

## Assembly Meeting Minutes

### 13 June 2024

#### Call to Order:

- FN SK Thomas Herwig opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. asking the Inner and Outer Sentinels to assume their posts and all Faithful Officers to take their positions
- FN asked the Faithful Pilot for SK Charlie Bell to confirm that all present had possession of proper 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree membership cards
  - SK Bell certified all present had proper 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree membership cards
- FN asked Faithful Scribe SK Tom Pergola to call the roll
  - FS called the roll

DATE 13 JUNE 2024				
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 SK Charlie Bell
    - 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 Saluting the Flag and singing the ode *God Bless America*
- FN asked SK Wayne Straight to lead the group in the *Our Father*

#### Meeting Opened for Transaction of Business:

- FN declared the Assembly Meeting as officially opened for transaction of business.

#### Reports:

- **Faithful Friar**
  - Excused-NTR

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- **FN**
  - Provided a quick summary of Father Jennings' presentation in place of May Monthly meeting
    - 40 plus attendees
    - Question/Answer format vice formal presentation
    - Very good and interesting discussion about Fr. Jennings' time as a Police Chaplain in Kent Island, Maryland
    - One minor mishap of the evening to which the OC paramedics responded
- **Faithful Scribe**
  - Reading/Status of the 09 May 2024 Assembly Meeting Minutes
    - NTR – see bullets above under FN about Fr. Jennings' Presentation
  - Bills
    - NTR
  - Communications
    - NTR
- **Faithful Comptroller (SK Tom Anderson)**
  - Membership Stats
    - Five (5) members in arrears
      - SK James Hafnailer
      - SK Francis Celeste, Jr. (may have moved from area, FN to check)
      - SK Edgar Percell
      - SK Edward Tinus
      - SK Brian Keith
    - FC requested help at St. John Neumann's for Fund Raising Drive to Benefit People with Disabilities (a.k.a. Tootsie Roll Drive) for the weekend of 06 - 07 July
- **Faithful Purser (SK Richard Thomas)**
  - NTR other than "we have money"
    - Computer Crashed
    - Purchased new computer
      - Have a computer tech trying to retrieve data from old disk
    - Waiting on Bank Statement
- **Reading of FY 2024-2025 Slate of Officer Nominations**
  - FN stated final reading of the FY 2024-2025 Slate of Officer Nominations later under New Business
  - SK Joe Kostelac will record the votes

### FN Report

- May Events were Good
  - Fr. Jennings' Presentation
  - Memorial Day Ceremony
    - SK Wayne Straight was the lead
      - Nice ceremonial honoring the military
      - Fr. Martin led group in a prayer
      - Honored SK Chuck Burnett for service during the Vietnam Era
      - Forty some Knights, Sir Knights and Parishioners processed and place flags by silhouettes in front of St. Luke's Church
      - SK Wayne Straight thanked all for their service



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- FN stated that SK Charlie O'Brien wants to pursue Color Guard
  - Replace legacy uniform with new modern uniform
    - Cost approximately \$450 – down from the initial cost of \$600
      - Between the Council and Assembly, they will cover \$200 of the cost
        - FN stated that the Assembly is willing to cover \$200 vice only \$100
          - Total reimbursement would be \$300 vice \$200
          - SK would pay approximately \$150 vice \$450
    - SK Chuck McCready only SK who has currently purchase uniform
    - No real option/choice but use the new uniform for ceremonies
  - Need six (6) or eight (8) Sir Knights to volunteer for Color Guard
- FN opened the floor for discussion
  - SK Ron Ruest stated the meaning of a 'uniform'
  - SK Eddie Mardaga suggested check at Boscov's
    - Comments were it could be more costly
    - Products may not be same as 'official' uniform
      - Negates the concept of uniform
  - SK Lou Guido stated if we are going to reestablish the Color Guard, we should do it correctly
  - SK Tom Anderson stated his position is ideological – don't use new uniform
    - Supreme did not asked for input
    - Dark suits with Social Baldric and gloves would work
      - SK Ruest said that concept negates 'uniform' appearance
  - FN Herwig stated that other Council have the new uniform despite the fact they don't like it
    - Important point is that we are doing it for the Church and Brother Knights
    - Cost should not be a factor since Council and Assembly are paying three-quarters (¾) of the price
  - SK Joe Lazarri stated that he is against the change
    - Wearing a suit is okay but not a uniform
  - SK Jim Stone stated that he would join and asked who else would join
    - The following individuals raised their hands:
      - SK Wayne Straight
      - SK Ron Peter
      - SK Lou Guido
      - SK Charlie Bell
      - SK Jim Stone
      - SK Chuck McCready
      - SK Ron Ruest
      - SK Tom Herwig
      - SK Charlie O'Brien – possible Commander
      - SK Tom Pergola
  - FP Richard Thomas stated out of respect, Assembly should ask SK Neil Foote since he was the last Commander
    - FN stated that he would call SK Foote and ask him if he would be the Commander
    - Suggestion made that if SK Foote declines, maybe SK Richard Thomas, the Assistant Commander could move up
    - Final Decision tabled until September Assembly Meeting

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- SK Wayne Straight introduced the fact that the Assembly needs someone to take measurements
  - SK Charlie McCready suggested his tailor in Ocean Pines (Berlin)
    - Tailor would measure for free with stipulation that Sir Knights returns to this store for alterations
    - Each Sir Knights would pay for his own alterations
    - FN or designated-SK would contact tailor to see what the shop will do for the Assembly
  - Other topics introduced were requirements for social baldric and shoes
- FN stated that we will defer further discussion until first meeting in September
  - If anyone has additional input, send it to the FN
- FN introduced Seafood Nights beginning 02 July through 27 August – each Tuesday evening
  - Training 20 July at 11:00 a.m. following Thursday Rosary/Bible Discussion
- FN stated that he is working on an ‘Invitation Letter’ to all Third Degree Knights to join the Fourth Degree
  - PFN Joe Kostelac has a copy of the letter which he sent out previously
  - Approximately 227 potential Third Degree candidates eligible to become Fourth Degree members
  - Council Membership Chair (CMC), Jack Kelley, recently brought in seven (7) new members and two (2) transfers
  - PGK Jim Matthews had eight (8) men join as new Council members prior to CMC’s nine (9)
  - FN stated that he has purchased envelopes and labels, and he needs a committee
    - Five (5) SKs to fold, stuff, label and stamp ‘Invitation Letters’
    - Five (5) to ten (10) SKs for a follow-up-team to contact those who don’t respond
    - FN to work with officers and CMC in the next few weeks
    - SK Wayne Straight suggested inviting potential candidates to come to a meeting
  - SK Wayne Straight stated that the \$70 initiation fee might be too expensive for some
    - SK Straight suggested sponsors for any candidate who needed financial assistance for the \$70
    - Remind candidates that \$70 is a one-time fee
    - Annual Dues are \$25

#### **New Business**

- Final Reading of FY 2024-2025 Slate of Officers Nomination
  - Third and Final Reading of FY 2024-2025 Slate of Nomination Officers
    - Faithful Friar                                      SK Fr. Lance Martin
    - Faithful Navigator                                SK Tom Herwig
    - Faithful Captain                                   SK Tom Foglesong
    - Faithful Pilot                                      SK Charlie Bell
    - Faithful Admiral                                  SK Joe Kostelac
    - Faithful Scribe                                    SK Tom Pergola
    - Faithful Purser                                    SK Richard Thomas
    - Faithful Comptroller                             SK Tom Anderson
    - Inner Sentinel                                     SK Richard Fox
    - Outer Sentinel                                     SK Chuck McCready
  - FN asked three (3) times if there were any addition nominations
    - No additional nominations
    - SK Joe Kostelac made a motion to accept the ballot/slate as stated
    - SK Bob Pellenbarg seconded the motion
    - Ballot/slanted accepted

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- Committee to research/explore more exposure in terms of Patriotism
  - SK Charlie Bell Chair
    - Currently nine (9) members on the committee and looking for additional member
    - No committee meeting to date
      - Plan to hold meeting before September Assembly Meeting
  - Outreach to:
    - Become familiar with organizations
    - Have organization become familiar with Assembly
      - First responders
      - Fire Departments – Paid and Volunteer
      - Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
      - Local Military
    - VA Picnic
      - Assembly pays for food, drink and music
      - VA provides transportation
      - Ocean City and Delaware vets included

### Report of Trustees

- NTR

### Other Business

- GK Jim Matthews
  - Next Council Meeting 10 July vice 03 July due to 04 July weekend
  - Chaplain Fr. Martin's Reception on 23 June (Sunday) between 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
- FN thanked all officers and member for their work and efforts during FY 2023-2024
- SK Ron Ruest thanked the Assembly for supporting Toys for Tots (T4T)
  - Support over the top
  - T4T provided toys for 12,000 children
  - New Campaign begins in October
    - 12 October to 20 December
    - Help appreciated -- usually 4 hours per day
  - Knights' actions made him proud
- SK Dan Reynolds –Support for Ukraine
  - Check out FaceBook - Thank You Letters
- FN stated that he has checks for:
  - Operation We Care
  - Ukraine Support
- FN ask any further business
  - None to report

### Adjournment:

- FN asked the emblems of the Fourth Degree
  - FP SK Charlie Bell – Flag
  - FA SK Joe Kostelac – Sword
  - FC SK Wayne Straight for Excused SK Tom Foglesong – Cross



## Assembly Meeting Minutes 13 June 2024

- 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 –**12 September 2024**
- FN closed the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

### 50/50 Winner

- SK Lou Guido – Ticket Number 8244 – \$18.00

### Charity Collection

- \$26.00 for Charity

Respectfully submitted,  
SK Thomas Pergola, Faithful Scribe