

THE COMPASS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE PIUS XII COUNCIL 4765

Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish

July - August 2011

EDITOR'S NOTE

Jim Berna F.S

After a lengthy and otherwise unplanned hiatus, The Compass is back. Since it has been a while since I sat down and completed this, (yes I do have a few editions started), I thought I would treat this one slightly differently. As always let me know your thoughts and my faults.

LADIES OF THE KNIGHTS

In the Spring The Ladies of the Knights held their annual elections and celebrated the naming of their new officers with a dinner at Ceaser's in May. Congratulations to the new President, Marie Kelly and her new Vice President Eileen Brown. Marcella is the Treasurer and Gerri is the Recording Secretary. You may notice that Marilyn is now getting a much needed chance to enjoy the organization that she and the other women worked so hard to establish. Congratulations to; Marie, Eileen, Marcella and Gerri. Best wishes for success in the coming year!

SQUIRES CIRCLE

As many of you know, over the years several brothers had worked on re-establishing a Squires Circle. In March through May, meetings were held and the Circle came into fruition. The boys chose to start a brand new Circle instead of re-activating the one that had been attached our Council. In June, several of us from our Council witnessed the installation of the Officers of the new Squires Circle. The boys do meet at St. Michaels, however the Circle is open to boys from all the parishes within the District. Since the Circle came about with a lot of help from both Jimmy Vaughan and Kyle Berna the boys from St. Thomas encouraged to get involved.

NEW OFFICERS

June is election month for the Knights of Columbus and our elections were held at the June business meeting. Please join me in congratulating and supporting our officers for 2011 - 2012. Our officers are:

- Rich Blinn - Grand Knight

- Jimmy Vaughan - Deputy Grand Knight
- Jim Berna - Financial Secretary
- John Brochon - Treasurer
- John Brogan - Chancellor
- Al Scheck - Recorder
- Jerry Smedley - Advocate
- John Ottinger - Warden
- Rich Brown & Lou Balot - Inside Guards
- Dave Marion & Tony DiTomasso - Outside Guards
- Mark Martin - 3 Year Trustee
- John Wehilian - 2 Year Trustee
- Mike Fratantaro - 1 Year Trustee
- Rick Kelly - Lecturer
- Fr. Mike - Chaplin

Our newest Past Grand Knight and 3 Year Trustee Mark Martin made a fantastic speech after the elections thanking all the brothers for their help, support and understanding during his terms and asked all to continue with the same level of dedication with the new officers.

COMINGS & GOINGS

New members are essential to the health and wellbeing of any organization. Along with that is the unfortunate reality that we occasionally say "Good bye" to our brothers and friends. New brothers Phil and Ron, along with Dave made their First and Second degrees since our last newsletter. One member, who just made Honorary Member Status asked to leave due to changes in his personal life. In keeping with this, brothers that have not paid dues prior to 2009 will be getting final notices and will be dropped from our roles if arrangements are not made.

GOOD BYES

Since our last edition, we have had two brothers return home. At the May Assembly Meeting I learned that William Babuscak had passed away. William had moved to Florida some time ago and essentially lost all contact with the Council and the Knights in general. (His mail was returned and he was on a list from Supreme of Knights without accurate mailing addresses).

In July the uncle of PGK, and 1 Year Trustee Mike Fratantaro, John Fratantaro, passed away and returned home. John was a Charter Member of Pope Pius XII Council. From all members of Council 4765; "Peace and blessings to those that have gone before us and to their families."

CONGRATULATIONS

Rich and Cheryl Powell welcomed their first grandchild into the world a few months back. The baby was baptized at STA and it seems that; Mom, baby, grandmom and granddad are all doing well.

Trevor Berna, a 2nd degree, member of our Council graduated from Archbishop Ryan High School in June. Trevor is going to LaSalle University in September, moving in to the dorms in late August. Trevor is looking to major in business and hopes to become involved in law enforcement.

Rich Brown and John Ottinger deserve a round of congratulations for a very well run and successful ARC Campaign this year. This year's campaign raised over \$3200.00, up by more than \$800.00 over last year. If you think that sounds impressive, this year they had fewer dates and collection sites.

Not to be out done by Rich and John, new grandfather Rich Powell along with Scott Newman and Russ Andrews scored a "hole in one" with this year's golf outing. This year's net proceeds from the annual event was approximately \$4500.00. Rich was nervous because the date had been moved by the Country Club from May to June. Even with threats of rain, the event went off without a hitch.

Let us not forget those awards given at our annual Awards Banquet. Mike Fratantaro was named Knight of the Year for his outstanding service to the Knights and the Parish. The Berna family was named Family of the Year for not only their service to the Knights; all are members of the Knights, Kim is a member of the Ladies, but they also serve the Parish as; Readers, Extra-ordinary ministers, choir members, ushers and altar servers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Semi Annual Audit	Jul 26
July Officer's Meeting (the officers will meet at 6:30 PM)	Aug 2
August General Meeting	Aug 2
August Officer's Meeting (the officers will meet at 6:30 PM)	Sep 6

REPORTS

Financial Secretary Report: (Jim Berna), Although a report is given at every meeting there are two major events. Due to escalating costs from both State and Supreme, members that do not pay their dues will need to be let go. We are going to process those that have not paid since prior to 2009. There is still time to make arrangements and avoid suspension. Suspension from your Council will create an automatic suspension from the Assembly as well.

Of more important news is that the IRS had decided that we were remiss in not filing tax returns for past years. In the fall of 2010 they had contacted us and required a tax return for 2009. In May of this year they filed a penalty of \$1800.00, (approximately), for filing our 2009 return late. An appeal has been submitted and we are awaiting a response from the IRS.

Treasurer's Report: (John Brochon) Account balances were read at every meeting with copies handed out to the officers. John continues to do a stellar job - I for one am glad that you chose him as the Council's Treasurer for another term.

Degree Team: (Al Scheck) There will be a First Degree at the Council August 9. We already have one candidate and our DD is checking with other councils in and outside the district. There are still openings for members of our First Degree team, principals and back-ups. If you have an interest, please let Al know.

COAL: Closed out until next year.

District Deputy: (Steve Sannelli)

Congratulates the newly elected officers and thanked the outgoing officers for their support.

Rosaries: (Bill Kane) New colors are available. Work continues

Discount Cards: (Mike Fratantaro), The new discount cards are available again. Please support this important fundraiser for the Council.

Membership: (Al Scheck); We need to escalate the process of removing brothers that are not paying dues.

Public Relations: (Jim Berna) Nothing to report

Insurance: (Rhett Ragsdale):

PRAYERS LIST

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

Those in need of our prayers are:

- Catherine Lequire
- Joe Powell
- Father Mike
- All Priests and Religious.
- All of those in need of prayers

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

July

August

September

(Ooops, I know I had that list somewhere.)

DID YOU KNOW? **US Military WW II Trivia**

You might enjoy this from Col D. G. Swinford, USMC, Ret and history buff. You would really have to dig deep to get this kind of ringside seat to history:

1. The first German serviceman killed in WW II was killed by the Japanese (China, 1937), the first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians (Finland 1940); highest ranking American killed was Lt Gen Lesley McNair, killed by the US Army Air Corps. So much for allies.
2. The youngest US serviceman was 12 year old Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonorable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by act of Congress.
3. At the time of Pearl Harbor, the top US Navy command was called CINCUS (pronounced 'sink us'), the shoulder patch of the US Army's 45th Infantry division was the Swastika, and Hitler's private train was named 'Amerika.' All three were soon changed for PR purposes.
4. More US servicemen died in the US Army Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, your chance of being killed was 71%.
5. Generally speaking, there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot. You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.
6. It was a common practice on fighter planes to load every 5th round with a tracer round to aid in aiming. This was a mistake. Tracers had different ballistics so (at long range) if your tracers were hitting the target 80% of your rounds were missing. Worse yet tracers instantly told your enemy he was under fire

and from which direction. Worst of all was the practice of loading a string of tracers at the end of the belt to tell you that you were out of ammo. This was definitely not something you wanted to tell the enemy. Units that stopped using tracers saw their success rate nearly double and their loss rate go down.

7. When allied armies reached the Rhine, the first thing men did was pee in it. This was pretty universal from the lowest private to Winston Churchill (who made a big show of it) and Gen. Patton (who had himself photographed in the act).
8. German Me-264 bombers were capable of bombing New York City, but they decided it wasn't worth the effort.
9. German submarine U-120 was sunk by a malfunctioning toilet.
10. Among the first 'Germans' captured at Normandy were several Koreans. They had been forced to fight for the Japanese Army until they were captured by the Russians and forced to fight for the Russian Army until they were captured by the Germans and forced to fight for the German Army until they were captured by the US Army.

AND HE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST....

11. Following a massive naval bombardment, 35,000 United States and Canadian troops stormed ashore at Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands. 21 troops were killed in the assault on the island. It could have been worse if there had been any Japanese on the island.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

By the Ladies of the Knights

At one point I had a listing of events the Ladies had planned for this year. One that I remember is the annual Soup and Conversation in November.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Please wish the following brothers a Happy Birthday:

Dave Walker	Jul 4
Al Scheck	Jul 13
Al Litz	Jul 16
Deacon John Gallagher	Jul 17
Chris Cinalli	Jul 18
Harry Haegele	Jul 22
Joe Markert, Jr	Jul 26
Len Lazarick	Jul 26
Rev Francis Gallagher	Aug 1

Gabe Gallagher	Aug 2
Dan Glitz	Aug 6
Rich Powell	Aug 15
Anthony Zito	Aug 22
Sean Powell	Aug 23
Tony Cinkutis	Aug 26

ANNIVERSARIES

The following brothers are all celebrating important anniversaries in January and February:

- John Brewerton celebrated 35 years of continuous membership on 1 July.

Congratulations John!

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 at a meeting to place an order.

BREAKFAST SUNDAY

Breakfast Sunday is on hold for the Summer. It will return the second Sunday of September. John Brochon has decided that he likes the idea of sleeping in on Sundays and is handing over the reins to Rich Brown and his wife Eileen. Rich and Eileen will be looking for volunteers to help. There is plenty that can be done, even by those that prefer to "sleep in on Sundays."

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each and every Monday in the Chapel. Please remember this valuable time and resource for finding peace and answers.

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

See "Good-Byes" above.

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.

COLOR CORPS

As our year continues to change every June with new elections we get to report both good and sometime less happy news. John Wallover will not be the Color Corps Commander during our next fraternal year. John has been replaced by Dave McGovern from St. Mikes. While John steps aside, and his with Lee breathes a sigh of relief, we all know that John will continue to support the Color Corps as time and health allow. Thanks John for a great year of service as Commander.

THANK YOU

You may or may not know of the business that help; the Knights, the LOK and our parish.

Here is an opportunity to let you know who they are in hopes that you might re-pay their kindness and generosity:

- Schmidt's Flowers in Bristol
- Old Croydon Café
- Cesares Restaurant in Bristol
- Martin Exteriors
- Wal-Mart, Bristol Commerce
- ACME Woodhaven & Bensalem
- Shop-Rite Bensalem
- Richard S. Brown Electrical Contractors
- B & B True Value Hardware

OUR SCHOOL

This May brought to a close St. Thomas Aquinas School. Almost all of us can trace where we are today back to a parish grade school. Many of the members of our Council can trace that directly back to STA. This May saw the final graduating class of STA, and in the fall her remaining students will travel to other schools. Closed but never to be forgotten, let us remember the school with pleasant thoughts. Several members of the STA Alumni are working to find ways to support catholic education. Please help them as best you can.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 First Friday	2
3	4	Officer & General Meetings	5	6	7	8
10	11		12	13	14	15
17	18		19	20	21	22
24	25	Semi Annual Audit	26	27	28	29
						30

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	Officer & General Meetings	2	3	4	5
					5 First Friday	6
7	8	First Degree	9	10	11	12
14	Feast of the Assumption	15	16	17	18	19
21		22	23	24	25	26
28		29	30	31	1	2
					1 First Friday	3
4	Happy Labor Day!	5	Officer & General Meetings	6	7	8
					8	9
						10

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament occurs each Monday in the Chapel