



The Carpenter

Fr. Edward Fitzgerald Council No. 12772
670 West Main Street
Plain City, Ohio 43064
www.kofccouncil12772.org



February 2010

Grand Knight Notes



A big "Thank You" to Bob Hess for carrying the torch while I was ill.

I would like to devote this article to our insurance program. It is the best recruiting tool we have! Over the past decade, the amount of Knights of Columbus insurance in force has more than doubled, to \$71 billion.

Two top rating firms have reaffirmed giving their highest ratings for the Knights of Columbus insurance program. Both A.M. Best and Standard & Poor's concluded this week that the 127-year-old Catholic fraternal order's financial strength and stability remains strong despite a slumping economy.

This marks the 34th consecutive year in which the Knights of Columbus has earned A.M. Best's A++ (Superior) rating, and the 17th successive year the Order has earned the AAA (Extremely Strong) rating from S&P. Renewal of the Order's top ratings is especially significant in the current economic environment. Wow! What more needs to be said? God bless.

Council Rosary initiative goes Parish-wide

At our January Business Meeting, our Council voted to begin offering Rosary prayer services at 4:00pm on the last Saturday of each month; the first of these was held on January 30.

At the recent Mary Women's retreat, perhaps taking a cue from us, a number of parish ladies decided that they would like to conduct Rosary prayer services one-half hour before every mass. This decision is not intended to interfere with our monthly K of C commitment.

Fr. Pat commented that now, when people enter the church or PAC for a mass, they will encounter a warm prayerful ambience that should encourage many to join in the adoration of Mary.

Time to take over the control of your family's protection

A statistic I find frightening is this: about 50% of households in the United States and Canada have **no individually owned life insurance**. If you aren't among the 50%, maybe I can enlist your help in your council as a spokesman for the value of life insurance.

Note that I said "**individually owned life insurance.**" While the number for those with absolutely no life insurance is just as – if not more – frightening, the 50% does not include those who have some form of group life insurance, usually provided by their employer.

This group life issue, which our agents see and discuss every day, is an interesting security blanket. Most times, the amount offered is far from what you need, and the only way to determine what you need is with a comprehensive needs analysis.

Your company's benefits department doesn't do a needs analysis. Instead, they apply a formula: you make X amount in salary and the group life is either a flat amount (\$15,000 seems popular) or a multiple of your salary (somewhere between 1.5 and 2.5 seems popular).

Either way, it has nothing to do with the number of children you have, the mortgage balance you carry, or the amount of money your

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January Business Meeting notes

- GK absent due to illness. DGK Jeff Fisher presided. No GK report.
- Form 100s: New member Carl Monnin read; transfer member Larry Snyder read; both approved.
- Treasurer Report – Balance in excess of \$3,000.
- Bills for postage and Fish Fry banners approved.
- Financial Sec'y Report: Dues payments coming in better than previous years.
- Committees:

Fish Fry discussion: Keep same prices, use hot dog buns for sandwiches, Gloria Butler again to organize desserts. Sign-up sheets for two teams passed around, with plenty of response. February Business meeting to be at PAC - clean out fryers and Carmine Spaeda will cook pizza for us.

PAC Fix-It List passed around by Mark Walden. Council will pick a Saturday in February to attack the various items on the list.

Approved \$240 for table of 8 at Clergy Dinner on 1/31. Report of babysitting and dinner at Estate Planning Seminar erroneously stated in Sunday Bulletin; Fr. Pat will announce correction at masses and 1/24 Bulletin will also print correction.

New Member Committee: Andy Schimmoeller outlined plans for contacting inactive members to try to bring them back.

Jim Butler reported on Employment Seminar meeting at Sts. Simon & Jude. 27 people who need jobs attended. Butler will pay \$250 St. Joseph Parish commitment and will be reimbursed subject to condition of treasury after Fish Frys.

Hess gave brief report on Volunteer Dinner; further K of C help not needed except for minimum set-up and tear-down.

• New Business

Council Open House: Mike Peck volunteered to chair this event, worth 50 points in our Program. Council voted to: Do it in February or March, have, one the same day, one at the church after 8:30 mass and one at the PAC after 10:30 mass, consist of a "super coffee and donuts", i.e., have snacks along with the donuts.

Council approved Rosary Prayer Service, 4pm on last Saturday of every month; Hesses will start it on January 30.

- District Deputy comments: State shows us with 850 points and said we are doing good job and are on track for Star Council – need to get our new members and insurance up to requirements. Measure-Up campaign in May. Free Throw District competition at St. Mary Delaware in February. Membership Blitz in March. Membership Committee should look into Power of 10 Program to get inactive members active again.
- Good of the Order: Christina Jones, Mary Ann Peiffer, Josh Porschart, Rob Loula, Beverley Cooper, Mrs. Cordle, Erin Lisching, Terry Leonard, Monica Slota.

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wife would need if you die. It's a completely random number.

It can also disappear at any time. All of us know people – friends, family members, neighbors – who have lost their jobs. When the job is lost, so is the group life insurance coverage. If the company experiences difficulty and budgets need to be cut, group life can be reduced or eliminated. And that decision could be made at the worst possible time for you.

Most group life insurance coverage reduces or disappears when you retire. Many times it can be converted, but at a very expensive premium (remember, premiums do rise as you get older).

Just because you turn 65 doesn't mean you no longer need life insurance or need less coverage. Actually, the opposite is true.

Group life insurance is a great benefit and certainly does help, but it must be supplemented with a **personally owned portfolio**.

We can tell you exactly how to blend your group benefit with your K of C life insurance so things can be in your control. Don't let the feeling of security that group life provides distract you from the real issue: taking control of your family's financial future!

Call Mark Mandel @ 614-308-2294 or email markmandel@wowway.com. Let's talk.

February Dates to Remember

Feb 6 5:30pm Volunteer Dinner—PAC	Feb 24 8:00pm K of C Officers Meeting—Church
Feb 10 8:00pm K of C Business Meeting—PAC	Feb 26 5:30pm K of C Fish Fry—PAC
Feb 17 Ash Wednesday; 5:30pm Mass—Church	Feb 27 4:00pm K of C/Parish Rosary—Church
Feb 19 5:30pm K of C Fish Fry—PAC	

February Birthdays/Anniversaries

Knights		Children	
Joe Weisburn	2/10	Joe Balmert	2/10
Jeff Pieper	2/18		
Spouses		Wedding Anniversaries	
Mary Hofbauer	2/9	Bob & Lisa Hess	2/2
Jodi Santini	2/15	Joe & Deborah Foster	2/18
Gloria Butler	2/23	David & Kathleen Harris	2/27

Council PAC Fix-It Day set for February 27

Back in November, our Parish Office issued a plea for help from us Knights, asking if we could address a number of problems existing in the Parish Activity Center building.

Brother Mark Walden took on this project, and has planned a “Fix-It Day” at the PAC for Saturday, February 27, starting at 10:00am.

Items to be addressed on this day will include such things as replacing bulbs in the high ceiling of Carpenter Hall, repairing, painting and touch-up of various walls and door frames, repairing and installing new baseboard, tightening cabinet drawers and knobs, repairing and replacing switch and outlet covers, and cleaning certain areas not normally covered by the weekly cleaning crew.

We are seeking volunteers to man this effort. No need to call ahead—just plan to show up that day and lend your help for a couple of hours. Please bring some rags and a paint brush.

Quest for Star Council Award progressing well

Our efforts to win Supreme's Star Council Award continue, with regular submittals of reports on our various activities.

To date, we have reported on 19 different projects. Toward a goal of 2000 points, we have 800 points approved, with another 325 points pending.

By the end of February, another 5 projects worth 275 points will have been submitted, and the remaining projects needed for the 2000 points are already planned.

We have met our goal of 5 new members, and we will need only a couple of new insurance sign-ups to meet the total requirements for the Star Council Award.

[Sincere thanks to all Council members who have worked hard on these various projects thus far. We are nearly there!!](#)

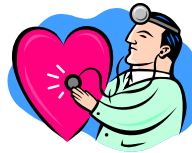
Council Open House

Council 12772 will hold an Open House on Sunday, February 21. The event will showcase our St. Joseph parish Knights of Columbus activities and hopefully entice new member prospects to join us.

Our first display will be in the Church basement after 8:30 mass, after which we will move everything to the PAC for another showing after 10:30 mass.

We will discuss this further at our February Business meeting

Keep a healthy heart and protect your family



February is Heart Month, and for the sake of your family and loved ones, it's time to take stock of your heart and its health. Take a look at these facts about heart disease:

- Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men in the United States. In 2006, 315,706 men died from it.
- Heart disease killed 26% of the men who died in 2006—more than one in every four.
- Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men of most racial/ethnic groups in the United States, including African Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Hispanics, and whites. For Asian American men, heart disease is second only to cancer.
- In 2006, about 9.4% of all white men, 7.8% of black men, and 5.3% of Mexican American men were living with coronary heart disease.
- Half of the men who die suddenly of coronary heart disease have no previous symptoms. Even if you have no symptoms, you may still be at risk for heart disease.
- Between 70% and 89% of sudden cardiac events occur in men.

Here's some ways you can help yourself to better heart health:

- ♥ Don't smoke or use other tobacco products. Avoid exposure to secondhand smoke.
- ♥ Eat a healthy diet rich in vegetables, fruits, whole grains, fiber and fish. Cut back on foods high in saturated fat and sodium.
- ♥ If you have high cholesterol or high blood pressure, follow your doctor's treatment recommendations.
- ♥ Include physical activity in your daily routine and Maintain a healthy weight.
- ♥ If you choose to drink alcohol, do so only in moderation. Too much alcohol can raise blood pressure.

Notes from the Pastor and his staff ...

Dishin' From the Desktop



Hello Gentlemen,

The following is in your honor:
Rah, Rah, Sis-boom-bah! Yeah Knights!!

I want to let you know how pleased I am that many of you are getting involved with the PAC clean-up day in February. It shows your interest in trying to keep our beautiful building beautiful. Thank you!

If the office staff can be of assistance to you, please let us know.

With fish fries right around the corner, is there any way we can help you? Please don't hesitate to ask.

Your humble secretary,
Ann Walter

Fr. Pat chimes in ...



Lent is coming! What shall I give up? Coffee? Chocolate? Beer? Desserts? Lent is not a diet program. What we should give up are sinful habits and behavior. The discipline of sacrifice is intended to make us better Christians. In fact, those things we give up for Lent, we are not supposed to resume on Easter.

Fasting is a spiritual discipline that we can embrace. Limiting our food intake on a particular day with a special intention is a powerful way to pray. The hunger pains will remind us of what we have promised to pray for.

If you still want to give up something, I suggest a couple of hours to walk for life during the Forty Days for Life. St. Joseph will have a sign up sheet in the Church for our day of witness. Respect for Life is a primary Knights of Columbus concern.

***May you be in Heaven a long time
before the Devil knows you're dead!***

Free Throw Shooting Contest

This event, sponsored by our Council and chaired by Brother Mark Mandel, was a great success. The action took place in the Jonathan Alder High School gym on Saturday, January 9; twenty two contestants, 11 girls and 11 boys, participated. Thirteen Brother Knights, along with two wives and two children, helped to coordinate the action at six different hoop stations.

The winners, who are eligible to move on and compete in the District contest, were:

- Age 10:** Sarah O'Neil and Calvin Zupo; **Age 11:** Taylor Gaerke and Alex Moore;
- Age 12:** McKenna Hostetler and Trevor Headings; **Age 13:** Delaney Mandel and Nathan Yoder;
- Age 14:** Samantha Hawley and Tyler Headings.

Brother Mandel deserves kudos for an excellent job of organizing the event. Thanks, Mark!



Brother Knights who worked the event are (l. to r.): Mike Thiergartner, Mike Peck, Jim Dvorsky, Jim Slota, Mark Needham, Ed Chuha, Mark Mandel, Mike Balmert, Jim Fritter, Bob Hess, Mark Walden, Todd Thobe and Andy Schimmoeller.



Supporting volunteers included (l. to r.) Delaney Mandel and friend Sam Hawley, Renee Dvorsky and Lisa



10-Year-Old Winner Sarah O'Neil gives it her best shot. All winners received a K of C basketball.



Jim Fritter registers a contestant while Lisa Hess, Ed Chuha and Renee Dvorsky look on.



Winners Sam Hawley and Delaney Mandel proudly display their certificates.