

Knights of Columbus Council #9053

Meeting Minutes August 7, 2024

Ocean City, MD

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order with a prayer by Deacon Joe and the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:36 pm by Grand Knight Ken Hidenfelter

Attendance: Roll call was taken.

2023-2024 KOC Officers			2023-2024 KOC Officers		
<i>Chaplain</i>	Rev. Lance Martin	Excused	<i>Lecturer</i>	Dave Dancer	Present
<i>Grand Knight</i>	Ken Hidenfelter	Present	<i>Advocate</i>	Bill VanHorn	Present
<i>Dep Grand Knight</i>	John Sharkey	Present	<i>Inside Guard</i>	Richard Thomas	Present
<i>Chancellor</i>	Charles Lutz	Present			
<i>Warden</i>	Wayne Straight	Present	<i>Outside Guard</i>	Richard Fox	Present
<i>Recorder</i>	Chris Bean	Present	<i>Trustee</i>	Bruce Coons	Excused
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Dale Shepard	Present	<i>Trustee</i>	Charlie O'Brien	Present
<i>Treasurer</i>	Tom Foglesong	Excused	<i>Trustee</i>	Tom Herwig	Present

Minutes: The minutes from the July 10, 2024, meeting were posted in the back. They were approved at the end of the meeting as there were no recommended revisions or additions.

Membership: Jack Kelly provided the following information on transfers and new Knights:

Transfers: Ed Cameron and Gary Mann.

New Knights: Doug Fontenot, Richard Mlynski, and James Cronquist.

A motion was made by Dale Shepard and seconded by Chris Bean to approve the transfers and the new Knights. The vote passed unanimously.

Grand Knight Report: Ken Hidenfelter

We are in the process of getting a new website for the Knights of Columbus. It should be up and running in four to five weeks. It will include information for each of the components; Ocean City Council #9053, Columbus Club, Pope John Paul II Assembly #2454, and the Ocean City Lady Knights Auxiliary. It will include photos, a full calendar, and much more. John Rubino is our webmaster and is coordinating with the website designer.

Neil and Kathy Foote have resigned their positions in the food drive program. Thank you for your service! Richard and Cicelia Fox have stepped up to take on this important role. Thank you!

GK has been in contact with Fathers Martin, Jennings, and Cocucci about our "Parish Breakfasts." The first annual breakfast will be held on **Sunday August 11, 2024**, 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Please volunteer to make this event a successful one.

GK is urging all members (not just ushers and eucharistic ministers) to wear their Knights of Columbus badges when attending mass. This practice will increase our presence and support

the parish. This will also help build our membership. If you see a young father, reach out to him and invite him to a meeting.

We are looking to make it easier for those members to participate in the rosary recitation who can't drive by dialing in (audio only). The rosary group meets every **Thursday at 10:15 AM**.

Contractors will be repaving the parking lot to include the area for the church and Columbus Hall. This will occur at the end of **August 2024**.

As many of you know, Trustee Bruce Coons is sick with cancer and neither him nor his wife Evelyn can drive. Tom Foglesong has been gracious enough to drive them both to Bruce's medical appointments. We are in the process of setting up a schedule to identify others who can assist with this important task. Please sign up.

We continue to push for an "outreach effort" to all of our 360 Knights members. As you know, there are only about 50 active members. A coordinator is very much needed to step up and secure 15 to 20 active members to make these phone calls to determine the status of each of our members who have stopped coming to meetings and participating in our sponsored events. We are seriously considering offering a "dial up" option for shut ins to participate in our meetings and at some point maybe a "Zoom" option.

GK was pleased to announce that five (5) members completed the youth safety program and are now certified to volunteer with juvenile programs.

Chaplain Report: Fr. Lance Martin: **None**

Treasurer Report: Tom Foglesong

Tom indicated our balance is good. Seafood Nights and BINGO have been successful. "We are in good shape."

Reading Communications: Chris Bean

He reported that we received a letter dated **June 28, 2024**, from Jeffrey W. Cline, the Executive Director of ALS United Mid-Atlantic. He thanked us for the donation of \$500, which they received on **June 20, 2024**.

Chancellor Report: Charles Lutz: **None**

Financial Secretary: Dale Shepard

The annual Council audit deadline is **August 15, 2024**. We will be in compliance and meet that deadline. Badges: he will order badges for new members. Because of timing, another option is to pay for and order your own badge. The badges are reasonably priced from \$12 to \$15. The company is as follows: **The English Company Inc.** P.O. Box 811 Jefferson Valley, NY 10535. The website is www.kofcsupplies.com. REMINDER: for those interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, you can become new members by going to the website. The web address is www.kofc.org.

Trustee Report: Tom Herwig

As you may know, the Assembly does not meet during the Summer. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday September 19, 2024**. We have identified a number of members to re-start

the Color Corps program. The Color Corps provides services and a presence at funerals, confirmations, and other religious ceremonies. The new uniform includes a beret. We have ten (10) members committed. The Assembly will kick in as much as \$300 toward uniforms depending on how many third-degree Knights move up to fourth degree. Call Tom if you are interested. He will be sending out letters to 220 third-degree Knights hoping to get 25 to 40 willing to move up to fourth degree. He placed a sign-up sheet at the back of the room. Trustee **Charlie O'Brien** clarified that “**No Report**” is not a bad thing. It means that things are going well.

Trustee **Bruce Coons** is taking a leave of absence. Senior Knight **Joe Carraro** is willing to fill his spot temporarily. GK asked for other nominations and hearing none, Bill Van Horn made a motion to approve the temporary position and Tom Foglesong seconded the motion. Approved by GK.

Faith Director: Steve Mastbrook – No Report. Commented that they have 13 to 15 members every Thursday reciting the Rosary.

Life Director: Kevin Hughes – suggested that Catholic men vote for life. Think about the issues surrounding abortion and do the research before selecting candidates and voting.

Community Director: Tom Herwig

Referenced our “**Coats for Kids**” program. We usually purchase about \$13,000 worth of coats and support three parishes and the Most Blessed Sacrament School, the Fire Department, the Grace Center, and the Seton House in Somerset County. The Community Awards will be held in the Spring of 2025; more on that later. He referenced their wheel-chair donations as well. Tom reiterated the need for “Helping Hands” to assist our brothers in need, e.g. Bruce Coons.

Kitchen Manager – Kevin Hughes

Kevin indicated they could use more help in the kitchen; however, things are going well. Yesterday, the Seafood Night made \$3,100 and sold 19 dozen crabs!

Columbus Club: Richard Thomas

Repaving the parking lot will cost \$12,200. We already made a 50% payment of \$6,100. That leaves us \$2,500 in our checking account, which is good. The next Columbus Club meeting is scheduled for **September 11, 2024 at 10:00 AM @ Columbus Hall.**

Assembly Trustee: Jim Stone

Reminder: Ocean City Sunfest, which is **October 24, 25, 25, and 27, 2024.** We will be manning the beer booth. We need volunteers. We have made as much as \$25,000 in previous years. All shifts are only 2 ½ hours.

Program Committees: Jon Paulo Celozzi – No Report.

Bingo: Tom Anderson

We have had good crowds, although we have ten (10) empty spaces. We could use some more help. Volunteers would only need to help one week a month. Tom recognized our new transfer Knight Ed Cameron, who has been assisting with BINGO every week (even before becoming a member of our Knights of Columbus). That’s commitment.

District Deputy: Joe Gangi

Congratulations to Grand Knight Ken Hidenfelter for reading and absorbing everything required to be “up to speed” as our new Grand Knight. It’s up to us to assist and advise him for our overall success. Joe reiterated the need for every “Chairman” to have a “Vice Chairman” to provide some redundancy when the Chairman is not available.

Lecturer: Dave Dancer

Dave provided some statistics on “School Choice.” It appears that a handful of states have moved toward providing more funding for school choice to include Iowa, Oklahoma, Alabama, Texas, and Tennessee. It could be better.

Additionally: Richard Thomas and John Sharkey

The Tootsie Roll drive at St. Luke’s Parish this past weekend results are as follows: **\$927.43**. Donations were collected at four of the five masses. Deputy Grand Knight John Sharkey has agreed to be the director for this effort and has placed a sign-up sheet in the back for volunteers. This will allow us to bolster these efforts.

For the Good of the Order: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM. Deacon Joe led us in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted: Chris Bean, Recorder