



Knightline 5300

Division 5



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GOLETA VALLEY COUNCIL 5300 – 1961 - 2006

February, 2006

LADIES NIGHT OUT-JUNIPERO SERRA ASSEMBLY 01/16/06



On January 16th, the Junipero Serra Assembly sponsored a Ladies Night Out in the Friar's Dining Room at Old Mission Santa Barbara (see Faithful Navigator Brian Klinge's 4th degree report elsewhere in this bulletin). For the entertainment portion of the dinner, we were treated to some traditional Mexican dancing thanks to Sir Knight Francisco Cabrera, his wife and several friends. In the picture above, Francisco & Sophia Avilar, perform one of the traditional Mexican dances before a very appreciative crowd. For more pictures, see the photo gallery.

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

By Chris Arnoult, Grand Knight



Dear fellow Brother Knights of Columbus,

Well, January 2006 was a pretty good month for the Council. Brother Sam Alfano got us off to a good start with a new member recruiting drive on the first Sunday of the month at St. Raphael Church. We signed up three new recruits. Hopefully, these new members will be able to take their 1st Degree Exemplification in this month. In addition, we have had the good fortune to have two transfer members join the council. So please join me in welcoming our transfer members John Luzader, a 1st Degree and Carlos Cohen a 2nd Degree member. Both new members have interesting backgrounds; John is serving in the US Coast Guard and Carlos is involved in education in the Santa Barbara schools. Be sure to chat with them at meeting or event.

In January Brother Ralph Wengler and staff catered a fund raising dinner for the Prime Time Band.

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Program Director's Report

By Stephen Schlesselmann, Deputy Grand Knight

Food for Thought

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on February 14, 2006. As **St Josemaria de Balaguer** states in **the Furrow**: "Look: we have to love God not only with our heart, but with *his*, and with the hearts of all humanity throughout time. Otherwise, we should fall short of corresponding to his Love." (**page 494 of the Way/Furrow/the Forge by St Josemaria de Balaguer**).

Past Activities

January 8, 2006 – Membership Drive – Our council held a recruiting drive after all the English Masses. Brother Sam Alfano was in charge and he was ably assisted by a number of Knights including Brother Ralph Wengler who manned the continental breakfast portion of the drive in the hall. We successfully signed up 3 new members.

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February, 2006

02/03/06	Friday	24 Hour Adoration
02/06/06	Monday	K of C Officer's Meeting, 8:00 PM
02/13/06	Monday	K of C 5300 Business Meeting & 1 st Degree, 7:15 PM
02/15/06	Wednesday	Clergy Appreciation Dinner
02/22/06	Wednesday	2 nd Degree-Serra Hall-7:00 PM
02/26/06	Sunday	Pancake Breakfast after 7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses

March, 2006

03/01/06	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
03/03/06	Friday	24 Hour Adoration/KC Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
03/03/06	Friday	Lenten Fish Fry
03/06/06	Monday	K of C Officer's Meeting, 8:00 PM
03/10/06	Friday	Lenten Fish Fry
03/13/06	Monday	K of C 5300 Business Meeting, 7:30 PM
03/17/06	Friday	Lenten Fish Fry
03/24/06	Friday	Lenten Fish Fry
03/26/06	Sunday	Pancake Breakfast after 7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses/Blood Drive
03/31/06	Friday	Lenten Fish Fry

April, 2006

04/03/06	Monday	K of C Officer's Meeting, 8:00 PM
04/07/06	Friday	24 Hour Adoration
04/07/06	Friday	Lenten Fish Fry
04/10/06	Monday	K of C 5300 Business Meeting, 7:30 PM
04/16/06	Sunday	Easter
04/30/06	Sunday	Pancake Breakfast after 7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses/Corporate Communion



Chaplain's Report

Rev. Paul Rospond, C.S.P., Chaplain

The New Bio. of Father McGivney

It's been a while since I've read a life story of a saint. Yes, I know, the authors make a point that they are writing a history. They leave the proclamation of Fr. McGivney's sainthood to the Vatican process that's now under way. But they are telling the story of a man moved by love of God to serve God by serving the people around him. As a parish priest myself, I was inspired by the story.

The book gives excellent historical and cultural background. The struggle of the Irish immigrants in New Haven is an important part of the story. But this is also a very American story. Fr. McGivney saw the importance of establishing the Church in the context of American society and culture. My own religious community, the Paulists, has as its charism the inculturation of the Faith in American life and culture. I felt a strong bond with the young Fr. McGivney in this regard. He was the children of immigrants; he knew that struggle. Yet he was American and he was committed to making a synthesis of "American" and "Catholic."

Chapter One looks at Fr. McGivney's story through the experience of an Irish family devastated by the death of their breadwinner. Their young parish priest intervenes to sponsor one of the boys and keep the family together. In the process, he develops a vision of Catholic men uniting to aid families in need. This vision is one source of the idea for the Knights.

Another source is the temperance society in the parish. It's not only meant to keep young men on the straight and narrow, but also to be a healthy way for them to socialize, read and put on plays. The book explores the various fraternal societies of the 1870s and 1880s. This is yet another source of the idea of the Knights.

It is important for any society to look to the story of its founding. What were the needs it arose to meet? How were its initial ideals formed? This very readable biography will help us reflect on our continuing story as Knights, the needs we meet today and the ideals of unity and charity that we struggle to live out today.

The Lord's Peace! Fr. Paul Rospond, C.S.P.

February Birthdays

Rev. Antonio Cacciapuoti	02/02
Patrick R. Maloney	02/08
Richard J. Karr	02/08
Joseph W. Hazher	02/09
Joseph R. Darga	02/11
Vincent L. Filippello	02/11
John C. Luzader	02/12
Gerald N. Liponi	02/14
Lawrence C. Kubecka	02/15
John C. Monaghan	02/16
Ignacio G. Andrade	02/16
Dale J. Wenzinger	02/17
Teodulo Nungary	02/17
Max F. Keller	02/18
John M. Peyton	02/19
Rev. Cyril Nnadi, SMMM	02/19
Paul C. Curzan	02/20
Richard P. Danduran	02/24
Brian F. Klinge	02/25



Financial Secretary's Report

Ralph Wengler, Financial Secretary

As the month of January comes to a close, there are 23 members who have not yet paid their dues. This is not a surprise; we have approximately the same record every year. The list is not always all the same members. Second notices have been sent out and the response is improving a little. Next comes

the Knight Alert form and the Trustees will have the task of tracking down the delinquents.

The "365 Club" is doing well. Total collected thus far is \$1,131.60. Of that, the Honorary Life members gave \$413.80. My gratitude to all contributing members for a show of caring. The Worthy Grand Knight will probably submit a check in the Parade of Grand Knights, at the State Convention, of \$1,300.00.

Thanks to the major efforts of many Council members, their friends and families, WE ARE GETTING READY TO PAY THE LAST \$10,000 OF OUR \$100,000 PLEDGE TO ST. RAPHAELS CHURCH BUILDING FUND. The parish has cooperated by aiding us in converting "KofC only" activities to events open to all parish members.

Fraternally, Ralph, F.S.



Chancellor's Report
John Kestel, Chancellor

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Lima, son of Joe Lima (12/10); may God grant him peace and comfort.

Please pray for Brother Knights who are ill or recovering from illness:

Jesse Garcia; Leonard Mooy; PGK Chuck Burke; Fred Cota; George Romich; John Sternot; George Gritt; Sam Alfano (back surgery on 7/28); Mario Borgatello Sr. (at home recovering from surgery); Vince Filippello (blood clot in leg).

Other persons for whom prayers are requested:

Eleanor Cahill, wife of Fritz Cahill; Nancy Herrera; Anne Marie McBeth, daughter of PGK Max Keller; Patrick Donohoe, son of PGK Frank Donohoe; Ellen Velasco, granddaughter of Bruce Velasco; Harriet Burke, wife of PGK Chuck Burke; the mother of PGK Felix Sanchez; the mother of Mark Christman; Teresa Meza, sister of Jose Meza; Michael T. McGrew, grandson of Tom Cordeiro;

Glen Sliger, father of Terry Sliger; Barbara Vogel, mother of PGK John Vogel; Barbara Friedrich; Tony Gonzales, brother-in-law of PGK Felix Sanchez; Betty Benn, wife of Don Benn; the mother-in-law of PGK Ralph Wengler; the niece of PGK John Vogel; Bill Kestel, brother of John Kestel; Stephen Schlesselmann's sister's family; Donna Abels, wife of Jim Abels; John Sanchez, brother of PGK Felix Sanchez; Joel Wenzinger, son of PGK Dale Wenzinger; Judy Klinge, wife of PGK Brian Klinge; Larry Torres Jr (at home waiting for liver transplant), son of Larry Torres; Kathleen Meckelborg, wife of Al Meckelborg; Stephen Schlesselmann's father (leg surgery).



Report of the 4th Degree
Brian Klinge, Faithful Navigator

WHAT AN EVENING!! All I can say is if you missed it, YOU MISSED IT. As promised, our Second LADIES NIGHT OUT (LNO) was held the evening of Jan. 16 at Old Mission Santa Barbara with over of 65 members, wives and guests present. The food and camaraderie were EXCELLENT. The setting was beautiful. Bro. Francisco Cabrera, his wife and several friends provided the entertainment with a series of Mexican Dances in costume. It was so enjoyable to see everyone having such a good time. As many of you have heard me say, "It's great to be SOCIAL...AGAIN." *LET US NEVER TAKE OUR LADIES FOR GRANTED!* Depending upon scheduling, we may try to "squeeze" one more LNO into this Columbian Year, perhaps Mar-May (??).

IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO, please mark your Calendars NOW...the State Deputy's/Chapter President's Testimonial Dinner will take place in Ventura on Saturday, February 11, 2006. Mass at San Buenaventura Mission is 5:30 PM. Dinner will be at the K/C Hall in Ventura and catered by our own Executive Chef: Fresh Salmon or Chicken Cordon Bleu. Cost is only \$20.00pp. RSVP to me not later than Feb.4th. All members and your wives are invited.

In our February NAVIGATOR newsletter, I spoke about the new book, PARISH PRIEST. It is a well written, researched book regarding our founder Fr. McGivney and American Catholicism.

As Knights, we need to remain vigilant to the dangers presented our Church in the world today and not become complacent. We must continue to show solidarity with all of our Clergy.

All Fourth Degree Members are encouraged to attend and be active in our Council's Third Degree Meetings; we all do belong to the same Order!

As I have stated before, *Recruitment* into the Fourth Degree is an on-going process. Our District Deputy Cherif Khoury and I will remind you often.

MAY GOD LOVE AND CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU!

Brian Klinge, FDD
Faithful Navigator, Junipero Serra Assembly



Community Director's Report
Rich Scholl, Community Director

TO KILL AN AMERICAN

You probably missed it in the rush of news last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper; an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American.

So, an Australian dentist wrote an editorial the following day to let everyone know what an American is...so they would know when they found one. (Good one, mate!!!!).

"An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani or Afghan. An American may also be a Comanche, Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, Seminole or one of the many other tribes known as Native Americans. An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses. An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God. An American lives in the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each person to the pursuit of happiness. An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need, never asking a thing in return. When Afghanistan was over-run by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country!

As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan. Americans welcome the best of everything...the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best services. But they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America, The Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2001 earning a better life for their families. It's been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 different countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and other blood-thirsty tyrants in

the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.



Insurance Agent's Report
David Farebrother, Field Agent

FEBRUARY: Valentine's Day

It's that time of year again! A time to tell your valentine just how much you really do love her. What are you going to get her this year? Flowers? Some candy and a card? Why don't you get her something that truly shows what she means to you? We are talking about life insurance.

Give her the greatest gift of all. The financial security that she will need when you aren't here any more. Sure, flowers are pretty and smell nice but there is nothing left when they die. Candy is great but once Valentine's Day is over it, too, is gone. What is left when you're gone?

Call me for an appointment, so we can make sure there is something left for her.

To contact me with regards to this or any of your insurance needs, please email me at dlfarebrother@aol.com or call me at either of the numbers listed below. I look forward to hearing from you.

Fraternally,

David L. Farebrother
Office (805) 684-0053 or
Cellular (805) 766-2144



St. Raphael Parishioner for past 34-years
Pope Benedict XVI Recognizes Carlos Valenzuela,
4th Degree Knight With 'Benemerenti' Papal
Award for Serving with Distinction

Joe T. Kovach, Former Knightline & SPIRIT Editor



Carlos Cerpa Valenzuela, a 4th Degree Knight of Council 5300 since 1997, has been honored by Pope Benedict XVI with the Benemerenti Award for serving with distinction his Church, family and community. The announcement was made in December with the official presentation to be made at the Cathedral of the Angels on March 19th by Cardinal Roger Mahony. Pastor Bruce Correio made the recommendation to the Cardinal who forwarded it to the Pope.

"I never expected anything so I was surprised," said the active father of seven. He is very grateful to Father Bruce for his recommendation. "Everything I do is to help people get closer to God and to make a better community and parent," expressed the St. Raphael Parishioner for the past 34-years.

Carlos and Eva (Corral) were married in 1962 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Santa Barbara by Father Kelly. They are the proud parents of seven children, two girls, Evelia Valenzuela 41, Veronica Romero 40, and five boys, Carlos Jr. 39, Esteban 38, Catarino 37, Jose 35 and Eduardo 22. Also very special to them are seven grandchildren and one great-grandson: Joseph Mesa 23, Eric Mesa 20, Celene Melgoza 18, Amanda Valenzuela 17, Tyler Valenzuela 12, Alex Valenzuela 11, Joshua Romero 8 and great-grandson Christian Anthony Valenzuela, 13 months old.

The Valenzuelas are very active in the parish and community. For 20-years, Carlos and Eva have been involved with the Cursillo Prayer and

Meditation Movement, an intensive weekend-long renewal ministry for laypeople. "The Cursillo movement opened a different world for me," he said, recalling his first experience. From that point on, he was determined to share the practice with others, despite the fact that he was, at that time, holding down two jobs and raising seven children. Eventually he became responsible for directing the Cursillo in Santa Barbara, which involved regular trips to Los Angeles to coordinate with other Cursillo witnesses. "All this work I did was to help the Hispanic Community get closer to the Catholic Church and their Faith," emphasized Carlos.

Currently Carlos helps the Guadalupanos Hispanic leadership, the Knights of Columbus' Fish Fry during Lent, the Pancake Breakfasts, and special events at Christmas time when he dresses up as Santa Claus.

Carlos also:

- * Helps in the Liturgy as a Lector and Usher.
- * Assists Pastor Bruce Correio in keeping the St. Raphael Community united as one.
- * Helps in the Evangelizing classes during CCD in Spanish.
- * Serves as M.C. for certain events in the parish.
- * Helps coordinate Fiesta Mexicana for the Guadalupanos with BBQ duties.
- * Coordinates the feeding of 350 children in 45 minutes at the CCD retreat (Carlos has been doing this task for several years).
- * Conducts the Cursillo's Marriage Encounter Program in both Spanish and English (Carlos has been conducting the program for 6 years).

Some of his goals as a leader in the Spanish community include seeing more people involved in the community and to be more responsible as a lay person in the Church and community. The native of Guadalajara, Mexico stated, "Most important, to be a community of St. Raphael we are working to be more united."

Born on September 28, 1942 to Jose and Trinidad Valenzuela, Carlos has three sisters and three brothers: Socorro Ornelas, Martha Guillen, Maria

Castellanos, Ricardo, Beto and Jose who died eight years ago. His mother, now 90, lives in Santa Barbara while his father died 20 years ago.

His workplace for the past 43-years has been the Rancheros Visitadores, the world reknown horse riding organization headquartered in Santa Barbara. He has served as the Superintendent for the past 28 years. "For me Rancheros is like being at school because I learn something every day. I meet good people all the time and it is an honor to be part of the RV," smiled Carlos. He hopes to retire in two and a half years.

The enthusiastic Carlos joined the Knights of Columbus in October 1995 and became a 4th Degree Knight in October 1997. He has served as Inside and Outside Guard. Jim Provenza was his sponsor. When I was invited to join the KCs the first time I was not ready but on the second time I told myself you talk about "Unity and One Community," you better become a Knight and here I am happy to help in any way I can with my brothers," noted Carlos.

When asked the best thing about being a parishioner at St. Raphael's, Carlos stated, "By being involved with the Community of St. Raphael's in English and Spanish, my Family in Christ is bigger. When I go to Mass on Sunday in English or Spanish I feel at home at any Mass. It's good to see everybody and talk to all."

"We are one community," emphasized Valenzuela, who finds at the heart of his work a desire to "tear down the walls" between the English and Spanish-speaking communities. "I want to communicate with everybody."

"The St. Raphael priest who got me started in Cursillo 30 years ago and my new life as a Christian was Father John A. Niessen, 1972-76" remarked Carlos. Our pastor at that time was Rev. Henry A. Van Son (pastor 1969-78). Carlos noted that Father Stephen N. Downes (pastor 1987-2002) was the best inspiration for him to keep working in the Vineyards of the Lord. He thanks Father Bruce Correio (pastor since 2002) for keeping the St. Raphael Community going strong.

Writer's Footnote:

In 1992, Deacon Tony Varesio and his wife Rosemary were awarded the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" Award. This recognition was bestowed on them by Pope John Paul II and presented to them at Mass on May 31 by Episcopal Vicar Monsignor John Rohde and Father Stephen N. Downes. The Varesios were recognized for their continued service to Catholic Charities and to the Parish.

Also this past December, Fritz Cahill, 3rd Degree Knight, was given the "Pro Ecclesial et Pontifice" (for the Church and the Holy Father) Award for service to the ecclesial community. A feature story on Cahill will appear in the March issue of the *Knightline*.

(Grand Knight's Report-Continued from page 1)

This is a satisfied customer who has come back several years running to KofC 5300 for their annual dinner party because of the great environment and food that we have been able to provide. Thank you to Jim Bradbury (chef), Roy Schrader, John Peyton, Cindy Bennett, Paul and Evelina Curzan and John Vogel at the bar. Also thank you to St. Raphael Parish for allowing the Knights to use the church's facility.

In addition, in January the Knights had the monthly parish breakfast following the 7:30 and 9:30 AM Masses at St. Raphael Church on the Sunday the 29th (this just followed the aforementioned dinner event by a mere 30 hours). A special kudos to anyone of you who worked at both events. And a large thank you to all the breakfast crew members.

February should be a big month for our Council. We have a 1st Degree Exemplification scheduled for our regular Business Meeting on February 13th (remember that we are going to start at 7:15 PM, so come early) and we have the Clergy and Religious Appreciation Dinner on Wednesday, February 15th. I hope that you have purchased your tickets by the time you are reading this newsletter. Also this month of February will be a 2nd Degree Exemplification organized by Council 1684. The 2nd Degree event will be Wednesday, February 22nd at Serra Hall. All 1st Degree members are welcome

to come and take your 2nd Degree. Contact Brother Sam Alfano or myself to make sure all the paper work is taken care of in advance.

Before writing this report, I was searching the internet for some intellectually stimulating articles that I could report to you about. However, I see that our Chaplain, Fr. Paul Rospond, has done this task for me and undoubtedly done it better than I would have. So please read his article elsewhere in this *Knightline*. It's probably more interesting.

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Ralph Modugno

By Chris Arnoult, Grand Knight



This month I would like to name Brother Ralph Modugno as the Knight of the Month. Ralph joined the Knights of Columbus in 1948, but he re-entered Council 5300 in 1973 when he was sponsored by Walter Swiacki. (Smart move Walter, because Ralph Modugno has been quietly supporting and helping the Knights of Columbus for all these years.) Most Brother Knights know Ralph Modugno as "Mr. Santa Cruz Market." It is in this capacity that Ralph has been uncommonly generous and supportive to Council 5300 over the many years of his membership. If you have eaten a meal that Knights of Columbus has prepared, undoubtedly some of that food came from Santa Cruz Market with the special help of Ralph.

Ralph is a member of 4th Degree and he and his wife Helen are very active in St. Raphael Parish Church. Both are Eucharistic Ministers. Ralph is a member of the Parish Finance Council. Helen has been a member of the Women's Auxiliary. Their children, now adults, attended St. Raphael School.

So Ralph Modugno, thank you for many years of quiet, behind the scenes support for Knights of Columbus Council 5300. It is hard to imagine Council 5300 without your support.

(Program Director's Rpt-Continued from page 2)

Our district deputy, Cherif Khoury, has indicated that he would like to hold another recruiting drive after the 12:30 PM Spanish Mass sometime in the near future.

- 2) January 27, 2006 – The Prime Time Band dinner was held in the parish hall.
- 3) January 29, 2006 - Pancake Breakfast/Corporate Communion - The Knights hosted their usual delicious pancake breakfast after the 7:30 and 9:30 Masses and the quarterly corporate communion was held at the 9:30 AM Mass

Upcoming Activities

- 1) February 3, 2006 - 24 hour adoration will take place in the church.
- 2) February 13, 2006 – We will have a 1st degree at the business meeting. Please come and show your support for our new brother Knights who will be installed on that night. **Note:** it was decided at the last business meeting to change the time of the 2/13 meeting to 7:15 PM in order to allow more time for the 1st degree. Also, there will be a few changes to the 1st degree due to changes mandated by Supreme, so make sure to come and see the changes in action!
- 3) February 15, 2006 – The clergy appreciation dinner is at 6:30 PM in the parish hall. This event is one of the more important events of our Columbian year, so make your plans to attend. It's a chance to have a great dinner plus thank the clergy for all the hard work they do for us all year long. Please call Sam Alfano if you can help. Tickets can also be purchased from Sam or from the rectory. **New Brother Knights are more than welcome!**
- 4) February 26, 2006 - Pancake Breakfast – We will have our usual delicious pancake breakfast after the 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM Masses.

Thank you.



From the Knightline (Mar 30, 2005-Vol. 22, #5) **Serving Those Who Served**

Our military personnel voluntarily act as the protectors on the front lines while keeping us safe behind them. The Knights of Columbus acknowledges this unselfish act of patriotism by promoting the "Serving Those Who Served" program. Members of the Order should honor and assist these heroes and heroines in every way possible, through the Order's patriotic Fourth Degree.

Assemblies and councils can honor military personnel and veterans throughout the year by presenting them with *Patriotic Service Award* certificates. These vertical certificates are available for 25 cents each from the Supreme Council Supply Department, plus shipping and handling.

In addition to honoring them for their services, assemblies and councils can give their time in volunteering at veterans' hospitals, clinics and health care facilities. This is a great way to show veterans that their efforts and sacrifices are not forgotten. Councils can also send greeting or birthday cards to hospitalized veterans and military personnel stationed away from home.

Let the veterans and current members of the military know that the Knights of Columbus appreciate their service and sacrifice. Take the time to honor or assist them in a way that is worthy of their military service.

The Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service, VAVS, is the vehicle that assemblies use in the *Serving Those Who Served* program. Through this service, the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Veteran's Hospital volunteers are organized by having one of their members become a certified representative at the hospital. Our certified members attend hospital meetings and organize efforts for K of C volunteers.

The Knights of Columbus currently has a VAVS Committee at almost every VA medical center and clinic in the United States, 97% of all VA facilities across the United States. These committees consist of at least one certified representative and, up to, three deputy representatives from the Knights of Columbus.

In the United States, the VA hospitals, clinics and facilities need all types of volunteer services from program planning to visiting veterans. For more information on this outstanding program, please contact your Fourth Degree district master or locate your closest VA medical center.

From Zenit.org (January 28, 2006)

Benedict XVI's First Encyclical: Christianity Elevates Love

"Deus Caritas Est" Published

VATICAN CITY, JAN. 25, 2006 (Zenit.org).- Benedict XVI has published his first encyclical to show how Christianity does not repress love, but elevates it.

"Deus Caritas Est" (God Is Love), published today, responds to one of the most common objections: "Doesn't the Church, with all her commandments and prohibitions, turn to bitterness the most precious thing in life?" asks the Pope.

The encyclical answers the question in two parts. The first reflects on love in its origin and different manifestations; the second, addresses the way in which the Church, as institution, must live the commandment of love.

The Holy Father begins by clarifying a generalized confusion, according to which the Church condemns "eros" -- love of attraction -- to accept only "agape" -- unconditional love.

A mere "thing"

"Nowadays Christianity of the past is often criticized as having been opposed to the body; and it is quite true that tendencies of this sort have always existed. Yet the contemporary way of exalting the body is deceptive," Benedict XVI points out in section No. 5 of the 15,000-word encyclical.

"Eros, reduced to pure 'sex,' has become a commodity, a mere 'thing' to be bought and sold, or rather, man himself becomes a commodity," he explains.

According to the Pope, this conception of love implies "a debasement of the human body: no

longer is it integrated into our overall existential freedom; no longer is it a vital expression of our whole being, but it is more or less relegated to the purely biological sphere."

"Christian faith, on the other hand, has always considered man a unity in duality, a reality in which spirit and matter compenetrates, and in which each is brought to a new nobility," the Holy Father writes. "True, eros tends to rise 'in ecstasy' towards the Divine, to lead us beyond ourselves; yet for this very reason it calls for a path of ascent, renunciation, purification and healing."

"It is part of love's growth towards higher levels and inward purification that it now seeks to become definitive, and it does so in a twofold sense: both in the sense of exclusivity (this particular person alone) and in the sense of being 'for ever.'"

Thus, the Holy Father explains, "eros directs man towards marriage, to a bond which is unique and definitive; thus, and only thus, does it fulfill its deepest purpose."

The text acknowledges: "Love is indeed 'ecstasy,' not in the sense of a moment of intoxication, but rather as a journey, an ongoing exodus out of the closed inward-looking self towards its liberation through self-giving, and thus towards authentic self-discovery and indeed the discovery of God."

Christ as model

According to the Pope, the example of "love in its most radical form" is Christ on the cross, "the culmination of that turning of God against himself in which he gives himself in order to raise man up and save him."

"It is there that this truth can be contemplated. It is from there that our definition of love must begin. In this contemplation the Christian discovers the path along which his life and love must move," he stresses.

The second part of the encyclical is entitled "The Practice of Love by the Church as a 'Community of Love.'"

The text acknowledges that love "will always prove necessary, even in the most just society. There is no ordering of the State so just that it can eliminate the

need for a service of love."

"There will always be suffering which cries out for consolation and help," Benedict XVI writes. "There will always be loneliness. There will always be situations of material need where help in the form of concrete love of neighbor is indispensable.

"The State which would provide everything, absorbing everything into itself, would ultimately become a mere bureaucracy incapable of guaranteeing the very thing which the suffering person -- every person -- needs: namely, loving personal concern."

"Marxism had seen world revolution and its preliminaries as the panacea for the social problem: revolution and the subsequent collectivization of the means of production, so it was claimed, would immediately change things for the better," the Holy Father observes. "This illusion has vanished.

"We do not need a State which regulates and controls everything, but a State which, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, generously acknowledges and supports initiatives arising from the different social forces and combines spontaneity with closeness to those in need."

The Pope adds: "The Church is one of those living forces: she is alive with the love enkindled by the Spirit of Christ. This love does not simply offer people material help, but refreshment and care for their souls, something which often is even more necessary than material support."

Ecclesial activity

In this context, the Holy Father describes the "distinctiveness of the Church's charitable activity."

First, he points out that "Christian charitable activity, apart from its professional competence, must be based on the experience of a personal encounter with Christ, whose love touched believers' hearts, generating within them love for others."

Second, he points out that "Christian charitable activity must be independent of parties and ideologies. It is not a means of changing the world ideologically, and it is not at the service of worldly

stratagems, but it is a way of making present here and now the love which man always needs.

"The Christian's program -- the program of the Good Samaritan, the program of Jesus -- is 'a heart which sees.' This heart sees where love is needed and acts accordingly. Obviously when charitable activity is carried out by the Church as a communitarian initiative, the spontaneity of individuals must be combined with planning, foresight and cooperation with other similar institutions.

"Charity, furthermore, cannot be used as a means of engaging in what is nowadays considered proselytism. Love is free."

"A Christian knows when it is time to speak of God and when it is better to say nothing and to let love alone speak," notes the Pope, as a third and final point.

Benedict XVI concludes by giving examples of charity left by the saints.

He mentions Blessed Teresa of Calcutta on three occasions, and ends with a dialogue with the Virgin Mary, who "shows us what love is and whence it draws its origin and its constantly renewed power."

The following is an excerpt from the encyclical at www.vatican.va:

"God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" (*1 Jn 4:16*). These words from the *First Letter of John* express with remarkable clarity the heart of the Christian faith: the Christian image of God and the resulting image of mankind and its destiny. In the same verse, Saint John also offers a kind of summary of the Christian life: "We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us".

We have come to believe in God's love: in these words the Christian can express the fundamental decision of his life. Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction. Saint John's Gospel describes that event in these words: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that

whoever believes in him should ... have eternal life” (3:16). In acknowledging the centrality of love, Christian faith has retained the core of Israel's faith, while at the same time giving it new depth and breadth. The pious Jew prayed daily the words of the *Book of Deuteronomy* which expressed the heart of his existence: “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord, and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your might” (6:4-5). Jesus united into a single precept this commandment of love for God and the commandment of love for neighbour found in the *Book of Leviticus*: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself” (19:18; cf. *Mk* 12:29-31). Since God has first loved us (cf. *1 Jn* 4:10), love is now no longer a mere “command”; it is the response to the gift of love with which God draws near to us.



As was stated in the December newsletter, the expenditure of \$150 to develop our website was discussed and voted upon at the last business meeting on January 9th. The expenditure was denied since those in attendance saw no value in having a website at this time.

Brothers Fritz Cahill and Carlos Valenzuela will be receiving their papal awards on Sunday, March 19th at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in Los Angeles. Make your plans now to attend and show your appreciation for all that Fritz and Carlos have done for the parish and community. We will have pictures and an article in the April issue of the newsletter.

Another reminder: The clergy appreciation dinner is coming on February 15th. If you haven't made plans yet to attend, there still is time. Tickets are available from Sam Alfano or the parish office.

The current balance in the charity fund is \$1,107.75. If anyone wishes to contribute to it, please contact Brothers Chris Arnoult or Ralph Wengler.

As our Grand Knight, Brother Chris Arnoult, mentions in his article, there will be a 2nd degree at Serra Hall on February 22, 2006. If you are currently a 1st degree member, please consider attending this degree and advancing in the Knights. The rewards are well worth the effort.

As mentioned in the December Knightline, we are now offering a color version of this newsletter via email. If anyone wants to receive it, please send your email address to Chris, Ralph or myself. Also, please let us know if you would like to receive this newsletter via email only.

At the last business meeting, Brother Felix Sanchez mentioned that Brother Jesse Garcia, who has been ill for some time, needs help loading his belongings into a moving van for his move on March 1 to Santa Maria. If anyone can help please either talk to Felix or give Chris or myself a call and we will pass your name on to Felix.

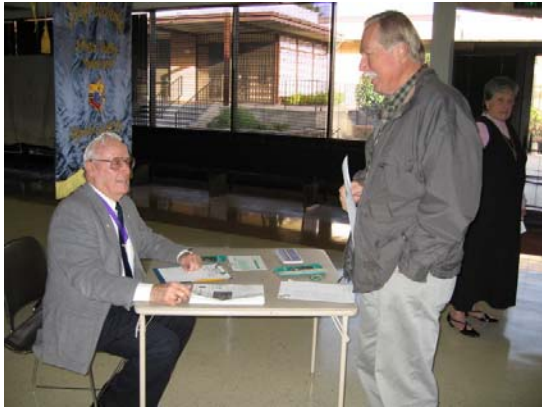
Last month, the annual survey of fraternal activities report was supposed to have been included in the Knightline. Due to a communication breakdown, that never occurred. I apologize for the oversight and will take steps to make sure that does not happen again.

Article Submissions

All articles are to be submitted to the Grand Knight, Chris Arnoult (francisarnoult@cox.net) (805) 964-6324 and Stephen Schlesselmann (805) 968-9440 (sjschlesselmann@cox.net). Articles need to be in by the 20th of the month. Thank you.

PHOTO GALLERY

Pictures from Recruiting Sunday at St. Raphael's Church-January 8, 2006



Brother Don Aubrey talking to potential candidate, Dwight Morey at the recruiting desk in the hall.



Our Grand Knight, Chris Arnoult and our District Deputy, Cherif Khoury assist Dwight with filling in the Form 100.



Brother Bernie Jochum talking with another possible candidate, Pete Martinez and his family in front of St Raphael's Church.



Brother Sam Alfano, our membership director, mans the recruiting & information table in front of St Raphael's Church.



Another picture of Pete Martinez and his daughters with our District Deputy, Cherif Khoury.



Brothers Ralph Wengler and David Farebrother hand out information at the recruiting table to Richard Sheridan.

Pictures from the Ladies Night Out-January, 16, 2006 & the Pancake Breakfast-January 29, 2006



Sir Knight Francisco Cabrera and his wife, Maria, performing one of the Mexican dances.



Marisa Haro performs a solo dance in a very colorful costume!



Another picture of Marisa Haro.



Francisco and Sophia Avilar performing for those in attendance.



Brother Joe Bishop (one of our newer Knights) hard at work learning the pots & pans of the job at the pancake breakfast.



Oh! Oh! Brother Jim Bradbury is about to get "panned" by Brother Jose Meza.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, COUNCIL 5300 OFFICERS FOR YEAR 2005-2006

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Trustee-Two Years	Richard Scholl	(805) 683-8874	richardscholl@hotmail.com
Trustee-One Year	Brian Klinge	(805) 967-4753	bklinge5@cox.net

SERVICE PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONS

Program Director	Stephen Schlesselmann	(805) 968-9440	sjschlesselmann@cox.net
Church Director	(Vacant)		
Community Director	Richard Scholl	(805) 683-8874	richardscholl@hotmail.com
Council Director	(Vacant)		
Family Director	(Vacant)		
Youth Director	Francisco Cabrera	(805) 964-9485	fcocabrera@cox.net
Pro-Life Couple	Robert & Cecilia Marks	(805) 968-6008	robert.marks@atk.com
Membership Director	Sam Alfano	(805) 967-0595	r123range1@cox.net

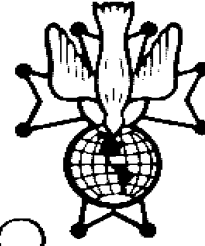
OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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District Deputy	Cherif Khoury	(805) 569-2149	cherifkhoury@hotmail.com
Insurance Field Agent	David Farebrother	(805) 684-0053	dlfarebrother@aol.com





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