

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Saint Thomas More
Council 14270
Kansas City, Missouri

2008-2009 OFFICERS

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Deputy Grand Knight Jim Easley
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Treasurer Jack Ryan
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2nd Year Trustee David Long
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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



Knights News



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Grand Knight's Report

■ *Brother Gene Twellman*

Time to Plant I grew up on a small farm in northeast Missouri. Each year, when April and May finally arrived after a long winter, the gentlemen knew it was time to plant. The days of sitting back waiting on Mother Nature to give her go-ahead were over. The gentlemen rushed back to the fields to prepare the soil and plant the seeds that would, with God's help, produce a bountiful harvest in the coming fall. The work would be hard and the days would be long, but that's what good farmers did.

Gentlemen, we too have our work cut out for us in the next few months. Not the tough laborious type; we'll leave that for the farmers. Our immediate efforts are to select and "plant" and/or provide "fertilizer" for the gentlemen that will lead our council for the next two years. Our Nominations Committee will announce their proposed slate of officers at our May business meeting on Thursday, May 14, and each member will then have the opportunity at that meeting to either suggest their own candidate(s) for officers or provide support for the proposed candidates. Elections will be held at the business meeting in June on Thursday, June 11. Please plan to attend these important meetings.

We need a lot of support for these new leaders of our organization. We have reached the 100 member level and need to keep growing to remain strong. Our next major event is the Family Fun Knight on Friday, June 26, and we'll need the help and support of every member to make this an even bigger and better event than last year's. But that should not be a problem since we have about 40 more members in our council than we did last year at this time. As the old farmers used to say, we just need to put a little muscle into it.

Our council needs to grow in degrees taken as well as in numbers. I strongly encourage all first degree members to make the time to take your second and third degrees on Sunday, May 3, at St. Peters here in Kansas City, Missouri. Those degrees do not occur very often this close by so please take advantage of this convenient opportunity to grow in your role as a Knight of Columbus.

Upcoming Degree Ceremonies

On Sunday, May 3, there will be second and third degree ceremonies at St. Peter's Council, 6415 Holmes Road, starting at 1 PM. (They ask you to be there by 12:30 PM.) The ceremonies will conclude by about 4:30 PM and dinner is available after if you have time.

The next first degree will be Wednesday, May 20, at Belton Council, beginning at 7 PM. Candidates should arrive before 6:45 PM.

Invite someone you know to become a Knight and join our council, or encourage a first degree member to continue to full Knighthood. When asked why they joined the Knights of Columbus, a majority of men say, "Because I was asked."

Membership Update

Welcome to our newest Brother Knight: **Tim Stockwell**. Tim took the first degree April 7 at O'Hara Council.

Council Softball Team

■ *Brother Craig Borgmeyer*

We are again trying to start a STM Council softball team. The team would likely participate in a summer double-header league starting in late May, and possibly participate in the State Knights of Columbus Softball Tournament in late June.

The registration deadline for Jackson County Parks and Recreation summer softball leagues (Frank White Complex and 140th and Holmes Complex) is May 8. If anyone is interested, please contact Craig Borgmeyer at 943-0156 or cborgmeyer@kc.rr.com as soon as possible. Thanks for your consideration.

Knights Caps and Shirts

■ *Brother Rocky Hembree*

We already have had 18 council brothers sign up for a Knights of Columbus cap and/or shirt from the last council business meeting. So you won't be left out, we want to insure that each council brother has a chance

to order his cap and/or shirt and expedite the placement of the order with the supplier, by either e-mailing Rocky Hembree at pegroc@aol.com or calling 942-0069 as soon as possible.

Caps will be red with the Knights of Columbus emblem and St. Thomas More Council 14270 embroidered in white on the front. They will be made of washed chino twill fabric with white cording along the front of the bill. Caps are priced at \$12 each. We must have an order for 48 caps to get this price.

Shirts will be red with the Knights of Columbus emblem embroidered on the left chest side and the member's first name embroidered in white on the left chest side. They will be made of seven-ounce 100% cotton with a welt collar and cuffs. Shirts are priced at \$18 each. You will need to specify your size. No minimum order is required.

Payment is not required until we see if we can get a cap order for 48 caps.

Please place your order as soon as possible.

Quatro de Mayo

■ *Brother Larry LeFebvre*

I know, I know . . . there is no such holiday, but since we couldn't get reservations at a Mexican restaurant for the real holiday (Cinco de Mayo, May 5), I thought we would still want to gather and celebrate Mexican Independence. Besides, do we really need a reason to have a tasty margarita or a cold Corona? I didn't think so.

Monday, May 4, we will be dining at Dos De Oros, 13029 Holmes. The festivities will begin at 6:30 PM and everyone will be able to order from the menu and, of course, pay your own tab. The last time we were there Dave and Katherine Long were the lucky winners of a free dinner. This time it could be you! Bring your family and let's have some fun, fajitas, and fellowship. Email me at laremare@aol.com or call 941-9506 to make your reservation. *Ole!*

Visit the Missouri Knights of Columbus website—MoKofC.org—for links to the Job Bank, insurance agents, state officers, directors, and activities.

State Convention Report

■ *District 9 Deputy Tony Berter*

Council 14270 delegates and I had a great Missouri Knights of Columbus 2009 State Convention. Almost every council within District 9 received one or more awards. Here is a brief overview of the convention.

Resolutions: All Resolutions passed with the exception of Resolution 13, dealing with the Honorary Life Members recognition and Resolution 14, dealing with the new \$3 assessment for our priests. Resolution 14 was tabled for next year. Grand Knights should have copies of this year's resolutions.

Fraternal Year 2009–2010 budget is \$191,800. The three largest budget items are printing and postage of the *Mariner* newspaper: \$50,000, service program expenses: \$37,300, convention expenses: \$30,000.

Membership has increased by 1,200 new brothers but retentions have increased to over 400! We still have a few months to recruit and retain more gentlemen. The state membership director requests we talk to every Catholic gentleman at our local parishes and invite them to join. We had over 700 new brothers this year take the second and third degree.

The state MR Drive collected \$562,019.97. Turn-around funds totaled \$280,862.45.

RIB goal was \$280,000. So far RIB has collected only \$198,000. If there is any way you can help before June 30 it would be greatly appreciated.

The Religious Vocation Fund has only received contributions from 22 councils and 19 ladies auxiliaries for a grand total of \$5,598.11. We are well short of our annual goal. Funds should be submitted by June 30.

Within the Community Activities Program, over 99,000 Roses for Life were sent to our state legislators. Vitae Caring Foundation has collected \$34,137. Agape House reports donations of \$4,035 collected with the yearly goal of \$8,500. If you can help it would be greatly appreciated.

Athletic activities were held statewide. Horseshoes had 500 participants, Sporting Clays Shoot over 150 participants, Bowling Tournament 235 participants. Soccer Challenge had over 1,300 girls and boys participate. The girls and boys Basketball Free Throw Contest had over 2,400 youngsters participate.

The next statewide pilgrimage will begin at 10 AM on Oct 4, 2009, on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church,

Lake of the Ozarks, Highway 5, Laurie, Mo.

Your contributions and volunteering of time and talent have made a difference. I want to thank everyone within District 9 for your outstanding support of the Knights of Columbus.

Family Fun Knight

■ *Brother Larry LeFebvre*

Plans are being formulated and committees are being formed to handle the activities on Family Fun Knight, Friday, June 26, from 6 to 10 PM. Darin Kamradt has agreed to co-chair this event and volunteers are stepping up to offer their services for an hour or two that evening. We will need cooks, food servers, bartenders, ticket takers, kids games workers, set-up and clean-up crews, and of course, donations of food and deserts.

Again this year we will be holding a raffle for a "wheelbarrow of cheer," so we will also be soliciting donations of your favorite liquor, beer or wine to fill the wheelbarrow. I will be happy to pick your donation up at your home, or you can bring them to our monthly meetings in May and June.

Darin and I will be contacting you personally for assistance, but feel free to call or email either of us if there is something particular you would like to help with. Again, since the event only lasts four hours, we need your assistance for just an hour or two. We will appreciate whatever you can do. Contact Larry LeFebvre at 941-9506 or laremare@aol.com or Darin Kamradt at 942-4320 or kamradt@yahoo.com.

Day of Prayer for Vocations

Sunday, May 3, is the Annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This day is an opportunity for all Knights to raise awareness of the need for men and women to say "yes" to their vocations, especially if one is called to the priesthood or religious life. With the help of the Knights of Columbus, thousands will hear their calls as a result of our prayers and vocation materials.

As Knights, we know the difference that one good priest can make. Raise awareness and get involved. Visit KofC.org to learn how to participate in the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

STM Awards Presentation

On April 9, awards were presented to the winners of Knights of Columbus youth activities. The following email was sent to Brother Paul Hentzen from sixth grade teacher Laura Knapp, whose students participated in the Essay Contest:

"I just wanted to drop you a brief note to let you know how much I appreciate the time and effort that went into judging the students' essays and planning for their awards. As I said before, it is always helpful to have the kids see meaningful connections between their writing and the real world. I am so grateful that you pointed out some of those connections when you came last Thursday. It was great, too, that you acknowledged the difficulty of the topic. So many of the students struggled simply because they do not have the depth of experience and/or thought to delve into the topic. However, many of them were valiant in their efforts and it was nice for them to hear your expression of appreciation for that.

My colleagues were impressed with the show of support from the Knights of Columbus at the presentation. It really made an impression on all present that you gentlemen gave up a part of your work day to come to our school. That definitely sent a message to the students about how important they and their works are to the larger community!

I cannot thank you enough for your support. Please convey my gratitude to all of those who assisted with this project. I'll look forward to next year's contest."



PHOTOS BY PHIL MUELLNER



St. Thomas More Parish

The following article, written by Crystal Hentzen, wife of Brother Paul Hentzen, appeared recently the *Star Magazine* section of *The Kansas City Star*.



I am originally a Hoosier but never felt like Indiana was home. In fact, I never really felt “at home” anywhere when I was younger. I must have even projected that to others, because I was once asked if I was a military brat. Nothing to be ashamed of, but I’m not.

Then my husband, Paul, and I moved our family from Wichita, where he was born and raised, to Kansas City. We built a home and a network of friends in St. Thomas More Parish. We’re here to stay.

A few years back, with two teenagers and a preteen, we had settled on the Missouri side of State Line, and we considered jumping the line into Johnson County. We were having a hard time deciding where to jump to.

Then one Sunday morning after Mass, downstairs having doughnuts with fellow parishioners, Paul was doing his usual thing of talking to a lot of people, which prompted our youngest to ask, “Do you know everybody?”

The fact of the matter was we did know a number of people and liked the camaraderie. We looked at each other and asked, “Why are we looking outside the parish?” Our decision was made.

St. Thomas More, although 34 years old, is a young parish filled with many families who started in Redemptorist Parish, where Paul’s parents were raised.

As the city and families grew, many parishioners moved to Visitation and St. Elizabeth, then out to St. Thomas More. No matter who you talk to, there always seems to be a “family” connection.

For instance, the father of one of our best friends used to date Paul’s aunt. To me this type of connection is what makes it feel like home. We’re all family, and we take care of each other like family.

We ended up in Verona Hills, a neighborhood where we still walk to a friend’s house for supper, and our daughter rides her bike to her friends’ homes. It’s a place where we still know who lives next door and what is going on with their kids, even though they’re not in school with ours anymore. Verona Hills is a friendly place, but it’s St. Thomas More that makes me feel “at home.”

STM Golf Tournament

Who: Sponsored by Men of STM

What: Charity golf tournament

When: Friday, May 8, 2009 – check-in starting at 12:15 PM – shotgun start at 1:00 PM

Where: Eagles Landing Golf Course, 4200 Bong Avenue, Belton MO – 318-0004. Dinner will follow at More Hall

Why: The money collected after expenses will be donated to the Neighbors in Need Fund at STM, as well as the STM Guatemala Action Fund

Don’t miss out on this great opportunity to enjoy golf and fellowship while helping two great causes. The \$125 entry fee covers greens fee, cart, refreshments, dinner, awards, and prizes. \$50 of your payment is tax-deductible.

STM Council 14270 will be sponsoring at least one hole, and there are still opportunities to donate certificates or merchandise.

Contact Chip McKenzie at 942-9261 or Ed Van Buskirk at 941-9567.

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

Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 3 arrive @ 12:30 PM	2nd & 3rd Degree Ceremony St. Peter's Council 13988
Sunday, May 3	World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Monday, May 4 6:30 PM	Quatro de Mayo dinner Dos de Oros, 13029 Holmes
Monday, May 4 7:00 PM	Steve Bollman (That Man is You) St. Ann's Church, 7241 Mission
Thursday, May 7 7:00 PM	Council 14270 Leader Meeting More Hall A
Friday, May 8 1:00 PM	Men of STM Golf Tournament Eagles Landing Golf Course
Thursday, May 14 7:15 PM	Council 14270 Business Meeting More Hall C
Wednesday, May 20 arrive @ 6:30 PM	1st Degree Ceremony Belton Council 5586
Sunday, May 31 7:30 AM <i>breakfast to follow—check the May 24 bulletin for details</i>	Fifth Sunday Mass Flanagan Hall
Tuesday, June 2 arrive @ 7:30 PM	1st Degree Ceremony O'Hara Council 4387
Friday, June 26 6:00 to 10:00 PM	Family Fun Knight St. Thomas More

Items of Interest

■ Sunday, May 31, is the next **Fifth Sunday**. As in March, Knights and families will sit together in the front right section of Flanagan Hall at the 7:30 AM Mass. Don't forget your name badge!

After Mass, we have two options for breakfast: return to Waid's as we did in March, or join O'Hara Council 4387 for their Fifth Sunday breakfast at their council hall. At our next council business meeting on May 14, we will pick the best option.

■ Steve Bollman, founder of Paradisus Dei, and creator of That Man Is You, will be in the Kansas City area on Monday, May 5. He will speak at St. Ann's Church, 7241 Mission Road, at 7 PM, followed by a reception at 8 PM. The topic of his presentation is "A

New Springtime for the Family." If you have questions or would like to attend, please contact Ed Van Buskirk at ed.vanbuskirk@we-are-it.com.

■ Cmdr. Francis X. Castellano, commander of the USS Bainbridge, directed the operations that resulted in the dramatic rescue of Capt. Richard Phillips from Somali pirates on Easter Sunday. Cmdr. Castellano, 41, is a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He joined Patchogue Council (N.Y.) 725 in 1986, and became a member of Holy Cross Assembly 3048 in Tennessee in 2006.

■ *Knights News* is published on the last day of each month. **Submit newsletter items** by the fourth Thursday of the month. An email reminder will go out on the third Thursday.

May Milestones

KNIGHTS BIRTHDAYS

03 ... Daniel Watson	21 ... Perry Ceriotti
10 ... Leo Amor	24 ... Doug Weishar
13 ... David Long	26 ... Craig Laird
17 ... Dale Covey	28 ... Tim Bosler
18 ... Paul Becker	

SPOUSES BIRTHDAYS

03 ... Karen Loeffelholz

ANNIVERSARIES

10 ... Patrick & Kelli Reidy (34 years)
12 ... Don & Betty Doyon (25 years)
23 ... Darin & Kathy Kamradt (17 years)
24 ... John & Mary Pazell

MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES

15 years ... Leo Amor

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.