



Father William P. O'Reilley Council #4967

## FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

### GRAND KNIGHTS MESSAGE:



**“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” 1 Peter 4:10**

Greetings Brother Knights,

My apologies for the delayed newsletter, I hope February is finding you well. We had an exciting January! We conducted a very successful Taco Feed to raise funds for Tim Gawarecki, the son of Brother John Gawarecki who is in his second year at the St. John Vianney Minor Seminary. We raised \$1,186 to support Tim in his seminarian studies. It makes me proud to be a part of a council and community where people pull together and put on events to raise funds and support a member of our community aspiring to be a part of a greater call! A big thanks to Mark and Diane Slaikeu, Terry Thelen, and the many others who put in the time and efforts to make this event a success.

We also had an exciting presentation from Jay Haapla from AARP on January 19<sup>th</sup> regarding cybersecurity and scams that are out there designed to swindle money from innocent people like you and I. The presentation was fun, humorous, and informative. A big thanks to Ken Jones for coordinating this.

As I enter the final five months of my last term as Grand Knight, I have begun to reflect on what has been exciting about serving as your Grand Knight. The events above, and the Fish Fries, Booyas, Living Rosaries, Nick John coming to speak about Pope Francis, Bingos, and the many other events have been great to be a part of! They are what keeps us a vibrant, living council. I pray that this continues for years to come, however I also fear we are entering upon a leadership void. I do not only see this in our council, but I am seeing it across society in general. I really ask that each of you who has not stepped up and chaired an event, been a director, or an officer in the council, to discern how you might be able to step up and take on a new challenge to keep our council living and vibrant for years to come. Think about where you might be in your life and consider if the time is right, to take on a new challenge. We will be accepting nominations for all officer positions, however we are especially in need of candidates for Trustee, Chancellor, and Grand Knight.

Lastly, I asked that you keep former Financial Secretary John Lawless in your prayers as he battles Throat Cancer. I am pleased to announce that former, now current, Financial Secretary, Bob Bruton, has stepped in to server in this role on an interim basis! A big thank to Bob!

Thank you for your continued support of our council!

Vivat Jesus!

Jeff

### Our Mission Statement

*Provide a means by which Catholic men could Support the Catholic Church. To Provide Financial Protection to protect their Families. To Engage in works of Charity to Benefit the less fortunate.*

#### 2015-2016 Officers

Chaplain Fr. Deziel

Grand Knight - Jeff  
Schmidt 368-1699

Chancellor-Walter  
Polchowne 222-  
3880

Recorder-Joe  
Morrisette 770-5203

Advocate-Jim Hurt  
777-5829

Inside Guard-John  
Zakroczymski

Outside Guard-Ray  
Stolz 777-5042

Lecturer-Ken Jones

Trustee Yr 3-Terry  
Thelen 245-0030

Trustee Yr 2-Dennis  
Reber 777-2383

Trustee Yr 1-Mark  
Slaikeu 777-5187

Warden-Mark  
Mauer 777-2617

Interim Financial  
Sec-Bob Bruton

Treasurer-Mike  
Stahlmann 770-  
9148

Insurance Agent-  
Tom Carlson  
279-5662

District Deputy-  
Mike Schilling 738-  
2636



Insurance Agent Change: Effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, Dale Robinson is no longer our Insurance Field Agent. Dale has resigned, and our own Tom Carlson from our council will now be our assigned Field Agent. Feel free to contact Tom for any insurance needs. Tom can be reached at [651-279-5662](tel:651-279-5662) or [thomas.carlson@kofc.org](mailto:thomas.carlson@kofc.org).



## Calendar of Events

Upcoming Fish Fries are Friday 2/26, 3/11, and 3/18. Contact Frank Schultz at [651-770-0749](tel:651-770-0749) to volunteer. These are great fun to work at!

Ham Bingo is fast approaching, Saturday 3/19. Contact Justin Beissel at [612-747-1863](tel:612-747-1863) to volunteer!

## AARP visits our council with some advice regarding fraud and identity theft

The phone rings, you answer and nothing on the other end, instead of hanging up you wait until the robo caller starts talking then you get hooked in. Or how about that annoying caller that just won't stop so you call them back to give them a piece of your mind, feel better? Well you just made them more interested in calling back. Get someone mad and you have a good chance of getting them to make a bad decision. You are planning on your next get-a-way when the Director of the IRS calls and threatens to take your car, house and new bike because of failure to pay back taxes, so you give him your social security number because he has a lot of power to ruin your life; he just did.

These examples and more were given and discussed at our last General Membership meeting with Jay Haapala, district representative of AARP invited to our February general meeting to talk about identity theft and fraud. We learned that stopping these calls are difficult but there are ways we can protect ourselves so as to sleep soundly at night.

Don't open that email or answer the phone if you don't recognize the address or number. Check your banking account regularly and take advantage of those annual free opportunities to run a credit check on yourself. Also, remember that lesson learned in earlier years, the one that taught you that there is no such thing as a free lunch? Well it's true. And remember that when you get an email or letter claiming you just won a trip to Cuba. Also, don't be shy to question a caller when claiming to represent your bank or credit card company, ask how you can be sure that he in fact is a representative of your bank. Your bank or Credit Card Company welcomes that question because often they are liable for payment.

It is always good practice to never make decisions based on emotion, there is no such thing as a free lunch, this is not the last gadget, and if you get calls after being on the no call list they are either not legit or professional enough to warrant a cash donation. The IRS will never call you. Get advice from someone you trust before spending money on that "best investment ever"! Don't put a check in your mail box by the curb and raise the flag tipping off the bad guy there is a check in there that contains all the pertinent information needed to order more checks enabling him to spend all the money in your account.

Report any fraudulent transaction on your debit or credit card immediately so the company covers the loss and not you.



Thanks Ken for inviting Jay Haapala of the AARP organization to help us protect ourselves and our community.

Visit [aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) for more information regarding the Con Artist's playbook and how to monitor scams in our area.



Jay Haapala, Jeff Schmidt and Ken Jones

## Want to be a Leader in our council, consider nominating yourself for the following offices:

### Chancellor:

- Has the duty of strengthening the members' interest in council activities
- Assists the Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight
- Serves on the council's Admission Committee

### Financial Secretary:

- Upon recommendation of the Grand Knight and the Trustees, the Financial Secretary is appointed for a three-year term that is approved by the Supreme Knight. The prospective financial secretary must complete and submit the Application for Appointment as Financial Secretary (#FS101) Under Section 130 of the Laws of the Order. The Financial Secretary is automatically bonded in the amount of \$5,000. Additional bonding may be provided at a cost of \$7 per thousand by contacting the Supreme Secretary's office.
- Collects money, in the form of dues, from members.
- Responsible for sending billing notices and initiating retention measures by providing a list of delinquent members to the Grand Knight to prevent members from being suspended for nonpayment of dues.
- Ensures that the council membership records are updated and that new members sign the constitutional roll
- Receives from the Supreme Council headquarters honorary and honorary life membership cards for distribution to qualified members.
- Files various reports and membership/insurance transactions with the Supreme Council Headquarters.
- Responsible for completing and submitting the proper 990 for the council (U.S. only)
- Keeps the Seal of the Council and affixes the same to membership cards, resolutions and other official documents as necessary.

### Trustee:

- Serves on the Charities Committee which consists of the Grand Knight and three other elected members.
- Supervises all financial business of the council and conducts the semiannual audits
- Trustees are elected for terms of three years, two years and one year. At each regular election, the position of each Trustee will be voted upon, with the current three- and two-year Trustees moving on to become the two- and one-year Trustees, respectively.

We are also looking for members to be a part of the following committees, Recruitment (recruiting new Knights), Admission (vetting candidates), and the Welcoming Committees (mentoring new Knights). Contact Jeff Schmidt at [651-368-1699](tel:651-368-1699) for more information on these committees!



Jim Gawarecki and Fr. Deziel



Knight Free Throw Winners



Working the first Fish Fry of 2016