

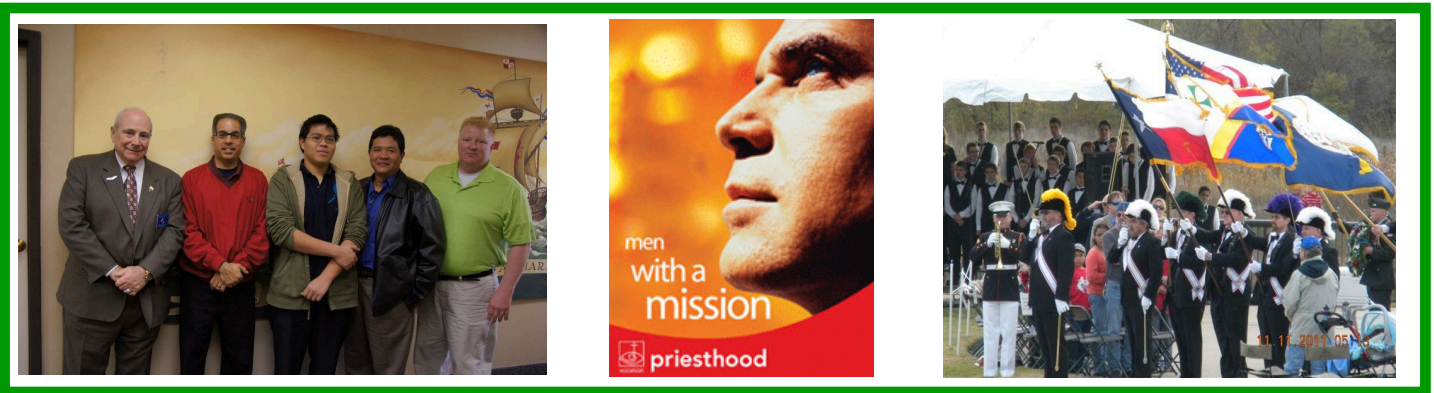


Council 8157 Holy Spirit Duncanville Texas



Knights Life

Edition 9 January 2012



EDITORS COMMENTS



It struck me when we laid out the 9th edition of *Knights Life* that we (the Awareness Committee) have been publishing *Knights Life* in excess of two years. We are grateful for the positive response we have had to the publication and look forward to many more editions. It is my Christmas and New Years wish to all Knights that the spirit that surrounds this special time of year will continue throughout the year and make 2012 the best year yet for everyone. We are already thankful for the addition of Al Alonzo to the Awareness Committee. His primary assignment will be Council #8157's Facebook page and all of its ramifications. At present you can look at various photos of past activities and announcements of upcoming events. Simply type "8157" in the search block and you're in business. If someone wishes not to have a picture of themselves appear on Facebook, let Al Alonzo (alonzobt@usa.net) know and he will respect your request. This is simply another medium we will use to keep Knights informed.



A Cook, A Golfer, A Traveler, Our Priest



Holy Spirit was blessed last July with the assignment of a Parochial Vicar (and a member of the Knights of Columbus) to team with Fr. Joe to see to the needs of the parish. Fr. Peter Tuan Le wasted no time in emphasizing to his new flock that he, as opposed to Fr. Joe, is the "one 'e' Le." So we got a taste of his sense of humor from the outset. Yes, he likes to get a laugh. And, yes, he likes to cook and play golf. (Says he's an 18 handicap and only took up the game at the insistence of a classmate while attending Saint Joseph Seminary College near New Orleans.) But on the serious side, he was persistent in not only



pursuing his long-time dream of becoming a priest but also endured the travails of escaping his native Vietnam about 20 years ago. He was a 13-year-old altar server living with his family in Saigon when he boldly told his pastor that his goal was to become a priest. At that age, he was particularly impressed by the vestments. In the early 1980s, not too many years after the fall of Saigon, Fr. Tuan's father and older brother managed to escape Vietnam on a serpentine path that started through Singapore and ended in the United States. It was months before the rest of the family back in Vietnam knew they'd



survived their journey. Fr. Tuan came to America in 1991 at the age of 22. His family settled near Dallas, and he began his vocational journey at Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving. From there, he went to Saint Joseph and earned a degree in philosophy in 2001. The final stop was St. Mary's Seminary in Houston, leading to his ordination in June 2006. He had two previous assignments before coming to Holy Spirit. He was a Parochial Vicar at St. Gabriel the Archangel in McKinney 2006-09 (now home to Fr. Don Zeiler) and mostly recently at St. Jude in Allen from 2009 until last summer. His parents still live close by, in The Colony. A large contingent of relatives came by for his welcome reception and for the parish welcome dinner in July. (He was provided a newcomer packet just like everyone else.) Fr. Tuan was originally assigned the community center office that belonged to Fr. Thomas, which is down at the end of the hallway tucked behind the main corridor. But he decided to trade with youth director Nicole Ferko so that his office would be right on the main "thoroughfare" of parish activity, so that he'd be accessible to anyone who sought him.



Knight Hands in Action

Since the last publication Knight Hands have completed five projects in the community. Knight Hands installed a water heater in the sacristy – actually they replaced a small water heater with a larger one and installed a new element. Through must negotiations with La-z-boy, Jack Anderson now has a power lift chair that works correctly. Thanks to the efforts of 8 Knights and the free use of Chris Edwards' auger, Nancy Armorella now has a new/repared back yard fence. Knight Hands made and installed a new table leg for an elderly lady in Duncanville. And ten Knights contributed their time to trim/clean-p the front and back yard of Elizabeth Cooper. While these projects may not seem overly significant, they were very important to those who received them. Just a few excerpts from their "thank you" cards



tell the story. Pecious Bell wrote "I could never express my gratitude to you guys for the wonderful job that you all did on the ramp. I use it daily and think of you often. It has made such a difference in my life.....The name of the ramp is 'The Texas Giant'". Nancy Amorella wrote "I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you guys for your kindness, generosity, time and hard work in re-building a fence for me. Because of your thoughtfulness I feel much safer in my home now".



Family of the Month

October—Al and Sally Alonzo, among the founding

families of the parish back in 1974, are our Family of the Month for October. Al joined the council a few months ago along with the couple's younger son, Allen. Al has become a regular at pancake break-



fasts, cookouts and recently joined the Awareness Committee in launching the council's Facebook page. The Alonzos almost always attend daily Mass, serve as Eucharistic Ministers and Zone Shepherds and are active in the parish's Fil-Am Group. Al was on the parish's first building committee under Fr. Bob Sykora. The Alonzos came to Duncanville in 1973 from Illinois when Al joined the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's newly created new construction division. They were brought together by faith (indirectly) in 1965 back in the Philippines; Sally was a senior at the University of Santo Tomas' college of commerce, and they met at a meeting of the Student Catholic Actions movement. They were married that year and came to the United States in 1969. The Alonzos left Texas later in the '70s when the AAFES sent Al to Europe, which enabled them to visit Rome and the Holy Land among other stops. They returned to Duncanville in 1991 and retired in 2004. Their older son, Vincent, is married and lives in Allen.

November—For the lack of a bowling alley, Pat May found a partner for life. Pat and wife Betty are 8157's Family of the Month for November. The Duncanville residents have been parishioners since 1997, when they transferred from St. Elizabeth. All four of their grown children – Mary, Teresa, Timothy and Susan – attended St. Elizabeth School and Bishop Dunne. Pat is from Chicago (White Sox, not Cubs, much to Mike Rumsey's delight). Joining the Air Force in 1948, Pat was sent to Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls for basic training. At the end of the eight



weeks, the "basics" were given a day's leave in Dallas. He and a buddy wanted to go bowling, couldn't find an alley, and decided to kill time at the roller rink that was in Fair Park. That's where Betty and two of her friends

had just finished a skating lesson and stayed to practice what they just learned. The two met, eventually dated and were married two years later. (On Dec. 26, which complicates their anniversaries.) Upon coming to Holy Spirit, Pat continued his involvement in his parish's usher program and is the head usher. He joined the KC's at the invitation of Dick Bates. With the council, he's the liaison with the parish staff as director of church activities. Betty is involved in many parish activities, including the Catholic Daughters.

December—It didn't take Jack Whitacre long to get into the KC swing of things. He joined the council only a few months ago, and he and wife Kay (8157's Family of the Month for December) have been front and center at a number of council functions. They were among the helpers at the annual cookout at the Veterans Administration hospital in mid-November. And with a pancake breakfast the next morning, they made the quick turnaround – Jack was helping at the front table while Kay's right arm was getting a workout at the flapjack griddle. They have attended Holy Spirit frequently since the first days of the parish in the early 1970s. Jack attended his first degree ceremony in Waxahachie in late September, the night before the Fall Festival began. He said part of his inspiration for joining 8157 was because his father-in-law in Amarillo was a Knight. Jack spent three years in the Army, serving as an airborne medic 1966-69, two of those years in Vietnam. The Whitacres have two children – son Joe lives in DeSoto, daughter Angel lives in Frisco – plus a granddaughter and a grandson.



Saint Joseph's Cook Out

Council 8157 is one of a number of community service groups that drops in to make life a little better at St. Joseph's Residence Home in Oak Cliff, as was the case last fall. The home is located a couple blocks west of Interstate-35 and south of Jefferson Avenue. The Catholic home's business manager, Bob Hohman, gladly points out the KC's go the extra mile in a number of ways. "The Knights are the only ones that provide a cookout," said Hohman, the facility's business manager for almost five years. "We have a



few organizations that will come in and make lunch for the residents and use the kitchen. And it's also always a big event with the Knights because they invite both the residents and their families." Hohman said he and the rest of the staff appreciate the fact that the Knights get there early enough that the cookout lunch is ready to serve at noon following the home's scheduled Mass at 11:30. When the KC's return in 2012, it appears we'll need to bring more food: the home recently expanded to 64 rooms.

St. Nick Visits the Children at Holy Spirit



For the record, Leo Mattingly said none of the kids who visited him during the parish's annual Breakfast with St. Nick on Dec. 11 in the gym came even close to yanking on his beard. And he was a popular guy for more than two hours, entertaining Holy Spirit children beginning with the Krupa family that waited patiently at the front of the line. In the meantime, many of Leo's KC brothers prepared and served a breakfast of French toast, scrambled eggs, hash browns and sausage to almost 300 guests. A tip of the Santa cap to Andy Goza, Frank Salazar, Chris Edwards, David Dybala, Art Senato, Chris Kubin, Jim Kowalski, Frank Hernandez, Bob Foster, Al Alonzo, Dick Bates, Allen Reitmeier, Bob Lamb, Jim Richardson, Mike Rumsey, Hector Lopez, Marce Tebbe, Jeff Miller and the father-son duo of Reynaldo and Josh Estrellas. Chris Edwards was the official "elf" collecting donated toys and reports he distributed 42 hugs – for folks whose donations were mon-



terarily above and beyond. The council took in \$930 and took in 150 toys. Leo has been volunteering in this role as only he can – at least among Council 8157 members – for more than 15 years. Maybe you know he also makes appearances as Santa at local pet stores for customers to have pictures made with their dogs and cats. No, the critters don't bite his beard.



Knight of the Month

October—David Dybala put his Texas A&M engineering degree to good use for the Knights of Columbus recently when he helped Allen Reitmeier map out construction of a wheelchair ramp on a Knight Hands project. Activities like that helped earn David recognition as Council 8157’s Knight of the Month for October. David left Aggieland in 1972 with a degree in agricultural engineering. He became a Knight in 1980 in Council 1358 at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in Waco. Before the Dybalas came to north Texas and Holy Spirit in 1985, David served as 1358’s Grand Knight – and the council hosted a state convention. He has been married to wife Clara for more than 40 years. They have one son (David Jr.), one daughter (Rebecca Vitulo) and four grandchildren. They came to Holy Spirit when David was hired by the City of Dallas as director of public works and transportation. He worked there 22 years before retiring. He’s an engineer with a good voice – a member of the choir that sings at 9:30 Mass. David says of the Knights: “I enjoy the camaraderie, working together with a bunch of great guys.” The feeling is mutual.



November—Our Knight of the Month for November is a unique selection given that he isn’t a member of our council. But “drop-in” Mike Mann has exhibited the KC work ethic to the benefit of 8157 and Holy



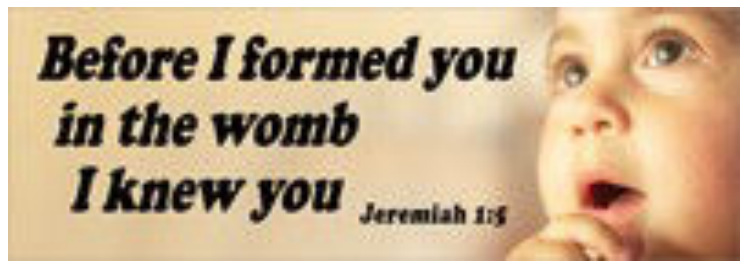
Spirit since he was sent from his home in Maryland early last fall to work in south Dallas for a year.. Mike jumped right in to help at the grill during the Fall Festival soon after the company that he has worked with for 39 years, Solo Cup, sent him here after closing its plant near his home in Manchester, Md. He, wife Evelyn and daughters Ashley (a senior in high school) and Alexis (a ninth grader) live on a small farm. Back home, Mike is a member of Council 9127 at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church. He only joined the Knights about a year ago after being involved in many other areas of parish life for years. When Mike was able to spend time back in Maryland over Thanksgiving, he kept in step by helping out at St. Bartholomew’s Winter-fest. When Mike mentioned to his Grand Knight that folks at

8157 asked about him transferring his KC membership down here, 9127’s Grand Knight Chris Walsh replied, “Sure. Just send five guys up here.” Said Mike: “I’ve made some great friends here. It’s something I’ll never forget.”

December—A man and his pickup: Bob Lamb, Knight of the Month for December, is seemingly always ready to call upon his white F-250 diesel (2000 model year) to haul the council’s traveling grill to a cookout here or there. Bob ordered it direct from the factory. Had two miles on it when he picked it up. In late December, it had 125,000. Bob, age 84, and wife Jimmie have been married for 58 years after a co-worker set them up on a date soon after he came to north Texas from Florida. They have three children, seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandkids. He joined the Knights while living in Arlington and then moved over to Holy Spirit and 8157. Bob started ushering soon after joining the parish, was invited into the council by Jim Kowalski and soon after became a Fourth Degree. Bob is the council’s outside guard, vigilantly verifying everyone’s membership cards at the monthly meetings and then manning the door to let in any latecomers (who first show him a card, naturally). He says of the Knights, “They’re always ready to help. That’s what impressed me most of all. I hope we keep doing the things that we’ve been doing.” Bob retired only seven years ago and says, “I’m at peace with the world. I don’t have any worries. It’s really nice to feel that way.”



Upcoming Pro-Life Events



On Saturday, January 21, 2012, Dallas will mark the 39th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's tragic Roe v. Wade decision of January 22, 1973, making abortion available on demand in America through all 9 months of pregnancy and leading to the death of over 52 million unborn children. Join Dallas Bishop Kevin J. Farrell and Fort Worth Bishop Kevin W. Vann, diocesan clergy and thousands of people of faith to pray for an end to the scourge of abortion on our city and country, to witness publicly, and rally and march for a Culture of Life.

Below is a tentative schedule of events:

7:30 a.m. Roe Memorial Rosary: Board shuttle buses at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, 2215 Ross Ave. at Pearl St., for the Roe Memorial Rosary, to be prayed at the Routh Street abortion center, 4321 N. Central Expressway at Fitzhugh in Dallas. Rosary will be prayed from 7:45-8:45 a.m., with all participants back to the Cathedral by 9:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. Roe Memorial Mass & Adoration: A bilingual Mass will be concelebrated by the Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, Bishop of Dallas, and the Most Reverend Bishop Kevin W. Vann, Bishop of Fort Worth, along with diocesan clergy at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, 2215 Ross Ave. at Pearl St., Dallas. A representative born each year from 1973-present will carry a rose in the annual "Procession of Roses" at Mass.

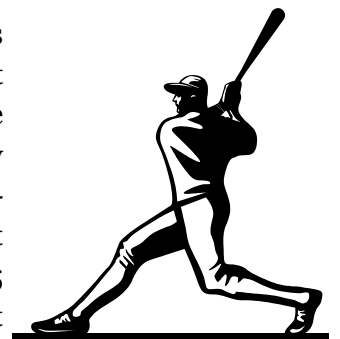
Dallas March for Life & Rally – Following Mass, Bishops Farrell and Vann will lead us as we march from the Cathedral to the rally in front of the Earle Cabell Federal Courthouse, housing the district court where the Roe v. Wade case was first filed in 1970.

Don't miss this annual event for Life!! Last year, approximately 10,000 prayed and marched for life. Bishop Farrell would especially like to see many young people participating (from parish youth groups, Catholic high schools, Scout troops, etc.). Bring your school, club or troop banner for the march! These three Pro-Life events all count towards your five events required for the ACE wings award (Pro-Life without Apology, without Compromise and without Exception).

Additionally, our Holy Spirit parish youth will be participating in the "Youth Stand For Life 2012" march in Washington DC on January 22, 2012. They will depart from Holy Spirit parish at 4:00 PM on January 20th and return on January 24th about 6:00 PM.

BASEBALL ENDS AND STARTS AGAIN

The 2011 baseball season ended on November 6th and the final monetary tally was far more than anticipated by the budget committee of this Council. Throughout the season (beginning in March) Knights of this Council never failed to answer the bell to provide the manpower to man not only the concession stand at Valley Ridge but also wherever the Cedar Hill Baseball Associated needed Knights to provide concessions. In total the Knights of this Council served concession food at 617 baseball games during the past year. Knights worked approximately 1615 man/hours at these games. While many Knights contributed, the following went above and beyond the call of duty to serve this Council in their quest



to generate funds to support the various activities the Council deems important. First to be recognized are the shift Captains: David Ybarra (Mondays), Dick Bates (Tuesdays), Frank Salazar (Thursdays, and Ed O'Brien and David Briggs (Saturdays). A special thanks to the following for their unwavering commitment to help on a regular and reoccurring basis: Bob Foster, Frank Hernandez, Dan Murphy, Ernie Coy, Jim Richardson, Bill Chalko, Eric Conner, Juan Chapa, Mike Rumsey, Russell Gully, Bob Lamb, Carlos Favela, Mike Fitzgerald, Steve Zehnder, Ken Rarick, Tim Weinrich and Martin Svatek.



My name is Allen Reitmeier, and I am proud to have served with this gallant group of Knights and all the Knights (53 in all) who worked at the concession stands during the past year in support of the various charities and activities this Council is privileged to serve. Without the hard work of these Knights it would have been tough to support additional seminarians; to send money to Fr. Thomas to help with his care; to increase our support to all ministries of Holy Spirit Church; to quadruple our scholarship recipients; to provide free breakfast for all on Veterans Day; to provide meals for residents of St. Joseph Assistants Living residents, Veterans at the VA hospital, seminarians, and Desoto Nursing Home residents; to fund Knight Hand projects, to buy a new stove and refrigerator for the church. If you think your work wasn't important,

think again because I'm here to tell you it was vitally important. So it should be a given that the work we do is germane and important and that we should continue. With that said I am asking that you support the Knights again next year by contributing your valuable time to work at the concession stands in Cedar Hill. It's fun, rewarding, fulfilling, challenging. If you haven't done it before please consider it. Just email me (alreitmeier@gmail.com) or call me at 214-850-3602 and I'll get you scheduled for next years' baseball season which starts on March 31th.



Veteran's Day Celebration



On the Saturday after Veterans Day, a collection of Knights continued what has become a popular tradition by providing a cookout for the resident at the Veterans Administration hospital on South Lancaster Road in Dallas. The 8157 representation included Tom Greco, Mike Rumsey, David Briggs, Marce and Brenda Tebbe, David and Veronica Ybarra, Ed and Betty O'Brien, Allen Reitmeier, Bennie Sikorski, Frank Salazar, Frank Hernandez, Bob Lamb, Andy Goza, Art Senato, Bob Foster, Frank

Hernandez, Al Alonzo, Jack and Kay Whitacre and Bill Dover. This initiative was originally suggested nationally by Supreme to

be an undertaking of Fourth Degree Knights

as a contribution to the fourth standard of the KC's, patriotism. Bill, who is our new District Deputy and the immediate past Faithful Navigator from the Fourth Degree's Assembly 2799, extended the local emphasis to include our council. Knights from 8157 have responded eagerly through the years. That includes a number of 8157 vets themselves, who have told Bill they'll be glad to help fellow vets anytime, anywhere.



Welcome New Members!



REYNALDO ESTRELLAS was interested in joining the Knights when living in the Philippines. But he was already active in a Catholic study group. Plus, as the family planned to move the United States, his wife came over first in 1995 on her own. "I was both father and mother," he explained. Reynaldo was finally able to reunite the family in 2002. That includes son Josh, who preceded him into Council 8157 earlier this year. Reynaldo is the custodial supervisor for Duncanville ISD, was determined to provide a better life for his family and is eager to serve his church and community.

FRANK BEUMER (sounds just like Frank Beamer, the Virginia Tech football coach) is a familiar face despite his youth and is now in his second stint as a Holy Spirit parishioner. The Kimball High grad grew up in the parish along with his seven siblings. Frank spent eight years in the Marines, with the Fourth Division and was based out of Fort Worth. He's single, lives in Duncanville and is an usher at the 9:30 Mass. (That's where Jim Kowalski invited him to join the council.) His father, Richard, was a Knight. Frank works at the Chick-fil-A near the intersection of Hampton Road and I-20.



JAY TRAPP is a regular lecturer and has been a parishioner since 1996, when he moved his family here from Michigan. Jay is a project manager in new construction. He and his wife Karen have five children. They're very involved across the parish calendar, from pro-life initiatives to helping out at the Pentecost Picnic and Fall Festival. Here's another Knight whose father preceded him in membership; his father lives in Florida. Jay says he hopes to make more friends in the council and sees this as another way to connect with parishioners.

RAYMOND RIVERA, a parishioner since 1985, has been retired three years from being an over-the-road driver. The best thing about that line of work. "Getting to see the nation," he said. "How beautiful and different it is. The east is full of trees. The west has a lot of desert. The attitudes of the people are different." And the worst thing? "The weather," he said without hesitation. "A lot of snow up north, in Utah and Chicago." Raymond is from Oak Cliff and said he decided to become a Knight in great measure because he wants to become more active in parish doings. "A chance to help people," he said.



****Upcoming Events****

- Jan 14th Third annual Appreciation dinner/reception at the community center. This event is open to all Knights and their partners.
- Jan. 19 Annual trip to Washington D. C. for youth of the parish and their chaperons to March of Life. Our own Larry Dumais will be going – best wishes to all.
- Jan. 17th Officer and Directors meeting in room 221 of the Community Center. You don't have to be an officer or director to attend – you just can't vote on stuff.
- Jan. 23rd Marce Tebbe is looking for driver to transport dignitaries from DFW to downtown Dallas. Let Marce know if you are available. He also needs drivers on the 27th of January for the return trip.
- Jan. 29th This years' regional free throw contest will be in our gymnasium. Larry Dumais and Art Senato have this handled
- Feb. 7th Regular business meeting of the Council in room 221 in the Community Center – come.
- Feb. 18th A convention of 85 – 100 Deacons will be held in our parish. Knights have been asked to serve breakfast and lunch. Whew!! We'll need lots of help for that. Details later.
- Feb. 21st Officers and Directors meeting in room 221
- Feb. 24th The first fish fry of the Lenten season. We begin preparation around 4:00pm and serve from 5:30pm until 7:00pm. We'll need help setting up, cooking, serving and clean-up. Come help if the Spirit moves you.
- Feb. 25th Corporate Communion. All Knights are encouraged to attend the 5:30pm Mass and receive Communion as a body. There will be a social gathering after Mass.
- Mar. 2nd Fish Fry – usual time, usual fare (see above). Come join us and help serve the parish
- Mar. 4th Bi-annual Bea Bates Memorial blood drive. Pat Stepnewski coordinates this affair, but can always use help. If you can't help a donation of blood will do just fine.
- Mar. 6th Regular business meeting of the Council
- Mar. 9th Another fish fry. At one time these fish fries were intended to raise money for the Knights. Now they are primarily viewed as social gatherings to unite the parish community during Lent. Same schedule on March 16th, March 23rd and March 30th.
- Mar. 20th Officers and Directors meeting in room 221
- Mar. 31st Little League Baseball begins at Valley Ridge. Opening day ceremonies and pictures in the morning and baseball games in the afternoon. Are you ready for that?
- Apr. 3rd Regular meeting of the Council. If you haven't been to a meeting for a time, come see what goes on and support your Council. See you there.

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