

Knights of Columbus
Father Downey Council #4934
Council Members Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 17, 2025, at 7:00 pm

A quorum was met, the meeting was called to order at **7:00 pm** by GK, Leo Decker.

1. "OPENING CEREMONY PER RITUAL"

- Members in attendance: **(53)**
- Members on Zoom: **(0)**
- Number of guests in attendance: **(0)**
- Dignitaries in attendance: **(1)**
- Members reciting the rosary before the meeting: **(40)**

2. Officers Reports:

- **Chaplain's Message** – A past reminder from Fr. Aldrin, that every Tuesday after the 8:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart there will be a Novena for Our Mother of Perpetual Help. At Saint Gerard on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am there will be an Intercessory Prayer Hour. The purpose is to come together to support each other and pray for friends and family in our faith community for their special needs. Also, at Saint Gerard on Fridays at 2:00 pm there is a Holy Hour of Silent Meditation with scripture readings from the Saints and reflective music. Please try and attend to spend an hour with Jesus.
- **District Deputy** – John O'Malley presented a comprehensive report on all the activities planned or being planned in our district. See sheet **7**.
- **Deputy Grand Knight** – Chris Hennessy gave the floor to Brother Dan Moran to speak as a board member of SHS and how successful it has been in filling all the seats at all grade levels. What a great Principal Mrs. Labreche is, for instance she knows how to use every space productively. The students not only love her but show her the respect that she deserves. And of course, please don't forget that donations are always needed to help keep SHS afloat.
 - Football Mania Super Bowl game cards and squares total net return of \$2,055.81 (game cards \$673.09 + The Squares \$1,382.47.) Great Job.
 - 600 Club – 2025 is now in motion, cards printed, payouts of \$100 & \$200 per month for (9) months with a grand prize of \$1,000 to be drawn at our January 2026 spaghetti and meat-tha-ball dinner. \$50 gift cards to top (3) sellers. Remember to print your name on the stub.

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- Brothers Dan Moran, Luc Labreche & Michael Hoblik have volunteered to run the 600 Club – 2025 and will need all the sellers willing to step up and help. They will be responsible for collecting the money and ticket stubs each month and pass out tickets to be sold. Sandwich board style signs and flags need to be designed and printed for display purpose post haste. Sixty-three days to the first drawing. Not much time to sell 600 tickets without going outside the box.
- With Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5th “**40 for Life**” has been brought to life once again for the needs of the Pregnancy Crisis Center of Daytona Beach. You can pledge a dollar a day for 40 days or provide \$40 worth of baby items for the Pregnancy Crisis Center, your choice. A printed “T” shirt comes along with your pledge.
- A notice to all members attending the **Council Members Meetings**, bring your rosary, if you don't have it with you a \$1 fine will be collected by Jared Burke, Outside Guard, and put into the **good-of-the-order** safe.
- **Chancellor** – Patrick Clark on excused leave: last month the Worthy Chancellor introduced the nominating committee made up of himself, John Martens Treasurer and me, Recorder. Our council has taken on several new members during this Fraternal Year with varied backgrounds that would fit nicely into the duty of the offices looking to be filled. Please step up and make yourself known wanting to be an officer.
 - A continued reminder from previous meetings to all members who want to look spiffy, new emblmed shirts are available for purchase. And what Knight does not look and feel proud when wearing the color of our council?
- **Recorder** – John Gawdun requested approval of the minutes from the January 20, 2025, **Members Meetings**, which were approved as **corrected**.
- **Treasurer** –John Martens:
 - As of January 31, 2025, the primary checkbook balance was **\$16,448.03**.
 - As of January 31st, the secondary checkbook for CC purchases balance was **\$1,000**.
 - All bills are paid.

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- **Financial Secretary** – Roland Medeiros reported:
 - The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity was due to Supreme January 31st. The response by our council was very poor, making it necessary for the DGK to step in and insist that we all begin to log our monthly hours of Fraternal Activities so our hours for this calendar year are easily combined for total hours per category next December.
 - A continuous reminder from previous meetings is that there are still dues that are unpaid and have cost our council per capita charges and assessments for those unpaid members. Please take care of your yearly financial responsibility to the council.
[If you find yourself in a financial bind due to health issues, unemployment or other unforeseen financial obligations and cannot find the extra money to pay your dues please explain your situation in writing addressed to the Grand Knight who will place it before the officers for a decision. Thank you.] addressed by John Gawdun

- **Council's Financial Advisor** – Jerome Williams was on excused leave.
- **Advocate** – Frank McCarron was on excused leave.
- **SVdP Watchdog** - Frank McCarron was on excused leave.
- **Warden** – Shane Harrington had nothing to report.

- **Captain of Knights on Bikes Council 4934** – Shane Harrington reported that a “Silver Rose” ride is scheduled for March 15th, beginning at the Holy Spirit Church in Mims to Saint Gerard where it will be on display during the 4:30 Mass. Please try and attend the 4:30 service at Saint Gerard.

- **Trustees** –3-year Robert Hook, 2-year John Pitera, Sr. had nothing new to report. 1-year Jerry Williams was on excused leave.

- **Web Master** – Mark Cerretani reported:
 - *Congratulations on your retirement from the corporate world. Enjoy your new bike, ride safely.
 - * From past meetings, our Web Master explained to the newbies our council's website and how to access it. If any member is still having difficulty in setting up an account or signing-in, see the Web Master after the meeting. Also, in time all types of forms will be available to be downloaded like our council's calendar for upcoming events. Great job Mark, A Worthy Web Master you are.

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3. Membership Report – Patrick Clark was on excused leave.

From our Grand Knight: Saturday March 8th we will be having our 5th 1st, 2nd 3rd Degree Exemplification at Sacred Heart Church starting at 10:00 am. Please arrive early to support our new Brother Knights.

4. Faith in Action Programs – Program Director, Chris Hennessy

A reminder from the Recorder: A written report from the Directors is needed if they want it to be made part of the minutes, otherwise, it will be stated that only a verbal report was given.

- **Faith** – Director Stephen Higgs was on excused leave:
 - *Reported by Grand Knight: An important monthly reminder that every Saturday between 9:00 am – 3:00 pm “Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament” is open to all in the Chapel. Also see the bulletin for bible study groups mornings and evenings.

- **Family** – Director Patrick Clark was on excused leave:
 - *Reiterated by Grand Knight: “Free Throw” basketball competition was held at SHS Monday January 20th. Thanks to all who participated, around 150 students, and a special thank you to Coach Call for all her help.

- **Community** – Director Nick Stuart reported:
 - *Community Hot Meals Program (CHMP) served (121) meals today Feb. 17th. The CHMP elite team is headed by Brother Nick Stuart, Director, with elite team members supervising preparation are Brother’s Eddie Grambo & Glenn Strobel, “chef’s de cuisine.” The next CHMP meal is scheduled for March 31st.
 - *Also, our annual Fish Fry will begin Friday March 7th and run every Friday through Lent except Good Friday.
 - * A new item on the 2025 agenda will be the “Stars Program” where the stars from flags no longer in use to be cut out, attached to a prayer card and inserted into a sized plastic bag for handouts Memorial Day and Veterans Day weekends for donations only. A preliminary team has been formed with the need for additional members. Additional information forthcoming. Donations will be directed to veteran groups.

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• **Life** – Director Richard Ross reported:

*Laps for Life to be held on May 4th at Our Lady of Hope. More info will follow as time gets closer.

*Pregnancy Crisis Center Daytona are in dire need of diapers, size 4, 5 & 6 plus boxes of baby wipes. Donations of these items can be used for the **40 for Life** program.

*There's a need for strong healthy men to remove a rouge hedge row taking over the PCC building and the women volunteers are not able to deal with the removal. Please see Director Rich Ross for more information if you wish to participate.

5. Updated Meeting Schedule – Grand Knight, Leo Decker reported:

- **Officers/Planning Meeting** March 10, 2025, – 2:00 pm
- **Council Members Meeting** March 17, 2025, – 7:00 pm
- **OLOH Assembly 2794 Meeting:** February 27, 2025, – 7:00 pm
- **C.O.R. Meeting:** February 25, 2025, at Sacred Heart – 6:30 pm
- **1st, 2nd, & 3rd Degree Exemplification** Sat. March 8th at SH, 10:00 am
- **4th Degree Exemplification** April 26, 2025, at Bradenton.

6. Grand Knight's Talking Points – Leo Decker

- Phil the Box –\$1,124 received for the month of January.
- Tootsie Roll Drive has been doing rather well this year with donations but not volunteers. Please see John Ekblom to offer your time.
- Volunteers still needed for Monday Bingo, 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm for prep, serve & clean-up.
- 600 Club 2024 – 11th drawing, 1 more drawing will end 600 Club 2024.
- Parish Picnic to be held on Palm Sunday.

7. Field Agent – Jim Booritch, Field Agent was not in attendance:

8. Fourth Degree – Sam Tedesco, Faithful Navigator was in attendance, his report in on page **8**.

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9. not used –

10. Good of the Order -

- **Lecturer's Reflection** – Deacon Tom Meyer's was on excused leave.

11. Upcoming Awards for Members & others - Grand Knight, Leo Decker

- Knight of the Month for February 2025 – **Leo A. Decker**
- Family of the Month for February 2025 – **Julie Guyt**

12. Drawings -

600 Club – 2024 drawing:

February 17, 2025,

Ticket #

(058) \$50 – Julie Adams

(118) \$100 – Rachiel Borgie

(002) \$150 – James Booritch

50 / 50 drawing:

February 17, 2025,

Joe Adamick - winner

Winner drawn by David Jenkins

Winners drawn by Michael Profenno

13. Names of Brother Knights and Immediate Family members of Brother Knights that requested to be added to our council's prayer list.

Let's keep all our brothers and their immediate family members in our prayers.

14. Grand Knight's Summary – Non given because the length of the meeting.

15. Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney:

16. "CLOSING CERMONY PER RITUAL"

Meeting was adjourned at **8:00 pm** John Gawdun, Recorder

Confidentiality Notice: These minutes and any attachments may contain confidential, propriety or legally privileged information and are intended for the use of Fr. Downey Council members. These minutes and the information contained therein are not to be shared with anyone who is not a member of good standing of the Knights of Columbus without written permission of the Grand Knight. Any other sharing or distribution of these minutes is prohibited. Thank you.

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District Deputy – John O'Malley, District 20 report for February 2025

Greetings from Patrick Kelly and Rick Hughes.

We need to get ready to vote for Delegates to State Convention, deadline March 31. FS must register the candidates before they can register. Each council votes for two delegates – one preferably the Grand Knight – and two alternates. The Conventional will be held in Jacksonville on Memorial Day Weekend. After delegates are selected by the Financial Secretary, they must register individually. I'm at Table 15, which has seven seats remaining.

The good news: Our district has gained 46 members halfway through the current Columbian year. The bad news: Our total YTD change is minus one. Attrition includes affiliate council. 8086 has gained 32 new members – 213 percent – but the net change is zero.

Major upcoming events include Casino Night on Saturday, Feb. 28, at Our Lady of Hope. Central Laps for Life on Saturday, March 1 in Orlando (same day as 8086 retreat). Special Olympics on Saturday, April 5, at Mainland High School (15 spots available as of this morning).

Our next Cor meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6:30 at Sacred Heart, then March 18 at Our Lady of Hope. Cor is open to all Catholic men over 18 – a great opportunity to learn more about our Catholic faith.

On the Fourth-Degree side, 125th anniversary will be Feb. 22 with Mass at St. Patrick's and Banquet at Hilton in Manhattan. New Ceremony, open to friends and family. Assembly 2794 has one candidate, Matthew Mrnacaj. The first time for a new degree in Florida is tentative Saturday, April 26 in Bradenton.

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8. Fourth Degree – Sam Tedesco, Faithful Navigator, has never attended our Members Council Meeting since taking over for SK Bob Lewis FN who became quite ill and unable to handle the duties of the FN. It was wonderful to hear Sam express the enjoyment he had while attending our Council Meeting with a great bunch of Brothers who knows their duties in running a meeting with great proficiency and yet have humor mixed in. Worthy Faithful Navigator, you are always welcome to join our council in business and refreshments afterwards. We wish you a hardy success as FN the remainder of this Fraternal Year and maybe Fraternal Years to come. God Bless.

Now to some notes Sam passed along after taking the floor; Since Sam took on the responsibilities of FN his position as Worthy Captain became vacant. Our Council's Worthy Chancellor stepped up to fill the Worthy Captain office for the remainder of this Fraternal Year. Congratulations to our Worthy Chancellor, SK Patrick Clark, for stepping forward.

Next a nominating committee was formed by District Deputy John O'Malley, Roger Packard, PGK 8086 and Matthew Mrnacaj to put together a list of candidates for the upcoming Fraternal Year.

Our Flag Raising Program, honoring veterans or family or friends, has been rescheduled for the second day of the month, March 2nd rain, or shine due to a conflict of activities. A new flag is raised in place of the current one that will be retired. A poster is created with basic information about those honored with the last line dedicated to those who requested the flag service. We invite the new family and the previous family to attend. The Flag Raising Program is presently booked through 2026.

The first Thursday of each month, at the Emory L. Bennet Nursing Home in Daytona, in-person bingo. There are several veterans, and each one is in a wheelchair and can use some assistance with the bingo cards. It was emphasized again that any Knight, you don't have to have the Honor of the 4th Degree, Knights with any degree are welcomed to help.

Last but not least, Friday February 28th will be the Grocery Distribution Program at OLOH beginning at 9:00 am. Please tell those in need and if you can use a few items please come by.