

## Assembly #2454 Meeting Minutes 12 September 2024

### Call to Order:

- FN SK Thomas Herwig opened the meeting at 6:34 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 SK Charlie Bell to confirm that all present had possession of proper 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree membership cards
  - FP 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 12 SEPTEMBER 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 James Stone, PGK, PFN | X       |         |        |
| Trustee                | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr SK Joseph Lazzari        | X       |         |        |
| Trustee                | 1 <sup>st</sup> Yr SK Richard Hubbard       | X       |         |        |

\*Excused with Late Arrival

- FN asked the for the Principle of the Fourth Degree from the:
  - FP SK Charlie Bell
    - Patriotism
  - FC SK Tom Foglesong
    - 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
  - FA 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 FA SK Joe Kostelac 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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- **Faithful Scribe** (SK Thomas Pergola)
  - Reading/Status of the 13 June 2024 Assembly Meeting Minutes
    - FN asked for a motion to approve the Minutes as written
      - FC Tom Anderson motioned to approve the minutes as written
      - FA Joseph Kostelac seconded the motion
      - Minutes approved as written
  - Bills
    - NTR
  - Communications
    - NTR
- **Faithful Comptroller** (SK Tom Anderson)
  - Membership Stats
    - FC stated that we lost two (2) Brother Knights
      - SK Richard Cooke
      - SK Bruce Coons
    - Currently have 118 member
    - Few members still have not paid their dues
- **Faithful Purser** (SK Richard Thomas)
  - FN stated “money in good shape”
    - \$10K-\$11K in all accounts
    - FP will provided full report after he arrives at this evening

### FN Report

- Honor Guard (HG)
  - SK Chuck McCready already has the new uniform
  - Ten (10) Brother previously stated that they would join the HG (see minutes of 13 June 2024 Assembly meeting)
    - SK Bill Van Horn, previously in HG from his former Assembly, added his name to the list
  - FN stated process to obtain the new uniform starts with visit to <https://www.kofcuniform.com>
  - Any others with interest in joining the HG, let FN know
    - Would like at least 12 member
  - Cost for New Uniform
    - Uniform Package is \$475 plus shipping and alterations
      - Package contains
        - Blue Blazer with 4th Degree Crest and Emblem of the Order Buttons
        - Official 4th Degree Gray Trousers
        - Official 4th Degree Hand Embroidered Necktie
        - Official 4th Degree Black Beret with 4th Degree Badge
      - Council and Assembly will reimburse members \$300 after purchasing new uniform
        - Council - \$100
        - Assembly - \$200
      - Member-provided black dress shoes and white dress shirt to complete the uniform
      - FN stated the Uniform site now offers ‘Executive’ sized jackets
- Exemplification Change
  - New format beginning in February 2025
    - Roll out will be in New York City

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- Prior to new Exemplification process, SK Jim Duryee, Master, is willing to come OC
  - Conduct Exemplification via reading vrs. memorized ceremony
  - Ceremony to occur hopefully within next two (2) months
- Recruitment for new 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Members
  - Knight Jack Kelly is the FN's right hand man for new Council members/Knights
  - SK Tom Foglesong is helping the FN to contact eligible 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knights
    - Mailing of Invitation/ Letter to 50 to 75 members is Phase One
  - SK Chuck Carnabuci stated St. Ann's (Bethany Beach, Delaware) may have 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knight interested in a local Exemplification
  - FN stated that Salisbury and Pocomoke Councils may also have interested Knights
- SK Tom Anderson stated that Knights had a poor attendance for the Exemplification on 11 September 2024
  - He and FN both stated the importance of having and showing support for new Knights
- FN stated that the Columbus Club has found a new Treasurer but still needs a new President
  - Columbus Club is essential in keeping Columbus Hall in existence
    - Eight (8) to nine (9) members execute the administrative work
    - Requires good note-taking skills and tracking, monitoring and evaluating progress or results
- FN states that we need to put together HG for SK Bruce Coons' funeral
  - Wearing a suit with social baldric is okay until we have proper uniforms
  - FC Tom Foglesong provided SK Coons' Funeral Arrangements
    - Viewing 11 October 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in St. Luke's
    - Mass 11 October 2024 at 12:00 p.m. in St. Luke's
    - Repast following Mass at Columbus Hall
  - FC provided SK Richard Cooke's Funeral Arrangements
    - Ceremony and Burial on 16 September 2024 at Maryland Veterans' Cemetery in Hurlock, Maryland at 1:00 p.m.
    - Approximately 80-minute drive from Columbus Hall
    - Repast following Burial at Columbus Hall – 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- FN stated we missed an opportunity with Seas the Day Parade
  - Too little notice
  - Parade moved fast
- FN stated no new admission but hopefully we will see some soon

### New Business

- FN asked FP SK Charlie Bell to give a report on his committee's investigation into our mission, exposure and sharing of services with veterans, military services and first responders
  - Nine (9) members met on 29 August 2024
  - Next meeting on 26 September 2024
    - Formative Stage to show veterans, military services and first responders
      - How we appreciate them
      - What we can offer them
      - Looking for ideas
  - Potential for Veterans' Retreat and Veterans' Picnic

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- SK Jim Stone stated
  - Charity Committee approved the purchase of 30 wreaths each for Veterans' Cemeteries in Millsboro, Delaware, and Hurlock, Maryland
  - On 14 December 2024, we will place wreath at the Veterans' Cemetery in Millsboro, Delaware
- FA SK Joe Kostelac asked if we have any members here to meet with them to see
  - What is important to them
  - How we can help them
- FN stated that he contact SK Ron Ruest about having his wife, an ex-Navy captain, come and talk
- SK Jim Stone suggested bringing the Traveling *Viet Nam Wall* to our parking lot
- More discussion to follow next month
- FN presented SK Wayne Straight's recommendation to focus on projects for each half of the year
  - What we are doing
  - Where we need help
- First Half of Year Projects
  - Seas the Day
    - Opportunity passed
    - Need to do better next year
  - Veterans' Day Ceremony
    - St. Luke's Church on 08 November 2024 after Mass
  - Wreaths Across America
    - 14 December 2024
    - Harris Teeter's (Selbyville) Parking lot meeting point
    - Departure at 9:00 a.m.
  - Christmas Party for Veterans
    - Potentially at Mio Fratello's
    - Arrange transportation
    - Need POC
  - Operation We Care
    - Toiletries
    - Check list on website for other items
  - Ukraine Support
    - Medical Supplies
    - AGH has been very generous
    - Check list on website for other items
    - Checks-most preferred option
- Charity Committee Report
  - Approved purchases
    - Twenty (20) Boxes of Joy
    - Twelve (12) Boxes of Coats
  - Personal checks accepted as donation
  - Donations-Funds will replenish money from Charity Fund
- Beer Wagon at Sun Fest
  - 24-27 October 2024 (Thursday-Sunday)
  - Sign-up sheet in rear of hall

### Report of Trustees

- NTR

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### Other Business

- SK Richard Hubbard stated that he has put *Flag-Hail Mary* cards on the rear table, help yourself to them
- FC Tom Foglesong shared information about SK Bill Melroy from SK Chuck Burnett's research
  - Living in Cambridge Mental Health Service Facility
  - Letter on Rear Table for those interested in reading it
  - Contact Social Worker for phone calls or visitations
- **Faithful Purser Report** (SK Richard Thomas) - *contact FP for information*
- FP SK Charlie Bell suggested that FN send out the note from the Bishop about life and voting
  - *The Dialog* carried the article
  - SK Tom Anderson stated that St. John Neumann addressed the topic last month
  - SK Joe Zanetti will be inserting flyers in St. Luke's bulletin
  - FC SK Tom Foglesong request softcopy of the article to put in the *Knight Times*
- FN ask any further business
  - None to report

### Adjournment:

- FN asked what are the emblems of the Fourth Degree
  - FP SK Charlie Bell – Flag
  - FA SK Joe Kostelac – Sword
  - FC Tom Foglesong – Cross
- FA SK Joe Kostelac led the group in the *Hail Mary* followed by the singing of *The Star Spangled Banner*
- FN announced the next meeting date – **10 October 2024**
- FN closed the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

### 50/50 Winner

- SK Bill Van Horn –\$18.00

### Charity Collection

- \$29.00

Respectfully submitted,  
SK Thomas Pergola, Faithful Scribe