



Father Charles J. Watters Assembly 2688

Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2008

Held at St. Brigid

Total attendance: 36

Presiding officer: Faithful Captain, Guy Stryker (substituting for Faithful Navigator, Rick Langheim)

The meeting was preceded by a social hour and commenced at 7:35 PM with the usual ceremonials and a call to order. The minutes were read and amended.

Roll Call:

Faithful Captain	Guy Stryker	Present	Faithful Friar	Msgr. Hugh Marren	Excused
Faithful Admiral	Dennis Klein	Present	Inner Sentinel	Benny Mastrogiovanni	Excused
Faithful Pilot	Bill O'Shaughnessy	Excused	Outer Sentinel	Jim Rainsford	Excused
Faithful Comptroller	Bob Heald	Present	Trustee 3-year	Ernie Spencer	Present
Faithful Scribe	Lou Hlad	Present	Trustee 2-year	Rick Sisko	Present
Faithful Purser	Rich Nielson	Present	Trustee 1-year	Andy Diaz	Present

Faithful Navigator Report

Faithful Captain Stryker started his report by noting that the Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held on Saturday, April 12, and asked Faithful Comptroller Bob Heald to read the particulars from the Master's letter. This year it will be held at the Atlanta NW Marriott Hotel on Windy Hill Road with prices being the same as last year. A copy of the detail and pricing sheets are available from the Scribe or Comptroller.

Heald urged everyone submitting a Form 4 for their members to fill in the candidate's member number in the upper right hand line. They can't be processed without it.

Faithful Captain noted that the next Assembly meeting could not be held at St. Brigid on February 14th because of a conflict with Valentine's Day. A motion was made and passed to move the next meeting at St. Brigid to February 7th instead.

Faithful Captain called upon Al Garofalo to speak about a fund raising raffle now being used successfully at a new Assembly in Florida now headed by our former member, George Novak. It involves an annual raffle fund that grows with yearly purchase of a maximum of 200 tickets at \$20 each yielding \$4,000 and pays \$100 to the winner at each monthly meeting. The winner's name always goes back into the pot. He explained that the excess in the fund could be used for charitable purposes. He made a motion to investigate this concept. It was tabled until the New Business section of the meeting.

Faithful Purser Report

Sir Knight Rich Nielson reported that the opening checkbook balance for December 1st was \$1,869. During December bills totaled \$759 and income was \$117, yielding a December 31st balance of \$1,227. During the Assembly meeting, he was presented bills for \$214 and revenues of \$1,819. This yielded a final balance of \$2,832 at the January 10th meeting.



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Faithful Comptroller Report

Sir Knight Bob Heald reported that current Assembly membership is 172. We started with 178 members and six transferred to the new Assembly in Cumming. He expects a few more transfers that will bring our final total to about 165 or so probably. The April exemplification should easily bring us right back to our former number.

Committee Reports

Commander Report

Commander Joe Noa was not present, but Ernie Spencer announced that Honor Guards were being requested for 50th Wedding Anniversary celebrations in February for two Assembly members from All Saints, Jim Rainsford and Bob Morell. He also noted that the yearly Right-to-Life March at the Georgia State Capitol has never had an honor guard. He suggested that this was something that should be considered this year with short notice and every year. He said he would discuss these all with Joe Noa.

Captain Stryker asked for a show of hands from everyone in the room who was an Honor Guard. Most raised hands. He then asked rhetorically why the rest were not. He also noted that the Special Olympics Winter Games was near, but the state officers he asked did not seem to know where it was being held.

Patriotic Committee

Urban Rump reported that the Daughters of the American Revolution knit lap robes for the veterans and could use some money for their knitting supplies to augment their \$200 budget. Urban will be at the Veterans Hospital on February 14th and will take any clothes, magazines, or personal effects that are donated for their use.

He also reported that he sent an application to the USO for an orientation course for greeting returning veterans at the Atlanta Airport.

Communications

No report.

Religious Committee

Sir Knight Charles Langgood noted that he would like to resume the Matthew Kelly DVD series again at the next meeting. He also noted that he will try to get about 20 copies of the Matthew Kelly book "Rediscovering Catholicism" for the members.

Welfare Committee

No report.



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Entertainment Committee

Sean O'Neill announced that the DoubleTree Hotel was offering a banquet room for our Founders Day Ball. He suggested that Friday March 28th (just after Lent) would be best, because no such rooms were available on any Saturdays. A vote showed that Friday night was preferred.

This year's cost (\$35/person) would be less than last year when we had 44 attendees. A motion was made and passed that a deposit of \$500 would be sent to the DoubleTree Inn. The event will be open to all knights, not only fourth degree members. In fact, the event is open to all people who want to come. Every officer of the Assembly should try to get enough people to attend with him to fill a table of eight. Dress is formal with tuxedo and social baldric required for Assembly members. Non-fourth degree Knights would wear ordinary suits. A letter urging participation will go out to all Grand Knights. Pastors of all Assembly Councils will be invited without charge. Checks go to Bob Heald by Feb. 28th.

A speaker honorarium of about \$100 would be necessary, as well as some complementary meals for clergy.

Applications

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

Trustee Report

None.

New Business

Sir Knight Garofalo re-raised this motion regarding the raffle:

"I propose that we establish a raffle with a maximum of 200 tickets at \$20 apiece with a monthly prize of \$100, subject to the approval of the Sheriff of DeKalb County. The money would be allocated to the Veterans Committee for dispersal."

The motion was seconded and opened to discussion.

Garofalo had earlier suggested that the Wounded Warrior Project, the DAR, veterans groups, or other patriotic groups would make good recipients. An unanswered question is whether the recipient groups themselves must be 501(C3) charitable organizations.

During the discussion period, Sir Knight Greg Crnkovich suggested that we investigate whether we should limit sales to Assembly members and their families making it an internal raffle to put us on safer ground.

Sir Knight Bob Heald has cautioned that proper applications must be submitted to the Sheriff of DeKalb County and a written waiver must be received by us. The sheriff must understand what he is signing, since we are an insurance company and not a 501(C3).



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Discussion then followed whether or not the tickets could be sold outside DeKalb County. The consensus of unknown voices was that they could be sold anywhere as long as the raffle was held in DeKalb County.

The motion was called and the vote was passed with one nay vote.

There was no split-the-pot or attendance award.

3rd Degree Reports

All Saints – Greg Crnkovich reported:

- They granted up to \$3,100 for Sullivan Center repairs and \$650 for the parish Jamaica Trip.
- They will hold a Council Free Throw Contest and then a District Contest later.
- Two 50th Wedding Anniversaries will be celebrated.
- A second degree was hosted with 34 total candidates (22 from All Saints).
- A \$40,000 handicapped-access Sienna Van was presented to a paraplegic brother from community contributions.
- A Lenten Day of Reflection at Emory is planned. All welcome.

He apologized to the Commander and the Assembly if there is a perception that All Saints is scheduling Honor Guards outside the Assembly structure. Ernie Spencer opined that he does alert Joe Noa of upcoming Honor Guard events at All Saints and then follows up with an email about the results of same.

St. Andrew –

- Is making 44 small crosses to place outside the church entrance to signify the 44 million abortions already performed in this country.
- They will host a fund raiser for Southern Catholic College.
- A donation of \$500 was made to Right-to-Life.
- A social with the Women's Guild will be held with Archbishop Donoghue speaking.
- They will present a family of the month award later this month.

St. Brendan –

- Hosted the parking and ushering on Christmas Eve.
- They set up the church mangers and build an access ramp for Spiritual Life Center wheelchair access.
- They are installing air conditioning in the parish Knight's Hall.
- Pancake breakfast are about to begin. A Shiloh Road cleanup is scheduled.
- A Council Free Throw Contest is scheduled and fish fries begin shortly.



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St. Brigid –

- Provided 900 Christmas presents for 300 families.
- Provided a scholarship for the parish day school.
- Getting a golf cart to be used between the church grounds and the new rectory.
- Held a 3rd degree with 34 candidates (5 from their council).
- Participating in the Free Throw Contest Program.

St. Monica – No report.

St. Benedict –

- Held a Christmas Concert.
- Held an event for survivors of the Rwanda Holocaust massacre.
- Held a Council Christmas Party for 50 people.
- Gave 13 turkeys to SVDP.
- Had a very successful car raffle. Sold 732 tickets a \$100 each to raise \$73,200 dollars. Should yield about \$35,000 for charity in the parish.
- Getting ready for St. Patrick Day Party and also fish frys.

Good of the Order - Margaret Bledsoe sent a letter regarding husband Dick Bledsoe of the Assembly who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. Tim Russell, Bob Morell, Ernie Spencer's daughter, Mary, were also remembered.

The meeting ended at 8:45 with the usual ceremonials.