



December 6, 2022

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To my Brother Knights,

It has been over three years since there has been a newsletter sent out. I apologize for this. I will say that the Covid-19 certainly played a part in this. Hopefully the worst of that is behind us. So let me begin by saying I hope everyone that reads this is in good health.

Our council has recently added a new Financial Secretary, Ben Kitt, and we have had some serious growing pains, with that said our Council 207 needs to regroup and move forward. Ben has made great strides as of late as he continues to learn as we move forward. Nostalgically one thing every Knight remembers is when he began his journey with the Knights of Columbus. Whether we were drawn to the Knights by family tradition, or out of a desire to serve our community, we became brother Knights. Our journey continues.

What may not be known to all Brother Knights is that a significant portion of our annual dues includes a "Per Capita" charge that is collected and forwarded to the national organization both State and Supreme. This per capita fee must be paid upfront, and is due regardless of whether the member has paid their dues or not. When a Brother Knight is in the arrears, not only does the council have to operate without these funds, but in fact the council "loses" money that must be made up by dues paying members.

Our records indicate that our dues are currently in arrears, due to the fact that no dues statements were issued in 2022. This was a huge oversight, and we have corrected this for 2023. Our current information shows that we are in the rears in excess of \$25,000 dollars. We have some members who are short 3 to 4 years, all have recently received statements, their total alone adds another \$8,000 dollars.

As new statements are being issued you may receive a statement showing you owe \$90.00. This reflects last year's dues and dues for 2023.

We apologize for this and ask you to bear with us as we move on to correct our mishaps of last year. We will host an open house on January 1, 2023. Please stop in as we open at Noon. There will be some light foods and a cash bar. This is an excellent time to pay your dues, and enjoy

some camaraderie with your fellow Brother Knights. If you pay Jan. 1st you may pick up your membership card that day. If you cannot get to the Knights, please feel free to send a check for the amount owed or stop in any day and leave your payment with the Bartender.

It is also very important for you to update your current address so the card will reach you.

I know many of you are thinking, let's just get rid of these guys who owe so much. Unfortunately it is not that simple. There is a very complex system put in place by the Supreme to end the relationship. (it would take another whole news letter to explain it, maybe next time). Yet if you decide that you do not wish to remain a member of our Brotherhood, and stop us from paying per capita tax on your membership, we would need a letter of resignation stating that you no longer wish to be a member of "The Knights of Columbus". I pray that this is not your intention. Council 207 has been in existence for 125 years and we still have much to do for our community.

In closing I wish everyone a very Blessed Christmas and Holiday season, and may 2023 bring you blessings, health and happiness.

God Bless you all.

Thomas Crawford, Grand Knight  
Benjamin Kitt, Financial Secretary  
All Officers and Trustees of Council 207

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