

**GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE**

Greetings Brother Knights:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We received many thank-you cards again this year for the "Widow Baskets". Thanks to all who assisted in the gift baskets for wives of deceased members again this year. This is a wonderful program, the treats are enjoyed but even more it seems the visit is appreciated. Thanks Jim Jesok for your continued support of this project, I think Jim has helped with project every year. Chad Thorsten also has been a great help, as Past Grand Knight he'll be a tough act to follow.

Our mailbox was also full of thank-yous from the seminarians. Thank you Brother, Rob Stay for taking care of this for us.

Our pork chop bingo will be on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> in the Sts. Peter and Paul Church basement this year. Please plan on attending and bring a friend. What with Valentine's Day coming up, a package of pork chops would be nice! The chops are purchased from Foley Locker with much of the cost being covered by donations. We take \$10 per package and recognize the donator at the bingo session. Anyone wishing to donate please contact myself or Chad Thorsten at the February meeting.

January is respect life month. We have January 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> designated as rose distribution dates at the local parishes. Donations received will be used in Respect Life Projects. Also January 22<sup>nd</sup> is the March for Life at the State Capital. I hope you had an opportunity to attend and thank all our supporters of this important cause.

Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, Holy Family Sunday, our council sponsored a horse drawn trolley ride. This is something that we've done in the past. The weather was rather cool, but we had a good number of participants and they enjoyed themselves. Thank you Brother, Doug Novak for suggesting and planning this event, you are a wonderful asset to this council and we appreciate all that you do.

Vivat Jesus!  
Faternally Yours,  
Leo Zimmermann,  
Grand Knight Tel: 320-355-2850

**COUNCIL NEWS**

Communications from seminarians and deceased member's wives were acknowledged. Grand Knight wished members a Happy and Healthy New year and announced deceased member's wives: Bertha Jedlicki and Maxine Bauer presented the council with cash donations; we thank them for their donations. A thank you was received from Morality in Media and the bible study group.

Fr. Leo expressed his appreciation for the support the knights and council had given him and the parishes over the past year.

Council treasurer, Al Sobania reports the balance of the general fund is \$9,653.24.

**YEAR END DECEMBER 2013 AUDIT**

Council has 271 members, assets amounting to \$9,643.52 general fund and savings \$6,347.30 and no liabilities.

**Chairman Reports**

**Membership:** District meeting will be hosted by Gilman Council on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Representative of the State Council Student Loan Fund will be present. Next initiation of 4<sup>th</sup> degree will be April 26<sup>th</sup> at Detroit Lakes.

A reminder to members: please send your check for \$30 annual membership dues to: Financial Secretary Doug Novak 13944 105<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Foley MN 56329. If a member is unable to pay membership dues because of hardship and financial distress, please inform a council officer.

Honorary Life members are thanked for their donations amounting over \$250 in support of the highway grotto.

**Vocations:** Chairman, John Mastey presented a video of Fr. Greg Mastey's homily at St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph. Fr. Greg explained the degrees of membership of the Knights of Columbus and the honor of supporting the priests and church.

He encouraged men to join the knights and experience the fellowship of being a Knight of Columbus.

**Pro-life:** Rob Stay announced there was a bus to the Capital for the "March for Life" on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>. The St Cloud Visitor has a notice of bus schedules and pickup locations. This is the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Roe vs Wade. There have been 85 abortion clinics that closed in the past year. This could be reason that the mother's are able to view the fetus with the ultrasound machines provided through the Knights of Columbus.

**Church:** Members are informed that the fixup project for the Gilman church basement landing area has been postponed until better weather. There still will be a need for volunteers – watch for announcements in parish and council bulletins.

Jamie Ranweiler presented two framed photographs of the history of the building of S.S. Peter & Paul Church in Gilman. These pictures will be hung in the back of the church. The cost of this project is \$408. Immaculate Mary Council donated \$200 toward the project and the Christian Mothers contributed \$100.

Members of the other parishes seeing a need for financial assistance in their church projects are asked to make requests of the council.

**Knight of the Month:** Brother Knight, Chad Thorsten was awarded the January 2014 Knight of the Month. Congratulations Brother Knight, Chad and thank you for serving the council and for being active in the church and community.

**Family of the Month:** Brother Knight, Michael J. Skaja Family of the Mayhew Lake Parish was awarded the January 2014 Family of the Month. Congratulations to the Skaja Family. Mike thanks the council for the financial support given his son,

Thomas. Tom is a student of Winona Seminary, working his way toward being a priest.

The traveling statue of Mary is going throughout the council area. Welcome her into your home and recite a daily rosary for a week. Doug Novak is the contact person for this project. He would like a family to reserve a week on the 2014 calendar.

**PRO-LIFE WEEKEND**

January 18 & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 is pro-life weekend. Handing out lapel roses is again planned for parishes in Gilman, Morrill and Brennyville. Volunteers were asked to assist in handing out the roses and accepting donations for pro-life. The proceeds collected go totally toward pro-life projects.

**PORK CHOP BINGO**

The annual pork chop bingo will be held at 1:00pm on Sunday afternoon February 16, 2014. The location is going to be at S.S. Peter & Paul Church this year. Hopefully this location change will get some new faces involved in this activity. Volunteers are welcome; please let the officers know at the February 4<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

We are looking for advertisers in this council bulletin. Please let financial secretary, Doug Novak know if you have an interested business. Thank you, Ray Novak for joining our list of advertisers.

Meeting jack pot was presented to Brother Knight, John Mastey.

Name drawn for the Pot of Gold was Brother Knight, John Pekarek. Sorry to announce he **was not present** to collect the \$35 prize.

Remember to pray for Knights and their families sick or in distress.

**Next meeting – February 4, 2014; rosary at 8:15pm.**