

20 November 2008

**St. Rita Men's Club
November 2008 Monthly Meeting**

The meeting is called to order by President Tom O'Hare. Father Tom led the opening prayer.

Those present are:

Joe Colello Michael Conmy Gene Fowler Jim Kelly Ross Leo Jim Mahan Fred Murphy
Tom O'Hare Vern Quast Dick Ryan Michael Klein Father Tom

Minutes from the last meeting of 16 October 2008 were read by Michael Klein. Joe Colello corrected the minutes to read the time of the pasta dinner is also 3:00 – 7:00 pm. Vern Quast corrected the minutes to read the ending balance thru 16 October 2008 is \$1,689.62. Gene Fowler made a motion to accept the minutes as read and corrected, seconded by Ross Leo and carried.

The Treasurers Report was presented by Treasurer, Vern Quast. The ending balance thru 16 October is \$1,689.62. There is one debit of \$60.00 for the plaque that we gave Pat Miller at Goatfeathers. The ending balance thru 20 November 2008 is \$1,639.62. Gene Fowler made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report, seconded by Dick Ryan and carried.

Old Business

Father Tom Collins said a 21c.f. Frigidaire freezer was purchased from the source in Panama City recommended by Bob Borella. It has been delivered, installed, and is in use. It cost approximately \$815.00 and was paid for by St. Rita parish. Tom O'Hare said at the last Knights of Columbus meeting a request for the reinstatement of the \$500.00 freezer donation from the Knight's to St. Rita was not presented. Father Tom said the Men's Club does not need to be concerned with funding the cost of the freezer. Bob Borella is going to retrieve his military subzero sleeping bag and spend the night in the freezer to verify the electric motor and compressor is running at the proper rpm's for maximum efficiency. His report to follow. Amend I say to you, this should conclude the freezer discussion for 2008.

New Business

Tom O'Hare reported Joe Colello made a request to the Knights of Columbus at their 10 November 2008 meeting for financial assistance to help fund Religious Education programs at St Rita, Resurrection, and Corpus Christi Parishes.

Father Tom suggested to the Men's Club two projects at St. Rita that will need support. One is remodeling of the 5,000 s.f. modular building that is to be moved to our property as part of our building plans. The second is exterior site lighting. The areas of concern are the main entrance on the east side of the church especially on Saturday nights at the vigil mass and the west side entrance of the church at the sidewalk areas around the children's play area. A site walk thru was conducted. Ross Leo asked the cost of parking lot light poles. Father Tom said he is open to suggestion, but new lighting does not have to match existing. Joe Colello made a motion to investigate improving the site lighting, seconded by Dick Ryan and passed. Jim Kelly suggested temporarily using Christmas lighting to improve site lighting. Gene Fowler made a motion for the Men's Club to purchase necessary Christmas lights, seconded by Fred Murphy and carried. Father Tom said to check with Mike Downey to verify if St. Rita has any lights. Jim Kelly will install these lights and get power to them.

Tom O'Hare said the Men's Club Executive Committee will start meeting in January with the regular meeting on Friday nights as part of Men's Night.

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Joe Colello said the scheduled 18 December 2008 Men's Club meeting is needed to plan for the Snowbird Breakfast on 12 January 2009 and the first Fish Fry Dinner on 16 January 2009.

Joe Colello said a plaque was presented to Pat Miller, owner of Goatfeathers for appreciation of his support to the Fish Fry Dinners. He said he was appreciative and emotional and said this type of recognition had never happened to him before.

Joe Colello gave a summary of 2008 Fish Fry dinners.

Total profits	\$8,352.00
Proceeds distributed.	
St. Rita	\$4,000.00
BSA Troop 562	\$1,000.00
CCW	\$1,173.00

Michael Klein requested the Men's Club continue supporting the Boy Scout Troop 562 with part of the proceeds from the Pasta Dinner. He stated eight of the Scouts are going to the 2010 National Jamboree in Virginia. The National Jamboree occurs every four years. This will be the celebration of 100 years of Scouting. The cost is \$2,000.00 per Scout. Each Scout is expected to earn their way. All proceed given to the Scouts participating in the pasta dinner goes directly into their Scout Accounts and not the Troop funds. Fred Murphy made a motion to continue supporting the Boy Scouts with proceeds from the Pasta Dinner, seconded by Vern Quast and carried. Michael Klein asked approval for the Scouts to sell advanced tickets to the Pasta dinner. Joe Colello will provide the information to be included on the ticket. Michael Klein thanked the Men's Club for their support to the Scouts.

Tom O'Hare stated he is working on ways for the Men's Club to raise more funding.

Tom O'Hare asked Mike Conmy to report any progress on his investigation of a casino night fundraiser. He reported he has not been able to talk to the individual at his former parish who has had experience in the type of event. He will report back possible next week.

Fred Murphy said the South Walton Rotary Club has conducted a casino night the last 2 years. There is no snowbird participation.

Dick Ryan said several church he has attended have conducted car or money raffle as fundraisers.

Father Tom said he is not opposed to a fundraising event, but he would like to see the Men's Club members spend their hours increasing their Evangelization and Gospel work asking existing parish members to increase their contribution to St. Rita, and contacting members to encourage them to participate in parish activities. The operating budget for 2002 when he first became Pastor was \$350,000 and is now \$560,000. Father Tom added, let's not lose sight of our main mission, 'Striving to be a welcoming and inviting community'.

Jim Kelly said it is everyone's responsible to introduce themselves to new members and visitors that they meet here at St. Rita.

Joe Colello made a motion for the Men's Club to support and purchase 300 buttons that say, "It's Ok to Say Christmas". Buttons cost \$50/100 and will be given away free. The CCW will purchase 100 of these from us. Jim Kelly seconded the motion and carried.

No other new business was presented.

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Jim Kelly made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Jim Mahan and carried. Father Tom closed the meeting with a prayer.

End

Michael Klein, Secretary
St. Rita Men's Club