

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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Vivat Jesus!

Knights News



VOL. 2 NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2009

Grand Knight's Report

■ *Brother Gene Twellman*

The Homestretch We've turned the corner and passed by the mid-year for our council's business year ending June 30. We are now on the homestretch.

Thanks again to Brothers Joe Dyche, Joe Wynn and Frank Petersen for a job very well done on the Roses for Life campaign. By the time you are reading this, our box of over 1,200 signed slips opposing abortion, along with thousands of others from other councils, is being hand-delivered to members of Congress. Please continue your works and prayers on behalf of protecting the sanctity of life from the womb to the tomb.

I also want to thank Brother Doug Weishar and his band of workers who organized and carried out the annual Free Throw Contest at STM gym on January 18. We had nearly 50 participants and many of the participants stayed after their free throws to enjoy some free play time on the courts. Doug and Brother Paul Hentzen are also working on the Poster and the Essay Contests with STM children and we'll report on the winners of those contests in future newsletters. Great job men!

Don't forget to sweep your lovely ladies off their feet by joining us for our Sweetheart Dinner on Monday, February 16 at Dos De Oros restaurant. Look for more information inside the newsletter.

Before my term as your Grand Knight expires, I want to make a final big push for new members. We are expanding the members of the Membership Committee and requesting your input for possible new members. Please forward your suggested candidates to me, Brad Doty, Jim Easley or John Kelly. We will contact the candidate and try to set up an appointment to visit each candidate and provide them with all the information they need to decide to join our ranks. The next 1st degrees will be held on Tuesday, February 3 at KCMO Council #4387 at 8 PM and another on Wednesday, March 18 at the Belton, Missouri Council #5586 at 7 PM. Please encourage candidates to attend one of those degrees.

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Grand Knight's Report *(continued from page one)*

Lastly, I want to encourage our 1st degree members to take their 2nd and 3rd degrees, preferably before June 30. There is a 2nd and 3rd degree at Council #9272 Good Shepherd Church, Smithville on March 22 at 1 PM. Also, there is a 4th degree for our area scheduled the weekend of March 21-22 at the Kansas City Airport Marriott. Let me know if you are interested and I can get you the information on all of the upcoming degrees.

A Presidential Knight

■ *Brother Larry LeFebvre*

President's Day is Monday, February 16, and you know what that means!

Well, yes, mattresses will be on sale, but, other than that, our council will be holding another Family Dinner at a local eatery. The location is Dos De Oros, a wonderful Mexican restaurant located at 13029 Holmes Road, and it's reported to have some of the best Mexican food this side of Martin City.

Manager Miguel is allowing us to order directly from the menu so everyone can satisfy their own taste buds and spend as many pesos as they like. The festivities will begin around 6:30 PM.

Also, since this is just two days after Valentine's Day (February 14), what better way to wrap up a romantic

weekend than by taking your presi . . . er, spouse to dinner.

Please call Larry LeFebvre at 816-941-9506 or email to laremare@aol.com to make your reservations.

Roses for Life

■ *Brother Joe Dyche*

This year's Roses for Life campaign was a great success at STM! Over 1,200 roses were distributed, signed and collected during Masses the weekend of January 3 and 4. The roses were then taken to Washington, D.C., in time for the annual March for Life on January 22.

Working together, three STM Knights each did his essential part and the Roses for Life committee came alive for 2009. Joe Wynn phoned for help at each Mass. Frank Petersen brought the table, the pencils for each pew at church and the boxes to hold the signed tags. Joe Dyche contacted the correct people for bulletin insertions, priest encouragement for parishioners to sign tags stating their beliefs, and end of Mass announcements reminding everyone to sign and return the Roses for Life. All took part in writing an outline for future guidance. Special thanks for a job well done.



As many as 300,000 people participated in the 36th Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., on January 22. Many carried Knights of Columbus signs and banners declaring "Defend Life." The event is considered the most attended annual march in the nation's capital.

Insurance Report

Our field agent, Kevin Pierce, has accepted a new position with the Knights of Columbus. Thanks, Kevin, for your service to our council.

Mike York will be taking his place as field agent for our council. For the past three years, Mike has been covering the downtown area. You can meet Mike at an upcoming meeting or reach him by email at Mike.York@KofC.org.

Thanks, Knights!

■ *Brother Larry LeFebvre*

Our council received numerous thank you notes for the various charitable donations made at our December business meeting.

Sister Loretto Marie wrote, "Your continuing support helps Seton Center provide food, clothing, utility assistance, and dental care to hundreds of families. Together we make differences that profoundly affect the lives of other human beings for the better."

The area director of Special Olympics said, "financial support like yours enables us to provide Special Olympics Programs to 15,311 athletes statewide."

One of the families we helped at Christmas wrote, "The gift card for \$200 bought the grandchildren presents, and the joy that it brought to their little faces and hearts was priceless."

Additionally, notes were received from Tri-County Mental Health Services and other agencies that benefitted from our Tootsie Roll Drive. The state half of the proceeds from the drive will go to Cardinal Glennon Hospital, and the council half will go to local charities for mentally challenged children, to be selected by the charity committee and approved at an upcoming council meeting.

Thanks to all our brothers and everyone who helped make these donations possible through their generosity.

Charity begins at home . . .

but it's all in a Knight's work.

**Visit the Knights of Columbus
website at KofC.org**

We Are Knights

As noted in the Grand Knight's Report, our council membership drive is underway. What can we do to bring new members into our council? We can't invite them to attend a meeting before joining. But we can tell friends and neighbors why we joined, what being a Knight means to us, and encourage them to join us. That can be difficult to put into words. So what do you say when someone asks, "Why should I join?"

To help answer that question, the membership committee has created a tri-fold brochure that covers what it means to be a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Being a Knight is about camaraderie, and much more: being involved with your community; supporting your parish, while enhancing your own faith; protecting and enhancing your family life; supporting athletic programs, sponsoring special events and hosting family-focused activities; serving as role models for other Catholic men, as well as mentors for children.

The brochure also details the benefits of membership, from the insurance program to scholarships to national and state publications.

And it lists specific activities and events going on right here in our own STM council.

Pick up a brochure or two at the next meeting, some of the new Form 100s, and help get the word out.

Items of Interest

■ Invoices have been sent out for **2009 dues**. Please bring your check to the next meeting, or mail it back to Financial Secretary Tom Steffens.

■ An email went out recently to all current council members about sending out a **list of members**, their phone numbers and email addresses for use in council activities. This information will be sent out to current council members only. Please respond to the email or contact Grand Knight Gene Twellman if

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THE GREATNESS OF A MAN IS NOT ALWAYS DEFINED BY WHAT HE HAS DONE BUT BY WHAT HE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO DO

The Knights of Columbus is an organization fortified by its past, and driven by its goals for the future. Whether it's through the support of local athletic programs, sponsoring of special events, or hosting family-focused activities, Knights serve as valuable role models for other Catholic men, as well as mentors for all children.

THE QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER OR NOT A MAN CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE THAT MAN.



Calendar of Events

Tuesday, February 3	1st Degree Ceremony <i>(first Tuesday of even months)</i>	O'Hara Council #4387 5111 E 112th Terrace	7:30 PM
Thursday, February 5	STM Council #14270 Leader Meeting <i>(first Thursday of every month)</i>	St. Thomas More Huhmann Room	7:00 PM
Thursday, February 12	STM Council #14270 Business Meeting <i>(second Thursday of every month)</i>	St. Thomas More More Hall	7:15 PM
Wednesday, March 18	1st Degree Ceremony <i>(third Wednesday of odd months)</i>	Belton Council #5586 700 Trevis Avenue	6:30 PM
Thursday, March 19	Fourth Degree Assembly #566 Meeting <i>(third Thursday of odd months)</i>	Raytown Council #4962 5101 Blue Ridge Cutoff	6:30 PM
Sunday, March 22	2nd & 3rd Degree Ceremony	Smithville Council #9262 700 Trevis Avenue	1:00 PM
Sunday, March 22	4th Degree Ceremony	Airport Hilton	
Sunday, March 29	Fifth Sunday Mass	St. Thomas More	9:00 AM

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.

Items of Interest *(continued from page three)*

you don't want your phone number or email address included.

■ During **construction**, there is a greater demand for lectors, cantors, sacristans and ushers. Please be generous with your time, and contact the church office at 942-2492.

■ 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.

■ Not receiving the *Knights News* by email? Know of a brother Knight who isn't? Contact the editor to verify the email address, or if you don't have access to email, get added to the mailing list.

■ *Knights News* will be published on the last day of each month during 2009. Submit all newsletter items by the **fourth Thursday** of the month. An email reminder will go out to all members on the third Thursday.

February Milestones

KNIGHTS BIRTHDAYS

08 ... David Markus

SPOUSES BIRTHDAYS

10 ... Katherine Long 23 ... Cheryl Steffens
21 ... Mary Kim Henehan

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

15 ... David & Katherine Long
29 ... Paul & Sarah Jokerst

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

KNIGHTS NEWS is the official publication of St. Thomas More Council #14270 of the Knights of Columbus. Contact the editor, John Kelly, at 816-942-3226 or JK@ReeceAndNichols.com.