? Try these web sites for; information forms, etc.

Main Site www.kofc.org
State Site <http://www.pakofc.us/>
Council 4765 <http://kofc.buxcom.net/http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KofC4765/>

To join the yahoo group for the Council, you can sign up through the web site. Those without a Yahoo account simply need to establish an e-mail account. This is totally free.

IN MEMORIUM

No one from the Council returned home lately

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Recently we have come across several brothers that have changed their; e-mail, home address and / or phone number. Please keep your Financial Secretary informed of any and all changes in your contact information. Your help is greatly appreciated.

OPPORTUNITIES

It's never too early to start thinking about opportunities within the Knights. In June, the position of Recorder will be available. Most of the Officer's positions are voted on each year, (the exception being the Financial Secretary). One great way to get involved is to look at holding one of the many positions within the Council, the only requirement is that Officers must be Third Degree

or higher. Think that you might be interested in an Officer's position? Now is the time to start, as Father Larry says, "Praying over it."

HELP WANTED

A summary of all the activities that are in need of volunteers.

- Degree Teams, (First & Second)
- Valentine's Vow renewal Celebration
- St. Patrick's / St. Joseph's Dance
- 50th Anniversary Celebration
- ARC Collections & Bake Sale
- Golf Outing
- Croydon Memorial Day Parade
- Council Social
- Parish Picnic

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Any brothers that have something that they want listed in this newsletter should contact Jim Berna. Jim can be reached at 215-788-7004, or by e-mail at buoyz3@aol.com.

LATE UPDATES

One advantage to being late is being able to pick up things that would have otherwise been missed. Congratulations to the Ladies of the Knights for their successful Valentine's Day Vow Renewal Mass and Celebration. Two well earned articles in the Courier were good publicity as to all that is happening at "The Jewel of Bucks County."