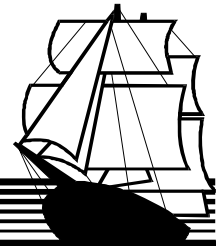


MARINER



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

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June – July 2011

WE SURPASS OUR KOVAR GOAL OF \$10,000

As a first year coordinator of the annual KOVAR collection campaign I was initially overwhelmed by what I perceived as a daunting task, but the help I received from the site coordinators (Christopher Brensy, Gerry Grutkowski, Al Obuchowski and Fidel Rodriguez), as well as the incredible response from my brother Knights, Squires and Squire Roses, this challenge was made much easier. Thanks to the hard work, big smiles and a lot of Tootsie Rolls, Council #8600 was able to collect \$6,354 for KOVAR during our March collection drive. This is almost \$875 more than we collected all of last year.

At this point we were well on our way to \$10,000.

In order to meet our goal of \$10,000 we had secured both the Safeway at Burke Center Shopping Mall and the Safeway at Twinbrook Shopping Center for the weekend of May 19 through May 22 for an additional collection drive. We were unable to collect at these sites during our March blitz due to insurance issues that have since been resolved.



Second Collection

Our second KOVAR collection for 2011 was held at the Burke Center Safeway and the Twinbrook Safeway in May. Thanks to the work of many unnamed individuals, we were able to collect an additional \$3,099. Add this to our earlier collection of \$6,354, the \$1,000+ we collected at Polish Night and the \$1,000 CFC contribution made to KOVAR from a

(Continued on Page 2.)

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers All,



Thank you all for a super year! The 2010-2011 fraternal year will always be remembered by me as a challenging year but one filled with God's blessings and a great brotherhood of Knights willing to answer my call for help.

In reflection, we did accomplish a lot, especially towards the first principle of our order – charity. We set a money record in selling Christmas trees, a record collecting monies for the 5-car raffle and a record for our beer selling activities at Celebrate Fairfax, and surpassed our goal of \$10,000 set for our KOVAR drive. These efforts continue to allow us to donate funds towards social causes that we as Catholic gentlemen believe in.

We financially assisted three seminarians in
(Continued on Page 2.)

Grand Knight's Message

(continued from page 1)

their education and one priest in his graduate education. We supported the Church through First Friday Adoration in the late hours, we pledged and prayed the Rosary, sponsored the Silver Rose Ceremony, and hosted the Seminarian Picnic.

We supported the community through Marian Homes, April Improve-a-Home, KOVAR, Holiday Meals and Route 123 Cleanup.

As a council, we finished sixth in the bowling tourney, second in the church softball league and had a lot of fun with Polish, Italian and Tex-Mex Nights. We had a Veterans Day Mass and brunch and honored the brothers who went before us at a Memorial Mass on All Saint's Day.

For the family we had pancake breakfasts and spaghetti dinners, New Year's Eve reception, a family picnic and we supported families of deceased Knights.

For Pro-Life we supported the Father Stefan Foundation in his fundraising activities, rented a bus for the March for Life and provided manpower for security, donated funds and assisted with the project manager and donated time and money to the Ronald McDonald House.

To support the children we assisted the Squires, Squire Roses and Boy Scouts in their activities and sponsored camp outs, award ceremonies, Youths Christmas Party, children's choir end-of-year party, All-Night Graduation parties, running a Youth Lacrosse Camp, and we provided 10 scholarships.

For all these activities and more that I did not mention we earned the State Deputy's Columbian Award for meeting all activities in our focus areas. From the recruiting front we brought in 28 new members to bring our active roles to 443 members.

Many thanks to those who personally assisted me in this past year to make my tenure as Grand Knight a success. I expressed my thanks to PGK Dan Turgeon and his wife Colleen for their mentorship and communication with the Church's front office. My special honoree this year was Sandy Obuchowski for her friendly reminders and assistance in completing all the certificates for monthly awards and degree certificates. Thanks also to PGK Al Obochowski for his sage advice and

wisdom when I needed some guidance with regards to making decisions for the council.

My thanks to the officers, committee chairs and activity chairmen for stepping up and being leaders and getting the work done. I've enjoyed the past year and I look forward to continue working with you all – God and Navy willing.

May God continue to bless you and your families,



Don Wilkinson
Grand Knight 2010-2011

KOVAR Drive

(continued from page 1)

brother Knight from our council, gives us a total of \$11,453, far exceeding our goal of \$10,000. With all of the limits and reductions in our collection times this year I felt that this goal was a stretch but through your donation of time we were able easily surpass this goal by almost 15 percent. Thank You!!!!

A special thank you goes to the site captains Chris Brensy, Al Obuchowski, Joe Osborne, Fidel Rodriguez and Gerry Rutkowski. Without these men we could not have filled the slots and coordinated this successful event. I would also like to thank the men behind the scenes, Jim Cella and Phil Torrey, who spent two afternoons counting all of this money. Thank you brothers!

This was my first year of chairing the KOVAR collection drive and I found this endeavor very rewarding. I want to thank all who participated as well as those who couldn't and prayed for our success. Your hard work and prayers will provide needed assistance to those individuals with intellectual disabilities. I look forward to chairing this event next year and hope we can be as successful as we were this year.

Thanks again for your help and prayers!

Vivat Jesus!
Jim McHugh

April 2011 Improve-A-Home

The 2011 April Improve-A-Home (AIH) was such a success it lasted into May! We completed 10 projects at nine locations, including six parishioner homes, both Marian Homes and the Historic Church. Site captains and volunteers gave generously of their time in the planning and completion of these projects. And yet at 8 a.m. on April 30, this year's AIAH coordinator, Dave Evans, was just a bit anxious while downing coffee and donuts at Farrell Hall, with less than 20 volunteers at hand.

The creative collaboration of all participants enabled five of the six projects planned for that day to be fully completed. Teams were formed ad hoc to allow early completion of the more limited scope projects, and as they finished, volunteers from these sites consolidated the skeleton crews that started the more ambitious sites. In addition to much landscaping/mulching, crews installed backyard steps, installed a garbage disposal, planted flowers and shrubs, tilled a garden, removed discarded lumber from a long-discarded backyard play set, stained a deck, and more.

The remainder of the projects spilled over into May, to allow brother Knights busy with the State Annual Meeting on April 30 to offer their contributions to Improve-a-Home the next weekend. These projects entailed more yardwork, installation of a new stove, sliding glass door, and improved drainage, and re-establishment of St. Mary in a backyard grotto!

This year's team captains included Bill Baker, Mike Burbach, John Germain, Charlie Gulac, Dave Lopez, Paul Maltagliati, Tom McFarlane, Brian Prindle and Fidel Rodriguez. Many of these folks have led projects or participated in AIH for years – but special acknowledgment and thanks is especially warranted for Tim Shea, *(Continued on Page 4.)*



Form #100 Belongs in All of These Places

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!

**SIGN UP A
NEW MEMBER
TODAY!**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Knights of Columbus Scholarship Recipients and Annual Awardees

Congratulations to all the youths who received 2011 Knights of Columbus Scholarships from St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600. They include: Timothy Tran, Leah Bonuccelli, Eduardo Perez, Kelly Gawne, Collin Kourtz, Ruth Bernero, Michael Dulan, Emily Smith and Leah Pfeiffer. The Kelly Elizabeth Baker Memorial Scholarship co-sponsored with Bill and Andrea Baker was awarded to Lauren Rowson. Timothy Tran also received a Father Bader Scholarship from the Virginia State Council.

The Young Man of the Year was Eric Beauchemin and the local council's as well as the Virginia State Council's Young Woman of the Year was Catherine Ly.

The Knight of the Year for the 2010-2011 fraternal year was David Lopez and the Family of the Year was awarded to the Dan and Colleen Turgeon family. Thank you for all that you do for our Church and Community!"

Don Wilkinson
Grand Knight

2011 CALENDAR YEAR

JULY

- 5 Council Meeting
8-10:30 p.m., OSMH
- 16 Installation of Officers following 5
p.m. Mass at the Worship Center

AUGUST

- 2 Council Meeting
8-10:30 p.m., OSMH
- 5 First Friday Adoration, 7 p.m.- 8 a.m.
Worship Center
- 6 Cookout for the Seminarians



Knight of the Year David Lopez and granddaughter Juliet Rose enjoy Council 8600's annual picnic, held for the first time on the grounds of the Worship Center.



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Knights of Columbus GREAT FALLS, VIRGINIA

April Improve-A-Home

(Continued from Page 3.)

who served for more than 10 years as Improve-A-Home coordinator and returned as a captain this year. Sam Dominick made all arrangements for lunches and prepared and delivered them to site teams with Peter Tompkins. While most volunteers were brother Knights, special thanks go to Karl Dahlhauser, who along with his children, Benjamin and Sylvia, helped to finish two different sites. The iron man award goes to Mike Burbach, who led the removal of nearly two tons of lumber, and we have the weigh-in slips at the West Ox Road transfer station to prove it.

The AIH effort directly assists parishioners who need a helping hand to maintain or return their homes to the condition they once were able to manage on their own. In giving so generously to this charity, participants have helped the individual homeowners feel more pride in their homes – for which they have expressed great appreciation to our council. At the same time we have upgraded the appearance of both Marian Homes and the Historic Church grounds.

Thanks to everyone for a job well done!

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