

Faithful Navigator's Message

Ed Polich

"To Get What We Have Never Had, We Must do What We Have Never Done"

Sir Knights,

At our January business meeting, the Richmond Assembly was host to a Multi-Assembly Renewal of Obligations. It was a beautiful ceremony and we served

dinner to 41 Sir Knights. We were honored to have the State Deputy of Virginia, SK Michael J. Gasper present as well as two Past State Deputies in attendance. Past State Deputy and Current Executive Secretary, SK Kelly Mortensen presided.



Four short days later, many SKs participated in the March for Life in Washington. Buses left from many Councils in Richmond transporting the many marchers to the Washington Mall.

The next Exemplification of the Fourth Degree will be held **April 1** at George Brent Council #5332 in Manassas – a one-day event up and back. Now is the time to ask your Third Degree Brother Knights from your home Councils to take this important next step in their journey to full Knighthood. If you never ask...they will never know. The Assembly would like to present a large class to the Master for this degree.

In this year of Renewal, the Assembly's major focus over the next several months will be planning for our main Patriotic Service project, The Little Sisters of the Poor Annual Richmond French Food Festival.

The Little Sisters of the Poor quietly provides assisted living, nursing, and hospice care to the elderly poor since 1839, and since 1874 in Richmond, at St. Joseph Home for the Aged. They help more than 31,000 people in 31 countries; bringing happiness to daily lives and dignity to the dying. They have outlasted the US Health and Human Services mandate that they pay for abortive medical procedures and drugs for their employees. They do all of this with very little money.

For the past eight years, World Renowned SK, Chef Paul Elbling, with help from St. Mary's Council 14129 Culinary Team, has led the Richmond French Food Festival to raise funds to keep St. Joseph Home for the Aged a viable opportunity for the elderly poor to receive the care they need. The growth and sheer size of the Festival now requires more manpower than ever before.

This April, Richmond Assembly #1165 Sir Knights will serve as "assistants" to the many chefs preparing the many different French dishes throughout the festival. We will ask you to volunteer some of your time to this event. We need your help and a strong turnout from the Assembly. I am confident that you will help where and when you can.

Worthy Sir Knights, we are called to demonstrate our patriotism by serving in this event. By the Little Sisters example of charitable good works for the aged, and by the Richmond Assembly's visible example of our good works, together we will build greater awareness to the Little Sisters of the Poor and patriotism to our country.

God Bless each of you and your families.

Fraternal Report

Jim Riendeau

Deaths

Pray for the repose of the souls of:

- SK Francis Regis Etz

Dear Brothers and Sir Knights,

In the summer of 1980 as a young seminarian, the Archbishop of Miami asked me to work at the Diocesan Emergency Pregnancy Center. I was to meet women, perform pregnancy tests and provide simple counseling. I met more than 1,200 women during those three months, and I learned that there was much more to abortion than the mother and the baby. It involves the unsupportive father, the family and ultimately had a disastrous effect on the family unit.

Women who decided to ride out their pregnancy always spoke about their "baby," while those who called it a fetus were prone to opt for abortion. We provided counseling for women who had already gone through the abortion process. The taking of innocent life left these women scarred for life with great need for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We now also have to fight the abortion mill known as "Planned Parenthood" where "women's reproductive services" means that they make a great deal of money and kill so many babies.

Today, for the first time, we are seeing the wind blow at our backs. Our young people are realizing in great numbers that abortion is wrong and that life is a gift given only by our God who loves us, cares for us, and ultimately calls us back to Himself.

We cannot stop praying feverishly as we continue to fight hard to insure that every baby, from conception to natural death is guaranteed his/her God-given right to life.

Now is the time to intensify our work and prayers as we find that the tide of death is slowly being defeated and our God has been returned to rule our nation. God bless you all and God bless America.

Deacon Armando de Leon

Eagle Wings

Published by:
Knights of Columbus – Fourth Degree
Richmond Assembly #1165

Editor:.....**Eric May**..270-5308
eric_w._may@juno.com

Opinions expressed in the Eagle Wings are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of Richmond Assembly, the Faithful Navigator or the Officers of the Assembly.

Assembly Officers (2016 / 2017):

- Faithful Navigator.....**Ed Polich**..314-1065
edpolich@verizon.net
- Faithful Friar. **Fr. Adrian Harmening, O.S.B.**..708-9519
aharmening@benedictinecollegeprep.org
- Faithful Captain.....**Sean Connor**..217-9560
seanpconnor@verizon.net..387-6772
- Faithful Pilot.....**Mike Szablak**..612-845-6357
mszablak@verizon.net
- Faithful Comptroller.....**Andrew Cox**..755-6203
andyj31524@gmail.com
- Faithful Purser.....**Terry Martin**..347-6663
tmartinmss@gmail.com
- Faithful Scribe.....**Matt Zahl**..440-821-2633
mattzahl@aol.com
- Faithful Inner Sentinel.....**Roy Ambler**...
rjamblor@verizon.net
- Faithful Outer Sentinel.....**Scott Moffett**..310-6167
scott.moffett@gmail.com
- Faithful Admiral.....**Tom Duck**..399-6827
tomduck0821@gmail.com
- 3-Year Trustee.....**Ted Puchalski**..467-3035
tpuchalski@potomacenv.com
- 2-Year Trustee.....**Edward Whitlock**..212-8350
ewhitlock@lawplc.com
- 1-Year Trustee.....**Robert Lang**..241-2033
vaduke@aol.com
- Guard Commander.....**Edward Whitlock**..212-8350
ewhitlock@lawplc.com
- Fraternal Chairman.....**Jim Riendeau**..402-7258
angelrest@comcast.net
- Membership Chairman.....**Vince Eikmeier**..262-6181
mr.vince.eikmeier@gmail.com

- **Rosemary M. May** (Mother of **Eric May**)
- **Ryan Malone**, son of **Chris** and **Nancy Malone**
- **Patrick Polich**, brother of **Bob Polich**, and uncle of **Ed Polich**.

Sick

Offer prayers of healing for the following:

Fr. Adrian Harmening, Brenda Riendeau, Jerry Nolte, Paul Spera, Bob Irwin, Dale Matanic, Dist. Deputy Joe Dobbins, Grace Kalil, Carolyn Young, Dennis Deaner, Sherry Glover, Chris Young, Jerry Shaw, Jim Glover, Andy Cox,

younger brother Francis, Andy Cox Wife Kate, Larry Floyd, Chris Cullen’s younger Brother, Roy Ambler’s wife, recovering from surgery, Fr. George Zahn, Leah Hoffman, Chris Headley’s Mother, Charlotte Headley (Stroke), Deacon Wayne Snellings, Paul Bright, and our Wounded Service members.

Anniversaries

SK Celso U. and Teresita Tabilas, Feb 1st (No year given - please advise)

SK Robert M. and Agnes Lacourse, 40th on Feb. 14

SK Charles L. and Kate Keeler, 33rd on Feb. 18

SK Emidio and Peggy Lupini, 54th on Feb. 23

SK James and Brenda Riendeau, 55th on Feb. 24

Happy Anniversary to All

Contact me at angelrest@comcast.net or by phone at 804-402-7258.

Highlights of January Meeting

The business meeting was held at the Columbian Center following the Renewal of Obligations Ceremony

Faithful Navigator Report

Ed Polich thanked all for their support and thanked members of Council 395 for hosting the Renewal of Obligations Ceremony and business meeting.

The next meeting will be held on **February 27** at St. Mary’s Church.

The Christmas Luncheon / Meeting was held on December 10 at St. Mary’s Gym/Parish Hall. There was

The next Exemplification will be on **April 1** at George Brent Council #5332 – One day event up and back (Manassas).

We have the ability to transfer in several SKs from other Assemblies. Fr. Jim Arsenaault was just transferred into our Assembly. Remember, the Question we should ask is NOT “Would you like to join the Fourth Degree?” The question we must ask is “Why are you not a Fourth Degree member?”

This year's Honor Flight will be on **Saturday, April 22**. Let the FN know your availability.

Projects / Leaders

Little Sisters of the Poor French Food Festival - Who can help me coordinate this event? This will be our major Patriotic Program this year.

Awards & Recognition

SK of the Month – **Mike Szablak**

Notices of Communications

A letter from Patrick Walsh - The seminarian thanked the Assembly for the donation that we made. He was grateful, as it will help in his studies.

A letter from the family of Walter Burlington Jr. - The family thanked all those brother Knights that came to support their family during this hard time and their loss. Great thanks given to all the SK’s that performed in the Color Corp.

A letter from Ed Gilikin on March for Life - March For Life Rally in Washington D.C. on Friday January. 27. - Knights of Columbus will provide FREE bus transportation for people in the Richmond metro area to attend this event but seating is limited and by reservation only.

Faithful Comptroller Report

December 1 through December 31, 2016

Membership:

Beginning of the Period: 253
composed of:

Honorary Members 2
Honorary Life members 44
Regular Members 207

Adjustments to membership None
Note: F Regis Etz Honorary Life member, passed away in January

Membership at end of the period: 253

E Mail Dues Requests for 2017 dues were sent to all Sir Knights by 12.26.16. As of Sunday, 1.15.17, 36 Sir Knights have paid their dues for 2017. Second notices will be sent on 1.30.17

Financial Information: Receipts:

Christmas Lunch Proceeds: \$430.00
Disbursements: 7 vouchers \$1446.87

Faithful Purser Report

January

Beginning of period: \$6,749.79
Funds received from Controller:
Funds deposited: \$1,082.00

Deposits in transit:	
Withdrawals/debits:	\$2,448.44
Ending balance :	\$5,383.35
Since Last Meeting	
Deposit Total	\$0.00
Dollar value of checks issued:	\$1,400.00
Funds balance:	\$3,983.35
Number of checks written over \$200:	1
4672 - Seminarian Support	\$500.00

Report for the Color Corps

Eddie Whitlock reported that to stay sharp, the Colors Corps will practice (upon request) from 6:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Assembly meeting nights. Please bring your swords, service baldrics and white gloves.

This past month the Color Corps participated in the following events: Internment of Angels on 1/11/2017: FN Ed Polich, SK Roy Ambler, PFN Whitey Keller, CCC & PFN Eddie Whitlock were in attendance.

Upcoming events

Next Internment of Angels are **May 10**, and **September 13**, (Wednesdays) at 9:30AM

Unfinished/ Old Business

None

Trustees Report

None

New Business

None

General

Ed Gillikin thanked the Richmond Assembly for hosting the Renewal of Obligations / The next Fourth Degree Exemplification is **April 1** in Manassas.

SK Matthew Zahl acknowledged the annual \$200 donation to the Girl Scouts for cookies (50 Boxes) that are to be donated to the USO.

Report of the Third Degree

395 – February 4 is the Brunswick Stew Sale / Feb 5 is the Super Bowl party. It is a pot luck, usually consisting of an assortment of chilis and great soups.

St. Benedict – None

St. Bridget – January 24 a holy hour from 7 to 8pm. Selling of chili for super bowl \$7 per quart

St. Mary – Just had Polish Night / Pilgrimage in February.11 / **March 18** is

Irish Night / \$1000 donation to the St. Francis home

St. Michael – Bingo night was two weeks ago, one more coming up in March. / Friday Fish Fries coming for Lent.

St Paul - None

Vietnamese Martyrs – None

Bishop Ireton – None

Odds & Ends

Vice President Speaks At March For Life

1/27/2017

WASHINGTON — On Friday, Jan. 27, just days after the presidential inauguration, Vice President Mike Pence spoke to tens of thousands, including members of the Knights of Columbus, gathered to participate in the 2017 March for Life.

The event has taken place every January since 1974, on or near the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion throughout the nation.

The event kicked off with a rally sponsored by the March for Life Education and Defense Fund, which was born out of the grassroots movement that gathered on the first anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

At the rally, Vice President Pence, the highest ranking government official to attend the event during its 44-year history, said, “I am deeply

humbled to be the first vice president of the United States ever to attend this event.” On behalf of President Trump, he also thanked the attendees for their stand for life and their compassion for the women and children of America.

Citing the Mexico City Policy that restricts funding for abortion services to foreign countries, Pence assured pro-lifers that the Trump administration will continue to devote its time and energy to making America a country for life,

announcing that President Trump will name a pro-life Supreme Court nominee next week.

“We’ve come to a historic moment in the cause for life,” he said. “Compassion is overcoming convenience, and hope is defeating despair. . . . In a word, life is winning in America because of all of you.” He added, “Be assured that along with you, we will not grow wearied, we will not rest, until we restore a culture of life in America for ourselves and for our posterity.”

The rally began with the introduction of Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund, by Deputy Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, who referred to the march as “the largest annual civil rights gathering in the world.” After greeting the crowds, Mancini welcomed Kellyanne Conway, senior counselor to President Trump.

“I am a wife, a mother, a Catholic, counselor to the president of the United States of America. And yes, I am pro-life,” Conway told the crowd. “It is such an honor to stand with the vice president of the United States and with students from places near and far to defend the unborn. This is a new day, a new dawn for life.”

“Why are we here? What does it mean to stand together?” she continued. “It means to protect and promote the most precious

gift in the world, the gift of life.”

The number of attendees at the pro-life march has grown throughout the years, with attendees coming not just from nearby



states but from across the country to participate. This year, the marching crowd grew following the rally, reaching — according to EWTN reporters at the event — approximately half a million attendees.

Their attendance supports the Marist polling commissioned by the Knights of Columbus in 2016, which showed that the majority of Americans see abortion as both ultimately harmful to women and morally wrong.

Of those polled, 55 percent of Americans agreed that abortion ultimately does a woman more harm than good — an opinion equally shared by both the men and women polled. By contrast, only about 1 in 10 Americans believe there should be no restrictions on abortion.

“Year in and year out since we began polling on this issue, the American people have understood that the law can protect mother and child alike and have expressed a strong consensus in favor of abortion restrictions,” said Supreme Knight Anderson. “It is time for a new national conversation on abortion, one that begins with this consensus in favor of restrictions — a consensus that

American women and men have already reached.”

This year, as in past years, the crowd at the March for Life consisted of people of all faiths and political backgrounds. Countless pro-life banners and flags were on display, including the thousands of Knights of Columbus “Defend Life” and “Choose Life” signs distributed by the D.C. State Council. Many participants attended with their families and young children. Others, such as college and high school students, traveled together on parish- or school-sponsored buses.

Armed with cell phones, many marchers shared their support of life on social media using the hashtag #PowerofOne,

which was the hopeful theme of this year’s march. The theme emphasized the power that each individual person can have in building a culture that protects life at each and every stage.

Following the rally, the nearly 2-mile march began from the National Mall and progressed past the U.S. Capitol before concluding at the Supreme Court building.

Standing together, marchers once more defended the weakest in society. It is a cause that has endured both weather and time as people continue to make a stand — or in this case, a march — for life.

Editor’s Corner

Submissions to the *Eagle Wings* can be made in the following ways:

E-Mail: eric_w._may@juno.com

Phone: 270-5308 (Home)
291-8687 (Mobile)

Snail Mail: 4816 Fort McHenry Parkway
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Since I do not type well, I beg of you, please provide your submissions in electronic format, if at all possible. If not, a clearly typed document can be scanned, if necessary.

Submission deadline for the March issue is:

2/27/2017

Upcoming Events

February

27 Mon 6:15PM Business Meeting - St. Mary

Check the Assembly Site on the Web. The location is:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Richmond_Assy