



Knights of Columbus

Msgr. Borusky Council 10243 Green Bay, Wisconsin

NEWSLETTER

September 2002



Grand Knight's Column

The end of August finds us anxiously waiting for the football season to begin and the baseball teams/management to settle their differences. It is hard to believe that school will be starting soon--if it has not already begun.

We had a couple of interesting proposals at the August meeting. I would like to clarify them and explain what action was taken since many were not there.

The first proposal pertains to helping out for one game at a refreshment stand at Lambeau Field. The sponsorship of our one game and the other nine games would be the St. Bernard Board of Education. In order to work the stand we would need twelve people. It could be a wife, friend or neighbor. All twelve do not have to be Knights. The person must be eighteen years or older.

This year St. Bernard did not get one stand where twelve people would work. Instead, we have four separate stands. One stand would sell just beer, another beer and brats, another beer and hot dogs and the fourth stand, soda and water. I should mention groups that have worked at stands in the past averaged over \$1000 per game.

This fundraiser would be in addition to our other events. It would mean working at Lambeau on game day between 6-8 hours, depending on the job. Other organizations and parish members from St. Bernard would also be working these games; however, the Knights would get all the profits from this one date, which would be about ten percent of the total.

I did present this to the group on August 19th and it passed unanimously. The game we will work is the December 1st, Packer/Bear game. We already have four parish members signed up to work this game. We would need eight more individuals. If you could volunteer for this game please let me know.

The other proposal was what to do with our installation fund. It was decided by a committee to continue adding 10 percent of any fundraiser we have to this fund. Then, when the amount reaches \$2000 it would be given to a charity that has already been determined. After much discussion

this proposal was tabled until next meeting when a decision will be made.

We should also be seriously thinking about recruitment of new members. Just this past year in the Green Bay Diocese 845 Knights passed away. Even though our quota is to get six new members, it would be great to double that number. If you need Form 100's or have any questions, please see me or Rick Noe, our Membership Chairman.

Plan to attend our September 16th meeting. We will have a First Degree exemplification at 7:00 PM. It would be nice to have a good turnout for the First Degree.

*Grant Turner
Grand Knight*

Next Meeting: First Degree

The next regular meeting of Council 10243 is scheduled for the third Monday of September, the 16th. The meeting will be preceded by a First Degree beginning at 7:00 PM and the usual meeting will follow at around 7:40. At this time we anticipate at least one candidate. Please plan on attending.

Remembering September 11

Some interest has been expressed among Knights of District 13 about whether there would be some commemoration of the September 11th tragedy. While some parishes have made plans, ***we strongly urge all Brother Knights and their families to take part in the Mass Bishop Banks will celebrate at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 PM.***

Installation Wrap-Up

The figures are in from the Installation of State Officers on July 21. A total of 253 guest attended. Money taken in amounted to \$3602 with expenses of \$3769.54. All in all the Council paid out \$167.54 from the Installation Fund. State Deputy **Richard Rebman** again expressed his gratitude to all who attended and all who worked for the success of the day.

Lambeau Field Stands

The Council expressed an interest in being a part of beer & food stands at Lambeau Field in the coming season. The Knights are interested in covering stands on December 1 as a part of a fundraiser supported by several organizations active at St. Bernard Parish. A dozen people are needed to cover four kiosk-type stands. Further information will be forthcoming.

120th Supreme Convention

Over 2000 people made the journey to Anaheim in early August, not just for Disneyland and other area attractions, but for the 120th Annual Convention of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus. About fifty from Wisconsin took part, including Council 10243's State Deputy **Richard & Janet Rebman** and Chaplain Father **Al Lis**. About a hundred members of the hierarchy were present including several cardinals. Many delegates and friends took advantage of the tourist destinations nearby; the Rebmans, Father Al & our area's delegate **Jim & Diane Destiche** took a tour of Universal Studios one day. The hospitality rooms and pin exchange did not disappoint those who enjoy them. Delegates listened to a lengthy report by the Supreme Knight and other business matters, and several took part in the States Dinner on Tuesday, the major banquet of the gathering. A highlight was definitely seeing Grand Knight **Dan Levra** of Council 2639 in Park Falls, Wisconsin pick up the First Place Award for Outstanding Church Activity. Dan's father, **Ron**, a recent Medallion winner, accompanied him. The Council renovated a rectory for use as living and meeting space for the local parish. Most went out on Wednesday night for the "Wisconsin Dinner" at which we were joined by Bishop **Raphael Fliess** of Superior. Those who shared their impressions of the time together were definitely impressed by the experience. In addition to the business and social aspects, Conventions are also a great time to make and renew friendships. Much was accomplished outside the Convention Hall; one morning State Deputy **Richard Rebman**, Father **Al Lis**, State Chaplain Father **Jim Trempe**, **Ron Levra** and IPSD **Carl Templin** went out for breakfast just to enjoy some time together. One of those who spoke of their experience on Wednesday evening said he thought everyone should have the opportunity to take part in a Supreme Convention at least once. It is definitely worth any effort, just be a part of all that happens.

Fourth Degree

An exemplification of the Fourth Degree is scheduled for Saturday, October 26 at Wisconsin Dells. A letter received from the Masters reads in part,

"A cordial invitation is extended to each and every Third Degree member to advance to the Fourth Degree in the Knights of Columbus.

"As originally founded, the Order had three Degrees representing Charity, Unity and Fraternity. A Fourth Degree, or patriotic Degree, was added in 1900 and is the highest Degree of our Order. We encourage all Third Degree members to join the Fourth Degree to promote patriotism through their Catholic Faith. The Fourth Degree support religious, civic and charitable causes."

Further information on the exemplification is available from Eastern District Friar Father **Al Lis** (437-1979).

In other Fourth Degree news, our local Marquette Assembly #1197 did not meet since June. The next scheduled meeting is a business meeting planned for September 10. Both Masters of Wisconsin have been appointed for another term, through August 31, 2004. Eastern District Master **Erv Jankowiak** appointed **Ron Frosch** of Assembly 1197 to replace **George Brezinski** as Area Coordinator. We congratulate Ron on the appointment. The Eastern District will meet in Oshkosh on September 21. Our own Area 6 has not yet determined a date for Installation of Assembly Officers.

Welcome, New Members

We welcome two brother Knights to the Council 10243 family, both recent transfers from other Councils. **Kenneth (Mary) Stoey** is a Fourth Degree Knight who comes to us from Council 4671 in Crivitz. He is also a Field Agent for the insurance arm of the Knights of Columbus. We also welcome **Kenneth (Cynthia) Gezella**, a Third degree brother Knights who comes to us from Council 4735 in Denmark. Welcome to them both. We look forward to getting to know them through the activities of the Council.

Festival Food Stand

Coordinator Mike Worzala's report:

The July 19th brat stand at Festival was a good time for fellowship and socializing but unfortunately not for selling brats and burgers. Traffic was quite slow and even the manger of the store commented about that day being one of the slowest Fridays's they had in sometime. The afternoon was especially slow. For the day we made \$187.50 and all but \$12.00 of that was made before 3pm.

I do want to thank all the guys who gave of their time for any and all of the four brat stands. We had 13 Knights participate on July 19th and many of you had participated in one or more of the earlier stands as well. That is one area that I hope to see a higher turnout for next year. Out of the 4 brat stands we held, only 23 different Knights participated. I know with three of them being held on Friday it was difficult for a lot of you to get away, but next year we'll register earlier and try to get more weekend dates so more of you will have the opportunity to share your time and talents.

July 19 Festival Food Stand Volunteers

**Matt Worzala
Gerry Piontek
Al Collins
Tom Caldie
Grant Turner
Tom Gauthier
Jim Janssen
Bob Ledvina
Scott McKenzie
John Murphy
Bill Bartleme
Karl Schroeder
Norb Kalinosky
Gene Schmitz**

*Sincerely
Mike Austin Worzala*

Commemorating September 11

Mass with Bishop Banks

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

7:00 PM

Summer Blast

Thanks to all who helped at our food stand at St. Bernard's Summer Blast, July 27-28. Thanks, also, the those family and friends of the Knights who worked along side members of the Council.:

**Randy Barrett
Kevin Beck
Eric Borley
Jeanne Botham
Steve Botham
Tom Caldie
Tom Capelle
Al Collins
Bob DeGrave
Ray Demerath
Anthon Ellis
Tim Fliss
Tom Gauthier
Lorrie Hendricks
Joe Hoffman
Leon Janowski
Fay Janssen
Jim Janssen
Mark Janus
Norb Kalinosky
Joe Lamer
Chris LeCaptaine
Tom LeCaptaine
Bob Ledvina
Scott McKenzie
Bob Massart
Mr. Mielke
John Murphy
Aaron Naze
Gerry Piontek
Elliott Piton
Arnie Rank
Brian Reidinger
Don Schneider
John Schneider
Marge Schneider
Carla Stebor
Terry Stebor
Cindy Theys
Grant Turner
Joan Turner
Mike Wanazek
Warren Wanazek
Stan Waslowski
John Worzala
Mike Worzala
LeRoy Zellner
Bridget Ziarnik
Larry Ziarnik**

Father Jerry Writes

The Council recently made a donation to Father **Jerry Pastors** as he assumed a new ministry at Lakewood. He recently responded via e-mail:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity as well as your prayers and thoughts. I am doing well up here. I am still adjusting to the amount of traveling I am doing on weekends with the two stations, one in Silver Cliff and the other in Crooked Lake. It is about a 20-minute drive to each of the stations. I already miss walking across the street to get to church and the air-conditioned church and duplex. But most of all, I miss you. Now who are you again?

The people up here are welcoming and friendly. I have met quite a few people from St. Bernard up here on the weekend. The staff up here is small, consisting of two other people, a secretary-bookkeeper and a maintenance man. What more do you need up here in God's Country? I am lucky to have retired priests up here to help me out with the weekend Masses. I have been trying the various restaurants up here, because you know how I love to cook. If any of you are up in the area, always feel free to stop in. Take care and keep up the wonderful ministry you are doing.

*Fraternally,
Father Jerry Pastors*

Prayer

Prayer in Time of Sickness

God of grace and healing,
you are the Author of Life
and you alone are the source of healing
and the giver of all good gifts.
Give me the blessing of patience
that I may experience the wonder
of your healing power.
Enlighten the minds and bless the hands
of all who seek to share with me
the grace of your healing gifts.
As you have chosen me to carry a share
of the suffering of Christ your Son,
so raise me up with him in health and strength
so that I may quickly recover from illness
and once again dedicate myself to your service
and to the building up of your holy Church.
Give me peace and comfort
and a spirit of trust and forbearance
for you alone are the source of healing and peace

now and for all ages. Amen.

Diocesan Meeting

The Diocesan Meeting for the Diocese of Green Bay is scheduled for Saturday, September 14 at St. Joseph School in Green Bay. This annual event is the opportunity for those in leadership within the Diocese to hear from the State Team of Officers and discuss plans for the coming year. From Council 10243, State Deputy **Richard Rebman**, Diocesan Chaplain Father **Al Lis**, GK **Grant Turner**, DGK **John Murphy**, FS **Jim Barnett** and PGK **Rick Noe** are planning to attend.

Second & Third Degree

We have received word of an upcoming exemplification of the Second and Third Degree, scheduled for Green Bay at Ss. Peter & Paul on Sunday, October 27. All First Degree men should make every effort to take part. Information will be sent to all eligible members of the Council. Those who have already advanced through full Knighthood should consider attending as observers. There is an exemplification of the Fourth Degree at Wisconsin Dells the previous day.

Installation Fund Dissolved

At the Council meeting on August 19, the Installation Fund was voted out of existence and the remaining money in the account, about \$1000, was put into the Charity Account. The Fund was established some years back with the intent that it would help pay anticipated expenses at the time of **Richard Rebman's** installation as State Deputy. Consideration continues as to whether the Council should establish a special charity fund or endowment. Discussion will continue at the next Council meeting.

Honorees

Congratulations to the Council's **August 2002** Honorees:

Knight of the Month: Sean Wright
Family of the Month: Dave & Denise Doering

Chaplain's Column

"Your call is very important to us, so please stay on the line and it will be answered..." I suspect we've all heard those annoying words on some automated answering system. The first thought that goes through my mind is, 'If my call was so important to you, you'd have enough people around to answer it.' In today's world, the Church has to deal with a lot of issues--ranging from clergy abuse to removal of words from the Pledge of Allegiance to the ordinary challenges of trying to live the gospel lifestyle. To many people, the question arises as to whether the Church can provide effective leadership in the modern world, especially now that it seems we must struggle just to survive. In a sense, calls are coming in to the Church questioning the role it plans to play in the world and we must wonder who is around to answer the telephone. Throughout the history of the Church most people have just assumed that someone would be around to handle those calls; that someone would be there to handle the things that come up. But it was always someone else, not me. We conveniently forget that we are the Church and that we all have the responsibility of answering the questions that are being asked of the Church today. Just as people tend to get frustrated while waiting for someone to answer those 'important' telephone calls, so too people will get tired of waiting around for the Church to assert its moral authority when it is tied up with so many other things. This is not just a question of a shortage of priests or anything like that. What was clear at the recent Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus is that the Order has taken a role of leadership in the Church and plans to continue to do so. In a sense, they are willing to answer the telephones and show that the Church is alive and well in the world. Only committed people can do that--men and women who are willing to live the life they have been called to live and to stand up for the things in which they believe. All of that places before us two challenges. First and foremost we must be willing to live the Christian life, to be willing to use our own lives as an example of how a Christian should live in today's world. Secondly, we need to actively share the joy of living that life with others and invite them to be a part of it. We talk a lot about recruiting and membership, but it's not just for the Knights, it is for the survival and the life of the Church. Let's take seriously the challenge that history has placed before us. Let's be sure that anyone who places a call in our direction is not put on hold until we're ready to deal with them. The growth of the Church is not something that can be

put on hold. The call of inquirers must be answered if we hope to bring them into our family of faith

Father Al Lis, O.F.M.
Chaplain

Special Days

September 15 - October 15

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

September

15 A Grant & Joan Turner
15 B Tim Fliss
15 B Beverly (Jed) Schacht
16 A Roger & Sandra Heesacker
16 B Mary (Ken) Stoej
18 B LaVerne (James) Barrett
18 B Tom Marquardt
19 B Katherine (Jerry) Collins
20 B Ken Gezella
21 A Rick & Mary Noe
21 B Roger Shaha
22 A Ian & Maria Forbes
22 A Paul & Jill VandenPlas
22 A Jason & Mary Vandermause
22 B Father Mike Seis
22 B Grant Turner
22 + Stan Johnson (1994)
23 B Bill Bartelme
24 A Gary & Roxanne Nimmer
24 B Joe Mastalir
26 B Fay (Jim) Janssen
26 B Rosalyn (+Al Cisler) Simonar
28 A Wencil & Luella Froelich
28 B Fred Grochmal
30 B Jed Schacht

October

02 B Dan Barrington
03 A Don & LaVerne Barrett
03 B Roy C. Johnson
03 B Lawrence Waskosky
06 B Luke Siudzinski
07 A Bill & Sandy Bartelme
07 B Kay (Pat) Ellis
08 A Jim & Fay Janssen
08 A Richard & Janet Rebman
09 B Robert DeGrave
09 O Deacon John Laurant
10 B Randy Schmitz
13 B Norma (+David) Berger

Report of the Supreme Knight

The following are excerpts from the report of Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, delivered at Anaheim on Tuesday, August 6. Please take the time to read it to get a better understanding of the state of the Order and its mission in the world.

Theme: "Last year we met under the theme, "Put Out into the Deep." One year later, we have a new theme around which to rally: "Now Is the Time for the Great Catch!"

"Once again the words are from the Holy Father. "Now is the Time for the Great Catch!" comes from his December 2001 post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Ecclesia in Oceania* (The Church in Oceania)."

Fourth Degree: "On June 26 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, by a 2-1 decision, ruled that the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance violated public school students' constitutional protection against government-established religions. This decision will certainly be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court and during that process the Knights of Columbus will make its voice heard.

"We are told by researchers that on Sept. 11 more than 90 percent of the American public prayed for the safety of our nation and for the victims of terrorism. On that day, surely, we were, "one nation, under God." But not only on that occasion. When we meet on Thanksgiving Day we are not thankful merely to each other for the blessings we have received.

"No, this federal court would not simply strike two words from the Pledge of Allegiance. It would strike from history our memory and who we are as a people. And, as our own history shows, we Knights of Columbus will do all we can to not let that happen.

"During the upcoming year I would encourage more assemblies to work with councils to promote the Order's essay contest on "The Responsibility of the Catholic Citizen in a Free Society." This competition is for Catholic young people graduating from the eighth grade and high school. The Supreme Council office provides material and guidance for state and local councils to publicize the contest, judge the student essays and award prizes to top entrants. The materials can also be ordered on line. Our young people need to know what it means to be a good citizen and a good Catholic. The essentials of Church teaching on social justice and citizenship need to be conveyed to a new generation of Catholics, and we Knights should not leave that task to anyone but ourselves.

"As of June 30, membership in the Fourth Degree stood at 273,646 members, up from 268,058 last June 30. Last year 250 exemplifications were reported, bringing in a total of 15,052 new Fourth Degree Knights, compared to 13,337 in the prior year. Restorations and other additions brought total intake to 16,558, compared to 14,690 the previous year. Losses amounted to 10,970, comprised of 6,874 deaths; 1,977 suspensions; 168 withdrawals; 1,888 deductions from council transactions; and 63 miscellaneous deductions. The net gain for the year was 5,588, compared to 3,728 last year.

"Forty-nine new assemblies were instituted and one was reinstated for a total of 50 new Fourth Degree units. There are currently 2,424 assemblies active in 115 districts in 20 provinces.

"We commend the supreme master, vice-supreme masters and all Fourth Degree Knights for their work on the Heroes Fund and other patriotic programs this past year."

Canonization: "This month, on August 12, we commemorate the 150th anniversary of Michael McGivney's birth. In late May, Father O'Donnell made the final changes in the argument or "case" for Father McGivney's beatification and submitted it to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The technical Latin name for this lengthy document is *positio*. Next, one of the members of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints will write an introduction for the *positio*. In the fall the *positio* will be examined by theological and historical experts. From there it will be submitted to the bishops and cardinals who are members of the Congregation and whose vote is required before the petition for beatification can be sent to the Holy Father. He alone can decide for canonization.

"My brothers, the pope is keenly interested in Father McGivney's cause, for he sees in our founder the model of a good and holy priest that today's priests can turn to for inspiration and intercession."

Contributions: "In 2001, Knights raised and distributed \$125,600,122--a new record for the Order. These funds went to a wide array of worthy charities, programs and activities. That total is up more than \$9 million from 2000's figure of \$116 million and is an all-time high for the Order.

"Last year, Knights reported volunteering a record 58,941,551 hours of time to the Church and community. Again, that is a new, all-time high, and an increase over last year of 2.2 million hours."

Membership: "My goal for membership growth is simple: I believe we have the moral obligation to offer every eligible Catholic man the opportunity and the privilege of membership in the Knights of Columbus. A top priority must be recruiting

younger members. Then, we must encourage them to become fraternal leaders. We should always remember that this great Order was founded by a young priest only 29 years of age, and that the average age of the men who joined him in this effort was 34.

"As of June 30, membership in the Order stood at 1,647,771 members comprised of 539,030 insurance members and 1,108,741 associate members. During the past 12 months we recruited 67,452 new members and 20,589 former members. Unfortunately, suspensions and withdrawals amounted to 44,296 Knights and another 27,747 brother Knights died during the fraternal year. After taking into consideration adjustments made during the year, this left us with a net gain of 15,703 members, an increase of 1,334 over the previous year.

"One important source of younger members is our colleges and universities. Today there are 160 college councils with a total membership of 15,223 Knights."

Insurance: "For the 27th year in a row, the Order has earned the A++ (Superior) rating from A.M. Best. For 11 consecutive years, Standard and Poor's has conferred its highest rating, AAA (Extremely Strong), on us. The Order's insurance in force has grown continuously since 1944, and this past year was no exception. The net gain of insurance amounted to \$2.6 billion or 6.3 percent, bringing the total in force at year end to \$43.0 billion. On June 3 of this year we surpassed the \$44 billion mark of insurance in force, another milestone. We will surpass \$45 billion by year end."

Investments: "At year-end 2001 our United States and Canadian common stock holdings were \$524 million and \$40 million respectively. The emphasis in constructing this diversified portfolio of equity holdings is to select large, financially strong industry leaders. As with all of the Order's investments, careful attention is given to the company's lines of business to make certain that activities are not in violation of Church teachings."

Pro-Life: "The question we must ask ourselves is how long must the Jan. 22 March for Life be necessary? Will the day not come when we can celebrate the overturning of Roe v. Wade? I believe it will. Do you?"

"The right to life is not a partisan issue. But it is the pre-eminent moral issue of our time. This year let us set as a priority that every voter in a Knights of Columbus family goes to the polls this November and votes pro-life. The Fourth Degree has produced a new pro-life "get out the vote" poster. I encourage its widest possible use."

Vocations: "This year we will promote vocations to the priesthood in honor of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Father McGivney on Aug. 12, and in honor of the golden jubilee of priestly ordination of our supreme chaplain, Bishop Daily. Father McGivney is a model of the effect that a priest can have in one person's life, a parish or the world. As the son of a Knight, and a Knight himself, Bishop Daily proves without a doubt that vocations grow and flourish within the culture of the Knights of Columbus."

September 11: "The first response to the events of Sept. 11 was the establishment--on the very next day--of our \$1 million Knights of Columbus Heroes Fund. Through the Heroes Fund we were able to provide immediate assistance to the families of the rescue workers who were killed as a result of the terrorist attacks. In a period of just over six weeks--from Sept. 13, when the first check was delivered and continuing non-stop as victims and family members were identified, our general and field agents in the New York City area personally delivered each \$3000 check to the widow, the parents or the surviving members of the family of the killed rescue workers.

"We received nearly 5000 separate contributions from state and local councils, assemblies and circles; from schools, companies and organizations. Donations came from the United States, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines. The cumulative total was \$1,491,661.

"This was truly a remarkable response of love and concern. On July 15, 2002, we officially closed the Heroes Fund, and an additional gift of \$542 was distributed to each of the 419 recipients of record.

"One sad aspect of Sept. 11 was that so many of the firefighters and police officers killed at the World Trade Center were Catholics but not Brother Knights. We simply must do a better job of extending the benefits of membership in our fraternal order to every eligible Catholic man, and especially those who by their vocation already champion the same principles as do we."

Conclusion: "San Juan Diego, Blessed Junipero Serra, the Servant of God Father Michael J. McGivney, each in their day faced the evangelization of a new land opening before them and each of them knew in their heart that "Now Is the Time for the Great Catch!"

"Today, the Catholic Church is a global church of more than 1 billion believers. If we look at the four nations in which the Catholic community is the largest, we see that the Knights of Columbus is active in three of them: Mexico, the United States and the Philippines. When we include Canada we

find that the Knights of Columbus is active in countries with more than 225 million Catholics. Nearly one-fourth of all the Catholics in the world live in the nations represented in this Supreme Council meeting.

"Shortly after he founded our noble Order, Father McGivney believed the Knights of Columbus should be present in every parish in Connecticut. What would he tell us today? I believe he would tell us that, with only 1.6 million members, our work has only begun. I believe he would tell us, now is the time "to cast our nets once more." I believe he would tell us, "Now Is the Time for the Great Catch!"

"Vivat Jesus!"

Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight

World Youth Day

Several members of Madison Council 6568 had the privilege of attending World Youth Day in Toronto in July. PGK **Dave Johannes** served as a member of the College Council Coordinating Committee and GK **Rob Staude**, DGK **Jason Szymanski**, PGK **Mike Staude**, State Squires Chairman **Fred Johannes & Louis Johannes** took part. Several left the morning after attending **Richard Rebman's** installation as State Deputy on July 21. The following report, which we thought exceptional, appeared in "**College Knight Life**" published by Council 6568 and is reprinted with permission. Next month: Dave Johannes' day-by-day experiences at World Youth Day.

"He's got the Whole world...in his Hands, He's got the Whole World...in his Hands, He's got the Whooolo World in his Hands."

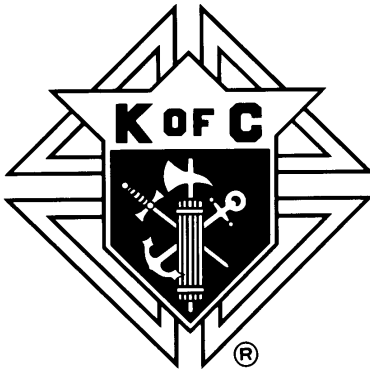
"Our group sang together in one strong voice as we finished mass in a steaming day in Toronto, hours before we would see the Pope celebrate a vigil with nearly one million other pilgrims from around the world on the 17th World Youth Day. We had gotten up just after 4 AM in order for members of our council to meet up with other college Knights and trek to find our spot in the huge former airplane field in order to see the Pope. With limited supply of cold water and no shade except for some cardboard boxes that had been hastily transformed into huts, our cardboard village named 'Camp Columbus' took form. Camp Columbus, with our Knights of Columbus flag waving proudly in the air, would be home for two days for various members of Council 6568. Like an inspirational game of Survivor, we sat, talked, prayed and anxiously waited. For he was coming,

Our Pope, and a faithful leader of the Catholic Church.

"We joined pilgrims from around the world in prayer, in song and in conversations throughout the day under the sweltering sun. World Youth Day was a melting pot of people from all types of backgrounds, talking together about our homelands and our common faith. Throughout the crowds, hundreds of flags from around the world took flight in the wind, a striking symbol that God did indeed have the whole world in his hands. A group from Poland danced in a circle, waving their banner and sharing a cultural dance as others joined them. Drums from a faraway land beat in the distance. And shining over us all in front of the crowd where the Pope would lead us in prayer, stood a huge cross. We were unique peoples from faraway lands, joined by one common and strong bond, and it left an awesome feeling in me, which I cannot describe.

"Suddenly, the drums stopped and the crowd seemed to drop to a silence. He was here: our Pope had arrived. People began chanting their greetings. "John Paul II...We Love You!!!" broke through the crowd. Then in other languages chants of greetings were shared. It was an emotional time for every one of us, a coming together of cultures to celebrate the Pope's visit and bring us all just a little closer to God through celebrating our faith with others from throughout the world. We celebrated an incredible vigil with hundreds of thousands of candles overcoming the darkness, continued celebrations with so many different types of people, and enjoyed mass with the Holy Father. World Youth Day was certainly one of the most incredible experiences that we have ever witnessed, and the pilgrims from our council were awed by everything we had seen.

"Over 1000 people were treated that weekend at the medical tents after falling victim to the heat and other elements. But the celebrations and sharing of common values and universal faith outshined any hardships. Members of our council were reminded that weekend that while prayer is important, so too is the charity and fellowship in sharing that faith. It was a calling for nearly a million people present, as well as those we were representing back home, that we needed to continue working closer together with people from around the world as well as in our own backyards, continuing to follow God's word and take his word into action. We thank the many people that helped make our pilgrimage to World Youth Day possible. It was a wonderful experience, a coming together of people from throughout the world, proving that God does indeed have the whole world in his hands."



Spotlight On... Larry Mastalish

Occasionally in the Knights of Columbus, a prospective member is pursued, almost hounded, to become a part of the Council. Such was the case with Larry. His father-in-law was a Knight and he occasionally talked about some of his experiences. He especially remembers the social aspect of the Knights. As far as his relationship to Council 10243, several people had been asking Larry to join up, and he decided he would become a part of the organization after Father Dave Pleier did likewise. Though he recently came to be a part of the Council, he knows that there were several men urging him to join and he doesn't remember which one actually accomplished the final deed. He knew that the Knights who were active in the St. Bernard area and he thought it fulfilled a need especially for younger men, to get involved in the Church and in the community. Another part of Larry's reason for waiting was that he doesn't like to get involved in things in name only, but hopes to become a part of the things that the organization is all about. He's still feeling his way around the Council, and we look forward to his involvement in the activities of the Council.

Larry retired ("At least I thought I retired.") in 1994 after 35 years at P & G, where he had been a public affairs manager. His job involved being a representative to government agencies, community relations, donations, publications and the like. His retirement came at a time when he had about a year left in his preparation for ordination to the diaconate so it was a good time for him. His interest in the ordained ministry is long standing. He recalls the example of his parent and also things back to his younger days growing up in the Goodman/Armstrong Creek area. Since he attended a public school, religious education came through a couple of weeks with admirable sisters who came to the area to handle religious classes. As time went on, he was influenced by a variety of people including Father Haessly, Msgr. Borusky, Deacon Ed Gagnon and Deacon Bob Jacqmin. That all led to his interest in the Diocesan program and ordination as a deacon in May of 1995. Since his ordination his ministry has included coordinating the baptism program and the preparation couples, scheduling ministry to Bornemann Nursing Home, handling services at the church and the Nursing Home, coordinating the returning Catholics program, handling communion visits to the homebound and visiting hospitals as well as wake services, committals and the like. A highlight of his career has been the opportunity to baptize three of his grandchildren.

After serving in the army, Larry attended Green Bay Badger Business College back in the 50's where he met his wife Doris. They have been married about 43 years now and have two children and five grandchildren. Doris is involved in parish ministry as well. She attended most classes with Larry in his preparation for the diaconate and she works with the Elizabeth Ministry at St. Bernard and is also involved in the Catholic Women's Club of Green Bay. Larry has continued in military service, working in the reserves as an ombudsman. We are grateful that they have become a part of the Council 10243 family and we look forward to getting to know them through the activities of the Knights.