

# VALLEY VIEWS JANUARY 2011



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**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
 Long Green Valley Council  
 No. 8736  
 Hydes, Maryland 21082  
 Established June 25, 1984  
**Staff**  
 Ted Burns  
 Bill Davison  
 Tom & Jane Zaegel  
 Volume 27, No. 7

## GRAND KNIGHTS REPORT

[Tom Zaegel, tomzaegel1@comcast.net](mailto:tomzaegel1@comcast.net)

Dear Brothers,

Happy New Year to all. I hope that you had a wonderful, joyful and blessed Christmas. Once again the car parking at the Christmas Eve Mass went smoothly, and many thanks to Bob Dee and those who helped out. Our Christmas party and dinner was a huge success with about 59 members and spouses in attendance at the council home. The meal was fantastic and the trivia contest following was a lot of fun. Many thanks to Paul and Mary Weber, and those who assisted them, for another outstanding activity.

Immediate Past State Deputy and Council Brother Dick Siejack and Previous District Deputy Brian O'Connor presented the council with the Star Council Award at the Christmas Dinner. I was honored to accept this acknowledgment from Supreme on your behalf. This award is recognition of the outstanding efforts of the entire council in our program areas, achieving our membership growth quota, and exceeding our insurance growth quota. Thank you all for your support and especially to Program Director, Mike Sallese (PGK), 2010 Membership Director, Jim Schmidt, Sr. (PGK), and Brother Jerry Henderson our Benefits Advisor.

We are at the half-way point in our Fraternal Year and will need a major push in order to achieve our goals and repeat as a star council. We need 14 new members, and I hope that all of you will assist the officers and committee leaders in our efforts to invite new members into our family.

I hope that as part of your New Year resolutions you will get more involved in our programs and activities. It is very encouraging to see several of our newer members getting active quickly, even taking officer and program lead roles. But there are still many needs and opportunities for all members to step up and take the lead, or just get involved. Our Council has developed a strong history of active membership, and I ask you all to continue this tradition and proactively volunteer your time and talents. If you cannot make the meetings, I encourage you to keep abreast of our activities and announcements via the council web site and our emails.

May God bless us all throughout 2011, and let us always remember to stay faithful and be grateful.

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



Dear Brother Knights,

Each year as we begin anew, we make resolutions that should make our lives more manageable and even more meaningful. New Years Resolutions can be great motivational tools, but often they are difficult to accomplish for any extended period. How often have we broken our resolution on New Years Day! Why do we make expectations of ourselves that are nearly impossible to reach? The answer may lie in human nature itself or our constant yearning for something better in life. We can get caught up in hopes and dreams that are unrealistic. Maybe this year we can resolve to do something that is within our grasp and truly possible.

Consequently, our resolutions can deal with something that we are able to accomplish. It may even be something that benefits our families, our community, or even our Council. It could be an activity or just simply an attitude adjustment. What is more important, is that our resolution could involve something relatively simple. Each of us can ask ourselves on what we need to work. At home we could be more patient or loving or more generous with our time for the ones whom we love. In our community we can be more active or involved. In our Council, we can take a more active role, but simply attendance at meetings is good for a start. Woody Allen once commented that eighty percent of life is just showing up. Perhaps we can be present or just show up for a few more activities.

These are just a few suggestions. However, each of us knows what needs to be done personally. We could serve ourselves well to resolve to do something within our reach. The hard part may be the activity itself, but if we have the right attitude we may accomplish even more than we expect. We may even find that 2011 is a year to remember.

## SUPREME COUNCIL NEWS In Service to One, in Service to All

The Annual March for Life (normally held on January 22) in Washington, D.C., commemorates the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion on January 22, 1973.

All Knights and their families, particularly those in the greater Washington, D.C., area, and nearby states, are urged to join the march. Councils planning bus trips to Washington should book their charters early. Knights should carry council banners and K of C posters, wear jackets with the K of C emblem, and walk together to show the Order's support for the right to life.

Knights who cannot go to Washington can participate in local or state pro-life demonstrations. State pro-life chaircouples will have information on local activities sponsored or supported by Knights in their jurisdictions.

Knights are urged to schedule prayer services for unborn children at government monuments or participate in other appropriate activities. Invite Squires' circles, ladies' auxiliaries, parish pro-life groups and similar organizations to attend or co-sponsor planned activities.

To assist your pro-life activities, the Supreme Council offers the following materials (all of which are free of charge when ordered in reasonable quantities; there is only a shipping charge):

- The brochure "[A People of Life – And for Life](#)" (#4795) outlines the Order's commitment to reversing the trend toward a culture of death and building a culture that values human life at every stage. The beautifully designed, full-color brochure clearly explains the commonsense and common law basis for the protection of life, and also offers five practical action items to help members, their families and all concerned individuals get involved in building a culture of life. A [poster](#) (#4804) with a similar design is also available.
- 
- "[Defend Life](#)" billboard (#1938 — limit of two per order. Size 10 feet by 20 feet.)
- 
- "Pregnant? ☐ Need help?" Birthright flyer (#1757)
- 
- "Pray the Rosary to End Abortion" poster (#2073) and [prayer card](#) (#2072)
- 
- "Gospel of Life" poster (#4238) and [prayer card](#) (#4237E, F, or S) in English, French or Spanish
- 

These items can be ordered by contacting the Supreme Council Supply Department.

Finally, the Catholic Information Service has a booklet, *The Sixth and Ninth Commandments: Sexual Morality*, which can be ordered by calling 203-752-4267.

For more information on the annual March for Life, contact the March for Life at 202-543-3377 or at [www.marchforlife.org](http://www.marchforlife.org).

## STATE NEWS



The December issue (January's issue not published as we print our newsletter) of the Maryland State Council's news bulletin, "THE BEACON", has as its lead article one that is of much interest to Maryland members of the Knights of Columbus. It is the chartering of the Commodore John Barry Council, No. 14534 for the US. Naval Academy.

There is also an article about a new Pro-Life award set up to honor "Bud" Peroutka. The first recipient is Charles Suraci, of Fr. Rosensteel Council.

Both of these articles should be on the reading list of all Council members. You can find the "Beacon" at [www.kofc-md.org/docs1011/beacon.pdf](http://www.kofc-md.org/docs1011/beacon.pdf)

## DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT

Jim Cross, PGK ; 410-893-1266; James.cross@comcast.net

Every Council a Star Council      numbers as of 12/13/2010

Co uncil #/Goals	New Members	Dropped Members	Net Membership Increase	Net Insurance Increase
8736 / 14-5	5	6	-1	-1
9815 / 7-3	2	0	2	2
10100 / 7-3	3	0	3	1
11372 / 18-6	2	0	2	0
District Total	12	6	26%	11.7%

Star District Goals: 46 New Members; 17 Insurance Members

There are a lot of men out there that need the Knights of Columbus. Find them and ask them to join us.

A few key dates, to remember: Mid Term Meeting Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. First Degrees February 21st at Fr. Wolfe and January 25th at Long Green Valley. A 2<sup>nd</sup> degree will be held at Fr Wolfe on March 23rd. Third Degrees will be held at Dundalk February 26<sup>th</sup> and Cardinal Gibbons on March 18th. March for Life will be held in Washington DC on Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>./

Vivat Jesus!  
Jim Cross, District Deputy

## BALTIMORE CHAPTER OF GRAND KNIGHTS NEWS

Sam Orlando, President, 410 531 3691; samorlando6@yahoo.com

One of the Chapter's mission goals is to enable charitable programs for those children and adults who are vulnerable and less advantaged. The Chapter is committed to making a difference in the lives of the children who attend/reside at the Villa Maria School at the St Vincent's Center and Gallagher Services for People with Developmental Disabilities in Timonium, MD. To that end, our just completed successful event was the Christmas Party at Villa Maria/Gallagher Centers. On December 4, 2010, we provided over 400 breakfasts, entertainment, Santa Claus and presents. In early summer, we will be providing a picnic gala with rides, prizes and food. To help defray our costs, your charitable contribution (Tax deductible) is greatly appreciated. If you have not sent in your donation, please do and if you have, may God Bless you.

This month's meeting will be held at Santa Nino Council #9462 on January 13, 2011 at 8:00PM. Besides the good food and great hospitality that this council provides, our theme will be **"OMG I am too late!!!! Or am I?"** (Ways to reach Star council even if you are behind. An interactive discussion of the three aspects of STAR council). This will be entertaining so please consider bringing your membership chairman and anybody else interested in advancing your council.

On February 4th, the Chapter will celebrate its 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary with a dinner dance at Cardinal Gibbons Council #2521. A separate flyer is attached.

On behalf of my wife, my fellow chapter officers and I, we hoped everyone had a beautiful and merry Christmas and will have a happy and prosperous New Year.

Remember the Chapter is Keeping the Dream Alive – Over a Century of Service and Tradition.

God Bless

## **FOURTH DEGREE NEWS**

**Archbishop John Carroll Assembly 2378,**  
**Faithful Navigator Mike Novak 410 515 6867; [j.m.novak@comcast.net](mailto:j.m.novak@comcast.net)**



**On Thursday January 20th The Archbishop John Carroll Assembly (4th Degree) will hold our Renewal of Obligations at Fr. Wolfe Council - St Francis De Sales - 8:00PM. Kilduff Hall. The Dress for the evening for Officers is tuxedo. Tuxedos are requested for all but a dark business suite is permissible.**

Our annual 4th Degree Exemplification will take place at the Holiday Inn & Conference Center in Fredrick, Maryland on April 9, 2011.

The Fourth Degree ritual added patriotism to the three original principles of the Order: charity, unity and fraternity. Any Third Degree member in good standing, six months after the anniversary of his First Degree, is eligible for membership in the Fourth Degree. The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism by promoting responsible citizenship and a love of and loyalty to the Knights' respective country through active membership in local Fourth Degree groups called Assemblies. Fourth Degree members must retain their membership as Third Degree members in their respective council to remain in good standing.

**If you are interested in becoming a member of the 4th Degree you can contact me at 443 402-1534 or [j.m.novak@comcast.net](mailto:j.m.novak@comcast.net)**

## **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Chuck Bogdanowicz, PGK: 410-592-5913; [chuckbog@msn.com](mailto:chuckbog@msn.com)**

As a reminder, I want to again mention the names of the 4 new members who completed their First Degree in November so you can introduce yourself to them and make them feel at home. They are: John Valega, Mike Patterson, John Richards and Steve Harris. We will be having another First Degree Exemplification on January 25th during our Social Meeting. At this time it looks like we may have 5 candidates.

One of our goals this fraternal year is to get all the members in need of their Second and Third Degree completed. There is a Second Degree on February 15, at Notre Dame Council. We are planning on attending the Third Degree at Dundalk Council on February 26. There is also a Third Degree at Cardinal Gibbons Council on March 18. Please keep these dates open if you need these degrees. The membership team will be contacting you as these dates draw closer.

## **FRATERNAL BENEFITS**

Jerry Henderson, 443 752 1694; [gerald.henderson@kofc.org](mailto:gerald.henderson@kofc.org)

### **“Who can you count on?”**

These days you have to be careful about not only the individual financial product you are buying...but also about the company that is backing that financial product. Who would have thought that the largest insurance company in the world would need a government bailout?

Today's news talks about how more banks are having difficulty, despite many of these banks already receiving TARP funds. We are seeing record numbers of banks failing and having to be rescued by an already stressed FDIC government insurance program. The numbers are predicted to go higher, much higher.

Allow me to brag a bit – about your very own organization, the Knights of Columbus. We are 1 of 2 companies remaining out of 1700 in the United States with the top ratings from Standard and Poors, A.M. Best and the IMSA certification for customer satisfaction and ethical business practices. Also, we are the only company left in Canada with these top ratings.

When you look to invest your hard earned money – think of the Knights of Columbus. We have no debt, top ratings and Standard and Poors says we are the #1 capitalized insurance company in the U.S. When buying life insurance, long term care insurance, investing in our annuities or rolling over your pension or IRAs...you can sleep soundly at night because you are under our safety net. I know I do.

Call me and let's see if there are any ways the Knights of Columbus might be able to help you and your family in your planning. It is an honor to be of service to you.

Jerry Henderson: Benefits Advisor 443-752-1694

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Mike Sallese, PGK; 443-852-1442; [msallese11@verizon.net](mailto:msallese11@verizon.net)**

January will be our Pro-Life month with our annual Spaghetti dinner in support of a pro-life organization and the Pro-Life March on Washington, DC. The dinner is scheduled for Saturday January 22<sup>nd</sup> after Mass. The march will be held on Monday January 24<sup>th</sup>. Our Fifth Sunday Mass will be held on Saturday January 29<sup>th</sup>. Please read the specific program activity articles below for more details.

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

**[Eric Schummacher, Director 410 557 6989, schumacherem@sjehydes.com](mailto:schumacherem@sjehydes.com)**

Thanks to all who helped with parking on Christmas Eve.

Msgr. Rick has requested the assistance of his council at the masses on the weekend of January 22/23. We will be leading the efforts of SJE Parish to sign up as many parishioners as possible for

the MCC Catholic Advocacy Network. This is part of a major Diocesan wide initiative to promote the Maryland Catholic Conference internet and email media use. We will distribute and collect the registration forms at all masses this weekend. Please help out at the mass you attend that weekend, and if possible let us know in advance.

We will gather again for Fifth Sunday Mass on Saturday January 29, 2011 at 5:00 PM Mass. Please try to sit together and wear your name badges so that we are identified as Knights of Columbus. Afterwards there will be a dinner in the Council Home so please read the Council Activities for full details.

There are several Long Green Valley Concerts planned by Brother Doug Byerly and the SJE Parish. The next one will take place at St. John Church on Sunday January 9th at 3PM in the church. Amahl and the Night Visitors Family Opera will be presented. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$25 for families. We encourage all Knights and their families to attend this special event.

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**Mike Naumann 410-592-4884 [mike.n@pioneernetwork.com](mailto:mike.n@pioneernetwork.com)**

Thanks to all who helped us with the November Blood Drive we obtained 59 pints of blood and two prospective members.

The Thanksgiving Food Project was successfully completed with 77 Council members participating. This project was started by Brother Jim Welsh and for 20 consecutive years we help feed the poor at Thanksgiving. A total of \$4,152 was donated this year which includes a \$642 Poor Box collection the weekend of 11/21/10. In addition to the money donated, 829 food items, 13 cooked turkeys and 201 frozen apple pies (worth \$2,211) were donated. The pies were donated by St. John the Evangelist parishioners through the School's November Market Day event. With these donations our Council provided food for 295 families and 180 individuals!

The total food supplied was: 137-16 lb. frozen turkeys, 13-20 lb. cooked turkeys, 60 lbs. of potatoes, 40 lbs. of yams, 201 frozen pies, 26 large fresh pies, 125-5 lb. bags of sugar, 125-2 lb. bags of brown sugar, 225 boxes of stuffing, 99 cans of soup, 196 gravy packets/jars, 170 cans of cranberry sauce, 596 cans of vegetables, 161 boxes of macaroni/cheese, 125 bottles of vegetable oil, 151 cans of tuna, 125 boxes of cereal, 125-3 lb. bags of rice, 180 cans of soda, 52 boxes of instant potatoes, 220 dinner rolls and 227 miscellaneous items.

These donations were distributed to Our Daily Bread Employment Center, the 170 families registered with Beans & Bread Outreach Center and the 125 families registered with the Missionaries of Charity—Gift of Hope Convent. The food distribution schedules of these organizations required 3 separate deliveries (11/19, 11/20 & 11/24) and each delivery required 2 fully loaded trucks. On the 24th, we provided cooked turkeys and all the food needed for complete Thanksgiving dinners to: the 67 students/graduates/staff at Our Daily Bread Employment Center and the Missionaries of Charity nuns who fed 100 senior citizens on Thanksgiving. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, we also provided 135 frozen pies and numerous miscellaneous items to Beans & Bread. All of this could not have been accomplished without the generous support from Long Green Valley Council #8736 members, Knights' Ladies, St. John The Evangelist Church parishioners, St. John The Evangelist School and SJE School Market Day. My heartfelt thanks goes out to all of you.

In particular, I would like to thank the following: Msgr. Richard Cramblitt for allocating the Poor Box proceeds on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> to our project and Jane Andrews for managing the project account at St. John

the Evangelist Church; Diana Elliott for her efforts in obtaining 201 Market Day pie donations; SJE School teachers Nicole Creamer, Marilyn Donohue & Sara Macek for organizing a SJE School food collection drive which resulted in a donation of 355 items; Ed Gibbons, PGK Michael Sallese, PGK Robert Dee, Charles Bogdanowicz, J. Robert Elliott, Larry Polk and PGK Paul Weber for providing cooked turkeys for the Thanksgiving dinners; PGK Carroll McComas, Kevin McComas, John Caine and Ron Carr for providing their vehicles and time to make the food deliveries; PGK James Schmidt Sr., Michael Keegan, William Bilo, Gene Messenger, PGK Ross Galeano, Gerald Henderson and Jim Wright for their assistance with the food deliveries.

May the Lord reward all project participants in His special way.

John J. Mayni, Project Chairman

### **COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

**John Stansfield: 443-504-7503; [ressq351@Verizon.net](mailto:ressq351@Verizon.net)**

#### **DATE NIGHT...DINNER and a MOVIE**

On Saturday, January 29, 2011, the council will attend the 5 pm Mass at St. John's followed by dinner in the council hall (this will be in lieu of our normal attendance for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday). All members and wives are invited.

Dinner, which will be served at 7 pm, will include salad, sour beef and dumplings, bratwurst, sauerkraut, rolls and butter, dessert and coffee. Beer, wine and soda will also be available. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Following dinner we will be showing a full length movie utilizing our newly installed high tech equipment.

Checks, payable to LGV KC #8736, must be received by January 22, 2011. Forward your check to Paul Weber, 2223 Larchmont Drive, Fallston, MD 21047. Seating is limited and will be available on a first-come, first served basis. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Paul Weber at 410-879-0558 or email [apaulweber@msn.com](mailto:apaulweber@msn.com)

Don't forget our Tailgate Parties as the Ravens march towards the Super Bowl. We will be in the Council Home on Sunday January 2<sup>nd</sup> to watch the Ravens play the Bengals, and then every Ravens play-off game, including the Super Bowl – think good thoughts and come join us.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

**Jim Schmidt, Jr., PGK, 410-592-8891; [jmtrn@aol.com](mailto:jmtrn@aol.com)**

We don't have a specific "Family" activity planned for January but we do want to remind you of the Spaghetti dinner planned for Saturday January 22 in the St. Johns hall, following the 5 PM Mass. This is an excellent affair for the whole family, including grandchildren. The proceeds from the dinner will support our Pro-Life efforts. Please make plans to attend.

The Santa Knight-Line was well received this year and we kept Santa Claus busy making about 2 dozen phone calls.



## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

[Joshua Pippin \(410\) 292-5897 j\\_peregrin@msn.com](mailto:Joshua.Pippin@msn.com)

My thanks to everyone who helped with the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest, especially Chris Phillips, whose tireless efforts were the main reason this activity was a success. We had 29 entries this year. Of these entries, we had 2 winners in the 7-8 grade division and 3 winners each for the 1-3 grade and 4-6 grade divisions. The winners were:

Grades 7-8	1. Ben Lynch	2. Sarah Kujala	
Grades 4-6	1. Brian North	2. Krista Canoles	3. Jared Pinder
Grades 1-3	1. Jacob Kozak	2. Ella Thomas	3. Makaila Alcarese

We will have the Basketball Free Throw contest sometime in January/February, so we will appreciate any help for that when it comes along. Also, we will be kicking off the "Substance Abuse Awareness" Poster Contest sometime soon.

## **PRO-LIFE**

[Jim Cross, PGK & DD; 410-893-1266; James.cross@comcast.net](mailto:James.cross@comcast.net)

Archbishop O'Brien wrote an article in The Catholic Review on September 17, 2009 titled "No Time for Complacency". This is just as true today as then. Don't let some gains in the November Election lull you to sleep. Maryland is destined to become the Abortion capital of the United States. Maryland was number four then with an increasing rate while the three ahead of us were declining. Now Dr Carhart is heading here because Nebraska passed more restrictive abortion laws. Carhart vs. Nebraska was the Supreme Court case that expanded Roe vs. Wade years ago.

Attend the March for Life in Washington DC on January 24, 2010 or a prayer service at your parish. The EWTN channel on cable will probably broadcast the event. Don't assume that it was not held because it was not mentioned on the network news. More info is available in the Supreme Council article.

We will once again hold our January Pro-Life Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday January 22, 2011 after 5:00 PM Mass in the Church Hall. However, if the SJE Parish volunteer appreciation dinner on the 21st should get cancelled due to snow, we will have to reschedule this dinner. Proceeds from the free-will donations will benefit a prolife / defend life charity.

## **LECTURER'S REPORT**

[Chuck Bogdanowicz, PGK: 410-592-5913; chuckbog@msn.com](mailto:chuckbog@msn.com)

The Social Meeting of the Council on January 25<sup>th</sup> will include a First Degree Exemplification. We will probably have at least 5 candidates, so please attend this meeting to welcome them into the Council.

I am always interested in any programs or speakers you might want to have and welcome any suggestions. Please feel free to contact me if you have any contacts or leads or have a story I can use.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Dick Lanham	1	Msgr. Martin Strempeck	2
Harry Brocato	3	Danny Seibert	3
Ray Dietz	4	Paul Nolan	4
Ron Rider	5	Ross Galeano	10
Richard Molinar	13	Greg Monnier	21
Bill Davison	25	Michael Bathon	26
David Battista	26	George Landefeld	29
Gus Schmidt	31		

**CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

**Bob McGraw, Work 410-887-1828, Cell/Text 443-299-7732, E-mail [rsmcgraw@verizon.net](mailto:rsmcgraw@verizon.net)**

Feel free to contact me if you know of any brother or family member that is in need of prayers.

Please continue to pray for the following:

**Brothers:**

John Robinson  
Paul Oliphant

**Relations:**

Tim Lince, Brother-in-Law of Brother Thomas Rowan  
William Schmidt Jr., Brother of Jim Schmidt

***NOTE: We have no system of routinely identifying those people whose health has improved to the point that they no longer need to be on the prayer list. Consequently, at the end of each quarter, we will delete all names that have been on the list for three or more months. Anyone with a request should contact the Chancellor, Bob McGraw, at either of the above addresses and they will be listed/reinstated on the prayer list.***

**A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY...**

**Paul Weber, 410-879-0558 [apaulweber@msn.com](mailto:apaulweber@msn.com)**

Several weeks ago you received an invoice for your 2011 dues. If you have already sent your check – thank you. If you have not, a reminder that payment is due no later than January 15, 2011. Included with your invoice was a survey of your fraternal activities during 2010. Please complete this form and return it with your check or mail it to GK Tom Zaegel.

We make every effort to maintain a current and accurate data base for council members. At the present time the majority of communication with the membership is accomplished online. If we do not have your email address you are missing important announcements and special notices that keep members advised of activities and events sponsored by the council. Why not stay informed by providing your email address to the Financial Secretary.

It is also your responsibility to notify the council of any change of address, phone number or email address. Please contact Financial Secretary, Paul Weber, to report and changes at 410-879-0558 or email [apaulweber@msn.com](mailto:apaulweber@msn.com)

# Knights Ladies of Long Green

[Dana Rowan, President 410-299-6143 danarowan@comcast.net](mailto:danarowan@comcast.net)

Greetings to all from the Knights' Ladies:

After completing a very successful White House ornament fundraiser, and enjoying a delightful holiday dinner on December 7<sup>th</sup>, the Ladies are taking the month of January off! Well, sort of – We are planning to assist Mary Weber with her continuing Blankets of Honor program for disabled veterans by helping the Religious Ed. middle school students of St. John one evening in January make more of the fleece lap robes to be delivered to area veterans' hospitals. (date to still to be determined – just call Dana Rowan for more details if you would like to help).

The following is a letter received from Major Ryan D. Seagreaves, the recipient of some of the many boxes of items collected for Operation Shoebox and delivered to our troops in Afghanistan. We feel it is important to share the letter with you and all those who contributed to this worthwhile cause:

"I want to send you my thanks for the eight care packages and phone Cards you recently sent to my unit for the benefit of our soldiers. They Are extremely helpful in ways you probably aren't aware of.

We live in a Forward Operating Base which currently supports over 600 soldiers, airmen, and contractors of various flavors, from police Mentors, to mechanics, base support and food service personnel. Contrary to what the American public might believe about the amenities now on bases throughout Afghanistan, we don't have things like fast food restaurants, coffee shops, or huge PX's. In fact, we have no PX. Just a small room that we put items from care packages into – we call it Our USO room, or the Free-X". Soldiers can go in there and get things like Hygiene items, books, generally things that will improve their quality of life. Your boxes went a long way to replenish our stocks and get us through the final few months of the combat deployment.

The phone cards I gave to our Command Sergeant Major who distributed Them to the Troop First Sergeants – each Troop received 4 to distribute to Soldiers on the line.

Thank you again for all of your support and please extend my thanks on behalf of the Squadron Commander, Ltc Lutsky, and all the soldiers of the Squadron to everyone involved in putting those packages together. Your support and appreciation is critical to maintaining the high morale of the American fighting men and women engaged in this struggle."

Thanks again to all the Knights' and Ladies (and parishioners) who helped make this collection a tremendous success.

The Knights Ladies will meet again on Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00. Susan Parks from the Dept. of Mental Health will speak on the "Power of Positive Attitudes". So if you need some uplifting and inspirational motivation to get you through the dark and dreary days of February, please join us. Susan's enlightening talk will be complimented by hot coffee and delicious desserts provided by our refreshment committee. So, in keeping with the "positive attitude" theme for that evening – don't view the bitter February wind that may be howling that night as a reason to stay home – look at it as "invigorating and energizing" and come socialize with us.

Lastly – as you are putting away this year's decorations or cleaning out closets and cupboards to make room for gifts received, don't forget our CASH IN THE ATTIC auction scheduled for the spring. Save those "treasures"!

See you in February!

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b><u>JANUARY</u></b>				
01	Sat.		HAPPY NEW YEAR	
02	Sun.	12:30 PM	<u>RAVENS Tailgate Party</u>	Council Home
04	Tues.		NO Ladies meeting in January	
06	Thurs.	7:00 PM	<b>Officers Meeting</b>	Council Home
08	Sat.		Mid Term Meeting and Pro Life Mass	Cardinal Gibbons
08/09	Sat./Sun		<u>RAVENS Tailgate Party**</u>	Council Home
11	Tues.	8:00 PM	<b>Business Meeting</b>	Council Home
13	Thurs.	8:00 PM	BCGK Meeting	Santa Nino Council
15	Sat.		Quarterly reports due to State Council	
16	Sun.		<u>RAVENS Tailgate Party**</u>	Council Home
20	Thurs.	8:00 PM	ABJC Renewal of Obligations	Archbishop DeSales Council
22	Sat.	6:00 PM	<u>Spaghetti Dinner/ ProLife Day</u>	St. Johns Hall
23	Sun.		<u>RAVENS Tailgate Party**</u>	Council Home
24	Mon.		March For Life	Washington, DC
25	Tues.	8:00 PM	<b>Council Social Meeting/First Degree</b>	Council Home
29	Sat.	5:00 PM	<u>Fifth Sunday Mass followed by Sour Beef &amp; Dumplings Dinner</u>	St. Johns Church/Council Home
31	Mon.		Annual Fraternal Activities Survey Due	

**\*\* There will be a tailgate party each week even if the RAVENS are not playing  
"The time will coincide with NFL schedules, starting 1 hour before game time"**

**FEBRUARY**

01	Tues.	7:00 PM	Knights Ladies Meeting	Council Home
03	Thurs.	7:00 PM	Officers Meeting	Council Home
04	Fri.		BCGK 101 <sup>st</sup> Anniv. Dinner Dance	Cardinal Gibbons Council
06	Sun.	8:00 PM	RAVENS(?) Tailgate Party**	Council Home
08	Tues.	8:00 PM	Business Meeting	Council Home
10	Thurs.	8:00 PM	BCGK Meeting	
17	Thurs.	8:00 PM	ABJC Meeting	
14	Mon.		Valentine's Day,	
15	Tues.	8:00 PM	Business Meeting,	Council Home
15	Tues.		Annual Audit due at Supreme	
22	Tues.	8:00 PM	Social Meeting	Council Home

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
Long Green Valley Council No. 8736  
c/o Michael Sallese  
2701 Chestnut Hill Road  
Forest Hill, MD 21050

