



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES NEWS

Acts of the Apostles Assembly #2411
Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 2124, Centreville, Virginia 20120-2124

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Over 100 years of Patriotic Service

August 2007

Faithful Navigator's Column

We have two very important events occurring concurrently on our regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday August 28: Installation of officers for the 2007 – 2008 fraternal year and Past Faithful Navigator dinner honoring Skip Coffman. This is a particularly special event, since our founding Faithful Navigator and current District Master, Richie Head, Sr., PSD, will be presiding.

This is a big social occasion for our assembly and ladies are invited. Dress will be formal, with tuxedo and social baldric. Please plan to attend.

Officers for the current fraternal year are reminded that you are required to be present at the installation ceremony. If for some reason you are not able to attend, please arrange for a substitute and let me know who it will be.

Looking ahead to September, the Spiritual Director at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception has given us permission to provide a color corps for the ceremony to present the Korean Mother Mary sculpture at the National Shrine on September 22 in Washington, DC. This event is a very special and one that can help make visible the Knights of Columbus to the Korean population. Time and other details will be provided in future correspondence.

On the 15th of this month we celebrate Mary, our Mother and Patroness, in the solemnity of her assumption into heaven. The Feast of the Assumption is also known as the Feast of the Dormition (falling asleep) of Mary.

Pope Pius XII officially and infallibly declared the Assumption of Mary, the Mother of God, to be dogma in 1950. With the words "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." In this pronouncement, Pope Pius was simply stating dogmatically what the Church, East and West, had believed devotionally for many years.

Although probably not unknown in the early Church, the earliest references to the Assumption of Mary appear in the 4th or possibly late 3rd century in Liber Requiei Mariae (The Book of Mary's Repose), and in the writings of a Bishop Meliton. Some of the Church Fathers believed that the Blessed Virgin Mary was assumed while still alive, others that she was assumed after she had died. Both views are permitted under the infallible definition of Pius XII. St. John of Damascus relates a tradition where, during the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451), the emperor Marcian and his wife wished to find the body of Mary. He tells how all the apostles had seen her death, but her tomb was empty upon inspection.

Festivals commemorating the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary were common from the 5th century onwards, although the exact dates were never universally fixed. In AD 556 the patriarch of Alexandria, Theodosius, attests to two popular Marian feasts in Egypt: Mary's death (January 16) and Assumption (August 9). Theodosius understood Mary to have died before being assumed, and according to the feast dates in Egypt at the time, she was assumed 206 days after her death. In AD 600, the emperor Mauricius decreed that the

Assumption was to be celebrated on August 15. Soon, the Church in Ireland adopted this date, and it was later introduced in Rome. As the cult of Mary grew in the West, there was more pressure for the Catholic Church to define the exact nature of the Assumption. Pope Pius did this in 1950, in terms that are still rather general, and can be accepted by Western Catholics, Eastern Catholics, and Eastern Orthodox.

The Orthodox Church teaches that the Virgin Mary died a fully human death, and celebrates the feast accordingly. According to various traditions known in the East, St. Thomas was not around when Mary passed away, just as he was absent when Jesus was raised from the dead. Because he was three days late to Mary's funeral, he requested to see Mary's body. However, when her tomb was opened, her body was not found. This is not viewed as a resurrection like her Son's, but rather as the first fruits of our own bodily resurrection. In one of the most complicated of Christian Hymns (utilizing all 8 tones) the Orthodox are shown the story of her journeying to heaven as her funeral procession. The apostles act as her pall-bearers. As she arrives at heaven she is the first given the task of all the glorified saints, that of praying for us to her Son and our Lord. As a part of the interior mysteries of the Orthodox Church, the Assumption is not a point of dogma or debate, yet it is a commonly accepted belief among Orthodox Christians.

Protestants have rejected the Assumption of Mary (except for some, mostly Anglicans, who hold the opinion privately and devotionally), probably because it is not explicitly biblical. It is, however, an ancient belief certainly fitting the honor of the one chosen to bear the Son of God. It is also solidly within the biblical tradition of holy and unique individuals being taken bodily to heaven (like Elijah and Enoch). She who is "Mother of the Lord," "full of grace," and whom "all generations shall call blessed" is certainly worthy of this honor. Many Reformation denominations (like Anglicanism and Lutheranism) have set aside August 15th as a day commemorating the

Blessed Virgin Mary, although without the explicit context of the Assumption.

Mary Queen of the Knights...Pray for us!

Fraternally in Christ,

Joe Beres
Faithful Navigator

Commander'Swords

Thanks to all who participated in Color Corps' events this past fraternal year. Our first event of the fraternal year is the annual Father Robert E. Nudd memorial Mass and graveside service.

Mass is at St. Timothy on 12 August at 12:30 – graveside service follows. Muster in the vestibule at noon.

See the Activity Box elsewhere in this newsletter for other upcoming events

Vivat Jesus!!!
Michael J. Diewald, PFN

CAPTAIN'S LOG

On Tuesday August 28 we will have our annual installation of officers' ceremony as well as a dinner to honor Skip Coffman, PFN. Wives and other guests are invited to this formal affair. Our social will start with 6:30 PM with appetizers followed by the installation and dinner at 7:00 PM.

Please RSVP to me at 703-825-1882 or jseiler@seicorp.com WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE ON THE REGULAR ATTENDEE LIST, by noon, Sunday August 26, so that I may have an accurate headcount for the dinner.

Vivat Jesus!
Jason Seiler
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. Ascione, 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, PFN
2006-2007	Richard (Skip) Coffman, PFN
2007	Joseph Beres

New Vice Supreme Master for Calvert Province

The following note was received 23 July from Vice Supreme Master Chuck Gallina. Our new VSM, Ralph Rossi, will take office on September 1st. We look forward to working with Ralph to advance the cause of the Patriotism and the Fourth Degree.

Fraternally,
Richie

It is my great honor to announce that Master Ralph Rossi, PSD-DE, has been selected by the Supreme Knight to succeed me as Vice Supreme Master, Calvert Province.

SK Rossi is exceptionally well qualified, with his 40 years active and National Guard background (SgtMaj-Ret) and his successful term as State Deputy of Delaware and a most successful term as Master, Delaware District, to lead the Province. Together with the outstanding group of Masters, Ralph will ensure the Province continues to excel in the exemplification Patriotism.

Ralph will be in contact with each of you in the very near term to begin planning for the Provincial meeting. In the meantime, please stay on top of your assemblies to get the annual audits complete and submitted to Supreme. This is a very critical report and we need to achieve 100% reporting in all districts.

When my term ends 1 September, it will have been my great honor and privilege to have been the Vice Supreme Master and work with each of you over the past two years. It is time now for me to concentrate directly on my duties as the Assistant for Military Affairs to continue at an even higher

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	Al Grimmig, PGK
St. Chung Hasang	Bok Hwang, GK
St. Veronica	Mike Diewald, PGK
St. Clare of Assisi	Jason Seiler, PGK

level the success of spreading the presence of the Order throughout our great military, and my VAVS National Representative duties to ensure the presence of the Order in all 153 VAMCs.

"Carrying the Cross of Christ with the Fire of the Holy Spirit"

Semper Fi

chg
VSM-Calvert

The Honor America Corps Needs You

With an increasing number of requests for participation in local area events and activities, we need more brother Knights to get actively involved with the Honor America Corps. This past Fraternal year, the Honor America Corps participated in over 40 events, appearing before more than 26,000 people in the process.

The objective of the Honor America Corps is to reinforce, through education and by example, a broader knowledge and a deeper understanding of the heritage and traditions represented by the official, historical, and special flags of the United States. To date the Honor America Corp has collected – mostly through donations by individual Knights – 54 flags (all 27 official, 16 historical, and 11 special flags) with more flags yet to be added to the collection.

How can you help? Our biggest need right now is building our cadre of volunteers so that we can have enough Knights to carry all of our flags at the events that we participate in. While we would like

to carry all 54 flags at each event, we usually carry 30 flags or less because we don't have enough manpower to carry them all. Fourth Degree Knights are especially needed because at selected times and occasions, we wear regalia.

The good news is you can participate in as many or as few events as you like. Most of the events require very little time – 1 to 2 hours at most. In order to become a member of the Honor America Corps, you must be a Knight – and it helps if you

know your right foot from your left when you carry a flag. You can acquire an Honor America Corps hat and name badge. There are no membership fees.

For more information or to become a member of the Honor America Corps, contact
 Bill McCarthy (540-786-6203 or yankeecolonel@msn.com)
 Frank Connors (540-786-3177 or fsconnors@aol.com)
 Rich LaRoche (703-963-7726 or stone48@erols.com).

Our Officers for the Fraternal Year ending 30 June 2008

Office	Name	Spouse	E-mail	Phone
Friar	The Reverend Gerald Weymes		geraldweymes@gmail.com	(703) 378-7461
Navigator	Joseph Beres	Gerri	beresjg@verizon.net	(703) 631-4174
Captain	Jason Seiler	Galena	jseiler@sejcorp.com	(703) 304-6393
Pilot	Michael Lynch		michaelylynch0629@aol.com	(703) 818-2945
Admiral	Richard (Skip) Coffman	J'Neane	scoffman@moneymailer.com	(703) 631-9405
Scribe	James Frazer	Linda	jbfraser@verizon.net	(703) 802-6905
Purser	Kevin Craddock	Kathy	kevin.craddock@dc.gov	(703) 830-1752
Comptroller	Tom Wiedemer	Anne Marie	thomas.wiedemer@cgi.com	(703) 818-2761
Inner Sentinel	Joseph Choi		josephdchoi54@yahoo.com	(703) 821-0861
Outer Sentinel	William Ossenfort III			(703) 222-0411
Trustee	Alvin E. Grimmig, Jr., PFN	Debbie	grizzwald1@cox.net	(703) 502-0830
Trustee	Willie Putnam	Louise	willieputnam@gmail.com	(703) 818-8272
Trustee	Michael J. Diewald, PFN	Peggy	Michael@thediewalds.net	(703) 709-9318
Commander	Michael J. Diewald, PFN	Peggy	Michael@thediewalds.net	(703) 709-9318

ACTIVITY BOX		
What	When	Where
Father Nudd Memorial Mass and graveside service (Color Corps)	Sunday August 12. Muster at Noon for the 12:30 PM Mass	St. Timothy Church, Chantilly, VA
Installation of officers and Past Faithful Navigator dinner (Tux and social baldric; ladies invited)	Tuesday, August 28. Hors d'œuvre at 6:30 PM	St. Timothy Church cafeteria, Chantilly, VA
Presentation of the Korean Mother Mary sculpture (Color Corps)	Saturday September 22, time to be announced	The National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC
Exemplification	Saturday October 20 Noon	Richmond (Kroger Center)
<i>Note: Loaner color corps regalia are available for those who do not have their own. If you want to participate in an activity and don't have regalia, contact Commander Mike Diewald at Michael@thediewalds.net or 703-709-9318.</i>		

Audition for Fourth Degree Team

We were all saddened at the recent passing of State Advocate and SK Kevin Hayes. Kevin was a member of the Bernice C. Williams Fourth Degree Exemplification Corps, serving as a backup to the incumbent exemplars.

There is an urgent need to fill this vacant position and we plan to do so through competition by interested SK's throughout the Commonwealth. Competitors will be ranked in priority order and the highest priority will be designated as a backup exemplar. Those below the highest priority will be thanked for their efforts and urged to continue their interest in supporting the degree work of our Order.

Sir Knights interested in competing for this backup exemplar position should complete the attached questionnaire and return it to SK John Barrett at the address indicated on the form as soon as possible. The form may be returned by regular mail or e-mailed as an attachment. Upon receipt, the participant will be provided with a copy of the DF part for memorization. Judging criteria will be based on the ability to memorize, effectiveness of delivery, voice projection, etc. Tryouts will tentatively be held October 6, 2007 at Sacred Heart Academy in Frederickburg. More detailed information will be provided to interested SK's at a later date.

The degree team's Cross and Dove choir does not currently have a vacancy but the choir director, SK Vincent Eikmeier, is interested in developing a pool of interested SK's with choir experience. Selected SK's would be held in reserve and called upon should a regular member of the choir be unable to attend a particular degree. Those interested should contact SK Eikmeier at 804-262-6181 or via e-mail: Vincent.Eikmeier@sun.com.

Urgent. As addressees, I thank your for you help in this matter and ask that you give wide dissemination to this e-mail and the attachment.

Respectfully,

Wayne Gretencord
Degree Corps Captain

Application for Audition

I am interested in joining the Bernice C. Williams Fourth Degree Exemplification Corps and would like to participate in competition for the Defender of the Faith position to be held on October 6, 2007 at Sacred Heart Academy in Fredericksburg.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

FIRST DEGREE DATE: _____

FOURTH DEGREE DATE: _____

PRIOR DEGREE EXPERIENCE:

PART

DATE CERTIFIED

<u>PART</u>	<u>DATE CERTIFIED</u>

(ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY)

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MAXIMIZE THE TIME AVAILABLE FOR MEMORIZATION. UPON RECEIPT OF THIS FORM, THE PART TO BE MEMORIZED WILL BE PROVIDED. THE FORM MAY BE PLACED IN REGULAR MAIL OR E-MAILED AS AN ATTACHMENT TO:

SK JOHN F. BARRETT
1507 BELLEVUE AVE.
RICHMOND, VA 23221
E-MAIL ADDRESS: jbarrett@richmonddiocese.org