Stephen Schlesselmann

District Deputy's Report

August, 2008

A Spiritual Thought

On August 15, we will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady's Assumption into heaven. One attribute of Mary emphasized that day is Mary's humility. As **St. Josemaria de Balaguer** states in the Furrow: **"**Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae – because he has looked graciously upon the lowliness of his handmaid…I am more convinced every day that authentic humility is the supernatural basis for all virtues! Talk to Our Lady, so that she may train us to walk along that path.**"** (**page 349 of the Way/Furrow/the Forge by St. Josemaria de Balaguer**).

Before starting my report, I wanted to add my voice to all of those thanking our firefighters for their wonderful service to our community especially in early July. Without them, much of our community here in Goleta might have been reduced to ashes. They did a great job protecting our homes. THANK YOU, FIREFIGHTERS!

Degrees:

1) Council 10067 held their 1st Degree at Sacred Heart Church on July 2 just prior to their business meeting. Four new Brother Knights joined our Order that evening including Fr. Henry (another priest from Ghana). It was a very impressive ceremony.
2) Council 5300 will be holding a 1st Degree at their business meeting on Monday, September 8 at St. Raphael's Church Hall. Candidates should be there at 7 PM with the degree to start at 7:30 PM.
3) Council 1684 will be holding a 2nd degree at Serra Hall on Wednesday, September 10 at 7:30 PM in Serra Hall. Candidates should be there at 7 PM.
4) The next 3rd Degree in the district is tentatively set for September 21, 2008 at Serra Hall in Santa Barbara. I'm still awaiting confirmation from the State and as soon as it arrives, I'll pass the information on and will start advertising the details of the event.

Awards

The final district and council totals have been tallied for the 2007-2008 Columbian Year. The totals are as follows:
District Totals – 96.88% of the quota for membership and 82.35% for insurance (unfortunately, the totals reported by myself previously did not include the Ojai suspended council).
Council 1684 qualified for the Founders Award by attaining 133.33% of their quota for insurance. Council 1684's membership gain was 71.43%.
Council 5300 qualified for the Star Council by attaining 140.00% of their quota for both membership and insurance.
Council 10067 qualified for the Double Star Council Award by attaining 220.00% of their quota for membership and 133.33% of their quota for insurance for the year.
Council 13756 reached 20% of their quota for membership but was a negative 33.33% of their quota for insurance.
Congratulations to all the councils who received awards for the year!

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Programs:

Council 1684 had a quiet month of July. At the officer's meeting on July 9, GK Mark Wietstock made a very impassioned argument in favor of Proposition 8, the Marriage Amendment. Brother Mark intends to do all he can to support the passage of the amendment. Let's all get behind him. On July 27, the council held a memorial service for PGK Jack Nelson who died in June after returning from a trip. Finally, Council 1684 will be manning a soda booth at Mercado del Norte (McKenzie Park) during Fiesta Week from July 30 to August 2.

Council 5300 also had a quiet month of July. On July 7, PGK Francisco Cabrera thanked his officers by hosting a dinner for all of them just before the officers' meeting. At one point, the power went off due to the Gap Fire. Our officers' meeting that evening was held in the fading daylight outside. The council will also be manning a soda booth at De la Guerra Plaza during Fiesta Week.

Aside from the First Degree mentioned above, Council 10067 has been hosting their usual dinners and breakfasts.

Council 13756 assisted St. Joseph's Parish with their annual Fiesta held on July 11-13. The event was a resounding success and according to reports, it was the best attended Fiesta in recent memory. GK Rufino Murillo and other Knights helped set up the booths and were responsible for overseeing much of the food preparation. Brother David Farebrother was in charge of the dime toss booth which was crowded almost the entire event.

Other Notes:

1) The DD convention took place on June 28 and June 29. I'll be hosting the District meeting to summarize and convey the information from the convention on August 2 in Carpinteria from 1 to 3 PM. Everyone is welcome. If you want a copy of the agenda, please let me know and I'll email you a copy of it as soon as it is ready.
2) Right now, the district is at 0% of membership and 0% of insurance. During the month of July, we gained 6 new members and 2 new insurance members but dropped the same amount due to drops held over from the 2007-2008 Columbian Year. Further, as mentioned in my last report, several councils in the district have a significant number of potential drops so we have our work cut out for us.
3) As I state every month, there are plenty of potential members who can join our Order. All we have to do is ask. When you are recruiting, mention to potential members that they will be joining a fraternity that was founded by a future saint. At the State Convention, our Supreme Director, Emilio Moure gave us a challenge. Emilio asked each Brother Knight present to recruit 2 new Knights before the end of the Columbian Year. In line with Emilio's challenge, I'm adding a challenge of my own, between now and June 30, 2009, I would like each one of you to recruit 2 new Knights into our Order. If you do, you may be eligible for the Shining Armor Award.
4) **The following form is due soon**: 1295-Semi Annual Audit – August 15.

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5) The next Chapter meeting is on Wednesday, September 3 in Santa Barbara. The Chapter Officer installation is the same night.
6) The Chapter will be attending a Protect Marriage and Sarah's Law workshop on Saturday, September 13 at St. Pascal Baylon Church in Thousand Oaks. If you are interested in attending, please let me know and I'll pass along the details.
7) I'll be following up with the Santa Ynez Mission about starting a council at that parish shortly. We already have 3 Brother Knights who joined Council 5300 with the plan of transferring to Santa Ynez as soon as a council can be formed there.
8) The position of District Warden is still open to anyone who wants to apply although Brother Bobby Sanchez from Council 1684 may be interested in the position. I'll only be serving as your District Deputy until June 30, 2009, so now is the chance for a Brother Knight to step up and learn the job. The job does require work but the rewards are well worth it!
9) Family Week is coming up from August 9 to 17. During that week, we will be commemorating Fr. McGivney's birth on August 12, 1852 and his death on August 14, 1890.
10) The 126th Annual Supreme Convention will be held in Quebec City this year from August 5 to 7. Much of it will be televised and streamed over the internet. For more information, please visit www.kofc.org.
11) Please continue to pray for all of our sick and deceased Knights in the district including Judy Klinge (PCP Brian Klinge's wife) who is suffering from various illnesses, PGK Jack Nelson (Council 1684) and Brother Tom Hall (Council 10067) who both died recently.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, you can contact me at (805) 968-9440 or by email at sjschlesselmann@cox.net.

Stephen Schlesselmann
District Deputy #62