

# Knighly News



January 2007

Volume XIII, Issue 1

## Greetings from the Grand Knight

Happy New Year, Brother Knights and Ladies!!! I hope this newsletter finds you healthy and happy, and looking forward to a terrific 2007. And with this New Year I am asking each of you to think about why you are a Knight of Columbus.

Why are you a Knight? What does being a Knight mean? Is it attending meetings? Is it donating personal funds to charities? Is it volunteering to help your Brothers with different events? Is it volunteering to help others in the community? Is it being an officer or director of the Council or Club? I think it is all that and more.

O'Fallon Council 4239 has received numerous accolades over the years for our efforts to meet and exceed State K of C goals. We are well known among state of Illinois Knights of Columbus members for our generosity, hospitality, and fraternity. Yet, in our own Parishes and Community, we sometimes struggle to be recognized and appreciated for all of the wonderful things we do.

I became a Knight of Colum-

bus in 1991 when, volunteering at the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish picnic in South St. Louis, a friend asked if I would like to join the Knights. Of course I knew of the KC because my father had been a Knight for many years. Having moved numerous times, I just had not had the chance to join. My involvement with the Council on The Hill was limited. They were

*"In 1997, after Karen and I moved our family to O'Fallon, I transferred my membership. I quickly found out what it meant to be a Knight."*

basically a social group that had great Italian food at meetings! That was not what I was necessarily looking for. In 1997, after Karen and I moved our family to O'Fallon, I transferred my membership. I quickly found out what it meant to be a Knight.

There is a sense of friendship and unity in our Council rarely found elsewhere in organizations so large. The wonderful relationships between young and old, wealthy and not so wealthy, white collar and blue collar Knights

is simply amazing and the core reason for our success.

Spending time with one another at whatever the activity is essential. Accepting an individual as a Catholic gentleman in the service of the Heavenly Court is well understood as a member of 4239.

Being a Knight in O'Fallon, IL means doing charitable

work as a unified group to better those human lives that are not as fortunate. While we do have social activities we always remember that charity is the

cornerstone of everything we do.

I am proud to be a member of this Council and your Grand Knight. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting very soon. The best way to enjoy the friendship and unity our Council has to offer is to attend our Council meetings on the first and third Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. I look forward to seeing you there.

God Bless 4239,  
Jim Averkamp  
Grand Knight

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### Special points of interest:

- 82nd Annual International Bowling Tournament being held at St. Clair Bowl
- Corned beef and cabbage on menu for Spring Social
- Scholarships available for high school seniors and college students

## Squires Very Busy at End of 2006

December was a busy month for our Squires Circle. Again, we adopted a needy family for Christmas, found a new soldier in Iraq to adopt, presented a special donation to St. Clare Church for their "For Those That Need Our Help" Fund, and even found the time to have a Christmas Party.

Our family this year was in need of winter coats, hats and gloves. They had only one child, so we decided to buy three coats, one for each season. We also purchased toys and hand held electronic games, hats and gloves. Wal-Mart donated a \$50 gift card to help us make our funds go further, thank you O'Fallon Wal-Mart!

Our new soldier we adopted is from O'Fallon, his name is Steve Cramer. We sent three boxes of toiletries, snacks and batteries to him in Iraq. In all there were

more than 50 items sent. We have received an email from Steve thanking the Squires for their help. He shares the items we sent with his platoon. We emailed him back to let him know we are there for him and his platoon for the duration of their deployment. Many items were donated by the Squire members personally. These young men get it!!

At the Dec. 17 11:00 a.m. Mass, seven Squires presented Fr. Jim Dieters a check for St. Clare Church's "For Those That Need Our Help Fund". The Squires happened to find out that this fund was running low. At our December meeting it was decided that because our Christmas family was smaller and we had money available, we could help in some small way. This fund helps local people who struggle paying things like power bills, prescription drugs and other necessities.

Our young men thought this was an excellent way to continue to give to our faith community all year long, not just Christmas.

Your Squires presented a check for \$500 to Fr. Jim, Chief Squire K.C. Riedle presented the check after a presentation to the congregation by Deputy Chief Squire Nick Ashbaker.

One last word of thanks to all of the parents that have allowed their sons to be a part of our Circle. Also, a special thank you to Joe and Carolyn Wojtal, parents of Squire Nick Wojtal, who graciously hosted a Christmas Party for our Squires at their home.

Esto Dignus!!  
Dan Ashbaker  
Chief Counselor

## Christmas Party a Huge Success; Spring Social Set for March 15

We had one of the most successful Christmas parties yet!

About 110 Knights and their guests attended and 20 guests from the charities we support were on hand to receive their annual donation.

Many thanks to Roz Bianchi for all her

help in decorating the hall.

We will hold our annual Spring Social on Thursday, March 15 at the KC Hall. Wear your green! We will be serving corned beef and cabbage in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Tickets for the event must be purchased no later than Saturday, March 10.

For more information contact Steve Frisch at 624-5302. Tickets will also be available at the hall at the bar.

Cost will be \$5.00 and includes the meal, beer and soda. See you there!

Steve Frisch  
Family Surge Director

## Scholarships Available for H.S. Seniors and College Students

Council 4239 has six \$500 scholarships to be awarded in 2007. Four of them are for graduating high school seniors and two are for currently-enrolled college students.

Eligibility requirements for the graduating seniors include being a son or daughter of a KC member or deceased member and being a graduating senior. Application

forms can be obtained at regularly scheduled meetings from the Grand Knight's office or from the information board.

Eligibility requirements for continuing college students include continuing an education at an accredited technical school or a two or four-year college or university. Application forms can also be obtained

from the Grand Knight's office during regular meetings or from the information board.

Completed applications must be submitted no later than 7 p.m. on Apr. 5, 2007.

Wayne Portell  
Church Activities Director

# International Bowling Tourney in O'Fallon This Year

Our Council is co-hosting the 82nd Annual Men's and 12th Annual Ladies' Knights of Columbus International Bowling Tournament.

The tournament is scheduled to run March 30 through April 28 at St. Clair Bowl in O'Fallon.

This tournament is a major FUNdraiser for our Council, with the funds being earmarked to pay off the Facility Access Project.

If you are interested in bowling, contributing to our Ad Book, or volunteering at the bowling center or hospitality suite at the Drury Inn, please contact Stan Jones or Eugene Bringaze.

A list of available bowlers is being maintained to help fill teams, so if you are interested in bowling but need more team members or would like to join a team, we can help you contact a team captain.

If you have sponsored a Knight that has not shown up lately, this is a great event to encourage them to participate in and reintroduce them to some of the Knights of Columbus functions. They will have a great time, raise funds for a worthwhile cause, and meet many other Brother Knights from throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The Ladies Auxiliary has promised two teams. We should thank them for their participation and wish them the best of luck

bowling in the tournament.

Our Council's team are scheduled to bowl the second weekend of the tournament (April 13 and 14).

For those of you who do not have your teams finalized, please do so soon. Again, if you need any help filling out your team with one or two additional bowlers, please contact Stan Jones or Eugene Bringaze.

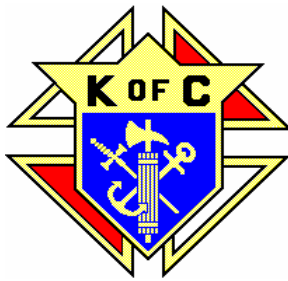
DGK Eugene Bringaze III  
980-9588

Advocate Stan Jones  
341-8170

## Calendar of Events

Jan. 25	Ladies Auxiliary meeting	KC Hall	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	Local Free Throw Contest	St. Clare School	12:00 noon
Feb. 1	Council meeting	KC Hall	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 3	KC Academy - O'Fallon hosts		10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	Super Bowl Sunday		
Feb. 7	Squires meeting	KC Hall	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 7	Fourth Degree meeting	KC Hall	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 9	Columbus Club Drawing	KC Hall	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 13	Columbus Club meeting	KC Hall	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Council meeting	KC Hall	8:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	District Free Throw Contest	St. Clare	12:00 noon
Feb. 21	Ash Wednesday		
Feb. 22	Ladies Auxiliary meeting	KC Hall	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 11	Regional Free Throw Contest		

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Taco Tuesday - \$5 all you can eat tacos</b>	<b>KC Hall</b>	<b>5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Wing Wednesday - \$5 all you can eat wings</b>	<b>KC Hall</b>	<b>5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>Fish Fry</b>	<b>KC Hall</b>	<b>4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sundays</b>	<b>Bingo</b>	<b>KC Hall</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>



Knights of Columbus Council 4239

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Web Site : [www.kc4239.org](http://www.kc4239.org)

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● Faith, Family, Fraternity

## Officers 2006 - 2007

### Officers

Chaplain	Msgr. William Hitpas	632-1797
Grand Knight	Jim Awerkamp	628-9258
Deputy Grand Knight	Eugene Bringaze	234-9166
Chancellor	Craig Halpin	628-6080
Warden	Bill Blair	222-6846
Treasurer	PGK Russ Thoman	624-6420
Financial Secretary	PGK Joe Mehallow	632-5457
Advocate	Stan Jones	234-3328
Lecturer	Joe Rademacher	632-6625
Inside Guard	Rob Ratz	622-0971
Outside Guard	Mike Raeber	628-8234
Trustee	Chris Pendegraft	624-8039
Trustee	Joe Schuster	632-1108
Trustee	PGK Bill Musser Sr.	632-2332
Insurance Agent	PGK David Dempsey	667-0355
Membership Director/Recorder	Rob Goodrich	624-1390

### Surge Directors

Council	Craig Halpin	628-8060
Community	A.J. Adams	632-0576
	Gerald Dunn	624-5152
Family	Stephen Frisch	624-5302
Church	P. Wayne Portell	632-7509
Youth	Robert Ratz	622-0971