



Father Charles J. Watters Assembly 2688 Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2006

Presiding officer: Faithful Navigator, Dennis Klein

The meeting opened at 7:25 PM after a one-hour social. Faithful Navigator, Dennis Klein, asked the Faithful Pilot to confirm that all were in possession of a valid membership card. The appropriate officers recited the principles and duties of the Order.

The Faithful Admiral led the members in the Lord's Prayer.

The members said the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Faithful Navigator thanked everyone sincerely for electing him and saluted his predecessors. He pledged to make each meeting informative and pledged to visit member councils with permission of the Grand Knights in order to encourage more third degree members to move to the fourth degree. He praised the slate of officers that was elected as a fine one.

Roll Call:

Faithful Captain	Rick Langheim	Present	Faithful Friar	Msgr. Hugh Marren	Excused
Faithful Admiral	Ernie Spencer	Excused	Inner Sentinel	Benny Mastrogiovanni	Present
				Bill Lusk	Present
Faithful Pilot	Angelo Sampano	Present	Outer Sentinel	Jim Rainsford	Present
				Kirby Baden	Present
Faithful Comptroller	Bob Heald	Present	Trustee 3-year	Rick Sisko	Present
Faithful Scribe	Lou Hlad	Present	Trustee 2-year	Guy Stryker	Present
Faithful Purser	Rich Nielson	Excused	Trustee 1-year	Andy Diaz	Present

Faithful Scribe Lou Hlad read the minutes of the June 8 meeting and the minutes were approved with one slight correction.

The Faithful Friar report was bypassed, since Monsignor Marren was excused.

There were no bills or communications. Faithful Comptroller Bob Heald reported that the Assembly had 162 members with no new applicants.

Reports of the Committees

Honor Guard – Commander Joe Noa was not present, but the Faithful Navigator related that the Honor Guard had 11 members at the St Monica Installation of new Pastor Father Jack Durkin, an excellent turnout.

He also advised that he has instituted a sign-in book for all Honor Guard members at their functions in order to honor the top three that exhibit the most exceptional service. He stated that such service is an imposition on personal time and should be recognized and rewarded appropriately.

Patriotic Committee

Committee Chairman Urban Rump advised that he delivered the \$100 donation to the Veteran's Hospital and that it was much appreciated. The hospital has twelve young volunteers working there this summer and the donation can train two of them.



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SK Rump also attended a Fourth of July function at the Museum of Patriotism on Spring Street downtown and met two brothers from All Saints that are staff members. Urban asked if they would be receptive to the Assembly holding an off-campus meeting at their facility some evening, even though the museum is usually closed evenings. Catering could be arranged. It might be possible for one of our member councils to host the event that do not currently have adequate facilities to do so. FN Dennis Klein said it was a wonderful idea and should be pursued. A straw vote was taken and the vote was very favorable.

Rick Langheim then suggested that November might be an appropriate month to visit the museum, since Veteran's Day fall then. The membership agreed and that plan of action is being investigated further.

Communications Committee— no report

Religious – Committeeman Langgood was not present but is looking into religious activities in which the Assembly may participate.

Welfare Committee – no report

Entertainment Committee – FN asked everyone who was planning to attend the Installation Mass to get a firm headcount to Bob Heald for catering and to give him a check.

Trustees – no report

New Business

SK Andy Diaz spoke about the possibility of hosting a Spring NASCAR event to raise money, because the Councils usually work the Fall NASCAR event. Pay is \$7/hr for each participant, but workers must be there at 6 AM to get hospitality tent assignments and begin preparing breakfast for vendor guests.

It is very easy to generate \$700 to \$1000 doing this. Family and non-Knights may also participate. After serving lunch, workers are dismissed and may use their badges to enter the grandstand to watch the race or go home. Money raised would augment the Assembly budget. A straw vote was held and it was favorable.

SK Diaz will follow up with Brother Don Meyers of All Saints Council who handles their NASCAR activities.

Comptroller's Report

Faithful Comptroller Bob Heald relayed that he had already put a \$700 income line item from NASCAR into the preliminary budget. That money could be used for new projects like baking and sending cookies to the soldiers as discussed at the officers meeting. Another possibility for additional income could be a hospitality suite at the Fall exemplification.

He went through several budget items to explain his reasoning behind the items listed. The object is to break even on social events. The budget for pre-meeting food socials is shown as an increase. Buying another set of regalia is anticipated this year. SK Heald suggested that we might buy a chalice or two in advance to enable speedy gifts to needy priests. Bylaws limit three names of deceased Sir Knights engraved on one chalice. More deaths (heaven forbid) in a fraternal year would require more chalices.



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SK Rick Sisko suggested that a budget expense line item for Commander Joe Noa be added to compensate him \$200 for his gas and travel time. Comptroller Heald mentioned that he had meant to include that item. A voice vote was favorable to the idea.

Roundtable

A suggestion was made to bring new prospective members to some of our functions to acquaint them with the Assembly members and interest them in joining.

SK Lou Hlad suggested that software standards be adopted across the Assembly councils to allow computer information to be transmitted and newsletter articles to be transferred as desired. He also volunteered to take formal portraits of officers and committeemen for the web site. It was suggested that this be done at the Installation Mass when everyone was dressed suitably. There was agreement on this later point.

SK Rick Langheim suggested that each Council have a formally-designated liaison to the Assembly to funnel ideas and information back and forth. The idea was considered favorably.

SK Rick Sisko mentioned that Form 4 applications will now be included in the 3rd degree exemplification packets to ensure that new 3rd degree members can start moving immediately toward the 4th degree.

A suggestion was made that bringing third degree members to any special meeting we would have (like the November Museum of Patriotism in the fall) would be a great motivator. A social that included 3rd degree members was mentioned.

SK Bill Lusk (?) suggested an Assembly project to bake homemade cookies for the soldiers in Afghanistan as a patriotic goal. The mailing address and shipping procedures are known and such items are greatly appreciated by the troops. It would be a great social event in which wives could participate.

SK William O'Shaughnessy asked if we could get written confirmation that the waiting period to become a 4th degree Knight has been reduced from one year to six months. We have heard of the change, but have not seen it formalized.

William also mentioned that members of his St. Brendan Council are supposed to formally belong to the Lanier Assembly, but would prefer Watters. Individual Sir Knights are allowed to choose their Assembly, but reassigning Councils is a delicate matter that involves the District Master who prefers not to get involved at this time. Geography and travel time play a big part in Council assignments. Our Faithful Navigator is wary of the political problems involved in cross-Assembly activities and always seeks permission from the Master to speak to Councils outside our Assembly. Grand Knight O'Shaughnessy granted him permission to address St. Brendan at any time. (Laughter followed.)

It was suggested that we should get speakers from industry to address our Assembly and also priests to discuss how the priesthood is changing. The newsletter would be important in getting the proper number of people to come to hear any speaker. We are limited to 4th degree members at our meetings and this limits our ability to draw a larger crowd of Brother Knights who might be interested in special speakers. It was suggested that a social meeting could precede the business meeting or an abbreviated business meeting could precede the social meeting. It was noted that some of our own members can speak to our group on very interesting topics.

Grand Knight Greg Crnkovich of All Saints stated that 11402 had not had a Tootsie Roll Drive for two years and would be happy to coordinate such a drive with the Assembly to raise mutual funds. FN Dennis Klein noted that he was now the K



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of C State Chairman for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (the new name for the old Tootsie Roll Drive activity) and very interested in any such endeavor.

SK Benny Mastrogiovanni passionately suggested that the Grand Knights and Officers of the various councils must go out of their way to encourage people to join the 4th degree to inflate our ranks.

It was suggested that the Assembly members hold special events like Pot Luck Dinners or go out as a group with the wives to a restaurant. It was mentioned that All Saints had reserved rooms in restaurants for their Council and brought their wives and had a very enjoyable time. With special restaurant rates and limited menus for large groups, this could even be a moneymaker. A show of hands was favorable.

Split the Pot

SK Al Garafalo won \$26 (again).

Council Reports

St. Benedict – no report

All Saints –

- Held an Officer Installation Mass and reception, gave \$3700 to several charities, and has an Altar Server Outing scheduled on August 12th at the indoor rock climbing facility called Atlanta Rocks.

St. Brendan –

- Held an Altar Server Picnic giving out crosses and certificates, and they have a golf tournament coming up August 21st which is open to the Assembly. Contact Grand Knight Mike O'Shaughnessy.

St. Brigid –

- On Wednesday July 19th they will host the Second Annual Archdiocesan Seminarian Mass and Dinner. On Saturday July 22nd, St. Brigid will host the North Georgia Grand Knights Meeting. On Saturday July 29th they hold their Council Officer Installation.
- The Faithful Navigator thanked SK Rick Langheim for moving their Officer Installation back a week so as not to conflict with the Assembly Officer Installation.

St. Andrew –

- Held their Officer Installation on July 8th. Will host the Assembly Officer Installation Mass and reception on July 22nd.

The meeting closed with the recitation of the Symbols of the Order. An ***Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be*** followed. The National Anthem was sung as the closing ode.

(Respectively submitted by Faithful Scribe Louis Hlad, 10 Aug 2006)