

PATERSON FEDERATION KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCILS



MAY 15, 2009 MEETING MINUTES Pier 6600 Wildwood, NJ

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 P.M. by Chairman Frank Manganelli.

Father Richard V. Tartaglia led the Federation in an opening prayer.

Warden Joseph Bracigliano led the membership in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Roll call of Federation Officers, District Deputies, and Councils was conducted. All Federation Officers were present, with the exception of Father Patrick F. Rice, who was excused.

The following District Deputies were absent: Edward Shelton, Paul Walker, and Joseph Wickham Jr.

The following Councils were not present: 2248, 3495, 5563, 6139, 6212, 6354, 6903, 7028, 7108, 7137, 7537, 9920, 11943, 12211, 12245, 12750, 12974 & 14493.

The Reading of the Minutes from the previous meeting was suspended, with the exception of the following comments from Peter Bartkowiak regarding Degrees. His comments were inadvertently omitted from the minutes of the meeting held on April 17, 2009. The number of candidates for a Third Degree should be limited by the size of the facility and to no more than 43 candidates. Grand Knights must submit their candidates to their District Deputy and to the host District Deputy to insure that the class size is manageable. We need to have more Third Degrees scheduled, since only 3 Degrees had been scheduled for the fraternal year! It is the responsibility of the Grand Knights and District Deputies to plan First, Second, and Third Degrees.

Since the Minutes of the previous meeting were e mailed to the membership, a motion was made to accept the minutes with the amended correction. The motion was seconded and accepted by the membership.

Chairman's Report:

This year, 18 Councils sponsored 27 Seminarians and 5 Novitiates in the Paterson Diocese in the amount of \$19000.00. Councils, who are sponsoring a Seminarian or Novice and have not reported this to the Federation, are kindly asked to do so as soon as possible, after the meeting.

Reading of Bills and Communications:

Nothing was received since the last meeting.

Comptroller's Report:

John Jones gave the following report:

Checking Account balance:	\$6,337.75
Investment Account balance (as of May 14, 2009):	\$2,760.76
Income (since the last Federation Meeting April 17, 2009)	\$2,715.00
Expenses (since the last Federation Meeting April 17, 2009)	\$8,648.80

Chairman Manganelli changed the sequence for the Federation Meeting due to State Deputy Thomas Ciborskis' required attendance at a State Officer's meeting. Frank recognized Past State Deputy Donald Ryan, and then introduced Tom for his remarks.

State Deputy Thomas Ciborski reiterated the necessity to continue working on the State Council Programs, even with the few weeks left in his term as State Deputy. He thanked the Federation and all the Knights in attendance for their unwavering support of his efforts to promote Columbianism throughout the State of New Jersey. He urged all the members to support Bruce DeMolli as the proposed State Warden in the upcoming election. Tom also praised the Federation for its programs, and cautioned everyone that change may be discomfoting, but is a necessary step in improving an organization to enhance the mission. He also congratulated the newly elected Federation Officers.

Tom also announced the retirement of two District Deputies, James Aulino and Paul Walker. The two new District Deputies are: Larry Pribula from Council 359 and John Trommelen from Council 240.

Tom challenged the Federation to improve its efforts at membership, especially in the area of retention, and to conduct a more active membership campaign, since the Paterson Diocese membership statistics are not leading the State. He attributed this to not having enough First Degrees to bring new members into the Order. He urged Councils to set Degree dates, and then schedule the membership drives to coincide with the established Degree date. All the First Degrees should be in honor of the NJ State Chaplain, Bishop Charles J. McDonnell, who is retiring this year.

Tom presented the Star District Award to District Deputy Jack Reilly from District 40, for his efforts to strengthen Columbianism in his assigned Councils.

The Knight of the Year, presented by the Paterson Federation, was given to Frank LaSala for 2008 – 2009. Tom recognized his achievements within the Paterson Federation and the many activities his is involved with at the Council level.

Committee Reports:

Convention:

Michael Lucarelli informed the membership of some difficulties with room assignments, but the problems have been solved. He announced that the registration forms for next year's convention were available, and that the hospitality room fee was being raised from \$25. 00 to \$30.00 per reservation, citing increasing costs during the last several years.

Flagship Ball:

The Flagship ball is scheduled for November 14, 2009 at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover, NJ.

Paterson Federation “Fed Night” Report:

Carmen Blandino also reported on the Paterson Federation Dinner Dance to be held on June 14, 2009, at the Hanover Manor in honor of State Deputy Thomas Ciborski. A special presentation will be made by the Federation to Tom at this event.

Scholarship Fund:

Only one scholarship can be awarded this year, since the fund has been damaged by the stock market fluctuations. The Federation was able to pull the money out of the account and reinvest it before suffering further losses. A proposal was also made to have every Council in the Federation donate \$50.00 to support a second Scholarship, which will be taken under advisement. Letters will be going out next week to the Councils soliciting this donation.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Other than the Federation Convention barbeque, nothing was reported.

Membership Director’s Report:

James Sweeney reported that the Paterson Diocese was last in the state for membership gains, and requested that all the Councils redouble their efforts to use the remaining six weeks to concentrate on recruitment. Councils should schedule more First Degrees. Transition any new prospects into new members as soon as possible. Get new prospects to complete the Form 100s, have the Open Houses, and schedule First Degrees. Follow the published Suspension Procedures to insure compliance with the Knights of Columbus Supreme guidelines.

Program Director’s Report:

Bruce DeMolli thanked the Councils for their efforts during the past two years. This year, the State Council gave out over 100 Awards, perhaps the highest number in the last few years. This represents a collective effort by all the Councils to insure the success of the goals of the Knights of Columbus. Bruce mentioned the legacy of the Past State Deputies from the Paterson Diocese, and promised to continue that legacy in the coming years as a State Officer.

The Supreme Convention Rotation list was amended to announce that Council 5510 have been nominated to represent the Paterson Federation at the next Supreme Convention. Unfortunately, the scheduled Council on the rotation list was unable to send a delegate. The delegate will be Scott Milliken and the alternate is Rick Karass. Bruce DeMolli read the nominations, and a motion was made and seconded to accept them as the delegates.

Walter Marino announced that the Supreme Convention Rotation list was extended out to the year 2050. Councils are encouraged to comply with the Federation By-Laws and to monitor their status as their year approaches to attend the Supreme Convention. Councils are also encouraged to attend the Federation meetings and stay abreast of any changes that would affect their selection status. Walter asked several Council members to see him after the meeting to discuss the Council Rotation List and to confirm attendance at Federation Meetings.

Council Activities:

Upcoming Degree Dates:

Council 3835 in Little Falls are hosting a First Degree on May 28th, 2009.

Council 588 in Sparta is having a First Degree on May 18th, 2009.

Council 6343 in Echo Lake is having a First and Second Degree, back to back on June 4th, 2009.

Council 3359 in Denville are having a First Degree on June 8th, 2009.

Council 943 in Butler is having a First Degree on May 26th, 2009.

Respect Life:

Joseph Wickham discussed Roe vs. Wade. He also asked the Councils to support the "Truth Booth" in the Woodbridge Mall. He also discussed the Freedom of Choice Act and what we, as Knights, must do to defeat this legislation. Joseph encouraged the Councils to utilize their Pro-Life Chairman in the fight to defeat this legislation.

Chairman Manganelli presented the Arrow Award to Lafayette Council 514. Grand Knight Philip Ackermann received the Award, and the Chairman of the event, Steven Golda, was recognized.

Chairman Manganelli presented awards to those District Deputies and Councils that achieved 100% attendance at all the Federation Meeting during 2008 – 2009.

District Deputies John Guido, Raymond Lill, and James Aulino were honored.

The following Councils had perfect attendance: Councils 240, 262, 359, 514, 943, 1954, 2617, 3365, 3841, 3835, 6100, 6320, 11671 and 6904.

General Agent's Report:

Frank Gargin encouraged the Councils to submit the required paperwork (Form 100s) for those members who will be taking their First Degrees in the next six weeks. Time is getting short, to fulfill the requirements for Star Council. It will be difficult to turn the new members into Insurance members unless the paperwork is submitted promptly. Frank introduced the Insurance Agents present, and told the membership that shirts were available outside the room for the membership!

In keeping with the Federation tradition, the newly elected Paterson Federation officers took their places at the Officer's table and the vacating Officers were thanked for their service during the past fraternal year.

Good of the Order:

Vice Chairman Elect James Aulino read the list of deceased members and those brothers who are sick or in distress. A special intention was also requested for our military members serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Father Richard Tartaglia led the closing prayer.

Chairman Manganelli adjourned the meeting at 6:13 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, James R. Bird, Jr. Secretary