



# BISHOP ODIN NEWS

**BISHOP ODIN COUNCIL 2917 - KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

607 EAST WHITNEY DRIVE      HOUSTON, TEXAS 77022      PHONE (713) 694-2341  
*Sam Okonski*, Grand Knight      Fax: 713-694-0504      *Paul Rekieta*, Editor  
 Website: www.neosoft.com/~kofc2917

---

Volume 20      **August 2001**      Issue 8  
 A Monthly Newsletter

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

*Sam Okonski, Grand Knight*

Brother Knights, I am very excited about the opportunity to serve you as Grand Knight of Bishop Odin Council 2917. It is both a privilege and an honor to hold this office. There are many ways we can serve our church and community in the future. This council has been very active in supporting many of these, like Special Olympics, VA visitation, Saint Vincent De Paul, Catholic Relief services, Interfaith Charities, flood victims, and most recently our June Bug Jamboree. I commend each of you for these jobs well done and I look forward to your continued support. There are other activities we can get involved in, but we need your help. We need chairpersons for these and other events. There has been talk of putting on a chili cook off, casino night, and yes the last one of the year, the famous New Year's Eve party. But again we need a chairperson to head up these functions. Speaking of functions, we have the Assumption Bazaar coming up August the 12th. Our council will run the country store and the Okonski family will kick things off. We have a 2-4 & a 4-6 shift to cover. Coming in September is our family day. Hey, lets have a talent show, play an instrument, dance or sing. Could be some great fun.

We are beginning a major membership drive with your help, we will be successful. The tentative dates for the drive are August 5th, 12th, and 19th at the Assumption Church. I can think of a lot of reasons why every Catholic gentleman should become a member of the Knights of Columbus, I'm sure you can too. Talk to your friends and relatives about becoming a Knight. Remember we are stronger in numbers.

In closing I would like to extend a special thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary and the Catholic Daughters for their generous donation presented at the awards banquet a few weeks ago. They are supporting us in many ways, assisting in our council's success. May God bless you.

**We will elect Chapter Delegates at the August 13th meeting.**

## NORTHSIDE COLUMBUS CLUB NEWS

*Joe Pavlik, President*

July 14th, was clean up day. We had 9 people from the Texas House and 9 Council members show up. The grounds committee had 15 projects to accomplish. Guess what??? With the fine cooperation and team work of everyone, we completed 14 of the 15 projects. Next clean up day is August 11th (Second Saturday).

During the Awards dinner, July 15th, The Catholic Daughters donated \$300.00 to the Columbus Club, and The Ladies Auxiliary donated \$1,000.00. We really needed that. The Columbus Club thanks you ladies wholeheartedly.

For those that are looking for an opportunity to earn extra money, contact Mickie Wendt, Grand Knight, Sam Okonski, or President of Columbus Club, Joe Pavlik.

I encourage each and every one of my fellow brothers to make yourself available for the betterment of Council 2917. Attend Council Officers and/or Columbus Club meetings. Your ideas and input are needed, plus, it could save the Council a lot of money. Do not despair, the projects listed in April's bulletin are going forward.

Remember: Change starts when someone sees the next step.

See you Brother Knights on the grounds.

**ATTENDANCE PRIZE** — The Attendance Prize is back down to \$100.00. Brian Okonski's name was drawn, but he wasn't there.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 1 Council Officers Meeting
- Aug 9 Bowlers Meeting
- Aug 11 Clean Up Day
- Aug 12 Assumption Bazaar
- Aug 13 Regular Council Meeting
- Aug 14 Senior Get Together - 9:30 AM
- Aug 15 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- Aug 27 Council Open Meeting & Rosary
- Sept 5 Council Officers Meeting
- Sept 5 Ladies Auxiliary Officers Meeting

Bingo every Friday at 7:15 p.m.

**PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THESE DATES**  
**ALL MEETINGS START AT 7:30 PM** (except where noted)

## SENIOR MEMBER NEWS

*Ed Brossman, Co-ordinator*

Hello to all senior members. On August the 14th, we will again have a covered vegetable dish or fruit salad dish. We need more vegetables than fruit. The club will furnish the rest. Come out where it is cool and join your fellow Knights and lovely Sisters in the games we all like to play. We will always remember our sick and deceased by praying the rosary together. Don't forget Tuesday, August the 14th.

## BISHOP ODIN COUNCIL 2917

*Sam Okonski, Grand Knight*

Dear Catholic Brother/Sister,

Did you ever feel you wanted to help our community, state/country? By providing your time to family members, church country and fellow man you can. You can grow spiritually and gain confidence and self-esteem by giving of yourself. By joining the Knights of Columbus, Council 2917 you can become a part of our family and an everyday hero.

The Knights of Columbus are committed to all areas of church and social involvement. We are working for an increase of vocations, for greater assertion and protection of human rights, for increased opportunities for the disadvantaged and for more open and constructive communications between all people, regardless of race or creed. Father Michael McGivney, created and organized the Knights of Columbus in 1882 in New Haven, Connecticut, at the age of 29. To this day the Knights of Columbus are alive and boasts 143 Billion in life insurance and provides orphan families Fraternal Benefits, Accidental death coverage, and up to \$7,000 in college scholarships. There are Student Loans, and Athletic Programs (golf, softball, and bowling tournaments) and many other social outlets. There is an opportunity for community services, other family-oriented activities, involvement in working with youths, and the feeling of belonging that comes with being a part of a fraternal organization.

As the largest organization of Catholic men in the world, the Knights of Columbus play a leading role in service to our Church, our country, and our families. We need new men and women with new ideas and an enthusiasm for the work we have ahead of us.

At the present time, Bishop Odin Council 2917 is planning an open house, at Assumption Church on Sunday, August 19, in the church hall after the 10:00 a.m. mass. We will provide refreshments and plan to have our new Grand Knight, Sam Okonski and the Knights of Columbus Insurance representatives set up a question and answer booth to explain all features and benefits of becoming a member. To learn more about who can become a member, who to call, about the Ladies Auxiliary, and Hall Rental, come on by. We are sure you'll find the program interesting and informative and hope that you will be able to join us at that time.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to St. Pius X High School Valedictorian, Kevin Grahmann, son of Kenneth and Mary Grahmann, and grandson of Marie Grahmann.

Kevin received Rice University's Arthur B. Cohn Scholarship, the Houston Endowment, Jesse H. Jones Scholarship and the Optimist Club Scholarship. He has also been selected as one of two delegates from Texas to attend the 2001 National Youth Science Camp.

Volunteers Needed  
**Looking for a Chairperson**  
**For Special Olympics**  
**Call Sam Okonski - 281-484-9516**

**CORRECTION**—Albert Alvarez was elected as Inside Guard, and Floyd Supercinski was elected as Outside Guard.

## FLOOD NOTICE

If any member sustained substantial damage due to tropical storm Allison, please let the Council know. We are compiling a list of all the victims. Call 713-694-2341 or 281-448-6623 or 281-484-9516.

## ASSUMPTION BAZAAR

Being members of Assumption Parish, our next duty to our parish will be to lend our assistance to their bazaar. We were asked to man the grocery booth, which we gladly accepted. Now we need volunteers to work the booth for a couple of hours. Please let Sam Okonski or Ed Brossman know what time you can help.

On August 18, Assumption will have their annual procession. We urge all the Knights to show up for this wonderful procession. We hope to have the 4th degree to turn out also. Let's make this a joyous event.

## BOWLING NEWS

The Okonski's have won the 2917 League Title three years in a row. The 2001 Title was won by the Boudny family.

The organizational meeting will be held Aug. 9th at 7:30 pm at Council 2917, in the pub. If you want to participate in the bowling program be at this meeting.

## TO ALL ROSARY CALLERS

*John Fox*

Our Rosary list has been updated as of July 9th to reflect the current situation.

Floyd Supercinski is filling in for Val Diehl who is in the hospital. Joe Sarrat had agreed to be a caller. When I was talking to Steve Nowak, he said he's ready for a break. So now Steve is the first name on Joe's list.

I'd like to extend my thanks, and the Council's, to each of you. Your service and dedication has helped expand our "Rosary chain" to the largest it has been since I've been aware of it.

Special thanks go out to Val Diehl and Steve Nowak for their years of dedicated service.

Please check your list for errors and let me know what they are for the next revision.

If you have names who lose interest or unable to attend rosaries on a regular basis, please talk to them to see if they want to continue to be on our Rosary list.

In other words, it's OK to delete a name if the person doesn't attend. However, some people have said they will say a Rosary at home since they are incapacitated. So you should consider all the information before removing a name.

At the same time, you need not hesitate to add a name. If your list gets too long, we can put new names on another list. We try to keep each list at ten or less.

But if you add or delete a name, please let Al or I know.

Thanks again for your dedication and effort.

## INSURANCE

The objective of the offensive line in football is to protect the quarterback. To do this, the line must be strong and reliable.

Your family must also be protected. The one thing that will protect them the best is strong and reliable life insurance. With life insurance, your family will be protected from financial disaster in the event of your death. They can continue to live as you would want them to live. And they would have you to thank for it.

## RESOLUTION

Be it resolved! Where as the Northside Columbus Club is short of funds, due to so many repairs this past year, has requested a total of \$7,000.00, to pay for a new air conditioner in the Old Hall.

The Grand Knight, the Trustees and Officers have agreed to pay Northside Columbus Club \$7,000.00, to help them. We are all members of the Northside Columbus Club, so we are actually paying ourselves.

Signed,  
 Albin Meschwitz, Trustee  
 Trinidad Yanez, Trustee

## TO MR. JOHN FOX AND ROSARY COMMITTEE

Thank you more than words can say for the rosary which you said for my father, Charles Gumienny. At a time when the Catholic Church has changed so greatly with the times and has become very impersonal, your rosary honor guard was immensely comforting to me and my family, a hold-out for the way things used to be when people knew one another and prayed and worked together for a common good, and it was a wonderful send-off for my father.

And, Mr. Fox, your tribute to Charlie could not have been more wonderful. I learned a couple of things about my father, and his work and effort in many areas was validated.

Thank you again, with all my heart, and keep up your wonderful work.

Sincerely,  
 Sandy Gumienny,  
 daughter of Charlie Gumienny  
 For the Gumienny family

## LADIES AUXILIARY

*Rita Rekieta, President*

Dear Ladies,

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over. I believe with the great flood of June we lost that month and also July - I pray that all our lives get back to normal soon.

Thanks to all of you who brought desserts for the Awards dinner, and also the K of C Officers Installation. Our newly elected Grand Knight was very appreciative of all we did. We awarded 30 certificates of appreciation to our ladies, but as far as I'm concerned each of you deserves a certificate for what you have done. Many of you are physically unable to do now what you have done in the past. But I hope you are praying for the success of our organization.

September 19th, at 7:30pm will be the start of the new year so please mark your calendar and try to attend as we have many decisions to make for the following year. Bring a friend and let's get more new members. Dues at this time will only be \$5.00.

At the awards dinner we presented a check to Grand Knight Sam Okonski for \$2,500.00 to the Council. We also gave Joe Pavlik, President of the Northside Columbus Club a check for \$1,000.00. We have been able to increase our donations each year due to the ongoing success of our Mexican Fiesta. We had also donated \$500.00 to the June Bug Jamboree.

We still could use some help on Fridays. Either 3 to 6 pm or 6 to 9 pm. Please call and volunteer your time. It's a good way to get to know the other ladies in our auxiliary.

Remember in your prayers all our ladies and spouses who are shut-ins.

Don't forget our theme for the coming year - "Love, Peace, Unity and Harmony."

We have a precinct bus scheduled for a trip to Huntsville on October 22. More about this later. God bless all of you and keep you in His care.

TRIP TO COUSHATTA — WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8 @ 9:00 AM  
 TRIP TO COUSHATTA — WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 @ 9:00 AM  
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERS & FAMILIES & FRIENDS WELCOME  
 YOU MUST BE 21  
 MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!! RITA REKIETA - 281-448-6623