

# KNIGHT'S COMPASS

*Direction for Family in Faith*



July-September 2024

Solomon Juneau Council 2770

Vol 5 Issue 1

## Christ's Compass—Autumn's Beauty

Dear Knights and friends;

September is an exciting month! We have enjoyed Parish Festivals at both St. Mary's and St. Patrick's. We look forward to the 125th Anniversary of the dedication of St. Mary's with a liturgy celebrated by Bishop Gerard Battersby on September 22nd at 10am (note time change from usual Mass time). All of these celebrations take place as we enter the season of Fall when the change of colors that accompany the season show us the majesty of God's creation. We see in the fall, transformation. If we let God more deeply into our lives, his colorful beauty can penetrate us through changes he creates in our lives, provided we are receptive. As Knights of Columbus, we are called to transformative beauty through our principle of Charity. Are we involved in our faith, active in our parish, a leader for our family's life in Christ, an example of the colorful leaves of faith?

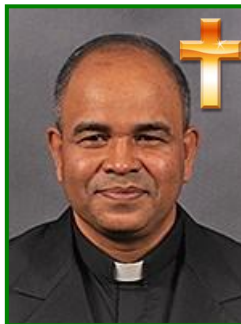
A further lesson we see in autumn reveals God's beauty, that of each of us embracing death to self, death to my way, my will and my expectations. Jesus said in John 12:24, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." The greatest fruit of our four principles is 'Charity'. It isn't just giving money. It is the deeply felt love for others that motivates us to do good for others.

Such an interesting paradox we have here. We are celebrating festivals and jubilees, even while the colorful season of fall sees leaves falling and each of us seeking to die to self while being reborn into a Knight of Charity. May this season help you to be a greater disciple of the living God.

The pastor of St. Patrick, Fr. Jey Yobu, is returning to India. We thank him for his wonderful ministry and pray for his continued ministry in India. We welcome Fr. Cruz Iruthayam who will oversee St. Patrick parish and school.

*Fr. Cryton*

St. Mary Pastor & Council Chaplain



**The next council meeting is in  
Reardon Hall, Tuesday  
October 15th at 7 pm.**

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**NEXT ISSUE: Oct-Nov 2024**

## Council Compass

Kevin Quist, Grand Knight

Greetings, Worthy Brother Knights.

As we near the end of summer, we see schools back in session along with associated fall athletic programs beginning. I would like to think things are slowing down a bit, but the reality is we still have plenty going on. We recently held the two-year anniversary Mass for the Knights of the Round Table at Saint Mary's in Lyndon Station; we are enjoying the Fall Festivals at both Saint Mary's and Saint Patrick's, we are coordinating to place our order for "Coats for Kids", and we will in very short time be commencing our support for Saint Patrick's school students through monthly pancake breakfasts. I am hopeful each of our breakfasts are a great success and I extend my humble gratitude to the Knights who continually pitch in to support these great events. Our first pancake breakfast is Second Sunday in November, so mark your calendars now.

I would like to personally invite each of you to join us for "That Man Is You" program spearheaded by Brother Knight Howard Boppert. The first meeting was 13 September 2024 at the Mile Bluff Hospital conference room (2nd Floor). The session typically is one hour in duration and occurs every Friday morning at 6:30 AM.

Lastly, I want to touch briefly on membership. Optimally, the best way to get new members to join is through one-on-one interaction. If you know a practicing Catholic man who is not a Knight, invite him to join us. If half our members did that and half of the men they asked said yes, we would far exceed our membership goals. This is your council - let's work together to keep it healthy. Vivat Jesus!

*Humor: An atheist was seated next to a dusty old cowboy on an airplane and he turned to him and said, "Do you want to talk? Flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger."*

*The old cowboy, who had just started to read his book, replied to the total stranger, "What would you want to talk about?" "Oh, I don't know," said the atheist. "How about why there is no God, or no Heaven or Hell, or no life after death?" as he smiled smugly. "Okay," he said. "Those could be interesting topics but let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat the same stuff - grass. Yet a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, but a horse produces clumps. Why do you suppose that is?" The atheist, visibly surprised by the old cowboy's intelligence, thinks about it and says, "Hmmm, I have no idea."*

*To which the cowboy replies, "Do you really feel qualified to discuss God, Heaven and Hell, or life after death, when you don't know crap?"*

It is an incredible pleasure to serve as your Grand Knight. I'm confident that we can discuss and find ways to continue growing, serving our community, and making a difference in our Catholic Communities.

Remember, our formation embraces a common goal... to love and serve the Lord.

May the Peace of Christ be with all of you and your families!

Vivat Jesus

**Kevin** Grand Knight

cell/text: 608-343-6968 [Kevin.r.Quist@gmail.com](mailto:Kevin.r.Quist@gmail.com)

## Dawning of a New (K)night—Patrick Kelly

Steve Hesprich, Membership Director

It should first be said that Patrick is a new Knight in our council but a 25-year member of the Knights of Columbus. And at that a very involved and accomplished Knight of Columbus. More about his KC experiences in this profile.

Patrick and his wife of 45 years, Nancy, mov to the area from Northern Illinois in June. We first met Patrick in June 2024, when he came to our council meeting. Here is a Knight after a Knight's heart. Patrick was just settled into his new home



and came to our council immediately and is involved!

Patrick is father to three grown children, Meg, Dan and Katrina. Patrick and Nancy moved here for Nancy to be close to water and the area they previously discovered on a visit. Patrick is a systems analyst for a company that makes administrative software for the insurance industry.

It is clear how important family is to Patrick. He has a story for each child. Shortly after becoming a 4th degree knight he got his regalia so he could be in the honor guard for his youngest daughter Meg's Confirmation. He ran the Chicago marathon with his son Don, and was planning a marathon with Meg. While the race itself didn't happen for him, they had many long training runs together, an experience also training with his son Dan. You can't imagine the conversations on a 2-3 hour training run one can have with someone, especially a son or daughter. Patrick ran the Boston Marathon in 1996.

His favorite distance though is the 5K. His oldest daughter, Katrina has three children that Patrick and Nancy spend

time with. The Photo here is a Mario themed party for their grandson Kieran

(between Nancy and Katrina). The

other two in the photo are Katrina's daughters. grandchildren having fun with an Italian themed photo).

Patrick and Nancy met at Loras College in Dubuque Iowa. Nancy is a 'cookier', a term applied to someone

who loves to bake. Nancy's specialty is cookies and she has over two dozen specialties she bakes. In Nancy's career she was a network administrator and later did child care.

Patrick's faith has been a central part of his life and he had many years of involvement in youth ministry. He was involved in high school youth ministry from 1992 to 2016, including working for a Catholic church in Manchester Iowa from 2010 through the 2014 school year doing youth ministry and being involved with his children through their faith formation. He gave presentations for a weekend retreat called "Light of the World". He helped with RCIA from 2004-2024.

His council in Illinois had 365 members where he served in most officer positions including Grand Knight for 2 years. While there, the council established an annual budget which approached \$100,000, and demonstrates the large number of activities they supported. Swedish Days was their largest event held in Geneva where they had a large food booth that grossed \$40,000-50,000 each year.

Their Tootsie Roll Drive preparation was extensive. They provided a volunteer incentive for men to take a shift and with support of local businesses and members to provide drawings. There were 7-8 causes the council supported and they produced short videos for those causes. Faith, family, and the Knights of Columbus sum up the life and contributions of Patrick Kelly. To say hi, contact him at 630-639-1697 / [pkol11756@gmail.com](mailto:pkol11756@gmail.com)



## Compass of Leadership—Installation of Officers

*Steve Hesprich, Immediate Past Grand Knight*

At our first council meeting of the new fraternal year, July 20, 2024, our members had a chance to meet our new District Deputy Michael Haight and have him install our new council officers led by Grand Knight, Kevin Quist. This is the first time in many years that we have had an assigned District Deputy allowing us too to have an installation.



**From left to right: Jacob Tremelling, Inside guard; Kevin Quist, Grand Knight; Howard Boppart (surrogate for Tom Jodarski, Recorder and 2nd Year Trustee; Bill Powers, 1st Year Trustee; Jon Field, Deputy Grand Knight; Steve Powers, Advocate; Fr. Cryton Outschoorn, Chaplain; Jeff Wojcik, Warden; Randy Boehm, Financial Secretary; Tony Oldigs, Treasurer; Steve Hesprich, Immediate Past Grand Knight and 3rd Year Trustee; and Michael Haight, District 20 Deputy. Not shown, Tom Jodarski, Recorder and 2nd Year Trustee, Matt Schwab, Chancellor, and Dick Schwab, Outside Guard.**

## District Deputy Michael Haight

*by Steve Hesprich*

How young can a Knight be when he joins? You may say 18. However Michael Haight joined at 17 1/2. But his story starts much before that. A lifetime Catholic, even as a boy growing up on a dairy farm near Cashton, his faith was a central part of his life and of his family. God has always been first in his life, with everything else flowing from that faith. In his 8 years of Catholic grade school, he had very strong role models with his pastor and two nuns that taught him in those formative years to place faith at the center of everything. They had a very active Knights of Columbus council, 7096, and it attracted many young members including Michael and his classmates. Michael's dad was an active Knight and saw the Knights as a place to serve and develop leadership experience.

An active Knight for most of his 27 years with the Knights, he has gone on to have many leadership roles, including 4 years as the Grand Knight of the Cashton Council. A year after he finished as Grand Knight, he accepted a role as District Deputy at the ripe old age of 23 which he did for one year!

A few years later he took the role of Financial Secretary (FS) at a time when Supreme was moving more to digital. He served 16 years as the FS in Cashton.

He moved to La Crosse to serve as the Master of Ceremonies for Bishop Callahan. After a year he stepped down from the FS role at Cashton. His work with the Bishop kept him on his toes. The Knights in La Crosse council 839 asked him to transfer his membership. He transferred his membership and served 4 years in that role. He served as MC of the Bishop for 10 years which ended when



COVID hit, and staff reductions at the Diocesan Center took place. He received a very complimentary letter from Bishop Callahan, noting in the letter Michael's caring nature, responsible character, friendship, and for Michael's strong Christian values.

Michael moved to Sparta after the pandemic serving the last of 4 years as FS of 839 in Sparta. After a short time not serving in a leadership role, he was contacted by his former Cashton Council that was struggling and asked him to take on the role of FS again which he accepted, transferring his membership back to Cashton.

He became part of the KC State team for Charity, for the Diocese of La Crosse and oversaw the tickets for the State Raffle. He was then recommended to become the District Deputy for District 20. He has had a chance to meet the leadership of each of the four councils in District 20. Previously it had been maybe 7-8 years since we last had a District Deputy. He sees his role as being there for the councils when they seek help.

His interests beyond the Knights continue to be his faith. He sings in the parish choir, Lector and a Eucharistic Minister. He enjoys periodically visiting a dairy farm to bring back fond memories of his youth, and relax.

When serving for Bishop Callahan he did more than just serve as MC for the Bishop as we see the MC serving such as for Confirmation. Anytime the Bishop was visiting a parish he had all of the coordination leading up to and including the liturgy being presided by the Bishop. He instructed all the liturgical ministers on the day of events, generally adhering to local practices of a parish. He viewed his time as MC as a mission, not a job.

We have an experienced Knight leading the District. Michael expects to attend many of our council meetings. Do take time to introduce yourself to Michael. Reach him at 608-487-2138 /michael.a.haight@outlook.com.



**Bishop William Callahan with Michael**

**The full newsletter is on the Knights web page through the St. Patrick parish web site:**

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

## Farewell Fr Jey

*Council 2770*

We learned recently that for family and health reasons, Fr. Jey will be returned to India indefinitely on September 4th. On the weekend of August 31st/September 1st after each of the weekend Masses we said our warm goodbyes to Fr. Jey. He has been a most engaged and easy to know pastor and even before he joined the Knights of Columbus, showed us his strong support of our organization. That include attending many of our council meetings, inviting our 4th degree assembly to do honor guards for our parish church interior re-dedication Mass Sep 1, 2023 and Confirmation this past May 21st.



## Compass of Minutes—June 2024

*By Steve Hesprich, Acting Recorder*

After the opening prayer and pledge, the June 18, 2024 council meeting began at 7 pm with a Supreme Council webinar entitled “Guard. Grow. Give.”. We learned about Knights of Columbus financial solutions that align with our Catholic values through the Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors and the Supreme Charitable Fund. The council meeting informally resumed at 7:47 as we learned about a knight who transferred to our council, Patrick Kelly. He was an active Knight, a 4th degree and Past Grand Knight, in Northern Illinois. We will do a profile of Patrick in the upcoming issue of “Knight’s Compass”. Treasurer’s Report: General Fund of \$5,337.86 was the starting balance. After checks the closing balance was \$3,541.34. In our Charities Account had no transactions with ending balance of \$2,189.85. A question was asked as to the amount of the CPID raised at St. Mary’s. We didn’t have that answer in the meeting. [Subsequently the amount was identified as \$533, with total gross proceeds of \$3514.18 sent to the State Council for a portion sent back to us after expenses and a percentage the State Council holds for statewide disability causes. We should receive two checks, one for a disability program at Mauston High School, and the remainder to St. Patrick Grade School.] We didn’t elect someone for the Inside Guard at the May Elections. Jacob Tremelling stepped forward after the meeting to accept that role. We ask for a confirmation to elect him to that role. He was confirmed by those present. Pro-life Wisconsin has asked as to support their fall gala by sponsoring a table. Based on the per-meal cost of \$120, a table of 8 would be about \$1,000. Due to limited funds in our treasury we did not take up a resolution to support that event. The Juneau County Committee will have a booth at the July Juneau County Fair. Members are encouraged to visit the booth if they are attending the fair. We asked for a Knight’s family to bring up the gifts at the 5th Sunday 8 am Mass, who’s intention is for all Knights of our council living and deceased. We need a volunteer to oversee the chocolate milk shake machine at the Fall Parish Festival (Sep 8th). We borrow the machine from Mauston High School. Darrell Hines first started our council using the machine. 4th Degree Report: Our 4th degree assembly, Fr. Francis Heindl passed two resolutions (copies handed out). One provides a matching program for the 4th degree uniform, up to 50% of the cost, limited by funding, currently at \$1,000 with a donation. The other resolution was for a “Flag” fund for the “God Country Flag” program being developed. It has been funded with an initial donation of \$500. There are two exemplifications in October both on Saturdays, the 12th (actual Columbus Day) in Green Bay, and the 19th in Platteville (tri-state exemplification). New Business: Financial Secretary: Dues check given to Treasurer. He has received the materials for the 2024-2025, and gave to new GK Kevin. We reviewed briefly the calendar for the 2024-25 fraternal year. The minutes for the May council meeting were approved after a correction for the Good of the Order. Walhovd is correct spelling. Fr. John Potaczek will be celebrating his 25th priestly ordination, all invited but must RSVP if staying for dinner after it. Kevin Quist would like to pursue establishing a Knights Round Table at St. Paul in New Lisbon. Good of the Order: prayers for Jeff Wojcik’s wife Janet who is in the hospital; Randy Boehm’s mother. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm

## Compass of Minutes—July 2024

*By Steve Hesprich, Acting Recorder*

The July 16, 2024 council meeting began at 7 pm with an opening prayer and pledge as well as the installation of council officers by our newly assigned District Deputy 20, Michael Haight. Following the installation the council business meeting was conducted.

The minutes of the June 18, 2024 meeting were approved after clarifications on where the CPID monies were allocated (as last year, 90% to Mauston High School and 10% to our parish school St. Patrick. We will probably see checks back from State at the September Diocesan meetings.

Chaplain’s message: He thanked the outgoing officers, and offered condolences to Kevin Quist on the death of his mother. He mentioned that Tony Oldigs is going to the National Eucharistic Conference in Indianapolis. Parish Festivals are Sept 1st and 8th at St. Mary’s and St. Patrick’s respectively. St. Mary has its 125th church building Jubilee on September 22nd.

Grand Knight Report: Kevin’s primary communication will be email though also text messages and phone calls. Treasurer’s Report: beginning and ending balance of the Charity account is \$2,189.85. The General fund beginning balance was \$3,541.34. There was one deposit of \$34.50 for a current balance of \$3,575.49.

Membership Report: Our Grand Knight will explore the possibility of establishing a Round Table at the churches associated with St. Paul in New Lisbon. Our membership quota from Supreme is 5 new members. It is not clear if this is a net number. Community Director: We are still looking for someone to run the milk shake machine at the Fall Festival; Darrel Hines may be willing to help. Randy Boehm will assist whoever agrees to run the machine. July 25th is the next Round Table at St. Mary’s.

District Deputy 20 Report: Michael Haight is our new District Deputy and he introduced himself. He is a member of the Cashton council, a Knight since 1995. Michael told us how we can use eMembership to easily have a new member join. He explained how program forms have been consolidated into a single form to make reporting easier and anyone can submit the form for any program event. There will be a District meeting on Saturday August 10, 2024 at St. Aloysius in Hillsboro. 4th Degree Report: There were two resolutions passed at our Assembly meeting. The first was to reimbursement a purchase of the 4th degree uniform up to 50% of the basic cost of a uniform. The second resolution was to establish a fund to support costs of a flag program called “God Country Flag.” There are two 4th degree exemplifications, October 12th in Green Bay, and October 19th in Platteville. Our assembly meets the 3rd Monday of the Month (most months, the day before our Council meeting). Our Council is offering to pay half of the cost of a member becoming a 4th degree member (currently \$90 is that cost, \$45 will be covered by the council).

New Business: Financial Secretary—the semi-annual Supreme Capita has been paid. We have to conduct the semi-annual audit by August 15th.

Fr. John Potaczek is celebrating his 25th anniversary as a priest on July 21st at his parish in Steven’s Point. Prayers were requested for Randy Tyler (Randy Boehm neighbor). The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

## Compass Minutes—August 2024

*Tom Jodarski, Recorder*

The Council meeting was called to order at 7pm by Grand Knight Kevin Quist. After the opening prayer and pledge the minutes of the July 16, 2024 meeting were approved.

The June 30, 2024 Audit was reviewed and approved.

Membership: our new member quota is 5 members.

The second anniversary of the establishment of the Knights Round Table at St. Mary's in Lyndon Station was celebrated with a pulpit announcement by PGK Steve and the Knights hosted an ice cream social after the 9 am Mass August 18th. Fr. Cryton mentioned Blessed Michael McGivney several times during the Mass.

Faith Director: "That Man Is You" (TMIY) is our COR program and will be starting up with weekly sessions Friday Sept 13, 2024 at 6:30 am each Friday. Will be conducted in the 2nd floor conference room at Mile Bluff Hospital. All Christian men are invited to attend.

For the September 8th St. Pat Parish Festival, Steve Powers will again oversee the machine with help from Randy Boehm. September 1st is the Fall Festival at St. Mary's in Lyndon Station. The next Round Table will be Thursday October 24th at 6:30 pm. St. Mary's 125 Jubilee Mass is September 22nd at 10 am (Note: NOT the usual 9 am Mass).

4th Degree: Our council will pay half of the \$90 fee to become a 4th degree Knight. Two members are currently planning to attend the Exemplification in Green Bay on Saturday October 12th (actual Columbus Day), Tony Oldigs and Jeff Wojcik.

District Deputy: Michael Haight thanked the council for getting the Audit Report completed and submitted to Supreme. He mentioned the importance of Safe Environment training compliance which our council has completed. This is a requirement for a council to have events and activities that might include youth under 18 years of age. DD Haight emphasized the need to attract new members. A QR code can be scanned for someone to join. The La Crosse Diocesan meeting is Sept 14th, 9am in Arcadia. GK, DGK, FS, Program and Membership Directors are asked to attend though the meeting is open to any Knight. We briefly discussed hosting the State Punt Pass & Kick Competition. DD Michael may have monthly Zoom meetings amongst the District 20 councils to facilitate mutual learning.

GK Kevin suggested a Council Church Drive on the weekend of September 14/15. A motion was approved to order two cases of Coats for Kids, one case for girls and one for boys. Our new transfer member Patrick Kelly will coordinate. A motion was passed to reimburse Steve Hesprich for Ice Cream Social costs at St. Mary's held August 18th for \$43.53. It was suggested in the future if we need to approve expenditures needed before the next council meeting, that an email approval could be done. A motion was passed to obtain food items for Pancake Breakfasts at St. Patrick and St. Mary's.

Steve Hesprich informed members of increased life insurance benefits for members of the Knights. Howard Boppart will check on the cost of improving the sign announcing St. Patrick Masses located on Highway 58 just north of Mauston. Prayer intentions were requested for Randy Boehm's mom and his neighbor Tyler. Also for the repose of the soul of member David Hamm and his family. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.

## Officers are a Compass of Leadership

*Steve Hesprich, 3rd Year Trustee*

We conducted our officer elections at our June 18th council meeting, and our newly appointed District Deputy, Michael Haight, installed the officers at our July 16th council meeting. On page 2 of this newsletter you will find the introductory message of our new Grand Knight, Kevin Quist. The list of officers may be found on the back page of the newsletter and a picture of the installed officers is on page 3.

In addition to elected officers there are also appointed officers including the Financial Secretary (Randy Boehm) and Council Chaplain (Fr. Cryton Outschoorn).



Tom

## Compass of Life—David Hamm

*Taken mostly from Obituary: <https://www.pichafuneralhome.com/obituary/david-hamm>*

David Hamm, age 89, a Knight of Columbus for 51 years, passed away peacefully at UW Hospital on Monday, March 11, 2024. He was a member of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Mauston, WI.

David was born June 11, 1934, in West Bend, Wisconsin, the son of Louis and Appolonia (Dornacher) Hamm, moving to rural Mauston (Marion Township) shortly thereafter. David spent his early years in Mauston and graduated from Madonna High School in 1952. Upon graduation, David moved to the Milwaukee area and embarked on a successful career as a self-employed general contractor, building over 100 homes in less than 20 years. David met his wife, Jacqueline, at Woodside Ranch outside of Mauston, in 1953. David and Jacqueline later married in Ottawa, IL in 1957. David and his family moved back to Mauston in 1971 so they could enjoy the rural surroundings of David's childhood where he joined the Knights of Columbus in the Solomon Juneau Council in 1973.

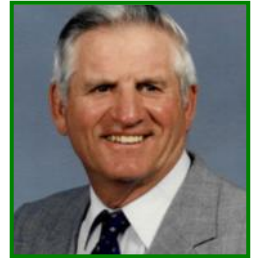
David continued his career by building commercial and agricultural buildings in the South-Central Wisconsin area until he retired in 1986. David also led the Hamm Family in the establishment of Hamm's Meat Service in 1978, which led to the eventual development of Wisconsin River Meats in Mauston. David was devoted to faith, family, and community. Over many years, he served as the Building Inspector for the Town of Raymond, Town Chairman of Marion Township, Board Member on the Juneau County Fair Board, Member of Our Lady of the Lake Parish Council, Board Member of the St. Michael's Cemetery Association, and of course was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

David was an active outdoorsman and enjoyed deer hunting, gardening, and golfing. He loved attending his grandchildren's sporting events. He and Jacqueline also enjoyed being snowbirds in Florida for almost twenty years.

He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; son, John (Mary Allison) Hamm; daughters, Lynn (Kevin) Erickson and Mary (Mike) Raabe and former daughter-in-law Diane Hamm. He was the proud grandfather of Jill (Jarrad) Glasenapp, Ken (Jacquie) Hamm, Kyle (Megan) Hamm,raig (Cole) Erickson, Dana (Jordan) Moose, and Daniel Raabe, and great grandfather to Riley, Cecil, Forrest, Madalynn and Evelyn.

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**Knights of Columbus.**

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# 4th Watch of the (K)night

Matthew 14:25



## The Flag Behind the Flag

Steve Hesprich, Committee Chair - "God Country Flag" patriotic program. A continuing series: An idea to renew our faith in a nation "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal"



The raising of the flag on Iwo Jima in WWII

In the last issue of 4th Watch of the (K)night we covered a few of the major points of this presentation program focused the program's concept, especially that of "Flag".

In this article we take a closer look at "Flag" from the program name, "God Country Flag". In particular we examine the much deeper meaning of our nation's flag—we call that the "flag behind the flag".

Johnny Cash does a wonderful tribute that



From the cover of the spoken-word tribute of Johnny Cash entitled "Ragged Old Flag" <https://genius.com/Johnny-cash-ragged-old-flag-lyrics>

helps us see that it is the sacrifices, especially of life in the wars that have been fought by our country, that help us understand the depths of our flag's meaning. It's not just the recognizable design of the flag that earns it the respect our nation holds for the flag. It is even more than the sacrifices of life. In peace time it represents the summit of our country's people's desire to be free and to help others see the example of freedom. since the inception of our country that have imbued the flag as the iconic symbol of freedom.



"God Country Flag" brings these ideas to the forefront. Most God-fearing patriots know that you don't allow the flag to touch the ground or walk on the flag. Why is that? Might it be that such an act would be the same as symbolically walking on the bodies of brave American men and women who have

served along with those who have died for this country? When it is all said and done, the flag is the heart of our national honor. Always defend the honor of our nation's flag!

## Honor for Soldier of Bataan March

Steve Hesprich, Honor Guard Member

The remains of Army veteran Jack H. Hohlfeld (1907-1942) were recently returned to his hometown of La Crosse. Hohlfeld joined the Army Air Corps at age 38, was sent to the Philippines, captured at Bataan in April 1942, and subjected to the Bataan Death March. He died of pellagra in a Japanese prison camp the day after Christmas 1942. His many decorations include the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Bishop Gerard Battersby at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Onalaska on Monday, August 26. Burial with full military honors followed at the Catholic Cemetery in La Crosse with a P38 and 3-helicopter flyover. A huge contingent of Fourth Degree Honor Guard members, 42 in total,

processed the coffin and Bishop Battersby to the altar.

Born in Vernon County and raised in La Crosse and Trempealeau Counties, Sergeant Hohlfeld voluntarily enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1938 and was assigned to the Philippines as a member of the Headquarters Squadron, 24th Pursuit Group. On Dec. 8, 1941, Sergeant Hohlfeld and members of the 24th Pursuit Group were engaged in combat and were soon overtaken by Japanese forces and forced to surrender as prisoners of war.



Sergeant Hohlfeld survived the Bataan Death March and was held captive in the Cabanatuan Japanese prisoner of war (POW) camp until his death on Dec. 26, 1942, after which he was buried in Common Grave 811 with five other service members, before being moved to the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in 1948.

Hohlfeld was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, WWII POW Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal with Foreign Service clasp, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one Bronze Service Star, WWII Victory Medal, Presidential Unit Citation with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Honorable Service Lapel Button-World War II, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, and Philippine Defense Ribbon with Bronze Star.

Members of his family have worked tirelessly to advocate for his identification, and his remains were positively identified by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency in May 2024.

"Sergeant Jack Hohlfeld was a decorated military hero who selflessly answered the call to serve and gave his life defending the values and freedoms we as a nation hold



most dear," Evers said. "It is our responsibility to make sure no hero is ever left behind, no matter how many years have passed, and it is an honor to be able to help welcome Sergeant Hohlfeld back to his home so that he may be laid to rest."

125th anniversary of the 4th degree is Feb 22, 2025



### 4th Organization—a Compass

*Steve Hesprich, Honor Guard Member*

Most people who know of the Knights but are not members, do not realize that the 4th degree is a separate, even if related, Knights of Columbus organization. Even many who are a first, second or 3rd degree member also do not understand this separation, even if they fully understand that the 4th degree of patriotism is an integral principle next to charity, unity and fraternity.

The 4th degree was not originally a part of the Knights. It was only created on February 22, 1900 as a new principle and established as a sub-organization. Here is how that organization is structured....

The organization consists of Supreme, Provinces, Districts and Assemblies. The Knight who oversees the 4th degree is called the Supreme Master. Today that is Michael McCusker. Michael McCusker has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1988, served as state deputy of Tennessee from 2019 to 2021 and was elected to the Board of Directors in August 2022 for a 3-year term.



**Michael McCusker,  
Supreme Master**

Under the Supreme Master are named provinces, each headed up by a Vice-Supreme Master. They usually consist of 4-6 Districts (different than districts of the 3rd degree). We are in the Marquette Province which consists of the Northern and Southern districts of Illinois, the Wisconsin Eastern and Western Districts, and one district in Minnesota. Our current Vice-Supreme Master is Gerry Mattix-Wand from Southern Illinois. Typically the Vice-Supreme Master is appointed for one or two 2-year terms by the Supreme Master.



**Gerry Mattix-Wand,  
Vice-Supreme Master  
Marquette Province**

Each district is headed up by a District Master. Our Western District Master is Duane Zaborowski. District Masters serve

two-year terms, often being re-appointed for an additional 2-year term. Duane is serving in his second 2-year term (will be total of 4 years). The Master has one or more District Marshalls who aid the Master in the ceremonials of the district. The Western District has one Marshall, Sir Knight Jacob "Jack" Grzywacz. We have a new Wisconsin Eastern District Master, Past State Deputy Jack Wrbanich who began his term of office September 1, 2024. More about how District Masters are chosen, after describing the next level of the 4th degree, the assembly.



**Duane Zaborowski,  
Western District Master**

Assemblies typically consist of 4th degree members from multiple councils located in a geographic area (no rule for what that looks like). The Solomon Juneau Council is one of several councils that are part of the Fr. Francis Hendl Assembly 1902. The assembly has officers that are quite similar to that of a council though most of the officer positions are named differently. The Faithful Navigator of the assembly has responsibilities like the Grand Knight of a council. The Faithful Comptroller is like the

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Financial Secretary. On a bi-annual basis, normally in conjunction with the state convention, a District meeting is held to conduct the business of the 4th degree district. They also elect three 4th degree knights to be submitted to the Supreme Master for selection as the next District Master. However the Supreme Master is not obligated to choose one of those three. They can choose another person. Each assembly that votes at the bi-annual district meeting is entitled to delegates according to the membership size of the assembly. The delegates are the Faithful Navigator and one delegate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof of each assembly. Assemblies typically meet monthly and charge a nominal annual dues (Assembly 1902 dues are \$20/year).

Members of the Knights of Columbus, be they Americans, Canadians, Mexicans, Cubans, Filipinos, Poles, or Dominicans, are patriotic citizens. We are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both. Whether it's in public or private, the Knights remind the world that Catholics support their nations and are amongst the greatest citizens. The organization of the 4th degree helps to make this possible.

### May the 4th Be With You!

*By Steve Hesprich*

Become a member of the patriotic degree so that the '4th may be with you'! Many in our country have lost the sense of patriotism. How can your sense of patriotism be invigorated? The 4th degree exemplification is the entryway to patriotism ennobled in the 4th degree. There are two such opportunities in October. October 12th, the actual date of Columbus Day, honoring Columbus our namesake, there is an exemplification in



Green Bay. Two of our members are currently planning to attend. Then the following Saturday, Oct 19th, we are in Platteville for a bi-state exemplification (Illinois has



accepted our invitation to be part of the ceremony). This will be the first time Wisconsin has hosted an exemplification in which another state's knights are invited to participate. There is a cost of \$90 to cover exemplification expenses of the District and hosting assemblies, though efforts are underway to help subsidize that cost for members of our council who choose to join then. Consider becoming a member of the patriotic degree! Details available from Steve@Hesprich.com / 608-400-2638

**REQUIREMENTS (SEPTEMBER)**

- 1 St. Mary's Fall Festival, Lyndon Station (10:00 AM)
- 2 **LABOR DAY (Observed)**
- 08 St. Patrick's Fall Festival, Mauston (11:00 AM)
- 14 KC LaCrosse Diocesan Meeting (9:00 AM - 12:30 PM)  
Holy Family Catholic Church, Arcadia, WI (223 Maple St)
- 14 (+) Council Church Drive / CXL (Due to Fr Jey Departure)
- 15 (+) Council Church Drive / CXL (Due to Fr Jey Departure)
- 16 Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902 / River Run Golf Course, Sparta  
5:00 PM Social Hour / 5:30 PM Order (Menu) / 6:00 PM Dinner

SEPTEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**REQUIREMENTS (SEPTEMBER)**

- 17 KC 2770 Council Officer Meeting (6:30 PM)  
KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston)  
Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)
- 22 St. Mary's 125th Jubilee Celebration Mass (9:00 AM)  
Bishop Battersby Presiding (??) / 4th Degree Honor Guard Requested
- 24 **KC 2770 Council Punt - Pass - Kick Competition (5:00 PM)**  
**Location TBD - Mauston, WI**
- 25 Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)
- 29 St. Patrick's 8:00 AM Mass Intention - Council Knights

**REQUIREMENTS (OCTOBER)**

- 12 State KC (Eastern District) - 4th Degree Exemplification  
10:30 AM Green Bay Area  
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 2771 Oakwood Drive, Green Bay, WI
- 14 **COLUMBUS DAY (Observed)**
- 15 KC 2770 Council Officer Meeting (6:30 PM)  
KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston)  
Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)

OCTOBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**REQUIREMENTS (OCTOBER)**

- 19 State KC (Western District) - 4th Degree Exemplification  
10:00 AM TRI-STATE / St Mary's, Platteville, WI (130 W. Cedar Street)
- 21 Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902 / Location (Skyline Golf Course, B)  
5:00 PM Social / 5:30 PM Order (Menu) / 6:00 PM Dinner
- 24 Knights of the Round Table Meeting (6:30 PM), St. Mary's, Lyndon Station
- 27 St. Mary's Pancake Breakfast (9:00 AM) / St Bridget Hall (Basement)
- 30 Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)  
**DISTRICT 20 Punt - Pass - Kick Competition (DATE / TIME TBD)**  
**Location TBD - Mauston, WI**

**REQUIREMENTS (NOVEMBER)**

- 1 **ALL SAINTS DAY**
- 3 St. Patrick's 8:00 AM - KC Council Memorial Mass  
Deceased Knights (Deceased Members - last ten years)
- 10 St. Patrick's 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pancake Breakfast  
Benefit for 8th Grade (Second Sunday) / Reardon Hall (Basement)
- 11 **VETERAN'S DAY**
- 16 (T) Council Church Drive
- 17 (T) Council Church Drive

NOVEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**REQUIREMENTS (NOVEMBER)**

- 17 Fr. Francis Heindl Assembly / KC 1902  
3:00 PM Clergy Appreciation Dinner  
Tomah KC Council Club House, 202 E Juneau St, Tomah  
Any Knight/family are welcome to attend with RSVP by 11/12
- 19 KC 2770 Council Officer Meeting (6:30 PM)  
KC 2770 Council Meeting (7:00 PM) / (Reardon Hall, St Patrick's, Mauston)  
Exemplification Ceremony (Preceding Council Meeting)
- 27 Fraternal Benefits Night (Virtual)
- 28 **THANKSGIVING DAY (Observed)**

**Officers 2024-2025**

- |                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Kevin Quist      | Grand Knight            |
| Jon Field        | Deputy Grand Knight     |
| Matt Schwab      | Chancellor              |
| Tony Oldigs      | Treasurer               |
| Steve Powers     | Advocate                |
| Tom Jodarski     | Recorder                |
| Jeff Wojcik      | Warden                  |
| Jacob Tremelling | Inside Guard            |
| Dick Schwab      | Outside Guard           |
| Bill Powers      | Trustee for One Year    |
| Tom Jodarski     | Trustee for Two Years   |
| Steve Hesprich   | Trustee for Three Years |

**2024-2025 Appointed Positions**

- Fr. Cryton Outschoorn Chaplain
- Randy Boehm Financial Secretary
- Open Lecturer
- Kevin Quist Program Director
- Jon Field Community Director
- Steven Hesprich Family Director
- Howard Boppart Faith Director
- Open Life Director
- Steven Hesprich Membership Director
- Michael Haight District Deputy 20

**Steps to Join the Knights for 1st Year FREE:**

1. Go to [www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join) (or scan QR Code)
2. Complete application, (5 minutes), enter council # 2770, & promo code **GHELGERSON** (after entering, press "Add")
3. Attend online virtual ceremony

Contact Steve Hesprich for questions on steps 1 & 2. You will be contacted for step 3.  
608-400-2638 / [Steve@Hesprich.com](mailto:Steve@Hesprich.com)



NOTE: The Supreme Master has initiated the "Korean and Vietnam War Census Program, designed to recognize all Knights who served in either conflict. If you have served 25 June 1950 to 27 July 1953 for Korea, and 3 July 1965 to 28 March 1973 for Vietnam, contact 4th degree member Steve Hesprich so you can be included in the recognition. You will receive a commemorative certificate of your service.  
[Steve@Hesprich.com](mailto:Steve@Hesprich.com) / cell/text: 608-400-2638

**Knight's Compass** is a monthly publication of the Solomon Juneau Council 2770 in Mauston, WI. Questions and requests for copies may be directed to [Steve@Hesprich.com](mailto:Steve@Hesprich.com) / cell-Text: 608-400-2638. The monthly council newsletter is published on our website.