

# KNIGHT'S COMPASS

*Direction for Life in Faith*



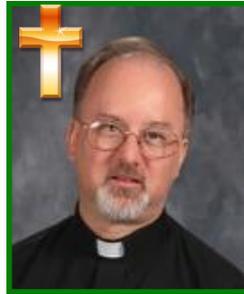
April/May 2022

Solomon Juneau Council 2770

Vol 2 Issue 7

## Christ's Compass— He has Risen!

He is Risen, alleluia!  
In these next weeks of the Easter season, the Acts of the Apostles predominates the first readings of Mass most days up to Pentecost. We get to hear the rapid establishment and build-up the Church, along with the many difficulties overcome through faith in Christ. It is a history, but more than mere facts of a history book, it tells a story of love. If you can attend daily Mass, you'll get to hear the love story. If you are unable to attend, I would simply suggest examining the text of the daily Readings.



The season of Lent was one of preparation and repentance. The season of Easter celebrates the salvation of mankind in the person of Jesus Christ. Knights are called to an active faith life, along with being an example their families as the spiritual leader of their household. With so many secular examples working to destroy the family, this role as a leader takes on much greater importance. Be a visible example to your family, and extended families, of a man following Christ. The Easter Season is a time of great celebration of the risen Christ.

I hear all the reasons men don't have time for a daily prayer life. It's never a time issue. It is a priority issue. We all find time for the daily important things in our life. A prayer life should be at the top of the priority list. Even a small start of five minutes of daily prayer, first thing in the morning when you awake can start the habit. If you find time to do a daily rosary, even better if you do it with your family, would be tremendous. Work and family life responsibilities may prevent you from going to daily Mass. How about finding one day each week to attend. We offer a 5:30pm Mass on Tuesdays for the working person.

Christ's blessing upon you in the season of Christ's Resurrection. May you experience the fruits of growth in faith.

*Fr. John* Pastor & Council Chaplain

The full newsletter is on Knights web page  
on the parish web site:

<https://stpatricksmauston.com/parish/knights-of-columbus/>

*May Christ be the compass for  
your Easter Season!*

The next council meeting is  
Tuesday May 10th—note this is  
the **SECOND** Tuesday of May  
at 7 pm in Reardon Hall

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**NEXT ISSUE: June/July 2022**

## Council Compass— The Knights & Ukraine

Steve Hesprich, Grand Knight

Brother Knights, families, and friends,

We just had the drawing for our 3rd annual Sportsmen's Raffle at our April 19th council meeting. Congratulations to the winners! The proceeds from the raffle will benefit local charities. The causes will be decided at our May 10th council meeting. We decided at our April 19th meeting on the distribution of funds from last year's State Charities Raffle. We raised \$1910 from that raffle. We voted to give \$1,000 to the Supreme Council sponsored Ukraine Humanitarian Fund and \$410 to the St. Benedict Fund of our parish. Previously \$500 went to a seminarian we support, Jared Clements (see his thank you on page 3).

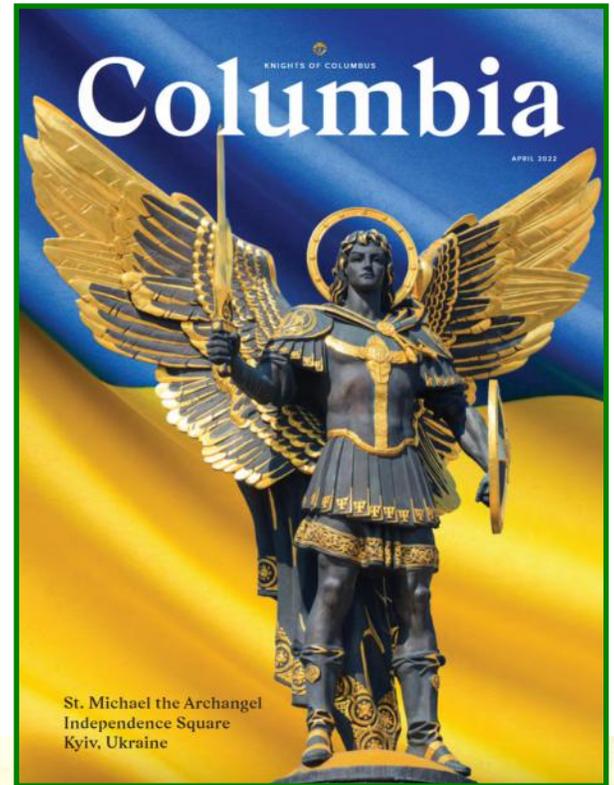


This month we are drawing attention to the dire and tragic circumstances of Ukraine and what our international organization is doing to help. Over **\$13.4 million has been raised** as of 4/21/22 to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine. We are taking advantage of the presence of the Knights in both Poland and Ukraine to facilitate aid distribution. We'll touch on this more on page 5 of this newsletter issue. This month's Columbia Magazine, a free benefit for members, with no ads, is focused on the circumstances of Ukraine and the help being provided by the Knights. To the right you can see the cover page of the April issue. The St. Michael statue you see is from one located in Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine. We encourage all

reading this to consider a donation through the Knights. 100% of the monies go to this humanitarian cause. Go to this link to donate: [www.KofC.org](http://www.KofC.org)

Vivat Jesus!

**Steve** Grand Knight; cell/text: 608-400-2638



### Steps to Join the Knights for 1st Year FREE (Until June 30, 2022):

1. Go to [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)
2. Complete application, (5 minutes)  
enter council # 2770, & promo code **MCGIVNEY2020**
3. Attend online virtual ceremony



# Nowak Agency WI & UP Fraternal Benefit Night

## You're Invited to a Virtual Zoom Fraternal Benefit Night

Special guest, the Most Reverend Bishop Donald J. Hying  
From the Diocese of Madison will join Tim Nowak to discuss:

- 1) The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist!
- 2) Benefits of the Knights of Columbus  
and General Agent Tim Nowak who oversees all  
Knights Insurance products for Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula (UP)

Thursday April 28, 2022 at 7pm

To watch at home, register:

<https://www.kofcwi.org/Live-Events>



*Bishop Donald  
Hying*



*Tim Nowak*

## Diocesan Free Throw Champions

By Jon Field and Randy Boehm, Co-Chairs

10 participants from our council advanced to the Diocesan Free Throw contest for the Diocese of LaCrosse. One could not attend because of a conflict on March 27th, and of the remaining 9, 6 placed in the top 3, with 3 advancing to the State Competition on April 30th. First and second place contestants qualify for the State Free Throw.



Here are this year's winners who placed in the top three for the Diocese of La Crosse:

Boys 9 year	3rd	Jaden Steinke
Girls 10 year	3rd	Bralyn Heller
Girls 11 year	2nd*	Addison Tovsen
Girls 12 year	3rd	Hannah Hersil
Girls 13 year	1st*	Breanna Heller
Boys 13 year	2nd*	Jonah West

\* advance to State Competition

The State match will be Saturday April 30th, in Wisconsin Rapids at Assumption High School.

Competitions like this don't happen without support from members of the Knights. We thank all those who helped with registration, scoring and helping with ball returns to the competitors after each throw. The State Council is asking if anyone can help with the April 30th contest, to contact Gary Wolf at 715-340-3745 / [wolfgary63@gmail.com](mailto:wolfgary63@gmail.com)

## RSVP—Seminarian is Thankful

By Steve Hesprieh

One of the long standing programs of the Knights is the RSVP—Refund Support Vocation Program.

We recently received a thank you card from Jared Clements who is studying in Rome. We gave Jared a \$500 check. Jared wrote.....

Dear Brother Knights

*Thank you so much for your support and commitment towards vocations in the diocese. I really enjoyed getting to know a number of you a few summers back. Please pray for Isaac Peeha, John Zweber, Alex Kren, and myself since we all are to be ordained to the diaconate this year. The light at the end of the tunnel is very bright. Please know of my daily prayers for you all as well.*

May God Bless You!

*Jared Clements*



Jared Clements

As the strong right arm of the church, the Knights of Columbus are committed to providing moral, financial and spiritual support to our future priests and religious at all stages of their formation. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians or religious in formation, in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100.

Though financial support is vitally important, it is not the only aspect of the RSVP program. Councils are also called to provide their "adopted" seminarian or religious with moral support and prayers for their success.

Many of the parishioners may remember Jared when he served for a time at St. Patrick. Remember Jared in your prayers, especially on the 3rd and 17th of each month.

## 5th Graders Bring it Home

By Howard Boppert, Pancake Chairman

The 5th grade students brought home the bacon (figuratively, pun intended) for our fourth pancake breakfast of the season. Each breakfast has proceeds going to one of the classes at St. Patrick. The final breakfast was supported by and for our fifth grade class.

Breakfast was served March 6, 2022

The hallmark of each breakfast is the students (and parents of those students) helping to serve the breakfast.

The families that attend the breakfast get a chance to visit with others, and also to enjoy our young people learning the value, and yes the enjoyment, of serving (try to get them to do that joyfully at home mom and dad).

The proceeds of this day will go towards a class trip/event at the end of the school year for the 5th graders. So we bring together the winning combination of service, a meal, good company and service lessons for our children. And good food! The 5th graders brought us home with the last breakfast—until next fall and winter that is!



5th grade students with their teacher, Daniela Larkin, helping at the March 6, 2022 breakfast

## Intellectual Disabilities Drive

Jon Field, ID co-Chair with Randy Boehm

On the weekend of April 29, 30 and May 1, at three locations we will be conducting our annual Tootsie Roll drive. This time we will be at St. Patrick for the weekend Masses, as well as Festival and the Mauston Bank Friday through Sunday.

For decades the Knights around the country have conducted this program to benefit those with intellectual



disabilities. It works simply—we give Tootsie Rolls away and people donate a buck or two, or five, ten or twenty dollars. This is a program best conducted with the entire family. Young children in particular enjoy helping to give away candy and they also seem to elicit greater giving from those who receive the sweet delight.

When you receive a call to help, usually for two-hour times, be generous with your time and make sure it is with your family helping as well. Once we conclude the weekend of Tootsie give-aways, and we meet in May, we'll decide which intellectual disability causes we will support. Throughout the State of Wisconsin collectively it is likely that an amount in excess of \$600,000 will be collected to benefit those supported by this cause.

## Lots of Minutes

### *Minutes of recent council meetings*

Recent issues of the newsletter have been bi-monthly and with the timing, we have three council meeting minutes to present here,

#### **February 15, 2022 Minutes**

The meeting began at 6:59 pm. After opening prayer and pledge the minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting were read and approved.

Chaplain's Report: Knights to Christ entry focus was on Unity. Taking a risk for something you believe in. Our families face dilemmas. We must seek Jesus to help us through difficult times.

Grand Knight Report: Annual Fraternal survey was submitted 1/31/2022. We have met our Membership numbers for Star Council prior to 12/31/2021 so our April State Per Capita for April 2022 will be waived (assuming we are still at the membership quota by 6/30/2022). Discussed the new Affiliate Membership. GK and FS will review the roster and see who has not paid dues for 2 years who may be candidates for this new membership category.

Treasurer's Report: General Fund balance is \$1,977.29 and the Charity Fund balance is \$2,337.02.

Calendar: Ash Wednesday is March 2nd. The District Free Throw Contest is Feb 27, 2022. Our final pancake breakfast, to benefit the 5th grade class has been moved to Sunday March 6th. Sportsman's Raffle: the guns are not in yet. Winners have an option to take \$500 instead of the gun or bow. March for Life was held Jan 23rd at the Juneau County Courthouse. Our council participated including family members. There is a Fraternal Benefit Night February 28, 2022 at 7pm which will be virtual. We are doing a "Watch party" in Reardon Hall.

A \$143 bill was received for medals for the Free Throw Contest participants. Steve Hesprich (GK) and Randy Boehm (PGK) will be the council delegates to the State Convention on May 6th, taking place at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells. From the first 3 pancake breakfasts we made 316, 438 and 263 for the 8th, 7th, and 6th grade classes respectively. Brett Kurdick donates toward the pancake breakfasts.

Randy Boehm's granddaughter Emma is home now from the hospital. Pray for Marie Boehm, widow of deceased Knight Gerry Boehm who may need to move to assisted living or with a family member.

We received a summary of the new boiler replacement project (roughly \$1,075,000) which has already been funded (not necessary to do capital campaign. Meeting adjourned after 8 pm.

#### **March 15, 2022 Minutes**

The meeting began at 7:04 pm. After opening prayer and pledge the minutes of the February 15, 2022 meeting were approved as written.

Chaplain's report: excused. We read the March 15th entry from Knights to Christ: Charity is learning from a childhood memory.

Communication: received thank you card from Jared Clements, the seminarian we supported recently with a \$500 check (RSVP program of the Knights).

Treasurer Report: General Fund balance is \$3,026.68 and the Charity Fund balance is \$2,337.02.

Membership Report: 3 handouts – exemplification being hosted by the Hillsboro council at St. Aloysius church after their 10am program. Mentioned two council members who have been moved to the new Affiliate membership. Reminded members of upcoming Lenten Parish events. Diocesan Free Throw contest will be March 27th in Marshfield. 10 of the 11 age groups advancing are from our council's Free Throw. One of those indicated a conflict, so 9 from are council are expected to

compete in the Diocesan contest.

Sportsman Raffle drawing will be at our next council meeting at 7:30pm. We've collected roughly \$2,000 to date (will cover expenses of \$1,500 for prizes and a bit for expenses). We started a discussion of how to spend last year's State Raffle proceeds of roughly \$1,900. Need to decide at the April 19th council meeting. The St. Benedict's fund was one mentioned as a possible recipient.

4th Degree exemplification will take place on May 21st

in Eau Claire, Steve Hesprich has information for those who would like to join. Kevin Quist is planning to become a 4th degree member then. A Fraternal Benefits seminar will be conducted on Monday March 28th. It will be focused on Estate Planning. It will be a virtual seminar. We will not have a watch party unless there is demand.

Financial Secretary: some monies turned over to Treasurer. Thanked those Knights who prayed for his granddaughter Emma who is now doing well and home. 38 members have paid their dues to date.

Nominations for officers will be presented at the April 19th meeting. Steve will work with the trustees to gather a slate of officers. rayer Requests: in Thanksgiving for Randy Boehm's granddaughter Emma, with her improving health. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

#### **April 19, 2022 Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 7 pm. Minutes of the March 15th meeting were approved as published (here).

3 of the 9 Free Throw contestants at the Diocesan contest will be advancing to the State competition on Saturday April 30, 2022.

Treasurer's Report: General Fund balance is \$5,995.95, the Charity Fund balance is \$2,337.02. The pancake breakfast March 6th benefiting the 5th grade class had a profit of \$484.37.

The Tootsie Roll weekend will be April 29 to May 1. Jon Field will be calling members to ask them to take 2-hour time slots at 3 locations, Parish (after weekend Masses), Festival, and the Mauston Bank.

Field Agent report: Greg Helgerson talked about the April 28, 2022 at 7pm Fraternal Benefit webinar. He is providing two Kiosks with 15 copies of each of 15 different booklets. One will be for St. Patrick's and the other will be placed at St. Mary's in Lyndon Station. Greg is donating those, but it will be the council's responsibility to restock books as needed. He also talked about membership. He handed out a small business card size tool that talks about what the knights are about.

Financial Secretary Report: Dues of \$104.45 collected.

Candidates for the 2022-2023 fraternal year were presented [see page 6 of the newsletter for details]. A motion was made for the remaining \$1410 of last year's State Raffle proceeds to donate \$1,000 to the Knights Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief fund, and \$410 to the parish Benedict Fund. We did the Raffle drawing and contacted the three winners [see page 5 of the newsletter for details]. Gross proceeds for the raffle are \$4210.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

## Sportsmen's Raffle Hit the Target

By Tom Jodarski, Matt Schwab and Dick Schwab Co-Chairs

Our third annual Sportsmen's Raffle hit the target of success! The final numbers are not in but it appears we will net monies for local charities of roughly \$2,000.

This year's prizes and winners are as follows:

Matthew's Mission  
Crossbow w/scope (or \$500,  
crossbow selected),  
winner Sena Vinopal.



Mossberg 12 gauge over under  
shotgun (or \$500, gun selected),  
winner Dan Fox.



Savage .243 Rifle w/scope (or  
\$500, gun selected), winner  
Dale Pellegrini.

At our May 10th council meeting, by which time we will know our net proceeds, we will decide how to distribute the monies.

## The Compass of Charity—Ukraine

The world's cry because of injustice, war and suffering upon the people of Ukraine is beyond most of our comprehension. Within days of the conflict's beginning in late February, 2022, the Knights sprung into action and began a fund raising effort for humanitarian aid. With over 1500 Knights in Ukraine and many more in Poland, the effort to leverage the contributions of Knights from around the world began.

This is what we do, to help those in the greatest need. One of the efforts during the weeks leading up to Easter was to start a drive for 10,000 Easter baskets for Ukrainian refugees in Poland. The Knights there have multiple staging locations where for \$50 a basket, contributors can provide one of these baskets of food and other essential material. The Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, along with his family symbolically



presented one of these baskets on the Monday of Holy Week to Pope Francis to demonstrate the charitable work of the Knights. Anyone can make a financial donation, with 100% of the tax deductible money, going directly to this cause.

In addition to the assistance of councils in Poland, aid from the Knights is also assisting the Latin and Greek Catholic Churches in Ukraine to provide temporary shelter, food, medical supplies, clothing and communications.

Not only did the Supreme Knight visit the Holy Father, he also travelled to Poland to visit with Knights serving refugees and helped load the Easter care packages onto the latest "K of C Charity Convoy" of trucks bringing supplies into Ukraine. He then went into Ukraine to deliver additional Easter care packages to families taking refuge at a 14th-century monastery in Rava Ruska, in the Archdiocese of Lviv, Ukraine.

To donate to the ongoing efforts of the Knights, go to [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) and click on the link there. You will also find many videos of the assistance being provided. You will find articles including a St. Michael the Archangel prayer card in the April 2022 Columbia Magazine.

## Compass of Life—Ernest Schmocker

Take from the web site: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/wiscnews/name/ernest-schmocker-obituary?id=33249140>

Ernest A Schmocker passed away peacefully on February 18, 2022, at the age of 90 at home with his family at his side.

Ernie was born on June 6, 1931, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He moved to Mauston at an early age. He graduated with a handful of classmates from St. Patrick's school. On October 15, 1952, he married the love of his life, Audrey J. Clary, at St. Patrick's in Mauston.

He served his country, as a decorated veteran, in Korea. Upon returning, Ernie with his father and brother owned and operated Ernie's truck stop for over 50 years until his retirement. Ernie had a passion for gardening and playing cards.

Ernie was a 64 year insured member of the Knights of Columbus, joining the Knights on August 1, 1958. He was an avid golfer scoring two hole-in-ones in his career. He golfed with anyone he could. He enjoyed going to wrestling matches watching his sons and grandsons. He was proud of his daughters who were the 1st wrestling cheerleaders at Mauston High School. He enjoyed fishing at Lemonweir Mills and the Yellow River.

He enjoyed watching the Badgers and Packers through the good years as well as the frustrating times. Ernie is survived by his wife of nearly 70 years, Audrey and 7 children.

Kenneth (Georgia) Schmocker (Onalaska) 3 sons Ryan (Sandy), Jerod (Abbey), and Tyler. Kathleen (Frank) Schwartzer (Norfolk, NE) and daughters Nicole (Colin) Baumgartner, Great grandchildren Gabriel and Liam. Christina (Jimmy) Rosetto. Grandchildren Mariah, Sonny, and Nicholas, Great grandchildren Italian and Cheston Edward (Mary) Schmocker (Park Falls) three sons: Kyle, Arek (Megan), and Joel (Caitlin) Great grandson Brecken Jeanne (Jim) Grayson (Casa Grande, AZ) daughter Kelsey (Augustin) Guzman, great grandchildren, Elliana, Samuel, Aria Elena, and Abel Guzman Deborah (Jim) Bires (Mauston) 3 children Chris (Andrea), Great grandchildren, Madaline, Abraham, Penelope, Agatha, Georgiana, Vivian, Martha, Edith, Ignatius and Tarcisius, daughter Sarah Bires, Great granddaughter Angelina, grandson Kelly Bires. Robert (Stacy) Schmocker (Mauston) 2 children: Son Jacob, Daughter Jennifer (Mitch) Dhein. Great Grandchildren, Gabriella, Calynn, Noah, and Micah. Glenn (Sarah) Schmocker (LaCrescent, MN) 2 children, Sam and Jesse (Jodi) Chovan, Great granddaughters Jada and Raven.

Further survived by Brother Joseph Schmocker and Honorary children: Jim and Gail Williamson and George and Eleanor Winker Preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Anna Schmocker, sisters Dolores Williamson and Carol Ruland, Sister-in-law Evelyn Schmocker. Services were held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church on Thursday, February 24, 2022 with visitation that same morning, followed by a mass. Interment, with military honors, took place at St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery following the ceremony.

Memorials can be directed to the Alzheimer's Association.



## Leaders are the Compass of our Council

*By Nominating Committee (Grand Knight and Trustees)*

Each year we elect new council leaders for the Solomon Juneau Council 2770. The start of the fraternal year often brings new faces to the leadership in our council. Whether you got elected to an officer role for the first time, have been re-elected and need a refresher, or might be willing to consider taking an open position, here is a guide to our leadership team of Knights. We would add that it would be great to have more than one candidate for any given position.

### Grand Knight

- Presides over all meetings.
- Appoints council chaplain, program and membership directors, and committees. Countersigns checks and orders for payment.
- Monitors council progress towards earning Star Council Award.
- Ensures all council forms and reports are submitted in a timely manner.
- Conducts the council semi-annual audit.

### Deputy Grand Knight

- Assists the grand knight with operation of the council and any other duties assigned to him by the grand knight, presides at council meetings in the absence of the grand knight, and often serves on the council's Retention Committee.

### Chancellor

- Responsible for encouraging members' participation in council programs, assists the grand knight and deputy grand knight with their duties and often serves on the council's Admission Committee.

### Treasurer

- Responsible for handling council funds.
- Receives money from financial secretary and deposits it in the proper council accounts.
- Responsible for paying all council expenses.

### Advocate

- Acts as parliamentarian for the council.
- Should have a working knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order, Charter, Constitution & Laws, and council by-laws.
- Responsible for seeking legal assistance from the state advocate when necessary.

### Warden

- Responsible for supervising and maintaining all council property.
- Prepares council chambers for meetings and degree exemplifications.
- Oversees inside and outside guards.

### Inside and Outside Guards

- Attends the doors of the council chamber, checks current membership cards and allows entrance and assists the warden with his responsibilities.

### Board of Trustees

- Supervises all financial business of the council and conducts semiannual audits.
- Serves on the Nominating Committee to help invite and qualify candidates for office each year.

If you would like to be a candidate for any position contact one of these members of the Nominating Committee:

Steve Hesprich 608-400-2638  
 Bill Powers 608-547-9118  
 Steve Powers 608-847-5117  
 Don Kratcha 608-562-3088

Our Election of officers will take place at our May 10, 2022 council meeting. To be a candidate a member needs to be a 3rd degree knight. With the recent changes to our ceremonials, all new members since the beginning of 2020 are third degree members.

We have three positions for which we do not have a candidate shown in red in the chart following. Of these, we especially need a 3rd Year Trustee. The Order normally wants an experienced past officer of the council to be a candidate for this position. For the elected positions a member can hold only one office at a time.

If you are uncertain of the time commitment, the Inside Guard has no practical duties but to be present at those meetings he is able to attend. The Warden's position is also with but a very small time commitment, less than an hour a month.

## Candidates for 2022-2023

<b>Steve Hesprich</b>	<b>Grand Knight</b>
<b>Kevin Quist</b>	<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>
<b>Jon Field</b>	<b>Chancellor</b>
<b>Jim Kolba</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Matt Schwab</b>	<b>Advocate</b>
<b>Tom Jodarski</b>	<b>Recorder</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>Warden</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>Inside Guard</b>
<b>Dick Schwab</b>	<b>Outside Guard</b>
<b>Stephen Powers</b>	<b>Trustee for One Year</b>
<b>Bill Powers</b>	<b>Trustee for Two Years</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>Trustee for Three Years</b>

## Current Appointed Positions

<b>Fr. John Potaczek</b>	<b>*Chaplain</b>
<b>Randy Boehm</b>	<b>*Financial Secretary</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>*Lecturer</b>
<b>Bill Powers</b>	<b>*Program Director</b>
<b>Jon Field</b>	<b>*Family Director</b>
<b>Howard Boppart</b>	<b>*Community Director</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>*Faith Director</b>
<b>Open</b>	<b>*Life Director</b>
	<b>*appointed, not elected</b>

## A message from the Grand Knight.....

I trust all our members understand the importance of the Knights of Columbus in general, and especially in the local parish, whether that is St. Patrick for most of our members, or the parish where you reside. Leadership isn't just the Grand Knight. It is each member stepping forward to help. Some want to do that by their personal effort on activities. Some are no longer able to be directly involved because of their health, age or circumstances. They can pray though for the continuing positive involvement of our members who can help. I have had such incredible experiences with the Knights, and I wish that for each of you. It does require stepping forward even if in a small leadership role such as our Inside Guard, Warden, or to be a second candidate for another officer role. Help our council, our parish, your family and yourself by becoming involved. Be a compass.

Vivat Jesus!

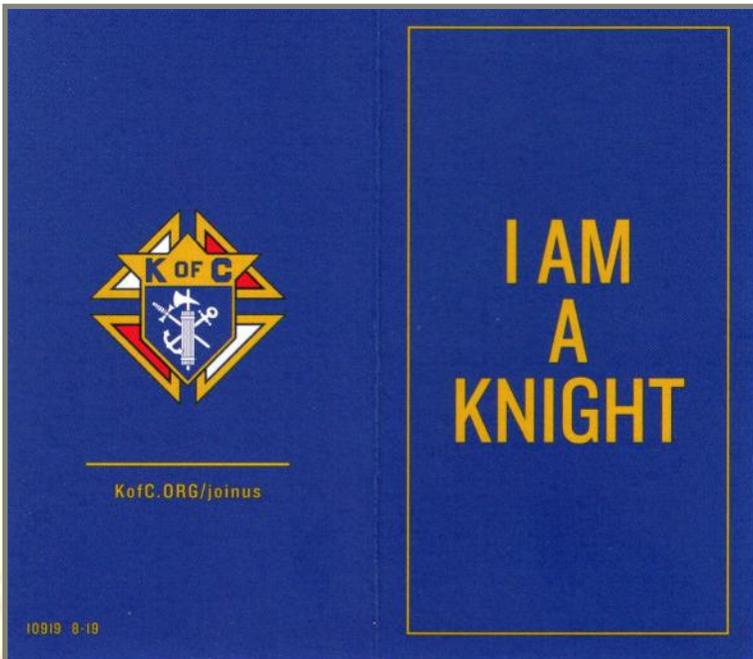
**Steve**

## What Do the Knights Do?

by Steve Hesprich, Membership Director

Have you ever had to tell someone about the Knights but perhaps stumbled a bit trying to convey the significance of our organization? After my 25 years I sometimes can also stumble trying to convey the significance of membership. I was listening to a webinar as I was wrapping up this newsletter on what the Knights are doing in Poland and Ukraine. That webinar brought me to tears twice during the presentation as they showed multiple video segments of the most incredible work being done by Knights in those countries, as well as here in the United States. I don't cry easily, but I was so proud of what Knights are doing in the refugee situation. I was even more impressed to see our Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, actually go to the Western part of Ukraine to help distribute the 10,000 Easter baskets made possible by donations from Knights and non-Knights.

At our April meeting our Field Agent, Greg Helgerson, passed out the card below to each member and then left me with a bunch to give to others. It's about the size of a business card, folded and the inside contains a wonderful "elevator speech" of who Knights are and what we do. Next time you see me, ask for one.



**W**E ARE Catholic men building a bridge back to faith.

There is much work to be done in this world. Good work. Necessary work. And that's what the Knights do. Every day.

Assisting the sick and disabled. Protecting those who can't protect themselves. Whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on. Our path.

We do it to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics.

We invest our time, our effort, and our resources into our values: Charity. Unity. Fraternity. Patriotism.

We come from many places. And backgrounds. And stages in our lives. But we are all of one faith. A fraternity of men striving to better ourselves and our world.

It's one thing to say who you are. It's another to live it. To put your values into action. That's what we do at the Knights of Columbus.

That's who we are.

## Is Patriotism Our Country's Compass?

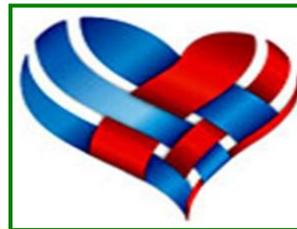
by Steve Hesprich, Past Faithful Navigator

When I joined the Knights I went through the first three degrees in quick succession. But I wasn't attracted at first to the 4th degree. I was a member for 2 1/2 years before I joined, and then mainly because there was an exemplification on my birthday. However I had a some time after deciding to join but before I became a member, to think more about why I would join. The one thing that

**It's about love of God that was missing from my understanding of patriotism. And it's not love of God OR country. It is what both mean together!**

quickly came to mind was I had never served in the military and the fourth degree would be a more concrete way to express patriotism.

What happened in the next several years greatly changed my perspective on what patriotism is. It is certainly the obvious reasons. Those reasons however were but a part of the patriotic purpose of the Knights. It's about love of God that was missing from my understanding of patriotism.



And it's not love of God OR love of country. *It is what both mean together!* Slow learner that I was to understand this. It made all the difference in how I view the patriotic principle as espoused by the Knights of Columbus. And then I had a

very rare opportunity while living in Dubuque Iowa to bring this idea into an even more crisp perspective...

It was November 2, 2013, All Souls Day. We had learned in my council on very short notice, that the 1st class relics of six Mexican priest martyrs of the Christeros war of the 1920s was arriving in Dubuque Iowa. Along with a good friend and brother Knight, we went to the place where the relics could be venerated. November 2nd was a Saturday that year. We went to tell our Pastor and council chaplain about the relic and he invited us to process with the relic at that Sunday's Mass. I had the great honor, and this is what put a strong exclamation point on my fourth degree experience, to process in regalia with the icon to place it in the sanctuary of the church during Mass. Those martyr priests were not American. They died for their faith, and the God inspired principles of their country.



Now I understand the deep reasons for being a 4th degree Knight.

An exemplification is being held on Saturday May 21, 2022 in Eau Claire. I will be accompanying three of our council members, Kevin Quist, Dick and Matt Schwab for them to become 4th degree knights. Will you join us?

**The fourth degree is a compass for patriotism!**

**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
Wednesdays	8:00 PM	Prayer Service	Parish	St. Patrick Church
Friday thru Sun Apr 29-May 1	varied	Tootsie Roll drive at 3 locations	KC2770	St. Patrick, Mauston Bank, Festival
Tuesday April 19, 2022	7:00 PM	Officers Meeting Reardon Hall Officer Nominations for 2022-2023 Fraternal Year	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday April 19, 2022	7:30PM	Drawing for Sportsmen's Raffle	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Friday May 6, 2022 to Saturday May 7, 2022	Weekend	KC State Convention	State Council	Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells
Tuesday May 10, 2022 <b>RESCHEDULED DATE</b>	7:00 PM	Council Meeting & Officer Elections for 2022-2023 Fraternal Year	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday May 17, 2022	6:00 PM	<b>CONFIRMATION - Bishop Callahan</b>	Parish	St. Patrick Church
Sunday May 29, 2022	Masses	Ascension Sunday (Mass Intention Knights)	Parish	
Sunday June 5, 2022	Masses	Pentecost	Parish	St. Patrick Church
Sunday June 19, 2022	10am Mass	Corpus Christi & Father's Day	Parish	Solemn procession to Riverside Park
Tuesday June 21 2022	6:30 PM	Officers Meeting Reardon Hall - planning for 2022-2023 fraternal year	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday, July 19, 2022	7:00 PM	Council Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	Reardon Hall
TBD - July/August date	after 10 AM Mass	"Sundae on Sunday"; All parishioners invited for free Ice Cream	KC2770	Steps of St. Patrick
Tuesday, August 16, 2022	6:30 PM	Officers Meeting	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday, August 16, 2022	7:00 PM	Council Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday, Sept 20, 2022	6:30 PM	Officers Meeting	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday, Sept 20, 2022	7:00 PM	Council Meeting Reardon Hall	KC2770	Reardon Hall
Tuesday Nov 8, 2022	5:30 PM	Annual Memorial Mass - deceased Knights	KC2770	St. Patrick

**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



**Knights of Columbus.**

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