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# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

*ST. ANGELA MERICI COUNCIL NO. 14617  
MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS*

THE KNIGHT RIDER  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.kofc14617.org

## GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT



My Brothers,

Well its been awhile since I was able to generate a newsletter and I apologize. It has been a very difficult few months and the last month has been particularly rough. But God has answered our prayers for me as all of the tests I have had the last week or so have come back negative for cancer. So thank you all for your prayers and concern. Believe me it has made a huge difference in my life knowing that so many had me in their prayers. I have a severe infection in my jaw which is pretty painful but we are working on that and hopefully soon I will be able to resume all of my duties as your Grand Knight. It was a huge disappointment to me to miss our first meeting in the new PLC but my cheek looked like a chipmunk with the mumps and I couldn't speak so I stayed home.

Our council has begun to get active again as summer has come to an end. I tried to put many pictures in this edition to catch up. There are several activities that I didn't have pictures for and as I have bee MIA, I hope you will excuse me if there was something we did that I did not include.

Of course we started with installation of the new officers in June. We have given out numerous awards and certificates. We have added several new members to our council and our Order. Several Knights have gone and received their Major Degrees.

We had a very successful Blitz at the PLC Open House in August. We did a great job on "Moving Day" of moving everything from the PLEX to the new building. I really want to thank Brother Cory for stepping up and coordinating the move for us as I was not able to be here. All of you that helped did a great job.

We volunteered at the Special Olympics swim meet in Sugar Land on Sept. 11th. We had about 14 Knights there and many brought family so in total we had around 20 volunteers. The Special Olympics people told us that with our help, the event was the best run event they had had. So great job again to all who helped and thanks to Brother Mark for coordinating the event.

In Sept. we also had the VA Hospital visit lead by Brother Dennis, and the Astros game put together by Brother Ron. The Astros lost but everyone had a good time. We also had a good turnout at the convent and mowed for the nuns. A special thanks to Bro. Steve Petru for going on Friday and mowing a large part of the grounds. He couldn't go Saturday so he went and spent Friday mowing.

So again if I missed something I'm sorry. We are going to have a great fraternal year and we are off to a terrific start. God Bless you all. Gary

### Inside this issue:

State News	2
Insurance News	2
Council News	3
Council Photos	4,5
Father John's Corner	6
DD's Report	7
Council Officers	8
Birthdays	8
Prayer Intentions	8
Council Calendar	9
Council Photos	10
Council Photos	11
Council Photos	12



## NEWS FROM STATE

### Message From The Membership Director

#### Bobb Mahrer, Membership Director

As we move down the paths of our lives, there are moments that define us and become indelible parts of our memories. It could be a wedding, the birth of a child, the passing of a loved one, or something as simple as a sunset. These are the experiences that add up to become the sum of our lifetime's experience.

For the 2010-2011 fraternal year, every member and every council is asked to show qualified Catholic men that becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus will be their best "Experience of a Lifetime". Not only is it our goal to make a difference in the lives of our current members but it is also our goal to make a difference in the lives of potential members and their families by offering them the opportunity to be of service to our Church and to our communities.

There is a place in the Knights of Columbus for every qualified man, whether he has a huge amount of time to volunteer or only a few hours a year. Regardless of what his interests are, the Order has something to offer him and his family.

As we capture and extend the momentum over the past seven years in Texas we also endeavor to expand the vision of our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney. His vision gave birth to an organization that today numbers more than 1.8 million members in over 15,000 councils throughout the world. This includes over 92,000 members and over 750 councils in Texas.

Let's continue the momentum by inviting qualified men to join the Knights of Columbus in what will be the "Experience of Lifetime". Councils that conduct more degrees will find that they conduct better meetings. Councils that conduct better meetings will have more members attending meetings. More attendance at meetings brings more new recruiters to the forefront. More recruiters translates into more Knights

## INSURANCE NEWS

### WE ALL WANT TO SAME THING

Most men worry about their families. If you are like most, there are so many demands on your current income that you find it difficult to set anything aside for the kind of future you would like to provide. If you are like most fathers, you probably want the same things:

- ... the respect of your family, your friends and the community in which you live
- ... a happy home with a family that is content
- ... a good house that will always be home
- ... the ability to help your children with their education
- ... enough money to make your retirement easier
- ... and enough money to be able to enjoy some of the better things in life.

With good fortune (and a long life), you will probably be able to accomplish most of these objectives. But if you are like most people, you would benefit from a plan to help you realize them.

I can design a plan that will help you realize your ambitions. Call me today, and we will work on it together. Call Leo Lowdermilk at (832) 338-6269 or (800) 460-2706



## COUNCIL NEWS

- On August 29th the parish held its Open House at the new Parish Life Center. Our Council had an information table set up and we passed out information on our Order. We signed up several candidates. [See picture below.](#)
- At our Sept meeting, Brother Tom Sanford received his Major Degree certificates. If you are still a First Degree, please check with membership Director Brother Jerry Bishop for a schedule of upcoming Major Degrees and sign up. [See picture below](#)
- At mass in July we were able to present the Family of the Month Award to Brother Ron and Debbie Frerich. Besides all they do for the council and the parish, their entire family is very involved in the Annual 5k Impact-A-Hero race in Sugar land. This year the race and events raised over \$ 270,000 to support our wounded heroes. [See picture below.](#)
- Also at the September meeting the council was able to present a Lifetime Membership card to SK Ed Petru for his many years of service to the Order. [See picture below.](#)
- The remaining pages have many pictures from our council's activities over the past several months including numerous awards presented to our members, our officers' installation, the parish moving day and the Special Olympics Swim meet.



Brothers manned a table at the new PLC Open House



Brother Tom receives his Major Degree Certificates



Family of the Month Ron & Deb Frerich



SK Ed Petru received his Lifetime Membership Card



# COUNCIL PHOTOS - NEW KNIGHTS



Bro. Matt Tomasello after his First Degree with his supporters



Bro. Matt Tomasello received his First Degree Certificate



Brother Alex Peraza received his First Degree Certificate



Bro. Neil Tecson receives his First Degree Certificate



Bro. Hondo Salas received his First Degree Certificate



Bro. David Sepulveda receives his First Degree Certificate

**Remember:** If you participate in any Knights of Columbus events or activities and have pictures, please forward them to Gary Bentz at [gsbent@flash.net](mailto:gsbent@flash.net) so we can have them for our Council records and also so that they may be published in the newsletter.



# COUNCIL PHOTOS - AWARDS



Bro. Paul Yasilli receives Knight of the Month



Bro. Thomas Blackburn received his Knight of the Month



Another Knight of the Month is Bro. Jerry Bishop



Knight of the Month Bro. Victor Villarreal



Our Lady of the Month Nory Mims



Bro. Colin received a VIP Award for recruitment

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## FATHER JOHN'S CORNER



### Alphabet Soup

The summer heat, dry spell and now drenching rains remind us that even in Houston there are seasons. I remember as the seasons of fall and winter approached soups became the welcome dish at our family table. Lunch time soup always seemed to be alphabet soup. I think my mother hoped that her eight children would at least learn how to spell! I came across a story the other day that reminded me of my alphabet soup days.

One night while baby-sitting, grandfather passed his granddaughter's bedroom. He overheard her repeating the alphabet in an oddly reverent fashion. "What on earth are you up to?" he asked his granddaughter. "I'm saying my prayers grandpa," explained the little girl. "But I can't think of exactly the right words tonight ..... so I'm just saying all the letters. God will put them together for me, because God knows what I am thinking!"

Children can be a gift. How many times they speak the truth! She knew without a doubt that God loved her enough to know what she was thinking. That God could take all the letters and make the perfect prayer.

As you and I enter the seasons of fall and winter, we too are invited to have the same faith and trust. God does love us. God loves us enough to take all the scrambled letters of our lives and make beautiful prayers! St. Paul tells us in the letter to the Romans (8:26-27) ***"...the Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness, for, when we do not know how to pray properly, then the Spirit personally makes our petitions....."*** Welcome the seasons of change and enjoy some alphabet soup!

Peace,

Father John



## DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT



Worthy Brothers,

The next few weeks will be filled with many opportunities to participate in council and community activities. Our Order depends on us to make these events successful so please set aside some time to attend one or several of the upcoming projects and let everyone know that the Knights are involved and are part of the church and community.

The first event that needs our help is the National Life Chain to be held across the country on Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> as a way to let the public know that we are a voice for "All Life" in "All Stages". Even though this event will be held nationally, we can participate on a local level by coming out from 2:00pm-3:30pm this Sunday and standing with our fellow brothers and sisters to make our presence known. Our parish has been assigned the area on Austin Parkway to Hwy 6. For more information you can contact Brother Alex Cava at 281-543-7794.

There is one other Pro-Life event this month and that is the Foundation for Life Banquet on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Marriot Town Center. Two councils in our district are already involved with this worthwhile endeavor and they are looking for more. The Foundation for Life assists mothers and mothers to be with planning and supplies. St. Angela Merici Council 14617 and Holy Family Council 7728 have already held diaper drives recently to show their support. If you would like more information on this organization and the upcoming banquet you can go to [www.foundation-for-life.net](http://www.foundation-for-life.net)

Brothers, our District Golf Tournament on Monday October 11<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner and we need your help to make it successful for the District. All proceeds are split within the councils in the district to pay their state charities goal so this is a great opportunity to come out, have some fun with your brothers and help out your council. Last year we had 16 teams show up at Siena County Club for the event, let's make this year's event even better. A copy of the flyer is attached in this newsletter or if you need more information you can contact me. If you are not a golfer, we still need your help so please let me know if you would like to volunteer to assist in the event or if you would like to sponsor a hole. The tournament tees off at 8:00am with a shotgun start.

Now is the time to plan your Fall recruitment blitz so make sure you are doing all you can to help grow the order. You should be planning a recruitment drive or membership meeting in your council now for some time in October. There will be a First Degree on Monday October 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Basil Council 4204 so get your candidates in now! Contact your field agent and get him involved as well, he is a great source of information and is a great recruiting tool.

Lastly, we had a great turnout recently at the Special Olympics event on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at the Don Cook Natatorium in Sugar Land. All 5 councils in the district were represented with many brothers, their wives and even some Squires from council 7382. Thanks to all that turned out to help. There is another event scheduled for Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> in Fort Bend county. This will be a regional volleyball event with a location to be determined in the next few weeks. Make plans now to attend and help out Special Olympics!

God Bless you and your families,

Gary Blanchette DD#74



Worthy Brothers,

This is the last call for hole sponsors, beverage cart sponsors or gold sponsors for the upcoming district golf tournament. I have to turn in any new sponsors to the sign people by today so that they can have them ready by Friday. By the way, St. Thomas Aquinas Council 7382 voted at their meeting on Monday to pay for a beverage cart sponsorship. Way to go guys!

Remember that all proceeds will be divided up by council participation level. Also, remember that Friday is the last day to register for the tournament.

Thanks and see you next Monday!

Gary Blanchette DD#74

**Council Officers Information**

Grand Knight - Gary Bentz	gsbent@flash.net	281 778-9632
Deputy GK Jerry Tomasello	jtomasello@rectorseal.com	281 778-7022
Chaplin Fr. John Rooney	rjrmerici@entouch.net	281 778-0400
Chancellor Wes Kubesch	weskub@hotmail.com	
Recorder Fernando Hess	fehess2@gmail.com	
Advocate Tim Alcorn	tpalcorn@yahoo.com	
Lecturer Kevin McCarthy	mollkev@aol.com	
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O. Guard Jerry Bishop	jerry.bishop@wholefoods.com	
O. Guard Ed Cazanias	eduardocazanias@yahoo.com	
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In. Guard Victor Villarreal	vvillarreal12@sbcglogal.net	
Trustee 1 yr Mark Montalbano	mmontalbano@entouch.net	
Trustee 2 yrs Ed Petru	epetru2921@aol.com	
Trustee 3 yrs Meco Choates	choates4@entouch.net	
Treasurer Colin Kiernan	cmkiernan44@comcast.net	281 499-4067
Financial Sec Ron Frerich	rjfrerich@earthlink.net	
Membership Dir Jerry Bishop	jerry.bishop@wholefoods.com	
Insurance Agent Leo Lowdermilk	leo.lowdermilk@kofc.org	800 460-2706

**OCT BIRTHDAYS**

October 12 THOMAS F. ZVONEK

**Our Prayers Are With You**



Please remember the following in your prayers:

The following family and friends who are fighting some form of cancer: Tony Yasilli, Jared Goolsby, GK Gary Bentz, Janet Frerich (Ron's sister), Bill Lackey, Bill Copenhaver, Marty Adrian, Sam Tramonte, David Harris, Phil Adamczak (Colin Kiernan's Brother in Law), Barbara Blandford, Jeanette Hottman, Courtney Cole, Lucien Rutkowski, Tom Johnson, John Boettiger and Nancy Burchfield.

Vince Lamantia, Nooney Bishop, Carlota Hess,. And Verge Gallagher

Our Men and Women in uniform both living and deceased especially Bro Frank Simoneaux, and Gabriel Machado deployed in Afghanistan.

Our Holy Father and all of the clergy especially Fr. Roy for his back procedure. The innocent unborn. St. Angela Merici Parish. The intentions of all our Brother Knights.



- Oct 2—Life Chain along Hwy 6
- Oct 6th—Our first Regular Business meeting in the new PLC following 7PM mass.
- Oct 9th—Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood begins with mass at St. Laurence at 8:30 am.
- Oct 11th—District 74 Golf Tournament at Sienna Golf Club. Shotgun start at 8:00 am
- Oct 12th—AGH Chapter meeting at Council 3077 begins at 7:00 pm
- Oct 18th—First Degree at St. Theresa in Sugar Land begins at 7 pm
- Oct 20th—Officers' meeting at the PLC after 7 pm mass.
- Oct 29th—Fourth Degree Exemplification in Conroe
- Oct 30th—FFL Annual Gala at JW Marriot in Sugar Land at 5:30 pm

# October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Life Chain</i>	4	5	6 <i>Regular Business meeting</i>	7	8	9 <i>Prayer vigil</i>
10	11 <i>District Golf Tournament</i>	12 <i>Chapter meeting</i>	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>First Degree</i>	19	20 <i>Officers' meeting</i>	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>4th Degree Exemplification</i>	30 <i>FFL Annual Gala</i>
31						

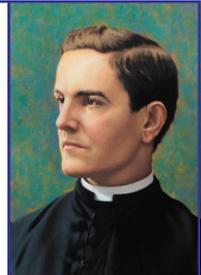
- Nov 3—Regular business meeting at PLC following 7 PM mass.
- Nov 9th— AGH Chapter meeting at Council 3077 begins at 7:00 pm
- Nov 14th—VA Hospital visit. Meet at church office at 7:30 AM. Contact Bro. Dennis for information.
- Nov 14th—Parish Picnic at Camp Sienna at 3 PM.
- Nov 15th—First Degree at St. Thomas Aquinas. Begins at 7 PM.
- Nov 17th— Officers' meeting at the PLC after 7 pm mass.

# November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 <i>Regular Business meeting</i>	4	5	6
7	8	9 <i>Chapter meeting</i>	10	11	12	13
14 <i>VA Visit Parish Picnic</i>	15 <i>First Degree</i>	16	17 <i>Officer's meeting</i>	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



**We should offer up a prayer of thanksgiving to our Lord for His blessings on St. Angela Merici Parish. We are so blessed to have Father and our Parish staff and the successful capital campaign that allowed us to build a beautiful worship space here in Sienna.**





# COUNCIL PHOTOS - OFFICERS INSTALLATION



Fr. John is escorted to the altar to begin the ceremony



Our Worthy DD Bro. Gary conducts the installation



Our incoming officers line up for the services



Fr. John addresses the group



Bro. Chris receives his Trustee Jewel from the DW Bro. Leo



The Council Officers for 2010-2011

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## COUNCIL PHOTOS - MOVING DAY



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# COUNCIL PHOTOS - SPECIAL OLYMPICS



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