



# THE PATRIOT



Fourth Degree

Ph. (217) 422-2624

## Very Reverend Jeremiah J. Murphy Assembly 211 NEWSLETTER

December, 2007

Eugene Meyer  
Faithful Navigator

**Merry Christmas**

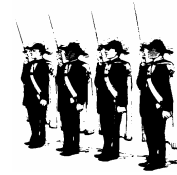


At no other time of the year do we, as a people, celebrate our roots more than we do at Christmas. Christmas has been celebrated for centuries throughout the world and a myriad of these lovely customs come together in particular in our country due to the diversity of our people. We are richly blessed because of this diversity. Many of the traditions come out of ancient pagan rituals, while others are a celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior. Below are just a sampling of some of the cherished traditions and customs we celebrate:

The custom of candles in the window comes to us from Austria, where they symbolize the eternal light God gave man in the Christ Child. In Bulgaria a strict two-week fast is broken with the appearance of the first star on Christmas Eve. A large round cake called the "Kravia" is then enjoyed. Santa is called "Grandpa Koleda". They also sprinkle the father with corn to bring forth health and a plentiful crop. French Canada carries their celebration through till January 6, the feast of Epiphany. A lovely custom which comes to us from Czechoslovakia celebrates the end of quarrels and the beginning of a new year among friends. In Denmark the children leave "Jul-Nissi", the benevolent little man in the attic, porridge and milk. England brings us the Yule Log and caroling. In Finland they take the traditional sauna. They also decorate the ceilings of their homes with straw and stars. The Christmas season in France commences on December 6<sup>th</sup>, the feast of St. Barbara. The Creche is placed in the living room and after midnight mass a fine meal of oysters, wines and sausages is enjoyed. Gifts are gathered for the poor and presented to them at the church. Germany has contributed "Silent Night", Kris Kringle, carved wooden toys and "Tannenbaum", the Christmas tree. In Italy the feast of the Immaculate Conception eclipses the Christmas festival. The precipio, as it is called, depicts the manger scene. Their Santa is the beneficent old witch "Befana". In Sweden the Christmas season starts on December 13<sup>th</sup>, the feast of St. Lucia. A girl dressed in white, with a crown of pine boughs haloed with the light of seven candles, awakens the family with a tray of coffee and cakes. In Poland one chair at the table is left vacant for the Holy Child. A peace wafer obtained from the priest is broken by the father and shared with the family and guests. A puppet show called the "Schopka" re-enacts the murder of the Holy Innocents by Herod and those who have led pure and blameless lives can see the vision of Jacob's Ladder in the heavens on Christmas Eve. Last, but not least, the Irish celebrate with candles in every window and the doors left ajar to welcome the holy family. The candles can only be extinguished the next morning by a person named Mary. A cup and saucer is placed on the table for the wandering souls of Purgatory, who are believed to come home for Christmas.

Be sure to mark your calendars for **December 19, 2007** for the annual Christmas Potluck dinner at the club. Meeting is at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00. Hope to see you there.

**Christmas Parade:  
November 17, 2007**



Commander	Leon Vemmer
F.N.	Eugene Meyers
P.F.N.	Jack Dougherty
P.F.N.	Lyle Tappendorf
P.F.N.	John Merli
P.F.N.	Jim Zindel
F.P.	Tim Gore
S.K.	Julius Sebok
S.K.	Gary Smith
S.K.	John Eckert
S.K.	Jim Gould
S.K.	Jim Dougherty
S.K.	Dan Ashenfelter



*Thanks for a great turnout:*


**Christmas Dinner 2007:**

Wednesday December 19, 2007 Fourth Degree meeting at **6:00 PM** and Christmas Dinner at **7:00 PM**.

Christmas Dinner will be catered this year for \$10.00 a person. Menu is Baked Ham, Honey Glazed Chicken, Cheesy Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans, Seven Layer Salad, Rolls & Butter, Cherry & Apple Cobbler, Coffee and Tea. Please Don Klinker or sign the sign up sheet by **DECEMBER 10, 2007**.

Eugene Meyer  
Faithful Navigator

# Upcoming Events

- Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 2007 4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting 6:00 PM.  
Christmas (potluck) dinner to follow at 7:00 PM.
- Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> 2008 Officer's meeting 6:00 PM.  
4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting 7:00 PM.
- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2007 Officers meeting 6:00 PM.  
4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting 7:00 PM.
- Mar. 17<sup>th</sup> 2007 St. Patrick Parade 10:30 a.m.  
Meet at KC Club 9:30 a.m.  
Full  Regalia
- Mar. 21<sup>st</sup> 2007 Officers meeting 6:00 PM.  
4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting 7:00 PM.  
Appoint slating committee.
- Apr. 18<sup>th</sup> 2007 Officers meeting 6:00 PM.  
4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting 7:00 PM.  
Slating committee report.
- May 16<sup>th</sup> 2007 Officers meeting 6:00 PM.  
4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting 7:00 PM.  
Election of officers.

# Family Mass Schedule



- Jan. 26, 2008 - St. Patrick's - Decatur  
Mass @ 5:30 PM.  
Steak Night - KC Club
- Feb.23, 2008 - St. Thomas- Decatur  
Mass @ **4:30 PM.**  
Dinner - **TBA**
- Mar. 22, 2008 - St. James- Decatur  
Mass @ 4:00 PM.  
Dinner - Pastabillities
- April 19, 2008 -Immaculate Conception Shelbyville, IL,  
Mass @ 4:00 PM  
Dinner - Bennigan's at Mt. Zion

# Sir Knights of the Month



Sir Knight John McCoy PFN is our selection for Sir Knight of the month. John has been a Third Degree Knight since 3/15/1970 and Four Degree since 6/1/1993. John attendance at meeting, honor guards is honorable and deeply appreciated. John was also chairman of the committee for Farm Progress show and Fourth Degree Exemplification.

*We honor and salute you.  
Distinguished Sir Knight:  
John "Jack" McCoy*

# Please Pray for the Sick:



Joe Adams	James Brown
Joe Meyers	John Troia
Joe Sepich	Lloyd Hanstedt
Hiram Petersen	Armand Tosetti
Lee Cook	

# Celebrating Birthdays December 2007:

1. David L. Bowman
1. Larry L. Clark
1. James F. Dougherty
1. William Williams
2. Donald Klinker
5. Rev. Carlos Bohorquez
11. Dan Ashenfelter
14. George J. Klein
14. Gregory Sullivan
15. Philip Rudd
23. James M. Gold
28. Fred Lohrstorfer

Many, many birthday wishes to all Sir Knights celebrating this month.

# In Symathy



Lord grant eternal rest to the soul of  
Sir Knight Robert E. Midden  
May 23, 1924 to November 8, 2007

The following Sir Knights served in visitation and acted as Pall Beares for Sir Knight Robert Midden on November 10, 2007.

Leon Vemmer	Commander
Charles Bell	Past Faithful Navigator
Lyle Tappendorf	Past Faithful Navigator
John Eckert	Sir Knight
Tim Gore	Sir Knight
Dan Ashenfelter	Sir Knight
Jim Dougherty	Sir Knight

A formal white glove Fourth Degree burial was presented in Sir Knight Robert Midden 'sHonor.

*Anger is the only thing to put off till tomorrow.*

## KC Breakfast



Knights of Columbus family  
Breakfast **December 9, 2007**  
Serving starts at 8:00 AM

**Chapeaux Off :**



The following couple has recently celebrated their  
Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary on November 24, 2007:

*John and Connie Disney*

FN Eugene Meyer will present the couple a Celebration Certificate from the Supreme Knight.

# E-MAIL

We have 170 members in our assembly. Sixty eight Receive their newsletter in color by E-Mail. We need reduce expense of postage and time. Please submit your E-Mail Address to receive your newsletter by e-mail to:

[bill.hight@verizon.net](mailto:bill.hight@verizon.net)

Your e-mail address will be kept a secret and will not be given out to anyone.

*We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust the sails.*

## Make a New Year's Resolution:



Please fill out or update your Chalice cards and turn them in ASAP.

## Advent 2007:



Advent, which comes from the Latin word for "arrival," is a period of preparation for the birth of our LORD. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and is the start of the Christmas season, which lasts through the Baptism of OUR LORD. The first Sunday of Advent also Marks the beginning of the liturgical year, the Church's "New Year's Day," at which time we change the cycle of readings we are using at Mass.

# **CHRISTMAS PARADE NOVEMBER 17, 2007**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**