

Knights of Columbus Council 7186

Year End Status Report

May 16, 2003



Worthy State Officers,

Council 7186 was chartered on August 21, 2002 so this report covers our first fraternal year. Our charter included 38 members and over the course of the year we increased this number to 62 while advancing many of our members through the higher degrees of the order. Our council coordinated an average of 1 activity per week and firmly established ourselves as significant contributors to St. Mary Magdalene's Parish and School.

Membership

Due to the efforts of our Membership Director, Bob Annunziata, we added approximately 38 new members to the order and advanced half to the 2nd or 3rd degree. Included in our membership is Fr. Donald Staib, our pastor, Bob Cadran, principal of the school and several members of the Parish Council. Of course, we count many terrific men and their families in our membership as well. St. Mary Magdalene's is a rich source of quality candidates for Knighthood so I expect our numbers to steadily increase for the foreseeable future.

Service

Most of our members have families and school-age children, so much of our focus has been to support the parish and school. For example, we donated a Christmas tree to the school and hosted a father/child social where the kids made ornaments for decorations. We have contributed in many other ways, such as landscaping around the building and setting up for weekend masses in the multi-purpose room.

We have worked with the youth on several occasions as well. Our council hosted the Local and District Free Throw competitions. When the Scouts needed help with their Scout Sunday celebration the Knights donated money for the awards, prepared refreshments and attended the ceremony as a sign of support. We invited the Apex FD to hold a Safety Night presentation open to all parishioners, which was wildly successful with the kids and I think the parents had fun as well.

We have contributed to the community in many ways. For example, we collected nearly \$1,300 in our first Operation LAMB drive. We are also ramping-up for the Summer Read-A-Thon program to increase our LAMB contributions. Several of our members volunteer with Habitat-for-Humanity on local housing projects. Our first blood drive received overwhelming response and resulted in collection of 58 pints of blood, so we now have regularly scheduled drives.

Several of our members interact with Fr. Staib to reinforce the fact that we appreciate and support his efforts. We are always looking for ways to help Fr. Staib and make him feel

part of our Council. This year we also adopted a seminarian under the RSVP program and set goals in place to provide him as much assistance as possible.

Ceremonials

On April 3rd our council held its inaugural First Degree Exemplification. The Degree Team performed spectacularly and were thereafter certified by the District Deputy #5 Carl Dappen. The men on our Degree Team are truly model Knights and reflect the principles taught in the degree.

We also hosted a 2nd Degree for District #5 on February 28th for 18 candidates from 3 different councils. It was quite a challenge for the degree team due to the number of candidates, but everything went well.

Audits/Finances

Our council has the benefit of a knowledgeable and diligent Treasurer and Financial Secretary. When the Trustees met last January to audit the books they found everything in order.

We will end the year with a little over \$3,000 in the bank thanks to the generous contributions of our brother Knights and several successful fundraisers. A committee is already working on a budget for next year to insure we stay on firm financial ground.

Summary

I'm very appreciative for the opportunity to have been Charter Grand Knight for the Fr. H. Charles Mulholland Council 7186. My prayers are that the council will continue to flourish for many years to come, and with the quality of the membership I have no reason to expect anything less.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Prewitt
Grand Knight
Council 7186