

Grand Knight's Report JACK RYAN

Didn't Punxsutawney Phil say that spring was just around the corner?? He obviously wasn't talking about the Midwest! At least our St. Thomas More Knights of Columbus council hasn't let the winter weather slow us down much this month. In spite of the cold and snow, and in addition to our regular meetings, we held our post-Valentine's Day dinner at Wil Jenny's, our monthly gathering at Sand Trap and a successful Bishop Blast. A big thank you also to the ones who continued driving the courtesy shuttle in spite of bad weather! I know it was appreciated by your fellow parishioners, and builds the reputation of the Knights of Columbus as a true service organization.

Your presence is very much needed at the March meeting, because that's when we'll be preparing the college "care packages" for mailing to our parish college students. Each of the approximately 40 packages will include a 2 or 3 line note of encouragement signed by a Knight, so if we can get a good turnout this month, each Knight can just jot one quick note. The response last year made it clear that these packages meant a lot to the students, and the Catholic information pamphlets the packages include can be a subtle but significant influence toward keeping their faith when so many others around them may be abandoning theirs. So come and join us, and help a young person with some words of encouragement!

As mentioned, the Bishop Blast membership drive was successful. If all the gentlemen who signed the prospect list take their First Degree, we'll have clinched Star status and be working toward another Double Star! We can't let up now, so continue inviting your fellow parishioners to join our ranks--many are just waiting to be asked!

Ash Wednesday will soon be upon us. The Church recommends that, rather than just giving up something for Lent, we also do something positive. The Knights always have opportunities for charitable works, so if you haven't been active lately, now is a perfect time to help and have a good time in the process! Have a blessed and pleasant Lent.

Vivat Jesus!



Free Throw District Results

STM was well represented at the District 9 competition, with the following winning their age group and moving to the next level. **GIRLS**: Samantha Ruiz (age 14) and Bridget Roudebush (11). **BOYS:** Sam Krebs (14), Danny Hoop (13), Brett Evans (12) and Charlie Krebs (11).



Council 14270 News & Notes

Texas Hold 'Em Mark your calendars for the upcoming Texas Hold 'Em Tournament, Saturday, May 21 in More Hall. Cash prizes: \$300 for first place, \$200 for second and \$100 for third. \$30 buy-in for pre-registered players, \$35 for walk-ins. For more information & to register, contact Dave Markus at 941-9368.

Volunteers After the March meeting volunteers are needed to judge entries in the Essay Contest and write notes for the college student care packages. *(continued on page two)*

🔷 COUNCIL CALENDAR 🔇	▶
Leader Meeting Tue 3/8 7:00 P	м
Business Meeting Thu 3/10 7:15 P	м
Texas Hold 'Em Tournament May 2	1
Fifth Sunday Mass & Breakfast May 2	.9

The First Three Principles of Our Order

CHARITY

Our Catholic faith teaches us to "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Knights recognize that our mission, and our faith in God, compels us to action. There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

UNITY

None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Knights of Columbus know that together we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually. So we stick together, we support one another. As a Knight of Columbus you can count on the support and encouragement of your brother Knights as you work to make life better in your parish and community.

FRATERNITY

The Venerable Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus, in large part, to provide assistance to the widows and children left behind when the family breadwinner died. The Order's top-rated insurance program continues to do this today, as do individual Knights, who last year gave more than 10 million hours of their time to assist sick or disabled members and their families.

-- BIRTHDAYS --

- **01** Doris Petersen
- **02** Mark Rogge
- **07** Harold Heiman
- **14** Randy Stuppy
- **18** Don Dovon
- **18** Bill Venable
- **20** Tom McLaury
- - **28** Mary Begnaud **28** Kitty Kennaley
 - **28** Tom Reagan
 - **29** Steve Finger
 - **30** Maris Haster
 - **30** Donna O'Reilly

-- ANNIVERSARIES --

- 04 Bud & Susan Williamson
- **08** Ed & Donna O'Reilly
- 18 Joe & Marv Gawron
- 29 Paul & Sarah Jokerst

In Memoriam

Our Brother Knight Eugene "Geno" Mervs, 88, of Kansas City, Mo., passed away January 11.

Geno was born June 23, 1922, in Kansas City, the son of Eugene H. and Merida (Schroder) Merys. He served in the United States Navy during the World War II era. Geno was a member of St. Thomas More Parish, a Fourth Degree member of Knights of Columbus St. Thomas More Council #14270 and formerly of the O'Hara Council. He belonged to the IBEW Local Union #124 for 67 years. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Mildred Frances Merys of the home; two sons, Marquis Michael Merys and Shawn Christopher Merys, M.D.; granddaughter Gina Marie Merys, Ph.D.; and grandson, Marquis Vincent Merys.

Visitation and rosary were held January 14 at Muehlebach Funeral Home, 6800 Troost, with graveside service January 15 at Calvary Cemetery, 6901 Troost.

NEWS & NOTES (continued from page one)

Support Our Seminarian Keep Sam Geringer in your prayers on his journey to priesthood at Conception Abbey. His email address is: sgeringer@conception.edu.

Shining Armor Award Congratulations to Jeff Barthol for earning the Shining Armor Award, given for service to the order with distinction during the first year of membership.

Shirts & Caps Rocky Hembree is taking orders for council shirts & caps. Shirts with pockets are \$27 (\$30 for 2X+). Shirts without pockets are \$22 (\$27 for 2X+). Caps are \$13 and a minimum order of 48 is needed. Order at the meeting or send orders to Rocky Hembree, Financial Secretary, 11601 Locust, KCMO 64131.

