

Ragan Report



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Grand Knight Report...

July marks the first month of the new fiscal year for the Council and, in talking with PGK Rob Garrett, it is the busiest for the new Grand Knight. I have found this to be absolutely true. This first fiscal month has been even busier for my wife and I since we downsized and moved into an apartment at the end of June. Even now, at the end of the month, we are trying to empty out the last cartons containing our possessions and trying to place them in locations where we can find them again. Things are finally beginning to settle down from the standpoint of the move and the Council.



In this, my first Grand Knight Report, I would like to say thank you to PGK Rob Garrett for his many offerings of help and assistance in getting me and my officers off to a good start this year. He has spent time coaching DGK John Pabin and me in the duties and requirements of the Office of Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight and for this I ask God's blessing on him and his family.

As in the past two years, the first fiscal month focuses on the Kelly Miller Circus that the K of C brings to Avon in the first week of August. This year the Circus will be held on the

grounds of the Avon Village Elementary School instead of the K of C grounds. PGK John Hricovec made arrangements with the city of Avon to locate the Circus to an area of town where it would be more visible to the public. We're hoping that this move pays off for the Council.

Brothers in the Council have been hard at work selling tickets at the parishes we support and getting tickets and posters to the ticket outlets that we have for this year. This year the Kelly Miller Circus sent out one clown as opposed to two in previous years and JP (as he calls himself), accompanied by his wife Clara, was dispatched by DGK John and myself to The Goddard School and Lechapon Rouge School where he performed and informed the young children of the upcoming circus.

Brother Knights were also hard at work getting the message out about the Circus. Here Brs. Vic Sedevic, Jim Bruder and Joe Lowe anchor the supports for the sign announcing the Circus. The photos show the before and after. All Brother Knights are asked to bring their families and to invite their friends to this special event to make it a success.

Two candidates, Thom Schumacher and Terry Lowther were Exemplified in the First Degree on July 25 at our Hall. We congratulate them on joining the Knight of Columbus in our Council and hope that they become active members in our Council and take ad-

vantage of the insurance benefits and spiritual benefits available to them. It is hoped that they would take it upon themselves to progress through the 2nd and 3rd degrees and become leaders in the future. Please offer your congratulation to these Brothers if you should see them or are introduced to them.

Next month the council is planning on hosting a Steak Fry for members, their families and guests (hopefully new candidates and families). The date is August 22 and it is hoped that the turnout will be large as it is nice for the brothers in the Council to renew friendships with members they haven't seen in a while. See details of this event in this report.

In closing I'd like to say that this year, as in the past, will be an active one for our Council. Last March we added a Pre-St. Paddy's Day Party to our list of events that was well received and will be held again in 2014. More new events are being planned for later this year and will be announced in the next month or two. I would like to remind all of the Brothers of this Council that they are welcome to attend our meetings and events and to offer their ideas and help in doing our work for charity.

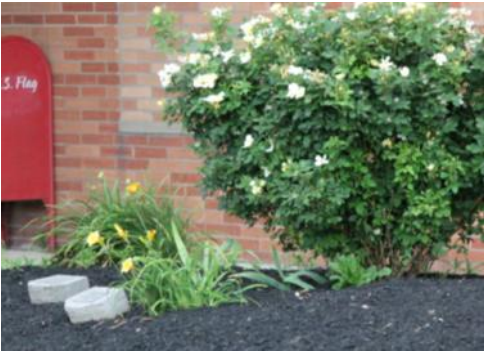
Vivat Jesus,

GK - John Wesner



Fr Ragan Council Grounds

Many thanks go out to PGK John Hricovec for the work he has done improving the Council grounds this year. The field has been improved with grading, drain tiles, and new grass. You will also find a new black fence along the east edge of the parking lot and all of the planting beds have been mulched and cleaned up. Thank you, John, for all of the work you do for the Council!



First Degree

On July 25th, a First Degree Exemplification was held at the Hall to bring in new members Thom Schumacher and Terry Lowther.

The degree team was made up of GK John Wesner as the Grand Knight, PGK Fred Metz in the Chancellor's role, PGK Rob Garrett in the Financial Secretary's role, DGK John Pabin as the DGK, PGK Vic Sedevic, who subbed for Rob Trunk, as the Warden, and guards Giulio Romano and Jim Teubl. Br. Al Nugent was the Music Person. The ceremony was also attended by our District Deputy Jim Maslach.

Be sure to congratulate and welcome Thom and Terry when you see them!



New Fr Ragan Council members Thom Schumacher (left) and Terry Lowther (right)

August Social Meeting: Steak Fry

All Fr Ragan Past Grand Knights, Spouses of PGK's, former members who have moved away, current members and their families are invited to a special **Family Picnic & Steak Fry** at our Hall.



Bring your family to spend time with other Knights' families and enjoy the summer weather before the school year begins. Make plans now to invite any potential Knights candidates (and their families) for a low-key, friendly introduction to the Knights of Columbus!

Date: Thursday, August 22nd
Time: 6:30PM—8:00PM

Cost: \$5.00 (Adults) \$2.00 (Children 12 & under)
Steak Dinner Hamburger / Hot-dog

Reservations: Required, call Ted Schmitz at 937-6402

The "PGK" photo from last year's Council Picnic in August

PGK Mike Moore will buy a drink at this year's picnic for anyone who can correctly identify who was 'Photoshopped' into this picture.



Past Grand Knights of Father Ragan Council From Left to Right: Fred Metz, John Hricovec, Bernie Bruder, Ray DeChant, Vic Sedevic, Harding Christ, Joe Greiner, Frank Eber, Scott Gedeon, Tom Whitfield, Jim Bruder, Dan Pulit, Bill Mayton, Mike Moore, Cy Bliss, Al Boutin, Ted Schmitz, Bob DeChant, Carl Rink, Ken O'Connor, Rocco Gannelli, Bob Cobos



Mark Your Calendar...
Show & Ticket Information

Saturday, August 3rd
2:00PM and 5:30PM

Avon Village Elementary
School
36600 Detroit Road (Avon,
OH)



Presale ticket prices: Adults \$10 (\$15 at door), Children \$6 (\$7 at door).
Parking in the recreation center nearby.

Parish / Local Events

Nov 9th St. Joseph (Avon Lake) Married couples' retreat presented by Dr. Allen Hunt: "Passion & Purpose for Marriage." The retreat will be from 9am-1:30pm. Tickets are \$25 per person. Tickets can be ordered online: DynamicCatholic.com



St. Joseph Pastor Installation

Fr. Ron Wearsch was formally installed as pastor of St. Joseph by Bishop Richard Lennon on Sunday, July 28th and the 4th Degree Knights were there to support the occasion.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 4th - Noon to 10:00PM

The FEST is a one-day, FREE family festival for all ages held on the grounds of Borromeo Seminary (28700 Euclid, Wickliffe, OH)

Enjoy live, national Christian bands on stage, entertainment, games, BMX shows, kids' areas, opportunities for inspiring prayer, tents with vendors from all over our area, giveaways, and your favorites festival foods. At 8:00PM, join in the highlight of the day... an inspiring outdoor Mass shared by thousands! Of course, the day wouldn't be over without an incredible fireworks display! www.theFEST.us

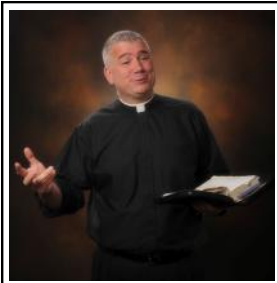
New Evangelization: Podcasts

Using technology to learn more about the Catholic Faith

At the Council's Social Meeting on July 18th, Br. Gerry Berger enlightened Council members on the many Catholic podcasts that are available through the internet.

Gerry related how he began exercising in 2005 to improve his health. Finding that treadmills and exercise bikes on their own can be boring, he began listening to music to motivate him through workouts. After first listening (and running) through the 60's and then the 70's, he began listening to the 50's when he stumbled across a 'podcast' on Frank Sinatra which made reference to a Catholic podcast.

Since that time, Gerry has discovered - and run through - a whole new world filled with priests' homilies, scriptural rosaries, daily scripture readings and talk shows on a variety of Catholic subjects.



Fr. Larry Richards

One of the more popular clergy podcasts is presented by Fr. Larry Richards who is the pastor of an inner city parish in Erie, Pennsylvania and a favorite speaker at men's conferences. Each week his Sunday homilies are uploaded and available on-line at:

http://www.thereasonforourhope.org/meet_father/homilies.php

Paul Camarata is the producer of one of Gerry Berger's favorite non-clergy podcasts.

Camarata is a neuro-surgeon, Chairman of the University of Kansas Department of Neurosurgery, father of three, marathon runner, and producer of The SaintCast. An archive with over 140 podcasts about the saints is available at:

<http://saintcast.org/?m=200603>

Today's momentum of Catholic podcasts offers us an opportunity to support the "new evangelization". Blessed John Paul II first used this term in 1983 describing how "entire groups of the baptized have lost a living sense of the faith, or even no longer consider themselves members of the Church, and live a life far removed from Christ and his Gospel. In this case what is needed is a 'new evangelization' or a 're-evangelization.'" The ease of access and long reach of Catholic podcasts can serve as a key tool in enabling the New Evangelization today.

What is a Podcast?

- An 'On-Demand' audio file
- Can listen while on-line or, more often, downloaded to a portable media player
- They're free!
- Can listen anytime, pause, restart

How to download Podcasts

- iTunes - easy to use, but requires a credit card to open an account
- Podcatcher - computer program used to download various media via an RSS or XML feed
- Instacast - smartphone app

If you don't want to download, just listen on-line directly from a website!

THANK GOD IT'S FIRST FRIDAY - WEST

This inter-parish men's group meets on First Friday for a luncheon, talk by a priest, and concludes with the celebration of the Eucharist.

Upcoming luncheon:

DATE: Friday, September 6th
SPEAKER: Rev. Bishop Richard G. Lennon

TOPIC: TBD
LOCATION: St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, North Olmsted

COST: \$10.00
TIME: Registration 11:30AM-12:00PM; Mass at 12:00PM; luncheon and talk to follow

RESERVATIONS: Call George at (440) 937-6606 by Tuesday, September 3rd.

George W. Perz
Secretary-Treasurer
TGIFF-West

CALENDAR



Thur, Aug 1	Business Meeting (7:30PM, Knights Hall)
Sat, Aug 3	Kelly Miller Circus (2:00PM and 5:30PM, Avon)
Thur, Aug 15	Feast of The Assumption
Thur, Aug 22	Council Steak Fry / Picnic