

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,

Fall Festival 2017

As the Fall Festival for Holy Spirit Catholic Church kicked off again this past September 23-24th, early on Saturday morning Rod Kinard and Jorge Barragan could finally breathe a huge sigh of relief. Their largely behind-the-scenes efforts serving as Operations Committee Co-Chairs began early in June but now they could finally sit back and for a few moments at least, reap the rewards of watching the cars fill up the parking lots and the Midway become crowded with children playing games and adults enjoying the outdoor festivities.



Preparing, organizing and planning seems to come easily to a festival veteran like Rod Kinard who has chaired and co-chaired this committee for the past few years, serving 2 years as Chair and 2 years as co-chair. For Jorge Barragan serving as co-chair this year under a pro like Rod has been a rewarding apprenticeship and he looks forward to taking the reins as chair next year. But ask either of them if you could ever have enough help to do the actual heavy lifting and set up during the days leading up to the event and I think we all know what the answer would be. And although this year it seemed that help was a bit sparse, one way or another “the Knights in charge” managed to pull it off and have it all done by the

time festival goes arrived. This year marks Rod’s last year co-chairing Festival Operations and like the men who preceded him in this role he looks forward to attending next year’s festival in more of a “civilian” role. We are grateful to Rod for his leadership and his many years of service in operations and to Jorge as well and for taking on the challenge to chair the committee next year. Gentlemen we thank you for your time and energy and everything else that you did in order to pull off this herculean effort once again.



There are always Knights from our council leading the way in key roles that help make the festival happen.



Another festival cornerstone is Chris Kubin who served as Festival Chair this year as well as Food Chair, a role he has served in for several years. In a last minute move Chris saved the day (and the festival) by quickly reacting to a new food and fire marshall requirement that changed the way we have cooked with propane gas and grills in the past. Apparently the new regulation required

longer hoses than we own and a separate cooking area from the serving areas, so quick thinking Chris Kubin ordered a new cooking station built out of 2x4's and corrugated steel roofing. Apparently this was enough to satisfy the new requirement so the show could go on.

The Knights are of course, responsible for a lot of the cooking during the festival as well.



Under the direction of Church Activities Director Jim Stavinoha, our festival cuisine included the fair classics: turkey legs, hamburgers, hot dogs and corny dogs. The cooking of turkey legs always brings out our past Grand Knight Chris Edwards, the unofficial keeper of our large

smoker.

There were literally dozens of Knights on hand to help in many areas of the festival.



Our Council Activities Director and District Deputy Sir Knight Andy Goza was in charge of the Beer Garden among many other responsibilities he takes on, too numerous to mention.



Sir Knight Mike Moloughney was again in charge of the Midway Games, including inflatable games and petting zoo, always one of the more popular areas of the festival.

Once again the Knights of Council 8157 took the challenge and excelled

doing it, another successful fall festival has come and gone and we're already looking forward to next year.



About our Council

Council Monthly Meetings

General Meeting every 1st Tuesday 7:30pm
Officer's & Directors every 3rd Tuesday 7:30pm

Postal address and meeting location

1111 W Danieldale Rd. Room 221
Duncanville Tx, 75116 USA
972-298-4971

KC District 86 - Assembly 2799

The council Officers listed below were officially installed for their 2nd term in office on July 8, 2017. Their term runs through June 2018

Grand Knight	Jim Richardson
Deputy Grand Knight	Tom Greco
Chancellor	Jeff Miller
Recording Secretary	Jim Stavinoha
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	La'Don Wright
Inside Guard	Sanka Jayasinghe
Outside Guard	Tony Gonzalez
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Lecturer	Jim Russell
District Deputy	Andy Goza
Chaplain	Fr. Joe Lee
Trustees	Nick Kleinhaus, 3-year Frank Salazar, 2-year Mike Fitzgerald, 1-year

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Baseball Committee	Allen Reitmeier
Football Committee	James Smith
Church Activities	Jim Stavinoha
Community Activities	Dan Murphy

Council Activities	Andy Goza
Family Activities	Jeff Miller
Health Activities	Pat Stepniewski
Knight Hands	Allen Reitmeier
Pro-Like Activities	Mike Moloughney
Youth Activities	Larry Dumais
	Art Senato

Knights Life Newsletter

Our Newsletter is published quarterly at the end of the following months: March, June, September, and December. The Newsletter is delivered electronically to your email address and is posted on our website. If you would like to receive a paper copy, they will be available at the general meeting.

Newsletter Editor and Publisher Allen Reitmeier

Newsletter & Website Writers

Jeff Miller, Allen Reitmeier, Jim Kowalski, Jorge Ruiz

Newsletter and Website Photographer

Tony Gonzalez, Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Andy Goza

Council Website

Website address	kofc8157.org
Website Editor	Jorge Ruiz
Website Admins	Jorge Ruiz

Email Communications

Emails are sent to our members on a regular basis. Make sure you add the email address below to your contact list so our emails do not go to your junk/span folder.

Email address: admin@kofc8157.org

Membership Rosters

A full membership roster is available in paper form to all Knights in good stand at the general meeting

Knight of the Month July 2017



**Steve
Castillo**

Steve enjoys working “the back” at the council’s Valley Ridge youth baseball concession stand in Cedar Hill. That’s

short for being the cook, responsible for preparing hot dogs, hot links, chicken sandwiches, brisket sandwiches, nachos and Frito pies.

Steve minces no words in identifying his primary reason working the middle shift each Saturday during the spring season. He loves working with Allen Reitmeier, who has supervised 8157’s baseball concession operations for nine year and was honored as our Knight of the Year in 2010. “He is a very special man, and I look up to him,” Steve said.

Steve grew up in Dallas, graduated from Adamson High. He’s in his 18th year at Solar Turbines in DeSoto, where he’s an overhaul applications engineer. That’s where he met Bill Chalko, our Grand Knight 1997-99, who invited him to join the council; which Steve did in March 2002. He and wife Priscilla live in Duncanville. Steve has two grown daughters (Christina, a Texas Woman’s University grad and Ashley, Texas A&M) from his first marriage plus a stepdaughter (Alexis) and stepson (Christopher).

Knight of the Month Aug 2017



**Jim
Stavinoha**

Jim has certainly put his stamp on the position of director of church activities in his two-plus years on the job. He has added multiple new

activities and put great effort and creativity in expanding existing events. Jim and wife Sharon live in Cedar Hill. He grew up south of San Antonio in the small town of

Jourdanton. Jim graduated from St. Mary’s University in San Antonio and met Sharon on a blind date while in college; they celebrated their 48th anniversary in May. He joined the Knights as a college junior in 1968, was deactivated while busy building a career (21 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as a major in 1989, followed by a civilian career that included manufacturing scientific lab equipment) and rearing a family (three children and now five grandchildren), and returned to the KC fold in 2014 after relocating from Virginia back to Texas. The Stavinohas have the distinction of having children who live in Midlothian, Texas and Midlothian, Virginia. Jim is in his second fraternal year serving as the council’s recording secretary and is also the Faithful Pilot of the Fourth Degree assembly 2799.

Knight of the Month Sept 2017



**Jim
Russell**

Jim recently began his fifth fraternal year as the council’s Lecturer, a position that had stood vacant for years before he responded to an invitation from

Andy Goza. He puts great time and effort into each talk. No topic is really off limits, except maybe politics. Jim favors history, ancestry and patriotism. Some topics come to him while listening to a homily. (All of his lectures are available here on the [council website](#).) Jim took his First Degree and Major Degrees in 2012 and joined the Fourth Degree a year later. He’s also an officer in Assembly 2799, the Faithful Captain (the Fourth Degree equivalent to the Deputy Grand Knight). Jim also oversees 8157’s retention committee. As Jim has sometimes mentioned in his talks, he’s from upstate New York and came this-a-way to attend Oklahoma State, graduating with a degree in general business with a major in marketing. He retired in 2011 after spending the previous 30 years with Northrup Grumman and Raytheon. Jim and wife Mary are as close to being parish “originals” without being originals; they first attended Mass at Holy Spirit during Week 2 of its existence as a mission church, in the gym of Duncanville’s Central Elementary. They’ve been choir members for about 38 years and veterans of Fall Festival rummage “organizational services.” They met at OSU, were married in 1966 and have lived in Cedar Hill since 1972.

Remembering Bob Foster



Robert Foster was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Robert passed away at the age of 84, on September 23, 2017. He was born in Waterbury, CT, on January 23, 1933, to Donald W. Foster and Sylvia M. Whittaker. Bob grew up in Thomaston, CT, and graduated from Thomaston High School in 1952. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War on the USS Shenandoah and was honorably discharged in 1960. Robert married his wife, Jeannine T. Bolduc, of St. Ludger, Canada, on November 30, 1957. Bob began his long career in the automotive industry, in 1955, for General Motors in Bristol, CT, retiring as Foreman over the Sheet Metal Division in 1987. He served as a Police Officer and Volunteer Fireman in Thomaston, CT. Robert, and wife, Jeannine, relocated to Cedar Hill, TX in 1987, to

be closer to immediate family after his retirement. He was actively involved in the community, volunteering his time at the Cedar Hill Food Pantry. Bob was a member of the Holy Spirit Catholic Church community and active member of the Knights of Columbus. He was also a member of the VFW and American Legion. Bob had a passion for horseback riding, golf and bowling. Robert was devoted to his family. He is loved and will be missed by many. Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Sylvia Foster and three older brothers, Edmond, Calvin and Donald Jr. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Jeannine Foster, of Cedar Hill; daughter, Karen Chandler and her husband, Roscoe of Midlothian; daughter, Lisa Gonzales and her husband, Louis of Midlothian; five grandchildren, Joseph Chandler and his wife, Kristen of Arlington, Wesley Chandler and his wife, Hana of Waxahachie, Blake Chandler and his wife, Kristina of Dallas, Trevor Gonzales and his wife, Emily of Berkley, MI, and Zachary Gonzales of Midlothian; and three great granddaughters, Lexi, Raegan and Audrey Chandler. He also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews and lifelong friends.

For those of us that worked with him over the years, he will be remembered as a top notch person who could be relied upon. On Saturday mornings you could bet all your money that he would be at the concession with Ed O'Brien and Frank Hernandez during the first shift. His first task always was to turn the labels on the bottles in the drink cooler so that they could be read by the customers. I was just a "thing" for him.

This writer has a special memory for Bob because he signed me up for the Knights of Columbus. While everyone else sort of fumbled with explaining what the Knights were all about, Bob was very clear and concise about what the Knights of Columbus was all about – Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Rest in Peace old friend.

Family of the Month July 2017

Les and Arthur Migala



Les Migala and one of his five children, Arthur, are both members of our council.

Les, who was born in Poland, took his First and Major Degrees in 1984 and later joined the Fourth Degree. He was married to Anna, who passed away in 2010. Les brought his family to Texas from Thailand in 1969 as part of his job with the then-AAFES. The Migalas went back overseas in 1979, to Germany, before returning to Texas — and Duncanville — in 1986. They were parishioners at St. Cecilia and St. Elizabeth of Hungary and then during the first days Holy Spirit, in the Byrd gym, in 1974. Arthur was born in Philadelphia and also lives in Duncanville, with Leslie, his wife of 18 years. He initially joined the Knights in 1997 and reactivated in 2016. Arthur often helps at our Valley Ridge baseball concession stand.

Family of the Month Aug 2017



Russell
and
Tricia
Gully

Don't look now, but another Gully is headed to the University of Texas. This is the youngest of the three Gully daughters, Rachel, who was Bishop Dunne's salutatorian for the 2016-17 school year. She follows Monica (who recently received her MBA from UT and lives in nearby Pflugerville with husband Paul, 3-year-old daughter

Rosemary and two dogs) and Teresa (who lives in Austin and is eyeing grad school). UT is, of course, Russell's alma mater; he and Tricia met in Austin. He also got his law degree there after working in Austin for Texas Instruments for three years. Russell said the challenge of law is what attracted him to the field. The Gullys have lived in DeSoto since '87, and Tricia often attends daily Mass at Holy Spirit. Russell joined the Knights in 1987, was our Grand Knight 1994-96 and has been the council's advocate for years.

Family of the Month Sept 2017



Allen and
Linda
Reitmeier

KC "business" for Allen and Linda Reitmeier

extends well beyond what we've become so familiar with through the years — primarily, the extensive time and energy devoted to overseeing our youth baseball concession stands in Cedar Hill and the Knights Hands program that Allen started in 2010 with 250 jobs completed to earn [national KC recognition](#). During the short breaks in council doings that allow them to travel, they visit their four grown children and nine grandchildren spread across the country (Baltimore, Nashville, Lubbock and Huntsville, Ala.) and also return to their native Minnesota. Most recently, the latter involved caring for Linda's father. The KC principle "charity begins at home" knows no bounds for Allen and Linda, who were married in 1969 while he served in the U.S. Army. "This award belongs to Linda," Allen notes. "She's the one who cares for her elderly father in Minnesota and babysits the grandchildren in faraway places and, when in Texas, is constantly volunteering her time as church receptionist, hospital minister and whatever may need to be done at the church. She's an angel." Allen joined the Knights in 2007, assumed supervision of the concession operation in 2008 and was honored as the council's Knight of the Year for the 2009-10 fraternal year. Linda, in addition to involvement in parish doings, is Allen's "right-hand man" relation to concessions — putting in many hours before, during and after so-called business hours.

Officer installation and awards dinner – July 2017

The annual installation of officers for the order's fraternal year, which begins July 1, and our council's awards dinner was held in Holy Spirit's dining room on Saturday, July 8, following the quarterly Corporate Communion Mass at the Saturday 5:30 Mass. The evening's events culminated with the announcement of SK Jorge Ruiz as the 31st Knight of the Year for Council 8157.



Jorge, accompanied by wife Kathie and two of their sons, graciously accepted the award. He recalled the appreciation that he felt back when SK Tom Greco and SK Andy Goza went out of their way to take him to a First

Degree ceremony in Irving back in July 2012. Jorge took his Major Degree less than a year and followed that with entry into the Fourth Degree.

It didn't take Jorge long into his KC membership to exhibit a willingness — make that a zeal — for pitching in on council activities. He used his acumen in digital communications to start the council website, separate from the format that most councils use under the umbrella of Supremes' website. He likewise joined our communications committee and inherited the directorship from Allen Reitmeier.

You name a council event, and Jorge has probably rolled up his sleeves and helped. Breakfasts. Dinners. Our youth baseball concession stands. Knight Hands projects.

Jorge was congratulated by SK Jim Richardson in one of the first acts of his second year as the council's Grand Knight. The new officers, most of them beginning their second year-long term, were sworn in by Andy Goza in his capacity as the District Deputy. Following Jim are Deputy Grand Knight Tom Greco, Chancellor Jeff Miller, Advocate Russell Gully, Treasurer James Smith, Recording Secretary Jim Stavinoha, Warden La' Don Wright, Inside Guard Sanka Jayasinghe, Outside Guard Tony Gonzalez, Trustee 1st Year Mike Fitzgerald, Trustee 2nd Year Nick Kleinhaus and Trustee 3rd Frank Salazar. Our two other

officers are Financial Secretary Pete Perta, a position that's appointed by Supreme, and Lecturer Jim Russell, a position that's appointed by the Grand Knight.

Mike Fitzgerald vacated the position of Treasurer that he held since 2000. (We had to look that up because it was so long ago that Mike couldn't recall.) Mike and wife Susan were recognized at the dinner and given a gift card by the Grand Knight.



Knights and their guests were treated to fajitas made from scratch, rice and beans, drinks and desserts. Jim Stavinoha, James Smith and Andy Goza were the primary contributors to the dinner effort, which began days before and resumed that Saturday early in the morning.

PIP Days Fence Project

Our council was again invited to participate in a PIP Days project spearheaded by the First United Methodist Church in Duncanville on September 29-30, 2017. The project we undertook was a complete backyard fence replacement at 1622 Shannon Drive at the home of Fernando Gomez and family. PIP Days which stands for Property Improvement Projects is a community wide effort in conjunction with the City of Duncanville to help neighbors in need keep up with city ordinance infractions so they can meet code to avoid fines. By making use of community resources from Holy Spirit Catholic Church's Knights of Columbus Knight Hands and First United Methodist Church volunteers among others, the city of Duncanville is helping to facilitate a neighbors-helping-neighbors program that we can all feel proud to support.



Led by Knight Hands Director Allen Reitmeier the project started at 8 am Friday morning despite the light rain falling throughout the day with a crew of Knights that included David Dybala, Ray Rivera, Jack Ramsden, Efrain Ochoa, Ken Rarick, Hector Rubio and Jorge Barragan. The Knights were joined by homeowner Fernando Gomez and his son, and the first task was to clear the backyard from accumulated trash, old truck tires and brush in order to get to the old fence to tear it down. After a couple of hours of hard work several new holes were dug and posts put in place with cement and left to dry overnight. Afterwards a few Knights headed to buy fence materials and supplies for the continuation of the job the next day. The sun came back out and early on Saturday morning several dozen PIP Days volunteers gathered at the parking lot of the First United Methodist Church on Main Street where they were led in prayer by Senior Pastor Dr. Frank Alegria. The City was represented by City Councilman Steven Rutherford, Building Official Greg

Contreras and Code Enforcement Officer Esther Wright. Besides the Knight Hands fence project there were two other home projects to which these volunteers would be assigned before going on their way for the day's labor.



Having done all the preparatory work the day before including setting the new fence posts in concrete, the Knight Hands crew would complete putting up the new fence this morning at the Shannon Drive house before noon.

It was a well-orchestrated effort by all. As usual our Knight Hands Director Allen Reitmeier had everyone scheduled and assigned to their tasks, had purchased all the materials and supplies and had all the right tools available at the job site. PIP Days has now become a non-profit organization and as such is able to petition funds and accept donations from businesses and individuals that it now uses to help fund these and future projects. Everyone seems to benefit from these projects, and the ultimate beneficiaries, the families that receive the help could not be more grateful.

We thank the Knights who participated in this worthy project to help the family of Fernando Gomez at 1622 Shannon Dr. in Duncanville.

- Allen Reitmeier
- David Dybala
- Jose Montoya
- Jack Ramsden
- Ray Rivera

- Efrain Ochoa
- Hector Rubio
- Ken Rarick
- Jorge Barragan
- Jorge Ruiz

Holy Trinity Seminary Cookout Fall 2017

As long time supporters of the religious vocations our council sponsors two Seminarians via our MVP program at Holy Trinity Seminary in Dallas. But twice during the year the council also provides a full meal for the seminarians and those occasions usually turn into relaxing outdoor picnics and movie night events. This past Saturday was no exception and our council was there to serve 65 seminarians plus a few staff, the movie to be presented this night would be The Shawshank Redemption.



By the time we met at the church parking lot at 2:30 Saturday afternoon, our Council Activities Director and District Deputy Andy Goza, already had all the food prepped for consumption. Aluminum trays were full of cut lettuce, sliced onions and tomatoes, the burger buns were boxed and all the necessary condiments ready to go. All most of us had to do was simply load the trailer and trucks and prepare for travel. So often we tend to take for granted this behind the scenes type of work but we want to make sure we give credit where credit is due here. These are the hidden reasons that often contribute to the success of our council events. Mike Fitzgerald must have spent most of Saturday morning cooking a couple of pots of his delicious baked beans and homemade chocolate chip cookies. Great effort gentlemen.

As we prepared the meal on the lawn of the courtyard a group of young seminarians huddled together in a small circle to kick a hacky sack around, some were throwing a frisbee or a football around. Other seminarians visited and chatted with us and many expressed their gratitude for the Knights of Columbus as an organization and for our council's efforts on this day. Our council was well represented by seasoned Knights Andy Goza, Mike Fitzgerald, Steve Zehnder, Ray Rivera, Larry Balagna, our Grand Knight Jim Richardson, Hendrick Maison and Jorge Ruiz. New Knight Elvis Fajardo, joined us for this event and wasted no time demonstrating his grilling skills, which we suspect he's been honing on weekends when he's back home from international business travels.

Once again we wish to thank the following Knights for their participation:

- Andy Goza
- Mike Fitzgerald
- Steve Zehnder
- Ray Rivera
- Elvis Fajardo
- Hendrick Maison
- Larry Balagna
- Jim Richardson
- Jorge Ruiz



Welcome New Knights



**Elvis
Fajardo**

Sept. 2017

Elvis Fajardo, who joined our council in September, was in the middle of a job transfer from

New Orleans to Dallas during the late summer of 2005 when Hurricane Katrina struck the gulf coast. He and his family technically weren't evacuees in making their move to north Texas, but they experienced hardships nonetheless related to damages to their New Orleans home and belongings. Elvis' frustrating dealings with insurances and mortgage companies found him caught in the middle since being a New Orleans resident was a requirement for at least some of the compensation and he was no longer one. Elvis works in sales business development, which involves a lot of travel, and chose to stay with his company and work on the compensation from here. He and Thelma, his wife of 16 years, have been Holy Spirit parishioners since soon after the family's arrival from Louisiana. She works in architecture. They have two daughters – Ana-Isabel, 14, and Vanessa, 10. Elvis joined 8157 at the invitation of Jim Kowalski and is looking to contribute to the parish and the local community. Elvis' hobbies include watching his daughters' cheer competitions and craft brewing.

LINDEN THOMPSON

Enjoying retirement, Linden usually determines the sites of his twice-weekly golf outings thusly: "Wherever the car goes," he said with a laugh. Linden and his wife of 38 years, Sylvie, moved to Duncanville from Round Rock early in 2016, and he just recently transferred his KC membership from the council there. He grew up in Lewisville, spent four years in the U.S. Navy and was in engineering. Sylvie is a first-grade teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas in Dallas. They have a grown daughter who lives in California. He said they're still growing into their new parish community and recently joined Holy Spirit's Eucharistic Ministers. Through his new council membership, he's looking to enjoy new fellowship.

JORGE COMACHO

Jorge joined the council in February. Jorge works for Matheson Tri Gas in Las Colinas as an operator of a remote air separator. He and wife Elizabeth have been married for 13 years. They have a 12-year-old son, Victor, and an 8-year-old daughter, Sol. Jorge graduated from Duncanville High, and the family lives in that city today. In his spare time, Jorge likes to work out, maintain a healthy lifestyle, listen to music and read.

To find out the schedule of events and when you could participate in upcoming Knight events log onto www.kofc8157.org and all will be made clear