



Knights of Columbus
FOURTH
DEGREE
Patriotic degree of the Order.

Father Sebastian Rasle General Assembly 0337

<http://www.ladyofhopemaine.org/assembly337monthly1.htm>

OUR NEXT BUSINESS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

Monday October 9th, 2017

7:00 PM – Msgr. P.J. Flanagan Parish Center annex at St. Pius X Church Portland, Maine

Faithful Friar
Msgr. Michael Henschal
Faithful Navigator
John A. Moreshead
Faithful Captain
John Land
Faithful Pilot
Christopher M. Brown
Faithful Admiral
John M Brown
Faithful Comptroller
Andrew E Litcher
Faithful Purser
Robert J Rainville
Faithful Scribe
Christopher Sprage
Faithful Trustee (3yr.)
Robert Rand
Faithful Trustee (2yr.)
Richard L Goulet
Faithful Trustee (1yr.)
Robert L Laliberte
Faithful Inner Sentinel
John Garity
Faithful Outer Sentinel
Richard J Rand
Color Corps Commander
John Brown

Worthy Sir Knights,

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall weather that we've been having. Our next meeting will be this coming Monday (10/09/2017).

A brief planning meeting was held on Monday 10/02/2017. It was decided that we will continue to support those charities that we were able to help last year again this year including a clothing drive to support Maine Veteran's Alliance in January, a drive for "baby supplies" to support Abba at a time to be decided, and cash donations to those that we had supported last year. Those cash donations totaled approximately \$1,000.

A note from our Faithful Purser Worthy Sir Knight Robert Rainville:

HOLIDAY CASH RAFFLE

In August each member of the assembly received six tickets for our assembly's fall fundraiser "Holiday Cash" Raffle to purchase or sell. Less than 35% responded. As of this writing there are still 500 additional tickets available to sell. We need help. Come to our next meeting and pick up some tickets. All ticket stubs need to be returned before the drawing on the 13th of November. Proceeds from this raffle will go to the assembly's Charity Fund. This fund allows the assembly to make donations to various recipients such as ABBA, Maine Veteran's Home, Maine Right to Life, and the three Seminarians we sponsor.

Assuming the raffle will be a success, this will be our only fund raiser for the year so, it is important that everyone participate. The more revenue we can generate the more we can help others.

A "dinner/party" for members was discussed and we will be looking for a volunteer to head that up at our upcoming meeting.

We would also like to support Maine Veteran's Home and thank Worthy Sir Knight Bob Laliberte for his generous support to this organization. We hope to get more volunteers this year.

At our upcoming meeting we will be proposing a \$200 gift to Anthony Cippolle as his Ordination to the priesthood will be coming up in November.

Please keep in your prayers Patrick Finn and his family as he will be ordained to the transitional diaconate this coming Sunday at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 10:00 AM. All are welcome.

Also keep in your prayers Sir Knight Lee Kimball, Brother Donald LaPointe (a brother of Christian Instruction), Fr Bertrand; may the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Hope to see you all on Monday.

Letter from our District Master:

Brother Knights:

As we begin a new fraternal year, I would to congratulate our new 43 Sir Knights who took their Patriotic degree this past June 3rd in Waterville. I was extremely proud of the outstanding job my degree team, the flag squad and honor guards did in exemplifying the beautiful degree of patriotism. I especially commend the members of the Waterville assembly and council for all their hard work in making the exemplification an outstanding success.

Many of you, if not all; have heard about the change in the honor guard regalia. This has caused an enormous amount of bitterness within our Order. Change is never easy, especially when so many of us have taken great pride in donning the colors as honor guards to support our pastors, our Bishop and those members who were called back to our Lord and Savior. I sure wish I had all the answers but unfortunately, I do not but I will try to explain it as best I can.

How the supreme board of directors came to this decision came from months of deliberation and data analysis. Local and state councils see things in a much smaller window while the supreme council has the ability to look at it from a "worldwide, order-wide" viewpoint that we have no knowledge of. Even though our order continues to grow globally, membership in the United States and Canada is rapidly declining, especially in the area of the Fourth degree. Seventy Percent (70%) of the honor guards in the fourth degree are 70 years old or older. Supreme has compiled data from around the US and Canada which has convinced them that the current regalia needed to be updated to meet the current demographics to entice the younger generation to join the fourth and hopefully join the honor guards wearing a more appealing regalia for "their" generation. For the time being, the current regalia can still be worn in concert with the new regalia when it becomes available

The definition of "on a limited basis "or" for a time" is essentially the same but the actual deadline is still unknown.

The statement saying that the ceremonial sword will still be a part of the fourth degree is still unclear as to when and how it is to be used. I will be seeking additional clarification at my bi-annual meeting of district masters.

I myself was upset since I had purchased my initial red regalia, my color corps commander regalia and just recently my district master regalia just to find out I now needed to purchase the new regalia.

As for myself, I joined the order so I can make a difference in the lives of our veterans and those less fortunate. A change in uniform will not deter me from living up to my pledge I took many years ago to obey the laws and rules of the order and to my superior officers.

The people who we support could care less what we wear. I plan to wear my new regalia with pride and dignity knowing it's not how I look like, but how I can continue to give hope and support to the millions of people in the world who count on the Knights of Columbus.

Our Lord Jesus just wore a tunic and a rope belt and look what he accomplished. Don't let ego and self-importance get in the way of who we really are:
CATHOLIC GENTLEMEN, IN SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH AND THOSE LESS FORTUNATE.

Philip A. Lizotte