

KNIGHTS  
OF  
COLUMBUS



Saint Thomas More  
Council #14270  
Kansas City, Missouri

2008-2009 OFFICERS

- Chaplain Fr. Don Farnan
- Grand Knight Gene Twellman
- Deputy Grand Knight Jim Easley
- Chancellor Brad Doty
- Recorder Joe Haster
- Financial Secretary Tom Steffens
- Treasurer Jack Ryan
- Advocate Paul Hentzen
- Warden Don Doyon
- Inside Guard Jim Wright
- Outside Guard John Kelly
- 3rd Year Trustee Craig Borgmeyer
- 2nd Year Trustee David Long
- 1st Year Trustee Tom Kenagy
- Program Director Jim Easley
- Church Director Joe Wynn
- Vocations Chairman Phil Muellner
- Community Director Joe Dyche
- Council Director Tom Kenagy
- Family Director Larry LeFebvre
- Youth Director Doug Weishar
- Membership Director John Kelly
- Recruitment Committee Brad Doty
- Lecturer Gene Gray

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# Knights News



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NOVEMBER 2008

## Grand Knight's Report

■ *Brother Gene Twellman*

**Reflection** As the days get shorter in the fall, and in particular on this rainy morning, it's dark outside as I arrive at my office and sit at my desk. As I gaze out at the darkness, I see my reflection and think . . . wow who is that guy? Not the youngster I used to be . . and a lot less hair.

This is the time of year for reflection, the last quarter of the year. How did your business do this year? How are you situated in your personal finances? Am I ready for winter? Next month we will be celebrating Thanksgiving, again a time to reflect on all the blessings God has showered upon us.

Yesterday I received my pledge card from St. Thomas More parish and my wife and I will be reflecting on and discussing what amount we can tithe for the coming year. What is 5% of our gross income and do we have it paid directly from our bank account, a charge against our credit card or by check in the weekly collection? As Knights, we are soldiers for Fr. Don and St. Thomas More parish. Please pray and reflect on all the gifts we've received from our Lord and fill out and return your pledge cards promptly.

Remember that donations of your time and talent are also very welcome, important and appreciated. At the end of the year I will be tallying all of the hours members of our Council have donated to charitable purposes and filing a report with Supreme. At that time I will e-mail a form that all members can complete and return listing the hours and events to be reported. Please be willing to volunteer aggressively. Remember, our first watch word is charity.

Lastly, our council is a reflection of all of us. Its success is the result of all our efforts. Our council was one of 500 councils (out of over 15,000 worldwide) to receive the Double Star Award for 2007-2008.

Special thanks to Larry LeFebvre for putting together the Columbus Day dinner at RC's. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Also, we continue to grow. A special welcome to new members Mark Rogge and Mike Gaughan! Please continue to ask your friends, neighbors and relatives to join us.

Visit the Knights of Columbus  
website at [KofC.org](http://KofC.org)



Grand Knight Gene Twellman and other officers of Council #14270 accepted the Double Star Award from District Deputy Tony Berter during the October 9 meeting. Only 500 of the 15,000 councils earned the award for 2007–2008.

PHOTO BY TONY BERTER

### 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

The Fourth Annual 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament benefiting F.I.R.E. Fund and Children’s Mercy Cancer Center will be held Saturday & Sunday, December 27 & 28, in St. Thomas More Gym, 11800 Holmes Road.

On Saturday, the tournament is for high school and college age men, with check-in at 10:00 A.M. Adult men will play on Sunday, with check-in at 12:30 P.M.

The tournament is sponsored by St. Thomas More Knights of Columbus Council #14270, Hy-Vee, and Hopfinger family & friends.

Entry fee is \$15 per player (up to four players per team). Each team is guaranteed 3 games along with a T-shirt for each player. Additional T-shirts may be purchased for \$10 each.

Raffle tickets are available for a variety of prizes. Last year the prizes included autographed Chiefs jerseys, gift certificates, and other great prizes. Drawings will be conducted between games.

For a \$100 donation, other tournament sponsors (individual, company, or organization) will have their name on the tournament T-shirt.

Tournament sponsorship or team sponsorship is tax deductible. Checks for team registration or sponsorship should be made payable to either F.I.R.E Fund or Children’s Mercy Hospital.

Entry and sponsorship forms are available on request from Kathy Hopfinger at kathop45@yahoo.com. Please also email questions to the same address.

Team registrations or sponsorships should returned to Kathy Hopfinger at 315 W. 119th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64145.

The Foundation for Inclusive Religious Education (F.I.R.E.) gives children with special needs an



opportunity to receive a Catholic education in their parish schools. Their website is fire-program.org.

The Children’s Mercy Cancer Center supports a parent-to-parent volunteer program, psychologist, research fellowship, inpatient activities, the parent room at the hospital, and the annual summer picnic and holiday party. Their website is childrens-mercy.org.



### Knights Survey on Moral Issues and Catholic Values

A nationwide poll commissioned by the Knights of Columbus found more consensus than division over abortion, with 71 percent of self-described pro-choice voters favoring restrictions on abortion and 84 percent of Americans overall saying likewise. Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson presented the results of the poll in a live Webcast from the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Catholics and non-Catholics agree the country needs a moral makeover. 71% of U.S. residents think the nation’s moral compass is pointing in the wrong direction. A similar proportion of Catholics and practicing Catholics share this view. See complete survey results at KofC.org.

### November Milestones

#### KNIGHTS BIRTHDAYS

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 . . . Tom Simone  | 14 . . . Bernie Hopfinger |
| 7 . . . Dave Belzer | 24 . . . David Redlich    |
| 7 . . . Brad Doty   | 28 . . . James Bodine     |
| 8 . . . Tom Kenagy  | 30 . . . Edward Halpin    |

#### SPOUSES BIRTHDAYS

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 05 . . . Peggy Countee | 23 . . . Cheri Kelly |
| 16 . . . Irene Weishar | 30 . . . Bev Amor    |

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 . . . Pat & Jacalyn Cahill  
 28 . . . Frank & Doris Petersen  
 29 . . . Dave & Susan Belzer

Compiled by Brother Tom Steffens. Email him at tomsteffens@charter.net with additional milestones.

95

## Membership Report

St. Thomas More Council #14270 membership stands at 95.

**NEW KNIGHTS** • Welcome to our newest brother Knights: Mark Rogge and Mike Gaughan.

**FORM 100s** • Several gentlemen have indicated they intend to join by completing Form 100s. If you have the opportunity, urge them to get to a First Degree Ceremony, so they can start attending meetings and become active Knights. Better yet, go with them. You'll be supporting a brother Knight as he enters the order, and many Knights report they gain insight each time they attend a degree ceremony.

And make a point to invite someone you know in the parish to consider joining. Tell them why you became a Knight, and about the many activities available for members.

Contact Recruitment Committee chairman Brad Doty at 816-942-3949 or Membership Director John Kelly at 816-942-3226. *The more we grow, the more we can accomplish!*

## Insurance Report

■ **Brother Kevin Pierce, Field Agent**



A wise man once told me that time surely flies in the life insurance business. Without a doubt, time flies in the "membership business" as well. Even though our fraternal year is not yet half over, June 30 will be here before we know it. Since we all have our sights set on the Star Council Award, now is the time to work towards that goal. The purpose of my column in this issue is to remind you of the wonderful opportunity we have to help our council grow, and to offer a couple of suggestions on how we can best do that.

The month of October brought the Orderwide membership "blitz" recruitment campaign. Now is the time to follow through with all the interested prospective members we spoke with during October. Let's make them members during November.

I can help, not only in explaining to prospects our outstanding insurance products, but also on the many other benefits of joining the Order. Even better, I can help you feel more comfortable in making the membership "sale" yourselves.

In an earlier column, I asked you to "give me a seat at the table" when laying out the council agenda for the fraternal year. I reiterate that plea here. I'll help in any way that I can.

Give me a call at 816-645-6961 or email me at Kevin.Pierce@kofc.org.

## Columbus Day Dinner

The first annual Columbus Day dinner was held Monday, October 13 at R.C.'s Restaurant in Martin City. Thirty-eight Knights and spouses dined on chicken, beef tips and noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, salad, biscuits, and warm peach cobbler.



The Columbus Day dinner is planned to be an annual event, so mark your calendars for Monday, October 12, 2009, and watch for more info on time and location.

Family Director Larry LeFebvre reported a good time was had by all, and that he is looking into another get-together for December. Special thanks to Fr. Don Farnan for his visit.



## KNIGHTS NEWS

is the official publication of St. Thomas More Council #14270 of the Knights of Columbus. Contact the editor with comments or submissions:

**John Kelly** ▶ 816-942-3226  
KellyJT@reeceandnichols.com

## Calendar of Events

<b>Thursday, November 6</b>	STM Council #14270 Leadership Meeting <i>(first Thursday of every month)</i>	St. Thomas More Huhmann Room	7:00 PM
<b>Thursday, November 13</b>	STM Council #14270 Business Meeting <i>(second Thursday of every month)</i>	St. Thomas More More Hall	7:15 PM
<b>Thursday, November 13</b>	1st Degree Ceremony <i>(second Thursday of every month)</i>	Smithville Council #9262 700 Trevis Avenue	6:15 PM
<b>Wednesday, November 19</b>	1st Degree Ceremony <i>(third Wednesday of odd months)</i>	Belton Council #5586 700 Trevis Avenue	6:30 PM
<b>Thursday, November 20</b>	Fourth Degree Assembly #566 Meeting <i>(third Thursday of odd months)</i>	Raytown Council #4962 5101 Blue Ridge Cutoff	6:30 PM
<b>Sunday, November 30</b>	Fifth Sunday Mass	St. Thomas More Church	9:30 AM
<b>Tuesday, December 2</b>	1st Degree Ceremony <i>(first Tuesday of even months)</i>	Archbishop O'Hara Council #4387 5111 E 112th Terrace	7:30 PM

**Belton Council** is at 700 Trevis Ave, Belton MO 64012. Degree ceremony starts at 7 PM; candidates arrive by 6:30 PM.

**O'Hara Council** is at 5111 East 112th Terrace, Kansas City MO 64137. Degree ceremony starts at 8 PM; candidates arrive by 7:30 PM.

**Smithville Council** is at 1103 South Commercial, Smithville MO 64089. Degree ceremony starts at 6:30 PM; candidates arrive by 6:15 PM.

## Items of Interest

■ This year's **Knights of Columbus MR (Tootsie Roll) Drive** was held the weekend of October 10–12. Brother Jack Ryan said the drive was very successful, and that a final total will be announced soon. Thanks to all who contributed with their time and donations. Half the proceeds are distributed by our council to help the children in the F.I.R.E. program and other local programs.

■ From Youth Director Doug Weishar:  
Over 100 STM School students attended the **7th & 8th Grade Mixer** held October 3, up from 73 students at the last mixer. The event netted \$144. In addition, 220 cans of food were donated to the Seton Center.

The **Soccer Challenge** was held September 28 at Avila University, with 24 participants, after being postponed a week due to bad weather. Look for a new date next year to bring in more participants.

The Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness **Poster Contest** for 5th and 6th grade students is coming

up. A volunteer is needed to head this up—why not you? Email Doug at [dweishar@kcpd.org](mailto:dweishar@kcpd.org) or call 816-943-0609.

■ More ushers are needed at STM parish, especially with the upcoming construction and double Masses. Please contact the parish office at 816-942-2492 if you can help.

■ **Good of the Order:** Keep brothers Harold Heiman and Ed Thomas in your prayers.

■ If you know of a brother Knight that is **not receiving the newsletter** by email, or that does not have an email address, contact the editor.

■ Council **name badges** are available for purchase. Pin-on and slip-on pocket badges are \$9 and magnetic badges are \$11. Order forms are available at each meeting, or call Brother John Kelly at 816-942-3226.

■ Thanks to Brother Joe Wynn for printing & delivering copies of *Knights News* to the church.