

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

East Lansing Council 7816

Minutes for March 14, 2017 General Meeting

Fourteen members were present when Deputy Grand Knight Dante Centofanti called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm: Brothers Bill Leveque, Al Stewart, Tom Fox of Assembly 3334, Matt Klotz, Dave Myers, Tom Colosimo, Russ Martin, John Ingraham, Paul Stevens, Patrick Daniels, Kennedy Wilson, Art Weber, Chuck Graff, and Dante Centofanti were present. After praying the Our Father and singing the opening ode, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call of officers was taken. Brothers Larry Meyer, Rick Poljan, Mike Wooley, Mark Meyer and Chuck Lewis were excused.

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

- DGK Centofanti noted that the February meeting minutes were posted to the website today, so check them over and get back to GK Meyer with any additions or corrections.
- Fish Fry update: the first two weeks went well. Two large crowds were well fed. Next Fish Fry is Friday night with the Spartans tipping off at 9:15 pm and it is St. Patrick's Day too, so please offer to help! We want to purchase two new fryers, and Brother Weber supplied the details. An anonymous donor will pay for one of them. These two will replace the three old ones. The Council already took one vote, just need to pass another vote to make the purchase. Cost would be \$6,200 total. Our donor put up \$3,500, we need to cover the rest. Brother Weber made a motion to vote on purchasing the fryers, was seconded by Brother Stevens. Brother Leveque asked what the difference was between the old and new ones; new ones are faster frying, better and uniform heating, easier to light (no missing eyebrows). The old ones have little value and the company would not take them in trade. They are up for grabs if anyone needs or wants to buy them. Brother Weber noted that we did not accept the "set up" from the company; we can do this ourselves and save some money. Brother Leveque asked about a warrantee or maintenance. Br. Weber: would need to check into the paperwork. Br. Centofanti: if we could get a warrantee, should we? Br. Leveque: my friend did not get one and he owns a bar (heavy use). Br. Weber: an extended warrantee is usually not worth it, plus we would get big name units. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.
- On Sunday there will be a recruitment blitz at St. John Student Center and Church. Need help putting up tables before first Mass (8 am). Br. Leveque took the floor: he will have clipboards and interest cards. We are at a negative four, for recruitment according to our District Deputy. This generated much discussion. The blitz will take place after the 8 am, 10 am, and 12 noon Masses.
- March 3rd was our annual Red Cross Blood Drive. We collected 34 pints of blood. We exceeded our goal and this was almost the most we have ever collected. Thanks to Brother Sudol and others for making this happen!
- The MI Drive (Tootsie-Rolls) is coming up on April 7-8-9. The Tootsie-Rolls were ordered this year by St. Martha's Council.
- The Senior Fair is coming up on April 29th and we need volunteers for both of these events.

OTHER REPORTS

- Treasurer's Report:
 - We have had two good Fish Frys so far, the last one being quite busy. The first one had a lower return, but we had to stock up on supplies, the second one netted a much better return. We estimated 550 people for the first one and 650 for the second Fish Fry. Not sure what to expect with the MSU game and St. Patrick's Day both on Friday. Br. Leveque: expect about a 20% drop in attendance due to the weekend's activities (so he heard). Br. Weber: when people pay with a credit card, it goes into our account directly. We bought 12 more large aluminum trays for thawing fish. There was a discussion to potentially have the MSU game on a TV during the meal. Br. Leveque: we have had 4 couples offer to bring and clean silverware to prevent us from throwing away so much plastic-ware. We will table that until next year. Br. Stevens made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Br. Martin, vote passed unanimously.
- Financial Secretary's Report: not present.
- Trustee's Report: nothing to report.
- Chancellor's Report: not present.
- Advocate's Report: nothing to report.
- New Business: Brother Tom Fox, the Faithful Navigator for Assembly 3343 said he is willing to help us financially to reach our goals. He has spoken to Fr. Mark Ingot who was very thankful for becoming a Fourth Degree Knight last November here at STA. Br. Leo Christel has 2 candidates lined up for the Fourth Degree Exemplification coming up and Fr. Mark also has 2 candidates; one being Fr. Ryan. Br. Fox mentioned that the Volunteers of America were passing out Vet's care kits (personal care) and that the Assembly has wheelchairs to pass out for those in need. Br. Tom spoke to the District Deputy Mike Wegener about a benefit Rock and Roll concert coming up on May 5th at St. Casimir's Parish. This will be for refugees. There will be three bands, food, and a cash bar. Br. Fox would like to have our Council 7816 buy 10 tickets for this event. The refugees are from war-torn areas and St. Vincent Catholic Charities needs money to help them. He mentioned that he would gladly take any Third Degree Brothers into the Fourth Degree coming up. Cristo Rey will have a concession stand selling food, but they will keep that money; they also need financial help. SVCC is happy to help them out. Br. Fox will be speaking to all Lansing Catholic Central Seniors about joining the Knights of Columbus before they graduate.
- Br. Leveque noted that several weeks ago the Pregnancy Center of Greater Lansing needed an ultrasound machine. Bill started the process of getting a Golf Outing rolling and then an ultrasound machine got donated! He figures that we could still have the outing and donate it to the STA School. They need sports uniforms, so it could help pay for those. Br. Weber noted that we have always supported the school, the Golf Outing worked before with Bill heading it up, besides, it is a targeted goal and that always helps bring in donations. Br. Leveque noted that Walnut Hills is looking for advertisers and will give us \$35 for 18 holes and a cart. He already has a few \$1,000 donations so far. We might be able to transfer from Right to Life (ultrasound) to the school instead. Br. Centofanti asked if anyone had spoken to Sparrow Hospital to see if they would have a used ultrasound machine they would be willing to donate. Br. Leveque noted that Supreme would fund 50% of the money towards a machine. Bill mentioned that one needs to obtain a lot of permissions before starting the process to purchase an ultrasound machine; and he has done that.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Prayers were requested for the following:

Pope Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; Bishop Earl Boyea and Bishop Emeritus Carl Mengeling; Fr. Jake Foglio; PGK Paul Gadola; Past Recording Secretary John Molloy; Anne Graff, wife of PGK Chuck Graff; Debbie Engan, sister of PGK Graff; Tammy Pruitt, niece of PGK Graff; Brother Ken Norton; Pauline Wooley, mother of Brother Mike Wooley; Phyllis Izdebski, mother-in-law of Brother Mike Wooley; Jim Wooley, brother of Brother Mike Wooley; Brother Chuck Lewis (pneumonia); Brother Don Hillman; Brother Bill Stelzer; Brother William Derengoski; choir member Frank Tuma; family of Fr. Frank Williams; Brother John Ingraham; Monica Sebenick (John's sister); Brother Bob Schneider, Elizabeth Myers (Dave's wife), Paul and Joe Ingraham (John's brothers), Mike Niemela's brother, and Carol Bergin (Brother Chris' wife). Also, all men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and members of the Rosary-Altar Society and St. Vincent DePaul Society.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2017, at 7:00 pm with a First Degree Ceremony. A closing Hail Mary with a prayer for vocations was offered and the closing ode was sung. Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Graff, Recorder