

Minutes of September 14th, 2017

Fr. Charles J. Watters Assembly 2688 Meeting

The September Assembly Meeting was held at Mary Our Queen Parish Hall. Here is the schedule of future Assembly meetings:

St. Andrew.....October 12th
All Saints.....November 9th
Mary Our Queen.....December 14th

The rosary was recited before the meeting as usual. Dinner followed with a nice meal of pork loin, roasted potatoes, broccoli, salad, bread, cookies, and beverage. Frederic Alexandre was the chief cook and was thanked. There were 30 total Sir Knights in attendance.

The meeting began slightly early at 7:18 PM with the usual ceremonies.

There were no first time attendees present. FN announced that Bob Santos had a birthday in September and had received a birthday card. September wedding anniversaries were announced for Bob Mitchell (22) and Nick Mattera (41). Handshakes among all brothers were exchanged. The Faithful Captain, Bob Mitchell, lead the opening prayer.

FN then called for a reading of the past minutes. A vote called for acceptance of the last minutes as transcribed.

A roll call of officers yielded these results:

Faithful Navigator-	Nick Mattera
Faithful Captain –	Bob Mitchell
Faithful Controller-	Rich Tomaszewski
Faithful Admiral-	Stan Wasowski
Faithful Purser-	Dave Lemcoe
Faithful Pilot –	Jon Bird
Faithful Scribe –	Lou Hlad

Inner Sentinel-	Gary Romanick	(present but could not stay)
Outer Sentinel -	Jim Gonzales	(excused)

1 Year Trustee –	Bob Webster	
2 Year Trustee –	Chuck Langgood	
3 Year Trustee –	Dave Mason	(excused)

Faithful Friar—	Fr. Dan Rogaczewski	(excused)
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Faithful Navigator Report— Nick Mattera

My Fellow Worthy Sir Knights,

First, I want to thank each of you for your patience and your tolerance for last month's tardy meeting start. I know all of you are well aware somethings are unavoidable and last month's meeting was one of those situations. I also assure you our hospitality selection will not be that dismal again. I want to thank MOQ for the great dinner and hospitality tonight.

FN reminded all about the anniversary of 9/11 which is now 16 years ago. He witnessed the destruction first hand while in New York and can never forget it. He lost two dear friends.

FN asked if the assembly or even the individual councils have some kind of a "Brother in Need Fund". When he was a GK in New Jersey, he had access to such a fund that could help a brother pay off individual personal expenses when they were in dire need. FN wanted the Assembly to keep such a fund in mind. No vote a tonight's meeting, just a thought for the future. He had some ideas on how to fund it. Not a great amount of money, just a helping hand. Bob Webster opined that the councils already had such funds in their bylaws. FN mentioned that the recent needs of Deacon Ken Melvin's daughter made him start thinking about this.

FN mentioned the fact that Monsignor Marren strongly opined at the last All Saints Council Meeting that the knights were not supporting the parish sufficiently. FN reminded all that the knights have a charter to support the clergy.

We addressed the topic of the new uniforms for the 4th Degree. I agree with you 100%. I am opposed to changing to military uniforms as well, and for all the same reasons that were discussed in the meeting. When we first became Knights, we all took an oath to abide by the decisions of our Supreme officers. The fact that we were not advised or consulted really makes no difference. We are 4th Degree Knights and we stand behind the patriotic duty of our Order. The wearing of regalia is only one facet of what we do. My thoughts if our Bishops and priests request the Knights to be dressed in traditional regalia... that is what we should do.

There was a motion that was voted on and approved by the Assembly, that we draft a 'Respectful' letter to our state deputy expressing the concerns of our assembly regarding the new uniforms. Sir Knight Bob Webster has prepared a preliminary draft letter that we will share and discuss who we will direct it toward.

FN is looking for at least 2 more Sir Knights to work with him and Jon Bird on the Charity Committee that gives out our charity funds.

Congratulations Sir Knights!! We made mention in the August edition of Columbia Magazine. For educating our parishioners on our Military Chaplain Fund and being able to donate \$10,000 toward this fund.

Faithful Comptroller Report - Rich Tomaszewski

1. We have \$16,692 (and \$5854 from golf fund of that is set aside for patriotic events from last year).
2. We have 202 members (2 not paid)
3. There is a 4th degree ceremony on Sat Nov. 4th at St. Monica. We have two candidates so far. Please try to get others and get the forms and money to me. Lyle Johnson is our latest candidate. He is a member of St. Andrew and was voted in as a prospective member at this meeting. Sir Knights Abe Kassis and Dennis Klein spoke glowingly of his credentials. He bought his own regalia about a month ago (laughter).
4. IRS Report is due
5. Annual Audit Report is due
6. Rich has joined the Chalice Committee in place of Dave Mason. He and Ed Pierson will meet with Deacon John Klein (member of All Saints) who will become a priest in December in Rome.

Faithful Purser Report— Dave Lemcoe

					9/1/2017				
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE 7/31/20:					\$ 16,546.38				
RECEIPTS									
50/50				\$ 50.00					
EXEMPLIFICATION				\$ -					
BANK CHARGE				\$ -					
DUES									
FOOD DONATIONS				\$ 144.00					
SUB TOTAL RECIEPTS					\$ 194.00				
					\$ 16,740.38	GOLF FUND			
EXPENSES						NET INCOME		\$ 15,899.00	
BANK CHARGE				\$ -		DONATIONS			
BADGES				\$ -		FISHER HOUSE		\$ (2,500.00)	
MEET FOOD/BEV						PHOENIX FOUNDATI		\$ (2,000.00)	
CHALICE FUND						WREATHS ACROSS A		\$ (1,500.00)	
REGALIA				\$ -		ROSARY FOR VETS		\$ (250.00)	
AWARDS				\$ -		BATTLE CROSS		\$ (1,488.00)	
COLOR CI				\$ -		BATLE CROSS PEDES		\$ (800.00)	
EXEMPLIFICATION				\$ -		BATTLE CROSS MISC		\$ (244.72)	
SUPPLIES				\$ (47.96)		BATTLE CROSS FR. R		\$ (100.00)	
BATTLE CROSS				\$ -		BATTLE CROSS SUPP		\$ (161.99)	
SUB TOTAL EXPENSES					\$ (47.96)	T. BURLEIGH--LOURE		\$ (1,000.00)	
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE 8.31.2017					\$ 16,692.42				
						TOTAL DONATIONS		\$ (10,044.71)	
OUTSTANDING DEPOSITS/(EXPENSES)						BALANCE OF FUND T		\$ 5,854.29	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING CHECKS/DEPOSITS									
CHECK BOOK ACCOUNT BAL					\$ 16,692.42				

Faithful Scribe Report—Lou Hlad

No report (applause)

Ad Hoc Widows Committee—Lou Hlad

- Two widows played BINGO at Council expense this month.
- All Saints is now sponsoring a new program called *Knights Helping Widows* with a small staff doing odd jobs for widows around their homes. Sir Knight John Shaffer is coordinating. No action yet.
- We received a list of the St. Andrew widows and they will be integrated into our invitation list for our October Deceased Knight Mass on Oct. 10th at All Saints. All widows will be remembered for the first time at this ceremony. Some of our widows are deceased as well.

Social Committee Report—Chuck Langgood

Chuck is coordinating a date with the St. Andrew staff for a good date to hold our Assembly Picnic. October events at All Saints and St. Andrew have made it nearly impossible to schedule an October Assembly Picnic, so we are driven into November. But Saturday November 11th is Veterans Day with Masses at All Saints and St. Andrew and November 18th is the special honor guard event at Fr. Hao's Holy Name of Jesus Parish kickoff. So November is iffy because of dates and weather.

FN chimed in that maybe we should all go out in the evening to a play or a dinner with the wives instead of a picnic. He is looking at prices in the \$18-\$19 range for our members. He will let us know next meeting. If anyone has an alternative idea, he will entertain the notice. We can get group prices at some events (like *A Christmas Carol* at the Fox Theater.)

The format will be similar to last year's success with fun, food, and games for all. If anyone would like to help plan it, they would be most welcome.

Patriotic Report—Jon Bird

Jon related that he had been looking for a color guard for an Army Reunion Event he is helping to manage. He thought of the color guard for our Battlecross event. He has gotten the Johns Creek Vietnam Color Guard to participate in the event at the Atlanta Westin Hotel.

There is a Vietnam War Commemoration Committee in Washington. They will be awarding 50 year pins remembering the end of the war. Jon asked for a list of Vietnam War vets so that he can get them pins.

Chalice Committee Report - (Ed Pierson)

Ed Pierson was not present, but he has a new potential recipient in Fr. Bradley Starr. He is also researching the two new RSVP deacons from All Saints, Dcn. John Klein and Dcn. Jack Knight. They become priests this year. He will have lunch with Deacon John Klein (a member of All Saints) who becomes a priest this December in Rome. Rich Tomaszewski takes the place of Dave Mason on the chalice committee with Ed Pierson.

We will need additional chalices because of the sad backlog we now have. If we present a solitary chalice for a priest, we now have potential names for three additional chalices.

- **Presented** to Fr. Ceballos, a **travel chalice** with the names:
Anthony Allan Kosek passed 12.25.2014 (All Saints)
Charles J. Robinson passed 12.30.2014 (St. Andrew)
- **Presented** to Father Roberto Suarez, a **chalice** on Nov. 3rd.
James Edward Lamb passed 3.5.2015 (St. Andrew)
Richard (Doc) Malone passed 6.12.2015 (All Saints)
Michael A. Nassr passed 10.31.2015 (St. Andrew)
- **Presented July 16th to Fr. Bryan Kuhr—Travel Chalice**
Dennis M. Crean passed 11.1.2015 (All Saints)
Thomas Templeton passed 5.1.2016 (All Saints)
- **Awaiting Future Chalices**

Fr. Joseph M. Peek passed	3.14.2016	(All Saints)	(solitary chalice for a priest)	#1
Guy E. Stryker passed	9.26.2016	(All Saints)		#2
William O'Shaughnessy	1.11.2017	(St. Brendan)		
Robert Heald	3.12.2017	(All Saints)		
Patrick J. Callahan	5.18.2017	(All Saints)		#3
PFN George P. Novac	5.31.2017	(All Saints)		
One open spot on potential third chalice				

Color Corps Commander Report—Bob Mitchell

Future Honor Guards

Oct. 10th –All Saints *Deceased Knight Remembrance* at 7 PM Mass. About 70 deceased brothers will be remembered.

Oct. 22nd—Unconfirmed groundbreaking ceremony for new MOQ church building.

Nov. 19th – Fr. Bill Hao – *Dedication of the Holy Name of Jesus Chinese Church*

There will be an Honor Guard competition early next year. It will take practiced at length with no more than 6-10 people. There will be tryouts. About 8-10 Assemblies will participate.

Bob Santos mentioned that he will give a pair of Falcons tickets and a pair of Gladiator Hockey tickets to Sir Knights that participate in the most events through the end of the year.

Trustee Report—Bob Webster

No report.

Unfinished Business

FN brought up the topic of the new regalia uniforms. He mentioned the strong sentiment against them. We did take an oath to follow our superiors in the Order, so that is a strong consideration. Last month we expressed a desire to draft a strong but respectful letter to our state officers stating our opposition to the new uniforms.

Bob Webster and Stan Wasowski have prepared a preliminary draft now in front of you. He read it to all. It will be sent to the State Deputy, the Master, and as many state officers as possible.

Bob Santos mentioned that the Knight of St. Peter Claver have been made to change their uniforms and now look like Shriners. Dennis Klein mentioned that having been a knight for 60 years, he has seen regalia changes in the chapeaus and the removal of tails from the tuxedos, but nothing this severe. He is strongly against the radical change.

Wulf Lindenau rose to state that he had called the Supreme office to voice his concern and was directed to a woman who had the misfortune to handle these concerned brothers. She said that all knights had been notified by email long ago about the change. No one in our group had received it. Wulf opined that the Supreme Knight and his 35 member board of directors had not been elected by us. It had been said that they agonized for two years over this decision. He mentioned that the military was doing away with berets just as we are going to them.

Bob Santos suggested that we send a letter to the Executive Vice President of the Order rather than the Supreme Knight. Bob Webster suggested we contact the three pastors of our Assembly to contact the Archbishop. Gray Plunkett suggested we contact our clergy first. Hlad mentioned that Monsignor Marren is ready to lend his weight against the new regalia.

Stan Wasowski mentioned that proper protocol states that we send any letter to our State Master (one level above) and then cc the world. Hlad asked for an electronic copy of the letter after it is proofread.

New Business

FN mentioned that he would like to have an Assembly dinner at Aldo's for \$18/person on Sunday Oct. 8th. It was brought up that Oct. 8th is the All Saints Oktoberfest Picnic and that would not work. FN is going back to the drawing board on this idea.

Bob Mitchell noted that his wife had created a new kc2688.org web site that was operational. Instructions for registering on the web site would be going out soon.

On the 19th of June 2017 with 75 members and 13 charter officers, the newest Father Charles J. Watters Assembly #3728 was chartered in St. Mel's Catholic Church; in Norco, CA. We now have a brother assembly on the west coast..... Congratulations #3728. We have been in contact with them.

Mary Our Queen (Mike Baylot)

- Dinner thast was scheduled for last month was postponed until October.

St. Andrew (Chuck Langgood)

- Attained Star Council status for FY 2016/2017.
- Starting an Alpha Program for small parish faith groups.
- Installation of council officers and dinner was held on August 9th w/ new DD Mike McDonough.
- Planning for our normal Fall Festival activities including distribution of food baskets.
- We have reactivated and updated our web site. SK's Bill Leach and Ralph Trujillo are leading this and Ralph will be the webmaster.
- Holding a 1st Degree ceremony on September 29th.

All Saints (Lou Hlad)

- Anita Mitchell has rewritten our Council Web Site **KC11402.org** and is now rewriting the Assembly web site. Both are housed on Sir Knight Steve Strong's home server, so there is no monthly service charge.
- Our brother John Gannon runs the **Monthly Adoration for The Unborn** at All Saints in our Lady Queen of the Knights Chapel. John scheduled the visitors throughout the night of September 1st/2nd as he does every month.
- Our council had its Officer Installation. Our District Deputy, Sir Knight John Knight, District Warden Sir Knight Lou Hlad, and Sir Knight Monsignor Marren facilitated the ceremony.
- Our council supported the **Fifth Sunday Rosary** after the 10:30 Mass. One of our members leads the rosary.
- Our brother Matt Allen runs the coffee and donuts concession Sunday Masses in the Social Hall.
- Sir Knight Bryan Kler managed the annual **Altar Server Outing** at White Water Park. The Council pays the entrance fees for the kids.
- An honor guard with 28 members was held at All Saints on the Feast of the Assumption August 15th. Thanks for all who attended. Sir Knight Father Anthony Eshun visiting from Ghana insisted on participating in his first honor guard and he was a riot.
- Sir Knight Bryan Kler also managed the Monthly Family Movie at McGivney Hall. Snow White was shown.
- Sir Knight Bob Fiscella managed Council providing of food services at the **Dunwoody Butterfly Festival** on Aug. 19th. Over 1,000 sandwiches were provided. About 3,000 people attend.
- The **Assembly Officer Installation** was held at all Saints Church on August 19th including the **Blessing of the Swords**. Former Master Tom Frizzi and Monsignor Marren facilitated that event.
- Council supported the **Parish Ministry Fair** on August 19th with an information table at all Masses that weekend.
- Monthly Bingo run by the brothers had 165 players.
- We exemplified two new brothers on Aug 29th at McGivney Hall. Four other brothers for other councils also joined.
- Two of our RSVP seminarians became deacons and are on track to become priests. They are candidates for chalices.
- We have an 18-wheeler coming on September 23rd with 3,000 pumpkins for Halloween.
- We have a 2nd degree scheduled September 26th at McGivney Hall. All invited.
- Our parish is building its 24th **Habitat House** and the council will provide the work on September 30th.

Good of the Order

The running list has been carried from past meetings:

The Prayer List had several people on our list from last month. Dennis Caniglia, Andy Diaz, Linda Sperick, Wiley Maloof, Bill Campbell's wife Linda, Mike Smith's daughter Courtney Hertel, Jan Gahalni, Steve Smith, Janet Belinsky, Jessie Blair, George Petrukovich, Tom Stump, and Ron Collins' wife Jackie, Msgr. Kiernan, Margaret Plunkett, Nancy Dill, Mike D'Errico, Lauren Echols, Jim Snoddy, John Barranco, Mary Jo Westbrook, Frank Farrell's wife Jean, Joy Fahey, Peter Leibowitz, Deborah Blair, Mary Cross, Gordon Stintz, Marty Dough, Danny Medina, Dennis Klein, Don Hauser, Adrian Toolan, Judy Klein, Randy Hines, Ted Throne, Olga Waltering, Kathy Harvey, and Mary McCallen, Tom D'Errico, Harvey Moskowitz, James Ambrose, Danny Ross, Orfeo Trombetta Sr., Stephen Powell, Carolyn Lively, Bill Camden, Julie Kassis, Larry Aston, Loren Echols, Bill Driscoll, Les Washington, George Swartz, Abe Kassis, Fr. Dan McCormick, John Petrukovich, Tom Hoover and Debra Webster.

Please keep these wonderful Brother Sir Knights and their family and friends in your prayers. Please pray for our countries new leaders that they will lead us in the direction that our Lord asks of us. Please pray for the men and women in the military that are fighting for our freedom and religious rights and for all the Christian refugees in the Mid-East.

Please pray for our Clergy.

Special prayer requests were also added for:

- Gray Plunkett requested prayers for a priest in Togo who had passed.
- Walt Gauthier had successful hip surgery and Bob Santos asked recovery prayers.
- Bob Santos asked prayers for himself as he travels to Florida for disaster relief.
- Dennis Klein asked prayers for his daughter Debra taking a new MS wonder drug.
- Stan Wasowski asked prayer for cousin Dan French.

Split the Pot

Woody Jones won \$60 in the split-the-pot raffle. And donated it to Deacon Ken Melvin's daughter fund.

Attendance Award

Attendance Award won by Vincent Annaloro. He was not present and is thought to have now moved to Florida.

Meeting End

Stan Wasowski and FN said the closing prayers. Gray Plunkett led the Assembly in *God Bless America*.

Letter Regarding New Regalia

Dear Brother Knights,

Assembly 2688 based in Dunwoody, Georgia includes three Parishes in the Atlanta Metropolitan area, with over 200 Sir Knights. We pride ourselves as one of the most active and Charitable Assemblies in the country. We are extremely active in support of our Parish needs as well as support to our sister Parish ministries. We approach 50 Honor Guards per year as requested by our Pastors, our Archbishop and Community.

Our Assembly members were shocked to learn of the Executive decision reached with respect to the Patriotic Order's ceremonial Regalia. We were equally shocked and saddened by a directive to not provide critical feedback beyond our District. We were advised that, it being a done deal, there should be no escalation of comment. This is contrary to our normal process allowing free and open communication. In response, our membership then present in the Assembly monthly meeting, voted unanimously, with one abstention, to nevertheless, provide written feedback.

A number of our senior Clergy were equally concerned about this change and expressed their desire for continuation of our participation in the current Regalia which is recognized and well received by our fellow Parishioners, and in particular our First Communion and Confirmation candidates. Non-Catholics attending funerals when we are present as a Guard of Honor on watch are greatly impressed and thankful for our respect to the soul of the deceased. Often busy young fathers are drawn to the Order when they witness our selfless contributions.

Yes, our Fourth degree Brothers are more senior, not only in experience, but also in average age. When we were younger often our family responsibilities, Parish ministries, work, travel and relocations inhibited our progression to Knighthood in the fourth degree. We believe that a Sports Jacket, Slacks, Tie and Beret will not alter those factors. The current Regalia are well recognized and, at least in our area, do not pose an impediment to recruitment into or participation in the fourth degree.

We would suggest that consideration be given this Uniform to first, second and third degree Knights. Counsel often purchase, shirts, sweaters and sometimes jackets to have a common look in their Council. In one of our Parishes, our brother Knights serving as Acolytes wear Grey Slacks, Blue Jacket and a distinctive Knights of Columbus tie as they serve at the Altar. They can buy all but the tie anywhere at reasonable cost. An embroidered emblem can be attached at reasonable cost.

In summary, we respectfully disagree with the premise that this change is "Good for the Order". It may be the inverse, as we work in support of our Parish and our Church Ministries.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of our concerns.

Vivat Jesus ,

Fr. Charles J. Watters Assembly 2688

Assembly Blessing of the Swords



Every year after the Officer Installation of our Fr. Charles J. Watters Fourth Degree Assembly, a special "Blessing of the Swords" ceremony is held. Sir Knights Monsignor Marren and Deacon Ed Krise did the honors. Former Master of the Fourth Degree, Tom Frizzi, was on hand to perform the Officer Installation itself. All brothers should prayerfully consider advancing to join the fourth degree Assembly to be fulfilled as a Knight. This group is the most visible arm of the Order and is beloved within the Church.

Father Anthony ala Honor Guard



Before our own Sir Knight Father Anthony Eshun returned to Ghana, he wanted very much to participate in his first honor guard ceremony. He got his wish on the Feast of the Assumption on August 15 when the Watters Assembly held a special honor guard at the Mass for the visiting bishop from India. Father was one of our 24 honor guard participants and he couldn't have been prouder. Commander Bob Mitchell presented him afterward with a donation from the Watters Assembly. At the reception following, Father sang for the diners. We will miss that man.

More Knight Photos from August



Showing the impressive honor guard for the August 15th Feast of the Assumption at All Saints Parish. Father Anthony Eshun was featured in the center of the front row. Two bishops celebrated the feast day and welcomed the Catholic community from India.



Sir Knight Nick Mattera (left) is escorted by Sir Knight Joe Mitchell to receive his medallion as new Faithful Navigator of the Fr. Charles J. Watters Assembly 2688.



Winners of Appreciation Awards All.

Joe Inglima was not present and will likewise receive an award.

Dave Mason also received a Knight of the Year Award.

Adopt-A-Cop Project Renewal



**The Adopt-A-Cop ministry is a prayer program.
It provides the opportunity for ALL law enforcement officers
EVERYWHERE
to be prayed for on a daily basis.
Are YOU signed up to pray for one?**

The goal of Adopt-A-Cop is to assign law enforcement officers to a family, group, or individual who will pray daily for them and send a note of encouragement, support and a thank you for their service to the community.

Imagine the powerful difference you can make in the lives of those who put their lives on the line for us everyday! While a bulletproof vest gives a level of protection for our law enforcement officers, an even greater blessing and shield of protection can be found in the power of a faithful, praying believer or group of prayer warriors.

Besides the obviously high physical risk in their profession, officers also have a risk of becoming cynical, feeling hopeless, having relationship problems, succumbing to alcohol abuse and even becoming suicidal. The divorce and suicide rates among those in law enforcement are well above the national average.

"I urge then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and for all those in authority that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." – 1 Timothy 2: 1-2 (NIV)

Praise God!

Adopt-a-Cop is growing rapidly. It is amazing to see God at work.

This ministry is now represented in 20 states.

It is with the hard work, dedication and prayers of those involved that this ministry will continue to provide the protection our Law Enforcement Officers need.

Send an email to our Sir Knight Deacon Ray Egan at dekeray@aol.com to be assigned an officer to pray for and encourage.