



Knights of Columbus

Msgr. Borusky Council 10243 Green Bay, Wisconsin

NEWSLETTER

July 2001



Grand Knight's Column

"What kind of a person are you?" This was the question asked of a class of Psychology 101 students back in my college days. What kind of person are you, the professor asked; would you rather watch the show or put it on? I always thought this to be a very simple yet interesting question. By giving it a straightforward answer, you start learning about yourself and what you perceive your role within the world to be. Are you a person who just sits and watches what's going on and applauds everyone else's accomplishments? Or, are you the active sort who needs to contribute, needs to be a part of the event? Whatever the answer, you do get some insight as to the type of person that you are.

Applying this same question to our Council, it is good to know we are a group of men who would rather put on the show than stand by and watch. This is evident in many ways, but perhaps none more so than realizing that we all voluntarily joined the Knight's of Columbus organization. By taking this first step, we stated that we believe in ourselves, our faith, and this organization that we swore our allegiance to. As active Knights in service of the Lord, we become a powerful force, focused on doing charitable works in the name of Christ.

Volunteering seems to be in our blood. It is a common factor in all Knights young or old. Each Knight willingly does what he can in the many service projects of our organization. Your actions as active Knights set a shining example for all to see. This alone is very important. Our present society has a "What's in it for me?" attitude. Your volunteer hours show that you care about others, and are willing to invest your time and energy in helping them. It is the example that our older members have set, and that our younger members are emulating, that gives encouragement and hope to so many. How old is too old to volunteer? How young is too young to start? You are never too young or too old to do volunteer work. The tasks at hand are merely adjusted to fit your abilities.

So, I encourage you to stay active in what ever way you can. Live out your life and your faith by doing charitable works every chance you get. Be a good role model for others to see. And do it all very quietly seeking no glory for yourself, and yet enjoying great satisfaction knowing you are one of the people putting the show on, not just one sitting there watching it.

*Rick Noe
Grand Knight*

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Council 10243 is for our usual Third Monday of the month, July 16 in the community room at the addition to St. Bernard School. For a variety of reasons, numerous Councils do not meet over the summer, and attendance at our last (election) meeting was rather low. Let's remember that our commitment to the Knights of Columbus and the things we are about do not take the summer off. Mark your calendar now and plan on attending.

Summer Blast and the Knights Grill

The 2nd Annual Blast is fast approaching and we are still in need of volunteers to help at the Knight's Grill. Several members have already come forward and volunteered for one or two shifts which has been most appreciated. However we still need many more hands to make sure that everything runs smoothly. A calling committee has been formed to check in with all of our members in hopes that enough volunteers can be found. These types of events are fun to work at and very rewarding for all. Please give some serious consideration to saying "Yes" when your brother Knight calls. Remember, if your whole family would like to volunteer for a shift, we can accommodate your wishes. Event dates and times are: Saturday, July 28th from noon to 10:00 PM and Sunday, July 29th from 10:00 to 5:00 PM.

Camping Weekend

There was some representation from Council 10243 at the 11th Annual Camping Weekend sponsored by the Wisconsin State K of C Campers Association, held at Evergreen Campsites in Wild Rose on June 22-24. **Richard & Janet Rebman** took part in the weekend, and Father **Al Lis** was invited to preside at a weekend Mass on Saturday. Campers came together for a meeting on Saturday afternoon; otherwise it was a time for relaxation. A fine, catered dinner was served after Mass on Saturday. About 100 were present for the weekend.

Chaplain's Column

In the Church's ordering of things there are certain days, roughly corresponding to the seasons of the year, that are the hinges on which the year turns. Fall is marked by 'Michael-mas', the Feast of St. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael on September 29; Winter arrives with 'Christ-mas' on December 25; Spring arrives with the Annunciation on March 25 and Summer with the Feast of St. John the Baptist on June 24. This last feast which we recently celebrated gives us much to think about as we enjoy the time of summer. The Church only celebrates the nativity of three persons--Jesus, John and Mary, so it an extremely important day. More than that, since it falls near the summer solstice, the day will now begin to get shorter until Christmas. St. Augustine observed that the line attributed to the Baptist in the Gospel, "He (Christ) must increase and I must decrease" fit well into the events we observe in the movement of the planet. However, we Christians are seldom disposed to decrease so that Christ may increase. Often, like the Pharisees of old, many times we need to ask ourselves if we are doing good because it is a part of our Christian vocation, or are we just trying to be seen and admired by others. "Humility" would be the hallmark of the life of John the Baptist, and of any Christian. He'd probably be very uncomfortable with the honor heaped upon him. He seemed to understand best of all the saints that he had a task to perform, and once it was done, he should fade from the scene. Quite the opposite of St. Paul, who seemed to have no problem at all with humility and thought of himself as a 'super-apostle.' As individuals and as brother Knights, we need to be seen occasionally--after all, our membership will grow at least as much by attraction as by promotion. Men seeing

what we're up to will feel a call to be a part of it. They will come to the Council just as surely as they would respond to all the work of the most efficient membership committee. On the other hand, we must constantly challenge ourselves to remember that we're not in it for the publicity, however attractive that prospect might be. In all the things we do for the Church, whether as individuals or as a part of the Knights of Columbus, let's keep in mind the model of John the Baptist's lifestyle. In other words, are we allowing ourselves to decrease so that Christ might increase, or would we prefer to bask in the glory ourselves?

*Father Al Lis, O.F.M.
Chaplain*

Special Days

July 15 - August 15

A = Marriage Anniversary **B** = Birthday
O = Ordination Anniversary **+** = Date of Death

July

- 15 A Mark & Laura Keuler
- 15 A Don & Mary Schneider
- 16 A Robert & Susan Agard
- 16 A Robert & Helen DeGrave
- 16 B Brad Gauger
- 19 B Lori (Stephen) Froelich
- 23 A Harold & Marily Christensen
- 24 B Rosemary (Clay) Langenberg
- 26 A Larry & Bridget Ziarnik
- 26 B Melanie (Dan) Barrington
- 27 B Aaron Naze
- 30 A Mike & Suzi Borlee

August

- 01 B Leonard Schaub
- 03 A Arnold & Marie Rank
- 07 B Stephen Kotlar
- 08 B Ann (Dennis) Neiss
- 09 B Ann (Tom) Gauthier
- 09 B Father Dave Pleier
- 10 A David & Kim Burbach
- 11 B Virginia (Gary) Durocher
- 11 B Rana (Gene) Gunderson
- 11 B Irene (Ed) Rovinski
- 12 B Marie (Arnold) Rank
- 14 A Dan & Donna Mullen
- 14 B Joseph Sule

State Deputy Outlines Goals

State Deputy **Carl Templin** has set the following goals for the Knights in Wisconsin for the coming fraternal year:

Membership

- ◆497 (500) new members by December 31
- ◆994 (1000) new members by June 30

New Council Development

- ◆10 new councils by June 30
- ◆2 new college councils by June 30
- ◆2 Spanish-speaking Councils by June 30

Member Retention

- ◆Launch a proactive member retention program based on incentives to Councils

Council Retention

- ◆Launch a Diocesan/State team to assist at-risk councils

Ceremonials

- ◆25 Third Degrees by June 30
- ◆177 Second Degrees by June 30
- ◆708 First Degrees by June 30

Columbian Squires

- ◆3 new/reactivated circles by June 30

Financial

- ◆Appoint a Development Coordinator charged with raising \$10,000 for General Fund
- ◆Launch 501(c)3 corporation
- ◆Launch Investment Review Committee

Family

- ◆Review program format for possible revision
- ◆Review awards/recognition

Charity

- ◆Review State Council disbursements policy on small vs. large grants
- ◆Require that councils requesting funds also contribute to family/group to receive a grant
- ◆Promote vocations section of program
- ◆Establish Project LAMB (Least Among My Brothers)

Training/Evangelization

- ◆Revamp Diocesan Meeting format
 - Focus on programs. membership
 - Develop training for Grand Knights/Financial Secretaries
 - Promote Luke E. Hart Series/Knights for Christ
 - Role of KCs in Catechism

New Officers Elected

Congratulations to newly elected Council Officers: Outside Guard **Tom Caldie** and Trustee **Mike Vanden Busch**. They replace, respectively, **Bob Agard** and **Tom Gauthier**. A complete listing will be included in the next *NEWSLETTER*.

Festival Food

Co-chairing the event on June 9-10 were **Jim Janssen** and **Dave Whitton**. In spite of the rainy weather the workers managed to bring in \$504.00. Thanks are also extended to **Mike Worzala** for helping get things started, and thanks to all who helped out:

Bill Bartelme
Andrew Forbes
Ian Forbes
Leon Janowski
Mark Keuler
Clayton Langenberg
John Laurant
Bob Ledvina
Scott McKenzie
Dan Mullen
Rick Noe
Gerry Piontek
Leonard Schaub
Eugene Schmitz
John Schmitz
Don Schneider
Roger Shaha
Grant Turner
Jim VanAllen
Mike Vanden Busch
John Walczyk
Robert Wozniak

"Dribble Pass and Shoot" Contest

Bill Bartelme coordinated the event held on June 23. There were a total of 74 participants in the competition. The winners in the girls categories were; 7 and under: **Allisyn Mleziva**, 8-9: **Carlie Hopp**, and 10-11: **Allie Debacker**. In the Boys categories the winners were; 7 and under: **Austin Jepson**, 8-9: **Sam McNutz**, 10-11: **Berndt Brummel**, and 12-14: **Andy Richart**. Thanks to all those that supported the event and helped out on Friday and Saturday. Everything went very smoothly.

Update On Storage Closets

We are getting close to starting the actual construction of the new storage closets in the basement of the new school addition. The design work is being completed and the materials estimates are due back soon. We will be building several closets for use by the Knights as well as several other organizations. Volunteers for this project are still needed. Actual dates and times for the construction have not yet been set. What we do need now is a list of possible volunteers that we can call when construction time arrives. Please call G.K. **Rick Noe** (468-3194) and add your name to the list of possible volunteers.

Prayers Requested

Please remember in your prayer all the members of our Council family who are in special need. Hold up to the Lord especially **Loretta Bartelme**, mother of **Bill**, who was recently hospitalized. Remember also **Edward Demerath**, father of **Ray**, who was called to the Lord on June 6.

Prayer

Prayer for Refugees

God of endless ages,
long ago you called Abraham and his family
to trust in you and to follow where you led.
Your guidance brought him
to the promised land
where he and his descendants
could worship you in peace and freedom.
Look with kindness upon those
who continue that search today.
Guide all those who seek
for freedom and justice
by the power of your Spirit
and bring them safely to their destination.
Look with special love
upon all those driven from their homeland
by the hatred and intolerance of others.
Give your Christian people the grace
to fight against injustice
and to be a living sign of the presence of Christ
who welcomes all peoples to his table.
Lead all your people in love
on the journey to your kingdom
where we shall live with you forever and ever.

Supreme Convention

The 119th Annual Supreme Convention is scheduled for August 7-9 at Toronto. Wisconsin is represented by ten ex-officio and selected delegates and numerous other friends usually numbering about sixty. Our own area is represented by **Vern Van Lannen**, PGK of Council 4439 in Pulaski. From our own Council, Father **Al Lis** is planning to be a part of those representing our State. **Richard & Janet Rebman** are not planning to take part this year. This will be the first Supreme Convention for our new Supreme Knight, **Carl Anderson**. Former Supreme Knight **Virgil Dechant** has presided over Conventions for more than the last twenty years. Please keep all our representatives in your prayer, and pray for the success of the Convention and the continued success of the work of the Knights of Columbus.

Fourth Degree

Another exemplification for the Fourth Degree was held at Tomah on June 9. A total of 44 men took part including one new member for our local Assembly 1197. Many Assemblies do little in the way of fundraising, but our own Marquette Assembly handled two food stands in June, raising a total of about \$450 for the work of the Assembly. At the Business Meeting in June most current Officers were elected to a second year in Office including our own Council members **Larry Ziarnik** (Faithful Navigator) and Father **Al Lis** (Faithful Friar). Larry also called all interested Sir Knights and spouses to come together for a cookout and planning meeting at St. Mary of the Angels in June. Though the turnout was low (13), some good ideas about future activities was discussed. Among the possibilities are a spaghetti dinner, a pig roast and a pancake/porkie breakfast. It was decided to pass the results of the discussion on to the Officers of the Assembly for further discussion and development of a plan.

District Meeting

District Deputy **Gene Rameker** was not able to take part in the District Deputy Meeting in Wausau on June 30-July 1. He has, however, scheduled a District Meeting for District 13 for Tuesday, July 10.



Spotlight On... Ed Rovinski

One of the names which has come up at council meetings in the last couple of months has been Ed Rovinski. Ed has been on our sick list recently, and it is our hope that the power of prayer will accomplish the healing he hopes for. He and his family are aware of the prayers that are being offered and they are very appreciative of them.

Ed is a native of Abrams, the second of eight children of the late William and Sophie Rovinski. Having recently celebrated his eighty-second birthday, he is one of the most senior men in our Council. He graduated Oconto High School with the class of 1938 and began serving the Church at an early age when he served as an altar boy for many years while living in Sobieski with his grandparents. After being drafted into the military in 1942, he served our country for four years, and over half of that time was overseas in the European Theatre. He found himself in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany as well as some time in Africa. Ed married his wife, Irene in South Carolina in 1943, and they remain devoted to one another as they approach sixty years of living the Sacrament of Marriage.

After the war Ed and Irene lived in Chicago for a short time and then bought a farm in the Oconto Falls area where they lived for the next forty-six years. During that time Ed also worked for twenty-six years for the Oconto County Highway Department and also served for twelve years as a Supervisor on the County Board. Ed and Irene have two children, a daughter Judy (Bob) Fillman who is living in New Mexico and a son James (Jan) who lives in Kansas.

They sold the farm in 1996 and moved to Green Bay where they became a part of St. Bernard Parish. It was somewhere around that same time that Dave Tlachac approached Ed about becoming a part of the Knights of Columbus. He has for a long time had some interest in the Knights, but hadn't had the time to act on it. Ed is currently a Third Degree Knight. Poor health has been a problem for him lately; he has had to deal with prostate cancer as well as osteoporosis that has given him several fractured vertebrae. The osteoporosis has forced him to lay aside a favorite hobby of carpentry since he cannot lift more than five pounds and has a hard time sitting for any period of time. Because of the difficulty sitting and a desire not to drive at night, Ed has found it impossible to join in Council meetings.

Ed remains hopeful that he will find the healing graces for which he and we have been praying. He will be one of the first to receive a newly approved treatment this coming February which may help the osteoporosis and perhaps even enable him to spend some time in his workshop again. In the meanwhile, the Council continues to pray for him. As prayer works both ways, we also count on his prayers for us so that all the Council may truly be about the work entrusted to us by Christ.

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