



## GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT



*Steve Romofsky*

Worthy Brother Knights, I am sitting at my computer organizing my thoughts for this issue of the Bulletin. Today is the eve of Christmas Eve. We are in the final stages of Advent awaiting the birth of Jesus. Winter is here. The Solstice has passed and the days are slowly starting to lengthen. It is the midpoint of the Columbian Year. It also time to bid farewell to 2013. A year that marked the Centennial of our

Council and many comings and goings. Ahead lays many fun activities and worthwhile functions with your Brother Knights. Tempus fugit.

Since my last report, your Brother Knights have celebrated the annual Memorial Mass, conducted our second First Degree of the year, and been entertained by the Santa Barbara Treble Clef Chorus at our Christmas Dinner. Hopefully you were able to join us for one or more of these events.

Our Chaplain, Fr. Charles Talley, celebrated the Memorial Mass with us on Wednesday, November 13th. Together we prayed for the souls of our Brother Knights who had passed away the preceding year. Joining together for this Mass is both an intimate and powerful experience. Thank you to Fr. Charles for presiding over this memorial. Thank you to David and Louise Borgatello for hosting the dinner that followed the Mass.

On Wednesday, December 4th, we conducted the second First Degree of the year and welcomed in five brothers to our order, two from our Council and three from Council 5300. It is an honor and privilege for our Council to host this ceremonial and to share it with our Brother Knights from Council 5300. Thank you to the members of the First Degree team.

Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, brought us our annual Christmas Dinner. After a sumptuous feast, thanks to Brother Ralph, we were entertained by the Santa Barbara Treble Clef Chorus, under the direction of Katie Saxson. The ladies were in fine voice and the show provided the proper holiday spirit. Mum's the word but a little bird shared that one or two wives of Knights might be joining the Chorus. Always good to be entertained by familiar faces. At the dinner we recognized Steve Riffero for all the good work he has done including the

Blue Jackets Teenage Club. Our Council continues to support good works like Steve's. Charity is a key principle of the Knights.

I am looking forward to many things: seeing Brother Knights at the Clergy Appreciation Dinner, joining with fellow romantics for the Valentines' Day Dinner, initiating new Knights at another First Degree, supporting our local students via the K of C Free Throw Challenge, and working with Habitat for Humanity a fine local and national charity. Please join in the good times.

Speaking of Charity, the Christmas Dinner also gave us the chance to give witness to the generosity of others. Most dinners feature a 50/50 Raffle for a cash prize or an adult beverage. Riley Peterson, daughter of Hank and Sue, won the cash prize at the Christmas Dinner and then donated it back to the Knights. I thanked Riley at the dinner and I am acknowledging her generosity here. It is said that a small child will lead us. Thank you Riley for showing us the way.

Pull out your copy of the Directory, call a Brother Knight, and invite him to one of our socials. You will both be glad that you did. I am looking forward to seeing you at a social or a business meeting in the coming months.

Vivat Jesus,

*Steve Romofsky*

Grand Knight

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## Deacon's Corner:

### *ONE PERSON AT A TIME*

**I**n the spirit of the Season; I wish each of my brother Knights, and your families, a very blessed Christmas and the happiest of New Year's.

As we have recently ended our Year of Faith as proclaimed by our Pope Emeritus Benedict, and embraced by our new Holy Father Francis, I wonder if we have fulfilled the wishes of our Church leaders.

We were called to study the Word of God and embrace the principles of our faith, and what we learned through the reading of the scriptures...."God is good, and we are to serve our fellow man". It all sounds easy enough until we actually try to put it all into practice.

I know many, if not all of our Brothers have served in many capacities to help the less fortunate in our community, whether it be; the poor, the unborn, the elderly or imprisoned; and for that we are all grateful, and that is what makes our organization so great; but too often we turn our backs or speed our pace when passing by

those in need, whom we don't know.

There's a story of the Blessed Mother Teresa, who was standing in the midst of many lepers, and the young Priest standing next to asked "How do plan on saving all the people?" and she responded, "I'm going to start with this one!"

And that's what we're called to do, not to save everybody and certainly not change the world single handedly, but we are called to help those we encounter in our daily lives, maybe only one person at a time- in the true spirit of Christmas, and certainly not to turn a blind eye to those who are reaching out to us.

This year, my wish is that we all be aware of those closest to us who may be need and may desire to see the face of God. My wish is that we all take the opportunity to show those in need God on Earth, in our own compassion.

In the Spirit of Christmas

*Deacon Randy Saake*

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## **GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 1684 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013**

**T**wenty-three members were present when Grand Knight Steve Romofsky called the Council meeting for December to order at 8:32 p.m. Upon closing the meeting doors, Warden James Bauer verified membership cards, and the Grand Knight led the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved as corrected. The minutes stated that Brother Tony Medina would be assisting Brother Hank Peterson for the Knight's Free Throw Program. It should have read Tony Martínez.

The Worthy Grand Knight reported on the following items:

- The Worthy Grand Knight thanked the Degree team for the successful First Degree Exemplification prior to the business meeting.
- Plans for the December 11 social are set. The Treble Clef Singers will entertain and Brother Ralph Karleskint will feed – stuffed chicken. Tickets are still only \$10 per person.
- The Grand Knight praised the work on the November Memorial Mass. The food and music were great. Father Talley, our Chaplain, did an outstanding job of celebrating our Mass and remembering those Knights who are no longer with us.
- The Clergy Appreciation Dinner is being sponsored by Council 5300 and will be held at the St. Rafael's Parish Hall at 6 p.m. on January 22 for a cost of \$15 per person. Tickets will be available at the January 8 Council meeting or at the door.
- The Valentine's Dinner social will be on February 12, and tickets are free for Knights and their spouses. The February business meeting will be held February 26. Remember to mark your calendars.

Under the Treasurer's Report,  
The Council's December bank statement reflects a balance of \$14,201.23 after deposits of \$26,562.50 and withdrawals of \$12,361.27.

The Financial Secretary reported five bills paid.

Under Membership, Council 1684 inducted José Naranjo and Deacon Chris Sandner, as well as Mario Cervantes, Stephen DeWalt, and Nicholas Mina for Council 5300.

Under Communication, there were letters of gratitude from Catholic Charities, Friendship Center, St. Vincent's, the Los Padres Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America, Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care, St. Vincent de Paul, and the Poor Clares for the \$1,000 they each received from the Knights' Nite Out.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business,

- There was a suggestion that the Council should be preparing resolutions for members who attain certain

membership milestones; like fifty years, for example.

- Our call list needs updating and that is being done.
- Under the District Deputy's report, District Deputy Ray Centeno, Jr. welcomed our newest Knights and urged them to become active and participate in their Council meetings, socials, and other events. He also promoted the Michael J. McGivney Guild. Members only need to go the [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) homepage and click on the green "Our Founder" icon with Father McGivney's picture on it to learn more. Last, but certainly not least, DD Ray informed the Council that Brother Bruce García has become his new District Warden. Congratulations Brother Bruce!

Under the Field Agent's Report, Our new Field Agent Michael Rachford introduced himself and welcomed our newest Knights as he noted that they were part of a strong Catholic association of some 1.6 million men. The insurance wing of the Knights of Columbus is incredibly strong with over 90 billion dollars of insurance in force, 20 billion dollars in cash, and 2 billion dollars in reserve. He can be reached by phone at 310-337-9591 or by email at [Michael.Rachford@kofc.org](mailto:Michael.Rachford@kofc.org).

Under the Good of the Order,

- Brother John Green suggested that the Council might want to extend an invitation to the Catholic Daughters to attend the 2014 Memorial Mass.
- Brother Jim Garland has been installed as the Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree Knights. Congratulations!
- Grand Knight Steve Romofsky challenged Knights to participate in the Poor Clares Adoration and give an hour of their time on the first Friday of the month between 7 p.m. and midnight.
- Grand Knight Bill Fuhrer of Council 5300 was on hand to watch three new Knights from Council 5300 pass their First Degree Exemplification. He also spoke about plans for the Clergy Appreciation Dinner in January.

Under Prayers for the Sick or Distressed,

- Brother Jim Bauer for Delarven James who had a mandible replaced.
- Brother Mark Weitstock for Brother Bobby Sánchez and Mark's maternal grandmother recently celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Brother Mike R. for Erma Parent, William Shay, and Anne Vesieti.
- Brother Steve Romofsky for Brother Dan Engler.

Following a closing prayer by Worthy Grand Knight Steve Romofsky, the Council meeting for December adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

The next Council 1684 business meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

***Al Anglin***

Recorder



## Pro-Life Report

### K of C ultrasound machines saving the innocents from modern-day Herods

Mike Engler

After the first Christmas, when King Herod decided to murder all the baby boys in Bethlehem, little did he know that God would send a miracle to save Baby Jesus from the Massacre of the Innocents.

And when courts and lawmakers forced abortion on our country, they never dreamed that one day God would send us a scientific miracle that would save countless babies from the modern-day massacre of the innocents.

That miracle is ultrasound technology, which is showing millions of pregnant women that they're not carrying an "egg," a "blob" or a "clump of cells," but a baby - a living, breathing, growing, squirming, thumb-sucking baby who even looks like mom or dad. Almost every abortion-minded mother who sees her unborn baby on the ultrasound screen decides against killing him or her.

That's why one of our Order's most effective baby-saving programs is our Ultrasound Initiative, which helps donate ultrasound machines to pro-life pregnancy centers. So far, our Order has given 388 ultrasound machines (valued at almost \$20 million) to pregnancy centers, where they're saving thousands upon thousands of babies from the abortionists.

In fact, K of C ultrasound machines are now saving babies' lives in all 50 states, plus Canada and Jamaica. Some areas, such as California, Texas, Michigan and Missouri, have received more than two dozen machines. Pregnancy-center workers are raving about the results:

*"The ultrasounds have already made a difference in 52 pregnancies!"*

*"We saved 95 lives in 2012, and so far this year, we've saved 73."*

*"The ultrasound you helped provide has been a blessing to hundreds of babies!"*

*"Being able to have a virtual image of the life they are carrying makes all the difference in the world."*

*"Women who were on the edge of abortion heard their baby's heartbeat or saw it on the screen, and immediately changed their mind. Whew, and praise God!"*

When a local and/or state K of C council raises at least 50 percent of the cost of a machine for a qualified pregnancy center, our Supreme Council pays the rest out of the Culture of Life Fund. To learn more, visit [www.kofc.org/ultrasound](http://www.kofc.org/ultrasound)

In a world that seems ever darker, our Order is shining a bright light of truth and hope through our pro-life efforts. Among our New Year's resolutions, let's all decide, with the help of God and His Mother, to do more to save the infants whom Baby Jesus came to redeem.

**Mike Engler**  
**Pro-Life Chairman**

**Randy Saake**  
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# Photo Section



These five men took the First Degree on Wednesday, December 4. From left to right is Mario Cervantes, Nicholas Mina and Stephen Dewalt (St. Raphael's Parish, Council 5300), Jose Naranjo and Dr. Chris Sandner (Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Council 1684).

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**THANKING THOSE THAT HELP PUBLISH OUR BULLETIN**

Our appreciation goes to the following brothers that have contributed messages, editorials and announcements during 2013: Ray Charpentier, Al Anglin, Mike Engler, Deacon Randy Saake, Steve Romofsky, Borgatello Family, Richard Rink, Fr. Charles Talley and Deacon Nick Curran.

Our gratitude also goes to our advertisers: MarBorg Disposal Company, Garvan Kuskey D.D.S., Pueblo Del Rey Funeral Services, Mark Wietstock – Lawyer, Garcia Rock & Water Design, Karleskint Catering Company, Oswald J. Da Ros Inc., Castro Cleaning Service Company, Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral Chapels, R. J. Carroll & Sons Inc., and Randy Saake Home Repairs.

*Richard Rink*  
 Editor

**For January and February  
 Happy Birthday to Brother Knights**

**January Birthdays**

- 1 Robert Luis
- 1 Edward Vigil
- 3 Ray Charpentier
- 11 Raymond Jarrard
- 14 Richard Rink
- 15 Rev Charles Talley
- 17 Bishop Thomas Curry
- 18 James Garland
- 19 Mark Wietstock

**February Birthdays**

- 2 Arturo Gonzales
- 6 Raul Navarro
- 6 David Rink
- 8 Edward Corral
- 16 Mike Engler

## REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY - HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Greetings Brother Knights,

I trust that you all enjoyed a joyous and inspirational Holiday Season with Family and Friends, filled with wonderful memories of 2013. Now that the New Year is upon us, hopefully My Brothers you have recommitted yourselves to Service to The Church, our Council and Community. As we look around at this old world of ours it's plain to see that the need for love and compassion has never been greater. My reason for submitting this letter in the January Bulletin is mainly to introduce myself and implore you my Brother Knights to join me in a renewed quest to answer the call to Community Service.

For those of you whom do not formally know me, my name is Marc Russo; I've been a member of Council 1684 for 5 years and recently have become a member of Juniper Serra Assembly 44. I have been married for 22 years and have a 17 year old Daughter who attends Bishop Diego High School as a junior. Over the years I have acquired several vocations including that of a General Contractor, I also hold a Doctoral Degree in Metaphysics. Of late, our Grand Knight has appointed me to act as a liaison between our Council and Habitat for Humanity, I'm sure that many of you are familiar with their good works within our community. Presently, I'm seeking to form a committee comprised of Brother Knights with the intentions to organize and motivate individuals and groups interested in doing Community Service not only with Habitat for Humanity, but anywhere else that there is a need.

Please join me in this endeavor to strengthen our Councils positive impact in our Community, your ideas and suggestions will be important to our success going forward. For those Knights interested in my proposal to form a Committee regarding the aforementioned, I really need your help! Contact me by e-mail at [marcrusso7@aol.com](mailto:marcrusso7@aol.com) or by phone at 805 689-3430.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dr. Marc Russo Msc.D



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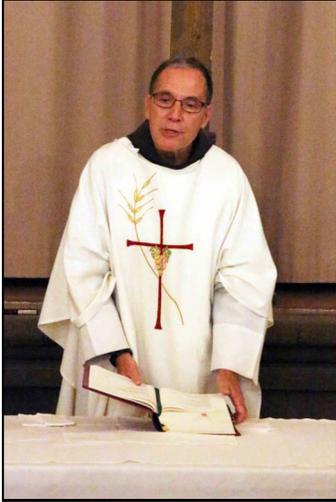
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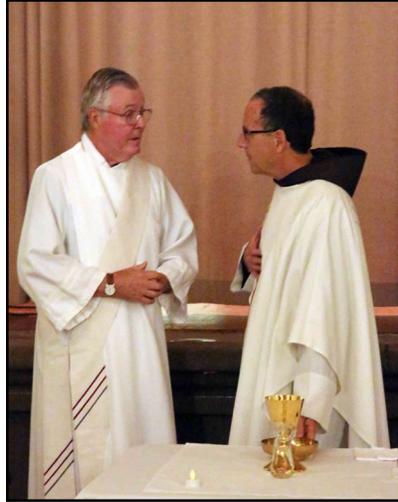
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# Photo Section

## NOVEMBER 13 - MEMORIAL MASS



Father Charles, our Chaplain celebrated the Mass in honor of brother Knights that died during 2012-2013.



Deacon Nick Curran assisted Fr. Charles during the Mass.



These three Knights just couldn't wait to have their photo taken. From left to right is present Grand Knight Steve Romofsky, District Deputy Ray Centeno and Past Grand Knight and now Treasurer Bruce Garcia.



Gilda Sahagun and her daughter led the brothers, spouses and guests in singing during the Mass.



Members, spouses and guests enjoy a light meal together.



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®



## Clergy Appreciation Dinner

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**Tickets: \$15.00/person**

**Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2014**

**Location: St. Raphael's Parish Hall  
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Santa Barbara, CA 93111**

**No-Host Bar 6:30 PM**

**Dinner 7:00 PM**

**Menu: Chicken Stuffed with cheese, Ortega Chili,  
Wild Rice, String Beans, Rolls, Salad, Cake**

For more information and to purchase tickets in advance contact:

**Ray Charpentier (Knights of Columbus, Council 1684)**

**(805) 845-1978**

**Ed Barrier (Knights of Columbus, Council 5300)**

**(805) 683-4534**

**Dan Knauss (Knights of Columbus, Council 5300)**

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# Photo Section

*DECEMBER 11 - ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER*



(left) Grand Knight Steve Romofsky was master of ceremony. Above is Dale Olmstead and his wife; Nick Curren on the right.



Dinner is served.



Your editor had the honor and pleasure of sharing a table with Past Grand Knight Eugene Wesolowski and his daughter.



Highlight of the evening was Christmas music song by the Treble Clef Singers led by the choir leader Kattie Saxon.

**Insurance Note from Our Field Agent  
Michael Rachford P.G.K.**



***INSURANCE CHECK-UP FOR 2014 - MAKE IT A  
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION***

**W**here did 2013 go? Wow that was fast. I hope you and your family had a great finish to 2013. Now, the first quarter of 2014 is upon us.

Hopefully, you've established a few goals for this year. I've learned a great tip regarding resolutions. First, write them down. It's not too late if you haven't already done this. Commit your goals to paper and post it someplace you will see it often. Writing down a goal is the first step towards achieving it. I don't know exactly how this works, but I've heard stories of the success this simple task can bring. Whether your goal is to exercise more, give more to charity, read more, watch less television and get out to the ballpark more often you're more likely to accomplish it if you write it down.

Second, resolve to have an expert look at your finances. I recommend that you have a team of experts help you, and I should be a part of this team. Schedule some time to visit with me, your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, and I'll provide an "insurance check-up" (at no cost!) that will quickly identify any gaps in your family's life insurance program, long term health care and disability insurance. You may want to fill those gaps now, not later. Unlike many other products, you don't just need money to obtain life insurance; you also need good health, and no one knows when your health could change. Our your retiring this 2014? I would like to share with you the "Safe Harbor", investments the Knights of Columbus offers in the way of annuities.

My check-up is free of charge? When was the last time you received something for free that could be providing value to you and your family for generations? Call me today.

Mike Rachford PGK Supreme Insurance Agent License #OI37404

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E-mail: [michael.rachford@kofc.org](mailto:michael.rachford@kofc.org)



Knights of Columbus,  
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|                        |                            |              |
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