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**SAINT MARY OF THE HILLS**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**COUNCIL 13950**  
**JANUARY 2012**

I hope you and your families had a beautiful Christmas and I wish you all a healthy new year. I spent my Christmas in sunny California with one of my daughters which was great, but it's good to be home.

Well, we may be in a new calendar year but we are half way through our KofC fiscal year. We have been challenged by State Supreme to add at least ten (10) **new members** this year which ends the end of June. So the problem is: we ain't added any NEW MEMBERS since last July. **HOW ABOUT IT? Will some of you 100 INACTIVE BROTHERS step up and help us make our quota?** I certainly hope this isn't the old excuse, "I'm too busy...let the others do it". All it takes is to approach a fellow Catholic in good standing with the Church who is 18 or older and explain the workings of our council and if they appear somewhat interested, hand them an application. Tell them of the **benefits of being a Knight**. Also, explain to them the little amount of time we ask of them: **one and a half hours once a month**. Let's get some young blood involved: sons and nephews, high school/college graduates, neighbors and their sons. They're out there they just need to be asked. Further, explain how we serve the various charities: the Intellectually Disabled through our raising of funds (Tootsie Roll & Millionaire's drives)

Our **ATTENDANCE RAFFLE** is going strong, however, to date, nobody has won. So...our next raffle (Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> meeting) will exceed \$150 bucks. I'd say that's a good incentive to attend. Unfortunately, **John Klemmer** missed out on the \$150. Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. I hope we have a winner on Feb 21<sup>st</sup>.

The cold weather came in with a vengeance. SK Frank Walkiewicz has done a terrific job helping to feed the homeless in **MANNA MEALS** downtown. Now they are in need of **warm clothes**. Please recheck your closets for any warm clothes you haven't worn in over a year and bring them to the coatroom at St. Mary's. Bag them and mark the bag for Frank's attention.

Our annual **ESSAY CONTEST** is coming to a close. Please contact SK Forrest Cooper for more information. (fcoops@aol.com).

Our Knight of the Month award (January) was given to SK Bob Jackson. Bob has devoted so much of his time as our Advocate and beyond that, he developed and runs our **MILLIONAIRE'S NIGHTS** and our **FREE THROW CONTEST**. Lady Debbie (his wife) must be a saint to give so much time being without him.

Our Family of the Month award went to our worthy District Deputy SK John and Lady Elizabeth Hundiak acknowledging their contributions to SMOTH activities as well as to our council. Congratulations to John & Elizabeth, and Bob and mucho thanks for all you do to exemplify the Knights.

Our December Millionaire's Nights were again, very successful and lucrative. Our 2012 Millionaire's Nights will start in April. Read the church bulletin for the dates as we get closer. It is because of these **MILLIONAIRE'S NIGHTS** that we derive the funds to support **THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS** and **RARA'S SUMMER CAMP** for disabled children. Further, if you devote at least four hours volunteering to help, you will receive a SMOTH's KofC shirt.

Our "Tootsie Roll" drive (which raises funds for **INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES**) is also coming up in April. Our brother Knights Rick Diem assisted by Bob Choma ran our Fall

drive successfully. However, Rick who has been running them for the last eight (8) times is going to retire from this activity after our April drive. **We need a new chairman** to take on the duties for the Fall drive. Rick and Bob have agreed to help a new chairman. **Come on inactive members** pitch in and help.

We will be serving Coffee & Donuts on May 13<sup>th</sup> a great time to “**put the arm on potential new members**” I ask you to mark this date on your calendar and please let's have a *multitude* of members attend. That puts us near the end of our year with very little time left to attain our quota.

A major event we have done through the efforts of our State Program Director SK Paul Thorn and Lady Sue Thorn along with other members of our council was to join **THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR THE RIGHT TO LIFE.**

A little more of what our council does: we donate \$125 a month to **MANNA MEALS**, we financially support one of our **SEMINARIANS**, we have donated monetary awards to **HFRS'SPELLING BEE** winner. More: through the efforts of SK Bill Travnik and his wife Lady Blanche we financially sponsor **JOHN LOUIE (BOKNEY) IN THE PHILIPPINES**, a young fellow who, I believe, is going on nine years old.

Brother Knight Bob Sheldrick and his wife Margaret have been running SMOTH'S **BLOOD DRIVE** for many years. Although, this may be outside our council's purview, it's one of our Knights in Action doing Community work. Thanks Marge & Bob.

I respectfully submit this to you in an effort to alert you to what's happening in our council. We have undertaken many functions, some of which, I have listed above. Now, I ask **are you part of our council or do you just belong.** We are in need of “new blood” to help run some of our events. Come to our meetings: the third Tuesday of every month. We will not pressure you to take on anything you can't handle. But we at least need your suggestions and ideas.

**VIVAT JESUS!**

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