



Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus ILLINOIS KNIGHTS NEWS



Frank Ryan, Editor

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Bill Spainhour, State Deputy

In Solidarity With Our Bishops and Priests



My Brother Knights,

I wish all Brother Knights and your families a Happy New Year. May it be the greatest year ever! I hope that you will keep the resolution that you made especially the one to strengthen your faith, assist in building better communities, and reinforce your Catholic family values through your membership and involvement in the programs of our Order.

As we enter the final six months of the Fraternal Year, we as Knights of Illinois can be very proud of our accomplishments thus far. The membership status of our jurisdiction for the end of December is 1,161 Gain, 408 Loss, 753 Net Gain, with an **Actual Net Gain in Membership, Plus 101** after deaths and transfers. You should be very proud of this accomplishment of **positive membership growth in Illinois**. As your State Deputy, allow me to brag on the councils in this great state. We are currently in second place in net gain in Division One Supreme Council membership. We have two college councils leading in their division of Supreme Membership. Illini Council, UI, #1 and NIU, #3 in Division III percentage net gain. The Illinois State Squire Circle #1 in their division and #2 in the Order in percentage net gain membership. We are **"Opening the doors to the Knights of Columbus in Illinois"**. We are growing the membership of the Knights of Columbus in Illinois. We will be there for our future generations. We will be there for our Church, our Communities and our Families. Our strong Catholic family values will be an influence in future generations as we build a better world, one new member and one new council at a time.

"Now is the time for the Great Catch" Now is the time to offer membership in our Order to all practical Catholic men. Now is the time to assure that your council will be an influence for the future. At the Mid Winter Meeting of District Deputies held in Peoria the weekend of January 3-5, 2003, I asked all of the District Deputies to return to their districts and assist the councils of their district in formulating and implementing a membership action plan. A membership action plan specifically designed for each individual council. This is not just a plan for the future this is a **plan with a future**. Membership growth is the only way to assure a future without it there is no future. New members will not only enable you to enhance your council programs, they will insure the continuance of those programs.

We are having another banner year in charities. We have exceeded our goal for the MR/LD Drive. Although it appears that we will not reach the record year that we had last year, I am very happy to announce that we have exceeded our \$1,500,000 goal and we still have a few councils who have not submitted their council collections. The Vocation Raffle was just \$900 shy of last year's record sale of \$73,000. I was honored to present on your behalf a \$100,000 donation to two very special athletes for our annual contribution to the Illinois Special Olympics. I also reminded our friends from the Illinois Special Olympics that the second \$50,000 installment of the \$250,000 pledge to assist in funding the construction of the Darrell and Ursula Beck Special Olympic Training Center would be presented to them at our State Convention. Donations totaling \$225,000 were distributed to the Newman Campus Ministries in Illinois. We have assisted many churches, organizations and individuals with donations from the General Assistance Program.

Our programs are also doing great. Councils throughout the state are conducting the Our Lady of the Rosary Marian Hour of Prayer Program. Councils are participating in the Free Throw and Spelling Bee Programs. Councils are reporting numerous Community, Council, and Family Activity Programs. The Parish Round Table Program is growing. Councils that serve more than one parish are assigning Round Table Chairmen to act as a liaison between the council and the parish to insure that each of the parishes are being served.

"Now is the time for the Great Catch". Now! is the time to grow the membership of your council. Now! is the time to plan for the future. Remember that planning for membership growth is a **plan with a future**.

"Open Wide the Doors to the Knights of Columbus in Illinois"

Vivat Jesus,
Bill Spainhour
State Deputy

Membership Report

Christ told Peter and his brother, Andrew, “Come, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matthew 4:19) Your charge in the Knights of Columbus is no different – to be fishers of men, in other words, to find new members.

Membership totals for the first six months of this fraternal year have been great. Thanks to everyone that has worked to find new members. However, each Brother Knight must accept his “charge” and seek new members. Potential candidates are all around us; all we need to do is be aware of those possible candidates. Every Sunday in Church, we seat in the same pew as that potential candidate. Every Sunday, we drop our contribution to the Church into the collection basket carried by a potential candidate.

It’s not only on Sunday that we encounter potential candidates. What about our co-workers that we see every week Monday through Friday? What about the men that ride the train to work with you? What about the men that sits next to you at your child’s basketball game? Your child’s volleyball game? What about the other men that we bowl with or play racquetball or basketball?

Yes, potential candidates all around us. All you have to do is learn to look. It’s similar to fishing in a lake or river. You have to learn to look for the places that fish would normally gather, near the rocky shore or the weed patch. You also need to have the proper lures. That is one of the reasons the State Council will be holding rallies at different locations during March and in April. The State Council is asking all Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, Membership Chairmen, top council recruiters, and any other concern council member to attend these rallies.

The goal of each Grand Knight is to attain **Star Council** award for his council. The goal of each District Deputy is to attain **Star District** for his efforts. In order to attain **Star Council**, the council must meet its membership and insurance quota and have all required forms in the hands of the Supreme and State Council. Each Grand Knight should have a **Membership Plan of Action** for the next six months to meet or exceed his quotas. If you don’t have a plan of action, there is still time to start.

The State Membership Team and all State Officers look forward to see those “fishers of men” at the upcoming rallies.

Vivat Jesus,
Larry Smith and John Peters
Membership Director

Major Degree's

Date	1 st Degree	2 nd Degree	Location	Council	DD
03/09/03	Sunday	12:00PM	1:00PM	Teutopolis Council	2874 75
03/09/03	Sunday	12:00PM	1:00PM	Dixon Council	690 47
03/09/03	Sunday	12:00PM	1:00PM	Highland Council	1580 79
03/23/03	Saturday	1:30PM	2:30PM	Glendale Heights	9893 30
04/12/03	Saturday	12:00PM	1:00PM	Streator Council	790 57
04/13/03	Sunday	12:30PM	1:30PM	Breese Council	2869 84
04/13/03	Sunday	12:00PM	1:00PM	Springfield Council	364 79
04/13/03	Sunday	1:00PM	2:00PM	Blue Island	1366 22
04/13/03	Sunday	1:00PM	2:00PM	Barrington Council	3954 4
04/13/03	Sunday	1:00PM	2:00PM	Rockford Council	470 43
04/27/03	Sunday	12:00PM	1:00PM	Pekin Council	3507 54
04/27/03	Sunday	1:00PM	2:00PM	Joliet Council	12014 34

4th Degree's Exemplification

Date	Day	Time	Location
03/08/03	Saturday	1:00PM	Holiday Inn – Springfield
04/26/03	Saturday	1:00PM	Marriott Hotel – Hoffman Estates



Rallies 2003
Going Fishing
Open Wide the Doors in Illinois

March 1, 2003	Freeport Council # 653
March 2, 2003	DeKalb Newman Center NIU
March 8, 2003	Frankfort – Franciscan Mother House
March 9, 2003	West Chicago #1555
March 22, 2003	Barrington Council # 3954
March 23, 2003	Sheridan – Carroll # 8690
March 29, 2003	DuBois Council # 4476
March 30, 2003	Virden Council # 2321
April 6, 2003	Pekin Council # 3507

Those that need to be in attendance Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, Membership Director, Program Director and any other interested members. Rallies will be from 1:00PM to 4:00PM with ideas to help keep your Councils growing and alive with Membership.



Mid – Year DD Meeting



Bob Thomas receives NCD plaque



Paul Flynn receives NCD plaque



Father Chuck opens the Meeting



Leo Segalla Regional Consultant



Jack & Nancy Cleary, Larry & Kay Berlarge



Derwin & Brenda Drone, Tom Conaughty & Jamie



Mark Schwartz Star District



Jim Shumaker Star District

Mid-Year DD Meeting



Sam DiRaimondo Star District



Nick Giacone Star District



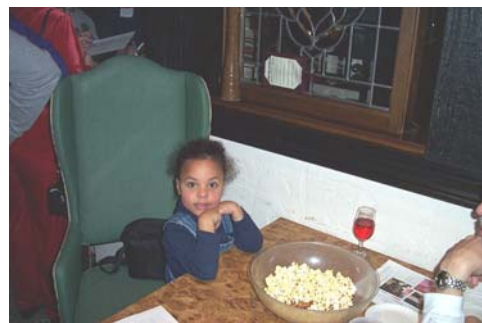
The Free Throw sites are set



Newest Members of Swiss Guard



Vocation Raffle Tickets everywhere



Anna Smith enjoying her popcorn



Bill drawing the \$10,000 winner



Jeanie drawing the \$2,500 winner

Special Olympics



State Deputy Bill Spainhour presenting \$100,000 to George Hebel and Lara Hahn Special Olympics.



MR/LD Chairman Ed Feeney and DD Tim Tracy and Doug Snyder. Ivesdale Council #1047 Donated \$5,000 to Tribute Park, who will be next?



George Hebel ambassador for Special Olympics



Doug presents Lara Hahn, Special Olympics ambassador

Illinois Knights Contribute \$100,000 To Special Olympics

The Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus donated \$100,000 to the Special Olympics at their Mid-Year Meeting in Peoria. Doug Snyder President for Illinois Special Olympics along with George Hebel and Lara Hahn were on hand to receive the check from State Deputy Bill Spainhour. These monies come from the interest that the State Council receives from our MR/LD funds. The more that we collect the more that we can give to Special Olympics.

\$1 Million Pledged To Special Olympics

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson announced November 18, 2002 that the Knights of Columbus had pledged \$1 Million to Special Olympics. The Order's gift will be used to pay the travel expenses of Special Olympics athletes from the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean to this summer's World Games in Dublin, Ireland.

The Knights of Columbus has been associated with Special Olympics since its founding in 1968. It has been a corporate sponsor of previous World Games and has provided volunteers. In 2001, Knights at all levels of the organization reported raising and contributing more than \$2 million to State and local Special Olympics programs in addition to providing volunteers for sports events.

"We look forward to working closely with Special Olympics as the World Games approach," said Supreme Knight Anderson. "We are proud that the Knights of Columbus will continue its partnership with Special Olympics this year in this way. I encourage all Knights of Columbus councils to continue or increase their support of Special Olympics in their community."

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson will be coming to Illinois on March 14, 15, 2003 for a presentation of the Charter of St. Florian Council # 12911 and St. Michael The Archangel #12173 and to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Chicago. We need as many as possible for the Color Guard, all are invited to march.

RETENTION EQUAL GOOD COUNCIL MANAGEMENT

What is good council management?

- Get the members involved and keep them involved
- Keep the membership informed
- Make the members feel welcome
- Make the members feel comfortable
- Make sure to get the members families involved

Retention involves each and every one of us. We should all strive to be aware of any brother Knight that may have a problem, which may cause him to consider leaving the Order.

We prefer not to spend a lot of time or energy talking about retention. By far, the preference is to devote attention to recruitment, growth and council development.

Recruitment and retention are exercised at the same time. Retention begins when recruitment begins. Retention can and should be as proactive endeavor. Proactive retention is good membership management, good husbandry, good prevention and good sense.

Proactive tools that influence not only retention, but also good recruitment.

- An active, enthusiastic and instructive Admissions Committee whose function is to allow the prospective member to know the Knights of Columbus and to allow your council to get to know him. Items to be included are council activities and programs available to him and his family. Also, how does your council support the Parish, as well as the Community as a whole?
- Another key element in good council management is involvement. It is essential for the council to get the new member, as well as all members involved as soon as possible, as much as possible and make sure to include the members' family. The same can be said for being informed.
- It behooves the council to explain the workings of the Order to new members, as well as remind all members occasionally. Knowledge begets interest, interest generates involvement, involvement produces achievement and achievement develops pride in being a member. A proud member is a committed member.
- What makes a new member feel welcome? Feel comfortable? Feel accepted? The answer is simple, being informed, being involved, being accepted and sharing qualities with his family.

What are other elements in the retention process?

- Council must have a proactive Retention Committee
- Proper billing procedures, including use of the "Notice of Intent To Suspend, form 1845
- If the brother has moved outside the area of the council, every effort must be made to see if the brother desires to transfer to a council closer to where he currently resides. One method is using the Internet to locate a council and than inform the brother of this fact.
- Keep the address of the brother current, this helps locate the brother and keeps him informed.
- If you have any questions as to either the Billing Process, contact John Lynch, State Financial Secretary Consultant or Don Lajoie, State Retention Chairman. We are here to assist you in any manner.

International Association of Fire Fighters

Our loyal and dedicated Chicago Fire Department Chaplain 4-1-1, Father Tom Mulcrone has been appointed the I.A.F.F. chaplain by the International President Harold Schaitberger. He had been designated as the IAFF Fallen Firefighters Memorial chaplain about two years ago and has presided at the memorial in Colorado Springs. This was the largest memorial service that the IAFF has ever held due to 9-11 tragedy of 2001. This appointment is a great honor for a not only outstanding priest but for the members of Local 2 and the 8th district of the IAFF. He is also the Council Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus Council #12911. The only fire service council of the Knights of Columbus.

Nun's Appreciation Dinner and Fun Night



Sisters chatting with their host youth group



I would think that the Sisters won

On December 3rd, 2002 the Bethalto Knights of Columbus Council #4688 and the OLQP Youth Group hosted 53 sisters from two Orders that serve our area; to a night of food and fun. Seven sisters from the Precious Blood Order and 46 sisters from the Order of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George came to the Enrichment Center at OLQP. The youth group lead by Norm Fricsh, assisted by many others, students from OLQP parish school, PSR classes and members of the Bethalto Knights of Columbus treated the sisters to a 4 course dinner and accompanied by prayer and song. The sisters in turn sang for the group. There were gift bags given out to each sister containing thank you cards, written by all of the students and faculty. Also in the bags were soda, candy and designer leather gloves. The evening events included volleyball, which was won by the sisters and conversation, a great time was had by all.

Blood Drive

The busy Christmas season has passed and a New Year begun. A New Year, a new beginning, and still a great need for more blood donations. As the year ended, we had collected 7,638 units of blood. 2,674 units were donated between October 31, and December 31, 2002 which is quite an accomplishment for a two month period.

Our quota for the fraternal year, which ends April 10, 2003 is 12,000 units. We have three months remaining and with your continued hard work we will reach that goal of 4,362 more units.

The breakdown count, as of December 31st is; Joliet 1,714 units, Rockford 1,696 units, Springfield 1,434 units, Peoria 1,450 units, Belleville 776 units and Chicago 548 units. What gift can be more charitable than that of a blood donation? The precious gift that could save someone's life. May each of you and your families enjoy a Happy and Blessed New Year. Please send your completed forms to Bob Flinn 240 Sherman Ave, Montgomery, IL 60538.

IPSD Joe & Theresa Pietruszynski

I apologize for omitting IPSD Joe & Theresa Pietruszynski picture in the last newsletter.



State Convention May 23, 24 and 25 2003

It is not too soon to start planning for the **105th Annual State Convention, Illinois State Council, Knights of Columbus, May 24 – 26, 2003** to be held at the Springfield Hilton Hotel, 700 East Adams Street.

Your Convention Committee is putting together a full weekend of activities to keep everyone in your family interested and involved. Our convention will begin with the Friday night welcome party in the Grand Ballroom at the Hilton. Expect games centered around this years theme and music and fellowship in abundance. There will be a Saturday Ladies Luncheon and program. Also on Saturday will be the Convention Mass and the State Deputy's Banquet. On Sunday morning there will be both Ladies Hospitality to visit and Chairperson Diane Kinyon will host a Ladies Auxiliary Mini-Convention. Your committee will have some activities in place for the children also.

The Convention packets will be mailed to your councils in February. Please use them and act promptly to reserve your rooms and your Ladies Luncheon and State Deputy's Banquet tickets. Reservations, again this year, will need to be made direct with the Hilton by **MAIL ONLY**. Please be assured that, if you use your credit card to guarantee your reservation, it only a guarantee. Your credit card **will not** be charged until you arrive to honor your reservation or in the event that you would fail to timely cancel. Plan now to come to Springfield to be with old friends and make new ones, to enjoy the hospitality and your own Knights of Columbus Convention.

Charities Submission Deadline 2002-2003

April 29th, 2003(12:00 noon deadline) is the deadline for submitting all Charities funds to the Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus office in Kankakee. Any funds received after 12:00 noon will be credited to the 2003-2004 Charities Year. That includes the MR/LD, Newman, Charitable Assistance and Vocations funds.

Father McGivney Guild

This past year has seen great advances in the cause for canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney, Servant of God. The Guild has played a central role in making Father McGivney better known.

At present, the total membership in the Guild is approximately 62,127. Each day the Guild receive enrollments by way of "snail mail", as well as through the K of C website. All you have to do is click on the Father McGivney icon on the home page, and information about the Guild will come up, including earlier issues of the Guild Newsletter.

As of January 2, there are 1,502 Guild members in Illinois.

Devotion to Father McGivney is an important part of the canonization process. The spiritual heritage of Father McGivney is precious gift to the K of C. We owe it to him and the church to share his gift with those we meet and with whom we work.

Resolutions

All Resolutions for the State Convention on May 24 – 26 2003 must be submitted to State Advocate Phil Barone no later then April 18, 2003. All Resolutions must be on Council letterhead, signed by Grand Knight and Recorder with the Council seal. Now is the time to present your councils input into the State Council with a Resolution.

Circle of Honor

There will be some changes in the Awards presentations this coming convention, a mailing will be coming out shortly on these changes. State Deputy Bill Spainhour feels that these changes will make for more Councils to have a chance to receive awards at the convention and there will be less paper work for the councils to due, which will make everyone happy. If you have any question in regards to the changes please contact Rich Spada

Programs of Month 2002-2003

Correction:

Our Program of the month summary report shown in the December newsletter incorrectly identified the winner of the July Youth program of the month. The program described was actually submitted by Tri-Cities Council # 1098, however the report identified another council in error. Great work Tri-Cities council! Please accept our apologies for this error.

Church Month

Month	Council Winner	Winning Activity
September	Streator Council # 790	Alter Servers Appreciation Dinner
October	Effingham Council # 665	Vocation Benefit
November	St Francis Assisi # 11092	Support to Christian Education

Family

September	Trenton Council # 2932	Cubs/ <u>Cardinal</u> Baseball outing
October	Oswego Council # 7247	Birth Right Breakfast
November	Good Shepherd # 5573	Health Fair

Family of the Month

September	John & Delores Markey	Council # 1853
	James & Terry Palicka	Council # 7247
October	Patrick O'Hara	Council # 967
	William & Mary Muller	Council # 1659
	Curtis & Marilyn Hawkins	Council # 7580

Community

September	Coronata Council # 3806	Blue Mass
October	St. Fabian Council # 967	Hoops for Hearts
November	Good Shepherd # 5573	Health Fair

Council

September	Coronata Council # 3806	Blue Mass
October	St. Mary Mokena # 6993	Memorial to the Unborn
November	Bethalto Council # 4688	Welcome Back Brothers Party for former members.

Youth

September	Father Fanning # 4372	Hosted youth post game parties.
October	Bethalto Council # 4688	Children Halloween Party
November	Brownson Council # 1030	Certificates & Rosaries for Altar Servers

Knight of Month

September	Chris Salemi	Council # 7247
October	Guillermo Franco	Council # 658
November	Richard Feldhake	Council # 665

Senior Knight of the Month

September	Ed Hines	Council # 574
October	Father Lou Kochr	Council # 9768



Into Your Hands we commend their spirits

Joseph Watsker Alton Council # 460 59 years
Albert Teichel Alton Council # 460 PGK 34 years
Vincent Massalone Alton Council # 460 20 years
Joe Spencer Bloomington Council # 574
Richard Grunloh Effingham # 655 45 years
Dave Frye Chatsworth Council # 730 PGK
Larry McMahon Teutopolis # 2874
Sam Diana Crystal Lake Council # 3880
Gustav Dueball Lena Council # 4776
Thomas O'Connor Aleverno Council # 4817 PGK
Steve Kubica Regina Council # 4837 16 years
Joe Ward Bush East Peoria # 7580 PGK 57 years
John Leicht St. Mary of Vernon # 8022

Harold Phillips Alton Council # 460 43 years
Nelson Steiner Alton Council # 460 53 years
Donald Miller Bloomington Council # 574 PGK
Arthur Nuxoll Effingham Council # 655 33 years
John Atkinson Effingham Council # 655
Conrad Bigos Genoa Council # 1659 40 years
James Zerrysen Teutopolis # 2874
Bob Tivnan Crystal Lake Council # 3880
Paul Ruppert Bethalto Council # 4688 44 years
Eddie Chromy Regina Council # 4837 PGK 28 years
Don Czarnik Regina Council # 4837 17 years
John Gavin East Peoria # 7580
John Bauer Spring Grove Council # 12302 21 years

I usually don't single out a Death in the Order, but with the passing of Joe Ward Bush from Msgr. Grzybowski Council # 7580 in East Peoria we lost the top recruiter in Illinois. In his 57 years as a Knight, Joe personally signed up over 210 members for our Order. He was one of the first men to receive the Honor of Night of Knights for the Peoria Diocese Chapter. He also served as a Past Grand Knight of his Council. And will be deeply missed by his Parish and Council.

Pro-Life Report

This past January 22, 2003 was the 30th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions that legalized abortion for the entire nine months of pregnancy. This decision has become the sacred cow of the Anti-Life movement. It has prevented the banning of the barbaric procedure known as "Partial Birth Abortion". As a result of their effective control of the media, the general public is not informed of the hundreds of thousands that attend the annual "March for Life" in Washington, DC. They have refused to recognize the 15 of 19 proven studies that show a link between abortion and breast cancer. They have openly lied about the safety of the "Morning after pill" known as RU-486. They have gone to the ends of the earth for their plan to offer teenage girls a \$100.00 reward for every young girl they bring in for an abortion! This past Christmas they launched an attack against the foundation of Christianity itself with their "Choice on Earth" cards.

In the next two years, we will have an opportunity to bring about positive change in our society. President Kennedy said it best when he said "Children are our greatest resource and our best hope for the future". He also said that "Gods work must truly be our own"!

May the New Year bring success and peace to all. Please continue to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves!

Larry and Marge Theriault
Right to Life Chair couple