



Assembly 3296 Review

July 2023



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Message From FN John McCarty, Assembly 3296

Fraternal Year Summary Assembly 3296

Not necessarily in chronological order but some highlights that I believe the Assembly can be proud of that occurred during this year.

As we prepared for the fraternal year, we did conduct a survey of the members which yielded a 39% response. While no over earth-shattering issues came up from the survey there were a couple of thoughts to give serious consideration to. The first and the one that was made was to change the starting time of the meeting to 6:30 PM. As the assembly is a bit more mature in membership the winter months become problematic for driving due to eyesight issues some just don't drive anymore and there are health issues of either the member or member family that requires them to be at home on nights of our meeting. There were other issues that were noteworthy. One perception of not being the most welcoming group. One approach was to install a social component at the end of each meeting although not done consistently the times it was there it did seem to encourage those to stay around a bit longer.

Attendance at meetings ranged from 27 to 12 with the membership settling in at 123. The installation of officers was held in August and were most appreciative of Father Rafal being our celebrant. We did participate in the 9/11 memorial service held at the church. At the invitation of Assembly 2722 we joined in a combined and very well attended a picnic in early October. We also participated in a ministry fair with Council 14222. We were involved in the collection of donated clothing accounting for 35 big black plastic bags (250lbs) and items for directed to the paralyzed veterans of America Central Florida chapter. Additionally, we received monetary donations to prepare 50 gift bags for veterans at the VA hospital in Gainesville who would not

be able to go home for Christmas. Through patience diligence and some tenacity, we were able to get the VA outpatient Center Project up and running in November.

With Assembly 2722 we hosted a renewal of obligations ceremony in January and had a meal together following the program. Our Assembly received a Civic Award at the conclusion of the ceremony from S/K John O'Toole, Master. Under the leadership of our Color Corps Commander SK Cliff Miller, the unit successfully continued a collaborative relationship with the Color Corp of 2722 that afforded the combined group to meet many request that occurred throughout the fraternal year. We purchased 156 flags for the Bushnell National Cemetery as well as participated in the placement and removal of the flags Memorial Day weekend. Altogether there was over 40 Sir Knights and Brother Knights that participated in this activity from our respective Councils and the Assemblies. The Assembly continued to collect worn US flags and to sell new flags to those interested. That remains a beneficial service.

Throughout the year we continue to pray for our sick and infirmed Knights, their family members, and friends. We also include prayers for recently deceased and for all the Knights of our Assembly who have died over the years. We also made sure that family members of the deceased received condolences and those for who we participated in their funerals received a proclamation from the Assembly. Those who were identified as sick also received a healing card from the Assembly.

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

#1 supportive pastor, office, and custodial personnel. #2 a supportive Deacon who has joined us throughout the year and provided us with spiritual thoughts and messages to aid us in strengthening our faith journey. #3 the members of the assembly who generously gave of their time to attend the meetings and participate in the various activities throughout the year especially those recognized as Sir Knight of the Month.

Continued page 2

Continued from page 1

#4 for the officers who helped throughout the year and especially during my absence. Important advice from S/K's Rzepka and Becker was often perfectly timed. Of course Chet Sedke kept things interesting throughout the year,

PERSONAL COMMENTS

I have considered it a privilege to have served as the faithful navigator this past year even with some of my health issues challenges, I hope that the Assembly is in a better place as we start the new fraternal year. I wish Joe and the officers much success. A personal chal-

lenge for me as faithful navigator was to not be a member of the parish that sponsors the Assembly. You have members of the parish who are also members of Council 14222 and the Assembly. While council 13300 is represented in the assembly with approximately 50% of the membership they likewise are coming from a different parish. As has been reported Council 13300 is a very active Council with over 440 members and numerous projects throughout the year. It can take away some participation in Assembly 3296 activities maybe membership given allegiance to their home parish. Is there room for another Assembly?



Pictured on left is FN John McCarty receiving his award plaque from DGK Joe Castrigno.

Below we have FN McCarty awarding Castrigno with Knight of month for July

Bottom right we have the officers receiving an award of Responds Membership in the Franciscan Mission Association at the request of McCarty

Assembly Officers 2023/2024

F N	Joseph Castrigno
Captain	Charlie Fenstermaker
Pilot	Dennis McMullin
Admiral	Gerry Becker
Comptroller	Chet Sedke
Scribe	David Rodini
Purser	Hank Casey
Inner	Peter Thomas
Outer	Ted Deshaw
3yr Trustee	Joseph Rzepka
2yr Trustee	Bill Wirtz
1yr Trustee	Mark Manno





Message From Dea. Kevin Mukri

You Were Made for Greatness

I grew up in Los Angeles and it was a much different place than it is today. Probably like many of you, my parents struggled to send my brothers, sister, and I to Catholic School. We were taught by the Sisters of Norte Dame. These were holy women dedicated not only to teaching, but forming young boys and girls to be successful Catholic and moral adults. Each class was full with 53 students. The nuns were demanding but loved each one of us. They knew each of us personally. Nothing slipped passed them. Unfortunately, I can attest to this as at the parent/teacher conferences, in executionary detail, they told my parents of each missing homework assignment and each time I misbehaved. Yes, they taught us our subjects, but more importantly they taught us how to take responsibility for our actions, how to avoid the near occasion of sin, and how important it is to live our faith in our society. One important thing they emphasized was how June was the month we all honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sadly, our secular society has no interest in honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus, but has hijacked the month of June to force us to promote and support sin and disordered acts, sins that cry out to heaven for vengeance. It felt like I was sucker punched when I heard that the Los Angeles Dodgers would honor the "Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence" by presenting them the Community Hero Award on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ this past June 16th. These phony and blasphemous nuns are men who dress up as nuns, who describe themselves as an

order of queer and trans nuns and use their perversion to mock the Catholic faith, mock all religious sisters, mock the Holy Eucharist, and mock the Holy Mass. That is the bad news. The good news is in response to this outrage, a group of Catholics quickly got permits for a pray rally near Dodger Stadium when this blasphemous group was scheduled to receive their award. With little time to organize, over 5,000 attended the prayer rally in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

There was no rocking throwing, broken windshields, and shouting of expletives. But those at the prayer rally had a powerful weapon to fight evil. This weapon was prayer. Bishop Joseph Strickland of Tyler, Texas led them in the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Holy Rosary, and the Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The 5,000 then proceeded in a rosary procession lead with a large picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus followed by Bishop Strickland holding a relic of Pope St. John Paul II. How joyful these 5,000 will be at the particular judgment where Our Lord will fulfill His promise: because they acknowledge Our Lord before others, Our Lord will acknowledge each one of them before His heavenly Father.

It can be uncomfortable to acknowledge Our Lord to others. But we were baptized into the priesthood of Christ and confirmed to be a soldier of Christ. Almighty God created us to live in 2023 to fight evil and acknowledge Christ before others no matter the cost.

Pope Benedict the XVI said, you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness. Be great. Speak of Christ, speak of His Church, speak of His love and mercy for all. And know His promise to you is true. At your judgment, Our Lord and King will acknowledge you to His heavenly Father.



Pray for the souls in Purgatory who need our help to reach perfection, also please remember all of those in our Assembly Family who are ill, hospitalized and in need of our prayers. Especially; Mario & Deb Acevedo, Krissy Bender, Richard & Cookie Brown, Hank Casey, Joseph Casey, Dennis M. Chibeau, Dcn Charlie Cimmino, Jay Cottle, Bill Delaney, Lenny Dimarco, Roger Ellison, Thomas Feenaghy, Steve Gilkenson, Dr. Tony Gill, Thomas Henry, Elif Higgins, Julie Kilbride, Nicole Lepore, Dennis Lonnais, John

Magee, John McCarty, Bob & Chris McClean, Rev John McCracken, Mike & Bonnie Jean Miller, Rick Nelson, William Nisbet, Robert Nixon, Leah Pistarelli, Tom & Mary-Jean Rueck, Joseph & Debbie Rzepka, Rosemarie Schwaber, Chet & Harriett Sedke, Dave & Sonja Simmons, Bob & Pat Smelas, Bud & Sophia Stegmeyer Fred & Mary-Ann Targos, John Thomas, Gloria Van Leuven, Denny Weiinski, George White, Bill Wirtz, Jack Wilson.

Repose of Souls: Sam Van Leuven, Linda Robacker, Dennis Thibeau, Richard Pryble, Lenny Capobianco, Roger Sabatino, Richard Bauer, John McCormick.



**Message from
CCC Cliff Miller Jr
Assembly 3296**

Here it is Juneteeth, a new national holiday long overdue over 160 years ago. Our forefathers fought, a Civil War over the question of slavery resulting in its abolishment. It's been a long, hard road for many people since then, some finding acceptance and some finding difficulty in accepting. With the help of our Lord Jesus Christ, may we all find what he wanted us all to have PEACE. Looking back on the last year I want to thank Assembly 3296 Color Corps for their patriotism, camaraderie devotion to God and duty and the friendship they have shown me as the new guy on the block. So, thank you Richard Bauer, Joe Castrigno, Ted Deshaw, Steve Gilkerson, Bill Lowderman, John McCarty, Chet Sedke, Peter Thomas, George White and last but certainly not least Bill Wertz. Although we look for our reward in our next life and shun the

praises of man these brothers are to be commended for the hours of extra time and sacrifices, they make to add dignity and honor to our many services and ceremonies.

With that in mind, we are not getting any younger. Our bodies are wearing out, and we can't always rise to answer the call. We need reinforcements and we have programs in place that offset the cost of a new uniform. This is a good time to except the changes and help our brothers carry on the traditions of the fourth degree.

Looking to July and August the Florida State Council will have the honor of hosting the 141st Supreme Convention in Orlando at the Marriott Orlando world center. Many volunteers will be needed for Saturday, July 29 through Friday, August 4. The Color Corps will be needed for masses and to man the adoration chapel. Carpool anyone?

Enjoy your summer.

Vivat Jesus,
CCC Cliff

Dear Knights, 4th Degree

Thank You so much for your generous donation to the Memorial Day basket raffle. We purchased gift cards to go into the basket. With your help we were able to meet \$1,150!

*May God continue to Bless the Knights
Thank You for your support.*

*God's Blessings
Carol Simmons
Hospitality Chairperson*

Article on the left says it all. That's we are all about, helping where we can, when we can. I only wish we could do more with our limited resources.

7/10/2023~Officers meeting 2pm, Conference room.

7/19/2023~Installation of Council Officers, followed by Assembly Officers, 6:00 pm in St. Mark's Church followed by dinner in social hall. All are invited to attend both the installation and dinner. Knight's will subsidize

half the cost of dinner, the sale of tickets will cover the rest.

8/23/2023~Business meeting 7 pm, conference room.

9/27/2023~Business meeting 7 pm, conference room.

Memorial Flag Placing, Florida National Cemetery

Each year around Memorial Day, volunteers gather at national cemeteries and place American flags at the headstones of the fallen. Florida National Cemetery is one of the 136 cemeteries where this event is held each year. There are over 190,000 grave sites of American Veterans and their families honored in this cemetery, and about 6000 volunteers gather to place flags.

This year, flags were placed on gravesite on May 28 th and removed on June 3 rd . Knights from St Mark's participated in both events.

This is a wonderful opportunity to show our patriotism and support of our Veterans. Our participation is sponsored by the Fourth Degree Assembly 3296 a patriotic degree.

Pictured below from right to left are Kathy & Mike Colvin, Bruce Schladen, Beatrice & Joe Castrigno, Gino Auletta, Jim Felton. Gerry & Judy Becker.



Brothers all, did you know that Assembly 3296 is offering \$300.00 towards the purpose of a 4th degree uniform plus a prior owned sword and scabbard? The Assembly is very short of color corp members and they are constantly being called out for their services.

Presently they are teamed up with Assembly 2722 and Assembly 3296, however this still makes their coverage very difficult.

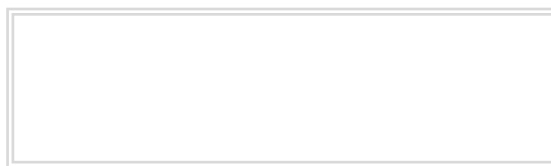
If you are a member of 3296 or know of anyone who would be willing to serve with 3296, please let me know and I will pass the info on to those involved, you may reach me at 352 343 1046.

Respectfully, Chet Sedke

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Cell Ph. 352 343 1046



Place
stamp
here



**Message from
CCC Michael Grindel**

Worthy Sir Knights of the Color Corps,
Thank you for your strong response to provide
an Honor Guard for the Installation of Officers for
Our Lady of Mt Carmel Council 13300.

Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023

Time: 3:00 p.m. Mass

Location: St. Vincent dePaul Church, Wildwood, FL

Color Corps Attendees: Mike Grindel, Carmine Gargano, John McCarty, Francis
Robacker, Jerry Loomer, Jerry Pisani, Chet Sedke, Joe Castrigno and Steve Gilkeson

Color Corps Meeting Time: 2:30 p.m.

Color Corps Meeting Location: Conference Room off of Narthex

Color Corps Uniform: 4th Degree Uniform, 4th Degree Tie, White Shirt, Sword,
Scabbard, Service Baldric, Black Shoes, Black Beret with Emblem and White
Gloves

Thank You, Mike

Worthy Sir Knights of the Color Corps,

Thank you for your responses to the request by Deacon Dan Miller to provide
an Honor Guard for the Patriotic Rosary to be held at St. Vincent dePaul Church on
Friday, June 30, 2023. We will be assigned to each decade of the Rosary and will
lead with reciting the Our Father. Practice will start at 9:00 a.m. and the actual Ro-
sary will start at 10:30 a.m. Details below:

Date: Friday, June 30, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m. Practice; 10:30 a.m. Rosary

We have been asked to provide an Honor Guard for Danielle Valentine, wife of
SK Wayne Valentine (member of Co 13300), at St. Vincent dePaul Church on
Wednesday, June 28th, at 11 o'clock Please respond at your earliest convenience.