



**Lansing Knights of Columbus  
Council 10834  
Monthly Newsletter  
February 2017**

02 February 2017 Newsletter ver 1 as of 15Jan2017

**Meeting conducted by the Grand Knight  
on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017; over  
28 Brothers attended the meeting.**

**Meetings and Events**

- **Better Late Than Never Party; Robert Martz Hall; 6 PM, Saturday, 14 January after mass.**
- **Pro-Life Rosary & Corporate Communion: 7:30 a.m. Sunday, 5 February, 2017.**
- **Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, 8 February 2017 at 7:30 p.m.**
- **MAJOR DEGREES: Go to <http://www.kansas-kofc.org> and click on the calendar for detailed information.**

**Reminder from previous Newsletter**

- Capital Campaign Pledge: Please consider renewing your pledge. You can also send donations to:  
[Saint Francis De Sales](#)  
Attn: Building Fund  
900 Ida Street  
Lansing, KS 66043  
**Consider renewing your pledge**
- Amazon Smile Program: Members of the parish are encouraged to sign up for the [Amazon Smile](#) program that will donate .5% of a purchase to a designated charity. Parish has established a similar program with Dillon's.

**Knight of the Month (January 2017)**

**Brother Russell Craft**

Summary: Selected based on support to pro-life rosary, corporate communion, and to parish ministries.

**Family of the Month (January 2017)**

**Brother Ron Mazzia Family**

Summary: Selected based on Ron's and Nancy's significant contribution to our council, parish and local community to include their exceptional effort to lead the decorating of the Church and helping making this year's Christmas celebration "the best one ever." They also led the effort to take down the decorations, return the Church to its normal pristine condition and successfully stored the decorations for next Christmas.

**Membership: Current membership:**

- o 163 Members
- o 85 Associate Members
- o 71 Insurance Members
- o 7 Inactive Insurance
- o Note: Honorary – 3  
Honorary for Life - 8



**Grand Knight Message:** Brother

Knights, thank you for a great year.

Your hard work last year made a difference in many lives and I know that

we are going to continue to be agents of Christ's mercy in 2017. In support of that, I want your ideas about any service projects that our Council could do this year. I think it would be something that could excite some of members who normally do not attend our business meetings. I will brainstorm some ideas as well. I look forward to what we will accomplish this year. **Brother Gates Brown**



### **Chaplain's Corner: Help Fund our Youth Group**

We're really blest at St. Francis de Sales by the thriving and active youth program headed up by Jake and Angela Gillen. They lead a wide-ranging list of activities each month: they take leadership roles at Mass, have serious discussion on important topics, they do service project, and have fun.

An important part of the funding for our youth comes from our parish's participation in the Dillon's Community Rewards Program.

When you use your Dillon's Plus Card, a percentage of your purchase price is donated to our parish. This won't take away from your own rewards or fuel points, but it is a way you can help your Church family. To participate, log on to:

**www.dillons.com/communityrewards** and create an account, (if you are not yet enrolled in digital coupons you must do this first at Dillons.com, then proceed to enroll in the communityrewards), choose **77540**, our parish organization number. If you don't have a Dillon's Plus Card, please talk to any store associate and start earning points today. We received a \$682 check from Dillon's for last quarter's purchases! This is a very easy way every Knight's household can support this very important ministry.

**Fraternally,  
Father Bill**



### **Field Agent Report: Ask Eligible Men to Join.**

As discussed at this month's council meeting, I want to address the growth of the Order. Membership growth is the fuel that keeps this great fraternal engine running. All of our charitable works at the council, state, national and international level are thanks to our hard-working members. And more members equals more charity. We must remember that we have a duty to ask each and every Catholic gentleman to join our ranks for the good of the Church, the community and the Order.

We often "forget" to ask men to join and to bring their families into the Knights of Columbus family. You probably know an eligible Catholic man you could ask today. What if the only reason he hasn't joined is because no one has asked him yet?

When telling a prospect about the strengths of the Order, don't forget our greatest fraternal benefit: our insurance program. This is often a "selling point" to a potential member who is on the fence. Many members become Knights simply to be able to buy coverage to protect their family. Soon after, they realize the good our charitable works do for their community, and they are proud to be members.

As your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, I look forward to helping us grow in fraternity in any way that I can.

**Brother Dave Soukup  
Knights of Columbus Agent  
Office 913-680-0797  
Mobile 913-240-4545**

## Council Meeting Highlights

- **Treasures Report (Brother Don Studnicka):** Provided detailed accounting for council funds from a treasures perspective.
- **Financial Secretary's Report of Receipts of Meeting (Brother Jim Scherer):** Provided detailed report on membership, notifications to suspend, dues status and a breakdown of funds in each of our accounts. Brother Scherer will send the required forms to Supreme to complete the suspension of 7 delinquent members who showed no intent to remain in the council. Identified that the process will begin for 4 other delinquent members. Relayed that 26 individuals will be celebrating a 5 years of service increment this coming year, 8 for 25 consecutive years, 4 new Honorary and 1 Honorary for Life. This year will Mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of our council. Annual dues notifications will be sent out this month, reminded members to turn in their fraternal hours forms.
- **Grand Knight's Report-Awards:**
  - Family of the Month for November – Brother Jim Cunningham Family
  - Family of the Month for December – Brother Bob Riese Family
  - Knight of the Month for January – Brother Don Studnicka
  - 10 Year Certificate - Brother John Twohig
  - Honorary Membership – Brother Joe Bailey
  - Family of the Month for January – presented by the Financial Secretary – Brother Gates Brown Family

### **Other Announcements:**

- Relayed that **Brother Brad Cox** was selected the “*Barbershoper*” of the Year for Leavenworth.
- Grand Knight and district deputy discussed the aging Knight population, the fact that the State has more members over 80 than under 40. Need to recruit younger Knights to ensure the vitality of the council and parish. The need for greater focus on Domestic Church Projects to be discussed at a future council meeting.
- Reminded the council of the Better Late than Never party for Saturday, 14 January after the 5PM Mass in Robert Martz Hall.
- **Correspondence:**
  - Thank you note from Catholic Charity for the 2 cases of winter coats we donated
  - Thank you note from the City of Lansing for supporting the Christmas Tree fund
  - Thank you note from Seminarian George Calvert SJV Seminary for the semi-annual support
    - Noted no Second Harvest Request
    - Focus Support Request – no action taken
    - Thank you from St. Benedictine Aby in the form of being listed as a significant contributor in their magazine.
  - Council received a 1st Degree Ceremonial DVD that can be used to either help review how to conduct the ceremonial or have new members review the DVD with selected council leadership.
- **Membership Director (Brother Bob Hall):** Nothing to Report.
- **Report of Admissions Committee and Reading of Applications for Membership:** Council received no applications
- **Report of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree (Brother Bob Hall):**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Degree exemplification at Holy Trinity in Lenexa on 18 March.

- **Sir Knight Thomas Johnson**, the Faithful Navigator at the Holy Angels Assembly invites current 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees and their spouse to a dinner at Holy Angels on 29 January (5:30 PM social, 6 PM dinner). They will review the benefits and purpose of joining the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree. Holy Angels has extended the invitation to our council.

- **Program Director (Brother Dennis Huffman):** Nothing to Report
- **Church Director (Brother Jim Cunningham):** Thanked the Knights for their support of Pro-Life Rosary and Corporate Communion; recognized three Knights that supported the taking down of Christmas displays and storage of displays for next year. Announced that next Pro-Life Rosary and Corporate Communion would be held on 5 February and passed around the signup sheet.
- **Community Director (Brother Tom Young):** Nothing to Report
- **Council Director (Brother Jim Scherer):** Council unanimously selected **Brother Russel Craft** as February Knight of the Month.
- **Culture of Life Director (Brother Eugene Young):** Reinforced that the Play Pen for BrithRight will be in the back of Church throughout the month of January.
- **Family Director (Brother Jim Fricke):** Council unanimously selected **Brother Ron Mazzia** Family of the month for January.

- **Youth Director (Brother Bill Butler):** Free Throw contest scheduled for January 22, 2017 at the Lansing Activity Center. Set up at 12 PM, doors open for warmup at 12:30 PM, contest starts at 1PM should be completed by 2:30 PM. Ages 9-14. We have advertised at local school and through church bulletin. District competition will be held the following Sunday at IMAC Gym conducted by Council 900.
- **Chancellor (Brother Thad Brzustowicz):** Updated the council on this year's vocation poster contest theme was "Passing on the Faith." The contest will start Sunday of 22/23 January and conclude ~ 28 February. The council will vote to establish this Fraternal Year winners at the 8 March business meeting. Packets and poster material provided to Sr. Josephine for the religious education classes and working with the youth group.
- **Report of Auditors and Trustees:** Nothing to Report
- **Report of Standing Committees:** Nothing to Report.

### Old & New Business:

- **Better Late Than Never Party:** Council unanimously passed a motion to do the gift exchange at the "Better Late Than Never" Party on 14 January after 5PM mass in Robert Martz Hall. Pot Luck – bring a dish to share, BYOB/Drinks, Bunco, and Gift exchange. Council unanimously approved allocating \$50 for Bunco prizes. Brother Mike Keohane will run the gift exchange, and Dennis Huffman the Bunco.

- **Support to Syrian Refugees:** **Brother Mike Keohane** provided an update on his investigation of how the council could support Catholic Syrian Refugees. He relayed that the council could support through a fund already set up by the Knights of Columbus (Supreme). After a discussion, the council unanimously approved donating \$500 to the Knights of Columbus fund in support of Syrian refugees.
- **Chris Cakes Breakfast:** **Brother Don Portis** reminded the council of the next Chris Cakes Breakfast on 19 February. Same set up and tear down times
- **Greenway Auction:** **Brother Don Portice** requested support for the Greenway Auction in February. Greenway Auction Co-Chair Woman Denise Portice requested the Lansing Knights support at the 2017 Greenway Auction on February 25, 2017, between the hours of 4PM to 7PM. You would be assisting Mr. Leo Fink, in the Catered Food Section helping with set up and replacing items as needed on the serving line. A number of Knights signed up. Please consider donating about three hours of your time to Charity in the name of the Leavenworth Regional Catholic Schools Greenway Auction. If you are interested in volunteering please Contact Donald or Denise Portice at 913 250-0232 or 913 775-3363 or the Leavenworth Regional Catholic School Development Office at 913 682-6020.
- **New Council Project:** **Brother Ron Mazzia** made a motion that the Council

take on the project of assisting the parish in the annual set up and take down of the Christmas decorations and displays. The motion was unanimously approved. Ron was volunteered to be the council POC. Will discuss at our Nov/Dec 17 meetings.

- **District Deputy Update:** **Brother Greg Beck** relayed the following:
  - Discussed the Archdiocese decision to close IMAC based on low enrollment and reminded the council of the town hall meeting at 7PM in IMAC Gym on 12 January to discuss the decision with families.
  - Reminded the council of the variety of reports coming due to include the fraternal hours report at the end of the month and semi-annual audit in Feb.
  - Appreciated the council “cleaning up our roles” to remove long time delinquent members.
  - Praised the council for the professional manner in which **Brother Bill Butler** and his support team administer the free throw contest.
  - Relayed that the purpose of the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree DVD was to enable councils to quickly complete first degree ceremony for new member to get them on the roles and to a local 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree.
- **Good of the Order:** Council Lecture **Brother Edd Hingula** symbolically reminded members to bring in their aluminum cans in support of the seminarian fund. He also reviewed a local newspaper announcement from another council. He then encouraged our current public affairs representative to improve his performance in this area.

## **Knights in Action**

### **Knight and Family of the Month**



**Grand Knight Gates Brown** congratulates **Brothers Russell Craft (Knight)** and **Ron Mazzia (Family)** on their selection as Knight and Family of the Month for February. **Mother Theresa and Brother Don Portice** decided to photo bomb the picture.

### **Yes Knights can carry a tune**



**Brother Brad Cox** is congratulated by our Grand Knight for being selected Leavenworth "Babershoper" of the year.

### **Honorary Member**



Congratulations to **Brother Joe Bailey** on becoming an Honorary Member. Joe highlighted that "this is one of the few benefits of getting older."

### **Pro-Life Rosary & Corporate Communion**



**Brother Gates Brown** and his daughter **Anna** are regular participants at the monthly Pro-Life Rosary.



**Brother Thad Brzustowicz** performs sacrificial duties prior to Corporate Communion. Thad consistently volunteers at Corporate Communion.



Seven Knights performing Eucharist Minister duties at Corporate Communion. Additionally **Brother Mike McCoy** is the Adult Altar Assistant.

## Christmas Preparations

**Brother Ron and Nancy Mazzia** organized the decoration of the church for Christmas.



**Brother Ron** along with **Brother Edd Hingula** bring the trees up from the basement storage area.



Best Christmas Decorations Ever



**Brother Ron** with **Brother John Twohig** putting away the decorations for next year.

## Better Late than Never Party

At the January meeting, the council approved the Better Late Than Never Party



that included of Pot-Luck, Gift Exchange and Bunco. Fourteen Knights & Spouses enjoyed a great evening – and made it home before the ice storm.

### **Brother Edd** on the prowl



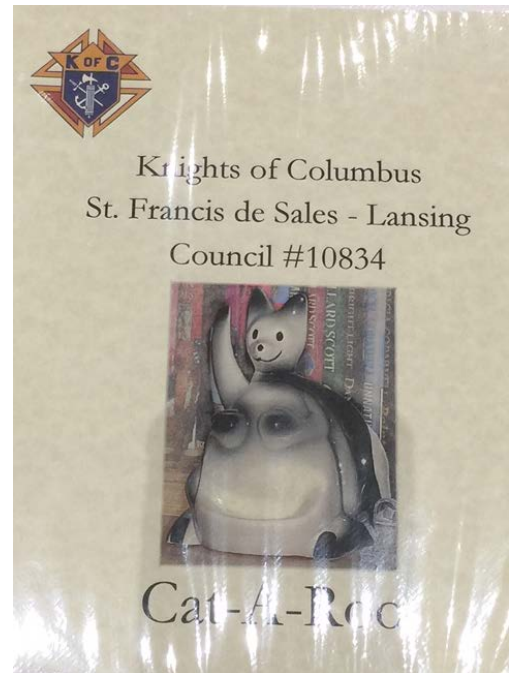
During the gift exchange, **Brother Edd** first took **Brother Roberts** Kansas City Chiefs long sleeve shirt . . . then



**Edd** struggles with Kathryn **Huffman** over a welcome mat as **Marty Brown** just shakes her head “who is this guy.”

## **Return of the Cat – A – Roo**

After a several year absence (while visiting his home country of Australia) the



### **CAT – A – ROO** returns



The CAT – A – ROO will reside with **Brother Bob** and **Marietta Riese** for the next year and enjoy a bucket of beer and snacks with Bob watching the Chiefs – Steelers game. Edd is holding the CAT – A – Roo historical record that Bob will add to this coming year.

*Brother John Twahig*

*Editor, publisher, & photographer*