

Knight Talk
Orate Pro Pace
Knights of Columbus
St. Clare of Assisi Council 12963

Volume Nr. 4, Issue Nr. 12

June 2005

Past Grand Knights	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
	Ron Vincoli	James L. Adams	Michael E. Dash

Grand Knight's Article:

Brother Knights,

June brings an end to my turn at Grand Knight. I hope and pray that I have served you half as well as you have contributed to the cause this Columbian Year. Last July we set a theme of "Support our Troops", and in August I shared with you my goals for the Columbian year. As I look back at the accomplishments, I am happy to say that you have performed well throughout the year. Here are the goals that I stated and some of your results:

Support our Troops. We first sent get well cards, written by the students at Laurel Ridge Elementary, to the soldiers at Walter Reed Army Hospital. Then, Jason Seiler made some phone calls and through personal contacts, was able to get donations from MCI for phone cards worth **\$25,000** as gift packages to the soldiers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Church / Building Fund. All of the profits from our KCIC program and the pancake breakfast this year were contributed to the building fund, in addition to the \$600.00 donated at the end of the year from our contribution budget.

Another great Church project was the CPR Certification for Church Ushers coordinated by Rich Stretton.

CPR training is now available for all ushers at St. Clare and a number of them have already participated. This is something that we hope that we never have to use, and will be glad that we had it if we ever do need it.

Not to forget, of course, the revitalization of the rosary program by Charlie Groom. The attendance for the rosary on the 3rd Sunday Masses has more than doubled this year. This is not an accident.

Fourth Degree. We exceeded our goal of five new 4th Degree members when our Worthy Chaplain, Fr. Lehning took his Fourth Degree. Other new Sir Knights are, Mike Dash, Rich Stretton, KC Cavallaro, Bob Strzelecki, and John Rulison.

Membership Goals. Our council goal was five, which we made, and I had hopes of doubling that. That may have been a bit of a stretch, but the good news is that we were able to get some top notch individuals into the council this year. Our new members are John Alexa, Christopher Grechek, Howard Hayghe, John Hickey, and Larry Spellman. We also were able to get a number of 1st degree members advanced to 2nd and 3rd degree. What a great job George Alexa did for us this year as Chancellor.

Continuing with membership a bit, the council had its first 1st Degree

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ceremony this spring through the hard work of Jim Adams. We are now poised to have a degree at almost any time.

Fraternity. Add at least one social event for each program. We participated in or coordinated many functions in all of the categories. There is always room for improvement, but it was a great social year with the Church Picnic, the October fest Potluck at the Caylor's, the children's Christmas party at Church, the council Christmas party at the Adam's, PGK dinner at the Nadolski's, and Pass the Gavel in June. Unfortunately we could not muster enough of the Irish for the St. Patrick Day Dance, but we did certainly try. KC Cavallaro was the guy to go to when looking for a coordinator for our social projects.

I would be remiss if I did not mention many other projects outside the scope of my initial goals, but well within the council and state goals. KOVAR, for one. John Rulison coordinated this year and was sure to leave a template for his successor. John collected \$3,809.34 for KOVAR this year, a record! John also coordinated a program to sponsor a child through the Christian Foundation for Children and the Aging, to improve the quality of his life, to spread Christ's message of charity and brotherly love, and to create awareness of the worthy organization of the Knights of Columbus.

How about Brian Turner's 5 years as Financial Secretary, or Skip

Coffman and the Henderson Road Crew twice a year, or ever faithful Bill Ossenfort. Bill, of course is the Warden, but (to my relief) also filled in for the wayward Lecturer. And of course we can't forget Jason Seiler our award winning web-master, Rob Schaefer, our Treasurer and youth coordinator, and Mike Dash, the patient editor and publisher of this wonderful newsletter.

Now I know I have missed some of you and did not mention your individual great efforts during the year. For this I apologize, but I probably should have never started naming names. But you see, I just can't help myself with all that you actually do throughout the year it is so hard not to do so.

I am so very proud to stand among each and every one of you, my fine brother knights.

Vivat Jesus
Dick Nadolski
Humble Grand Knight

Deputy Grand Knight's Article:
My Brother Knights,

I am honored to write to you as the new Grand Knight Elect. I wish to thank you for your vote, showing your confidence in my ability to lead this council. It will be my goal, then, to live up to this and prove your confidence as well-founded.

I have had the opportunity to learn from several excellent role-models when it comes to how to be

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an exceptional Grand Knight; from our Charter Grand Knight, Ron Vincoli, to Dick Nadolski, our current leader. Each gentleman showed me, in his own way, a different aspect of how to effectively lead a Council. I would like to thank these Worthy gentlemen, for their service, for their instruction, and for their friendship.

I look forward to working with my fellow Officers and Committee Chairmen. More importantly, I look forward to working and socializing with you, my Brother Knights.

Vivat Jesus!

Jason Seiler
Grand Knight Elect

Brother Knights,

As Programs Director for the Council, I feel we have had a wonderful year. We have done so much good for our Church, our Community, and our Youth! I would like to thank the specific Committee Chairmen who did such a good job this year in their fields. To Rich Stretton (Community), KC Cavallaro (Family), Rob Shafer (Youth), and Ed Zaleski (Church) - THANK YOU!

For next year, the Programs Director will be looking for good men to fill these Chairmanship roles (to include Council). If you are interested, be sure to contact Skip Coffman, who will serve as Programs Director as of 01 July. The role of Youth Chairman is already to be fulfilled by Brother Knight Ron Schaefer, the

Parish Youth Minister. Ron has some great ideas for our Youth, to include the introduction of the LIFE TEEN program.

In this vein, I have been approached by Chris Jones, Brother Knight of our Council and adept at working Youth issues. As LIFE TEEN is not cheap, nor are the other programs wisely suggested by Brother Schaefer, Chris had a suggestion. He offered that each Knight in the Council invest \$25 in our youth...in our future. If at least 10 Knights do this, Chris will match them with his own check for \$250. Brother Knights, I already have my check written. Will you join me, join Ron, and join Chris Jones in investing in the Youth of our Parish?

Vivat Jesus!

Jason Seiler, DGK
Programs Director

Knights of Columbus Council Programs

Knights of Columbus Councils are Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service organizations. Overall 1.7 million Knights (as of this month) contributed 63 million service hours and \$135 million to charitable causes this year.

How and why does this happen? As we might suspect from a Catholic organization, there is guidance as to how to go about our charitable work. The structure suggested by Supreme for local councils to use to develop is appended to this newsletter and reflects not only suggested programs

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to participate in, but also Supreme's nominal wiring diagram for getting the work accomplished.

Compare the Supreme structure to the St Clare Web Site (www.kofc-12963.org) and reflect on how well your local council is doing. Go to the Programs button on the site and re-view what you and your council have done this past year. It's amazing what a small group of sixty volunteer, part time, relatively new members of an organization can get done! Take a moment to look it over and reflect on what activities fit in with your interests, and how you will be involved for the upcoming year.

Awards received by the St Clare Council this year include State Deputy Award, Star Council Award, Kovar Goal Achiever Award, and Outstanding Website of the year Award (State of Virginia). It has been a very good year!

The purpose here is to provide a perspective for all, but especially new members, or members who don't get to a meeting often, about how a request for volunteers for a picnic, Kovar, church grounds cleanup, blood drives, etc fit into St Clare Council's overall picture. I hope this picture will be useful to you. Probably not surprisingly, I will be Programs Director next year, starting 1 July.

Skip Coffman
Council Recorder

**Council Officers,
2004/2005 Fraternal Year:**

Grand Knight – Richard Nadolski
Deputy Grand Knight – Jason Seiler
Chancellor – George Alexa
Warden–William Ossenfort
Treasurer – Rob Shafer
Recorder – Richard (Skip) Coffman
Advocate – Anthony (KC) Cavallaro
Outside Guard – Richard Stretton
Insider Guard – Robert Strzlecki
Trustee, 3 Year – Mike Dash
Trustee, 2 Year – James Adams
Trustee, 1 Year – Peter Caylor
GK Delegate: Richard Nadolski
Alt. GK Delegate: Jason Seiler
PGK Delegate: Mike Dash
Alt PGK Delegate: George Alexa

Appointed Positions:

Chaplain – Fr. Lehning
Financial Secretary – Brian Turner

Committee Chairs, 2004-2005

Church: Ed Zaleski
Youth: Rob Shafer
Community: Rich Stretton
Family: KC Cavallaro
Council: TBD
Lecturer: TBD

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...a Catholic, family, fraternal, service organization

SERVICE PROGRAM

ORG CHART

