

## Assembly Meeting Minutes 11 January 2024

### Call to Order:

- FN SK Thomas Herwig opened the meeting at 6:33 p.m. asking the Inner and Outer Sentinel to assume their posts
- FN asked the Faithful Pilot SK Charlie Bell to confirm that all present had possession of proper 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree membership cards
  - Faithful Pilot certified all present had proper 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree membership cards
- FN asked the Faithful Scribe SK Tom Pergola to call the roll
  - Faithful Scribe called the roll

DATE 09 NOVEMBER 2023				
POSITION-TITLE	NAME	PRESENT	EXCUSED	ABSENT
Faithful Friar	Father SK Lance Martin		X	
Faithful Navigator	SK Thomas Herwig PGK	X		
Faithful Captain	SK Thomas Foglesong		X	
Faithful Pilot	SK Charles Bell	X		
Faithful Admiral	SK Joseph Kostelac, PKN, PFN	X		
Faithful Scribe	SK Thomas Pergola	X		
Faithful Purser	SK Richard Thomas	X		
Faithful Comptroller	SK Thomas Anderson	X		
Inner Sentinel	SK Richard Fox	X		
Outer Sentinel	SK Charles McCreedy	X		
Trustee	3 <sup>rd</sup> Yr SK Joseph Lazzari	X		
Trustee	2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr SK James Stone PCK, PFN		X	
Trustee	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr SK Joseph Gangi PGK, PFN		X	

- FN asked the for the Principle of the Fourth Degree from the:
  - Faithful Pilot
    - Patriotism
  - Faithful Captain SK Tom Foglesong (excused)– represented by SK Wayne Straight
    - To respect and obey all lawful authority; to uphold and maintain those whose duty it is to administer the law; to defend and preserve unspotted and unstained, the flag of our country, and the principle for which it stands
  - Faithful Admiral SK Joe Kostelac
    - To maintain Unity; to practice the virtues of Charity and Brotherly Love, to exemplify in all our relations with our fellow men and the State the sublime teachings of Holy Mother Church
- FN asked all to turn to the flag and to recite the Pledge of Allegiance followed by singing the ode *God Bless America* and saluting the Flag
- FN asked SK Wayne Straight to lead the group in the *Our Father*

### Reports:

- **Faithful Friar**
  - Excused-NTR
- **Faithful Scribe**
  - 019 November 2023 Meeting Minutes
    - Copy Posted on bulletin board in the rear
    - Copy distributed via emailed to 4<sup>th</sup> degree members



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- Copy reviewed and accepted as written
- Bills
  - NTR
- Communications
  - NTR
- **Faithful Comptroller** (SK Tom Anderson)
  - Membership Stats
    - 120 members as of today
    - 66 members paid for CY 2024
    - 24 members dues outstanding
    - 22 life members
    - 1 military / disabled member
    - 1
  - Report due to account for hours doing 4<sup>th</sup> degree work during CY2023
    - Hours for Assembly work, Church Activities, Veterans Cemetery, Military Related Programs, etc.
    - Send FC an email itemizing hours and work
  - Side Note – Bingo for Babies during January
    - Anonymous donor matching up to \$1, 000 in tip jar
    - Ladies setting up hall
    - Bingo Team supporting effort
    - GK Jim Matthews will cover more on Bingo for Babies
- **Faithful Purser** (SK Richard Thomas) – contact FP for information
  - Bills
    - All paid up to date
- **FN Report**
  - GK Jim Matthews will report on up and coming Council Events
  - FN asked SK Wayne Straight to report on Wreaths Across America
    - Very inspiring event
    - Number of people participating has increase
    - Originally every second grave did not have a wreath, now there surplus wreaths
    - Air Force General was the MC
    - Good Turn-out from Assembly
    - Placed wreath on Al Stephens grave
      - Called Cheryl and she was excited about the call
    - Missed Bill Taylor and John McDermott’s grave
      - Recent deaths
      - Need to place wreaths on these grave next year
      - Maybe call Ann and take her to the cemetery
    - Great weather this year—no rain or snow
  - FN said that he had no more activities on which to report
    - The rest will be covered under unfinished and new business
- **Unfinished Business Faithful Navigator**
  - FN wants to line-up visits to War Memorials, Military Bases, tours or special effect



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- Started the FY 2023-2024 with presentation by author Chris Russell
  - 'In Memory of' book
  - True life story after seeing plaque in St. Edmund's Church in Rehoboth
  - Several Knights purchased the book
  - Very readable book
  - About Turkey Thicket area in Northeast DC
  - Battle between soldier and his mom
- Roger Morgan working on visit to Coast Guard Station
  - Station extremely busy with storms
  - Roger knows because he work at the station
- War Memorial in Ocean Pines
  - Maybe wait until April with warmer temperature and sun
  - 10 or 15 guys
  - Suggestion that maybe Memorial Day as a group
- FN said for each person to think about his own background or business for POCs dealing with our Flag and Country
- FN said new Knight Jack Kelley has big interest in military and 4<sup>th</sup> degree
  - Jack's exemplification probably not until Fall, but he is coming to 4<sup>th</sup> degree meetings
- FN asked GK to invite any 3<sup>rd</sup> degree to come to our meeting
- FN referenced Fort Miles (Cape Henlopen)
  - SK Wayne Straight mentioned better to wait for better weather since there are a lot of outdoor activities
  - SK Richard Thomas stated that Fort Miles is under renovation so another good reason to wait
- Dover Air Force Base Tour Suggestion
  - FN said we have had a tour there, but maybe it is worth revisiting
- FN talked about 4<sup>th</sup> degree SK Chris Cikanovich's presentation
  - Service time in Vietnam
  - Pilot experiences landing on carrier
- FP SK Charlie Bell suggest picnic in the parking lot for veteran
  - He has experience from his work at Veteran's Hospital in Baltimore
    - He will pursue its feasibility
    - Could accommodate 20 or state veterans easily with facilities
    - FN said to definitely pursue it
- FN stated speakers are good things
  - Suggestion to contact editor of the *Courier*
- SK Wayne Straight reports on Christmas Card program
  - 500 delivered to Minute Man Press Headquarters
    - Cards delivered to 17 address – all branches of the service
    - 6 Countries, e.g., Iraq, Kuwait, Japan
    - \$40,000 spent on postage
    - Program known as Operation We Care
- **New Business**
  - **Operation We Care – SK Wayne Straight**
    - Care Packages—see shopping list in Attachment A
      - Send out list in KT and minutes



## Assembly Meeting Minutes 11 January 2024

- Easy items to get
- Inexpensive
  - Put boxes in hall
  - Jeff Merit POC – info@operationwecare.org
  - FN mentioned that we could give similar packages to disable veterans
- FN stated that SK Dan Reynolds gave him a list to aid Ukraine – see Attachment B
  - Dr. Zarif has medical connection sent medical supplies--~\$15,000 worth
  - Support for about 100 soldiers – small attack group
  - Possibly work with Church and Council on this project
- FP SK Richard Thomas – 12 week effort to raise money/fundraiser
  - \$10 in for 12 week period
  - 100 people
  - Based on last two digits of Maryland Lottery Saturday evening
  - Take in \$1,000, give out \$600, have profit of \$400
  - Must have 100 participants
  - Contact SK Richard Thomas to sell or buy ticket
- St. Patrick's Day
  - Haven't participated since pandemic
  - Parade – 10 blocks – 60<sup>th</sup> Street to 45<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Do we participate?
  - Do we hold the traditionally Assembly event of Corn Beef Dinner and Beer?
    - Seems to be interest
    - Need to get staff, check on cookers, food purchase, etc.
      - Need someone to volunteer to be coordinator
        - SK Eddie Mardaga will coordinate event with help of SK Richard Fox
  - Put out sign-up sheet to see who would want to walk in parade
  - Check with Irish-American club-OC mayor about parameters
  - Per SK Wayne Straight K of C lead the largest parade in Savannah
- Exemplification for 4<sup>th</sup> Degree
  - SK Jim Dorean Master for 4<sup>th</sup> Exemplification
  - Probably here in the Fall—not sooner
  - SK Dale Shepard to send letter to all 3<sup>rd</sup> degree members eligible for 4<sup>th</sup> degree
  - All members can attend 4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting without being a 4<sup>th</sup> degree member
- **Grand Knight**
  - Exemplification for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees
    - 06 February at 6:30 p.m.
    - Ten new members
      - 3 from St. John Neumann
      - 3 from Holy Savior
    - Three transfers
      - 1 from Pasadena
      - 1 from Belair
      - 1 from St. Ann's Bethany Beach
    - Phenomenal job on recruitment
  - Breakfast for Babies
    - 21 January
    - 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



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- Reset Hall
  - Need help 19 January at 2:30 p.m. to reset hall
- Community Supper
  - 18 January 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
  - Pot Roast Dinner and Dessert
  - Need help especially for clean-up
- Ladies Bingo for Babies
  - 97 tickets sold—sell out
  - Need 4 servers for food line
  - Proceeds going to Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health

### Adjournment:

- FN asked the symbols of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree
  - FP – Flag
  - FA – Sword
  - FC -- Cross
- SK Wayne Straight led the group in the *Hail Mary* followed by the singing of *The Star Spangled Banner*
- FN announced the next meeting date – 15 February
- FN closed the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

### 50/50 Winner

- SK Eddie Mardaga

Respectfully submitted:

SK Thomas Pergola, Faithful Scribe

Attachments: a/s



**Pope John Paul II  
Assembly #2454  
(K of C 4<sup>th</sup> Degree)**

9901 Coastal Highway  
Ocean City, MD 21842  
(410) 526-7994  
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## **Assembly Meeting Minutes 11 January 2024**

### **Attachment A – Operation We Care Shopping List**



## Assembly Meeting Minutes 11 January 2024

### Operation We Care Shopping List

<b>This column contains the items that are most needed. We try and include them in every box.</b>	<b>✓</b>
<b>Baby Wipes</b>	
<b>Body Wash</b>	
<b>Granola Bars</b>	
<b>Lip Balm</b>	
<b>Chef Boyardee Pasta - 15oz cans</b>	
<b>Hot Chocolate Packets</b>	
<b>Deck of Cards</b>	
<b>Dental Floss</b>	
<b>Deodorant (non - aerosol)</b>	
<b>Disposable Razors</b>	
<b>Gum/Breath Mints</b>	
<b>Ink Pens</b>	
<b>Instant Oatmeal</b>	
<b>Microwave Popcorn</b>	
<b>Pop Tarts</b>	
<b>Powdered Drink Mixes</b>	
<b>Ramen Noodles (brick style not cups)</b>	
<b>Shampoo</b>	
<b>Small Personal Kleenex</b>	
<b>Toothbrushes</b>	
<b>Toothpaste</b>	

**Financial donations will be used to cover the cost of postage and various OWC projects**  
Checks can be made payable to "Operation We Care" and dropped off at any donation location or mailed to  
Operation We Care, Inc. c/o Minuteman Press, 829 E. William Street, Salisbury, MD 21804

Please visit [www.operationwecare.org](http://www.operationwecare.org) for a current list of drop off locations



Like us on  
**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/OpWeCare>

**For additional information or to have your donation picked up contact**

Jeff Merritt 410-713-8940 • [info@operationwecare.org](mailto:info@operationwecare.org)

## Thank You For Supporting Our Troops

Operation We Care, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.  
Your contribution may be tax deductible, please consult your tax advisor.  
Federal Tax ID 45-3847035



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## **Assembly Meeting Minutes 11 January 2024**

### **Attachment B -- Ukrainian List of Need Supplies**



## Assembly Meeting Minutes 11 January 2024

### What the soldiers and doctors need:

- Israeli Compression Bandages
- Chest Seal Pads
- Hemostasis Bandages
- Medical Pouches
- Tourniquets
- Thermal Underwear (L and XL)
- Underwear
- Tee Shirts
- Socks
- Used Laptops
- Walkie Talkies

Although not inclusive, these are the items that we have been able to garner from contacts