Knights of Columbus, Nevada State Council

Issue 35
October 2026

The Silver Knight News

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Membership Director	4
State Historian	6
First Catholic Church in Ely	7
Knight in the Light	8
Regional Growth Director	10
Laughlin Chaplain	12
Mass at the Casino	13
Men's Public Rosary	14
Columbus Day NYC	15
Minute Book from 1943	16
Star Council/District	17
This Month's Photos	18

State Deputy's Message



L to R: SVP Fraternal Missions Michael McCusker and State Deputy David Clarke

Worthy Brother Knights, Family, and Friends of the Nevada Jurisdiction,

October is the month of the Most Holy Rosary and highlights the right to life of the unborn. Let us renew our commitment to prayer, fraternity, and service to our Lord. May our families, councils, and parishes draw strength from the Rosary as we continue our mission of charity, unity, patriotism, and evangelization throughout Nevada.

Continued next page

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

Editor: David Varon
varond@ymail.com

God is responsible for the consequences of our obedience, WE are responsible for the consequences of our disobedience

Charles Stanley

State Deputy's Message

¡Viva Cristo Rey! Este grito de combate de los mártires mexicanos es mucho más que una expresión histórica de fe; es un llamado a vivir con valentía como hombres católicos en el mundo actual. Al acercarnos al centenario de la conmemoración de los mártires cristeros, que su testimonio nos inspire a defender nuestra fe, fortalecer a nuestras familias y proclamar el Evangelio tanto con nuestras palabras como con nuestras acciones.

This rallying cry of the Mexican martyrs is a call to live courageously as Catholic men today. As we approach the centennial remembrance of the Cristero martyrs, may their witness inspire us to defend our faith, strengthen our families, and proclaim the Gospel through both word and action.

Growing Our Order Through Faith and Brotherhood

Our statewide growth goal is an opportunity to welcome Catholic men and their families into our brotherhood. Every council can contribute by reaching out to fathers of altar servers, Catholic school parents, parish volunteers, and men seeking a deeper connection to their faith community.

I encourage every Grand Knight and District Deputy to make membership growth a shared responsibility. Work closely with our field agents, invite prospective members to council activities, and demonstrate the difference the Knights make in our parishes. A personal invitation offered with genuine friendship can begin a lifelong commitment to service.

"COR" – Encountering Christ Together

Our focus on the COR initiative continues to offer councils a meaningful way to bring men together for prayer, formation, and fraternity. I ask council leaders to prayerfully consider how COR can become a natural part of parish life, helping men encounter Christ and grow as husbands, fathers, parishioners, and Knights.

Continued next page

State Deputy's Message

Serving Our Neighbors and Honoring Our Military Veterans

As temperatures drop, let us put our faith into action. Whether providing warmth through Coats for Kids, supporting seminarians, assisting families in need, or honoring veterans through the Fourth Degree Color Corps, we work together in unity toward a common purpose.

I am especially grateful for those supporting the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery monument project in Fernley. This effort reflects our enduring respect for those who sacrificed for our freedom. Let us continue supporting this undertaking as we look toward its dedication.

United in Servant Leadership

The strength of our jurisdiction rests in our willingness to work together. Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, field agents, and Brother Knights all play vital roles. Let us communicate openly, support one another, exercise responsible stewardship, and remember that leadership is a privilege of service.

As we move forward, please keep Christ at the center of everything we do. Additionally, remember to exercise your civic duty by voting and assisting homebound individuals or those needing transportation to the polls.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary intercede for our Order, our families, and the people of Nevada. May Saint Joseph strengthen us in our vocation, and may the witness of the Cristero martyrs inspire us to proclaim without fear: ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

Vivat Jesus!

David M. Clarke
State Deputy, Nevada Jurisdiction

It is not the trials in your life that develop or destroy you, but rather your response to those hardships.

Charles Stanley

Message from the Membership Director

Brothers,

As we approach the one-third mark of the second quarter of this fraternal year, ask yourself: What has my council done to help grow the Order? According to the Supreme Membership Progress Report dated October 10, 2026, 19 councils—39.58%—have not added a single new member. Beginning this month, I will list those councils by number to clearly identify which ones are not actively contributing to the Order's growth. A council will be removed from the list once it exemplifies at least one new member. The councils are 1340, 2380, 2511, 4781, 4997, 5693, 6688, 8078, 8282, 9437, 9899, 10577, 12543, 13456, 13691,13754, 14820, 15061, and 17996.

On the bright side, congratulations to Council 4828 for earning a $250 reduction in its per capita assessment by meeting all requirements of the first-quarter incentive program. Two other councils met or exceeded their membership goals but did not qualify because they had not completed all program requirements.

We must remember that the shortest distance between our problems and their solutions is the distance between our knees and the floor.

Charles Stanley

Three Grand Knights and twenty-five Membership Directors received awards. Unfortunately, because some councils have not yet submitted Form 185 or Form 365 with the information needed to issue individual checks, we had to make the checks payable to those councils instead.

Meeting our first-quarter membership goal reduced our annual target by 18 members, bringing the revised goal to 562 for the fraternal year. To earn another reduction in the second quarter, we must add 140 new members between October 1 and December 31, 2026. We can achieve this goal as Knights of Columbus, but it will take a team effort. Every District Deputy should encourage each council to hold a membership invitation event by December 31, 2026. Supreme records dated October 2, 2026, show that our councils have 825 officers and directors. If just one in five of these brothers recruits one new member by December 31, we will exceed our second-quarter goal by 25 members. Recruiting begins with a simple invitation. I ask every council officer and director to invite at least one man to join by December 31, 2026.

Personal incentive: I will personally award $100 to any member who recruits more new members than I do by December 31, 2026, based on Supreme Council records.

God Bless you and your families

David M Ryan, PSD, FVSM
State Membership Director



Dear Brother Knight,

Last year, we challenged you to “go for two” and invite two men to join our brotherhood. As a result, we welcomed more than 100,000 new Knights last year — the most growth we have seen in a single year in more than a century.

This year, we’re challenging you to “go for two more” and again invite two men to join the Knights of Columbus!

Watch the Challenge

When you recruit two men between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31 2026, you’ll be entered into a drawing for a $2,000 cash prize.* Recruit four men and you’ll be entered twice.

Ten second-place winners will receive a customized, K of C-branded football jersey.

Be sure your new recruits include your member number as their proposer, so you get credit and have a chance to win.

A culture of invitation is about more than meeting a number: It’s about inviting men into brotherhood. It's about living out our faith together. It's about strength in numbers. It’s about forming Catholic men to follow Jesus and bring His love to others.

And it starts with a simple invitation...and then one more.

Let’s go big this fall — let’s go for two **more**!

Fraternally,
Knights of Columbus

Basically, there are two paths you can walk: faith or fear. It's impossible to simultaneously trust God and not trust God.

Charles Stanley

Note from State Historian

Wishing You a Thanksgiving of the Heart!

"Put Jesus First in All We Do"

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 David M. Clarke 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: jmichael_brady@att.net 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

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!

First Catholic Church in Ely, Nevada



Historical overview of Sacred Heart Catholic Church

The first church, 1906

Ely's first Catholic church was Sacred Heart, a small wood-frame building that opened in 1906. According to the parish's historical account, only about fifteen Catholic families lived in Ely when residents began raising money for a church and rectory. Ellen Hayes, who ran a boarding house, general store, laundry, and livery stable, and railroad developer Mark Requa helped lead the effort. Before the building opened, local Catholics gathered for Mass in Hayes's living room.

Growth and parish establishment

Copper mining brought rapid growth to Ely in the early twentieth century. As the number attending Mass increased, the home gathering place could no longer meet the community's needs. Sacred Heart opened in 1906, and the parish was formally established in October 1907. The building date and the parish establishment date refer to two separate milestones.

The following century

Sacred Heart Elementary School opened in the fall of 1958 and closed in 1998. The original church served Ely for approximately a century. A new Sacred Heart church was dedicated on May 15, 2006, continuing the parish tradition begun by the first building.

By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

From the world's perspective, there are many places you can go to find comfort. But there is only one place you will find a hand to catch your tears and a heart to listen to your every longing. True peace comes only from God.

Charles Stanley

Trusting God means looking beyond what we can see to what God sees.

Charles Stanley

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

Sir Knight Brian J. Saeman, FN, PGK
Council 978 and St. Andrews Assembly 3118



I was born and raised in Paso Robles, CA. I moved to Reno in 1995 to attend the University of Nevada, Reno, graduating in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science. I attended Gonzaga University School of Law starting in 1998, graduating with a Juris Doctor Degree in 2001.

I returned to Reno in 2001 to sit for the Nevada Bar Exam. I practiced law as an associate and partner at a local law firm from 2001 to 2012, practicing in probate/estate, general/ commercial transactions and litigation. I joined the University of Nevada, Reno Advancement Division in 2014 as the Director of Planned Giving, assisting donors with estate, trust and real estate gifts to the University

I joined the Knights of Columbus Nevada Council 978 in June 2002 at St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral. I took my Second and Third Degrees in Fallon, and Fourth Degree at Little Flower, both in 2003. I am a charter member of St. Andrews Assembly. Since that time, I have held Council 978 positions of Financial Secretary (2003-2009), Grand Knight (2009-2011, 2013-14), Trustee (2011-13, 2014-19), and Treasurer since July 2020; and St. Andrews Assembly 3118 positions of Comptroller (2008-09), Purser (2011-12, 2019-26), Outer Sentinel (2012-13), and Faithful Navigator in 2026.

Continued next page

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

I chaired the Council's Football Beer Sales Committee from 2003 to 2023. I was awarded the Ron Chisholm Memorial Knight of the Year Award in 2012. I also chair the Committee for the annual Nevada Special Olympics barbecue. I have served in numerous other roles, including membership chair, chair of the Council Blood Drive at the Cathedral, and District Warden for District Deputy Dennis Price.

I have enjoyed significant participation in the Degree Ceremonials for the Order in Nevada. I served as Chancellor on the 978 First Degree Team from 2003 until 2024 (serving as team captain for many years), I filled-in on the Northern Nevada Second Degree Team, I served numerous roles on the Northern Nevada Third Degree Team, including the Presenter of the Fraternal Charge and Decoy Priest, as well as serving as the Third Degree Team Captain from 2005 to 2024, and the Fourth Degree since 2005, serving as the Historian.

I have served on the St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral Parish Council, and I have been a member of the Cathedral's Finance Council since 2015. I serve as the treasurer on the St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral Corporate Board.

The Knights of Columbus has been a very important part of my life since joining in 2002. It has been a great respite and recharging tool in the middle of a busy career. But more importantly, I take great pride in the fraternal brotherhood of the Knights, and all that the organization means to the Church, our parishes and our community. I have found many great friends and brothers in the Order and I have to say that I enjoy so many of our projects and events at St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral and in the community.

Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Disappointments are inevitable; discouragement is a choice.

Charles Stanley

Message from the Regional Growth Director

October 2026 – The Month of Discovery

My Brother Knights, let us be inspired by our namesake and "discover or re-discover" why we became and have remained a member of the Knights of Columbus and proclaim that "discovery" to the world around us.

Why did you **become** a Knight AND why have you **stayed** a Knight?

Was it the opportunity to explore and grow in your Faith through our COR Initiative -- the opportunity to gather with other men and, though common effort and even sacrifice, discover the depths and breadth of our Holy Faith?

Wisdom is the capacity to see things from God's viewpoint.

Charles Stanley

Was it the obligation to put that Faith into action through our many local and international PROGRAMS as commanded by our Lord and Savior in the Gospel of **Matthew 25:31-46** where Jesus explains that true faith is shown by caring for the vulnerable—feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, welcoming strangers, and visiting the sick or imprisoned. He notes that whatever is done for "the least of these," is done directly for Him?

Or was it **James 2:14-17** where we are told "14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."?

Maybe it was the opportunity to protect your future and your family through the many **Fraternal Benefits** that our General and Field Agents can provide for us. We not only provide Life Insurance but Long-Term Care and Income Protection policies. We provide investment vehicles what align with our Catholic faith and the teachings of the Church.

Which of these reasons is the one that will prompt YOU to invite a friend, a relative, a fellow parishioner or even a complete stranger to join us in our faith formation, our works of mercy, both temporal and spiritual, and the real chance to protect our "widows and orphans" through our many benefits this month, next Week, TOMORROW, TODAY?

What will be YOUR reason?

Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids





"We need to see each child as a gift to be welcomed, cherished and protected..."
Pope Francis



Knights of Columbus

Help us ensure that no child goes without a coat

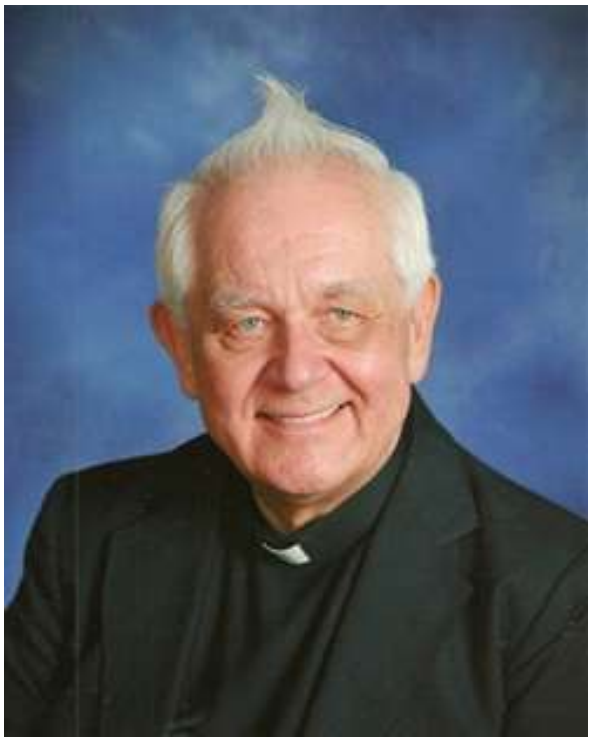
Join the Knights of Columbus FREE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP*

For new online membership applications submitted the entire month of October.

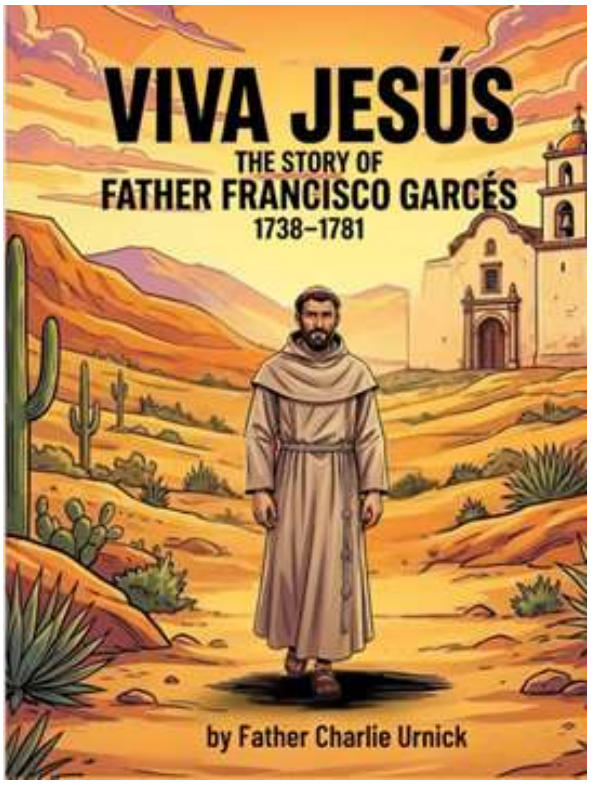
*for 1-year of online membership, regular dues are $30/year thereafter.

Visit kofc.org/joinus
Enter code
BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

Laughlin Council Chaplain writes a Book



Father Charlie Urnick



The year 2026 marks the 250th Anniversary of the visit of Father Francisco Garces to what is now Laughlin, Nevada. On March 3, 1776, Father Garces crossed the Colorado River becoming the first European and the first Catholic Priest to ever enter what would eventually become the State of Nevada.

Father Garces was a Franciscan missionary and explorer. He is the person who gave the Colorado River its name. He wrote detailed accounts of his missionary travels in his diary.

He was a friend of Father Junipero Serra, and he loved the native tribes he encountered.

He died as a martyr near Yuma, Arizona, in July 1781. Someday he will be honored by the Catholic Church as a Saint.

Council 12690's Chaplain, Father Charlie Urnick, has written a beautifully illustrated book about Father Garces. The title is VIVA JESUS! That was the greeting Father Garces used throughout his life. It means "Long live Jesus!

VIVA JESUS! Is available on Amazon.com. But you can purchase a copy and get it autographed at the Masses in Laughlin each weekend.

By the way, Laughlin is the only place in the USA where you can attend Catholic Mass in a casino every weekend! (See story next page.)

Information: 702-298-0440 WEBSITE: LaughlinCatholic.com

Celebrate Mass every weekend in the Casino



In 1992, about 500 Laughlin residents asked the Diocese of Reno (the Diocese of Las Vegas was not established until 1995) to send a priest to their river town located 90 minutes from the Las Vegas Strip. Father John McShane began celebrating Mass in local casinos that same year. As the congregation grew, services moved in 1996 to the 800-seat Don's Celebrity Theatre in the Riverside Casino Resort, where they have continued ever since. Currently Father Charlie Urnick celebrates Mass three times every weekend in the casino. He also says Mass at the St. John the Baptist Parish church (constructed in 2003), about five miles from the casino. Weekend Mass at the casino draws larger crowds.

Mass Schedule

4:00 PM Saturday. Don’s Celebrity Theatre in the Riverside Casino Resort
6:00 PM Saturday, St. John the Baptist Church
8:00 AM Sunday, St. John the Baptist Church
10:00 AM Sunday, Don’s Celebrity Theatre in the Riverside Casino Resort
12 Noon Sunday, Don’s Celebrity Theatre in the Riverside Casino Resort

Source: https://www.independent.co.uk/us

Third Anniversary of the Men's Public Rosary



The Third Anniversary of the Men's Public Rosary was held October 3 at St. Joan of Arc Parish Church in downtown Las Vegas. The Church, located at 315 S. Casino Center Blvd., Las Vegas, NV is considered "the Mother Parish of all Catholic churches in Las Vegas."

Photo Below

Prayer leader, Brother Knight Philippe Lucas, (front left) will be joining the priesthood in January. Life Director Mark Gilmour (in back, middle) holds up a "Vote No on 6 NCC Advisory." The Advisory which is bilingual (English and Spanish) was distributed to all in attendance.



Columbus Day March in New York City



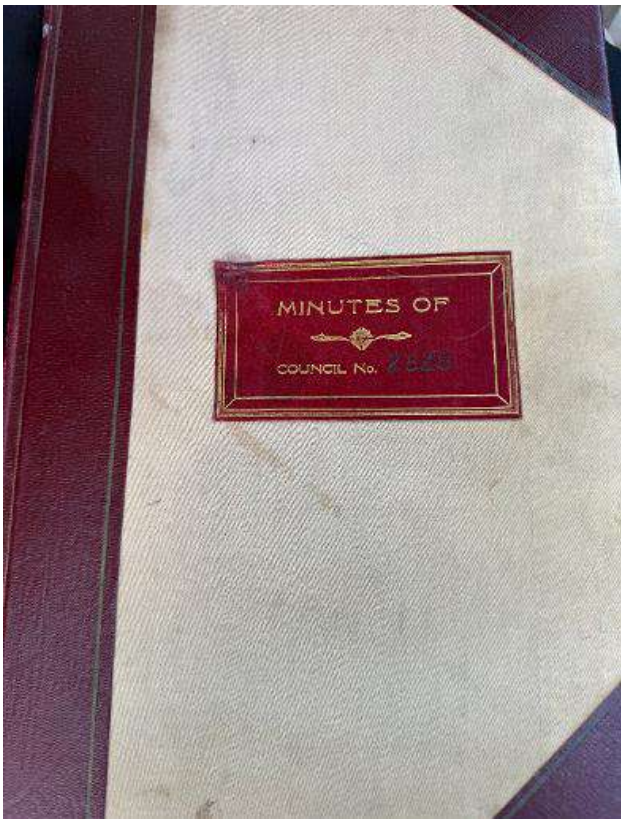
State Deputy David Clark, Marshal Roger Watson, Former Master Rick Sherman, and the Grand Knight from Council 8282, David Auer, paraded down 5th Avenue in New York City on Columbus Day 2026.

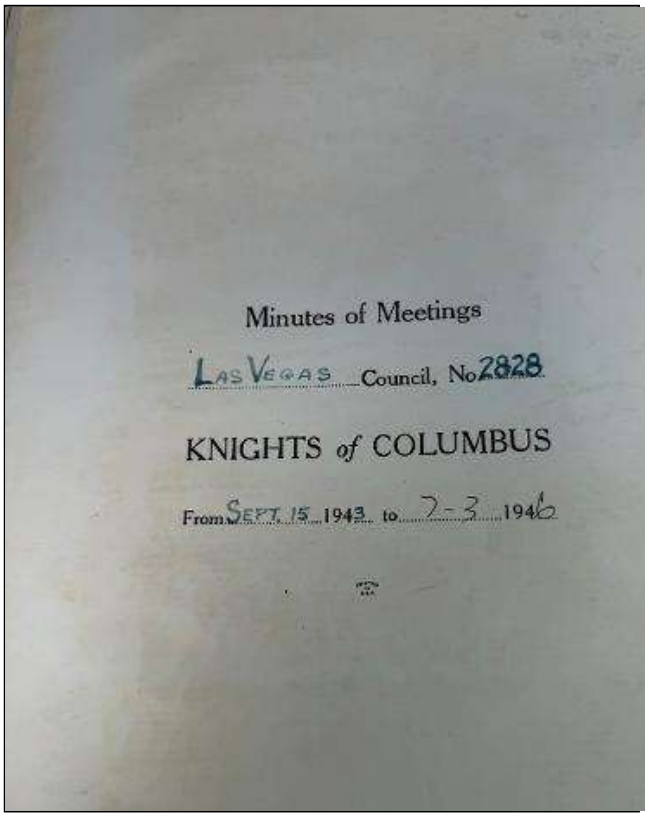


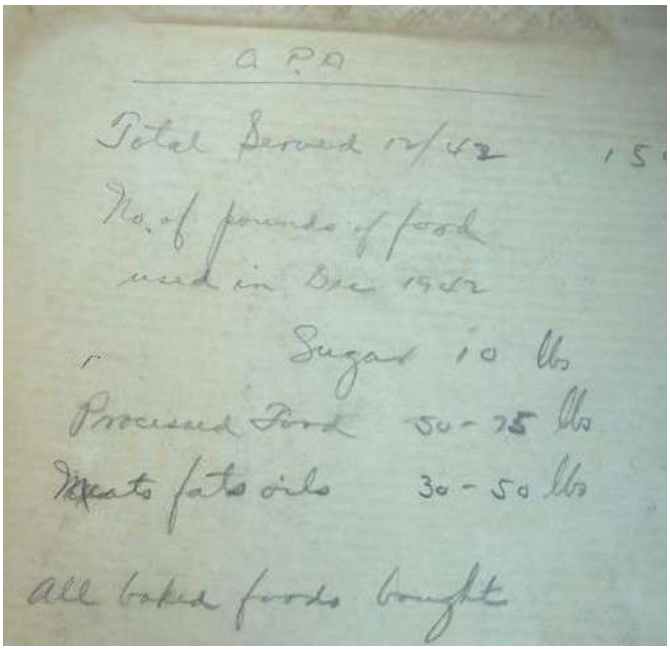


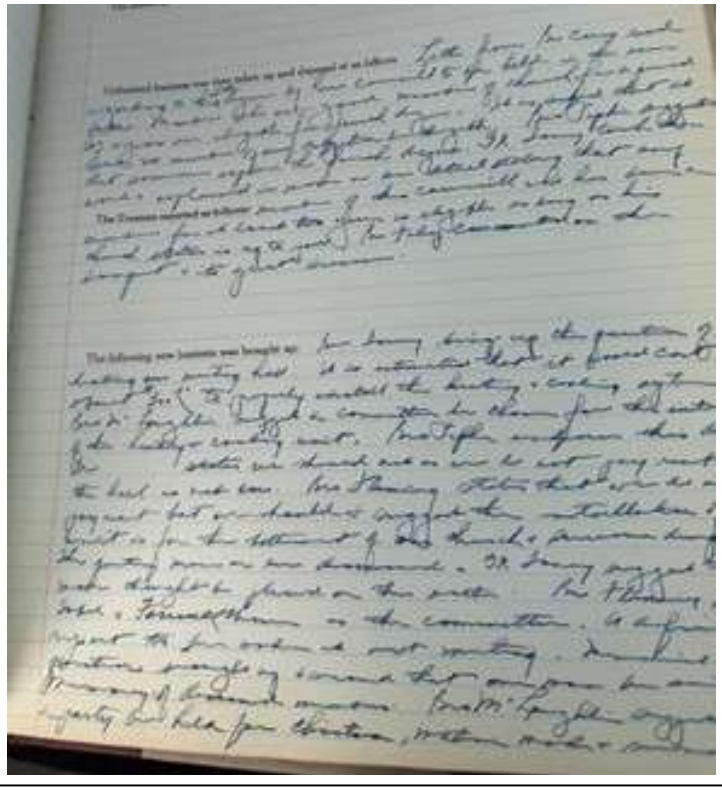
Council Minute Book from the 1940's

District 10 Deputy SK Joseph S Meloro acquired the Minute Book for Las Vegas Council 2828. The Book records the council's proceedings from September 1943 to July 1946.









Star Council/Star District Awards



Council 13944 Grand Knight Mark Munoz receives the Star Council award from the outgoing District 4 Deputy, Peter J. Comerford, in the presence of the current District Deputy, Mike Navin, and State Deputy, David Clarke.

District 1 Deputy Bill Stone receives Star District Award from State Deputy David Clarke



This Month's Photos



The Nevada State Councils sends congratulations to Sir Knight Michael McCusker on his appointment as Senior Vice President for Fraternal Missions and to Sir Knight Jeffrey M. Crouch, our new Supreme Master.

State Deputies from the four corner states (NV, NM, CO, UT, AZ) with Supreme Regional Growth Director. L to R: David Clarke, Jason R. Bowie, Chuck Devlin, Marc Solome, Douglas Shane and Kevin McCarthy



This Month's Photos





Congrats to Saint Patrick's Council 4828 in Fallon, NV recipients of the Q1 membership growth incentive



Installation of Officers Council 4828 on October 21, 2027