

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
East Lansing Council 7816

Minutes for June 12, 2018 General Meeting
6:30 PM

Opened meeting by praying The Lord's Prayer, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and singing both verses of The Opening Ode.

Eighteen members were present when the meeting was called to order by Grand Knight Mark Meyer. Warden Russ Martin confirmed all in attendance were in possession of their membership cards. Roll call of officers was taken by Recorder Patrick Daniels, confirmed by Inside Guard Mike Wooley. Chancellor Larry Meyer (who joined us later in the evening), One-Year Trustee Charles Graff, and Two-Year Trustee Art Weber were absent and excused.

May minutes were forwarded to Advocate John Ingraham shortly before this tonight's meeting. April minutes have been forwarded to the Recorder by Deputy Grand Knight, but have yet to be reviewed.

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

- Admissions/applications update:
 - One transfer coming in, John Dobrowolski.
- State Convention was two weeks ago, May 24 through May 26.
 - There were two positions to fill at the convention this year, State Warden and State Advocate. Five ballots were cast, two for warden and three for advocate.
 - Barry Borsenik is the new State Warden.
 - Charles McCuen is the new State Advocate.
 - William Chasse will be the new State Deputy as of July 1, replacing Kenneth Unterbrink.
 - Bishop Earl Boyea spoke at Friday's caucus meeting about the need for vocations.
- Miguel Colunga sent the Knights a postcard, thanking us for our support.
 - We donated to Brother Colunga's Desert Formation Experience, a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, last month.
- Big "thank you" to all who everyone who came out for "Demo Day" at St. Thomas.
 - We were asked to serve a hamburger/hot dog lunch to STA students during the demolition of the old convent. Brother Myers said it was short notice and very busy, but everything seemed to go all right. Grand Knight stated that there were no complaints and lots of "thank you"s.
- Pregnancy Services Baby Bottle Blessings ends Sunday, June 17 (Father's Day).
 - Pregnancy Services has asked the Knights to aid with collecting the bottles after Mass.
- Parish Picnic will be at Patriarche Park on Sunday, July 22.
 - Brother Adamo is coordinating the picnic again. We expect to have the same fare as past years; hamburgers, chips, cookies, etc.

OLD BUSINESS / UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Renaming the council for Fr. Mac...

We've discussed remaining the council to honor Rev. Msgr. Jerome V. MacEachin since October of last year. Grand Knight Mark Meyer presented the official proposal to rename the council for Fr. Mac tonight. The proposal will be entered in the minutes in its entirety.

First reading of the resolution:

RESOLUTION TO RENAME EAST LANSING COUNCIL #7816 IN HONOR OF THE REV. MONSIGNOR JEROME MacEACHIN

WHEREAS, Fr. Jerome MacEachin was appointed to St. Thomas Aquinas in May 1943 after a fatal heart felled the Rev. Cecil Winters. Fr. Mac, as he was fondly known, saw the need to expand the parish. In 1948 property was purchased on Alton Road. A school was opened in September 1949 with 95 students in six grades. Fr. Mac oversaw the building of a convent, school additions including a gym that served as the temporary church, the present church and the rectory; and

WHEREAS, Fr. Mac's effort at St Thomas Aquinas and beyond can be described as both prayerful and tireless. He continued to serve as Diocesan Superintendent of Parochial Schools through July 1954 when he assumed the role as chair of the Elementary Division of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA). While diocesan school superintendent, Fr. Mac led the development of the diocesan school curriculum, created a common report card for grading, and spent hundreds of hours traveling thousands of miles throughout the country promoting and helping Catholic dioceses and parishes create Home School Councils; and

WHEREAS, Fr. Mac served as a chaplain of the Newman Center at Michigan State College and as Instructor in Religion teaching thousands of students in hundreds of accredited classes in Theology, Liturgy, Philosophy and History; averaging nearly 400 students annually. There are some fond memories of Michigan State students being told by Fr. Mac that he had enrolled them in his class, while other students recall being told by their parents that Fr. Mac had signed them up. He also served as the chaplain for Coach Duffy Daugherty and his Spartan football teams. It was during that time on Aug. 8, 1954, that Pope Pius XII elevated Fr. Mac to the Papal Household as a Domestic Prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor; and

WHEREAS, With the blessings of Bishop Albers, Fr. Mac and his assistant, Fr. Robert Kavanaugh, traveled thousands of miles throughout Michigan with student and alumni leaders meeting parents, alumni, and student groups to raise the funds for what would become St. John Church and Catholic Student Center. The opening and dedication of the church and Catholic student center took place on Jan. 12, 1958, with Fr. Kavanaugh serving as its pastor; and

WHEREAS, Fr. Mac was able to focus on an answer to another prayer, one that was his favorite - the building of St Thomas Aquinas Church on his other campus -- Alton Road. Fr. Mac continued his untiring efforts with the planning, fundraising, and construction our current church its attached rectory (now parish offices). Ground was broken in 1966 and the church was completed in 1968; and

WHEREAS, previous efforts to name the council after Fr. Mac were either voted down or rejected by Supreme (because you cannot name a council after a living person), this resolution seeks to

carry out the wishes of a majority of its charter members, including its first Grand Knight, Brother John Hensel; and

WHEREAS, this resolution proposes that both East Lansing and #7816 remain part of the council's name, and thus the council would become known as Rev. Monsignor Jerome V. MacEachin East Lansing Council #7816.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution be published to all council members; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that at the next business meeting, on Tuesday July 12 **[July 10]**, 2018, a vote be taken by members of Knights of Columbus East Lansing Council #7816 to approve the renaming of its council to include the name of the Rev. Monsignor Jerome V. MacEachin; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to the State Deputy for his consideration; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, upon approval by the State Deputy, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

PRESENTED IN THE BISHOP BARAGA ROOM (COUNCIL CHAMBERS) THIS 12TH DAY OF JUNE 2018 IN EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN.

Brother Leo Christel questioned the need to notify the State Deputy of the resolution. Grand Knight stated that, even if it isn't an "official" step in the process, the matter does need to be forwarded to Supreme and looping in the State Council is still a good practice and, if nothing else, a gesture of goodwill. Brother Daniels confirmed that notifying the State Deputy is part of the guidelines provided by the Office of the Supreme Advocate.

Brother Christel again inquired about the poll/ballot discussed at the October officer's meeting and requested that Bishop James Sullivan be considered. Grand Knight stated a poll was not sent as the original motion was to simply vote "yes" or "no" on naming the council for Fr. Mac.

Brother Lacroix stated that we need to publish the resolution, then put the proposal and both letters, Brother Gardener's letter in support and Brother Christel's letter in opposition, out to the council. Brother Stevens inquired about mailing the proposal in addition to sending it via email. Brother Swords requested we wait to vote until the proposal to name the council for Bishop Sullivan is complete, then put both proposals out to membership.

Brother Schwend asked if it was possible to suspend all motions on the matter until the first proposal has been resolved. Brother Ingraham said that would be against procedure, but we could choose to wait until we have both proposals before initiating a vote. Brother Lacroix said that would not follow proper protocol, as this resolution has been presented to the council and a vote should follow next month. So, then, next month we have the vote on naming the council for Fr. Mac. If the proposal to name the council for Bishop Sullivan is presented in July, then a vote would not be held until August.

Brother Frank Goeddeke wished to address those present and was granted the floor. He reminded everyone that without Fr. Mac, there's a fair chance we wouldn't be here. Grand Knight Mark Meyer

asked for clarification. Brother Goeddeke stated that, while Fr. Winters founded St. Thomas, Fr. Mac built the community. Grand Knight asked Brother Goeddeke if he knew of any issues between Fr. Mac and the Knights of Columbus. Brother Goeddeke stated that he was unaware of any problems, any issues.

Grand Knight Mark Meyer asked Brother Leo Christel is he would be satisfied if council records were searched, specifically looking for notes suggesting that there were issues between Fr. Mac and the Knights of Columbus. Brother Christel accepted - but said that a proposal to name the council for Bishop Sullivan may yet be forthcoming.

Officer nominations...

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Paul Lacroix for Grand Knight. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Martin seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Scott Jakovac for Deputy Grand Knight. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Martin seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Larry Meyer for Chancellor. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Martin seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Russell Martin for Warden. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Myers and Brother Wooley seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Patrick Daniels for Recorder. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Myers and Brother Wooley seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother John Anton for Treasurer. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Martin seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother John Ingraham for Advocate. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Gadola seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Mike Wooley for Inside Guard. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Centofanti seconded. All present in favor.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of Brother Paul Stevens for Outside Guard. Grand Knight asked for additional nominations. Brother Lacroix (incoming Grand Knight) nominated Luke Gray. Brother Martin seconded. Ballots were prepared for Outside Guard and collected by our Warden, Brother Martin. Brother Martin confirmed that Brother Gray received the majority of the votes and will be our new Outside Guard. Brother Gadola motioned to destroy the ballots. Brother Lacroix and Brother Wooley seconded.

Grand Knight confirmed nomination of himself, current Grand Knight Mark Meyer, for Three-Year Trustee. Grand Knight asked three times for additional nominations and, not receiving any, moved to close nominations and that we cast unanimous ballot. Brother Christel seconded. All present in favor.

OTHER REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

- Brother Anton first wished to thank Grand Knight Mark Meyer for his service the past three years; he's the longest-serving Grand Knight in this council (since 1981).
- Limited collection since the last meeting; \$411.50 from dues and assessments.
 - Brother Anton noted that we've collected more in assessments than actual dues. We're running about \$16.00 in income per member and, while dues are \$25, the average amount is less due to legacies and members who are not currently in good standing.
 - Net income of \$411.50 to the operating account with expenses of \$1,874.95; net of - \$1,463.45
 - There is a \$122.00 NSF fee on a bounced check that he is trying to have reversed.
 - We've given about \$9,000.00 to charities this year. While that's a good number, we've only donated about 23% of what we took in. He suggested we need to be around 80% - 85% and need to look at increasing that percentage.
 - Brother Daniels agreed, stating that the Better Business Bureau says charitable commitments of a charity/nonprofit should be no lower than 65%.

Financial Secretary's Report

- Brother Myers stated that there are 21 members who have yet to pay their dues - 4 of whom he simply cannot find. Brother Bertsch has aided with outreach and, of the four he has contacted, one is expected to send in his dues.

Trustees' Report(s)

- Three-Year Trustee, Brother Gadola, had nothing to report.
- Two-Year Trustee, Brother Weber, was absent and excused.
- One-Year Trustee, Brother Graff, was absent and excused.

Chancellor's Report

- Brother Meyer had nothing to report.

Advocate's Report

- Brother Ingraham had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

MSU ticket scanning...

Our next major volunteer / fundraising opportunity is coming up. The Knights of Columbus will be scanning tickets at home football games for Michigan State University. Brother Ed Kupec is spearheading this effort (again).

Brother Kupec has spoken with MSU and confirmed that we can add volunteers as they become available - but will need five days' notice, minimum. We will have an announcement in the bulletin that anyone from the parish who wishes to participate is welcome to do so.

Brother Lacroix asked about involving St. Thomas students or the Boy Scouts - and possibly sharing or donating funds to the groups. He also suggested we involve Brother Josh Hamilton and Youth Ministry. We could also look to other contacts at the Student Center and the Young Professionals group. Grand Knight said that would be great, but volunteers must be 18; perhaps we could reach out to parents.

Grand Knight Mark Meyer reminded everyone present that the council receives \$50.00 per head per game and this is a terrific fundraiser for us. He also recognized Deputy Grand Knight Dante Centofanti, who has volunteered for all of the past 21 games we've worked (has not missed a game). Grand Knight also thanked Brother Kupec for all of his hard work organizing this.

Brother Gray asked about sharing this with Alpha Phi Omega. Brother Schwend also asked about sharing this as a service opportunity. Brother Kupec said that would be great, but, again, he needs five days' notice.

Reimbursement for attending State Convention...

Worthy Advocate John Ingraham asked to present two prepared motions relating to the State Convention. Deputy Grand Knight Dante Centofanto was unable to attend and, as an alternate, Brother Ingraham attended in his stead.

Motion 1:

I would like to make a motion that the council amend future budgets to set aside \$2,150 [**\$2,250**] to cover expenses of two delegates and the council chaplain in order to attend the annual Michigan Knights of Columbus state convention at Mackinac Island.

Motion 2:

I would like to make a motion that the council retroactive to 2018 cover all reasonable delegate and chaplain expenses in order to attend the annual Michigan Knights of Columbus state convention at Mackinac Island. This will include two nights lodging; round-trip ferry to the island and overnight parking for personal vehicle; \$40 convention registration; and a mileage fee of \$142 from East Lansing to Mackinaw City. (The State Council mileage rate is 31 cents per mile; it is 229 miles from Council #7816 to the Mackinac Bridge. Taking a total of 458 miles x .31 = \$142.)

The treasurer shall be instructed to issue a check in the amount of \$750 to each delegate at the meeting prior to the convention. Any additional funds needed or refunds due will be issues at the membership meeting in June.

Any additional funds required in excess of the previously budgeted amount will be taken from any other budgeted category as deemed appropriate by the Trustees.

Brother Lacroix asked why the amount to be set aside was now \$2,150.00 rather than \$1,500. Brother Ingraham clarified that the additional amount (\$750.00) was added to cover the chaplain, should he choose to attend (meaning we would be sending three delegates, rather than two), or cover any other reasonable expenses.

Brother Gray questioned the new amount as we currently set aside \$1,500.00 to reimburse travel expenses; an additional \$750.00 would bring the total to \$2,250.00. Brother Ingraham acknowledged the typo. Brother Daniels said that it would be noted in the minutes and reproduction of the motions.

Brother Ingraham confirmed that this this would, instead of a reimbursement, be a per diem granted prior to the convention. Grand Knight agreed that this would aid with some of the aforementioned expenses (mileage, ferry to the island, lodging, and registration) and prevent financial burden on someone attending on behalf of the council. Chancellor Larry Meyer asked that charges would be accounted for via receipts to verify that the charges were reasonable expenses and determine whether or not an amount is to be returned. Brother Ingraham agreed.

Brother Lacroix asked that the matter be tabled until the next officers' meeting as the amount surpasses the \$300.00 threshold. Grand Knight agreed, but, as \$1,500.00 was already budgeted, the additional amount to be paid this year is less than \$300.00 and, as such, we can at least move forward with the motion.

Treasurer John Anton asked Recorder Patrick Daniels for clarification on the motion in its entirety. Brother Daniels compressed Motion 1, adding \$750.00 to our budget for the State Convention should our chaplain decide to attend. Brother Daniels summarized Motion 2, the motion to make Motion 1 retroactive to 2018 and noted that the total amount spent between three Knights was just over \$1,600.00 - but said he missed the breakdown of all charges. Brother Ingraham confirmed he incurred \$452.28 out-of-pocket and that Brother Centofanti incurred \$150.00 (as he initially reserved the rooms). Grand Knight confirmed that his expenses were about \$1,000.00. Brother Anton said that this would bring the total to about \$1,602.28 (and the additional amount past the budgeted \$1,500.00 was about \$102.28, less than the \$300.00 threshold).

In light of further discussion, Brother Goeddeke asked for a vote (seconding the motions read by Brother Ingraham). All present were in favor.

2018 Knights Family Night for Vocations at Cooley Law Stadium

Brother Lacroix said that he would like to purchase a block of tickets ahead of time and sell them to the parish. This way parishioners don't have to deal with the ticket office and we're able to keep everyone relatively close together at the game; not to mention that it's much easier to sell to people as they're walking out the door, rather than expecting them to follow up after the fact.

Brother Schwend asked whether or not other parishes in the area do this. Brother Lacroix said that they do. Brother Myer added that his former council bought 50 tickets and simply gave tickets to deacons and

elders. Brother Lacroix said that we can discuss the matter at the next officers' meeting and put the word out to gauge interest.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Prayers were requested for: Pope Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; Bishop Earl Boyea and Bishop Emeritus Carl Mengeling; Fr. Jake Foglio; Past Recording Secretary John Molloy; Anne Graff, wife of PGK Chuck Graff; Debbie Engan, sister of PGK Graff; Tammy Pruitt, niece of PGK Graff; Brother Mike Wooley; Pauline Wooley, mother of Brother Mike Wooley; Phyllis Izdebski, mother-in-law of Brother Mike Wooley; Jim Wooley, brother of Brother Mike Wooley; Brother William Derengoski; Brother Paul Miller; Brother Gary Hauser; Shirlean Hauser, wife of Brother Gary Hauser; Brother Leo Christel; Mary Lou Christel, wife of Leo Christel; and Brother John Ingraham. Also, all men and women serving in the U.S. Forces and members of the Rosary-Altar Society and St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Nineteen members present when the meeting was closed. Closed by offering a prayer for vocations and the Hail Mary. The Closing Ode was sung. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 7:30 PM in the Bishop Baraga Room.

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WHEREAS, Fr. Mac's effort at St Thomas Aquinas and beyond can be described as both prayerful and tireless. He continued to serve as Diocesan Superintendent of Parochial Schools through July 1954 when he assumed the role as chair of the Elementary Division of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA). While diocesan school superintendent, Fr. Mac led the development of the diocesan school curriculum, created a common report card for grading, and spent hundreds of hours traveling thousands of miles throughout the country promoting and helping Catholic dioceses and parishes create Home School Councils; and

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