

**Knights of Columbus Council 12532 St. John Neumann**  
**General Council Meeting: September 12, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Grand Knight Ted Buczacki at 7:32 p.m.

The opening prayer was led by the Grand Knight.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Grand Knight.

The Opening Ode was sung.

**Roll call of officers**

(**Correction from minutes previously submitted:** Roll was not taken at this meeting due to confusion over the rules. Recorder was under the impression that roll no longer had to be recorded. The fact is it is not required to be called aloud at meetings. It is unclear to the Recorder how to be sure of the roll without calling it aloud.)

**Minutes:** The reading of the minutes of the August 8, 2023, General Council meeting was waived. Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote.

**GRAND KNIGHT REPORT (Ted Buczacki):**

- Correspondence
  - Thank-you letter from **Judy W. Payne**, coordinator of **Project Linus's Lititz/Lancaster Chapter** for the council's **\$200 donation** (from this year's Pig Roast profits), which purchases fleece and yarn for the project's "blanketeers" to make home-made blankets for children in need of the comfort a blanket can bring. In 2022, the chapter donated 1,572 blankets to children in Lancaster County. Project Linus provides handmade blankets to children infant-age 18 in the United States who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need.
  - A thank-you note from **Marie Quinn**, president of the **Serra Club of Lancaster**, for the council's **\$200 donation** (also from Pig Roast profits), for the club's **Altar Server Awards**. She described altar servers as "the new life of the Church" because from there "usually spring vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life.
  - The council was recognized in the **2023 Annual Report of St. John Neumann Catholic School**, as a member of the Pastor's Circle of donors.

**TREASURER REPORT (Buzz Anspach):** All beginning balances as of 8/8/2023, ending 9/11/2023.

- **Council general fund:** Beginning balance of \$4,276.91 saw receipts totaling \$10,903.14 and disbursements totaling \$5,370.66 for a current balance of **\$9,809.39**. Most receipts were from the Pig Roast or Golf Outing, plus \$615 was raised by Jack Schuring's Aug. 30 concert at St. John Neumann.
- **Church fund:** Beginning balance of \$1,275.30 gained 1 cent interest for a current balance of **\$1,275.31**. Check written this date: \$1,000 for the council's

share of the cost of the Pieta statue. It was mentioned that the minimum balance to avoid fees is \$250; no worries; this account is still (just) above it.

- **Scholarship fund:** Beginning balance of \$4,492.22 gained 4 cents interest for a current balance of **\$4,492.26**.
- **Relief fund:** Beginning balance of \$3,375.66 gained 3 cents interest for a current balance of **\$3,375.69**.
- **Can we get better interest?** The Treasurer stated he looked into this and found out that the council would need \$5,000 to get a market rate of interest. The Grand Knight said we will discuss strategy at the officers meeting.

#### **FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT (Jack Schuring)**

**Service Hours for August** were recorded via the sign-in sheet.

#### **DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT (John Radicone)**

- Offered greetings from **State Deputy Michael Kish**, who attended Saturday's food-packing event at St. Philip's in Millersville.
- **Keep Christ in Christmas contests for St. John Neumann School students:** Poster contest open to grades 2 through 5; essay contest open grades 6 through 8. We have the support of Principal Kyla Hockley. Will roll out contest to students at the end of October/start of November. Due date: Dec. 1.
- **CORE Program:** A new program from Supreme that seeks to get the Knights to invite the men of their parishes to promote Christ's mission of evangelization and growing in holiness toward being leaders in faith at home. Looking to put together a group of men to get together for discuss, prayer, adoration, Into the Breach, Sanctity of Life. All men would be welcome to participate. Looking for a Knight to volunteer to lead this effort for all men of the parish.
- **Food packing program** at St. Philip's on Saturday, Sept. 9, was a great success. Volunteers packed 4,000 meals and exceeded quota needed to pay for them. Event was scheduled for four hours but was finished and cleaned up in two.
- **Sanctity of Life Mass:** Sponsored by the Knights of Malta with help from the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard, it will be held Thursday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. at St. John Neumann Church.
- **Fourth Degree exemplification** scheduled Oct. 14 in Harrisburg at the Diocesan Center.
- Our council should seek to hold one **exemplification** per quarter. For anyone needing degrees, St. Joseph's in York holds exemplifications once per month. Upcoming are Oct. 3 and Nov. 7.

**Membership (Al Stamp):** Encouraged Knights to attend coffee and donuts this Sunday, wear the colors and talk up the Knights to those who attend because person-to-person recruiting is effective. Also: Please help out with the coffee and donuts if you can.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Pig Roast (Jerry Sauers):** Thanked everyone who helped, calling it a great, great team effort. Distributed over \$2,800 to charitable causes, not counting the council's 35%.

**Golf Outing (Dick Reehling):** Set for Oct. 13 at Overlook. Looking to get to 100 players, 25 foursomes; please sign up if you'd like to play. Also need more sponsors and door prizes. If you know someone in business, please just ask for one or both.

**Meeting: Monday, Sept. 18, meeting, 7 to 8 p.m.**

**Degrees (Larry Beat):** Seeking input on degree dates so we can get more people, candidates, Knights and their families, to attend. Could we do it on a Tuesday night after an officers meeting? Considering the following options for now: **Sunday, Oct. 29, 2 to 4:30 p.m.** or **Oct. 24, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Baptismal Rose (Al Stamp):** Seven this month.

**Grounds (Tom Carr):** **Pieta statue** is pretty much done. Will set up pavers in front of the low wall in the front. Will fasten the bench. Called attention to the lights, making the space beautiful night and day. Still to come: Four trees need to be planted. Three bricks need to be put in place. Need to set up a day to plant the trees.

**Boxes of Joy (John Radicone):** Gearing up for this year. Ours is probably one of the leading parishes in the nation in participation in this effort to send gifts to children in poor nations who might otherwise go without Christmas gifts.

**Soccer Challenge (Ron Dell):** Event is set for **Sunday, Sept. 24, from 4 to 6 p.m.** at the Foundation soccer field in Overlook Park. **Volunteers needed starting at 3:45 p.m.** It is being promoted by Manheim Township Soccer Club, SJN School. The event is open to boys and girls ages 9 through 14 as of Sept. 1. Soccer balls needed: Six size 4s and six size 5s. Signup sheet distributed. Members encouraged to donate balls if they no longer need them. They can be stored in the shed. Again, **soccer ball sizes 4 and 5 needed.**

**Football Sweeps (Ron Dell):** Eighty (80) tickets sold so far. Ron still has more tickets if anyone wants them. October council meeting will be the last day to turn them in. Money and stubs can be brought to the meeting or put to Ron's attention in the Knights of Columbus cubby.

**Christmas Gift Tags (Ron Dell):** Some parishioners missed purchasing gifts, so we are going to a hybrid system this year. Four of our participating organizations – School District of Lancaster, San Juan Bautista, Children & Youth and Lancaster Day Care – will accept generic gifts (such as art supplies, sports balls) as well as gift cards. Our other participants – Off the Streets, Mental Health, Lancaster Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (formerly Conestoga View) and St. Anne's Dinner – will be given gift cards only. The Giving Tree will return to the Narthex and bear tags as in the past.

**Pro-Life** (Dave Edgar's report attached/posted with these minutes on the website): The Grand Knight noted the **A Woman's Concern's Legacy of Life Gala 2023** scheduled for Nov. 18 at the Star Barn in Elizabethtown. The Grand Knight noted that the group needs extra help now that the current governor has eliminated a key category of funds for such groups from the state budget. For more information, visit: <https://www.friendsofawc.com/event/legacy-of-life-gala-2023/>

### **BENEFITS ADVISER (JON DEAKIN)**

Our benefits adviser said it is beneficial for members to know the terrific financial products and services the Knights of Columbus offers, including: CD alternatives, places for emergency funds, guaranteed returns. Non-taxable funds. Estate Planning 101 & Protecting Your Family, an event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus set for Sept. 24 beginning with a 12:30 p.m. lunch a presentation beginning at 1 p.m., will offer tips on the following: Maximizing and protecting your assets, estate planning, long-term care, when's the best time to start collecting Social Security. Jon suggested holding such an event at St. John Neumann to promote the organization and help parishioners with financial planning. To register, visit

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Coffee & donuts, Sunday, September 17:** The council will be hosting **coffee and donuts** in the Social Hall after all three Sunday morning Masses.
- **Golf Outing meeting, Monday, Sept. 18, meeting, 7 to 8 p.m.:** The event is less than a month away, Friday, Oct. 13.
- **Soccer Challenge, Sunday, Sept. 24, 4 to 6 p.m.:** For children ages 9 to 14 as of Sept. 1. To be held at Foundation soccer field in Overlook Park. Knights needed to help out. Please arrive at 3:45.
- **Rosary Rally, Saturday, Oct. 14:** America Needs Fatima rosary rally to be held at St. John Neumann Church.
- **Pennsylvania March for Life, Monday, Oct. 16** in Harrisburg. Activities include a 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, a rally at 11 a.m. and the march at the Capitol beginning at noon. For more information, visit <https://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania-march-for-life/>
- **A Woman's Concern's Legacy of Life Gala 2023, Nov. 18, from 6 to 10 p.m., Star Barn in Elizabethtown.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Grand Knight offered thanks to everyone who helped with the Pig Roast and thanks to Jack Schuring and those who helped at his concert fundraiser. Anyone with fundraising ideas is encouraged to share them.

### **CLOSING**

**Grand Knight Ted Buczacki** closed the meeting.

**Good of the Order:** Prayers for Dick Savicky. Tom Rudzinski requested prayers. Bill Henry.

The Closing Ode was sung.

Closing prayer led by the Father Norbert Suresh.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**Next officers' meeting:** Tuesday, September 26, at 7 p.m. in the church.

**Next general council meeting:** Tuesday, October 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.  
(Rosary at 7:15 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted by Joe Hainthaler