



The Knights of Columbus
Santa Cruz Council 971
P.O. Box 971
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-971

Over 106 Years of Local Service!

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Birthdays

George Deluchi—1st

Peter Erhman—5th

Bro. David Betz—10th

David Scargill—27th

Happy Birthday!

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Today's Knights

"Lady of Victory, Pray for Us."

Serving Star of the Sea, St. Joseph's Parish, Holy Cross, The Shrine of St. Joseph, San Agustin, St. John's, St. Michael's.

Newsletter of The Knights of Columbus ~ Council 971

December 2011

Business Meetings are normally held the second Wednesday and Socials the fourth Wednesday at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Hall

December Events

- 8..... Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. (Holy day of obligation.)
- 12..... Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- 14..... **K. C. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER**
- 25..... Feast of the **NATIVITY OF JESUS, CHRISTMAS DAY!**
- 30..... Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

No business meeting this month!

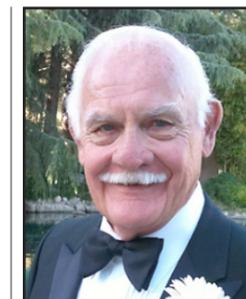


Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights and Families,

Here we are down to the Advent Season and looking forward to a Joyous Christmas Season. As we check on our progress and the many goals we are looking to complete, We should just look around to find the sparkle on the land we walk.

On the first day of December, the Immaculate Heart Radio Broadcast System came to the central coast on 1240AM Radio. In dedication, on day one, our Bishop Garcia was on hand to offer thanks to the laypeople who had worked so hard to complete the purchase. During that first day of broadcast some of our Catholic Charity groups from Santa Cruz were interviewed and featured for the listeners. Siena House and the St. Francis Kitchen were in the afternoon banter and those are two of our council's main efforts every year. Many thanks go out to those brother knights who came together to support that work.



As we complete this year we want to renew our efforts at bringing more Catholic men into our ranks. These are difficult times for many families

and we should keep in mind the support of the family and the needs of our parishes, priests, and all those folks who give their support to the community.

Please remember those Knights and Family members who are ill and in need of healing and say a little prayer for them. Keep all the officers of Council 971 in your prayers so we can sail into the New Year with some blessings and healing. Merry Christmas!

Yours in Christ,
Doug Gallagher

Chaplain's Message

CHRISTMAS IS DISAPPEARING?

Like many religious feasts there is the possibility that the real meaning of Christmas is fast disappearing from the culture of the United States. Easter is becoming the Easter Bunny, New Year is becoming roll out the old and roll in the new and Christmas is becoming the Winter Solstice or the

Winter Break or Happy Holidays or even something less innocuous as Santa Claus. What led to this turn of events? This is a very good question and I would like to take a crack at finding a solution to this eroding dilution of the true meaning of Christmas. Sometimes we bend over

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Monthly Social Roast Beef

Wednesday, Dec. 14
Star of the Sea Parish Hall

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...Chaplain

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backwards to include everyone so that no one person will be left out. So we attenuate its meaning so that no one would feel uncomfortable when this person does not accept the beliefs in the meaning and spirit of Christmas. Let us, therefore, make the feast or event as harmless as possible, so that so and so will not feel left out or uncomfortable in participating. After all, we have to be inclusive and not exclusive. So in the last thirty or forty years, gradually and slowly, the purpose, meaning and significance of Christmas has been fading. We all remember the "crèche wars" or the "crib wars" every year.

This Advent should be a period of restoration of the true meaning of Christmas. Let us invite all to participate in this joyous occasion by including all in the truth of this appearance of Jesus Christ among us. He included himself in the history of mankind so that we would not be excluded from our invitation to be one with Him. It is an invitation open to all, not just to Christians. Let us not emasculate the event so as to include all in vapid, insipid, gushy moment, forgetting the reality of what really happened: Jesus Christ became man and dwelled among us. I hope the Knights will continue to renew their past campaign to "put Jesus Christ back into Christmas." And the rest of us, we should return one another with the greeting of "Merry Christmas." Let us all receive the Great Gift, which the Father has given us. Merry Christmas to all.
Fr. James Catalano, OSJ,
Chaplain

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Thank you!

Or Thanksgiving Dinner was well attended (70+ people) from parishioners of following churches: Holy Cross, Star of the Sea, St. Vincent de Paul, St. John, St. Augustin and St. Joseph's. Council members were outnumbered by the above parishioners. We would like to encourage those members who have not been participating to partake of the camaraderie found at our socials and support the council in return.

We'd like to thank the people who helped us put the 'dinner' together:
Opening prayer: Fr. Jim Catalano, Chaplain.
Hosts: Ramon & Ruperta Belleza and Rudy & Virginia Quijance prepared the main dish (turkeys, bread and gravy). Arnold Reyna brought rolls and Tony Lebourveau brought crab.

MC: Doug Gallagher.
Buffet Table Preparation: Virginia Quijance, Ramon Belleza, Edwin Tonkin, Stephanie Nielsen & Frances Slebir.
Side dishes: most brought their favorite dish.
Kitchen: Rudy Quijance carved all three turkeys.
Center Pieces (flower arrangements): Ruperta Belleza & Virginia Quijance.

Bar: Larry Rothfuss, Ken Lazier Sr., Carlos de Lara & Edwin Tonkin.
Raffle: Ken Lazier, Sr, Carlos de Lara, Ken Lazier Jr. & Sasha Lazier.
Raffle Prizes: We appreciate the many who continually donate prize items.
Closing Prayer: Fr. Ron Green, Pastor, Star of the Sea Church Hall.
GK Doug Gallagher informed us that Jade Steck (council member and member of the California National Guard) has been deployed in Afghanistan. He also asked to pray for Jade and for all our troops in harm's way.

Illness & Prayers

Let us continue with our prayers for our sick list of brother knights and families and their caregivers.

Barry Earl, Francisco Garza, Frank Giaimo, Timothy Hanifin, Maryann June, Gary Phariss, Robert Walter, Gerald Zieber, Arline D'Sabato, Rose Gallagher, and Joan Phariss.

Your call or e-mail to the Bulletin Editor (Andrew) if you know of any changes to the above list will be appreciated.

Insurance

In 2010, the Knights paid well over \$442 million in death claims and other benefits, and more than \$322 million in dividends to our policyholders. Even more impressive is the fact that in the past decade, the Knights of Columbus paid more than \$3.2 billion in dividends to insured members.

Membership

Dear Brothers, we have had the pleasure of welcoming two new men to the Order on November 9th, Ken Lazier, Jr. and Kevin Garcia.

I am sure that all of us know gentlemen who would be happy to help us achieve our goals of service to church and community, if only they knew about our programs! Let's make a special effort during the Advent and Christmas seasons to tell at least one new person about our Order and its works.

Jason Nielsen
Membership Director

Congratulations to new Council 971 member Kenneth Lazier, Jr who was exemplified to 2nd Degree member of the Order last month on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at Fort Ord. The Host Council for the exemplification was Fort Ord Council 9846. Congratulations, Ken! And a "thank you" to 9846!

Social

CHRISTMAS DINNER. We celebrate this annual festive dinner event typically on the date we would otherwise hold our business meeting. Hosts are DGK Jason Nielsen, Edwin Tonkin, and Arnold Reyna. Our menu will be as follows and will be catered:

- Appetizers
- Mixed salad
- Roast beef
- Roasted potatoes w/ gravy
- Green beans
- Rolls/butter
- Dessert

We ask you to bring your family, children in particular, friends, prospective members. Donations of prizes for our raffle and appetizers are always welcome and appreciated.



We're asking each member to please fill out the survey below and get it to Rudy Quijance soon! Either e-mail him with your figures (raquija@pacbell.net), or mail it to 108 McMillan Court, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, or give it to him personally at one of the KofC events. Thanks!

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Individual Member Worksheet

Last year, the Knights of Columbus donated more than \$135 million to charitable and benevolent causes and 60 million hours of volunteer community service to aid the less fortunate. To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information request below. This information will assistus in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members during this past calendar year.

- 1. Number of visits you made during this past year to:**
Sick—caring for the sick/nursing homes/hospitals
Bereaved—visits of condolence.....
- 2. Number of time you served as a blood donor during this past year.**
- 3. Estimated hours of community volunteer service during this past year:**
Church Activities—service in all Church related activities
Community Activities—service in all community related activities
Youth Activities—service in all youth related activities
Miscellaneous Activities—service in areas not outlined above
- 4. Number of hours of fraternal service during this past year:**
Sick/disabled members and their families—household chores, transportation, tutoring, counseling, etc.