



KNIGHTS IN ACTION

May 2024

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 – Steve Malutich

State Deputy – Richard P. Hughes

District Deputy – Travis Robinson Jr

Insurance Agent – Jeff Fischer

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

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

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

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

INSURANCE NEWS

This month is Father's Day. Every year at this time, I think of my father and all the father figures I've had in my life – spiritual fathers like the great priests who have helped shape me into who I am. My membership in the Knights of Columbus has given me incredible examples of men who have dedicated their lives to the service of others and in their example, made me a better man. Being a Knight truly is to live a life of service. To give of oneself. When I think about the many ways our Order contributes to our parishes and to our communities, I'm reminded of what St. Paul tells us about giving: "Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7). "A cheerful giver" — that perfectly describes what it means to be a Knight. As a Knights of Columbus field agent, I see in my daily life how Knights give of themselves with joy. When a brother Knight chooses to protect his family through Knights of Columbus insurance, he does so out of love. He wants to make sure his loved ones are taken care of when he's gone. And I remind him that he's not only protecting his family. He's furthering the charitable mission of our Order. That's what sets Knights of Columbus apart. Members who've purchased a Knights of Columbus insurance product or invested with Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors are doing business with an organization that aligns with their Catholic faith. Through the business activities and the contributions of state and local councils, Knights of Columbus was able to donate more than \$185 million to charity last year alone. That doesn't even include the nearly \$21 million distributed through Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund via grants by donor clients. To be a Knight is to be part of a culture of giving – and in terms of business, it's a culture that turns insurance premiums into charitable impact. Whether it's supporting new mothers in need, delivering Coats for Kids, bringing relief after natural disasters, or supporting seminarians, the number of people who depend on our help is countless. And the extent of our reach would not be possible without our insurance program. As the Fraternal Year comes to a close, I want to congratulate you all for the many successes you've achieved as a council. When we come together under our principles of charity, unity and fraternity, we truly make a great impact. Thank you, and I wish all the fathers here many blessings this Father's Day. Vivat Jesus!

God bless & Stay safe



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Highway Cleanup

On the 11th of May we held our quarterly Highway Cleanup. While Travis and Jim prepared breakfast, Tony Jette was working to clean out the storage shed. Two other Knights were driving to pick up filled trash bags which left only eight helpers to clean up the two-mile stretch of Hwy 90. Needless to say, we did not have sufficient help. Normally, we have about 20 people. Instead of getting done in one hour it took almost two hours. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a super breakfast consisting of biscuits and gravy, eggs, potatoes, sausage, coffee and orange juice. Hopefully, we will have more volunteers next time, and can get done in one hour, not two.



Catholic Charities Food Van

The morning of 14 May was dark and stormy, a lot of rain, but fortunately it did clear up. However, this must have kept some of our regular customers away, as we only handed out 17 bags of food amongst nine cars. The lowest turnout we have had thus far. All the additional food that was not issued out was returned to Catholic Charities.

Picture 1 - The arrival and offloading of the Catholic Charity van.

Picture 2 & 3 – Separating and bagging the food.

Picture 4 - Brother Travis controlling the vehicles entering the area.

Picture 5 - Passing out of a week's supply of food to all the families in thier cars.

Picture 6 - Some of the workers enjoying a good free lunch. A few others are still passing out bags to the cars.





Scholarships

Picture 1 - The Crestview High School (CHS) Administration Team, left to right: AP Lisa Kimbrough, AP Dr. Kim Dunn, Principal Victoria Hayden and AP Kim Sears.

Picture 2 - Brother Dan Lesh presenting Brother Mike Martello two \$500 scholarships.

Picture 3 - Brother Mike pictured with Chloe Ates from Our Lady of Victory Church who was one of the \$500 scholarship winners from Baker High.

Picture 4 - The Principal of Laural Hill, Lee Martello, with Caleb Henderson who received the \$1000 scholarship.

Our Grand Knight, Dan Lesh, presented the Principal of Crestview High School, Victoria Hayden, with four \$500 scholarships. In appreciation for those scholarships, we received the following response: The CHS administrative team would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for their continued support and dedication to our Graduating Seniors.

The Principal of Baker High, Brother Mike Martello, was presented with two \$500 scholarships. Also, the Principal of Laural Hill High School, Mike's wife Lee Martello also received one \$1000 scholarship, and both Mike and Lee expressed their appreciation to the Knights of Columbus for the scholarships.





Memorial Day

Picture 1 - the Knights that attended the American Legion 75 City of Crestview Memorial Day Ceremony. Also, Brother Glenn Moore, Jr. was there, but he arrived after the picture was taken.

Picture 2 - Nice turnout. Congressman Matt Gaetz was also there with his wife. Looking at the crowd you will see Mr. Gaetz in the middle real of the crowd in a black suit standing sideways talking to someone.

Picture 3 - The presentation by the American Legion and their invited guests noted below:

Picture 4 - Brother Joe Masterson representing the Knights of Columbus by honoring the wreath presented by the Knights.

Picture 5 - Fifteen organizational wreaths were presented and honored by organizational representatives at the ceremony.

The Memorial Day Ceremony Agenda:

Welcome: Robert "Oz" Osman

MC: Daniel W. Woodard

Opening prayer: Patrick Wrathell

Posting of Colors: ALR Color Guard

Pledge of Allegiance: Joel Givens

National Anthem: Norm Deutsch

Guests: Mayor's Proclamation: Major
JB Whitten

Guest Speaker: 1st SGT Alicia Nava-
Bagnato

Presentation of Wreaths

Taps: 96 FSS Honor Guard

Closing Prayer: Ron Shirk

Closing Remarks: Robert "Oz" Osman



Farewell Social

On Wednesday 29 May the Knights held a Farewell Social for Bob and Carol Webster and Ron and Ela Buhl. Both couples are moving to the Ocala, Florida area and will be missed very much. The turnout was great, the meal was great, and our departing couples received plaques for their dedicated service to the Knights of Columbus. We bid them a fond farewell and thank them. once again, for their dedication to the Knights of Columbus. Farewell from all your friends and God Bless!

Picture 1 - Enjoying a good meal.

Picture 2 - Nice participation.

Picture 3 - The Grand Knight, Dan Lesh presenting Bob and Carol Webster a plaque thanking them for their dedicated service to the Knights of Columbus.

Picture 4 - Dan presenting Ron and Ela a plaque for their dedicated service to the Knights of Columbus.

Picture 5 - John and Nenita Libby receiving a certificate for being selected Knight's Family of the Month for April 2024.

The pictures were provided by Brother Mike Winner, thanks Mike!





After the social held on 29 May, an Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity was conducted. We had one new candidate, Luke O'Toole, who became a Third-Degree Knight. Father Michael McGivney established the Knights of Columbus back in 1882 and sought to establish a fraternal order whose members live the Christian virtue by means of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. He sought to unite members in their Catholic identity as practical Catholics, that is Catholics who accept the teachings of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, who aspire to live in accordance with the precepts of the Catholic Church and who are in good standing in the Catholic Church. By becoming a Third-Degree Knight Luke, has shown an understanding of this pledge, and we welcome him to the Knights of Columbus. Congratulations!

Picture 1 - Travis the Presiding Officer, Herb the Charity Presenter, Marty the Unity Presenter and John the Fraternity Presenter.

Picture 2 - Mike, in the chair, was the Chaplain that presented the opening and closing prayers, Tony the Warden escorts the candidate forward and Dan the Investing Officer presents the candidate with a Rosary of Mary and the Emblem of the order.

Picture 3 - Picture includes the Exemplification Team, our new member along with the Knights that were present during the Exemplification.

Brother Dennis Daigle was also there, he took the pictures, thanks Dennis!



Knight and Family of the Month

Jim Nelson was selected as Knight of the Month for May. At 89 years of age, Jim is unbelievable. He works bingo every Tuesday night helping with quarter Bingo from 4:00 to 7:00 PM and helping in the kitchen when needed. In addition to that, he helps at all the special events held by the council. For example: the recent Highway Cleanup, Senior Bingo and Lenten Fish Fry dinners. He also attends most Council meetings although he lives 30 miles away in DeFuniak Springs! Jim became a member of the Knights back in 2007 and he has done so many things like setting up bingo working from 2:00 to 9:30 PM every Tuesday for many years, helping to renovate the down-stairs office and top floor, cooking project meals for many years, etc. Due to all the great things Jim has done, over the years Jim has been selected three times as Council Knight of the Year. What an extraordinary guy!



John and Catherine Widmeier are an amazing couple and were selected as our Family of the Month for May. For more than 20 years they have worked at Sharing and Caring every Tuesday from 9 to 12 AM helping to care for the needy within the community. They are also members of the Bread and Pastry Ministry, picking up bread and pastries from a local store every Saturday morning and deliver them to the Nazarene Church who provides it to the needy. They also deliver bread and

pastries to the Crestview Area Shelter House for the Homeless. If Rosemary, who runs Senior Bingo, needed their help, they would never say no. An amazing couple who are well deserving of this recognition.