

Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus



Illinois Knights News



Logan Ludwig, State Deputy

Vol. 5, Issue 5 - June 2005

Robert Fuggiti, Editor

State Deputy Logan Ludwig



“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”

As we prepare to wrap up another successful year for the Illinois State Council may I take this opportunity to thank the nearly 72,000 brother knights for their time, energy,

and commitment to the Order's principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. A special thanks goes to the entire state family (the elected and selected State Officers, the State Membership Team, the State Programming Team, the State Charitable Activities Team, the NCD Team, the K of C Academy Faculty, the Diocesan Coordinators, those with Special Assignments, Past State Deputies, District Deputies, the Fourth Degree, Ladies Auxiliaries, and Columbian Squires) and most especially to the State Office Staff, our council, assembly, circle, auxiliary, and chapter leaders.

Membership

Illinois finished the 2003 Fraternal Year with a plus 302 net membership gain; the 2004 Fraternal Year with a plus 504 net membership gain; and as of April 30th, Illinois has a net 147 total membership gain. These three years of consecutive membership growth speak well for ***what lies before*** Illinois and can largely be attributed to the dedication that lies within 219 councils that conducted October BLITZ activities and the 150 councils that conducted April BLITZ activities. For the most part, these are also the same dedicated councils that Welcomed Back 316 former members.

Our councils also held and dedicated many first degrees to those serving in the military services;

70 councils hosted a total of 76 major degrees organized by 53 district deputies.

4 councils with over 300%. Unfortunately, 50 councils have had negative growth and another 114 councils have had no growth.

Additionally, we established or reactivated a number of councils:

- Our Lady of Humility Council #13895
- Fr. James O'Burke #9987 in Polo
- San Carlos Borromeo de Melrose Park #13747 (Spanish)
- St. Francis of Mercer Kingdom
- John Paul II Council #13971

Before the fraternal year comes to a close we may also see new councils at St. Monica in Chicago, St. Mary in Evanston, St. Mary in Valmeyer, and at Loyola University

Programming

The KC Academy has been embraced with much enthusiasm; 111 councils participated in the Fall Academy sessions on council officer training and 90 councils participated in the Spring Academy sessions on audit preparation. Especially well received has been the inclusion of short sessions explaining fraternal benefits and the offering of spiritual enrichment programming in the form of Eucharistic Adoration.

Highlights of state level programming activities include:

- 9,500 units of blood collected through council blood drives
- 4,627 participants from 192 councils for the State Free Throw Contest
- 585 bowlers in the 75th State Bowling Tournament
- 91 councils participating in the State Spelling Bee
- 62 contestants in the State Horseshoe Tournament
- 60 golfers in the state Golf Outing
- 13 teams participating in the State Softball Tournament
- 2 new Columbian Squires Circles established
- \$52,000 raised from “Month of May Baby Shower”

- “Should Religion Have a Place in Politics as a theme for the State Essay Contest
- New Lady of the Year award for Ladies Auxiliary program

Charitable Activities:

Last year Illinois finished fourth among the U.S. jurisdictions with over \$5 million in charitable disbursements. I’m confident that we will improve that position at the close of this fraternal year because our councils continue to practice the first principal of our Order – Charity.

Vocation Support Raffle has grossed over \$82,000 (highest ever). MR/LD Drive monies (from councils direct) already surpass last year’s total and is approaching \$2 million. Newman Campus Charity has the highest participation rate of all the charities at over 92%. And GAF requests exceed contributions for most of the year.

Additionally, our support for and work with Illinois Special Olympics continues to grow; councils have enthusiastically picked up the challenge to participate more fully in the Special Olympics Spring Games and Illinois continues to lead all other jurisdictions in our support, both financially and with volunteer effort for this most important program.

What lies within us is the pride we share in our faith, our country and the Order. We have overcome many challenges and will continue to do so if we have the will to do so. The true value of the challenges we face is what they teach us about ourselves. They are the catalysts for our growth and development. They reveal the hero within us and they help us to uncover the talents, skills and abilities that lie inside each of us.

What does indeed lie within us? The answer to that question can only be found in the way we train to meet the challenges that await us. What lies within is vaster than we can probably imagine. What lies within us will help us and others to

TASTE and SEE ...
the Goodness of the K of C.

State Secretary - Paul Havrilka, Jr.
Paulhavkc2964@ussonet.net

**ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ACTION ITEMS FROM THE LAST 3 STATE
COUNCIL MEETINGS**

1. Actions taken regarding the General Assistance Fund:
 - a. Approved \$500 for the Patrick Higgs family on a fire loss.
 - b. Approved \$2,000 for the Zacchaeus House request from Bishop Perry for assisting men who are transitioning back into the community.

2. Cancelled the 2006 State Basketball Tournament due to lack of councils participating.
3. Bowling Chairman Jim Michel’s collection for Asian Relief at the bowling tournament should be sent to Kankakee for disbursement to Asian Relief Fund.
4. A newsletter article will be prepared to let councils know they are not exempt from Illinois State sales tax.

ILLINOIS STATE K OF C CHARITIES, INC.
**ACTION ITEMS FROM THE LAST 3 STATE
COUNCIL MEETINGS**

1. MR Home applications and packets will be mailed to Orchard Village, Ray Graham Association and Clay County Rehabilitation Center, Gateway Services in Princeton and Association for Individual Development in Aurora informing them what is needed to obtain an interest free mortgage from us.
2. Vocations bonus checks will not be issued next year in amounts of \$5 or less.
3. Approved the purchase of tickets for a table of 10 at the Mundelein Fundraising Dinner for support of the seminarian programs.
4. Approved the purchase of 90,000 books of raffle tickets for next year’s Vocations raffle.
5. Approved a donation of \$2,500 out of the Vocation Fund for Mundelein Seminary.
6. Approved the purchase of a specially built handicapped bicycle in the amount of \$2250 for Amanda Peters.
7. Approved the allocation of the Christopher Fund interest income based on the investment principal.
8. The Officers established a new policy on uncashed checks affecting both Charities and the State Council. Letters notifying the council of outstanding checks not cashed within 90

days will be sent to the council asking them to deposit the checks immediately. If no response from the council, then a letter will be sent to the recipient agency (MR/LD checks) asking them to deposit the check. Additional information will be included in the letters.

Illinois Knights in Action



Archbishop Schlarman Council # 3507 distributed their funds from their MR/LD collections.

Good Shepherd Council 5573 in **Plainfield** donated more than \$12,000 to St. Mary Immaculate and Plainfield Schools, and Trinity Services Inc., an organization that assists people with intellectual disabilities.

Belvidere Council 735 conducted their 2nd Annual Divine Mercy Novena at St. James Catholic Church. Pictured (L-R) Kim Washburn, LeRoy Loos, Cornelius O'Malley, Charles Schanes and Mike Kasper.

Philip J Barone - State Treasurer
PJBarone@ameritech.net

Audits, Audits, Audits

The Semi-Annual Audit for Councils and Assemblies for the period January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005 will need to be completed and filed with the Supreme Council, State Council and District Deputy (Master for Assemblies). While the Audit Form is completed and signed by the Trustees, it is the responsibility of the Grand Knight (Navigator for Assemblies) to make certain that the form is completed properly and filed in a timely manner.

Each year there are many councils and assemblies that either file late or don't even file until prompted by the District Deputy, State Council and Supreme Council. **The filing deadline is August 15, 2005. It is very important that the Financial Officers and Trustees work together to complete the Audit Form and be Filed "ON TIME".**

Now is the time to schedule your audit. Don't wait till the last minute.

The Semi-Annual Audit is necessary to assure that Councils and Assemblies stay in a financially sound position and that the Assets and Funds are properly safeguarded. The Trustees have the very important task of reviewing the financial records to make certain that the financial balances are accurate and that the Funds and Assets have been properly accounted, distributed, and most importantly, are being maintained in the high standard that should be afforded the membership. The Treasurer and Financial Secretary should have their records ready for review in a timely manner; but more importantly, should demonstrate that the records are being maintained to the highest standard. If the Trustees find that the records are not being maintained to the highest standard, this should be reported to the membership at the next Business Meeting and the appropriate action should follow accordingly.

There are many important parts of the Semi-Annual Audit Form that should be reviewed by the Trustees for accuracy. I will stress an area that has been overlooked in the past that will have emphasis this year. Schedule C –Assets and Liabilities has an Asset item in regard to Dues from Members. This area will be utilized in the Suspension of Membership process to determine if any members were in arrears at the time of the audit. If no members were recorded on the form then it would be expected that no member could be suspended for non-payment of dues. A properly completed audit should include a list of those members who have not paid their dues. This list should also be given to the Retention Committee (usually Trustees) for further action. It should also be recommended that the reporting of more than two years dues owed by any member is ineffective. The Retention Committee should be afforded to ability to offer a practical repayment option to bring members "up to date" and in "good standing".

As you are aware the Trustees are a vitally important tool that should be actively utilized by both Councils and Assemblies. The Trustees are leaders that have been through the process of "heading the organization" and have knowledge and talents that should not be "placed on the shelf". The active diligence of the Trustees and the coordinated teamwork of the Grand Knight with the Treasurer and Financial Secretary will bring assured success that every Council and their membership should enjoy.

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION

A drive organized by **Oswego Council 7247** acquired 19 computers for the computer lab at St. Peter's Catholic School in Aurora. The council also distributed more than \$9,000 to 10 local charities.

Forty-one people attended a blood drive held by **St. Rita's Council 7624** in **Rockford**.



Anthony is a Special Olympics athlete from Mattoon and was initiated into the Knights of Columbus and is now a member alongside his Uncle – John Roytek, His grandfather Richard Roytek and 50 + year member - Great Uncle Frank Roytek, and 25+ year member Uncle Gary all being members of **Mattoon Council # 1057**.

Jay Bednar - State Advocate

ieducate1@yahoo.com

Brothers the end of the fraternal year is fast approaching and there is so much yet left to do - like signing up one more new member and getting him through his first degree. I just love contests especially when the number you want to beat is the number you set as your example last year. Let's all go out and get just one more new member for the fraternal year but most importantly get the paper work to Supreme.

TAX EXEMPT STATUS

It is time again for the State Advocate to cover two areas that surface every year about this time. The first is the issue of the tax-exempt status, who is and who is not. First only the 501C3 portion of the order is tax-exempt and in this case we are talking about Illinois State Charities, Inc. Neither your council nor your council home is tax exempt. Your council home can purchase items for resale without tax but in the sale of these items, tax must be charged and paid to the State of Illinois.

So if your council is buying food for an event, supplies to operate your council, a bike for a child,

a car for the school or anything else, your council must pay sales tax.

FORM 990

Also all of the Financial Secretaries should have received their yearly envelope from the Supreme Advocate regarding filing a Federal 990 report. All councils who handle any money other than dues, and we all handle more than dues, are required to fill out the 990. If you do this regularly and the amount of money going through your books does not qualify for this requirement the IRS will eventually recognize that and will cease sending or requiring submission of this form yearly. But they will periodically send your council a 990 to complete just to verify that your cash flow does not qualify. Be proactive with the Form 990 and submit it every year to avoid a problem or an audit later.

God Bless all and may we end this year with the best numbers ever for recruitment in your council.

State Membership Director

Skip Kinyon kinyon@gallatinriver.net

Brothers of Illinois, as I pen this article I look upon the calendar and it is reading May of 2005. My how time flies! The 2004 / 2005 fraternal year is coming to a close and this means that the Membership fraternal year is rapidly coming to a close as well. The only part of membership that is coming to a close is the year. Membership recruitment is a 12-month, year in year out program for the Illinois Knights of Columbus. Just because the fraternal year is over does not mean our membership recruitment is over. Councils should be conducting membership activities every month and especially during the October and March Membership Blitz months. Our parishes, priests and communities are depending on us to grow each and every year. With out new members how will our Order grow? How will we support our parishes and our priests? How we support our communities with the many charitable acts that we as an Order provide? Those are just a few of the reasons why membership growth is of the utmost importance! The 2003 / 2004 membership year was great! Illinois was awarded the circle of honor from Supreme. The Circle of Honor award for a jurisdiction is much like the Star Council Award. When a jurisdiction obtains the Circle of Honor that is saying Illinois is alive, growing and viable. As of this writing Illinois is very close to obtaining the Circle of Honor 3 years in a row. That is a tribute to all of our brother knights and councils in Illinois who have recruited a new member, held many first degrees and conducted many and well attended major degrees.

Congratulations to the Rockford and Joliet diocese on obtaining the highest % of membership gain and to the Chicago Archdiocese for highest net gain for this fraternal year. Congratulations to all of our dioceses for their membership recruitment this past year. At the summer DD meeting a challenge was made to all in attendance. The 2003 / 2004 membership year was a great success and now that 2004 / 2005 is upon us, use that success as a base for this new membership year. I issue the same challenge for next year. If your council has recruited 5 members in 2004 / 2005 then in 2005 / 2006 recruit 6 or more. Always strive to improve upon the previous year and Illinois will continue to grow and prosper. The councils, who implement the Membership Blitz, Welcome Back Brother and Shinning Armor Award programs will be the councils who are growing. They will be the councils who receive the state membership awards at the convention and the Star council award from Supreme.

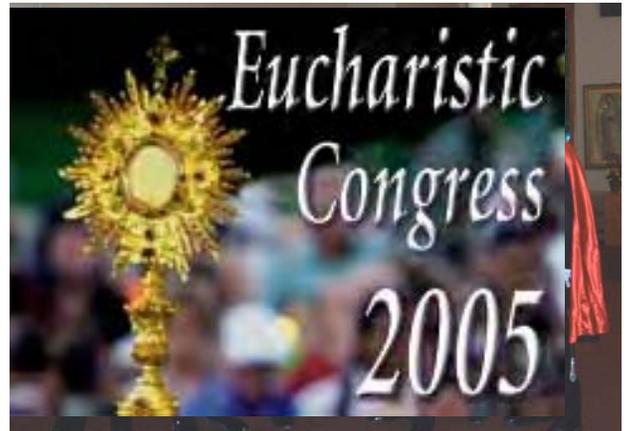
Will you be a Star Council? There is still time to obtain that Star Council status. Implement the Welcome Back Brother program. This program is a great way to start off or end your membership year. Conduct that one last 1st degree of the year. There is still time. Continue to grow Illinois.

This is my last writing as your State Membership Director and I must say thank you. Thank you for allowing me to represent you as your membership director. Thank you for all of your support and kindness to Diane and myself as we traveled the state and attended many of your functions, but most of all thank you for being our friends and our extended family. These past 23 months as your State Membership Director have truly been an experience of a lifetime and I could not have picked a better group of people to share that with.

Each council should be striving to obtain Star Council status. With the many fantastic tools available such as the **Welcome Back Brother program**, The **Shining Armor Award** and the very successful **Illinois Membership Blitz** the goal of Star Council can be achieved.

Every member in Illinois should be proactive in membership recruitment. This not only assures our councils of growth and stability, it also means that our Churches, Priests and communities will be able to enjoy the many benefits our councils have to offer. Membership recruitment is for the future as well as the present.

Event to Cap Church's Year of the Eucharist



Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson announced that the Knights of Columbus will sponsor its third Eucharistic Congress in **Chicago on Aug. 4-5, 2005.**

The event will take place immediately following the organization's international convention in Chicago, and will cap the Year of the Eucharist proclaimed by Pope John Paul II on the feast of Corpus Christi (Latin for "Body of Christ").

The theme of the 2005 congress is "Starting Afresh from Christ," a phrase Pope John Paul II used in an apostolic letter entitled *Novo Millennio Ineunte* (*At the Beginning of the New Millennium*), released at the close of the Church's celebration of the Jubilee Year 2000. In announcing the Year of the Eucharist, the pope noted that "the Eucharist is at the center of the life of the Church," in which the Catholic faithful receive Christ "as the bread of life for our journey on the paths of the world."

"It is especially rewarding for the Knights of Columbus to be able to sponsor this very important event in the life of the Church," Anderson said.

"This is in response to the Holy Father's initiative, which we greet with great joy as an opportunity to serve his pastoral mission. He places enormous emphasis on the importance of the Eucharist, and there is little doubt about the need to renew the Church's teaching on the subject. Making events like this possible is essential to achieving our goal of 'Service to One, Service to All.'"

Eucharistic congresses have been held periodically since 1881, when the first such event was held in Lille, France, as part of an effort to renew the faith of Catholics. The Knights of Columbus has sponsored two previous congresses, in 2002 and 2003, both held in Washington, D.C.

Last year's gathering focused on the pope's 2003 encyclical on the Church and the Eucharist, *Ecclesia de Eucharista*, and attracted more than 1,300 participants.

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Honorable Joseph Power Assembly 4th degree serve as Honor Guard at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish on Chicago's South side. It was the celebration of Fr. O'Donnell's 70th year as priest, and he is 94 years young.

The Knights of **George Cardinal Mundelein Council 13267** sponsored their annual Pro Life Baby Shower during the month of May. Baby items such as diapers, blankets and bottles were collected.

STATE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

State Program Director

Raymond Biliskov <mailto:rjbil816@innerwise.com>

By the time this newsletter is in your hands the 2004 / 2005 fraternal year will soon come to an end. The past 11 months have been a great experience for me with regard to being involved with the State Council Officers and all the councils within this Great State of Illinois, in Programs, Membership, Charities, New Council Development, and the Academy. I would like to see every Knight have this experience and enjoy it as much as I have.

We did not break any records with Councils reporting the Colombian Spirit Program, there were many that turned in their reports and awards were given to them at the State Convention, Congratulations to them for doing a great job! The Service Programs came in by the bunches and it was a very tough job selecting the winners. Once again the committee did a fine job. A HARDY THANK YOU to all the Councils that participated. I have said it before and I would like to say it again, do not stop your Programs, Membership, Charities, because the end of this fraternal year is coming. These are all ongoing and should continue through out the year.

Let us keep up the good work of the Knights of Columbus, so we can keep Illinois at the top for years to come.

May God Bless you all and thank you for being the Knights that you are, let us keep the Brotherhood of the Knights of Columbus alive and well. Vivat Jesus and remember to:

Taste and See...

the Goodness of the K of C

Supreme Family of the Month

February

Family of Curtis & Angie Buescher

Council 4024 – Kellogg

The State Final Spelling Bee was held Saturday, April 9, at The High School of St. Thomas More in Champaign. Forty-two eligible contestants came from sixteen Regional Spelling Bees. The winners are:

1. Hannah Sheley is in the seventh grade at Carroll Catholic School, Lincoln. Principal: Linda Mahler. Teacher: Anne Staltzenburg. Parents: Angela and Brad Sheley. Sponsor: **Lincoln Council #1250**, (Peoria Diocese).

2. Lizzy Spihlman is in the eighth grade at Wesclin Junior High School, Trenton. Principal: Mr. John Mullett. Teacher: Mrs. Gilda Hofbauer. Parent: Shirley Spihlman. Sponsor: **Breese Council #2869**, (Belleville Diocese).

3. Marie Kosakowski is in the eighth grade at St. Ann School, Lansing. Principal: Mr. Tim Hathhorn. Teacher: Mrs. Judy Echterling. Parents: Diane and Alan Kosakowski. Sponsor: **Lansing Council #3540**, (Chicago Archdiocese).

Brother Knights and Ladies Needed

Illinois 2005 Supreme Convention Chairman

Donald J Lajoie, 815-698-2892

djlajoie60911@yahoo.com

123rd SUPREME CONVENTION &
3rd EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Do you have a few hours and would like to help at this year's Supreme Convention? If you do, we need all sorts of volunteers to work in the following areas:

- Transportation – to pick up and drive the Hierarchy to and from the Convention Hotel. Greeters at the Airport, to greet, welcome and direct the conventioners to transportation to the hotel.

Contact Chairman Raymond Biliskow at 847-895-6251 or e-mail him at ribil816@innerwise.com

- Registration – to assist with registration of all conventioners, welcome them to Chicago. Contact Chairman James Bednar at 815-844-6927 or e-mail: ieducate1@yahoo.com
- State Store – to assist in checking out the conventioners when they purchase many of the great items that will be offered. This is a great way to talk with brothers from around the world and the United States. Contact Chairman Skip Kinyon at 309-344-3924 or e-mail: kinyon@gallatinriver.net
- Fourth Degree Honor Guards – calling all Sir Knights throughout Illinois to come to Supreme Convention with your regalia for a few hours at standing guard at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel; Opening Mass on August 2nd, as well as an honor guard for the 3rd Eucharistic Congress. Francis Cardinal George has requested 2,000 SK's on Friday, August 5th to line the parade route from the Hilton Hotel to Grant Park where an outdoor mass will be celebrated.
- Mass at Grant Park – Francis Cardinal George has requested as many brother knights; their families and friends to come to the outdoor Mass at Grant Park on Friday, August 5th at 1:30P.M. He would like 20,000 knights and family members in attendance

The Supreme Convention Committee is offering an advance sale of our cookbook that will be sold at the Supreme Convention for \$ 12.00.

- The pre-convention cost to our brothers here in Illinois is just \$ 10.00; a 15% discount. The cookbook consists of 462 recipes from our brothers; families; friend and our ladies auxiliaries.
- If you wish to purchase this cookbook for \$ 10.00 Send us your:
*Full Name,
Mailing Address,
Number of Books,
And Total Cost.*

mail to:

Illinois State Council,
PO Box 681
Kankakee, IL 60901-0681

Please note: please give complete mailing address, orders of three or more books are shipped via UPS and UPS doesn't deliver to PO Boxes.

Illinois Knights in Action

Katherine Birkel, an eighth-grader at St. Joseph School, won the essay competition sponsored by **Archbishop Schlarman Council 3507 in Pekin**. The essay on "The Responsibility of the Catholic Citizen in a Free Society" won third place in the statewide competition.



Trinity Council # 3755 - Chicago put up the above 14 ft. by 48ft sign on the building adjacent to their Council Hall.

Tri-Cities Council 1098 in Granite City held a dance for more than 450 Special Olympic athletes. The council also donated \$2,000 to Special Olympics.

STATE CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

State Charities Director

Terry Hoelting Jthoelting@hotmail.com

The Charity Year ended April 30, 2005 and I must thank everyone for awesome effort in Charities. Thank you to all the contributors (Knights and non-Knights) to our Charities this year. Thank you to all the councils and brother Knights for their contributions (time and monies). And thank you for extending the fund-raising efforts to the community, leading others to *TASTE AND SEE ... The Goodness of the K of C.*

We start a new Charity Year noting our successes of last year, the Vocation Support Raffle highest gross ever and the MR/LD Drive was second best ever.

We start a new Charity Year with new goals looking forward to new displays of Charity.

We start a new Charity Year planning –

- MR/LD Drive Date – September 16-18, 2004.
Alternate Drive Dates – September 23-25 and September 30-October 2

- MR/LD Chairman forms should be sent in immediately
- New MR/LD Aprons are available (now with "MR/LD" only)
- MR/LD Apron order forms should be sent in immediately
- Candy order forms now have instructions to fill out
- Every council should have their own candy order form – staple together multiple forms when councils are ordering together
- Special Olympics Games are run nearly year-round – help is always needed
- Newman appeal will be mailed to every Knight
- Councils encourage Century Donors – the backbone of the Newman effort
- Newman Walk AThons are being planned – have one at your council
- Vocation Support Raffle will be in full swing this fall
- Supreme RSVP program to support vocations is available year-round
- GAF checks will be sent where there is need

GAF (General Assistance Fund) has no major fundraiser. "The Fund That Helps Knights" is funded through your generosity without fanfare. The fund that asks the least of our councils (lowest goal & no formal fundraiser) receives the least from our councils (least councils participating & least funds collected). Next meeting, please write a check for the General Assistance Fund.

We start a new Charity Year trusting the Knights of Columbus of Illinois will once again remember Charity is first. From disaster recovery to seminarians to college students to "special" kids, the major Charity Funds give the Knights of Columbus in Illinois many opportunities to help. And help many others to *TASTE AND SEE ... The Goodness of the K of C.*

Illinois Knights in Action

Regina Council 4837 in **Wheeling** sold roses after Masses on Mother's Day weekend and raised \$1,100 for a crisis pregnancy center. The council also held weekly fish fries during Lent and raised \$6,000 for the remodeling fund of St. Joseph the Worker Church.

Albert Ferrero of **Virgen Council 2321** was honored on his 90th birthday by the members of his council. Ferrero, a 53-year member of the Knights, has chaired the council's weekly bingo fund-raiser for 24 years



Pictured above is PSD Bill Spainhour, State Officer Academy Director Rich Spada and President Andy Bauser of **Springfield Diocese Chapter** Presenting 14 - \$500 checks for Diocesan Seminarians to Bishop George Lucas.

Msgr. George A. Dzuryo Council 790 in **Streator** donated \$1,000 to Marquette High School in Ottawa for the purchase of new Bibles.

NEW COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT

State NCD Director

Robert Bukowski rebukowski@earthlink.net

CONGRATULATIONS to DD #46 Jim Starr and NCD Lenny Schachtner for their efforts in the Institution of a New Council in the Rockford Diocese; Pope John Paul II in the Erie, Prophetstown, & Tampico area. Also CONGRATULATIONS to DD #49 John Laughlin in the institution of a New Council in the Peoria Diocese; St. Francis of Mercer Kingdom in Aledo. The foundation for expansion and membership growth is not only tied to establishment of new councils in parishes whose Catholic population will support and maintain a council but also to the formation of college councils. The college council program is a vibrant source of energy for the Order. It is important that we continue to nurture and build this program to its fullest potential in Illinois.

We must also challenge ourselves to understand that as Catholics we must reach out and welcome all eligible Hispanic Catholic men into our Order. Future growth will depend on instituting new Spanish speaking councils and/or Spanish speaking round tables throughout the entire state. Please remember that there are thousands of Spanish speaking Catholic men and their families waiting to be invited to be part of our Order.

We also have the responsibility to monitor the health and well being of all the councils throughout the state. Every month District Deputies receive a statement from the Supreme Office regarding the financial status of each of the councils in their jurisdiction. The statement provides an insight to their status on how well they are doing. I encourage you to check it carefully. If any of the councils are Pending Suspension you need to contact the Grand Knight and Financial Secretary and make sure that payment is sent to the Supreme Office so the council can avoid suspension. If a council seems to be in trouble please contact any of the state officers for help.

Our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, stated that the Order is needed now more than ever in the Church because the role of the laity is expanding in every parish and diocese. We must **“Stay Focused”** on this objective.

We must continue to offer every parish large enough to support a council the opportunity for an **“Experience of a Lifetime”** so all eligible Catholic men can **“TASTE AND SEE...the goodness of the K of C”**.

State Academy Director

Richard Spada richardspdkc@aol.com

A Time of Transition

June is a time of transition for us knights, especially those who serve in council and state leadership. Elections have probably taken place by the time of this printing, so incoming officers are likely making plans on how to build on the successes of their predecessors. Positioning for future planning is very important, but don't forget that **time remains in this fraternal year** to meet programming and membership goals. Those sitting officers of your council worked hard to set goals and your councils deserve continuous effort up to the finish line. Leadership in the Knights of Columbus is much like a relay race where one runner passes the baton to the next runner. While it is important to have our sights on passing the baton, we still need to cheer the runner who is still on the track! Also, I am confident that each council has achieved success in full or in part from all planned activities set in the Columbian Spirit program. It is very important to take some time to celebrate the achievements that **were** made and to recognize special efforts made by brother knights who helped make those achievements a reality.

As you continue to work at achieving this year's goals, ask your team to go over goals to evaluate what went well and what areas need a closer look

for improvements or change. This exercise can be very valuable to the incoming team of new officers and directors. Good leaders always strive to leave things better than they received them. Be sure to **balance** your assessment so that **programming, charities and recruitment** are all given equal attention. Those who attended our KC Academy seminars in fall and spring sessions participated in some exercises that help in these assessments. More of these seminars are expected in the coming months; details will be forthcoming.

Thank you

On behalf of our entire KC Academy team, we thank you for letting us into your councils and for participating with us. Our collaborative efforts helped to bring clarity to some key assigned tasks expected of our council leadership and to bring new ideas to the process. The Academy has shared its assessments of our program with upcoming leaders in our state council; we provided an overview of what we felt went well and areas that we feel need more attention. Our assessment included feedback received from attendees of our seminars so that planned enhancements will benefit from everyone's input. As you look to making plans to pass the baton to the newly elected leaders in your councils, please keep us in mind and plan to attend future seminars coming to your areas.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at my e-mail address or you may call me at 630-932-9107.

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Members of **Our Lady of the Ridge Council 13201** in **Chicago Ridge** collected used sewing machines to send to widows in Africa who are HIV positive so the women can earn a living at home and care for their children. The council also raised \$1,275 in pledges in a walk for life, awarded a \$500 savings bond to a young essay winner, provided \$1,000 to a seminarian and gave \$250 to a vacation Bible school.

Members of **Msgr. James Burke Council 2964** in **Mount Vernon** took part in the regional Special Olympics as officials and participants. From left are Illinois State Secretary Paul Havrilka Jr., John Schafer, medal winner Brad Langa, Jean Rettig, medal winner Bill Brennan Jr., and Bill Jones.



Fr. Francis A. Ryan Council 5025, Chicago, awarded plaques, medals to the winner of their Essay Contest and on the same venue passed out the MR/LD checks.

**Illinois State Council Office
Joe & Donna**

Form 1845

New officers are being elected in councils all over the state. **Immediately after** the election, complete and send in your **185 form!** Forward the original to Supreme, copy your DD and the State Deputy (c/o the State Office). **You do not have to wait until your officers are installed to send in this vital form.** If you use email, you will be done with the click of the **SUBMIT** button!

Dir 1- Directory Information Gathering Form Assemblies are encouraged to file their 186 Election of Officer forms in the same manner as a council and utilize the website to copy the State Office for inclusion in the new directory. Be sure that the **DIR 1 (Directory Gathering Form)** which is sent to the Comptroller of record, is completed and returned to the State Office.

MR/LD Packet

The State Office will be mailing another MR packet for the 2005-2006 MR Drive. As of to date 291 councils have not identified their MR/LD Chairman. Please get your new MR Chairman form to the State Office **Right Away!**

2005-2006 Calendar

For those Chapters who know their Honor nights or Chapter meeting dates, please contact the State Office with that information. Any 2005-2006 Major Degrees which have been **confirmed by the State Ceremonials Chairman** should also be reported to the State Office.

State Website

Use the State Website (www.illinoisknights.org) to search for current forms, reports and State news. It is a useful tool that should be consulted to remain up to date with news from around the State and to link to the Supreme Website.

Uncashed MR/LD Checks

Please check desk drawers, desk 'cubbie holes', unopened envelopes and **find any MR/LD checks that haven't been casked.** Distribute them immediately! Members worked hard to collect the monies donated to these organizations; it would be a shame if funds were lost because of forgetfulness or disorganization.

State Public Relation Dir./Newsletter Editor

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FAX: (773)736-8961

Is the glass half-empty or is it half full? Is your beer less filling or have more flavor? Each of us looks at life a little differently and that's OK. You see that if we all thought the same and looked at life the same, we would live a boring life. It is in our differences that make us stronger. We learn when we are challenged. Our Love as Brother Knights and Catholics allow us the freedom to look at life differently but yet the same with one God to guide us. It is the destination that's important and although we may take different paths isn't the idea to get there? So, let's look back at our fraternal year. Did we reach our destination of membership in our Order? Some did and some didn't but when we look at the whole picture we're there.

By the time you read this, our new officers will have been elected not only at the State Level but some also at the Council, Assembly and Chapter levels. So my hope for you is that no matter what path you take make sure your focused on the destination and next fraternal year we will all be at the same destination together, again.



Thank You to the Illinois State Officers both Elected and Selected for their Leadership for the 2004-2005 Fraternal year.



Into Your Hands We Commend Their Spirit

Name	Council-	# Yrs
Joseph G. Began ⁻¹	665	57
Paul Davis ⁻¹	12005	6
Stephen Denihan	10926	12
Leroy Dubach	1580	26
Sean Farrell	1444	3
Waldo J. Frierdich	1580	23
Darwin E. Gill	460	12
Orville J. Heim, ⁻¹	1580	69
Richard C. Helfenbein	5025	28
Frank A. Jast	10926	57
George K. Kapp	1580	58
Dr. James Kirby	2869	63
Arthur Kniepmann	2869	32
Joesph Marek	5025	30
William H. Meany ⁻¹	5025	60
Tom Morris Jr. ⁻¹	12639	?
Charles Marzluf	1098	10
Philip J. Neumann	790	20
Eugene "Gene" O'Brien	790	11
James R. O'Brien	460	5
Terrence J. O'Neill	12173	7
Rudolph J Pucel	4400	14
Andrew A. Quaka	790	12
Richard L. Rehkemper	1580	22
Hubert H. Ratermann	1580	25
Francis J. Schaefer ^{-1,-2}	1028	64
Robert Schreiber	1580	55
Gene Staub	5025	49
Cletus B. Toennies	2869	39
Edward J. Tipping, Jr. ⁻¹	13201	53
Robert J. Wildhaber, ⁻¹	1580	42

PGK ⁻¹ , PFN ⁻²

May Their Sours and all the Souls of the Faithfully Departed Rest in Peace. Amen

Taste and SEE.... The Goodness of the K of C
 ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 P O BOX 681
 KANKAKEE, IL 60901



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Check out the **NEW** Illinois Website at: www.illinoisknights.org
 Lots of helpful information.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Have you been having receiving your mail from us? Have you moved? Please complete the following form, and return it to the State Office: PO Box 681, Kankakee, IL 60901-0681 **AND notify your Financial Secretary to complete a Form 100 for Supreme.**

Your Name _____ Council # _____
 Please Print Clearly

<u>OLD ADDRESS</u>	<u>NEW ADDRESS</u>
Street Address _____	_____
PO Box Address _____	_____
City, State, Zip _____	_____
Phone # _____ Bus# _____	Phone# _____ Bus# _____
Fax# _____ E-Mail _____	Fax# _____