



The
**Ragan
Report**

Official Publication of Father Ragan Council No. 3269

July 2006 Hall Phone 440-934-4253 Vol. 56, No. 7



Grand Knight
Bob Schneider

**New Slate of Officers
Elected**

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Clergy Dinner**

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Chaplain's message . . .

Fr. Paschal Petcavage, “assistant chaplain” of Father Ragan Council, gave a homily at the June 15 meeting in the absence of Chaplain Fr. Leo Dechant.

Fr. Petcavage had three basic reflections.

- Thanking members of Father Ragan Council and Lt. McManus Assembly for their support during his 25th Jubilee Mass. It was a great celebration, he said.
- Reporting on Fr. Dechant, who has been attending a general chapter meeting of the Congregation of St. Joseph in South America. Fr. Dechant was a delegate to the conference.
- Talking about “ancient history” – getting older.

On the third point, Fr. Petcavage reflected on the fact that as people get older, they're referred to as “getting ready to die”.

That's not true, he said. “We may be more mature, but we're not old,” he continued. “Old is up here (pointing to his head). ‘I've seen `old' happen in men in their 30's.

“We are members of Jesus Christ, who is eternally youthful,” he said. “I encourage you to stay young. It doesn't mean, for example, throwing that cane away. It means staying young up here (pointing once again to his head).

“If we become old, it's like a twig in the wind. It snaps. I'm not going to get old. I may be in a wheelchair someday, but I'm not going to be old.”

Fr. Petcavage emphasized that “our root is the teachings of the Church. Being rooted in the gospel keeps us youthful. That's the call of the gospel. That's what eternal life is all about.”

Sir Knights conduct Flag Disposal Ceremony

Sir Knights of the Fourth Degree Lt. McManus Assembly conducted a very impressive Flag Disposal Ceremony on the grounds of our K of C Hall prior to the Father Ragan Council meeting of June 15.

Eight Sir Knights took part in the ceremony, held at the pavilion behind the Hall. They disposed of more than 20 used American Flags, allowing each person in attendance to place a flag into the fire.

PGK Schneider re-elected to lead council in 2006-07

Robert Schneider Jr. will be Grand Knight of Father Ragan Council for the 2006-2007 fraternal year, following his re-election at the June 15 council meeting. He served as the council's Grand Knight for the 2005-2006 fraternal year.

In the council elections, Brother Knight John Hricovec was elected Deputy Grand Knight. Other elected officers for the 2006-2007 fraternal year are:

- Chancellor.....Past Grand Knight Ted Schmitz
- Recorder.....Past Grand Knight Harding Christ
- Treasurer.....Brother Knight Michael Moore
- Advocate.....Brother Knight Scott Gedeon
- Warden.....Brother Knight Michael O'Connor
- Inside Guard.....Brother Knight Mark Potteiger
- Outside Guard.....Brother Knight Ted Kocab
- 3-Year Trustee.....Past Grand Knight Kenneth O'Connor
- 2-Year Trustee.....Past Grand Knight Victor Sedivec
- 1-Year Trustee.....Past Grand Knight John Riba

The newly elected officers will be installed in ceremonies at the July 20 Father Ragan Council meeting.

* * *

Brother Hricovec, 30, has not previously held an office in Father Ragan Council. He is the son of the late Brother Knight and Sir Knight Tom Hricovec, and is the grandson of two Father Ragan Council Past Grand Knights: PGK Adam Abfall and Tom Hricovec, Sr., both deceased.

The new Deputy Grand Knight was exemplified into the Fourth Degree this year. He and his wife, Karin, were married last October, and are expecting their first child. He is a graduate of Avon High School, where he played football.

DGK Hricovec is employed as a construction manager for KMU Trucking and Excavating. He enjoys agriculture, and helps on the family farm.

One of John's hobbies is competing in tractor pull contests. He has won championships at such places as county fairs from Indiana to Pennsylvania with his Case unlimited farm stock. Championships also have been won at such county fairs as Lorain, Cuyahoga, Erie, Sandusky and Franklin.




Help needed for Bingo



Here's another plea for Friday Night Bingo Program help. We need help each and every week. But most importantly, we need help on the Third and Fourth Fridays.

Please Volunteer. Give Brother Don Darkow a call at (440) 937-6784

July 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
	3	4	5	6	7	8
			St Mary's Bingo	8:00 PM Business Meeting	K of C Bingo	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			St Mary's Bingo	7:30 PM Charitable Trust Mtg	K of C Bingo	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			St Mary's Bingo	8:00 PM Social Meeting	K of C Bingo	5:00 PM Mass & Council Picnic
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1:00 Council Picnic Continues			St Mary's Bingo	7:30 PM Officers Meeting	K of C Bingo	
30	31					

August 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 St Mary's Bingo	3 8:00 PM Business Meeting	4 K of C Bingo	5
6	7	8	9 St Mary's Bingop	10 7:30 PM Charitable Trust Mtg	11 K of C Bingo	12
13	14	15	16 St Mary's Bingo	17 8:00 PM Social Meeting Special Guest Speaker from NASA	18 K of C Bingo	19
20	21	22	23 St Mary's Bingo	24 7:30 PM Officers Meeting	25 K of C Bingo	26
27	28	29	30 St Mary's Bingo	31		

Fr. Petcavage gives a lesson comparing the Roman vs. the Byzantine Church

At the June 1 Father Ragan Council meeting, Fr. Paschal Petcavage gave a history lesson of the Roman Catholic Church, and its relationship with the Byzantine Catholic Church.

The following excerpts of his talk were recorded by council Recorder PGK Cy Bliss.

“As Catholics, we tend to believe that we are ‘it,’” Fr. Petcavage said. “And if we are Catholic, then we are Roman Catholic.

“That is not the case. In all the ‘divisions’ of the Catholic Church, we are the largest group as ‘Roman Catholics’.

“Officially, the Catholic Church country of origin was the Kingdom of Armenia, where the Eastern Church was founded in the year 300. The liturgy of the Eastern, or Byzantine, Church stemmed from the Gospel of St. James of Jerusalem. The Catholic Churches took on their own identities from their locations. The actual ‘Roman’ Catholic Church came 1400 years later.”

When people come together, they tend to fight, Fr. Petcavage suggested. “The Catholic Church is no different,” he said. “We have been fighting right from the beginning. In 325 the Church fought over the idea whether Jesus was the same as the Father. In 381 the idea was brought forth that Mary could not have been the Mother of God.

“In 1054 Constantinople broke with Rome over some disagreement. But we still all believe in the same God and have the same sacraments. However, the Orthodox Church has a problem with a ‘Roman’ Catholic receiving communion in an Orthodox Church, but the ‘Roman’ Catholics say it is okay for an Orthodox to receive communion in a Roman Catholic Church.”

Fr. Petcavage continued that many of the churches sought “protection” from Rome and united with Rome because the Romans were more powerful. However, they remained separated from Rome.

“Roman Catholic priests are celibate, “ he said. “In the Eastern Churches the priests are allowed to be married before ordination. A married priest can never be a Bishop in the Eastern Church.”

As to the future, Fr. Petcavage said “we are making moves to reunite.”

“The Eastern Rite churches have two doors,” he continued. “One, the Royal Door, is always kept closed and is the door for the ‘privileged’. The other is left open for all.”

There is no such thing as church “pews” in the Orthodox Catholic Church,” he said. And in the old church the men were always on the right and the women always on the left.

Vestments of the Roman and Orthodox churches are actually quite similar. The Roman vestment has two vertical pieces running down the front, whereas the Byzantine vestment has them sewn together and the vestment is cut off shorter.

Another difference: The Byzantine Rite never uses the Old Testament in the liturgy. The people read the word and the priest faces the altar with his back to the congregation except when he reads the gospels. It is viewed as though Byzantine priests “face the wall”, he said. “The priest is ‘leading’ the people in prayer as opposed to when he faces the people to read to them.” And, he said, the altars of the Eastern Rite always face east.

And again, Byzantines never receive Holy Communion in the hand and never stick out their tongues. The priest uses a spoon-like piece to place Holy Communion inside the open mouth.

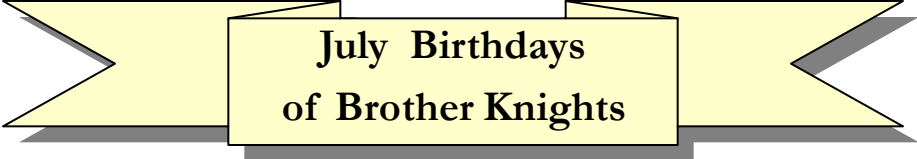
A question was asked about the difference in Church calendars.

Continued on next page

Roman vs Orthodox Cont.

“The Eastern Orthodox churches never changed,” Fr. Petcavage said. “We did. The Roman Catholic Church adopted the Julian Calendar, while the other churches kept the Gregorian Calendar.

“And,” Fr. Petcavage concluded, “all Orthodox Churches are autonomous. East is their own entity. The Pope is referred to as the Patriarch of the West.”



July Birthdays of Brother Knights

William Henterly.....	July 3	Kenneth Kodger.....	July 16
Michael Ladika	July 4	Steve Sylvester.....	July 16
Richard Farnar.....	July 5	William Grake.....	July 18
Stephen Tatalick.....	July 5	Patrick Gillespie	July 19
Robert Booth.....	July 6	Bradford Zelasko.....	July 19
Thomas Rieck.....	July 7	Chester Seroka.....	July 20
LaVern Forthofer.....	July 9	Fr. Paschal Petcavage.....	July 21
David Kilgore.....	July 9	Bernard Benisek.....	July 22
Dennis Richards.....	July 10	Thomas Wasserman	July 22
Richard Slaght Sr.....	July 10	Mark Novotny.....	July 24
Wilbert Zeise	July 11	Robert D’Andrea	July 25
William Hricovec	July 12	Richard Novotny.....	July 27
Robert Mason.....	July 12	PGK FDD Mike Abfall.....	July 28
Terrence Murello.....	July 12	Michael Christ	July 28
James Stewart	July 12	Rev. Mr. Howard Masony.....	July 28
James Marra Jr.	July 13	Peter Lally	July 21
Richard DeChant	July 15	John Lyon	July 31

Did you see . . .

Did you see the excellent article on Beth Schindler, daughter of PGK Jim and Bobbie Bruder, in the June 8 edition of The Plain Dealer? It was an interesting piece written by Beth, who works at the Hospice of the Western Reserve in the communications office. She is a 1989 graduate of Avon High School and mother of two. She, her husband Dave and children reside in Avon Lake. Incidentally, Beth for a couple of years put together the Ragan Report in a great fashion!

Father Ragan Charitable Foundation

Nomination of officers for the Father Ragan Charitable Foundation for the 2006-2007 fraternal year were announced at the foundation's May meeting.

An election will be held at the Aug. 10 Charitable Foundation meeting (which begins at 7:30 p.m. at our K of C Hall). At that time, further nominations will be accepted from the floor.

The nominations presented are:

President.....	Victor Sedivec
Vice President.....	John Hricovec
Secretary.....	Harding Christ
Treasurer.....	Robert Booth
Trustee.....	Robert Schneider Jr.
Trustee.....	Kenneth O'Connor
Trustee.....	Roberto Cobos

Roberto Cobos has been president of the foundation for the 2005-2006 fraternal year.

Obituary

David Aslaksen, school official, booster

Brother Knight David Aslaksen, a former Avon Lake School Board president and high school sports booster, passed away May 28. He was 71.

Brother Aslaksen was graduated from Avon Lake High School in 1953, having played on the football team, and since then was active with many of the school's sports programs, especially the football teams. He served on the football chain gang for more than 30 years.

Brother Aslaksen was a founding member of the Avon Lake Sports Hall of Fame committee, and a founding member of the school's booster club. He was president of the School Board in 1981, but resigned in 1983 when he was named head of maintenance for the Avon Lake school system. He retired in 1998.

Brother Aslaksen attended St. Joseph Church, Avon Lake. He and his wife, Arlene, would have been married 50 years on June 23.

Congratulations . . .

To Brother Knight Patsy Gerrone and his wife, Elora, who celebrated their 60th Anniversary recently. The couple was married on June 22, 1946, in Hazelton, Pa. Brother Gerrone is retired from the Avon Lake Board of Education after serving 33 years, including eight as chief of custodial maintenance. He served five years with the U.S. Air Force during World War II, receiving two Air Medals and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

NASA official to speak in August

Bill Crell, representing NASA, will speak at the Father Ragan Council meeting on Aug. 17. His topic will be *Living and Working in Space*. He will bring with him some displays of equipment and demonstrate how the equipment works in outer space.

It promises to be an interesting Lecturer's Program. The meeting begins at 8 p.m.

Building and Grounds . . .

New round tables have been purchased for use in our K of C Hall. There are a number of “old” round tables available for sale at \$25 each. Anyone interested in purchasing tables is asked to contact either PGK Vic Sedivec, president of the Father Ragan Charitable Foundation, at (440) 748-9400, or Grand Knight Bob Schneider at (440) 933-2469.

* * *

The ceiling in the Main Hall has been painted. Additional contracts have been awarded to Wearsch Painting to repaint the walls in the Main Hall, along with exterior doors and some of the outside block walls.

* * *

MISSING: A large number of folding chairs are missing from our K of C Hall. This is a serious matter and demands attention. Rules have been established for what can be borrowed from the Hall, and procedures have been set forth to govern this borrowing. Unfortunately, someone apparently breached those procedures.

Grand Knight Robert Schneider Jr. wants the chairs returned. He will give immunity to the person who returns them.

Steps have been taken to resolve this problem in the future. At the May Father Ragan Charitable Foundation meeting, a motion was approved to do something we used to do several years ago – lock up the chairs with a chain and lock.

* * *

And last but not least, a new pencil sharpener has been installed in the K of C Hall office!

Your prayers are requested . . .

Please pray for the sick and distressed of Father Ragan Council, your family and friends and the following for whom prayers have been requested at Father Ragan Council meetings.

- Past Grand Knight Jim Black.
- Brother Knight Robert Banker, who underwent surgery.
- Brother Knight Al Kimmel.
- Paul Dunegan, father of Brother Knight Tom Dunegan.
- PGK FDD Frank Eber, who was hospitalized recently.

Pot of Gold . . .

Sorry, Brother Knight Bill Roman. Because you were not present at the Father Ragan Council meeting of June 15, you lost a chance to win the Pot of Gold, which was worth \$80. At the June 1 meeting, Brother Knight Kreig Brusnahan lost a chance to win \$75 by not being present.

Congratulations, Father . . .

Fr. Paschal Petcavage, “assistant chaplain” of Father Ragan Council, celebrated his 25th Anniversary as a priest with a Mass on June 11. An Honor Guard from Lt. McManus Assembly was at the Mass.

Council's Clergy Gathering is Best Church Activity in Ohio

Father Ragan Council didn't fare too well at the State Knights of Columbus Convention, held on the weekend of Memorial Day in May in Cincinnati.

Delegates PGK Cyrus H. Bliss and Brother Knight Tom Michelich brought back only one prize.

But it was a BIG ONE!

Father Ragan Council was named recipient of the Best Church Activity in the Ohio jurisdiction for the past fraternal year. The best Church Activity from among 349 councils in Ohio.

The award was given for Father Ragan Council's *Celebrate Our Clergy and Religious* gathering at our K of C Hall last Feb. 28 – a gathering that ranks among the best ever held at our Hall.

That's the gathering when priests, deacons, religious sisters and seminarians gathered for dinner and a short program. People from our four Avon-Avon Lake Catholic parishes joined the gathering. A total of nearly 220 in all.

Father Ragan Council's delegates actually brought back three plaques for the Best Church Activity Award – one awarded for it being the Best Church Activity in the Cleveland Diocese; another given by the Ohio State Council for Best Church Activity, and a third given by Supreme Council for Best Church Activity in Ohio.

Winning the Best State Church Activity means that it now is being considered for a Supreme Council award – being among the best in the entire Knights of Columbus Order. Announcement of that winner will come at the Supreme K of C Convention in August.

Father Ragan Council's delegates attended the business sessions of the convention, along with taking their wives (Rita Michelich and Mary Bliss) to the State Deputy's Banquet on Saturday night.

There was not too much special business to conduct at the convention, especially since it was not an "election year" when a new state officer is elected. Rather, the current state officers were elected for another year in their current jobs – State Deputy Gary Eckstein, State Secretary Larry Moegling, State Treasurer Paul Upman, State Advocate David Helmstetter, State Warden Kenneth Girt, and Immediate Past State Deputy Roland Bator.

PGK Bliss and Brother Michelich gave their convention reports to members of Father Ragan Council at the June 1 council meeting.

KofC Hall for Rent

If you haven't been to our hall for a while, stop by. We have installed a new ventilation system and painted the ceiling and walls.

The folks that have seen it, love it. You will too.

Both the large and small halls are available for rent.

Call Chris Williams 440-371-9866

Isabella News...

The business meeting held on June 13 included the list of charitable donations recommended by the officers. After review, the membership approved donating to the following charities/needs:

- Youth Groups at Holy Spirit, St. Joseph and Holy Trinity Churches.
- St. Mary School Library (for materials).
- Fr. Michael Stalla’s VIDA program.
- Congregation of St. Joseph Youth Retreat Center.
- West Side Catholic Women/Children Shelter.
- Cornerstone Pregnancy.
- St. Joseph Homeless Shelter, Lorain.
- Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.
- Ugly Quilts of Elyria.

A total of \$1,650 was donated to charities. In addition, \$1,600 was given in scholarship monies to college and high school students.

NICE JOB, Ladies!!!

* * *

Simmie DiLuciano reported that Entertainment Books will arrive and be distributed at the September meeting. All unsold books and monies must be returned by Dec. 1. The books will still sell for \$25.

* * *

Bingo bakers and cooks were requested by Father Ragan Council Grand Knight Bob Schneider for the FIRST FRIDAY of each month. A list of volunteers was prepared. **As a reminder: July 7, Cabbage/Noodles, Mary Bliss; Bakers Pat Christ and Mary Bliss. August 4, Cabbage/Noodles, Marilyn Misencik; and baker Laverne Sedivec.**

* * *

Installation of Isabella Guild Officers for 2006-2007 was conducted by Eddie Guthrie. It was very nicely carried out and each officer was presented a rose.

Our congratulations and prayers are extended to the new officers.

Delicious strawberry desserts were served by the committee of officers.

* * *

Enjoy a wonderful, safe and healthy summer. Please remember that we will NOT have meetings in July and August. Our next Isabella Guild meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

July Birthdays

Mona DeChant.....July 7	Sandy Marsh.....July 10
Lynn Cobos.....July 12	Barb Meschke.....July 12
Rita Michelich.....July 20	Eileen Gannelli.....July 24

July Anniversaries

Joe & Helen Lowe.....July 17	Hazel & Ed Kaspar.....July 20
Mike & Estelle Pastorelle.....July 25	

Spaghetti dinner benefits

Family of John Lapushansky

Several thousand dollars was raised through a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, June 25, to help the family of a Brother Knight who passed away recently.

The dinner was held at our K of C Hall, with a number of Brother Knights and their wives volunteering. Chief volunteers were Grand Knight Robert Schneider Jr. and his wife, Christine.

The dinner benefited the family of Brother Knight John Lapushansky, who passed away after a long battle with illnesses. During his illness, medical bills have piled up.

Brother Lapushansky is survived by his wife, Marlene, and sons Brian and Chris.

Besides the dinner itself, funds were raised through 50/50 drawings and a “Chinese Auction” of a number of items donated by area businesses and individuals.

Charity - Unity - Fraternity - Patriotism

Letters . . .

- From Margaret DeGennaro, thanking the council for remembering her husband, the late Tony DeGennaro.
- From Dianne Fischer, thanking the council for remembering her husband, the late Dave Fischer.
- From Fr. James Beatty, pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, Avon Lake, thanking the council for donations to the parish and its PSR program.
- From Fr. Giampietro Gasparin, of the Congregation of St. Joseph, Avon, thanking the council for its contribution to his pilgrimage to Schio, Italy.

Father Dickard Award . . .

The Annual Father Dickard Award was presented to Bridget Lyons, of Avon Lake, a graduating eighth grader from St. Joseph School. The award is presented annually to an outstanding eighth-grade graduate of St. Joseph School. It is named in memory of Fr. Edward Dickard, former pastor of St. Joseph Parish and Former Chaplain of Father Ragan Council.

High school, college scholarships are presented to eight students

College and Catholic high school scholarships were awarded by Father Ragan Council and the Isabella Guild at a Quarterly Communion Breakfast on Sunday, May 28. According to new requirements this year, eligibility included being a Third Degree member of Father Ragan Council or a child/grandchild of a Third Degree member.

Catholic high school scholarships were awarded to:

- D. Michael Danner, who will attend Benedictine High School.
- Allison Drda, who will attend Regina High School.

College scholarships were awarded to:

- Brian Carlson, who will attend Xavier University. He is a member of Father Ragan Council.
- Robert Schneider III. He is a member of Father Ragan Council.
- Patrick Guthrie, who will attend Ohio University.
- Brian Jones, who will attend the Franciscan University of Steubenville.
- Jessica Herrera, who will attend Bowling Green State University.
- Benjamin Drda, who will attend the University of D???????

Please note on the above:

The Isabellas gave \$200 to each child.

I have no idea how much Father Ragan Council gave to each.

I have no idea who D. Michael Danner is.

I assume Allison Drda and Benjamin Drda are children or grandchildren of George and Ruth Drda. I don't know where Benjamin is going. Is it the U of Dayton?

I do not know where Rob Schneider is going to school.

I assume Patrick Guthrie is the son of Larry Guthrie and/or grandson of Gus Guthrie.

I don't know who Brian Jones is.

I assume Jessica Herrera might be the daughter of Ruben Herrera.

We should list the parents/grandparents.

We should say how much the scholarships are worth.

Congratulations . . .

To Bob Uszak, a new member of Father Ragan Council who took his First Degree at North Ridgeville Council 7970.



Here's a grand
weekend:

Our Council's Family Picnic

Come to a picnic. With friends. Bring your family. Bring your friends. How about bringing a prospective member of the Knights of Columbus? Show him what we do.

A Saturday afternoon Mass. Pizza dinner. Then a wine and cheese party around the bonfire.

A Sunday cookout – hot dogs and hamburgers. Bring your dish (salad, dessert, etc) to share. Games for the kids.

How's that for a fine summer weekend?

It all will happen on the weekend of July 22 and July 23 on the grounds of our K of C Hall, Avon. It's the annual Father Ragan Council Family Campout.

It'll start Saturday afternoon as people arrive for some fun, just to socialize, whatever.

Fr. Leo Dechant, Chaplain of Father Ragan Council, will celebrate a vigil Mass at 5 p.m. Saturday. Then the pizza will be prepared.

And later Saturday the campfire will be lit. Wine and cheese will be offered to those around that campfire. There will be stories to be told. Songs to be sung. When it's time to leave, those who wish can stay and camp out – in their tent or in their camper. Others can retreat to their homes for the night.

But come back on Sunday. Bring the kids. There will be games for the kids. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be put on the grill and ready for the buns at 1 p.m. Bring your dish to share. More fun during the afternoon.

The best part of all is that it's Knights of Columbus stuff. Gathering together to share. Talk about what can be done for our churches and communities and our youth.



What Do You Think?

We Need Your Input

The council is contemplating the upgrade of our office equipment to better serve our members.

One of the items under consideration is the purchase or lease of a new **COLOR** Laser printer. The cost of printers has come down dramatically over the past few years and business class color laser printers are more affordable than ever. Couple that with the antique and unreliable printer we now have and it makes sense to upgrade

We hope to generate a more readable and eye catching Ragan Report that will assist members in choosing the activities that most appeal top them and hopefully encourage participation by more members and their families.

While this alone is a good reason to upgrade we also expect to be able to print "professional quality" fliers, programs for events, and other advertising items to promote rental of the hall.

We need your input...

Tell us what YOU think!

We appreciate your thoughts and want to better service our membership.

**Knights of Columbus
Father Ragan Council No. 3269
1783 Moore Rd., P.O. Box 224
Avon, OH 44011-0224**

**Father Ragan
Charitable Foundation Inc**

Friday Night Bingo
K of C Hall
1783 Moore Rd., Avon OH
Early Birds start 7 P.M.
Bonanza
\$1,000 Coverall
Instants

**Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Avon Lake, Ohio
Permit No. 22**



Dated Material
