

THE COMPASS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE PIUS XII COUNCIL 4765

Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish

May 2009

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

First Degree certificates to Rich Brown and Rich Rosenblatt. Brother Rich Labor's wife, Partibha, passed. Fruit basket needs to be sent, services set for May 6 at 1:00. Report time for the parade will be 10:00 to set up. Meet at STA. A new riding lawn mower had been purchased for the parish. Thanks to Rick Kelly and his team for all of their hard work on the 50th. Knight of the Year awards to Jerry Smedley and John Brochon. The Family of the Year award went to the Gutherman Family. The Ladies of the Knights would like us to provide; beer, soda and water for the picnic on 6 June. There is no charge for the picnic, but tickets are necessary.

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

ARC collection has started. Sign-up sheets, buckets and rulers are available. My apologies for not handling one person's no show appropriately. Please, if you can't make your scheduled date and time, find someone to cover for you. Spots are getting harder to get and "no shows" appear to the site managers as a group that does not care about their cause or the site.

CHAPLIN'S REPORT

Met a local woman that was very impressed with the Knights. She mentioned that not only do we provide meals at the holidays, but she was stunned to see us collecting for another group - ARC. Work being done to remove doors from front of Aquinas Hall building. Work progressing on security lights and cameras. Thanks to all for the new lawn mower.

UPCOMING EVENTS

First Degree	May 19
Second Degree	May 21
Fourth Degree	May 24
Memorial Day Parade	May 25
May Officer's Meeting	May 28
June Business Meeting*	June 2
LOK Picnic	June 6

June Officer's Meeting July 2

*The June meeting is a formal meeting. Officers must wear tie and jacket.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Secretary Report: Bills were approved for; The Compass, Georgine's, Signs for Golf Outing. Elections and additional nominations for officer positions will take place at the June meeting.

Membership: A First Degree will be held at St. Mike's Council on Tuesday 19 May. Report time for candidates is 7:30, Degree starts at 8:00. Anyone interested in carpooling, meet at STA at 7:00. A Second Degree is being held on Thursday 21 May at Regina Coeli. Same times as the First Degree.

Council Social: That was scheduled for Saturday 14 June was cancelled due to a lack of commitment. Thanks to John Wallover for his dedication, and efforts in trying to put this together.

Degree Team: We are still looking for anyone interested in being on the Council's First Degree Team. Anyone interested needs to contact Al Scheck. Golf Outing: Once again, Rich did a fantastic job with the Golf outing. The weather held off and all had a spectacular time. The event netted \$2076.00.

ARC: Collections are continuing until late May. Feel left out because you did not pick a time? Don't worry, Mark can always find room for you at one place or another.

50th ANNIVERSARY

The event was a phenomenal success! Countless thanks to Rick Kelly and his dedicated team. There has been some interest in obtaining copies of the DVD that was playing at the dinner. Anyone interested in a copy needs to contact Jim or Kyle Berna. Copies are free, we only ask for a donation to ARC. Contact information for the Berna family is at the end of this newsletter.

SICK LIST

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

- Mike & Joe Powell
- Bob Grover
- Maureen Cochran
- Linda Martin's Father, (Mark's Father in law)
- John Brochon's Niece
- Baby Chastity
- Harry Haegele's Brother in law
- Special Intentions

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

June	Mark Martin
July	Jason Blade
August	Gabe Gallagher

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism

DID YOU KNOW?

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.

There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War: a hymn published in 1867, "Kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet carried the dedication "To The Ladies of the South who are Decorating the Graves of the Confederate Dead" (Source: Duke University's [Historic American Sheet Music, 1850-1920](#)). While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings; each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860's tapped into the general human need to honor our dead, each contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated in Gen Logan giving his official proclamation in 1868. It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his [General Order No. 11](#), and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May

10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1915, inspired by the poem "[In Flanders Fields](#)," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "[Buddy" Poppy program](#) was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing [a red 3 cent postage stamp](#) with her likeness on it.

Traditional observance of Memorial day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

There are a few notable exceptions. Since the late 50's on the Thursday before Memorial Day, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at

Arlington National Cemetery. They then patrol 24 hours a day during the weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing. In 1951, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of St. Louis began placing flags on the 150,000 graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery as an annual Good Turn, a practice that continues to this day. More recently, beginning in 1998, on the Saturday before the observed day for Memorial Day, the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts place a candle at each of approximately 15,300 grave sites of soldiers buried at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park on Marye's Heights (the [Luminaria Program](#)). And in 2004, Washington D.C. held its first Memorial Day parade in over 60 years.

Copied from:
<http://www.usmemorialday.org/backgrnd.html>

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

By the Ladies of the Knights
May Meeting June 1
Parish Picnic June 6
(Rain date June 7)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Please wish the following brothers a Happy Birthday:

Walter Chekay, Jr.	May 18
Harry McGuckin	May 20
Tony DiTommaso	May 26
George Gleason	May 29
Rev. Larry Crehan	May 29
Joe Fanini	May 30
John Brochon	June 3
Kyle Berna	June 7
Rich Blinn	June 9
George Pizzullo	June 12
Tom Litz	June 17
Jim Berna	June 19
Edward Hilderley	June 19
Rich Brown	June 21
Joe Kelly	June 27

ANNIVERSARIES

The Council wants all to congratulate the following brothers on their years of service:

Fr. Larry Crehan	5 Years
Robert Sauler	25 Years

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

May was our last breakfast Sunday for the summer. Thanks from John Brochon for all those that help out. See you in September.

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

Partibha Labor, (wife of Richard Labor) 2 May, 2009.

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.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Final nominations and officer elections will take place at the June business meeting. Any one that wants to learn more about the various officer positions, duties, and responsibilities can contact Russ Andrews. Russ has all the information. Remember, all you need is to be a Third Degree member and willing to do the job. Everyone interested in holding an office during the next year must be present at the June meeting.

HELP WANTED

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

- Degree Teams, (First & Second)
- ARC Collections
- Croydon Memorial Day Parade
- Parish Picnic

COLOR CORPS EVENTS

Vince Haggerty has sent me an e-mail regarding upcoming Color Corps events.

Last year the Color Corps had the opportunity to participate in the Feast Day of Stella Maris right in the heart of South Philadelphia. The parish and the committee were so impressed with us that they have asked us to participate again.

A Color Corps presence is requested for a **12 Noon Mass on Sunday, May 17th**, followed by a procession thru the neighboring streets of the parish and then an invitation to join the parish for an afternoon buffet (approx. 2:30 PM). This event is open to all assembly Color Corps members.

The church is located at 10th & Bigler Sts, right in the shadows of Citizens Bank Park.

Vince

THANK YOU

The following stores have allowed us to collect for ARC at their locations:

- ACME at Woodhaven Mall
- ACME, Bensalem, at Bristol Rd
- Shop Rite, Bensalem, at Bristol Rd.
- WAL * MART Bristol Commerce

Additional thanks goes out to Cesar's on Radcliff Street in Bristol for the fine job of catering many events held by the Knights. Also, thanks to Old Croydon Cafe for supporting our Sunday breakfast program. Please show our appreciation by being sure to patronize these establishments.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

I am missing birthday information on our most recent members. If you think that I may not have your information, please see me at a meeting or contact me at home. 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.



Knight of the Year Award presented to John Brochon and Jerry Smedley



Family of the Year Award presented to Bob and Lynn Gutherman