

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

## Leadership Edition

Volume 17, Issue 17

Official Publication of MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

November, 2008

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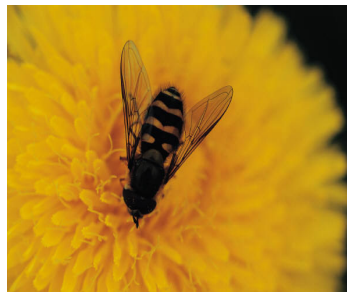
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### Lessons From Nature

When Fr. McGivney formed the Knights of Columbus in 1882, he created a **family, fraternal, insurance organization**. The fraternal aspect was local and was meant to give physical assistance to those in need. The insurance being **fraternal**. And in gathering nectar and making wax cells, caring for the queen and defending the hive aspect of the organization was created to provide for the storing honey, they have an **insurance program** that insures families of the Irish men in his parish. *Fraternal and insurance are inseparable components of the Order.* Prior to the formation of the KC's, the widows and families of deceased husbands and fathers were in destitute conditions almost immediately upon the death of the only breadwinner in the household. The KC insurance program was the only insurance available to those Irish families.

Even in nature, some creatures have an insurance program - especially in the winter when survival is critical. Deer congregate in areas called "yards" where food is more abundant. Most birds migrate south where they instinctively know food will be more abundant. Squirrels gather and store nuts to be found later during the winter months. **Honey bees are truly a family, fraternal, insurance organization.** A hive of Honey Bees functions as a very structured **family**. Different bees have different responsibilities such as gathering nectar to make honey,



As KC leaders, we have an obligation to make new members and others aware of the many low cost insurance and annuity products available. *We are the leaders of Fr. McGivney's family, fraternal insurance organization and we should lead by example. Every KC officer and key director should own a KC insurance policy or annuity.* It is the revenue from the insurance program that funds much of the administrative and charitable works of this great organization. The charitable contributions listed on the annual fraternal survey keeps Supreme in a favored tax status with the IRS. We need to complete those forms every year so our insurance products stay affordable and as leaders we need to promote those products. **Every KC should plan for the future - just like the Honey Bees.**

### State Soccer Challenge Results

By: Ken Ford



The 2008 Minnesota State Soccer Challenge is now history. We conducted the event on Saturday, October 11 at the Blaine Sports Center. 32 boys and 31 girls participated at the State Competition..

Thanks to Berry Hobbs for being the maestro behind the paperwork; Jan Wojtysiak for overseeing the banquet; and Ray Wojtysiak & Joe Konrardy for the help at the scoring table. This event would not have been possible without their help. Thanks also to brother Knights from Osseo and Dayton. Jesse Puhl & family and Paul & Mary Dahlmeier spent the entire day helping set up and then clean up. Thanks to other Knights that showed up and helped with scoring and judging. It is truly amazing what we can accomplish when we come together with like minds and one purpose. Together we gave the young people something that they were proud to be a part of. And the state winners are:

Name	Age	Council
Daniel Sampers	10	5569
Daniel Hayes	11	1076
Trey O'Day	12	10016
Terren Ausen	13	5569
John Hayes	14	1076
Julia Rupp	10	10016
Rebecca Rancour	11	4797
Emily Newman	12	9139
Alyssa Rupp	13	10016
Alison Yang	14	13096

The athlete with the best score was Alison Yang, who kicked for 240 points. Congratulations to all the winners and participants.

Thanks to the Brother Knights who helped promote the Soccer Challenge. It starts at the council level and without your help, we could not achieve what we do as a state.

Good ideas and suggestions were made about the soccer challenge. Share them with your District Deputy so he in turn can bring them to the attention of the Soccer Challenge Chairman in the future.

### Good News Bad News Update

By: Craig Larson, State Treasurer

**Good News:** Since my last update, Tootsie Roll (MR) checks for over \$19,000 were cashed.

**Bad News:** There are still over \$19,000 of uncleared checks.

Many of the uncleared checks are from the first batch of checks sent out in May. Please make an effort to find and distribute these checks ASAP.. **We don't want to keep the money, it is for the recipients.**

**Other News:** There are still un-cleared checks from the State Convention in May totaling nearly \$1100. Check with your convention delegates and get them cashed!

**FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS**  
**November 1, 2008—Council free throw kits should be ordered.**  
**November 27, 2008—Thanksgiving Day**  
**December 1, 2008—Midyear Reports Due to State Program Director**  
**December 5-7, 2008—Midwinter Meeting @ Bloomington KC Hall**

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### State Deputy Message

By: Gene Hippe, State Deputy

One third of our fraternal year is history and I haven't seen a lot of change in our membership numbers. At the mid-winter meeting Dec. 5-7, I expect the DD's to be able to report that all their councils are recruiting and we are real close to meeting 50% of our membership goal.

We can't be a viable and important organization in a society with a changing value system unless we remain strong. And remaining strong means recruiting new members. We have declined by over 3,000 members in the past 18 years. Last year we lost 813 members due to death. Every year we lose a similar number to death plus we have been losing over 400 to suspensions and withdrawals. Local councils need to recruit just to replace members who have died. Council's should always recruit more than they suspend. Last year, 49 of our councils did not recruit one new member.

I'm proud to be a KC and do not hesitate to ask others to join our organization. Join with me and lead by example. Sign up a new member before Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> and then make a New Year Resolution to bring in another by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Just think, if all the council officers, signed two members, most councils would far exceed their membership goal.

Many council's have now submitted their mid-year audit report, form 185 listing current officers and form 365 listing directors and chairmen. These forms must be completed and submitted even if they are late. Last year, 19 of our councils received the Star Council Award. This year we should have at least 50 councils – if you GK's submit the paper work and meet your membership goal

In Sept. and Oct., I participated at 16 officer training sessions in most of our out state areas. Our Supreme Regional Program Consultant, Grant Ertel, from Canada was the presenter. 180 KC's from 68 councils attended the presentations on officer training. It was a rewarding experience to be with so many of you in your home areas. I know the training will help each participating council have a more successful year.

### We Remember

By: Father Ron Huberty  
State Chaplain

The month of November always begins with two important feast days in the Church's Liturgical Year, All Saints on Nov. 1 and All Souls on Nov. 2. As we near the end of another Liturgical Year it is an important time to focus upon end times. It is never easy to face death. As people of faith we can be comforted by hope that is ours in Jesus Christ. The words of John 3:16 offer us this message of new life. "Yes, God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him may not die but may have eternal life." The gift of these feast days and at every Eucharist is that we remember and pray for those who have died.

As we pray in Eucharistic Prayer II, "Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again; bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence." Who are you remembering in a special way in this month of November? Who are the members of the Knights of Columbus that have died this past year that we want to hold up in prayer and trust that God will grant them the gift of light, happiness and peace in the eternal kingdom of God's glory forever and ever? We pray that they now share eternal life in the communion of Saints. May we pause in this special month to remember and thank God for those who have gone before us in faith and have inspired us by their witness of faith to help us live our Catholic faith to the best of our abilities.

### You've Got Mail

By: Joe Konrardy, State Warden

What's the fastest way to save money and time today? No, it's not a funny Wall Street deal; it is our own KC email system. Every email we can send eliminates the cost of postage, paper, ink and envelope. I've heard that it costs around \$3.00 these days to send a letter when you add a person's time. We are a volunteer group so let's not look at time but rather just raw costs. That makes the cost around 55-60 cents each. Again, we volunteer for a good cause so let's round it costs 50 cents each. Fifty cents times 250 Councils and 50 Districts (again, I'm rounding off for easy math) or more than \$150.00 per mailing, actually closer to \$160.00!

The cost of 2 years of email service was less than half that. But it will be a waste unless we **all** begin to use the state email system.

Thank you goes to the 13 District Deputies who have signed up as of Oct. 8.

With 59 Districts today in MN, my math says we are missing 46 District Deputies.

GKs and FSs, ask your DD if he is using the MN KC email system. Just about half of the year is gone already so what's the deal? There are ways to help even those who do not have email by allowing another Knight to receive the emails and pass them along.

The instructions are available to all on our web site at [www.mnknights.org/newsletter](http://www.mnknights.org/newsletter). I am here to provide assistance as needed for any DD, GK or FS who needs it! Call 952.472.0596 toll free in the metro and leave a message so that I can call you back toll free. Or send a no cost email to [statewarden@mnknights.org](mailto:statewarden@mnknights.org). Of course, you could also send me a letter, but that will cost you about 50 cents.



Check out our website:  
[www.mnknights.org](http://www.mnknights.org)

### Happy Thanksgiving



### Do You Have a Plan?

By: Tom Grinnell, District Master

Brother Knights / Sir Knights throughout the month of November many councils and assemblies honor their deceased brothers with a Memorial Mass. Families of the deceased are invited to participate. Fourth Degree honor guards are frequently a part of the program. Sometimes refreshments or dinner follows the liturgy. Every Assembly and Council has their unique way of honoring their dead and grieving with the family.

I have a question for you Brother Knights / Sir Knights. What arrangements have you made for your wake and funeral? Believe me you are not too young to die. Check out the obituary page of the newspaper. There is always someone younger than you listed, and for some of us there are many in that category.

I recently attended the funeral and wake of a Brother Sir Knight who was preceded in death by his wife. He was elderly and until the last few years and before the passing of his wife, he was active in the Fourth Degree and I assume also in his council. He participated in honor guards at wakes and funerals in his younger years. Most of his family had moved from the area and at his passing had no clue of the wake/funeral rituals of the Knights of Columbus or the Fourth Degree.

Yes my Brother Knights the Minnesota State Council of the Knights of Columbus does have a prayer service for recitation at a wake. It includes an opening prayer (Job 19/25-27) and opening hymn, Psalms 26, 116, and 121, several readings and General Intercessions, Concluding Words and a Closing Hymn. The service is beautiful. Check it out. My copy is with my Last Will and Testament.

Also, all Fourth Degree Knights are entitled to an honor guard at the wake and funeral. Fourth Degree Sir Knights should make their wake and funeral wishes known to their family. This may include being buried in their tux and social baldric with their cape of office displayed on the casket with their chapeau, white gloves and sword. Most assemblies have a ritual for wakes that include standing in honor and at guard at the head and foot of the casket, reciting a few prayers and presenting the family with a certificate of condolence. Presence at the funeral is usually limited to a guard of honor from the church to the hearse. Rituals may vary depending upon the wishes of the family.

Upon the death of a Fourth Degree Knight family members should contact a Sir Knight to discuss wake/funeral options. It is very helpful if the deceased has prearranged his wishes preferably in writing. I know we all say we aren't going to be around in spirit so they can do what they want. Please Brother Knights think of those you leave behind and make as many arrangements as possible for the sake of your family and friends.

## EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE

Date	Location	1st Degree	2nd Degree	3rd Degree	Host DD	Phone#
11/15/08	KC Hall/Owatonna	10:00 a.m.—1600	12—Ignatius	South Suburban	Tim Rice	507-451-3606
11/22/08	St. Eliz. A. Seton Sch. @ St. Cloud	9:30 a.m.—12822	11—Dist. 45	Metro	Pat Imgrund	320-253-6092
11/22/08	Holy Rosary @ Detroit Lakes	10:30 a.m.—3166	12—Lourdes	Korzendorfer	Rick Morgan	218-287-2262
12/13/08	Queen Of Peace @ Cloquet	10:00 a.m.—8337	11:30—Dist. 4	Korzendorfer	Mike Peplinski	218-728-5570
01/24/09	St. Vin. DePaul/Brooklyn Park	9:30 a.m.—9139	11:00 —Bob Nichols	Columbus	Jim Stalberger	763-424-8774

If you wish to host or have requested a major degree and do not see it here, please contact Dave Whatmuff, Director of Ceremonials (763) 420-4995, e-mail KCDegreesMN@gmail.com. If you plan to bring candidates to any exemplification, contact the host DD with the number of candidates via e-mail (DDxxMNKnights.org). To see a complete schedule of degrees, check the state web-site at www.mnknights.org.

### LEADERSHIP TIPS

**GK:** Delegate!! If you try to do everything yourself, you will burn out, plus no one will want to replace you because you made the position look too difficult. Share the load and teach others how easy it is to be a leader when everyone works together.

**Family Director:** Plan family activities and make sure a Family of the Month is selected each month and sent to Supreme so they are eligible for the monthly random drawing for 100 religious statutes.

**Church Activity Director:** A recent survey found that 88% of new members joined because they wanted to get more involved with their church. Get them involved with helping your pastor and the parish. Ask the pastor how your council can assist him.

**Retention Chairman:** 90% of those who lapse their membership did so because no one called them and got them involved in meaningful activities. 43% of the 90% will leave your council within 2-3 years – unless you get them involved.

**FS:** Don't do the work of the required retention committee! Ask the GK to have the committee contact members who have not paid their dues and remind them of the benefits they will be losing. Losses include a daily mass said for deceased members and spouses, a free accidental death insurance policy and loss of the free subscription to the Columbia, the largest Catholic magazine in the world

(cont.—column 2)

### Membership

By: Berry Hobbs, State Membership Director

Most, if not all of us, have had the opportunity to be with our own sons/daughters and grandsons/granddaughters. We feel their energy and vitality; new life brings vigor, enthusiasm, love, and the celebration of joy. Can we not equate the above with bringing in a new member to our council? As with our own children, would it not be appropriate to recruit him and offer him the full benefits of being a member of the Order?

We teach our children how to walk, talk, and do those things that lead them to grow and develop. With our new members, should we not consider their need to be assisted at attending meetings, helping them understand the meeting ceremonial? Is it not important for us to introduce them to the council membership, and immediately involve them in the work of the Council? Just giving a newly recruited member a little help and attention will assure the council of his devotion and commitment.

Please schedule frequent first degrees. Having this on your calendar will motivate your council membership to recruit new members. Invite other councils to bring their new members to the first degree. Membership is a 24/7 task. Have a Form 100 nearby at all times, for you never know when you might have the opportunity to sign up a new member.

If you schedule a single weekend per fraternal year for membership development, very little will happen. Membership directors must be present in the gathering space of the church on consecutive weekends. Open Houses are excellent events where the Membership Director, Grand Knights, and Insurance Agents make presentation to future knights. October was the month for the Membership Blitz, but if you did not have one, do so in November or December. It is never too late.

### Leadership Tips cont. fr. column 1

**GK:** Give each officer a list of 10-12 members to call 7-10 days before your monthly meeting. Have them ask if they need a ride. One council with a membership of 300 increased attendance by 40% over a three month period.

**GK:** Make a monthly schedule of activities for the entire year and have your five activity directors assign members to work on committees to implement the projects. Get your membership and officers involve.

**Attention: DD's & State Staff Members—December 5-7, 2008**  
Midwinter Meeting—Information will be coming soon!

### State Programs

By: Ray Wojtysiak, State Program Director

I have been receiving (and reading) many of your Council Newsletters by snail mail and email. I can see by the number of projects and activities that you are engaged in that you are up to your ears in work. I can even understand where some of you may have forgotten to send the required forms, or may have not been able to find the time to get them completed and sent. My Brother Knights and fellow leaders, I ask that you make the time do the required paperwork. You know what the saying is, 'the job isn't done until the paperwork is done'. The situation could get messy without the paperwork!  
**THINK ABOUT IT!**

The 2008 Soccer Challenge is history. I extend a hearty thank you to Ken Ford and all of you who stepped forward to volunteer to help make this competition run like a well oiled machine. I was very proud to be in attendance and be a part of the Knights of Columbus.

Did you have any participation from your council? Did you file the proper forms? Have you ordered the kits for Free Throw competition and the Poster and Essay contests?

How are you doing on membership? Have you taken every opportunity to encourage new membership in your councils? Do you have regular 1<sup>st</sup> Degrees planned in your council or district to get the candidates in before they think you have forgotten about them? Nearly one half of our fraternal year is over already! Have you met 50% of your membership and program goals? What do you mean, **NOT YET?** What are you waiting for? Christmas? That will be here way too soon!

Seriously, my brother Knights, we really need to get serious **NOW**. There are too many forms that are delinquent. There are **32 councils** that have not filed **form 185**, election of officers, and **87 councils** that have not filed **form 365**, appointed directors and chairmen as of October 12, 2008 according to the Supreme office.

**Attention Grand Knights!** You should have received the Mid Year Questionnaire recently. It is due back to me by December 1<sup>st</sup> in order for me to report the results to the State Officers at the Mid Winter Meeting. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request for information.

Are you honoring your members by selecting a Knight of the Month and Family of the Month and submitting the family's name to Supreme?

**Just a follow up to last month's article!** Has God been trying to get your attention? Remember, if you heard God's voice, please give State Deputy Gene Hippe a call. It could be one of the most rewarding calls you make. Your council, as well as all of the other councils in the district need you! We need you!

**MAY GOD FIND FAVOR IN ALL THAT YOU DO AND BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY!**

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### Attention: Financial Secretaries

Have you checked the Supreme website? They have upgraded the FS Member Management part of the website. It will help to streamline your duties with regard to financial transactions, and billing/payments of member dues. Minnesota is one of the first states to be "turned on" to the new program. Please take a few minutes and check it out.

### November GK Things To Do

Schedule and hold 1st Degree SOMN Fall Classic Nov 7-9  
Conduct Memorial Mass  
Conduct Religious Christmas Card Sale  
Complete Mid-year questionnaire  
Volunteer at the Fall Classic  
Remember Veterans Day Nov 11  
Help the less fortunate for Thanksgiving

### Per Capita Update

By: Ricardo Acevedo, State Secretary

Thank you to all councils that have paid this year's per capita. We still have councils that need to pay their per capita ASAP. If you have not received your per capita bill, please e-mail me ASAP. Remember to mail per capita payments to : Ricardo Acevedo, PO Box 2653, LaCrosse, WI 54602-2653. Checks should be made payable to the MN State Council.

Thank you for all your council support for the parishes in the state of Minnesota.

Remember to VOTE!!

### Round Table

By: Berry Hobbs, State Membership Director

Through the **Round Table** a council works closely with the pastor of each parish or mission that it serves. All Knights in a parish, regardless of their council affiliation, are part of the **Round Table**.

The **Round Table** program makes the tremendous manpower of the Order readily available to the pastor to help him achieve his plans and goals. By means of the **Round Table** a local council may easily achieve a maximum level of service to all the parishes with which it is affiliated.

Simply stated, the **Knights of Columbus Round Table** initiative provides the opportunity for brother Knights to support their parishes with the programs their pastors deem necessary.

One fact must be made crystal clear. The **Round Table** initiative — an offer to serve — should not interfere with any existing or contemplated parish program or group. The pastor sets the programs. It is simply a matter of going to him and asking, "Father, what can the Knights of this parish do to help?"

The Grand Knight appoints a Coordinator to lead the Round Table; Form 2629 is completed and submitted to Supreme. At the conclusion of the Fraternal Year, the Grand Knight completes Form 2630 that identifies the projects completed for the local parish.

Remember what Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said. "Knights have nothing less than a moral obligation to offer every eligible Catholic man the opportunity and the privilege of membership in our Order. Also, we must have a Knights of Columbus presence in every parish." Besides a new council, a **Round Table** is the perfect means to accomplish this mandate.

## IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING RECENTLY DECEASED



For these we pray:

Albert Lea #1590  
John F. McCune  
Blaine/Coon Rapids #5141  
Gerald W. Korkowski  
Blue Earth #1836  
Russell B. Souba  
Bowlus #12604  
Raymond O. Borash  
Cold Spring #5344  
Michael M. Rausch  
Crystal #3656  
Gerald F. Berger  
Chester J. Cisek  
Faribault #889  
Howard Voegelé  
Paul Bussert  
Francis L. Chavie  
Elmer Radke  
Foley #3603  
Richard C. McDonald  
Glencoe #4842  
Howard Libra  
LaCrescent #515  
Vernon Walter  
Leon J. Demorest  
Aloznicus Moore, Jr.

LeCenter #5085  
Charles Beer  
Mora #5078  
Raymond C. Fuchs  
Rice #9138  
Ray Fiedlere  
Rochester #1013  
Ralph Nigon  
Hilary Mahoney  
Rosemount #5569  
Thoms S. Condon  
Sauk Centre #4863  
Otto Wiener  
Sleepy Eye #3134  
Herbert F. Fischer  
Bennie S. Suess  
St. Odilia #9598  
John W. Hislop  
West St. Paul #4184  
Leon C. Carr

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES:  
Please submit names of deceased members to:  
Bill Hoffman, Fraternalism Chair  
100 North Cordova Avenue  
LeCenter, MN 56057  
Phone: 507-357-6179

### Minnesota Squires

By: John Wilcox, Squires Chairman



The Squires program is the Order's official youth organization. The Columbian Squires strengthens families by bringing fathers and sons together and teaches boys to be men, husbands, and fathers. Two purposes of the Squires is to train young men as Catholic leaders and to prepare these young leaders to become a Knight of Columbus. A circle's spiritual activities help to strengthen young men in their faith during the teen years. Many former Squires have become Priests and even Bishops. The Squires program teaches Gospel values instead of society's values. Squires learn and do something about society's problems through charitable and community activities. Boys without fathers present learn to be men, husbands, and fathers.

Knights, serving as counselors, and their sons can work together. The Columbian Squires is learn-by-doing program. Squires make their own decisions and carry them out, for better or worse.

The Columbian Squires program is virtually the mirror image of the Knights of Columbus. Squires and Knights share faith and values. Council and circle office titles differ, but they operate in the same way, conduct the same types of programs, and both have ceremonials. Councils can offer young men leadership opportunities by starting Squires Circles.

Order-wide goal is to have a "Circle in Every Council." Squires inquiry kits are available from the Supreme Council Office or contact me at [squiresdirector@mnknights.org](mailto:squiresdirector@mnknights.org). Only 10 Catholic young men, ages 10-18, are needed to start a Circle. Knights are needed to volunteer to be counselors. All counselors need to be screened before appointment through the "Youth Protection Program".

Through working with young Catholic men in the Squires, Knights carry out Father McGivney's long term vision of supporting families. 1300 Squires Circles involve 25,000 Catholic young men learning skills and attitudes of Catholic leadership in the Order. 5000 Squires turn 18 years old each year and become eligible for K of C membership. K of C annual net gain of 15,000 Knights could be increased by nearly one-third by better recruitment of all 18 year old Squires each year.

By building the Squires program, we will be building the 1.7 million member Knights of Columbus. By serving Squires now, we are helping the Squires to grow, as well as preparing Squires to serve society, the Church, and eventually the Knights of Columbus.