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WE ARE AMERICAN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

WE ARE THE SENTRY AT THE GATE!

WE ARE DEFENDERS OF FAMILY VALUES!

WE NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, GIVE UP

WE ARE ONE!

EXPAND YOUR UNIVERSE!



READ THE STATE BULLETIN!

*(Neither glossy nor glitzy, they will dazzle you with their turbocharged content and incisive forays against Fashionable Secular Opinion. But there's more: **Take the time to take a peek!**)*

Returning Catholics Prayer



*Dear Lord, may our hearts and minds be nourished by your sustaining love,
May our words and actions be guided by your ever-present grace,
Those who seek to know you; encounter you here,
Those who seek to serve you; be welcomed to the vineyard,
Those who seek to love you; know that they are loved.
That all who seek to return to their Catholic faith may be welcomed and received*

Family of the Month Program - Your Council's Hall of Fame "A TEAR OR TWO"

He was an older member of the council, the kind of guy who had earned and learned everything the hard way, what he learned he had wrestled right down and tied in a hard knot. He was crusty and sensitive, earthy and proud; He liked baseball, kids, animals, the environment and reading to his grandchildren. He believed in God but he didn't think it was totally up to God to make things better for his fellowman. "God helps those who help themselves" and "I am my brother's keeper" were bedrocks of his values.

He remembers when no one was prettier than mom!

He remembers when "Dempsey" meant, "Champ!"

*He remembers standing with his wife after Mass in front of the altar as his council recognized his families many years of service to the Knights. He remembers there might have been a **tear or two** after his Grand Knight together with his parish priest presented his family the **Family of the Month Award** and the standing ovation from everyone in the church.*



My Brothers we must be a Constant Witness to protect the values our Order stands for. But of equal importance, we are a witness to the sacrifices of our fellow Knights and the contributions they make on a daily basis. Please use the Family of the Month Program and put the spot light on the sacrifices that they and their families make on our behalf. Everyone deserves a "tear or two."

STEVE SNELL, FDD, PFN, PGK -- STATE FAMILY CHAIRMAN



Food for Families “Nitti Gritty”

“FINE PRINT”

Councils should focus their outreach on parish food pantries, community food banks and soup kitchens with the goal of helping to keep food pantries well-stocked all year round. **Councils can also purchase — or secure through donations — enough food to prepare a meal at a local soup kitchen or in the parish hall.** Then they can do what Knights do best — roll up their sleeves and prepare and serve the meal themselves. As an incentive for councils to conduct these types of outreach programs, the Supreme Council will count a qualifying Food for Families program as fulfilling all four of the Family Activities requirements for the Columbian Award. In order to qualify, councils must meet the minimum requirements, then complete and submit the enclosed Food for Families report form. Also, outline the details of your council’s Food for Families program on your Columbian Award Application (due by June 30, 2012), and report all monies raised and hours volunteered on the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (due by January 31, 2012). All of these forms can be easily accessed at kofc.org/forms. In order for your council to achieve full requirements in the Family Activities category for the Columbian Award, **you must sponsor events with the parish community to collect a minimum of 1,000 pounds of food to be donated to a parish food pantry or community food bank, for any money collected \$1.60 will count as one pound of food. In addition, council members must contribute a minimum of 100 man-hours in the preparation/distribution/service of meals to needy people.**

**NOW YOU CAN PROTECT...
NOW YOU CAN SUPPORT...
NOW YOU CAN SHARE...
NOW YOU CAN GIVE...**

ACT NOW.... “FOOD FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM”

QUESTIONS – Contact me, (509-386-3462) or stevesnell@charter.net

STEVE SNELL, FDD, PFN, PGK -- STATE FAMILY CHAIRMAN



ANTHONY WAYNE SAYS,

(The arbiter of social, doctrinal and delusional dilemmas)

You might be a redneck if: *It never occurred to you to be offended by the phrase, 'One nation, under God.'*

You might be a redneck if: *You've never protested about seeing The 10 Commandments posted in public places.*

You might be a redneck if: *You still say 'Christmas' Instead of 'Winter Festival.'*

You might be a redneck if: *You bow your head when someone prays.*

You might be a redneck if: *You stand and place your Hand over your heart when they play the National Anthem*

you might be a redneck if: *You treat our armed forces Veterans with great respect, and always have.*

You might be a redneck if: *You've never burned an American flag, nor intend to.*

You might be a redneck if: *You know what you believe and you aren't afraid to say so, no matter who is listening.*

You might be a redneck if: *You respect your elders and raised your kids to do the same.*

You might be a redneck if: *You'd give your last dollar to a friend.*

To save the economy, congress will announce that they will be ordering the immigration department to start deporting old people (instead of illegals) in order to lower Social Security and Medicare costs. Old people are easier to catch, and will not remember how to get back home! I started crying when I thought of not seeing you anymore. **Then it dawned on me...I'll see you on the bus!**



JUST THINKING

*Give people a **second chance** or maybe its time to ask someone to give you a **second chance**. No one is perfect. We've all screwed up. Forgive someone, try to make amends, for your own well being, call and say Hi to your brothers or sisters.*

I'm not someone who has seen the "light," but because of the Knights I've seen a reflection of the "light" in the **second chances** they so often provide to so many of their fellow man. Their successes are like a victory march for the word of God, remember that when we are old and gray all we have ever become is in every breath we take. What we have all learned from his love is that it is not the cold and broken words of division and control that are remembered but the words of hope and freedom.

As Knights we need to study the newborn babies, they have no limits. Their minds are rich with potential and possibilities that can lead them to greatness in this life. It is a person's thinking that makes it so. Guided by the good works of their charity and the united strength of the freely given helping hands, the knights have gained enormous confidence, happiness and peace of mind. I know an older Knight who every time I meet him, I ask, "How are you?" He always answers, "**HAPPY!**" If we keep our family, our brother Knights and our Lord close that will always be our answer. As Knights we know that **the second chance is often the best chance.**

IMMACULATE HEART RETREAT CENTER



Sponsored by Richland
Council # 3307
Grand Knight – Jesse Martinez

**Knights of Columbus-
Sponsored
Retreat for Men**
January 20 – 22, 2012
Father Michael Maher, SJ

**Follow the
Instructions! Simple
Methods for Moving
towards
God in Everyday Life**



Although men sometimes don't like to follow instructions, the Bible and our faith provide us with clear means for moving towards God that are worth following.

This retreat will move through the classic three step progression of the identification of sinful patterns in our life, replacing those patterns with a life in imitation of Christ, and then moving towards a desire to maintain that relationship so that we will be in that same relationship with Christ for all eternity.

Although growing in the spiritual life may sound like the project of saints and not for sinners (like us), Fr. Maher, S.J. will describe helpful techniques that are easily learned so as to keep our spiritual engines clean and running smoothly.

All men welcome! Sign up early.
Cost, including meals and lodging
\$185 per person / Commuters \$100

Register at (509) 448-1224 or www.IHRC.ne
691 BEN BURR RD, SPOKANE, WA 99223 – (509) 448-1224

About Fr. Maher, SJ
*Head of Catholic Studies and
Professor of History at GU,
Father has been a Knights'
Chaplain for years, and is a
Knight himself. He has
decades of spiritual formation
experience and along with his
traditional approach to
retreat experience, Father
also has a genuine and utterly
hilarious sense of humor.
Come and experience!*

Redneck Cookin'

SQUIRREL PIE

*Economic times being what they are your newsletter thought that the following might be of interest to our readers. The following comes from **The NEW ENGLAND YANKEE COOK BOOK 1939 edition***

Dress 4 squirrels and cut into suitable pieces to serve. Soak overnight in lightly salted water. Wash well and parboil 15 minutes. Rinse well with hot water and simmer in 2 cups water until tender, about 1 hour. Remove meat to a pastry lined deep dish (which has an inverted cup in the center). Thicken and season the gravy, adding 2 tablespoons butter and pour over meat. Top with tiny baking powder biscuits or a pastry crust. Bake in a hot oven (450 degrees) until crust is well browned. At least 4 squirrels are needed to fill a 2-quart pie dish. 4 squirrels serve 6. Bottom crust may be omitted.

To dress squirrels, cut off forefeet at first joint; cut skin around first joint of hind legs, loosen it and with a sharp knife slit the skin on the under side of legs at the tail. Loosen the skin and turn it back until it is removed from the hind legs. Draw the skin over the head, slipping out the forelegs when reached. Cut off the end of nose and thus remove the entire skin. Wipe squirrel with a damp cloth, remove entrails (heart and liver are edible). An ingenious way to remove skin readily is to slip tip of bicycle pump under the skin of legs. The pressure of the air does the trick neatly.



McGivney Column - January, 2012

When it comes to acts of Charity, there is a fine line that should not be crossed – and that is that the dignity of the recipient should always be maintained. There is a great deal of difference between aiding someone where the need is quite apparent, and those situations that require a bit of separation away from the solution to the problem.

Earlier this fraternal year, I approached Holy Redeemer Council, asking support for a Brother Knight I knew of who temporarily did not have two dimes to rub together; when asked for a name, I simply responded that in acts of charity the left hand did not necessarily have to know what the right hand was doing, and asked that my Brother Knights trust my judgment. Food and money was collected and delivered by myself to the Brother Knight in need; and he sent a card to the council signed only with his first name thanking them for their generosity. The act of charity was completed, and the Brother Knight was able to maintain his dignity.

Likewise, there are other occasions when that separation should be maintained – charity given in the name of Christ, yet tempered by a bit of anonymity. Here, I am thinking of community projects where public disclosure of the recipients' identity could compromise their dignity. “Coats for Kids” is one such program where I believe that partnering with the St. Vincent de Paul Society as the distribution agency would fit the need for preserving the dignity of the recipients. The recipients would be informed that the coats were a gift from the Knights of Columbus; there would be no requirement that we ever know exactly who the beneficiary of our generosity was. I urge my Brother Knights to support “Coats for Kids” and to ask the local St. Vincent de Paul Society to partner with us in this outstanding program. Remember well the admonition of Christ that when we clothed the naked, we did it for Him as well.

Duane L. Vincent FDD PFN PGK
Chairman, Fr. McGivney Guild

MEMO

To Newsletter Staff

From The Editor

Our growth continues to be very impressive and is a great source of pride for yours truly, but when we are all very busy growing our Newsletter I've noticed that we still must stay attentive to our expenses.

I must report that there is some evidence that some are throwing away used envelopes before they have been reused several times for a variety of tasks around the office. I just can't sit by and watch people burn money. Thank the Lord I have not seen anyone throwing away rubber bands. *(Rubber bands can be used even when they break. Take the ends and tie a square knot. If you don't know how to tie a square knot, find a cub scout.)*

We have a reputation for watching expenses and that must not change. Remember, *"The strength of the strongest chain is determined by its weakest schmuck."*

Congratulations to all of you for our continued growth.

We are different from other Newsletters. Let's stay that way.

Pray the Rosary



It's About Life Conference to Feature Dr. Austin Ruse and Dr. Cathy Cleaver Ruse

The Knights of Columbus invite you to the seventh annual *It's About Life Conference* to be held on Saturday February 25th at St Joseph's Parish in Kennewick. Most people would agree that at the moment the economic downturn has not reversed itself, and beneath the strain on families one cannot ignore the gradual dissolution of many values that we have held in common for 200 years. Meanwhile it appears there is a general erosion of the dignity of the human person in many countries, including America. The keynote speakers at this year's conference, Dr Austin Ruse and Dr Cathy Cleaver Ruse have over years combined experience promoting the dignity of the family and human person. Austin Ruse is a founder of the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast held each year in Washington DC and heads the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (C-FAM). Since 1997, he has appeared on a number of national cable network programs discussion Catholic and family issues and has published in the Washington Times, First Things, as well as newspapers around the world. Dr Cathy Ruse holds an honorary doctorate from the Franciscan University of the Steubenville and has filed many "friends of the court" briefs with the US Supreme Court in cases involving abortion, and euthanasia and has served for several years as the chief spokesperson on human life issues for the US Catholic Bishops.

The conference will be held at Dillon Hall, 520 South Garfield and is scheduled from 10 AM to 4 PM. Tickets should be purchased before February 20th and are \$20.00 for students and seniors and \$25.00 for adults. Tickets include lunch. Special hotel accommodations have been arranged at the Hilton in Kennewick for a cost of \$50.00 per night. For more information contact Ben St Hilaire at 509-308-2585 or on line at www.itsaboutlife.info



WHISKEY

In 1952, Armon M. Sweat, Jr., a member of the Texas House of Representatives, was asked about his position on whiskey. What follows is his exact answer (taken from the Political Archives of Texas):

"If you mean whiskey, the devil's brew, the poison scourge, the bloody monster that defiles innocence, dethrones reason, destroys the home, creates misery and poverty, yea, literally takes the bread from the mouths of little children; if you mean that evil drink that topples Christian men and women from the pinnacles of righteous and gracious living into the bottomless pit of degradation, shame, despair, helplessness, and hopelessness, then, my friend, **I am opposed to it with every fiber of my being.**

However, if by whiskey you mean the lubricant of conversation, the philosophic juice, the elixir of life, the liquid that is consumed when good fellows get together, that puts a song in their hearts and the warm glow of contentment in their eyes; if you mean Christmas cheer, the stimulating sip that puts a little spring in the step of an elderly gentleman on a frosty morning; if you mean that drink that enables man to magnify his joy, and to forget life's great tragedies and heartbreaks and sorrow; if you mean that drink the sale of which pours into Texas treasuries untold millions of dollars each year, that provides tender care for our little crippled children, our blind, our deaf, our dumb, our pitifully aged and infirm, to build the finest highways, hospitals, universities, and community colleges in this nation, then my friend, **I am absolutely, unequivocally in favor of it.**

This is my position, and I refuse to compromise on matters of principle."

Submitted by Marie Dahle – Norcross, Georgia



New Law Change Increases Insurance Coverage for Veterans

WASHINGTON (Jan. 10, 2012) – Some Veterans covered under the Veterans Group Life Insurance program (VGLI) now have the opportunity to increase their coverage to the current maximum coverage under the Service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program. "Currently, 70 percent of the Veterans covered under VGLI are under age 60, have less than \$400,000 of coverage, and will greatly benefit from this law change," said Allison A. Hickey, Department of Veterans Affairs under secretary for benefits.

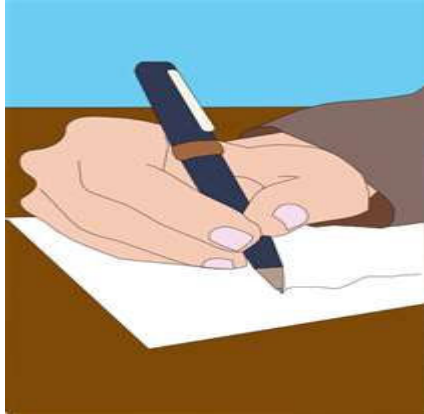
Under the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010, enacted on Oct. 13, 2010, Veterans can increase their coverage by \$25,000 at each five-year anniversary date of their policy to the current legislated maximum SGLI coverage, presently, \$400,000. To date, approximately 21 percent of eligible Veterans have taken advantage of this opportunity, resulting in nearly \$113 million of new coverage being issued. The VGLI program allows newly discharged Veterans to convert their SGLI coverage they had while in the service to a civilian program. Before enactment of this law, Veterans could not have more VGLI than the amount of SGLI they had at the time of separation from service.

For example, those who got out of the service prior to Sept. 1, 2005, when the maximum SGLI coverage was \$250,000, were limited to \$250,000 in VGLI coverage. Now on their first five-year anniversary, these Veterans can elect to increase their coverage to \$275,000. On their next five-year anniversary, they can increase the coverage to \$300,000, and so forth. The additional coverage can be issued regardless of the Veteran's health. To be eligible to purchase this additional coverage, the Veteran must:

- Have active VGLI coverage,
- Have less than the current legislated maximum coverage of \$400,000,
- Request the additional coverage during the 120-day period prior to each five-year anniversary date, and
- Be less than 60 years of age on the five-year anniversary date of his or her coverage.

Eligible Veterans are notified of this opportunity a week before the start of the 120-day period prior to their anniversary date, and twice more before the actual anniversary date.

For more information about VA's Insurance Program or other VA benefits, go to www.va.gov or call 1-800-827-1000. Veterans are also encouraged to visit VA's web portal [ebenefits - Insurance](#)



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor,

I was diagnosed with obsessive compulsive disorder and depression during my first pregnancy. I went on for five years in a relationship where my ex used that against me. Guess what his pet name was for me? “Crazy.”

Now, I have just as much reason to be offended by your humor as any. But I’m not. The first time I read your Newsletter, I laughed. The second time, I laughed harder. Truthfully, it brightened my day. Why, you may ask? Well I don’t really know, to make it even more interesting I don’t really care. Maybe it’s because I have an obsessive compulsive disorder and I’m depressed.

Keep up the good work; I’m “Crazy” about the Newsletter!

Carrie Meadows (My boyfriend is a Knight)

To the editor,

Your syntax is horrible, you should return to school. – Ron Blackman

Dear Mr. Blackman:

If you had my syntax, we’d be reading your Newsletter. – The editor

The Debt Ceiling Explained

Democrats don't understand THE DEBT CEILING.
Republicans don't understand THE DEBT CEILING.
Liberals don't understand THE DEBT CEILING.
Neocons don't understand THE DEBT CEILING.

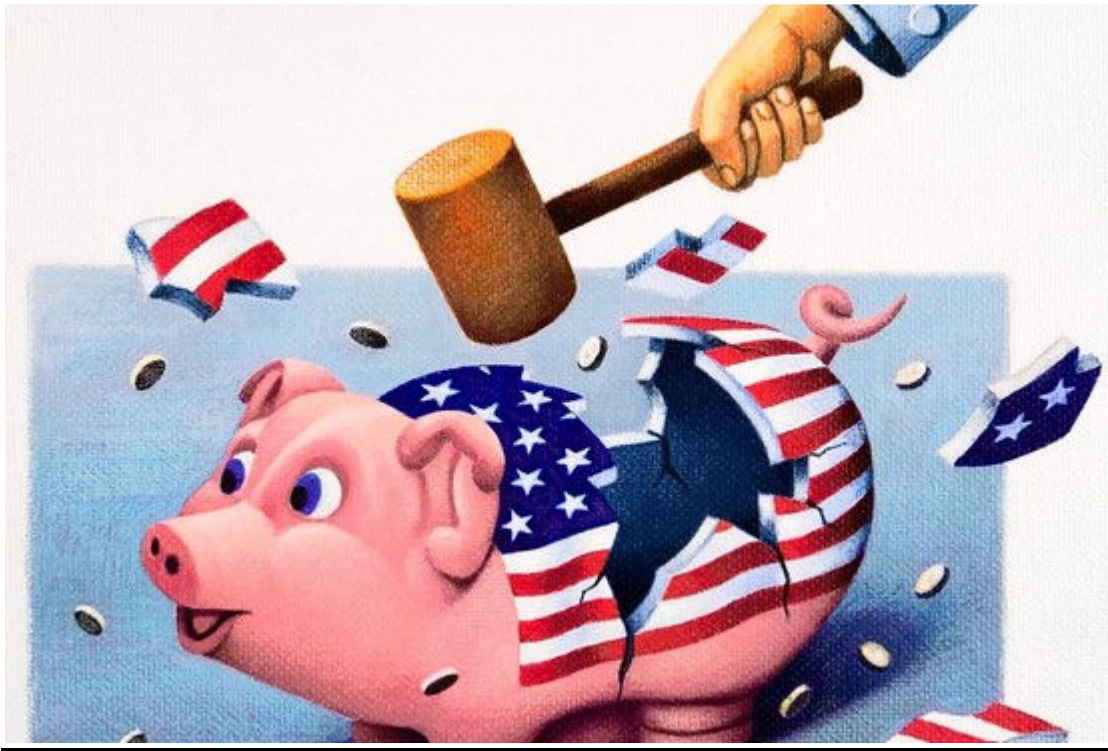
Allow me to explain:

Let's say, you come home from work and find there has been a sewer backup in your neighborhood.

Your home has sewage all the way up to your ceilings.

What do you think you should do? Raise the ceilings or pump out the _____?

Your choice is coming next November. Don't miss the opportunity



VOTE
PLEASE VOTE!

THE FINAL PAGE

From the Editor's Desk

My rant – I mean the subject – for today, is public panel discussions. I suppose it's too late to do much of anything about this method of wasting time, because it has become firmly entrenched in our mores. It seems that you just cannot have a public program without some member of the group bleating forth: "I think it would be nice to have a panel or group discussion." The only reasonable answer to the suggestion is "Why?" but to question this is to label oneself as hopelessly out of step with the times. A few friends sitting around sharing their ideas, asking questions, expressing opinions, is one thing. Putting it in a public program is something else. So we go along and we have another panel discussion.

We place between three and seven well meaning citizens around a table, and then a chairman is appointed – I mean a moderator. Now the moderator is not supposed to do much talking except right at the beginning. He is to set the stage, so to speak, for the others. He introduces the members, and must give the impression that each is an expert or has feelings in their own field. He does the best he can with what he has to work with, he makes them feel good about themselves, and away we go.

There are always the same people on every panel. They have different names and they look different, but they are the same ones disguised. One is bashful and will only mumble a few words if put on the spot. This one is probably the brightest of the bunch, but does not express thoughts clearly. Another is the blunt type. This one blares forth opinions with assurance and with an air of "there will be no nonsense or even courtesy about this." The main problem is this individual is not very bright.

There is always the person who explains what the other members of the panel really meant. This person is the great leveler who makes every point of view grey and undistinguished. Then there has to be one cute member. Sometimes it is a woman who hovers just on the edge of baby talk.

Every panel has a member who wants to dominate the show. This one takes a long time to say very little, but gets a new idea every time another member speaks, this triteness will go on until the moderator tells him, "enough said!"

(Note: Important that I distinguish between public panels and planning committees, I'm on a couple of committees that do some tremendous work.)

**WE ARE KNIGHTS
WE SAVE LIVES
WE CHANGE LIVES**

**Diverse People
Shared Goals**

WALLA WALLA – COUNCIL 766

PASCO – COUNCIL 1620

KENNEWICK – COUNCIL 8179

KENNEWICK – COUNCIL 10653

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