

SANTA MARIA

FAIRBORN COUNCIL #3724
KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

****Star Council 1968-1969, 1971-1972, 1973-1974, 1979-1980, 1985-1986, 1992-1993, 1996-1997, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 & 2024-2025****

Fraternal Year 2025-2026 CHARTERED IN OCTOBER 1953 December 2025

Grand Knight's Corner

My Father Paul M Pitstick passed away in October 2025 at 102 years of age. He had the privilege of meeting St Padra Pio while stationed in Italy at the end of WW2. Several times he was able to attend St Padra Pio's mass and kiss his hands. This experience had a huge impact on his life and dedication to the Mass. At the bottom of page 2 of this newsletter is a QR code that will take you to a talk my father did about his experience in Italy. I highly encourage you to listen to it.

Consecration to the Holy Family

The Catholic Church will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on Sunday, December 28, 2025. Council 3724 will simultaneously celebrate the Consecration to the Holy Family at the same mass. The Council will make Consecration to the Holy Family prayer cards and instructions for the Consecration available for parishioners at the back of Church for a couple weeks leading up to the event. A poster with the image of the Holy Family in the back of Church and the Church Bulletin will announce the event. The Knights of Columbus uses this celebration to help strengthen parish families and revitalize parishes. Through this event, Council 3724 invites our Brothers and each Mary, Help of Christians' family to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family and to devote themselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Families are asked to say the family prayer together, celebrate the Sacrament of reconciliation, and intentionally fast from something for the week leading up to the consecration. Council 3724 will recite the following family prayer together at our December Business Meeting.

O Lord Jesus, you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. There you grew in age, wisdom and grace as you prepared to fulfill your mission as our Redeemer.

We entrust our family to you.

O Blessed Mary, you are the Mother of our Savior. At Nazareth you cared for Jesus and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home.

We entrust our family to you.

O Saint Joseph, you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary, and gave us a model of fatherhood while showing us the dignity of work.

We entrust our family to you.

Holy Family, we consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in a love that is lasting, faithful and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer, diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need. May our home, O Holy Family, truly become a domestic church where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!



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Special points of interest

- Holy Father's Prayer Intentions
- Knights in Action
- FAB Update
- Measure Up



When Paul met St. Padre Pio at the end of World War II, it had a profound impact on his life. He has gone to daily Mass ever since, whenever possible. This is how he summed up the main message he took from meeting Padre Pio and attending his Mass:

"The message Padre Pio would want you to really cherish is the power of the Mass! There is so much more going on during the Mass than we can ever imagine or realize. Anyone who has ever witnessed Padre Pio's Mass can verify that, and also the presence of Christ in the Eucharist! The heart of his message is to be repentant and believe in the power of the real presence in the Mass. That's the message that gives you an idea of the great Saint that we have in Padre Pio, who for 50 years bore the wounds of our Lord. He didn't want the visible wounds. He begged Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother to intercede to take the physical wounds away, but to leave the pain. His whole life was one of offering his pain up for souls; that's the reason for his tremendous power--he knew how to intercede through the pain and suffering that he bore."

Complete talk by Paul can be accessed here:



No. 9896

HERITAGE
ART
LIBO U.S.A.

3724 Officers/ Directors

Position/Email	Name	Phone Number
Chaplain:	Vacant	
Spiritual Advisor:	Deacon Max Roadruck	937-879-5332
Grand Knight: grandknight@3724kofc.org	Tom Pitstick tvpistick@gmail.com	937-272-2262
Deputy Grand Knight/Program Director: deputygk@3724kofc.org	Matt Justice	937-879-2186
Chancellor:	Steven Kosey	smkosey5@gmail.com
Warden:	Brian Petachi	937-765-6387
Recorder:	Tim Barlow	719-351-1185
Financial Secretary: fs@3724kofc.org	PGK Russell Milliron	937-609-9068
Treasurer: gene.erbacher@gmail.com	PGK Gene Erbacher	937-477-5669
Advocate:	PGK Steve Wal	937-672-6847
Lecturer:	Herb Edwards	937-901-6074
Membership Director: markmarilyndues@gmail.com	Mark Dues	937-271-4791
Faith Activities: donterishepherd@aol.com	PGK Don Shepherd	937-657-4375
Life Activities:	Percy Gros	937-878-5455
Community Activities: grant.kempf@gmail.com	PGK Grant Kempf	937-609-1471
Retention Chairman: wmc45324jaw@aol.com	PGK John Wolfe	937-609-4552
Family Activities: dcyphers2@woh.rr.com	Dan Cyphers	937-266-3507
Bereavement: Robert.Hernandez@kofc.org	Robert Hernandez	937-689-2202
Bingo:	Eric Rogalinski	937-657-6958
Home Corporation President: homecorp@3724kofc.org	PGK Frank Minnick	937-522-0866
K of C Insurance: Robert.Hernandez@kofc.org	Robert Hernandez	937-689-2022



K of C Hall
937-878-2909





Pastor Fr. Bedel
954 N. Maple Ave,
Fairborn OH, 45324
parishoffice@mhcp parish.org



Father Alex Biryomumeisho
324 S Ohio Ave.
Sidney, OH 45365
biryolexom@gmail.com



Any3 Things Podcast with Fr. Ambrose

Fr. Ambrose has launched a podcast for the St Michael the Archangel Family of Parishes in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Serving Mary, Help of Christians, Sacred Heart, Saint Brigid, Saint Augustine, Saint Luke, and Saint Paul parishes. Fr. Ambrose will talk about Any 3 Things that would be good for us all to know! You can listen on our podcast website by clicking on the microphone in the banner toward the top of any of the web pages. It's also available on the Amazon Music and PodBean apps. <https://any3things.podbean.com/>

Facebook

Our council has a substantial social media presence fostered by our current Financial Secretary PGK Russ Milliron, aided by PGK Grant Kempf. Follow your council at;
<https://www.facebook.com/3724kofc>

PRAY THE ROSARY AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN, PLEASE COME EARLY TO THE BUSINESS MEETING (7 PM) AND PRAY THE ROSARY WITH YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS.



Mary Help of Christians / Knights of Columbus Men of Faith Fellowship

Needing encouragement or an opportunity to share with other men of faith – men of like mind and heart? Our Men of Faith fellowship meets twice monthly to do just that! Join us at St Francis Hall from 8 – 9 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month. Come at 7:30 a.m. for bagels and fair-trade coffee. We then gather to sing, pray, read and discuss Sunday scripture readings from 8-9 a.m. Come join us! You will be affirmed and encouraged in your walk with our Lord Jesus Christ and be blessed by fellowship with other ‘Men of Faith’.

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Knight of the Month, PGK Larry Bogemann. Brother Larry is very active with Church and Council. A 4th Degree Knight, he co-chairs the bingo operations, heads up the WSU Usher program and is an important part of the kitchen crew, specializing in pancakes and French toast. Larry serves on the membership committee and supports the church as an usher and server.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our November Family of the Month, PGK Grant and Cathy Kempf. Brother Grant is a Trustee, Community Director, and supports bingo, WSU ushers, and all Kitchen events. Cathy is an active member of St Vincent de Paul supporting the pantry and is a call taker assisting our most needed neighbors. Thanks for all you do.

2025-2026 3724 Officers

Grand Knight - Tom Pitstick	Advocate - PGK Steve Wal
Deputy Grand Knight - Matt Justice	Inside Guard - Terry McCann
Chancellor - Steven Kosey	Outside Guard - Ken Normand
Recorder - Tim Barlow	Outside Guard - vacant
Treasurer - PGK Gene Erbacher	Year Trustee - Steve Glass
Warden - Brian Pataki	

Financial Advisory Board Fraternal Year 2025-2026

Grand Knight: Tom Pitstick	Deputy Grand Knight: Matt Justice
Trustee: PGK Don Shepherd	Council Treasurer: PGK Gene Erbacher
Home Corp President: PGK Frank Minnick	Home Corp Treasurer: PGK Herman Karhoff
1st Year At-Large Member: Bro. Steve Glass	2nd Year At-Large Member: vacant

The FAB met on October 30 and wrote the checks out for the selected charities. The next FAB meeting will be discussing and working on revisions to the charter. With regards to the calculations that determine how much is available to donate.

The charities selected this year as mentioned last month are;
**St. Vincent de Paul - Fairborn, Family & Youth Initiatives - Fairborn,
Ohio Veterans and Caregivers - Piqua**

The next normally scheduled FAB meeting is January 29th, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Coming in January 2026

Don't forget to add [Join Us | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](http://Join Us | Knights of Columbus (kofc.org)) as an app to your cell phone. It's a lot easier to sign someone up and get information to him immediately. Remember, all online member applications with the Promo Code RHERNANDEZ (the code from our K of C Insurance Representative) will receive twelve months of online membership free. You can also use the promo code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY.

Name Tags: If you need a new Council 3724 and/or Fourth Degree name tag, see me or Brother Herb Edwards at the next business meeting. The cost per tag is \$5.00.

Vivat Jesus!

Mark

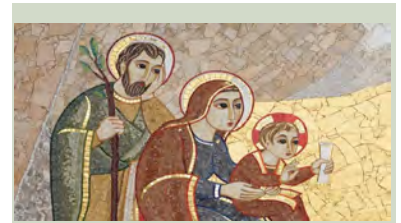


Memorial Mass 3724

On November 15, the annual Council 3724 Memorial Mass was held with Father Uriel Santos officiating at Mary Help of Christians Church. Council members helped serve and usher during the Mass and council widows and families assembled in a reserved section to celebrate Mass. A memorial table was arranged in the back of the church, adorned with candles and the pictures of fallen brothers. Following Mass, a prayer service was held with attending brothers, their families, and the widows and families of fallen brothers. A dessert reception was then held in the Council 3724 Hall to pay tribute and share memories. This year we bid farewell to Brothers Calvin Smith, John Martin, Paul Pitstick, Thomas O'Connor, and Edward Fancett. Other brothers were also remembered whose families were in attendance, including Brother David

Knights In Action

Fairborn Council 3724 Grand Knight Tom Pitstick met with a great group of students from Archbishop Carroll High School to present them with a check to be used toward their trip to the March for Life in Washington DC. The 10 to 15 students have to pay half the cost and the rest is generated through donations such as ours. We are all very proud of these dedicated young people.



"Sayin' 'Amen' is like pressing the 'SEND' button for your prayers."



"They won't know till they're grown, but their BEST gifts are the memories they're making."



"Churches are smart. They make you come inside to enjoy their windows."



I would like to take a moment to thank Past Grand Knight Grant Kempf who has graciously decided to step in and take over the newsletter until such time as one of the newer knights might be willing to take it over. As I mentioned last month, this is my final newsletter as editor. I will be transferring all historical artifacts and electronic copies to the council computer in the main office and PGK Kempf.

The council has a very large social media presence and nearly everything that you see in the Santa Maria is on the Facebook page. Information on council events and happenings is posted in the activity and knight alerts emails.

Moving forward I will continue to be the Chairman of the Football Frenzy and the Super Cash Bonanza programs. I will also continue to be active with the Past Grand Knights of this council. And will continue to serve as Council Treasurer as long as you will have me.

As it says in Ecclesiastes 3:1 “There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.”

Peace of Christ Be With You. Vivat Jesus PGK Erbacher

Thursday Night Football

Football season has started and the lounge will be showing the NFL Thursday Night game each week. Kickoff is 8:15 every week until the end of the regular season. To celebrate the start of the season we will having a pizza party after the September business meeting. Come out and cheer on your favorite team with your brother knights. It promises to be an exciting year of football.

Fraternal Year 2024 –2025 Outreach

If you remember the quote from Sirach last month, “The kindness people have done crosses their paths later on; should they stumble, they will find support.” In line with that I thought I would share that Council 3724’s outreach last year with the help we get from Bingo dollar wise totaled nearly \$44,000.00. That doesn’t count the hours spent laboring in the fields for our Lord.

Well done everyone and lets use that as a talking point with potential recruits.

St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

2025 FOOTBALL FRENZY

Brothers thank you so much for supporting this effort and your council. 3724 turned in 313 tickets which has set a record for us nearly 100 tickets better than our last best year. The games have started with the last week of October through December/January. Any tickets turned in from now to the final turn in date will only count for the remaining games of the season. If you have received a request from the state chairman to buy tickets separate from what the council sent out please don't be too upset. You can either send them back to me, throw them away or even purchase them if you are so inclined. If you decide to purchase or sell them just put 3724 in the council line and we will still receive the credit for them. Donation is \$20.00 per ticket. Winners list will be posted on www.fundcrazr.com and www.kofcoho.org – Password is going to your ticket number.

Late turn in will be allowed up to Monday Dec 22, 2025.

2025 Total as of November 6. We have sold 313 tickets.

Quota for 3724 this Fraternal Year

Tickets	Credit	Rebate
381	100% credit on Per Capita	\$9.00 per ticket sold
254	75% credit on Per Capita	\$8.00 per ticket sold
191	50% credit on Per Capita	\$7.00 per ticket sold
127	25% credit on Per Capita	\$6.50 per ticket sold
<127	0% credit on Per Capita	\$5.50 per ticket sold

Tickets can be turned in at the council hall any Thursday evening or mailed to PGK Erbacher at the address listed below.

Please make checks payable to: **K of C 3724**

You can mail your tickets to:

Fairborn Council 3724
934 N. Maple Ave.
Fairborn, OH 45324

or

Gene Erbacher, PGK
1442 Wedgewood Dr.
Fairborn, OH. 45324

Fraternally,
Gene Erbacher, PGK
Football Frenzy & Ohio Charities Chairman.

Saint Vincent De Paul Pantry

As the government shutdown continues, our neighbors with needs continues to grow. Our own St Vincent de Paul pantry has received record requests for food which has strained their resources and left the shelves bare. As this crisis continues, please consider donations of food or money. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish office, at pantry when staffed, or to your Community Director. As always, the best thing you can do is keep our neighbors and volunteers in your prayers. There is also a donation can available at the council hall through Thanksgiving.

Community Director
PGK Grant Kempf

Home Corporation (HC)

Officers of HC met on Nov 20, 2025, a meeting held monthly to discuss activities and pay bills. Key member interest points:

Approved the October meeting minutes.

Paid Facility/Bingo rent, Service & Custodial fees.

HC Raffle Ticket Drawings: Conducted our 5th HC Raffle for the fraternal year. The winners were: \$40 winner was our Warden, Brian Petachi, ticket # 52; the \$25 winner was Jake Magnone ticket #163, and the \$10 winner was brother Herb Edwards ticket #40. We still have a few **tickets for the 2025/2026 HC Monthly Raffle available**. The proceeds from the sales of these tickets help the HC provide the services to sustain our **“Council of Excellence” reputation**. Contact PGK Herman Karhoff (wratgass@gmail.com) for tickets and more information.

Approved HC Budget for 2026.

Approved the purchase of a new TRUE commercial refrigerator to replace a 20+ year old unit determined to be too expensive to repair. **Thanks to PGK’s Minnick and Carchedi** for arranging removal of the old and installation of the new unit.

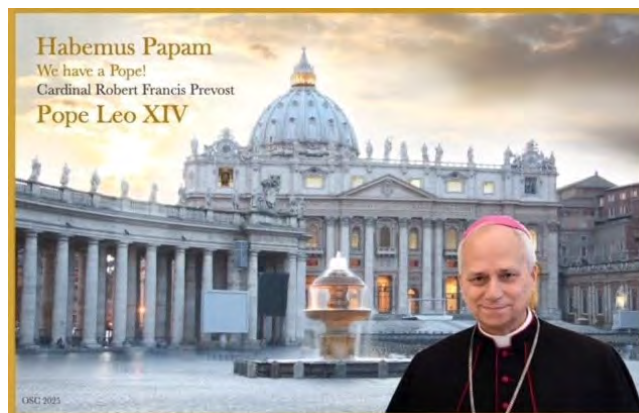
Reminder, should you see something that needs to be done or acquired for the benefit of the Council, note it in the Maintenance Work Log located in the business meeting room, on the right, just inside the door. **The HC is here to help Council members do whatever it can to help achieve the Council's mission.**

Next Meeting: December 18, 2025, 6:00 PM. The meeting is an hour early due to PGK’s Open House Christmas Party. Meetings are open to all K of C 3724 members. For those who are interested, monthly meeting minutes can be found in the 2025/2026 Fraternal Year folder on the desktop of the K of C new computer. Select HC shortcut which will bring up HC Meeting Mins (Edwards) folder. Within this folder are the meeting minutes for each month.

Tuesday morning crew activities (Nov): A host of odds and ends in preparation for the various upcoming Nov/Dec events (i.e., Breakfast w/St. Nick, parish breakfast 14 Dec, etc.). Acquired and installed wooden box covers to eliminate incoming cold air/heat loss from each of our rooms.

Last Work Party: Nov 22, Thanks to all the brothers who came out to help with cleaning offices, washing windows, updating the automated file management plan, and preparation for upcoming Dec events.

Jan 24, 2026 – Activities to be determined. Watch for K of C text alerts. **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from your HC Officers: Pres. PGK Frank Minnick; Vice Pres. PGK Frank Carchedi; Tres. PGK Herman Karhoff; and Sec., brother Herb Edwards.**



INSURANCE CORNER



Four parts of retirement: Phase four

Okay, if you've been following along in my articles, you've read about the first phases that lead to retirement. The final phase is care. At some point, hopefully a very advanced age, you will need to slow down. You will no longer be able to care for yourself. At that point, you will need to have assets available to provide much needed care, either at home or in a care facility. As you probably know, the cost of care continues to rise. How do you plan to cover these costs? Government programs might not be available or might require you to spend down your assets leaving your family with little. The best way to handle the cost of care in the future is to plan ahead today. The Knights of Columbus offers long-term care insurance that can cover at home or facility care costs. It has many benefits and our premiums are competitive with any other company. The Knights of Columbus, is in a position to help you with every phase. Life insurance, disability insurance, guaranteed retirement plans that turn into guaranteed income streams when you retire, and long term care. There is no reason to go else where as you prepare. Give me a call.

Robert Hernandez

Knights of Columbus Insurance Field Agent # 18446

robert.hernandez@kofc.org 937-689-2202



HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Pilgrims Of Hope

Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Health and Healing requests are entered into the council's prayer book prior to the business meeting. If you can't make a meeting and have a name you wish to include in the Santa Maria prayer intentions, please call the council hall and leave a message or send an email to Santamaria @3724kofc.org

Rest of the Souls:

Health and Healing:

Archbishop Schnurr, Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, PGK John Wolfe, PGK Herman Karhoff, Charlie Lump, Dave Banazak, Kitty Justice, Nam Mac, Jay Leonard, Brenda Whytal, Mary Alice Paxson, Marge Hueston, Cathy Lump, Lou Nava, Carol Maiorano, PGK Jim McCoy, John & Brenda Whittemore, Martha Karhoff

PRAYER FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy, may Your healing hand rest upon me, may Your lifegiving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in Your Kingdom. Amen.

Knights In Action (cont)

Fairborn Council 3724's Financial Advisory Board was able to make significant donations this year to 3 well deserving charities. PGK Gene Erbacher presented a check to Valerie Mullikin, Director of Operation Veteran and Caregiver Support. Grand Knight Tom Pitstick presented a check to St Vincent de Paul treasurer, JC Kelly, and PGK Larry Bogemann, along with other Knights and friends presented a check to Nikki Stefanow, Executive Director of Family and Youth Initiatives. The first and foremost principle of our Order is Charity, the greatest of all virtues and the crowning glory of a Christian life.

Measure Up is the flagship charity of the Knights of Columbus. At Fairborn Council 3724 the long term champion for this charity drive is Brother Knight Harry Yarwick. Harry works tirelessly to maximize our giving right down to generating money through recycling cans. Brother Harry along with Grand Knight Tom Pitstick presented much needed checks to our long term partners; Four Oaks Early Childhood Intervention of Greene County and Developmental Disabilities of Clark County.



October Family of the Month

Congratulation to Family of the Month, PGK Russell and Annie Milliron. Brother Russell is our long term Financial Secretary and a lead chef in all our kitchen activities. He is Chairman of the funnel cake booth at church and sweet corn festivals. Annie is not only involved in all the K of C activities but is very active in the Daughters of Isabella. On the state level she has served as Vice Regent and State Regent. In the local Marion Circle 911, Annie has been Scribe, Vice Regent, Regent and currently serves as Chancellor. Thank you to Russell and Annie for all your tireless service to Council, Circle, Church and Community.



2024-2025 STAR COUNCIL

A very special presentation was made at the Fairborn Council November Business meeting. District Deputy Jereme Begines presented the top Supreme honor, Star Council Award to Grand Knight Tom Pitstick for Fiscal year 2024-2025. GK Tom was quick to share this prestigious award with all the hard working Knights. This represents the 4th consecutive year Council 3724 has won this award!

December Events



**Council 3724
Fairborn, OH**

Dec 3 BINGO,	Dec 4 Trustees Meeting,
Dec 7 Breakfast with St. Nick	Dec 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Dec 8 4th Deg Mtg & Christmas Party	Dec 10 K of C BINGO
Dec 11 Business Meeting,	Dec 14 K of C Parish Breakfast
Dec 17 BINGO	Dec 18 Home Corp Meeting
Dec 18 PGK Christmas Open House	Dec 24 No BINGO
Dec 24 Christmas Eve	Dec 25 Merry Christmas!
Dec 28 Feast of the Holy Family	Dec 31 No BINGO Dec 31 New Year's Eve

January Preview

Jan 1 Happy New Year! Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God Jan 2 Trustees Meeting, Jan 6 The Epiphany of the Lord Jan 7 BINGO, Jan 8 Business Meeting & Rosary, Jan 11 The Baptism of the Lord, an 11 K of C Parish Breakfast, Jan 12 4th Degree Meeting, Jan 14 K of C BINGO, Jan 15 Home Corp Meeting, Jan 16 March for Life, Washington, D.C. Jan 17 K of C Pro Life Italian Dinner, Jan 21 BINGO, Jan 22 Lecturer Meeting (TBA) Jan 24 Home Corp Work Party, Jan 28 BINGO, Jan 29 FAB Meeting, Jan 29 PGK Meeting,

BUSINESS MEETING ATTENDANCE

The 2nd Thursday on each month, we pray the Rosary at 7:00 pm which is followed by our business meeting. Please attend, stay after the meeting and socialize with your brother knights. Every Thursday there's a Pot-of-Gold drawing. Entry fee is 50 cents and you are required to sign your name in "The Book".

At 10:00 pm on the meeting night and at 9:30 pm on the other Thursdays there's a random drawing from our membership pool. The name of the winner drawn wins the Pot-of-Gold if they completed the entry requirements.



K of M PGK Larry Bogemann



F of M PGK Grant & Cathy Kempf



SANTA MARIA
Gene Erbacher, PGK
Santamaria@3724kofc.org

WEBMASTER
Russell Milliron, PGK
webmaster@3724kofc.org

The Santa Maria is a free monthly publication of the
Fairborn Knights of Columbus Council 3724.
934 N. Maple Ave. Fairborn, Ohio 45324
937-878-2909