



St. Francis of Assisi, Fulton, Md. Council #12524

Grand Knight, SK Tommy Ebaugh

The Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month for our regular Business meeting. On the fourth Wednesday of the month we hold a social event of some sort and include our "Ladies of Hope" and any Parishioners who may become potential new members. On the first Wednesday of each month the Council has a Planning meeting to set the agenda for the Business meeting. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Parish located at 8300 Old Columbia Rd., Fulton, Md. 20759.

On Saturday, July 19, 2014, the Officers of St. Francis of Assisi Council #12524 were installed after the 5:00 p.m. Mass celebrated by our Pastor and Council Chaplain Father Dennis Diehl. A pot luck dinner followed the Installation with nearly 50 members, spouses, children and friends in attendance.

Sadly, this year we lost one of our newer members, SK Charles H. Horsfall who was called home to the Lord on December 1, 2014. Charlie transferred into our Council about two years earlier. He was a PFN of Assy. #2808 in Johnston, R.I. from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. He remained as Trustee for two years after that. Charlie transferred to the Col. Anthony F. Naples, U.S.A. Assembly #3245 as well as our Council. Charlie was 85 years old.

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR – PGK Robert Quarles, Deputy Grand Knight

CHURCH ACTIVITIES – Jeffrey Billings, Chancellor

Several of our Brothers are Eucharistic Ministers among other things and quite a few are among the Parishioners who take communion and often a rosary prayer service to at least five nursing and rehabilitation centers and assisted living centers in the immediate area. This helps take some of the burden off of our Pastor, Father Dennis Diehl.

In April and again in June the Council presented a rosary to each First Communicant and Confirmandi about to take their respective sacrament. Our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight and Program Chairman, PGK, DGK Bob Quarles presented a short dissertation on the significance of the rosary and how to pray it.

On April 17, 2014 we celebrated Holy Thursday and the "washing of the feet." Many of our ushers are Brother Knights and very involved in this as well as standing as Honor Guard during the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES – Continued

On May 7, 2014 Daniel Acquard joined the Council and the Knights of Columbus. Daniel is now the Council's second seminarian as he entered Catholic University in August to begin his journey, hopefully to Priesthood. The Council now supports two seminarians.

On May 24th the Knights got together with mowers and weed whackers, trimmers and bush hooks and machetes and even a rented brush hog to keep the weeds at bay around the sediment pond located on the Church property. This maintenance protects the integrity of the earthen dam and saves the Parish a considerable amount of money each year. Otherwise the State would come do it and charge the Parish.

Event Chairman: FDD, PGK Tim Morris

On September 6, 2014 the Knights of Council #12524 were out at daybreak marking the parking lot at St. Francis of Assisi for our annual yard sale event to support the Church. All proceeds go directly to the Parish for whatever they deem necessary. The Knights along with the Staff of the Parish and our Ladies of Hope manage all of the logistical aspects of the yard sale. We open the space rentals up to anyone who wants to bring their wares and sell them here. The Knights start the day off selling coffee and donuts to vendors and patrons. About mid-morning we fire-up the grill and cook the hot dogs and offer soda, water, juice boxes and chips to compliment them. We have had a snow cone machine for the last two years. The kids really make the most of this treat. All the food is donated by the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies of Hope. All proceeds go to the Church to help offset the "Special Assessment of Parishes for the support of Catholic Schools" which is due annually.

Event Chairman: FDD, PGK Tim Morris

On September 24, 2014 the Council was honored to present the Icon of the Immaculate Conception to our Council members, their families and the Parish community. We invited the State Deputy, Stephen Adamczyk as well as the other Councils in District 23. PGK Deacon Bob Smith led the congregation in the formal prayer service. PGK, DGK Bob Quarles recited the Glorious Mysteries. The readings were done by two of our Ladies of Hope. Fellowship with light fare and a surprise birthday sheet cake for PGK Richard Tucci followed in the gathering space. Brother Rich turned 65 today!

Event Chairman: PGK, DGK Bob Quarles

On February 11, 2015 the Council participated in helping the staff of the Msgr. O'Dwyer Retreat House in Sparks, Md. move various items from that location as well as from the Catholic Center in downtown Baltimore over to the Hilton Hotel also in Baltimore. This was in support of the Mid-Atlantic Congress which was meeting at the Hilton for a four-day event. A number of the State Council Officers were there to lend a hand as well including the State Secretary, Steve Cohen and the State Advocate, Vince Grauso.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – Steve Yanek, Warden

Twice a year the Council gets together to police about a one mile stretch of MD. Rte. 216 between the round-about west of MD. Rte. 29 and Murphy Rd. in Fulton. The Group meets at the McDonald's parking lot in Maple Lawn and they disperse from there to collect trash along both sides of the roadway and in the median. We had a crew of 14 on April 5th and 5 on October 5th. In total, over twenty-four 30 gallon trash bags were filled.

Event Chairman: Brother Bob Cuff

Two or three times a year we have a group of Brothers and often family members work alongside the folks from Habitat for Humanity on whatever local project they are currently involved in. Our last event was on September 27, 2014. We have since been told that unless we can contribute money for materials, that our free labor is no longer needed or wanted. We will search for another organization to partner with in this regard.

Event Chairman: F/S Eric Paul

Council #12524 has connected with the Community of Maple Lawn which is located due north from our Parish community in celebration of "Maple Lawn Day." This event closes down the main street to vehicle traffic and opens it up to pedestrian flow. Vendors set up in 10' x 10' areas along the sidewalks. The Council brought in a canopy and a table and two or three chairs and we kicked-off our annual car raffle incentive program on this 12th day in July. We have had a new Ford Mustang donated to us by Academy Ford in Laurel the last two years to park in front of our spot to attract attention to our cause. We also pass out Council information to interested potential new Brother Knights.

Event Chairman: Warden Steve Yanek

During the month of October we concentrate our efforts on the "Intellectuals with Disabilities Program" which is more commonly known as the "tootsie roll" event. We got permission again this year to stand outside of the local Food Lion store offering free tootsie rolls to shoppers. Of course we accepted donations but the tootsie rolls were FREE! We collected \$1,941.52 which we divided equally between "CHI Centers" and "Best Buddies."

Event Chairman: Brother Frank Caruso

For the past 10 years the St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Fulton, Md. has been providing our sister Parish in Baltimore with complete turkey dinners at Thanksgiving. For the last 5 years this has been a Council event for Council #12524 under the direction of Brother Robert Bulk. This year on Friday, November 21st we provided 150 meals consisting of: a 16-18 lb. turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, peas, mashed potatoes, yams, turkey gravy, rolls or muffin mix, green beans, corn, pumpkin pie filling and pie shells. We delivered over 4,525 lbs. of food to the St. Benedict's food pantry.

Event Chairman: Brother Bob Bulk

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – Continued

Our Council reached out to the Howard County Police Department in an effort to find a police officer who was deserving of recognition by the Community. Police Officer First Class Andre Lingham was honored as “police officer of the year” by his Department and by the Knights of Columbus of Council #12524.

Event Chairman: PGK, DGK Bob Quarles

On January 24, 2015 the annual Polar Bear Plunge took place at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis, Md. Council members and family members participated as both plungers and support personnel.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES – PGK Robert Burnett

On March 22, 2014 ten members and nine family members from St. Francis of Assisi Council #12524 in Fulton, Maryland met at the Circle “D” farm in Woodbine, Md. We were only a part of almost 100 individuals who gathered there to help this day. The goal was to package meals that would be sent to areas in distress from natural disasters such as hurricanes and earthquakes as well as to feed starving people, especially children around the world. Our Council teamed-up with Mark Timmick of Timmick Financial Group by providing the physical as well as some of the financial needs to package these meals for the “Stop Hunger Now” organization. At the beginning of the event we all learned what the organization was all about, but after the initial briefing and grouping folks into teams like an assembly line, we packaged over 20,000 meals in under 1.5 hours!

Event Chairman: IPGK Glenn Rolph

On May 7, 2014 Council #12524 held a combined 1st and 2nd degree at our Council home at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Fulton, Md. Father Dennis Diehl was the “honoree” for the First Degree in celebration of his 40 years as a Priest!

Event Chairman: PGK Deacon Bob Smith

The Council began selling the Car Raffle Incentive tickets in early July at the Maple Lawn Day event done as a “Community Activity.” The raffle ended within days of the Columbus Day ball when the winners were announced. Council #12524 broke its record again this year with 4,155 tickets totaling \$3,538.00.

Event Chairmen: Brother Bob Obst, Warden Steve Yanek

The Columbus Day Ball was held on October 11, 2014. Our Worthy Grand Knight participated in the Color Corps and the posting of the Colors for the evening. Council #12524 had five members in attendance.

Each year before Christmas, the Parish of St. Francis of Assisi, Fulton has their annual Christmas Bazaar. The Knights of Columbus Council #12524 provide the logistical and physical support for this effort. This year’s event was held on November 7 & 8, 2014. Our Ladies of Hope are very instrumental in all of this as well. They concentrate on selling the spots for the vendors, set up the menu for the food sales and in general,

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES – Continued

keep us all in line and on task. The Knights set up the spaces and mark each individual area and set a table and chairs in each space for the vendor's use. Brother Knights donate exotic beers from around the world which we arrange into two metal washtubs. Each raffle ticket has two chances to win one of these "tubs of beer". The Knights have also taken over the book sales. Parishioners donate used books each year and we sell them for pennies on the dollar. All proceeds go to the church. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Event Chairmen: FDD, PGK Tim Morris, PGK Bob Houston

On December 2, 2014 Council #12524 took its First Degree team down to the Bishop Thomas W. Lyons Council #9808 in Burtonsville, Md. We had a dual degree scheduled for the following night at our Council but it seemed prudent to combine both Council's events into one as Council #9808 doesn't have a First Degree team of their own.

Event Chairman: PGK Deacon Bob Smith

Council #12524 advertises on the church calendar each year. To defray the cost to the Parish, members of the Council make a tax deductible donation to the Church to cover the expense.

On December 13, 2014 the Knights of Council #12524 gathered after the 5:00 pm Mass for our Council Christmas party. We had a pot luck dinner for all to enjoy. PGK Jim Wholey read "The Night before Christmas" to the children. Santa Claus even graced us with his presence. Thirty-one Brother Knights plus 50 family members and friends attended for a total of 81 people. A good time was had by all!

Event Chairman: PGK Bob Burnett

On January 24, 2015 we came together to hold our 3rd annual "Parish Pasta Dinner". We invite all in the Parish to come out for a night of fellowship and fun for an affordable evening with family and friends. We convert our largest classroom into a formal dining room complete with music and candles and bottles of wine on the tables. We even use real cloth tablecloths! The food was prepared by Brother Andrew Granzow of "Pepperjacks" at significant savings to the Parish. We had a capacity crowd of over 130 people this night.

Event Chairman: Brother Ken Brown

On February 4, 2015 the St. Francis of Assisi, Fulton Council #12524 had the distinct honor of taking all of the Clergy who serve our Parish out for the evening. The event is known to us as our annual "Clergy Appreciation Dinner". It has evolved from what was known as the "Priest Appreciation Dinner" but we feel that all of the Clergy deserve to be honored. We gathered at a local restaurant known as "The Grill at Maple Lawn" for a happy hour prior to sitting down for a four-course meal. Our Pastor, Father Dennis Diehl, Deacons Joe McKenna and Bob Smith were honored for all they do for our spiritual wellbeing. Deacon Joe's wife Pat was also in attendance. Msgr. John Fitzgerald and Father Joachim Giermek our visiting Priests had scheduling conflicts. All the recent snow didn't help either.

Event Chairman: Chancellor Jeff Billings

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES – Continued

March 14, 2015 was the Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference held at Calvert Hall in Towson, Md. Council #12524 had Council members in attendance. Our Worthy Grand Knight Tommy Ebaugh, who is also the Color Corps Commander of the Anthony F. Naples, U.S.A. Assembly #3245 in Jessup, Md. and a District Marshal for the Maryland District, participated in the Color Corps procession in and out of Mass celebrated by our Supreme Chaplain Archbishop Lori.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES – PGK Robert Houston, FDD, PGK Tim Morris

In years past when the Grand Knight is finishing his one year term, we have held a ceremony we call "Pass the Gavel". This year our Grand Knight Tommy Ebaugh had agreed to a second year as our Worthy GK so the event was renamed to "Keep the Gavel". We gather for a potluck dinner including our Ladies of Hope and our families for a fun-filled evening. Name badges were presented to the new Chair Officers. Awards were presented to Council members as appropriate. This year's event also celebrated the Council's 15 year existence. We are very fortunate that our Grand Knights of the past have in large part stayed connected and involved with the Council. There were 10 PGKs plus our current Grand Knight here for this event. As in years past, our MC for the evening was none other than the world renowned Bill McMahon of the Patuxent Council, Laurel, Md.

Event Chairman: IPGK Glenn Rolph

What has now become our "Annual Family Duckpin Bowling" event began on August 31, 2014 at the White Oak Bowling lanes in White Oak, Md. This event is headed-up by PGK Bob Burnett who is himself an avid duckpin bowler. Numerous Council members, wives, girlfriends, children and even our GK's grandson participated in this event. We actually concluded the event the following day at Brother Mike Consoli's house for a pool party celebrating the outcome of the fierce competition that took place the day before. Who won you ask? Who cares, it was all in fun!

Event Chairman: PGK Bob Burnett

For the past ten years the St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Fulton, Maryland along with the Knights of Council #12524 has come together for one last "hoorah" before the start of Lent. The Knights plan this event along with the Staff of the Church and our Ladies. We call this our "Mardi Gras Pancake Supper". The Knights coordinate all of the food purchases and many bring in their own electric griddles to cook the pancakes on. We offer plain, blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes. Brother Andrew Granzow, owner of "Pepperjacks", cooks all of the bacon and sausage ahead of time and brings it to us in commercial catering warmers. The evening includes authentic New Orleans Mardi Gras music, beads and costumes.

Event Chairman: Brother Sam Adamczyk

YOUTH ACTIVITIES – PGK Charlie Blandford

In May of each year we celebrate the graduating high school and college seniors from the Parish. We have held this time-honored tradition since 1998. The Knights prepare a program booklet with a short biography and a color photograph of each graduate. PGK Anthony Gigioli compiles this booklet and edits it and we send it off to the printer. This year we honored 32 youth on their accomplishment. Each honoree is presented a single rose and the Mass is said in their honor. After Mass we have a reception in the gathering space with two sheet cakes and punch and coffee and tea. Each graduate is presented with at least two copies of the booklet for their families to keep.

Event Chairmen: PGK Bob Burnett, PGK Tony Gigioli

Each Fall the Council hosts a "soccer shoot-out" in conjunction with the State efforts. PGK Charlie Blandford has managed to acquire a portable soccer net which he warehouses and brings out to these events. We advertise the competition in the bulletin and at the pulpit and hold the event after all three Masses. October 11 and 12, 2014 we held the Council level event. Many Brother Knights help with the scoring, chasing errant soccer balls and coaching the children. We don't exclude any child big or small if they want to participate. This year we had 32 participants which was a record for our Parish.

Event Chairman: PGK Charlie Blandford

In November each year the Council collects the entries from the children of the Parish for the annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. These posters are judged by the Knights on the eve of Thanksgiving in order to send them forward to the State for that level of competition. We award 30 dollars to the winner of each age group of contestants.

Event Chairman: Brother Ed Schultz

Council #12524, the St. Francis of Assisi, Fulton Knights of Columbus is the sponsoring organization of the Boy Scout Troop #540. The Scouts are very active in our community and partner with us on any number of activities in the Parish throughout the year. On December 20, 2014 many of the Scouts of Troop #540 and several of their Dads, many of whom are Brother Knights, embarked on a mission to help our sister Parish in Baltimore. The Troop helped St. Benedicts with the distribution of food and Christmas gifts to the less fortunate of that Parish. It just so happened that this was also Ms. Mary Burke's birthday and the boys all sang "Happy Birthday" to her. Mary Burke is the saintly little woman who pulls all these events together for the benefit of the families of her Parish. Mary will not divulge her age except to tell us she is "over twenty-one."

Event Chairman: Brother Mike Sindall

One of the extreme pleasures of being Grand Knight is to witness and support the elevation of a young man in the Scouts to the level of "Eagle Scout". On December 27th the Council had representatives including our Grand Knight bestow a framed Eagle Scout certificate from the Supreme Council signed by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson on Brian Fieni as a new Eagle Scout. Our Worthy State Deputy Stephen J. Adamczyk also

YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Continued

sent a congratulatory award from the Maryland State Council to Brian. We have honored at least four new Eagle Scouts this year from Troop #540.

Event Chairman: Brother Dave Everett

On February 15, 2015 the Council took the youth who wanted to participate out to join St. John Neumann Council #11618 at their facility in ElkrIDGE for the annual basketball free-throw competition. This event served as both the Council level and District level competition. Our Parish didn't have any winners move on to the District competition but all the children who participated had a good time. That's what is important!

Event Chairman: PGK Charlie Blandford

CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES – Pro-Life Couple, Frank & Claudia Caruso

We are fortunate to have our own pro-life couple, Frank and Claudia Caruso. From March to August Frank and Claudia attended numerous Defend Life activities:

In honor of Father's Day the Council made a financial contribution to the Columbia Pregnancy Center for their education fund for "fathers to be".

On August 28, 2014 Sylvia "Cookie" Harris, wife of Maryland's 1st District's Congressman Andy Harris, passed into eternal life. Frank was able to attend the funeral Mass at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore on September 1st. Mass was celebrated by our Supreme Chaplain, Archbishop Lori. Several thousand were in attendance.

Between September and November Frank and Claudia, along with other Council members and family members, attended a number of events:

Our Worthy GK Tommy Ebaugh served as a flag bearer with the Maryland District Color Corps flag team in the presentation of the Colors for the Pregnancy Center North's fundraiser "A Knight to Remember." The Knights of Columbus Organization was the "honoree of the year." The Supreme Chaplain Archbishop Lori was the guest speaker.

Frank and Claudia attended the quarterly Respect Life meeting at Our Lady's Center and also attended the Columbia Pregnancy Center's "chili cook-off" at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City.

On January 9, 2015 Frank and Claudia attended a lecture by Fr. Frank Pavone, Executive Director of Priests for Life at the Rock Creek Council in Bethesda, Md. On January 18th they attended the Pro-Life rally featuring Michelle Hendrickson, the Capital area regional coordinator of "Students for Life". The Color Corps of the 4th Degree presented the Colors. The evening included a spaghetti and meatball dinner at the Rosensteel Council in Silver Spring, Md.

January 22, 2015 was the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. Frank and Claudia were out of town but Council members and family members took part in this event.

CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES – Continued

February 3rd Frank and Claudia again attended the quarterly Respect Life meeting at Our Lady's Center in Ellicott City, Md.

On March 9th Our Worthy Grand Knight, Tommy Ebaugh and six other Color Corpsmen participated in the Maryland March for Life in Annapolis, Md. They marched from St. Mary's Church to Lawyer's Mall near the State Legislature buildings. Many State Legislators were in attendance. Organizers say this event has grown from last year and expect that trend to continue. The "Students for Life" were carrying the main banner at the front of the procession.

CONCLUSION

The Grand Knight would like to express his sincere thanks to the Program Director, Membership Director, Officers, Committee Directors, Event Chairmen and all Brothers of this outstanding Council for their support this past year. I would like to also express my sincerest thanks to our Worthy District Deputy, Howard Johnson and his District Warden, Nick Clemmens for their guidance and friendship throughout the year. I would like to thank the State Deputy, Stephen J. Adamczyk and the Officers of the Maryland State Council for all of their support and guidance this year as well. I believe that the State of Maryland Knights of Columbus is among the best in the Nation and in the Order. *"Be Not Afraid, Our Faith is Our Courage"*

Vivat Jesus

St. Francis of Assisi Council #12524 Necrology Report:

Sadly, on December 1, 2014 our dear Brother Sir Knight Charlie Horsfall passed away at the age of 85. Charlie was born on September 27, 1929. He will be missed.

Horsfall, Charles H.

PFN, Assy #2808, Johnston, R.I. from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

Trustee for two years following his term as Faithful Navigator.