

KNIGHT'S COMPASS

Direction for Life in Faith



July 2021

Solomon Juneau Council 2770

Vol 1 Issue 10

Council Compass— This Fraternal Year

Steve Hesprich, Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

Last month's Knight's Compass featured an article about new Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly's installation as the new Supreme Knight. It is most poignant that he has dedicated his administration to protection by St. Joseph. I've found my attention to St. Joseph has increased dramatically in the last 16 months. It began when I decided to do the Consecration to St. Joseph in March 2020. Just a short time after that, Bishop Callahan declared the year from May 1st (the date I completed my consecration) to this May as the "Year of St. Joseph". Then in the late Fall of 2020, Pope Francis declared the Year of St. Joseph beginning with Advent 2020. Then our newly installed Supreme Knight just last month at his installation dedicated his administration to St. Joseph.

Therefore I'm also dedicating our council to St. Joseph going forward. You can see in our banner above that I have added the icon of St. Joseph which Bishop Callahan used when he introduced the consecration to our diocese.

We are rapidly moving toward a return to normal. We therefore will look to stepped up activities and events for which we need the involvement of the Knights. At the upcoming Council meeting, we will be focused on planning for the fraternal year we started July 1st. If you have a look on the back page you will see a number of events coming in the next few months.

In the newsletter I'd like all of us to get to know members better by doing a series of profiles. It doesn't have to necessarily be done because a member has made a particular contribution to the Knights, but more to recognize who you are as a person. If you have a special birthday or anniversary this upcoming year, we would like to consider a profile of your life in these pages. We'll introduce new members with profile articles so we can immediately know something about them.

If I haven't met you, I hope there will be a chance to do that this fraternal year.

Steve

Grand Knight, Council 2770

cell/text: 608-400-2638 / Steve@Hesprich.com



**The next Knights' meeting is
Tuesday July 20th.
NO Officers/Directors meeting;
7pm for
business planning meeting
in Reardon Hall**

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Christ's Compass—Return to Normal

The running joke through the pandemic was one day we would be "returning to normal". That phrase often led to conversation as to if that might be a "new normal".

Let's explore these ideas in terms of faith. You are all aware that we are now in "Ordinary" time in the Church's liturgical year. I'm guessing most think "ordinary" but it is anything but that. As a reference point, think of how most of us have so intensely looked to return to normal in our everyday lives. I think most of us have been anxious, probably excited even, to return to the state of daily life we had before the pandemic. That is how you might think to look upon Ordinary time in the Church. It's a most significant time of the liturgical year. Who would have thought we could be excited by "normal" time in our lives. And yet here we are, looking very much forward to those daily experiences of life. Let's not forget this feeling of the value of normal! And so we should also see "Ordinary" time as also important to us.

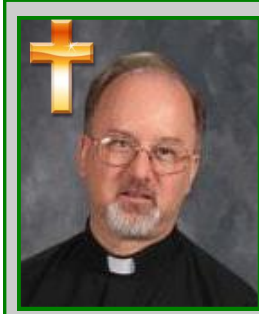
We have now almost entirely opened the parish to that normalcy. We have learned to take certain precautions because of the pandemic experience. We should include common sense precautions in our return to those common everyday interactions with others.

I hope each of you finds greater value in your Catholicity because of how attendance was compromised in the early days of the pandemic and for many until recently. Therefore use that time of not having full access to our church, especially for the sacraments in the company of friends and family, to recognize the great value of our freedom of religion. May it lead you and your family to greater attention to a daily faith life.

It is now time to more strongly engage our faith. Welcome to normal! Welcome to Ordinary!

Fr. John

Pastor & Council Chaplain



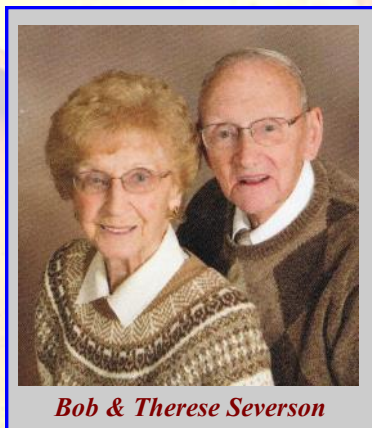
*Fr John Potaczek,
Council Chaplain*

Family Compass—June Family of the Month

By Jon Field, Family Director

The June 2021 KC Family of the Month award is awarded to Therese and Bob Severson, who have spent all their 70 years of married life serving St Patrick's Parish. Bob grew up in Mauston and Therese grew up on a farm in rural Kendall. She remembers taking a horse and sleigh to Sunday morning mass in Kendall. After graduating high school, Bob went to work as an over the road truck driver and stopped at Gene's Café in Mauston and bought a cup of coffee from a beautiful young waitress named Therese Warsaw. Bob stopped the next day, asked her on a date and they've been inseparable ever since. The US Army drafted Bob in February 1951 but before he was shipped off they were married on November 25, 1950. Bob served for 3 years during the Korean War, mostly serving on Okinawa, Japan as an electronics technician.

When Bob got back from war, they settled in Mauston, raising 2 boys, Mark (Sheri) Severson and Kevin (Diane) Severson. Bob and Therese have been blessed with these 2 boys, 5 grandkids and 7 great grandkids. Bob spent his working career as a truck driver until he was hired by Juneau County as the Juvenile Court Worker in 1968. Therese had a long career as branch manager at the Western Federal Savings and Loan, which has had



Bob & Therese Severson

many names through the years and is now BMO Harris Bank.

Therese and Bob have spent a good many years serving St Pats. For many years, Therese volunteered to do the laundry. She enjoyed Fr Reardon, as did Bob. Bob, though a practicing Methodist, was told once by Fr. Reardon and Kieran Powers that he acts more Catholic than most men at St Pats. They did the laundry, cleaned the church carpet and worked very hard at the fall festival. Therese was known for her pickles at the festival and served as dining room supervisor for 25 years. She is a member of the Lady of Fatima Circle, helping serve funeral dinners, and assisting with many other projects. Therese also supervised the dining room set up for Hunter's Night Out for many years.

Bob and Therese worked together delivering meals and serving communion to shut ins. They were very involved with the Salvation Army, coordinating bell ringing and other projects for many years. They did it because they enjoyed helping other people. They are a most wonderful couple, deserving of recognition as a true family, working together to do the Lord's work.

If you have suggestions for family of the month, please contact me with the name and reasons you like them nominated.

cell: 608-847-6421 / jonfield21@gmail.com

Tootsie Rolls

By Jon Field & Randy Boehm

It's baaack.....!

Last year the council voted to bypass doing the Intellectual Disabilities (ID) fund raiser, commonly called the Tootsie Roll Drive, which has been a staple fund raiser for our council. We are resuming it, though in a somewhat limited way. We'll be offering Tootsie Rolls to parishioners after each of the weekend Masses July 25-26 at St. Patrick's. Normally we've done the drive in the spring. The State council is allowing councils to do it later as we are going to do.



Steps to Join the Knights:

1. **Before July 1st, go to www.kofc.org/joinus**
2. **Complete application, enter council # 2770, & promo code MCGIVNEY2020**
3. **Attend online virtual ceremony (30 min) & confirm completion**

Calling all Ushers—or would be Ushers

If you can help as an usher for Masses, contact Bill Powers c:608-547-9118 / BILLYBOY82@HOTMAIL.COM

Sundae on Sunday

Howard Boppart, Community Director

At our June meeting we added a new event to our council calendar: "Sundae on Sunday". Its purpose is to help with the re-engagement of parish life. As it will likely be hot outside, we will have something "cool" for our parishioners.

This event will also be a kick off for the start of Vacation Bible School (VBS) which begins Monday August 2nd. **We will do a "preview" of this at our July council meeting to see how it might be run. We'll have the tee shirts at the meeting as well.**

We need some helpers for August 1st. The first 6 volunteers (Knights or others helping) will get a tie-dye shirt that celebrates the start of VBS. We will have the shirts at the Council meeting on Tuesday July 20th.

If you can help, contact me at c:608-548-6513 / hboppart@gmail.com.



The Compass of Membership

Steve Hesprich, Membership Director

I am optimistic about the new fraternal year and helping our council achieve Star Council. As we come out of the pandemic the requirements for Star Council will increase, though not fully back to the pre-pandemic levels. We'll discuss those requirements at the upcoming council meeting.

Our membership goals this year, are not just the number, though there's always a number; but the type of man we encourage to join will be the focus. I would hasten to add this focus is not to the exclusions of all other practicing Catholic men. However, we need to put a particular emphasis on younger men, especially young family men. The reason to have this focus is compelling in my view. We are seeing the attacks on family. All of us have heard of the false narratives our children are hearing and seeing in the media and through social media. In other parts of the country and in many public schools, starting even in elementary schools, we see programs that denigrate our Catholic moral, family and religious beliefs. We need to insure the parents of our children are well formed in the faith and actively engaging their children. One of the strongest directions of the Knights now is to build up the family—in the moral life, in the key role that fatherhood and marriage has, and in strengthening the faith of the father as a precursor to enriching the life of our families in all dimensions.

This then is the imperative of our membership focus. There are a few ways we can turn our attention to young fathers. We'll cover those details at our July 20th council meeting. To be successful we will need the help of members. I'm not able to accomplish this in a vacuum. In the year I've been at St. Patrick and a member of the Solomon Juneau Council, I see very good Catholic men. It can't be someone else's task. This means we need to know who you know that needs what the Knights can offer. We'll build stronger families, parish, and community as we seek to strengthen our fathers to lead their families.

Compass of Life—St. Joseph

By Steve Hesprich

In my "Council Compass" cover letter, I mentioned I would like to dedicate my time as Grand Knight to the intercession and protection of St. Joseph. Here's the prayer I would commend to our appeal which I would ask us to add to our opening council meeting prayer:



My spiritual father and guardian, I give myself entirely to you, and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my whole being without reservation. Help me to see Your good and gracious purpose in all my trials. Obtain for me a greater purity of heart and fervent love of the interior life. After your example, may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with Jesus and Mary. Should I take my last breath today, be by my side, and take me to heaven to be with Jesus, Mary and you. Amen.

Safety for Our Children

Both the Knights of Columbus and the Diocese of LaCrosse have an important mandate to protect our children against sexual predators and abuse. For the Knights, certain officers/directors are required to take "Safe Environment" training every 2 years. Those required positions are Grand Knight, Program Director, Community Director and Family Director. **Other Knights are invited to also sign up to take the training.** At least 2 of those certified are required to be present at any Knights sponsored event where children under 18 years old may be present. Note it doesn't have to be a youth event, just that there may be children present. Our council has been compliant since the training was done last year by our leaders.

For the diocese of La Crosse, it is also necessary for any of our members who may be working with youth in a parish or school event, or a KC event for youth, to receive the Diocesan training. Their training is required annually for volunteers. If you help out with the pancake breakfasts, with our council sponsored Free Throw event, or children help with Tootsie Rolls, you should be certified for both safety programs.

It would be easy to say, that's a lot of trouble for something unlikely bad to happen in our community. I'll just say that's the ostrich-head-in-the-sand response. I just completed the La Crosse training and it was a good reminder of my KC training last year where you are taught to be observational of children who may show subtle, less than overt signs of abuse. It also tells you of cautions you need to take for yourself around youth. Some actions of ours which seem innocent to us, may not appear that way to others. Bottom line is we are in a different time and need to make it a priority to be prepared.

For Diocesan training, contact Cassie Thayer in the parish office: pastoralcare@stpatricksmauston.com. For the KC training contact Steve Hesprich.

Compass of Protection Through Planning

By Gregory Helgerson, FIC, Field Agent

Put the evening of Tuesday October 5th on your calendar. At 7pm the Solomon Juneau Council is hosting a fraternal benefits event focused on end-of-life planning. We are still working on the details and arranging for probably 3-4 speakers to touch on different dimensions of this important planning activity. We know two things are certain, as the saying goes: Death and taxes. We'll take a look at considerations for the time we or our loved ones will no longer be with us, and as well, the issues that arise with our health as we near the time we will leave our mortal life.



Put Tuesday October 5, 2021 at 7pm in Reardon Hall, on your calendar.

FREE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP: Blessed Michael McGivney's Feast Day is Aug. 13! Let us invite new men to join the Order and spread his mission is a great way to celebrate our Founder. Online Membership is free using my promo code GHELGERSON through Dec. 31.

Gregory Helgerson, FIC
Field Agent
608-462-3372
gregory.helgerson@kofc.org

Knights of Columbus

Serve their community
Grow their faith
Protect their families
Build a brotherhood
Transform the world

Join us on line at:
KOFC.ORG/JOINUS

Knights of Columbus

The Treasure(r) of Life

By Steve Hesprich

Life is a treasure, of that we all believe and cherish. Add the letter "r" to treasure and you have a remarkable example of service as part of the life of Jim Kolba as the long-time Treasurer of our council. It's quite remarkable that someone can have a career of 45-50 years, never mind have a responsibility that goes for 60 years — and continues!



That is however what Jim Kolba has done as Treasurer of our council. At our June 2021 meeting we recognized Jim for his dedicated service to the council and the Knights of Columbus with an award of appreciation (shown below).

If his 60 years as Treasurer is not enough, he continues to be our Treasurer. Jim has many stories he tells in his experiences, though a better story is told by others that Jim is a "numbers" guy. Combine that skill with his integrity and you have the best qualities to be the Treasurer of our organization.

Next time you see Jim, thank him for his outstanding service.

AWARD OF APPRECIATION

PRESENTED TO

James Kolba
60 years Treasurer

In Recognition of Distinguished and Unselfish Service to Knights of Columbus Council

Solomon Juneau
2770

1961-2021

Compass Minutes— June Meeting

By Tom Jodarski, Council Recorder

The meeting began at 7 pm. After opening prayer and pledge the minutes of the May 18, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

Grand Knight Report: Articles and photos from the two issues of the Juneau Star Times (May 27th and June 3rd) showing/telling about our donations from the two raffles we conducted (State Charity Raffle and Hunter’s Raffle).

Upcoming events:

July 16th, 5:30pm Parish Picnic between the school and church.

July 24/25 – Tootsie Roll Drive after the Masses

August 1st – Sundae on Sunday after the 10am Mass (new event)

Nov 6th – Hunters’ Night Out

Pancake breakfasts November, December, January, February to benefit 8th, 7th, 6th, and 5th grade classes of our school respectively. 3rd Sundays after 8am and 10am Masses. Do a virtual breakfast for the corresponding Saturday 5pm Masses.

March 26th possible Game Feed Date [note post meeting to be Saturday March 5th].



Officers were elected for the 2021-2022 fraternal year.

Chaplain’s report: Fr. John Read the Knights to Christ

entry on Unity for June 15th with the theme “Unity is Family.” In the entry dealing with the Baptism of Jesus, we can wonder why would the sinless Jesus join our sinful family. The challenge for Knights is this question: If Jesus was crucified for our “family” sins, what should we as Knights do about these sins?

Bill Powers will coordinate the Sunday usher schedule. A discussion followed on ideas for dressing appropriately, so never shorts or blue jeans. It was suggested we might find a dress shirt, perhaps blue in color to which an emblem of the Knights could be embroidered and ushers, at least those who are knights, purchase and wear when they usher. GK Steve will contact Eagle Promotions to see the possibilities and report at July council meeting.

A reminder that there is a prayer service in in the Church every Wednesday evening at 9 pm. First Fridays is Adoration and Benediction from 3-4pm in the Church.

St. Patrick will host Confirmation in 2022 and would like to have a 4th degree honor guard.

Treasurer’s Report: We have \$3648 in the general fund; \$1327 in the Charity Fund.

Membership Report: We need two new members to reach Star Council. All requirements for the Columbian Award (for programs) and the Founders’ Award (Insurance) have been met and confirmed by Supreme.

New business: Financial Secretary report. Nothing to report.

Member Recognition:

Grand Knight Steve acknowledged a very good year particularly in consideration of dealing with Covid. We’ve conducted live meetings since July 2020 and while accommodations had to be made for the pandemic, many events were still conducted. Plaques were presented to the Family of the Year: Tom & Mary Jodarski and Jim Kolba to recognize his 60 years as the council treasurer. Harry Buttner was acknowledged for his long service to the council including as a Trustee and especially as Financial Secretary; Steve Powers for chairing once again the State Charity Raffle which was very successful this year, and also for his ushering; Bill Powers for his role as Deputy Grand Knight and ushering; Randy Boehm for his hard work as the Financial Secretary; Jon Field for his work as Family Director, especially his work

to recognize a family of the month for each of the 12 months of the fraternal year; Howard Boppart for his work as Community Director, and in particular for organizing our “no bake” pancake breakfasts which brought in over \$2,400 to benefits the 5th through 8th grade classes of our school, and Fr. John for his notably strong support of the Knights and frequent attendance at council meetings.

Officer Elections were conducted. The slate of officers presented previously in writing were all confirmed. There were no nominations from the floor.

Position	Elected
Grand Knight	Steve Hesprich
Deputy Grand Knight	Open
Chancellor	Jon Field
Treasurer	Jim Kolba
Advocate	Matt Schwab
Recorder	Open
Warden	Tom Jodarski
Inside Guard	Open
Outside Guard	Dick Schwab
Trustee for One Year	Steve Powers
Trustee for Two Years	Don Kratcha
Trustee for Three Years	Bill Powers

A motion was presented and passed to allocate \$200 for the Sundae on Sunday event on August 1st.

Good of the Order: Prayer intention for Karen Patton; thanksgiving for the Ordination of Fr. Eric Mashek to the priesthood. Meeting was adjourned 8:04pm

Council Shirts

By Steve Hesprich

At our June meeting we discussed two aspects of developing council shirts. First was a polo shirt design. The Second was a dress shirt design to be used by Knights who serve as Users. I visited Eagle Productions & Apparel LLC in town since the council meeting to look at a one inch thick catalog of apparel. It made my head spin a little, truth be told. However after reviewing prices and varieties, as well as taking into consideration some of our discussion at the



June meeting, you see pictured here one reasonable selection for a council usher shirt. At the June meeting we will explore pricing, probably some council subsidy of costs as well as individual responsibility, and decide on a dress shirt. We’ll also look at a polo shirt for general council purchase.

Calendar (can also be found in different format on our council web page (link is in the footer of this page))

DATE	TIME	EVENT	HOST	NOTES
Tuesday July 20, 2021	7pm	Council Meeting Reardon Hall—PLANNING for fraternal year	KC2770	NOTE: NO OFFICER/DIRECTOR meeting
Wednesday July 21, 2021	9pm	Prayer Service—Every Wednesday	Parish	Please join Fr. John and Fr. Chinnappan for weekly prayer
Sat/Sun July 24-25 2021	Masses	Tootsie Roll Drive after all Masses;	KC2770	
Sunday August 1, 2021	after 10am Mass	"Sundae on Sunday"; All parishioners invited for free Ice Cream with MANY toppings	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Sunday August 15, 2021		Feast of the Assumption	Parish	
Tuesday Aug 17, 2021	6:30pm	Officers Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	
Tuesday Aug 17, 2021	7pm	Council Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	
Sunday September 12, 2021		Fall Festival	Parish	
Tuesday Sep 21, 2021	6:30pm	Officers Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	
Tuesday Sep 21, 2021	7pm	Council Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	
Tuesday, October 5, 2021	7pm	End-of-Life Planning Seminar	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday, November 2, 2021	5:30pm	Memorial Mass for Deceased Knights St Patrick's Church	KC2770	
Saturday, November 6, 2021	after 5pm Mass	Hunters' Knight Out	Parish	
Sunday November 21, 2021	8am -noon	Pancake Breakfast - Nov -benefit 8th grade class;	KC2770	
Sunday December 19, 2021		Dec - benefit 7th grade class		
Sunday January 16, 2022		Jan - benefit 6th grade class		
Sunday February 20, 2022		Feb - benefit 5th grade class		
Saturday March 5, 2022	6:30pm	Game Feed & Hunter's Raffle	KC2770	Reardon Hall

Council Officers & Directors

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Steve Hesprich | Grand Knight |
| Fr. John Potaczek | *Chaplain |
| Open | Deputy Grand Knight |
| Jon Field | Chancellor |
| Randy Boehm | *Financial Secretary |
| Jim Kolba | Treasurer |
| Matt Schwab | Advocate |
| Open | Recorder |
| Tom Jodarski | Warden |
| Open | Inside Guard |
| Dick Schwab | Outside Guard |
| Stephen Powers | Trustee for One Year |
| Don Kratcha | Trustee for Two Years |
| Bill Powers | Trustee for Three Years |
| *Program Director Bill Powers | |
| *Family Director Jon Field | |
| *Community Dir Howard Boppart | |
| *Faith Director | |
| *Life Director | |
| *appointed, not elected | |



Knight's Compass

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 Questions and requests for copies may be directed to Steve@Hesprich.com / cell-Text: 608-400-2638.