

From the Chaplain



My dear friends in Christ,

St. Paul brings into focus what we should truly treasure not only during Lent and Easter but throughout our faith journey.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)

An old story comes to us from Alexander the Great's conquest of the Persian Empire. In that conquest Alexander's soldiers overran the palace of Darius the king. Looking for things to steal, one soldier came upon a leather bag containing the crown jewels of Persia. The stones were worth millions. However, the ignorant soldier dumped them on a rubbish heap, saving only the leather bag. He ran around the camp telling the other men about the marvelous bag he'd found to carry his food.

How often in life we throw away jewels and keep only the leather bag. We do it when we embrace pleasures at the sacrifice of our bodies, when we sacrifice our marriages to satisfy our lust, when we ignore our children in the search for material security, when we sacrifice our souls in our love affair with the world. The great tragedies of life can be summed up like this: We threw away jewels and kept only the brown leather bag that they came in.

So it is with religion. We make such a big deal about the trappings of religion and ignore **that** which is vital. Paul made no such mistake. He knew what was central, essential and irreplaceable. It was the cross of **Jesus Christ**.

Maybe our prayer this Lent should be: **Loving God, every time we see the cross of Jesus Christ, may we be reminded of your gift of forgiveness, the true jewel among jewels. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

May you find the true jewel of our faith during this most holy of seasons.

Deacon Chuck



April 2010
Tootsie Roll Drive 2010

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday the 23rd, 24th and 25th of April, our council will again participate in the annual Tootsie Roll Drive. Monies raised in this event are given to local organizations that work with children who are mentally retarded. Phone calls will be made asking for your participation. Please consider giving some of your time for this event. Family members are welcomed. With the advent of technology, if you know the hours or Mass you want to work at, please email me at matlonfam@yahoo.com or call me at 763 427-0478. This will save time making calls and putting together the schedules. We look forward to making this another successful event.

Thomas Matlon, Co-chair
matlonfam@yahoo.com
763 427-0478

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember the families and friends of Sylvan Bauer and Past Grand Knight Bill Bauer in your prayers.



Prayer List

Please pray for all those on our prayer list:

Leo Kimmel (son of former brother knight Richard Kimmel); Ruth Lovsted; Jim Lovsted; Merle Mevissen; Ray Pipenhagen; Tom O'connell; Patrick O'Gorman; John Patchen; Blake Wahlberg; Beth Zeleznak (daughter-in-law of Bob); Earl Dehn; Ralph Smithers; Richard Schanhaar; Michael Lehn; Duane Bouley; Jeff Kieffer. John Gobernatz.

If you wish to add a name to the list, please contact Shield Editor Mike Petschl at 763-421-7926 or mbpetschl@msn.com.

Grand Knight's Message



Greetings Brother Knights,

I wish a blessed Easter to all brother Knights and their families. I am having the pleasure of writing this column on a day that is certainly feeling a lot like spring. All snowbirds, who have returned from their winter spots are invited to our meeting this month, as well as anyone else who has found that the cold and snow has kept them at home. We invite you to get involved in some of the fun and worthwhile upcoming activities that we have planned.

In March we had the honor to be able to recognize four Eagle Scouts in our community. By the time you are reading this, we have also held our Ham Bingo. I am thankful to Vern and the crew that put this together. Hopefully, we had a good turnout. Another year of Father Mike's Fish Fries is behind us and the crowds have been excellent and the food second to none. Our annual Tootsie Roll Drive is also upon us. Please support this effort and volunteer your time, as you are able.

We have a new fundraising opportunity that has been presented to us for the summer months. We can have a food booth at the Anoka car shows on Saturday nights. These will be joint events with St. Katharine Drexel Council. We are looking for some ideas for what we should be selling. Someone else is already doing corn dogs and the additional time needed for both the heat up and cool down of deep-frying oil after the car show is over has been raised as a detriment to doing anything like cheese curds. So, here is a chance for something new. What would you enjoy noshing on as you view some classic cars on a summer evening?

We are also requesting at this time some relief from Anoka County on our fees and expenses for the Bingo tent at the County Fair. We put forth a lot of expense and man-hours for our return and are looking for ways to improve this event.

Jim Masteller
Grand Knight

History 2018

Disasters

Okay, here they come! **1) The grasshopper infestation of 1857.** They were supposedly so thick as to blot out the sun. (No, I wasn't an eyewitness to that!) They ate all the crops in the fields and then nailed the vegetable gardens. Most lumber used for homes was non-standard which left cracks in the walls. The homeowners would cover those cracks by pasting newspaper over them. Well, the grasshoppers were still hungry and liked the paste, so they cleaned out the cracks, which opened the flood gates for their other relatives, such as mosquitoes. In 1858 they disappeared as fast as they had arrived.

2) The financial meltdown of 1857. (Yeah, that was a bad year!) They didn't even have a chance to recover from the grasshoppers when this hit. It was a national problem, but around Anoka cash was almost nonexistent. They traded goods for services and other goods. Ginseng came to the rescue when it was discovered in large quantities in the woods. It could be traded for groceries or sold for cash. This got the economy rolling again, but it still took until 1860 for the recovery to look good.

3) Here comes the Colorado beetle or potato bug in 1866! The potato crop was badly damaged the next year and with no real means to control the pests, the harvest had fallen drastically by 1869. As you can see the potato bugs didn't just pack up and leave in a year like the grasshoppers. An effective form of pesticide was eventually developed, but it still took 10 years to get the potato crop back on the upswing.

4) The great fire of 1884. It actually started on August 16th, in a roller rink located near the high school (which I believe was located where Sandburg Middle School is today) and behind the Post Office (which I believe is the building on 3rd and Main across from the Court House). Using my built in GPS system, I figure the location to be about 3rd and Monroe. Anyhow, the entire block was ablaze before firefighters were able to get to the scene. The fire quickly spread across streets igniting all the buildings, which were made of wood. They attempted to get assistance from Minneapolis, but the horse drawn fire engines would have been too late. That was probably a desperate request anyway. In all, there were 86 buildings leveled at a cost of \$646,000; a huge sum for 1884. It took out restaurants, stores, the high school, houses, a bank, an opera house, a stable, a blacksmith shop, an engine house, the local jail, two hotels and a

few mills. It may be hard to believe, but no one was killed and injuries were minimal. Mr. Goodrich said the fire is the reason that, beginning in 1885, businesses were rebuilt using bricks.

And then, of course, there was the tornado of 1939, but we've already covered that, so I'm leavin', 'cuz my time is up. See ya' next month!

Mike Petschl
historian

COUNCIL 2018 AWARDS BANQUET 2010

On May 1, a Saturday night, we will be having our Annual Awards Banquet at the Hall. We will begin at 5:30 P.M. with Social Hour and conclude around 9 P.M. after dinner, the Awards presentations, and entertainment by Mariachi America 2000. Come join your brother Knights and celebrate another great year of Service to our Church and our Neighbor. You will receive a Flyer before end of March. Please RSVP to me, Patrick Riehl by April 17. Phone number is 763-767-6062. Address is 13248 Crooked Lake Blvd NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448. Cost is \$15 per person, \$30 per couple. Thank-you!

Patrick Riehl
Trustee

Do You Know a Membership Prospect??

A first degree membership installation is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. on May 11, 2010. This would be an excellent opportunity for any prospective member to take the first step to full knighthood. There is also an opportunity on Saturday, May 1st, at Epiphany where their council is hosting a major degree. With that in mind I will be conducting two membership information sessions in April. The sessions will begin at 7:30 P.M. at the KC Hall on Thursday, April 8, and Thursday, April 15. Only one of the two sessions is needed. If you know of a potential candidate call me or just have him show up at the meeting. Call me with questions or names of potential members at 763-421-0116.

Al Kempf, Membership Director

Still Work to be Done

President Obama and top Democratic congressional leaders have launched a final all out push to enact a massive health care restructuring bill that, among other things, contains sweeping pro-abortion provisions.

On December 24 the Senate passed the pro abortion legislation H.R. 3590. However, so far the White House and Democratic leaders have been unable to muster the votes to pass the bill in the House of Representatives. This is partly because of resistance to the pro-abortion provisions among House Pro-Life Democrats, led by Brother Bart Stupak.

House Speaker Pelosi is currently writing a new bill that would make some changes to H.R. 3590 and present it in such a manner that it would not be subject to a Republican filibuster in the Senate. The changes proposed by President Obama would fix none of the abortion problems in the Senate-passed bill.

This is no time to relax. Each member of the House should be urged to oppose the pro abortion language in the health bill H.R. 3590. No matter what cosmetics are proposed or promised, this bill contains provisions that would result in abortion mandates and abortion subsidies.

It is critical that your elected Congressional Representatives and Senators be contacted to restore language of the Stupak-Pitts Amendment to H.R.3590, and not pass H.R. 3590 without it.

Visit the NRLActionCenter.com and use the form to send messages to your Senators and House Member urging them to adopt a Pro Life stance, not a Destruction of Life stance. When you plug in your mailing address your messages will automatically be sent to the appropriate House member and your two U. S. Senators.

Any questions, you can always contact Debi or myself. Your voices have been heard, but there is still work to be done.

Pat and Debi Larson



The SHIELD



Planning Meeting every 1st Tuesday

Council Meeting every 2nd Tuesday

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 4 Easter Sunday
- April 6 Planning Meeting, 7:30PM
KC Hall
- April 13 Business Meeting, 7:30PM
KC Hall
- April 23-25 Tootsie Roll Drive

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16950 Tulip St. N.W.
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KC Golf League

The Anoka Council joins with brother knights from the Osseo and Maple Grove councils in a golf league that meets at Daytona Golf Club in Dayton. The league play takes place on Wednesdays from late April to late August. Five or six tee times start at around 4:20 PM. Opportunities for both regular and substitute golfers are available. If you are interested call League Secretary, Dick Montroy, at 612-419-0419 or 763-425-5734.

Home Association Meeting

The Annual Anoka Home Association meeting will be held on May 4th at 6:30 PM at the KC Hall. The Home Association is the actual owner of the building. Any member of the Anoka Council can become a member of the Association with the purchase of a \$25.00 share. If interested plan on attending the meeting at the time stated above. The purchase of shares can be taken care of at that meeting.

Al Kempf, AHA President

New Council in Ramsey

On March 3, the feast day of St. Katharine Drexel, the new KC Council in Ramsey was officially instituted. The paper work has been submitted and a council number should be available shortly. The name of the council is St. Katharine Drexel Council # (N/A yet). We congratulate the new parish in their support of the Knights of Columbus. Welcome to our new brother knights in Ramsey.



**A Blessed Easter
to All**

New Members Installed

At the February 14th installation ceremonies the Anoka council gained two new members, Tim Parks and David Ferron. They received 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degrees. Former 1st Degree members receiving the 2nd and 3rd Degree were Clay Wallace, Jim Meyer, David Plante, Vidal Cordoba, and Ken Bright. The new council forming at St. Katharine Drexel had three members join in the 1st Degree only. They are James Gromberg, Gary VanScoy, and David Edholm. Receiving the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree were Joel Coudron and Mike Jackson. Former 1st Degree members receiving the 2nd and 3rd Degree were Bob Edholm, Mike Stuedemann, Tom Edholm, Timothy Ness, Paul Tacheny, Randy Backous, and Father Paul Jaroszeski. Father Paul will be the Chaplain of the new council. Congratulations to all these new 1st and 3rd Degree members.

Al Kempf, Membership Chairman