

## **Faithful Navigator's Report – July 2020**

Worthy Sir Knights,

The first meeting of our new Fraternal year was scheduled to take place on Thursday night, July 9<sup>th</sup> at All Saints in Dunwoody. My hope was that we could return to face-to-face gatherings, including dinner meetings, for the first time since March. Unfortunately, with the recent and significant increase in COVID-19 cases here in Georgia, this seems ill-advised.

With input from several of our Assembly's officers, I've decided that, for the health and safety of our aging membership, we will continue to postpone face-to-face gatherings, at least until August. Therefore, our meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>, rather than being in-person, will remain virtual. Hopefully by early August, the progress in reducing the number of new cases of COVID-19 will return, allowing us to meet in person.

We've had a good turnout for the first two virtual meetings, and I hope we can increase the participation level for this meeting. We will start with the rosary at 7:15 PM, led by our Faithful Scribe Lou Hlad, followed immediately by the business portion at 7:30 PM. I anticipate a short meeting, since elections are behind us, and we have little to discuss regarding upcoming activities. If you have anything for the Good of the Order, please email those to me in advance.

S.K. Steve Strong has issued instructions for logging in to the meeting (and will reissue them again before next Thursday). For those with computer access (hopefully, with camera and microphone capabilities), PLEASE JOIN US FIVE TO TEN MINUTES EARLY, in case you run into any difficulties (it's a very straightforward and simple process to gain access).

The highlights of the instructions are:

Using the link Steve provided, <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/824-015-476>, you will be directed to a screen asking for your name and your email address. This will allow us to verify that you are an Assembly member and permitted to be on the call. You will be asked if you want to set-up your own freeconferencecall.com account – feel free to say 'No'. You do not need to verbally state your name when requested, as long as you have typed in the information. You incur no cost to join this call via the link provided.

For those without computer access, a long-distance call-in numbers was provided in Steve's email. Your cellphone provider may make it a free call, but your landline probably won't. Please use the phone number access method only as a last resort. If joining the meeting by phone is your only option, when instructed, please state your name, since we have no other way of identifying you.

At Thursday's meeting, we will welcome our three, newly-elected officers. Joe Thibadeau has replaced Rich Tomaszewski as Purser, Robert Svoboda has replaced Terry Petrukovich as Inside Guard, and Ed Pierson is the new Three Year Trustee, filling the void created by Dave Mason's retirement. Please join me in thanking those who served our Assembly so well in the

2019-2020 Fraternal year, as well as welcoming those who have stepped up to serve in 2020-2021!

With regard to our officers, the formal installation ceremony was scheduled for last Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, Stan Rapciewicz, our Worthy District Master, decided to cancel ALL in-person installations throughout the State of Georgia, and instead, ordered that we are officially installed, by his executive order. While the installation ceremony is very moving, especially for those becoming officers for the first time, Stan's decision is in line with guidance from the Supreme Master and the Supreme Knight. I hope we'll be able to invite Stan to a meeting later this summer or early fall, to thank him for his support over the past four years, and possibly, to welcome our new (as yet unnamed) new District Master at the same time.

Please begin thinking of ways we, as Fourth Degree Sir Knights of Columbus, can show our Patriotic support for those who have, or are, serving in the military. All ideas are welcome. It would be great if we could do behind-the-scenes planning now, so that as COVID-19 becomes less and less of an issue in our daily lives, we will be ready to implement some beneficial ways of demonstrating our Patriotism. Giving away a few thousand dollars in donations, as we did this past year, is okay, but I believe we can do more to support our troops!. Feel free to call me with any ideas or email them to me.

I again hope that each of you, your families, and friends remain safe and healthy during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. This is still a stressful time for us all. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Even if you disagree with recommendations such as wearing a mask when in public, please consider doing so, for the good of those around you. You may object to wearing it, but those of us with various risk factors greatly appreciate you thinking of us when you put the mask on!

I look forward to "seeing" many of you on Thursday night.

Vivat Jesus,

S. K. Bob Mitchell  
Faithful Navigator  
Father Charles J. Watters Assembly 2688