



Dr. Thomas A. Dooley

Knights of Columbus Council #5492

NEW MEMBER Handbook

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Cover
2. Table of Contents
3. Welcome Letter from Grand Knight
4. The Knights of Columbus Emblem
5. Communications
6. Your Mentor
7. Council Meeting Procedures
8. Shining Armor Award
9. Council Officers and Activity Chairs
10. Council Activities
 - a. Church/Spiritual
 - b. Community Outreach
 - c. Volunteer Opportunities Within the Council
 - d. Parish Family Activities
 - e. Opportunities in Youth Activities
 - f. Fund Raisers
11. Dooley Council History (“Our Story”)
12. Knights of Columbus Insurance/Annuities Program
13. Knights of Columbus Insurance Program
14. The 24-Hour Knight

HANDOUTS IN FOLDER POCKET

Dooley Echo Newsletter

Columbia Magazine

Prayers for the Sick, Vocations and Canonization of Fr. Michael J. McGivney



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
DR. THOMAS A. DOOLEY COUNCIL, No. 5492
17600 Newburgh Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152

Welcome, Brother Knight,

Congratulations on joining our honored Order. The Knights of Columbus is an organization comprised of over 1.7 million Catholic men dedicated to the pursuit of charitable works and the support of our Church. You are a vital part of this organization because it is only through the efforts of individual members that our Order can accomplish its high aims.

Our council meets twice each month with the Officers/Business meeting on the first Thursday of the month and the general membership meeting taking place on the second Thursday of the month. These meetings start at 7:00pm. Our general membership meetings are a great opportunity for you to meet and socialize with other members, as well as to learn exactly what our council is about.

I would encourage you to attend our monthly meetings and participate in our activities by donating your time and energies to further our charitable and fraternal goals. I assure you that the investment you make in this council will pay great dividends in friendship and a sense of accomplishment and giving. In the words of Saint Francis of Assisi, "It is in giving that we receive".

Fraternally,

Tom Jackett
Grand Knight



**The Knights of
Columbus Emblem**

The Knights of Columbus Emblem

The Columbian coat of arms consists solely of straight lines and angles, symbolizing the determination, tenacity, firmness and courage that the Order's founders had to demonstrate in the face of difficulties to surmount, problems to solve to defend their faith and their rights in a milieu ill-suited to the growth of their Movement.

Figures and Symbols

The Columbian Coat of Arms contains three symbolic elements: the sword, the anchor and the battle axe, recalling the noble and illustrious deeds of the Order's founders.

The sword and the anchor, placed one over the other, form a sort of "X" or St Andrew's cross.

The sword symbolizes honor, distinction, bravery and courage.

The anchor, an instrument designed to hold a ship in place, represents that which attaches, stops, consolidates and stabilizes.

The battle axe, placed on the shield, symbolizes action taken to overcome obstacles or ambushes on the road to accomplishing one's objectives.

The bundle represents the solid grouping of people come together to realize a common ideal under the guidance of a recognized leader. It symbolizes teamwork, the strength inherent in unity and fraternity.

The helmet, placed on the upper part of the Coat of Arms represents rank or degree of nobility. On the coat of arms of a warrior it is the noblest and principal ornament.

The little white triangle, above the helmet and pointing upward, symbolizes the flame which lights and guides.

The Colors

The blue (azure), represents the sky, that is, God who watches over the world. It is the symbol of hope, peace, and confidence.

The white (silver) is innocence, frankness and purity of intention.

The yellow (gold) denotes indestructible goods, the richness that comes with hard work.

The red symbolizes giving of one's self, courage, valor and heroism in the fight for one's faith, one's language and one's rights.

Communications

- **Echo Lite**
Published every Sunday evening by email to members. Information is disseminated on Council activities in the next week and the current month.
- **Dooley Echo**
Newsletter published quarterly and disseminated by email or snail mail for those who do not have access to computers
- **Supreme Columbian Magazine**
Published monthly and mailed to all Knights in good standing
- **State of Michigan Columbian Newsletter**
Published quarterly and mailed to selected members.

Council Web Site: To get to our Council website enter the following in your browser:
<http://www.dooleyknights5492.com/> . The site is undergoing updates.

Supreme Council Web Site: The Supreme Council web site (<http://kofc.org/en/members/for-councils/index.html>) has an enormous amount of information on the principles and programs of the Order. The Catholic Information Services Faith Formation Course is a great resource for those who want to learn more about our Catholic faith. As a search for truth (Veritas), this course addresses a number of topics about the Church, as well as issues facing Catholics around the world today. As Catholic Men, we are called to study our faith to be better able to defend it against attacks.

Knights of Columbus Insurance/Annuities Program

The Knights operate a multibillion-dollar insurance program for its members. A variety of insurance products are available to members at low group rates. Since the K of C is a non-profit organization, millions of dollars each year are donated to Church related charities. The district insurance representative periodically attends our meetings and can provide you with information.

Our Insurance Agent is: Gregory L. Bennett, FIC, Phone: 248-884-4095, email: gregory.bennett@kofc.org.

It is important to update your Family Service Record and take stock of your financial goals. Are you where you want to be? Do you have a plan? We have a new tool to use to help analyze your financial needs: Profiles Professional. With this tool you can see if there are any gaps in your coverage and how close you are to achieving your goals and aspirations.

What's most important to you and your family? There is no cookie cutter answer. That's why I meet with members and their spouses...and we can meet virtually over the computer...to first determine what issues are of most concern to you. From there I can help analyze where you are in relation to your goals and develop a strategy to get you where you want to go. All done with a virtual appointment over your computer and at your convenience.

As your field agent I'm a brother taking care of brothers. Resolve today to meet with me and ensure that at the end of this new year you will be closer to achieving your goals.

HISTORY OF THE K OF C INSURANCE PROGRAM

The Knights of Columbus insurance story begins in the winter of 1882 in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn. It was there that our Venerable founder, Father Michael J. McGivney, gathered the men of his parish together to create a solution to a recurring problem. Many Catholics — most of whom were immigrants — were working and living in unfavorable conditions. And many, tragically, were dying young, leaving behind widows and orphans with insufficient financial resources.

It was a cold reality that had confronted Father McGivney all too often — not only in the lives of his parishioners — but in his own. As a seminarian, he was forced to leave school & return home to aid his family when his father died unexpectedly.

Though this story of financial ruin for Catholic families was common, Father McGivney was convinced that there was a way to change the ending. He knew that if the Catholic men in his parish came together in mutual aid, widows and orphans could receive the support they needed. He also knew that if Catholic men banded together, united by charity and unity, they could strengthen their faith, their families, and their communities.

So, he established the Knights of Columbus, and with it, a “pass-the-hat” insurance system to protect the Catholic families in his parish. Over time, that system has evolved, and today we stay true to our founding mission through our multi-billion-dollar, top-rated insurance program. Members in the United States and Canada have exclusive access to our insurance program and products, including life insurance, retirement annuities, long-term care insurance, and disability income insurance. Our charitable giving and fraternal service have continued to grow too. More than 1.9 million men in over a dozen countries across the globe are proud to call themselves Knights. Last year alone, these men and their families donated more than \$170 million to charity and performed more than 70 million hours of service.

The Knights of Columbus offers a complete portfolio of top-quality products to our members and their eligible family members.

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For more information, visit the K of C insurance website:

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/insurance/index.html>

Your Mentor

Our Council provides a Mentor for every new Knight that joins our Council. Mentors are assigned for one year to help new Knights learn more about the Knights of Columbus and how our Council implements the principles of Charity, Fraternity and Unity. Our Council strongly believes that all Knights should become full-fledged members.

Your Mentor is responsible for helping you become an active member of our Council. We encourage Mentors to develop a “Big Brother” type of welcoming friendship with new Knights and encourage dialogue to help you gain a deeper understanding of the principles and core priorities of the Knights of Columbus.

What does your Mentor do?

Your Mentor will:

- Call you in advance to remind you of the monthly Membership Meeting date and time.
- Inform you of upcoming activities and volunteer opportunities in which you may be interested in participating.
- If you have not yet advanced to full Knighthood at the 3rd Degree, your Mentor will inform you of dates and times of Major Degree Ceremonies in the area.
- Assist you in completing the requirements for the Supreme Shining Armor Award (shown below), if in your first year as a Knight. You also can earn the State of Michigan Shining Armor Award after your first year.
- Introduce you to your Brother Knights.
- Help you to learn about Supreme, State and Council policies and procedures.

Council Meeting Procedures

Arrival

Upon entering the Activities Center:

- The Membership Meeting begins at 6:00pm with dinner at 6pm. The meeting begins at 7:00pm.
- When you arrive, proceed directly to the table manned by the inside guard and show them your current membership card.
- Sign the attendance log.
- Pick up a copy of the **Prayer Sheet**.
- If you feel lucky, buy a chance at the 50/50 raffle.
- Enjoy a fine dinner with your Mentor and other Knights before the meeting begins.

Meeting Procedures

- Take your place in the meeting room before the meeting is called to order.
- Follow the directions of the Grand Knight in standing and sitting.
- Pay attention to the speakers and ask questions if you do not understand what is being said.
- Raise your hand and wait for Grand Knight to recognize you.

Supreme Shining Armor Award

The requirements for the Shining Armor Award must be completed within a year of membership. Requirements are:

- Be involved in at least 3 council service programs.
- Attend at least 3 council Membership Meetings.
- Meet with their council's insurance representative (may be by phone).
- Recruit at least one new member

Any questions can be explained by Bill Cruickshank – 248-313-0544

Shining Armor Award Program Brochures

TBD

Council Officers and Activity Chairs

First Name	Last Name	Officer Position	Activity Chairs
Tom	Jackett	Grand Knight	
R.J.	Seaser	Deputy Grand Knight	
		Warden	
John	Galindo PGK	Advocate	
Paul	Schneider	Chancellor	
Lou	Fiorentino	Financial Secretary	Charity/Finance Committee Co-Chair
Jerry	Sulak PGK	Treasurer	Charity/Finance Committee Co-Chair
TBD		Lecturer	
Ed	Shaheen	Inside Guard	
Shane	Brazeika	Inside Guard	
Jim	Copi	Outside Guard	
Mark	Rodemeyer	Outside Guard	
Ric	Galindo	Recorder	
Glenn	Roland	Trustee - 1-yr.	
Lee	Nuttall PGK	Trustee - 2-yr.	
Bill	Alderman	Trustee - 3-yr.	
Tom	Lamacchia		Program Director
Bill	Alderman		Membership Director
Don	Anderson		Church Director
John	Braud		Family Events Director/Domestic Church
Rick	Gignac		Corporate Communion
Dan	Vecchioni		Activation Co-Chair/Mentor Program
John	Glennon		Activation Co-Chair
Paul	Daniel		Activation Co-Chair/Habitat for Humanity
John	Rehberg		Blood Drive
Mike	Felczak		Euchre Party Nights
Ron	Danowski		Rosary Rally
Bob	Steckowski		Kitchen Director
Bob	Walters PGK		Pancake Breakfast/Halloween Party
TBD			Persons with Intellectual Difficulties Co-Chair
TBK			Persons with Intellectual Difficulties Co-Chair
Bob	Reineck		Stanisz Scholarship
Bob	Rais		Texas Hold-em/Car Show
John	Glennon		Golf Classic
Paul	Daniel		Parish Picnic
Bill	Alderman		Sweatshirt Drive
Rick	Messner		Right to Life
Alan	Brandemihl PGK		Bible Study
Jack	Burnett		State Raffle
John	Massman		Donut Sunday

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES – Refer to Council Officers and Activity Chairs

There are many opportunities for members to take part in Council-sponsored activities as shown below:

Church/Spiritual Opportunities

Corporate Communion Masses: Four times a year, Knights and their families attend Mass and sit together in a reserved section of pews. After Mass we share a meal together. There are opportunities to help plan and provide the meals.

Bible Study Group: Council member Alan Brandemihl leads the discussion on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Parish Activities Center for Knights and their adult family members.

Rosary Phone Chain: Responsibility of the Chancellor. The Council maintains a phone list of those members who are willing to attend a funeral service as a group for a deceased member of our Council. We recite the Rosary along with the other people present if it is the wish of the family of the deceased. Otherwise we honor him by our presence at the Scripture service or whatever the family chooses.

Rosary Rally: Led by Ron Danowski in organizing and inviting the surrounding community to a group recitation of the rosary on a Saturday in October near the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima, outside at Madonna University.

Right to Life: You can join with other Knights from our Council in the life chain on Right to Life Sunday in October or participate in a rally and a Memorial Mass at Madonna University in January that coincides with the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision.

Community Outreach Opportunities

Blood Drives: The drives are conducted four times a year in the Parish Activities center. In addition to donating blood, help is needed in planning, publicizing, soliciting at Masses, making phone calls, and working on the day of the drive.

Tootsie Roll Drive: It takes place each year on Palm Sunday weekend. Its purpose is to raise money to help Persons with Intellectual Disabilities. We work in teams selling tootsie rolls at Panera Bread, Busch's Market and at the weekend Masses.

Sweatshirt Drive: The drive is promoted with signs and in the Parish bulletin asking parishioners to donate new sweatshirts to Holy Cross Children's Services as Christmas presents. The sweatshirts are collected from boxes the Knights place in the Church vestibule. They are then boxed and gift wrapped by our Knights for shipment.

Volunteer Opportunities Within The Council

Membership Director Exemplification Ceremonies:

Many opportunities to help with this spiritually rewarding exercise in speaking and non-speaking roles and also to work on the planning and preparation for the events, including Information Nights for non-Knights.

Membership Committee: Work with other committee members in identifying ways to improve membership recruitment and retention. Meetings are on the third Monday in February, May, August and November at 7p.m.

Activation Committee: Identifies ways to help and encourage inactive members to become more involved in the Council.

Programs Committee: Work with others in planning and scheduling activities and programs for our members or also those that includes or benefits people other than Council members. Meetings are held on the third Monday in January, April, July and October at 7:00 p.m.

Charity Committee: Work in progress.

Meeting refreshments: Plan, buy and set up refreshments for membership meetings

Council Photographer/Historian: Take pictures at award ceremonies, Council events, room setup configurations for major recurring events, etc. Assemble pictures in album(s) with notations of who, what, when, where and why.

Council Officer: Nominations and elections every year in May.

Thomas A. Dooley Council Website: Opportunities to help maintain or further develop the site.

New Member Mentor: Members are needed to serve as a Mentor for a new member to help him learn about the Knights of Columbus, get oriented to Council goings-on, get acquainted with other members and how he can become involved in Council activities. Dan Vecchioni coordinates the Mentor Program.

Parish Family Activities

Pancake Breakfasts: Two months each year except during the summer. The Breakfasts provide a social gathering and a good meal to parishioners and their friends and family

Doughnut Sundays: Last Sunday of the month except June, July and August. Make coffee, serve coffee, juice and doughnuts in the Church social area after Sunday Masses.

Pasta Dinner: Once a year. The proceeds from this dinner help fund the Council Scholarship fund. There is a lot more preparation involved than with a Pancake Breakfast. Need lots of help.

St Colette Parish Picnic: Our primary job at the picnic is to cook and serve the hotdogs. We also help in other ways as the need arises. Tables and chairs setup and teardown, golf closest to pin contest. Trash disposal etc.

Euchre Parties: Social events for Knights, Family and friends. Ask at a meeting how you can help or just attend and join the fun.

Opportunities in Youth Activities

Halloween Party:

Held on the Saturday evening before Halloween. It is a party for young children and their families. It is a combination of food, games, entertainment, a large collection of spooktacular displays etc. There is a lot of time and labor involved that is made easier when there is a good turnout of Knights and family members to pitch in and help. There is also a lot of pre-party work in planning and buying food and supplies and clean up after the party.

Free Throw Competition: Annual Supreme Council sponsored activity for all Councils held in January through March. Directions for conducting the contest is contained in the Supreme KofC web site.

Interface with Youth Group: Promote help in their activities and our Council.

Fund Raisers

Texas Hold-em Charity Poker: Work on sign in and admission collection. KC receives a share of the profits.

Car Show: Annual event held on the first Saturday in June at St. Colette's in the parking lot.

Golf Classic: Annual event in September at various golf courses.

Pancake Breakfasts: As described above.

There are many other projects and social activities the Knights could be participating in. If you have an idea and are willing to work in the planning and organizing, then please share your idea at one of our Business Meetings. The Council uses the form at the end of this document to present charitable or fraternal ideas.

DOOLEY COUNCIL HISTORY (“Our Story”)



Dr. Thomas A. Dooley
1927-1961

On Sunday November 10, 1963, twelve curious men attended a meeting at the hall of Our Lady of Grace Parish in Dearborn Heights. This date is one of great significance since it was the actual beginning of our council. The second meeting was held on November 17, 1963. The meeting was attended by 45 men from eight parishes. The next three meetings were held two weeks apart at three different parish locations. At these meetings, initiation fees and dues were set. January 5, 1964 was scheduled for the first degree. Last but not least, February 9, 1964 was set as the institution date of the council and the end of the charter membership.

After the fifth organizational meeting the group had enough men to move forward and applied on December 22, 1963 to petition for a charter. The petition was granted and the council number of 5492 was assigned.

On January 27, 1964, the first official business meeting was held at Our Lady of Grace. The first order of business was the selection of a council name. Selected was the name of Dr. Thomas A. Dooley, primarily chosen because he was indeed a great humanitarian who lived his life helping others.

On Sunday, February 9, 1964, 109 members were initiated into the 2nd and 3rd degrees, bringing the total charter membership at this date to 146 members.

Since the beginning, the council without a home continued to grow until eventually in 1971, a permanent hall was erected on Joy Road between Inkster Road and Middlebelt Road. This was the council's home until February 2002 at which time it was decided to sell the building and move into a parish.

These men and many more thereafter worked very hard to increase membership to over 600 at one point, and to pass on the legacy and financial foundation of our current council. Let us not forget these men, many of whom have since passed. Our thanks and prayers go out to all of those from the old council roots. Once again, let us not forget.

The 24-Hour Knight

Today's young man faces many commitments. From his duty to his family, to his obligation to his workplace, there are constant calls on his time. Many times, KofC recruiters hear the reply: "I don't have much time to give to the Knights, so why should I join?" It's a common concern among many men that they just don't have the time to be a part of the Knights of Columbus.

What would be your response if you were told that, just by giving 24 hours a year to the Knights of Columbus, you could make a positive difference in your community and Church. Below is an illustration of just how little time it takes to be an active part of the Knights of Columbus. Even with this minimal commitment you can be an important part of our council and reap the benefits of what membership in the Knights of Columbus has to offer you and your family.

The 24 hours break down in this way:

- 12 hours a year reading the weekly parish bulletin, the state and local council newsletters, *Columbia* magazine, and surfing the state council and Supreme Council Web sites.
- 2 hours a year volunteering at the council's annual drive for people with intellectual disabilities.
- 2 hours a year attending, with his family, two council corporate Communion or prayer services at the parish.
- 2 hours a year on a council-sponsored Church, community, council family or youth project of your choosing.
- 2 hours a year attending one council meeting, with a meal served after the meeting. (You might find it interesting enough to come back for a second.)
- 4 hours a year enjoying (again, with your entire family) a council social function such as the Wine and Cheese tasting, Pasta Dinner, picnic, etc.
-

Looking at the time commitment of the Knights of Columbus this way, it doesn't seem very intimidating at all, does it?