



# THE PATRIOT

FATHER CHARLES J. WATTERS  
ASSEMBLY 2888  
WARRENTON, VA  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month  
December 24, 2015  
Volume 12, Issue 3



## NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

*Fraternally, Steve L'Etoile PGK, FN*

Sir Knights,

As we close out the month of December and begin the Christmas season by celebrating the birth of our Savior on Friday, I'd like to wish each SK, your ladies and families a very Merry Christmas and peace on earth.

This month has been busy with Regalia call outs for participation in the annual Christmas parades in Little Washington and Luray. A number of our Sir Knights also represented our order in confirmation ceremonies at St John in Ft Royal and St John the Evangelist churches. Most recently on 12/20 fourteen volunteers (SK's, Ladies and a 3<sup>RD</sup> degree member and lady) spent the afternoon at the VA Hospital in Martinsburg, WV, helping to run the BINGO games for the patients in that facility. The sincere appreciation expressed by many of the VETS was heartwarming. Speaking for myself and probably most of the other volunteers, I was honored to donate a small amount of my time for these gentlemen and ladies that have given so much to keep us free.

One of the busiest volunteers the entire weekend was Santa Claus and his "helper" (aka Tom and Eileen Drinkwater). They made an appearance at the BINGO on top of three other appearances the previous day.

From the bottom of my heart, thanks to all who participated in the December Activities?

The second half of the fraternal year begins January 1, 2016. Please continue to stay active and consider stepping up to hold a position in an officers' chair.

## FRIAR'S MESSAGE

Rev. Mark Moretti



## FAITHFUL ADMIRAL

Mr. Ed, PGK, PFN



I will be happy to come to any of your councils meetings to talk about the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, just give me the date and time. God bless all.

## PILOT'S LOG

*Fraternally Ed Cook, Faithful Scribe, PFN*

### January SK's Birthdays

Donald Khoury	1/4	Stephen Chapman	1/8
William Weitz	1/17	Jeffrey Knight	1/19
Joshua Hagert	1/20	Jeffrey Winholtz	1/25
Justin McFarland	1/26	Scott Klose	1/27
Tom Junk	1/28	Galan Murphy	1/28
Joe Tullington	1/28		



### January Spouses Birthdays

Amadeo Tortorella's wife Anita	1/7
Thomas Griffin's wife Corinne	1/8
Licinio Garcia's wife Carmen	1/9
Francis Castelli's wife Maggie	1/11
Roy Francis's wife Norma	1/11
Michael Reilly's wife Csilla	1/14
William Jarrett's wife Jeanne Marie	1/23
Illja Rakaric's wife Gordana	1/31

### January Anniversaries

Illja and Gordana Rakaric	1/14
Roy and Norma Francis	1/18
Donald and Josephine Evans	1/22



## FAITHFUL COMPTROLLER

*Fraternally, Ray Payette*

Report: Membership 160, Paid 118, Honorary 1, Honorary Life 25, Disability Exemption 4, Dues waived 1, and Arrears 11.

Please note that we just received 1 additional Honorary-Life member designations since last report.

Dues statements were mailed on 15 December 2015. For those who may be experiencing a hardship, please do not hesitate to speak to either our Worthy Faithful Navigator or Comptroller. Your notification will be kept in strict confidence.

## CAPTAIN'S LOG

Mr. Ed, PGK, PFN

SK's please **RSVP** if you are coming to our dinners to SK Jon Anderson at jon@r3mktg.com

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
12/28	Meeting/Dinner	7pm	Warrenton SKs only
1/25/16	Meeting/Dinner	7pm	Warrenton SKs w/Ladies
2/22	Meeting/Dinner	7pm	Warrenton SKs only
3/28	Meeting/Dinner	7pm	Warrenton SKs w/Ladies



## VETERANS AFFAIRS VOLUNTARY SERVICE PROGRAMS

*Fraternally, Stephen M. L'Etoile, FN*

## VETERANS FUNDRAISERS

*Fraternally, Jon Anderson*

## COMMANDER'S CALL

SK Jon Anderson

The Assembly provided Color Guard for several events in recent weeks: Confirmation at St. John the Baptist in Front Royal on 11/20; Thanksgiving Mass at Precious Blood in Culpeper on 11/26, SKs in attendance were Dennis Mercier (From Rappahannock Assembly) SK John Gwynn, SK RC Garcia,



Associate Commander Joe Tullington, FN Steve L'Etoile and SK Ed Cook; the Christmas parade in Little Washington on 12/6, SKs in attendance were Commander Jon Anderson, Eric Anderson, Mark Scanlon and Ed Kuta; and the Christmas parade in Luray on 12/12, SKs in attendance Commander Jon Anderson, Burrous Snellings, Mark Scanlon and Ed Kuta.



Not only was the weather great, but the Assembly's formation had the honor of leading both parades! Later this month, we'll also provide Color Guard for Midnight Mass at St. John the Baptist in Front Royal.



To SK's not in the Color Guard: If you would like to serve, please budget for your purchase of regalia (approximately \$450, not including tux), watch for certification dates (coming soon) and plan to get certified to serve in the Color Guard. Join your

brother Sir Knights to represent the Assembly and the Order!

### Council 5561 Fr. Veger

SK Joe Tullington

The Council hosted a combined Formation and Knighthood Ceremony (2nd and 3rd Degree) on Saturday, 5 DEC, affording 34 gentlemen the opportunity to complete their journey within the Order.

The Council's annual Christmas Party was held during the December Social Meeting on Thursday, 10 DEC.

The Council distributed 125 food baskets throughout

the community for our annual Christmas Food Basket on SAT, 19 DEC.

The Council will, again, host a New Year's Eve Gala, including dinner, dancing, midnight toast, and a continental breakfast. Ticket sales will likely begin after Thanksgiving.

Our 1st annual Grand Raffle to raise funds for our Feed the Hungry Charity account is wrapping up. We've sold enough tickets to purchase over 200 baskets for future distributions.

Unfortunately, we gave last respects to Brother Stephen Curley, who died on 14 DEC after a long battle with cancer.

### Council 6328 John Cempre

SK Robert Beattie

On the Holy Holiday of Thanksgiving, Precious Blood Church had their traditional, wonderful Thanksgiving Mass. The colors were marched in, and presented for the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of two verses of the national anthem, by four members of the Father Watters Assembly: Sir Knights Steve L'Etoile, John Gwynn, Joe Tullington and Ed Cook, and one sir knight from the Rappahannock Assembly.

### Council 7771 John Jenkins

SK Jon Anderson

The Council sold Christmas Cards as part of the "Keep Christ in Christmas" program on the weekends before and after Thanksgiving, and sponsored the annual Christmas Crafts Fair on the weekend of 11/28-29. Also on that weekend, the Council resumed cinnamon bun sales after the weekend Masses. This very successful event raised several hundred dollars for the St. John's Youth Drama Club.

### Council 8393 Monsignor Heller

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr. PGK, PFN

December 5, Stanley had their annual Christmas parade. Our council was well representative with our Nativity float built by

Mr. Ed and Mr. Ed's barrel Train. We won in the following categories: COMIC ENTRY, 1st Place Mr. Ed's Barrel Train, everybody thinks that KofC owns the barrel train since



our signs are on the engine and the train is named Knightline Choo Choo; FLOATS, 3rd Place Knights of Columbus 8393 Nativity; BEST CHRISTMAS THEME, Knights of Columbus 8393 Nativity. Thanks to Mr. Ed for doing all the work getting the floats built, register and ready for the parade, Steve Gray for the signs on the float and the barrel train and help decorate the floats, Phil Wirdzek who

wasn't a Knight at this time help decorate the floats and drove Mr. Ed's trailer to the parade finish to reload the barrel train on the trailer, GK Don Evans drove the Nativity float.



Also two young LDS men helped unload and load the barrel train and getting floats ready.

December 6, OLVCC held their annual Christmas Party at the Moose lodge. Mr. Ed made arrangements with Santa Claus and his "helper", NORAD and the FAA to get permission for Santa to fly to OLVCC Christmas Party. Santa Claus and his "helper" (aka Tom and Eileen Drinkwater) love coming to OLVCC Christmas parties and the children love both of them.



December 6, Mr. Ed had his barrel train at Little Washington Christmas Parade and won 4<sup>th</sup> place for Best Float. Again a lot of people thought that our council owns the train since the council signs on the engine and because the name of the train.



December 12th we were in the Luray's Christmas parade with our Nativity and barrel train and Mr. Ed won again with his Barrel Train for BEST ENTERTAINMENT 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Again everybody thinks that our council owns the train. Our Council gets a lot of exposure with Mr. Ed's Barrel

*Fr. Charles J. Watters Assembly 2888 The Patriot Newsletter*

Train which lets everyone know that there are Knights of Columbus in Page County.

Our council is proud to welcome two new Knights, Josh Flatley and Phil Wirdzek, who took their 1<sup>st</sup> degree on December 16<sup>th</sup>. We used the video and the following parts were played by the following Knights: GK Don Evans, DGK Billy Starkey, Chancellor Burrous Snellings, Finical Secretary Mr. Ed, Warden Aaron Starkey, and Escort Bob Fisher. This was the first time that we have used the video and everything ran perfect.

Again we have signed many Christmas card to send to our Military personnel under the Program Director David Lightowler who will get the cards mailed.

Jim Bradecamp is again the Chairman for the March for Life Bus to Washington DC on the January 22, 2016. Last year because of the weather our busses were cancel, Jim most likely will again have two busses filled.



## Council 14755 Fr. Castillon

SK Bill Jarrett, PFN



## DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT

SK Bill Boston



## PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT

SK Burrous Snellings. PGK, PFN, FDD

## PRAYER REQUESTS

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr. PGK, PFN

Please keep the following and their families in your prayers: SK Matt Hassan's wife MaryAnn, SK David Lundblad, David Lightowler, Catholic church, Pope Francis, priests, country, KC brothers and their families, our men and women in military service to our country, all veterans both living and those who have given their all and are with the Holy family, "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them".

Please email any prayer requests for the newsletter to me at

[TheMr.Ed@comcast.net](mailto:TheMr.Ed@comcast.net)



## PRO LIFE

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr., PGK, PFN

53 Abortion Clinics Closed in 2015,  
81% of All Abortion Clinics Open in  
1991 Have Shut Down

The total number abortion clinics in America continues to decline, following a nationwide trend extending back to 1991. In 2015, abortion clinics closed at a rate of more than one per week with 53 abortion clinics shutting down or halting all abortion services. In all, 81 abortion clinics closed or reduced services in 2015.

Operation Rescue directly surveyed all abortion facilities in the U.S. from December 1-15, 2015 and found the following:

- 42 Surgical abortion clinics halted all abortion services.
  - 11 Medical abortion clinics halted all abortion services.
- In addition, a number of abortion facilities reduced services:
- 16 abortion clinics halted surgeries and now offer only medication abortions.
  - 12 abortion clinics stopped dispensing abortion drugs and now only offer surgical abortions, noting that the abortion pill was "ineffective" or "too dangerous."

**In all, 81 abortion clinics closed or reduced services in 2015.**

Currently, there are **517 surgical abortion clinics** and **213 medication abortion clinics** remaining active in the U.S., the lowest numbers in decades.

In 1991, which is considered the high water mark for the number of abortion clinics, 2,176 surgical facilities offered abortions. Since then, 81% have closed.

In 2015, 21 new facilities began selling abortions. This includes 7 new surgical abortion clinics and 14 medication clinics that opened or converted from referral offices. Several other abortion facilities reopened after struggling with location issues or having been shut down by the state as unsafe. This represents **a net loss** for the Abortion Cartel of **9 abortion clinics** nationwide and **219 since 2013.**

This represents bad news for the Abortion Cartel: Americans are increasingly rejecting abortion in favor of life.

The reduction in abortion clinic numbers coincides with a report released by the Centers for Disease Control earlier this month, which announced that the number of induced abortions decreased to the lowest since 1990.

"There is a direct correlation between the number of abortions and the number of abortion clinics. When abortion clinic close, abortion numbers decrease and lives are saved," said Operation Rescue President Troy Newman.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr., PGK, PFN

### Christmas Story

In September 1960, I woke up one morning with six hungry babies and just 75 cents in my pocket. Their father was gone. The boys ranged from three months to seven years; their sister was two. Their Dad had never been much more than a presence they feared. Whenever they heard his tires crunch on the gravel driveway they would scramble to hide under their beds. He did manage to leave \$15 a week to buy groceries. Now that he had decided to leave, there would be no more beatings nor food either.

If there was a welfare system in effect in southern Indiana at that time, I certainly knew nothing about it. I scrubbed the kids until they looked brand new and then put on my best homemade dress, loaded them into the rusty old 51 Chevy and drove off to find a job.

The seven of us went to every factory, store and restaurant in our small town. No luck. The kids stayed crammed into the car and tried to be quiet while I tried to convince whoever would listen that I was willing to learn or do anything. I had to have a job.

Still no luck. The last place we went to, just a few miles out of town was an old Root Beer Barrel drive-in that had been converted to a truck stop. It was called the Big Wheel. An old lady named Granny owned the place and she peeked out of the window from time to time at all those kids. She needed someone on the graveyard shift, 11 at night until seven in the morning. She paid 65 cents an hour, and I could start that night.

I raced home and called the teenager down the street that baby-sat for people. I bargained with her to come and sleep on my sofa for a dollar a night. She could arrive with her pajamas on and the kids would already be asleep. This seemed like a good arrangement to her, so we made a deal.

That night when the little ones and I knelt to say our prayers, we all thanked God for finding Mommy a job. And so I started at the Big Wheel. When I got home in the mornings I woke the baby-sitter up and sent her home with one dollar of my tip money--fully half of what I averaged every night.

As the weeks went by, heating bills added a strain to my meager wage. The tires on the old Chevy had the consistency of penny balloons and began to leak. I had to fill them with air on the way to work and again every morning before I could go home. One bleak fall morning, I dragged myself to the car to go home and found four tires in the back seat. New tires! There was no note, no nothing, and just those beautiful brand new tires. Had angels taken up residence in Indiana? I wondered.

I made a deal with the local service station. In exchange for his mounting the new tires, I would clean up his office. I remember it took me a lot longer to scrub his floor than it did for him to do the tires. I was now working six nights instead of five and it still wasn't enough. Christmas was coming and I knew there would be no money for toys for the kids.

I found a can of red paint and started repairing and painting some old toys. Then I hid them in the basement so there would be something for Santa to deliver on Christmas morning. Clothes were a worry too. I was sewing patches on top of patches on the boy's pants and soon they would be too far gone to repair.

On Christmas Eve the usual customers were drinking coffee in the Big Wheel. There were the truckers, Les, Frank, and Jim, and a state trooper named Joe. A few musicians were hanging around after a gig at the Legion and were dropping nickels in the pinball machine. The regulars all just sat around and talked



through the wee hours of the morning and then left to get home before the sun came up.

When it was time for me to go home at seven o'clock on Christmas morning, to my amazement, my old battered Chevy was filled full to the top with boxes of all shapes and sizes. I quickly opened the driver's side door, crawled inside and kneeled in the front facing the back seat. Reaching back, I pulled off the lid of the top box. Inside was whole case of little blue jeans, sizes 2-10! I looked inside another box: It was full of shirts to go with the jeans. Then I peeked inside some of the other boxes. There was candy and nuts and bananas and bags of groceries. There was an enormous ham for baking, and canned vegetables and potatoes. There was pudding and Jell-O and cookies, pie filling and flour. There was whole bag of laundry supplies and cleaning items. And there were five toy trucks and one beautiful little doll.

As I drove back through empty streets as the sun slowly rose on the most amazing Christmas Day of my life, I was sobbing with gratitude. And I will never forget the joy on the faces of my little ones that precious morning. Yes, there were angels in Indiana that long-ago December. And they all hung out at the Big Wheel truck stop.

**THE POWER OF PRAYER.** I believe that God only gives three answers to prayer: 1. 'Yes!' 2. 'Not yet.' 3. 'I have something better in mind.' God still sits on the throne, the devil is a liar. You may be going through a tough time right now but God is getting ready to bless you in a way that you cannot imagine. This prayer is powerful, and prayer is one of the best gifts we receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards. Let's continue to pray for one another.

Here is the prayer: Father, I ask You to bless my Brother Knights, friends, and relatives reading this right now. Show them a new revelation of Your love and power. Amen.

**Editor's note:** This is a story that I read a long time ago. Let us all be thankful for what we have and remember those less fortunate than us; and the reason for Christmas, Christ Birthday. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.



## PRAYER

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr. PGK, PFN  
Christmas Prayer

Dear Jesus,

It's a good thing you were born at night. This world sure seems dark. I have a good eye for silver linings. But they seem dimmer lately.

These killings, Lord. These children, Lord. Innocence violated. Raw evil demonstrated.

The whole world seems on edge. Trigger-happy. Ticked off. We hear threats of chemical weapons and nuclear bombs. Are we one button-push away from annihilation?

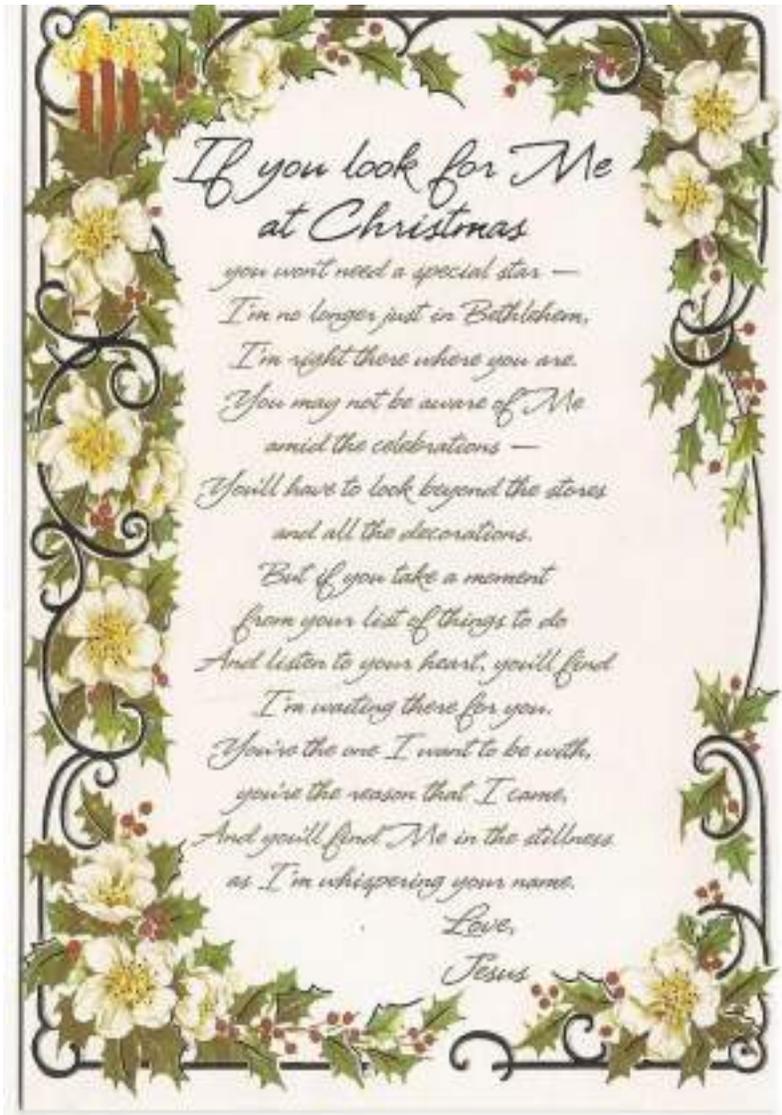
Your world seems a bit darker this Christmas. But you were born in the dark, right? You came at night. The shepherds were nightshift workers. The Wise Men followed a star. Your first cries were heard in the shadows. To see your face, Mary and Joseph needed a candle flame. It was dark. Dark with Herod's jealousy. Dark with Roman oppression. Dark with poverty. Dark with violence.

Herod went on a rampage, killing babies. Joseph took you and your mom into Egypt. You were an immigrant before you were a Nazarene.

Oh, Lord Jesus, you entered the dark world of your day. Won't you enter ours? We are weary of bloodshed. We, like the wise men, are looking for a star. We, like the shepherds, are kneeling at a manger.

This Christmas, we ask you, heal us, help us, be born anew in us.

Hopefully, Your Children





**ASSEMBLY OFFICERS**

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Captain	Jon Anderson	635-8615
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Pilot	Tim Whitney	207-7171
Comptroller	Ray Payette	703-735-3262
Purser	Jim Florin	349-2312
Scribe	Edward F. Cook	219-3508
Inner Sentinel	Eric Anderson	551-0099
	Ed Kuta	703-303-3159
Outer Sentinel	Scott Klose	718-7574
	Joseph Tullington	349-4285
Trustee 1 year	Wilbur L. Smith	349-9852
Trustee 2 years	Roy Francis	
Trustee 3 years	Bill Jarrett	675-1000

**PROGRAM COMMITTEES**

- Admissions** F. Admiral Mr. Ed, PGK, PFN
- Membership** F. Admiral Mr. Ed, PGK, PFN
- Welfare** F. Pilot Tim Whitney, FDD
- Commander** Jon Anderson
- Parliamentarian** Burrous Snellings PGK, PFN, FDD
- Funeral/Memorial** F. Pilot Tim Whitney, FDD
- Council Liaison**
- 5561 Father Veger Joe Tullington
- 6328 John Cempre Scott Klose
- 7771 John Jenkins Jon Anderson
- 8393 Msgr. Heller Mr. Ed., PGK, PFN
- 14755 Fr. Castillon Bill Jarrett, PGK, PFN
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- Communications Coordinator** Ray Payette
- Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Programs**
- Jon Anderson
- Veterans Fundraisers** Edward F. Cook, PFN
- Newsletter Editor** Mr. Ed, PGK, PFN
- Monthly Dinner Coordinator** Jon Anderson

**THE PATRIOT**

**Editor and Publisher Mr. Ed**

**All issues of The Patriot are posted at the following web site:**  
<http://kofc8393.org/blog/the-patriot/>

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Faithful Navigator. **Next Deadline is December 21!** Articles must be e-mail to [TheMr.Ed@comcast.net](mailto:TheMr.Ed@comcast.net) Always in Christ, Mr. Ed



**The Lighter Side**

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr. PGK, PFN

The pastor was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner."

And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

**Parting Shot**

SK Edward G. Dwyer, Jr. PGK, PFN

