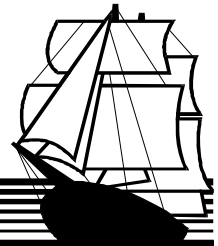


# MARINER



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

Volume 25, Number 2

April-May 2012

## APRIL IMPROVE-A-HOME

The 2012 April Improve-a-Home (AIH) was a great success, as brother knights and family members completed indoor and outdoor home maintenance and repair work at six sites on Saturday, April 21. The projects were just what we hope for each year – challenging (but manageable) jobs that allowed us to put our skills to work in the community, for home owners who truly needed and greatly appreciated our help. We completed plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting, and drainage improvements; removed small trees and branches; weeded, raked and mulched flower and garden beds, power washed siding, and more. Our projects assisted the Sisters of LaSalette, parish members with health issues, the Marian Home at Pebble Lane, and one of our fellow brother knights.

Special thanks go to project site “team captains”: Bill Baker, Mike Burbach, Karl Dahlhauser, Jack Dulan, David Lopez, and Fidel Rodriguez. In all, more than 50 brother knights and family members volunteered on April 21, and while space limits prevent thanking all individually, it is especially appropriate to thank our electricians, Pete Nevlud and Mike Perri, drywall repairman Mike Soroca, plumber Gerry Rutkowski, and Sam Dominick for leading lunch preparation and delivery. Also several brothers were joined by family members, who included Karl Dahlhauser’s daughter Slyvia, Sam Dominick’s wife Sandy, Dennis Indorf’s wife and daughter, Tom McFarlane’s grandson Jack, Jim McHugh’s son Brendan, Pete Nevlud’s son, and Rick Fridley’s wife Pam.

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, so I’ll let the pictures beginning on Page 6 and elsewhere in this issue complete the story. April Improve-

a-Home is a long-standing fixture of our Council’s Community Services program – and this year’s efforts carried on the great tradition established over the years. Thanks to everyone who shared their time and talents to make it such a success.

*Dave Evans*

April Improve-a-Home Coordinator

### Grand Knight's Message



THE EASTER SEASON:  
WHAT IT MEANS TO ME AS A KNIGHT

During this year’s Lenten season as it comes to an end and as I enter the Easter Season, I have been thinking about the story of Jesus’ followers when they approached the tomb that contained his body, entombed on Palm Sunday and what it means to me. As they saw that the stone was rolled away and when they looked in the tomb, it was empty. I ask the question “What do I see?”

Since my conversion to Catholicism, I have always heard that the key message of the Easter Season is the idea of renewal and rebirth; a truly radical message. That this Lenten and Easter Seasons provide an experience that takes away the deadness of our being and provides us an opportunity to reenter the world giving each of us the

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## Grand Knight's Message

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capacity to be born anew.

I feel the Easter Season is not a season to be wasted. Easter does not end on that faithful day when Jesus was crucified but extends for the next 50 days until Pentecost. During this season we need to ask for guidance, blessing and refocusing of our life through the grace to strengthen our prayer life and to give generously of ourselves to those in need. It is not a mere self-improvement program, but a time-tested way of participating more deeply in Christ's sacrifice of love.

The Knights of Columbus provide several opportunities to refresh ourselves in the love of the Risen Lord. Activities involving the Knights of Columbus are an outstanding way to visibly express our Catholic faith.

Bishop Lori, Chaplain of the Knights, stated "Authentic unity can only flourish when charity is practiced. Fraternity, or true brotherhood among Knights, has meaning only when members see each other worthy of the love of God and brother. To be a Knight of Columbus is to be a man for others, a man of communion and service. Since this is the case, we can learn much about a Knight by looking at the people around him: those he loves, those he serves, those he supports and those he aids."

I read the story of a teacher who gave each of her students an empty plastic Easter egg and told them to bring it back filled with something that symbolized new life, and their understanding of Easter's real meaning. The next day the students piled their eggs on her desk and one by one she opened them to reveal all kinds of things. Then she opened one egg and there was nothing in it. It was from a little boy who had several disabilities, both mental and physical. The teacher thought he hadn't understood the assignment and tried to gloss it over. But he stopped her and said that his egg was empty like Jesus' tomb and that meant hope, a hope for a new life for everyone.

Our tomb is like an Easter Egg. The shell is our mind or heart and like the rock surrounding the body of Jesus, until the stone is moved or until we crack through the outer shell we do not know our true capacity to serve others, to provide CHARITY to the hungry, shelter to the homeless, and relief to the suffering and struggling.

But Jesus tells us the tomb is never empty! The won-

derful and incredible thing about what appears to be empty space is knowing that no space is empty but can be full of the wonder of living and dying.

Death was not the end of the man Jesus. Without the disciples finding the empty tomb and finding a message of hope in that empty space all that Jesus taught and demonstrated by his active and committed life would have ended the day the women went to tend to him.

This cracking of the shell or moving of the rock will only happen when we make the effort to push away the boulders in our minds, hearts and spirit. Step forward and pick up the mantle of being a Knight. Giving the 24 hours per year requested to support the council's many charities, programs and events.

Life is full of transformative resurrection moments that bring a message of hope and renewal passed from one to another, through sharing, loving and being prepared to carry on when others are no longer here.

Easter will be here before our Spirit is ready. Easter is a new beginning, a fresh start. It is an opportunity to become the person you want to be, the knight you want to be. Be bold; ask how you can help in the church, in our community, and in our council. Do not let another year go by sitting on the sidelines watching and waiting for others to do what you can do now. If you are a true Knight of Columbus, this could be your new start, a chance for renewal. By attending two meetings a year, helping out with projects that fits your gifts and talents, and becoming an active member can change the face of our council.

I would like to wish you and your families a very Blessed Easter.

Vivat Jesus,  
David Sharp

### *Military Veterans*

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

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Imagine being part of an organization that fills your heart and your mind with the joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference. That organization is our Knights of Columbus Council 8600. Our Worthy Grand Knight Dave Sharp, his chancellor/director of membership and our council membership team developed a strong Membership Action Plan for the 2011-2012 fraternal year. This action plan focuses on the 4 R's of membership; *Recruiting, Retaining, Reactivating and Revitalizing*.

Membership is key to keeping our council strong; it is the lifeblood of our order; it is essential to the continued growth and well-being of our council. Executing our strong and active membership plan allows us to have a stronger and more vibrant council. Our recruiting goal for this fraternal year is to recruit 31 new members, retain 100 percent, and build a council that is focused on *Faith, Family, Education, and Friends*. So far this year we have recruited and reactivated 29 new members and suspended five for nonpayment of dues for a net gain of 24 members. One of our goals was 100 percent retention, and we are failing in this effort. Currently, we are facing a critical retention issue as we now have 37 members who have not paid their dues.

But, we also need to revitalize our membership by bringing new young members and welcoming members that have transferred from other councils.

Recruitment is a daily activity of all our brother knights. We can meet this fraternal year's recruitment goal (20 more new members) if each of us brings a new

member, actively participates during the recruitment effort activities and at special council activities year round.

Our special thanks to all council members that have recruited new members and have supported the Labor Day Picnic recruitment effort and the October and March recruitment BLITZ I.

Carry a Form 100 (Membership form) with you and ask your neighbors and fellow Catholic gentlemen seating next to you at Church to join us.

If you are one of the 37 members who are delinquent on your bill please contact the council's financial secretary at ([fscouncil8600@gmail.com](mailto:fscouncil8600@gmail.com)) for the amount you owe and the mailing address.

If you need to discuss your special situation please contact Grand Knight David Sharp at his email address: [grandknight@kofc8600.org](mailto:grandknight@kofc8600.org)

Vivat Jesus,  
*Fidel J. Rodriguez*  
Membership Chairman  
and Chancellor



**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

PHONE: (703) 501-4648  
[wayne.winters@kofc.org](mailto:wayne.winters@kofc.org)



**Wayne L. Winters**  
FIELD AGENT

AGENCY DEPARTMENT    10834 MONTICELLO DRIVE  
Knights of Columbus    GREAT FALLS, VIRGINIA

# The Chaplain's Corner

## DOCILITY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

*I call you to docility to the Holy Spirit. - Pope John Paul II*



In order to receive all that the Lord has for us we must cooperate with the Holy Spirit. That is, to be in tune with and docile to the work of the Holy Spirit within us. This means to consciously be in a day-to-day relationship with the Spirit. What follows are ways that we can orient ourselves to the work of the Spirit within us.

### **Turn Away From Wrongdoing.**

With the help of the Spirit, we need to turn away from all wrongdoing. This means taking stock of our daily actions in an honest way to identify attachments and habits that we need to give up in order to grow closer to God. This includes our pet sins that we cannot seem to shake. A daily examine of conscious and frequent reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation can help us break the power of sin in our lives. As Saint Paul tells us: *To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace* (Rom 8:6).

**Put Jesus on the Throne of Your Heart.** *Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be yours as well* (Mt 6:33). This means to decide that there is nothing more important than following the King, our Lord Jesus Christ. He must be first in our life, but are we willing to put him in the driver's seat? Perhaps we should take some time to meditate on the things and people

that are important to us and see where Jesus ranks. Is he our first love, the most important thing that we want? If we really hunger for Jesus, he will make himself know to us and teach us his ways.

**Eagerly Seek the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.** Saint Paul commands us to ... *earnestly desire spiritual gifts* (1 Cor 14:1). Jesus wants to give us his gifts which are spiritual powers that help us to grow in holiness and spread his kingdom in the world. We cannot effectively build the kingdom unless we are backed by the power of God. Spiritual gifts can be seen as ways that the Holy Spirit acts within us to make us holy and to build up the church. These gifts include courage, piety, counsel, wisdom, service and helps, giving, mercy, evangelism, leadership, administration, prophecy, teaching, preaching, tongues, apostle, healing ... .

**Give God Permission.** Give God a blank check to do whatever he wants for you. Don't place limits on God's action. Be ready to move into areas that you are not comfortable with. Be willing to give up security and comfort. As you awake each day tell God that you are his to do with whatever he wants. Walk the day with an openness to the guidance of the Spirit. When you sense the Spirit asking you to do

*(Continued on Page 5.)*

# MARIAN HOMES RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM KOVAR

The Board of Directors of Marian Homes was notified in February that KOVAR (Knights of Virginia Supporting Persons with Intellectual Disabilities) had approved the issuance of two loans totaling \$350,000 and a \$20,000 grant to Marian Homes. Marian Homes Inc. is a nonprofit organization, established in 1996 by St. Mary of Sorrows Knights of Columbus Council 8600, with the specific purpose of owning and maintaining houses used as group homes for the intellectually disabled. It is managed by a 15-member, all volunteer Board of Directors, all of whom are members of St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600.

Two houses are currently owned by Marian Homes. One, named Marian House, is in the Brecon Ridge subdivision of Fairfax and is the residence of five intellectually disabled adult women. Four adult men live in the second house, commissioned Regina House in 2011,

which is in the Greenbriar subdivision. Marian Homes is the only such organization chartered by Virginia Knights of Columbus Councils.

The two loans will allow Marian Homes to pay off an existing mortgage on Regina House and will allow Marian Homes to ultimately reduce its monthly mortgage obligations. The grant is specifically targeted as partial payment for the conversion of the garage at Regina House. The conversion will allow a fifth resident to move into the house and thus increase the rental income. Work is currently underway and expected to be completed by the end of March. Total cost of the conversion will be a little more than \$40,000.

KOVAR is a Virginia state organization of the Knights of Columbus focused on supporting programs that provide assistance to the intellectually disabled. It is managed by a 20-person Board of Directors, which includes knights from throughout the state of Virginia. KOVAR provides financial support to programs supporting the intellectually disabled across the state of Virginia. The highlight of KOVAR's fundraising efforts is the annual Tootsie Roll Drive, scheduled to occur this year during the weekend of April 21 and 22. All knights will be given an opportunity to help KOVAR by soliciting donations, while wearing the distinctive yellow and red vests.

Vival Jesus,  
Thomas McFarlane

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## Chaplain's Corner

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*(Continued from Page 4.)*

something, don't hesitate, do it. As you do this on a regular basis you will enter into a deeper relationship with the Spirit.

**L**ove God and Neighbor. The gifts of the Spirit and his power are for love. We are given the Spirit and his power so we can fulfill the great commandments of Jesus: *Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord is one; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. And, You shall love your neighbor as yourself* (Mk 12:29-31).



God bless you all,  
*Father James S. Barkett*

### KNIGHTS' NIGHT OUT

On Friday, February 24, nine of our brother knights and their spouses attended the play, "Heaven Can Wait," at the Little Theatre of Alexandria. That night the theater was strictly dedicated for the Knights of Columbus. Council members from St. Mary of Sorrows, Holy Spirit and Nativity were in attendance. The net proceeds for the evening were to support the Holy Spirit Council 11922. The coordinators for the event were Pat McArdle of Holy Spirit Council 11922 and Joe Scavetti of St. Mary of Sorrows Council 8600 who wish to thank those members in attendance. A good time was had by all.

# TEMPUS, TALENTUM, THESAURUS

Simply translated, “Tempus, Talentum, Thesaurus” means “time, talent, treasures.” We have all heard about the three T’s, and when we hear about them from any organization we tend to think the message is “give me more money,” and with that said, we run in the opposite direction. Does that sound familiar?

Our Knights of Columbus council needs your time, talent and treasures. Without them we sink. But how do you look at your time, talent and treasures? Do you look at them separately or do you look at them as one body, a triangle, or a trinity?

I would suggest to you that you look at your time as a treasure and also to look at your talent as a treasure. Treasure is not just silver and gold or, in today’s society, paper and plastic. Treasure is what you bring here today for us to enjoy.

Each time a brother knight steps up to help on a project for the council he is giving his time and talent, and he is giving his treasure to his church and community. With that treasure we all benefit, we all enjoy.

Upcoming events where you can give your time and talents as a treasure is the April Improve-a-Home

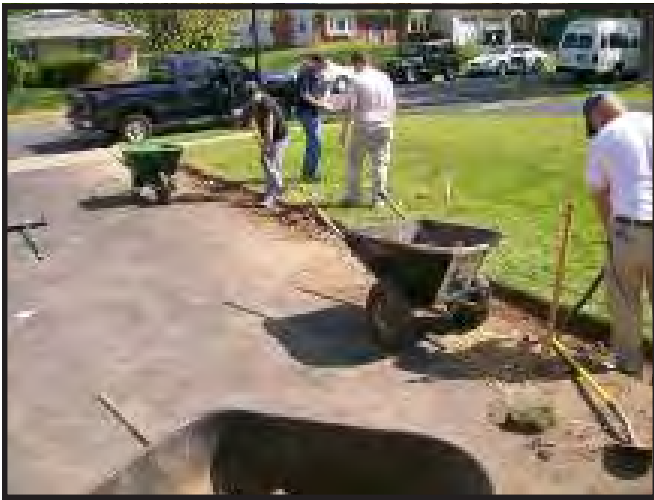
project. This project helps senior folks in our community with the upkeep of their properties. Projects may range from replacing a toilet seat to mulching in a backyard. Please contact Brother Dave Evans, [DEvans1957@verizon.net](mailto:DEvans1957@verizon.net) to give your treasure.

In May we have our fundraising effort (KOVAR drive) which helps folks with intellectual disabilities in our county and other parts of the state. We collect money and hand out Tootsie Rolls at designated Safeway and Walmart stores in our area. Please contact Brother Jim McHugh, our worthy warden at [Jmchugh@yahoo.com](mailto:Jmchugh@yahoo.com) to give your time treasure.

If there are other areas where you think you can help and no one has contacted you, please give me a call at 704-764-3713 or send me an email. I will be glad to work with you to find something for you to do to give your treasure to the council.

Vivat Jesus,  
*David Lopez*  
Deputy Grand Knight





# MULCHING/SODDING PROJECT 2012

Early Saturday morning, April 14, several knights, squires and family volunteers set out to mulch the landscaped areas, including the grotto, and sod several gravesites around the grounds of the St. Mary of Sorrows Historic Church. As part of the 2012 Improve-a-Home project series, we elected to schedule the work for this project a week earlier to free up volunteers for the other IAH projects to be accomplished on the following weekend, April 21st.

We cleaned up all the landscape beds, spread 80 bags of mulch, including around 35 trees, relocated three prickly rose bushes from the hall planter, laid 300 square feet of sod on seven gravesites and seeded a hillside area. The grotto was planted with periwinkle and lirope and mulched. Fr. Casey's gravesite was landscaped with

begonia's. The work was accomplished in a record setting three hours!

Thank you Charlie Cadden, Jim Cella, John Coleman, John Enzmann, Joe Fleming, Joe Krettek, Bob McGee and sons, Jim McHugh, Mike McNulty, John Mills, Dave Sharp, Emily Williams and other volunteers for your dedicated work for this project. Thanks to the folks at St. Mary of Sorrows for pre-purchasing and delivering a majority of the materials.

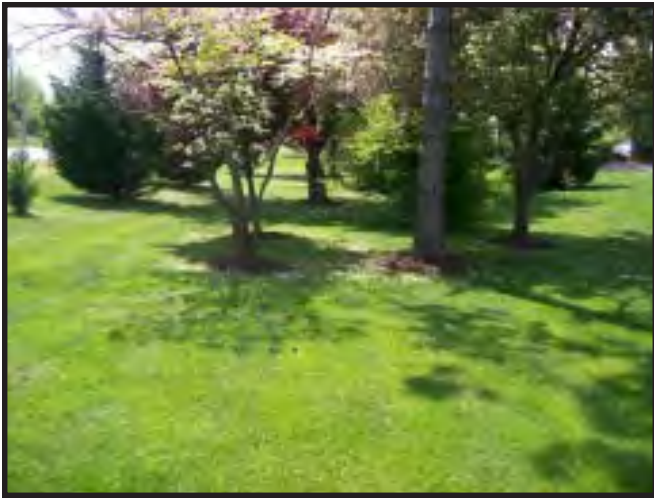
Great job everyone! An exceptional group of committed knights, squires and family volunteers!

NOTE: See following photos for final product.

*Bill Baker*  
Team Captain









Grand Knight, David Sharp, (703) 328-2525; Chaplain, Fr. James S. Barkett, (703) 978-4141; Financial Secretary, Phil Torrey (703) 690-3127; Insurance Agent, Wayne Winters (703) 501-4648.

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# SALUTE TO HONORARY/HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Congratulations to the 24 knights who recently received either their Honorary or Honorary Life Certificates and Travel Cards. Honorary Members have at least 25 credited years as a knight and are at least 65 years old. Honorary Life Members have at least 25 credited years as a knight and are at least 70 years old. Also, all priests are immediately made Honorary Life Members since we are an organization founded by a priests for priests. The following council brothers has achieved these honors.

## New Honorary Members

	Years in Knights
Frank Maguire	28
Charles McElroy	30
Joseph E. J. Melchiorre	27
John Murphy	27
John O'Shea	45
John Raftery	28
Jim Rannazzisi	32

## New Honorary Life Members

	Years in Knights
Paul Bazan	31
Brian Callaghan	25
Henry Chalkley	28
Paul Ciatti	46
Sam Di Bartolo	25
Peter Garry	27
James Gleisner	26
Gerald Hovan	36
Edward Janusz	27
Frank Marcinkowski	26
Joseph Marotta	26
Kenneth Miller	26
Kevin O'Brien	27
Michael Sorrentino	26
Richard Sparaco	26
Gerald Weigand	28
Father Nicolas	7

