



# KNIGHTS NEWS

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Upcoming KofC 544 Meetings & Special Events

- **"Happy Together" Marriage Seminar #2**  
Wednesday, Dec. 3rd  
7-8:30pm Fleming Center
- **KC Club Board Mtg.**  
Wednesday, Dec. 10th  
6pm, 3rd floor St. Albert Hall
- **Council Meeting**  
Wednesday, Dec. 10th  
7pm, 3rd floor St. Albert Hall
- **1st Degree at St. Henry**  
Monday, Dec. 8th - 6:45pm
- **2nd Degree at Gallatin**  
Saturday, Dec. 13th 9:45am
- **Parthenon Towers Christmas Party**  
Sunday, Dec. 14th 12-2pm
- **Room in the Inn Meal Serve**  
Wed, Dec. 16th 6-8pm  
Fleming Center
- **Council Christmas Party**  
Friday, December 19th  
6-10pm Cathedral Rectory
- **State Kof C Mid-year Mtg**  
Saturday Jan. 17, 2009  
8 am-3 pm Fleming Center
- **Cathedral Super Bowl Party and Chili Cook-off**  
Sunday, February 1st  
3-9pm Fleming Center
- **St. Patrick's Fundraiser**  
Saturday, March 14th  
6-10pm Fleming Center

## FR. PAT KIBBY OPENS RECTORY TO CATHEDRAL KNIGHTS FOR BIG CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Mark your calendars and save the date. The upcoming Council Christmas party on Friday December 19th is going to be one to remember.

Fr. Pat Kibby has generously agreed to let the Cathedral Knights use his residence for our big event. The rectory is going to be decorated in turn-of-the-century motif in keeping with the kickoff of Cathedral's 100th anniversary centennial celebration. The pastor's residence is already a beautiful building filled with gorgeous antiques, luxurious silk rugs and dramatic draperies. When the period Christmas decoration are added, it will be a sight to behold.

Instead of a sit-down dinner, the event will be more like a cocktail party where people can move, mix and mingle with other guests.

The large dining room table will be full of delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts.



**Cathedral Pastor Fr. Pat Kibby**

Here's what's on the menu:

- A huge crystal bowl of jumbo shrimp and tangy cocktail dipping sauce.
- Tangy grilled pork tenderloin medallions served with yeast rolls and sour-cream sauce
- Grilled salmon filets
- Mediterranean torte

- Big baked brie filled with apricot jelly
- Hot spinach artichoke dip with a large cracker assortment
- Grilled and sliced Italian sausage served with hot and mild mustards
- Baked mini quiche
- Lots of delicious homemade cheesecake, pirolines, fudge, cakes and sweet things to eat

There will also be a bar area where wine, beer and soft drinks will be served.

Guests are asked to park behind the rectory and enter through the doors across from the side church entry.

RSVP for the event by calling Grand Knight Mark O'Neill at 615-662-2014 or email [m.oneill74@comcast.net](mailto:m.oneill74@comcast.net).

For more information, see the invitation that came along with this newsletter.

## ANNUAL PARTHENON TOWERS CHRISTMAS PARTY ON TAP

One of the most anticipated events of the Christmas season for many 544 Knights is the annual party for the folks at the Parthenon Towers high-rise adjacent to Centennial Park.

Party organizer Buck

Buxkamper says the residents are looking forward to the wonderful meal supplied by the Knights and the festive Christmas atmosphere in the air during the event.

There will be caroling, piano playing and a visit from one of

Santa's helpers. It's a fun afternoon that will really get you in the Christmas spirit.

If you would like to attend and assist in this worthy endeavor, please come to the Parthenon Towers by noon on Sunday, December 14th.

# GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

BY MARK O'NEILL

Miracles can come from the most unlikely people and places. Late last summer I was rushing around finishing up tasks on my boat business on Center Hill Lake with the hope of shooting 9 holes at a local municipal course before darkness set in. I wasn't in the greatest of moods and just wanted to knock some white balls around to relieve the stress of the day.

It was a beautiful afternoon and to my surprise, no one was on the course. I propped my bag on the cart and whipped up to the first tee. Ah, sweet serenity. But just as I bent down to place my ball on the tee, I heard those dreaded words, "Mind if I join ya'". Inside I was screaming, "Yes, I do", but I took a deep, bit my tongue and lied like a dog. "Yeah, that would be fine. Put your bag on the cart."

I'd seen Tommy before working at the golf course. He was a Smithville local and I'd been cordial to him in the past, but hanging with him for the next couple of hours wasn't fitting my *Golf Digest* ideals. Tommy was about 30, wearing a greasy John Deere hat and a ragged T-shirt. He walked to the cart with a very pronounced limp carrying a bag full of worn-out and mismatched clubs. I stuck out my right hand and awkwardly shook the left one he offered. His right hand was withered and drawn. Recent injuries, I would find out later, that came from a car accident with a drunk driver that almost took his life.

We both teed off, mine going 230 yards with a predictable first-hole slice. Tommy set up on the ladies tee box holding his driver with his left hand. He hit his ball with the red driving range stripe barely past the senior tee only 20 yards away. "Oh man," I thought, "this round is going to take forever. The guy

can barely walk and he can't hold a club. What's he even doing on a golf course." Tommy laughed it off. "Shoulda' brought my skirt today," he chuckled. "It'll get better." That was an understatement.

It took him 5 more strokes to get it to the green, but with every shot his timing and distance improved. I soon forgot about my self-imposed deadline and hurry-up do-it-now mentality and found myself relaxing, cheering him on and respecting his can-do attitude.

Seven holes later as the sun was setting, we pulled up to the 8th hole, a short par three over a algae-clogged pond. It would be our last of the day due to darkness. I was hitting from the blues and felt a rush as the ball arched beautifully into the fading evening sky and we heard the solid thump of a ball hitting the green. Tommy's shot was a line drive we heard skip just over the water and skitter up to the green, but never saw where it landed.

My ball was the only one on the green. Tommy ambled up to the green and slowly walked back and forth on it's back side looking for the resting place of what he thought was an errant shot. Out of curiosity, I checked the hole and couldn't believe me eyes. There, in all it's majesty, was a scuffed-up red-striped range ball. Tommy hit a hole in one!

So the first ace I ever witnessed was not by some slick scratch golfer with a \$1,000 set of clubs. It was a guy who worked hard trying to overcome all the adversity life had thrown at him. A guy who wouldn't quit no matter what the odds. That's when it dawned on me our two-some that day had actually been a three-some, Tommy, myself and God. **Merry Christmas!**

**Mark O'Neill**

**In Memorium:** Richard Bevington passed away on November 16 after a long battle with cancer. Richard was a past Grand Knight and excellent leader who deeply cared about Council 544. In fact, a conversation brother Knights had with him before hi died death was about his memories of the Council and the direction he would like to see it go after his passing. He will be missed by all.

**Room in the Inn:** The Council's first RITI will be Tuesday, December 16th. We will be in charge of serving 40 guests a delicious home-cooked meal. It's a great way of connecting with these homeless gentlemen. Most are very interesting people and are fun to talk to. If you'd like to help out contact Mark O'Neill at 948-7443 or m.oneill74@comcast.net

Special Thanks to Jimmy Walsh and Eric Pianowski for volunteering to be Innkeepers with the Room in the Inn Program. They are in charge of security at the Fleming Center and spend the night at the hall with our guests. Volunteers are called to do this 3-4 times a season. If you're interested in volunteering, touch base with Jimmy Walsh at 202-0091.

**Knight of the Month:** Mike Fontaine for his hard work in getting the "Happy Together" marriage enhancement seminars planned. We've had very favorable response to this program from Fr. Kibby and church members.

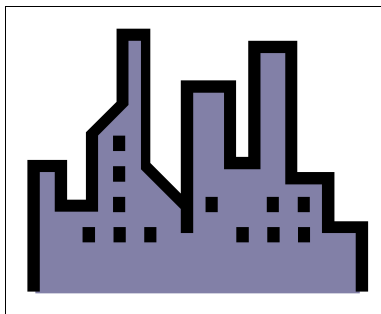
**Family of the Month:** "Doc" O'Dwyer Family. Doc has shown considerable courage fighting a variety of illnesses over the years. Whenever healthy, he always attends meeting and events and entertains all with his wit and card tricks.

the cart.”

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of worn-out and mismatched clubs. I stuck out my right hand and awkwardly shook the left hand he offered.

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