



Council 8157 Holy Spirit Duncanville Texas



Knights Life

Volume 2 Issue 3 April 2011



Gone, but Not Forgotten

The council lost a beloved brother on January 24th with the passing of Ross Musso at age 91. Ross was a longtime Knight who came to 8157 in the late 1990s when he moved back to the Dallas area following many years in Stephenville.

He was generous with his time and talents, to the extent that he bought a Dodge Ram pickup truck in great measure to make it easier to get inventory to the council's concession stands in Duncanville and Cedar Hill when he eagerly took responsibility for their operation.

"He loved being around people," said Mary Weinrich, one of Ross' three daughters, who lives in Duncanville. "The kids. The camaraderie. He felt like he was doing good." Said Mary's husband Tim, a fellow Knight: "Ross was an organizer. He and I used to go 'round and 'round in here about this and that. But it got done, and that's what matters." Mary said it was the military in her father that made him insistent on doing things a certain way. Soon after Ross graduated from North Dallas High School in 1937, he joined the National Guard 112th cavalry. He later saw action in the Pacific with the Army during World War II and retired as a captain in 1962.

Ross and Tim actually met two years before Tim met Mary. In 1969, Ross and Tim were next-door neighbors in a Stephenville apartment complex that was filled mostly with students from nearby Tarleton State. Ross was working for NAPA and had just been transferred from Dallas to be warehouse manager at the company's Genault Industries site. He



lived in the complex by himself before the rest of the family joined him since Mary was in her senior year of high school. Tim and his two roommates were among those Tarleton students who often needed to vent off excess energy. One of their pastimes was boxing, which got to be too much for the gentleman in his 50s next door. On Ross' third visit to "ask" the young men to quiet down, Tim said he did more than ask: "He stood there, looked me right in the face, and said, 'If y'all don't get quiet after this, I'm going to have to come over here and beat the hell outta all three of ya.' I said, "OK," and shut the door." And when Mary introduced Tim to her father a couple years later, yep, Ross remembered him.

Ross and wife Mary were very involved in the community. In Stephenville, he was president of the chamber of commerce, a member of the industrial board, helped start the local Knights council and served as Grand Knight. He would often restore bikes left with the police department and take them to the orphans' home down in Goldthwaite. They sometimes hosted the orphans in their home. Ross' return to our area was precipitated by wife Mary's battle with Alzheimer's Disease, as they moved in with Mary and Tim. When Ross joined our council, his daughter said, he had two requests of Grand Knight Ron Soriano: keep me busy, and I'm not interested in any accolades. He soon was baking biscuits during pancake breakfasts and running the concession stand at Harrington Park in Duncanville. Ross' beloved Mary died in 1999 after 53 years of marriage. He continued to live with Tim and Mary and maintained his devotion to the Knights.

"There were times when Ross was in his 80s, in tournament play he'd be out there from 6 in the morning to 9 at night. He just wanted to stay." Said Mary: "Sometimes would be playing bunko past midnight on Saturdays, but he'd be up at 6 to make biscuits at KC breakfasts."

Ross is also survived by daughters Martha Holt (who lives near Canton) and Cheryl Wooliver (who lives in Krum), six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

In deference to one of Ross' wishes back when he joined our council, accolades have come – and continue to do so. In 2007, he was honored as 8157's Knight of the Year. Last year, he received a lifetime achievement award. And the concession stand at Valley Ridge Park in Cedar Hill that he so ably manned will soon sport a plaque in his honor. Ross Musso was an inspiration to us all. We were fortunate to know him.



Family of the Month

January—Loyal readers of the quarterly newsletter know how Bill and Sandy Chalko, our Family of the Month for January, got together. They met in autumn 1976 in South Korea on the day that he ended a Marine tour. He got her address and they exchanged letters for months, during which he indicated his devotion. Bill returned the following spring, introduced himself to the family and asked to marry her. When they moved to DeSoto years later after he left the service, Bill and their three children began attending Holy Spirit while Sandy stayed home on Sunday mornings.



It was another Bill – Hebekeuser, the parish’s Director of Religious Education – who help prod Sandy into joining in. She and the couple’s three children – William Jr., Donald and Paula – were all baptized the same day. While Bill has remained active at Holy Spirit including yeoman service to the KCs, Sandy has become a fixture at the parish, too. She now serves as Father Joe’s administrative assistant.

Father met the Chalkos when he was first at Holy Spirit as parochial vicar in the mid-1990s. When he moved downtown to the Korean St. Andrew Kim Church in 1997, he asked her to help him there. When he returned to Holy Spirit in summer 2009 as pastor, she agreed to help him again. Sandy was also among the founders of our Catholic Daughters chapter.

February— Marce and Brenda Tebbe were selected as the council’s Family of the Month for February.



On top of the couple’s usual crowded calendar of activities involving the Knights, Catholic Daughters and parish doings in general, Marce provided transportation from D/FW International to the Omni Mandalay Hotel in

Las Colinas in mid-February for Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston and Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington D.C. as they participated in the National Catholic Bioethics Conference held locally. The Tebbes’ January activities included participation in the rally and march in downtown Dallas as part of the annual commemoration of the 1973 Roe v. Wade abortion decision. Marce joined the Knights in 1980 in his native Illinois and joined our council soon after he and Brenda moved to Texas in January 1998. He not only has been our Grand Knight but has also served in a number of diocesan and state capacities. Brenda was among the founders of the adjoining Catholic Daughters in 2000. “I have a strong passion to serve others,” Marce said. “I get direct and immediate personal satisfaction when I am able to help someone, be it delivering a washer to a needy single mother or providing safe and comfortable transportation for a bishop.” Said Brenda: “My motto is, ‘Find a need, and fill it!’ I get so much more back than I give.”

March—Frank and Lourdes Salazar, our March Family of the Month, both grew up in Cuba. But they met for the first time thousands of miles from there, in Dallas in 1971. “It was destiny,” she said. Frank just happened to ask for a night off from his job at the Fairmont Hotel to attend a party, where he met Lourdes. They dated for three months and were married at St. Cecelia in Oak Cliff. Frank was visiting family in Cuba last summer when he was informed he was selected as the council’s new Deputy Grand Knight. “I was honored and very proud,” he said.

Frank can trace his very presence in the United States to the Catholic Church. He was flown to Miami in June 1962 as part of Operation Peter Pan, organized by Msgr. Bryan Walsh of Miami to allow thousands of Cuban children to be reunited with family in America. At age 15, he rejoined his father in New York and then came to Dallas two years later. He spent two years in the U.S. Army, worked at the Fairmont for

11 years, then owned an auto parts export business that he sold three years ago. Frank became a Knight three years ago at the invitation of Jim Kowalski and served as Outside Guard before becoming Deputy Grand Knight. He and Lourdes live in Cedar Hill.



Knight Hands



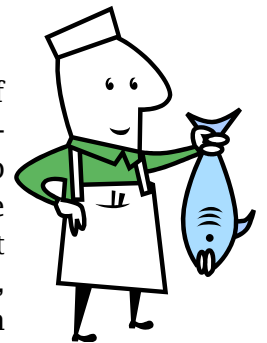
On a chilly, windy Saturday morning this past 5th of March, 8 strong and brave Knights helped fellow Knight Steve Zehnder care for his elderly and homebound in-law parents in Midlothian. The Knights did this by trimming and clearing their driveway of overhanging trees, bushes and vegetation. Now this may sound like no big deal; but the driveway was a full ½ mile long. This work was done with chainsaws, loppers, weed eaters and hard work. All the trimming had to be hauled off and piled for burning at a later date. Bob Lamb, Jorge Barragan, Carlos Favela, David Briggs, Ken Rarick, Allen Reitmeier, Martin Svatek, and Jeff Miller worked a total of 36 man/hours to complete this project, and were then treated to a yummy lunch by Denise Zehnder. Not only did the Knights help this elderly couple, they once again demonstrated their commitment to the principle of Fraternity.



Friday morning March 11th marked the culmination of approximately 280 man/hours of work by Knight Hands in building and installing new cabinetry in the church sacristy when the final detail was completed. This was a lengthy project and started with the generous donation of time and talent by Eldon Conyers (pictured right). Eldon is a professional engineer who worked with the Knights and Father Joe to design and create working drawings for this project. You'll probably never get to thank Eldon in person because he lives in Lewisville - a short prayer for he and his family would be appropriate. Construction began on February 19th in the toy shop garage of Allen Reitmeier and continued nearly every day until March 11th, with the nearly constant help of Bob Lamb and Ken Rarick. David Dybala donated a number of days of his time and many other Knights helped from time to time with the heavy lifting. The project was undertaken because Father Joe wanted deeper closets for his vestments and he wanted large drawers with a deep and high counter. He now has all of that and has expressed only delight and thanks to the Knights for taking on this project. In addition because all the engineering time by Eldon Conyers and all the labor time by Knight Hands was donated, the parish saved approximately \$18,000.00. A special "thanks" to Linda Reitmeier for putting up with Allen during this project (he gets a little intense) and for installing felt liners in all the drawers. A Job well done by all.

Well, That Went Well

I'm talking about the first fish fry of this Lenten season. Not only did lots of people come and eat with us, many Knights were there to serve them. 200+ people ate and 23 Knights served including: Dan Murphy, David Briggs, Bob Foster, Andy Hitz, Mike Fitzgerald, Benny Sikorski, Michael Bender Jutzi, Wayne Dempsey, Mike Rumsey, Ken Rarick, Andy Goza, Bob Lamb, Rod Kinard, Pat Stepniewski, Frank Salazar, Jim Kowalski, Ed O'Brien, Art Senato, Bill Dover, Dick Bates, Jeff Miller, Rolando Sobalvarro, and Allen Reitmeier. As Ed O'Brien is fond of saying "many hands make light work". This Lenten season we are serving catfish, beans, French fries, salad and iced tea and lemonade. Everyone jumped right in and got the job done efficiently and effectively. A special welcome to newcomers Michael Bender Jutzi and Rod Kinard (he's a natural with French fries). We served a yummy meal and had a good time doing it - sort of the Knights of Columbus way isn't it?



Knight of the Month

January—First-year Chancellor David Ybarra, Knight of the Month for January, is seemingly a man always in motion. He's active in multiple council activities and functions. He and Veronica, his wife of 33 years as of this May, also make weekly visits to nursing homes. "Just the looks on their faces; that makes it all worthwhile," David said, referring to both the patients and the people who are helped by the Knights. David and Veronica, who works at the V.A. hospital, make the trek to Holy Spirit for Sunday 8 a.m. Mass all the way from Waxahachie and then bowl in a league in Euless. (His average is 212.) They became parishioners about nine years ago. After a few years, David decided he wanted to join the usher group. Soon after, David Briggs invited him to join the Knights. David Ybarra is originally from Chicago and moved to El Paso as a youngster. He works as a warehouse manager in Dallas. Becoming Chancellor has presented new challenges, and David has been more than equal to the task and also willing to go the extra mile. His energy and devotion to the council was never more evident than in his efforts in January to help with the services when Ross Musso passed away. "I try to do as much as I can," he said.



February—February Knight of the Month Chris Kubin is a KC legacy. He was attending the University of North Texas when he and younger brother Patrick were told by their father, Leon, that it was time they followed in his footsteps in the organization. Two years later in 1999 after Chris and wife Laura had moved into Holy Spirit territory, he took his major degrees (with some gentle persuasion from Bill Dover).



Chris was in his mid 30s when he served as the council's Grand Knight in 2006-07 and '07-08. If he was somewhat in awe of presiding over brothers who had served many more years in the Knights than he had, Chris also felt privileged that he received respect from throughout the council and was looked to for guidance. He has hardly slowed down in the years since. Chris serves as one of the council's three trustees, is a fixture in the kitchen for pancake breakfasts and has overseen 8157's budgeting process in recent years. That fits his day job: financial analyst at Baylor Health Care Systems. Laura, who grew up in Duncanville, is an associate professor at Texas Woman's University's school of nursing. They live in DeSoto and have a daughter, Jagger, who will turn five on April 18. (Yes, named for Mick; Chris says Laura is a huge Rolling Stones fan.)

March—What a special time it has been lately for Martin Svatek, the council's affable Knight of the Month for March, and wife Kathleen. The youngest of their three children, Matthew, was just married right here at Holy Spirit before heading off to his job in Sheridan, Wyoming. (Bundle up.) Their middle child, Kristen, gave birth to little Elizabeth on March 15. That's three grandchildren (all granddaughters) for Kathleen and Martin. The proud grandparents were with Kristen down in the Houston area awaiting the blessed event, so give Martin a break if hasn't been around the grill quite so much recently. When time allowed, he was happy to pitch in on the Knight Hands project helping out Steve Zehnder's in-laws in Midlothian. Martin has been a Knight since 1970, following a family tradition. He has been retired almost a full year following 38 years with Union Pacific Railroad, most recently as a track supervisor. He's from Flatonia, Texas and came to DeSoto in December 1989. Kathleen was a popular teacher locally for many years and is now retired herself. The couple's oldest child, Michael, lives in Plano. Martin has an unmistakable laugh and a willingness to pitch in to help the council. He has long been involved with activities such as the baseball concession stand, cookouts at St. Joseph's, the fall festival and Lenten fish fries.



Bea Bates Blood Drive

Many members of Council 8157 recognize Pat Stepniewski's dedicated involvement in the periodic blood drives held in Holy Spirit's community center. You might not know Pat's commitment in this area predates the existence of our council - even the existence of the community center. He suggested a parish blood drive as a service project for the men's club that existed before our council was established in 1982. It was held in the narthex on a Saturday. His interest in blood donation dates back to his freshman year at St. Norbert College in Wisconsin, only a few miles north of Green Bay.



Since coming to Holy Spirit, Pat has spearheaded the drives by communicating with Carter Blood Care and its predecessor, Wadley. As a member of Wadley's donor council, he helped end the donor age limit that was 65. For the recent Bea Bates Memorial Blood Drive, about 39 units were donated. Not necessarily 39 people, since some

folks provided "double red" donations that count for multiple units. The council decided to name the drive in honor of Dick Bates' late wife since blood donations were so vital in the final years of her battle against leukemia. "In her last two years, she would go at least twice a week to get blood and platelets," Dick said. "I appreciate the drive being named for her."

Bishop's 18th Annual Catholic Pro-Life Dinner

The Bishop's 18th Annual Catholic Pro-Life Dinner, "**It's Time for the Miraculous**," held on March 26, 2011 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, was yet another spectacular evening with an attendance of over 2,200 guests! It was truly an uplifting and inspirational benefit dinner, which has brought in generous proceeds to fund the many Catholic Pro-Life Committee (CPLC) life-saving ministries. Bishop Farrell welcomed everyone and we were graced with a wonderful keynote speaker, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. He reminded us the special request from the Pope in 2004 that we must defend 'The Culture Life' at all costs. He also shared that through a grant matching program introduced through the Supreme Council, we have helped donate over 100 ultrasound machines throughout Texas to



Keynote Carl Anderson, 2011 Pro-Life Person of the Year Carol Everett, Executive Director Karen Garnett and Honorary Chair Tom Clark

various Women's Centers like Birth Choice and the White Rose in Dallas, and the Loreto House in Denton. Preceding dinner, Supreme Knight Anderson was presented with the ACE wings lapel pin by State Pro-Life Chairman, Tom Clark. This Texas State Council award is given to those who complete at least five public pro-life events in 12 months. The ACE wings award stands for "Pro-Life without Apology, without Compromise and without Exception". Every member and their families should strive to achieve their ACE Wings.

Our Council contributed \$500 the night of the dinner which was matched by a Banquet Matching Gift fund. We came within \$13,500 of reaching the goal required to support the CPLC ministries to save babies and end abortion in Dallas. So much good is being accomplished - the CPLC sidewalk counselors helped another **84 mothers** turn away from the Dallas abortion centers and **choose life for their babies** in the month of **March** - many more miracles **are** in the making! If you are interested personally, you can still help bridge the gap and send a check to the address below or contact the CPLC at:

Catholic Pro-Life Committee
PO Box 59852
Dallas, TX 75229
Office: 972-267-LIFE (5433)
Fax: 972-385-3851
cplc@prolifedallas.org

A Special Moment for Special Athletes



Bob Lamb, Jim Kowalski, Bob Foster, and Frank Salazar received a special dose of humility during the recent Special Olympics events held at the Cedar Hill High School gymnasium this past February 19th. From 9:00am until 1:00pm that day 400 athletes took part in various basketball challenges ranging from tossing a basketball into a wall, to bouncing a basketball to defending another athlete. These were not ordinary basketball activities because these were not ordinary athletes. You see, these were Special Olympic athletes and all were challenged in some manner – physically or mentally. The Knights of Columbus, including the four from our Council, were assigned the task of presenting the awards to the athletes. Here’s what they had to say. Jim said “you just don’t appreciate all you have in your life without seeing firsthand what these athletes go through. Yet their outlook on life is outstanding, upbeat, and cheery”. Frank said “when they were called to the trophy podium, they were just beaming; they were thoroughly excited”. Bob Foster said “I lucked out and got to put medals around their necks. They all wanted to hug me. They were so happy; it made me feel great”. Bob Lamb said “it warms the cockles of your heart to see these kids get something they thought was out of their reach. They were so thankful”. That’s quite an endorsement for the next Special Olympic event which is coming up on the 29th and 30th of April. This event will be outdoors and will include many track and field events. The Knights of Columbus will again be asked to assist to presenting awards. If can help out by all means do so by contacting Jim Kowalski at 214-663-3657.



Baseball Season Opens



The little league regular season got off to a roaring start this past Saturday March 26 with 26 games being played after opening ceremonies. Of course the Knights of Columbus were out in force to serve concession food to those in attendance. Ed O’Brien, Frank Hernandez, Bob Foster, Frank Salazar, Frank Hernandez, David Briggs, Mike Rumsey, Eric Conner, Russell Gully, Bob Lamb and Steve Zehnder all contributed their time and talent to make the job look easy. Many Knights throughout the regular season will also contribute their time including David Ybarra, Ernie Coy, Dan Murphy, Dick Bates, Wayne Dempsey, David Dybala, Carlos Favela, Bill Chalko and Jim Richardson. It pretty much goes without saying that without these guys, working on a regular basis, the Knights of this Council would not be able to support the various causes because of lack of funds. On opening day Saturday alone we grossed in excess of \$2,600. Each year new Knights get involved in working at the concession stand – this year thus far Michael Bender Jutzi, Rod Kinard, Eric Conner, and Tom Greco have joined the ranks of volunteers. This year there are 230 regular season games scheduled. The last game is scheduled for the 26th of May barring rainouts. In addition there will be a number of tournaments throughout the season. Already on April 2nd and 3rd the pre-season league tournament was held with Michael Bender Jutzi, Tom Greco, Pat Stepniewski, Tim Weinrich, Mary Weinrich, Chris Edwards, Andy Goza, Ken Rarick and Rod Kinard volunteering on Sunday. During this tournament we grossed in excess of \$3,500. The season is indeed off to a good start. We need help from as many volunteers as we can; so if you have the time and inclination to become involved with the number one fund raising event of this council contact Allen Reitmeier at 214-850-3602 or e-mail him at alreitmeier@gmail.com

Welcome!

A new goal of the quarterly newsletter will be to introduce brother Knights to the newest members of the council. Joining 8157 during the final quarter of 2009 was a longtime parishioner familiar to many of us, Chris Gleason. Anyone who has seen at least a Holy Spirit weekly bulletin during the last 10-15 years would recognize Chris – Dr. Gleason. He has operated The Animal Care Center in Duncanville for years and also sponsors a couple other ads on the back cover of the bulletin. Chris graduated from St. Elizabeth Catholic School and then from Duncanville High School in 1980. From there he went to Texas A&M and succeeded in getting into the Aggies' vet school. He graduated magna cum laude in 1986. Wife Debbie is very active at Holy Spirit, including as a Eucharistic Minister. They have three children – Christina, Nick and Joshua. Not to mention a couple of dogs and cats, which figures. Welcome, Chris. Glad to have you aboard.



2nd Annual Appreciation Party

For the past 2 years the Knights of this council set aside one evening and thank each other for all the good works the Knights as a group do for the world and our community. Whether the Knights are helping Holy Spirit Ministries or Seminarians or national and state charities, or police and firemen, or Father Augie, or pro-life efforts, or blood recipients, or student scholarship and many other charity activities, it goes without saying that it takes a total group effort to make that all possible. Many, many hours of time are donated to make it possible to assist those in need. But that is what the Knights of Columbus do and for one fun filled evening it was refreshing to nod and say “good work”. The evening began after 5:30 Saturday evening Mass on January 15 and after a bit of social time, Father Joe said the blessing and dinner was served to the Knights instead of the Knights serving food to others – a bit confusing to some I’m sure. All reports are that everyone dressed up and the food was excellent. After the dishes were cleared the party began with conversation, music, dancing, drawing prizes and dancing prizes and general merriment. There were about 70 persons in attendance with room for many more. Maybe next year we can have even more Knights saying thanks to each other for all the work we do.

Upcoming Events

Apr 19	7:30pm Officers & Directors Meeting
May 3	7:30 pm General Meeting
May 7	St. Joseph Nursing Home Cook Out 3:30pm
May 17	7:30pm Officers & Directors Meeting in Room 221
June 5	Cancer Survivor Cook Out 12:00 pm
June 7	7:30 pm General Meeting
June 12	Pentecost Sunday Church Picnic 10:30 am
June 21	7:30pm Officers & Directors Meeting
June 24	VBS Closing Celebration 6pm
July 5	7:30 pm General Meeting
July 19	7:30pm Officers & Directors Meeting
Aug	Seminarian Cook-out TBA
Aug	Awards Banquet TBA

**Are you ready
for the
CHALLENGE?
JOIN US
COUNCIL 8157**

**Contact Tom Greco
Membership Director
972-298-6168**

Awareness Committee:
Editor- Allen Reitmier
Publisher—Chris Kubin
Photographer—Jim Kowalski
Writers—Jeff Miller
Contributing Writers—
Marce Tebbe