



# 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

May 2006

### **Memorial Day**

In 1865, Henry C. Welles, a druggist in the village of Waterloo, NY, mentioned at a social gathering that honor should be shown to the patriotic dead of the Civil War by decorating their graves.

In the spring of 1866, he again mentioned this subject to General John B. Murray, a Seneca County Clerk. General Murray embraced the idea and a committee was formulated to plan a day devoted to honoring the dead.

Townpeople adopted the idea wholeheartedly. Wreaths, crosses and bouquets were made for each veteran's grave. The village was decorated with flags at half mast and draped with evergreen boughs and mourning black streamers.

On May 5, 1866, civic societies joined the procession to the three existing cemeteries and were led by veterans marching to martial music. At each cemetery there were impressive and lengthy services including speeches by General Murray and a local clergyman. The ceremonies were repeated on May 5, 1867.

The first official recognition of Memorial Day as such was issued by General John A. Logan, first commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. This was General Order No. 11 establishing "Decoration Day" as it was then known. The date of the order was May 5, 1868, exactly two years after Waterloo's first observance. That year Waterloo joined other communities in the nation by having their ceremony on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

In 1965, a committee of community leaders started plans for the Centennial Celebration of Memorial Day. Their goals were: "To obtain national recognition of the fact that Waterloo is the birthplace of Memorial Day through Congressional action" and "to plan and execute a proper celebration for such centennial observance."

In May of 1966, just in time for the Centennial, Waterloo was recognized as the 'Birthplace of Memorial Day' by the United States Government. This recognition was long in coming and involved hours of painstaking research to prove the claim. While other communities may claim earlier observances of honoring the Civil War dead, none can claim to have been so well planned and complete, nor can they claim the continuity of observances that Waterloo can.

The Centennial Celebration that year brought dignitaries from government, military, veterans' organizations and descendants of the original founders of Memorial Day. A once luxurious home on Waterloo's Main Street, built in 1850, was purchased from the county and restored. Now the Memorial Day Museum, it houses artifacts of the first Memorial Day and the Civil War era.

Memorial Day is commemorated each year in Waterloo. The parade, speeches, and solemn observances keep the meaning of Memorial Day as it was originally intended to be.

### **Faithful Navigator's Message**

Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> is Mother's Day. I don't think I have to remind any of my Brother Sir Knights that this is the most important day of the year for that Special Woman in our lives. Let us each remember and pay tribute to our earthly mother and our heavenly mother. Let us also remember those mothers who have lost sons and daughters who gave their lives to protect our freedoms.

Acts of the Assembly will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> beginning with cocktails at 6:30pm and dinner at 7pm.

I want to thank you for helping the Captain close the kitchen at last month's meeting. By pitching in, the kitchen was closed in record time. Thanks very much for your jumping in to lend a hand.

We have some important activities to tend to. First, we must support a number of Color Corps events. Please read below under the "Commander's Swords" for upcoming events.

Second, we have a Mid-Year Exemplification in Harrisburg on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. We would like to see some of our people represented there and there is still time to recruit new members into our assembly

Vivat Jesus!!  
Michael P. Sheil  
Faithful Navigator

### **The 2006-2007 Slate of Officers for Acts of the Apostle Assembly is as follows:**

<b>Navigator</b>	<b>Richard "Skip" Coffman</b>
<b>Captain</b>	<b>Joseph Beres</b>
<b>Pilot</b>	<b>Jason Seiler</b>
<b>Admiral</b>	<b>Michael Dewald, PFN</b>
<b>Scribe</b>	<b>James Frazer</b>
<b>Comptroller</b>	<b>Thomas Wiedemer</b>
<b>Purser</b>	<b>Kevin Craddock</b>
<b>Inner Sentinel</b>	<b>Joseph Choi</b>
<b>Outer Sentinel</b>	<b>James Beers</b>
<b>Trustee (1 Yr)</b>	<b>Paul Hannan, PFN</b>
<b>Trustee (2 Yr)</b>	<b>Alvin Grimmig, Jr., PFN</b>
<b>Trustee (3 Yr)</b>	<b>Paul St. Laurent, PFN</b>

## Commander's Swords

There are several events on the horizon. Please pick at least one or two of them to support. Muster is 30 minutes prior to the event.

Date	Time	Event
21 May	11:00	Dedication at St. Paul Chung
21 May	4:00	Military Archdioces Memorial Mass at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
17 Jun	All Day	Fourth Degree Exemplification – Harrisonburg

The assembly has loaner regalia for you to try. Lately, Color Corps' participation is down. Please join us and show your true colors as a Patriotic Catholic Gentleman. Vivat Jesus!!!

Michael J. Diewald, PFN

## Third Degree Liaisons

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

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

## Captain's Log

The meeting this month is **Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006**. **Social Hour is 6:30 PM** and **Dinner will be served at 7:00 P M**. The menu entrée planned is steak; along with potatoes, veggies, salad and desert!

If you are on the Regular Dinner List, 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 9PM Sunday evening prior.

If you want to be added to the Regular Dinner List, please send an email to the FN ([JOBMMK6@AOL.COM](mailto:JOBMMK6@AOL.COM)) and to me ([scoffman@moneymailer.com](mailto:scoffman@moneymailer.com)).

Hope to see you all at the MAY meeting!

SK Richard (Skip) Coffman  
Captain

## Our Navigators:

1996-1996	Richard G. Head, Sr, PSD, CFN
1996-1997	Richard G. Head, Sr, PSD, CFN
1997-1998	Ronald J. Savage, PFN
1998-1999	Anthony J. Ascone, PFN
1999-2000	Michael J. Diewald, PFN
2000-2001	James L. Adams, PFN
2001-2002	Thomas A. Trudeau, PFN
2002-2003	Paul T. Hannan, PFN
2003-2004	Alvin E. Grimmig, Jr., PFN
2004-2005	Paul St. Laurent, PFN
2005-2006	Michael Sheil

Office	Name	Spouse	E-mail	Phone
Friar	The Rev. Christopher Buckner			(703) 689-4409
Navigator	Michael P. Sheil	Kathy	<a href="mailto:JOBMMK6@aol.com">JOBMMK6@aol.com</a>	(703) 818-3096
Captain	Richard (Skip) Coffman	J'Neane	<a href="mailto:scoffman@moneymailer.com">scoffman@moneymailer.com</a>	(703) 631-9405
Pilot	Joseph Beres	Gerri	<a href="mailto:beresjg@verizon.net">beresjg@verizon.net</a>	(703) 631-4174
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@sejcorp.com">jseiler@sejcorp.com</a>	(703) 304-6393
Purser	Micahel 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	Thomas A. Trudeau, PFN	Jeri	<a href="mailto:Trudeau7369@yahoo.com">Trudeau7369@yahoo.com</a>	(703) 378-7373
Trustee	Paul T. Hannan, PFN		<a href="mailto:pthannan@netzero.com">pthannan@netzero.com</a>	(703) 620-4033
Trustee	Alvin E. Grimmig, Jr., PFN	Debbie	<a href="mailto:grizzwald1@cox.net">grizzwald1@cox.net</a>	(703) 502-0830
Commander	Michael J. Diewald, PFN	Peggy	<a href="mailto:Michael@thediewalds.net">Michael@thediewalds.net</a>	(703) 709-9318

➔ Reserve 3 June for an evening out with your fellow Sir Knights and wives. ➔  
Call Joe Beres for reservations for dinner and theater.