



## ***KNIGHTS IN ACTION***

***February 2023***

***Our Lady of Victory Council 7968***

***Joseph R Perrone Assembly 2789***

***Grand Knight – Dan Lesh***

***Deputy Grand Knight – Dennis Daigle***

***Faithful Navigator -- Bill Marchand***

***Faithful Captain – Travis Robinson Jr***

***State Deputy – Robert S. Urrutia***

***District Deputy – Matt French***

***Insurance Agent – Jeff Fischer***

Council business meetings are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of the month at 7 PM.

Council social meetings are held on the **4th Wednesday** of the month at 7 PM.

Assembly meetings are held on the **1st Thursday** of the month at 7 PM.

All meetings are held at the Knight's Hall, 701 E. James Lee Blvd.

### **INSURANCE NEWS**

March means Spring and Spring cleaning, Lent and preparing for Easter, and the day when we're all a little bit Irish, St. Patrick's Day. Let me start with St. Patrick's Day. It's a nice break from the doldrums of winter and a brief respite from Lenten preparation. To all my members, Irish or not, I say "Sláinte!" This year we're immersed in Lent for the entire month as we look forward to Easter on April 9. This is a time of renewal and preparation for Holy Week, Christ's Passion, and his conquest over death in the Resurrection. May your focus be on generous giving and spreading peace to everyone you encounter.

Spring is a time of rebirth and renewal: trees may begin to bud, and flowers begin to poke through in search of warmer temperatures. The Spring equinox means that daylight lasts as long as night with the earth spinning toward that summer solstice. Maybe, just maybe, winter is behind us. While you're getting rid of all the old cobwebs of winter and doing the annual spring cleaning, now is a great time to take a fresh look at your family's financial security. With a wide range of products—life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance and retirement annuities, I can help you look at your family's financial situation now and for the years to come. All this while you deal with a company that shares your faith and beliefs and invests in accordance with Church social teaching. As your Knights of Columbus Field Agent, I've been trained to help you through that important process. Sit down for a short meeting with me and we can use our newest and most advanced financial needs analysis platform that the Order has ever had. I'll take the time to gather information from you, ask about your wants, needs and desires, and put together any recommendations to help you meet those. As always, you're under no obligation. I'll contact you soon to see if an appointment should be our next step.

Vivat Jesus and May God bless you all.

Jeff Fischer, FICF, LUTCF Field Agent

(850) 981-8207

# Lenten Fish Fry!

Another Lenten period and another six weeks of working the Friday Lenten Fish Frys. The dinners started Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of February and will end on Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. On 24 February we served about 130 people and netted about \$1200 that will be going to support our dear brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

Pictures 1 & 2 - The kitchen crew.

Picture 3 - The serving crew setting up.

Picture 4 - The food providers and the cook.

Picture 5 - The in-processing crew.



# Second Fish Fry!

The second Lenten Fish Fry Dinner was held at the Knights Hall on Friday 3 February. We had 128 customers which is about average participation for the weekly dinners, and we earned about \$1900 most of which will be going in support of the VA Nursing home and hospital in Biloxi. Knowing the Council, it will probably vote to increase the VA amount to \$2000.

Picture 1 - The fish and French fry processors and cooks.

Picture 2 - The in-processing crew.

Picture 3 - The food servers to include Herb who took the picture.

Picture 4 - The kitchen crew. Where is John Libby hiding? He prepared the delicious hush puppies.



# Exemplification

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February District 5 held an Exemplification at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Niceville. It was a super event with 5 new members becoming Third Degree Knights. The Supreme Council requires that new members be brought in each year by each council in order to meet the requirement for obtaining Supremes' Highest Award, the Star Council Award. Our requirement this year was 10 new members. Our Council's Membership Director held a Membership Drive on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of October at all Masses and received the names of 17 parishioners who showed interest. According to our Grand Knight, we have already met all the requirements needed to receive Supremes' Star Council Award for this year, a SUPER achievement, thanks to all who helped.

Each district Exemplification is displayed throughout the State of Florida and councils that have potential new members who watch the Exemplification become new members of the Knights of Columbus. After the ceremony the State Deputy, Bob Urrutia, congratulated the new members, introduced the team members, and thanked the teams for a job well done. The State Deputy also plans to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Ceremony being held at St. Sylvester's Church on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March.



Thanks to Brother Timothy Pugh who took this very nice picture.

# Catholic Charities Food Van!

Another second Tuesday of the month when Catholic Charities brings sufficient food to feed 50 families for a week. However, we had a total of 62 families needing food assistance in line, so 12 extra bags were provided by our own Care Center food pantry, WOW!

Picture 1 - The Catholic Charities truck with Brothers Jim and Mike taking food bags to the cars.

Picture 2 - The bagging crew filling the bags with a week's supply of food.

Picture 3 - Brother Bob taking the bags out to the folks.

Picture 4 - Brother Travis directing traffic.

Picture 5 - The Care Center team.

Picture 6 - The helpers coming in to eat lunch.



# Business Meeting

The Business Meeting held at the Knights Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2023 was a great success with 27 Knights in attendance, including the photographer.

Picture - the members in attendance



# Upcoming Events for March

10<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry 4 to 7 PM

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Wear Council blue shirt to Mass

14<sup>th</sup> Bingo team 3

17<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry 4 to 7 PM

21<sup>st</sup> Bingo Team 1

24<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry 4 to 7 PM

28<sup>th</sup> Bingo Team 2

31<sup>st</sup> Fish Fry 4 to 7 PM

## Knight of the Month



Mike Reiss was selected as Knight of the Month for Feb 23. Mike became a Knight in August 22 and since becoming a Knight has helped with Quarter Bingo every Tuesday night which starts at 4:30 AM and ends at 6:15 PM. In addition to that he is also working on one of the bingo

teams that begins at 6:30 PM and ends at 9:15 PM. He also helped with the last highway cleanup and is helping out with the Lenten Fish Fry dinners. He also became a 4th Degree Knight at the 4th Degree Ceremony held at St. Sylvester's Catholic Church on 4 Mar 23. Congratulations Mike!

## Family of the Month

Dale and Nancy Piedlow were selected as Family of the month for February. Dale and Nancy

are on the Bingo Team and work every three weeks. Dale cooks and Nancy works in the kitchen providing food to customers.

Additionally, Dale calls Quarter Bingo and

seems to help with just about everything else. For example: he helped with the Knights of Columbus Christmas Cards sales, worked the Tootsie Roll Drive, and helped with the Knight's membership drive. Both Dale and Nancy have helped with past church picnics and supported the Lenten Fish Fry dinners. They both help with the weekly Church collection count where Dale is also an usher. A couple well deserving of the Family of the Month.



# Knight of the Year!

Brother Arnaldo Fonseca was selected as Fraternal Year 2022 -2023 Knight of the Year! He does unbelievable things within the church that has helped increase the faith of our young people. A few examples: He is the **Director of Youth Ministry for Our Lady of Victory** (volunteer position). He Led a team of seven adults in ministry of 30+ teens every week. Organized and executes the ministry catechetical plan, schedule, budget, and activities. This year, the catechetical focus was on Venture: Teen Bible Timeline. Fellowship activities were held once a month supporting a return to gather post-pandemic isolation. He Led six teens and two adults participating in the first post-pandemic Diocesan Youth Campout. Authorized photographer for Diocesan events, covered Walk for Life, Youth Conference, and Campout. He taught Confirmation Preparation for 20 teens. spending 40 hours of class instruction on Sunday's. Led teens through several off-site



events, Diocesan Youth Conference, Walk for Life, Retreat.

**Our Lady of Victory Liturgical Activities:** Leads and coordinates the Hospitality Ministry for weekend and special Mass days. He is the point of Contact to welcome and answer questions for new parishioners at 11am Mass. He is an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister during Sunday, 11am, Mass.

**Knights of Columbus Activities:** He is the Director of Technical Support for the Exemplification Team events. Manages the livestream video and audio feed transmitted throughout Florida. Participates in the promotion of Knights of Columbus Membership events. Event photographer for many KofC events at Our Lady of Victory or Diocesan activities.

He does so much a book could be written on him.



# Family of the Year!



Tony and Rosemary Jette were selected as the Knights of Columbus Family of the Year! For the past 20 + years Tony and Rosemary have supported the VA Nursing Home and Hospital in Biloxi, MS. They coordinate every year with the VA hospital to see what they need. Once known, they had a special dinner at the Knight's Hall and raised \$2000. The money was used to purchase needed VA hospital equipment. In addition, they coordinated with the church and received approval to

provide parishioners a list of proposed VA needed items and provided bags and instructions on how to get the donated merchandise back to Tony and Rosemary. In July of this year four pickups were needed to transport thousands of dollars of donated equipment and items to Biloxi, 175 miles away.

The Knights of Columbus Councils main source of income is our weekly bingo games and Tony is a bingo team captain and works almost every Tuesday along with Rosemary who works in the kitchen preparing food. In addition to working bingo, they support every project that helps raise money in support of those in need. With the great help of Tony and Rosemary, this past year the Knight's council earned \$32,000 working weekly bingo and other fund-raising events. With \$24,000 of the \$32,000 going to help Supreme and Florida State charitable needs and many other charitable organizations.

Rosemary holds a "Senior Bingo" event in the council hall every four months. She provides free bingo prizes, free lunch, and entertainment during lunch. In preparation for the event, she solicits free prizes from local stores and people who have nice things to give away. She organizes a meal and gets the Knight's wives to help donate and prepare the meal for the event. She also gets the KofC membership to call bingo and verify bingo winners. Entertainment is provided by a Knight accordion player and a dance group. Additionally, she advertises the event and calls people who have previously attended to see if they will be attending. In attendance are normally 60 to 70 people to include residents that are bused in from two local nursing homes and what a great day it is for those nursing home residents who just love being in the KofC Hall playing bingo and enjoying the event.

This is but a small taste of what Tony and Rosemary have done during this past Fraternal Year. The report that will head to Florida State will include all that they have done from 1 April 2022 through 31 March 2023. To include everything here would require writing another three pages.