

Minutes of September 8th 2011 Watters Assembly Meeting

The September Assembly Meeting was held at Mary Our Queen. It was the first Assembly meeting ever held at this venue. Future rotations are shown below:

St. Andrew...October...then moving to
~~St. Brigid...November...switched to All Saints~~
~~All Saints... December...switched to St. Brigid~~
Mary Our Queen...January...then repeating the rotation.

The pre-meeting rosary started at 6:15 PM. The social dinner followed immediately afterward. There were 32 members present.

The meeting started early at 7:28 PM with the usual ceremonials. The minutes of the last meeting were bypassed in lieu of the transmitted minutes. The roll call of officers was conducted. All present, except as noted.

Faithful Navigator-	Dick Kobylski	
Faithful Captain-	Chuck Langgood	
Faithful Pilot-	Ed Pierson	(excused)
Faithful Comptroller-	Bob Webster	(excused)
Faithful Admiral-	John Lewis	(excused)
Faithful Scribe-	Lou Hlad	
Faithful Purser-	Rich McKenzie	
Trustee 3 year term-	John Miles	
Trustee 2 year term-	Rick Langheim	
Trustee 1 year term-	Tom Mix	
Inner Sentinel-	Mike Klimshuk	
Outer Sentinel-	Bob Santos	
Faithful Friar-	Monsignor David Talley	(excused)
Faithful Commander-	Bob Mitchell	(excused)

Faithful Navigator's Report

FN mentioned that the next Assembly meeting can not be held at St. Brigid as planned due to a hall conflict. It is hoped that All Saints will trade months and hold the next meeting there.

FN had the honor of taking the Faithful Friar Msgr. Talley out to dinner and the Monsignor expressed regrets that his schedule does not allow him to attend Assembly meetings thus far, but he is trying to remedy that.

Friar Talley was most supportive of accepting the Our Lady of Guadalupe icon ASAP to St. Brigid for veneration, and he is most interested in setting up a Squires Circle at St. Brigid as well.

Bills and Communications

Faithful Purser McKenzie announced a bill payment of \$320 for the catered evening meal (applause for the quality). Donations of \$116 were received to offset that cost.

FN announced a "thank you" letter for the honor guard at a recent St. Brigid wedding from the family. He also announced a "thank you" letter from the family of deceased Sir Knight John Lynch of All Saints for the honor guard at his funeral. A spiritual Mass remembrance card was sent the family and they responded with a \$200 donation to the Assembly.

Our missionary, Gray Plunkett, writes the Assembly that he is back in Benin, Africa to pick up the translation of the Book of Exodus and his Jesus comic book into the Foodo language. He says that work progresses slowly on the paving of roads and improvement of bridges in his area during the rainy season. He hopes work is done by Christmas. He brought a wireless router with him and is seeing nice internet speed gains in communications. He now has WiFi connection as well. Skype works and he talks to his mom now. He asks continued prayers of the brothers.

Our brother, Ray Davis, writes that while he was waiting in a doctor's office for an X-Ray, he saw no less than seven wheel chairs with KofC logos on them. He says he has never been so proud to be a Knight (loud applause).

Comptroller's Report

Faithful Comptroller Bob Webster was excused and so there was no comptroller's report. It is assumed that the Assembly membership stays at 203. Bob will go over the new fraternal year budget at next meeting.

Purser's Report

The beginning Assembly cash balance on August 1st was \$5,293 with income of \$427 and expenses of \$235. The final balance as of August 31st was \$5,485.

The income figure of \$427 included a donation of \$200 by the John Lynch family for the Mass card and funeral honor guard provided by the Assembly. The family was very pleased with our remembrance.



John Lynch family poses with our honor guard on 7-09-2011.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Patriotic Initiatives

FN announced that at their last St. Patrick's Day Dance at St. Brigid , they were given four sets of PGA Golf Tournament tickets for the event held in Atlanta. The raffle proceeds from these ticket sales yielded about \$5,000 which will allow the purchase of about 100 wheelchairs. They are expected to be donated to the VA hospital and/or the Shepherd Spinal Center. The Assembly needs to do more interactions with the member councils to do more of these initiatives.

Dave Lemcoe reported that he continues Urban Rump's initiative to support the returning troops by aiding the USO at the Atlanta Airport. The next available date is Thursday, Dec. 29th, when Watters is scheduled to do a support day there. We would greet troops, direct them to the USO area, watch their valuables, and direct them to their planes.

Dave Lemcoe has volunteered to be the point man for the teams that are being organized for the "*Serving Those Who Served.*" initiatives that were identified last meeting. They were:

- Supporting the Catholic chaplains (chapel at VA hospital)
- Motivators at individual councils (Jon Bird and Doc Malone)
Adding participation at the council ranks will enable much more success. The councils and Assembly should be a common thread.
- Providing transportation for veterans who need it. FN said that Brother Nick D'Annunzio is a wonderful asset to use as a telethon person. He himself carries an oxygen tank with himself.
- Distributing toiletries and others items as coordinated efforts with the VA hospital.
- Coordinating with other organizations for donations and establishing a depot to store these items before delivering.
- Pet therapy for veterans. Bringing pets to the hospital to cheer them.

- Working with job participation outreach organization to help vets get jobs to become self-sufficient.
- Arts and crafts programs for injury therapy.
- Patient visiting (Doc Malone has stepped up there).
- Patient check-in help. Liaison to help vets wait for and see a doctor.
- Organizing and celebrating holidays, taking vets to picnics and ballgames, etc. (Doc Malone has again stepped up). We may have to do a fundraiser to get a transportation van or use member vans.
- Pat Callahan had recommended that we connect through the parish offices with parish families having members overseas . We need to know which families have members serving and help them. His VFW group has recently sent many packages to a group they have adopted. We need to do similar things.

FN noted that we should wear our council shirts for all these activities except at the Atlanta Airport where organization shirts are not allowed.

FN noted that getting liaison officers at each council would be needed to get a unified effort going across the board. He asked that individuals contact him directly at email address rmdkoby@bellsouth.net to give their thoughts or volunteer to captain one of these ministries.

Respect-for-Life Ad Hoc Committee Report

FN reported that Bill Dent has volunteered to take over this committee and FN had sent out some suggestions for simple things that could be done to promote these ideals. FN suggested:

- Working with various communities to organize honor guards for Masses for the Innocents most parishes have that are usually driven by parish women groups.
- Showing up at female abortion clinics to engage in silent prayer to dissuade abortions.
- We should support the KofC state raffle, since the funds go into sonogram machine purchase.
- Parishes without prayer gardens need our help to establish them with funds and work crews.

Social Committee Report

Charles Langgood noted that at the last meeting a proposal to foster an event with the wives was made---either a dinner night out or a wine and cheese tasting event. A show of hands at the meeting favored the wine and cheese tasting idea. There is a similar event planned for October 13th at All Saints that raises money for Monsignor Simon of Ghana. Any event of the Assembly will be separate.

The idea formulated thus far will be an event on Saturday, either in late October or early November, at St. Andrew Family Center after the 5 PM Mass. Chuck will contact local distributors who wish to showcase their wines to foster sales of cases. Wines are usually donated in these cases. The Assembly would furnish foods with the intent to break even on the cost of the evening with a modest ticket cost. It might be possible to schedule this as early as Oct. 22nd or 29th.

Unfinished Business

FN reminded all that the next 4th degree exemplification will be at 2 PM on November 12th at St. John Neumann Parish in Lilburn. The cost will be \$70 per candidates, \$10 for an Assembly badge, and \$40 for each additional banquet ticket. Bob Webster is to receive all completed Form 4 applications and checks. FN listed a number of 2nd and 3rd degrees to be held prior to that event. Go to gakofc.org for schedule.

Trustee's Report

None

New Business

none

Commander's Report

FN read the report submitted by Faithful Commander Bob Mitchell.

- As of today we have 25 honor guard commitments for the 9/11 memorial Mass at All Saints.
- Fourteen knights participated in the funeral Mass for Debbie LaFreniere, wife of the deacon at St. Brigid.
- At the memorial Mass for Gert Mullen, wife of Rich Mullen, at St. Andrew there were 15 Sir Knights.
- At the Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption there were 3 members from our Assembly who joined with other Assemblies.
- At the Mass of thanksgiving for the election of Bishop Hartmayer of Savannah there were nine knights from the O'Hara Assembly present.
- At the Our Lady of Guadalupe Icon ceremony at All Saints there were 12 participants.

FN asked Scribe Hlad for his comments on the outcome of the Guadalupe icon event at All Saints. Hlad opined that it had not been advertised in the church bulletin and parishioners were caught off guard by the honor guard ceremony, but the church was packed and it was well received. People came up to view the icon painting closely after Mass.

Fr. Bill Hao gave a nice introduction to the meaning of the ceremony at the start of Mass and praised his fellow knights. A series of 7 PM Masses will take place every evening followed by a rosary. Msgr. Marren led the rosary after the Tuesday evening Mass. Stan Wasowski was leading rosary tonight.

District Deputy Rick Langheim reported that the Guadalupe veneration came out of the Supreme Knight's directive at the national convention in Denver. There was very little lead time and All Saints was first to hold it. The icon will be moved to St. Thomas Aquinas, then Mary Our Queen, and then hopefully St. Brigid. Then it goes to Northeast Georgia.

Because it moves to successive District Deputies, St. Andrew may not get it very soon. St. Andrew is not under Rick Langheim.

Through eight events there have been 98 participants for honor guards. This averages over 12 per event. Last year there were only 73 participants through the first eight events. Upcoming events:

- The 9/11 memorial Mass at All Saints. Monsignor Marren wants two dozen participants.
- Oct. 1st - 50th/60th wedding anniversary event at St. Brigid at 2 PM.
- Oct. 8th - Honor guard for Special Olympics Softball League opener.
- Nov 2nd - Mass of Remembrance at St. Brigid 7 PM.
- Nov 5th - Confirmation at All Saints
- Nov 6th - Veterans Day Mass
- Nov 12th - Two confirmations at St. Brigid 10 AM and 2 PM
- Nov 12th - 4th degree exemplification at St. John Neumann

Reports of the 3rd Degree

Mary Our Queen (Santos)

Santos welcomed all the Mary Our Queen on behalf of Grand Knight Larry Heiman. He hoped that all had seen the visual presentation at the entrance showing the project to move the St. Gerard Basilica to Norcross.

- They had an officer installation with a successful breakfast,
- Their council will play a prominent support role for the parish picnic.
- They will host their first third degree in October in this very hall.
- To raise money for the St. Gerard project, they will sell engraved bricks to make a walkway to where the new church will be. Cost will be \$35.
- Fundraiser at Sweet Tomatoes Restaurant at Gwinnett Mall.
- The parish has a new deacon who immediately filled out a Form 100.
- Father Lyness, parochial vicar, will take his 3rd degree at their hall.
- At least three members will take their 4th degree this Fall.

FN added that the new 3rd degree is very moving and all knights who have not seen it need to do so.

St. Andrew (Lemcoe)

- Sponsoring 3 seminarians. One just became a priest (Charles Okeke) and is now assigned to St. Benedict. He was replaced by Charles Starr, a seminarian at Mount St. Mary's Univ. in Emmitsburg, MD.
- They have three new young 1st degree members and five 2nd degree.
- Having a blood drive with LifeSouth.
- Soccer skill competition to be held at end of month.
- Adopting a stretch of highway to clean up.
- Assisting parish picnic on October 16th. Will sponsor a golf game with pitching wedges.

St. Brigid (Wilson)

- Aug 12th - honor guard for LaFreniere event.
- Aug. 17th - 6 brothers took 2nd degree and one took both 1st and 2nd at Council 660.
- Aug. 20th - 8 brothers participated in St. Brigid Day playground refurbishing event spreading straw, mulch, and sand.
- Aug. 20th - one brother became 3rd degree at Holy Family Council.
- Aug. 23rd - seven brothers became 1st degree members. Three were from St. Brigid. Grand Knight Stan Wasowski complimented the St. Brigid team on their performance. A deacon from Mary Our Queen also became a knight.
- The council voted to increase annual dues from \$30 to \$40.
- Ten new members have been added since the fraternal year began. Total membership is 355 brothers.
- Aug. 25th - Dick Kobylski took Faithful Friar Talley to dinner. His endorsement of the Guadalupe icon devotion and the start of a Squires Circle was received at this dinner.

All Saints (Hlad)

- Held 1st degree. Five new brothers (one was Father David Daly, LC).
- Hosted a *Welcome Back to School* cookout at the Emory University Catholic Canter for brother Father Bryan Small.
- Hosted 20 parish altar servers at White Water Park.
- Hosted the Guadalupe icon for a week as described above.
- Provided McGivney Hall for Fr. Bill Hao's bereavement ministry.
- Sponsoring an annual Knight build day Oct. 1st for All Saints' 18th Habitat for Humanity House.
- Won our third International Award from Supreme for our Dunwoody Soap Box Derby event. Rick Sisko will present this award and our fifth consecutive Double Star Award at our Oktoberfest Picnic Oct. 16th.
- Holding Mass of Remembrance for 34 deceased brothers (6 this year) on Oct. 18th at 7 PM Mass. Honor guard requested.
- Holding 1st degree on last Tuesday of every month.
- Getting ready for Soccer challenge event.
- Participating in Special Olympics softball league Oct. 8th.

Good of the Order

- Prayers for all Brother Knights looking for assistance in finding jobs
- S K Brother Bob Webster ongoing medical treatments for his lungs
- S K Brother Nick D' Annunzio ongoing medical treatments for his lungs
- S K Brother Paul Buettner cancer treatment
- S K Brother Matt Cooper's wife treatment for breast cancer
- S K Brother Marty Wilson's wife Michele recuperating from surgery

- S K Brother Charles Robinson spinal stenosis (narrowing of the spinal cord causing pressure on the spinal cord)
- S K Brother Mike Nassar suffering with dementia
- Prayers for the repose of the soul of Debbie LaFreniere, wife of St. Brigid Council Brother Deacon Jim LaFreniere after a long fight with cancer.
- Christine Santos, wife of SK Bob Santos.
- S K Mike Klimshuk's grandmother.
- S K Joe Cavallaro with heart problems
- S K Mark Foster's two uncles
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- S K Dennis Klein's wife, Judy, viral infection.
- S K Ed Pavlik and wife Eleanor lost son, Christopher, 51

Split-the-Pot

\$25 to Tony Santoro

Attendance Award

B.J. Van Gundy was not present to win.

The meeting ended with the usual ceremonies at 8:30 PM.