

Faithful Navigator's Report – May 2021

Worthy Sir Knights,

Elections for Assembly officer positions were originally scheduled to take place during the May meeting. However, delays in filling the proposed slate of officers led the Nominating Committee to ask that elections be postponed until June. A full slate has now been created and is ready for distribution. You will note that my name is not part of the slate.

At the April meeting, with few candidates stepping forward to assume some of the more senior positions, I asked if the current Faithful Captain, Faithful Admiral, and Faithful Pilot would join me in standing for election for another year. All agreed to do so. However, subsequent to the meeting, I had my third rotator cuff surgery and learned that my recovery would take longer than I had anticipated. More importantly, I also learned that my wife Anita would require her third and fourth back surgeries in mid-June, shortly after I completed six weeks in a sling, and prior to me starting any physical therapy. Anita's recovery is expected to last six months, and will not be successful without a great deal of physical support from me.

My recovery is one thing. However, being available to care for Anita for her extended recovery is the most important thing to me. As a result, I notified the Nominating Committee of the circumstances, and officially withdrew my name from the slate. With great cooperation from Faithful Captain Nick Mattera and his willingness to return for a third year as FN (and his second time, following a two-year absence) and the Nominating Committee making some other adjustments (including Trustee Chuck Langgood foregoing his automatic advancement to the One-Year Trustee position and deciding to run for his third stint as Faithful Captain), I am confident that our Assembly is poised to boldly move forward into the 2022 Fraternal Year. I thank the current officers and the new additions to the slate for their support and commitment to keeping our Assembly strong!

Our May meeting will take place this Thursday, May 13th in the former sanctuary at Mary Our Queen Catholic Church, 6260 The Corners Parkway, in Peachtree Corners. The huge room permits easy social distancing, to keep everyone safe and healthy. The business for the night will be highlighted by the Nominating Committee formally announcing the slate of candidates, and they will solicit additional nominations from the floor.

Even though many of us are fully vaccinated, masks are still required for those attending the meeting in person. The entrance to the meeting area is through the covered walkway opposite the entrance to the new church. Once inside, immediately turn right into the former sanctuary. Parking is available in the same parking lot we previously used when attending meetings in Kiernan Hall.

We are still limited to prepackaged snacks and beverages, so dinner will not be served. In-person attendance has grown slowly, with attendance currently approaching twenty. For those unable to join us in person, Steve Strong will continue to provide us with the capability of attending virtually. Look for his email with instructions on how to connect via your computer. On-line attendance has ranged from 10 to 20 each month. I hope you will join us, in person or online.

We hope to start with the rosary at 7:00 PM. While technical difficulties at the start of previous meetings have caused the start time to be delayed, we hope these issues will not occur this week. After a ten to fifteen minute break for pre-packaged snacks and beverages, we will start the business portion about 7:30 PM. If you have anything for the Good of the Order, please email that information to me in advance. Officers – please confirm whether or not you plan to attend.

While we are still scheduled to return to St. Andrew on June 10th for the elections and the last meeting of this Fraternal Year, there is a chance that All Saints might become available instead. One of the great benefits of shifting to All Saints, if this becomes feasible, is that we always have larger turnouts, which is especially welcome when elections are the primary focus of the meeting. The schedule of meeting locations might be modified, if this occurs. I hope to have more news at the May 13th meeting.

Vivat Jesus,

S. K. Bob Mitchell
Faithful Navigator
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