



SHINING ARMOR GAZETTE

Serve the Priest, Serve the Parish, and Build a Better Culture

Volume 2, Issue 9

Grand Knight Swinton W. Hudson, III

March 2011



UPCOMING EVENTS:

March

- 13 Recruitment Blitz
- 17 First Degree & Reception
- 25 Day of the Unborn Child Mass and Lenten Soup Supper

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GRAND KNIGHT'S BRIEF

The Council again sponsored the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper held on March 8th. We had another great turn out this year. Thanks to all of the Knights, Columbiettes, and family members that pitched in to make this another successful event!

March is Recruitment Blitz Month, and while our Membership Director will speak to you about our upcoming drive on the 12th and 13th, I'd like to issue a personal challenge to each of you. We need a net gain annually of 7 new members. As it presently stands, we need 8 more members to reach this goal. I challenge each of you here to seek out just one qualified Catholic man to recommend for membership in our Order between now and June 16th.

To aid in this challenge, I have approved an incentive program above and beyond that given by Supreme. Every Knight of this Council that recruits at least one new member who takes his First Degree by June 16th will receive a Knights of Columbus emblem of the order lapel pin or one of our State pins. For every Knight that recruits two or more new mem-

bers, he will receive a lapel pin and a KofC logo hat of his choice in style and color. For every Knight that recruits three or more members, he will receive a lapel pin, KofC hat, and a custom St. Joseph Council 12554 golf shirt in either royal blue or white.

As an additional incentive, the single Knight that recruits the most new members to take their First Degree by June 16th, and who has recruited at least 3 new members during this campaign, will receive his choice of a water repellent lightweight jacket or Columbia fleece jacket (a \$50 value)!

I hope that you will take up this challenge and seek out at least one new member to join our Council by June 16th. Your first chance comes this weekend, March 12-13 after all Masses. Just ask him. Remember, new members are the life blood of a vibrant Council!

Vivat Jesus!

Swinton W. Hudson, III
Grand Knight

News Flash

At our March 3rd Business Meeting, we elected Fred Parsons as Deputy Grand Knight to fill the role vacated by Rob Wiggs who was previously elected to Treasurer. Congratulations Fred!

Please remember to **submit your dues** if you haven't already done so! If you are disabled, you may qualify for a waiver through Supreme Council. For those experiencing financial distress, your dues may be paid in installments or waived. Contact FS Lester Johnson about these options, and always be sure to keep your email and phone number up to date so that we can ensure you are kept up to date and informed!

The **Ancient Order of Hibernians** will host its annual **Ceili** (kay-lee) on Saturday March 12 at the KofC Hall (Council 724) on Marion St. The celebration features Irish music and classic American rock n' roll; Irish step dancing from the Rince na h'Eireannan dance troupe. Tickets are available at Delaney's on Saluda Ave in Five Points for an advance purchase price of only \$5.00 each, \$10 will be charged at the door. Age 16 & under admitted free when accompanied with an adult. Food and beverages available at reasonable prices. A great and affordable evening of family fun. Contact Brother Knight Joe Kennedy at 803-414-1076.

Membership

March is Membership Blitz Month! A blitz will be held on March 12-13 after every Mass. If you have a prospect for membership, forward his contact information via a prospect card or Form 100 to Membership Director Fred Parsons (467-4755) or Grand Knight Skip Hudson (622-7932). We need 8 new members; they are the life blood of our Council!

Columbiettes

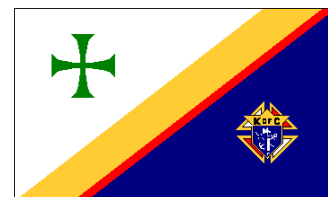
The ladies are still recruiting members for the Columbiettes Auxiliary, so let your Catholic wives, sisters, mothers, daughters, and friends know about this fantastic sister organization to the Knights. Twenty ladies must agree to join the Columbiettes before their charter will be granted, and they are very close. Contact Carrie Penny for more information, 803-477-2242 or carrie_penny@hotmail.com.



Ceremonials

First Degrees will **now** be conducted on the 3rd Thursday of the month as part of our Social Meetings. Immediately following the Degree, the Council will host a reception in coordination with our Columbiettes Auxiliary to welcome our new members. Seek out qualified prospects to fill these dates:

- March 17th
- May 19th
- June 16th



Rule changes by Supreme now allow for First Degree Team members to read their parts as needed. We still need alternates, especially at the key roles of Deputy GK and Financial Secretary. If you would like to serve the Council in this important role by exemplifying the First Degree, contact GK Skip Hudson at swhudson3@yahoo.com.

Programming Note

St. Joseph will once again host the State Council Free Throw Contest at 10AM on March 12th. We need a handful of Knights to be on hand to help out with various tasks. Please plan to be on site by 9:30AM.

There will be a First Degree held on March 17th at 7PM in the Parish House. Coat and tie are required attire. A reception hosted by our Columbiettes Auxiliary will immediately follow.

Stations of the Cross and Lenten meatless soup suppers begin Friday, March 11th. The Council will provide a Simple Meatless Soup Supper for the Parish on March 25th. If you would like to provide a meatless soup for this parish event, please coordinate with Brother Fred Parsons (467-4755). Approximately 8 gallons of soup are needed. We will also need help with serving and clean-up, so make plans to attend!

Operation Hope is once again upon us! Brother Sam Kopack, PGK has arranged two weekends this Spring for us to collect donations and pass out Tootsie Rolls in front of the Garners Ferry Road Wal-Mart. Those dates are April 8-9 and May 6-7 from 9AM until 6PM. Please sign up for at least one 3 hour shift. The monies raised go to help those with intellectual disabilities.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 3 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 5 DISTRICT FREE THROW CONTEST, 9AM
- 6 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 8 SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER, 6 PM
- 9 ASH WEDNESDAY
- 12 STATE YOUTH FREE-THROW CHALLENGE, 10 AM
MEMBERSHIP BLITZ AFTER 5:30PM MASS
ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS ANNUAL CEILI
- 13 COMMUNITY SUNDAY MEMBERSHIP BLITZ
- 17 FIRST DEGREE AND SOCIAL MEETING, 7PM, PARISH HOUSE; *COAT AND TIE*
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
- 25 ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
K OF C DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD AND LENTEN SOUP SUPPER, 6 PM MASS
- 29 FOUNDER'S DAY (FR. MCGIVNEY DAY)

APRIL

- 3 MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- 7 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM
- 8-9 OPERATION HOPE DRIVE, WAL-MART, 9AM-6 PM
- 17 PALM SUNDAY
- 21 HOLY THURSDAY
- 22 GOOD FRIDAY
- 23 HOLY SATURDAY
- 24 EASTER
- 29-30 KOFC SC STATE COUNCIL 90TH CONVENTION, MYRTLE BEACH SHERATON HOTEL

MAY

- 1 DEVINE MERCY SUNDAY
MONTHLY ROSARY AT SHRINE OF THE UNBORN
- KOFC SC STATE COUNCIL 90TH CONVENTION, MYRTLE BEACH SHERATON HOTEL
- 5 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 PM; DINNER, 6:30 PM

Saint of the Month by Deacon Charles P. Poole, Jr.

PERPETUA AND FELICITAS



Feast Day: March 7

Martyrs: 203; Co-Martyrs Revocatus, Saturninus, Secundulus, and Saturnus; All Catechumens

The martyrdom of five catechumens under the Roman Emperor Septimus Severus (193-211) occurred in the year 202. He forbade all his subjects to become Christians so five catechumens were cast into prison in Carthage, an ancient city near the present day of Tunis in Tunisia. They were the noble 22 year old lady Vibia Perpetua who was nursing a young child, her slave girl Felicitas who was seven months pregnant, her fellow slave Revocatus, plus two other catechumens Saturninus and Secundulus. Soon Saturnus declared himself a Christian and was incarcerated with them. Perpetua's mother and one of her brothers were Christians, another brother was a catechumen and her third brother died a pagan. Shortly before arriving in prison the five catechumens were baptized. During their imprisonment two deacons Tertius and Pomponius bribed the jailers to allow them to visit and alleviate the sufferings of the catechumens. Perpetual was allowed to nurse her

son in prison. Her father who, was a pagan, repeatedly visited her in the jail and tried to induce her to apostatize, but she persevered to the end. Saturnus and Perpetua had visions in their dungeons which were committed to writing by them. After their death an eyewitness added an account of their martyrdom to the document, which was widely circulated among the Christian community. The text of this prison diary is on a website, and it is an exciting and inspiring document to read.

Prior to their execution Revocatus, Saturninus and Secundulus were scourged and the two ladies were struck about the face. Then on the fourth anniversary of Severus being proclaimed Caesar military games were to be celebrated in his honor. When the day came the prisoners were brought to the amphitheater and fed to the wild beasts. Prior to this they had talked among themselves about their desire for martyrdom. Saturnus dreaded bears and wanted to be killed by the bite of a leopard, but they exposed him to a wild boar instead. Perpetua was confronted by a savage heifer selected as a female animal to match her gender. When she saw Felicitas winded on the amphitheater floor she went over to help her. Toward the end she said to her brother the catechumen "Stand fast in the Faith, love one another, and don't let our sufferings upset you."

These saints were honored in all the early martyrologies and liturgical calendars, and the two lady saints Perpetua and Felicitas are mentioned in the Roman Canon of the Mass. Their feast day March 7th was later displaced by Thomas Aquinas, but has now been restored to the original date of their martyrdom. They are among the earliest saints of the apostolic Church.

Fathers For Good An initiative for men by the Knights of Columbus

My Wife, My Best Friend

Aaron Kheriaty, M.D., is the founding director of the Psychiatry and Spirituality Forum at the University of California, Irvine, and the associate director of residency training in the UCI department of psychiatry. Fathers for Good talked to Dr. Kheriaty, a married man with three sons, about marital friendship.

Fathers for Good: How would you define/describe “spousal friendship” – how is it similar to or different from other types of friendship?

Dr. Kheriaty: Spousal friendship is unique because it is strengthened and complemented by other forms of spousal love.

The ancient Greeks had four words to describe love: sexual and romantic love (eros), the love of friendship (philia), familiar everyday love for ordinary things (storge), and generous self-sacrificing love (agape). Marriage is unique because, besides our relationship with God, it is the one relationship where all four of these types of love can and should be present.

So spousal friendship is indeed a special kind of friendship (philia), distinguished by its more passionate elements (eros), its everyday familiarity (storge), and above all, by a self-sacrificing love (agape) that puts the spouse and her needs above one’s own.

Our Lord himself taught by his words, and demonstrated in his passion and death, that the greatest love is that in which a man lays down his life for his friends. St. Paul described a man’s friendship with his wife in precisely the same terms – husbands love your wives as Christ loved the Church, and gave himself up for her.

FFG: What Is a common barrier to friendship?

Dr. Kheriaty: In his excellent book, *The Four Loves*, C.S. Lewis describes some of the difficulties encountered in spousal friendships. He considers the situation of a wife who stays at home doing domestic work and rearing the children, while the husband is involved in the world of professional life outside the home. Lewis reminds us that friendship is always based upon common interests and common projects.

When one spouse works professionally outside of the home and the other does not, he argues that friendship tends to wane – the wife, no matter how hard she tries to “keep up,” will eventually feel alienated from the husband’s professional interests. He moves in different circles, from which she inevitably feels excluded. Try as she might, she cannot “talk the talk” with him in the same way his colleagues can. Thus, Lewis argues, friendship between spouses in these circumstances becomes progressively more difficult with time. He does not offer much in the way of a solution to this difficulty.

Without denying the potential problem he describes, I am more optimistic about the possibility of friendship between spouses, even those who, in their daily professional work, move in different circles. First of all, consider the spouses’ common interests and projects, upon which a solid friendship can be built. For most married couples, God blesses their union with children. What could be a more important, fascinating, and demanding common project than parenthood? Good parenting requires constant communication, cooperation, and mutual support between spouses – the very stuff upon which a friendship can develop.

Of course, the foundation for their friendship needs to go beyond parenting – otherwise, when the children are out of the house, the spouses run the risk of losing

4th Degree

BISHOP ENGLAND ASSEMBLY 1072



The Exemplification of the 4th Degree was held on February 26th and was a rousing success. The South Carolina District of the De Soto Province added 92 new 4th Degree members, one of whom was our very own Bishop! We especially want to congratulate four of our own Council members that received their 4th Degree: Paul Ardoin, Jack Davis, Ramon Frett, and Fred Parsons. Our Assembly, Bishop England Assembly 1072, had one of the largest classes of new members at 12. The next 4th Degree exemplification will take place in August, and then again in February 2012.

Bishop England Assembly 1072 meets at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the old house next to Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

March Birthdays

12th Chris Slota
 15th Jack Davis
 18th Ramon Frett
 25th Johnny Nix

We wish all of our Brother Knights a happy and blessed birthday!



Brother to Brother

Please remember especially these Brother Knights in their time of illness.

Brother Paul Ardoin (738-2858) is recovering from arterial blockage, and spent several weeks in the hospital.

Brother Damian Masse (776-2715) is suffering from tendonitis and is sore and still having difficulty getting around.

Brother Johnny Nix (783-0419) is recovering from multiple surgeries, but is doing much better.

Brother Gerard Gener (447-3687) is recovering after complications from hip surgery.

Brother Laddie Gatling (261-6883) continues his battle with MS.

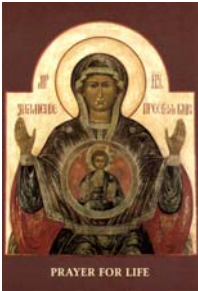
Brother Byron Weston (256-4983 Room 115) remains in the nursing home.

Let us join in prayer and ask God for His healing for those who are ill and to share His strength with them and their families.

O God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease realize that they are chosen to be saints, and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Remember, Charity begins at home! If you know of a Brother Knight that is sick or in distress, contact PGK Jim Corbett at JCoressq@aol.com.

Upcoming Pro-Life Activities



The monthly Rosary at the Shrine of the Unborn is held at 9:30 AM on the 1st Sunday of each month.

There is a Rosary Vigil every Saturday morning at 10AM outside the Planned Parenthood parking lot (2712 Middleburg Dr).

March 25th is Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn Child. The 6PM Mass intention will be dedicated to all unborn children. Please make plans to attend this Mass and offer up your prayers for all unborn children.

90th Annual State Council Convention

The annual meeting of the South Carolina State Council will be held on April 29 – May 1, 2011, at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

At our March Business Meeting, the Council elected Fred Parsons (DGK) as 1st Alternate Delegate and Troy Penny (Public Relations) as 2nd Alternate Delegate. The Grand Knight and immediate Past Grand Knight are automatic delegates to the Convention according to the State Council bylaws. Should either or both be unable to attend, the alternate delegates will be elevated to delegate status respectively. Congratulations Fred and Troy on your election as Alternate Delegates. It truly is an honor to attend this event and to represent your Council.

This is a great opportunity for you and your family to join with other Knights and their family members from around the state, and to experience the excitement, fraternity, and gala that is associated with your annual state convention. Each 3rd Degree Knight should consider attending. It is a lot of fun and very informative, especially if you have the interest or desire to some day be Grand Knight. A convention packet full of details has been sent to your email address on record. However, if you can't go this year, definitely plan to attend next year when the Convention returns here to Columbia! If you do plan to attend, please notify Grand Knight Skip Hudson at swhudson3@yahoo.com or 803-622-7932.

Congratulations!

Our Knight of the Month for February is Troy Penny. Troy recently completed his 3rd Degree and is presently the Council Public Relations Director. Coincidentally, or not, Troy and Carrie Penny are also our Knights' Family of the Month for February. Carrie is the Interim President of our Columbiettes Auxiliary. Troy and Carrie entered the Catholic Church just one year ago last Easter, and have already made a tremendous impact. Congratulations and thanks for all of your hard work!

Insurance



No other financial product can do what whole life can

One of the many elements of permanent insurance – whole life for example – is the accumulation of cash values within the policy. While we never run around recommending that these values be withdrawn, or borrowed, the fact is they are available. When you borrow against the cash in the policy, you diminish the value of the policy until the borrowed funds are returned. But when I talk with members about the features of permanent life insurance, I certainly include this feature in the conversation.

When you pay your permanent life insurance premiums, the policy begins to accumulate a reserve – usually not until the policy is in force for a couple of years. The company sets aside this reserve, which gradually and over time grows, depending on the size of the policy and the premiums paid.

During the life of the policy – and your life – this cash value is always available to you. When you talk about it with your agent,

he will help you determine how much is available, always keeping in mind that we want the policy to remain in force (so you should never take out 100% of the cash and cause the policy to lapse). He will then work with you to complete the necessary paperwork that would be forwarded here to New Haven where the request is processed promptly. The cash is usually delivered quickly and with no questions asked. The agent will also strongly suggest a repayment plan, so that, over time, you can restore the cash value to its full amount for two reasons: first, so that the policy returns to full value should death occur, and so that the cash is there for you again should the need arise.

This column is not usually used for lessons in how life insurance works, but this is a critical issue. With so many credit outlets tightening the reins, and money becoming harder to find, borrowing against a permanent life insurance policy can be an attractive option when a financial emergency occurs. If you have found yourself wondering where you can get the money you need to a) fix the roof; b) fix the fur-

nace; c) fix the car; or d) fill in the blank, permanent insurance could have been the solution.

There are lots of features that distinguish permanent insurance from term insurance. The accumulation of cash value, which can be accessed and used in the event of an emergency quickly and painlessly, is just one. When your agent talks to you about the value of whole life, remember this: permanent, cash value, level premium life insurance is a unique product. I can think of no other financial product – none – that does what it can do, including helping your family out during a financial emergency.

Start a discussion with your Field Agent Peter Zeeff, 731-5107, today! You'll be glad you did.

Tom P. Smith, Jr. is Executive Vice President for Agencies and Marketing.

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their only common project. So their friendship should include other common interests and activities – politics, hobbies, projects, reading together, discussions and conversations about cultural topics.

Finally, if the man who works outside the home does not try to include his wife in his professional interests and activities, if he does not attempt to speak with her about his daily joys, sorrows, and concerns, then he is not treating her as an equal, as a true friend. She will feel this and resent it, as Lewis noted.

To avoid this problem, men should be ready to talk with their wives about their work when they get home, even if they are tired from a busy day, and would prefer to sit with the TV or newspaper. Likewise, wives should attempt to show interest in their husband's professional life – if not for an interest in the work itself, then for his sake.

FFG: How important is "spousal friendship" to happy marriage?

Dr. Kheriaty: It is indispensable. Perhaps the most common cause of divorce is the lack of a solid and constant friendship between spouses. This foundation of friendship remains firm when the emotions and passions of eros wax and wane.

The antidote to the proverbial "seven-year itch" is real friendship that continues to be cultivated year after year. This takes work – it often requires sacrifice and always requires effort.

A well-known psychologist has done studies comparing successful marriage relationships with those that end in divorce. The worst sign of a troubled marriage is what he calls "stonewalling" – a total lack of engagement between the spouses.

When the lives of a husband and wife begin to run on parallel tracks that never meet, the marriage is likely doomed if things do not change. Interestingly, this psychologist argues that for spouses who are "stonewalled," even getting them to argue with one another is a step in the right direction; at least in arguing they are engaging with one another.

Friends sometimes have disagreements, so spouses will have occasional arguments (of course, this should never be done in front of the children, and attempts to reconcile should come quickly). What should be avoided at all costs is a lack of daily engagement, a distance or coldness between spouses. This kills friendship; and when the spousal friendship dies, the marriage is in trouble.

FFG: What are some practical "everyday" things a husband can do to achieve "spousal friendship"?

Dr. Kheriaty: 1. A husband should pray with his wife daily. This can take many forms – the family rosary, night time prayers with the children, quiet mental prayer together before the Blessed Sacrament, vocal prayers. The husband should be the spiritual leader in the family (giving good example to the children), and the spiritual

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leader in the marriage (helping his wife on her way to heaven).

2. He must demonstrate his love with words and deeds. Women need to hear, and to be shown, “I love you” many times a day. Just as Our Lady never tires of hearing the repeated prayers of the rosary, so our wife never tires of hearing how much we love her.

Tender and affectionate words are never boring or repetitious when love is present. So we say it (over and over – with phone calls, e-mails, or text messages during the workday), and then we show it.

Take care of the Saturday “honey-do” list without complaint. Try to anticipate her needs. Come up with projects that you can do together. Love is deeds, not sweet words (but the sweet words are necessary as well).

Finally: It sounds clichéd, but flowers work every time. Bring her flowers often – for no apparent reason, and without the need of a “special occasion.” They are a great way to diffuse arguments or tensions: swallow your pride, and be the first to apologize.



Photo courtesy of Peggy Binette.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Brother Knights Jim Albert, Skip Hudson, GK, Jim Corbett, PGK, and Fred Parsons, DGK work the steam line at the annual St. Joseph Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 8th, 2011. It was estimated that over 350 Parishioners attended this year’s event!

Knights In Action

In subsequent issues, we will be including photographs of “Knights In Action” taken at various activities sponsored by our Knights of Columbus Council. However, to do this, we need photos! Please submit your photos to newsletter@kofc12554.org and see your credited handiwork in print as in example to the left. Help make your Council newsletter, which is viewed by Knights throughout South Carolina, even better with photos of Knights In Action. Deadline for submittals is the Friday following the Monthly Business Meeting. *Note: Not all photos submitted may be selected for publication.*

The *Shining Armor Gazette* is a monthly publication of the Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council 12554. Distribution is via email generally on the Monday immediately following the 1st Thursday of the month.

The Council currently meets in the Parish House at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Columbia on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month, unless otherwise published. Regular Business Meetings, closed but to the membership, are held at 7:30pm on the 1st Thursday, preceded by dinner at 6:30pm. Social Meetings, open to all, are held at 7pm on the 3rd Thursday, and consist of a program that varies from month to month.

We are now on the Web! Check out our Council web site at www.kofc12554.org, and our Facebook page too.