

St. Thomas Council Meeting Minutes - September 12, 2024

Meeting Called to Order

The regular St. Thomas Council # 13861 meeting was called to order by Grand Knight John Chandonnet at 7:00pm on Thursday, September 12, 2024. 19 knights were present.

Decade of the Rosary

Recorder Jonathan Brock led the council in a decade of the rosary to lead our country to a culture of life.

Pledge of Allegiance

Grand Knight John Chandonnet led the council in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officer Roll Call

The officer roll call was taken and recorded by Recorder Jonathan Brock. Attendance was as follows:

Grand Knight, John Chandonnet:	Present
Deputy Grand Knight, Greg Cyr:	Present
Chancellor, Ron Robichaud:	Excused
Chaplain, Fr. Bill Labbe:	Excused
Financial Secretary, John Greenlee:	Present
Recorder, Jonathan Brock:	Present
Warden, Aaron Downs:	Present
Treasurer, Matthew Pettine:	Present
Advocate, Richard Caroti:	Absent
Outside Guard, Rene Robichaud:	Excused
Inside Guard, Gerry Newport:	Present
Lecturer, Br. Jerome Lessard:	Excused
3rd Year Trustee, Jerry Nulton:	Excused
2nd Year Trustee, Terry Sylvanus:	Present
1st Year Trustee, Ray Sargent:	Present

Reading of the Previous Month Meeting Minutes

Gerry Newport motioned to accept the August council meeting minutes as submitted. Romeo Zuniga seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The August 2024 minutes were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Matthew Pettine reported:

Starting Balance:	8090.85
Disbursements:	

KC Maine per capita	1571.24
Receipts:	
Baby Bottles	154.13 *Bank counted .05 less
T-Shirts	50.00
50/50	9.00
Donate	9.00
Ending Balance:	6741.73
Christmas Party:	117.88
Food Pantry:	420.00
Baby Bottles:	2233.67
General Fund:	3970.18

Addendum: The money from Baby Bottle funds are still to be issued to the Alpha Pregnancy Center.

Financial Secretary's Report

FS John Greenlee reported:

146 Total Membership
83 Associate Members
55 Insured Members
8 Inactive Members
32 Honorary Life Members
5 Disability Members

District Meeting Recap [Sanford - Springvale - Limerick], August 21, 2024

- **Opening:** The district meeting opened at 6:00pm. The location was the Springvale council chambers.
- **Attendance:** In attendance were fifteen knights.
- **Remarks from District Deputy Kevin Lafreniere**
 - As part of a successful year we should look as councils and as a district to get awards such as Star Council and the Columbian Award.
 - In regards to training/background checks for working with kids, the K of C Safe Environment program is not interchangeable with the Protecting God's Children program used by the diocese of Portland. This is because the K of C program has different criteria and dioceses are free to choose their own program. It is enough to be accredited for both programs, though.
 - Discussion of different ways the councils can work to get the Columbian award.
 - Tootsie Roll Drive aprons are available for sale on the Knights Gear website.
 - Grand Knights should send Kevin Lafreniere a list of this year's fraternal activities and initiatives.
 - Webinar: our council needs 14 or more participants or eligibles to attend the financial planning webinar coming up on September 10th at 7:30pm.
 - Each council Grand Knight must fill out the form 1107 and submit.
- **Remarks from State Program Director (Faith in Action) Anthony Alfiero**

- Seminarian supports: when councils mail a check to a seminarian, send receipt to Supreme Council to get reimbursed \$100.00 for general funds.
 - maineknights.net: anyone can submit a Faith in Action report to get SURGE hours for their council.
 - Every brother Knight should try to recruit as an individual. Reach out to people at church for example, they may never have been asked to join or may not know what the Knights of Columbus do.
 - Coats for Kids: submit orders for cases to the Supreme Council by October 10th to get the buy one, get one free deal.
 - Council Grand Knights or Deputy Grand Knights should submit the form 10784 by 12/31 to upload all Faith in Action forms to Supreme Council.
 - The SP7 form must be filled out to be Star Council. Must be done by May 30th but can start as soon as December 15th.
 - Anthony Alfiero recommended to invite Aaron Weiss, field agent, to give an in person finance talk and to invite non-members.
 - Different ideas for free throw contests and soccer kick contests were discussed.
 - Anthony promoted the Knight of the Month and Family of the Month programs.
 - It is advisable to submit a Faith in Action report as soon as we complete an event.
 - maineknights.net: website has calendar and each council's Operation Wheelchair date is also listed there.
- **Remarks from State Deputy Michael Giroux**
 - The new State Chaplain has emphasized the need for evangelism. We should be reaching out beyond our active to bring people into the church.
 - Different ideas for essay contests and Keep Christ in Christmas poster contests were discussed.
 - For Faith in Action credit, submissions must be a council project or sponsored by the council.
 - Joint projects: if written correctly, both/multiple councils involved in a project or event can get credit for the same event. However, each council needs to submit their own report.
 - Star Council status is tracked with the Star Tracker.
 - There is a scrapbook being put together for State Council, local councils are requested to take pictures at their events.
 - **Closing Prayer:** Kevin Lafreniere led the attendees in a closing prayer.
 - **Closing:** The district meeting closed at 7:20pm.

Grand Knight's Report

Grand Knight John Chandonnet reported:

- Greg received a check from Stephanie Simpson for the nine Sanford Mainer games during which the St. Thomas Council tended the concession. The amount was \$800.
- Greg Cyr also received a check from the Acton Fair in which St. Thomas Council knights volunteered at the Acton Fair August 22nd thru August 25th. The amount was \$600.

- A St. Thomas School Open House occurred on Sunday August 25th after 10am Mass. St. Thomas Council knights served hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and watermelon. The council also took up a collection and raised \$140 for the school.
- The St. Thomas Council will have a tent outside the church and will serve ice coffee, hot coffee and baked goods following the 10:00 mass on Sunday, September 15th. All are welcome. *This was postponed after the meeting - J.T.B.*
- District Meeting: There was a district meeting at the Springvale Council meeting place on Wednesday, August 21st at 6:30pm.
- There was an online FBE on Extended and Long Term Care Planning on Tuesday, September 10th. In attendance: John Chandonnet, Jonathan Brockl, Ray Sargent, John Greenlee, Terry Sylvanus and Bob Demers. Grand Knight John Chandonnet will submit a Form #11077.
- Cash calendars are now available!
- Grand Knight John Chandonnet will announce the Knight of the Year at the October Council Meeting.

SURGE Service Hours to Date

Grand Knight John Chandonnet reported the following service hours to date:

Faith Service Hours:	766
Family Service Hours:	760
Community Service Hours:	390
Life Service Hours:	104
Total Service Hours:	2020

New Business

St. Thomas Bean Suppers: Bob Demers reported that a lot was learned from running the first St. Thomas bean supper. Outside of the cafeteria food distributor, different people buying supplies for the dinner presented around \$500 in slips to be reimbursed. The supper took in \$1093.00 and made \$80.00 on the 50/50 raffle for a total profit of \$639.00. \$100.00 was used for next month's till, and the remaining \$539.00 will be presented to the school. Going forward, Bob Demers will get supplies from Sam's Club so there will only be one receipt to reimburse.

John Chandonnet posed the question of who should coordinate the bean suppers for St. Thomas. If the Council receives the money it can all be donated to the school.

Terry Sylvanus motioned that the St. Thomas Council run the bean supper financially to donate to St. Thomas, with the PTO still supporting by working the event. The intent of the motion was that the cash collections come to the Council so that the Council can issue a check to the school. At each bean supper, a Knight will need to be present to collect the money. Dennis Breton seconded the motion and it passed.

Seminarian Of the Year: Ray Sargent motioned that we keep our seminarian from last year, Joseph Beale. Greg Cyr seconded. The motion passed without discussion.

Christmas Party: Gerry Newport reported that the Christmas Party received a check from the VFW for \$300.00, and a check from the 4th Degree Assembly for \$150.00. Total receipts YTD now total \$1867.53. \$600.00 will be for prize money. Gerry motioned that the [3rd Degree] Council give \$200.00 and Herb Littlefield seconded. The motion passed without discussion.

Gerry is requesting help at the Saturday 4pm Mass to sell tickets for the Christmas Party.

Recruitment: Terry Sylvanus brought recruitment brochures to the meeting and asked members to help recruit. Terry remarked that if new members join online they don't have to pay dues the first year. Once we have 2-3 new members, we will do an exemplification ceremony.

Terry is asked that someone volunteer to co-chair as membership director. Greg Cyr and Jonathan Brock volunteered as co-chairs.

Housekeeping: Reminder that we have a K of C banner to use at functions.

Next month Terry Sylvanus will have an outline for Star Council Faith in Action criteria.

Old Business

Tootsie Roll Drive: Bob Demers went to Waypoint and got pamphlets that describe services that Waypoint provides. These can be used in support of the drive. Matt Pettine submitted the paperwork to allow us to fundraise at Wal Mart.

Fourth Degree 125 Year Anniversary: Ray Sargent announced that the 4th Degree was founded in February 1900. There will be an exemplification in New York City in February 2025 to celebrate the 125th anniversary. There are expected to be 1000 4th Degree candidates at the exemplification.

District Deputy Remarks

District Deputy Kevin Lafreniere remarked that the orders for Coats for Kids are due October 15. Kevin Brown is the new GA. There [was] a webinar on September 19 about attracting and engaging younger members.

Knight of the Month

Ray Sargent was selected as the Knight of the Month.

50/50 Drawing

Matthew Pettine won the 50/50 drawing. The amount was \$13, which Matthew donated back to the council.

Good of the Order

The following prayer petitions were presented:

Jeannette Chandonnet
Rene Robichaud
Br. Jerome Lessard
Connie Littlefield
Paul McNutt
David Wright
Jerry Nulton
Morris Payeur
Ron Cote
Ralph Nolette

Closing Prayers

Both the Father J. McGivney prayer and the Bill Sheehan prayer, which were recited by the council, were dedicated to the above prayer petitions.

Next Council/Zoom Meeting

The next council meeting will be on Thursday, October 10 at 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan T. Brock, Recorder*