

## Knights of Columbus General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** May 20, 2024

### Opening:

- The meeting was called to order by the Grand Knight, Rob Barnard, at 7:00 PM.
- All non-Knights were respectfully asked to retire from the Chamber.
- The Grand Knight led the opening prayer, invoking the divine blessing by reciting the Lord's Prayer.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deputy Grand Knight Todd Morrow, with all members standing and saluting the flag.

### Roll Call of Officers:

- **Chaplain:** Father Cyriac (absent due to parish commitments)
- **Grand Knight:** Rob Barnard (present)
- **Deputy Grand Knight:** Todd Morrow (present)
- **Chancellor:** Javier Tavira (present)
- **Recorder:** Mickey Williams (present)
- **Financial Secretary:** Frank Montelione (present)
- **Treasurer:** Roger Bacik (present)
- **Advocate:** Mark Layton (present)
- **Warden:** Rodney Braun (present)
- **Inside Guard:** Bill Childress (present)
- **Outside Guard:** John Spudic (present)
- **Trustee 3rd Year:** Fritz Siler (present)
- **Trustee 2nd Year:** Ray Prosak (present)
- **Trustee 1st Year:** John Davidson (present)

### Reports:

#### 1. Grand Knight's Report:

- The Grand Knight, Rob Barnard, opened by expressing his deep gratitude for the Council's efforts in recent fundraising events. He specifically highlighted the success of the Striker fundraising events, noting that the Council's collective work is being recognized and appreciated.
- He emphasized that the funds raised have provided a reliable source of income, ensuring the financial stability of various ministries and operations within the Council.
- Rob announced that Father Peter is becoming a new member and will complete his exemplification by the end of the month. He expressed enthusiasm for Father Peter's involvement and the positive impact it will have on the Council.

- He reiterated the Council's goal to achieve Double Star status and outlined the steps needed to accomplish this, including completing all required forms and meeting membership quotas.

## **2. Treasurer's Report:**

- Treasurer Roger Bacik reported the financial status for the month of March:
  - **Inflow:** \$930.45
  - **Outflow:** \$169.16
  - **Ending Balance:** \$4167.97
- Roger mentioned that he is anticipating a large incoming check, as well as a significant payout in the near future. He assured the members that these transactions would be managed effectively to maintain the Council's financial health.

## **3. Financial Secretary's Report:**

- Financial Secretary Frank Montelione reported minimal activity for the month, with one transfer in and one transfer out.
- He introduced new member Joe Williams, who was unanimously accepted into the Council. Frank welcomed Joe and encouraged all members to introduce themselves and make Joe feel part of the brotherhood.

## **4. Program Reports:**

- **Safe Environment Training:**
  - Rob Barnard emphasized the importance of completing safe environment training for everyone involved in events with children. He highlighted that the training is available online and takes only a few hours to complete. He stressed that having trained individuals with background checks is crucial for the Council's activities.
- **Mother's Day Breakfast:**
  - Mickey Williams reported on the successful Mother's Day Breakfast, where 45 people were served after the 8:00 AM Mass, and over 80 attendees after the 9:30 AM Mass. Despite running out of food, the event was well-received, and attendees appreciated the effort.
- **Safe Summer Program:**
  - Bill Childress detailed the Safe Summer Program, where the Council distributed bike helmets, first aid kits, and other safety items to local children. The program came in under the \$900 budget, with a final cost of \$583.05. He praised the involvement of local police and fire departments and emphasized the positive community impact of the event.
- **Tootsie Roll Drive:**
  - Rob Barnard reported on the recent Tootsie Roll Drive, which collected \$302.48 in donations. He highlighted the meaningful connections made with community members and the positive response to the Knights' charitable efforts. Rob announced that another drive is planned for June and encouraged all members to participate.

## **5. Fourth Degree Report:**

- Todd Morrow provided an update on the recent Fourth Degree elections. New officers were elected, and the focus is now on increasing participation and visibility in community events.
- Todd announced an upcoming procession for Corpus Christi, where Fourth Degree Knights will lead the event. He also mentioned efforts to establish a new Ladies Auxiliary to support the Council's activities.

## **New Business:**

### **6. Election of Officers for 2024-2025:**

- The following officers were elected by unanimous vote:
  - **Grand Knight:** Todd Morrow
  - **Deputy Grand Knight:** Kerry Scruggs
  - **Chancellor:** Javier Tavira
  - **Treasurer:** Mark Layton
  - **Recorder:** Bill Childress
  - **Warden:** Rodney Braun
  - **Inside Guard:** John Aguilar
  - **Outside Guard:** John Spudic
  - **Trustee 3rd Year:** Robert Barnard
  - **Trustee 2nd Year:** Fritz Siler
  - **Trustee 1st Year:** Ray Prosak
- The Advocate position remains vacant and will be addressed in a special election at a later date.

### **7. Upcoming Events:**

- **Red Cross Blood Drive:**
  - Scheduled for June 6th, with volunteers needed from 8:45 AM to 2:30 PM. Todd Morrow encouraged all members to sign up and help with the event.
- **Father's Day Gifts:**
  - Proposal to distribute wallet-sized rosaries to fathers after Mass. The Council will determine the number needed and finalize details at the next planning meeting.
- **Recruiting Blitz:**
  - Proposal to purchase an easy-set-up tent and tablecloth with the Knights of Columbus logo for recruitment events. The motion will be tabled for one month to allow for member input and further discussion.

### **8. Special Recognitions:**

- **Shining Armor Award:**
  - Frank Montelione was presented with the Shining Armor Award for his exceptional contributions to the Council, including bringing in new members and participating in various activities. The Grand Knight commended Frank for his dedication and service.

## **Convention Report:**

- Carrie Scruggs and Bill Childers provided a recap of the state convention held in Savannah:
  - Emphasized the importance of charity work, with a significant focus on the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program, which has raised \$75,000.
  - Highlighted the achievement of Circle of Excellence with 870 new members joined over the weekend.
  - Noted the goal of reaching 20,000 total members statewide and the push for greater participation in the Faith in Action programs.
  - Mentioned efforts to recruit younger members, with the average age of current members being in the mid to upper 50s.
  - Announced future convention locations: Jekyll Island next year, followed by Savannah, and then Gray Wolf Lodge in La Grange for two years.
  - Mark Layton was nominated as the alternate delegate for next year's convention.

**Communications:**

- Two letters from the State Deputy were read, acknowledging the Council's nominations for the Blessed McGivney Award and the Family of the Year Award. While the Council did not win these awards, the nominations were highly regarded.

**Prayer Requests:**

- The Grand Knight read a list of prayer intentions for members and their families in need, including:
  - Phyllis Daily
  - Mary Ellen Harshaw
  - John and Pat Davidson
  - Joseph Lafayette
  - Ken Boone
  - Frank Poleski (rest in peace)
  - Greg Bender
  - DeAndre Hancock (recovering from a car accident)
  - All young adults dealing with mental health issues
  - Elizabeth Pierce
  - Fred Prozac
  - Larry Williamson
  - Lorraine Delamare
  - Joseph Delamere
  - The people of Israel
  - Elise Mercier
  - Edna McKnight (breast cancer)
  - Ali Simone
  - Barbara

**Closing:**

- The meeting concluded with a closing prayer led by the Grand Knight.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.