



Lansing Knights of Columbus Council 10834 Monthly Newsletter January 2016

January 2016 Newsletter ver 4 as of 151000 Dec 2015

CORRECTED COPY

Meeting conducted by the Grand Knight on December 8, 2015; 22 Brothers attended the meeting.

Meetings and Events

- **Christmas Caroling at Colonial Manor: 22 December 2015 at 5:30 p.m.**
- **Rosary, Corporate Communion: 7:30 a.m. Sunday, 3 January, 2016.**
- **1st Degree Ceremony: Saturday, 9 January, 2016 after 5p.m. Mass in Robert Martz Hall. (Start ~6:30 p.m.)**
- **Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, 13 January 2016 at 7:30 p.m.**

Knight of the Month (December)

Brother Dave Young

Summary: Brother Dave Young was unanimously selected. His efforts to conduct needed repairs to the church, Robert Martz Hall and the rectory help provide the parish a safe and reverent environment for parishioners in a resource constrained environment.

Family of the Month (November)

Brother Don Madill Family

Summary: Brother Don and his wife Mary Theresa Madill continue to support the parish ministries, lead the RCIA and provide an exceptional example of a Catholic family. Additionally, their support to Brother Robert Martz during his recovery has allowed Robert to focus on getting well, return home early next year and get back to the parish.

Membership: Current membership:

- o 158 Members
- o 83 Associate Members
- o 68 Insurance Members
- o 7 Inactive Insurance

We had three transfers out of the council and unanimously accepted the application of Todd Jackson.

Reminder from previous Newsletter

- **Capital Campaign Pledge:** Many of you may have received notices to renew your pledge. Please consider doing so. Additionally, anyone wishing to provide a donation or initiate a pledge should contact the parish office. You can also send donations to:
[Saint Francis De Sales](#)
Attn: Building Fund
900 Ida Street
Lansing, KS 66043
Consider renewing your pledge
- **Amazon Smile Program:** Members of the parish are encouraged to sign up for the [Amazon Smile](#) program that will donate .5% of a purchase to a designated charity. Saint Francis de Sales is a registered with the charity and members are asked to sign up for the opportunity. Parish has established a similar program with Dillon's.

Council Meeting Highlights



Grand Knight Message (Brother Gates Brown):

Brother Knights, first, thanks for a great 2015. Your efforts in fundraising and volunteering have enriched many lives this year. A few items stand out to me, everyone's efforts with the Tootsie Roll drive showed the impact of giving a small amount of time for a big return. We provided generous support to help keep Catholic education alive in Leavenworth County. Also, the car raffle, with special thanks to Dan Ladd for his donation and John Twohig for the behind the scenes work that made it possible, allowed our council to help the

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parish pay down the debt. I look forward to what 2016 holds and am honored to work with brothers like you. Merry Christmas and let's make 2016 just as successful as 2015.

- **District Deputy:** Nothing to Report
- **Field Agent Report:** Brother Dave Soukup reported that three Knights in the local area were winners in the State Knights of Columbus Education Raffle and that the raffle raised ~\$120K for religious education. He noted that we are halfway through the fraternal year and our council has achieved 3 of 11 new members and 2 of 4 insurance members. He was confident that with our Grand Knight's and Brother Bob Hall's (membership director) leadership, we will achieve our goal. He reviewed the incentives in terms of VIP Points that a council member would receive should they recruit new members. Points can be used to obtain Knights of Columbus items, such as a KofC Jacket.
- **Financial Secretary (Brother Jim Scherer):** Confirmed that State would provide 60% of our council's tootsie roll proceeds to SNAP and 40% to Leavenworth Special Olympics. He also provided the annual (2016) mailing of the dues to council members present, the remainder will be mailed out, he asked for dues to be paid by EOM January along with your report of service. Brother Jim then reviewed the new "Report of Service" form.
- **Presentations:** The Council presented Family of the Month for November to the Brother Gates Brown Family; the State Knight of the Month for October to Brother Tom Young (accepted by his older and better looking Brother Dave Young); and a Knights of Columbus 15 years of service certificate to Brother Edd Hingula.
- **Correspondence:**
 - Council continues to receive thank you notes from Second Harvest Community Food Bank highlighting our earlier gift and asking for additional donations – council did not act on the additional request.
 - Council received a request for end of year donations to St. Vincent's clinic. This was interpreted to encourage council members to consider individual donations.
 - Council received a two DVD training set addressed to district deputies and financial secretary. Brother Jim Scherer's initial review indicates that the 40+hours provide fraternal training in the areas of 1st Degree Ceremony, membership recruitment, Star Council, Leader training for selected individuals. Brother Jim will do a review of the video and advise the council on how best to use.
- **Membership Director (Brother Bob Hall):** The Application for Todd Jackson was reviewed and unanimously accepted. The Council discussed the need for a January 2016 1st Degree Ceremony and initially planned to conduct the ceremony after the 5 p.m. Mass on 9 January 2016, with a start time of ~6:30 p.m. with a reception afterwards. Brother Bob Hall will look to see if there is a KofC video that could be used for the spouses to view and introduce them to the KofC while the applicants go through the ceremony. Brother Bob advised members of the opportunity to replace those worn out (or poorly fitting) Knights of Columbus shirts with a new shirt in time for Christmas and the New Year. Cost for a short sleeve shirt is \$39 and long sleeve is \$49. Contact Bob and place an order. Additionally, he reminded 4th Degree members of the 4th Degree Christmas party on 12 December. It will take place in Robert Martz Hall after the 5 PM mass. It will be a pot luck, Bunco and bring a gift for the "Chinese Gift Exchange" (~\$20-\$25).

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- **Program Director (Brother Dennis Huffman):** Nothing to report.
- **Church Director (Brother Jim Cunningham):** Thanked the Knights for support of corporate communion, passed around the 3 January Corporate Communion Sign Up Sheet and relayed that the Church's baptismal font was leaking, has been drained and is under repair.
- **Community Director (Brother Tom Young):** Nothing to report.
- **Council Director (Brother Jim Scherer):** Requested that we review our council projects and functions to ensure we are in line with the guidance towards council awards and within the spirit of the program. Parish functions that we support may not fully meet the KofC guidelines. He asked Brother Knights to look at some of the programs we could do, new ideas, and adjustments to current events to discuss at the January meeting.
- **Culture of Life Director (Brother Eugene Young):** Nothing to report.
- **Knight of the Month:** Brother Dave Young was unanimously selected for his continued effort in performing repairs to the church and Robert Martz Hall.
- **Family Director (Brother Jim Fricke):** Family of the Month - Brother Don Madill family was unanimously selected. Besides their continued support of church ministries to include RCIA, Don and Teresa have provided continuous support to Brother Robert Martz as he has gone through his recovery period.
- **Youth Director (Brother Bill Butler):** Proposed and the council accepted Sunday 24 January 2016 as the date for the Knights of Columbus free throw contest. Set up will begin ~1215 with the contest running from 1 to 3 p.m. Knights are asked to support this effort. The district level will occur in the first two weeks of February. The council had a lengthy discussion on how best to implement our bi-laws that indicate we should recognize the youth of our parish that act as Altar Servers. It was determined that we would restart the practice of providing certificates to the Altar servers and work with Sr. Philis on how best to recognize them in a second way for their service to the parish. The need for Virtus training was discussed to ensure we meet the Arch Diocese requirement for Church related activities involving youths. It was mentioned that a number of Knights are already trained. Additionally, Brother Bill raised the issue of taking in a T-Bones game as a council activity regardless if we use it as a way of recognizing the altar servers. Most Knights present were interested.
- **Chancellor (Brother Dennis Huffman):** This year's vocation poster contest theme is "Called Before You Were Born". The contest is open to five different grade levels: 1&2 Grade, 3&4 Grade, 5&6 Grade, 7&8 Grade and Special Education. Brothers Dennis Huffman and John Twohig have coordinated with Sr Josephine to begin the contest with the Religious Education classes and other youth of the parish starting the weekend of 24 January. Poster submission will need to be received by Monday, 29 February. The council will vote to determine the winners at the 9 March council meeting. Brother John Twohig made a motion to continue the tradition of providing a \$25 gift certificate from Soul Supply to each winner not to exceed a total of \$125 in prizes. The council unanimously approved the motion.
- **Update from Brother Mike Koehane:** Brother Mike provided an update on Brother Robert Martz. Brother Robert is progressing well, appreciates all the card, letters, visits and prayers. Brother Mike Koehane highlighted that the parish blood drive last month exceeded previous efforts – they collected 28 pints of blood.
- **Catholic School Fund Raiser: Brother Dan Ladd** advised the council that the fund raiser for Leavenworth Catholic Schools being conducted by Speedway Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram and

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Ally has raised over \$2,000. They have extended the event to 15 Dec. For every person that test drives a vehicle between 1 November and 15 December 2015, Speedway will donate \$50 for every test drive to Leavenworth Catholic Schools. Brother Dan thanked those Knights that supported the event. Thank you Brother Dan for your continued support of our Catholic Schools.

- **Brother Edd Hingula** recommended the council consider taking over administering the parish weekly food drive collections to leverage the Knight of Columbus (Supreme) program that provides funds back to councils based on achieving certain amounts of donated food (based on weight). The funds would be provided to the parish to donate additional food donations, or help resource the two monthly meals (2nd Thursday Community Meal & 4th Saturday at the Gill Soup Kitchen). Concern was raised by Brother Bob Reese that this is a parish program that is running well. The Grand Knight tabled discussion and asked Brother Edd to review the program at the Supreme web site then get with Brother Bob to discuss. Provide insights and a recommendation to the council at the January 2016 meeting.
- **Christmas Caroling:** The Council will conduct Christmas Caroling at the Colonial Manor Nursing Home behind Speedway Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram and Ally on Tuesday 22 December at 5:30 PM. Either wear your Knights of Columbus Shirt and Santa hat or your favorite holiday attire.
- **Coats for Kids:** Council made and unanimously approved a motion to purchase 1 case of girls' and 1 case of boys' winter coats for distribution by Catholic Charities to the local community not to exceed \$500.
- **Lansing Operation Graduation:** Based on a request from Lansing High School, the council unanimously approved a motion to provide \$150 to LHS in support of operation graduation.
- **Brother Mike Koehane:** provided information reference handmade caskets from the monks of

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New Melleray Abbey that are made from Oak, hand carved, reasonably priced Knights of Columbus option (~\$3K) and can be shipped in 3 days. Web site: www.abbeycaskets.com or call 888-433-6934.

- **Good of the Order:** Our council Thespian, **Brother Edd Hingula**, provided a moving explanation of why there is a pink candle as part of the Advent wreath. He relayed that originally Advent was 40 days of fasting in preparation for Christmas. The "Rose Sunday" provided Catholics a one day break from fasting during Advent to allow them to focus on the joy of the arrival of Jesus on Christmas day.
- **Action Photos:**



Council Christmas Party – Good Food – Bunco and "Chinese Christmas Gift Exchange"



Brother Edd was the big winner of the "Cat – A – Room and a new tool box. You have an opportunity next year to have this re-gifted to you.

"Feeding the Hungry"

Knights Supporting the Community Meal



St. Francis de Sales and Trinity United Methodist Church sponsoring their monthly community meal – feeding over 350 meals to needy within the Leavenworth community.



And as always, the Knights cleaning up with Brother Don Protice supervising Brother John Twohig.

"Comforting the Afflicted"



Brothers Ray Hansen, Mike Koehane and Don Madill preparing Brother Robert Martz's home for his return after re-hap.

"Time for an exorcism"



Brother's Twohig and Madill apprehend the possessed ladder that not only threw Robert to the ground but also attacked Don and nearly broke his arm. "Father Bill we need an exorcism."

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