



# Knightly News



Council 11172

Saint Michael's Knights of Columbus

February 2010



## Letter from Grand Knight Tom Psuik

January, 2010

Brother Knights,

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and have a fantastic new year! As we begin 2010, I would first like to thank everyone for all of the hard work that they have done for our council in 2009. Our Council is strong and continues to flourish. This is due to the time and talents of every Knight in this Council. Thank you!

The past few months have been very busy. We had some very successful events: Christmas Card sales, the Spaghetti Dinner and Advent Concert, Light Up for Christ, a pancake breakfast for the people of St. Michael Church after our Knights mass and our council Free Throw Contest. Thanks to all who helped us with these events. I would especially like to thank Larry Keefe for his efforts with the Christmas Card sales; Dan Burns, Tom DiMantova, Tom Kaczmarek and the Music Ministry for their efforts with the Spaghetti Dinner and Advent concert; John Quinn for planning our Light Up for Christ event; Bill Carroll for planning the parish pancake breakfast; Charlie Aldinger for planning our Knight's Mass and to Ed Golden for his efforts with our council Free Throw Contest.

We have several activities planned over the course of the next few months. This includes 3 fish fries, a pancake breakfast, selling raffle tickets and collecting money for KOVAR. Please consider helping with one or more of these events.

Bill Carroll, our Financial Secretary, will be sending out dues notices soon. Dues will be due by the end of February. I ask that you please pay your dues on time so that we can avoid the past due collection process. Also, if paying your dues will be difficult, especially due to lack of employment, please bring that to the attention of Bill Carroll or myself and we will work with you on that.

If you ever have any questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me any time.

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Psuik  
Grand Knight

### Note from Financial Secretary:

Annual Dues Assessments have been distributed. Please forward payment to Bill Carroll by February 26 for processing.

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## Programs / Committees

### Programs

Program Director: J. D. Donahue  
 Church Director: Larry Keefe  
 Community Director: Carl Baab  
 Council Director: Walter Burlington  
 Family Director: Larry Austin  
 Youth Director: Eric Fales

### Committees

Bylaws – Jim Dunn  
 Charitable Giving – Dan Burns  
 Christmas Cards – Larry Keefe  
 Dance – Terry Martin  
 Donuts – John Kupper  
 Father & Son Event – Bill Carroll  
 First Degree Team – Kirby Montgomery  
 Fish Fries – Bill Carroll  
 Free Throw Contest – Ed Golden  
 Knights Mass / Breakfast – Charlie Aldinger / Bill Carroll  
 KOVAR – Tom Yates  
 Military Committee – Tom Yates  
 Membership – Frank Kirby  
 Planning – Hans Ober  
 Priest Appreciation – Jim Dunn  
 Project Moses – Walter Burlington  
 Public Relations – Mike Sobczak  
 RIR Volunteers – Mike Sobczak  
 Spaghetti Dinner / Advent Concert – Dan Burns & Tom DiMantova

## UPCOMING EVENTS- FEB / MAR

**FEB** KOC #11172 Dinner/Business Meeting  
**8**  
**15** President's Day  
**17** Ash Wednesday  
**26** Fish Fry #1  
**MAR** KOC #11172 Dinner/Business Meeting  
**8**  
**12** Fish Fry #2  
**17** St. Patrick's Day  
**26** Fish Fry #3  
**28** Palm Sunday  
**APR** Good Friday  
**2**  
**4** Easter Sunday, Parking Patrol  
**12** KOC #11172 Dinner/Business Meeting



## Officers for 2009-2010

By: Mike Sobczak

The officers for Columbian year 2009-2010 are:

Grand Knight	Tom Psuik	Wardon	John Hoang
Deputy Grand Knight	JD Donahue	Advocate	James Schliessmann
Financial Secretary	Bill Carroll (appointed)	Recorder	Mike Sobczak
Chancellor	Tom Yates	3 <sup>rd</sup> year Trustee	Mike Muldowney
Treasurer	Terry Martin	2 <sup>nd</sup> year Trustee	Dan Burns
Inside Guard	Walter Burlington	1 <sup>st</sup> year Trustee	Hans Ober
Outside Guard	Frank Kirby		
Lecturer	Jim Dunn	District Deputy	Pat Naughton
		District Warden	Hoang Viet Li
		Field Agent	Victor MacLaughlin

## Family of the Month

The Poma Family took the award for the month of October. They were chosen for their support of Haiti by holding a breakfast at church. The funds they raised were donated to Haiti.

The Keefe Family took the award for the month of November. They were chosen for their continued support of the Christmas Card campaign. Larry did another outstanding job this year and the efforts of him and his family are truly appreciated.

The Yates Family took the award for the month of December. They were chosen for their support of the military. Tom organized our council's participation in this year's Christmas Eve party at the VA hospital. I know that your efforts, as well as those of everyone who were able to participate, made Christmas special for the veterans at the hospital.

## Knight of the Month

Walter Burlington took the award for the month of October. As you all know, Walter has been spearheading the effort to erect a monument of the Ten Commandments on the church grounds. This effort has been ongoing for several months and has required a lot of time by Walter and many of our knights.

Bill Carroll took the award for the month of November. Bill organized the breakfast that was served to the church after our Knight's mass held in November. Bill also was able to get new coffee makers installed at the church kitchen.

John Quinn took the award for the month of December. John took the lead on organizing our Light up for Christ event this year. John's attention to detail and his enthusiasm for the event were very much appreciated.

## Committee Reports

**By: Tom Psuik**

The following programs and events are constantly in need of volunteers, please mark your calendars accordingly and only participate if it feels good!

### **Free Throw Contest** – Chairman Ed Golden

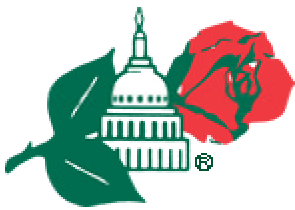
The Free Throw contest was held Saturday January 16th. It was a beautiful day, so we moved it outside. There were a total of 19 participants - boys and girls between the ages of 10 - 14. Winners were announced for each age group and gender. Winners from our competition will advance to the next round which will be held Saturday Feb. 27th at St. Mary's.



### **March For Life** – Chairman Carl Baab

A small group of parishioners from St. Michaels attended the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., on Friday, Jan.

22. Bus transportation was provided by the Knights of Columbus. Three 55-person buses ferried parishioners from Richmond-area churches for the day-long event in the nation's capital, which marked the 37th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision. The day began at 8 a.m., as people gathered at the Richmond Diocese's pastoral office on Parham Road. After grabbing coffee and donuts, the group received a special blessing and headed up to Washington. An estimated 300,000 or more gathered on the National Mall to hear speeches by pro-life leaders from various faiths and members of Congress. The annual march to the steps of the Supreme Court followed, starting at around 2 p.m.



"The most amazing thing was to see all of the young people and their enthusiasm," said parishioner John Baab, 23. "It seemed like maybe 60 percent or more of those at the Mall were between the ages of 15 and 25. It was terrific to be there and see the huge support for Life. We saw people from all over the East Coast, Texas, Minnesota and more." John was there with several other members of his family and Trisha and Kevin Potter. "I hope more St. Michaels people will be there next year," he said. "This is such an important issue and it is gaining momentum. You could see that in all the young people."

### **First Degree Team** – Chairman Kirby Montgomery

First Degree Team meets each Monday for rehearsal (other than Council meeting Mondays). We are making progress. We have set a goal to achieve certification by the District Deputy. First Degree team includes: G.K.-Dan Burns, D.G.K.-John Costello, F.S.- John Quinn, Chan.-Kirby Montgomery, W.-Matt Lloyd, I.G.-Walter Burlington, Sound Man-Hans Ober, Warden's Aides-Tom Yates, Bob Morin, John Madden, Alex George.

### **RIR Hospitality Fundraiser** – Chairman Mike Sobczak



Mark your calendars; the spring race at Richmond International Raceway is scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2010. Volunteers are needed. Send email to [mike\\_sobczak@hotmail.com](mailto:mike_sobczak@hotmail.com) if interested.



**Keep Christ in Christmas Cards** – Chairman Larry Keefe  
No report

### **Keep Christ in Christmas**

As part of the Keep Christ in Christmas campaign, all councils are asked to light a tree or nativity scene to remind all about the reason for the season. This year we were able to light the tree near the main entrance of the church. Our tree lighting ceremony was held after the second Advent concert on the night of the Spaghetti Dinner and Advent concert. Fr. Dan, the choir, a lot of Knights and many parishioners stayed for the event. Fr. Dan said a very thoughtful prayer and then the tree was lit, followed by the singing of Christ Be Our Light! This event was very well planned and very well attended by many. A big thanks to John Quinn for organizing the event and to Alex George for securing a cord protector and helping to hang the lights. Also, a big thanks to Deacon Andy, Fr. Dan and all the Knights who were there.



**Military Committee** – Chairman Tom Yates

The Military Ministry is composed of members: Tom Yates Chairman, Larry Austin, Bill Kemp, Steve Lindsey, Hans Ober and Paul Spera. All the members have Military experience or children in the Military.

Committee priorities are:

1. To reach out to our Enlisted Troops and their families currently deployed.
2. To reach out to our Military Officers and their families currently deployed.
3. To reach out to our current Enlisted Troops on active duty
4. To reach out to our Military Officers on active duty.
5. If there are no needs within our St. Michaels Community we will investigate helping at the Veterans Hospital.

**Project Moses Update** – Chairman Walter Burlington

We have been informed by the Project Moses Organization that our white granite monument has been lithographed and is ready to ship. We have asked them to hold it until the weather improves. Pictures of the lithographed stone are on the way. Final preparations need to be completed on the plaza when the weather improves. A spring dedication is planned.

**Charitable Giving** – Chairman Dan Burns

News article posted on [www.nbc12.com](http://www.nbc12.com) shown below.

### **Group from 2 local churches head to Haiti with new mission**

Posted: Feb 16, 2010 11:30 AM EST Updated: Feb 16, 2010 5:57 PM EST

By Gene Petriello - [bio](#) | [email](#)

GLEN ALLEN, VA (WWBT) - A group of 9 people from two churches in the Richmond area are heading to Haiti for a week, to help the country recover from the devastating earthquake that hit the country a little more than a month ago.

Right now, there is just a range of emotions from this group of 9 heading to Haiti to embark on a trip, unlike any other.

Even 6 years worth of trips is not enough to prepare this group for the real life pictures they are about to see.

"You're jaw drops to the ground, you say, 'Is this really happening in this day in age? Can this really be true of what you see and what you experience?'" asked team leader Dan Burns. It's those questions and experiences that Dan and the 8 others from St. Michael's Church in the West End and St. Ann's in Ashland will likely see in the coming weeks.

"Our hearts are fill of love that we carry with us here. We are a little anxious and nervous at the same time," added Burns.

The group will not go to Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital. Instead they will head to Dos-Palais, a community 35 miles away, seeing a new challenge: a population problem.

Many of the refugees who survived the earthquake are now living in Dos-Palais and other neighboring communities with little to no resources.

"A lot of what our trip now is how much more help do they need. How much more is needed and how many children need to go to school," said Nancy Kunkel.

The group will bring medical supplies, food and some other needs. It's estimated the Dos-Palais community has doubled since the earthquake.

"We've prepared ourselves as best we can but at the end of the day, when you do get there, you'll see different things," said Burns. Some of what they'll see may be total devastation. So this group plans nightly talks, relying on their faith and each other to guide them through.

"At the end of the day, they care about us and we care about them and that's all that really matters," added Burns.

Just knowing that brings peace to this group and some peace to this nation suffering now, more than ever.

"The situation needs ongoing help. It's not just right now after the earthquake but this is going to be years and years of rebuilding helping people," added Nancy.

They will bring their experience back to Richmond, hoping to find people to sponsor some of the refugees.

The group will arrive back in Richmond late next Tuesday night, when they will begin to work on their trip right here at home.

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## **Degree Schedule/Teams**

**By: Tom Psuik**

### **Degree Exemplification Information:**

#### **First Degree-** TBD

#### **Council 11172 Saint Michaels First Degree Team** – Chairman Kirby Montgomery

Our First Degree Team consists of: Chaplain - Tom Yates, Deputy Grand Knight - TBD, Chancellor – Kirby Montgomery, Financial Secretary - TBD, Warden – Matt Lloyd, Warden’s Aide – Bob Morin, Warden’s Aide – John Madden, Inside Guard – Walter Burlington, Volunteer-At-Large – John Quinn, and Acoustic Engineer – Hans Ober.

Any member interested in serving on this team, please see Kirby. Our goal is to have our council conduct at least one first-degree ceremony in our council every quarter.

#### **Second Degree-** TBD

#### **Third Degree-** TBD

Sponsors are encouraged to attend the exemplification with their candidate and membership card in hand.

#### **Fourth Degree** - May 22, 2010 Fredericksburg Hospitality House & Conference Center, Fredericksburg VA.

Supreme Knight, Carl A. Anderson encourages all Knights to achieve the highest degree of our order. His other goal is to have every Catholic man become a member of the Knights and for every parish to have a council! Together we can achieve this dream of the Supreme Knight with the intercession of the Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney!

## **REMEMBER, it is everyone’s duty to Recruit, Retain and Reclaim!**

**Form 100’s:** Every member should have at least one form with them at all times. It doesn’t hurt to have your membership form already signed with your membership number on it. See Bill Carroll at the meeting for your membership number. Need a form 100??? Check the Knights mailbox, in the Education wing, between the men’s and women’s restroom. Forms are located in the bottom slot. Remind the Grand Knight if we are running low.

**Name Tags:** Do you need a name tag? Please email the Grand Knight to order one.