

# SHINING ARMOR GAZETTE

*Caring for our families, serving our communities, and serving our faith community*

Volume 3, Issue 4

Grand Knight Swinton W. Hudson, III

May 2012



ST. JOSEPH COUNCIL 12554  
COLUMBIA, SC

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

May

17 Social Meeting

June

7 Business Meeting

July

13 Installation &  
Recognition Dinner

29 Charity Breakfast

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## GRAND KNIGHT'S BRIEF



Back by popular demand, the newsletter is making a reappearance for an undecided period of time. With the unexpected early arrival of my son back in September, it just became too much for me to do in addition to all of the other sundry things that I do in relation to home and the Knights. So, for now, the newsletter will be back, but in a much slimmed down version. I hope you find it informative.

Two weeks ago, I had the honor of representing our Council at the 91st State Convention of the SC State Council held at the Embassy Suites here in Columbia. In attendance were our Bishop, Most Reverend Robert Guglielmone, representatives of 50 out of 60 Councils, including seven members of our Council (Hudson, Corbett, Johnson, Long, Kopack, Poole, and Masse), and our Chaplain, Msgr. Harris, who was the convention honoree.

During the business session, a new State Deputy, Richard Gabriel, was elected along with new State Warden, Mike Allen, currently DD2 from

Transfiguration Council in Blythe-wood. Additionally, a number of honorary resolutions were passed, and two resolutions directing the Supreme Council to take specific actions. Bishop Guglielmone attended the morning session and spoke at length on the fight for religious liberty and on our roles, both clergy and laity, as members of the body of the Church. He reaffirmed that the Knights of Columbus is the visible right arm of the Church, and that we the laity must be the ones to take the fight for religious liberty to the public square. Bishop Guglielmone informed us that the USCCB has announced a Fortnight For Freedom—a great hymn of prayer for our country to take place in each diocese during the 14 days from June 21st to July 4th. The diocese is planning for this event, and we Knights should be at the ready to help implement it here at St. Joseph and throughout Columbia when it is announced in the weeks to come. The words of our Bishop, Msgr. Harris, and State Chaplain Fr. Higgins were supportive and inspirational. They know well our

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## Save The Dates

**Thursday, June 7th** — Monthly Business Meeting: To be held at 7:30PM in the Parish House, the meeting will be preceded by dinner at 6:30PM in the Upper Room. The primary item on the agenda will be the election of officers for the coming fraternal year. The list of nominees is on page 3 of this newsletter, however nominations can be made from the floor.

**Friday, July 13th** — Installation of Officers and Recognition Dinner: This year's Installation and Recognition Dinner will be held at St. Joseph in the Hall/Gym and begin at 7:00PM. The dinner will be prepared by our very own Bill Jones and Fred Parsons, and festivities will include door prizes, raffles, and a silent auction. Last year's event was a huge success, and we're looking forward to an even better time this year!

**Sunday, July 29th** — Charity Breakfast: The breakfast originally scheduled for May 27th has been moved. At the moment, a benefiting charity has yet to be named, however we will serve as usual from 9AM-2PM.

**Sunday, September 30th** — Blood Drive and (tentatively) Charity Breakfast: Blood donors mark your calendars! The American Red Cross will be coming to St. Joseph. We are going to try to hold a breakfast in conjunction with the blood drive as an incentive for more participation with a free meal to all donors.

## Ladies Auxiliary

Our Ladies continue to seek out interested women, but they do not need to be associated with a Knight or be Catholic. The Ladies business meeting is held on the second Friday of each month at 5:30 PM in the St. Francis de Sales House, and includes a guest speaker. There are light refreshments between the speaker and the start of the business meeting.

Do you know of a lady in our Parish who would like to work with the Knights of Columbus in a more formal manner in contributing to her Church and community? If so, please contact Carrie Penny by email at [carrie\\_penny@hotmail.com](mailto:carrie_penny@hotmail.com) or by phone at (803)477-2242.



## Membership

New members are the lifeblood of a healthy Council. It can not be stressed enough how important it is to seek out qualified Catholic Gentlemen for inclusion in our Order. Over time, members move away, become infirm, or die. If we are to continue to do good works, and to support and defend the Church, then we must refresh our ranks. New members bring new ideas and energy into a Council. The demands of membership are low, but the benefits are great. If you don't know if someone is a Knight or not, *just ask him*. If he's not a member, ask why not. If he is a member, ask him to get involved! Sometimes he's just waiting on you to ask.

Once you've identified a prospect for membership, be sure to collect his contact information and then pass it on to our Membership Director Fred Parsons. Fred can be contacted by phone at (803)467-4755 or by email at [1Frdparsons@gmail.com](mailto:1Frdparsons@gmail.com).

# NOMINATED OFFICERS FOR 2012-2013

GRAND KNIGHT .....	SWINTON W. HUDSON, III	803-622-7932
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT .....		
CHANCELLOR .....	TROY S. PENNY	803-920-4146
RECORDER .....	JOHN P. STAAB	803-381-3310
TREASURER .....	ROBERT W. WIGGS, JR.	803-447-2127
ADVOCATE .....	SAMUEL J. KOPACK, JR.	803-783-4056
WARDEN.....	DONALD J. MAHONEY	803-776-6933
INSIDE GUARD .....	MICHAEL E. WILBUR	803-708-5777
OUTSIDE GUARD .....	DAMIAN P. MASSE	803-776-2715
THREE YEAR TRUSTEE .....	RAMON E. FRETT	803-237-1278
TWO YEAR TRUSTEE.....	JOHN R. LONG	803-695-3286
ONE YEAR TRUSTEE.....	JAMES J. CORBETT	803-787-1075

At the May Business Meeting held on May 3rd, the nominating committee comprised of Sam Kopack, Jim Corbett, John Long, and Skip Hudson announced the slate of officers for the 2012-2013 fraternal year to be voted on at our June Business Meeting on June 7th. Skip Hudson, our current Grand Knight, has graciously agreed to serve a third term. During the course of their search for candidates, the committee was unable to identify a Brother of our Council willing to serve in the capacity of Deputy Grand Knight. Therefore, no nomination was made by the committee.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the Business Meeting for each position individually. Persons may self-nominate, or can be nominated by another member, but they must be a 3rd Degree member in good standing (dues paid). All persons nominated will be given the opportunity to accept or decline the nomination and to speak eliciting support for their candidacy. If more than one person is nominated for any position, a vote will be taken by secrete ballot, the ballots counted in full view of the membership, and a winner announced.

Regarding the DGK position, if you would like to hold this position or have an interest in it, the nominating committee would like to hear from you. Please contact Sam Kopack (783-4056) as soon as possible.



## Brother to Brother

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

Brother Paul Ardoin (738-2858) is experiencing heart trouble and general health issues.

Brother Don Barbare (772-6923) is in ailing health and mourning the loss of his wife Betty who recently died.

Brother Jack Davis (708-6167) is recovering from knee replacement, suffers from chronic pain, and is limited in his mobility.

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

Brother Gerard Gener (447-3687) continues to experience significant health issues and needs your prayers and support.

Brother Jordan McCollough (843-669-3502) remains in a nursing home in Florence, SC.

Brother Jamie Miller (647-0607) has experienced a significant health issue and needs your prayers.

Brother Johnny Nix (783-0419) continues to recover from multiple surgeries, but is now back on his feet.

Brother Frank Toth (776-9262) is recuperating from a kidney transplant. Also remember his son-in-law who was the donor.

Brother Don Wagner is in ailing health, please keep him in your prayers.

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 [JCoresq@aol.com](mailto:JCoresq@aol.com).*

## Knight of the Month

July — Joshua Riggins

August — David Fiorini

September — Rick Coker

October — Fred Parsons

November — Brian Binette

December — Lester Johnson

January — John Staab

February — Brian Binette

March — Sam Kopack, PGK

April — Dcn. Charlie Poole



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pledge to stand in solidarity with our priests, and they commend us for our commitment to charity.

Brothers, we live in challenging times, not unlike what many Catholics face around the world. Though we are not being drug out into the street and executed simply for being Knights—like happened 80 years ago in Mexico during the Cristiada—we must not be apathetic and think that ‘oh, this is America, it could never happen here’. All it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. Let us be ever vigilant!

Therefore, I implore you to rededicate yourself as a member of the Knights of Columbus, and to become an active member in our Council. In a few short weeks, we will be electing new officers for the coming fraternal year. Many were asked, but few accepted the call to be leaders of our Council. As such, we have yet to identify a Deputy Grand Knight. Maybe that man is you? Immediately following the election, Dan Wagner and I will again be asking you to step forward to help lead in one of our many program areas or activities.

At our April Business Meeting I proposed a plan called "Back-to-Basics: Less is More." For far too long it has been the same 12 to 15 men contributing over 85% of the time and manpower to our Council and its activities. For a Council of over 100 members, this is neither sustainable or acceptable. Therefore, no longer will we be hosting activities or supporting programs for the sake of checking off a box. While it's nice to receive plaques and recognition from the State or Supreme Council, those aren't the things that matter. What matters is doing the most good for our Church and local community with the resources that we have while continuing our core purpose as a fraternal benefit society. Those programs that have been healthy and strongly supported by both the members of this Council and the Parish will receive priority. Others, while worthwhile, may be dropped or put on hold until a chairman steps forward to lead it.

Gentlemen, no one person or handful of people is the Council; we are all the Council, just as we are all the Church. Every man has a talent to contribute, what is yours? Now more than at anytime in recent memory, your Council needs you, and more importantly your Church needs you. Will you answer the call?

Vivat Jesus!

*Swinton W. Hudson, III*

**Grand Knight**

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.