



KNIGHT TIMES



Ascension Council #9285
Manassas, Virginia

Our 24th Year!

Year 24 --- Number 4 – January-February 2010

<http://ascensioncouncil.org>

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT



Brother Knights,

Happy New Year to you and your families! I hope 2010 sees a continued recovery in the global economy which has impacted so many members of our order and the Catholic communities around the world. Our first six months of this fraternal year certainly ended on a high note with the Parish Holiday Breakfast on December 27th. The turn-out from the Parish was fantastic and I certainly saw a lot of smiling faces. It must have been that \$3 price! Great job as usual from our organizers John Brady, Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK and his lovely wife Dixie.

I would also like to give special recognition and thanks to Brother George Darnell. As a former Grand Knight, he has continued to shine as one of our most active and outstanding members. He was recently selected as the Honoree for the 2nd Degree Ceremony held at JP1 Council on December 8th which our council hosted.

The Mid-Year State Meeting will be held on January 9th in Virginia Beach and both myself and my Deputy, Rick Crete, will be attending. We look forward to updating you on the current "State of the Union" at the January business meeting.

Bob Garman

Grand Knight

703-331-3060

RMGarman@comcast.net

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Our Knight of the Month for November was PGK Tom Zum Brunnen. Tom took the lead for our council in helping Ronnie with the refinishing of the entry doors to the Parish. I know many of our other brothers assisted to include Carl Birchard and Steve Palkovitz. I apologize in advance to any other brothers I omitted. Tom is a former Grand Knight and also serves as our VDOT Road Clean-up Chair and as Parish Council President.

Our Knight of the Month for December was Brother Ray Stearns. Ray did a first-rate job this holiday season in running our Keep Christ in Christmas card sale programs. He set a record number for sales and really helped us make up for some of our revenue shortfalls from Nissan.

Brother John Brady has been selected as our Knight of the Month for January. Recently returned from a six-

month deployment to Afghanistan, he did a superb job organizing and hosting a recent holiday Breakfast Brunch for Sacred Heart Parish. About 150 people attended and the council made a nice profit to boot. John is a model Knight, is an active member of the church choir, and will be leading our KOVAR drive this spring.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

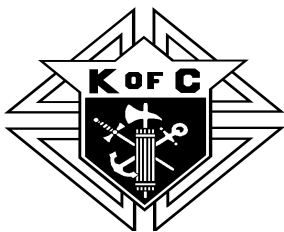
Our Family of the Month for November was the Watjens. Dave Watjen is a recent addition to our council and has been a very valuable member. In November, he and his son Martin participated in a council project with Prince William County to remove graffiti from a local shopping center. The event was also filmed for advertising on the Prince William monthly program shown on Comcast. Dave and Martin did a great job and got along well with all the other council members. Dave also sings in the Church Choir and Martin serves as a lector. We are certainly pleased and proud to have the Watjen family as part of our council.

Our Family of the Month for December was the Befumos. Jeff Befumo is a PGK and Former District Deputy and currently serves as our council Financial Secretary. As such, he is simply invaluable to our council. Jeff and his lovely wife Karen recently hosted our Annual Council Christmas Party and well over 40 people attended including our Parish Pastor Father Mike Bazan. A great time was had by all and we certainly appreciate Karen and Jeff for sharing their home with us.

The January Family of the Month is the Richards. Brother Bob Richards and his lovely wife Diane hosted a terrific New Year's Eve celebration for the Knights and many of their neighbors. Bob is a new addition to our council and we are sure pleased and proud he decided to join our group.

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The following activities are scheduled for the next two months.

Church

The Director's objective for Church activities is to provide council involvement in, service to, and/or increased council commitment to our Church, clergy and religious, to enrich the spiritual involvement of individual members in their Church and its activities, and to promote vocations to the religious life.



Coffee & Donuts service are served by the Knights after each Mass on the first Sunday of each month.

The final numbers from the December 27th pancake breakfast are shown below. We would also like to thank all the volunteers -- we couldn't have done it without them.

We served 149 paid persons—does not include children under 5. We grossed \$486.43 and after subtracting \$186.88 for supplies ended with a profit of \$299.12.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be held on February 16th pending confirmation we can reserve the Parish Hall.

Community

The Director's objective for Community activities is to increase the council's awareness of its life within the community and to promote council as well as individual involvement in the community.



There will be a parade marking religious freedom in Virginia. It will take place in Fredericksburg on Saturday, January 9th. All are welcome to attend.

Council

The Director's objective for Council activities is to increase fraternalism among members, to provide enjoyment to members and their families, to ensure service to the brotherhood and advancement in the Order's degrees.



At the December business meeting a motion was made, seconded and tabled to contribute \$500 toward paneling for the church. This will be voted upon at the January business meeting.

Grand Knight Bob Garman has completed the annual service reports for our council. Many thanks go to the many brother knights who provided inputs and accomplished all the great volunteer work for our church and our community.

We will have our annual Super Bowl Sub Sale the weekend of February 6th and 7th. We will make subs on Saturday starting at 9 AM and on Sunday starting at 7 AM. We will sell subs after all Masses.

For the January social, you and your family are invited to attend the 5 PM Mass on January 16th and then head south to the Cracker Barrel in Dumfries (off Route 234) immediately afterwards. We will meet in the lobby of the church and then head off. The estimate start time for dinner is 6:45 PM if some members can't make the Mass.

The Cracker Barrel was selected because we don't have to pay a Group rate, have a set menu, give advance numbers in advance and we can have individual checks. We ask that you RSVP to our Grand Knight ASAP so we can give them an updated number.

The annual Virginia State Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Select Koger Conference Center in Richmond, Virginia in mid-may. The hotel cost is \$92 per night which is a break over the best price on Expedia (\$109). The convention kicks off with Mass early Friday morning and then a day of golf at the "world" famous Independence Golf Club. There will be a banquet Saturday night and the event ends noon on Sunday. Convention registration forms are due by April 15th all this information is available on the state website, www.vakofc.org. Let Bob Garman know if you would like to attend and just as important whether you want to play golf since we can register one foursome.

The photo to the right shows the cake that was served following the Mass for our departed council members. This is expected to become an annual event in November.





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Family

The Director's objective for Family Activities is to involve the entire family in the activities of the Knights of Columbus, to strengthen family life, and to care for widows and children of deceased members.



There are no family events scheduled in January or February.

Youth

The Director's objective for Youth activities is to provide opportunities for all youth to become personally involved and committed to programs for improvement of their physical, social, and moral development.



On Saturday January 23rd, the Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual free throw contest for boys and girls ages 10-14 in the Holy Family Gym from 10 AM to 12 PM. Awards will be presented afterwards to the best free throw shooters in each age group for both boys and girls. There is no fee for entry, and pre-registration is not required. Let Bob Garman or Rich Crete know of any likely participants. PGK Brother Rick Johnson will be assisting for our council.

DEGREE SCHEDULE

Below are listed the remaining degrees scheduled in the 2009-10 Fraternal year.

- 1st Degree - Council #7165
Jan. 6, Mar. 3, Apr. 21, May 19
- 1st Degree - Council #8183
Jan. 19, Mar. 16, June 15
- 1st Degree - Council #9285
Feb. 11, Apr. 8
- 2nd Degree - District #12 Council #7165
Jan. 19, Mar. 4, Apr. 13, May 25
- 3rd Degree - Jan 30 #6292 Fairfax
- 3rd Degree - Feb 20 #6175 Sterling
- 3rd Degree - Mar 21#2473 Arlington
- 3rd Degree - Mar 27 #367 Norfolk
- 3rd Degree - June 5 #6546 Richmond
- 3rd Degree - June 6 #3548 Norfolk
- 3rd Degree - June 12 #5332 Manassas

MEN'S CONFERENCE

On March 13, 2010 the Diocese of Arlington will hold its inaugural Men's Conference at St. Joseph's Banquet Hall in Herndon. The conference aims to awaken in men a sincere love of Christ, and a renewed dedication to our mission as servants of Christ and brothers in the Church. We will be inspired by outstanding speakers including Rep. Chris Smith and Father Paul Scalia, and will celebrate our brotherhood with a Mass by Bishop Paul Loverde. We expect about 1,000 men to attend, and breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Our theme for this year is 'Living Faithfully in Challenging Times'. We plan to cap the day off with a talk by famed Vietnam POW Capt. Guy Gruters, who will talk about his five years in captivity and how his faith sustained him and led him to be a stronger, more faithful man. For more information please visit www.arlingtondiocese.org or email Tom O'Neill at familylife@arlingtondiocese.org.

KOVAR UPDATE

Last year KOVAR donations enabled us to lend \$150,000 to buy a group home in Northern Virginia and provided \$536,644 in grant aid to 38 organizations throughout Virginia including Special Olympics of Virginia and Easter Seals Virginia. More needs to be done. So far this year requests to Kovar exceed these amounts while donations have declined. Last year Ascension Council collected \$4,149 dollars, which, like the statewide collection, was down over 20% from previous years.

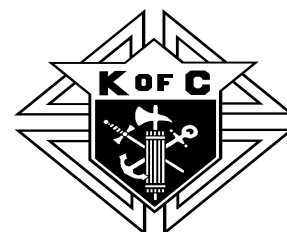
This is the time when many of us will have the chance to donate to organizations through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), United Way or other campaigns. CFC lists Kovar with this description: "Give citizens with intellectual disabilities the chance to succeed. We provide grants for equipment, furniture, transportation and job skills training so they can live independently." The CFC code for Kovar is 42569.

By designating Kovar in these campaigns, you can help the Intellectually Disabled. Ascension Council's Kovar drive can be credited with this donation by sending a copy of your designation to Jeffrey Befumo, who is the Treasurer of Kovar.



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BUSINESS/SERVICES LIST

At one of the recent quarterly meetings a suggestion was made to provide a list of businesses/service available from Brother Knights which councils and other Brothers might use/support in these trying economic times. There is such a list which was established by the State Deputy last Spring. The link is on the State website [left side 3rd from the top] under VA KofC Business Forum - Do Business with a Knight.

The forum does require registration to keep out the spammers. Once registered and logged in there are Retail and Service offerings listed. As a registered member of the forum you can also list your retail or service offerings. Please let members of your council know of this forum so Virginia Knights can support one another.

CONSIDER YOUR CALL

*"Each Christian vocation comes from God and is God's gift."
(Pope John Paul II)*

Consider Your Call is a set of regional gatherings that will be hosted by the Knights of Columbus in conjunction with the Vocations Offices of the Diocese of Arlington and Richmond. These gatherings are for men and women (ages 16-35) who are interested in learning more about how they can discover the call of God in their own lives. These social events, which will take place in various geographical regions of both diocese' will provide an opportunity for young men and women to reflect, ask questions, and interact with other men and women who are discerning the Lord's call in their own lives.

Who will lead these events?

The Vocations Director for each diocese will lead the regional gatherings taking place in his respective diocese. In addition, participants will be able to listen to other priests, deacons, seminarians, and married couples as they describe how God directed them to discover their own unique vocation in life.

Will this event be only for men considering the call to the priesthood?

No, this program is not designed to force anyone to become a priest! However, through presentations and discussions, participants will have the opportunity to discover the many ways that God speaks to each of us through our hearts, and also the unique ways that God invites some men to consider a life of ordained ministry.

What role will the Knights of Columbus play in order to insure the success of these important vocation awareness programs?

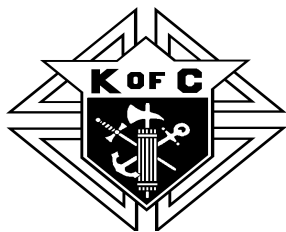
Fr. Brian Bashista (Arlington Diocese) and Fr. Michael; Renninger (Richmond Diocese) want to offer a 'friendly challenge' to each and every Council in the Commonwealth of Virginia:

"We challenge each council to send us the names of at least three individuals (from the parish or parishes you represent) whom you have invited to participate in these gatherings. While the vocations office will follow up with a formal written invitation, we will rely on you to talk to at least three individuals from your parish who would benefit from this kind of gathering. Invite them and send their names on to us for follow-up and formal invitation."

Look around your parish. In almost every parish in the Commonwealth of Virginia, there are young Catholic individuals who would benefit from a time of discernment in discovering God's calling, whether it is to be marriage, the priesthood or other religious life vocation.

You know these men and women in your local parish. At upcoming Council meetings, pray about the men or women in your parish who should be invited. Create a list of names. Prioritize that list. We plan to offer these gatherings on a regular basis, so if some of them cannot attend this year, we can always invite them next year! Then, talk those individuals who are at the top of your list. If they are under 18, be sure to talk to their parents too! When you approach one of these potential candidates, don't just say, "Hey, you should go to this thing!" Instead, try this approach: "The diocese and the Knights are hosting a gathering designed to help men and women listen better to God's call in their lives. We decided to invite you, because....." Then, tell them what it was about them that made them come to mind. Things like, "we decided to invite you because you are faithful about coming to Mass," or "because you are so active in youth ministry," or "you strike us as someone who is serious about his/her faith." Even if they are unable to participate in the program, they will have received a positive statement from the Knights of Columbus.

How will the invitation process work? There are several ways in which to register - On line at www.vakofc.org/consideryourcall and email to: kellymortensen@comcast.net



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MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

The following Ascension Council knights will be celebrating their membership anniversaries in January or February (years as a knight shown):



Robert Salm (33)	Kenneth Mathiasmeier (30)
Art Bohn, CGK (26)	Tony Bado, PGK (23)
Wallace Geiger (17)	Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK (16)
Don Lewandowski (16)	Al Litchfield, PGK (16)
John Murray, PGK (14)	Mike Romero, PGK (14)
Peter Sisa (14)	Joseph Briganti (13)
John Hon (13)	Paul Loving (13)
Ken Henz (12)	Kerri Crutchman (11)
John Genauldi (11)	Don Hajec (11)
Emmanuel DeVera (10)	Timothy Driskill (9)
Paul Neuzil (9)	Michael Saller, Sr. (4)
John Schroeder (4)	Bill Miller (3)
Dave Watjen (3)	Cosmas Emegbusim (2)
Alfredo Escobar (2)	Joseph Gozzo (2)
James Pritchert (2)	

PRO-LIFE

As you already know for watching the news, the Senate version of the Health Bill provides for abortion funding. The House bill does not. Please contact your congressman and senators to make sure there is no abortion funding in the final bill.

The March for Life is this month. Details on the event are at: <http://www.marchforlife.org/>. Below is an excerpt covering the main march:

37th Annual March for Life
Friday, January 22, 2010, noon at the Mall and 7th Street
Theme: "Stand Up Now - Unite for the Life Principles - No Exception! No Compromise!"

March along Constitution Avenue, up Capitol Hill to the Supreme Court, and to the Congress. Be sure to visit the office of your Congressman and two Senators to let them know that you are here on a work-day in mid-winter to overturn Roe v. Wade on behalf of the innocent preborn boys and girls, and to UNITE ON THE "LIFE PRINCIPLES!"

March for Life Fund will send a letter to Washington Officialdom explaining the Theme and Life Principles — a letter to the President, Supreme Court Justices, and each Member of the House and the Senate.

BIRTHDAYS

The following Ascension Council knights will be celebrating January and February birthdays:

Benedicto Agoo	Tony Bado, PGK
Ray Bazan	Jeff Befumo, PGK
George Darnell, PGK	Ron DeSpirito
Robert Frappier	John Grenier
Bill Hechmer, PGK	John Hon
Joe Marshall	Ken Mathiasmeier
Bill Miller	Gerald Moore
Lance Sherrill	Ray Stearns
Thomas Wolter	James Yuengert
Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK	

EDITOR'S CORNER

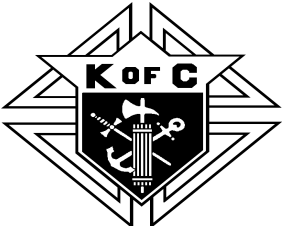
Welcome to our latest newsletter. Thanks to those who contributed. We have held this back to capture the latest information from the state meeting. This is why it is important ALL council members have their emails up to date and active accounts on AIRSET. If you have not been receiving any AIRSET correspondence, please contact me with your email address and when you receive the notification from AIRSET, please confirm your account. There are still many members who do not receive these newsletters because I do not have your email address...please send me your email if you can.

I would like all future newsletter inputs no later than the **Saturday** before the 1st Thursday of the month of issue. For the February calendar/event summary I will need any changes or updates by January 30th. For the March/April issue I will need articles by Saturday, February 27th. *Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan ahead to meet these deadlines. If I don't get inputs you don't get a newsletter...*

See a softcopy at [http://ascensioncouncil.org/Newsletters and Calendars/koc0110.pdf](http://ascensioncouncil.org/Newsletters%20and%20Calendars/koc0110.pdf). Please email me with your contributions at voyagerjoe@comcast.net.

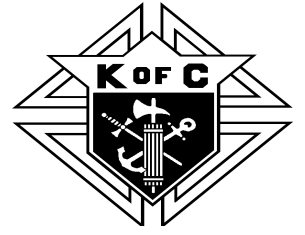
Disclaimer: the views and opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the KOC.

Editor
Joe Marshall
Advocate
voyagerjoe@comcast.net

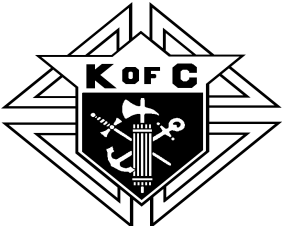


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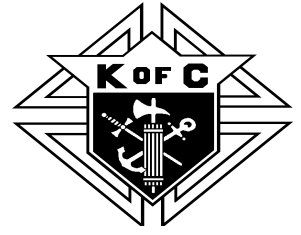


INSERT JANUARY CALENDAR HERE

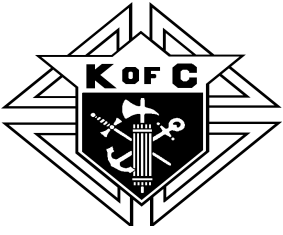


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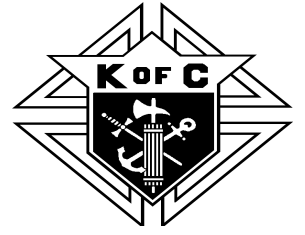


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INSERT MARCH CALENDAR HERE



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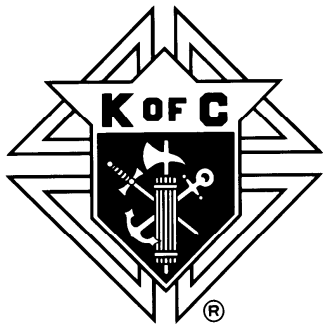


Ascension Council 9285, 2009–2010 Fraternal Year Positions

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
Chaplain	Father Mike Bazan	590.0030	MJBazan@comcast.net
Grand Knight	Bob Garman	331.3060	RMGarman@comcast.net
Deputy Grand Knight	Rick Crete	730.3869	RandPCrete@verizon.net
Program Director	Rick Crete	730.3869	RandPCrete@verizon.net
Financial Secretary	Jeff Befumo, PGK	791.6748	JBefumo@hotmail.com
Recorder	Bill Miller	794.8818	bill.miller@serco-na.com
Lecturer	George Darnell, PGK	791.5153	DarnellGD@comcast.net
Treasurer	Jerry Michonski, PGK	791.3148	JerryandGiulia.Michonski@verizon.net
Chancellor	Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK	794.8413	ThomasZB@comcast.net
Advocate	Andy Baronavski, PGK	791.6420	andy.baronavski@verizon.net
Warden	Steve Palkovitz	491.9174	Spalkovitz@comcast.net
Inside Guard	Carl Birchard	794.0529	BirchardC@saic.com
Outside Guard	Rick Ontko	730.9453	SirRick54@gmail.com
	Jack Kapp	303.7126	JKapp3@verizon.net
3 Year Trustee	Steve Trotman, PGK	794.1137	SDTrotman@comcast.net
2 Year Trustee	Doug Blair, PGK	583.5937	DougBlair@aol.com
1 Year Trustee	Rick Johnson, PGK	791.2002	Stumpa10@comcast.net
ARC Home	Bryan Roberts, PGK	580.8660	BryanR@excaliburgrpllc.com
Church Director	Carl Birchard	794.0529	BirchardC@saic.com
Council Director	George Darnell, PGK	791.5153	DarnellGD@comcast.net
Donut Duty	Rick Ontko	730.9453	SirRick54@gmail.com
Family Director	Jack Kapp	303.7126	JKapp3@verizon.net
Community Director	Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK	794.8413	ThomasZB@comcast.net
Youth Director	Jerry Michonski, PGK	791.3148	JerryandGiulia.Michonski@verizon.net
Membership/Retention Director	Bryan Roberts, PGK	580.8660	BryanR@excaliburgrpllc.com
KCIC Chairman	Ray Stearns	791.2465	RSTearns@worldnet.att.net
KOVAR Chairman	John Brady	680.5135	JohnBrady01@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Joe Marshall	791.4119	VoyagerJS@earthlink.net
Pro-Life Chair	Bob Garman	331.3060	RMGarman@comcast.net
Roses For Life	Jack Kapp	303.7126	JKapp3@verizon.net
Sub Sales Chairman	Steve Palkovitz	491.9174	Spalkovitz@comcast.net
Nissan Chairman	Art Bohn, CGK	368.6964	Arthur.Bohn@vion.net
Parish Brunch Chairman	Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK	794.8413	ThomasZB@comcast.net
VDOT Road Cleanup	Tom Zum Brunnen, PGK	794.8413	ThomasZB@comcast.net
Website Webmaster	Joe Marshall	791.4119	VoyagerJS@earthlink.net
Degree Team Leader	Andy Baronavski, PGK	791.6420	andy.baronavski@verizon.net
District Deputy	Hector Dittamo	491.5585	HDittamo@yahoo.com
District Warden	Gary Lee	490.5394	GLeeSR@comcast.net
KOC Insurance Field Agent	Donald Murphy	540.720.8057	Donald.Murphy@kofc.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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12975 Purcell Road
Manassas, VA 20112*



**KNIGHTS
OF
COLUMBUS**