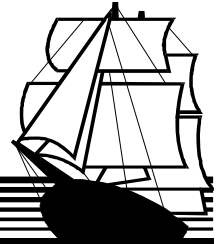


MARINER



K N I G H T S O F C O L U M B U S

Volume 22, Number 2

March-April 2009

KOVAR FUND DRIVE SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 16-19

The council needs your help for this worthy cause. The goal this year for the drive statewide is \$650,000. We at St. Mary of Sorrows have been exceeding our expectations each year. Supporting fellow Virginians with intellectual disabilities has been a key Knights' effort for many years.

We are looking for Knights to volunteer to be site captains and deputy site captains for this year's drive. If you feel the need to contribute and enjoy the feeling of giving your time in a leadership role, please contact our council's KOVAR Chairman, Scott Leitch, at samaleitch@verizon.net or 703-503-5260.

Our site captains will be calling to ask you to donate a few hours of your time. When they call, please be generous – you'll feel good about this. KOVAR turnout is always exceptional, and we hope to continue this charitable tradition.

KOVAR funds such projects as:

- **Home Loans** – Interest free loan program to assist in the purchase of group homes;
- **Transportation** – 20 percent funding to assist in purchasing vehicles needed to transport persons with intellectual disabilities;
- **Group Home Furnishings** – including living room, bedroom, dining room, kitchen, common area and recreational center furniture for clients;
- **Training Programs** – Necessary funding for organizations to train persons with mental retardation to enhance their quality of community living;
- **Startup Programs** – Grants to establish new and innovative programs designed to assist individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families; and
- **Special Olympics** – KOVAR, as a sponsor of the Virginia Special Olympics, has donated over \$25,000 each year.

Thanks to all Brother Knights that stepped up to lead this year's KOVAR Charity Drive. So far we have some of the sites covered by returning site captains. Thanks

so far to Dale Allen, Al Sullivan and Al Obuchowski for returning to the team. What we also need is some new blood to step up and either run a site (e.g., Burke Giant, Twinbrook Safeway) or to assist the existing site captain in his duties. It's a great cause and a great way to increase your involvement and contribution to the Knights and KOVAR.

(Continued on Page 2.)

Grand Knight's Message



Brothers,

J.R.R Tolkien, noted author of *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*, once said; "Only God creates something out of literally nothing, but man can use our creativity to create something out of something. We are called to exercise dominion over the whole earth as image bearers of God. To do this, man must put God-given creativity to work." When I read this all I could say is "Wow." As a fan of Tolkien and other great storytellers, I oft times wonder how they create such works of fiction, elaborate with characters that come to life. Tolkien actually thought that putting his God-given talent of writing and storytelling to create enjoyment was a command from God. To do anything less would be wasting God's gift.

(Continued on Page 2.)

KOVAR

(Continued from Page 1.)

Site captains will coordinate team efforts at each of the sites and will call Brother Knights for assignment date, time and site.

The site captains are the true heroes of the KOVAR Campaign and can use assistance in the way of a deputy. If you are so inclined, please contact Scott Leitch ((703-503-5260 or samaleitch@verizon.net). It's a great way to help out

You may also sign your family or other St. Mary's or council-affiliated groups to assist in the KOVAR Drive.

Reminder: Brothers, remember to consider KOVAR if contributing to this year's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) or the United Way of the Greater Washington Area at your place of employment. Council 8600 will receive credit toward our 2009 goal of \$13,000 if you provide us with a copy of your pledge designating KOVAR as a recipient. You may omit your identification and the donor does not need to be a council member. Payroll deductions are "The gift that keeps on giving." This is an easy way to help Council 8600 to meet our KOVAR goals for 2009. Use CFC CODE 42569 or United Way of Greater Washington Code of 8838. Be sure to retain a copy of your donor pledge and provide the council's KOVAR chairman with a copy for Council 8600 credit. Contact me about this program: email: Scott Leitch samaleitch@verizon.net or call 703-503-5260.

Thank you,
Scott Leitch
KOVAR Chairman

Military Veterans

You can replace your military records, medals and awards. For information go to the DoD Archives Web site at:
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>

Grand Knight's Message

(Continued from page 1.)

This is great advice to the Knights. We should look for all sorts of ways to create something from something for God's Glory. How hard is this to do? Every time I look at my schedule and then at the time left in the day I wonder how I will get things done. And just when I think I have got everything covered . . .

Conventional wisdom says that if you want something done give it to the person that is most busy. In the coming months our Council emerges from its winter hiatus and gets very busy. A look at the website and the upcoming events will confirm this. There something for everyone, and all you need is a little creative spirit to get involved. As Tolkien lamented not using it is wasting God's Gift and your talents.

Please take some time to find a place where you can help. It is what we are all called to do. God Bless you during this Lenten Season and see you at an event.



Vivat Jesus!
Paul Maltagliati

Council 8600 Sponsors Two Events at Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC)

January 30 – Chinese New Year Party Celebration

March 20th - Saint Patty's Day Dance
Please join us March 20 to help the residents enjoy the St. Patty's Day Dance.

Exact time of the dance will be known about a week or two before the event.

Contact Gerard Durback at 703-278-8767 or gwdweb@yahoo.com with any questions or to RSVP for the event.

The Chaplain's Corner

PERSEVERENCE IN CONFIDENCE IN GOD

Let us love God because God has first loved us. (1 John 4:19)



Sometimes when we sin, even in small ways, we tend to be hard on ourselves, feel troubled and might even become scrupulous in trying to do what is right and proper. In our human weakness, when we continue to fail to live up to what we feel are God's standards for our conduct, we might get discouraged and feel that we are unworthy of God's love. We can eventually grow cold in our trust in God and this can lead to a diminishing of our devotion to God. We certainly need to watch our conduct with respect to sin, but we must do this without losing our confidence and inner peace.

If it were necessary to choose between confidence and peace and striving to be completely free from sin in small matters, it would be better to restrain our efforts for awhile because peace of soul and confidence in God are more necessary for our spiritual growth, and they should be preferred. God experiences great pleasure and satisfaction in the progress we make in our spiritual life when we trust God and live at peace.

So how do we reconcile the grief we feel when we sin with confidence in God and peace in our soul? Saint Therese of the Child Jesus explains this reconciliation in this way:

This I know very well: although I should have on my soul all the crimes that could be committed, I would lose none of my confidence; rather, I would hasten, with my heart broken into pieces of sorrow, to cast myself into the arms of my Savior. I know how greatly he loved the prodigal son; I have marked his words to Mary Magdalen, to the adulterous woman, to the Samaritan. No, no one could make me afraid, because I know to whom to cling by reason of

His love and His mercy. I know that all this multitude of offenses would disappear in the twinkling of an eye, as a drop of water cast into a roaring furnace.

† Saint Therese of Lisieux
Story of a Soul

A heart that is sorrowful for the sins it has committed and yet at the same time has undiminished confidence in God - these two go together. Saint Therese, although she might have committed all the sins of the world, would have turned to Jesus and flung herself into his arms with complete confidence in Him.

The foundation of our confidence does not originate with us, but in God. We trust God and draw close to Him with tranquility and sureness, because of who He is, not because of who we are. Our trust is based on Him. Jesus is the same forever, loving, good and merciful. We might change and sometimes do things we are not proud of, but this should not affect our confidence in God. Our confidence is based on a God who is all good and is always there for us. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. In spite of all we do, God always loves us. Therefore, we must believe in His goodness, His mercy and His love for us. This is the solid foundation for our hope for our salvation and entry into God's kingdom.



God bless you all,
Father James S. Barkett

Happy Times at Council's Annual Polish Night

The annual St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600 Polish Night, held on February 28, was another big success. While the grand knight selected the Obuchowski family as *Family of the Month* based on this activity, much of the credit for the success of the evening goes to a tremendous team that did much of the work for the event. One highlight of the evening was attendance by State Deputy Kelly Mortensen and his wife, Kathy. Another highlight was attendance by all of the parish priests, with our chaplain/pastor initiating the meal by leading all in *Grace Before Meals*.



First, and foremost, was the co-chair of the event, Erc Barone. Despite the fact that Vi Barone had just come out of the hospital, Erc was deeply involved, along with Jim Cella(ski) in setting up the hall and preparing the appetizers for the attendees. Without the assistance of these two individuals, the event could never be as successful as it has been. As luck would have it, they were joined by John Moar and Joe Boyle, who just happened to be in the area (the cemetery) who helped set up the hall. Preparations for the event included acquisition of the liquid refreshments by Jim Cella, who also acquired the bread to accompany the meal.

After he helped with OSMH setup, Jim met Al Obuchowski at the Parish Center where they began cooking the 60 pounds of kielbasa (from Ostrowski's in Baltimore), 16 pounds of sauerkraut (with bacon), and the 30 dozen pierogis. When the first pot of kielbasa was cooked, Alex Obuchowski (who had just arrived from a business trip to Texas) joined them to help with the cooking. When the food was all cooked, the three headed to Old St. Mary's Hall to meet up with the others.

Meanwhile, Dan and Joan Neckel were preparing stuffed cabbages. At the same time, Frank Gniazdowski, ably assisted by Dave and Jeanne (Boboski) Evans, were also preparing stuffed cabbage. Together, these folks prepared enough galabki (two styles, as it turned out) to feed an army of folks! An apology is due to them for duplicating a menu item but Al was not willing to "turn down" their offers. As it turns out, folks were able to take food home with them when the evening was over, and there was still plenty left to serve at the next council meeting. In addition, Sandy Obuchowski was busy at home baking her famous foldover cookies (using Mom Obuchowski's recipe).

The event was a sellout and about 100 people enjoyed the Polish fare (as much as they could, despite frequent interruptions/visits by Al with little cups of chilled liquid). At the conclusion of the evening, many attendees helped clean the hall, under the watchful eyes of Erc and Vi.

Hopefully, all attendees had an enjoyable time and were satisfied with the offerings. If anyone who helped was omitted in this writeup, I offer sincere apologies for my error.

Vivat Jesus!
Al Obuchowski



Message from the Deputy Grand Knight . . .

UNsung HEROES

One of the functions I serve as your Deputy Grand Knight is as Program Chairman. Basically, that means I have the honor of presiding over the reports by our committee chairs at our business meetings. These are the unsung heroes of your council. As one Past Grand Knight told me when I joined the Knights over 10 years ago, "We raise money to give it away." The committee chairs and sub-chairs (listed below) are those that do the good work of the council. When you see them at church, in the supermarket, or at the gym, thank them for what they do. Also check out the Web site at <http://www.kofc8600.org>, and help them out by getting involved in your council's work.

Youth Program

Joe Osborne

Scholarships (Fred Walker)
Young Man / Young Woman of the Year Awards
(Fred Walker)
High School Graduation Parties (Dick Lee)
Parish Children's Christmas Party (Steve Schaefer)
Scouting (Cub, Boy and Venture) (Steve Smith)
Free Throw Contest (Steve Lisi)
Squires & Squire Roses (Steve Schaefer)
Work Camp (Dave Sharp)

Community Program

Gene Molinelli

Marian Homes (Mike Sakraida)
Celebrate Fairfax (Mike Burbach)
April Improve-a-Home (Tim Shea, John Enzman)
Special Olympics (Roger Wesley)
Northern Virginia Training Center (Gerald Durback)
KOVAR (Scott Leitch)
Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets (Mark
Haaland)
Route 123 Cleanup (David Evans)
St. Mary's Food Ministry (Pete Garry)

Council

Bill Baker

Meetings & Officer Installation (Grand Knight, District
Deputy)
Christmas Trees (Geoff Smith)
Mariner (Frank Romano)
Softball Team (Dennis Connaughton)
Membership (Dan Turgeon)
OSMH Renovation and Maintenance (Erc Barone)

Family

Fidel Rodriguez

Parties/Reception/Outings (Erc Barone, et al.)
Spaghetti Suppers (Jim Cella, Johnny Restivo)
Pancake Breakfasts (Joe Marotta, Paul Ciatti)
Hope of Northern VA (Pete Garry)

Church

Bob Richie

Sanctuary for Life (Bob Richie, Joe Marotta)
Car Raffle for St. Mary's Capital Fund (Jim Cella)
Christmas Cards (Bob Richie, David Burke)
Eucharistic Adoration (Bob Richie, Fr. Burkett)
Car Raffle for KofC Memorial Masses (Bob Richie)

Special Committees

Admissions (Al Obuchowski, Tony Vanderbeek)
Database & Web site (Mike Sakraida, Paul
Armstrong)
Charity (Dennis Halpin)
Pro Life (Tony DiGregorio)
Public Relations (Tony De Christofaro, Dave Evans)
Athletic Director (Jerry Hovan)

God Bless You!
Dan Turgeon

2009 Degree Schedule

First Degrees

Date	Time	Council #	Council Name
March 17	8 p.m.	8600	St. Mary of Sorrows
March 31	8 p.m.	11922	Holy Spirit
May 19	8 p.m.	8600	St. Mary of Sorrows
May 26	8 p.m.	11922	Holy Spirit

Second Degrees

March 25	8 p.m.	6153	Springfield
April 21	8 p.m.	7992	Fr. Sikora

Third Degrees

March 21		367	Norfolk
April 25		6153	Springfield
June 6		6546	St. Edward's
June 7		3548	Robert B. Kealey
June 13		5332	George Brent



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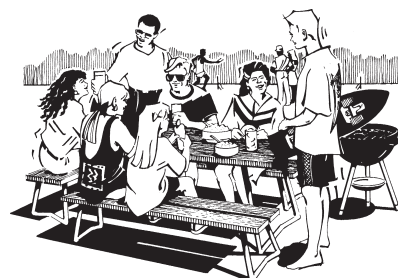
**Paul T. Hannan, PGK, PFN
FIELD AGENT**

AGENCY DEPARTMENT
Knights of Columbus

11667 GILMAN LANE
HERNDON, VA 20170

Route 123 Cleanup

The next Route 123 roadside cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, March 21. All Knights are welcome and we are especially calling on those whose last names with letters O through Z. If you are able to help, please contact Dave Evans at Devans1957@verizon.net or 703-425-7246. We meet at Old St. Mary's Hall at 8 a.m. and are through by 10 a.m.



2009 CALENDAR YEAR

MARCH

- 3 Regular Meeting, 8 p.m.
Rosary at 7:45 p.m., OSMH
- 6 Lenten Soup Supper
Parish Center
- 6-7 First Friday Devotion
- 7 Spaghetti Dinner, after 5 p.m. Mass
Parish Center
- 8 Council's Pancake Breakfast (Team
Ciatti) Parish Center; Squire's
Pancake Breakfast at OSMH
- 10 Marian Homes Board Meeting
OSMH
- 13 Lenten Soup Supper, Parish Center
- 14 St. Patrick's Party, Hybernians
Parish Center
- 17 Council Social Meeting, 8 p.m.,
Rosary at 7:45 p.m.,
- 20 St. Patty's Day Dance at Northern
Virginia Training Center (NVTC)
Please join us in helping the residents
enjoy this event. Exact time for the
dance will be known about a week or
two before the event. Contact Gerard
Durback at 703 278-8767 or at
wdweb@yahoo.com with any questions
or to RSVP for the event.
- 20 Lenten Soup Supper, Parish Center
- 21 Route 123 Cleanup (date changed)
- 27 Lenten Soup Supper, Parish Center
- 28-29 2009 State Bowling Tournament
hosted by St. Elizabethn Seton Council

8183 in Woodbridge at the Bowl
America at 13409 Occoquan Rd.

APRIL

- 3 Lenten Soup Supper, Parish Center
- 3-4 First Friday Devotion
- 4 Spaghetti Dinner, after 5 p.m. Mass
Parish Center
- 5 Palm Sunday
- 5 Council Pancake Breakfast (Team
Barone) Parish Center; Squire's
Pancake Breakfast at OSMH
- 7 Regular Meeting, 8 p.m.
Rosary at 7:45 p.m., OSMH
- 12 Easter Sunday
- 14 Marian Homes Board Meeting
OSMH
- 16 Catholicism and the Public Square
Farrell Hall, 7:30-9 p.m.
- 16-19 KOVAR (tentative)
- 21 Council Social Meeting, 8 p.m.
Rosary at 7:45 p.m., OSMH
- 25 Improve-a-Home

MAY

- 1-2 First Friday Devotion
- 1-3 K of C Annual Meeting
- 2 Tex-Mex Dinner, Parish Center
- 3 Council's Pancake Breakfast (Team
Marotta) at Parish Center
Squire's Pancake Breakfast at OSMH
- 5 Regular Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH
Rosary at 7:45 p.m.

Grand Knight, Paul A. Maltagliati, (703) 691-2712; Chaplain, Fr. James S. Barkett, (703) 978-4141; Financial Secretary, Phil Torrey (703) 690-3127; Insurance Agent, Paul T. Hannon (703) 444-6118

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