

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,

Big Job for Knight Hands

Knight hands undertook a huge project when we decided to replace the siding on the home of Jesse Ann Nobles located in Cedar Hill. Initially it was the siding on only one gable end of the home that we thought needed to be replaced; but upon further inspection we decided that both gable ends had to be replaced. By the way, the gable ends of this home were about 40 feet long. The original hardboard siding was rotten from top to bottom and the only solution was to tear off the old and rotten hardboard siding and replace it with new "Smart Siding". The fascia was also rotten and had to be removed and replaced with new "Smart Siding" trim as well.



Undaunted by the size of this project, Larry Balagna, Mike Fitzgerald, Ray Rivera, Jim Russell, Jack Ramsden, Art Rodriguez, and I got to work at 7:30am on June 7th and stayed at it until the job was finished about 4:30 in the afternoon.



The most difficult part and time consuming part of the job was removing the old hardboard siding. It was so rotten it came off in very small pieces



But as with all jobs we eventually got the old stuff removed and the new siding installed. At the same time new fascia was also installed. I should mention that the scaffolds we borrowed from Mike Rumsey were most handy; and, for sure, the nail gun we borrowed from Jorge Ruiz cut down on installation time.

While all this was going on Art Rodriguez and I cut all the pieces to fit and kept the area cleaned of all debris. Ray Rivera made a couple supply trips and bought pizza for the entire crew for lunch.

Of course, once all the siding and fascia had been replaced all the new surfaces had to be painted. Up stepped Jim Russell and Art Rodriguez

At the end everyone was tired; but no complaints were heard. We had a job to do and did it. Jesse Ann was very impressed and very happy. The home looks like new. Thanks guys for a job well done



About our Council

Council Monthly Meetings

General Meeting every 1st Tuesday 7:30pm
Officer's & Directors every 3rd Tuesday 7:30pm

Postal address and meeting location

1111 W Danieldale Rd. Room 221
Duncanville Tx, 75116 USA
972-298-4971

KC District 86 - Assembly 2799

The council Officers listed below were officially installed for their 1nd term in office on July 2, 2019. Their term runs through June 2020

Grand Knight	Tom Greco
Deputy Grand Knight	Jorge Ruiz
Chancellor	Allen Reitmeier
Recording Secretary	Mike Fitzgerald
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	Doug Maddox
Inside Guard	John Espree
Outside Guard	Jeff Traub
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Chaplin	Fr. Joe Lee
Trustees	Chris Kubin, 3-year Jim Richardson, 2-year Chris Edwards, 1-year

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Concessions	James Smith
Church Activities	James Smith
Community Activities	Dan Murphy
Family Activities	Jeff Miller
Health Activities	Lou Lemons
Pro-Like Activities	Mike Moloughney

Youth Activities
Knight Hands
Retention
Membership

Mike Moloughney
Allen Reitmeier
Jorge Ruiz
Open

Knights Life Newsletter

Our Newsletter is published quarterly at the end of the following months: March, June, September, and December. The Newsletter is delivered electronically to your email address and is posted on our website. If you would like to receive a paper copy, they will be available at the general meeting.

Newsletter Editor and Publisher Allen Reitmeier

Newsletter & Website Writers
Jeff Miller, Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz

Newsletter and Website Photographer
Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz,

Council Website

Website address	kofc8157.org
Website Editor	Jorge Ruiz
Website Admins	Jorge Ruiz

Email Communications

Emails are sent to our members on a regular basis. Make sure you add the email address below to your contact list so our emails do not go to you junk/span folder.

Email address: admin@kofc8157.org

Membership Rosters

A full membership roster is available in paper form to all Knights in good stand at the general meeting

Knight of the Month Apr 2019



**Eric
Conner**

Eric is second-generation Knight. He recalls the excitement of he and his brother staying in a hotel in Wichita

Falls on the weekend that their father, Nathaniel Rex Conner, was inducted into the Fourth Degree; his father was also a Deacon. Eric graduated from high school in Austin, earned a double-major degree in finance and marketing from Hardin Simmons University in Abilene while playing on the football team and added an MBA from Southwest Texas State in San Marcos. He joined the KC's in March 2009 while briefly living in Corpus Christi and also took his major degrees there that June. Eric previously lived in north Texas and returned shortly thereafter. He's now living in Duncanville and, following a career in the mortgage industry, is a district manager for a logistics company. Eric has a 28-year-old daughter, Alexia, and a 10-year-old granddaughter, Serenity, who live in Las Vegas. He's a member of our concessions committee, has long been active at our Valley Ridge stands and this year took on the added role of doing our concessions scheduling.

Knight of the Month May 2019



Jeff Miller

Bill Chalko recruited Jeff in 1987 and Jeff has been active in the Council and Holy Spirit Church ever since. Often you can find Jeff at Knights of Columbus functions

– baseball/football concession stands, cookouts, fish fries, parish festival, and wherever else help is

needed. Jeff was Knight of the Year in fraternal year 2016 and “carries” himself with confidence, self-assuredness with determined principles. He inspires those around him to be better men by his example. He will not compromise his principles – characteristics he also needs in his work life with ESPN. Jeff is a published author having written several books. Jeff and “nurse” Frances” are now grandparents of one with another coming in October. Frances is now retired after serving as the administrator of an outpatient surgery center

Knight of the Month Jun 2019

**Jim
Russell**



Jim has just about reached the figurative halftime of a challenging KC assignment – serving as a council officer and as the ultimate assembly officer. He's one

fraternal year into being the Faithful Navigator for Assembly 2799 and finishing up one year as Council 8157's recording secretary. He's turning in the latter given what's ahead for him in 2019-20 with the former. Jim joined our council in February 2012 (initially asked by Andy Goza while helping with rummage sale preparations), took his major degrees four months later and joined the Fourth Degree in September 2013. Before becoming the recorder, he spent five years as our lecturer. “I feel that is an honor and a privilege to serve in any KC office when chosen by my fellow brothers Knights,” Jim said. He is originally from upstate New York, spent four years in the U.S. Army and came south to earn a marketing degree from Oklahoma State. That's where he met Mary, and they were married in 1966. The Russells have been mainstays of Holy Spirit's music ministry for decades. Jim retired in 2011 after a career spent with Northrup Grumman and Raytheon. They have lived in Cedar Hill since 1972 and first attended Holy Spirit one week after the parish was founded in 1974. They must like it here.

St Joseph's Residence Cookout 2019



The Knights from Council 8157 once again performed our spring cookout at St. Joseph's Residence in the Oak Cliff neighborhood of Dallas, adjacent to the Catholic Retreat Center. Despite a last minute date change from Saturday May 11th to Sunday May 5th (Cinco de Mayo), the turnout of both residents with family members and of Knights helping out was better than we anticipated. We ended up cooking over 120 burgers and about as many hot dogs. Incidentally the all beef kosher hot dogs were donated by Deacon Al and Jackie Evans.

As far as council member participation goes, this turned out to be a family affair. There was the Perez family, Agustin & Flora with their three kids, including Agustin Jr, who's also a knight in our council. The Murphy's, Dan & Pat; the Evans, Deacon Al & Jackie; the Archer's, Keith & Mary and their niece; and John Espree and grandson Jeremiah. By the way, so far this year young Jeremiah may have attended as many functions as grandpa has, a future knight in the making we should think.

Thanks to the Knights & Ladies Participants

- Agustin & Flora Perez with family Agustin Perez, Jr, Joanne and Joseph.
- Keith & Mary Archer with her Niece
- Dan & Pat Murphy

- Deacon Al Evans & wife Jackie
- John Espree and Jeremiah
- John Balasa
- Antonio Rodriguez
- Wendell JeanPierre
- Gerald Jacob
- David Ybarra
- Ed O'Brien
- Jack Ramsden
- Jim Richardson
- Billy Callender
- Jorge Ruiz



Property Improvement Program

Starting in March 2017, this Council has participated in the P.I.P program sponsored by the Vitality Commission of the City of Duncanville and coordinated by the First United Methodist Church of Duncanville. Each spring and fall residents of Duncanville are offered the opportunity to submit an application to the City of Duncanville for assistance to improve their home or home site. In March of 2017 and in September of 2017 and in May 2018 and in October 2018, Knight Hands was always assigned the task of repairing/replacing back yard fencing. This year Knight Hands was given a choice of home to improve. The project chosen by Dan Murphy and myself was located at 810 Astaire Ave in Duncanville and it involved removing, replacing, and painting the rotted fireplace chimney wall trim pieces and replacing two short sections of fencing on either side of Helen Frison's

home. But even before we started working on this project, Betty Dunn, coordinator for the United Methodist Church, asked Knight Hands if we could



On April 26, Ken Rarick, David Dybala, Jack Ramsden, Mke Fitzgerald, Hector Rubio and I tackled to job at 810 Astaire Ave. Everyone arrived at 8:00am and hit the ground running. Jack and Mike replaced the short section of fence on one side of the home while David and Ken tackled the much more complicated task of replacing the fence on the other side of the home which including a lot of engineering and building a new gate. While this was going on, Hector and Larry were busy on the roof top tearing off the old trim pieces (8 of them) and fitting new trim pieces and then painting the whole affair. Mike helped with the caulking and painting of the trim pieces – Jack left to deliver Meals on Wheels. We were finished by 11:15am much to the amazement of the extremely grateful homeowner. Thank you guys for another job well done – this was project #316 and none could have been done without the efforts of the dedicated and knowledgeable members of Knight Hands



possibly repair a hole in the roof and replace a bunch of missing shingles on the home of Carmen Spencer located at 1235 Elsmere in Duncanville. On April 15th Mike Fitzgerald Larry Balagna, Jack Ramsden completed this job in about 13 man/hours.

Family of the Month Apr 2019



**Mike and
Susan
Fitzgerald**

Mike moved to Dallas from his native Minnesota, attending St. Thomas Aquinas in 1980 when a co-worker invited him out on a double blind date. The ladies were Susan and one of her former classmates at Mesquite High. The evening led to a phone, a courtship and their wedding that November. The Fitzgeralds moved to DeSoto and soon after became parishioners at Holy Spirit; they move a little farther south, to their present home in Ovilla, in 1986. Mike joined our council at the invitation of former Grand Knight Bill Chalko in 1999 and shortly thereafter became treasurer, a position he held until about a year ago. Susan is one of the founding members of Holy Spirit's Catholic Daughters court. Mike was our Knight of the Year in 2011 and is involved in many council activities, including Knight Hands and concessions. Mike recently retired from Allianz Insurance, and Susan likewise retired after most recently being a librarian in the DeSoto ISD. They have three grown children and 12 grandchildren (which will become 13 any day now).

Family of the Month May 2019



**Dan and
Betsey
Schneider**

You'll recall Dan experienced a horrific accident at our April 5 Lenten fish fry during which he fainted, having donated blood earlier that Friday, and fell into multiple pots of 350-degree frying oil out behind Holy Spirit's community center. Dan suffered second- and third-degree burns and spent weeks recovering at Parkland Hospital's famed burn unit before returning home to Midlothian.

Various council members visited Dan at Parkland, which helped pass the time and take his mind off important issues like Parkland's in-house TV system not allowing the Illinois native to watch Cubs games on the MLB Network. If there can be a highlight for such an experience, it probably was the surprise visitor was the Diocese of Dallas' Bishop Edward Burns.

The Schneiders came south in January 2016 when Betsey accepted a position with AT&T. Dan works in national food sales and travels a great deal, which he can do as easily from D/FW as he did from O'Hare. Dan became a Knight in 1993, joining the council in the Illinois town of Algonquin west of Chicago. His father was a Knight for more than 50 years. Dan was Council 11091's Grand Knight and Knight of the Year for the 1997-98 fraternal year and then served as Faithful Navigator at Assembly 2381.

Family of the Month June 2019



**Dan and
Pat
Murphy**

The Murphys have been active parishioners for years. If you dropped by Holy Spirit's recent Vacation Bible School, you saw

Dan helping out. If you take in a weekday Mass, you'll likely see Pat among those who deliver Holy Communion to the sick and homebound. On Sunday mornings, the two of them are among the captains for the Eucharist Ministers during the 9 a.m. Mass. Dan joined our council in 1998 and quickly moved up the ladder of 8157 officers. Dan has served as our Community Activities Director for years. He served as our Grand Knight during the fraternal years of 2002-03 and 2003-04. As a graduate of the Naval Academy after attending Jesuit College Prep, Dan has been active for years in veterans activities at Holy Spirit. It was during his time at Annapolis that he met Pat, who grew up in Philadelphia. They were married in 1975. After retiring as a Naval officer in 1995, he recently retired from instructing R.O.T.C., which he did at multiple high schools in the area. Pat recently retired from a career as a field nurse for Lion Hospice Care.

EMT First Responders Appreciation Day

During EMT Appreciation week on Thursday May 23rd, 2019 the Knights of council 8157 showed our appreciation for EMT and First Responders by assisting them with the cooking gear, tables and chairs needed for their annual luncheon and bringing them over to the campus of Methodist Charlton Medical Center.

There to receive and coordinate the equipment set up was MCMC's EMS Liaison Richard Wilcoxson, who reminded Dan Murphy that the Knights' involvement for the past five years to the event are very much appreciated by our area EMT's.

This event was possible thanks to Knights Dan Murphy, Al Evans, Jack Ramsden, David Dybala, Hector Rubio, Jeff Miller, Art Rodriguez and Jorge Ruiz.



Spring Little League Baseball Wraps Up

The spring little league baseball season wrapped up this past weekend (Sunday June 23rd, 2019) culminating with the final games of the annual World Series. For sure there were lots of heroes during the regular season; and the Council is grateful for those efforts. As you know, the concessions committee lost one of their most prominent members in April (Andy Goza), and Jim Stavinoha had a heart scare and has been out of sorts for a little while. That left the heavy lifting to James Smith.

James soldiered on working endless hours stocking both the baseball and football concession stands and doing all the behind the scenes work involved in operating a concession stand.



Eric Conner help immensely by scheduling Knights to work the two venues and he worked many shifts at both baseball and football. He is, for sure, one of the heroes of the past season.



This reporter has firsthand information about the just concluded Class A little league World Series held at Valley Ridge Park and Dot Thomas Park from June 19th (registration day) through Sunday June 23rd. In total 153 games were played at these two parks and, of course, the Knights of Columbus were there to serve concession at all the games. I am so proud of all the Knights who participated in this year's World Series which generated a huge pile of cash for the Council.

For those of you who are reading and wondering how much impact your work has contributed, let me just say that for every hour you worked during the World Series approximately \$42 of gross income was generated. Forty two Knights (and family members) worked a total of approximately 431 hours during the 5 day event



We must recognize those Knights who went above and beyond during the World Series. For starters, let's start with Eric Conner and Jesse Stacy (a friend of Eric's from Holy Cross Council); each worked about 46 hours during the World Series. Others who worked beyond the call of duty were; Jorge Ruiz – 18 hours; Larry Balagna – 23 hours, John Balasa – 18 hours; Jeff Miller – 20 hours. Frank Salazar – 9 hours; Mike Rumsey – 8 hours by himself at Dot Thomas. Susan Goza who insisted on helping – 10 hours; Roy Cormier – stayed for two shift even though it was really hot. James Smith – did all the stocking and worked a couple shifts as well. Mike Fitzgerald worked extra time; Greg Warr, who took vacation time to work three shifts; John Espree, who opened both Saturday and Sunday; Doug Maddox who cut his teeth with two long shifts; and so it goes. Thanks also to Lou Lemons, Paul Ryan, Tony Almanza, Jorge Barragan and his two daughters (Galaiea and Jimena), Gerry and Toni Jacob, Victor Zaragoza (he was everywhere), Tom Greco (even though he wasn't feeling so good), Peter Perta (worked by himself at Dot Thomas), Mike Moloughney and his family at Dot Thomas, Jim Russell, who worked multiple shifts, Juan Hernandez (Just back from his honeymoon in Alaska), Hector Rubio, Steve Castillo (welcome back), Jan Araki – came back with a vengeance; Chris Kubin (can always rely on him); Ray Rivera, Steve Zehnder, Jose Montoya, Al Evans, Jim Richardson,

Sheila Balagna, and Jesse Radillo all made their presence felt in our effort to serve our customers.



Seems to me, everything we cooked and served was a success. Hamburgers and cheeseburgers sold well, as did hot dogs (just ask Larry Balagna about hot dogs). Hot links were popular too and, of course, good old French Fries were always in demand. We must have sold in excess of 1,000 snow cones, and in the afternoons it was a full time job for one Knight to make them. A few times whole teams asked for snow cones at once. Drinks had to be constantly iced down to keep up with the orders. The beautiful past of this hectic 5 days was the attitude of those working in the heat – never a harsh word was spoken nor a complaint heard – well maybe one.



The numbers were awesome. For sure it was a fun and exciting and hectic experience to be a part of the World Series event. Congratulation to all who participated and thanks so much.

Council Receives Award



At the Dallas Diocese Chapter Year End Banquet and Awards Dinner which took place at Council 799 KayCee Hall this past Thursday June 27th, 2019, Council 8157 was recognized with the "25 Year Saint John Paul II" State Charity Award for its charitable contributions to the Texas State Council 25 years in a row.

Representing our council and accepting the award on our behalf was our new Chancellor-Elect Allen Reitmeier, who was presented the award by Most Reverend Bishop Edward Burns.

Also in attendance from council 8157 were Linda Reitmeier, Dan and Pat Murphy, David and Clara Dybala, Larry and Sheila Balagna, and Jorge and Kathie Ruiz.



New Officers

During the June 2019 regular business meeting Officers for the upcoming year were elected – all recommended by the nomination committee. They are:

Grand Knight	Tom Greco
Deputy Grand Knight	Jorge Ruiz
Chancellor	Allen Reitmeier
Treasurer	James Smith
Advocate	Russell Gully
Recorder	Mike Fitzgerald
Warden	Doug Maddox
Inside Guard	John Espree
Outside Guard	Jeff Traub
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Chaplin	Fr. Joe Lee
Trustees	Chris Kubin -3 year
	Jim Richardson - 2 year
	Chris Edwards – 1 year

Directors for the new fraternal year are:

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Concessions	James Smith
Church Activities	James Smith
Community Activities	Dan Murphy
Family Activities	Jeff Miller
Health Activities	Lou Lemons
Pro-Like Activities	Mike Moloughney
Youth Activities	Mike Moloughney
Knight Hands	Allen Reitmeier
Lecturer	Wendell JeanPierre
Retention	Jorge Ruiz

The council is seeking the following:

Director of Council Activities &
Membership Director