

WASHINGTON STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



"THE SECOND EDITION"



DECEMBER 2020

STEVESENELL-EDITOR-509.386.3462. - STEVESENELL@CHARTER.NET

TO OUR MEMBERSHIP

MERRY CHRISTMAS

From Your
**OFFICERS
& CHAIARMEN
PAST & PRESENT**





Sixteen pamphlets were published between 1776-1783 that together were known as “*The Crisis*.” They were written by Thomas Paine who signed them with the pseudonym “*Common Sense*.”

On December 23, 1776, 244 years ago, one of the pamphlets was read aloud to the Continental Army in an attempt to bolster morale.

The famous opening lines are:

These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman.

Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph.

What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as Freedom should not be highly rated."

On Christmas Day in 1776, George Washington led the Continental Army across the Delaware River and surrounded a garrison of Hessians. The Battle of Trenton took place on the morning of December 26, 1776 and resulted in the capture of almost two-thirds of the Hessian force, with few American losses. The battle significantly boosted morale and inspired re-enlistments.

So, it is up to us, the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus, the Patriotic Degree, and indeed all Knights, to not shrink from the battle like summer soldiers and sunshine patriots, but rather to stand up for our God-given, inalienable, Constitutional rights, to fight against the on-going assault on our religion, to defend traditional marriages, and to protect the unborn!

Kyle and I wish all of you a blessed Christmas season and a Happy New Year!

Karl A. Hadley, PSD, FVSM Vice Supreme Master





SUBMITTED BY BRIAN WOOLERY



MERRY CHRISTMAS from KC Council #4322 LAKEWOOD, Wa



**Wishing all a faith-filled,
peaceful Christmas & a
Happy 2021 New Year.**



PAT KELLEY, STATE DEPUTY 2020 - 2021

Brother Knights,

This has been a year of great challenges but our faith in God and trust in Our Lady has insured that we can all have a sacred Christmas and a better New Year.

Bless us everyone!

Dana Smith, DD 30





2020 A CHRISTMAS OF PROMISE

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I have read the words of the angel to the frightened shepherds in a field near the stable where Jesus was born. “Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today a Savior has been born to you.”

The message of the angels was God’s declaration of deliverance the promise of God was fulfilled through the birth of the Savior.

The message of the angels was God’s announcement of action. The purpose of God was being completed through the coming of the great light of hope and salvation.

The message of the angels was God’s proclamation of joy. The plan of God was being achieved through the one who was the way and the truth and the life.

In 2020 many are depressed by the many challenges we have been bombarded with, fear grips many. Most of all, though, for me Christmas inspires hope. The symbols and stories surrounding the birth of Jesus whisper hope into my ear, “Don’t give up. Keep going.

Don’t live in fear and don’t fear living!

Celebrating the birth of Jesus makes dreams possible and the unbelievable believable. *Feliz Navidad,*
VIVAT JESUS.

STEVE SNELL, EDITOR “SECOND EDITION”

MERRY CHRISTMAS



This year with the participation of over 30 councils in our state Knights were able to provide about 4,200 Coats for needy kids. Special thanks go to State Warden Scott Hulse who delivered Black Friday coats to DD's all the way down I-5, and to DD Gary Cloninger, who received and stored about 150 cases of coats.

A huge recognition must go to the Supreme Council which provided free of charge over 2,000 coats for our councils who participated in Black Friday events.

On behalf of all the councils that work so hard to help the needy,

Merry Christmas and Happy 2021.

Roger Willis Coats for Kids Chairman

My Dear Brothers and Your Families

“May the True Spirit of Christmas Shine in your heart and Light your path...”

God Bless you all, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year

Linda and Marcel Bergeron

**Holy Spirit Council
10653KennewickMarcel,
State Ceremonial Director**



Christmas Greetings my Brothers,

An Advent and Christmas greeting to all our Washington State Knights of Columbus brothers and families from your fraternal brothers who own and ride motorcycles....."Knights on Bikes". This 2020 year in passing may have slowed social KofC intermingling and program activity at the council and national level but the COVID-19 restitutions have not impacted our evangelization minister out on the highways and byways sharing our Catholic faith and the fraternal vision of our founder Blessed Michael J McGivney.

Gods Blessings to all....

Merry Christmas and a Happy COVID-19 free New Year to all....

God Bless Vivat Christo Rey SK Bruce Hines





STATE SECRETARY - KIM WASHBURN

Barbara and I wish each of you a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I pray this country will move to what is important and congress will take care of business representing the voters that sent them there.

Fraternally,

Kim Washburn
Washington State Jurisdiction-SS
Columbus Charities-VP
Pennies for Heaven-VP
(509) 888-6300
StateSecretary@kofc-wa.org



**KIM ~ NOT MUCH NEW
TO REPORT THIS MONTH
KEEP THE PRAYERS COMING**



Merry Christmas to All of my Brother Knights"

Tis the season to be on overload but I would like to take a moment to wish all of my Brother Knights and their Families a very Blessed Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. Thank you all for your efforts to help create a spirit of a Christian culture of Life.

I pray all will participate in the 2021 March for Life / Walk for Life as well as your local Mass for Life. You will find dates and locations under the LIFE tab on the State Website (kofc-wa.org)

God Bless and Merry Christmas to you and your families,

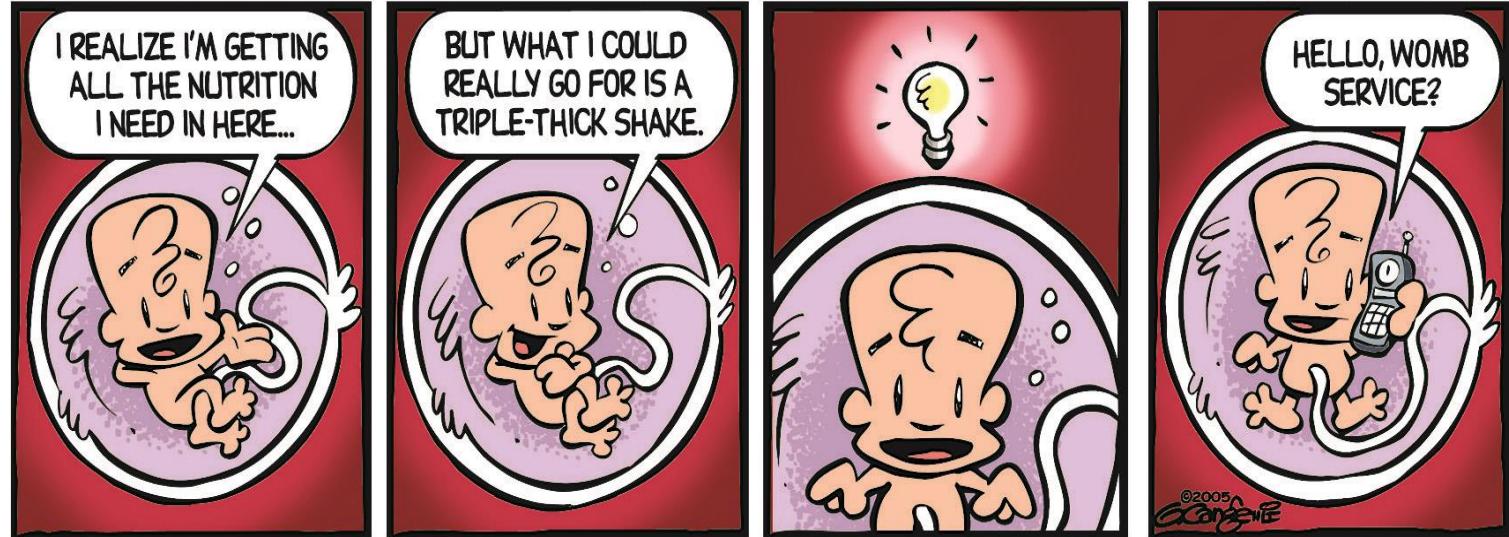
Ron DeGroot Life Director

Washington State Council



Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





To my Brother Knights and their families,
Lady Sheila and I send our sincere wishes
to you for a Happy and Holy Christmas
Season, and a Healthy and Happy New
Year. May the Christ Child shower His
blessings upon you. Thank you for all that
you do.

John M. Wallace PSD

Sheila R. Wallace FFL



Brothers All,

May God's Blessing be with you in this Holy Season and
throughout the coming year. Hope you and your families are
safe and warm. And the Lord shines
on your household.

Vivat Jesus,

Eddie & Dawna Parazoo PSD and FFL





Worthy Brothers,

Merry Christmas and Better New Year!!! Knights are the light for others and currently it is especially important for us to show others that light by our Faith, Hope and Love. We have many folks in our nation that are in pain, are grieving their losses, are hungry, are without work, or are alone. I urge you to count your blessings and to SHINE ON this Christmas Season for the millions more of God's children who are struggling.

Bob Baemmert-IPSD



**Merry Christmas to you and
all my Brother Knights. May
your Traditions continue and
do not let anyone steal them.**

Pete Caldwell (3361)





Ho, Ho, Ho. T'IS THE SEASON TO BE...

"T 'is the season..." for sure, but for too many Christians, it must seem pretty hard to be "Merry." "COVID 19, the American election fracas, wars around the world, unemployment, bills coming due, etc.! Yes, these days besides being shorter, can seem depressing. Perhaps this year should a reminder that Our Lord did NOT promise his disciples an easy time of it, now did the Angels as they sang out the glorious news of His birth. Perpetual happiness was not the Good News our Lord was to share with hi world – or ours.

Salvation and Hope were that Good News that the world of Christ so desperately needed and so do we that same hope, hope that our Divine future promises more than a fleeting time in this Earth. That hope in salvation is what "JOY" this season - and all others- is all about.

Depression or JOY, our free choices this Christmas season. The promise God made to all with the Gift of His Son was a promise of Hope, Hope in Salvation for those who believed. 2000 or so years has not changed that promise! And so, Brothers, I wish each of you and yours, a JOYOUS Christmas, one full of HOPE!

**Brother Sir Knight Jim Barrow
Deacon, FN Assembly 1169**





UNEXPECTED GRACE AT CHRISTMASTIME

About 12 years ago, my wife and I went to the Christmas Vigil Mass at St John the Baptist Catholic Church in Covington, outside of Seattle. Going into the church, everybody was dressed nicely for the Mass, except for one young man in his early to mid-twenties. He was wearing all black, with a bizarre mix of purple and white hair. We didn't think much of it, but we did notice. He seemed out of place.

About 20 minutes into the Mass, when we normally would have expected to sing a Christmas hymn, Father Jim went over to the side of the alter and sat down. The choir did not sing, the piano didn't play, and nobody moved. There was total silence.

After a pause, the young man we noticed coming in, was seated in the crowd stood up. He waited for a moment, and then sang - acapella and without a microphone or speakers - the most beautiful rendition of "O Holy Night" we have ever heard. It was positively stunning. And moving. We felt the Holy Spirit stirring within us during that night, and still tear up when recalling the beauty of that young man's angelic gift of voice.

Christ did not appear as expected either. Israel, hoping for a Messiah to throw off the yoke of oppression from Rome and Herod, looked for a war with God on their side. What they got was precisely the opposite. In the place of a regal King and warrior came a child born in the humblest of circumstances, armed only with peace and love, and angels guiding Joseph through those dangerous days . Also unexpected was the battle to be fought, not with kings and dictators, but with sin. Our sin. The dominion of Satan.



Brothers, we opened Advent with readings about John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Christ by cleansing Israelites of their sin. Against the backdrop of the pandemic, a bitter election, economic displacement, the closing of churches, and other things out of my control, this season I stepped back to become more mindful of my own sin. And to assess how well I'm following Christ's teachings, especially regarding loving my neighbors, who Christ identified as the "least of these".

Regarding sin, I find knowing and worshipping with other Knights helps me maintain accountability to Christ, my family and my brothers in the Knights of Columbus. In following Christ's teachings on serving, becoming a Knight has opened so many ways to become a more effective disciple. The joy that has come with Christ's liberating love, like the moving Christmas hymn that evening in Covington, was most unexpected, and most welcome. Especially this Christmas.

**Merry Christmas Brother Knights, may you
enjoy the Peace of Christ**

Kirk McGahey Grand Knight
Knights of Columbus
Sacred Heart Council #10543
509-788-5001

kirk.mcgahey@icloud.com

<https://www.facebook.com/kofcprosser/>





Christ be with you and season's greetings In this year of turmoil and strife remember that God will provide for his people.

May we especial remember those who have been lost to us due to the pandemic.

Vivat Jesus

Carl Ungerecht GK., PFN.

Michael Flohr Council 766



Doreen, Sean, Clifton, and I extend our wishes to all for a Joyful and Blessed Christmas as we celebrate the birth of the source of joy and blessings – our Lord Jesus Christ. May His presence and love in our lives carry us through a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Vivat Jesus!

Greg Mahoney, State

Treasurer and DD Director



ISSAQAH COUNCIL 7907

Members of Council 7907 have been busy using Zoom meetings for director meeting and regular member meetings. Due to COVID-19, our fundraising is down, however we ran two fundraisers with virtual advertising and raised over ten thousand, (yes, \$10,000) for the Issaquah Food and Clothing bank AND since our finances are low we couldn't order enough coats for kids so we conducted an internal fund raiser for Coats for Kids and raised another \$1,800 in order to purchases a total of eleven (11) cases. Our worthy State Deputies contributed many free cases, so we were able to donate 8 cases to the Issaquah Food and Clothing bank and an additional 9 cases to the Eastside Baby Corner. The last two cases will be donated to our St. Joseph's parish Jessie Tree. We are currently conducting another fund raiser by selling Thanksgiving apple pies but more on that next month.



Attached photos show our initial donation of 5 cases to the Issaquah Clothing Bank with G.K. Joel Edwards on the far left. Second photo is our donation of 9 cases to Eastside Baby Corner featuring our former G.K and District Deputy Tim Dunn. Third photo was our second delivery to the Issaquah Clothing bank featuring Trustee and chairman Ernie Linnemann. Keep busy and stay safe?

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A few weeks back our 3307 FS Jon Rowley messaged me that a project he had been supporting for a few years was in need of help.....Normally about this time of year volunteers and staff get together and put together approx. 2,000 bicycles but this year due to the pandemic restrictions the large get together of people couldn't happen....so the plan is to put together micro build teams and locations following protocol. I jumped on the website and registered as KofC council 3307 partnering with WA KonB, yesterday I got the call and the approval. 3307 FS Jon suggested we might be able to use the hall to assemble the 50 bikes I signed us up to build.

Making Progress

Fitters Bikes for Tikes continues to branch out each year. We started the first year with 121 bikes, grew to 522 bikes the second year, more than 1,100 the third year, over 1,700 fourth year, and 1,840 last year and 1,594 bikes this year. Each bike includes a bike helmet for the proud new owner. The bikes were purchased by Local 598 and their Signatory Contractors, Local 598 members, Bechtel employees at the Vitrification Plant and other Local 598 job sites. Donations also came from local businesses and the community. More than 480 completed bikes were then handed over to the Marines Toys for Tots for distribution to the kids. The remaining bikes were donated to other various local charities and schools, Attendance Matters and local libraries Read a Book programs.

Contact me if you want to help out....

Please visit the Fitters 598 Bikes for Tykes website for
more history This now 10 year plus local 598 charity project.

WA Knights on Bikes Director/Pres. *Bruce Hines "Blanco"*

509-727-8251 rodlink@charter.net "IN GOD WE TRUST, AND RIDE" "Vivat Christo Rey"



WALLA WALLA GOLD STAR FAMILIES MONUMENT DEDICATION

According to schedule, the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument is now in place but plans to host a public dedication have changed because of new quarantine restrictions.

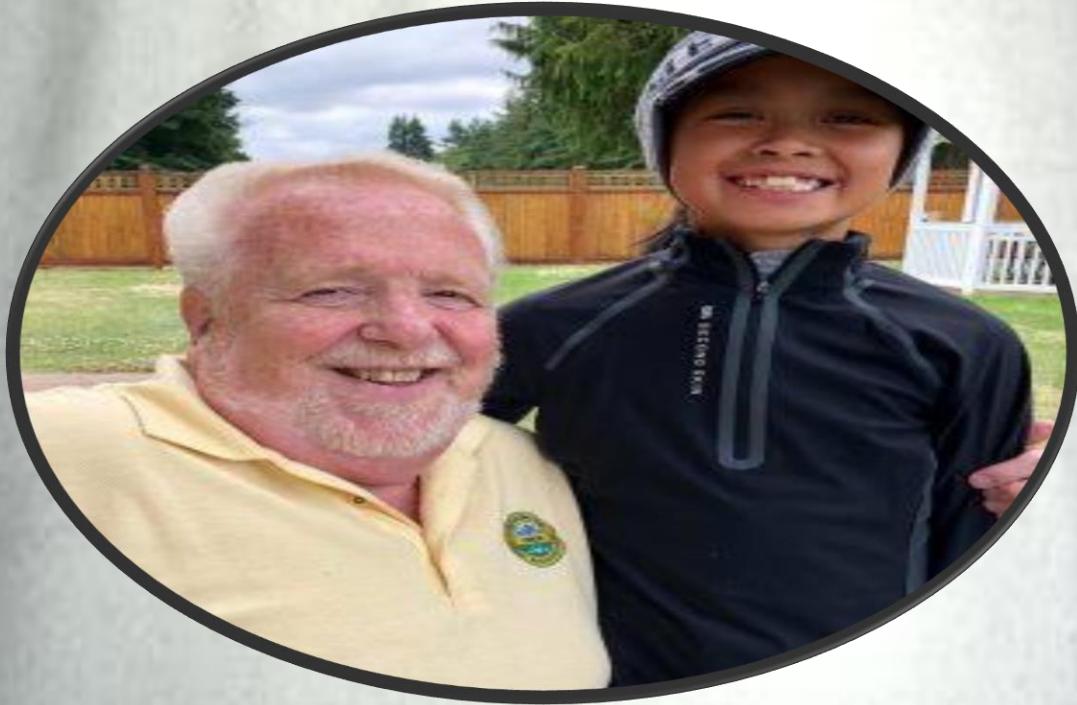
**DEDICATION
POSTPONED**



COUNCIL 12002

I just received some shocking news from Field Agent Daniel O' Keefe that our Dear Brother Knight Ken Rodrick of Belfair Council 12002 died Nov. 14, 2020 of COVID-19. His wife also has COVID-19 and is hospitalized. Please pray for the repose of Brother Ken's soul and for his wife as she battles this horrible disease.

KEN RODRICK - 1946-2020



SUBMITTED BY LARRY DEVLIN

BROTHERS ALL

Many people have passed down life's road alone; these folks' breath, move, live, then pass from this world and are heard of no more.

Why? They did not do one ounce of good or charity in the world; no one was blessed by them, no one could point to them as the source of their inspiration or their salvation; not a line did they write, not a word did they speak that was inspirational or could be recalled, and then the day came when their heart stopped beating -- their lamp went out, and they were not remembered any more than last month's hiccups.

Will this be you, me or anyone, let's choose to reach out to life, remember the reasons why you and your FAMILY joined the Knights, as faith-filled people to gather with other people of shared values to make a difference in so many lives!

There is more to us than membership contests, there are other reasons for joining our Order. The forgotten Knight has values that may have been overlooked, the jewels that shine in the Order need to be highlighted. A Knight should be recognized for the impact he has on countless lives, simply put, a Knight is more than a howdy and a handshake.

We all joined for real values. We must battle for unborn life, for FAMILY values, to instill a blaze of love and compassion in the lives of our fellowmen, to leave memories that time will not destroy!

Brothers what began as a whisper in a church in New Haven has grown into a rumble heard loud and clear in the hearts and minds of over 2 million FAMILIES.

Brothers in our greatest battles we cannot be alone, take my hand and we are not alone. When you run out of wordsI'm here. Maybe the only words you will ever need are...I'm here. YES, WE ARE ONE!

POULSBO COIUNCIL 8297

Council 8297 in Poulsbo had another successful food drive today benefitting Fishline... at least a ton of food and over \$1,000 in monetary donations. many families will have a lot better Thanksgiving holiday as a result! Thanks for all you do!
— at [Poulsbo Red Apple Market](#)

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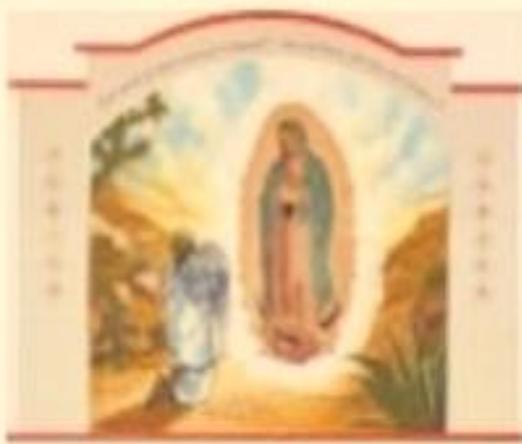
Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine Bricks Report

*THANKYOU KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS
for your help in this project !!!*



\$50,800

508 Bricks sold



This is YOUR brick
18 Letters/Spaces

SUBMITTED BY BRIAN R. WOOLERY

*St. Frances Cabrini Church
St Frances Cabrini K of C
Council #4322*

Lakewood, Wa

WE DID IT!

WE REACHED

**OUR
GOAL**



**But we still have room for
more bricks in our shrine!**

**Look for brick order forms
in the church vestibule!**

COUNCIL 4322

COUNCIL 13395 AT SUBASE BANGOR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

hosted a Coats for Kids event at [North Kitsap Fishline](#)

where they gave away 200 coats!

They also received their McGivney Award for a highly successful 2019-2020 fraternal year. A huge Well Done to Grand Knight Michael Haynes and Council 13395!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL



COUNCIL 11789 - KNIGHTS IN ACTION

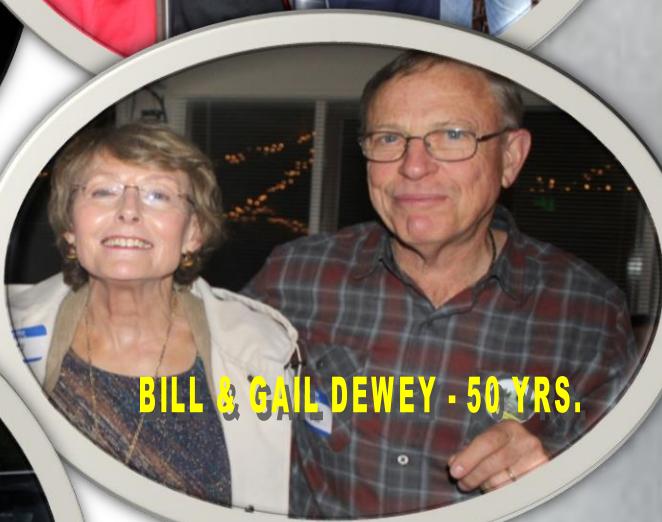
COUNCIL 11789 - KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Council 11789 prepared 2 separate meals, one
for the evening and another

Thanksgiving meal with all the fixings. meals each day for both the
Benedict house and the women's shelter, what a production!



MANNY, BUC, JAIME, & TED



BILL & GAIL DEWEY - 50 YRS.



JACK & BECKY SEAMAN - 41 YRS.

November 25 at 4:24 PM ·

On November 18th Chip Dowd and Ron Demorse made the second delivery of coats to Santa's Castle on JBLM. Between the two deliveries, JBLM's Knights of Columbus Council 10652 has donated 165 new coats to Santa's Castle, with a value of about \$5,000. Thanks to everyone for supporting our council! In commemoration of the recent beatification of our beloved founder Fr. Michael J. McGivney on October 31st we are offering FREE 1st year membership for military retirees and nonactive duty members if you join online by December 31st. Note that Active duty members do not pay annual fees! Simply visit kofc.org/joinus, to complete the membership application and enter promo code MCGIVNEY2020. When asked to enter a council number please enter 10652. For additional information please call Mike Winkler at 253-459-4756. See Less

COUNCIL 10652



Knights of Columbus
We Save Lives | We Change Lives
Washington State Council



COUNCIL 11762

Council 11762 donated another 72 coats (6 cases) on November 18th. In addition, we donated 11 additional coats on the 18th. The total number of coats we donated was 155.

FS DONALD HAVENS & CHANCELLOR DOUGLAS VASKEY



GK MICHAEL WINKLER & DGK RON REMORSE AND TWO OTHERS



HE REMEMBERS "A TEAR OR TWO."

By STEVE SNELL

He was an older member of the council, the kind of guy who had earned and learned everything the hard way, what he learned he had wrestled right down and tied in a hard knot. He was crusty and sensitive, earthy, and proud; He liked baseball, kids, animals, the environment and reading to his grandchildren. He believed in God, but he did not think it was totally up to God to make things better for his fellowman. “God helps those who help themselves” and “I am my brother’s keeper” were bedrocks of his values.

He remembers the parable of the Good Samaritan answers the question and the direction of our Order. The Knights of Columbus answer the question by being living examples of Samaritan good works in their parishes and communities. This provides an example for the man who asked the question when he joined many years ago “How do I follow in the footsteps of the first Good Samaritan in my world”?

***HE REMEMBERS WHEN NO ONE WAS PRETTIER THAN MOM!
HE REMEMBERS HOW EVERYONE STOOD FOR OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM.***

He remembers standing with his wife after Mass in front of the altar as his council recognized his family's many years of service to the Knights, his Church, and his community. He remembers there might have been a tear or two after his Grand Knight together with his Parish Priest presented his family the Family of the Month Award and the standing ovation from everyone in the church.

My Brothers we must be an ever-vigilant witness to protect the values our Order stands for. But of equal importance, we must be a witness to the sacrifices of our fellow Knights and the contributions they make on a daily basis. Please use the Family of the Month Program and put the spotlight on the sacrifices that they and their families make on our behalf.

EVERYONE DESERVES A “TEAR OR TWO”

**AUBURN COUNCIL 3598
PRESENTED COATS TO STAFF
MEMBERS OF CHINOOK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



COATS FOR KIDS

Steve,

Please see email below from Colleen Harker who is a counselor at Franklin Elementary School in Port Angeles.

The coats she is mentioning were provided by Councils 8455 Sequim and 2260 Port Angles.

Fraternally,

Roger Willis

Hello Roger,

My name is Colleen Harker, I am the counselor at Franklin Elementary School.

TESTIMONIAL

I got your name off the local Knights of Columbus website as the contact for the Coats for Kids program. The reason I am writing is to thank you for the donation of the large box of winter coats for our students.

On behalf of our staff, I would like to let you know how deeply appreciative we are to have these on hand. When your box arrived, I emailed our staff to let them know we had new coats on hand.

Immediately, several had requests for students in their classes.

Some had been showing up in the rain and cold weather with only a light coat or sweatshirt on.

Thank you for looking out for our students! It is a blessing to live in a community that cares for our children.

With gratitude,

Colleen Harker Counselor Franklin Elementary School

Knights of Columbus
We Save Lives | We Change Lives
Washington State Council



COATS FOR KIDS

Brothers,

This was in the employee newsletter for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Yakima.

Our Coats for Kids efforts are mentioned in the article, "Bringing Warmth to the Community
Fraternally,

Roger Willis. State Coats for Kids Chairman



Good Morning Roger,
Our newsletter came out today.
Thanks again for all you do for our organization (and others)!
Stay warm and healthy!

Sincerely,

Alisa Hoyt

Administrative Assistant, Tri-Cities

Catholic Charities Serving Central Washington

509.946.4645, ext. 2002 | Secure Fax: 509.946.4166

2139 Van Giesen Street | Richland, WA 99354-2746



www.catholiccharitiescw.org

FOOD FOR FAMILIES CONCLUDES IN DECEMBER

We have now passed 1,000 pounds of food and \$500 in the drive to provide food for needy families. The collections have been taken at Sacred Heart on the third Sundays of September, October, and November and at Assumption on the fourth Sundays, and they will conclude on those Sundays in December.



Don Baldwin and Grand Knight Jack King.

The next collection will take place at Sacred Heart on the third weekend Masses, Sunday, December 19, before the 8 and 11am Masses. At Assumption, the collections will be held before the Sunday Masses, December 26-27. *Gordy Wilson & Don Baldwin man the food collection station at Sacred Heart*

WONDERING WHERE BOB GRASHER HAS BEEN LATELY?

Brother Bob Grasher and his wife Marlene take a break during construction of their new house to pose for a photo with Kathy St.Hilaire

Maybe that is the question you have asked the past few months about Past Grand Knight and Former District Deputy **Bob Grasher**. Recently, after a search of Whatcom County, he was found in his future home; that is, the same spot where his former house stood.

We have other members who are builders—among them PGK **Preston Knutson** and current GK **Jack King**—who have taken on big projects, but Bob is getting up there in years and we wouldn't normally expect him to tackle such a huge job. Brother Bob is a unique sort of individual. If you know anything about the history of Bellingham Council, you will remember that he is the one responsible for resurrecting the council from near eradication 22 years ago.



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BROTHER SIMON GONZALES

R.I.P.



BROTHER BILL CASTLE

SUBMITTED BY JOE ST. HILAIRE

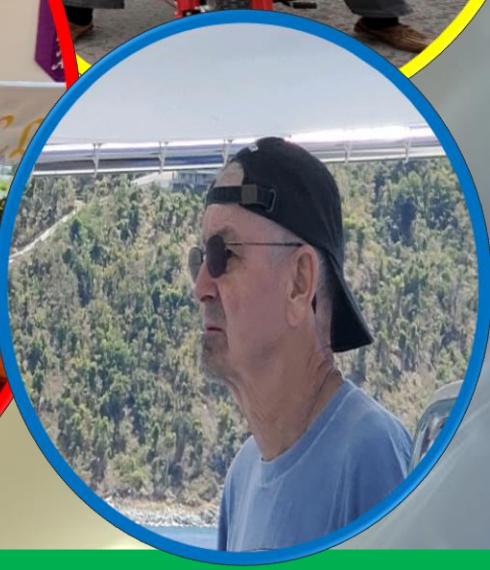
PEND OREILLE COUNCIL 14268

The Knights of Columbus Pend Oreille Council 14268 is proud to present a Special Edition of our Knight Talk publication dedicated in loving memory of our dearly departed brother, Jim Hines. Jim was our Past Grand Knight and was always active in church, council, and community events. Jim died on 2 July 2020. He has been sorely missed by all the Knights, St. Anthony parishioners and Jim's many friends and family members.

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JIM HINES





Grand Knights and long-time members of councils are asked to write or update their council's history.

If you go to the state council website, then to State Family, then to WA State Council History, or just go directly to the history at <http://www.kofc-wa.org/Family/History/WSCHistory.pdf> then to Page 60, you can find your council's history. If there is no history for your council, then yours is one of several councils that have not submitted a history. If you find your history but it's terribly outdated, then it ought to be revised.

I appeal to grand knights, other officers, and members of long standing to use your memory and knowledge of your council's history and write up a short account of the origin and chartering of your council and then submit it to me. Or you can just send me a few of those facts to me, and I can write it up for you.

There is a possibility that within the next couple years there will be an effort to have a comprehensive history of the Knights of Columbus in Washington. That book would include individual histories of each of our state's councils. The original book, authored and published by PSD George Turk in 1990 contained a history of all 92 of the state's councils. The updated history, coordinated and published by PSD Tom Weber in 2007, added or revised 57 histories. But today there are 165 councils in the state, with many of those not having a written history at all.

The following councils have no histories in the state council collection: 9833, 11611, 15684, 15968, 16184, 16361, 16667, 16690, 17152, and 17257.

The following councils have submitted partial histories but are lacking substantial parts of what would be considered a complete history: 9721, 11085, 11271, 11252, 11945, 12175, 12483, 13761, 14046, 14689, 14852, 14922, 15143, 15338, 15462, 15721, 15730, and 16186.

There also are fourth degree assemblies that have no histories in the state history: 1170, 1171, 1183, 3097, 3283, 3398, 3414, 3487, 3577, 3674, and 3708.

Send your council or assembly history to me, or if you need help, I will write it for you.

JOE ST.HILAIRE, STATE HISTORIAN
HISTORIAN@KOFC-WA.ORG



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CHRISTMAS STORY

Pa never had much compassion for the lazy or those who squandered their means and then never had enough for the necessities. But for those who were genuinely in need, his heart was as big as all outdoors. It was from him that I learned the greatest joy in life comes from giving, not from receiving.

It was Christmas Eve 1881. I was fifteen years old and feeling like the world had caved in on me because there just had not been enough money to buy me the rifle that I'd wanted so bad that year for Christmas.

POWERFUL MESSAGE

We did the chores early that night for some reason. I just figured Pa wanted a little extra time so we could read in the Bible. So, after supper was over I took my boots off and stretched out in front of the fireplace and waited for Pa to get down the old Bible. I was still feeling sorry for myself and, to be honest, I was not in much of a mood to read scriptures. But Pa did not get the Bible, instead he bundled up and went outside. I could not figure it out because we had already done all the chores. I did not worry about it long though; I was too busy wallowing in self-pity. Soon Pa came back in. It was a cold clear night out and there was ice in his beard. "Come on, Matt," he said. "Bundle up good it's cold out tonight."

I was really upset then. Not only wasn't I getting the rifle for Christmas, but now Pa was also dragging me out in the cold, and for no earthly reason that I could see. We had already done all the chores, and I couldn't think of anything else that needed doing, especially not on a night like this. But I knew Pa was not very patient at one dragging one's feet when he'd told them to do something, so I got up and put my boots back on and got my cap, coat, and mittens.



and gave me a mysterious smile as I opened the door to leave the house. Something was up, but I did not know what.

Outside, I became even more dismayed. There in front of the house was the work team, already hitched to the big sled. Whatever it was we were going to do was not going to be a short, quick little job. I could tell. We never hitched up the big sled unless we were going to haul a big load. Pa was already up on the seat, reins in hand. I reluctantly climbed up beside him. The cold was already biting at me. I wasn't happy. When I was on, Pa pulled the sled around the house and stopped in front of the woodshed. He got off and I followed. "I think we'll put on the high sideboards," he said. "Here, help me." The high sideboards! It had been a bigger job than I wanted to do with just the low sideboards on, but whatever it was we were going to do would be a lot bigger with the high sideboards on. When we had exchanged the sideboards, Pa went into the woodshed and came out with an armload of wood---the wood I'd spent all summer hauling down from the mountain, and then all fall sawing into blocks and splitting. What was he doing? Finally I said something. "Pa," I asked, "what are you doing?" "You been by the Widow Jensen's lately?" he asked. The Widow Jensen lived about two miles down the road. Her husband had died a year or so before and left her with three children, the oldest being eight. Sure, I'd been by, but so what? "Yeah," I said, "why?" "I rode by just today," Pa said. "Little Jakey was out digging around in the woodpile trying to find a few chips. They're out of wood, Matt." That was all he said and then he turned and went back



into the woodshed for another armload of wood. I followed him. We loaded the sled so high that I began to wonder if the horses would be able to pull it. Finally, Pa called a halt to our loading, then we went to the smoke house and Pa took down a big ham and a side of bacon. He handed them to me and told me to put them in the sled and wait. When he returned, he was carrying a sack of flour over his right shoulder and a smaller sack of something in his left hand. "What's in the little sack?" I asked. "Shoes. They are out of shoes. Little Jakey just had gunny sacks wrapped around his feet when he was out in the woodpile this morning. I got the children a little candy too. It just wouldn't be Christmas without a little candy."

We rode the two miles to Widow Jensen's pretty much in silence. I tried to think through what Pa was doing. We didn't have much by worldly standards. Of course, we did have a big woodpile, though most of what was left now was still in the form of logs that I would have to saw into blocks and split before we could use it. We also had meat and flour, so we could spare that, but I knew we didn't have any money, so why was Pa buying them shoes and candy?

Really, why was he doing any of this? Widow Jensen had closer neighbors than us. It should not have been our concern. We came in from the blind side of the Jensen house and unloaded the wood as quietly as possible, then we took the meat and flour and shoes to the door. We knocked. The door opened a crack and a timid voice said, "Who is it?" "Lucas Miles, Ma'am, and my son, Matt. Could we come in for a bit?" Widow Jensen opened the door and let us in. She had a

CHARITY

blanket wrapped around her shoulders. The children were wrapped in another and were sitting in front of the fireplace by a very small fire that hardly gave off any heat at all. Widow Jensen fumbled with a match and finally lit the lamp. "We brought you a few things, Ma'am," Pa said and set down the sack of flour. I put the meat on the table. Then Pa handed her the sack that had the shoes in it. She opened it hesitantly and took the shoes out one pair at a time. There was a pair for her and one for each of the children---sturdy shoes, the best, shoes that would last.

I watched her carefully. She bit her lower lip to keep it from trembling and then tears filled her eyes and started running down her cheeks. She looked up at Pa like she wanted to say something, but it wouldn't come out. "We brought a load of wood too, Ma'am," Pa said, then he turned to me and said, "Matt, go bring enough in to last for awhile. Let's get that fire up to size and heat this place up." I was not the same person when I went back out to bring in the wood. I had a big lump in my throat and, much as I hate to admit it, there were tears in my eyes too. In my mind I kept seeing those three kids huddled around the fireplace and their mother standing there with tears running down her cheeks and so much gratitude in her heart that she could not speak. My heart swelled within me and a joy filled my soul that I had never known before. I had given at Christmas many times before, but never when it had made so much difference. I could see we were literally saving the lives of these people.





I soon had the fire blazing and everyone's spirits soared. The kids started giggling when Pa handed them each a piece of candy and Widow Jensen looked on with a smile that probably had not crossed her face for a long time. She finally turned to us. "God bless you," she said. "I know the Lord himself has sent you. The children and I have been praying that he would send one of his children to spare us." In spite of myself, the lump returned to my throat and the tears welled up in my eyes again. I'd never thought of Pa in those exact terms before, but after Widow Jensen mentioned it I could see that it was probably true. I was sure that a better man than Pa had never walked the earth, save One.

I started remembering all the times he had gone out of his way for Ma and me, and many others. The list seemed endless as I thought on it. Pa insisted that everyone try on the shoes before we left. I was amazed when they all fit and I wondered how he had known what sizes to get. Then I guessed that if he were on an errand for the Lord that the Lord would make sure he got the right sizes.

Tears were running down Widow Jensen's face again when we stood up to leave. Pa took each of the kids in his big arms and gave them a hug. They clung to him and did not want us to go. I could see that they missed their pa, and I was glad that I still had mine.

At the door Pa turned to Widow Jensen and said, "The Mrs. wanted me to invite you and the children over for Christmas dinner tomorrow. The turkey will be more than the three of us can eat, and a man can get cantankerous if he must eat turkey for too many meals. We will be by to get you about eleven. It'll be nice to have some little ones around again. Matt here, hasn't been little for quite a spell." I

was the youngest. My two older brothers and two older sisters were all married and had moved away.

Widow Jensen nodded and said, "Thank you, Brother Miles. I don't have to say, "'May the Lord bless you,' I know for certain that He will."

Out on the sled I felt a warmth that came from deep within and I didn't even notice the cold. When we had gone always, Pa turned to me and said, "Matt, I want you to know something. Your ma and me have been tucking a little money away here and there all year so we could buy that rifle for you, but we did not have quite enough. Then yesterday a man who owed me a little money from years back came by to make things square. Your ma and me were excited, thinking that now we could get you that rifle, and I started into town this morning to do just that. But on the way I saw little Jakey out scratching in the woodpile with his feet wrapped in those gunny sacks and I knew what I had to do. So, Son, I spent the money for shoes and a little candy for those children. I hope you understand."

I understood, and my eyes became wet with tears again. I understood very well, and I was so glad Pa had done it. Just then the rifle seemed very low on my list of priorities. Pa had given me a lot more. He had given me the look on Widow Jensen's face and the radiant smiles of her three children.

For the rest of my life, whenever I saw any of the Jensens, or split a block of wood, I remembered, and remembering brought back that same joy I felt riding home beside Pa that night. Pa had given me much more than a rifle that night, he had given me the best Christmas of my life.



Based on www.feedamerica.org metrics,

Knights of Columbus Council 8297

had a very successful food drive yesterday at

Food Market at Kingston

collecting enough food and monetary donations
for Kingston Foodbank



to provide over 28,000 meals! Well done to Brother Knights Tom
Musha and granddaughter Lauren, Erik Chamberlin and son Gabe,
Hank Roest, Jake Steiner, Leo Beer, John McGinn, David Graves, David
Meier, Roy Behling, and Matt Wurzbacher! Pictures to follow.



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PEARL HARBOR

NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1941



★ Honor ★ Courage ★ Commitment ★

Photo Art by Gilbert Padilla, Vietnam Vet

I NEED CHRISTMAS IN 2020

BECAUSE

In the Universe of 2020, there are so many forms of order, organization, law, and adjustment of means to an end. I believe in a divine intelligence and that God is the life, order, and moral law of my Universe.

I found this year that there are times when I do not understand the mystery of my God, and I find in nature and history many instances of apparent evil, disorder, cruelty, and aimlessness. But I realize that I see these with a limited vision and that they might appear quite different from a cosmic point of view. How can I, only an infinitesimal part of the universe perceive the whole? I am only a drop of water trying to fathom the sea. Finite vs the Infinite.....an ageless paragon.

I believe that I am today the product of a political and cultural revolution. The logic of this revolution seems to compel determinism, but I cannot overcome my direct consciousness of freedom of will. I define "virtue" as any quality that makes for survival, but as practiced today the survival of the group is deemed more important than the "rights" of the average individual, the highest virtues lauded are those that make for group survival: compliance, sympathy, cooperation. If my life lived up to my ideals, I would combine the rights of an individual (*i.e., the Constitution & The Bill of Rights*) with those who stood at Lexington, Bunker Hill, fought in swamps of South Carolina, and those who forced the British to march out of Yorktown, the British World Turned Upside Down, because of their sacrifice we must not allow that to happen to us. **BROTHERS BE VIGILENT!**

I am not as gung-ho a worshipper of liberty as some of my radical or conservative friends; when liberty exceeds intelligence, it begets chaos; which begets dictatorship. Some feel we may have too much liberty today, this may be due to increasing wealth and diminishing religious belief. Today's liberty is threatened under the pressure of COVID-19 dangers. **BROTHERS BE VIGILENT!**

I do not resent the conflicts and difficulties of my life. In my case, they have been far outweighed by good fortune, reasonable health, loyal friends, and a happy family life. I have met so many good people that I have almost lost my faith in the wickedness of mankind. I thank God for God.

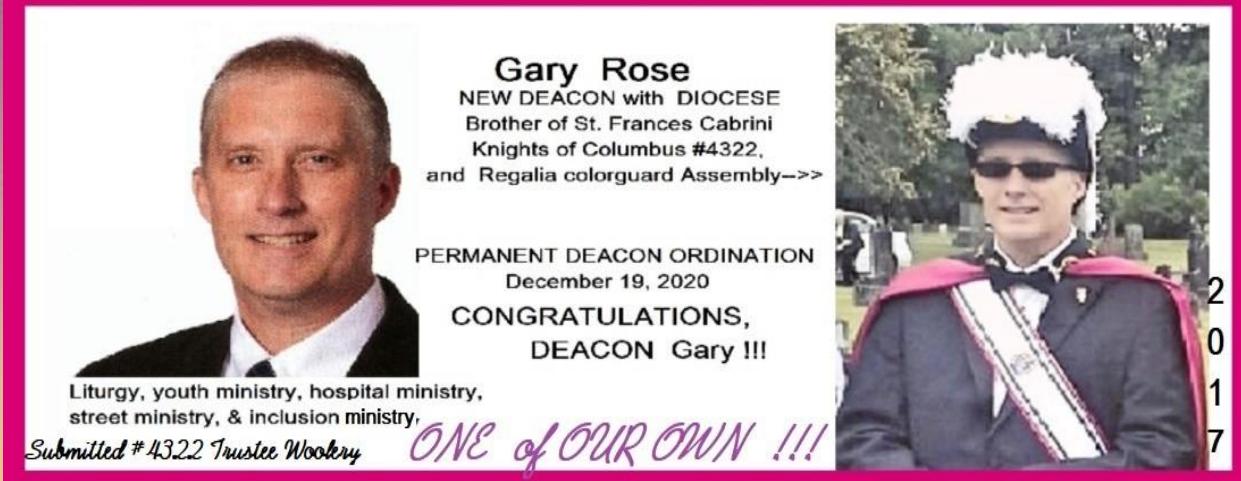
Notwithstanding the promise of heaven , I suspect that when I die, I shall be dead. I would look upon endless existence as a curse like the Flying Dutchman and the Wandering Jew. Death may be one of life's greatest inventions; perpetually replacing the worn with the new.

***Brothers this year more than in most years we
need the warmth and promise of the Messiah,
as we end 2020 and prepare to enter 2121.***



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Brother Gary Rose has been working on his deaconship, (along with 20 other men), even when COVID-19 delays occurred at diocese. Gary, as shown in insert picture, has been active in the visual promotion of the Knights of Columbus, and it's good works.

Brian Woolery, Trustee Council #4322 Lakewood St. Frances Cabrini

*Today I am honored to announce we have two SK brothers who have accepted their nonmentions for the next WA KonB director/president:

Current WA KonB state V/P SK Bret "Shooter" Fleming dioceses of Yakima and Current WA KonB POD SK Anthony "Seamus" Curran dioceses of Spokane.

Both of these brother knights have proved without a doubt they are true examples of Catholic Gentlemen and close hold our fraternal vows as Knights of Columbus. I also add both brothers plan to continue and advance the "WA KonB program model" we have worked for the last five years to developed here in Washington that I personally believe supreme could someday recognize and embrace.

Your email voting ballots will again be sent to state advocate SK Mike Rutland as before. Ballots will be received for two days only December the 19th and 20th. As active Knights on Bikes voting is a nonnegotiable....officer elections is considered an official KonB function and we are instructed to participate as outlined in our KonB by-laws.

WA Knights on Bikes Director/Pres. *Bruce Hines "Blanc"* 509-727-82
rodlink@charter.net IN GOD WE TRUST, AND RIDE"
"Vivat Christo Rey"



BIKES FOR TYKES

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Saturday Richland KofC council 3307 members and families spent the morning assembling 30 bicycles that will be distributed to children in our community.

Thanks UA Local 598 for including us in this outstanding program.....We look forward to the next time around.

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**Sir Knight Bruce Hines,
Knights on Bikes State President**



Thank you ...

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR



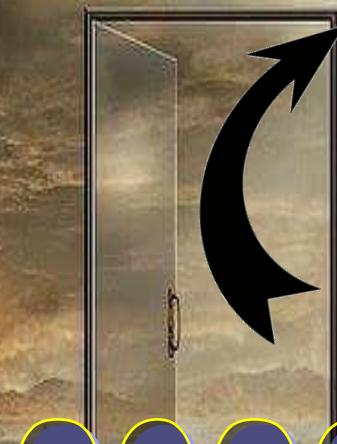
Merry Christmas



2021



IN THE NEW YEAR IN ORDER TO
BE WISE,WE SHOULD LISTEN TO
EVERYONE, FROM THE YOUNGEST
TO THE OLDEST.THE LORD SENDS
MESSAGES THROUGH MANY
SOURCES..... WE MUST LISTEN.



2020



ENTERING THE NEW YEAR