



Knights of Columbus

St. John Fisher Council #12856

May 7, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Business meeting May 7, 2018 held at St. Thomas More

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Worthy GK Ed Gerard

Warden: That Membership cards are held by all in attendance was confirmed by acting Warden

Opening Prayers and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by WGK Ed Gerard

Officers Roll Call results: With the exception of Father Felix, Wes Heir, Ken Costigan, Butch Kohs and Mike McManus who were excused, all other officers were present.

Opening Ode: Missed

Introduction of Dignitaries: District Deputy Jerry Bianco and all past Grand Knights were recognized

Previous Minutes: All were asked if there were any corrections to the minutes that had been sent. A motion was made seconded and passed to approve minutes as written

Report of Admission Committee and Reading of Applications: Ken Pritchett reported one transfer, Harry Pretanski (sp?), from a local council 14357 4th degree Knight. There is another transfer but his form was not available

Ed Gerard's report as follows:

- Thanks to all Rosary prayer warriors who participated in First Sunday Rosary at Planned Parenthood Clinic on May 7th.
- Thanks to the volunteers for assistance on first Sunday Operation Wheelchair event at the Veterans home on May 7th.
- For May our Knight of the month is James Epling and our Family of the Month is Chris and Lisa Marie Ortega.
- Thanks out goes out to Dick Milanese for the May newsletter which keeps you informed.
- There will be a Taylor Swift Concert at Cardinals Stadium May 8th.
- Retreat at St. Joseph youth camp. Dates available July 21st & 22nd. The best weather is during July. Tyson Gentz shared that the dates are firm on the camp's calendar. He shared some thoughts about possible events during the retreat. Tyson will send out an email with more details and WGK would like a list of those who will attend by July 1st.

Chaplain's report: No report

Treasurer's Report: Rich reported the beginning and final balance in the account. Funds keep coming from dues collection and from the Golf Fundraiser

Reading of Bills and Communications: Worthy FINSEC Hal Pawlowski read the bills that had to be introduced at this meeting.

Report of Auditor's and Trustees: (later in the meeting) The trustee reviewed the bills and approved them as reported.

Chancellor's Report: Bob Meyers reminded us about a story he had shared about a convent in California and the convent went up for sale and was sold to a realtor. The process went to court and

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the nuns lost in the court. Sad to say that they had to go to a post judgment hearing in March and there were two nuns who attended. One of the nuns whose age was 89 actually had a heart attack and passed away in the courtroom.

Bob also shared an update about another story he had shared about a Kansas City convent whose sisters had made and sold music CDs. They were rated highly on the charts and they created a new CD called the hearts of Jesus, Mary and Joseph at Ephesus and it is available on the web.

Bob also shared that there is a movie coming out in a few weeks called Pope Francis, a man of his word. It is not a biographical movie; rather it is a movie about his personal journey. He recommended seeing the movie.

Rich Miller shared that there were some checks from the fish fry that went directly to St James

Report of Service Program Committees:

Membership Director:

One member, per council, per month:

Brother Ken Pritchett, our membership director, reminded us that we should wear our name badges and shirts. Doing so helps people recognize us. This is how a lot of the transfers have happened. During his brief talk he showed a bag of name tags for members who joined and never came to a meeting to collect their name tags. Worthy Advocate Darrel Butlett suggested that Ken send the tags to those members whose addresses we have on file with the hope that it would encourage them to come to a meeting and to get involved. Darrel volunteered to send them out.

Next Local 1st Degree:

Council: 3855

When: Thursday May 14th at 6:00 pm

Where: Council #3855 K of C hall, Glendale, AZ

Council: 11116

When: Thursday May 17th at 6:00 pm

Where: Our Lady of Joy, 36811 North Pima Rd, Carefree AZ, 85377

Next Local 2nd/3rd Degree:

Council: 14230

When: Saturday June 23, 2018

Where: St. Rita in the Desert, 13260 Colossal Cave Rd, Vail, AZ

Next Local 4th Degree:

Phoenix Fourth Degree Exemplification, St. Louis the King Roman Catholic Church, 4331 W Maryland Ave., Glendale, AZ Saturday June 9, 2018.

Worthy Advocate: No additional report

There was some discussion about the delegates for the State council meeting and if anyone was interested in becoming 4th degree

St. James Report: Ken Pritchett shared the following:

- Father Ben and Sister Betty will be celebrating their Silver Jubilee during a catered dinner on this coming Saturday at St James. The \$35/person tickets are available at St James
- Adoration at St. James
 - Monday 6 PM until Benediction at 8:00

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- Friday 8:30 AM until Benediction at 7:00 PM
- 40 hours of Adoration is scheduled and it will be on the first weekend of June

St. Thomas More Report: No report

Council Directors:

Adopt-a-street: WGK Ed shared that next Adopt-a-Street is this Saturday May 12th at 7:00 am. We need help from volunteers to pick up trash from 67th Avenue to 59th avenue on this side of Beardsley, meet by Panera Bread Company at 67th avenue and Beardsley. This occurs on the second Saturday of the month every other month.

The Veterans' Home: The first Sunday of the month 9:15 AM at 3rd Street and Indian School. Our next scheduled day is Sunday, June 3rd.

Pray the Rosary at Planned Parenthood (Abortion) Clinic: The first Sunday of every month is our turn to pray the Rosary led by Ken Pritchett in front of the Planned Parenthood clinic on 5771 W Eugie Ave just east of 59th Ave from 8:00 to 9:00 AM. The next one will be also be on June 3rd

Fund Raising: WGK Ed recognized Joe Kosikowski and Leo DeLangis for doing such a good job with the golf tournament recently. Joe shared that we have a group who runs the tournament for us and they didn't have the accounting details yet because of their busy schedule. Joe thanked all who helped during the tournament. A list of those who donated and supported the tournament will be sent to the brothers so we can support them in the future

Pro Life Report: No report

Habitat for humanity/food for the poor: No report

Family/Youth Director: Tyson shared that he has some lessons learned and suggested that we have two dates on the calendars at each of the churches to sell tickets (one early and one later in the sales date ranges) in an effort to improve and to do so ASAP

Other business: Each year we have supported a young man through E3 Africa. We usually send one check each year to cover his sponsorship at \$840. There was a motion that was seconded and passed to provide the \$840 for his support.

One of the brothers wanted to recognize our Worthy Advocate for his correspondence asking those brothers who have not either paid dues or asked for relief from doing so because of financial difficulties to please step up or let us know what they would like to do.

There was a motion to add \$118 to the dollars collected for the fish fry in an effort to make the donation an even \$5,000. There was some discussion and ultimately the motion was seconded and passed.

A question was posed asking if we are still providing sponsorship for campers.

Tyson asked about the payment from the receipts from the ST James Parish Festival, a check will be cut tonight.

There was a motion to support the Phoenix Children's Project with a donation of \$2,100 it was seconded and passed.

Alfred suggested that we recognize the new brothers. Brian Lynch (sp?), a recent transfer shared a bit about himself. Also Scott (recorder couldn't hear the last name and notes taken

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during the meeting are in the briefcase left with WGK for covering minutes for the Assembly and council while traveling. Brother Scott's last name will be added in final minutes).

The new officer elections will be held at the June 4th council meeting.

WGK shared that the next season for the stadium will be kicking off and encouraged all to help as best they can.

New Business:

Worthy Advocate Darrell Butlett asked to begin a discussion about council dues. We have about 96 brothers who have not paid their dues for a number of years. Although his email offered options for reduced dues he heard comments about the dues being too expensive for a number of reasons i.e. "I'm retired", "I'm raising a family" etc.. Darrel recommended that we consider reducing the dues from \$55 per year to \$40 per year. This recommendation will be made for the next two meetings finalizing in a future vote to ratify or deny. Darrell shared that he overheard our District Deputy made a suggestion that we offer early dues payment of \$40 and if late then \$55 as a point of discussion. It costs us over \$1,500 per year just to pay the dues to State and Supreme for those who are not paying their dues. He mentioned that it was disheartening that there were times when we couldn't support something for one of the churches because of the limited budget.

Report of the Fourth Degree: No report

Field Agent's Report: No report

District Deputy's Report: District Deputy Jerry Bianco shared that this time of the year this is the most common conversation held in various council's meetings. He went on to say that we try very hard to keep brothers and shared that an older brother who had joined just shy of his 18th birthday and the gentleman was over 80 years and in a retirement home. He said to just remove him from the roster because he had moved to Pennsylvania and could no longer attend the meetings. Jerry found out which council was closest to him and asked the Grand Knight from that council to go and visit this brother and ask him if he would like to transfer to that council. The point of the story is that we shouldn't just assume that the brothers are just not interested. There are times when there are extenuating circumstances and it behooves us to take the extra step to determine what is happening and why.

We really need to look at this while considering the pledges we took of Charity, Unity and Fraternity rather than what they owe us. We need to try to figure out why they haven't paid their dues, is it too much, we can fix that. Is it because we made them upset about something, maybe we can learn from that and find something we can fix. Is it because they have moved to another area and that they feel disengaged then that can be fixed too. There are times when we do have to cut some guys loose but that should never be our fallback position.

There are a lot of ways to approach this. If a brother is two years past due they only owe for the current year. As far as Supreme is concerned the slate is wiped clean each year.

As he mentioned earlier, there are times when we do have to cut them free then it is best to get a letter from them stating that they no longer want to be a Knight.

We have to make sure that we have done everything we can before we cut them free. We have to take this from a fraternal perspective. Help them to understand that they are welcome, we don't want them for their checkbook we want them for their fraternity. Often times once you overcome that perspective then they may just come back in.

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One thing he has found to be helpful is by searching via LinkedIn amongst other things.

The other side is engagement. He reminded us that when we recruit the guys then take on the role of sponsorship. Help them to get engaged and they are more likely to stay involved.

He went on to say that there are other things we can do to bring brothers in. There is an online membership option for those who are more interested but are not ready to physically attend meetings. The hope is that they will get involved with a council but they can remain an online member indefinitely. They will have to take the first degree if they join a council. They are welcome to come to council meetings as an online member.

The upcoming State convention is an important meeting as they will be electing next year's officers. Witnessing that will help us to better understand the election process.

Jerry went on to discuss Star Council and some of the things involved to get there. During the conversation he mentioned that we have a tendency to look at our field agents as the insurance guy. However he said that they are really a model of what brother Knights of Columbus should be. They are there for you and your family is protected and that they are there for you when you or your family needs help. He quoted his field agent as having spent about 60% of his time helping widows of brother Knights. Not only insurance related things, they actually make sure that your family is protected and supported when you are gone.

Other business:

WGK shared that we need to remember that we state oaths for the following: Charity or love of thy neighbors; Unity makes things better for your parish and your community; Fraternity, the Order's top rated insurance program continues to this day; and Patriotism, being proud of our devotion to God and our country. Rich Miller shared that we were reminded of these during our Renewal of Obligations ceremony recently during the St Josephs assembly meeting. Rich also shared that the 18th annual Public Service Awareness dinner recently one of the things we do annually by the 4th degree assembly.

For the Good of the Order:

The prayer request was updated and read

During the Good of the Order discussion a story was shared about a brother Knight who was visiting from Nevada and was injured. His council reached out to our Assembly and several of the brothers helped in a variety of ways.

Rich Miller went on to share that during the renewal of obligations our State Master Bryant Sayers shared a couple of similar stories where a brother was away from home and reached out to the local Catholic Church to get in touch with the local Grand Knight and was helped by brother Knights. Rich reminded us that if we are ever in a similar situation that we have that support available to us as well.

Lecturer: No report WGK Ed reminded us that as Knights we are all required to take the safe environment training every year after July 1st. Anyone who has completed the foundation course can renew on-line. Register online if needed. <http://www.safeenvironmenttraining.org/>

Chaplain's Summation: No report

Pot of Gold: Completed

Salutation Table: Removed

Closing Prayer: Led by WGK Ed

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Closing Ode: Dispensed

Meeting adjourned at 8:35