



KNIGHTS

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi
Knights of Columbus Council 14170
Rochester, MN
Volume 7 No.1 January 2013

Notes



Council Officers

Chaplain

Fr. Mark McNea

Grand Knight

Chuck Mosier

Deputy Grand Knight

Jeff Fallon

Chancellor

John Spading

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Financial Secretary

Paul Tieskoetter

Treasurer

Bruce Anderson

Advocate

John Hunt

Warden

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Inside Guard

Dave Bauman

Outside Guard

Tom Salinas

Trustees

Duane Melvin

Dave Oeth

Dave Klinkhammer

District Deputy

Greg Sanders

Brother Knights:

As we enter the New Year, and the 2nd half of our Fraternal Year, I have a question for you. What do the words “Fraternity”, “Unity”, and “Charity” mean to you? If you were to use the actions by the majority of the membership of Council 14170 as a benchmark, these words would be meaningless. Think back – why did you join the Knights of Columbus? Was it just to get together on a regular basis and enjoy the company of your fellow Knights? Was it to be able to give just a little back to your community and your parish? Was it to be part of a global organization that contributes so much to the needy and deserving in our world? If we were to look at the actions and attendance at Council 14170, those ideals must have faded years ago.

So WHY did you join the Knights? Couldn't have been for the insurance benefits – less than 90% of our members are insurance members. The majority of you have decided that your K of C membership card is no more meaningful than your AAA card or your library card. Your membership in the Knights of Columbus is in name only – placed on a list of “active” members because you took 2 minutes once a year to mail a check. Today we have a Council that's barely functioning – we have active participation by less than 85% of our “active” members. The Programs and Activities of this Council are organized, staffed and carried out by less than 15% of our membership. 85% of you sit on the sidelines and watch – and let your fellow brothers shoulder the burden. Your most active participation is mailing a check. For the 85% of you that do nothing – you remind me of the priest and the Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan. Each had excuses not to help – probably valid in their minds – but in the end left their brother – who was in need of help. Left them for someone else to do the work. Do you really believe the brothers shouldering the responsibility for the work of this Council have lives that are any less busy than yours?

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Grand Knights Note (continued)

Over the past 2 years of my tenure as Grand Knight, we have tried to implement new programs and activities to expand our presence and visibility in our community. We changed the Free Throw contest to the week of Catholic Schools Week – we had 50 kids participate – the most in Rochester – yet District Deputy Greg Sanders and I were the only Knights there. We had a special Rosary for the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe during a children’s Mass – and only Brother Ed Fujan and I were there. I asked for volunteers to help with our wine tasting – and the same 4-5 brothers responded. I asked for volunteers to help with loading a truck with supplies for Haiti – no one showed up. I asked for volunteers to assist with the State Convention and only Brother Jim Campbell responded (Resurrection Council had 25 volunteers). I asked for volunteers for RochesterFest Parade Marshalls and only a handful volunteered. The volunteers at our Pancake Breakfasts is declining, fewer and fewer of you will help during the Tootsie Roll drive, we usually have less than a dozen members (most of them the Officers) attending our monthly meetings. The Knights of Columbus are supposed to be an organization of “Catholic gentlemen” – to be truthful, I see very little Catholic or gentlemanly qualities in the response to my pleas for volunteers, or Program Directors or for a Deputy Grand Knight. I do see a very powerful “someone else will do it” sentiment.

So again I ask – just WHY did you join the Knights?

The question to the Council is this – should this Council continue to exist? I suppose if I put that question to a vote – 85% of you wouldn’t even read the newsletter or email to even respond.

Chuck Mosier
Grand Knight
Council 14170

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST PROCEEDS TO
BENEFIT ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL -
PILOT iPad PROGRAM**

St. Francis Knights Deluxe Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday, January 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Please plan to eat breakfast at McCarthy Hall on the 20th. Proceeds of the breakfast will be donated to St. Francis School, to be used to help purchase I-Pads. St. Francis School is going to conduct a pilot program to find out just how useful I-Pads can be in education. We will have our usual pancakes, French toast, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice, fruit cocktail and coffee. Cost will be free will offering.

The bigger the breakfast participation, the more St. Francis School will receive!

**SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL WINE
TASTING**

Annual wine tasting fundraising event is set for March 2nd, 2013. We will need several volunteers to help with this event. Setting up the room, preparing appetizers, coming to the event and bringing everyone you know!

Watch for more information and a possible new look! Any questions contact:

Jeff Fallon
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507-990-1819



Happy Birthday!

January Birthdays

NICHALOS POWERS	2
DAVID KLINKHAMMER	3
ROBERT ZILLER	8
JAMES COLEMAN	9
DONALD BALTES	14
DAVID PLEVAK	16
FRANCIS HILDMAN	28
JON SCHULTZ	28

Dates To Remember

Tuesday, January 8th, 7:00 pm
Monthly Meeting in St. Clare Room

Sunday, January 20
KC Deluxe Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 10
KC Deluxe Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, May 19
KC Deluxe Pancake Breakfast