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September-October 2008

Marian Homes Update

At its June 10 meeting, the Marian Homes Board of Directors elected eight council brothers to the board. The new members are: Dave Lopez, Hugo Bonuccelli, Joe Caturano, Art De Los Santos, Jim Kearney, Tom McFarlane, Kevin O'Brien and Tim Shea. Each of these members will serve for two years and is eligible to serve a second term. Additionally, the board reappointed PGK Jim Cella, PGK Carl Kaczmarek and Dan Cronin to fill the unexpired terms of Gerard Durback, John La Rosa and Randy Jennings, who requested to leave the board for personal reasons prior to the end of their terms. Jim, Carl and Dan will serve until the end of June 2009.

The new members replace Brothers Jim Autry, Bob Ferguson, PGK Jerry Hovan, Worthy GK Paul Maltagliati and PGK Fred Walker, whose terms expired in at the end of June 2008. As a past president of the board, PGK Walker was designated as President Emeritus, joining the first board president, PGK Dick La France in this role.

At the meeting, the board acknowledged the outstanding efforts of the departing members for their many years of service to the council's unique Marian Homes' mission. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that Fred Walker has served for more than seven years as president and Jim Autry has served as legal counsel (*pro bono*) almost since Marian Homes' establishment.

At the board's August 12 meeting, the new members were introduced to current members (PGK Erc Barone (president), PGK Jim Cella, PGK Carl Kaczmarek, PGK Al Obuchowski (treasurer), Dan Cronin, John Moar and Mark Roddy (recorder). Member PGK Bill Crowder was not present due to business. The new members heard an excellent presentation from PGK Dick La France on the beginnings of Marian Homes.

Two major items were discussed at the meeting. First, it was reported that the KOVAR Board had approved the Marian Home request for a low interest home loan

to replace the current home loan. Details are yet to be worked out but the new loan promises to be very beneficial to Marian Homes. The second item of interest was a discussion on the Art Auction which will be the major fund raising effort for Marian Home this year, replacing the Charity Ball. The art auction will be held on Oct 18 in Farrell Hall.

Grand Knight's Message





Toted author Oswald Chambers states: "We, as a people, don't consciously and deliberately disobey God – we simply don't listen to Him. God has given his commands to us, but we pay no attention to them – not because of willful disobedience, but because we do not truly love and respect Him."

We show how little love we have for God by preferring to listen to His servants rather than Him. We like personal testimonies, but we don't want to give the glory to God.

It is much easier to ignore God and all He has done in our lives. This is especially true when we can think of something more fun, because we rarely think of God as being the all-powerful being and reason for living. We have no proof that He is

(Continued on Page 2.)

Grand Knight's Message

(Continued from page 1.)

working in our lives, even when, through prayer and hard work, something happens that is completely unexpected.

Note here our Brother Knight Tom Copeland. He has a new heart and a new lease on life. Just a few short months ago, we, as a council, prayed every meeting and probably personally for deliverance from his illness. *Ad Gloriam Dei*, God answered these prayers. Brothers, we need not look for God's Glory any further than the chambers of our own council.

Recently, an acquaintance of mine told me that he was having a hard time with teachings of the Church. He could not see God's Glory nor could he wait for it. He explained that following the Faith was "just not that fun."

An old parable talks of two farmers, who were in the midst of a drought. One farmer woke every day listening to the weather news and became depressed. He spent his days moaning about no rain and how unfair things were.

The second farmer woke every morning hearing the same forecast, but worked hastily to prepare the ground and seed it. He prayed for rain and waited. The first farmer jeered and made jokes about the second. The second continued to prepare for God's glorious rain. One day the rain started to fall. Who was ready, and who will reap a harvest?

Often as Oswald Crawford states, we choose an easy way, which yields quick and fleeting results. Committing to what God wants and acting accordingly is, for many, sometimes difficult, it may even try our mettle. However, God never asks for more than we can give.

Over the next year, we are being asked to do much. It will require everyone's involvement. Your involvement can come in several different ways, so I ask you to take

WEAR YOUR BADGE

We are a fraternal order involved in our community and church activities. Let others know you are a Knight. Wear your badge at Mass and at other St. Mary activities.

a few minutes and ask what God would have you do. Let your prayers guide you and involve you in the events of the coming year.

Please take the time to look at the budget for this fraternal year. Find a place to contribute both to the council and for the Glory of God.

God Bless and keep each and every one of you, the Knights of Columbus. *Ad Gloriam Dei*.

Just a thought, not a sermon.



Vivat Jesus!
Paul Maltagliati



to Brother Keith Ruby

Recently we were honored to have Keith Ruby join our ranks. Keith is the father of Austin, a special needs child that many of us see around the church in his custom chair. Despite a demanding schedule of working at George Mason and helping to care for Austin's many needs, Keith not only joined our ranks taking his First Degree at St. Mary of Sorrows in May, but within a month had risen through his Second and Third Degrees as well. Please welcome Keith to our council when you see him proudly displaying his Knights of Columbus lapel pin and pocket protector.

Keith is a great example to us all. Those of you who have put off taking your Second, Third and even Fourth degrees because of the time commitment, say a prayer for Austin and think about how Brother Ruby found the time to obtain full Knighthood with his demanding schedule.

Dan Turgeon Deputy Grand Knight

The Chaplain's Corner

Contemplative Prayer

Ontemplative prayer is a passive type of prayer where we sit quietly in the presence of God. Father John Vianney tells a story about a man who would sit motionless for hours in the chapel. One day Fr. John asked him what he was doing sitting there for all that time. The man replied, "I look at Him, He looks at me, and we are happy."

In contemplative prayer the intellect is silent, there are no thoughts or images, and we rest in the center of our being where God lives. In this prayer we place ourselves in the presence of God, who loves us.

The Jesus Prayer is a form of contemplative prayer. The prayer is an ancient Christian prayer first developed by the desert Fathers around the year 300 A.D. It is rooted in the Gospels as in the parable of the Pharisee and tax collector,

But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" (Luke 18:13)

The Jesus Prayer goes like this:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

To begin the prayer find a quiet place and sit comfortably in a chair. Close your eyes and invite Jesus to be with you during your prayer time. Next start counting backwards from 100. Breath out at 100, breath in at 99, breath out at 98

After a while, as you exhale say to yourself in your mind, "Lord Jesus Christ," then, "Son of God" as you inhale, "Have mercy on me" as you exhale, "a sinner" as you inhale. Or more simply "Christ" as you exhale and "Jesus" as you inhale.

After a while, stop saying the words, quiet your thoughts, and just be in the presence of God. If distracting thoughts come into your mind, go back to saying the words "Christ, Jesus" until your mind quiets down and again place yourself in the presence of God; you looking at God in your mind's eye, and God is looking at you.

After 5, 10, 15 or 20 minutes, slowly come back from that place within you where you have encountered God, thank God for being with you, and tell Him that you love Him. Invite Him to be present with you throughout your day.

End your prayer time by slowly reciting the Our Father.

Throughout your day, when you think of it, recite the Jesus Prayer to yourself.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Try this prayer once a day for two weeks and see how it works for you.



God bless you all, Father James S. Barkett

From Our Field Agent . . .

ear Brother Knights,

Please try to log on to the KofC.org Web site and see the address to the convention by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. The information and ideas he presents about our future goals and objectives is very informative and challenging. We will begin to phase in new insurance products and a new member plan that will be different during the fourth quarter this year.

It seems like I started as a field agent yesterday, but it has been two years. The brother knights and their families have been welcoming and very easy to work with. As people transfer into the area it is always interesting to see the influence the Knights of Columbus have had in their lives. One new family, while overseas, worked to start a new council. The

efforts were successful and now a council in the UK serves three military bases.

One of the requirements of the State Deputy Award is to hold a Fraternal Benefits Night. I will be working with your grand knight to schedule a time to present our new products and go over some of the ideas and questions you have about insurance, long term care and annuities. Please feel free to call me with any questions. Please offer some prayers in remembrance of the people who lost their lives 9/11/01. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and those starting school have a safe and successful year.

Paul Hannan 703-444-6118, 571-276-3927 Paul.Hannan@KofC.org

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS TELEPHONE TREE

The Community Programs telephone tree has been a great boon to the programs and project leaders mentioned elsewhere in this issue. We still need additional volunteers to make calls to up to 20 fellow knights about five or six times a year (about 10 hours work per year). This is great duty for knights who are gregarious or busy or infirmed, in any combination. This is not cold calling. Each knight you call is a current member; and most are glad

to hear from you and be given the opportunity

to participate in a worthy activity. Usually, schedule or infirmity are the reasons for getting a "no" to your request for volunteers. Contact Gene



Molinelli at <u>e.molinelli@att.net</u> or 703-259-4150 if you can help.

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR MEN

Brother Knights and friends, we want to alert you to an upcoming Weekend Retreat for Men from Friday evening October 17 until approximately 2 p.m. Sunday, October 19, 2008, at Dominican Retreat in McLean, Va. Those of you who have participated in the past know the quiet and peace of a Dominican Retreat and the opportunity the weekend gives you to reflect upon and strengthen your personal relationship with God and with your family, friends and neighbors. The weekend schedule includes daily Mass, presentations, conferences, discussion groups, confession, Rosary, adoration and private time. The grounds are terrific and the

food is excellent. It is a truly wonderful experience. This year we are very fortunate to have as our retreat master Fr. Bart Karwacki, a conventual Franciscan Friar, who is a well-known and popular presenter.

We are all very busy, but this is time well spent. If you would like more information on the retreat please let Brother Pete Garry know via e-mail at pgarry 1@verizon .net or call him at 703-978-1163 and he will give you additional information and send you a brochure.

McGivney's Corner

Where does the calling to be a priest come from?

At age 16 young Michael McGivney knew he wanted to be a priest. His own father, Patrick McGivney, knew that the idea was no passing fancy for Michael. Some 140 years ago this September, in 1868, Michael McGivney separated from his family to be nurtured into a new family: the priesthood. By reading *Parish Priest: Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism*, by Douglas Brinkley and Julie M. Foster, you will find out how Father McGivney found his calling to the priesthood. Here is an interesting excerpt on his calling which is found on Page 36.

"Such righteous possibilities might naturally make a sober, smart, and devout man like Michael McGivney want to be a priest. But there was more to it than wanting. The calling had to come from God. That characteristic, so easy to fake, at least for awhile, was the one that bishops were at pains to discern before letting a man enter the priesthood. Vocation to the priesthood is a providential act, Cardinal Gibbons wrote insistently, by which God selects some persons in preference to

others for the work of the ministry, and confers on them particular graces for its faithful execution. Gibbons recalled one young man who stated frankly that he wanted to be a priest for the simple reason that he didn't like work. That fellow didn't pass muster; but then, if he didn't like work, he



was in the wrong place anyway.

Bishops were also on the lookout to purge candidates who were seeking orders only in deference to the wishes of one or both parents. The calling had to come from the Lord, not from the other end of the dinning table. Michael McGivney didn't fall into that category by any means. He wanted to become a priest despite parental pressure, not because of it."

Dave Lopez

TIME TO ORDER YOUR PIZZAS AND COOKIES

The Columbian Squires and Columbian Squire Roses are raising money to support a seminarian and a right to life charity or another local charity in critical need of funds. To reach this goal we are selling pizzas and cookies, and we must sell 120 items.

All profits from the proceeds will go for the above causes. For the past 10 years you have supported these causes and we hope you will again.

Orders for pizzas and cookies can be made in Farrell Hall after all Sunday Masses through November 2. Please make your check out to Knights of Columbus Council 8600.

We have received many compliments on the food items. You have used them for parties at home, students away at college, teenage parties, after school snacks, emergency dinners and children's parties. Some parishioners have asked cookie items they order be baked and given to Prison Ministry. On your order please print your full name and telephone or cell phone number where you can be reached. Mark

on your calendar the date and time of the pickup as your reminder.

Please pick up your order as noted below:

Parish Center, Farrell Hall (kitchen area) Saturday, November 8, 2008 Between 12:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Special Note: Because of the limited space in the kitchen we have been asked by the Church to have all items picked up on Saturday November 8. (Saturday night is spaghetti night and Sunday morning is pancake breakfast.) Please refrigerate your items as soon as possible after pick up. We hope you will help us on special pickup arrangements. HOWEVER, after Tuesday evening all items not picked up will be donated to a nearby charity.

Thank you for your support.

Russ DeRose 703-743-1171

Recruiting Begins for the 2008 Christmas Tree Sales Program

Our Christmas Tree Sales Program is our council's top revenue making program. To ensure that we continue building upon our past successes, this year we are beginning the planning process a little early. As in recent years, the Christmas Tree Sales Program will be coordinated by Brother Geoff Smith and assisted by Brothers Jim Cella and Al Obouchowski. This year, Brother Dave Lopez will assist in coordinating and finalizing the sales schedule. Take time now and let us know if you will be in town between

November 29 and December 23 and can help in selling trees to customers. Saturday sales dates are divided into three four-hour shifts, Sunday sale dates are divided into two four-hour shifts, and weekday sales consist of one three-hour shift. We need brother knights to work at least two shifts to ensure a robust sales crew. You can sign up now by e-mailing your shift preference(s)from the table below to Brother Dave Lopez at davelopez75@msn.com.

2008 Christmas Tree Sales Dates and Shifts

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Dec. 12: 6-9 p.m.
Saturday
           Nov. 29: 9 a.m-1 p.m.; 1-5 p.m; 5-9 p.m.
                                                      Friday
Sunday
           Nov. 30: Noon-4 p.m.; 4-8 p.m.
                                                      Saturday
                                                                 Dec. 13: 9 a.m-1 p.m.; 1-5 p.m; 5-9 p.m.
                                                      Sunday
                                                                 Dec. 14: Noon-4 p.m.; 4-8 p.m.
Monday
           Dec. 1:
                    6-9 p.m.
                                                      Monday
                                                                 Dec. 15: 6-9 p.m.
Tuesday
           Dec. 2:
                    6-9 p.m.
                                                                 Dec. 16: 6-9 p.m.
Wednesday Dec. 3:
                    6–9 p.m.
                                                      Tuesday
                                                      Wednesday Dec. 17: 6-9 p.m.
Thursday
           Dec. 4:
                    6–9 p.m.
                                                                 Dec. 18: 6-9 p.m.
Friday
           Dec. 5:
                    6–9 p.m.
                                                      Thursday
                                                      Friday
                                                                 Dec. 19: 6-9 p.m.
Saturday
           Dec. 6:
                    9 a.m-1 p.m.; 1-5 p.m; 5-9 p.m.
                                                      Saturday
                                                                 Dec. 20: 9 a.m-1 p.m.; 1-5 p.m; 5-9 p.m.
                    Noon-4 p.m.; 4-8 p.m.
Sunday
           Dec. 7:
                                                                 Dec. 21: Noon-4 p.m.; 4-8 p.m.
                                                      Sunday
Monday
           Dec. 8:
                    6–9 p.m.
                                                                 Dec. 22: 6-9 p.m.
                                                      Monday
           Dec. 9:
                    6-9 p.m.
Tuesday
Wednesday Dec. 10: 6-9 p.m.
                                                      Tuesday
                                                                 Dec. 23: 6-9 p.m.
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2008-09 Calendar Year

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Council Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH
- 5-6 First Friday Adoration, Worship Center
- 9 Marian Homes Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. OSMH
- 13 Spaghetti Dinner, after 5 p.m. Mass, Parish Center
- 14 Pancake Breakfast, 6 a.m-12:45 p.m., FH Team Ciatti, Squires (Want to help? Contact Fidel Rodrigues.)
- 16 Council Meeting, First Degree, 8 p.m., OSMH

OCTOBER

- 3-4 First Friday Adoration, Worship Center
- 7 Council Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH
- 11 Italian Night (cocktails at 6 p.m.), OSMH, for members and guests
- 12 Pancake Breakfast, 6 a.m-12:45 p.m., FH Team Barone, Squires (Want to help? Contact Fidel Rodrigues.)
- 14 Marian Homes Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. OSMH
- 18 Marian Homes Auction (cocktails at 6:30 p.m.), Parish Center
- 21 Council Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH

November

- 4 Council Meeting, First Degree, 8 p.m., OSMH
- 7-8 First Friday Adoration, Worship Center
- 8 Spaghetti Dinner, after 5 p.m. Mass, Parish Center
- 9 Pancake Breakfast, 6 a.m-12:45 p.m., FH Team Marotta, Squires (Want to help? Contact Fidel Rodrigues.)
- 11 Marian Homes Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. OSMH
- 18 Council Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH

- 22 Thanksgiving Basket Collection 9 a.m. to 12 noon, OSMH
- 27 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 2 Council Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH
- 5-6 First Friday Adoration, Worship Center
- 9 Marian Homes Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. OSMH
- 13 Children's Christmas Party, 12 to 3:30 p.m. Parish Center,
- 13 Spaghetti Dinner, after 5 p.m. Mass, Parish Center
- 14 Pancake Breakfast, 6 a.m-12:45 p.m., FH Team Ciatti, Squires (Want to help? Contact Fidel Rodrigues.)
- 16 Council Meeting, 8 p.m., OSMH
- 25 Christmas

paul.hannan@kofc.org

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Paul T. Hannon, PGK, PFN FIELD AGENT

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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/

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