

Knights of Columbus

Monsignor George Lewis Smith
Council #3684

Celebrating Its

50th Anniversary

July 19, 1953 – July 19, 2003



**Council members at 50th Anniversary Mass
held at St. Mary's on July 19, 1953**

Banquet Program

TOASTMASTER Thomas M. Monahon

INVOCATION Rev. Gade Show Reddy
Council Chaplain

PRESENTATION OF COLORS Fourth Degree Honor Guard
Msgr. G. L. Smith Assembly #1074

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Angel Lacabe
District Deputy #4
Faithful Navigator

GOD BLESS AMERICA All

DINNER

INTRODUCTIONS Thomas M. Monahon
Toastmaster

WELCOME ADDRESS Charles T. Spainhour
Grand Knight

EVENING PRESENTATION Thomas M. Monahon
Toastmaster

PRESENTATION BY STATE DEPUTY Roosevelt Cummings
State Deputy, South Carolina

RESPONSE Charles T. Spainhour
Grand Knight

CLOSING PRAYER Rev. Gade Show Reddy
Council Chaplain

MENU

Garden Fresh Salad
with Vinaigrette Dressing

Grilled Rib Eye Steaks

Parsleyed Potatoes

Green Beans

Rolls

Iced Tea and Coffee

Dessert

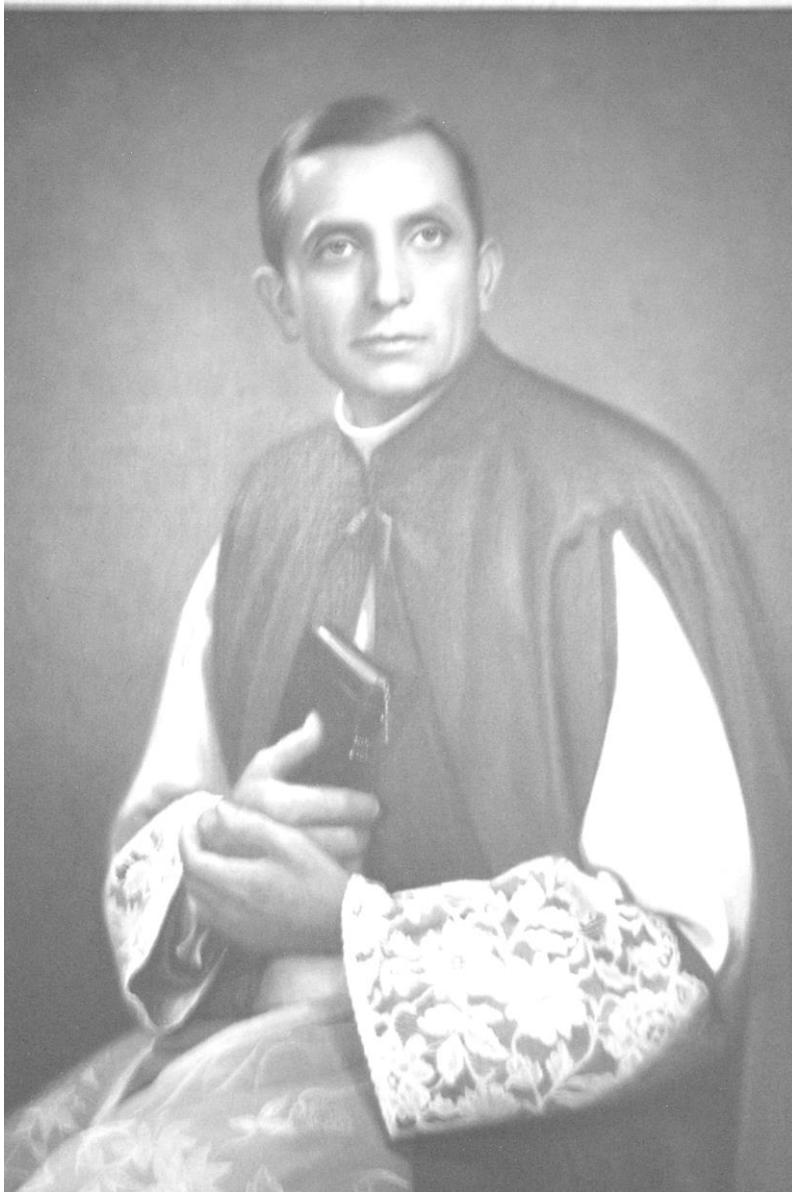
Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance, to the flag,
Of the United States of America,
And to the republic, for which it stands,
One nation, under God, indivisible,
For liberty and justice for all.

God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night, with a light, from above.
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam,

God Bless America;
My home sweet home;
God Bless America;
My home sweet home.



Right Reverend Monsignor George Lewis Smith

The Aiken Council #3684 of the Knights of Columbus was originally chartered as the Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Council. In 1987, the Aiken Council petitioned the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus and was granted permission to change our council's name to the "Msgr. George Lewis Smith Council."

Bishop Ignatius Aloysius Reynolds

- Born: August 22, 1798
- Ordained: October 24, 1823 (25 years of age)
- Appointed Bishop of Charleston: November 28, 1843 (45 years of age)
- Ordained Bishop of Charleston: March 19, 1844
- Died: March 6, 1855 (56 years of age)

The Rt. Rev. Ignatius A. Reynolds was the second Bishop of Charleston. At the time, the Diocese of Charleston consisted of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. In June 1853, the Rt. Rev. Ignatius A. Reynolds purchased the tract of land at the intersection of Park Avenue and York Street in Aiken, South Carolina. The property includes the present land occupied by St. Mary Help of Christians Church and the adjoining land now occupied by the Aiken County Courthouse. Bishop Reynolds is noted for collecting the writings of Bishop John England, the first bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, which he published in five volumes in 1849. He was also instrumental in establishing the Diocese of Savannah.

Monsignor George Lewis Smith

George Lewis Smith was born and raised in South River, New Jersey. As a young man he was a successful lawyer for Smith & Dickerson, Counselors at Law in New Jersey. During this time, George Lewis Smith became an active member of the Knights of Columbus and served as State Secretary. In his mid 30's, recognizing a call to the priesthood, he entered the seminary in Rome. He was ordained on March 13, 1937 by Cardinal Marchetti Selvaggianni, the Vicar-General of Pope Pius XI, at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, in Rome.

Father Smith arrived at St. Mary Help of Christians Church in Aiken in 1938 and became the pastor a year later. At the time, Catholics comprised less than 2% of the state and prejudice against Catholics was prevalent. He worked diligently for the Church making many physical improvements to St. Mary's. He also established Aiken Missions, which included establishing churches in the Horse Creek Valley area (now Our Lady of the Valley), North Augusta (now Our Lady of Peace), and New Ellenton. He also started the Horse Creek Valley Welfare Center. In August 1948, he was elevated to the rank of Domestic Prelate and known as Rt. Rev. Monsignor George Lewis Smith. He continued as Pastor of St. Mary's until his retirement in 1972.

During his service to the Diocese of Charleston, he served as Auditor of the Diocesan Tribunal, a Pro-Synodal Judge, and Director of Hospitals for the Diocese of Charleston. He also served as Vice-President of the American Hospital Association (1945-46), President of the South Carolina State Hospital Association (1947-48), President of the Catholic Hospital Association (1948-49), and member of the National Blue Cross Commission. He served as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Hospital Division of the National Resources and Planning Board in Washington during World War II. He was also appointed as a Consultant of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and as a member of the Faculty of the International Institute in Hospital Administration.

On July 19, 1953, Msgr. Smith became the first Chaplain of the Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Council #3684 of the Knights of Columbus. He served in that capacity until he became ill and moved to New Jersey to be with family in 1985. Msgr. Smith also served as the first Faithful Friar of the Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Assembly #1074 in Aiken from 1960 until 1985. He also served as the South Carolina State Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus State Council and the second District Friar for the South Carolina District of the Fourth Degree.

The Rt. Rev. Monsignor George Lewis Smith died in 1987.

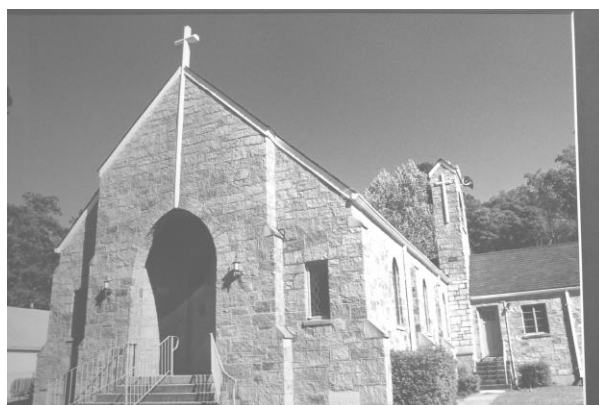
The Monsignor George Lewis Smith Council #3684 proudly serving:



**St. Mary Help of Christians
Catholic Church**

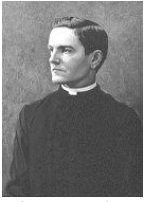


St. Gerard's Catholic Church



**Our Lady of the Valley
Catholic Church**

The Vision Of Father McGivney



Founded by Father Michael J. McGivney, curate at St. Mary's parish in New Haven, Connecticut, the Knights of Columbus was chartered on March 29, 1882, in the State of Connecticut.

As the priest explained to a small group of men at a meeting in the basement of St. Mary's Church in October 1881, his purpose in calling them together was manifold to help Catholic men remain steadfast in their faith through mutual encouragement, to promote closer ties of fraternity among them, and to set up an elementary system of insurance so that the widows and children of members in the group who might die would not find themselves in dire financial straits.

The founders and first officers of the fledgling organization chose the name "Knights of Columbus" because they felt that, as a Catholic group, it should relate to Christopher Columbus, the Catholic discoverer of America. This would emphasize that it was Catholics who discovered, explored and colonized the North American continent. At the same time "Knights" would signify that the membership embodied Knightly ideals of spirituality and service to Church, country and fellow man.

By the end of 1897, the Order was thoroughly rooted in New England, along the upper Atlantic seaboard and into Canada. Within the next eight years it branched out from Quebec to California, and from Florida to Washington.

From such promising beginnings Father McGivney's original group has blossomed into an international society of more than 1.6 million Catholic men in over 13,000 councils who have dedicated themselves to the ideals of Columbianism: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. In 2002, the Knights of Columbus donated over \$128 million to charities and volunteered 60.8 million hours of service.

Today members of the Order are found in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Panama, Cuba, Guam and the Virgin Islands. They are diverse yet they are one. Their diversity spells creativity; their unity spells strength. The Knights' creativity is manifested in numerous programs and projects directed to the benefit of their fellow man. Their strength assures that these programs are operated effectively and brought to positive conclusions.

The Emblem Of The Order



The emblem of the Order dates from the second Supreme Council meeting May 12, 1883 when James T. Mullen, who was the Supreme Knight, designed it.

A shield mounted upon the Formee Cross forms the emblem. The shield is that associated with a medieval Knight. The Formee Cross is representative of a traditionally artistic design of the Cross of Christ through which all graces of redemption were procured for mankind. This then represents the Catholic spirit of the

Order.

Mounted on the shield are three objects: a fasces standing vertically, and, crossed behind it, an anchor and a dagger or short sword. The fasces from Roman days is symbolic of authority, which must exist in any tightly bonded and efficiently operating organization. The anchor is the mariner's symbol for Columbus, patron of the Order, while the short sword or dagger was the weapon of the Knight when engaged upon an errand of mercy. Thus, the shield expresses Catholic Knighthood in organized merciful action, and with the letters, "K of C" it proclaims this specified form of activity.

The emblem is red, white and blue. Red is the symbol of faith, of belief in Christ, in the Redemption and in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. White, is the color of the Eucharistic Host, pledge of God's Eucharistic presence among men, of the infinite love God has for man and the overwhelming affection that the God-man has for each individual. White is then the symbol of Christ-like Charity. Blue is the color of Our Lady's mantle, in which she wrapped her beloved Son, through whom came salvation to a sinful world. Blue is the symbol of hope.

First Council Officers



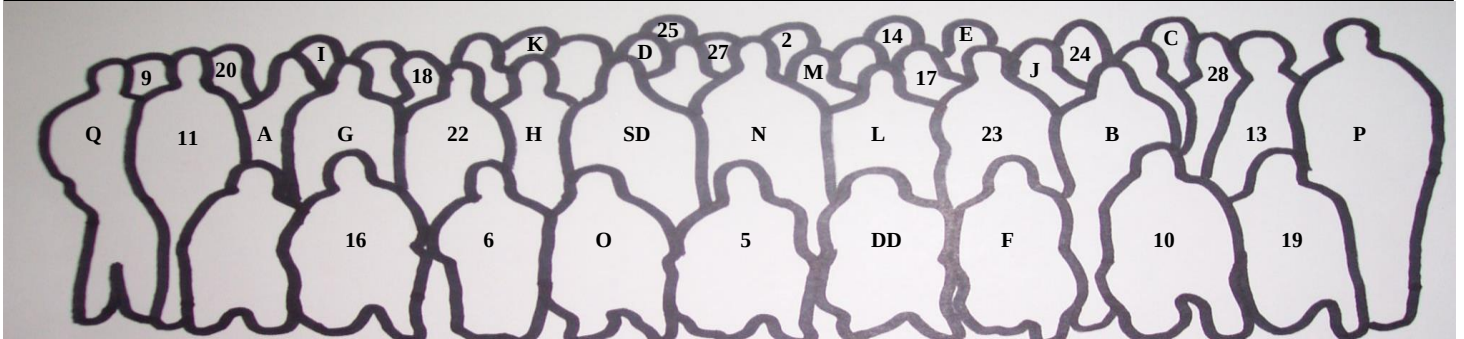
Officers of the Bishop Ignatius Reynolds Council #3684 of the Knights of Columbus, Aiken, South Carolina, instituted Sunday, July 19, 1953, left to Right: Joseph J. Monahon, Advocate; John F. LaBonte, Treasurer; Jack L. Allen, Trustee; Paul T. Ferriter, Deputy Grand Knight; Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Lewis Smith, Chaplain; Paul J. Hagelston, Grand Knight; E. Leo Hayes, Trustee; Nathaniel Stetson, Chancellor; Al J. Baumann, South Carolina State Deputy; Paul M. Villa, Inside Guard; Patrick J. Selak, Warden; Harry P. Young, Recorder; Elmer P. Foster, Financial Secretary; Joseph Trihey, District Deputy; and John W. Horne, Outside Guard. Not present: Fred E. Warren, Lecturer and C. W. Satchell, Trustee.

Charter Member

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. J. W. Adams | 18. W. J. Heaney | 35. A. F. Petrina |
| 2. E. L. Albenesius | 19. E. W. Herbert | 36. W. A. Piesch |
| 3. J. L. Allen | 20. J. W. Herndon | 37. R. L. Rawling II |
| 4. R. C. Braun | 21. M. E. Hillman | 38. C. W. Satchell |
| 5. R. H. Bohn Sr. | 22. J. W. Horne | 39. P. J. Selak |
| 6. W. J. Clossey Jr. | 23. C. A. Konwinski | 40. T. A. Simpson |
| 7. F. J. Cofrancesco | 24. J. F. LaBonte | 41. N. Stetson |
| 8. W. T. Corder | 25. S. P. La Penta | 42. J. H. Suhrer |
| 9. W. B. Daspit | 26. N. G. Landry | 43. Rt. Rev. G. L. Smith |
| 10. G. H. De Witt | 27. F. J. McMahon | 44. C. A. Tardif |
| 11. W. E. Dougher Jr. | 28. J. J. Monahon Jr. | 45. P. M. Villa |
| 12. R. E. Ferrari | 29. Rev. D. F. Murphy | 46. N. E. Vincent |
| 13. P. T. Ferriter | 30. T. B. Niland Jr. | 47. F. E. Warren |
| 14. E. P. Foster | 31. H. A. Nowak | 48. H. P. Young |
| 15. J. J. Garvey | 32. G. B. O'Connor | |
| 16. P. J. Hagelston | 33. S. J. Orsini | |
| 17. E. L. Hayes | 34. E. C. Paulson | |

July 19, 1953

The Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Knights of Columbus Council #3684 was chartered on Sunday, July 19, 1953. This was the sixth Knights of Columbus Council formed in South Carolina, and the first in the state in ten years. The day started with the approximately 60 receiving Holy Communion at 7:00 A.M. Mass said by Pastor Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Lewis Smith at St. Mary Help of Christians Church. A Communion Breakfast followed in the Parish Hall, featuring an address by South Carolina State Deputy Al J. Baughman on "The Knights of Columbus – The Strong Arm of the Church." A First Degree was conferred in the afternoon to 29 candidates. After the Admissions Degree, District Deputy Joseph Trihey installed the new officers of the new Council. Also present was Supreme Council Assistant Superintendent of Insurance Thomas Calihan.



The following 29 members took their First Degree:

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----|-----------------|------|----------------------|
| 1. | J. W. Adams | 11. | E. P. Foster | 21. | E. C. Paulson |
| 2. | E. L. Albenesius | 12. | J. J. Garvey | 22. | J. Perara |
| 3. | R. H. Bohn, Sr. | 13. | E. L. Hayes | 23. | A. F. Petrina |
| 4. | W. J. Clossey, Jr. | 14. | W. J. Heaney | 24. | W. A. Piesch |
| 5. | W. T. Corder | 15. | E. W. Herbert | 25. | B. L. Rawling II |
| 6. | J. J. Cunning | 16. | J. W. Herndon | 26. | C. R. Rosenberg |
| 7. | H. B. Donaghy | 17. | J. W. Horne | 27. | T. A. Simpson |
| 8. | E. J. Doherty | 18. | C. A. Konwinski | 28. | J. H. Suhrer |
| 9. | F. W. Durban | 19. | H. A. Nowak | 29. | N. B. Vincent (NP) |
| 10. | R. E. Ferrari | 20. | G. B. O'Connor | (NP) | Not Present in Photo |

In addition, the following members were known to be present:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|----------------------|----|----------------|
| A. | J. L. Allen | H. | W. Molony | O. | P. M. Villa |
| B. | F. J. Cofrancesco | I. | J. J. Monahon, Jr. | P. | F. E. Warren |
| C. | W. B. Daspit | J. | S. J. Orsini | Q. | H. P Young |
| D. | G. W. De Witt | K. | H. Reynolds | SD | A. L. Baughman |
| E. | P. L. Ferriter | L. | P. J. Selak | DD | J. Trihey |
| F. | P. J. Hagelston | M. | N. Stetson | | |
| G. | J. F. LaBonte | N. | Rt. Rev. G. L. Smith | | |

Aiken Council #3684 History

∞ 1953 –1963 ∞

The Formative Years

(Contributed by PGK Clement Konwinski)

The formation of a Knights of Columbus Council in Aiken, South Carolina was primarily due to two factors. First, the Atomic Energy Commission's December 1950 announcement of its intent to construct its Savannah River Plant in Aiken County resulted in a sizeable increase in Aiken's population. Second, the existence of St. Mary Help of Christians Church and Catholic elementary and high schools resulted in many Catholic families among the newcomers choosing to reside in Aiken. By late 1952, a substantial number of new residents were members of the St. Mary Help of Christians Parish.



Paul J. Hagelston
First Grand Knight
1953-1954

Born: March 1912 in Dorchester, MA.
Graduated from Northeastern University
with a BS in Chemical Engineering
Married: Mary MacMillan, July 30, 1938
Children: Paul, Anne, Jack, and Jim
Employment History:
Sylvania, Danvers, MA
Union Carbide, Oak Ridge, TN
In 1951, Atomic Energy Commission,
SRP, Aiken, SC,-Director of Safety
and Technical Division
Retired: 1972
Died: February 9, 1976
Knights of Columbus: First Grand
Knight of Aiken Council #3684, 1953-54

Many of the men within the suddenly expanded Catholic sector of the Aiken community were members of Knights of Columbus Councils from widely scattered sections of the United States. As these Knights became acquainted with each other and mutually aware of their numerical strength, a natural outgrowth of their dedication to the programs of the Order was the formation of an organizing committee under the leadership of Paul J. Hagelston, Sr.. Paul's diligent and untiring effort, prompting the cooperation of his fellow Knights on the committee, resulted in an accelerated organizing program which accomplished all necessary requirements for Council formation in the first six months of 1953.

On July 19, 1953, a group of forty-two men joined hands to institute Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Council #3684. The Council's title was singularly appropriate as 1953 marked the one hundredth anniversary of St. Mary Help of Christians Church in Aiken, and the Rt. Rev. Ignatius A. Reynolds was, in 1853, the Bishop of Charleston. Paul Hagelston was elected as the Grand Knight of the new Council. The Council, in its formative years, was privileged to use St. Mary's Parish Hall as its headquarters. The cooperation and guidance of the Pastor, Rt. Rev. Monsignor George Lewis Smith, an enthusiastic Knight of long standing and our first



DD Joseph Trihey presents Charter to GK Paul Hagelston and DGK Paul Ferriter.

Chaplain, assisted in guiding the Council in its formation.

The Aiken Council lost no time in getting active in the Church, Community, and the affairs of the South Carolina State Council. The



K of C Track Meet, April 1960

GK Konwinski; Schumpert, Williston-Elko, 2nd Place; Knox, Aiken, 1st Place; Terry, Edgefield, 3rd Place; Jackson Shultz, 1928 Olympic Champion

Aiken Council quickly became a major benefactor to St. Mary's and the Aiken Missions. In 1955, the Knights of Columbus had chartered Troop 115 of the Boy Scouts of America under the leadership of Paul Ferriter. After less than three years of existence, the Council hosted the 35th Annual State Convention in April 1956, and has since been known as a prime factor in the State Council Activity. By the end of the decade, the Annual Knights of Columbus Track Meet was a major event with the local high schools in the area.



Boy Scout Troop 115 Circa 1962

During the second year of our existence, we saved a small surplus from dues collections and this surplus was designated as the Columbus Club Fund. The dedication of this money was to provide a place where Catholic men and their families could enjoy a program promoting social family activity. Realizing that accumulations from dues collections alone would place the Columbus Club objective in a long delayed status, the small fund was used as capital to outfit a Golf Driving Range that was operated from 1956 through 1959. The proceeds from this enterprise enabled us to rent a historic Aiken Mansion as the first Council Home. The accomplishment of this step in our progress was facilitated by the cooperation of John J. Cuning, Sr.. We entered our new headquarters in September 1957 and the program of this Council was really into high gear.

A primary objective of the new council was to purchase a council home and establish itself as a legal entity within South Carolina with property ownership rights. The Council applied to the State of South Carolina and obtained a Certificate of Incorporation as the Columbus Club, in March 1956. All operations associated with the financing and ownership of the Council Home were conducted under this charter.



Knights of Columbus's first Council home

Symbolic of the growth, maturity and continuing dedication to the principles of the Order is the fact that within seven years of the institution of the Council a charter was issued on November 25, 1960, authorizing the formation of the Fourth Degree Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Assembly in Aiken. Joseph J. Monahan, Jr., a charter member of the Council, became the Assembly's first Faithful Navigator.



By late 1961, the activities centered around the Council Home were sufficiently profitable to justify the purchase of the property. In 1963, the Council hosted the 42nd Annual State Convention, welcoming the Knights of the State to its Home on the occasion of the Council's tenth anniversary.



Convention Committee meets

❧ 1963 – 1973 ❧

The Building Years

(Contributed by PGK Clement Konwinski)



Fall Festival – Lou Spano runs the Paddle Wheel

During the second decade, the Aiken Council built its Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Program under what was then called the Six Point Program. The Knights of Columbus and its members were routinely organizing and running the two primary financial and social events for St. Mary's Church: the Annual Fall Festival and the Annual St. Patrick's Ball. The Knights manned nocturnal Adoration the first Saturday of each month. The Aiken Council annually hosted the St. Angela Academy Sports Banquet and established and

presented the "Top Athlete" trophy. Major Council activities include the Family Picnics and the Children's

Christmas Party. The Aiken Council instituted and hosted for many years the Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament, which is now, hosted statewide. (In fact, the Council held a second



Aiken's team is presented State Golf Championship Trophy

tournament each year to benefit the Council; the Thomas A. Simpson Memorial Tournament.) This was the start of sports fellowship programs throughout the State, which included over the years bowling, tennis, softball, and horseshoe pitching.

During this time, Brother Knight Joseph J. Monahan, Jr. was recognized for his leadership and involvement in Fourth Degree. In 1962, he was appointed and served honorably as the South Carolina District Master, De Soto Province, until 1966.

By 1966, the stresses imposed by a continuously growing membership and the evolution of expanding activities clearly indicated the need for a new Home specifically designed for Council activities.



A site was procured and a new structure erected under the leadership of Bill Walsh. The formal opening of the present Home was held in March 1968 making it available as the site of the 47th Annual Convention. [The Council's Fifteenth Anniversary.] In 1973, Aiken hosted the State Council's 52nd Annual

Convention. This was the last State Convention held in Aiken as the State Council Annual Convention had outgrown the available accommodations in Aiken.



Joseph J. Monahan, Jr.
First Faithful Navigator, 1960-1961
SC District Master, 1962-1966

Born: October 28, 1911

Married: Anna E. Groppenbacher,
October 29, 1934

Children: Joseph, Patrick, and Thomas

Employment History:

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co,
Deepwater, NJ

du Pont, Louisville, KY

In 1952, du Pont, SRP, Aiken, SC,
Division Engineer of Electrical &
Instrument Department

Retired: 1976

Died: October 16, 1981

Knights of Columbus: First Faithful
Navigator of Aiken Assembly #1074,
1960-61. Fourth District Master of South
Carolina. 1962-66.

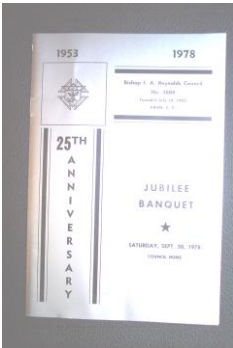
❧ 1973 - 1983 ❧

The Growing Years

(Contributed by PGK Clement Konwinski and PGK James S. Gardner)

The institution of the new Home formed the nucleus for growth both in our fraternal and corporate activities. The Columbus Club has continued to grow as a structural support for the activities of the Council. To enable the Council officers to direct their attention to the principles of Columbianism; Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism - the active directorship of the Club was turned over to a Board of Directors in 1974. This change in structure produced accelerated progress in our fraternal and corporate programs.

The growth of the Council is reflected in the fact that on March 19, 1978, the Father Joseph J. Murphy Council #7062 in North Augusta was formed from our membership. In addition, we have also been privileged to observe the growth of a fellow Knight. We are proud that in our twenty-fifth year we saw the election of Richard S. Sullivan to the office of State Deputy.



It is noteworthy that a committee of Past Grand Knights organized the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration. We are fortunate that our Past Grand Knights continue to loyally serve our Council.

Throughout these many years the Council has won numerous awards such as Star Council, Membership and other citations for achievement and we continued to be recognized as outstanding in our participation



**Knights at Aiken's
Special Olympics**

in State Council activities. The Council took an expanding interest in the program of assistance to retarded and handicapped citizens. Fund raising through the statewide "Tootsie Roll Drive" finds us among the leaders in the State. The funds realized have enabled us to make many worthwhile donations to the various agencies working in this field. We have also donated our time in service to the Aiken Special Olympics and now provide over 75% of the adult assistance needed to run this

annual event. By 1983, we observe that the original nucleus of forty-two members has now grown to 259 members.



Aiken's 1974-75 3rd Degree Team

The effort of our degree teams in exemplifying the first, second and third degrees has been outstanding. We have received several awards from the State for this effort.

Regretfully, we accepted the resignation of Monsignor Smith as Chaplain in June 1980 after serving in this capacity for twenty-seven years. We are happy, however, that we enjoy his continued participation as Chaplain Emeritus.



**Richard S. Sullivan, Sr.
State Deputy 1978-80
District Master 1988-90**

Married: Lynda Eubanks, June 1960
Children: Richard, Debra, Sherrie, and Christopher
Military History: U. S. Army Medical Specialist serving in Germany and Lebanon
Employment History: Started w/ E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co, SRP in 1954, Aiken, SC
Retired: Laboratory Supervisor, 1989
Knights of Columbus: South Carolina State Deputy, 1978-80. Eleventh District Master of South Carolina, 1988-90

❧ 1983 - 1993 ❧

The Expanding Years

(Contributed by PGK George Gibson)

As a result of the death of Monsignor George Lewis Smith, in 1987, the Council and Assembly (by joint resolution on August 12, 1987) changed their names from "Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds" to "Monsignor George Lewis Smith" to honor this priest's long and devoted service to God, Church, and Council.

Membership stands at 276, slightly below the high point of 295 in 1992. Budgeting has gotten more precise and is based, in general, on State and Supreme requirements and planning for Council events. In this connection, our Council has mainly followed the elements of Supreme's SURGE PROGRAM, which breaks down as follows:

CHURCH PROGRAM: Which includes items such as help to area Catholic Churches, i.e. St. Mary Help of Christians (Aiken), St. Gerard's (Aiken), Our Lady of the Valley (Gloverville), and St. Mary's (Edgefield). Other activities include Communion Breakfasts, Seder Meals, Apostolic Appreciation Dinners (for Priests, Sisters, Deacons, CCD and Catholic Teachers from the four Parishes served by the Council), sponsoring Midnight and Memorial Masses; and help to St. Mary's (Aiken) School.



John Greco with Sister at Our Lady of the Valley

COMMUNITY PROGRAM: Which includes the Retarded Citizens (Tootsie Roll Drive); Honor Policemen/Firemen's Breakfast; Support for Life Programs; Keep Christ in Christmas Contest; and Community Service Projects (Adopt-a-Highway, etc.)



Free Throw Contest

YOUTH PROGRAM: Which includes the annual Free-Throw Contest; Lock-In/Development Workshop; Children's Parties (Halloween, Christmas and Easter Fishing/Crabbing trip to the Ocean; and Fall Hayride/Wilderness Cookout.

FAMILY PROGRAM: Which includes the Labor Day Picnic; North Augusta/Aiken Softball Tournament (Nozzle Trophy); Ladies Appreciation Night; Council Covered Dish Suppers; and Fish Fries during Lent.

COUNCIL PROGRAM: Which includes the State Horseshoe pitching and Golf Tournaments; Miscellaneous (Casino Night, A Day at the Races, New Year's Eve Party, Super Bowl Party, and Golf and Bowling Outings.)



Aiken's 1992 State Golf Champions

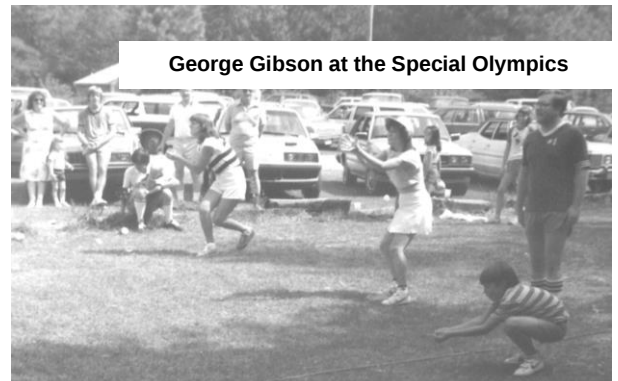
OTHER NOTABLE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES have included major sponsorship funding for Aiken Special Olympics,



Support of St. Mary's (Aiken) Chocolate Festival, and on-call help to Council supported churches (as previously listed under CHURCH PROGRAM). One item to be particularly noted is the large Crucifix that is located across the road from the entrance of the Council Home. This Crucifix was originally located in St. Mary's (Aiken) CALVARY CEMETERY. In the late 1980's, the cemetery was vandalized and the Crucifix was pulled off its mounting and broken. Members of the Council recovered the pieces and enclosed them in a concrete slab, which today adds dignity and purpose to the grounds of the Council Home.



Throughout these many years the Council has won numerous awards such as Star Council, Membership and other citations for achievements. In 1984-1985, the Council earned the Star Council Award, State Church Activity Award, State Family Activity Award, State Community Activity Award, Supreme Council Award of Merit-Top 10 Community



George Gibson at the Special Olympics

1984 Labor Day Family Picnic earns Supreme Council Award of Merit

Activity Award, and Supreme Council Award of Merit-Top 10 Family Activity Award. In 1991, the Aiken Council was recognized as the State ICC Best Council.

Three other accomplishments that reflect the expansion of the Aiken Council must be noted. First, was the establishment of the Ladies Auxiliary in 1984, the second in the South Carolina. Second, was the formation of the first, and only (until 2001), Columbian Squires Circle in the state of South Carolina. And third, was the formation of the Rev. Norman F. Rockwood Council #9161 in Barnwell.

In other areas of endeavor, the Council Home continues to receive attention from Council members. Improvements to the Council Home include improved lighting and space additions inside and a complete renovation to the outside grill facility, which is now enclosed and vented.



Communion Breakfast

The Aiken Council also participated in Food bank Programs for the poor at Our Lady of the Valley and St. Mary's (Edgefield) Parishes. In addition, Council continued their support of Vocations.



Work Day at Our Lady of Valley - 1991

❧ 1993 - 2003 ❧

The Performance Years

(Contributed by PGK Thomas M. Monahan)

On the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Aiken Council, the members of the Monsignor George Lewis Smith Council #3684 are proud of the accomplishments we continued to realize.

Membership stands at 251, including 41 Honorary and Honorary Life members. In addition, we continue to support 40 widows of departed Brother Knights. In 1995, the Edgefield -Ward Jeremiah Donovan Council #11645 was formed from a nucleus from our Council. The Aiken Council continues its tradition of putting our Catholic faith in an action through an active SURGE Program as follows



Memorial Mass with special guests

CHURCH PROGRAM: We continue to actively serve three area Catholic Churches; St. Mary Help of Christians (Aiken), St. Gerard's (Aiken), and Our Lady of the Valley (Gloversville.) Other activities include Corporate Communion Breakfasts, Memorial Mass, two Parish Roundtables (plus the Grand Knight serving on St. Mary's Parish Board), and Pro-Life Support. We proudly support two seminarians every year.



Croft House Breakfast Frank O'Donnell leads the crew of Frank Acosta and Ray Visotski

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS: Council Community activities include Operation HOPE (Tootsie-Roll Drive with primary contributions to the Special Olympics and Tri-Development Center), support of Area Churches Together Serving (ACTS), monthly food distribution with the Sisters of Charity, parking at the Special Olympics, bi-monthly Croft House Breakfasts, and Adopt-a-Highway. Our quarterly socials have been open to the public and included speakers such as Mayor Fred Cavanaugh. A special noteworthy activity was our council support of the Knights of Columbus Hero Fund that went to families of fireman and



policeman who were killed in the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center.

FAMILY PROGRAM: While family values continue to be challenged, the Knights of Columbus continue their strong support. This includes recognizing a Family of the Month and Family of the Year. Two of our families, PGK Mike and Josephine Gentile (1999-2000) and PGK Edwin and Carol Maino (2000-2001), were recognized as the South Carolina State Council Family of the Year. Many families enjoy our annual Lenten Fish Fries. We must recognize our outstanding Ladies Auxiliary.



YOUTH PROGRAM: Support of our youth continues to be a primary value of the Aiken Council. The Squires program has been revitalized. We support St. Mary's School, recognition of boys who have earned the Boy Scouts of America rank of Eagle Scout, and give recognition to senior experienced Altar Servers. In May 2002, the Aiken Council hosted the South Carolina State Youth Basketball Tournament in Aiken, which include over 50 teams, 600 players, and had over 1200 persons attend Mass. The Council plans to support the tournament again when it returns to Aiken in 2004. In addition, the Aiken Council established the Knights of Columbus - Msgr. George Lewis Smith Sportsmanship Award. This award is recognized as the premier award given at the St. Mary Help of Christians School Sports Banquet. Recently, the Council has established the Youth of the Month Award. The Aiken Council has provided scholarships to many of our youth to attend St. Mary's, Aquinas, and college.

COUNCIL PROGRAM: The Council Program remains strong with the Knight of the Month and Knight of the Year Program. PGK Edwin Maino was personally recognized as the 1999-2000 South Carolina State Council Knight of the Year. The Council continues a strong tradition of supporting the State Council's golf, bowling, horseshoe and bocce tournaments. (The Aiken Council hosted the 2002-2003 Horseshoe and Bocce Tournament.) Aiken continues to have the best First and Second Degree teams in the state. Our members actively support the State Council Charity drive and other programs. In 2001-2002, the Msgr. George Lewis Smith Council was recognized as "Best Council" in the State Inter Council Competition.



St. Mary's Chocolate Festival

OTHER NOTABLE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES have included major sponsorship funding for Aiken Special Olympics, Support of St. Mary's (Aiken) Chocolate Festival, and on-call help to Council supported churches. The Aiken Council is routinely asked to provide pallbearers to Catholic's who do not have family living in the Aiken area. We would be remiss if we did not mention providing pallbearers for Msgr. Tom Evatt this past July. The Council continues to participate in Food Bank Programs for the poor at Our Lady of the Valley.

The Council Home continues to receive attention under the wise guidance of the Columbus Club. The Club has completed renovation of the entrance area, added handicap facilities to the restrooms, and extended the kitchen. While the Columbus Club continues to earn revenue from rentals, the weekly Monday Night Bingo now provides the largest income for the Club.

A special thanks to Msgr. Joseph Roth, Msgr. Tom Evatt, Father Edward Fitzgerald, Father Mike Oenbrink, and Father Gade Show Reddy who have served as Council Chaplains during the past decade. It is with regrets that we acknowledge a significant number of deceased members that have passed away during the last decade. The list includes many Charter Members, Past Grand Knights, and distinguished members including Mr. Woodrow Paige, the first black member of our Council and Assembly. Mr. Paige will be long remembered as a Catholic gentleman and well-respected member of St. Gerard's.



Woodrow Paige bids farewell to Fr. Dillon



50th Anniversary Mass – July 19, 2003

On July 19, 2003, the Msgr. George Lewis Smith Council celebrated their Fiftieth Jubilee by attending the Saturday, 6:30 P. M. Mass at St. Mary's and receiving Holy Communion as a corporate body.

∞ 1953 – 2003 ∞

In Summary

Throughout these many years the Council has won numerous awards such as Star Council, Membership and other citations for achievement. We have been outstanding in charitable programs both within the State Council and in our contributions of time, effort and money to local charities. An effort was made to compile the accumulative totals of some of the major contributions during the 50-year history of the Msgr. George Lewis Smith Council. Totals include:

- \$150,000 raised by Operation HOPE Campaign
- \$26,000 given in scholarships including \$8,400 given to seminarians
- 3500 to 4000 man-hours of volunteer time to Aiken Community each year.

Men of this Council have ably served in various capacities on the State Council. Reflecting the Aiken Council's energetic drive for new members is the fact that its membership is truly representative of the professional and commercial sectors of the surrounding area. The Council is also represented on Church and school committees and in the political and civic areas.

In concluding our remarks on the last fifty years' efforts, it is clear that our Council have engaged in many significant and worthy efforts that have been rewarding for the Council and contributed greatly to the overall good of our Churches, the Community, our Youths and Families. Council Home displays many trophies and plaques attesting to these good acts. Coupled with much hard work this effort has reflected an abundance of good, enjoyable times.

The Msgr. George Lewis Smith Council looks forward to the next fifty years and our continued strong tradition of "Putting Our Catholic Faith In Action."



Brothers John Greco and Jim LeBert count the Operation HOPE money.

Grand Knights

1953-54	Paul Hagelston	1969-70	Neal R Donovan	1985-86	Raymond R. Brantley
1954-55	Paul T. Ferriter	1970-71	Martin J. Chick	1986-87	David W. Hawver
1955-56	Nathaniel Stetson	1971-72	John J. Fannon	1987-89	William D. Keel
1956-57	Elmer Foster	1972-73	William J. Desmond	1989-91	Michael A. Hromyak
1957-58	William A. Chren	1973-74	Joseph M. Keller	1991-92	George A. Gibson
1958-59	William F. Walsh	1974-75	John F. LaBonte	1992-94	Thomas P. Henry
1959-60	Clement A. Konwinski	1975-76	Gilbert B. Thomas	1994-95	James G. Loftis
1960-61	Ralph A. Gosline	1976-77	Edward J. Szustack	1995-96	Raymond P. Sabol
1961-62	Leroy W. Carter	1977-78	Thomas P. O'Connor	1996-97	Leo Cardosi
1962-63	Raymond D. Fridley	1978-79	Lucian A. Mattes	1997-99	Michael J. Gentile
1963-64	Daniel J. Mahoney	1979-80	William J. Brumley	1999-01	Thomas M. Monahon
1964-65	Louis J. Spano	1980-81	N. Kent Haggerty	1901-02	Edwin A. Maino
1965-66	James K. Brown	1981-82	D. Robert McCaughin	2002-03	Raymond Visotski
1966-67	Richard Sullivan	1982-83	Gerald F. Robak	2003-	Charles T. Spainhour
1967-68	William C. Perkins	1983-84	Charles R. Goergen		
1968-69	William J. Brantley	1984-85	James S. Gardner		

Chaplains

1953-80	Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Lewis Smith
1980-84	Rev. Bonaventure Brown
1984-90	Rev. Jerome Powers
1990-91	Rev. Edward Dillon
1991-94	Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Roth
1994-97	Rev. Thomas A. Evatt
1997-99	Rev. Edward Fitzgerald
1999-00	Rev. Michael Oenbrink
2000-Present	Rev. Gade Show Reddy

Financial Secretaries

1953-55	Elmer Pat Foster
1955-63	Carlos Frasco
1963-75	Lee Martin
1976-86	Joe Herbert
1986-89	Pete Blair
1989-92	Joseph Lyons
1992-95	Jerry Duffy
1995-99	Joseph Lyons
1999-01	S. Jim LeBert
2001-Present	Tom Meisner

Knights of the Year

1967 – 1968	Paul T. Ferriter	1979 – 1980	Charles J. Selinger
1967 – 1968	William F. Walsh	1980 – 1981	Gerald F Robak
1968 – 1969	Louis J. Spano	1981 – 1982	John T. Greco
1969 – 1970	C. Joseph Selinger	1982 – 1983	James McDonald
1970 – 1971	Louis J. Spano	1983 – 1984	Jack Hagelston
1971 – 1972	James K. Brown	1984 – 1985	S. Jim LeBert
1972 – 1973	Richard S. Sullivan, Sr.	1985 – 1986	Leo Cardosi
1973 – 1974	Joseph P. Noland, Sr.	1986 – 1987	Robert C. Hochel
1974 – 1975	Richard S. Sullivan, Sr.	1987 – 1988	Randall Brown
1975 – 1976	Raymond D. Fridley	1988 – 1989	George A. Gibson
1976 – 1977	Lucian A. Mattes	1989 – 1990	George A. Gibson
1977 – 1978	William J. Brantley	1991 – 1992	S. Jim LeBert
1978 – 1979	William J. Brumley	1992 – 1993	Joseph Zoller
1993 – 1994	Andrew K. Bentley	1998 – 1999	Edwin A. Maino
1994 – 1995	Richard Spenser	1999 – 2000	Edwin A. Maino*
1995 – 1996	Matthew A. Patchen	2000 – 2001	Charles T. Spainhour
1996 – 1997	William H. Maloney	2001 – 2002	Charles R. Goergen
1997 – 1998	James G. Loftis	2002 – 2003	Andrew K. Bentley

* South Carolina State Council Knight of the Year

Families of the Year

1980 – 1981	Charles R. Goergen Family
1981 – 1982	Charles R. Goergen Family
1982 – 1983	Raymond McKeon Family
1983 – 1984	James S. Gardner Family
1984 – 1985	N. Kent Haggerty Family
1985 – 1986	William W. Molony Family
1986 – 1987	Raymond R. Brantley Family
1987 – 1988	S. Jim LeBert Family
1988 – 1989	Rick Kitchens Family
1989 – 1990	Joseph Lyons Family
1991 – 1992	Michael A. Hromyak Family
1992 – 1993	Edward L. McCormack Family
1993 – 1994	John Houpt Family
1994 – 1995	Edward L. McCormack Family
1995 – 1996	Edwin A. Maino Family
1996 – 1997	Rodger Corbett Family
1997 – 1998	Edwin A. Maino Family
1998 – 1999	Ronold O. Hawk Family
1999 – 2000	Michael J. Gentile Family**
2000 – 2001	Edwin A. Maino Family**
2001 – 2002	Raymond J. Visotski Family
2002 – 2003	Edwin A. Maino Family

** South Carolina State Council Family of the Year

Fourth Degree Assembly

The Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Assembly #3684 was Charter on November 25, 1960. The first Faithful Navigator was Joseph J. Monahan, Jr. Prior to that time, Fourth Degree members of the Aiken Council had to join the Columbia Assembly. In the 1970's, the new Assembly number, #1074, was assigned. In 1987, the Aiken Assembly petitioned the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus and was granted permission to change our Assembly's name to the "Msgr. George Lewis Smith Assembly."

Past Faithful Navigators

1960-62	Joseph J. Monahan, Jr	1976-77	William J. Desmond	1989-91	Charles R. Goergen
1962-64	William A. Johnson	1977-78	Peter J. Kruzner	1991-93	Edward L. McCormick
1964-66	Paul T. Ferriter	1978-79	Donald E. Haggerty	1993-94	James G. Loftis
1966-67	Clement A. Konwinski	1979-80	Thomas M. Monahan	1994-95	Robert A. Patterson
1967-68	Raymond D. Fridley	1980-81	Joseph M. Proietti	1995-96	John F. Houpt II
1968-69	B. Ralph Dion	1981-82	Richard S. Sullivan	1996-97	Raymond R. Brantley
1969-70	William M. Johnson	1982-83	Gilbert B. Thomas	1997-98	Raymond P. Sabol
1970-71	Charles W. McMahon	1983-84	Patrick J. Monahan	1998-00	Ronold O. Hawk
1971-72	William V. Minnick	1984-85	William J. Brantley	2000-01	Louis Deverka
1972-73	Sebastian J. Orsini	1985-86	D. Robert McCaughin	2001-02	Thomas P. Henry
1973-74	James K. Brown	1986-87	S. Jim LeBert	2002-03	Jimmy Johnson
1974-75	John F. Fannon	1987-88	Leroy M. Lawrence	2003-	Angel J. Lacabe
1975-76	John F. LaBonte	1988-89	William Gouthro		

Faithful Friars

1960-85	Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Lewis Smith	1991-94	Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Roth
1985-90	Rev. Jerome Powers	1994-02	Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Evatt
1990-91	Rev. Edward Dillon	2002-	Rev. John Lawlor

Sir Knights of the Year

1981-82	Gilbert B. Thomas	1988-89	Pierre Blair	1995-96	Charles G. Brownlee
1982-83	Leroy M. Lawrence	1989-90	Richard S. Sullivan	1996-97	Neal R. Donovan
1983-84	William J. Brantley	1990-91	John T. Greco	1997-98	John T. Greco
1984-85	John T. Greco	1991-92	Charles R. Goergen	1998-00	Raymond Visotski
1985-86	John T. Greco	1992-93	Anthony J. Marcaccio	2000-01	Thomas M. Monahan
1986-87	Leroy M. Lawrence	1993-94	S. Jim LeBert	2001-02	Angel Lacabe
1987-88	S. Jim LeBert	1994-95	George A. Gibson		

Pro Deo Et Patria Recipient (For God and Country)

1992	George A. Gibson	1995	Sylvester J. Deo	2000	Thomas M. Monahan
1993	Richard S. Sullivan	1996	Clement A. Konwinski	2001	Charles R. Goergen
1993	John T. Greco	1996	Robert J. Welch, Jr.	2002	William B. Gouthro
1994	S. Jim LeBert	1997	Dr. Frank G. Merz	2002	William J. Brantley
1994	Nathaniel J. Stetson	1999	D. Robert McCaughin	2003	Angel J. Lacabe

Ladies Auxiliary



Initial meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary started in 1984 under the Bishop Ignatius Reynolds Council #3684. This was the second Ladies Auxiliary in the state. The first officers were: President, Sherry Haggerty, Vice President, Penny Goergen, Treasurer, Sandy Schwien, Secretary, Ann Herbert. The first Trustees were: Ann Gardner, Edna Wilson and Bivian Haggerty. Grand Knight Jim Gardner installed them. Shirley Brantley, Bivian Haggerty, Chorlene Seigler and Norma Brown wrote the original by-laws. These by-laws were approved with changes by the Knights of Columbus. The first nominating committee was: Kathy Monahon, chairman, Ginny Hagleston and Mary Elaine Lyons.

The Ladies Auxiliary has grown to be a strong asset to the Knights of Columbus. The ladies have always raised money to donate to charities around the Aiken area. Some of the charities we still donate to are: Helping Hands, Cumbee Center, Daughters of Charity, St. Vincent de Paul, Our Lady of the Valley, Knight of Columbus Scholarship Fund, Teenage Christmas Program, Memorial for the Unborn, Acts, Christmas Gifts and a Christmas party with homemade cookies for the Council On Aging Seniors at the Horse Creek Valley Center. The Ladies Auxiliary have also prepared and served dinners for the socials for the Knights. As the Aiken Council reaches its 50th anniversary, the men take this opportunity to say thanks for the valuable support from our ladies and in particular to the Ladies Auxiliary.



The Ladies Auxiliary at Our Lady of the Valley

Ladies Auxiliary Presidents

Sherry W. Haggerty	1984 – 1985
Bivian Haggerty	1985 – 1986
Shirley Brantley	1986 – 1987
Shirley Brantley	1987 – 1988
Ginny Hagleston	1988 – 1989
Frances Hawver	1989 – 1990
Alice Simpson	1990 – 1991
Bonnie Bentley	1991 – 1992
Penny Goergen	1992 – 1993
Penny Goergen & Vickie Riley	1993 – 1994

Frances Hawver	1994 – 1995
Susan Cardosi	1995 – 1996
Susan Cardosi	1996 – 1997
Josephine Gentile	1997 – 1998
Josephine Gentile	1998 – 1999
Josephine Gentile & Ann Mancuso	1999 – 2000
Marion Engel	2000 – 2001
Marion Engel	2001 – 2002
Marion Engel	2002 – 2003
Marion Engel	2003- Present

Squires

On April 5, 1991, Aiken Council obtained a charter for Squires Circle #3883 thanks to the efforts of Grand Knight Michael A. Hromyak and Art Mark. The charter members of the Circle were:

Jeff Anderson
Adam W. Beranek
William M. Farfour
Charles D. Rey
Seth J. Lyons
James C. Mark
Marcus J. McCormack
Jacob R. Pou
John R. Spano
Aaron W. Storer
Brian P. Willis



Boy Scout Troop 115



Boy Scout Troop 115 was chartered to Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Council #3684 of the Knights of Columbus in 1955. Records show that the first Scoutmaster was Don Turno. Paul T. Ferriter served as the Institutional Representative for the Council for over 19 years. The list of Scoutmasters are as follows:

1955-59	Don Turno
1959-61	Norm E. Vincent
1961-64	Al L. Boni
1965	Ralph E. Gosline
1965-66	William M. Johnson Jr.
1967-72	Dave L. Honkonen
1973-77	Kenneth E. Goad

During that time, six young men earned the rank of Eagle Scout: Al Boulogne, Kevin Gosline, Patrick J. Monahon, Thomas M. Monahon, Kenneth E. Goad, and William F. Goad.

Columbus Club History

The Council History states:

“During the second year of our existence, we saved a small surplus from dues collections and this surplus was designated as the Columbus Club Fund. The dedication of this money was to provide a place where Catholic men and their families could enjoy a program promoting social family activity.”

The Columbus Club was issued a Certificate of Incorporation on March 13, 1956 with the following Officers:

President	Nathaniel Stetson
Vice-President	John F. LaBonte
Secretary	William A. Chren
Treasurer	Harry J. Reynolds

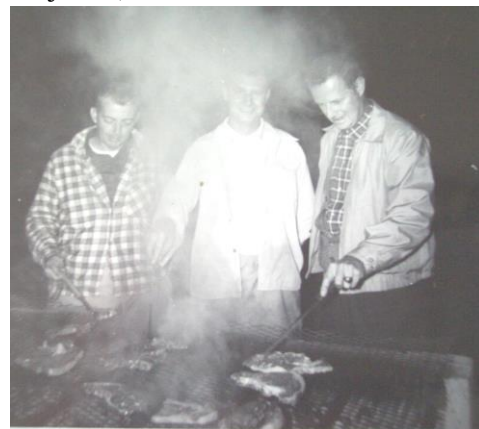
To supplement its income, the Columbus Club operated a driving range during 1956-59. The driving range was located on Whiskey Road just south of Wal Mart where the Burger King and motorcycle shop are.



Dedication of Home - September 8, 1957 - Good luck toast to future of new Home by officers and members.

In September of 1958, the Columbus Club rented a historic Aiken Mansion as the first Council Home. The accomplishment of this step in our progress was facilitated by the cooperation of Brother John J. Cunning, Sr.

With the establishment of our own Home, the Columbus Club supplemented their income by the famous Knights of Columbus Steak Dinners. Originally the steak dinner sold for \$2.50 for a T-bone steak. For over 40 years, these steak dinners were run the first Saturday of each month. In addition, steak dinner rentals were renown in the Aiken area.



Cooking those famous steaks

In 1961, the members of the Columbus Club decided to buy for \$18,000 the Council Home they had been renting. To raise money the Club turned to their members and offered a Participants Membership. The members bought a Participants Membership with the “assurance” that the participants would be reimbursed at the Columbus Club discretion. As of this date, the Columbus Club has not decided to reimburse any member.

By 1966, a continuously growing Council membership and the evolution of expanding activities clearly indicated the need for a new home specifically designed for Council activities. A site was procured and a new Council Home was built. The formal opening of the present Home was held in March 1968. Today, only nine South Carolina Knights of Columbus Councils have their own home, (Aiken still has the largest bar.)

From 1956 to 1974, the Grand Knight also served at the President of the Columbus Club. It is to the credit of these nineteen men that they would serve our membership in dual capacity. In 1974, the active directorship of the Club was turned over to a Board of Directors. PGK Jim Brown was the first non-Grand Knight President. A list of Presidents are:

1974-77	James K. Brown	1987-90	Raymond R. Brantley
1977-78	Edward J. Szustack	1990-91	Leroy M. Lawrence
1978-79	Thomas P. O'Connor	1991-93	Edward L. McCormack
1978-80	Lucian A. Mattes	1993-94	Andrew K. Bentley
1980-81	Richard Bufford	1994-95	Edward L. McCormack
1981-84	Leroy M. Lawrence	1995-98	James G. Loftis
1984-85	W. David Keel	1998-03	Andy K. Bentley
1985-86	James S. Gardner	2003-Present	Robert C. Hochel
1986-87	Neal R. Donovan		

Through the years the Columbus Club has provide for the convenience and interest of its members. This includes not only the personality adjustment rooms and television, but includes a nine foot pool table and several gaming machines (including shuttle pool, pin ball, and a slot machine.)

Bingo has been a moneymaker for the Columbus Club on multiple occasions with various degrees of success. Success was hampered as the various state laws and regulations changed. In 1995, the Columbus Club decided to try Bingo again. This has been a true success for the Club. By 1998, Bingo had grown in success, and with the influx of low cost steak houses in the Aiken area, Bingo replaced the steak dinners as the largest moneymaker for the Club.



Guests enjoy the Monday Night Knights of Columbus Bingo



The Original Bar at the first Council Home



Neal Donovan enjoys a game of billiards

The maintenance of the Council Home has seen a continued effort through the years and those who have served diligently deserve our thanks.



Board of Director members Bob Hochel and Raymond Brantley

Council Honors and Awards

1968-1969	Star Council Award
1969-1970	District Membership Award
1973-1974	Scrapbook Award
1974-1975	District Admission Degree Award
1977-1978	Star Council Award , District Admission Degree Award
1978-1979	Crowe Agency Achievement Award, State Knighthood Degree Award
1980-1981	Star Council Award
1982-1983	Star Council Award , State Convention Attendance Award
1983-1984	Star Council Award
1984-1985	Star Council Award, State Church Activity Award, State Family Activity Award, State Community Activity Award, Supreme Council Award of Merit-Top 10 Community Activity Award, Supreme Council Award of Merit-Top 10 Family Activity Award, Crowe Agency Achievement Award
1985-1986	Fr. Michael J. McGivney Award, Columbian Award,
1989-1990	Fr. Michael J. McGivney Award, Columbian Award, Top Producer Charity Drive, State Charity Award
1990-1991	Star Council Award, State ICC Distinguish Council , State Family Activity Award, State Community Activity Award, Net Gain Membership
1991-1992	State ICC Best Council Award , Ceremonial Award, Fr. Michael J. McGivney Award, State Family Activity Award, State Community Activity Award,
1992-1993	Ceremonial Award, Columbian Award, District Admission Degree Award
1993-1994	Columbian Award, Top Producer Charity Drive, District Admission Degree Award
1994-1995	Second Degree Team State Competition, First Degree District Competition
1995-1996	Ceremonial Award, Second Degree Team State Competition
1996-1997	Operation HOPE Bronze Award, Second Degree Team State Competition
1999-2000	State Church Activity Award , Columbian Award
2000-2001	State Church Activity Award, State Community Activity Award, State Family Youth Award , Fr. Michael J. McGivney Award, Columbian Award, State ICC Best Council Award , Pullian Award, State Charity Activity Award, Scrapbook Award
2001-2002	State ICC Honor Council, State Charity Award, Columbian Award
2002-2003	State ICC Honor Council, State Charity Award

Council Home

Parish Hall For the first four years, the Aiken Council of the Knights of Columbus met twice a month in St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church Parish Hall, (now known as the Smith Hall.)

Elm Court In September 1958, the Aiken Council moved into the newly rented Elm Court. Elm Court, was built between 1832 and 1834 by a Gregg, (some think it was William Gregg, the founder of the Graniteville Mills.)



In the 1870's, the Gregg Mansion was bought by Aiken County for \$19,430 to serve as the first courthouse. The amount raised such a furor that a commission responsible for the purchase was indicted by a Grand Jury and several members were convicted of embezzlement. (Folklore says the last legal hanging in Aiken County occurred on the property.) Later, a new Aiken County Courthouse was built and the mansion was abandoned.

The house was inherited by Emma Chafee Walpole, Mrs. Salley's aunt. The house was then known as the Walpole house. Later, it became the home of E. H. Harriman, the railroad tycoon, and entered the category of a "winter cottage" for the socialites who came to Aiken for the winter season.

Near the turn of the century, the grand old Gregg-Chafee-Harriman house was owned by Mr. Emory D. Ferris. In 1914, Mr. William K. Vanderbilt bought the house and renamed it Elm Court. The deed stated:

"I, Emory D. Ferris ... in consideration of other valuable consideration and a sum of \$1 to me in hand paid at and before the sealing of these presents by William K. Vanderbilt ... do grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said William K. Vanderbilt all the certain land ... formerly known as the Walpole place ..."

(Rumor had it that it was won in a poker game.)

The son of Mr. Vanderbilt sold Elm Court in 1926 to Mr. Augustus F. Goodwin of Boston for \$150,000. This did include however, "all fixtures, equipment, tools, furniture, and household goods of every description." The Goodwin's were the last of the winter colony to live at Elm Court.



Elm Court - Back view of first Council Home with barbeque grill just outside the back door.

By 1952, during the construction days of the Savannah River Plant, this building was used as a restaurant and rooming house for men here with construction.

By 1958, the home was owned by Brother Knight John Cunning, who leased the property to the Knights of Columbus / Columbus Club. In 1961, the home was sold to the Columbus Club with the stipulation to give Brother Cunning first refusal if the Knights decided to resell.

The property was located at 820 Colleton Avenue, S. E. This is located on the north side of Colleton Ave, between Fairfield Street and Union Street. The grand old house had over 30 rooms. Two rooms that ran from the front-to-back served as a meeting room and ballroom. The house was renovated to install a 30 foot long bar. The far right of the building, which were previously the servants quarters, was used for storage, though many remember a poker table. Upstairs was not usually



Phil Rosbach under the white arch of Elm Court

used, except for a room used to house a pool table. The kitchen was large and spacious and included an old but large gas stove. Outside, the property was graced with many old pines and magnolia trees. A large bar-b-que grill was build by the Columbus Club out back. On the back left of the property was the clay tennis court, which by that time, had not post or net and the two fences on either end were in disrepair. The walkways about the property, and the driveways were lined with decorative concrete bricks, consistent with the style of a winter colony home. On the first floor roof, over the front porch, was placed the Knights of Columbus emblem. Persons visiting the Knights of Columbus Home entered through a white brick archway, then down a fine gravel path to the wide steps leading to the landing on the front porch.

The Knights of Columbus stayed in this location for 10 years, at which time Elm Court was then sold back to Brother Cunning. For a short time, Elm Court was used as Colony Florist.

In just two hours, the rambling old structure, built of heart pine a hundred and thirty years earlier, was gutted by fire on January 25, 1970.

The property today houses another spacious and grand house owned by Brother Michael and Sally Cunning Anaclerio.



New Council Home for Council #3684



Ready to break ground for the new council home on Spaulding Drive are PGK Paul Hagelston, DGK Bill Brantley, Don Bomba, GK Bill Perkins. In the foreground is Building Chairman Bill Walsh (front left) conferring with Paul Gray and Pope Turner, contractors.

The New Council Home By 1966, a new Council Home was needed to accommodate the continuously growing membership and the evolution of expanding activities. The need of a new home specifically designed for Council activities and the cost to maintain the old mansion led to the appointment of a Building Committee chaired by PGK William J Walsh and comprised of Abdon A. Bomba, and PGK Paul J. Hagelston. The Building Committee selected the present site on Spaulding Drive comprised of 14 lots of the Millbrook Block 'M' subdivision. The Columbus Club purchased seven of the lots in

November 1967. Don Bomba, a brother Knight and Vice-President of the Palmetto Federal Savings and Loan, purchased the remaining seven lots to assure

the property would be available for the Aiken Council to purchase at later date.



Don Bomba helps
clear the property

Groundbreaking occurred in December 1967 and included GK Bill Perkins, DGK William Brantley, and the Building Committee. To defray the cost, the members cleared much of the land, built the barbecue addition and finished the interior, cabinets and trimming. The Council Home was open and dedicated on March 16, 1967.



Bill Walsh, Bill Brantley, Tony Petrino, raise rafters for
the barbeque cook area (now part of the kitchen.)

Three major items moved from the old Knights of Columbus Home to the new Home; the oven, the pool table, and the bar. One can only imagine the site of a thirty-foot long bar being moved on the back of a truck down Whiskey Road in the middle of the night.

The pool table was originally located in the first room to the front right as one enters the building. The pool table was later removed and the room shortened to accommodate an expansion of the bar room.



Monsignor Smith blesses the New Council Home

In 1972, the Columbus Club purchased the remaining property from Don Bomba at the original purchase price. This purchase secured for the Home a buffer and now is the site of the present horseshoe pits



Building Chairman Bill Walsh hand the key to
the new Council Home to GK Bill Perkins.

Officers of the South Carolina State Council

State Deputy	Richard S. Sullivan	1978-1980
State Secretary	Nathaniel Stetson John F. LaBonte William J. Desmond Gilbert B. Thomas	1955-1956 1976 1985-86
State Treasurer	Ralph Dion	1972-1974
State Warden	Ralph E. Gosline Paul T. Ferriter William Johnson Raymond D. Fridley William F. Walsh Charles R. Goergen	1962-1963 1963-1965 1987-1988

District Deputies

Paul T. Ferriter	1950's
William J. Walsh	1950's
Raymond Fridley	1960's
Paul J. Hagelston	1963-1964
Richard S. Sullivan, Sr.	1971-1972
William J. Desmond	1973-1974
Richard S. Sullivan, Sr.	1974-1975
Joseph M. Keller	1975-1977
Gilbert B. Thomas	1977-1978
Thomas M. Monahon	1980-1982
D. Robert McCaughin	1982-1985
Charles R. Goergen	1985-1987

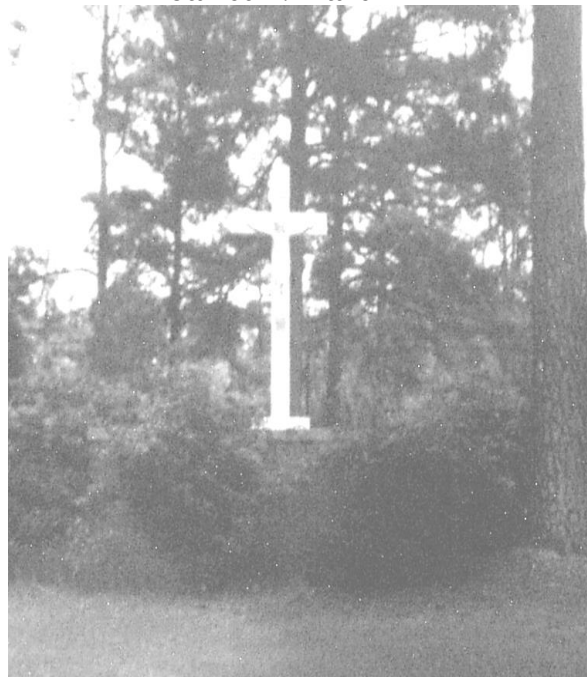
Fourth Degree South Carolina District

District Master	Joseph J. Monahon, Jr. Richard S. Sullivan	1962-1966 1988-1990
District Marshal	Thomas M. Monahon S. Jimmy LeBert	1982-1986 1987-1990

Decreased Members

1955 Leo Hayes
Clarence Satchell
1959 Wiley Turner
1961 William Molony
1963 Jack Allen
1965 Arthur Penn
1971 Thomas J. Lyons
1973 Thomas A. Simpson
1975 Lee J. Cauvin
1976 Paul Hagelston
John F. LaBonte
Joseph P. Nolan, Sr.
William Delaney
Walter E. Potts
1977 Joseph A. Calano
1978 George Peterson
Johns F. Kinsella
Donald M. LeBoeff
1980 John J. Simons
William A. Johnson
Raymond D. Fridley
John F. Fannon
1981 Sigmund C. Catino
William G. Scally
Joseph M. Keller
James R. Daily
Joseph J. Monahan Jr.
1982 Peter Doonan
Walter Watkins
W. Dempsey Jones
Ronald G. Godard
1983 John T. Niland Sr.
Gilbert B. Thomas
Joseph E. Didgeon
1984 Abdon A. Bomba
1985 Verl W. Wilson
1986 Richard A. Debattista
Ronald L. Distasio
Anthony F. Petrina
John E. Flanagan
1986 Francis J. Cofrancesco
Norman E. Vincent
Robert P. Gardner
1987 David Hubbard
Jerry Ford

Rt. Rev. Msgr. George
Lewis Smith
Andy Vargochik
1988 Rev. Emmitt Zachman
Richard J. Sullivan
De Chantel Derrick
1989 Bill Collins
John J. Cuning
John F. Donohue
James A. Blake



1990 Dr. James H. Suhrer Sr.
John Saunderson
James J. Hentges
William E. Sedell
William Walsh
Rev. Luis V. Tonero
1991 Dr. Steve Z. Szymonski
James MacDonald
Joseph H. Herbert, Jr.
Peter J. Kruzner
Charles W. McMahon Jr.
Frank J. McCrosson

1992 Henry B. Middendorf
Ernie Pelletier
Eugene F. Bailey
1993 George L. Horton
Paul T. Ferriter
Thomas A. Murray
Harry P. Young
Paul M. Weiler
1994 James B. South
Joseph E. Finnegan
William P. Morgan
Eddie Hochel
1995 Leroy M. Lawrence
Phillip F. Rosbach
John Page
1996 Arthur Cramer
1997 John Lawless
James A. Steiger, Jr.
Matthew A. Patchan
Lou G. Siriano
Laurence A. Murphy
Dennis P. O'Connell
1998 Olin D. Franklin
Eugene L. Godshall
Thomas B. Niland
Rev. Filiberto Zaratti
William H. Wipf
1999 John G. Molony
Dr. Frank Merz
Richard A. Schmidt
James T. Taylor
Charles J. Selinger
2000 Woodrow Paige
Ronold O. Hawk
Charles H. Park
2001 Leroy Eggenberger
John Duane
Nathaniel Stetson
Bruce McGrath
2002 William Hicks
John Moore
2003 Ted Hickman
James V. Krafnick
Msgr. Thomas A.
Evatt

Chronology

October 12, 1492	Christopher Columbus, a Catholic and the Knights of Columbus' immortal patron, discovers America, bring Christ to the new world
Spring 1540	The first Mass in what is now South Carolina, is offered at Silver Bluff by twelve priests traveling with the Hernando De Soto expedition.
July 4, 1776	Charles Carroll, a Catholic, signs the Declaration of Independents as "Charles Carroll of Carrolton" thereby pledging his life, liberty and fortune. Independence opens the door for Catholicism in the USA.
1789	John Carroll, cousin of Charles Carroll, is elected the first Bishop in the United States as the Bishop of the Diocese of Baltimore (which includes South Carolina.)
July 11, 1820	The Diocese of Charleston is established by Pope Pius VII from the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Bishop John England is appointed the first Bishop.
November 28, 1843	Rt. Rev. Ignatius A. Reynolds is appointed the second Bishop of Charleston succeeding Bishop England after his death.
June 1853	Rt. Rev. Ignatius A Reynolds purchases a tract of land at the intersection of Park Avenue and York Street in Aiken, SC. The property includes the present land occupied by St. Mary Help of Christians Church.
October 1881	Fr. McGivney meets with a group of men in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven CT. He proposes an organization to help Catholic men remain steadfast in their faith, to promote fraternity among them, and to set up an elementary system of insurance for their widows and children.
March 29, 1882	Knights of Columbus is chartered in the State of Connecticut.
1902	The Knights of Columbus charts the Rev. P. N. Lynch Council #704 in Charleston, the first Knights of Columbus Council in South Carolina.
1920	The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council establishes the South Carolina State Council and appoints Fred M. Bultman as the first State Deputy
1938	Rev. George Lewis Smith is assigned to St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church in Aiken, South Carolina. He becomes pastor the following year.
December 1950	The United States Atomic Energy Commission announces its intent to construct the Savannah River Plant in Aiken County.
March 15, 1953	South Carolina State Deputy Al J. Baumann meets with Paul Hagelston, John LaBonte, William Molony, Joseph Monahan, Paul Ferriter, George Lentz, and Harry Young to discuss establishing a Knights of Columbus in Aiken.
July 19, 1953	Bishop Ignatius A, Reynolds Council #3684 is chartered as the sixth Knights of Columbus Council in South Carolina. Mr. Paul Hagelston is the first Grand Knight, and Monsignor George Lewis Smith is appointed as Council Chaplain.
March 3, 1956	Aiken Council opens a Golf Driving Range on Whiskey Road (about where the Burger King presently exists), which operated until 1959.
March 13, 1956	The Columbus Club is incorporated by the State of South Carolina.
April 1956	Aiken Council hosts the South Carolina State Council's 35 th Annual State Convention.

Chronology

September 8, 1957	Aiken Council dedicates its first Council Home located on the north side of Colleton Avenue, between Fairfield St. and Union Street. The Home is rented from Brother John J. Cuning, Sr.
November 25, 1960	Bishop Ignatius A. Reynolds Assembly #1074 is chartered as the fourth Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Assembly in South Carolina. Mr. Joseph J. Monahan, Jr. is named the first Faithful Navigator, and Monsignor George Lewis Smith is appointed as Faithful Friar. Francis Kerr was the Master of the South Carolina District of the De Soto Providence.
October 1, 1962	SK Joseph J. Monahan, Jr. is appointed the fourth South Carolina District Master of the De Soto Providence. He will serve two term until 1966.
April 27-28, 1963	Aiken Council hosts the South Carolina State Council's 42 nd Annual State Convention, with Bishop Reh and Deputy Supreme Knight John McDevitt.
March 16, 1968	The present Knights of Columbus Council Home is formally opened and dedicated.
April 27-28, 1968	Aiken Council hosts the South Carolina State Council's 47 th Annual State Convention.
April 27-29, 1973	Aiken Council hosts the South Carolina State Council's 52 nd Annual State Convention, with Bishop Unterkoefer and Supreme Director Leo P. Stark.
June 1, 1974	Active directorship of the Columbus Club is turned over to a Board of Directors. PGK Jim Brown becomes the first Columbus Club president who is not simultaneously the Grand Knight.
March 19, 1978	Fr. Joseph J. Murphy Council #7062 in North Augusta, SC is established as a spin off of the Aiken Council.
July 1, 1978	Richard S. Sullivan, Sr. serves as South Carolina State Deputy. He will serve two terms until 1980.
September 30, 1978	Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration is held.
June 1980	Msgr. George Lewis Smith resigns as Council Chaplain having served the Council for 27 years. He continued as Council Chaplain Emeritus.
1984-1985	The Aiken Council has a banner year under the leadership of GK James S. Gardner earning Star Council Award, three State Activity Awards (Church, Family, and Community), and two Supreme Council Award of Merit-Top 10 Activity Awards (Community and Family.)
October 25, 1985	Rev. Norman F. Rockwood Council #9161 in Barnwell, SC is established as a spin off of the Aiken Council.
February 1988	SK Richard S. Sullivan, Sr. PSD, is appointed the eleventh South Carolina District Master of the De Soto Providence. He serves until 1990.
April 5, 1991	Aiken Council obtains a charter for Squires Circle #3883.
May 1991	Aiken Council is cited as the Best Council in the South Carolina State Council's Inner Council Competition.
October 11, 1995	Jeremiah Donovan Council #11645 in Edgefield, SC is established as a spin off of the Aiken Council
May 2001	Michael and Josephine Gentile are named South Carolina Family of the Year. Edwin A. Maino is named South Carolina Knight of the Year.
May 2001	Aiken Council is cited as the Best Council in the South Carolina State Council's Inter Council Competition. Edwin and Carol Maino are named South Carolina Family of the Year. And Aiken Council earns three State Activity Awards (Church, Community, and Youth.)

Contributions

We are indebted to PGK Clem Konwinski for the first 25 years' history, written on the occasion of the 25th Council Anniversary; to PGK Jim Gardner for furnishing materials covering the next five years; to PGK George Gibson for overall collection and coordination of the first 40 years; and to PGK Tom Monahon for this edition and additional research of the history for the Council's 50th Anniversary Celebration in September 2003.

The 50th Anniversary celebration team includes:

- PGK Tom Monahon, SW, FDD, PFN (Chairman)
- PGK Edwin Maino (Banquet Chairman)
- GK Charles T. Spainhour
- Mrs. Marion Engel (Ladies Auxiliary Decorations)
- FN Angel Lacabe DD (Fourth Degree Coordination)
- PGK Richard Sullivan, PSD, FDM,
- Carol Maino
- Kathy Monahon
- PGK Raymond Brantley, FDD, PFN

We would like to thank the following special contributors:

- Ed Albenesius
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- Rodger Corbett
- William Corbett
- Rita Cvikl
- Woody Daspit
- PGK Neal Donovan
- Don Gel
- PGK Chuck Goergen
- Tom Grant
- Anne Hagelston
- Bob Hochel
- PGK James Loftis
- PGK Dan Mahoney
- Marie Pelkey
- Bill Piesch
- Al Rose
- PGK Lou Spano
- Mark Szymanski
- John Wernke



A significant effort was made to credit the many outstanding members of our Council over the fifty years and we regret that we couldn't mention them all.

Thanks to all who contributed to the success of our 50th Anniversary.