

John Tatham Knightly News



JOHN TATHAM ASSEMBLY 648

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chartered January 15, 1922 † Burlington County New Jersey

<https://www.johntathamassembly648.org/>

www.kofc.org

2022-2023 Fraternal Year, Issue 6

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2023

Dedicated to Patriotism and faithful support of our Seminarians

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR'S MESSAGE

Ron Cary, Faithful Navigator

Brother Sir Knights,

Even though we had a mild winter this year, it's always good to have those first few warm days and to see the first signs of life reemerging in our yards, trees, and flower beds. It's great to see how God's plan for nature shows us that light and new life come from the darkness of winter. I hope that you and your families will enjoy the good weather and time in the outdoors that is just around the corner.

Our Assembly has gotten off to a great start in 2023. Our **business meetings** in January and February had the best attendance we have had in a long time. Our SJN home is still under construction so, we will be returning to Marco's Indian Spring Golf Club for our April 12th, May 10th and June 14th business meetings.

I was so proud to represent the assembly as Faithful Navigator at the **Seminarian Dinner** on March 8th. As I said on that night, our Seminarian Dinner of 2020 was the last in-person meeting we were to have for a long time as COVID took its best shot at us. Well, COVID has been tamed and we are back strong as ever! Due to the success of last year's Travel raffle sale and Golf Tournament, our Assembly agreed in February that we had enough funds available to make a nice donation to our seminarians. After that, we received an additional generous donation from a fellow Sir Knight and his Lady with the stipulation that it be added to the amounts we were already planning to give our seminarians. Together, we were able to hand out checks for \$3,000 to each of our 12 seminarians.

I am excited to report that an **additional five candidates are preparing to join our assembly** at the winter exemplification on Sunday, March 26th. We expect there will be a spring exemplification in May so, start getting your candidates ready. See our Faithful Admiral Bill Hahn for requirements.

Look for flyers soon on our **Past Faithful Navigator and Spouses Appreciation Dinner**. It will be on Saturday, April 29th at the Medford Lakes Country Club. Another great venue for dinner, social time together and dancing. Let's come out and honor PFN Bill Hahn and our wonderful Ladies who do so much to support the work we do for our charitable causes.

Finally, our **Charity Ball** returns to its traditional month of June. We will gather back at the Tavistock Country Club on Friday, June 16th. Look for more information coming soon.

Vivat Jesus

Ron Cary, Faithful Navigator

Minutes of Meeting as Recorded February 8th, 2023

By SK Javier Vasquez, Faithful Scribe

Opening: Faithful Navigator

The regular Business meeting of the John Tatham Assembly was called to order at 8:31 PM by Faithful Navigator SK Ron Cary.

Roll Call of Officers: All Officers were present except Max Ferrante, Rick Cerwonka, and Joe Daverso, who were excused. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the January 2022 meeting was approved as published. The minutes were distributed to members as part of the newsletter.

Correspondence and Bills: A Letter from the Mission of Honor thanking the assembly for their generous donation of \$300 to help locating, identifying and interring remains of American veterans.

Faithful Comptroller: SK George Tower – The Assembly remains in good standings with Supreme. Dues collection progressing well: 210 members already paid up to today; \$7345 in dues collected. There are 435 current members, 4 honorary members and 92 honorary life members. SK Francis Wagner passed away in 2019 but we were not informed because he moved out of the area.

Faithful Purser: SK Tony Canuso – January 1 to January 31, 2023: General Fund available Balance \$23,417.64, Charity Ball Fund available Balance \$31,753.19, Charity Ball MM Fund available Balance \$2,047.61, Chalice Fund available Balance \$13,464.94 and JFK Fund available Balance is \$2,066.76.

Faithful Navigator: SK Ron Cary – Our Worthy Faithful Navigator welcomed and thanked our continuing flexibility in meeting back in Marcos while our home at SJN is still under construction. We have had over 30 members attending the last 2 meetings (33 this meeting and 34 last meeting). Our weather has not been too harsh here especially when you think about the weather extremes in other parts of our country. While he was thinking about natural and man-made disasters, let's have a moment of prayerful silence for the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria and also for the civilian victims of the continuing war in Ukraine. Fr. Michael McGivney, may our prayers bring relief and peace to all in need of comfort.

We will be entering into a very busy time for our Assembly. Over the next couple of months, we will have our Seminarian dinner, Exemplification and PFN/Spouses' Appreciation dinner and we will be well underway with our sales and planning for the next Charity Ball. You will hear more about these events during the committee reports tonight. Remember, there is no regular business meeting in March. Instead, we will have our Seminarian Dinner on our regular 2nd Wednesday meeting night (March 8). You should have received your flyer and RSVP form last week. Please respond as soon as you can to our Faithful Captain John Howey as detailed on the flyer. On the form, he asked you to consider sponsoring one of our guests for this dinner (we have 5 sponsored guests so far). This will keep the cost reasonable for the Assembly and preserve funds for

the donations to the seminarians. He also encouraged any council of members to invite a brother knight to this dinner. We want to keep this a "Knights only" event, but it is a great opportunity for a brother 3rd degree member who may consider joining the 4th degree to come and enjoy some social time with us and to see what we do. He is proud to be the Faithful Navigator of an active and productive assembly. Let's keep the momentum going in 2023.

Report of Committees SK John Howey: Patrons report for February 8, 2023 at Marco's in Marlton NJ: \$660 paid for 33 dinners and \$80 from the 50/50 won by Joseph Berger for a total income of \$740.

Exemplification Report SK Bill Hahn: – The next Exemplification is scheduled for March 26 at the Co-Cathedral St Robert Bellarmine in Freehold NJ. Candidates sign in at 2:01 pm in Freehold and Exemplification begins at 3:03pm. March 16 is the deadline for form 4's. At our seminarian dinner we will be having a short meeting to read and vote on candidates. Application fee is \$70 which includes the dinner. Guests pay \$55 for the dinner.

Fraternity Chairman: SK Jim Kukura – Passing of: SK William Myers (65 years old and passed away in August 2022) and SK Francis Wagner (88 years old and joined the Knights in December 1992; died in 2019). Both were members of the Joint military base council 10994. Jim discussed that when we say poor so and so when we refer to a loved one who passed away, poor us not them. Jim said that we are all supposed to be devoted to the rosary. He discussed the Hail Holy Queen prayer that follows the rosary as it relates to the passing of brothers.

Vocation and Charity Ball: SK Lou Spadaccino – 12 seminarians to each get \$2000 (raised from the Charity Ball and the Golf Tournament) in one check. He signed the contract and made the \$300 deposit to Tavistock for our June 16 Charity Ball. Lou will be meeting with Tavistock to discuss the food prices. Ron will be coordinating the Raffle ticket sales and get the ticket sales captains at the churches lined up. We will be doing the Ad book and \$5000 vacation raffle. Harry Rocco will be soliciting ads for the Ad book. We have booked DJ Michael. The Charity Ball committee is Lou Spadaccino, Ron Cary, Butch Paramore, Jim Berg, Bill Hahn and Harry Rocco. We do not have an Honoree yet. We will be having our golf tournament.

Golf Outing SK Bill Cassian: October 2 is the date for our golf tournament at the Links. We hope to reach \$9500 this year if we get 72 golfers. Bill secured a \$500 sponsorship and 4 foursomes from council 6520. Bill sent out second notices to the Grand Knights of our assembly asking for sponsorship and a foursome. A \$1000 sponsorship gets 4 golfers for free. A \$500 sponsorship gets 2 golfers. Bill asked for sponsorship from businesses.

Color Corps Report: SK Jim Bonn – State of the Color Corp is strong.

Upcoming callout events include:

- February 18 Master's meeting and Sword Certification training. Bring Beret, service baldric, gloves and sword.

- Sunday, March 26 for the Exemplification. 1pm callout for the Color Corp.
- SK Kevin O'Neal and SK Paul Washenko have joined our Color Corp.
- There is a new service baldric for color corp commander and PFN's. (regular member service baldric and social baldric does not change)

Reading of Applications: One Application: Francis McCormick, a transfer from Assembly 3587 in Barnegat NJ and sponsored by George Towers. His application was read and approved.

Old Business: None

New Business: Jim mentioned that Ed Mickalak will be nominated as State warden this May (a ten year commitment); Ed would need our financial support (Ed does not know how much he will need). Jim Kukura made a motion on the floor to donate \$250 for the Wounded Warriors Project. This motion was passed. Ron Cary donated \$100 to Max Ferrante for the Polar Bear Plunge and \$300 donation to the Ukrainian cause. Lou Spadaccino made a motion on the floor to donate \$2000 to each seminarian (total \$24000). This motion was voted and passed. Jim Bonn mentioned the upcoming Former Master's Appreciation dinner on Saturday February 26th at a country club in Princeton Junction from 4-8pm (\$65 per person or \$120 per couple). He read the names of the previous State Masters.

Good of the Order: DD Bruce Sirak, SK Steve Lecony, SK Dwayne Schimdt, SK Glen Derricot and his wife, SK Tony Teso's daughter-in-law and grandson Aaron. SK Flordeliza thanked the Assembly for its prayers.

Closing Prayer: Our Father, Hail Mary and the Glory Be to the Father.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:28PM

Minutes of Special Meeting as Recorded March 8th, 2023

By SK Javier Vasquez, Faithful Scribe

Opening: Faithful Navigator

A brief Business meeting of the John Tatham Assembly was called to order during the seminarian dinner by Faithful Navigator SK Ron Cary.

Exemplification Report SK Bill Hahn: – Bill mentioned the following new candidate applications for the Fourth Degree: Jose Bernardino from council 6530, Jim Dougherty from council 6530, David A Koch from council 6520, Gregory Gullo from council 6520. Bill also mentioned a transfer from another assembly named Lawrence Purcell from council 7755. All were voted on and approved.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned.

Meeting and Event schedule for the rest of 2022-23:

- **Regular Business Meetings** – 2nd Wednesday of the month. Social hour @ 6:30 PM, Dinner @ 7:30 PM and Business meeting @ 8:30 PM. Marco's at Indian Springs in Marlton for the months of April, May & June.
- **Exemplification** – March 26th at Co-Cathedral in Freehold, NJ. Then, one more this fraternal year.
- **Past Faithful Navigator and Spouses' Appreciation Dinner** – Saturday, April 29th. Medford Lakes Country Club. Watch for the dinner flyer.
- **Charity Ball 2023** – Friday, June 16th. Tavistock Country Club.

Patriotism corner:

Patriotism is one nation under God:

Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof - Leviticus 25:10 – inscribed on the Liberty Bell

The Declaration of Independence is the official and unequivocal affirmation by the American people of their belief and faith in God. It affirms God's existence as a "self-evident" truth that requires no further discussion or debate. The nation created by the great Declaration is God's country. The rights it defines are God given. The actions of its signers are God inspired. The Declaration contains five references to God – God as supreme Lawmaker, God as Creator of all men, God as the Source of all rights, God as the world's supreme Judge, and God as our Protector on whom we can all rely.

From *Knights to Christ*, a daily meditation program compiled by the Colorado State Council, Knights of Columbus.