



Fr. Walter F. Malloy Assembly

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Number 8

NAVIGATOR'S LOG

February
2005

Knights of Columbus, Fourth Degree, Virginia District, Calvert Province
Visit Navigator's Log Online at www.assembly1894.kofcva.org

Next Meeting: Feb. 16th. Meeting and Color Corps Certification.

NAVIGATORS REPORT

Worthy Sir Knights:

First – There were strong considerations to cancel the January meeting due to the snow. However, with mixed emotions, I did not cancel as I felt that anybody not notified and coming to the meeting could feel slighted. At the very last minute, the Associate Marshall called and asked if the certification might be cancelled. As he would be driving from Mount Vernon, and through more treacherous road conditions than in Fairfax City, we agreed to postpone the certification until the February meeting. Therefore NOTE: the Assembly will have honor guard and color corps training and certification at the February meeting. Please make every effort to participate, even if you have doubts as to when you may participate in an event.

A short meeting was held and to those who came, you have my hearty thanks for your hardy participation. All who called to be excused also have my thanks. For those who did not call, the absence will not count against your attendance.

While watching the presidential inauguration and listening to the President's speech, I was struck by one phrase he used: "Americans, at our best, value the life we see in one another and must always remember that even the unwanted have worth." He made this statement while talking about the need to end bigotry. I fully agree all forms of bigotry should be eliminated. We should examine our opinions and prejudices to determine the good qualities in others and not their faults.

While I wondered if I took it out of context, I also found it to be the most pro-life statement that anybody could make. Every baby in womb, even if not desired, has some worth and we should pray and work for an end to abortions. Unwed mothers need love and caring as much as anybody. What better form of bigotry is there to be eliminated! My original position was confirmed, when, he repeated it during his telephone call to the Right to Life Marchers on January 24. Remember adoption is an option

The Tsunami in south Asia is a very strong indication of how fragile life can be. In a matter of minutes the lives of hundreds of thousands were changed. We should always consider how we live our lives and be prepared for the eventual end – Memento Mori.

As we begin the Lenten season, we should examine our consciences and actions and make sacrifices as we prepare for Easter. The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is the diocesan appeal for funds and I recommend that each and every one of you be as generous as possible.

The response to the Assembly's offer to purchase a sword for those members who purchase a cape and chapeau is great. For those members who purchase the regalia, please present Larry Novack, the Faithful Comptroller, with a copy of the receipt and he will write the check. With certification training in February and all of the additional regalia, I look forward to a very active honor guard and color corps.

David Todd, Sr.
Faithful Navigator.

NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 7:30 PM

The next meeting of Fr. Malloy Assembly will be held at Providence Hall, St. Leo the Great Parish on Wednesday, February 16th. The meeting will start with a recitation of the Holy Rosary at 7:30 PM. This will be followed by The Knights Cafe, a social, sit-down repast prepared by Brother Sir Knights. A business meeting will follow The Knights Cafe. All Sir Knights are urged to attend.

Following the Meeting there will be a certification of members for the Color Corps. If you are a new Sir Knight or wish to participate in Color Corps activities please plan to attend this Certification. If you own a sword, bring it, if not the assembly will provide one for the certification.

The Pilot's Report

SK Tom Kelley

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Worthy Sir Knights:

Recently, during the March for Life, I was afforded the opportunity to join with my brother Knights of Fr. Diamond Council in an effort to collect contributions from the participants in the March to help pay for the cost of the March. To collect these contributions we stood across Constitution Avenue during the March and stayed our positions as the marchers went past. As thousands of participants passed our positions I noted that interspersed among the marchers were numerous Councils and Assemblies from several cities and states banded together with their banners marching in the street and publicly proclaiming their faith and their belief that abortion must end.. This, I thought, is what Knighthood is all about: participation or, as we proclaim, Unity. This participation or display of Unity begins not on the streets of Washington or elsewhere. It begins in the chambers of our Councils and Assemblies. And to grow it needs the participation of all. .

At each of our Assembly meetings the Faithful Comptroller announces the current membership. That number for Father Malloy Assembly is now well over 300 Sir Knights. But as one looks around the meeting only a couple dozen Sir Knights are present. Every Knight who has joined the Fourth Degree should make an effort to attend at least two meetings or more a year. The exchange of new ideas by new, active members is important if the Assembly is to grow in unity and continue as one of the leading Assemblies in the State.

Our Assembly meetings are held on the Third Wednesday of each month and consist of a recitation of the Rosary followed by a dinner with your fellow Sir Knights and conclude with a brief business meeting. Please make the effort to attend at least two Assemblies meeting during this year. This is especially important to those new Sir Knights who have yet to attend a meeting. Come join us at the February meeting.

As stated elsewhere in this Log by the Faithful Navigator and Color Corps Commander those who attend the February meeting will be afforded the opportunity to be certified as a member of the Color Corps. Let's make an impressive showing at this Certification ceremony and turn out for this meeting. For details of this certification please see the Color Corps Commander's report.

Recently, after reading the Fr. McGivney Guild Newsletter, I was searching the internet looking for more information about our founder. I came across a web site at www.fathermcgivney.com and recommend it to you for your review. Of particular interest to me was a 14 minute video about the short life of Fr. McGivney. I recommend it to you for your review. If you have not yet joined the Father McGivney Guild I recommend it to you. This guild is dedicated to furthering the case for canonization for our beloved founder.

Fraternally
SK Tom Kelley
Faithful Pilot.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS (PFN'S in BOLD)

2/02	Kenneth DeHart	2/19	Frank Loughney. PFN
2/03	Brian Mahoney	2/19	James Scott
2/05	Scott Freber	2/20	Jorge Mancesidor
2/06	Rev. John Lyle	2/20	Gerard Schratz
2/09	Michael Flattery	2/21	Theodore Kornhoff
2/11	Robert Eckert	2/21	Tommy Harmon
2/12	Richard Sparaco	2/22	Eugene Bransfield
2/12	Hugh Scott	2/26	Kurt Fox
2/13	David Miller	2/27	Br. Christopher Gaffrey
2/18	Christian Rossman	2/28	Joseph Durant
		2/28	Paul Muldoon

IN MEMORIAM

Brother Sir Knights who died in February

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and
may their souls rest in peace"

2/04/1992 SK James W. Kroell
2/09/2001 SK James A. Reilly





Worthy Sir Knights:

Welcome to the Commander's Corner.

This past month was a quiet one for the Color Corps. Our annual re-certification training has been rescheduled for the February meeting. Let's have a good turnout! Please bring your sword and service baldric. I will bring the Assembly's extra swords and I have a limited number of service baldrics. Please e-mail me at geobilly@aol.com if you will need to use them.

Where We're Going: Two upcoming events announced by our District Marshall Dick Bowman: President's Day Parade on February 21, and St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 5.

Please assemble at St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. (just north of the Beltway and east of Washington St.) at 12:00 noon, on February 21, 2005. We will proceed to our parade position at 12:30 PM. The parade begins at 1:00 PM. Potomac Assembly will serve lunch at St. Mary's school after the parade. Please advise the probable number of men that your Assembly will bring to the parade. Respond to George Billy at: geobilly@aol.com

Also, mark your calendars for the St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday March 5. We will meet at St. Mary's Lyceum (social hall), 313 Duke St., at 11:30 AM and proceed to our parade position by 12:00 noon. This parade begins at 12:30 PM, and we will have drivers to take us to the start point.

I'd like to make a pitch for our new and non-Color Corps members to join the Color Corps. The assembly has an excellent deal if you buy your regalia (chapeau, cape, service baldric) within the next month, the assembly will buy your sword (\$100 value). In the interim, I have extra regalia and swords for use during our events if you would like to participate and don't have your own regalia. Just let me know ahead of time so I can bring them.

Fraternally yours
SK George Billy
Color Corps Commander

Worthy Sir Knights:

The Knights of Columbus are justly proud at our role in adding "Under God" to the pledge of allegiance. As I mentioned in last month's column, this was both a patriotic exercise of our freedom and voice, and a wonderful affirmation of the unity we all share, united, under the protection of our Creator. But this was by no means the only time the Knights have sought to add their collective voices to public policy – only the most widely known.

In 1922, Oregon passed a law called the Compulsory Education Act. The law compelled all parents and guardians of children between 8 and 16 years of age to send their children to public school. It may seem impossible to us now, but yes – this law essentially sought to prohibit religious schooling as the primary education method. It was challenged by the Society of Sisters, a Catholic order, and their legal expenses underwritten by the Knights of Columbus. 1925, the Supreme Court decided *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, a landmark 9-0 decision that affirmed the right of parents to educate their children in religious schools. Would it have turned out that way without the Knights? I hope so, but who knows?

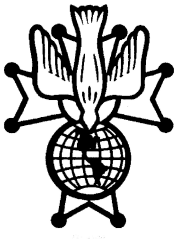
From those roots, the Knights have filed supporting legal briefs for many causes, most notably in support of public Nativity displays. We also filed a supporting brief to retain what we once won: Supreme Knight Carl Anderson's name appeared in front of the Court this past year on the "Under God" Pledge case.

We were not always completely successful. In 1926, General Plutarco Elias Calles, the President of Mexico, forbid practice of Catholicism in Mexico. Mass could not be celebrated; no sacraments conferred. Priests were forbidden from even wearing identifying clothing outside of church. Backlash from these harsh edicts ignited a guerilla war, and the Knights of Columbus lobbied the United States to step in and reverse the disaster. While the US did ultimately mediate the conflict, the Roosevelt administration did not take nearly as hard a line with the Mexican government as the Knights urged; the active persecution of the Church ended, but it would be years before the recovery would be complete.

But lack of complete success is the hallmark of a democracy. Our views cannot reasonably be expected to dominate those of all our fellow citizens and our government all the time. We win some, we lose some. But as an Order, we *participate*. We add our voice to the public dialog over issues.

And that's what makes us active citizens, and patriots.

Rick Munoz, PFN
Patriotic Chairman



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