

# THE OBSERVER

## CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY 150 NEWARK, DE



Meets at 7:30 PM—First Monday of Month [Excluding Holidays]  
Holy Family Church - Dining Hall / Gender Rd. & DE Rte. 4, Newark, DE  
Seventh Edition Barry E. Swain, F.N., Publisher May, 2010

### Assembly Officers 2009-2010

**Barry E. Swain**

Faithful Navigator

**Rev. Philip L. Siry**

Faithful Friar

**Mark D. Goldberg**

Faithful Comptroller

**Albert J. Ware**

Faithful Captain

**William F. Lawler\***

Faithful Admiral

**Joseph F. Blaszkow**

Faithful Purser

**Frank R. Pecoraro**

Faithful Pilot

**John E. McCormick**

Faithful Scribe

**Elwyn F. Hageman**

Inside Sentinel

**Robert E. Forester**

Outside Sentinel

**Gerald L. Safranski**

1 Year Trustee

**Henry B. Steenkamer**

2 Year Trustee

**William F. Lawler \***

3 Year Trustee



[www.de-kofc-150.org](http://www.de-kofc-150.org)



### A message from the Faithful Navigator

Greetings my brother Sir Knights. We held elections for the coming year and the results are listed on the following pages. I'd like to thank everyone who helped me this past year and I look forward to serving another year as Navigator.

The first annual Color Corp competition was held on April 24 at the Marydel Firehall. There were teams from Maryland, Virginia and Delaware participating in the event. Even though Delaware didn't win, everyone attending the event had a great time. Our Vice Supreme Master hosted the event and did an outstanding job coordinating the competition and the food preparation. A summary is attached inside.

As mentioned last month, our by-law changes were voted on this month and passed unanimously. Please check the past issue of the Observer located on our web page for details of the changes.

As always, may God bless you and your families and God bless the men and women that keep our country safe for us to enjoy this way of life.

Barry E Swain  
Faithful Navigator

### PERMANENT HALF-COLUMN

#### Affiliated Councils / New Castle Co.

4548- St. Michaels / Holy Family

6768- Coffee Run / St. Mary's

11469- Our Lady of Fatima

11796- St. John The Beloved

12104- Holy Angels Parish

12842- St. Davids / St. Margaret's

The Grand Knights of each Council are asked to submit newsworthy items and event's of their Councils for publication in this news letter in addition to publishing in their respective Council News Letters. By doing this, coverage is extended to an additional 200-230 Fourth Degree Members.

**Send material to rez38@comcast.net or give to editor at monthly meeting.**

**The Meeting Minutes are also published on the Assembly's web site. Go to:**

[www.de-kofc-150.org](http://www.de-kofc-150.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

Any member changing his E-Mail address or any member adding a new E-Mail address should notify the Editor at rez38@comcast.net

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR FAITHFUL FRIAR**

Per request of Father Siry, the following Notice will be published in the up-coming editions of the OBSERVER.

The national convention of the K of C will be held in Washington, DC, August 2—5, 2010. S.K. Ralph Rossi will be seeking Color Corp volunteers for this event.

Specifically, Tuesday morning Mass and the banquet later in the day.

Also, Wednesday for the main Mass and Thursday for the Memorial Mass.

More details will be forthcoming later in later issues.

**COLOR CORPS NEWS**

Al Ware and Ralph Body reports the following:

**April 10**, Barry Swain, Al Ware and Richard Novak attended the State Track Meet at Baynard Stadium.

Barry Swain attended the Calvert Province Drill Team competition on **April 24**.

Fr. Roark's 40th. Anniversary Mass at 1 PM on **May 2** with Bishop Malooly as co-celebrant. Colors needed to report by 12:30 PM. A reception follows in the Marydel Fire Hall.

**May 7**, 9 Sir Knights were at the Blue Mass with the Bishop at St. John the Beloved Church. Many police, fire, EMT's were in attendance. Council 11796 Knights and Worthy Ladies prepared a wonderful buffet in the hall after Mass.

**On May 8**, the State Convention is at Rehoboth Beach and the Color Corps is invited for the Mass and banquet. The Atlantic Sands Hotel.

**May 9**, newly ordained Fr. John McVoy will celebrate the 5 PM Mass at Mother Seton Church and the Color Corps is invited. There will be food and drink after Mass in the tent and dinner for invited guests in the parish hall. 8 Sir Knights were present.

**On May 16**, a Memorial Mass for the Archdiocese of Military Services will be celebrated at the National Shrine Basilica in Washington DC. Report time is 1:30 PM for Color Guard. Mass is at 4 PM.

**Other Color Corps News in the Meeting Minutes**

Sword Certification was held after the regular business meeting of May 3. 5 Knights attended.

**COUNCIL NEWS**

As printed on page 1, there are six affiliate Councils.

**A DOUBLE STAR COUNCIL 2009**

Council 7990, Mother Seton Parish, is not an affiliate Council, however Gibbons Assembly has 3 members in Council 7990 and your Observer Editor is one. From time to time, we will publish newsworthy events from Council 7990 which are open to anyone. This is in lieu of no news contributions from the regular affiliate Councils.

**Of Note**

There is a state production of "ALL SHOOKUP" on Saturday June 12. A new story by all Elvis songs. Tickets are 47.00 for dinner and show. Contact Kevin Calio at 368.5234.

The Council breakfast is May 23, 8 to 10:30, 6.00 adults, all you can eat, in the parish hall/open to the public. No breakfasts in June, July or August.

**Huge project.....November 20....Sister Strikes Again. Late Night Catechism 2, in the parish hall. 350 tickets will be available later. Food prior to performance. Open to all. More details in later editions. Pete Fitzgerald is in charge.**

**Council 12842 –St. Davids**

May 16, 8:30 AM, Mass in honor of St. David

May 13, Tony Francia Memorial Golf Tournament

June 6, Chicken B-B-Q [look for e-mail info]

Boy Scout Fish Fry was huge success

October 10, Pancake Breakfast

November 14, Pancake Breakfast

Frazer Road clean up happened on April 24

New member Earl Markey took 1st. Degree

Thomas Sarnecky, G.K. reporting.

**The Editor thanks St. Davids for contributing to the Gibbons News Letter.**

Dear Brother Sir Knights and families:

Once again we are in the month of May. May and October are dedicated by the Church as the Months of Mary. During these times we have the opportunity to show our love and devotion to Mary, the mother of our Divine Savior. Once again we can express our filial devotion to the Mother of God by our prayers and good works done in the Name of her Son.

The holy Rosary with its joyful, sorrowful, glorious, and luminous mysteries is a great source of prayer, reflection and meditation for us. The Memorare, Hail Holy Queen, are just a few of the prayers we offer to her Divine Son through her intercession.

Remember her Son will never reject a mother's requests. A daily prayer for us could be: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

May is also the time of our State Convention at Rehoboth Beach, specifically, the 7th., 8th. & 9th. If you have never experienced a State or Supreme Convention, this would be a good year to do so.

Mark your calendars and let us continue to pray for one another as we go about doing the Lord's work in His vineyard.

VIVAT JESUS

## **FATHER PHILIP SIRY**

ASSEMBLY FRIAR

DISTRICT FRIAR



**Gibbon's News**

The results of the vote taken from attending members on May 3 regarding Amendment of Gibbons By-Laws are: All changes were approved. The following is a digest of approved changes:

In keeping with the policy of Supreme, members who have achieved **Honorary Life** status in the Order do not pay any dues. Any one meeting former criteria will be grandfathered. *[70 years or 20 years membership]*

OF NOTE:

[Current Supreme Policy states that **HONORARY LIFE** status requires a member to be at least 70 years of age and a member for 25 years]

There is **NO HONORARY** status in the 4th. Degree as there is in the lesser degrees.

Also, authorized funds are raised from 200.00 to 500.00 without publishing for approval.

The Faithful Comptroller shall receive a stipend of \$50.00 per year.

The Relief Fund is raised to \$300.00 with a maximum single pay-out of \$100.00

**Election of Officers for 2010-2011 Term.**

The slate of officers nominated and voted on are posted on page one. The Officers listed will serve from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, unless and individual is unable to serve for some reason.

**Q & A**

Questions have risen regarding the distribution of the Observer, whether by Postal Mail or by E-Mail. At the present time, we use the USPS and the number of mailings averages 230. We have to maintain a minimum number of mailing to qualify for a Non-Profit permit which reduces our costs from .44 cents to about .15 cents per piece. Out of our total membership of 230, 73 members have provided E-Mail addresses. Some members have requested that the Observer be sent by E-mail "to reduce mailing" costs. If we do this, we lose our status as a Non-Profit, bulk mailer with the USPS, and therefore our per-piece costs would go to .44 cents. **At this time**, we will remain with the USPS.

ADDITIONAL INFO IS PROVIDED IN THE MAY MINUTES ON PAGE 5.

**OF SPECIAL NOTE HERE; A MOST WORTHY PROJECT**

The Knights Blue Mass which is celebrated once a year in early May by our Bishop and Chaplin's of all the respective police, fire and EMT in the Diocese of Wilmington. The theme of The Blue Mass is to pay tribute to the officers, fire fighters and EMT individuals who have passed away while serving. The original idea of the Blue Mass for our Diocese came from Fr. Richard Smith who was then Chaplin for and assigned to St. John the Beloved Council 11796.

++++++

Before we could get started Fr. Smith was transferred so I continued the organizing with Fr. Cocco who like Fr. Smith was a police officer prior to seminary. The first Blue Mass was celebrated in 2007. That is some of the history. As to why I got into this endeavor, I had the honor of serving with both the Wilmington and Delaware State Police and experienced the loss of some very good friends who I served with, both on and off duty.

++++++

I have always felt blessed and truly feel Saint Michael was always with me protecting me. After becoming a Knight I found a way to try to give back through, The Blue Mass. As to the funding, each year I receive contributions from some of the many friends I have made over the years. These come from attorneys, doctors, businesses other councils and of course the State. Donations for the most part go to providing lunch for all participants.

++++++

My wife Carolyn arranges all of that. Other money is used for banners, plaques for individuals recognized each year, Rosaries and assorted metals provided to each participant.

++++++

My mailing address is 2718 N Robino Dr. Wilmington, DE 19808.

S.K. Terry L Tasker Sr.  
ASSEMBLY 150

Minutes from 5/3/10 Cardinal Gibbons meeting

The meeting was opened by FN Swain at 7:35 PM.

Roll Call of Officers

All officers were present except :

F. Admiral Reyn Cierniak, excused because of health

F. Scribe John McCormick, absent, out of town

Minutes of April Meeting

Were not available. They will be read at the June meeting.

Fr. Siry report

Cdl. Gibbons drill team competed at Marydel bi-annual meeting. Maryland team won the competition.

Fr. Siry attended an excellent Fourth Degree ceremony at the Naval Academy in Annapolis

F.N. report

Fr. Jennings will be celebrating his 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a priest. He is retired and living at the St. Jeanne Jugan residence, Salem Church Road.

Bishop Mardaga's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was an excellent party. Nearly as enjoyable as Cdl. Gibbons 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Same comment as Fr. Siry's about drill team competition.

Bills & Communications

H. Steenkamer presented a bill in the amount of \$174 for the printing and mailing of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Observer in April. Bill Lawler presented a bill in the amount of \$133 for refreshments for the May 3, 2010 meeting.

Comptroller's report

21 members are still delinquent with the 2010 dues after second mailing of bills. Comp and FN will contact these individuals and attempt to determine their circumstances. Those in financial difficulty seldom contact the assembly about their situation. Checkbook balance \$4,926, Chalice fund \$28,492. For those in arrears, First Notices sent late Nov & early Dec. Second notices out in Jan and final notices went out in late March. Those not responding will get a phone call.

New Business

Frank Pecoraro is the new Delaware K of C representative fro veteran's affairs. He replaces Reyn Cierniak who ably held the position but cannot continue because of health problems. Frank reported that he will be attending orientation meetings at the VA Hospital in Elsmere, DE in the near future.

**[CONTINUED NEXT PAGE]**

A FN sword has been ordered for PFN Reyn Cierniak

### Color Corps / Past & Future Events & Requests

St. Peter's Parade, New Castle, May 6  
 All Saints Cemetery Field Mass, May 31  
 Wilmington Parade, June 13

### Election of Officers

The following are the results of the election for Columbian year 2010-2011

Faithful Navigator	Barry E. Swain
F. Friar	appointed by Bishop Malooly, Fr. Siry continues
F. Comptroller	appointed by Supreme, Mark Goldberg continues in office
F. Captain	Al Ware
F. Admiral	William Lawler
F. Purser	Joseph Blaszkow
F. Pilot	Frank Pecoraro
F. Scribe	John McCormick
Inner Sentinel	E. Hageman
Outer Sentinel	Robert Forester
1 year Trustee	Gerald Safranski
2 year Trustee	Henry Steenkamer
3 year Trustee	William Lawler

### New Business

St. Michael Council has allowed Cardinal Gibbons to "piggyback" on their postal permit . In fairness to the council we should share the annual cost of the permit which \$185.00. The Assembly voted approval of the motion to share the cost of the permit.

Mark Goldberg brought to the Assembly's attention a proposal to promote business at The Cube restaurant on Marrows Road and thus receive 15% of bills for Assembly members. There were questions about how Assembly members would be identified and how often payment might be made to the Assembly. Use of coupons was mentioned as a method. Mark Goldberg would discuss how the system might be managed with the restaurant management and report at the June meeting.

A motion was made to purchase 5 ten dollar tickets for the Delaware K of C Catholic Elementary School Scholarship Fund raffle for each of the councils that are affiliated with Cardinal Gibbons Assembly. The motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting closed with the Good of the Order at 8:50 PM

Hank Steenkamer  
 Temporary Scribe

**THE EDITOR'S PAGE  
AREN'T WORDS GREAT?**

- Energizer Bunny arrested, charged with battery.
- A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.
- Practice safe eating - always use condiments.
- Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
- He used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.
- A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- Corduroy pillows are making headlines.
- Is a book on voyeurism a peeping tome?
- Sea captains don't like crew cuts.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.
- A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumor.
- Without geometry, life is pointless.
- When you dream in color, it's a pigment of your imagination.
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well-red.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.
- What's the definition of a will? (Come on, it's a dead giveaway!)
- In a democracy your vote counts. In feudalism, your count votes.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.
- The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- He often broke into song because he couldn't find the key.
- A lot of money is tainted. 'Taint yours and it taint mine.
- A boiled egg is hard to beat.
- He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
- Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.
- When an actress saw her first strands of gray hair, she thought she'd dye.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.