

John Fitzgerald

# THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

FITZGERALD COUNCIL 833  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
July 2024 Newsletter

“A Pioneer Catholic of Lincoln”



## A Message from our Grand Knight:

Brother Knights,

Right now it's 95 degrees outside and it feels like the humidity couldn't get any higher! Summer in Nebraska. I'll take it. I love having four seasons (at least that is what I tell folks).

It's been a busy month not just for me but the Knights too. We just finished our second biggest fundraiser of the year. Ron handed the gavel over to me as your new Grand Knight, and my first meeting as your new Grand Knight at last Wednesday's general meeting. The District Deputy wants us to host an informal social for several Councils later this month too.

Thanks to all who came out and worked the fireworks tent. I believe it was a great success. Lots of customers coming through. The product looked really exciting this year. As you know, Patriot Pete's sold out to Wild Willy's Fireworks. Everything went fairly smoothly. They have a very efficient operation. That's not to say that we didn't find things to discuss with them for next year. Overall, I think we are happy and they should be extremely happy with our production. We are blessed to have a great location with an awesome "partner" in HyVee. They really like having us out there and its important that we give a good show all around (think pleasantries, clean, no trash blowing around, etc.

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## Upcoming Events:

**July 17th:** KOC 833 Meeting - 7:30pm  
**July 26th:** Altar Server Outing  
**July 29th:** Officers Meeting - 7:30pm  
**August 3rd:** CSS Food Drive  
**August 4th:** CSS Food Drive  
**August 4th:** Walk to End Hunger



## LEGION OF BOOM: Story inside

### OFFICERS:

**Chaplain:** Father Kipper  
**Grand Knight:** Matt Schafers  
**Dep. Grand Knight:**  
**Financial Secretary:** Tony Schafers  
**Treasurer:** Philip Paitz  
**Recorder:** Barry Butler  
**Chancellor:** Nathaniel Cunningham

### Warden:

Ron Wortman  
**Advocate:** John Lenich  
**Lecturer:** Mike Szatko  
**Inside Guard:** Cliff Henggeler  
**Outside Guard:** Reese Meyer  
**Trustees:** Ron Schinkel, James McCarville, Marv Burbach

## CONTACT US:

Visit our website at:  
<http://fitzgerald833.org>

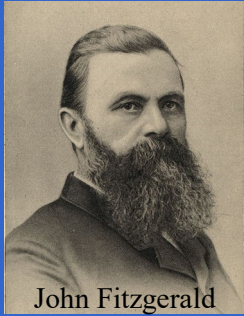
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Columbus Fitzgerald  
Council 833



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“We are a Catholic fraternal order, whose principles are based on the vision of Father Michael J. McGivney, to extend to each and every eligible man our faith and opportunity to become a member of this great organization and to utilize his God given talents for the betterment of Church, Family, Youth, Community, and Council.”

**Knights of Columbus Hall : 6044 South Street : Lincoln, NE 68506 : 402-488-1415**



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That being said, we really need to get more of you involved in the process. It takes a lot of men to set up, operate, and tear down. We tore it down in three hours with ten guys but if we'd had more the rest of us could have gotten home sooner than 1 am. We also need at least 6 men to operate the tent at any given time. It's unfortunate but at least one tent somewhere in the city gets hit with crime of some sort every year. The more men we have on hand and being seen the better odds we have of deterring them from picking our tent.

Thank you and may God continue to bless us all.

Matt Schafers  
Grand Knight 833

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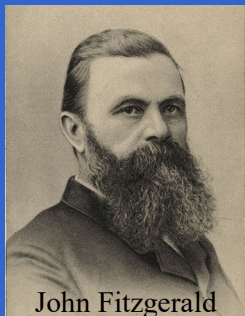


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*A Message from our Financial Secretary:  
(July 9th)*

## "Legion of Boom"

Brother Knights and Families,

Thank you to all who helped with the fireworks tent by either working the tent for one or multiple shifts or by purchasing fireworks. We do not have any concrete numbers as of yet and the numbers that we thought we had were a miscommunication. In the past with Patriot Pete's, we used to be able to access "Reports" in the Square but this company, Wild Willy's, had one tent last year that was going in and issuing gift cards. So they turned back door access off which included the reports section and were working with Square to allow us to access reports but did not get it working for this year. Based on the traffic flow and the steady lines at three cash registers I believe that it was a very successful year. We should know the final totals in three weeks and then we will pass them on to you. Keep in mind that this event is one of our biggest fundraisers for the money that we give to charity and the most money we can raise in the shortest time. So, thank you again as your support means alot to us and is so greatly appreciated by those that we support.

We had some awesome knights and families help this year but could always use more so that some of us don't need to be at the tent for hours upon hours. There were so many people buying fireworks that we did not get an earlier start as we have done in the past. It is a 3-4 hour process to close down the tent and this year we had it done by midnight by these diehard Firemen, pictured. We had a running joke about the people asking if we were still open even as we had the tent sides down and loading boxes into the trailer. We will be reviewing this year's tent operations next week at our KC business meeting on Wednesday July 17 at 7:30pm. Please come share your ideas on how we can better serve the community at these events and how we should distribute the proceeds. A speacil thanks to James McCarville the tent manager and to Rosie Polak the POS (Point Of Sale) Mananger both of whom were very dedicated to the mission. Also to our Grand Knight for 2024-2026 Matt Schafers for taking charge of packing the trailer so neatly, I know Wild Willy's will appreciate it.

Tony Schafers  
FS/PGK, Fitzgerald Council 833



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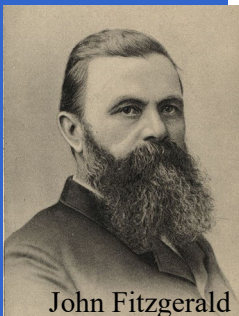
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## Insurance Questions? Contact our Knights of Columbus Field Agent:

**Francisco Romero**  
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**402-327-1514**  
**[francisco.romero@kofc.org](mailto:francisco.romero@kofc.org)**



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**Terry Kreifels**  
President



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