

COUNCIL #2473

FIFTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY
MAY 20, 1923 to MAY 20, 1982

**OUR COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY MAY 20, 1982 WILL
COMMEMORATE OUR ANNIVERSARY DATE:**



**"THE PRESENTATION OF THE HISTORY OF THE
E.D.W. COUNCIL DURING ITS FIFTY-NINE
YEARS OF EXTENDED SERVICE TO THE ORDER,
ITS MEMBERS AND TO THE COMMUNITY."**

**NARRATOR — OUR HONORED PGK, COMMANDER
JAMES F. LILLIS, Ret. USN.**



REFRESHMENTS — FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL MEETING

THE FIRST 59 YEARS OF E.D.W.

On May 20, 1923 an organizational meeting was held at the St. Charles School Hall, in Arlington, by 67 charter members of our council. At this meeting, they named the new Council in honor of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Edward Douglass White. In 1931 the newly formed Columbus Club Association of Clarendon, Inc., made the acquisition of a property known as 3227 N. Washington Boulevard. Following the remodeling of the building, the membership increased until halted by the advent of World War II. After a struggle of twenty-two years the property was free and clear. In 1947 a building committee was established to raise funds for a new and larger building to accommodate the four hundred membership. In early 1950 a site was purchased on Arlington Boulevard for a new building and bids were asked for construction. In early 1951 as final plans were discussed, a committee looked at 5115 Little Falls Rd. and immediately made negotiations for purchase of the "5115" Little Falls Rd. property. In May 1951 the property known as "5115 Little Falls Road" became the new home of E.D.W., with occupancy in August 1951. The first swimming pool was built in 1954 and the latter addition of 1960 when the new activities hall was dedicated. In a relatively few years the activities building plus the "old building" became the beehive for all of the council activities, as well as for various closely affiliated groups, and general meeting locations for parish, community, and other numerous functions. The E.D.W. Council membership showed rapid growth in becoming a "family" center for a generally family-oriented Council, numbering a total membership pushing the 2,000 mark by 1973. Too numerous to mention are the contributions in time and talent and financial support of the members of the council to increase the facilities for better service and continued improvement of the family council, E.D.W. The past fifty-nine years have been full of hard work, fruitful endeavor and tasks of challenge, proven successful in the years of progress. E.D.W. continues its long years of progress and achievements with its support of the members together in prayer for God, Family, and Country.

James Puglisi, PSD—Centennial Chairman