



KNIGHT TIMES



Ascension Council #9285
Manassas, Virginia

Year 23 --- Number 6 – April-May 2009

<http://ascensioncouncil.org>

Our 23rd Year!

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

My Brother Knights,



Spring is here. It may not feel like it outside, but with the recent ARC home cleanup and our scheduled KOVAR drive next month, it must be spring! It has been another eventful couple of months and I thank you for all you do for our Council and our Parish. Some of the highlights included a fantastic presentation on the "Other Gospels" by Brothers Ted Zeunges and George Darnell. That evening, the Women of Sacred Heart put on a wonderful Mardi Gras Dance for the entire Parish. The food was great and the band was fantastic. A good time was definitely had by all. We had another wildly successful Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. We served over 150 people this year! Thank you to all of our cooks and servers who helped ensure everyone was fed.

Brother Bryan Roberts and his family once again led the charge over two weekends as we installed a landing and walkway of pavers at the ARC Home of Prince William. Bryan and a small group of helpers returned the next week for our annual spring cleanup. The home looks great. Thank you to all who were able to help. Our social meeting consisted of a very enjoyable evening of TIPS training and pizza in preparation for another season of Nissan. On March 28th, five of your Brother Knights donned their Red Ascension Council shirts and headed into battle at Bowl America in Woodbridge for the Virginia State Council Bowling Tournament. We definitely didn't win, but we had a great time sharing our lane with our Brother Knights from Edward Douglass White Council #2473 of Arlington. We all had a great time and everyone broke 100 on every game!

April will be a pretty busy month for the Council. We ask you to come out and support as many events as you can. We will have another sub sale the weekend of April 4th and 5th during the Final Four as well as a VDOT road cleanup on April 4th at 9 AM. Please take some time and attend some of the Holy Week services at Sacred Heart with your families. We will hold our business meeting on the third Thursday of the month, April 16th, due to Holy Week. On April 25th and 26th, we will have our first weekend of KOVAR. The schedule is posted on the KOVAR page of the Council web site. I hope to update it every week. Please e-mail me and let me know what shifts you can handle in support of this worthy cause. The evening of the 25th is also our annual Clergy

Appreciation Dinner. More information on location and times will be sent out via e-mail soon. As this Lenten season comes to a close, I ask that you keep Brother John Brady and his family in your prayers as he serves his country overseas for the next several months. May you all have a very Blessed and Happy Easter season. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings and our events.

Ad Gloriam Dei
Vivat Jesus!

Rick Johnson

Grand Knight
703-791-2002
703-785-1220

Stumpa10@comcast.net

BIRTHDAYS



The following Ascension Council knights will be celebrating April and May birthdays:

John Angelotta	Richard Brosh
Tony Catabui	Thomas Conti
John Cunha	Thomas Cyr
Michael DeVera	Curtis Donato
Timothy Driskill	Paul Neuzil
Dominick Pellegrino	Joseph Penning
James Pritchert	Bryan Roberts, PGK
Norberto Sese	John Woods

Mother Mary ... Pray for Them

Please remember all members and relatives of Ascension Council in your prayers as they work through challenges to their health.



John Fritsch John Angelotta Don Hajec

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Brother Knights,

As predicated, March was a very business month for our council.

First, we would like to congratulate Brother Bryan Roberts for organizing spring clean-up and yard improvements at the ARC home in Dale City the last two weekends of March. He was joined in that effort by several great volunteers: Carl Beschard, Rick Johnson, PGK Doug Blair, PGK Bill Hechmer, Rich Rocha and Steve Palkovitz. As usual Bryan's daughter Christine and his son Neil also helped out.

Next, CGK Art Bohn organized TIPS training to get our Nissan crew ready for a new season. We had a great turn-out and enjoyed Pizza furnished from our District Deputy's restaurant Fox Den Pizza in Lake Ridge. The training was excellent and all our brothers and their wives who attended passed w/ flying colors.

Finally, we had a bowling team participate in the State Bowling Tournament in Woodbridge – the first time in a long time. We shared the lane with a council from Vienna and had a terrific time. Big thanks to Rick Johnson, PGK Doug Blair, CGK Art Bohn, and Rick Crete for joining me on the lanes.



Now that warm weather is finally starting to settle in, April has a jam-packed schedule of events for brother knights to get involved in. We hope every Brother Knight can get out and enjoy Memorial Day Weekend with their family and friends. Remember this holiday marks the start of the summer season when unfortunately accidents become more frequent. Be

careful while engaging in water sports and be sure and make frequent rest stops if traveling by car.

Program Director

Bob Garman

Deputy Grand Knight

703-331-3060

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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. Upcoming dates are April 4th and May 3rd. Contact Bob Garman to sign up for a particular Mass you attend.

We definitely need a good turn-out at 3 PM Saturday April 11th to get the Parish Hall ready for the Confirmandi Event after the Easter Vigil Mass.

Our annual Clergy Appreciation Dinner scheduled for Saturday April 25th. The restaurant will be announced at the next business meeting.

On May 10th, all Sacred Heart church members will be honored to help celebrate Father Mike's 25th year as a Priest. He has been a guiding presence in making Sacred Heart a more beautiful place to worship and he is an ardent supporter of our Council. May 10th is also Mother's Day and we will be having a pancake breakfast that morning which is free for all moms.

Mark your calendars for the annual parish festival on June 6th and the Parish 25th Anniversary on June 19th.

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.



There are no youth activities scheduled in February or March.



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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.



We will have our quarterly VDOT Road Cleanup April 4th at 9 AM. Please meet in the church parking lot.

The weekend of April 25th begins the kick-off of KOVAR and a chance to help raise funds for the intellectually-disabled in Virginia. The last KOVAR weekend will be May 16th so plan ahead to participate.

The council has committed to a Panera Bread Pickup at 9 PM every Wednesday to support our food ministry. Meet at the church around 8:35 PM to assist or come to church around 9:15 to help wrap the bread for weekend distribution. Call PGK Jerry Michonski (703) 791-3148 to volunteer.

From Brother Nicholas Roberts:

I traveled with 8 other students and the Virginia Tech chaplain to the quiet city of Cholula in the state of Puebla, Mexico. There, we worked for Community Links, a non-profit organization committed to helping the indigenous population of Puebla and Oaxaca through programs such as supplementary education for the children and the promotion of natural fertilization and other ecological and economical farming techniques for the many families who earn a living through agriculture.

Ecological and natural farming techniques, while more reliable and less expensive, require more manpower than the utilization of artificial fertilizer, the price of which fluctuates dramatically based on oil prices. We worked in the fields to supply that manpower, all the while working alongside the indigenous people who relied on the field for food. Our one week of work in the fields was just a link in a 5 month-long chain of similar groups working for one week each. Individually, each week would be pointless, but the combined effect of five months of labor in the fields allows for a bountiful crop for the families who rely on the field for produce. By funding the VT Alternative Spring Breaks (ASB), you supported the indigenous poor of Cholula, the unemployed victims of the economy in Flint, the urban poor of Chicago, and the citizens of the most impoverished country of the world in Haiti. Thank you again, brother Knights for helping us help others.

Due to your generosity, the Newman Community raised more funds for this year's ASB than any year prior. Thank you. With the money you donated, the VT Newman Community sent over 50 students separated into 4 groups to Flint, Michigan; Chicago; Haiti; and Cholula, Mexico. In all the communities we visited, people were overjoyed to see us; the group in Flint even made the local evening news program. Know that you made a difference for other families in this world.

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.



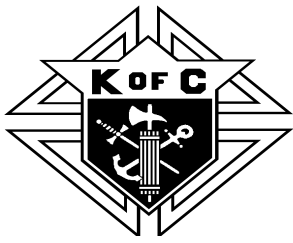
Sub sales will take place after all Masses on the weekend of April 4th and 5th...the weekend of the NCAA Men's Final Four Tourney and Palm Sunday. Preparation will begin around 3 PM on Saturday and 7 AM on Sunday. We also are planning a sub sale for the weekend of May 16th and 17th. Contact Steve Palkovitz to volunteer.

On April 30th, the Social Meeting will feature a presentation on how we can help support a Refugee Family who is scheduled to arrive in our area sometime in the next several months.

This year the Virginia Annual State Meeting is being held at the Fairview Park Marriott in the heart of Northern Virginia. The three-day two-night convention will be held May 1st through May 3rd.

The weekend begins with golf on Friday morning at Fort Belvoir. A Casino Night with Silent Auction and entertainment will follow the Opening Session and by 10 PM the Hospitality Suites will be in full swing. Between the Hospitality Suites and the Saturday Awards Breakfast, Ladies Luncheon and the Convention Banquet you won't need to buy food from the time you arrive on Friday until the time you leave Sunday afternoon. Mass will be celebrated each day as well.

Delegates, Brother Knights and their guests should plan to spend both Friday and Saturday night at the hotel since all of the sessions and most of the activities will be held within the confines of the Fairview Park Marriott located just inside the 495 beltway at the Highway 50 exit. This includes our Northern Virginia Knights as



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well. The Hotel has all the amenities you need to include an indoor pool and exercise room.

The Annual Meeting weekend offers a great opportunity for everyone attending to meet socially with their Brother Knights and their ladies from across the state; to compare notes, discuss goals, share successes and celebrate in our own way the contributions we have made here in Virginia and across the world for the Glory of God.

Contact Rick or Bob for forms and more information.

In May the Social and Business Meetings will be switched so Council Elections may take place in the last 15 days of the month per the by-laws.

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.



The first Nissan concert begins May 9th and CGK Art is creating a schedule for which concerts we will be working. This is an important fundraising activity and spouses and older children may help out. See Art's article later in the newsletter.

Mark your calendars for a council picnic on June 28th, a Family Pool Party at the Darnell's on July 19th and an Adult Pool Party at the Darnell's on August 8th.

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

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



Charlie Govsky, PGK (54)
Joe Mitchell (26)
John Buyna (23)
Ron DeSpirito (23)
Joe Marshall (21)
Bryan Roberts, PGK (14)
Christopher Potvin (10)
John Brady (4)
Andrew Weyel (4)

Ray Bazan (38)
Jeff Befumo, PGK (23)
Thomas Cyr (23)
William McCabe (23)
Alfred Doktor, Jr. (20)
John Ploschnitznig (10)
Michael Saller, Jr. (6)
Rick Johnson (4)
John Woods (2)

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Our Knight of the Month for February is Brother Rick Crete. Brother Rick is one of our worthy Outside Guards. He has instituted a program with a local non-profit organization, the Prince William Clean Community Council, to help with periodic clean up and removal of gang graffiti from both public and private property in the Prince William County area. Brother Rick has been a huge help in our Wednesday evening Panera Bread run and wrapping operation and was an anchor on our Council team in the State Bowling Tournament this past month. Brother Rick is a shining example of what it means to be a Knight of Columbus.

Our Knight of the Month for March is Brother Nicholas Roberts. Over this past spring break, Brother Nicholas traveled with 8 other students and the Virginia Tech Chaplain to Cholula, Puebla, Mexico to work for Community Links, a non-profit organization committed to helping the indigenous population of Puebla and Oaxaca with programs for supplementary education for children and the promotion of natural fertilization and other ecological and economical farming techniques for the many families who earn a living through agriculture. Brother Nicholas and his coworkers worked in the fields to supply manpower, working alongside the indigenous people who relied on the field for food. Brother Nicholas is a shining example of what it means to be a Knight.

LECTURER'S CORNER

Olivia Green will be the guest speaker for our Council Social Program at 7:30 PM on April 30, 2009. She will discuss the Parish Refugee Resettlement Program. The meeting was rescheduled to this date because of Parish Confirmations on April 23rd. Olivia is the chairwoman of the parish refugee resettlement program.

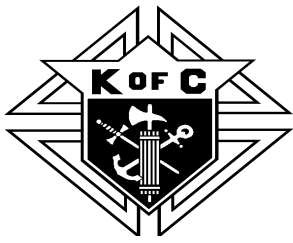
She will brief the Council and other parishioners on the goals and schedule for the program. Olivia will let us know when we can expect our refugee family and what the Knights and other parishioners can do to make them feel welcome and help them get resettled in Virginia. Sacred Heart is taking part in a larger diocesan program that Olivia will explain to us. Please join us and get the details of this exciting program. Refreshments will be served.

Lecturer

George Darnell, PGK

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PRO-LIFE

Choose Life License Plates

Richmond, VA (LifeNews.com) -- After lobbying from advocates on both sides of the abortion debate, pro-abortion Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine has signed a bill that would create Choose Life license plates. The bill includes other license plates, which may have made it easier for Kaine to sign the legislation into law.

Kaine said he signed the Choose Life plate bill only because he thinks state residents should have the right to a specialty plate. "I sign this legislation today in keeping with the Commonwealth's longtime practice of approving specialty plates with all manner of political and social messages," he said in a statement LifeNews.com obtained.

Kaine also said he would sign a bill brought by abortion advocates for a pro-abortion plate. "If Planned Parenthood ... or another similar organization ever chooses to seek a specialty license plate in Virginia, I believe the constitution would require the state to approve that plate to protect against any viewpoint discrimination," he said.

With Kaine signing off on the bill, Virginia becomes the twenty-third state to have a Choose Life license plate, where portions of the proceeds from the sale of the plates fund pregnancy centers and adoption programs. In order for the Choose Life plates to go into effect, 350 people must sign up for the plates before the Department of Motor Vehicles can officially authorize production. When the first 1,000 plates are sold, \$15 of the \$25 fee paid to the DMV will be sent to pregnancy centers.

Abortion advocates wanted Kaine to veto the bill, which would likely have been overridden had he done so. Nancy Keenan, the head of NARAL, claims that an offer of help to pregnant women is "propaganda" and she urged Kaine, whom President Barack Obama selected to become the national Democratic Party chairman, to veto the bill.

Senator Ken Cuccinelli was the sponsor of the Choose Life plate bill that a Senate committee defeated earlier in the legislative session. Cuccinelli, however, didn't give up and amended another license plate bill on the floor of the Senate several days later with the Choose Life plate

on a 20-19 vote. He says 450 people have already signed up for the plates and expects more to do so now that motorists can officially sign up for them. Victoria Cobb, the head of the Family Foundation, had been asking pro-life advocates to contact Governor Kaine urging him to support the bill.

Change to Pledge of Allegiance

As you all know, we have been adding the words "for the born and the unborn" to the end of the Pledge of Allegiance for a long time. As you also know, these words are not part of the official Pledge of Allegiance which ends with the words "with liberty and justice for all".

The Supreme Council continues to fight the battle on behalf of all of us to keep the words "under God" in our official pledge. They will continue to fight this battle. They will also continue the battle to defend Life from conception until natural end. All of us can be proud of their efforts in both of these areas.

However, they are concerned that adding the words "for the born and the unborn" to the end of the pledge might lead people to believe that we think of the born and unborn as different. This is certainly not true. They are also concerned that the "appearance" of our changing the Pledge could open up the debate even further to eliminate the words "under God" from the official pledge.

Accordingly, effective immediately, we are directed to not add the words "for the born and the unborn" to the end of the pledge. We are also reminded that the words "one nation" and the words "under God" do not have any punctuation between them and should be said as one phrase -- "one nation under God".

I know that not saying the additional words at the end of the Pledge is a major change for all of us. However, we as Catholics and as Knights will continue to believe that life begins at conception and therefore all human life is considered when we say "with liberty and justice for all".

Our Supreme Master, along with the Supreme Council, is asking all Knights to use the correct pledge and drop the additional wording. Remember, this does not, in any way, change our sanctity of life stance or beliefs that show in many other ways.

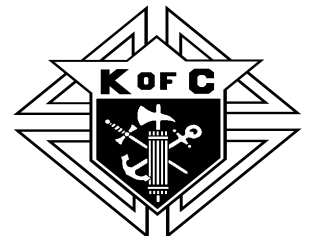
We thank everyone for making this change and spreading the word.





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FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Our Family of the Month for February is the Michonski Family. PGK Jerry is our worthy Treasurer and our Youth Committee Chair. He helped to set up the District 12 Free Throw contest this year at the Holy Family School gymnasium. His daughter Alexandra won both the Council and District 12 championship for the 14 year old girls division. Brother Jerry is also on the Parish 25th Anniversary planning committee. He has recently begun a program with Panera Bread to gather their unsold inventory every Wednesday to donate to the Sacred Heart Food Pantry. Jerry ensures the bread is wrapped and frozen and ready for distribution every Saturday morning. Jerry and Giulia are both Eucharistic Ministers and are deeply involved in the annual Parish Festival planning.

Our Family of the Month for March is the Roberts Family. PGK Bryan is our 1-year Trustee and is in charge of our ARC Home program. Brother Bryan is in charge of the Parish's 25th Anniversary celebration, is a member of the Parish Finance Committee and serves on the renovation committee as well. He is deeply involved on the Parish Festival planning. Brother Bryan serves as a Lector and his wife Kathleen is a Eucharistic Minister. Neil, Alexandra, and Christina are all active Altar Servers and Neil is the chief Altar Server. The entire Roberts Family contributed to a very successful installation of a walkway and path at the ARC of Prince William home and the annual spring cleanup there.

DEGREE SCHEDULE

Below are listed the remaining degrees scheduled in the 2008-9 Fraternal year.

2nd Dist Tuesday Apr 14 @ John Paul I Home – We Host
1st 7165 Wednesday May 20 @ John Paul I Home
2nd Dist 12 Tuesday May 26 @ John Paul I Home
3rd Saturday June 13 @ 5332 Manassas

NISSAN

It's getting to be close to Nissan time. Please review the 2009 Nissan Worker Schedule (see me if you haven't seen it) and see if we can fill up some of the unpopulated or lightly populated concerts. We only have to obligate our council for ten (10) shows, and as of today, we are looking good for seven shows (5 or more people) – if those of you who have volunteered for the lightly populated shows wouldn't mind changing your minds, you might want to look at "Coldplay", "No Doubt",

"Rascal Flatts", or "Motley Crue Fest" to try to build up the participation in those. Rick Johnson may have some additional names for concerts that I do not have yet, so maybe we're closer than it looks, but I do need more participation, or we're not going to have a Nissan Season this year, and subsequently the loss of charitable funds for the council!

Our concert contract MUST be in by April 10th – that gives us 8 days (counting today) to get some additional volunteer spots filled in! If you've already volunteered, maybe you can do one or two more, or maybe you can convince someone who hasn't volunteered to go with you on a day or two! Due to a request from Nissan, our concert schedule will not be published until the next newsletter.

Nissan Chairperson
[\(703\) 368-6964](tel:7033686964)
Art Bohn, CGK
Arthur.Bohn@vion.net

EDITOR'S CORNER

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Thanks to those who contributed.

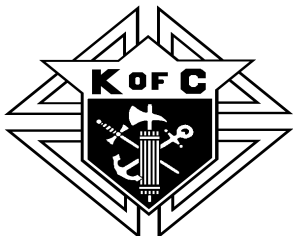
I would like all future newsletter inputs no later than the **Saturday** before the 1st Thursday of the month of issue. For the May calendar/event summary I will need any changes or updates by May 2nd. For the June/July issue I will need articles by Saturday, May 30th. *Please mark these dates on your 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 [and Calendars/koc0409.pdf](http://ascensioncouncil.org/Calendars/koc0409.pdf). Please email me with your contributions at voyagerjs@earthlink.net.

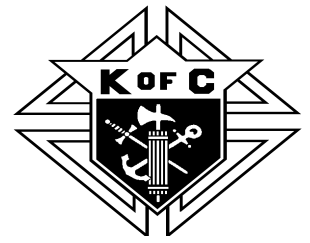
Disclaimer: the views and opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the KOC.

Editor
[Joe Marshall](mailto:voyagerjs@earthlink.net)
Advocate
voyagerjs@earthlink.net

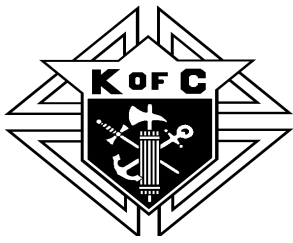


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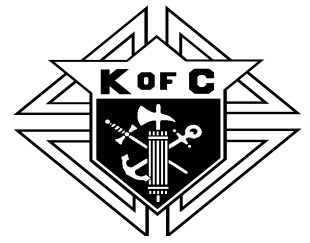


INSERT APRIL CALENDAR HERE

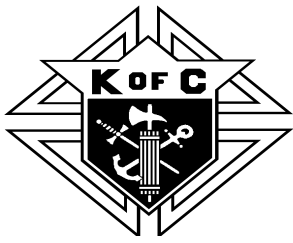


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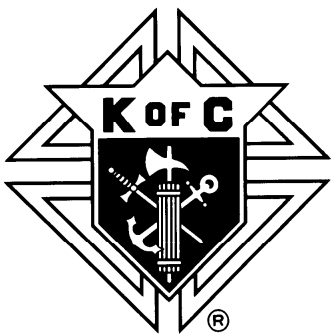


Ascension Council 9285, 2008–2009 Fraternal Year Positions

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
Chaplain	Father Mike Bazan	590.0030	MJBazan@comcast.net
Grand Knight	Rick Johnson	791.2002	Stumpa10@comcast.net
Deputy Grand Knight	Bob Garman	331.3060	RMGarman@comcast.net
Program Director	Bob Garman	331.3060	RMGarman@comcast.net
Financial Secretary	Jeff Befumo, PGK	791.6748	JBefumo@hotmail.com
Recorder	John Brady	680.5135	JohnBrady01@comcast.net
Lecturer	George Darnell	791.5153	DarnellGD@comcast.net
Treasurer	Jerry Michonski, PGK	791.3148	JerryandGiulia.Michonski@verizon.net
Chancellor	John Angelotta	791.6940	Angelotta@verizon.net
Advocate	Joe Marshall	791.4119	VoyagerJS@earthlink.net
Warden	John Fritsch	334.4234	Terp14@comcast.net
Inside Guard	Wayne Brown		WPBrown6@verizon.net
Outside Guard	Bill Miller	794-8818	bill.miller@serco-na.com
Outside Guard	Rick Crete	730.3869	RandPCrete@verizon.net
3 Year Trustee	Doug Blair, PGK	583.5937	DougBlair@aol.com
2 Year Trustee	Steve Trotman, PGK	794.1137	SDTrotman@comcast.net
1 Year Trustee	Bryan Roberts, PGK	580.8660	BryanR@excaliburgrpllc.com
Church Director	OPEN		
Council Director	OPEN		
Family Director	Jim St. Amour	878.5091	StAmourDC@msn.net
Community Director	OPEN		
Youth Director	Jerry Michonski, PGK	791.3148	JerryandGiulia.Michonski@verizon.net
Membership/Retention Director	Doug Blair, PGK	583.5937	DougBlair@aol.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 Persons	Curtis & Norma Donato	878.7303	CurtisDonato@verizon.net
Roses For Life	Jack Kapp	303.7126	JKapp2@comcast.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	John Brady	680.5135	JohnBrady01@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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**KNIGHTS
OF
COLUMBUS**