

**Knights of Columbus Council 12532 St. John Neumann
General Council Meeting: February 14, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Grand Knight Ted Buczacki at 7:33 p.m.

The opening prayer was led by Father Norbert Suresh.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Grand Knight

The Opening Ode was sung.

Roll call of officers

Chaplain: Father Daniel F.X. (Dan) Powell **Excused** (Father Norbert filled in)

Grand Knight: Theodore (Ted) Buczacki Present

Deputy Grand Knight: Brandon M. Kreiser Present

Treasurer: Dennis (Buzz) Anspach **Excused**

Chancellor: Wayne M. Wagner Jr. Present

Recorder: Joseph R. (Joe) Hainthaler Present

Financial Secretary: Raymond J. (Ray) Horan Present

Advocate: Bruce C. Bischoff **Excused**

Inside Guard: David Wilson **Excused**

Outside Guard: Joel P. Harnish Present

Warden: Gerald N. (Jerry) Sauers Present

3 Year Trustee: John Radicone Present

2 Year Trustee: Alfred T Stamp Jr. Present

1 Year Trustee: William H. (Bill) Allison **Excused**

Minutes: The reading of the minutes of the January 11, 2023, General Council meeting was waived. Minutes approved.

GRAND KNIGHT REPORT (Ted Buczacki)

· **Correspondence:**

- **Seminarians** express appreciation for our council's support.

Handwritten thank-you notes from:

1. **Andrew St. Denis:** "Thank your for your generous gift and all the support you all provide in your prayers. Please continue to pray for me and my brother seminarians and know of our daily prayers for all of you and your families. May God bless you all!"
2. **Cole Mase:** "Today I received your letter and am very thankful for your support. We are entering into a new

semester now and so I am looking forward as I continue my seminary formation here at St. Charles in Philadelphia. All of the prayers and support I have received are a daily reminder of home in the diocese I hope to serve.”

- A thank-you note from **Father Dan** for his **Christmas gift**.
- A thank-you note from members of the Catholic youth peer ministry group **Net Ministries** for the **bus trip to the March for Life**.
- **Christmas gift card program thank-yous** from:
 1. Crystal Natan, executive director, **Children and Youth Social Service Agency of Lancaster County**, to the council and St. John Neumann parishioners: “St. John Neumann Church has supported this Agency for many, many years and the support is greatly appreciated. ... Your donation went directly to needy families ... Please know your donation made a difference in the life of a child this holiday season.”
 2. Father Tri M. Luong, pastor of **St. Anne & Our Lady of La Vang Parish**, and **St. Anne’s Christmas Dinner Committee**: “Many thanks for your support of [the] ... Parish’s effort to provide a meal and good tidings to our neighbors during the Christmas season. ... Not only were we able to serve 400 meals, but we also distributed coats, scarves, hats and gloves, toys for children, toiletries and to each family a gift card. Your coordination of the St. John Neumann parish “Needs Tree” and the donation of gift cards to help defray the cost of the dinner is most appreciated.”
 3. Kim McDevitt, executive director, **Mental Health America of Lancaster County**: Through the organization’s Gifts of Joy Program, “we receive referrals for holiday gifts from Mental Health Caseworkers. The children and adults who receive these gifts have two things in common: they have a mental health diagnosis, and they will not be receiving any other gifts this holiday season. ... Your generosity reminds us of what Shannon L. Adler once said: ‘One of the most important things you can do on this earth is to let people know they are not alone.’”
- A thank-you email from Jill Hartman, executive director, **A Woman’s Concern**, for the council’s support during the **50th anniversary** of A Woman’s Concern Pregnancy and Parenting Resource Center in 2022: “With your support, we have been able to expand our efforts to reach more women vulnerable to abortion, provide mothers and fathers with an

increasing variety of educational and material resources, teach healthy relationship education at our local schools, and continue our mission of Building Strong Families that Cherish Life.” The council’s gifts through the Pig Roast, Mother’s Day carnation sales and other efforts led to **\$2,039.48 in donations** to A Woman’s Concern in 2022.

TREASURER REPORT (Buzz Anspach via Grand Knight)

No report. Not a lot of change from last month.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT (Ray Horan)

No bills were paid.

Service Hours recorded.

DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT (Dick Reehling)

The District Deputy:

- Extended greetings from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly and State Deputy Mike Kish of Coatesville and all of the leaders of the state council.
- Said it was great to be back at SJN; expressed appreciation for the Be A Man, Be A Knight sign in the social hall, calling it a great banner for recruiting
- Noted upcoming Knights events at other parishes, including:
 - **Trivia night**, sponsored by **St. James, Lititz**, Council 18027; **Saturday, Feb. 25**. Doors open at 6 p.m., tickets \$15 per person. More information available via Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/2FDeyRowZ>
 - **Spaghetti dinner** at **Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ephrata**, Saturday **March 4, 3 to 11:30 p.m.**, at the Father Jackson Center.
 - **St. Patrick’s Day dinner**, at **Our Lady of Lourdes, New Holland**, on March 11.
- Encouraged Knights to celebrate **Founder’s Day** on March 29, to honor our founder, Blessed Michael J. McGivney.
- Reading a snippet from “Holy Moments” by Matthew Kelly, calling it a “terrific book.”
- Requested and received **a round of applause for John Radicone** for supporting him as **District Warden**, an unfilled position in some other districts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Golf Outing (Dick Reehling and Jerry Sauers): Will be held at Overlook, with a tee time of 1 p.m. on Oct 6 or Oct 13. The date is expected to be finalized soon. Overlook chosen because it will cost \$2,500 less to hold it there.

Baptismal Rose (Al Stamp): Three this month.

Pro-life (Dave Edgar):

- **Mark Houck**, the pro-lifer from Bucks County arrested by the FBI and charged for defending his son during a pro-life demonstration near an abortion clinic, was **acquitted of all charges**.
- The federal **Food and Drug Administration** has **approved distribution of abortion pills by retail pharmacies** such as Walgreens and CVS; every pharmacy can become an abortion clinic. A woman can obtain these pills and abort her baby at home without being seen by a physician. There are two pills involved: the first kills the baby by depriving it of nutrients; the second pill, causes contractions to expel the baby starved to death by the first pill.
- The **Planned Parenthood** on Manor Street, Lancaster, is **seeking a waiver** to perform abortions. Knights are encouraged to email the Pennsylvania Department of Health to oppose this waiver.

Membership (Al Stamp): Working with Jerry on an usher who would fit in nicely with our council.

5th Sunday Rosary (Ray Horan/Grand Knight): Went well thanks to everyone who said the Rosary. We could use more Knights in the audience. And, in the future, **we must start at the time Father Dan sets**. We missed the half-hour before start time at some Masses in January, leading to some close calls with getting Mass started on time because of the speaker scheduled to speak in between the Rosary and Mass start.

Baby bottles campaign (Scott Lee): Advertised in the bulletin. Distribution set for February 18-19; collection, February 25-26. If you can hang out after Masses on the 18th and 19th for distribution or arrive 15 minutes early to pick up on the 25th and 26th, please do so.

Communion breakfast: Will discuss at officers meeting, to pick date, site, discuss speaker, etc.

Easter candy (Grand Knight and Ray Horan): Need new leader; process is significantly more efficient than it has been in the past thanks to Ray's changes to the process. **If you'd like to lead this fundraiser, reach out to the Grand Knight.**

COAL Tickets (Grand Knight): Passed out at meeting. If you need more tickets, let Buzz know.

March for Life (Brandon Kreiser/Larry Beat): Brandon gave a shout out to Ed Howe for leading the bus trip to Washington when he had to miss it after coming down with COVID. Larry said we stayed together as a group and had a great day.

Fourth Degree (John Radicone): Want to rank up and join? The next local **exemplification** will be Oct. 14 in Harrisburg. More information to come. If interested, see John Radicone or other member of the Fourth Degree for an application.

Coffee and donuts (Grand Knight): Need volunteers for March 5.

125th State Convention May 5-7: It will be held at the Hilton in Harrisburg. You must register to attend. More information coming up. Patrick Kelly will be there. Dick Reehling said our council should be represented. Registration details available at <https://kofcpennsylvania.org/convention>

Insurance Agent (Jon Deakin): Our insurance agent said a recent meeting with a Knight's widow underlined the importance of having life insurance. She had no idea what kind of life insurance her late husband had. She cried when check was presented because the couple had spent their nest egg making their home ADA-compliant for him. "I now know how much he loved me," the widow said when she received the check. This happens often enough. A caregiver left alone often needs help after the spouse s/he cared for has passed away.

Seminars: Sunday, Feb. 26 at St. Joseph's in Lancaster, lunch at 12:30 p.m., program at 1 p.m. Jon Deakin and elder law attorney **Jeffrey Bellomo** will present about legal issues such as long-term care, asset protection, wills, trusts, powers of attorney; and Jon on financial planning including, life insurance, annuities, disability income and long-term care insurance, and more. **To register, call Bellomo Associates at 717-845-5390 by Feb. 24.**

Virtual fraternal benefits events: March 2; April 26 at 7:30. Can help qualify for Star Council; notices will come via email from Grand Knight.

Compounding consistency (Jon Deakin): After 10 years, compounding 3% every year can lead to significant gain; nice way to complement other investments.

Peace of mind (John Radicone and John Beck): Expressed appreciation for the Knights' annuity currently guaranteed at 4.3%, for 5 years; peace of mind to know if markets are taking a hit, an annuity is peace of mind; annuity that you can add to is rare but Knights have it.

NEW BUSINESS

- **A Woman's Concern (Grand Knight):** Annual dinner is set for April 27. Ted said he believes there's money in the budget for tickets; will check with Buzz. Council will likely buy a table, which costs \$1,000.
- **9th annual Purple and Gold gala (John Beck):** Benefit for **Lancaster Catholic High School** will be held **April 22 at Lancaster Country Club**. Cost is \$125/person; \$1,000 for table of 10; ad opportunity; John Beck suggests council putting up part of the cost of a table. John Beck offered to organize purchasing a table; will discuss at the next officers meeting. Gala honoree is LCHS grad Chip Snyder.
- **Action item:** Resolution. Asked by District Deputy to consider: A resolution to update the delegate count for Pennsylvania from the four previous to the current five in order to give our region representation at national Supreme Convention. **Motion to approve made and passed by a vote of the general council.** Signed by the Grand Knight and Recorder, sent to state secretary.
- **John Fazio:** Thinking about us. Moving, getting situated in his new place in Montgomery County.

CLOSING

Grand Knight Ted Buczacki closed the meeting.

Prayers for the sick and distressed.

The Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney was said.

Good of the Order:

Closing prayer led by **Ted Buczacki**

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Next officers' meeting: Tuesday, February 28, at 7 p.m. in the church.

Next general council meeting: Tuesday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. (Rosary at 7:15 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted by Joe Hainthaler