



Knightly News

Greetings From the Grand Knight

We have had a very busy fall with successful Youth and Children programs - the first ever Soccer Challenge, Children's Halloween Party, and Children's Christmas Party. Special thanks to Brother Rob Ratz for spearheading these events. In November, the 26th Annual Turkey Trot led by PGK Richard "Foz" Ryan was another tremendous success this year. Over 240 runners participated. Thank you again "Foz" for your contributions. Also in November, Father James Deiters conducted our annual Memorial Mass where we remembered all of our deceased Sisters and Brothers especially those who died this past year - Eleanor Dove, Mary Huskey, Gerry Munie, Cletus Becherer, Robert Gehrs, Frank Kmetz, William Lehman, and Paul Tonnies. A grateful thank you to the St. Nicholas Church volunteer choir led by Sister Judy McKenna which was magnificent. In December, Chaplain Monsignor William Hitpas led our annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Mt. Calvary which was well attended. Thanks to all of you for your continued support and especially to Brother Wayne Portell who, along with his wife, Kathy, planned the Memorial Mass and Wreath Laying Ceremony.

We must remain very committed to vocations. The annual Illinois Knights of Columbus Council Vocations raffle started this month. There is a separate article covering the raffle in the newsletter.

As we approach Christmas, let us seriously reflect on the many blessings we have as individuals, as families, as Knights of Columbus, and as citizens of this great, free nation that we live in. And as we give thanks during this holiday season, please remember and pray for our women and men in uniform who are preserving our freedom, many who are in harms way serving around the world.

Thank you for all you do in our church, community, council, family and youth endeavors. God Bless You. Wishing you a holy and blessed Christmas and best in the New Year.

Fraternally yours,
David Handel
Grand Knight

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Charitable Activities Goals 2005-2006

The following shows O'Fallon Council 4239's Charitable Activities Goals for 2005-2006. These amounts are calculated using our Council's Active Membership total as of April 30, 2005. For this year, our goals are based on 692 total members, less 22 Inactive Insurance Members, for a total of 669 members.

Activity	2005-2006 Goal
Newman	\$ 3,345.00
General Assistance	\$ 735.90
Vocations	\$ 1,338.00
MR/LD	\$20,140.73

Newman Fund goal is \$5.00 per Active Member. General Assistance Fund Goal is \$1.10 per Active Member. Vocations Fund Goal is \$2.00 per Active Member. MR/LD Fund Goal is calculated using a three-year history average plus 3%.

4th Degree

The Pope John Paul I Assembly is open to members of the Knights of Columbus who have been a member for at least one year, and are a Third Degree member in good standing. Please consider reaching even further with your faith by joining. We foster patriotism through our works and Color Corps. Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. Initiation is \$65 and annual dues are \$15.

We will be hosting a Fourth Degree exemplification for new members to join April 29, 2006 at The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL. Please make plans to attend.

Please contact David Dempsey at 667-0355 or DavidKofC@aol.com to RSVP for any of the events above.

Blood Drives...Give the Gift of Life.

I want to thank all of our Knights and Ladies who have made blood donations at our bimonthly Red Cross blood drives. In 2005, your spirit of giving has yielded over 150 units of blood. Please keep up the good work in 2006!

Our scheduled dates for the New Year are January 27, March 24, May 26, July 28, September 29, and November 24. If you are not currently donating, I'd like to encourage you to take a few minutes out of your busy schedule and give the gift of life in 2006.

A.J. Adams
Community Activities Director

Scrooge Didn't Believe

We can all remember the story of Scrooge and his failure to believing the spirit of Christmas. To all but the Scrooges of the world, the celebration of the birth of Christ brings with it a warm feeling of family ties, a joy and pleasure that our faith brings to others.

That same warm feeling comes from owning life insurance. Just knowing that, because of what you have planned, your loved ones will have joys and comforts for years to come if something should happen to you.

I don't think Scrooge would have believed in life insurance either, but men of good will do. And the world is a better place because of them. Through life insurance, they know that comfort and security will not be for only one day, but, instead, a gift that will provide for their loved ones for years to come.

This Christmas, give a gift of security and protection. Happy and Holy Holidays to all of you!

David T. Dempsey P.G.K.
Field Agent

BINGO

every Sunday night
beginning at 6:30 p.m.
at the Knights of Columbus Hall

Columbus Club News

Some exciting events will be occurring at the KC Hall in December. Please take advantage of these fun opportunities to take a break from your busy Christmas hustle and bustle to relax in the Lounge and share some Christmas cheer with your Brother Knights!

Illinois Fighting Illini vs. Missouri Kittens...errr, Tigers. Wednesday, December 21; Doors open 6 p.m., Tip-off, 7p.m. - The Lounge is the place to be for the annual Border War. Additional big screen TVs, snacks and heavy hors d'oeuvres throughout the game, draft beer and soda, and party favors are included. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students. (As always, there will be a \$5 surcharge for those wearing Black and Gold or sporting a Tiger Tail...just kidding). This event has become an 'Instant Classic' and should be again this year. No matter what the rankings say, this game is always a blast. This year, show your support of 'THE CHIEF'. Everyone sporting a Chief Illiniwek image will be entered into a raffle for a ridiculous amount of cash and prizes. Come down, take a few hours out of your last minute Christmas shopping and party with your fellow Illini and Mizzou fans.

Customer Appreciation Day. Saturday, December 24. Come say Merry Christmas to all of your friends and bartenders at the Club's annual customer appreciation day on Christmas Eve. The Lounge opens at noon and a full spread of heavy hors d'oeuvres will be available to munch on throughout the day. The Lounge will close at 6p.m.

New Years Eve Party with Lang & McClain - Come ring in 2006 at the Hall with Lang & McClain. Good tunes, good friends, and good times. 7p.m. - Close. Admission includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and a Champagne toast at midnight. Make your advanced reservations with one of the bartenders or Manager Bill Bronnbauer at the Club. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

Thanks again for your continued patronage and support!

A.J. Adams
Columbus Club President

Memorial Mass

O'Fallon Knights of Columbus Council 4239 celebrated a Memorial Mass on Nov. 17. Fr. James Dieters celebrated the mass in remembrance of all deceased Brother Knights and Ladies Auxiliary members with special intentions for the Ladies, Gerry Munie, Mary Huskey, and Eleanor Dove and our Brothers Frank M. Kmetz, Robert E. Lehman, Cletus Becherer, Robert N. Gehrs, and Paul R. Tonnies.

Approximately 100 relatives, friends and Brother Knights attended. A special thanks to all who assisted with the special evening.

P. Wayne Portell
Church Activities Director

Annual Vocations Raffle

In the very near future the 2005-2006 Knights of Columbus Illinois State Council Vocation Support raffle ticket booklets will be mailed to each of you. Specific instructions will also be included. As in the past, you will receive two booklets, each containing 15 tickets. When you sell all 15 tickets per booklet at \$1.00 each, you will return \$12.00 to the Council and can keep the remaining \$3.00. Please support this effort. The monies we collect allow us to support our seminarians in the Belleville Diocese.

David Handel, GK
Vocations Chairman

Squires Report

It has been a busy November for our Circle. We helped with the Turkey Trot, serving drinks and helping on the running course as guides. Chief Squire Adam Hicks and Nick Ashbaker served at the Annual Memorial Mass and we will be cleaning up the Shrine to the Unborn at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in time for the Annual Wreath laying service. Again, the participation level of the Squires Circle is incredible. We have a new project that Chief Squire Adam Hicks announced, the young men are adopting a soldier in Iraq. This program is sponsored by WIL 92.3 radio. Your young men arrived at our last meeting with several items to send to Kevin Johnson, our soldier, the amount was just awe-inspiring. We will continue to support Kevin while he is in Iraq. The boys also wrote him a letter and encouraged him to email us with any needs he might have. We are committed to supporting Kevin for his entire time in Iraq.

We are also adopting a family for Christmas. We did this last year and just had to do it again. Too many people in need are in our own community. The family is in O'Fallon, has six children and the Squires will deliver by providing Christmas presents to them.

It's been a great 2005 for our Circle, I am very proud of these young men. I hope you are too.

Dan Ashbaker
Chief Counselor

KC Scholarships

Council 4239 has six \$500 scholarships to be awarded in 2006.

Four \$500 scholarships for graduating high school seniors. Eligibility requirements (Graduating senior, daughter or son of KC member or deceased member, complete application) and application forms can be obtained at regularly scheduled meetings or from the Grand Knights office.

Two \$500 scholarships for currently enrolled college students. Eligibility requirements (continuing student at an accredited technical school or a 2 or 4 year college, university) and application forms can be obtained at regularly scheduled meetings or from the Grand Knights office.

Completed applications will be available Feb. 1, 2006 & must be submitted no later than 7 p.m., April 1, 2006.

P. Wayne Portell
Church Activities Director

New Years Eve Party

KC Hall from 7 p.m. - Close
Entertainment by Lang & McClain
\$15 in advance
\$20 at the door

Make reservations with Manager Bill Bronnbauer
or one of the bartenders

Coming Events

<u>Dec. 10</u> Children's Christmas Party - 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Jan. 4</u> Squires Meeting - 7 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Feb. 4</u> Youth Local Spelling Bee - 10 a.m. KC Hall
<u>Dec. 10</u> Council Christmas Party - 6:30 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Jan. 5</u> Council Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Feb. 16</u> Council Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall
<u>Dec. 15</u> Council Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Jan. 17</u> Council Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Feb. 23</u> Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 p.m. KC Hall
<u>Dec. 21</u> Bragging Rights Party - 6 p.m. Illinois vs. Missouri basketball KC Hall	<u>Jan. 26</u> Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 p.m. KC Hall	<u>March 24</u> Blood Drive - 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. KC Hall
<u>Dec. 22</u> Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Jan. 27</u> Blood Drive - 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. KC Hall	<u>April 29</u> Fourth Degree Exemplification The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows
<u>Dec. 24</u> Columbus Club Customer Appreciation Day - noon to 6 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Feb. 1</u> Squires Meeting - 7 p.m. KC Hall	<u>May 26</u> Blood Drive - 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. KC Hall
<u>Dec. 31</u> New Years Eve Party - 7 p.m. to close KC Hall	<u>Feb. 1</u> Fourth Degree Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall	<u>July 28</u> Blood Drive - 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. KC Hall
<u>Jan. 4</u> Fourth Degree Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Feb. 2</u> Council Meeting - 8 p.m. KC Hall	<u>Sept. 29</u> Blood Drive - 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. KC Hall

Notice to All Brother Knights

Brother Knights:

At our Nov. 3, 2005 meeting, a motion was made from the floor to transfer \$5,000 from the Council general fund to the Columbus Club, Inc. for the purpose of building maintenance, debt retirement, or other such expenditures that may be deemed necessary by the Columbus Club Board.

This notice is in accordance with our Knights of Columbus Council 4239 by-laws and a final vote will be taken at the Dec. 15, 2005 business meeting. If you wish to vote on this matter, please attend.

David Handel
Grand Knight

Something To Think About

Brothers, Past State Deputies Ronald A. Ziemba and William L. Brown asked that the following be read at a business meeting or social. I elected to include it in this newsletter. The last of the ode tells the story of why we must pray for vocations.

David P. Handel, Grand Knight

A Priest's Dilemma

If a priest preaches over 10 minutes, he's long winded.
 If his sermon is short, he didn't prepare it.
 If the parish funds are high, he's a businessman.
 If he mentions money, he's money mad.
 If he visits the parishioners, he's noseey.
 If he doesn't, he's being snobbish.
 If he has fairs and bazaars, he's bleeding the people.
 If he doesn't, there isn't any life in the parish.
 If he takes time in confession to help and advise sinners,
 he takes too long.
 If he doesn't, he doesn't care.
 If he celebrates liturgy in a quiet voice, he's a bore.
 If he puts feeling into it, he's an actor.
 If he starts mass on time, his watch is fast.
 If he starts late, he's holding up the people.
 If he tries to lead the people in music, he's showing off.
 If he doesn't, he doesn't care what mass is like.
 If he decorates the church, he's wasting money.
 If he doesn't, he's letting it run down.
 If he's young, he's not experienced.
 If he's old, he ought to retire.
 But if he dies, . . . there may be no one to replace him!

My Dear Brother Knights:

This is why we need your help in supporting the young men and women studying to be our future priests and sisters. Please don't turn your back on them. They need our help!

Something To Think About, continued

Brothers, for those of us who remember the comedian, Red Skelton, here is his take on the Pledge of Allegiance. Something to think about as we recite the Pledge during our meetings.

David P. Handel, Grand Knight

What the Pledge of Allegiance Means

I—Me; an individual; a committee of one.

Pledge—Dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

Allegiance—My love and my devotion.

To the Flag—Our standard; Old Glory; a symbol of Freedom; wherever she waves there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts, “Freedom is everybody’s job.”

Of The United—That means that we have all come together.

States—Individual communities that have united into 50 great states. Fifty individual communities with pride, dignity, and purpose. All divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that is love for country.

Of America—That wilderness continent which was tamed by our courageous forefathers, yet which remains to be protected for our children’s children’s children . . .

And to the Republic—Republic – a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people; and it’s from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For Which It Stands—Our flag is the symbol of that Republic.

One Nation Under God—An entity which is more than the sum of its 50 member states, so blessed by God.

Indivisible—Incapable of being divided.

With Liberty—Which is Freedom; the right of power to live one’s own life, without threats, fear, or some sort of retaliation.

And Justice—The principle, or qualities, of dealing fairly with others.

For All—which means, everybody, every citizen of this country is entitled to liberty and justice; it means it’s as much your country as it is mine.

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O'Fallon Knightly News
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Visit Our Web Site:
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