

The Most Honorable Order of Christian Knights of the Rose ® and The Most Honorable Order of Knights of Saint Michael the Archangel~Dagger Sub Rosa ®

2013 Annual Report

November 2, 2013

**Congratulations on our
10-Year Anniversary!**

2013 Fraternal Activities

During the course of this past year The Most Honorable Christian Knights of the Rose ® and The Most Honorable Order of Knights of Saint Michael the Archangel~Dagger Sub Rosa ® have contributed greatly to our communities and to charitable causes.



During the calendar year of 2013 our membership contributed more than **109 hours** to visits of individuals in nursing homes, hospitals and caring of the sick. Members made bereaved (visits of condolence) in the amount of **55 hours**. And we served as blood donors **5 times**.

Our membership volunteered services to church in excess of **2801 hours**, **1929 hours** to community related activities, **1464 hours** to other community related enhancement events.

Our membership **donated** in excess of **\$57,295.00** to charitable and benevolent causes.

Fraternal hours within the order was in excess of **538 hours**.

**Reflection by
Grand Chaplain
Donald Fuselier**



Ten years sounds like a long time, but it has passed very quickly. When we started we weren't sure if this thing would "fly". We all had busy lives with career, family and other civic obligations. Would cramming one more thing into a finite number of hours in a day really work? Well, it seems the old saying is true: "If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it". As is evident by our annual report, we have accomplished a great deal in one decade. The order has grown by both numbers and, more importantly, deeds. We have lived up to our mission and to the honored order of real knighthood. There is, however, a great deal more to be done. The next decade will require even more dedication and hard work. We live in an age of great public anger and mistrust of government, education, sports and entertainment. People will often say that there is no longer honor in the world and there are no longer heroes for youngsters to emulate. We, as an sacred and noble order, must in thought, word and deed prove them wrong. This is not the time to sit back and wait for "that other fellow" to step up and lead. We have taken ancient vows to live lives of honor and service to others. We, then, have an obligation to help fill that leadership role in our often broken and hurting world. May our loving and grace filled Lord give the wisdom, courage, knowledge and desire so to do. Shalom, dpf

Reflection From Our Assistant Grand Prior, Fr. Carl Faria

As I reflect back on ten years of the Knights of the Rose in the United States, I can't help but give thanks for the many amazing people I have met through the works and friends of the Order. We have celebrated with great glory at California's oldest home while enjoying fantastic company and amazing food prepared by a Papal Knight. We have prayed with the Spirit-filled nuns at the Carmelite Monastery. We have reflected on God's word in the reflection of the beautiful stained-glass windows of St. Mark's Church; the patron of our Order. All of these memories and many more have been most memorable because of the people who laughed, prayed and sang with us along the way. We have also shed tears as we raised monies for Alzheimer's disease. We were amazed by Reno's canine team as we helped raise money for their patrol vehicles on a cold Saturday. For all of these events we were joined by members and friends from Canada, Nevada and all parts of California. What a fraternity of support and hope I have felt and shared with such proud and dedicated men and women. I continue to be thankful for all of you and pray daily for your safety and health.

As we move forward to the next years, my prayer continues to be the same. I also pray that you will help us find more ways to support and assist our public safety and military personnel. We are a small group by many social standards. But we are not a social club. We are dedicated to the commitment of a knight's prayer and a dame's benevolence. We are a small part of the Order as the United States Priory. We join with our comrades and our leaders throughout the world, led by our Grand Master, the Honorable Brent Spencer. His guidance and prayerful support continue to make me hopeful for our work in the future. Please allow me to salute and thank you all so much for what you have given me and each other. Please invite like-minded and spirit-filled friends who will follow God's command to love and serve to join us. Our world needs you and we need you to remain steadfast in your faith and in the assurance that God is always with you.

Many blessings;

Order of Saint Michael

K-9 Project



I want to thank everyone who helped make this fundraiser a huge success! To date, we have raised \$6500 to purchase much needed safety equipment for the vehicles that will benefit both the K9s and the officers. The K9 team was overwhelmed by the generous donations from our members and their families and were amazed that 9 people made the trek over the "big hill" to Nevada to assist with the

event. Unfortunately, Mother Nature did not cooperate and the 70-80 degree weather we had been having turned to nearly freezing temps with wind and rain (and snow on that "big hill" I mentioned) on the day of the event but, despite that, we all had a good time and enjoyed watching the dogs work and talking with the officers.

Thanks again to everyone for another job well-done!

Dame Rhonda Knox

Reflection From Our Spiritual Warrior Diana Kelley

"You did not choose me, but I chose you..." John 15:16. Every year for the past ten years, Rev. Don Fuselier has included this verse in his reading during the Investiture ceremony. I love hearing his commanding voice read that passage; it brings me to tears. During my daily walk of faith with our Heavenly Father, if I ever begin to doubt if I matter

much to anyone, all I have to do is read that verse and know that God chose me, and has a purpose for my life. I matter to Him, and that, my friend, is all that matters! I do not have to care about what the world feels about me, but I only need to focus on how He feels about me and my dedication to Him. He hand-picked each and every

one of us to produce enduring fruit for him. In His eyes, we are significant. I have learned that for this reason, I can take my troubles, and your troubles to Him in prayer, and He listens and cares and He helps us through the day. God is great, and I love how He works through our lives to make the lives of others better. May God bless you.

Bobby Clinton Memorial Scholarship Fund



Through the generosity of Gloria Clinton, on an annual basis, we provide scholarships to graduates from various academies.

In past years the applicants have been from Police and from Fire Academies.

Each year we award 2 Fire Academy Scholarships.

In this picture is recipient Dean Shiraishi of the 2013-1 Fire Academy.

In December we will award a second scholarship to the Fire Academy. Both Scholarships are in the amount of **\$500.00** each.



Two Santa Cruz Police Officers were killed this year, Officer Baker and Officer Butler. We donated \$400.00 to the Family Scholarship Fund.

Benevolent Causes

The Honorable Order of Christian Knights of the Rose ® and the Most Honorable Order of Knights of Saint Michael the Archangel ® continue to remain in service to our communities locally and at large.

The Order donates

produce on a Monthly basis to the Carmelite Monastery. Approximately 16 to 17 cases of produce are donated each month which equals approximately 200 cases per year. If you look at the wholesale cost alone it averages ap-

proximately **\$1500.00 per month** in donations.

This is just one of the many examples of what our membership is capable of doing and continues to do in varies Chapters and Commandries within



Every Act of love is a work of peace no matter how small.

Reflection From Assistant Grand Prior Rhonda Knox

Dear fellow Knights and Dames, As we prepare to celebrate our 10 year anniversary, I can't help but reflect on the 8 years that I have been a part of this fine and noble Order. I will never forget the first event I attended; the year was 2005 and it was the Feast of St. Michael at the Mission Orchard House. I didn't know then how much everyone I met would come to mean to me or how many happy times I would spend at the Orchard House.

Some of the people I met that first night, many of them founding members, are no longer with this Order. I miss them and, although they have moved on, I will remember and be grateful for their hard work, dedication, and vision that gave us the foundation

on which we have been able to build. We have also, sadly, lost two of our members: Sir Lewis Scott and Sir John Mendenhall. It was through Sir Lewis' generosity and hospitality that we were able to have the unforgettable Feasts and events at the Mission Orchard House; his warm smile, kindness, and love of cookies will long be remembered. And it was over my many conversations with Sir John that I discovered his deep devotion and loyalty to the Order; he was a quiet man in which the still waters ran deep and he was taken from us far too soon.

There are also members who have moved away and are greatly missed; Sir Richard Menn and Chev Michael Green are among them. Anyone who

ever attended an event at the Mission Orchard House will not likely forget the exquisite food that Sir Richard so lovingly prepared or the fascinating and entertaining conversation that he provided; he made anyone who sat at his table feel like royalty! And Chev Mike is missed for his support, dedication, and willingness to help whenever needed. His wife also graced us with her beautiful voice at several of our investitures; hearing her sing Ave Maria was a moment that I will always treasure.

But even as we have lost members and others have gone their separate ways, we have welcomed new members into our Order. They bring with them an eagerness and new ideas that will help to take this organization into the future. As we celebrate our 10th anniversary, I am reminded of our past in the founding members that are still with us and the traditions and practices they set in place in 2003 that are still

followed today. I am also proud of our present accomplishments...the scholarship fund we have created and the scholarships we award every year, the fundraisers we organize, the donations we make as both individuals and as an Order, the financial and spiritual help we provide to members and others in need, and the feasts and other events that bring us together and strengthen our bonds and commitment. So many of our members make great personal and monetary sacrifices in the name of the Order and they do these things with no thought of recognition or glory but merely because it is the right thing to do. Their reward comes from the way it makes them feel and the joy it brings to others. I am so proud to know these people and call them my friends. I would like to acknowledge all of the great things that our members have done and continue to do, but I am afraid this article would rapidly become a book so it will have to suffice to say that I know the good works and deeds that you do and I am grateful to be associated with such kind, generous, loving hard-working individuals.

So, as I look to the future and our next 10 years I am filled with a confidence that we will only grow stronger and more unified in our efforts as an Order and closer as brothers and sisters serving our mighty and glorious God. With the knowledge, dedication, and loyalty of our long time members and the energy, passion, and vision of our new members, together we will march into tomorrow with the prayer on our lips "My Lord, I am ready on the threshold of this new day to go forth armed with thy power, seeking adventure on the high road, to right wrong, to overcome evil, to suffer wounds and endure pain if need be, but in all things to serve you bravely, faithfully, joyfully, that at the end of the day's labor, kneeling for thy blessing, thou mayest find no blot upon my shield."

May God bless you and always help you to choose the right,

Dame Rhonda Knox

Annual Treasury Report for 2013



We have \$28,283.84 in our CD's and Money Market.

The Orders saving account balance is at \$2039.48.

The Orders Charity Account has a balance of \$7049.80.

Reno K-9 Project \$6,349.00

The Orders Checking Balance is \$3,709.15.

Expenses:

Estimated cost for this years annual meeting is \$2600.00.

The Order paid \$1913.00 to Diane Green, CPA for tax prep years 2010-2012 and for renewal of our non-profit status.

The Order stemware was re-ordered at a cost of \$757.00

International dues paid this year were \$825.00.

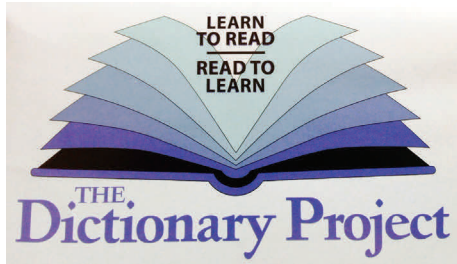
Blazer crests and pins purchased

from the International Home Office \$286.00.

Mantle Rose Insignias \$160.00

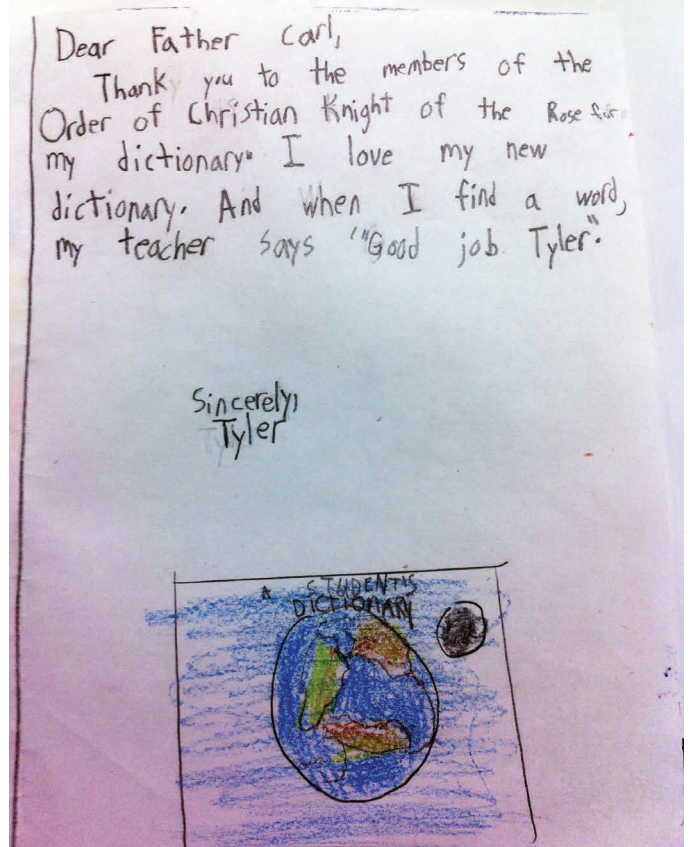
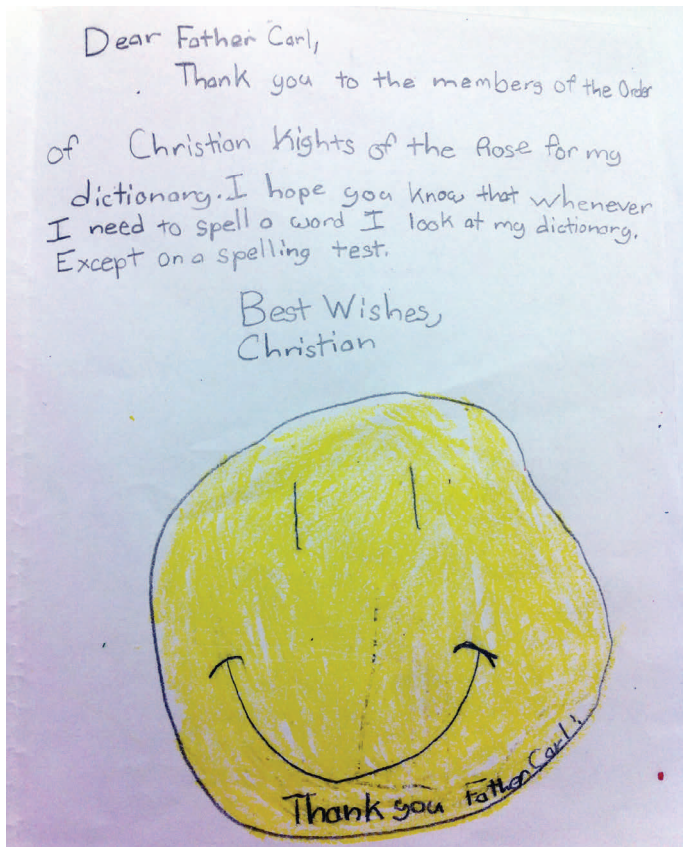
Mantles \$900.00

Passage fee's collected \$1200.00



As in years past, the Order donated dictionaries to the kids at San Carlos 3rd grade class.

This is the third year that the Order has donated dictionaries.



The concept of this order of chivalry was put forward in principle in January 2001, and was endorsed by the founding officers, myself, Paul Grant of Farnborough, Kent, in England, Dan Winger of Lakewood, California, Mark Douglas of Williston, N. Dakota (our legal specialist), and Misha Zigas of Mossman, North Queensland, Australia. Mark Douglas noted that if we put this together properly it might well be the first order of chivalry created in the new millennium and efforts went forward to research what might need to be done to make it happen. Mark further advised that chivalric tradition we might be legally chartered by a bishop of either an Anglican or Roman Catholic rite, and by Paul's recommendation I was directed to contact Bishop Peter Compton-Caputo in Virginia in this regard given our common interests. We all had some connection as soldiers involved in special ops or intelligence or in respect to law enforcement (often both), we were all interested in knighthood and chivalry, we were all Christians, and we all felt we might be able to support mission projects that were off the radar screen by mainline charity programs. It turned out that he had been a New York detective, was a Major General in the Legion of Frontiersmen, had a passionate interest in chivalry, and was a serving chaplain at the US Naval Academy in Norfolk Virginia as well as being Bishop of the Independent Anglican Community involved with mission projects throughout Central America and the Caribbean. When I put the idea to him he was ecstatic with enthusiasm and agreed to put his seal to our Charter and Warrant of Authority, and later agreed to come aboard as our first Chaplain General. In the meantime, I was asked to head up the project as the order's Grand Master and agreed to do so providing I had the support of all involved.

I set about drafting a Charter and Warrant of Authority and to writing the Constitutional Statutes of the order. The founding members supported the constitution, which was legally filed with the federal court in North Dakota by Mark Douglas, our newly appointed Justiciar. I sent the draft of the Charter to our Chaplain General for his approval – he was to make any revisions he saw fit and return it with the idea that two great documents would be made up in calligraphy, one to be displayed in Edmonton and one to be displayed in the Anglican cathedral in Washington, D.C. He put his seal and signature on the typewritten draft, dated July 4th in Washington, D.C. and sent it back to me, which had me a little puzzled as it didn't seem to fit the plan. Less than a month later he died of a heart attack while leaving his church and walking to his car following an evening church service. If he hadn't put his seal and signature to the draft we would have been back to square one and looking for a new bishop or royal to back up our charter. As it was, within the new few months, we drafted up Grand Priory Charters for Canada, the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Bishop Denis Kristie-Esposito then came forward stating an interest in becoming a member and helping to build the order. As plans were moving ahead to hold our premiere and first international investiture, I managed to coax him into becoming our second Chaplain General in time for the service. As such, he was able to invest me under God's authority as the first knight and Grand Master, and I in turn invested him as our first chaplain with appointment as Chaplain General.

The first investiture for the order was held July 13th 2002 in Edmonton, Alberta, and it set the general plan for all those to follow, with a vigil on a Friday evening followed by a dressy-casual social, the formal investiture on the next day followed by a rather formal supper in the evening or late afternoon. We also determined to not hold another one in the heat of the summer. I remember that at this first service we all conjectured that the order would likely explode across the United States, due to the fact that one of the order's chief premises for existence was the promotion of honour and that, following the events of 9-11, this was something felt lacking in the world and in much of mainstay North America.

We were quickly to see this realized as new members flocked to join our fledgling order – soldiers, law enforcement officers, and chaplains who believed in what we stood for ~ chivalry, honour, compassion, courage, old-fashioned values, and a very certain love for Christ.

Dan Winger, as one of our founding officers, was appointed first Grand Prior for the United States. To his credit, he had a broad network of fellow law enforcement officers from which to recruit new members, but we did not yet have the vetting process in place that we do now and not many the original members had the steadfastness or commitment needed for continuity. Unfortunately, he found the initial administrative tasks of setting up, organizing, and planning a bit overwhelming and difficult as well as having some health concerns. On his recommendation, I conferred with Mike Kimball and asked if he would be willing to take the reins. Thankfully, and with God's grace and direction, he agreed to become the new Grand Prior and wisely surrounded himself with an awesome support team. Dan was given an ambassadorial role which relieved him of the administrative burdens. In the meantime plans were put in place for the first joint investiture ceremony to be held for the California Commandery and US Grand Priory, as much of the initial command structure for the order in the US were members living in California and there were others not so much involved on the High Council level who were joining as new members throughout California. With much to and fro of emails and phone calls in respect to the manner in which we had conducted our service in Canada, Mike and his time forged ahead to conduct the first investiture in the US in Carmel Valley in 2003 and I had the good fortune to being able to come done for others held in 2004 and 2006.

Bringing us to this service, ten years later, I see many aspects that are apropos to the success of the order and the development of the US Grand Priory. First is an unflinching faith and loyalty in its founding membership. Secondly, that it is being held in St. Mark's church – St Mark having been chosen as the patron saint of the order for his love of learning and his courage as an evangelist. Thirdly, that it is being held in King City – as we serve the king of kings – and the purple colours we have in our regalia is a direct reference to this holy royalty. And finally, that his service is being held in California, historically the center of the growth of the order in the United States of America.

I personally welcome you to the order as new knights and ladies in Christ's service and I ask and challenge you to be steadfast. Please carry the torch forward, pick up the banner if it happens to fall in battle once in a while, and choose to become both a champion and a mutual blessing. Allow the order to be a blessing in your life, and please be a blessing to the order. We have a mission to serve God by serving and helping others. That requires a willingness to persevere, to develop and grow with a sense of vision, and to strive to maintain a level of excellence that others can look up to.

God bless each one of you, may God bless America, and may He continue to bless the United States Grand Priory,

In Christ and the cause of chivalry, most respectfully yours,

Brent R Spencer

By God's Grace, Grand Master ~ Knights of the Rose



Greeting all!

We have completed another year of service and have now arrived at our 10-year anniversary. The time has gone by fast and we have accomplished so much, yet we still have much to accomplish.

When I think about what we have had to overcome and what we yet face I think of the following passage:

The Battle Before

There is a battle fought before the weapon is in hand or the enemy is in distance to strike.

The battle is in the mind, to take captive our fears and doubts. To secure our thoughts and command our mental faculties.

To focus these moments of our life for a greater purpose than our own needs, our own wants or even our own preservation.

To walk into the shadow of death placing our destiny in the hands of God, for Him, for country, for family, for the defense and well being of others, for children yet to be born.

To remove all jealousy, envy, strive and hatred from our heart. To forgive all who have wronged us. To be thankful for all the beauty in the world and every voice and smile of friendship. To pray for our families and loved ones to pray for our enemy as well; that in this ensuing battle, whatever the outcome, that the Will of God be done.

To pray for courage that we might encourage others. To pray for the forgiveness of others that we may be forgiven. For if this be our last moments we want to be right with HIM.

This is heart of ancient knighthood, when every day was a battle in the mind. This is the heart of true patriots, true soldiers, for all who serve God. In serving their country and in service to others.

May God bless each and everyone of you and guide you and the Order in serving and providing for others through service.

I look forward to spending time with each and everyone of you and working side-by-side on our new and future projects.

God Speed!

Michael C. Kimball ~ Grand Prior U.S.A.

