



ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL

Knights of Columbus

"WHAT WORKS TEAM WORK"

Editor Robert J. Fuggiti, PGK, FDD, PSW



May June 2010

STATE DEPUTY

James Bednar ieducate1@yahoo.com



Brothers,

In reviewing the recently completed 112th Illinois State Convention I would like to make the following observations.

Over my last year as State Treasurer and my two years as State Secretary I asked many brothers what they thought about having the Convention

on the Memorial weekend. The brothers reacted to the question about the date and the conflicts that exist and everyone who commented asked for a different weekend. The Memorial Day weekend starts the family summer activity, and is the main weekend for the Ordination and or First Mass of the newly ordained.

Your State Officers listened to my research (not overly scientific, but the result of listening to what, you, and the other brothers had to say) and we took the challenge and decided to try this new weekend for a six year trial. From the comments from those who attended this years Convention it looks and sounds like this change was a success. This one convention does not make a permanent change; we have committed to look at this for five more years before making any "permanent" change.

Some of the things that impressed me at this year's convention were the number of 1st time attendees (about 46%) and the fact that the convention floor was full from the opening gavel to the closing gavel on both days. To me that meant we had attendees who really felt part of the operation of the State and were interested in being a part of the history of our Order. We saw the Cathedral of St. Mary in Peoria filled for a beautiful celebration of the Lord's Supper and also had 500 who attended the Banquet on Saturday night.

In all I was pleased and impressed with the brothers and their involvement in this year's convention and look for greater things

next year for the 113th Illinois State Convention will be held April 29, 30, May 1, 2011 in Springfield, IL.

As I write this we stand on the threshold of greatness, I ask that you always keep in mind that we can change all negatives to positives and all challenges, no matter how large or small to be opportunities to be great.

That train No. 2,900 is chugging fast down the track and is coming close to getting into the station. As of today (5/30/10), our membership in Illinois stands at 72,577 members. We have achieved 91.0% of our opportunity that will prompt others to take a look at Illinois and ask "what is their secret to success". The great State of Illinois needs 252 more new members to reach our desired opportunity for greatness which is 2,900 new brother Knights. I want to thank each and every member in the great State of Illinois for wanting to make their councils strong with new members. This is a new day and a new excitement for the councils in Illinois.

Keep asking another Catholic man and his family to join us. Build your councils for the future and remember that those who came before us left us the great legacy called the Knights of Columbus. I pray that you desire to do the same for those who will follow us.

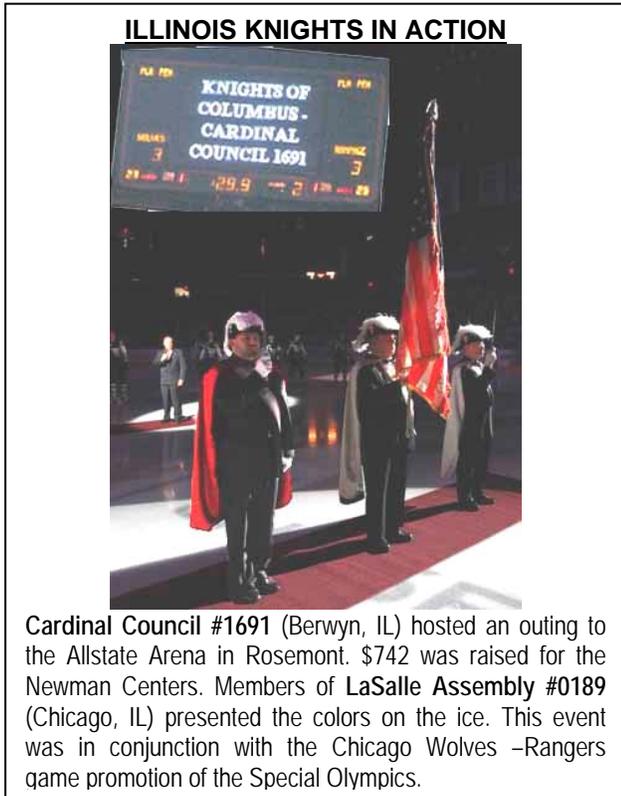
Before I close I again want to thank every brother Knight in Illinois for going that extra mile this year. We have proven what Illinois can do and will continue to do. And thank you for your support in my election to a second term. I will do my best to see that I represent the BEST State in the Order to the level that we have established this fraternal year.

I have included a five line verse that I found both interesting and awakening for you to read and consider.

*Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits.
Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.*

May all of our words, actions, habits, character and destiny speak positive of our brotherhood and our Christianity. God bless, everyone.

Vivat Jesus!



Cardinal Council #1691 (Berwyn, IL) hosted an outing to the Allstate Arena in Rosemont. \$742 was raised for the Newman Centers. Members of LaSalle Assembly #0189 (Chicago, IL) presented the colors on the ice. This event was in conjunction with the Chicago Wolves –Rangers game promotion of the Special Olympics.

ASSOCIATE STATE CHAPLAIN

Rev. Charles Tuttle cwtuttle@charter.net

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

[The following is the Associate State Chaplain’s report I gave at the 2010 State Convention in Peoria on Saturday morning, May 1]:

When Father Michael J. McGivney began our honored Order in 1882, he had in mind the needs of the Catholic families that were entrusted to his care. He saw the social injustice of his day and the way that the immigrant Catholic population was being sorely mistreated and the prejudice that often prevented Catholic men from obtaining the meaningful employment that would provide even the most meager of sustenance.

He saw young men aged and weathered before their years due to the long hours of daily work and the hardship of the labor that was relegated to them. The toll was too much for many as they died so early in life leaving behind a wife and hungry children with no where to turn and no one who seems to care or even take notice.

Those images seem alien and so far removed from our current standing in American society. As Catholics we have struggled for decades to climb the rungs of social status to take our rightful place in American culture. In other words, “We have come a long way, baby!” Because of this struggle and our growth to become the majority religious voice in America, one might conclude that the time for and the work of the Knights of Columbus is complete and is no longer necessary or relevant.

But nothing would be further from the truth. Today the reason for the Knights of Columbus is as strong as it was 128 years ago. The cause is still a matter of life and death, though it is not the life of the working individual – but rather the life and protection of the unborn. We may have come a long way but our culture still does not respect the dignity and purpose of the individual. Every life is a precious gift from God and every life is ordained by God to have a unique destiny and purpose in His Holy Design of Creation.

Our voices today must speak out and be as strong as the voice of our founder. Our lives today must witness to the gospel of life and challenge the agents of the culture of death with every ounce of energy we can muster. Our efforts must be tireless and we must commit ourselves with full resolve and resources to bring our society back from the brink.

When Planned Parenthood has a war chest in excess of **ONE BILLION DOLLARS** to push its agenda of a culture of death, can we as members of the Knights of Columbus dare complain when we are asked to make nominal contributions from our members and Councils to support the Culture of Life Fund? One might say “what will our Million do against a Billion?” I would only remind them of the story of David and Goliath and that when God is behind you even the gates of Hell cannot prevail!

There are many more causes and challenges that we are also asked to respond to as Knights of Columbus. Yes, the Knights of Columbus are needed, even more today. The opportunity to make a difference, the resolve to do so, and the commitment to see it through is the very spirit of Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney that must remain alive within each of us.

Father Chuck Tuttle

Associate State Chaplain

STATE SECRETARY

Richard Spada richspada@comcast.net

Multi-tasking In A Transition Period

As I write this article, all of us are in a great transition period. The season is more rapidly moving into summer with warmer temperatures; gardens being planted; the baseball season getting into full swing; and, approaching the start of a new

fraternal year in the Knights of Columbus! All of these transitional demands call upon our abilities to multi-task. Summer brings projects to properly complete the current seasonal needs and start preparing for summer ones. As one season comes to an end another begins; it never really ends. It's much the same way for us as leaders in the Knights of Columbus!

Our annual meeting of convention in Peoria is now behind us; and, for the first time moving the date and awards program the change seemed well received. In particular many seem to like the new date and the training offered by the Academy. The annual meeting was a great opportunity for leaders to network with fellow knights from throughout the jurisdiction and to recharge their efforts to improve their membership recruitment, programming and charities standings. Our fraternal year, at that time, had two more months remaining to reach desired opportunity levels. Our selected officers in all three areas promised to reiterate the requirements for awards that will be based on June 30, 2010 reports. Awards will be presented in each diocese as the elected and selected state officers will be coming to you for a special awards event. Stay tuned for details on when and where these events will occur in August and September!

As we focus on properly completing this fraternal year, much like the seasonal transitions we all experience, we also set our focus on preparing for the year ahead! Election of new officers takes place and with that election is a review of the year still going. Incoming and outgoing leaders consider what is going well and what may need adjustments for improvement. We review our programming to ensure that what we do meets the mission of the Knights of Columbus and equally important the needs of our membership. How well our charitable efforts succeeded may cause us to consider repeating what was done if real success was realized or perhaps new approaches for higher opportunities for success. Recruitment follows hand-in-hand with programming and charities and all three elements are interconnected in a special way for overall success. Are there improvements in recruitment and retention that are needed?

Communication is a key element supporting our efforts in both present and future planning tasks. The first opportunity in meeting this need is by completing the state council DIR-1 form; this form provides your newly elected name/address/phone number and email address information. Along with this form is the Supreme Council Form 185, reporting the election of officers and Form 385 reporting the selection of appointed chairmen. All such forms provide a means for both Supreme and State councils to communicate what is going on and being planned ahead to assist in your council success.

God Bless and best wishes in properly completing your current fraternal year on to the highest opportunity level! Also, best wishes on your efforts in preparing for the year ahead!

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



The O'Fallon Council 4239 sponsored their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday, More than 65 children took part in the event After the hunt the kids adjourned to the Council hall for hot dogs and hot chocolate and more prizes .

STATE TREASURER

Donald "Skip" Kinyon kinyon@gallatinriver.net

Brother Knights,

The 112th annual State Convention is in the books and did our jurisdiction celebrate. The training sessions were well attended and many thank yous were given. The State Deputy's dinner was very tasteful and an enjoyable evening was had by all. On Sunday the resolutions were passed and the convention delegates elected your State Officers for the next fraternal year. It was a very busy convention but aren't they all. At this time I would like to thank you for your vote of confidence in my abilities as your State Treasurer for the new fraternal year. I will do my best to represent our jurisdiction for this next year. I am very pleased to report that the finances are as strong as ever for the Illinois State Council and that is due to the procedures and review processes of our financial officers.

I am equally proud to report that all 17 of our Intellectual Disabilities group home loans are up to date and current. That is not an easy task in this economic climate as many of those homes rely on payments from the state of Illinois to meet some of their expenditures. This is another good example of the Illinois jurisdictions review procedures for home loan approvals.

Before you know it our mid-year District Deputy meeting will be upon us and I am looking forward to the programs that will be unveiled for the next fraternal year to assist our councils in membership, programming and charitable growth. Then of course the month following our mid-year meeting the Knights of Columbus from around the world will be descending on to our Nations capitol for the annual Supreme Convention. What a very exciting event this will be. Not only will we meet fraternally brother knights from around the world but we will be in the capital of the strongest and best nation in our world.

The Worthy State Deputy has been utilizing the railroad as an example of our membership growth and how that Illinois is on

track and going full bore down the line headed for the circle of honor destination. Our fuel for engine is recruitment but our conductors are you, the brotherhood of Illinois. You are keeping us on track and on time. Keep up the good work brothers.

God Bless to all
Vivat Jesus,,

Skip



STATE ADVOCATE

Bill Doerfler bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! - July 1st starts the new fraternal year and what an exciting time this is, new Grand Knight new Council Officers, new ideas and opportunities. As this is the first newsletter for the fraternal year I would like to take some time and write about some of the duties of the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary and Treasurer.

Grand Knight: Presides at all meetings of his council and shall enforce the rules and regulations of the council and the laws of the Order, and shall be Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Appoint committees in and for his council whose appointment is not regularly provided for by the laws of his council, and shall be a member ex officio of all committees.

Countersign orders drawn and signed by the Financial Secretary for the payment of money when the same have been ordered by his council or approved by the Board of Trustees.

Countersign checks drawn and signed by the Treasurer.

Receive the vouchers from the F.S. of the monies paid by the F.S. to the Treasurer and also the vouchers showing that such money by the Treasurer deposited in an approved bank or other secure institution of deposit.

Financial Secretary: Be the accountant of his council, keeping said accounts so that they show their complete and accurate

financial standing of the council and its members at all times by utilizing such books and records as required by the Laws and Rules and furnished by the Supreme Council at the expense of the subordinate council.

Pay over to the treasurer of his council all monies received at meeting or between meetings for fines, dues, contributions, initiation fees or from other sources for which said treasurer shall issue a receipt to such F. S., specifying the funds to which the same shall be credited which receipt shall be given to the Grand Knight by the financial secretary before the next succeeding meeting.

Cause every member before initiation to subscribe his name, subjecting himself to the Constitution and By-laws of the Order and Council.

Treasurer: Be the custodian of all funds of the council obtained from any source, by or through and person or persons, acting for or in the name of the council or under its direction or authority.

At each meeting of the council, the Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary all monies collected, and shall give a written receipt to the F.S. specifying the funds to which they shall be credited. The money received by the Treasurer shall be deposited by the Treasurer to the credit of the council in an approved bank.

He shall pay all orders drawn on him which are signed by the F.S. and countersigned by the Grand Knight. All such orders shall have the approval of the Board of Trustees, except demands of the Supreme Council, Board of Directors or State Council.

He shall keep separate accounts of the monies placed in his hands by his council or the officers thereof that shall plainly show at all times the amount of in the general fund of the council, and the amount of monies in each and every special fund of the council and the dates of receiving and disbursing the same; such accounts to be kept in books furnished by the Supreme Secretary at the expense of the council.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the Delegates at this year's State Convention for my re-election as your State Advocate. I look forward to a productive, successful and fun year with everyone's help. Those three things are what make us proud to say we are members of the Knights of Columbus.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you, remember I'm available to you by phone (815-790-9737) or email bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net should you ever want to contact me. Theresa and I look forward to seeing each of you when we can. I'll work as hard as I can to represent you, as an Illinois Knight of Columbus.

Fraternally

Bill Doerfler

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



St Margaret Mary Council #11091, Algonquin Il., was recently honored by Life Source -Chicagolands Blood Center as one of the top 20 groups in Illinois. This was the only religious group to make the top 20. Pictured are L. O'Brien, G. Lazansky, S Shepard and Bob Pustav with the trophy

A record 86 pints of blood, including 13 pints from Brother Knights, were donated at the quarterly blood drive sponsored by The St. Mary of Huntley Council #11666, in cooperation with Heartland Blood Centers headquartered in Aurora and the generous participation by parishioners of St. Mary Catholic Church in Huntley and other local residents. The previous donation record was 77 pints set in 2008.

STATE WARDEN

Ken Mendel mendel1937@yahoo.com

This will be my last input to the State Newsletter as my term as your State Warden will end on June 30. I do have a few closing thoughts that I hope you will find interesting. This has been a very satisfying year. I have had the opportunity to see many of our councils in Illinois up close. While your Illinois State Council does a lot of good and receives a lot of credit, we are only able to do this because of the thousands of dollars that we receive from individual councils and assemblies. Our Charities funds roll in from councils & assemblies for General Assistance, Newman, and Intellectual Disabilities. Clearly, the most important work of the Knights of Columbus takes place in the councils. It is through the efforts of well organized councils that the dream of Father McGivney is being fulfilled today. If we are to continue successfully down that path, we will need to change something else that I have observed during this year. Too many of my Brother Knights look like me..... wrinkled old men with white hair. When I joined the Order in Ohio in 1968 there were not nearly as many old guys at my council meetings. At your next meeting, scan the members present and ask yourself, "What will this room look like in ten years? How many of these Brothers will still be active members working the spaghetti dinners, pancake breakfasts, and Tootsie Roll drives?" We

have a problem, Brothers. Many councils are not attracting enough younger men to assure their survival. We must do better or Father McGivney's dream will not be fulfilled. Newly formed councils have an abundance of young men. It is the older established councils that are aging. This trend can be reversed, but only if you recognize it as a problem. Seek out new blood for your council, or all you will have left is tired blood.

One final observation. In our monthly meetings of State officers, I have been very impressed with the fiscal responsibility of my fellow officers. They take very seriously their responsibility to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to their care by the Illinois Council of the Knights of Columbus. There have been occasions when some postage expenses have been higher than normal. Usually this occurs when items are submitted for mailing too late to utilize bulk rate postage. Other situations have arisen because the State Office gets behind and has to rush things out all at once. These situations will be minimized now that the State Office has been rearranged, an additional part-time employee has been added, and soon we will once again have a full-time Office Manager. At the end of the fraternal year, you will see that we have still come in under budget on expenses. All in all, you can be proud of the way my fellow State officers have cared for the funds you have entrusted to them. I know they will continue to behave this way.

Judy and I have enjoyed serving you this year, and we look forward to more years serving the Knights of Columbus in less high profile roles. Thanks again for the opportunity.

Fraternally,

Ken

Immediate Past State Deputy
Philip J Barone

SUCCESSION PLANNING – BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

The Illinois Jurisdiction is on the verge of making history as we move closer to a Fourth straight year of attaining "Circle of Honor" Status. This is the highest honor that the Supreme Council can bestow on a Jurisdiction. Congratulations to State Deputy James Bednar and his excellent team of Officers, Directors, Chairmen, District Deputies and most importantly you, the Brothers of the Councils throughout Illinois that make it happen. "What Works, Teamwork" – has been the successful plan for this year.

The measurement of the success of a Fraternal Year of the Council can be judged by varying factors. The one factor that is not a variable is the "Growth" of the council. Every Grand Knight has as a goal to have more Knights as part of his council at the end his term than when he took office. This is a commitment that included every member of the council. It is now time to review that commitment and take the necessary steps for achievement of this important goal.

A "Great Leader" is known by his many abilities and accomplishments but rarely is it mentioned that he also has the foresight to leave in his place the foundation for continued success. The basis for this strong foundation is the acceptance of others to take on the responsibilities and continue the work necessary for success.

I ask each of you in "Leadership" positions: Grand Knight, District Deputy or State Family to start assembling a list of your replacements and enacting those steps that will ensure a strong future for the Knight of Columbus.

Grand Knights should have already assembled a "Nominating Committee" headed by Past Grand Knights and taking an active role in providing for the succession of his council officers. He should also take serious the consideration to move forward to the role of District Deputy and other State Family Offices. **Contact your District Deputy and advise him of your willingness to accept further responsibility in the Order.**

District Deputies should be contacting their Grand Knights and other members of their councils that have the potential to be future District Deputies. **District Deputies in their 4th year have an obligation to forward recommendations for their replacement to the State Deputy and Diocesan State Officer each year. District Deputies can assign potential future District Deputies as District Wardens.**

State Family Members should also be advising the State Deputy of their future intentions. They should also be assisting in the review and advising of potential District Deputies and State Family positions and advising the State Deputy accordingly.

It is vital to the development and stability of the Knights of Columbus that each of us in "Leadership Roles" recognize and accept the challenge to ensure that the future is placed in "Good Hands" to continue the work of Fr. Michael J McGivney.

We ALL have the opportunity and resources to achieve OUR Goal, making the Knights of Columbus in Illinois an Active, Strong, and Vibrant Fraternity that is second to none. Each of US must make that commitment to our councils that will add new members this just this fraternal year but every year. The time is NOW and the person that is needed is YOU.

With ALL of our efforts the Knights of Columbus in Illinois will continue to be a Leader and the Bright Jewell of the Order.

Through your efforts the Knights of Columbus in your Parish Community and the Great Jurisdiction of Illinois will continue to have a bright future and be an Experience of a Lifetime for every member and their family.

Vivat Jesus,

Philip J Barone – Immediate Past State Deputy

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Michael Tellman, PGK and Trustee, of Fr. Thomas Carmody Council #6498, Normal, IL presented \$1000 scholarships for Central Catholic High School of Bloomington, IL to Madeline Herman (left) and Ariel Casper (right) recent graduates of Epiphany Catholic Grade School of Normal, IL.

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Gary Schmidt Schmidt.Gary@comcast.net

This is the fun and the most trying part of the whole fraternal year. Membership is headed to the peak or in railroad language "the train is on schedule and almost to the station". Council charity funds are being sent in and with the economy in its present condition, we all should be proud. Programming has had a lot of activity, especially in late March thru the middle of April, with the program awards at the state convention. For those who did not attend, the results are as follows: **Church Activity**—Council 14024 in Sherman, **Community Activity**—Council 1057 in Mattoon, **Council Activity**—Council 8002 in Winfield, **Family Activity**—Council 14171 in Naperville, **Pro-Life Activity**—Council 14562 in Steger and **Youth Activity**—Council 2197 in Staunton. I would like to thank all, who submitted activity forms and to all "Keep up the good work". These activities not only won they're category at the state level, but all have been nominated for Supreme Program of the Year.

Our year is not over until June 30 and membership, charities and programming are still a big part of the awards yet to be given. All have separate awards and then there is the Challenge, which will be the best of the best and have met the challenge of completing all programs. We can see membership as reported to Supreme, Charities as sent in and recorded by the state office, but Programming has to rely on the Spirit of Illinois Awards tally sheet that is filled out by the Grand Knight and signed by him and the District Deputy. It is not hard to do and when submitted and reviewed, could be the final step in making the 2009-2010 fraternal year a great success for your council, membership and officers. Please submit before June 30, 2010 and for all Grand Knights, please make your members aware of the summer activities.

Thank you to all who attended the state convention and I hope you had a good time and it was worthwhile.

Vivat Jesus,
Gary Schmidt



LADIES AUXILIARY Mabear1234@aol.com 630-393-1891

CHAIRLADY'S CORNER

The Knights of Columbus State Convention has come and gone for 2010. Thank you to all who attended the "Meet & Greet" Ladies Hospitality and Special Awards session on May 2nd. It was great to place a face with a name. Thanks, Ladies! Congratulations to all the winners for this year! The judges were: Sister of St. Francis, 2 seniors, City Clerk, and a Special Ed assistant. I chose not to be on the judging committee. Collectively these judges deliberated on the entries for 8 hours. The following is a list of winners:

- State Auxiliary of the Year**-Holy Ghost #4977 Palatine President-Juliana Tragasz
- State Lady of the Year**-Darlene Rehkemper, #1580 Highland President-Kyle Klostermann
- Program & Service Activity**-President-Karen Ernst
- Church**-St. Irene #6710 Warrenville (Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass & Feast Celebration)
- Community**-President-Nancy Diak Tri-Cities, #1098 Granite City (Special support of Retired Sisters of Divine Providence)
- Auxiliary/Council**-St. Irene #6710 Warrenville President-Karen Ernst (Numerous activities and functions held as a team)
- Charity/Fundraiser**-St. Irene #6710 Warrenville President-Karen Ernst (Bunco Fundraisers held to purchase a Defibrillator for St. Irene Church)

On behalf of the Illinois State Council recognition was extended to Romayne Badyniak for her six years of service from 2003-2009 as State Ladies Auxiliary Chairperson. A planter from the State and a special personal gift was presented. **Thank you, Romayne.**

Scrapbook plaque winners:

<u>Class</u>	<u>(# members)</u>	<u>LadiesAuxiliary</u>	<u>Place</u>
A	(1-50)	Holy Ghost Palatine #4977	1 st
A	(1-50)	Ladies Springfield #4179	2 nd
A	(1-50)	Mater Christi, Chicago #14284	3 rd
AA	(51-99)	Ladies Auxiliary, Warrenville #6710	1 st
AAA	(100 +)	Tri-Cities Ladies, Granite City #1098	1 st

Public Relations (certificate only)

Tri-Cities Ladies Auxiliary #1098 Granite City (examples of what and how advertised activities)

Presidents, let's have more auxiliaries participate in competition in 2010-2011.

Honorable Mention certificates were an addition to this year's awards.

Congratulations to the following special ladies:

Cleo Schnefke-Tri-Cities Council Auxiliary#1098, Granite City (President 3 terms and a very dedicated member)

Patricia Kippes-Mary's Millennium, #12801 Streamwood (Charities chosen for this year was phenomenal)

Cathy Berkos-Ladies Auxiliary #6710, Warrenville (Creation of a State map project for Meet & Greet session)

Penny Klama-St. Ansgar Parish Ladies Auxiliary #14435 Hanover Park

(Great idea to create a Ladies Auxiliary patch for the State)

Stella Howard-Fr. Michael McGivney #8002 Winfield

(Reactivation of an auxiliary in less than a month and

Holding a special "Valor Sew In" for the wounded veterans)

Thank you to State Deputy's wife Pat Bednar for assisting me with the awards presentations. Also, thank you to the following volunteers for Meet & Greet: State Secretary's wife, Linda Spada, State Treasurer's wife, Diane Kinyon, State Advocate's wife, Terry Doerfler, Immediate Past State Deputy's wife, Alice Barone, State Membership Director's wife, Laurie Mann, State General Program Director's wife, Barbara Schmidt, Family Life Activities Chairman's wife, Carolyn Werner, State Newsletter Editor's wife, Linda Fuggiti, Cathy Berkos, Penny Klama, and set up helpers. If I missed a name I apologize but know that you were needed and appreciated.

Congratulations to each and every one of you that participated by helping at some charitable activity or fundraiser whether you are the president, officer or a dedicated auxiliary member. Thank you for all you do and you are appreciated by the Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus.

Grand Knights, District Deputies, and Financial Secretaries-

If I mailed a formation trifold to you, then please give me an update if election and or installation has been held yet. If not, let me know how the formation is going. I will contact you if I don't hear from you by **June 20th deadline**. Please keep me informed. Do they have a timeframe of formation? A little information is better than none. I'm trying to do a good job but I need your help.

Congratulations! to President Debra Matson for formation of an auxiliary in Council #1704, Newton. In one evening the Grand Knight and officers held the formation meeting, nomination and election of Ladies Auxiliary officers. Wow! That's terrific. Great job Grand Knight Daniel Kerner and President Debra Matson. The installation will be held in June. Welcome aboard! As our State Deputy Jim Bednar says.

Presidents', don't forget the "Lady of the Month" and "Lady of the Year" certificates are available from the State office or myself upon your request. Recognize that special lady at your meeting.. She will appreciate being noticed for her volunteer services.

Sandy Decker
State Ladies Auxiliary Chairlady



STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
Stephen G. Mann pgksgm@yahoo.com

It is hard to believe but a year has come and gone. Time does fly when you are having fun. As I write this there are 72577 Brother Knights in the State of Illinois. I want to thank everyone who worked so hard this year to help the Order grow. The more Knights we have, the better able we are to serve our Church, our Priests and our Community.

Many Councils are putting the final touches on becoming a Star Council. To them I say Congratulations! As we start the new Fraternal Year now is the time for your council to plan on becoming a Star Council. Starting in July have a month by month plan in place. Schedule one Major Degree for the year and at least one First Degree each quarter. Have your Blitz dates set. Incorporate your programming with recruiting. Every council function can become a recruiting drive. Remember to keep your paper work up to date. Remember next year your Council can be a Star.

I want every Brother Knight to think back to when you joined the Order. How happy you were that someone had asked you to

become a part of this great organization. Return the favor, ask a friend to join. Take a look at your family. Is your father, brother, uncle, or son a member? Remember the easiest way to get them to join is to JUST ASK THEM. Think about all the new friends you have made and the great times you have had. The Knights of Columbus is truly The Experience of a Lifetime. Share it!

During this past year I have had the pleasure to travel to many different places in this great state. Together with my wife, we have visited many cities and the councils located in them. We have met many new people that we are now happy to call friends. At every location we always received a warm welcome. I want to say Thank You to each and every Brother Knight in this Great State. It is because of you that I am proud to say "I belong to the Greatest Organization in the World!"

Vivat Jesus,

Steve

STATE CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR
Bob Bukowski rebukowski@earthlink.net

I want to share with you a report from Dave Breen, Vice President of Area Management, Special Olympics, Illinois and our partnership with the just completed Special Olympics Illinois Spring Games.

**Knights of Columbus and
Special Olympics Illinois Partnership
Spring Games; April 23, 2010 – May 8, 2010**

Volunteerism: There were 416 Illinois Knights of Columbus members representing 60 Councils that helped in a variety of ways to serve the 9,601 athletes that participated at Spring Games throughout the state in 2010.

Leadership: There were many examples of leadership, especially from volunteers new to Special Olympics. The Knights of Columbus members served as Honor Guards, Hospitality Area volunteers, Event Leadership volunteers, Food volunteers, Awards Photographers and Awards Presentation volunteers.

The Knights of Columbus are starting to branch out to other events and take leadership roles in Bowling tournaments, Basketball and support of fundraisers at the Area level. This will be the 2nd year of the event named for Foz Ryan and honoring the late Jody Trover; last year it raised \$16,000. Over the past three years State Deputy Jim Bednar has lead the Pontiac Knights of Columbus Council #854 versus the Futures Unlimited Eagles Basketball team that participates in Special Olympics. Even though the Knights are 0 – 3 they have collected donations that go back to the Futures team. What a great way to connect fellowship and support, thanks Jim! There will also be three Trivia Knight Fundraisers thanks to the support of the Knights.

The Lifetime Achievement Award this year goes to a Knights of Columbus member and longtime Special Olympics volunteer and supporter Jim Comerford of Decatur. I would also like to thank Bill Spainhour, Ed Feeney, Frank Ryan, State Deputy Jim Bednar and all the past and current state officers for the leadership and guidance in making the on-going partnership such a positive experience for our athletes, volunteers and staff.

Sponsorship: The Knights of Columbus, due to a very generous donation of \$100,000 to the Area programs, were Gold Medal Sponsors at each Spring Games. The Knights were recognized through banners, which also listed each council as well as the Knights of Columbus logo displayed on each of the volunteer T-Shirts. All members were recognized at the Opening Ceremonies and announcements were made throughout the day regarding the Knights of Columbus generosity.

In addition to the sponsorship, the Knights of Columbus still contribute a significant amount locally through donations to the Area programs. In 2009, there were 104 Knights of Columbus councils that contributed an additional \$98,968.70 to the Areas above and beyond the Gold Medal Sponsorship of \$100,000; we are currently tracking well this year with 49 Councils contributing \$46,117! We thank the individual councils for their continued support and leadership in the civic and fraternal arena.

Partnership: Over the past five years of the partnership Special Olympics has been able to serve 47,920 athletes at Knights of Columbus sponsored Spring Games. During that same time frame there have been 248 councils with over 2,140 members represented and documented as volunteers at the 85 Spring Games that have taken place. We are hopeful this has resulted in greater awareness and membership for the Knights of Columbus Councils. We are also hopeful that this great partnership will continue on into the future.

I encourage every brother knight to take the opportunity to get involved and volunteer to serve at a Special Olympics event. There are many opportunities throughout the year.

Vivat Jesus,

BOB

Congratulations



*to our newly elected 2010-2011
State Warden
Jerry Bevignani
Robert P. Connelly Council 5918*

**THANK YOU
ELECTED STATE OFFICERS**



2009-2010 Elected State Officers



**STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIR. /
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Robert J. Fuggiti

no5025@aol.com

I would like to start out with an apology for the lateness of the last newsletter. It seems that the loss of Don LaJoie and the changeover to printing the newsletter ourselves lead to a big delay in the mailing. Hopefully we can learn from this misgiving. It's very important in life to look ahead especially at a time that our councils are about to finish this fraternal year. We all need to look ahead.

In July some of the council's will start off with new leadership. This means a new Grand Knight. Let me admonish you now. If you think you can do it all then you will have a rude awakening. Our State Deputy Jim Bednar expresses how we should handle our Councils with *"WHAT WORKS - TEAM WORK"*, a very simple and short explanation of how to run a council. The Word Team means that you have to have confidence in your officers. Each of us a critical part, each doing his job to make the **TEAM WORK**.

Organize and Document what you do. Use a calendar book and timeline schedule as your compass. A simple loose leaf

notebook can be your best friend and also a guide for the next person who is assigned to take over for you.

Remember the K.I.S.S approach and I'm sure you will be successful.

Vivat Jesus, *Bob F*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Insurance report:
Review what's important to you:

Spring is a time for renewal. It is also a perfect opportunity to take a few moments to consider your goals and what's important to you and your loved ones. Are you planning to welcome a new child or sending one to college this fall? Are you looking forward to retirement? Will you have enough money to accomplish these goals? What would happen if something happened to you?

Schedule an appointment to meet with your professional, full-time Knights of Columbus field agent today. If you've had any life changes since you last bought a policy (new home, new child, new job, etc.), chances are your life insurance needs to be updated. Maybe an annuity or long-term care plan suits your situation. Whatever the case, your agent will work with you to make sure you have the coverage you need at a price you can afford.

A meeting with your agent is a commitment to your future and your family's well-being

**(Article taken from www.kofc.org)*

Register to Join the Guild

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Father McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July- August, and is sent free to Guild members. To join the Guild go to:

<http://www.fathermcgivney.org/>



May their Souls and all the Souls of the Faithfully Departed Rest In Peace. AMEN.

Council #	Name	Yrs.
324	James W. McKeeever, P.G.K.	54
665	Edward H. Amoni	19
665	Douglas E. Myers	24
665	Frank H. Schniederjon	61
665	John W. Kiefer	55
665	Loren E. Michell	52
731	Alvah Wenner, P.G.K.	58
731	Andrew Campbell	33
731	Carl Cepon	43
790	Archie "Buck" Hill	38
790	James E. "Jim" Wilkinson	52
790	James P. Madara	29
790	James W. Barron	17
790	Jerome M. "Jerry" Trainor	33
790	John G. Kacmar	2
790	John J. Mohan Jr.	57
790	Leo S. Canale	23
790	Maruice J. Killian	56
790	Raymond W. "Ray" Schmitt	29
790	Richard J. "Dick" Berry	28
790	Robert F. Greening	8
790	Thomas R. Flood	62
1098	Eugene Koehler	17
1775	Fredrick Brester	18
1911	Alfred W. Pankow	49
1911	Ralph W. Janelli, P.G.K.	49
2869	Frank Santel	44
2869	Norval A Kreke	37
4836	James P. Simmons	6
4836	Nick L. Lyons	51
4836	Raymond J. Hanch	51
6165	Steven E. Stahlmann	1
7989	Eugene P. "Pedo" Vieceli	28
8087	Grover J. Tip sword	28
8087	John E. Lind	14
9893	Mario R Aviso	9
13216	Joseph R. Micheletto	56

Retiring DDs & Award winners



**Illinois State Council April 29 thru May 1,
2010 Convention in Peoria, IL**



WHAT WORKS - TEAM WORK
 ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
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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