



Knights of Columbus

Msgr. Borusky Council 10243 Green Bay, Wisconsin

NEWSLETTER

September 2003



Grand Knight's Column

Welcome to September. It is hard to believe that summer has passed us by. When you read this school will already be in session, Lambeau Field Renovation Week will be over and we will be talking about the first Packer game against the Vikings. I certainly hope your summer was everything you wanted it to be and more.

At our last Council meeting in August we voted and approved a new computer for Father Al Lis at a cost of \$1000. After checking with many of our computer wizards it was noted that his laptop screen is shot and he has to plug in a very old monitor to see what he's doing. He had a computer store install a second modem in it and neither one works. In the words of one of our own Council members, "He makes our Council look very good and works like a beaver keeping up on everything. It would be a shame to lose him or his work." I certainly agree with that statement. Roy C. Johnson and Randy Barrett have been contacted to assist Father Al in the computer selection process.

We had over forty individuals work the Knights' grill at the *Summer Blast*. Thanks to all who helped—plus a special thanks to Mike Worzala and Jim Janssen who co-chaired the event. The Grill made a net profit of over \$3400—that is about \$800 more than we made last year.

Beginning this Fall, St. Bernard will be participating in a new religious formation program that will run through May, called *Generations of Faith*. These sessions will run on Saturday, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM; Sunday, following 6:30 PM liturgy; Tuesday, 5:30 PM-7:30 PM and Wednesday, 5:30 PM-7:30 PM. We have been asked to help out on one of these days as well as sponsoring refreshments. At our August meeting we selected Saturday mornings. We would probably need 2-4 individuals at each session. The Saturday dates are October 11-December 13th and April 3-May 5th. We will talk more about this at our September Meeting.

It was great to have Ron Frosch, our new District Deputy, at our August meeting. Don't forget our next meeting on September 15th. We will begin with the exemplification of the First Degree at 7:00 PM with the meeting to follow, around 7:40 PM.

"If you think you're too small to make a difference, you haven't been in bed with a mosquito"

Grant Turner
Grand Knight

Prayer

Prayer for Students & Teachers

Gracious and loving God,
in your wisdom and love
you invite us to seek for knowledge
and to share what we have attained
with all your Church.
You formed the earth with your own hand
and breathed into your people
a thirst for new understanding.
In times past you sent us your prophets
to teach your laws
and to bear witness to your undying love.
In the fullness of time you sent us your Son
to proclaim by word and example
a gospel lifestyle
and the true wisdom which comes from you alone.
You continue to grace your people
by enabling us to discover
more of the wonders of our universe.
Look upon all students and teachers
and give them the grace to delight in learning.
Help them persevere in what they are undertaking
and give them the desire
to deepen their love for you
and their commitment to your people.
May they strive to make new discoveries;
to learn all things well
and to share all that they have received
for the betterment of the Church and our world.
Look with special love upon all those who travel.
As you led your people through the desert,
so lead them with gentleness and peace
that they may rejoice in knowing that you are near,

and take comfort in your protection.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Honorees

Congratulations to our **August** Honorees:

Knight of the Month: Ken Gezella
Family of the Month: Mark & Lynn Janus

Chaplain's Column

I was among those who gathered recently in Washington, DC for the celebration for the 121st Convention of the Supreme Council. I was in Washington once before and I have to admit I did not remember that place as being so hot and humid. The few days we were there were rather uncomfortable, and I cannot imagine the days before air conditioning was invented, sitting around the White House in frock coats and high collars and seventeen yards of material on hot, humid August days. But, they survived because the human person is adaptable to everything from temperature to fashion. We survive because that is what we are supposed to do.

Like the human person, the Church and the Knights of Columbus are living organisms. We grow and we change, and we are influenced by the world around us. And, although we have a reverence for tradition and certain things do not change, much about who we are develops over time. What this means is that we need to be open to both guardians and prophets in our midst. The guardians are the one extreme—those who feel that everything about who we are was handed down on a scroll from God and nothing can change. The prophets are the other extreme, constantly calling for an overhaul of everything. Obviously we all fit somewhere between those two extremes. There was a time in the Council's history when we thought that having a calendar raffle was really something important toward which to devote time and energy. It never really got off the ground and we moved on to something else. Dwelling on something that seemed a dead issue would have suggested that we have an unwillingness to adapt and to change. As we return now to the 'rigors' that an academic calendar places on us, we'll be confronted by the prophets and by the guardians—in the Council, in the Church and in the world. Through it all, try to remember that the reason for discussing things in the first place is that both prophets and guardians much be heard. Remember that the only thing

constant in our world is change, but that we must also value the things that have been lovingly handed on to us. Demonstrate a willingness to adapt to something different, if that is what the Spirit is asking us to do, or stand up for the things we have always done because that same Spirit seems to want us to do so. Through all of it, listen, consider, and pray. Be thankful for the gift of the past, but remember the Spirit is not dead and may be calling us in another direction. That Spirit may speak through many voices, so be a part of the discussion. Refusal to be a part of the process loses for us the right to criticize the outcome.

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

Upcoming Events

Diocesan Meeting

Saturday, September 7 at 8:30 AM

Contact: Grant Turner (469-3407)

Council Meeting & First Degree

Monday, September 15th Degree at 7:00 PM.

Contact: Grant Turner (469-3407)

Fourth Degree Exemplification

Saturday, October 4th Wisconsin Rapids

Contact: Father Al Lis (437-1979)

Packers Food Stand at Lambeau Field

Sunday, October 5th

Contact: Grant Turner (469-3407)

Council Meeting

Monday, October 20th – Rosary at 7:15 P.M.

Contact: Grant Turner (469-3407)

Second & Third Degree Exemplification

Sunday, November 2nd Green Bay

Contact: Father Al Lis (437-1979)

Council Meeting & First Degree

Monday, November 17th Degree at 7:00 PM

Contact: Grant Turner (469-3407)

Council Meeting & Christmas Social

Monday, December 15th --Rosary at 7:15 P.M.

Christmas Social at 8:15 P.M.

Contact: Grant Turner (469-3407)

Fourth Degree: Assembly 1197

The summer months are usually a less- hectic time for members of the Fourth Degree in that the Assembly, like many Councils, does not meet in July or August. However, functions of the Honor Guard continue. Over the past several weeks members of the Honor Guard have taken part in a celebration at Ss. Peter & Paul of Father **Earl Schuh's** celebration of sixty years as a priest, the funeral of a Sir Knight of another Assembly, Polka Days at Pulaski and the dedication of a flag & flagpole at *The Bridge Between*.

The next business meeting of our local Assembly 1197 is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9th. This is a semi-annual business meeting.

The Fourth Degree is also preparing for the upcoming exemplification of the Degree at Wisconsin Rapids on Saturday, October 4th. The following letter was received that says, in part:

Dear Brother Knights,

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 has three degrees representing Charity, unity and Fraternity. A Fourth Degree or Patriotic Degree was added around 1900 and is the highest Degree of the Order. We encourage all Third degree members to join the Fourth degree to promote patriotism through their Catholic Faith. The Fourth Degree supports religious, civic and charitable causes. PLEASE encourage all eligible members of your Council to avail themselves of the opportunity to advance to the highest Degree of our Order, 103 years of the Fourth Degree Patriotism, and let each of us go out and encourage Third Degree members to become Sir Knights.

We extend to you and Brother Knights in your Council our Best Wishes.

Fraternally,

*Anthony Felber, Master
Western District*

*Erwin Jankowiak, Master
Eastern District*

The exemplification, to be hosted by the Western District, will be held in honor of Father **John**

Swing. Wisconsin Rapids is about two hours from Green Bay.

The cost of the exemplification is \$65.00 (\$35 for clergy) and the room rate at the hotel is \$79.00 plus tax. Rooms may be reserved through September 15th by calling 715-423-1500. Ask for Knights of Columbus 4th Degree #141407. Additional banquet tickets are \$25.00.

Dress as per custom is black tux and baldric (only new members may wear 4th Degree pin). Ladies attire is dress (no casual wear) for luncheon (price, \$12.00) or dinner. The exemplification begins at 12:30 PM with Mass and Knighting at 4:00 PM. The banquet is scheduled for 6:30.

Contact District Friar Father **Al Lis** (437-1979) for further information.

Second & Third Degree

The next local (Green Bay) exemplification of the Second and Third Degree is November 2nd, 2003. First Degree members are asked to reserve this date well in advance so that they can plan to participate and achieve the rank of full Knighthood. Contact Father **Al Lis** (437-1979) for information. Current Third & Fourth Degree men are also reminded to take part in these major Degrees to refresh the lessons that are taught.

Presently we have seven men in the Council who are First Degree members. One man has already stated his intention of taking part in the upcoming exemplification.

Next Meeting: September 15th
First Degree: 7:00 PM
Meeting to Follow

Diocesan Meeting

The Green Bay Diocesan meeting will be held on Saturday, September 13th. This is an opportunity for the leadership of the Council to meet with and hear ideas from the State Team. The meeting will be held at St. Joseph School beginning at 8:30 AM. Several other members of the Council will attend. It will include presentation of awards and the installation of District Deputies.

Steak Fry

Father Matthais Zervas Fourth Degree Assembly 1211 in Fond du Lac held its second annual steak fry on Monday, August 18th. **Richard & Janet Rebman** and Father **Al Lis** made the journey to Lakeside Park to take part. As it was the same night as the monthly meeting of Council 10243, Faithful Navigator **Larry Schneider** promised to write a note to the Grand Knight excusing Father Al & Richard from the Council meeting.

Pulaski Council #4439 will be holding a steak fry on the evening of Saturday, September 27th. All are welcome to attend this third annual event. Tickets are \$12.00 per person and are available through Father Al (437-1979). Several members of the Green Bay Council 5382 family are planning to attend.

Eucharistic Congress

Following the Supreme Convention this past month in Washington, many gathered for the Second Annual Eucharistic Congress sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, *Drawing Life from the Eucharist*. The Congress featured speakers that focused on **Pope John Paul II's** recent Encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*. State Deputy **Richard and Janet Rebman** and several of Wisconsin's delegated remained for the two-day event, held August 7-8 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Busses ran throughout the day between the hotel and the Basilica, though some participants just stayed at the church taking advantage of the many chapels there and the facilities available. Most found the event to be a great opportunity for spiritual growth and for a greater devotion to the Eucharist.

+Past State Chaplain

Father Joseph Henseler

We were saddened to hear of the death on August 18th of Past State Chaplain Father **Joseph Henseler**. Father Henseler was in the seminary at the same time as Past Supreme Knight **Virgil Dechant**. He served as State Chaplain from 1994-1996 while **Erv & Helen Jankowiak** were State Deputy and **Richard & Janet Rebman** served as State Warden. Father retired a few years ago from St. Mary's Church in Neillsville where he was so loved by parishioners that they presented him with a car as a retirement gift. Richard & Janet attended the funeral in Neillsville. Father Henseler was buried in Marshfield. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Special Days

September 15th - October 15th

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

September

- 15 A Grant & Joan Turner
- 15 B Tim Fliss
- 15 B Kathryn (Robert) Rocque
- 15 B Beverly (Jed) Schacht
- 16 A Roger & Sandra Heesacker
- 16 B Mary (Ken) Stoey
- 18 B LaVerne (+Don) Barrett
- 18 B Tom Marquardt
- 19 B Katherine (Jerry) Collins
- 20 B Ken Gezella
- 21 A Rick & Mary Noe
- 21 A Kirk & Katherine Pelnar
- 21 B Roger Shaha
- 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 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
- 12 B Ernest Remondini
- 13 A Tim & Susan Nixon
- 13 B Norma (+David) Berger

121st Supreme Convention

The heat and the humidity of a steamy Washington, DC in August did not stop several thousand from gathering for "A Capital Affair," the 121st Annual Convention of the Supreme Council. Most participants stayed in the main hotel, the Washington Hilton, or in a Marriott property across the street. Weekend tours of the many attractions of the area were quite popular, as was the usual unofficial business of the Convention—renewing friendships, trading pins and visiting hospitality rooms. The Convention formally began on Tuesday, August 5th with a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. **Theodore Cardinal McCarrick**, Archbishop of Washington, presided with nearly a hundred members of the hierarchy. Bishop **Robert Banks** of Green Bay was present for the Mass as were about a hundred priests including State Chaplain Father **Jim Trempe** and Green Bay Diocesan Chaplain Father **Al Lis**. The business of the Convention commenced later in the day and clergy took part in a luncheon provided by the Supreme Council. The evening brought together thousands for the States Dinner that included talks by Cardinal **Egan** of New York, Patriarch **Michel Sabbah** of Jerusalem and an address by **Wilton Gregory**, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Supreme Knight **Carl Anderson** served as Master of Ceremonies for the program that also included a presentation on Special Olympics

Wednesday brought more convention business as well as the ladies luncheon and an awards ceremony. Thursday's Memorial Mass was followed by a surprise visit by actor **Mel Gibson** promoting his new movie, *Passion*. (At least the visit was a surprise for delegates.) The film, which has sparked some debate over its depiction of the Jewish people, is scheduled to open around Ash Wednesday and stars **Jim Caviezel** in the role of Jesus. Another feature of the gathering was the opportunity to spend some time with the Blessed Sacrament in a Chapel open throughout the Convention. Also in the chapel was a relic of the Tilma of Tepeyac, the cloak of St. Juan Diego on which Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared.

Also attending the Convention as an *ex officio* delegate was State Deputy **Richard & Janet Rebman**. Delegate Ray Dufano of Council 617 represented our area of Wisconsin. Please see the excerpts from the Supreme Knight's report elsewhere in this *NEWSLETTER*.

Next Meeting

The next gathering of Council 10243 is our usual third Monday of the month, September 15th. There will be an exemplification of the First Degree at 7:00 PM with the meeting to follow, around 7:40 PM. All are encouraged to attend the Degree to support the candidates and to remind themselves of the lessons of the Degree. A reminder: out of respect to the candidates and the Degree Staff, no one will be admitted during the exemplification.

Council 6568 Recruiting

As the new academic year begins, members of UW-Madison Catholic Center Council 6568 donned the Council's bright yellow T-shirts and helped numerous students move into the dorms. The shirts are also noticeable as members make pulpit announcements and pass out information about the Council at local Catholic parishes. Word of mouth and chance encounters have also proven to be a great opportunity to recruit, as members wear the shirts around campus. The Council also sponsors a cookout just after the school year begins with members getting the word out at dorms and throughout the campus. "FREE FOOD," notes PGK **Dave Johannes**, "is a great draw for college students." **Jason Szymanski** serves as Grand Knight of the Council.

Knights to Christ

Knights to Christ is "A book of contemporary daily meditations linking scripture to the principles of the Knights of Columbus" and is now in its second printing. The pocket sized book, offering daily thoughts on principles of the Order, was developed by members of the Knights of Columbus in Colorado and is offered to the whole Order for reflection. It is envisioned as a means of promoting spirituality among brother Knights. District Deputy **Ron Frosch** says there has not been a great deal of enthusiasm in our District. Contact Ron (866-1391) or Father Al (437-1979) for more information.

Brothers

Congratulations to Father **Al Lis** who was named *Knight of the Month* for Council 5382 in Green Bay. He serves as Chaplain of the Council.

Congratulations also to Council 10243 Treasurer **Scott McKenzie**, who married the former **Lynne Bialczyk** on July 26th.

Supreme Knight's Report

The following are excerpts from the report of the Supreme Knight Carl Anderson given at Washington on Tuesday, August 5, 2003. Take the time to read it to get a better understanding of the Order and our mission in the Church.

A complete copy of the report may be viewed by contacting Father Al or by visiting the Order's web site, www.kofc.org.

Introduction: "When much has been given a man, much will be required of him. More will be asked of a man to whom more has been entrusted."

"My brother Knights, I begin my annual report with these words of our Lord from Luke's Gospel. They are words we should take to heart as together we review the accomplishments of the past fraternal year and plan for the fraternal year now unfolding."

"This past year the Knights of Columbus has grown stronger. We have increased our membership. We have increased the number of councils.

"We have increased the insurance protection we provide to our families.

"And yet, with all that we have accomplished, we have only begun to approach our true potential. The potential that Father McGivney saw in Catholic men who unite 'In service to One. In service to all.'"

Father McGivney: "Serving God and serving neighbor were what Father McGivney dedicated his life to, and he inspired his Knights to do the same. The cause for canonization of our founder has taken some significant steps since we last met."

"Reports of intercessions sought from Father McGivney and also of answered prayers are received. Most striking is the number of them that come from young family men in job difficulty, or from parents who are praying for help with young adult children who are having difficulty finding their way in life."

Contributions: "According to the annual survey of fraternal activity, in 2002 the Knights Orderwide reported raising and distributing to the charities of their choosing a record \$128,554,307. That total is up nearly \$3 million from 2002's figures, and is an all-time high."

"In 2002, Knights also volunteered a record 60,821,480 hours of time. In 2001, the figure was

58.9 million. Again, our nearly 61 million hours of service is an all-time high."

Membership: "At the end of the fraternal year, the Order had grown to 12,274 active councils. The gain of 191 new councils, plus five reinstated councils, brought our gross gain in councils to 196 for the fraternal year. In addition, two councils were merged resulting in a net gain of 195 councils."

"As of June 30, the membership of the Order stood at 1,660,197 members comprised of 542,033 insurance members and 1,118,164 associate members. During the past twelve months we recruited 64,868 new members and 15,228 former members. Sadly, suspensions and withdrawals amounted to 40,263 and 26,929 brother Knights died during the fraternal year. We achieved a net gain of 12,426 members.

"All 70 jurisdictions experienced a gain in membership over suspensions and withdrawals. While this is great news, too many state councils are still losing members. Taking into consideration all transfers and deaths, 23 jurisdictions suffered a net loss in membership."

"Our strategy for the growth of the Order consists in four basic principles:

- Every eligible Catholic man should be given the opportunity to join.
- Every parish should benefit from the presence of a council.
- Every council should be membership active.
- And every state jurisdiction should have positive membership growth."

Fourth Degree: "The past two years have been especially busy ones for Fourth Degree members. By this time last year, Canadian Sir Knights had logged thousands of miles as honor guards for the World Youth Day cross as it made its way to Toronto. Today their counterparts here in the United States are present at stops on the Tilma of Tepeyac pilgrimage in honor of our Lady of Guadalupe. This event, sponsored in part by our Order, features a relic taken from the tilma of St. Juan Diego, a small piece of his cloak on which the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe miraculously appeared."

"As of June 30, membership in the Fourth Degree stood at 279,619 members, up from 273,646 last June 30. Last year, 281 exemplifications were reported, bringing in a total of 15,252 new Sir Knights, compared to 15,052 in the previous year. Restorations and additions brought total intake to 16,688, compared to 16,558 in 2002. Losses amounted to 10,715, comprised of 6,696 deaths; 2,134 suspensions; 224 withdrawals; 1,590

deductions from council transactions, and 71 miscellaneous deductions. The net gain for the year was 5,973, compared to 5,588 last year.

“Fifty new assemblies were instituted and no assemblies were re-instituted or dissolved. There are currently 2,474 assemblies active in 115 districts in our 20 provinces.”

Special Olympics: “Our involvement with Special Olympics celebrated its 35th anniversary this year. When Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her husband and brother Knight Sargent Shriver held the first Special Olympics games at Chicago’s Soldier Field in 1968, Knights were among the volunteers. Since 1987 the Supreme Council has helped sponsor the international summer and winter games. Our brother Knights and families have also volunteered for these events.

“This year’s grant to special Olympics brought the total Supreme Council support for Special Olympics since 1987 to nearly \$4 million.”

Insurance: “Again this year the Knights of Columbus accomplished what very few companies can, achieving the highest possible ratings from both the A.M. Best Co. and Standard & Poor’s. We also earned the highest designation for ethical sales practices from the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association (IMSA). We are among only six insurers in North America to have achieved all three of these distinctions.

“For the 28th year in a row, the Knights of Columbus has earned the A++ (Superior) rating from A.M. Best. In its report, the independent ratings firm cited our strong market presence in the Catholic community, increased membership growth, as well as our consistently profitable operations and exceptionally strong capitalization.

“For 12 consecutive years, Standard & Poor’s has conferred its highest rating, AAA (Extremely Strong), on us. Among the factors cited in our favor were the Order’s very strong earnings performance, high quality investment portfolio, and conservative investment management practices.

“The Order remains committed to high ethical standards in the sale and promotion of insurance products, and has been a member in the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association (IMSA) since 1999.”

“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 \$2.7 billion or 6.2 percent, bringing the total in force at year end to \$45.6 billion. Ten years ago we had \$22.2 billion in force. This is an increase of more than \$23 billion or 105 percent.

“On June 30 we surpassed the \$47 billion mark of insurance in force, another milestone. We will surpass \$48 billion by year end.

Investments: “At year-end, our U.S. and Canadian common stock holdings were \$288 million and \$33 million respectively. As with all 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. Our objective for investing in common stocks is long-term capital appreciation.”

The Church: “Two momentous events in the life of the Church will occur within the next few weeks, and we Knights will be touched by both of them. The first is the beatification of Mother Teresa of Calcutta on World Mission Sunday, Oct. 19. How fitting that this event of great joy in the Church should occur on the Sunday closest to the 25th anniversary of the Holy Father’s pontificate, on Oct. 16, and the end of the Year of the Rosary, which he proclaimed last year in his apostolic letter, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*.”

“Pope John Paul has achieved much during his pontificate, but one achievement is unparalleled in all of recorded history. He has been seen by more people than anyone else who has ever lived. His popular pastoral visits, which now number in excess of 100, have drawn millions to see him and hear his words of hope and inspiration. We have been honored to be part of many of those pastoral visits, including trips to the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines and Cuba.”

“In October, we will commence a 12-month, Orderwide prayer program in solidarity with Pope John Paul II. As in past prayer programs, we have chosen an image to draw all Catholics together in prayer. This image is one that is close to the Holy Father’s heart: the image of Christ as Divine Mercy. When the pope returned to his homeland of Poland in 2002, he entrusted the world to Divine Mercy, the devotion popularized by St. Faustina Kowalska. The Divine Mercy devotion offers the promise of salvation for those who put their trust in the Lord. “Jesus, I trust in you” is the message of Divine Mercy.”

“My administration is consecrated to Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas. Her faithful servant St. Juan Diego is ready to intercede for us everyday. We pray that our

Order will continue to be a worthy instrument to make Mary better known as 'Star of the New Evangelization.'

"We continue to distribute thousands of rosaries a month to new members and in special cases to missionaries and others. This past spring, as a demonstration of our solidarity with our military forces, we shipped 10,000 rosaries to the troops deployed in Kuwait and Iraq. Working with the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, and Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, we also published and shipped 100,000 copies of a special book of Catholic prayers and readings. The book was sized to fit the breast pocket of a military uniform and was printed on laminated pages for resiliency in wartime conditions.

"For decades our Order has been at the forefront of efforts to promote the rosary and Marian devotion. We are doing the same with eucharistic adoration and the sacrament of reconciliation. Now is the time for us to make the Stations of the Cross a meaningful part of every Catholic's devotional practices, especially during Lent."

Pro-Life: "On the 30th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* it was all too clear that this Supreme Court would not change this terrible decision. And so, my brother Knights, we must change the Supreme Court.

"We must be prepared to do all we can to confirm new judges should vacancies occur in the court."

Vocations: "Our vocations promotion efforts continue to grow in scope and impact. The most exciting element of our program is a new video on the priesthood. This is a thoughtful, prayerful, and dignified look at what it means to be a priest today. We will work with various media outlets to get this video aired regularly on Catholic cable channels, such as EWTN, and elsewhere. We will also provide copies of it to diocesan vocation directors, state chaplains, Catholic high school counselors and campus ministers."

Vision: "We meet today in Washington, D.C., the most powerful city of the most powerful nation in the world. We meet in a place where power and pragmatism are watchwords—a city, about which a president once said, if you want a friend, you should buy a dog.

"We meet in a time of war, of terrorism, violence and revenge. And yet we meet with an entirely different purpose—a purpose directed toward 'Building a World of Justice and Mercy, Freedom and Peace.'"

"Today I am honored to unveil a new painting of Father McGivney. It was commissioned by the Knights of Columbus in commemoration of the 113th anniversary of his death this coming Aug. 14. It will serve for years to come as our inspiration as we build a better world one council at a time, one member at a time.

"The painter is Antonella Cappucio, an Italian artist whose work is displayed in the Vatican. She has depicted Father McGivney as the visionary. She shows Father McGivney paused in reflection after meditating on Scripture. His thoughts are consumed with his parish, St. Mary's, and with the young immigrant families he has been called to serve. He sees the 'huddled masses yearning to breathe free' as they make their way from New York Harbor to the commercial ports along the Atlantic seaboard: New Haven, Providence, Boston and then beyond.

"He sees the young men of his parish. He sees their potential when united in Catholic fraternity. He sees these same young men using their talents and professionalism to lay the foundation of what would become a unique and unsurpassed Catholic enterprise.

"He sees all this because he knows these are men of faith. Men of conscience. Men of strength. Men who can make a difference.

"Those are the kinds of men who fill this room today, but they also fill the pews in every parish. They should also fill our council chambers. They should be among our ranks. They should be among the next generation of Knights. The generation that was born in 1978, when Pope John Paul II was elected pope, stepped out on the balcony of St. Peter's and said to the world, 'Be not afraid, open wide the doors to Christ.'

"For 25 years we have stood steadfast at the Holy Father's side. Now is the time to rally thousands more to our standard.

"Vivat Jesus!"

*Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight*



Spotlight On... Tom Hamling

Never imagining that he was actually making a career choice, Tom got involved in the Knights of Columbus back in his high school days in Eagan, Minnesota, near Minneapolis. A friend's father was a member of the Knights and somewhere around 1979 Tom became a part of a local Squires Circle. As a sophomore in high school he found himself elected State Chief Squire. Because of the position he had the opportunity to take part in Squire conventions and got to know some people at the Supreme level. He left the Squires for the Knights while in college at St. John University in Minnesota and decided to try for a job at the Supreme Office in New Haven. He sent in a résumé and was interviewed and in 1989 he was accepted for the position of Management Trainee. Though the move to New Haven was a bit hard, Tom adjusted and after about six months Supreme Secretary Charles Riesbeck Jr. asked him to move into the Council Accounts Division. Time went by and from 1990 until just recently he served as Director of the General Office. In 2002 Supreme Knight Carl Anderson appointed him to his present position: Deputy Assistant to the Supreme Knight.

Because there are always so many things happening at the Supreme Office, one day is seldom like the last. Much of his time these days is spent dealing with the Order's web site, trying to get to know the site and the needs of those who make use of it. He's been rebuilding a lot of it right from scratch, and look forward to the Fall when he hopes Supreme can launch what will look like a completely new site. He sees a site that will be faster, and something that will help establish and maintain contact with the membership. Since the web business is ongoing, he is already looking toward other capabilities to investigate for the future.

There are also other projects—the nature of a Deputy Assistant means he may find a lot of demands on his time. He was involved with a letter that went out to all the priests on the Order's database last year after the clergy scandal rocked the Church, assuring them of the support of the Knights. He arranged for the delivery of rosaries from Jerusalem that were presented to many at the 2003 Convention in Washington. He also coordinated the Order's commemorations of September 11th at the National Shrine in Washington, dealing with speakers and other matters. He also devoted time to the *Gaudium et Spes* dinner honoring the recipient of the award, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Michel Sabbah. He's also helped formulate information regarding the positions taken by candidates for civil elections when such events roll around. And, of course, his is a very familiar face around Supreme Conventions.

Tom met his wife Suzanne in 1990; her father Andy Fierlit is known to many in Knights of Columbus circles because of his involvement in the Supply Department at the Supreme Office. Tom & Suzanne were married in 1992 and have three children, Emma, age 9; Timothy, age 7 and Jack, age 3. He is a member of Holy Family Council 8882 in New Haven, a Council whose membership is comprised of about half from the Supreme Office and the other half from the New Haven area. He's a past Grand Knight of his Council and currently serves as Financial Secretary. He's also a Fourth Degree Sir Knight and a member of Patrick Donlin Assembly in New Haven (Donlin was a PSD of Wisconsin who also served as Supreme Advocate until his death in 1996.) Among Tom's other involvements is service as a Board member of a local Catholic school, Sacred Heart/St. Peter School in New Haven. The lakes of Minnesota gave Tom a love of sailing, and he's avidly pursued that form of relaxation in the Sound. Sailing also gives him the chance to be with his family, and he's hoping to pass on his love of sailing to his children.

It would be hard to find someone with more love for the Knights of Columbus than Tom. Because he's known by many people involved in the Order, he's often the one contacted by State Deputies or anyone else who has a problem to solve. Many times, those who call are frustrated or angry and are not as cordial and

gracious as we should be, yet callers are greeted with kindness by someone who tries his best to help them out. He points out that most of the people in the Knights of Columbus that call him every day are volunteers and they are not being paid for the time and the service they give to an organization they love to be a part of. To have them spend their time dealing with red tape is something Tom tries to remedy. He reflects that he cannot think of another company he'd rather be a part of—because being a Knight means being a part of something special, something that can make a difference in the world. Three people have had a particular influence on him in his time with the Knights, and have helped him to see his involvement as much more than just a job but rather as a way of life: Supreme Secretary Charles Riesbeck, Assistant Supreme Secretary Robert Lane and Supreme Knight Carl Anderson.

It is always refreshing to hear another perspective on the Knights of Columbus, in this case from someone miles away from us but near the heart of the Order, someone who has devoted so much of himself to the Knights of Columbus and our common mission in the name of Christ and his Church. We recognize the contribution that Tom and all those working in New Haven try to make on behalf of all of us, and we appreciate their commitment and their service.

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