

The Silver Knight News

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State Deputy's Message



State Deputy David Ryan

Brothers,

A quick reminder about my article in September's Silver Knight newsletter. Election Day will be here before we know it, especially with early voting starting on Oct 19. As Catholics we have a moral obligation to vote no on Question 6. See the September newsletter article and video from Bishop Mueggenborg. These can be found at: Nevada State Council (uknight.org) (Newsletters).

Membership is important not only to grow the order, but to replace individuals like me who are getting up in our years and are looking to step back and let younger knights take the lead. As of this writing we are still number 61 in the order with only 114 new members this fraternal year to help us do God's Work here on earth. Our goal set by supreme is 573 new members so we need 459 more new members this fraternal year. This is the largest goal ever for Nevada and over 100 above the final goal last year. We are almost a third of the way through this fraternal year, so we need 58 new members a month for the remainder of this year.

Why is this important? Nevada would like to host the Supreme Convention in 2035 and to meet Supreme's requirements for membership for consideration we need to have 10,000 or more knights in Nevada by 2030. To do this we need to average 607 new members a year, considering the average number of knights we lose each year due to deaths and other removals. As you can see, we need more than the goal set by Supreme to make the state goal of 10,000 by 2030. Can we do this? Absolutely if every council hosts four membership drives a year, which is one each quarter.

(Continued on page 2)

The Silver Knight Newsletter is a production of the Knights of Columbus Nevada State Council

Editor: David Varon
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Be a Catholic: When you kneel before an altar, do it in such a way that others may be able to recognize that you know before whom you kneel.

Maximilian Kolbe

State Deputy's Message

(Continued from page 1)

Example:

47 active councils X 4 drives = 188 membership drives.
188 X an average of 4 new members = 752 new members.

Of the membership drives I have attended this year the council averaged 8.66 new members per drive. These were not all large parishes; one was a Pahrump where they added nine new members. Even the small parishes can bring in four or more new members so the 752 should be a breeze with proper planning and execution. Again, if you let me know the dates of your membership drive, I will do my best to attend. For me to travel -- please let me know at least three weeks in advance so I can plan, and possibility invite our RGD Pona to attend.

If your council has not hosted a membership drive this fraternal year, please schedule four over the remainder of this year. Three great dates would be:

National Vocation Awareness Week: November 3 – 11 2024.
World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life: February 2, 2025.
World Day of Prayer for vocations: April 21, 2025.

If these dates do not work, at least schedule one during the months of November, February, and April in honor of these vocations' prayer and awareness times.

God's blessings to you and your families.

David M Ryan, PSD, FVSM
State Deputy



FOURTH DEGREE

PATRIOTIC DEGREE OF THE ORDER

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A FOURTH DEGREE KNIGHT

November 23, 2024, FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

SCHEDULE: **11:00 AM- 12:00 PM Registration of Candidates (Cenacle Room)**
12:00 PM – 3:30 PM Exemplification in the Hall
04:30 PM -05:30 PM Mass at St Joseph HOM
05:30 PM -08:30 PM Social & Dinner in the Hall

LOCATION: **St Joseph Husband of Mary Parish**
7260 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89118

THE HONOREE FOR THIS DEGREE IS:
Sir Knight Tom Villardi, FDM, PGK

Candidates must be in proper attire: Black Tuxedo, or Black, Dark Blue, or Dark Gray suit, Dress Shirt & Tie, and black dress shoes. No colored or printed shirts please.

Candidates need to report to the lead Marshall by 11:30 with completed form 4's and a check for \$70. The Exemplification fee includes dinner. Guest dinner tickets are \$30 each.

Make checks payable to **Ken Sawyer, Master**. Or to pay by Zelle send to 702-203-7403

Signatures needed on the Form 4 are: Your Council Financial Secretary, the Assembly Faithful Navigator, and the Faithful Comptroller of the Assembly, and note the number of the Assembly you are joining.

If you have any questions, contact 4th Degree Master, SK Ken Sawyer, 702-203-7403
Ken.J.Sawyer@COX.NET

Message from the Vocations Director

Our Family: God's Gift of Life and Love

(First published in Pahrump Life Magazine July / August 2024)

By Deacon Rick Minch

"Among all who are included under the title of neighbor, there are none who deserve it more, in one sense, than those of our own household. They are nearest to all of us, living under the same roof and eating the same bread. Therefore they ought to be one of the principal objects of our love, and we should practice in regard to them all the acts of true charity, which ought to be founded not upon flesh and blood, or upon their good qualities, but altogether upon God." - St. Francis de Sales

Our families - our family life - are a gift of life and love from God. God alone is the creator and author of life, He created each one of us in His glorious and Triune image and likeness as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He gives us everything because He loves us so much. Three of His most special, gifts: life, faith, free will. These gifts are so visible in our families:

Life: God has created a suitable partner for each one of us, calling us to be fertile and multiply. Husband and wife, by their mutual love of one another, participate in God's plan through the pro-creation of children. We must value and embrace God's precious gift of human 'life, from the moment of conception to the moment of our last natural breath. In imitation of the love of our Creator.

Faith: God loves us unconditionally, and asks us to love Him back unconditionally. He gives each of us faith in Him that we are called to nurture through prayer and trust. Not always easy, but made possible with God's own help. Spouses are called to nurture and support each other with God's love. Children are precious gifts of life and love from God - Parents and children - the family unit - are called to love each other unconditionally, mirroring God's love for us; Parents teach and share the gift of faith with their children, who do the same with their children, etc. We read in the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 6:4-7): "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words which I enjoin on you today. Drill them into your children. Speak of them at home and abroad, whether you are busy or at rest."

(Continued on page 5)

*Prayer is powerful
beyond limits when we
turn to the Immaculata
who is queen even of
God's heart.*

Maximilian Kolbe

Message from the Vocations Director

(Continued from page 4)

Free Will: Our Father God loves us so much that He created us to be His children. But He didn't stop there. In His providence He gives us free will: the choice to accept or reject the unconditional love He gives us. Families are called to embrace and nurture God's love together. Parents are the guardians, the decision makers, the educators, the teachers of faith and givers of love. The strength of their love for each other keeps the family together. They are asked to be open to God's will for their children. Children are called to obedience of their parents; but also to the same unconditional love their parents have for them. All in imitation of the Holy Family of Nazareth: Jesus, Mary and Joseph, who loved and served each other and their loving Father God. Sadly, our world today tells us that traditional values are no good. Human life is disposable. One doesn't have to be responsible for one's own actions. It's all about you. Only worry about you. God and religion have no place in a world that revolves around YOU and YOUR wishes and desires. This is fueled by the prohibition of prayer and religious symbols in public places, by the false love depicted in pornography, by the "I" phone, by the lack of human interaction and lack of personal responsibility, of social media. Satan is hard at work, as St. Peter (1 Peter 5:8-9) writes: "Stay sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in your faith." Families: stay strong in God's love.

The film "Nefarious" is a fantastic description of how Satan operates. The dramatization centers on a man possessed by a demon named Nefarious. The demon relates that lack of baptism allows Satan/evil to gain a foothold in a child prior to the age of reason (7-8 years old). Seemingly innocent gifts like a "cute" action figure of a devil "character" or a ouija board further Satan's plan. PLEASE DON'T WAIT. Baptize your child in a mainline Christian faith. Present your child in the temple as Mary and Joseph did for Jesus.

Nefarious goes on to inform us that Satan/evil has infiltrated our media: newspapers, magazines, movies, radio, TV, on-line; evil has infiltrated the political process/politicians. Families are called to pay attention to, and be aware of, what and how much media they use, and to separate truth from fiction. St. John the apostle writes (2 John 1:7-11): "Many deceivers have gone out into the world; those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh; such is the deceitful one and the antichrist. Anyone who is so 'progressive' as not to remain in the teaching of the Christ does not have God; whoever remains in the teaching has the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him in your house or even greet him; for whoever greets him shares in his evil works:"

(Continued on page 6)

No one in the world can change Truth. What we can do and should do is to seek truth and to serve it when we have found it.

Maximilian Kolbe

Message from the Vocations Director

(Continued from page 5)

If you are a parent, please pay attention:

- to what your children are being taught in school, speak up if you don't agree;
- to what your children are doing with their phone/computer, social media;
- to who their friends are; you are the decision-makers;
- to all your child's activities; As they grow to teenage years, it may seem like they don't want you around anymore. A friend once told me that she became pregnant at age 16. She said: "My parents should have been paying more attention to what I was doing." When children seem to be pushing you away is when they need you the most;
- to being together as a family. Resist the temptation to work an extra hour in order to buy more. Children don't need more "stuff": Children need you.

Children, please:

- be obedient
- be respectful
- be open to learning
- be loving

As a family, never let anyone, or anything come between you and your relationship with God. Religious education, gaining a moral compass, is equal in importance to math, science, geography. It all begins in your home, the domestic church. Have symbols of faith visible in your home. Pray together as a family. Spend quality time together as a family. Communicate together as a family. Forgive one another as a family. Love each other as a family. After Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, the master washing the feet of His followers, He gave us a new commandment (John 13:34): "... love one another. As I have loved you, so you should also love one another."

For over 500 years, the Roman Empire was the biggest and most powerful government entity in human history. Its downfall began and was exacerbated by the degradation of the family, of family life. This is happening in our nation and our world today, before our very eyes. We must overcome this. We can - with the help of God.

We ask God our Father that our families may remain strong in faith, persevering in prayer, united in love. Amen.

"Nefarious" is available on DVD and most streaming platforms.

Bible quotations are from the New American Bible.

The real conflict is the inner conflict. There are two irreconcilable enemies in the depth of every soul: good and evil, sin and love.

Maximilian Kolbe

Message from Field Agent Stephen Melancon

Brothers, when Father McGivney founded our Order, a key part of his mission was to help Catholic families attain a secure financial future. It was a hard time and place to be Catholic, but he didn't want them to feel they had to let go of their Catholic identity in order to find that stability. He wanted them to see their Catholic community as a place of security – to know that here, their faith could grow. And here, their families would be protected.

In keeping with that mission, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly recently announced updates to our member benefits. Now, you might not even remember you have these benefits – in a sense, they're the best kept secret of the Order, but I'm going to do my part in making sure they're more widely known. I'd like to highlight some of these updates, starting with one that affects all of us. Whether or not you are an insured Knight of Columbus, you are entitled to the Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit. This is an accidental death benefit for all members in good standing and their spouse. The benefit amount varies from \$1,500-\$5,000, depending on your age, whether you are insured and how long you've been a member.

The second update I'd like to call out is the Family Fraternal Benefit, which applies to insured members. It's guaranteed-issue insurance up to \$10,000 to any child under age 18, regardless of physical or intellectual disabilities. This also includes an automatic \$5,000 death benefit for children who die before age 61 days, including stillbirths from at least 20 weeks after conception.

Next is the Orphan Fraternal Benefit, which provides \$500 monthly to an insured member's child who has lost both parents, up to age 19. This benefit also includes up to \$5,000 per year in college scholarships, with a maximum total of \$20,000, per eligible orphan.

Finally, the Widow Benefit offers surviving spouses of insured members the opportunity to purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance or annuities, and she and her children are eligible for scholarships.

We strive to bring Father McGivney's mission to life by offering you these valuable benefits. I would like to sit down with each and every one of you to walk you through the benefits available to you and your family. Please schedule an appointment with me as soon as possible. Thank you, and I pray that Blessed Michael McGivney watches over our families this month.

Dcn. Stephen Melancon, PGK, FICF, FSCP CLTC, RICP

*For Jesus Christ I am
prepared to suffer still
more.*

Maximilian Kolbe

Note from State Historian

“Right to Life” October Schedule More Exemplifications!

Council updates are as follows:

- I continue to be in contact with our District Deputies and Grand Knights to make sure each Council has a respective Council Historian, for this new Columbian year and going forward. The Council Historian will assist the State Historian in reaching into the respective Council archives for access to the noteworthy events or activities of the Council and Brother Knights. In some Councils this role will reside with the Grand Knight, due to the size of Council membership. Please be prepared to discuss who is best suited for this position on your Council. As always, this is your chance to tell and record your Council’s continuing story!
- In concert with Worthy State Deputy David M. Ryan, FVSM and myself, we recommend Councils setting up a “cloud based” storage system for each Council’s records, photos, activity accounting, etc. The continuity of record keeping can then be documented/updated over the continuing “Columbian Year” by the Council Historian.
- Please use my email address: historian@nv-kofc.com to assist in adding any historic documentation, as indicated above, to capture the Nevada State history of our Fraternal Order. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with you, my Brother Knights

*If anyone does not wish
to have Mary
Immaculate for his
Mother, he will not have
Christ for his Brother.
Maximilian Kolbe*

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Remember: The message Blessed Michael McGivney continues to have for us, that we carry on the work he began 143 years ago, when he gathered a group of Catholic men in the basement of St. Mary’s Church in New Haven, CT.

Continue to Celebrate Father Michael J. McGivney’s “Blessed” status!

Pray that Pope Francis I will Canonize our Blessed Michael McGivney!

Knights in Nevada History

Holy Spirit Catholic Mission Church Washoe Valley, Nevada

The Holy Spirit Catholic Mission Church, established in the 1960's, holds a rich and meaningful history as part of the broader Catholic tradition in the region. The Catholic Church's presence in Nevada dates to the mid-19th century, coinciding with the westward expansion of the United States. Catholic missionaries, often associated with Spanish and Mexican colonization, sought to establish churches and missions throughout the Southwest and along the Pacific Coast. Nevada, particularly the northern part, was sparsely populated, but missionaries still played a vital role in the ministering to settlers, miners, and Native American communities. Washoe Valley, located between Reno and Carson City, is in an area of settlement due to its proximity to Comstock Lode and the region's economic opportunities. We will rebuild this Holy Spirit Mission Church!

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Remember: The message Blessed Michael McGivney has for us is that we carry on the work he began 143 years ago, when he gathered a group of Catholic men in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT.

Continue to Celebrate Father Michael J. McGivney's "Blessed" status!

Pray that Pope Francis I will Canonize our Blessed Michael McGivney!

That night, I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me, a Child of Faith. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, the other red. She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity, and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both.

Maximilian Kolbe

Knight in the Light Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Sir Knight Patrick A. Mohn, Color Corps, Council Recorder and Assembly Faithful Scribe

My faith journey started in Duluth, MN where I was born in November 1959. I was baptized at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Parish in Duluth, where my family attended church, a block away from my childhood home. We lived next door to a convent for retired nuns, where, as I got older, I became the only pupil of a retired Catholic school math teacher, who prepped me in basic math and algebra. All boys in the parish were recruited as altar servers, which I did that until I was 19 years old. We didn't have a Knights council at St. Mary's, but all parish men were members of the St. Stanislaus



SK Patrick A. Mohn

*Let us give ourselves to
the Immaculata [Mary].*

Maximilian Kolbe

Kostka Society, which sponsored parish breakfasts, bingos, and paczki pastry parties. All the altar boys served coffee, washed dishes, and bussed tables. We also lived a block away from a synagogue and I spent many years serving as a shabbat goy (a non-Jew who is employed by Jews to perform certain types of work that Jewish religious law prohibits a Jew from doing on the Shabbat) on Fridays and Saturdays.

I attended college in Duluth, and then moved away and worked for a few years in the mining industry, then went back to school for a graduate degree. In 1994, I moved to Sparks, NV to take a mining industry job. Except for a two-year stint in eastern Canada and a summer in Ghana, West Africa, I worked mostly in Nevada and the western U.S. In 1999, I moved to Northwest Reno and started attending St. Albert the Great Parish. Since 2002, I've been employed as an environmental professional with the State of Nevada and became licensed as an engineer in 2009. In 2001 I met my wonderful wife Marilyn Miller, who was also a mining industry professional. We were married at St. Albert's in 2002, with, then pastor, Fr. Bob Simpson officiating. For several years I served as a lector and brought communion to the homebound. Marilyn encouraged me to join the Knights.

I joined Knights of Columbus Council 7322 in 2016, and within a year was elected Council Recorder. I served in that position for many years under five different Grand Knights. I joined the 4th Degree in 2021, and was elected Faithful Scribe for Bishop Manogue Assembly 612. I've been in the 4th Degree Color Corps since 2022. I've enjoyed volunteering at many Knights functions over the years, particularly the major fundraising events, knowing that these efforts help our Council, parish, and community.

Recruit! Recruit! Recruit!

By Al S. Pena State Program Director

Time seems to have passed us by and we were caught standing still. I read in the Asia magazine that Asian Countries that are standing still, are going backwards. We can blame the long summer heat for sapping our momentum which is slowly getting reflected in our inability to meet our membership quotas. We were first in division 4, now we are 8th nationwide. We finished 4th, now we are 63rd. Brothers, this is not who we are.

What changed? Is it the weather? Is it the changing times? Is it demographics? If the answer to all these questions is a little bit of everything, then as Knights we turn adversities into opportunities. We have adapted like we have done so effectively in the past. Apathy is not the answer. They also say that when the going gets tough, the tough gets going. It's time to get our gears in motion and start a statewide membership campaign. We should do this in two (2) parts: A) One in Northern Nevada and B) The other in Southern Nevada. Second, I will ask you to please send me an update of the Programs you are currently doing and additional ones you plan to do this current Columbian year. I will be glad to keep you informed of your progress towards your goals. I would also request each District Deputy to collect data regarding programs from the Councils under their jurisdiction. This will also give the DD's the opportunity to assist those Councils who are having difficulties to get their programs going.

The District Deputies in Northern Nevada should get together and organize the Councils within their jurisdiction, and give them a set date when they plan to hold a membership campaign. They should point out to them the resources that are available on the website. They should decide a goal for Northern Nevada of at least 100 new members and the same for Southern Nevada. The goal of each District Deputy is to set a commitment date and report this at the coming State council meeting. The State Officers in Northern Nevada should plan on attending this Council recruitment drive and get involved in the recruitment process.

(Continued on page 12)

Let her [Mary] prepare us, let her receive Him [Jesus] in Holy Communion. This is the manner most perfect and pleasing to the Lord Jesus and brings great fruit to us.

Maximilian Kolbe

Recruit! Recruit! Recruit!

(Continued from page 11)

If we do this in full force, we will have a great chance of getting back where we should be. If you have not done any recruitment in the past and are wondering where to start, just follow the lead of those who have. When I was the Membership Director of our Council, I usually asked our Grand Knight to ask permission from our Parish Priest to be allowed to make a pulpit announcement at every mass. We set-up a table in our Parish courtyard with all the brochures and Form 100. We usually have 4-5 Knights ready to answer questions that they may have about the Knights of Columbus. Some come ready to join and fill out the application form. Once the application is completed and signed, do the following simple steps:

- A) Enter the information on your cell phone by logging on to KofC.Org.
- B) Click on "join" and then enter the information from the applicant.
- C) Inform the applicant that he will receive an e-mail message within a few minutes with a confirmation code.
- D) Once the code is received, ask the applicant to give it to the Knight who submitted his application.
- E) Once the Knight enters the code, the applicant will know immediately that he has been accepted.
- F) The \$30 membership fee will be zeroed out once you enter BLESSED MCGIVNEY.

*The Immaculata [Mary]
knows the secret, how to
unite ourselves totally
with the heart of the
Lord Jesus... We do not
limit ourselves in love.
We want to love the
Lord Jesus with her
heart, or rather that she
would love the Lord
with our heart.*

Maximilian Kolbe

Simple as that. In Councils where they cannot do this, they can setup a meeting at their Community Centers and show them a video on what the Knights of Columbus does. Some Councils have tootsie rolls to give kids as they exit the church. You can offer to give them coffee and doughnuts while they are watching the video. At the end, ask them to fill out the application form membership form 100.

Respect Life contest held in Reno



*The Immaculata [Mary]
alone has from God the
promise of victory over
Satan.*

Maximilian Kolbe

Each October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. The purpose is to understand and value the gift of human life and help build a culture that cherishes and protects it.

Many students in the Diocese of Reno participated in a Respect Life contest by writing essays or designing posters promoting this important theme. Knights of Columbus councils and assemblies in Northern Nevada contributed to the contest prize fund. On Thursday, Oct 17, Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg celebrated a Respect Life Mass at St. Rose of Lima parish church. The entire student body of Bishop Manogue High School, the eighth grade classes of Reno area Diocesan schools, and smaller groups of students from other area schools were all in attendance. The church was completely full. Assemblies 612 and 3118 provided the Color Guard.

Bishop Mueggenborg gave a very inspiring homily, relating the account in John chapter 9 of Jesus curing the blind man, to our responsibilities and strategies to protect all life in today's world. At the end of Mass, the bishop presented certificates and cash prizes to the high school and eighth grade students who submitted the winning essays and posters.

National Vocation Awareness Week



Blessed Stanley Rother

The Immaculata [Mary] seeks souls that will consecrate themselves entirely to her, that will become in her hands forceful instruments for the defeat of Satan and the spread of God's kingdom.

Maximilian Kolbe

National Vocation Awareness Week, celebrated Nov 3-9, 2024, is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life through prayer and education. It is also a time to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these vocations.

In consideration of Vocation Awareness Week, the Silver Knight News takes a look at what attracted Reno's Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg to the priesthood.

Daniel Mueggenborg had closed off the possibility of becoming a priest, until he was asked to be an altar server at a Mass for his aunt and uncle's wedding anniversary. "The priest who celebrated the Mass was Father Stanley Rother. I knew nothing of him, not even his name, prior to that Mass, and yet was captivated by the deep spiritual presence that surrounded him," Mueggenborg said. Rother had a spiritual presence that was undeniable and almost tangible. He was a quiet person, but he emanated a profound sense of love, peace and joy. These were qualities that Daniel wanted but was not finding. He recognized that Rother had these qualities through being a priest.

Stanley Rother was ordained a priest on May 25, 1963 and served as an associate pastor for five years in Oklahoma. Later he received permission to join the staff at the Oklahoma diocese's mission in Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala where he served the native tribe of the Tz'utujil, descendants of the Mayans. Although he struggled with Latin in the seminary, Father Rother learned Spanish and the Tz'utujil language in Guatemala. He celebrated Mass in their language and even helped translate the New Testament. While he served in Guatemala, a civil war raged between the militarist government and guerrillas. Around 1 a.m. on July 28, 1981, three men entered the rectory and executed Fr. Rother. No one was ever held responsible. On Dec. 1, 2016, Pope Francis recognized Fr. Rother as a martyr for the faith, the first martyr from the United States and the first U.S.-born priest to be beatified.

"The witness of his radical commitment to Jesus Christ and his love for the people left a life-long impression on me. I will be forever grateful to him for that impact. To honor the influence he had on my journey to priesthood, I used his chalice to celebrate my first Mass as a priest on July 16, 1989," Bishop Mueggenborg said.

Reno Air Show 2024



For years, the Reno National Championship Air Races was supported by a hard core following of former military and air race enthusiasts. It was Ponderosa Council 4928's largest fundraiser in terms of volunteer manpower needed and income earned. For several reasons, including urban growth and public safety, the Reno Air Races Association (RARA) announced that their 60th anniversary of air race competition held in 2023 would be its last at Reno Stead Airport. The 2025 National Championship Air Races will be held in Roswell, NM.

In this transition year this October, the Reno Air Races Association held a 2½ day Reno Air Show featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, the Canadian Forces Snowbirds, an array of vintage prop planes and other aircraft, static displays, diverse vendor shops and food stands. Once again, with some help from members of Our Lady of the Desert Council 12877, St. Michael the Archangel Council 10577, and students of Bishop Manogue Catholic HS, Ponderosa Council 4928 provided parking control at six former air base lots, cooler deliveries to corporate sponsor stands, and cooler ice sales. It required more than 878 volunteer hours in member support plus supplemental high school community service hours.

Considering that the event schedule was reduced by nearly 60%, that corporate sponsorship was significantly down, and that the Reno Air Show was held much later in the year, thereby reducing the demand for cooler ice, Council income while modest, was impacted accordingly.

It is known that a 3-year contract is in place making it possible to hold future Reno Air Shows at the Reno Stead Airport. However, given the reduced attendance and lackluster corporate sponsorship, any kind of event in 2025 is considered unlikely.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

Jesus honored her (The Immaculata [Mary]) before all ages, and will honor her for all ages..

Maximilian Kolbe

The Knights of Marriage Prep Classes



L to R: Fr. Chuck Durante, Lady Andrea and Worthy Knight Jay Seifert

*No one comes to Him,
nor even near Him, no
one is saved or
sanctified, unless he too
honors Mary.*

Maximilian Kolbe

Couples who wish to be married with the blessing of the Catholic Church must complete ten hours of marriage preparation. The purpose is to prepare couples for the sacrament of marriage by providing a life-giving view of marriage and by challenging couples to communicate openly and honestly with each other. Prep class topics include (among others) "Becoming a Family," "the Sacrament of Marriage," "Intimacy in Marriage," and "Financial Fidelity." In the Diocese of Reno, this requirement is met by "Engaged Encounter Weekend," a ministry tended for the last 15 years by Worthy Knight Jay Seifert and his wife of 22 years, Lady Andrea. The couple is helped by five other couples (whose marriages range in the length from five to fifty-seven years). Jay and Andrea and the other couples (who in many cases, are Knights and Ladies) team-teach the weekend retreat and are aided alternately by either Fr. Bob Chorey, Pastor of Our Lady of Snows or Fr. Chuck Durante, Rector of St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral.

Engaged Encounter Weekends take place three times a year -- in February, May and October. Sessions usually include 15 to 20 couples.

"I really like this Engaged Encounter weekend," said Jay. "Unlike the Knights or Women of St Rose, this is a ministry we can do together as a couple." Andrea says every Weekend Retreat is a learning experience for her. "I love the stories the other couples tell about their married life --- what difficulties they had and how they grew as a couple."

Many of the "presenter" couples have moved on to help "behind the scenes," with set-up, registration and lunch preparation, so Jay and Andrea are always looking for couples with at least five years of marriage to share their experiences.

"Sometimes one partner is comfortable speaking in front of an audience, but not the other," said Andrea, "but this is a ministry for couples."

Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities



Twenty-one Council members and family volunteered 244 hours planning and participating in Supreme's annual Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities campaign, aka the "Tootsie Roll Drive." It was held on the weekend of Oct 12-13 at the Walmart Supercenter in Sparks, NV.

Our volunteers raised \$1,307 in donations which will be sent to the Nevada State Council. An allocated portion of approximately \$1,046 (80%) will be designated in support of local area programs that help people with intellectual disabilities. The approximate balance of \$261 (20%) will be retained by the Nevada State Council in support of national programs such as the Special Olympics. This is in addition to the \$100 previously donated by the Council to the Nevada State Council Special Olympics Fund in July.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

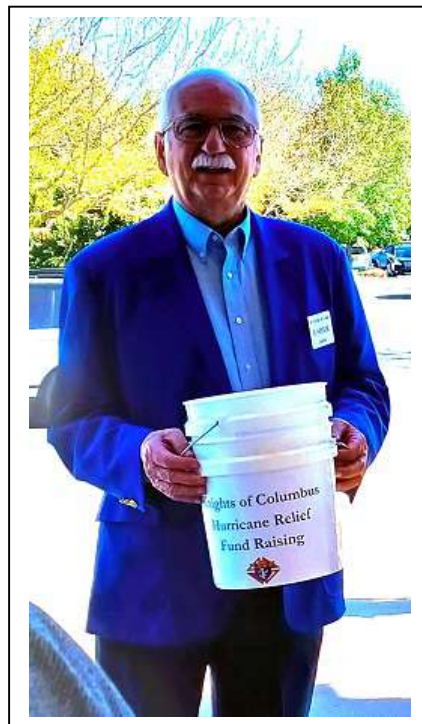
The conflict with Hell cannot be maintained by men, even the most clever. The Immaculata alone has from God the promise of victory over Satan.

Maximilian Kolbe

Council 13842 Collects for Hurricane Relief

"My aim is to institute perpetual adoration," spoke St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe, a Franciscan priest and founder of the Knights of the Immaculata. For he said that this is "the most important activity," and "if half of the Brothers would work, and the other half pray, this would not require too much."

Maximilian Kolbe



Hurricane Milton made landfall near Siesta Key, FL, Wednesday night Oct 9 as a Category 3 storm. By Thursday, Milton moved across the Florida peninsula into the Atlantic Ocean. In some areas, it dumped three months worth of rain in three hours. At least 23 people died from the storm and at its height, more than three million customers were without power.

The disaster brought Council 13842 into action. At its Oct 10 meeting, GK Jody Gunderman "passed the hat" and collected nearly \$1,000. Then the Council's "bucket brigade" covered the church doors after all weekend Masses and collected another \$9,000.

The Council sent the money to the Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief fund in New Haven, CT. From there, local Knights, in coordination with state and federal relief efforts and Supreme Council leadership, activate a network to provide needed support in affected areas. Knights provide for the immediate needs of families, the parish and the community. This often includes food and water, hot meals, clean up materials and other necessities. The Disaster Relief fund provides support to all areas in North America and internationally where there are active Knight councils.

Columbus Day/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



On Oct 12, Ponderosa Council 4928 hosted its annual Columbus Day/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. This event, held to recognize the many contributions of its volunteers, marked the first time since pre-COVID-19 in Dec 2019 that our Council was allowed to hold a dinner event in its home parish. The Council was very appreciative of Fr. Jose's support.

36 volunteers, families, and guests including Fr. Arlon Vergara and Fr. Norman King, took advantage of the open beverage bar, the choice of spaghetti and/or lasagna entrees, garlic bread, cheesecake dessert, and the joy of sharing event "war-stories" working fundraisers together. There was abundant food and take-home was encouraged for all who attended.

After dinner, attendees were challenged with a Christopher Columbus/Columbus Day holiday quiz. It decisively proved that most of us need to go back to our school history books and brush up on the facts. The best score was 13 out of 20 questions, or a traditional academic "D" score! The first prize was a \$25 Amazon gift card.

As is traditional, the evening was capped by a salute to all volunteers with a bottle of Yellowstone Select bourbon donated by Knights of Columbus Council 1663 of Idaho Falls, ID. It was given in gratitude for the cooler delivery services provided to them by our Council at the Reno Air Show. Cheers!.

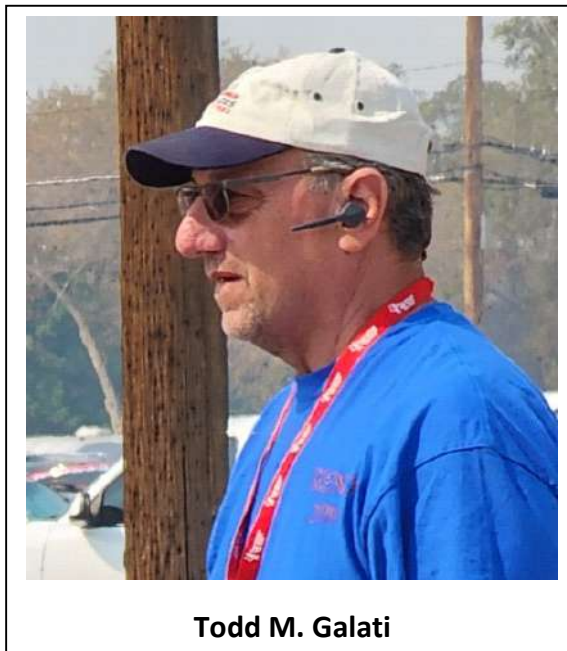
□ GK W. Anthony Watts



If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion.

Maximilian Kolbe

Knight of the Month for October 2024



Todd M. Galati

*God dwells in our midst, in
the Blessed Sacrament of the
altar.*

Maximilian Kolbe

For more than 21 years, SK Todd Galati has volunteered at the Reno Air Races and watched his responsibilities, as well as Ponderosa Council 4928 event scope grow. This year, the Reno National Championship Air Races were suspended as the Reno Air Races Association (RARA) prepared to relocate to Roswell, NM in 2025. In the interim, RARA initiated its 2024 Reno Air Show ... essentially a 2½ day air program event without competitive air racing.

Working with RARA, SK Todd negotiated a new contract. As in the immediate past, the Council's scope included manning six parking lots with diverse challenges, transporting corporate sponsor coolers to and from the tarmac, and an ice sales team. He was the Council's primary point of contact with RARA providing experience and much needed program continuity.

In addition to Council event planning, event coordination with RARA, event set up, and working more than 2½ event days from dawn to dusk, Todd personally recruited Bishop Manogue Catholic HS students for community service hours to help fill a need. For all that he did, SK Todd is recognized as our Council's October Knight of the Month.

□ W. Anthony Watts, GK

Family of the Month for October 2024



Bro. Robert and Lady Diane Popp are a very special husband-wife team. They live more than 20 miles from our Council's Chambers at Holy Cross Catholic Community and love to work council fundraisers such as the Best in the West Nugget Rub Cook Off and service initiatives such as Breakfast with Santa.

This month Bob and Diane are recognized for their support of the 2024 Reno Air Show: Bob as part of the Cooler Crew responsible for off-loading and later returning corporate sponsor coolers that were transported by the Council to and from the Reno-Stead Airport tarmac, and Lady Diane who volunteered as Ice Sales Co-chair and who helped keep the Bishop Manogue Catholic HS students active and interested in making their community service hours meaningful.

Their sense of team and teamwork was a key element for program success. For all their time and energy, leadership and smiles, Bro. Robert and Lady Diane Popp are recognized as the Ponderosa Council 4928 Family of the Month for October.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

*Christian perfection
consists in the union of
our will with the will of
God.*

Maximilian Kolbe

Color Guard for the Respect Life Mass

Do not forget that holiness consists not in extraordinary actions, but in performing your duties towards God, yourself, and others well.

Maximilian Kolbe



L to R: SK Hugh Ricci, SK William Sousa, SK Dan Dexter, SK Leo V Carew III, (not pictured SK Dave Emmil)

On Thursday, Oct 17, Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg celebrated a Respect Life Mass at St. Rose of Lima parish church. The entire student body of Bishop Manogue High School, the eighth grade classes of Reno area Diocesan schools, and smaller groups of students from other area schools were all in attendance. The church was completely full. Assemblies 612 and 3118 provided the Color Guard. (See related story on page 13.)

Knights of Columbus
Bishop Manogue Assembly 612



Military Appreciation Dinner

Honorees

Sir Knight Captain Shane Paul Tanner
Commanding Officer at NAS Fallon

Sunday, November 10, 2024

Reno Elks Lodge

597 Kumle Ln
Reno, NV 89502

5:00 pm Social * 6:30 pm Dinner

\$35.00 per person

Dinner and all the Fixings

Please RSVP with:

Sk Ricky Harold or SK William Sousa

Tel: 253-740-9074 or 775-544-0514

elgato54321@yahoo.com or Williamesousa@me.com

4th Degree Uniform or Suit and Tie



Leo Carew with his wife Connie, and Father Philip George receiving Knights of Columbus Grand Knight honor.

Healing Through Love and Service

BY JENNIFER MARIE PELFINI

"My life is an open book. I am the prodigal son returning to the Lord. If I can help somebody else by sharing my journey, then so be it," said Leo Carew III. When Leo's adopted parents both passed away, he felt it was time for a change in his life. He could have chosen anywhere in the world to live. Yet, in 2010, he felt called to relocate his life to Reno, Nevada. Unbeknownst to him, this choice would lead him near where his birth mother was located. "It is true, the Lord works in mysterious ways," said Leo. Leo's reunification with his birth mother, his personal journey, and his spiritual life today is a story of faith, healing, and service.



Leo Carew with his family during a reunion.

A Mother's Selfless Choice of Life

When Leo's unwed young mother told her family she was pregnant, she was given no alternative but to leave the family home. She found refuge at St. Elizabeth Home for Unwed Mothers in San Francisco, California, where she was taken care of through the birth. Having no means or support to care for Leo, his mother made the heart-wrenching, selfless decision to give her child up for adoption. God's providence would determine that a woman in service volunteering at the home would become Leo's adoptive mother. Joan and Leo Carew II, both Irish Catholics, were parents of five birth daughters and another adopted son. The Carew family was well known in the Bay Area, and Leo II served as a mortician in San Francisco. At the age of two, Leo was welcomed into their family. Leo, who was baptized at birth, was raised Catholic alongside his siblings.

A Struggle to Fit

While Leo was raised in a vibrant, faith-loving home and has many beautiful memories of his childhood and family, he struggled with his own sense of belonging. Leo's appearance singled out how different he was from everyone else in the family. "Even though I was surrounded with love and support, at a young age, I began to turn to alcohol to relieve this pain. I didn't understand my place in the family, and I was very unkind to my parents," admitted Leo. The unknown disease of alcoholism and other issues led him astray from the Catholic church he was raised in. His parents were his anchor, always supportive of him yet aware of his growing dependence on alcohol and resulting incidents. After his parents both passed away, he made a pivotal decision to move to Reno. "I had worked at Great Lakes Basin Summer Camp, and I loved it there. I was lost, and I thought, why not start over," Leo mused.



Leo's adoptive parents, Joan and Leo Carew II.

As a single man living alone with no family nearby, Leo found himself drawn to the community of the Catholic church and became a parishioner at Immaculate Conception in Sparks. He immersed himself in serving the church, becoming a Knight of Columbus, joining the choir, and serving as a lector and usher. While the move to Reno expanded his activity in the church, it did not transform his need for alcohol.

A life-changing moment occurred when he didn't show up for a church activity. A Knight brother went to his home and discovered Leo alone and incoherently drunk. The Knight shared his concern for Leo with Father Philip George. Accepting that only God and those that loved him, could help him, Father Philip invited Leo to the church to support him on a project. When Leo arrived two of his sisters from California were there, alongside two of his Knight brothers. Leo had walked into an intervention of love. Realizing he needed guidance outside his familial circle, Leo checked himself into Reno Behavioral Center and also joined a 12-step support group.

Today, Leo has been sober for almost six years. He does not do it alone; he recognizes the need for ongoing support in his battle with the disease. "Good moments. I shouldn't be here, but there is a reason I am still here. It is to serve," Leo explained.

Discovering the Light of Love

As a part of his healing, Leo decided to seek out his birth parents. Inspired by a similar search undertaken by his adoptive brother and a relative who contacted him with information gathered from ancestry.com, Leo began. Working with his sister, he traced his roots to California. Sadly, he learned that his father had passed away. But to his astonishment, Leo discovered his birth mother was actually living in Sparks!

He and his sister worked together to write a letter to his birth mother to arrange a meeting. To his surprise, he actually knew his birth mother as a fellow parishioner. Leo's mother agreed to meet. After meeting, they took a DNA test to confirm what they both felt in their hearts — that they were mother and son. Since then, Leo and his mother have begun to slowly build a relationship with one another. Reuniting with his birth mother was a crucial moment in his life that has provided Leo with a new sense of peace. Father Philip counseled Leo to leave everything in the past and rebuild anew. Take every day for what it is and embrace the time we have.

On the path of light now in his faith journey, Leo met the love of his life, Connie, through mutual friends at Immaculate Conception. They married March 26, 2022. Connie is Filipino, from the town of Capiz in the Philippines. Together, they are content with Leo's life path and thrive on supporting one another. Leo has served as a Grand Knight and recently was elected to state treasurer for the Knights of Columbus State Council of Nevada.

"I see everything I do with the church as I've made up for those times of darkness in my life," said Leo. "My life has meaning and purpose because God shows me the way." †

RESOURCES FOR THOSE FACING ADDICTION.

• **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The primary purpose is to help members stay sober and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. <https://nnig.org>

• **The Calix Society**

The Calix Society is an organization of Catholic alcoholics who are maintaining their sobriety through participation in Alcoholics Anonymous and promoting their faith through spiritual development. www.calixsociety.org

• **St. Gregory Recovery Center**

St. Gregory offers a faith-based approach to addiction recovery, integrating Catholic spirituality with evidence-based treatment methods to support individuals struggling with addiction. www.stgregoryctr.com

• **Catholic in Recovery**

Catholic in Recovery supports individuals and families impacted by addiction through a blend of 12-step recovery and Catholic spirituality. Their resources include meetings, retreats, and literature that help integrate faith into the recovery process. www.catholicinrecovery.com

• **Video: *Hope in Recovery: A Catholic Approach***

This video series provides insights into the Catholic perspective on addiction and recovery, featuring interviews with experts and testimonials from individuals who have found hope and healing through their faith. www.youtube.com (search "**Hope in Recovery: A Catholic Approach**")

• **Podcast: *Healing from Addiction***

Scott Weeman, executive director of Catholic in Recovery, discusses how twelve-step programs and the sacraments work together to help people heal from addiction. www.avemariapress.com/aveexplores-healing/podcast-weeman

• **Movie: *Restless Heart***

This film about the life of St. Augustine, who struggled with various addictions before his conversion, is a powerful story of transformation and redemption. www.ignatius.com/Restless-Heart-P2069.aspx

• **Book: *The Road to Hope: Responding to the Crisis of Addiction* by Keaton Douglas with Lindsay Schlegel.** Addiction isn't just a physical and psychological illness; it's a spiritual disease that requires a spiritual remedy. The Road to Hope addresses the deep need in our Church to respond to the addiction crisis. <https://osvcatholicbookstore.com/product/the-road-to-hope-responding-to-the-crisis-of-addiction>