Minutes of 02-12-2009 Watters Assembly Meeting

The February meeting was held at All Saints. The meeting commenced at 7:30 PM with usual ceremonials. Seven officers (Stryker, Kassis, Heald, Hlad, McKenzie, Sisko, and Pierson) were present. Members present were 31.

FN opened the meeting by recognizing a new transfer member, Ronald Campbell, to the Assembly. He was the founding Grand Knight of St. Benedict Council 10633 and was returning from Florida where he lived for three years. He is now a member of St. Brigid and a past Ceremonial Chancellor for a 1st degree team. He was welcomed back unanimously to applause.

The Faithful Scribe read an abbreviated version of the February minutes. He announced that they had also been sent electronically to the membership. The minutes were accepted with corrections.

Faithful Navigator Report

FN yielded the floor to Deacon Ray Egan to discuss the Sparta GA Catholic cemetery clearing project which is nearing completion. He gave a brief history of the original Catholic cemeteries in Georgia.

FN announced that Sir Knight' John Buchholz's mother had died and read the touching eulogy message that John wrote about his mom. And asked for prayers.

FN reiterated that there <u>will</u> be a Founder's Day Ball this year at the All Saints Social Hall on Saturday, March 28th at 7 PM. A catered chicken piccata dinner and a six-piece live band will be featured for \$35/person. He is inviting other Assemblies and also Councils to attend. All knights of all levels are invited. The dress coat is tuxedo or dark suit.

Bills and Communications

Bob Heald reported that he had received two bills —- \$162 for the evening's dinner (congrats to Joe Fuentes with applause) and \$22 for badges made. He announced that another \$972 in dues has been collected. We are doing very well in this regard.

Thanks to the membership committee and thanks to Abe Kassis for the email discussions on same that are ongoing.

Comptroller Report

Bob Heald reported that the current membership is 160, which is a loss of three and a gain of one. One of the losses was a death. Eight people have not paid for two years and will go off the roster soon.

Purser Report

Rich McKenzie reported that the opening January 1 checking balance was \$2,730. Monthly expenses of \$224 and monthly income of \$1,833 from dues and split-the-pot brought the January 31st balance to \$4,339.

Broken down by funds in the same checking account---veteran's raffle fund was \$1,098, golf ball fund was \$63, and the general fund was \$3,178 for a total again of \$4,339.

Welfare/Bereavement Report

FN asked Urban Rump to announce the passing of a brother. Rump announced to the Assembly that the brother who passed away on February 11th was Dick Bledsoe. He was a charter member of St. Benedict Council and remained in our Assembly after the split.

Rump suggested a spiritual enrollment card and perpetual adoration devotion from the Conyers monastery as a proper remembrance and asked if any others would like family members or friends remembered in this manner as well.

Patriotic Report

Dave Lemcoe announced there would be two \$100 patriotic raffles this meeting, because none was held last meeting. He also reported that the next date for greeting the troops at the airport with the USO would be April 15th.

He mentioned that our point of contact at Camp Victory is now gone and that contact will have to be re-established. He still needs donations for the VA hospital.

Rump announced that on February 3rd, the Assembly had greeted 85-90 returning troops from about 6:30AM - 2:00 PM at the airport. He said the USO gave us a much warmer welcome rather than the rather reserved one the first time. He reminded all to wear com-

fortable shoes and shirts with collars and no religious or social insignias. Military insignias are allowed, however.

On another topic, Rump announced that military suicides are increasing because of the continual rotations with the troops. More troops commit suicide than are killed in combat. They are usually listed as non-combat related deaths in the paper.

The first of two patriotic raffles for the evening was taken and Merv and Mary Burns won \$100. They are friends of Urban Rump.

Religious Committee

Chuck Langgood reminded the Assembly that the suggestion was made to partner with All Saints on their annual Summer retreat at the Simpsonwood Retreat Center in nearby Norcross, Details of the arrangements and date will be forthcoming from All Saints.

Chalice Report

A clarification will be made to see if Dominic Tran would be a proper recipient of a chalice. We should have a chalice on hand for the funeral of a brother we do not at this time.

Commander Report

No report, but Hlad mentioned that Monsignor Kiernan of All Saints would celebrate his 60th anniversary as a priest on Saturday, May 2nd and an honor guard would be appropriate. The 5 PM Mass would precede a giant parish outdoor catered picnic taking the place of the usual annual Hoedown with free food and beverages and entertainment. Honor Guard would, of course, be invited.

Membership Committee

FN called Matt Filla and Richard Kobylski forward to receive their official 4th degree certificates to applause. Several knights were heard to say that they had never received one.

Unfinished Business

Hlad displayed a stack of 120 packets that All Saints is sending out to those eligible of their 130 3rd degree members to encourage them to attend the 4th degree exemplification on Saturday, April 25th, at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Mableton. Each packet includes a welcome letter, the instructional letter with schedules and prices from the Master, a map showing a good store to buy a tuxedo, and a Form 4.

Trustee Report

None

New Business

Deacon Ray suggested a \$350 donation to buy 100 prayer books for the troops. The motion will be voted at the next meeting.

Split-the-Pot Prize split was \$31/\$31 dollars. Won by Mike Klimshuk

Second Patriotic Raffle

Ed Pierson won the second \$100 raffle.

Attendance Award

Matt Filla won the \$25 prize.

Third Degree Reports

<u>All Saints</u> (Lou Hlad) – going back to the Sparta cemetery for fourth time. Getting ready for 8 fish fry events. Homeless shelter evening on February 22nd. The District Free Throw Contest will be at All Saints on the 22nd as well.

<u>St. Andrew</u> (Charles Langgood) – Honor Guard for funeral Mass for daughter of one of their brother and Honor Guard for a Confirmation. Held a 1st degree. Holding a Winterfest Party for Southern Catholic College. Their Squire Circle will participate in their fish fry this year. Third degree coming up and a golf tournament is being planned.

<u>St. Brigid</u> (John) – Valentine Marriage renewal after 5 PM Mass followed by a spaghetti Dinner. Trial fish fry run for knights and families only, St. Patrick's Party on March 14th. For \$40.

Good of the Order

After the names were mentioned, Deacon Ray volunteered to visit sick brothers. Urban Rump suggested Bill O'Shaughnessy.

The meeting ended with the usual ceremonies.