



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

**Portland Council #2168**

690 Maynard Road  
Portland, MI 48875

[gk2168@mikofc.org](mailto:gk2168@mikofc.org)

Grand Knight SK Jacob Lowe

517-648-3003

<b>Chaplain</b>	SK Fr. Michael Alber	<b>Grand Knight</b>	SK Jacob Lowe
<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>	Brian Brown	<b>Chancellor</b>	SK Rich Schneider
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	SK Rex Waltersdorf	<b>Treasurer</b>	SK Tom Klein
<b>Recorder</b>	SK William Christian	<b>Advocate</b>	SK Francis Vallier
<b>Warden</b>	Dan Arwood	<b>Lecturer</b>	Todd Davlin
<b>Inside Guard</b>	SK John Hengesbach	<b>Outside Guard</b>	Jeremy Newman
<b>Trustees</b>	SK Bob Fox	SK Robert Pline	SK Gary Fedewa

***April, May, and June 2023***

**Grand Knight's Report**

***Romans 12:12***

***"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."***

Brother Knights,

I hope that this newsletter finds you faithfully in the Lenten season. I also want to wish you a Happy Easter in advance. During this season of Lent, take some time to reflect back on your life, your deeds of charity throughout the last year, and the sacrifices, big and small, we make. I hope that you can see all the amazing things God has given you and allowed you to do. I hope that you can use these as fuel to drive yourself to be more like Christ. I hope that these things will help you to realize what is truly important in this world.

Please join me in welcoming Alex Hoppes, Connor Hengesbach, and Luke Schrauben to our council. Congratulations on joining the Knights of Columbus.

We continue to encourage the men of our church that are not Brother Knights to join our ranks. If you know of any good, Catholic gentleman that would be an excellent addition to our council, encourage them to join our council. It is one program for all three degrees. I encourage all our members who are First- or Second-Degree members to complete their journey to full Knighthood. If you have any questions about becoming a Knight, or would like more information about being a Knight, please contact me at [GK2168@mikofc.org](mailto:GK2168@mikofc.org) or 517-648-3003. Our next upcoming Exemplification will be held on **Tuesday, April 25, 2023**, following the Tuesday night mass.

The Knights of Columbus State Convention will be held Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, through Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

A Fraternal Benefits Night is being held on **Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:30 P.M.** A presentation entitled "Importance of Whole Life as part of a Retirement Plan" is being given by Jim Effner. As a council, we need to have 7 Brother Knights attend this meeting. If you are interested in attending, please use the following link or QR Code to sign up to attend.

<https://tinyurl.com/KofCEffnerApril26>

Vivat Jesus,  
Jacob Lowe



## Message from Our Insurance Agent

April is Autism Awareness month and I'd bet each one of us probably knows someone with autism; I know I do. The young lady I know is challenged both physically and mentally. The Autism Speaks website ([www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)) is a wealth of information. Autism is not one disorder, it is actually called autism spectrum disorder or ASD because there is a broad range, a spectrum, from very mild to very severe characteristics.

Some with very mild characteristics can function in society quite well and hold responsible jobs. At the other end of the spectrum may be the person who is nonverbal, is challenged physically and may engage in nearly constant repetitive behaviors. Those with these more severe issues may need lots of support from family, friends and social service agencies. The Autism Speaks website says "autism affects an estimated 1 in 59 children in the United States today."

Nobody seems to know what causes autism and the manifestations vary so widely that there is no real cure. Often the best that can be done is try to treat symptoms and help the individual cope with strengths and challenges faced. Because some of the symptoms or indicators often appear at a young age, before age 3, doctors have found that early diagnosis and intervention is the best course of action. With this early intervention, many individuals can be helped to improve the quality of their lives.

As we become more and more aware of the disorder you may know a member who is dealing with this himself or perhaps one of his family members has it. Your support, empathy and concern are usually well-received. It's an opportunity to show Christ's love to a neighbor. I encourage you to find out more on the website for Autism Speaks.

I can't end this message without wishing all of you a very Blessed Easter! It's celebrated in the Latin Church on April 17 this year. What a wondrous time in our liturgical year! While we celebrate Jesus' victory over death and his glorious resurrection, we remember that the raising from the dead came after humiliating abuse and an agonizing death. When I pray the rosary, I sometimes try to meditate on a particular decade by placing myself in the scene of that decade. How would I, a follower of Jesus, have reacted to his crucifixion? At the cross like John...or scared and hidden away with rest of the disciples? Would I have been brave enough? Then at the first Glorious Mystery, there at the tomb, stunned in awe of the mighty power of the Resurrection. What a mighty God we have! May each of you and your families experience the joy of this Easter season!

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Thelen, FICF, LUTCF

Member of MDRT & NAFIC

(989) 593-2200 [michael.thelen@kofc.org](mailto:michael.thelen@kofc.org)



*Permanent and Term Life, Disability Insurance, Dualife,  
Mortgage and Long Term Care Insurance, IRA's, Roth IRA's,  
Annuities, Estate Planning, Fraternal Benefits*

## Call to Serve

*If it is to be, it is up to me.*

Thank you to the many Knights that are serving as His hands in our council. Where are you being called to serve? Please consider volunteering and serving our council and parish in new ways. Experienced Knights will walk you through and be available for any questions. Contact GK Jacob Lowe, Bill Vallier, and Gary Fedewa for more information.

If you are interested in developing a fundraiser for the council, please reach out. There are many local and diocesan organizations that need help.

- A raffle will be held later this year in which the winners will receive admission to Wild Game Dinner hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 7311 in Grand Ledge, Michigan. More information pertaining to the raffle will come at a later date.

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## Honors

When you see these men and families, thank them  
for their service to their families, church, council, and community.

<u>2023</u>	<u>Knight of the Month</u>	<u>Family of the Month</u>
January	Dan Nowicki	Ken Schneider & Karen Stevens
February	Mike Cook	Mike & Sue Fox
March	Doug Snitgen	Mike & Ann Kissane

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## Knight and Family of the Year

Every year, the council selects one Brother Knight and a family of our community to recognize for all that they do in service to their families, the church, our council, and our community.

These Knights and families are chosen from the Knights and Families of the Month from throughout the 2022-23 Fraternal Year.

**We are pleased to announce that Sir Knights Gary Fedewa has been chosen for Knight of the Year and Sir Knight Herb and Lady Eileen Schrauben have been chosen as the Family of the Year.**

Join us in congratulating these amazing people for these accomplishments and thank them for all that they do.

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Please pray for these Knights and their families.



*Strengthen them with Your love and Your grace.  
Console them with Your blessed Presence.  
Grant them the courage to persevere.*



Dolores Rutherford  
Eleanor Peake  
Dick Brown  
Ronald Elston  
Roy Schneider

JoAnn Theis  
Gary Hodge  
Ken Schrauben  
Randy Hodge  
Father Mike Alber  
Paul Jandernoa

Bill Clark  
Tom Keusch  
JoAnn Spitzley  
Dorothy Keusch  
The Alber Family  
Kathy Russman

Romane Lay  
Nick Davis  
Stephen Fabiano  
Mike Keusch  
Jude Kramer

All Brother Knights and their families that have been affected by Covid-19  
The people of Ukraine and Russia

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## **Building Corporation News**

Enclosed you will find the annual Building Corp 50/50 raffle tickets. Please take the time to sell and/or purchase them. The hall is looking great with the improvements and updates that have been done over the past few years. Tickets can be returned to Gary Fedewa, 9975 Kent St. Portland, MI 48875 or to John Vallier, 7933 E Grand River Ave. Portland, MI 48875.

**The Spring Garage Sale** will be held May 3 -4- 5, 2023. Donations can be dropped off Wed May 03 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The sale will be Thurs May 04, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Fri May 05, 8:00 am to noon. We are not accepting any large furniture items or TVs. If you have items that need to be picked up call John Vallier 517-647-6409 or Gary Fedewa 517-927-0798.

## **Patriotic (4<sup>th</sup>) Degree**

Are you ready to complete your journey towards full Knighthood? The Spring Exemplification will be held at St Gerard's Parish in Lansing April 29, 2023. Give Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956) a call for more information.

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## **Building Corporation Raffle**

We really appreciate the help of all the tickets sellers and buyers. The funds raised from this raffle help to support the upkeep of the hall. Contact Tom Klein if you have any questions.

<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>\$100</u></b>	<b><u>\$75</u></b>	<b><u>\$50</u></b>
<b>January</b>	John Vallier/Jeremy Zbystowski	Dick Manning	Neil Miros
<b>February</b>	Mike Coyne	Bruce Bennett	Mike Simon
<b>March</b>	Jim Fedewa	Bob Pline	Gert Bennett

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## Upcoming Events

*Save this page for future reference*

Any changes to the events below will be announced  
in the St. Patrick Parish bulletin, time permitting.

Grand Knight  
SK Jacob Lowe  
[gk2168@mikofc.org](mailto:gk2168@mikofc.org)  
517-648-3003

**Eucharistic Adoration is held every Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Please consider finding the time to spend some quiet time with our Lord.**

### April 2023

Monday	4/3	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday	4/11	Blood Drive	11:30 AM
Monday	4/17	Social Meeting	7:00 PM

### May 2022

Monday	5/1	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Wednesday	5/3	K of C Garage Sale Drop-off/Setup	
Thursday	5/4	K of C Garage Sale	8:00-5:00 PM
Friday	5/5	K of C Garage Sale	8:00-12 PM
Sunday	5/15	Social Meeting	7:00 PM
Wed-Fri	5/24-26	State Convention	

### June 2022

Monday	6/5	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday	6/13	Blood Drive	11:30 AM
Monday	6/19	Social Meeting	7:00 PM
Wednesday	6/21	Letter Stuffing	6:00 PM

Knights Hall, 690 Maynard Road, Portland			District #301	
Hall Rental	Jude Kramer	517-647-2274	District Deputy	SK Donald Gunderman Portland Council #2168
Building Corporation	(Francis) John Vallier	517-647-6409	Lake Odessa Council #14404	SK Joseph Hickey
			Pewamo Council #8071	GK Ron Simon
State Council of Michigan MIKofC.org			Portland Council #2168	SK Jacob Lowe
Worthy State Deputy	Christopher Kolomjec		Saranac Council #11113	GK Mike Lamphere