



## ACTS OF THE APOSTLES NEWS

Acts of the Apostles Assembly #2411  
Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus  
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Over 100 years of Patriotic Service

November 2005

**"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."  
~I Thessalonians 5:18~**



### **What is Thanksgiving?**

**Thanksgiving Day** is a day set aside each year for giving thanks to God for blessings received during the year. On this day, people give thanks with feasting and prayer. The holiday is celebrated in the United States and Canada.

### **What is the History of Thanksgiving?**

The first Thanksgiving Days in New England were harvest festivals, or days for thanking God for plentiful crops. For this reason, the holiday still takes place late in the fall, after the crops have been gathered. For thousands of years, people in many parts of the world have held harvest festivals. The American Thanksgiving Day probably grew out of the harvest-home celebrations of England.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is usually a family day, celebrated with big dinners and joyous reunions.

The very mention of Thanksgiving often calls up memories of kitchens and pantries crowded with good things to eat. Thanksgiving is also a time for serious religious thinking, church services, and prayer.

The first Thanksgiving observance in America was entirely religious and did not involve feasting. On Dec. 4, 1619, a group of 38 English settlers arrived at Berkeley Plantation, on the James River near what is now Charles City, Va. The group's charter required that the day of arrival be observed yearly as a day of thanksgiving to God.

The first Thanksgiving in New England was celebrated in Plymouth less than a year after the Plymouth colonists had settled in America. The first dreadful winter in Massachusetts had killed about half the members of the colony. But new hope arose in the summer of 1621. The settlers expected a good corn harvest, despite poor crops of peas, wheat, and barley. Thus, in early autumn, governor William Bradford arranged a harvest festival to give thanks to God for the progress the colony had made.

The festival lasted three days. The men of Plymouth had shot ducks, geese, and turkeys. The menu also included clams, eel and other fish, wild plums and leeks, corn bread, and watercress. The women of the settlement supervised cooking over outdoor fires. About 90 Indians also attended the festival. They brought five deer to add to the feast. Everyone ate outdoors at large tables and enjoyed games and a military review. Similar harvest Thanksgivings were held in Plymouth during the next several years, but no traditional date was set.

Later Thanksgiving Days in the United States. The custom of Thanksgiving Day spread from Plymouth to other New England colonies. During the Revolutionary War, eight special days of thanks were observed for victories and for being saved from dangers. In 1789, President George Washington issued a general proclamation naming November 26 a day of national thanksgiving. In the same year, the Protestant Episcopal Church announced that the first Thursday in November would be a regular yearly day for giving thanks.

For many years, the country had no regular national Thanksgiving Day. But some states had a yearly Thanksgiving holiday. By 1830, New York had an official state Thanksgiving Day, and other Northern states soon followed its example. In 1855, Virginia became the nation's first Southern state to adopt the custom.

### **Who is responsible for the Thanksgiving Holiday?**

Sarah Josepha Hale, pronounced joh SEE fuh (1788-1879), became one of the most famous magazine editors in the United States during the 1800's. As editor of the Ladies' Magazine and, later, of Godey's Lady's Book, she helped shape the taste and thought of thousands of women.

She worked many years to promote the idea of a national Thanksgiving Day. She received credit for

persuading President Abraham Lincoln to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. Then President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November 1863, as "a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father." Each year afterward, for 75 years, the President formally proclaimed that Thanksgiving Day should be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. But in 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt set it one week earlier. He wanted to help business by lengthening the shopping period before Christmas. Congress ruled that after 1941 the fourth Thursday of November would be observed as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal federal holiday.



## CAPTAIN'S LOG

Thank you for all the good help for the Capt'n last month. It is very much appreciated, and the comments on the dinner are nice too.

The meeting this month is **Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**. As in the past, **Social Hour is 6:30 P.M. and Dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M.**

### Third Degree Liaisons

The Assembly maintains communication with our assigned Councils via liaisons appointed by the Faithful Navigator. Our liaisons are as follows:

St. Veronica Council – Mike Diewald, PGK  
 Fr. Julius J. Cilinski – Joe Beres, PGK  
 St. Chung Hasang – Bok Hwang, GK  
 Fr. Robert E. Nudd – Jim Frazer, GK  
 St. Clare of Assisi – Dick Nadolski, GK

### Faithful Navigator's Message

Brother SK Jim Adams has put forth a motion at the last meeting to establish a fund wherein a memorial gift may given be to a SK in the passing of his spouse.

This issue will be brought up at our November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting for discussion.

Also, this being the month to remember and honor our veterans, should you wish to donate time as a volunteer, please contact the Veterans Hospital website at <http://www1.va.gov/volunteer>.

Vivat Jesus!

**Faithful Navigator**  
 Michael P. Sheil

If you are on the Regular Dinner List below, no need to call unless you will not attend, but if not on the Regular Dinner List, please let me know that you will be attending the meeting by either a call to 703-631-9405 or an email to [scoffman@moneymailer.com](mailto:scoffman@moneymailer.com) by 9 P.M. Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Hope to see you all at the November meeting!  
 SK Richard (Skip) Coffman  
 Captain

### Sir Knights on the Regular Dinner List:

B. Beall	J. Beres	R. Coffman
K Craddock	M. Diewald	A. Grimmig
P. Hannon	R. Head Sr.	C. Hebert
T. Paolozzi	M. Paulucci	J. Seiler
M. Sheil	P. St Laurent	T. Trudeau
W. Ussher	T. Wiedemer	



Welcome to our newest Sir Knights. I encourage you to become active in our Color Corps. We participate in several civil and religious events each year and are, as you heard during your exemplification weekend, the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus.

There are three events on the horizon in the coming weeks:

1. Confirmation at St. Clare of Assisi Church. Confirmation starts at 7:30 P.M. on 30 November. Plan to meet in the lower level at 7:00 P.M.
2. Confirmation at St. Paul Chung Church. Confirmation starts at 7:30 P.M. on 30 November. Plan to meet in the lower level at 7:00 P.M.
3. Manassas Christmas parade on December 3. More information will be forthcoming.

If you are able to participate in any of these events, please call (703) 709-9318 or e-mail me at [commander2411@acts2411.org](mailto:commander2411@acts2411.org).

Have a blessed and safe Thanksgiving.

Fraternally,  
Michael J. Diewald

## **Sir Knights of the Year** 2004 - 2005

July: Al Grimmig  
August: Ted Lloyd & Bill Ossenfort  
September: Richard Coffman  
October: Michael Diewald  
November: Fr. Christopher Buckner  
December: Michael Sheil  
January: Kevin McCabe  
February: Kevin Craddock  
March: Fr. Marcus Pollard  
April: Joe Beres  
May: Tom Trudeau  
June: Tom Wiedemer

## Officers for the Columbian Year beginning July 1, 2005

Office	Name	Spouse	E-Mail	Phone
Friar	The Rev. Christopher Buckner			703-689-4409
Navigator	Michael Sheil	Kathleen	<a href="mailto:JOBMMK6@aol.com">JOBMMK6@aol.com</a>	703-818-3096
Captain	Richard Coffman	J'Neane	<a href="mailto:scoffman@moneymailer.com">scoffman@moneymailer.com</a>	703-631-9405
Pilot	Ted Lloyd	Terry	<a href="mailto:tlloyd@quadamed.com">tlloyd@quadamed.com</a>	703-803-4432
Admiral	Paul St. Laurent		<a href="mailto:Stlaurentp@aol.com">Stlaurentp@aol.com</a>	703-322-9199
Scribe	Jason Seiler	Galena	<a href="mailto:jseiler@seicorp.com">jseiler@seicorp.com</a>	703-304-6393
Purser	Mike Lynch			703-818-2945
Comptroller	Tom Wiedemer	Anne Marie	<a href="mailto:tom.wiedemer/cgi-ams.com">tom.wiedemer/cgi-ams.com</a>	703-818-2761
Inner Sentinel	Joseph Choi			703-821-0861
Outer Sentinel	Peter Lee			703-261-3660
Trustee (2yr)	Paul Hannan PFN		<a href="mailto:pthannan@netzero.com">pthannan@netzero.com</a>	703-620-4033
Trustee (1yr)	Tom Trudeau PFN	Jeri	<a href="mailto:Trudeau7369@yahoo.com">Trudeau7369@yahoo.com</a>	703-378-7373
Trustee (3yr)	Al Grimmig PFN	Debbie	<a href="mailto:grizzwald1@cox.net">grizzwald1@cox.net</a>	703-802-0530
Commander	Michael Diewald PFN	Peggy	<a href="mailto:mdiewald@cox.net">mdiewald@cox.net</a>	703-709-9318

**ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**  
Was founded on 5 February 1996

**OUR FAITHFUL NAVIGATORS:**

96 Richard G. Head Sr.  
96-97 Richard G. Head Sr.  
97-98 Ronald J. Savage  
98-99 Anthony J. Ascone  
99-00 Michael J. Diewald  
00-01 James L. Adams  
01-02 Thomas A. Trudeau  
02-03 Paul T. Hannan  
03-04 Alvin E. Grimmig  
04-05 Paul St. Laurent  
05 - Michael P. Sheil

Opinions expressed are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of Acts of the Apostles Assembly, its Officers, or the Knights of Columbus. Contributions to the Assembly Newsletter by Brother Sir Knights are welcome. Please send all articles for consideration via e-mail directly to the Faithful Navigator at [JOBMMK6@aol.com](mailto:JOBMMK6@aol.com)

**Sir Knights that want to receive the Assembly Newsletter via e-mail, instead of via hardcopy, need only notify the Faithful Navigator or Commander (the faithful keeper of the mailing list). Note e-mail contact information above.**



**Kevin P. McCabe**  
President

**McCabe's**  
**MINUTEMAN**  
**PRESS**

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