

THE KNIGHT MESSENGER



MAY 2026



Oscar J. Gelpi Council 6872

FATHER MICHAEL A. LEANE ASSEMBLY 2227

CHARITY UNITY FRATERNITY PATRIOTISM



A WORD FROM OUR GRAND KNIGHT

Brother Knights In Christ:

State Convention Update: Your state delegates and alternates successfully attended the KofC State Convention in Natchez, MS April 24-26. Randy, Joe and I had to honor to participate in the Honor Guard for both the Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. Masses at St. Mary's Basilica presided over by Bishops Louis Kihneman and Joseph Kopacz. At the Banquet, Joe and I were part of the Color Guard; Randy in the Honor Guard; and Ray was our Council 6872 banner bearer.

Star Council: I am very proud to announce that our combined efforts have earned Council #6872 the coveted Star Council Award for the 2025-26 fraternal year. We only need to submit the final activities report before June 30th. This update was announced at the Sunday morning final session. The award will be sent to us at the completion of the year. Of fifty-eight councils only six have achieved this distinction. Three more councils are working to complete prior to the end of June.

Growth: Despite this achievement, member growth is our priority. We exist to grow our organization and to disciple by sharing our Catholic faith. Make a commitment to find new members. There is a competition between now and June 30th; most new members will win \$500. We have online membership tools to assist in prospect follow up. Please send all new member leads any of our officers.

Vivat Jesus,

Kerry "KC" Calkins,
Grand Knight

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Kerry Calkins - Grand Knight
Randy Holland – DG Knight
Al Massey - Chancellor
Bill Burns - Recorder
Richert Mahony - F/Secretary
Ed Rohde - Treasurer
Pablo Gomez - Advocate
Joe Battaglia - Warden
Marco Becerra - Inside Guard
Roy Boudreaux - Outside Guard
Rick Hayley - 3rd Yr Trustee
Michael Spencer - 2nd Yr Trustee
Ray Rivero - 1st Yr Trustee

ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

Frank Arnona – Faithful Navigator
Joe Battaglia - Captain
Richert Mahony - Faithful Comptroller
Rick Hayley - Purser
Randy Holland – Pilot
Al Massey – Faithful Adm
Marco Becerra - Scribe
Tim Cooke - Inner Sentinel
Gerald "J" Palmisano - Outer Sentinel
Mike Spencer - 3rd Yr Trustee
Ray Rivero - 2nd Yr Trustee
Kerry Calkins - 1st Yr Trustee

NOTE: Appointed positions not shown

Monthly Awards:

Knight of the Month:
Family of the Month:

Al Massey – Kitchen, Spaghetti Dinner, Honor Guard
Rick & Sandra Hayley – Bingo, Bible Study, Socials

CALENDAR EVENTS AND REMINDERS ...

May 7 – Spaghetti Dinner 11am to 2 pm – fund raiser for Fiat Program

May 7 - ★ Council Meeting 7 pm

May 8 – Buddy Ball (need a pro bono sitter work with Crista Dorn)

May 12 – ARC Luau (need a pro-bono sitter work with Suzette)

May 16 – May Social – (Note: Should the hall rent on Saturday 16th, I will send an email ONLY if we must reschedule this date.)

May 17 – Grills & Grilling Food - St. Charles Church Picnic 9:00-Noon

May 23 – Rodriguez Reunion (Al Massey sitter)

June 4 - ★ Council Meeting 7 pm

June 6 – Square Deal Event (need a sitter)

June 13 – Norwood Graduation (need a sitter)

June 20 – 65th Birthday Party (need a sitter)

June 27 – June Social – (Note: Should the hall rent on Saturday 16th, I will send an email with the rescheduled date.)

Dues In Arrears 2025-2026 ... please check to see if you have not paid your dues. If not please pay ASAP

- *To all: Please send your checks to Richert Mahony at Knights Of Columbus 6872, PO Box #55, Picayune, MS 39466 and/or call Richert at 601 569-6989 to resolve.*
- *If you have moved or choose to end your membership please send Richert a signed letter verifying your action; No pays will be dropped at the end of the year.*

Kay Cee Home Booking Manager –

We are still looking for a personable and responsible person who can take-over this key position. This work is an hour or two a day, focus is on answering the mobile booking phone and hall rental messages, and holding meetings with customers at hall, as scheduled. Excel knowledge helpful, but not necessary if you can manually track calls and complete contracts. If you are interested, please see KC or Ed Rhode.

Volunteer Opportunities –

- Kay Cee Home needs help cleaning the hall on Monday and Thursday mornings. (see Terry Palmeri)
- Monday night Bingo volunteers are always needed for kitchen workers (see Al Massey Or Gary Petit)
- Tuesday morning volunteers needed to help with weekly bingo preparation, and each month end report preparation (see Richert M)

COUNCIL'S APRIL MINUTES

ATTENDING – 18 ... Bill Burns, Recorder (deciphered by KC; if you find any errors or omissions please advise)

OPENING - KC opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

REPORTS

- **Recorder's** – Bill Burns read the March minutes. Motion to approve by Frank West, Second by Ray Rivero. Unanimously approved.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Ed Rhode, Jr. read March report. Motion to approve Ray Rivero, Second by Al Massey. Unanimously approved.
- **Membership** – KC reported for Tim Cooke ... we have it our growth goal of 7; but we still need to recruit new members. We have had 10 members pass this year.
- **Star Council** – KC update: Audit and Mandatory Reports completed and submitted on time.
 - Safe Environment Compliance: All have completed training.
 - Father McGiveny Award: Growth Goal 7 achieved.
 - Columbian Award (SP-7): Completed and submitted 3/31/26
 - Founders Award: Online FBE quota of 14 met as of 4/23/26

OLD BUS -

- Fiat Summer Program (first two weeks in June managed by Kerri Wilder). A. Massey, Chairman, J. Battaglia Co-Chairman. Al purchasing food; meat balls will be made by work parties as announced. Ticket sales are good.
- Crawfish at Sr. Center – F. Arnona, was Host. Event participants included – Al M, Ray R, Kent M, Joe B, Randy H, Ed R, KC, Terry P, Wayne B, Tim C, Alan I, Gary P, Larry, Roy B, Randy H.
- Catholic Sharing Appeal \$500 – Motion Ray R; second R. Haley un-table \$500, approved; Motion by Randy H, second by Frank Arnona to approve \$500, approved.

NEW BUS –

- Bingo Donations – Richert announced we need to make \$2,400 of donations to non-profit organizations in MS to satisfy bingo income. PRC Art League \$500; ARC \$300; MOME \$300; SAL \$500; St. Vincent \$500; and PC SPCA \$300. Second by Al Massey; approved as tabled.
- Police Camp – Motion by Ray Rivero to give \$400 to Police Camp; second by Frank West; approved as tabled.

GOOD OF THE ORDER –

- KC announced - Roy Boudreaux as Knight of Month; and Joe and Shelly Battaglia as Family of Month; Al Massey has assumed the position of Life Director.
- KC read Birthdays; and names of those in need of additional prayers (including brothers who have passed.)
- Prior to meeting closure, KC led all in Lord's Prayer, a Hail Mary, and The Glory Be.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 8:04 p.m.

Brother Knights born in May ...

Name	Birthday	Age	Address
Vance Herrin	05-01-1961	65	20 Spring Oak Dr Carriere, MS 39426-5502
Dennis J St Romain	05-07-1953	73	89 Navajo Dr Picayune, MS 39466-8222
Robert J St Romain	05-07-1976	50	722 Sycamore Rd Carriere, MS 39426-9107
Jody B Herring	05-09-1959	67	411 W Lakeshore Dr Carriere, MS 39426-7910
Richard A Hayley	05-15-1945	81	202 Ridgeview Dr Carriere, MS 39426-7628
Edward R Holland	05-19-1987	39	419 F Z Goss Rd Picayune, MS 39466-9462
Justin Justrabo	05-20-1982	44	190 Byrds Chapel St Carriere, MS 39426-5540
Scott J Giaise	05-21-1972	54	1103 E Lakeshore Dr Carriere, MS 39426-7717
			Total: 8

Please remember to pray for our Brother's in need ... "Dear Jesus, please heal us, hold us close to you, protect us, and help us always be close to thee."

Warren Becnel
Robert Creighton
Tom DeCourcy
Chris Diamond
Wayne Becnel
Al Perret
Ted Barze

Gene Fricke
Kent Madere
Jack Marino
Mike McNeely
Carl Naquin
Donald Nunez
Anthony Paschal
Gary Petit

Pete Pignetti
Jojo Rigney
Ray Rivero
Norman Weinstein
Frank West
Fr. Jay
David Barbie