



ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL *Knights of Columbus*



"ONE FAMILY UNDER GOD"

DECEMBER 2008

Editor Robert J. Fuggiti

STATE DEPUTY

Phil Barone



BLESSED and MERRY CHRISTMAS

As we approach the Mid-year point of the Fraternal Year it is time to make an honest evaluation of where your council is and where it is going. About half the councils have embraced the concept of holding a Membership Growth Activity, whether it is a "Blitz Weekend" or one other Membership Activities that have been outlined by the Membership Team. Councils have found that having a monthly Membership Activity is an effected method of recruiting new members to the Order. The councils that haven't had implemented some form of a monthly Growth Plan are in either a "stagnant or negative state of growth". This is both alarming and very sad as we as Knights of Columbus have committed ourselves to being "the Strong Right Arm of the Church" and the bulwark of helping those in our communities that are most in need. The Pope, Cardinals, Bishops and Priests have singled out the Knights of Columbus as the single most effective force in combating those who seek to remove both Religion and the role of the Family in our society as well as the fight against abortion. Please look at the Monthly Membership Program that can and should be implemented by your council. It is not too late to change the direction of your council.

The State Council incentive program is ongoing in that for every council that has

attained at least 50% of membership goal by January 1, 2009 will be given a free Banquet Ticket to the 2009 State Convention to be held in Lombard during the Memorial Day weekend and councils that achieve 100% of goal by May 1, 2009 will be given another Banquet Ticket to the State Convention. The State Convention is a significant event where I expect every council to earn significant awards in Membership and Programming and the recognition of outstanding councils in the Gold, Silver, Bronze and Honorable Mention categories that every single one of our over 400 councils in the State should be able to attain. This year's State Convention will be both entertaining and exciting. There will be more information coming in the upcoming months.

The Net Membership Status by Diocese is as Follows:

Belleville	+ 54	10.36%
Chicago	+ 140	17.22%
Joliet	+ 73	17.59%
Peoria	+ 56	8.42%
Rockford	+ 59	14.83%
Springfield	+ 32	3.94%
Total	+414	11.32%

State Chaplain Bishop Kaffer Update:

Bishop Roger has under gone some serious health setbacks which have caused him to move his residence to a Health Care Facility that can better handle his health requirements. He is on the road to strengthening his health situation. It is expected that he will joins us at both the Mid-year District Deputy Meeting in Bloomington and the State Convention in Lombard IL on

Memorial Day weekend. As his health improves he will resume some, but not all, of his previous activities in helping the Illinois Knights of Columbus and the Diocese of Joliet. Please send Best Wishes and Christmas Cards to his new location at:

**Bishop Roger L Kaffer
C/o Our Lady of Angels Home
1201 Wyoming Avenue
Joliet, IL 60435**

The Bishop would appreciate your good wishes.

The Knights of Columbus is indeed an "Experience of a Lifetime" but it is all about Family. You belong to your immediate Family. You belong to your Church Family. You are part of your Community. You are a Member of the Knights of Columbus Family and as such you are part of OUR ONE FAMILY UNDER GOD.

As we approach the Holy Season of Christmas, let us all remember our families and thank each member of our families for the gifts and joy that each member brings into our lives. They are indeed both precious and special and should never be taken for granted.

Alice and I extend from our Family to your Family our Blessed and Merry Christmas wishes that you indeed celebrate with your family and enjoy the Faith, Hope and Joy of this Blessed Christmas Season. This is a simple but very important message. Please take the time to truly enjoy your Family and extend that Love that is only yours to give. Remember: Don't be afraid to say Merry Christmas!

May God continue to bless you and your families.

Blessed and Merry Christmas, Vivat Jesus

Alice and Phil Barone

**Associate State Co-Chaplain
Fr. James McIlhone**

Greeting for Christmas 2008

In this 2008 Christmas season, may all the joys and blessings of the Christ Child be with the Illinois Knights and their families. During the season of Advent we sing the plaintive chant, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel expressing the wish that our Lord will soon be with us.

In Hebrew, the name Emmanuel, means "God is with us." In these days of uncertainty, let us be reminded of one thing that is certain. As he departed from the disciples, Jesus told them "Behold, I am with you all days until the end of time." It is that presence that we celebrate in the Christmas season. So in these days, let us be ever mindful of the presence of Christ in our midst, not only in Word and Eucharist in our parish churches, but also in the gifts given, kind words offered, charity bestowed that occur all around us.

"We" are the Body of Christ; "We" are the presence of Christ. May all who encounter us this holiday season, encounter Christ through us. Then truly will we celebrate CHRISTmas.

Fr. Jim McIlhone

**Associate State Co-Chaplain
Fr. Chuck Tuttle**

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

Christ's Mass – the celebration of the Love of God made Flesh in Jesus Christ to dwell among us; to teach us the Father's name and His care and concern for us; to offer His Life as a ransom for our sins; and to lead us back to Paradise which is our eternal home with Him.

Yes, Christmas is more than just the birth of Jesus, it is the fulfillment of the Promise and the deliverance of the Covenant. It is God's Gift of Love poured out for all of us. As we celebrate Christ's Mass within our individual communities and with our individual families let us remember the unity of spirit that unites us as one and the celebration of Christmas that truly brings us all together as one family under God, despite the distances and even differences that separate us.

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you and your families and a Blessed and Happy New Year in 2009.

Father Chuck Tuttle



Associate State Chaplain

STATE SECRETARY

James Bednar educate@yahoo.com

A few words from the State Secretary

How often have we thought to ourselves "oh, no not again" or "what else can happen"?

If you look at it from the positive side these are just two more opportunities that God has given us to check to see if we are really on track with Him. I have always been told that God only gives us what we can handle.

So why does He keep tossing these and other roadblocks at us? More often than not He does that to keep us checking to see if we are following Him faithfully or if we are prone to taking the easy way around life's problems.

God also checks us to see if we are keeping our brothers in view or forgetting them and moving on. When was the last time you asked a brother to lend a hand with a council project? When was the last time that you reached out to a brother in need? When was

the last time you picked up a brother for a council meeting who is no longer able to drive at night or at all?

When did you last ask a brother to help, did he reject your request/offer? When was the last time that you or anyone in the council asked him to help? His negative response could be because this might be the first time since he joined that he was asked. Just maybe he at this time does not feel that the offer is sincere. Does this mean that you stop calling and asking? No, this is the time when you need to help mend the fence of neglect with this brother.

Put him on a special first call list for all future projects for the council and see that he is called. If he feels that the calls are sincere and someone does care he will not toss a road block up between the council and him. The brother will say, yes, and the brother will assist and the brother will remain with the council for as long as he is made to feel that he is needed.

We as the children of God are good mimics but we use road blocks for reasons different than what God does. I believe that God tosses out those road blocks of life when we fail to follow His lead, when we fail to help the least of our brothers.

The message is simple do not build road blocks between you and your brothers and do not let road blocks keep you from reaching out to your brothers. The Christmas Season is soon to be here use this time to open your hearts to others to reconnect with brothers in your council but more so offer a Catholic man and his family the GIFT of the Knights of Columbus.

From our home to yours, Have A Blessed Christmas!

Illinois Knights in Action



The Respect Life committees and the Lemont Knights of Columbus council 1599 erected a total of 300 white crosses at St. Patricks, St. Alphonsus, St. Cyril and Methodius, and St. James at the Sag to represent the 1.2 million babies lost each year to abortion in the United States.

STATE TREASURER

Richard Spada, richspada@comcast.net

Promoting the Culture of Life

As I write this article, we have just concluded our national elections and we look ahead to holidays and holy days of Thanksgiving and Christmas respectively. We live in truly challenging times as a society and as a nation; and, to some extent the Knights of Columbus are the only hope for building and promoting a culture of *Life*. While the political party that prevailed in this last election proclaims itself to be a beacon of hope and a model of democracy, we can and must pray that the less fortunate are given the help and assistance that the party promises to provide. Of course one plank that the party maintains vigorously is to do all that it can to keep and strengthen the laws as they pertain to abortion on demand (at all stages including late term killings) and same-sex marriages. Many of us are conflicted with recent outcomes as we observe what promises to be hope for peace and better attention to the less fortunate and yet provision to continue the culture of death.

We can be proud as an organization to have played such a large role in defeating the same-sex marriage referenda on a number of state ballots including a large counter-cultural state like California; and, yet we have much more work to be done.

To be sure, the prevailing party's position on life and other cultural norms coupled with the defeat of recent marriage amendments have emboldened those who promote the culture of death. The fight promises to continue; and, we must stand ready to defend God-given rights and norms. Collectively and now through direct member support our Supreme office continues the legal charge to make our case on these important matters. Locally, members throughout Illinois have taken up the cause of supporting young mothers who choose life and need assistance and now councils and members can contribute to a collective cause through the Respect Life Fund. Our members have proclaimed our position on marriage; and, we continue to fight the good fight to defend it. Don't waiver Brother Knights; our Church needs you; our families need you; and above all the unborn need you! The best you can do is to get involved and to encourage others to become part of our culture of life family-***These Men They Call Knights!***

Merry Christmas!

Vivat Jesus! What a wonderful greeting given to us by our former Supreme Chaplain, Bishop Charles Greco; and, so fitting for our celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Vivat Jesus translates to "May Jesus Live". We Knights of Columbus celebrate Christmas all year long when we proclaim this greeting. More so, we help make Jesus live in the works that we do and the charities that we support.

Our Founder and Servant of God, Father Michael J. McGivney, founded our Order in the spirit of love for Holy Mother Church and

the care and concern for Christian families. You might say that Father McGivney was *in union* with Jesus when he organized our honored Order. He had the vision to organize a group of men with a focus on keeping them connected to the Church; and, we are indeed in union with the Holy See. Formation of the Knights of Columbus protects our families from both spiritual and material deprivation; and instead strengthens our Faith bringing us closer to God. I believe it was St. Augustine who said, "Please God then do what you please". Being a Knight of Columbus provides many opportunities to please God in practicing our Faith; and, we become better sons, husbands, fathers, and friends throughout our Faith Community.

Christmas is a special time for all of us Christians celebrating the gift of Love given to us by the Father in sending us His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. He lives in ourselves, our families and communities through each act of charity and other good works that we Knights of Columbus do in His Name. ***Vivat Jesus!*** What a wonderful gift for each of us to extend to our families, friends and associates in reaching out and inviting them to join with our family of Knights of Columbus in celebrating Christmas all year long! Merry Christmas Brothers and peace be with you and your families always!

STATE ADVOCATE

Donald "Skip" Kinyon
kinyon@gallatinriver.net

One of the most important Resolutions passed at the 126th Supreme Convention conducted in Quebec City, Quebec Canada is Resolution #302 "The Culture of Life Fund" This resolution has created many questions and I will try to explain some of the more important points. To read the full resolution please go to the Illinois Website and click on the link for Supreme Resolutions or you can go to the Supreme Website and click on the link for Resolutions.

As you know our Catholic teachings and beliefs are in a constant battle with the non-Christians, Pro-Choice and the gay and lesbian collations. The battles are to be waged in the courts and of course that takes money. In the state of California during the last election Proposition 8 was introduced for a vote. Prop 8 was in essence defining that same sex marriages are legal and proper. With the defeat of Proposition 8 the majority of people in California made the statement that a legal and proper marriage is between a man and a woman. The battle is not over. A similar proposition is now in the state of Connecticut and the Knights of Columbus will be taking on that fight as well. The Culture of life resolution is more than just for defining a proper marriage it also reaffirms the Orders Long-standing commitment to building a culture of life by supporting the Church's teaching on Marriage, family and the Gift of Life. The Culture of Life fund will be used to fight the policies that promote abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide and ANY other offenses against life. I do not have the room to include all of the Resolution in this article but I will include the assessment clause of the resolution. It states:

"Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Knights of Columbus reaffirms its long-standing commitment to marriage, family and the gift of life by creating a Culture of Life Fund through an assessment of each member of the order in the amount of \$3.00 per year for one year: and
Further Resolved, that the Board of Directors shall review this assessment after a period of one year; and
Further Resolved, that we encourage all members, state councils, councils and assemblies throughout the order to affirm their commitment to marriage, family and the gift of life through voluntary contributions to the Culture of Life Fund"

So this is not just another fee for our councils to pay, it is a small price to pay to keep our Catholic Faith, beliefs and teachings in the forefront and our continued battle to stop abortions.

Now on another front. Some of our councils who have buildings in the past couple of months have encountered organizations that do not agree or follow our Catholic teachings and beliefs attempting to rent the hall for an event. By rental to these organizations it will appear that the Knights of Columbus approves of these organizations. I would suggest all Grand Knights who have council halls meet with the building manager and review the lease (rental agreements) for an escape clause. If there is not one please revise the agreement and add some type of escape clause so if an organization somehow signs a rental agreement then the rental contract can be voided with no cost to the council. Meet with an attorney to make sure everything is proper and legal.

Enough business, we are having crisp (cold) nights, football is underway, high school playoff's are in full swing and there are more leaves on the ground than in the tree's so that must mean one thing. We are getting close to the most blessed time of year, the birthday of our Lord. Before long we will all be surrounding our Christmas trees with friends and families enjoying this blessed time of year. Many of our councils will be conducting Christmas parties and enjoying the fraternity that makes our organization so special. Remember is not a better gift to give to a Catholic man and his family than membership in our great order. Recruit a new knight before Christmas and give that Catholic man and his family the security that comes with being a member of the greatest organization in the world.

Diane and I would like to express to all of our Knights of Columbus families and friends a most Blessed Christmas and a Happy and

Holy New Year. Remember that it is ok to say MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!

God Bless to all,
Skip and Diane Kinyon

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



*Chicago Knights from **districts 17 and 19** stand with a historic statue of Christopher Columbus at the Chicago Columbus Day Parade. The statue was originally exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair in 1892 and was donated to the Chicago Fire Department after 11 firemen were killed trying to stop a blaze at the fair.*

STATE WARDEN

Gary Schmidt Schmidt.Gary@comcast.net

To our Knights of Columbus Family,

As we approach one of the most holy times of the year in the Catholic Church that being the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. We must remember that not all persons have what we have including freedom. So our goal for this Christmas season should be to help those in need and pray that in 2009 the world will be at peace.

My gift to you will be to back you in the task that you undertake whether it be membership, church activities, youth, community activities or charities, you will find that the more support one has, the better the project will be. Let us work as a team and things will get done.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all,

Gary and Barb Schmidt, State Warden

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Frank Schwartz Jr.

fjschwartzjr@ameritech.net



Keep Christ in Christmas

Help Build a Stronger Church

Help Strengthen Our Order

Help Keep Christ in Christmas

For Christmas Give a Catholic Man the Gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus. This is the gift that continues to give all year long. Show how much you care for someone Take the time to ASK. Become Part of the Team "One Family Under God"

On behalf of Myself and my wife Shelly may your Christmas be filled with Love and Joy. May the Christ Child bless you and your Family.

Frank Schwartz Jr.

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Bill Doerfler bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net

We are nearing the halfway point of this fraternal year and the Spirit of Illinois Honors Award. It is my sincerest hope that ALL councils are participating to achieve this honor. This award is relatively easy to achieve. There are 44 programs in which to participate. Many councils are already doing these programs throughout the year. NOW, you just need to report these activities to your District Deputy & you're well on your way to earn this distinguished award. Just a

few more components are needed & you've got THE AWARD!!!!!! They are as follows:

- 1) All Supreme Councils forms must be on file with the Supreme Council.
- 2) 6 NEW members in addition to showing a POSITIVE membership
- 3) 44 program to choose from. Participate in as many as your council members will be willing to be involved in. 18 programs are the minimum to achieve an award.
- 4) FOR GOLD ONLY-Host two (2) 1st degrees one by Jan. 1 and one by May 1.
- 5) Meet 3 of 4 Charity goals.

District Deputies PLEASE encourage & help your councils achieve this award. I personally hope that there are soooooo... many winners that my car will be to small to bring all the awards to Lombard on May 2009.

Congratulations to Supreme Family of the Month

September 2008

Paul & Delores Talleur

Highland Council 1580

Ronald & Nancy Knous

Petersburg Council 5754

William & Mary Rogers

East Peoria Council 7580

Community

Blood drive Chairman **Gary Gunderson** reports that council's blood drives are off and running. November total we have 2427 units collected. Thank you to those councils who have conducted blood drives so far and to the councils who will conduct in the future. This truly is the gift of life. PLEASE remember to report all units collected to Gary.

Youth

By the time you read this the 2008 Soccer Challenge will be completed. I would like to thank **Tom West** Soccer Chairman along

with all the Regional Chairman for all there hard work. A special thank you to Charleston Council for hosting the State Finals. I know this program will continue to grow each year. If your council didn't conduct soccer challenge this year considers participating next year.

The Knights of Columbus free-throw contest is around the corner, if you have not ordered you free-throw kit from Supreme Council please do so now. For any help conducting a free-throw tournament please contact **Wayne Decker** Free Throw Chairman or your District Deputy for information.

In closing Terry and I would like to wish everyone a Merry CHRISTmas and a Blessed New Year.

PLEASE KEEP CHRIST in CHRISTmas

Bill

**STATE CHIEF SQUIRE
Dakota Cody Cane**

When I took the oath of office as state chief squire I promised to better the squires and to make a special effort to help to introduce the benefits of the squires to those Knights of Columbus councils that currently do not sponsor a squire's circle. Our current theme this year is "Christ our hope". I have chosen this theme to help spread the message to all Squires and brother knights that **Christ is our hope**. Your Squires have been very busy as of late. With school going on and sports and everything else that goes on in a teenager's life it would seem that we would have no time for the squires. But that is not true of the guys we have on this State Circle. We are very committed to doing the best we can to follow in the footsteps of the youth Christ. We are currently working very hard on getting a state retreat going. In the past years we have always said we are going to do this but it is yet to happen, until this year. We also have a bowling tournament coming up in October which should be tons of fun for my fellow Squires. This all sounds like fun but it would not be possible

without the support of the 4th degree and Ladies Auxiliary. I would like to personally thank them for all their support along with the State K of C officer, Councils and individual knights.

During his address to young people of the United States Pope Benedict said; "I say to you, dear young people: Do not be afraid of Christ! He takes nothing away, and he gives you everything. When we give ourselves to him, we receive a hundredfold in return. Yes, open, open wide the doors to Christ – and you will find true life."

This is the direction I want the Squires to follow this year to be an organization dedicated to good works, to have hope in Christ and to grow as a true Christian organization.

Thank you, ,
Dakota Cody Cane, STATE CHIEF SQUIRE

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



*Residents and staff of Homes of Hope solicit donations during a fund drive hosted by **Father Thomas Carmondy Council 6498** in **Bloomington**. Knights conducted their annual fund drive for people with intellectual disabilities to support Homes of Hope and other special-needs organizations.*

***Oswego Council # 7247** held a dinner that raised over \$1000 to help purchase much needed wheel chairs. Several wheelchairs purchased from last year's event are now in use at the Hines Veterans Hospital.*

STATE CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

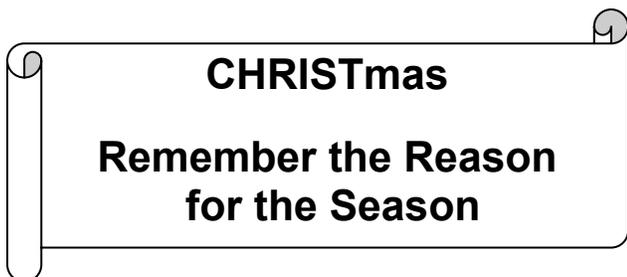
Bill Linz Jr., w.m.linz@att.net

The day after Halloween as I was driving home, I noticed several of my neighbors hanging Christmas lights and arranging other Christmas decorations around their homes. My first thought was that they were taking advantage of the unusually warm and sunny weather we had that weekend and using this opportunity to prepare for the upcoming holiday season. Shortly following that warm weekend, I began to notice that some of my neighbors' Christmas decorations/lights were actually on. I know it's only 40 days until Christmas, but we haven't even roasted the turkey yet! Do you think these people are "rushing" the season? At first I thought so too; until my godchild, noticing one of the lighted house, said: "Look they're getting ready for Jesus' birthday! It's so pretty!"

Newspaper headlines, television broadcasts and topics of conversation center focus on the poor economy, loss of jobs, foreclosures and rising costs of day-to-day living. The word recession-and the even more dreaded word-depression-are spoken in whispered tones. Times are uncertain; people are worried.

Perhaps, my neighbors were thinking of the poem, "Footprints". The author thinks Our Lord has abandoned him during his darkest times. Our Lord responds: "My precious child. I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering when you saw only one set of footprints... That was when I carried you." Those Christmas lights remind us of God's love and how that love renews hope within our spirits. Maybe this weekend, I'll get out my ladder and hang my Christmas lights upon my new roof and begin to prepare for the birth of Our Lord!

May the light of Christ brighten each of your homes every day of the new year!



**Frank W. Rossi
Newman Apostolate Chairman**

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Recently, the allocation of funds for the Newman Centers and Clubs throughout the State were calculated and forwarded to our State Officers to have the checks prepared. The total amount that is to be dispersed is \$225,000.00, thanks to you, the Brother Knights of the great State of Illinois. While this is a tremendous amount, it is below our goal. We can change that this year. Our goal of \$333,700.00 is based on a meager \$5.00 per active member in the State. Naturally, if you can do more, it would be greatly appreciated.

The formula for dispersement is somewhat complicated, but basically, those schools with an actual Newman Center/Chapel (Category A) receive a higher percentage than those schools that just have a Newman Club (Category B). Naturally, the more we collect, the more we can disperse.

Below are the dispersements by diocese:

Belleville Diocese

Category A

Southern Illinois Univ. \$14,891

Category B

McKendree College \$1,186

Joliet Diocese

Category B

Elmhurst College, North Central College
Joliet Junior College, College of DuPage
Midwestern University \$16,271

Peoria Diocese

Category A

Bradley University- \$6,658, Illinois State
University-\$16,600, Eureka College-\$567
Univ. of IL CU-\$26,714. Western IL Univ-\$11,280

Category B

Augustana College, Knox College
Parkland College, IL Wesleyan Univ
IL Central College, Monmouth College-\$10,962

Chicago Archdiocese

Category A

Northwestern Univ-\$13,771, Univ. of Chicago-\$10,444, Univ. of IL-Chicago-\$19,639

Category B

Chicago State Univ., IL Inst. Of Technology,
Moraine Valley CC, Vandercook Coll. of Music
IL Coll. Of Optimology
Triton CC, College of Lake County
Northeastern Univ., Lexington College
Olive Harvey College, South Suburban College
Wright City College \$32,919

Rockford Diocese

Category A

Northern IL Univ. \$18,311

Category B

Rockford College \$727

Springfield Diocese

Category A

Eastern IL Univ.,-\$9332,
Southern IL Univ., \$9313

Category B

Blackburn College, Illinois College
MacMurray College, Milikin University
Univ. of IL-Springfield -\$5,435

Although these figures are significant, we can do better. Remember, our quota is based on ONLY \$5.00 per active member. If every member does his part, just imagine how much we can give the Newman Centers/Clubs which in turn gives our youth a place to live their faith while they are at school.

Dear Brother Knights,

Recently, I had the opportunity to witness two fantastic events. On September 6, 2008, State Secretary Jim Bednar, State Warden Gary Schmidt and myself, attended the dedication of the newly renovated and expanded St. John Newman Center at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. This was a culmination of a three year, \$40 million project. When one listens to the students who utilize the Newman Center, you can hear how much they rely on the Newman Centers to enrich their lives. The Illinois State Knights of Columbus' first involvement with the Newman Apostolate started at U of I

Champaign over 80 years ago when the Illinois Knights of Columbus donated \$200,000 to purchase land, where the Newman Chapel still stands today. When I was introduced to Bishop Daniel Jenky of the Peoria Diocese, he gave me a big hug while saying thank you for what the Knights of Columbus do for the Newman Apostolate.

On October 25, 2008, at the Joliet Chapter's Bishop's Burse, State Membership Director Frank Schwartz and I presented Bishop J. Peter Sartain of the Joliet Diocese a check in the amount of \$16,271 for the Newman Clubs in the Joliet Diocese. Bishop Sartain's initial response was simply "oh wow, oh wow."

The Newman Apostolate is the first charity that the State of Illinois Knights of Columbus undertook and continues to support it today. But to continue that support, we need YOUR help. The donor cards have been sent out. We ask that you take a few minutes of your time to make your donation. This year's quota of \$333,700 is based on just \$5.00 per active member. Probably less than many of us spend on one lunch. Naturally, if you can do more, we would appreciate it greatly. We have even added the option of using a credit card for your donation if you desire, so consider becoming a Century Donor.

Gentlemen, think back to your 1st Degree, when you were advised of the 1st principle of OUR order, **CHARITY**. As we near this holiday season, what better way to get that warm fuzzy feeling than to make a donation to Newman knowing that it will help our youth maintain a firm grasp of their faith while they are away from their homes, many for a first time.

In closing, I would like to extend to you and your families a very Merry Christmas filled with love, joy, and God's blessing; as well as wishes for a happy, prosperous New Year. Let's not forget to **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**.

Vivat Jesus,
Frank W. Rossi
Newman Apostolate Chairman

**Ted Glaser & Ed Feeney
MR-LD**

As of this writing on November 11, 2008 approximately 39 % of the participating Councils have turned in their MR-LD monies. As we all know, the target return date is November 1 and has been for a number of years. To those who have turned in their monies and reports I send a HUGE "thank you"!!!! To those who have not, please do so NOW!!!! These are very trying economic times to say the very least. Here in the State of Illinois, virtually any organization that receives monies from the Knights of Columbus, has not received their State or Federal monies or is way short of what they had expected to receive. Thus, what they receive from us becomes even more vitally IMPORTANT to God's Special People and their care. So please get your monies that you have turned in now. You can always file an amended report showing what arrives later or has been delayed for whatever reason. Just make very sure that ALL amended monies and forms are in WELL BEFORE April 15. The MR-LD program date for 2009 is the weekend of September 18, 19, & 20. Your planning for this upcoming program should be well underway at this point. Where will you go? What stores, malls etc will you man? What are the requirements of your village or town? More and more towns and villages etc are restricting what they call "street" sales with the excuse usually centering on safety. Do not wait until the last minute; ask now. Plan ahead! Have you contacted your local high schools and their Special ED programs etc? This is a great partnership and source of revenue as many have discovered. Leave no stone unturned! Call Ed Feeney or myself. We will do ALL we can to help you in ANY way that we can to have the most successful drive your Council has ever had! Make it a point to attend the MR-LD kickoff meeting in your area or Diocese. Up-to-date information and ideas are presented and discussed. Make the time; Make the meeting!

In conclusion, we would like to extend a special thank you to our State Office-Donna, Mary, and Don for their "over and above help" to us and you. The calls and questions they field are numerous, to say the very least and their graciousness and assistance is well appreciated.

A special thanks to our State Charities Director, Bill Linz, for the great "hat" idea. It went over so well, that we ran out and had to order more--a good problem to have! A very special thanks is sent to ALL of you, to your Councils and the people who have supported our MR-LD program for without this support--the program is naught. Charity...Love of Thy Neighbor! A very Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours and a Blessed and Merry Christmas to All!!

Vivat Jesus
Ted & Ed

**Wally Johnson
General Assistance Fund Chairman**

GAF's SUCCESS
DEPENDS ON YOUR
HELP
FLOODS FIRE
ACCIDENTS MEDICAL
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT YOU
WHAT WE DO IS FOR YOU
GET INVOLVED, YOU WON'T BE
DISAPPOINTED
ONLY \$ 1.10 PER MAN

Worthy Brother Knights;

With the upcoming holiday season, I want to take this time to wish all of you and your families a joyous holiday season and a very blessed Christmas. I want also to wish all of you a very peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Speaking of prosperity, a big thank you goes out to all of you who have contributed to the General Assistance Fund so far. Your donations have helped us provide funds to some very deserving requests. For this the GAF and the state council are most appreciative.

To those councils who have yet to make a donation, please don't hesitate. We are certain to receive more requests as the year goes on. Your prompt donations will enable the state council to continue to offer assistance to more requests. Holding the funds until the end of the charity year will serve no purpose to those who may be in need of it now.

Again may you and yours enjoy the holiday season with a blessed Christmas and a happy joyous New Year.

GAF DISTRIBUTION
July 1 – November 6, 2008

Newman Center U of I Champaign	\$ 2,000
Hank Ginder	\$ 1,800
Iowa State Council Flood Disaster	\$ 5,000
Texas State Council Flood Disaster	\$ 5,000
St. Andrew Church	\$ 500
Council # 1775 in Utica Flood damage	\$ 2,000



Robert & Carol Sieveking House Fire \$ 4,000

Brother Knights,

I just wanted to personally say thanks for your help to relieve the Sievekings' loss in a recent fire that destroyed their home. Bob, who is in the nursing home as a result of two strokes, served as Grand Knight twice. He and his wife Carol have been foster parents for 35 years. They have three children and four adoptive children. My praises to you and all Knights everywhere who contribute their time and money making GAF possible.

May God Bless you.

THANKS
William Wolf, GK.
Council # 9890

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



*Grand Knight Dale Vogl of **Father Thomas Carmony Council 6498** in **Bloomington** presents Msgr. Eric Powell with a check for \$200,000 for the Epiphany Church building fund. The presentation was made during a dinner for Knights and their families following a memorial Mass for deceased members.*

South Plainfield Council 6203 held a "Don't Cook on Friday" Italian dinner at its council hall. More than 150 people attended the event, proceeds from which were added to the council's charitable fund.

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL OFFICE

Don, Donna & Mary
illinoiskc@illinoisknights.org

Remember to use the State Website for all state forms. Some may be completed and submitted on line, and others must be completed and printed and mailed. If you feel we have overlooked a form which you feel should be online, please alert the state office and we will strive to correct the oversight.

Fraternal Survey (Form 1728): This is just a reminder that your council's fraternal survey is due at BOTH Supreme and the State Office by **January 31, 2009**. This form is extremely important because the information gathered from this form is used by Supreme

to maintain our Non-Profit Status. If you need assistance in completion of this form, please call Don Lajoie at the State Office who is willing to help (815-935-2262)

Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics (Form 4584): This form is due at BOTH Supreme and the State Council Office by **January 31, 2009**

On December 1st Both Form 1728 and 4584 will be available on the Supreme Website and can be filled out online.

At the bottom of these forms are 3 blank lines. Please add the State Council email address (illinoiskc@illinoisknights.org), your District Deputy's email address as well as your own email address. When you click the submit button your form will be transmitted not only to Supreme, but also to the State council and to you for your files. Remember to print out a hard copy for yourself.

Save your council postage, complete your forms on-line

MR/LD Drive Reports

Remember when completing your MR/LD Report Form, if you have the new G/L insurance; **DO NOT DEDUCT THE \$50.00 Insurance Fee.** Simply cross it off and continue completing the form. For those councils who have already sent in their form and have the new G/L insurance, and did not do this, the State Council did it for you and added \$50 to "Your Balance to Distribute". Call the State Office to confirm (815-935-2262)

We still have a few councils whose funds are on HOLD from a prior year. These funds need to be cleared and checks issued to the appropriate charities.

There are also a few councils that have not yet filed their MR report from last year's drive. Please send in your reports as soon as possible.

Spelling Bee information has been mailed to council representatives. If your council would like to participate and has not received a packet, please complete the Spelling Bee Request on the State Website or call the State Council Office and request a packet.

The **Essay Information** has been mailed. Watch your mail box!

We sent out an email in late October asking if an email is received, would a paper copy sent via US mail be necessary. Thank you to all who responded. To those that did not receive that message, perhaps your email is in the huge pile of email addresses that were returned for not being valid. If you have email and are presently not receiving mail from the State Office, please contact us so we can verify your address for future messages. Thank you!

We have been sent information that there were additional Star Councils in Illinois

ADDITIONAL STAR COUNCILS FOR 2008-09

<u>COUNCIL KNIGHT</u>	<u>GRAND</u>
734	Walter L Mowbray
11112	Gerard Dominy
12407	Everett Fritz II

In closing, Mary, Donna and I want to extend the following message:

*Wishing you a blessed
And Merry Christmas
The Gift of Love ...
The Gift of Peace...
The Gift of Happiness...
May these be yours at Christmas and
Throughout the Year!*



ILLINOIS SQUIRES IN ACTION



Congratulations to council 14373 St. Patrick-Rockford for the formation of a new Squires circle.

**STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIR. /
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**
Robert Fuggiti no5025@aol.com

To those of you who really know me, you know I love Country and Western music. Recently the Country Music Awards was on TV and I was listening to the music, which was great, but I noticed something was missing. When the awards were given and the thank yous were made, unlike previous shows, the “thanks to God” was fewer in number. I guess we are in a time when we need God more than ever but we concentrate on earthly things. Well, we are going into the season when we need to show our appreciation of GOD. I know for Thanksgiving you thanked him and with Christmas let us adore him by “Keeping Christ in CHRISTmas”. On behalf of the

Fuggiti Family, HAVE A HOLY AND JOYOUS CHRISTMAS. Keep thanking CHRIST for all the good you have received. May you prosper in the new year.

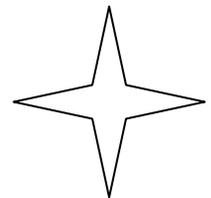
Thanks to all the financial secretaries that submit “In Memoriam forms”. Some send them by mail others use the on line form that can be found on the State website.

REST IN PEACE



Paul Havrilka Jr. was called to the Lord. Paul served as our Illinois State Deputy for the 2005-2007 Fraternal year. Paul was a devoted husband to his wife Judy and their 4 Children. He was a member of Mt. Vernon Council # 2964. Pray for him and his family.

**On Behalf of the State Officers,
Elected and Selected,**



**May your Christmas be filled with
Peace and Joy!**

Have a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

**May their Souls and all the Souls of the faithfully departed
rest in peace. Amen**



Council #	Brother Knight	Positions	Years
5573	JAMES T. ALBERT		10
731	GEORGE ARCHDALE		45
5573	WALTER C. BIERMAN		9
10556	ROBERT W. BOLD		16
5918	C. PAT BRAY	PAST GRAND KNIGHT	44
731	DONALD COLE		39
731	THOMAS DRASLER		53
5573	JOSEPH J. FORMENTO		23
658	KEITH GROTHUSEN		27
665	FRANCIS HAARMANN		63
2964	PAUL HAVRILKA JR.	Past St..Deputy 2005-07	
11110	EUGENE B HORSTMANN	IL.-Sr. Knight of the Year 1998	63
1567	CHARLES C. HUM		58
460	THOMAS C. JUN, JR		54
891	EDWARD MADDEN		67
731	JOHN MIKS		49
5516	KENNETH MOLK		23
460	CLEMENT L. NOLL, JR.		52
5516	REV. MICHAEL O'KEEFE		51
731	FRANK PETRIC	PAST GRAND KNIGHT	60
731	FRANK REPP		52
4688	KIM E. RHODES		18
731	REV. JOSEPH ROELKE		21
731	JOSEPH SABO	PAST GRAND KNIGHT	32
4688	LATHAM D. SIMMS		22
731	CHESTER SIWULA		35
5573	BERNARD E. STAHOVIAK	PAST GRAND KNIGHT	43
731	WILL STEWART		2
1098	MICHAEL A. TRTAN		63
891	ROBERT R VAN CLEAVE		67
665	CHRISTOPHER J. WESTJOHN		50
1098	BRIAN M. WITHERS		10
731	PAUL ZUPEC		46



ONE FAMILY UNDER GOD
 ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 P O BOX 681
 KANKAKEE, IL 60901

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PAID
 KANKAKEE, IL 60901
 PERMIT NO.44

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Have you been receiving your mail from us? Have you moved? If you have a change of address, please complete the following form and return it to the State Office: PO Box 681, Kankakee, IL 60901-0681

NOTIFY your Financial Secretary to complete a Form 100 for Supreme.

OLD ADDRESS		NEW ADDRESS	
Street Address:		Street Address:	
PO BOX Address		PO BOX Address	
City State, ZIP		City State, ZIP	
Phone #	Bus #	Phone #	Bus #
FAX #	E-mail	FAX#	E-mail