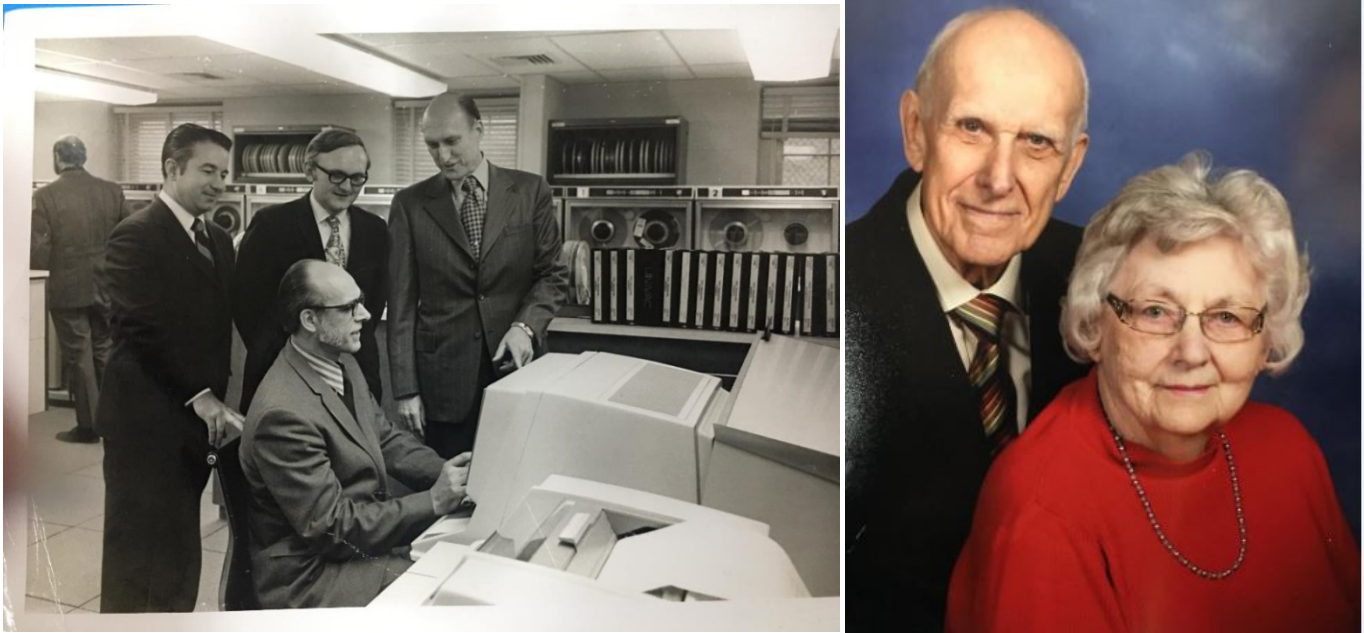




March 2020

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. LOUIS COUNCIL 3335



Brother knight Irvin Voltin, an active member of Sacred Heart Church in Pomeroy and their Knights of Columbus council, died two weeks after reaching his 95th birthday. Having been placed in Abbyshire Nursing Home in Gallia County, his spiritual care became the responsibility of St. Louis Church. We visited him once or twice a week and brought him Holy Communion. It was a privilege to get to know him better. Even though under morphine, we were able to have some great conversation. We quickly learned that Irvin Voltin was a member of the “Great Generation” that won World War II. As a U.S. Navy Electronic Technician’s Mate Second Class from 1943-46, he was attached to the 7th Australian Infantry Division for the final amphibious assault in the Pacific Theater, seizing the city of Balikpapan, Borneo in July 1945. In August the war was over. We only read about history; Irvin Voltin lived it.

After being discharged he became a computer designer, on the ground floor as a true pioneer in the development of computers. At the time it was difficult to even dream of the laptops and pocket computers that we can even use to make phone calls anywhere near a tower. Even in the 1970s a room full of computer equipment would be needed to have the storage and memory to do what a smart little pocket cell phone can do today, not to mention all of the apps. In the photo on the left, Voltin is at his large desktop computer in the 1970s, working for NASA in Huntsville, Alabama. With the IBN 360 main frame computer in the 1960s, each line of a program and each piece of data had to be typed and punched on a separate IBM card.

Irvin introduced us to his wife Beulah via their wedding picture. She was three years older. They were married for 68 years until her death in 2018. Irvin missed Beulah very much and I consoled him saying, “Someday we’ll be all together again for that big party in Heaven.” Make sure that we get there, dear reader. Both born in Minnesota, they somehow found their way to a small Meigs County farm in their retirement. They had 10 children, evenly divided among the sexes. Their photo is on the right. He was proud of his grandson, Sfc Sam Voltin, trained for airborne and special forces; he came for the funeral in full uniform. An expert bugler and a petty officer from the Naval base in Virginia did a great job with taps.

The most impressive of all was Irvin’s solid faith as his pastor, Fr. Mark Moore observed. He would often attend daily Mass and had a very good prayer life. His Bible and prayer book were at his bedside. Jaga’s prayer that Irvin would die at home was answered. Irving took his last breath at home the day after leaving Abbyshire. To our surprise, Irvin planned his funeral in detail beforehand. Since he enjoyed socializing with friends, Irvin hosted a unique funeral reception with a selection of fine wines for his guests.....ever see that before? May he rest in peace. Rest assured; Irvin is praying for all of us.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE TODAY? Marital love is made holy by the sacrament of Matrimony, worthy of special gifts of healing grace that accompanies the couple in good times and bad throughout their marriage. As noted in the Vatican II Council, “Jesus Christ abides with the couple so that

just as He loves the Church and handed Himself over on her behalf, the spouses may love each other with perpetual fidelity through mutual bestowal....For this reason Christian spouses have a special sacrament by which they are fortified and receive a kind of consecration in the duties and dignity of their state.....they are penetrated with the Spirit of Christ, who fills their whole lives with faith, hope, and charity. Thus they increasingly advance towards their own perfection, as well as towards their mutual sanctification, and hence contribute jointly to the glory of God” (#56). Tap those graces in praying alone and together.

The Free Throw Contest for developmentally disabled children and adults of the Rehabilitation Center (formerly Guiding Hand School) is on *Thursday March 12 at 10 am at the old Guiding Hands School* at 77 Mill Creek Road to the left on the way to the golf course. We've been sponsoring this special olympics type event for years. We need knights to referee, keep score, and cheer on the participants. It has always been very fulfilling and fun for all as our Council awards t-shirts and medals.

The Knights of Columbus Life Insurance, top rated for financial security among all insurance companies, is your best buy to protect your family against the unforeseen and save for the future. Call Michael Williams, our local field agent, at 614-452-0492 or send him an e-mail at michael.williams@kofc.org. Mike loves his job and is anxious to serve his fellow knights and their families. He considers you more important than his commission to make a living. Our former field agent, John Spencer is moving up. Congratulations, John! He has replaced the retiring James Valent as the local general agent, to whom we express our thanks.

Please pray for our ailing brother knights Oscar Bastiani, Mike Haas, and Larry Haas, a prospect.

Activities for the Month of March

1. **March 29 after the 10 am Mass.** The Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude with Vespers and Benediction at 4 pm. *It would be great to have a Knights of Columbus Honor Guard there. Brother Knight, if you come for adoration*, please kneel/sit in the front row on the left for as long as you desire, be it only 15 minutes or more. You don't have to be in regalia. Former Grand Knight Bruce Davison usually occupies the first row on the right for most of the time, including the all-nighters. You can do spiritual reading; converse with the Lord; and share your innermost thoughts and concerns with Him to obtain healing and strength to keep going. You will find peace. *The recommended community intention for March* is for the success of the Knights of Columbus campaign: "BUILD THE DOMESTIC CHURCH AND STRENGTHEN THE PARISH"..... The next Sunday Adoration is on Sunday May 3. There is also adoration an hour before daily Mass.
2. **K of C Coffee & Donuts - Sunday March 8 after the 8 am and 10 am Masses** (2nd Sunday of each month). It will be great fellowship, which strengthens our parish community. Bring your family and friends. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted to cover costs and for the benefit of Knights of Columbus charities. We have discontinued the brunch because of a lack of help.
3. **Business Dinner Meeting this Month - Monday March 23 at 6:30 pm with Mass at 5:30 pm as a Lenten sacrifice**.....prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for spiritual growth and in preparation for Easter. We have great fellowship at dinner and the input of every knight is most valuable at the meeting as we make decisions regarding future activities. Our Council is as strong as each knight makes it. That begins with YOU! We cannot be an effective Council without the Lord's help and guidance together with your participation. Some of the men make great sacrifices to attend the meetings. May all do the same! Talk up the meetings for greater attendance.
4. **Knights of Columbus Fifth Sunday Mass – Sunday March 29 (next is May 31) at 10 am.** The 4th Degree knights will process in full regalia and make the Mass more beautiful and impressive than it already is. The knights will do it all; Fr. Tom is also a knight. We will all *meet in the back of the church at 9:45 am*. Come for the pre-Mass rosary at 9:20 am. Brother knight, even though you habitually attend the 5:30 pm Vigil Mass or the 8 am Mass, please make a special effort to attend with your family. Your presence will make this Knights of Columbus Mass very special.