



Knights of Columbus
FOURTH
DEGREE
Patriotic degree of the Order.



Fr. Charles J. Watters

Assembly 2688

Faithful Navigator's Report July 2018

My Worthy Fellow Sir Knights,

First Off: To our Brother Knights at St. Andrew's Church, thank you for hosting our June 2018, 4th Degree meeting. Your gracious hospitality and supplied dinner was most appreciated.

Hard to imagine one full year has gone by and you guys still deem me worthy of the position of Faithful Navigator, for that I really appreciate that thought and all the support you have provided to our Assembly.

We start a new Fraternal year and now that I think I have gotten my 'feet wet' to this position I would like to push forward in the good works we do and can do.

Our Financial picture is a 'little shaky' meaning we have funds collected from our yearly dues but our membership has declined a bit. We still show on the 'positive' side of the balance sheet but leaves us with very little 'wiggle' room to do any donations we may seem fit to do. I am hoping to start some kind of a fund raiser to generate some funds so that we can be pro-active in support for our Veterans, as well as continued receipt of funds moving forward in future years. Some of my thoughts (as expressed at our meeting) is to start out with something small and possibly grow it in to a yearly event, or possibly quarter even monthly. One thought that has worked for me in the past (in NJ) was a 'Flea market' / Craft Fair/ Vendor Festival or whatever marketing name we assign it. This is a very low amount of work required for our membership to do and can bring in \$1,000 - \$2,000 per event. If successful this can become a continued event and can be had at each of our parishes. I also have no issues with a combined event with each council on this. I will discuss this and other possible suggestions with our Fund Raising committee. Needless to say if any Brother Knight has a suggestion, you are more than welcome to suggest it to me and then join us on our Conference call.

As mentioned above. Membership is down for whatever reason. Maybe we are not promoting ourselves to our 3rd Degree Brother Knights? Possibly, they do not hear or know what we do to a point where it sparks an interest in them.... I believe the only item that is visible is when we perform our Honor Guards. With your help, I am hoping we can change that image.

....If I am starting to sound like a politician ... STOP READING THIS.... Hopefully you won't.

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to Sir Knight Richard Tomaszewski for the outstanding job he did as our Faithful Comptroller during the 2017-2018 year. A 'behind the scene' position that kept our Assembly financially afloat, supplied Supreme with budget reports and giving us the 'Green light' to support our Veterans and other charities.

A well appreciated 'Thank you' Rich.

We definitely need to start planning for our Military Chaplin Fund Drive. If there is any worthwhile fund raiser we do, this is one we should put out efforts in. We did not have a separate Fund drive for this last year, we just gave monies that were left over from our golf outing and now those funds are gone.

I am looking for members of each council to approach their pastors and get the pastor's approval for our Military Chaplin Fund raiser. For one weekend, we would be in regalia and collecting at all the masses. I would be available to do pulpit announcements at each of the churches, if permitted.

Finally I need to mention that believe it or not, as of our past June meeting there were still 16 Sir Knights that have not paid their 2018 membership dues. If you are in that 'elusive' group I am asking you to please fulfill your 4th degree duty and pay your dues.

Enjoy and God Bless all our Sir Knights and their families.

Nick Mattera

Faithful Navigator # 2688