

ANNUAL COUNCIL DINNER TO HONOR PAST GRAND KNIGHTS

On Saturday evening November 13, 2010, the members of Montgomery Council held its annual dinner to honor Past Grand Knights. A special letter of invitation went to all clergy of the parishes served by Montgomery Council; St Francis Derwood, St Martin's Gaithersburg, and St Mary's Rockville; 26 Past Grand Knights (12 attended); and 28 widows. Although no widows attended, many were thankful for being remembered by a letter of invitation from the Council and sent notes to that effect.

The evening commenced with hor d'oeuvres and cocktails. A blessing before dinner for the work of the Knights was provided by Father Beaubien, pastor of St Francis, who then led the Council in dinner grace. A wonderful dinner was prepared by Bob Mongelli, working all afternoon in the Council Hall kitchen, consisted of beef tenderloin, potatoes, green beans, followed by desert and coffee. Musical entertainment was provided by Revonne, a DJ (in a requested return engagement from the Council dinner for Rockville Senior Citizens). The current Grand Knight John Leighton served as emcee. The immediate PGK and Trustee 3 year Christopher Dierken gave a short speech thanking the Council for the opportunity to serve as Grand Knight, and thanking God and his father, Harry, for their aid and support. Chris was then presented with an award for his service. All Past Grand Knights in attendance posed for a picture.

What was special about the evening was attendance from many Council members (approximately 20 and their guests). In years past, the event was well attended by PGK and Council officers, but not by Council members. For some reason, Council members have recently considered this event only for PGK. In this regard, one member, Pat Gilroy, deserves special mention. Pat not only helped out with serving dinner, but was instrumental in getting many of the non-PGKs (and some non members) to come to the dinner. For all his work for the Council, and the effort of his wife Karen, the Gilroy family was deservedly named the Family of the Month earlier in this fraternal year.



Current Grand Knight John Leighton served as emcee and welcomed all to the Council Dinner.



Father Beaubien preparing to say grace.



PGKs Tom Reilly and Hank Mongelli, seated with their wives Flo and Ann, enjoying dinner and conversation.



PGK Ginley and Bernie with Brother Joe and Mary Kempf. At lower left is Lady Lisa, wife of the current GK.



Door prizes were a big hit!!



Immediate PGK and Trustee 3 year Chris Dierken received recognition from GK John Leighton for his service.



PGK in attendance from top left: Paul Barrett Sr, Carl Fahrner, Randy Drago, John Leighton GK, Chris Dierken, Frank Dunleavy, Kevin Ginley, and John Fitzgerald
Seated from left: Tom Reilly, James P Cribin, William Lander, Marc Aucremanne, Hank Mongelli