



## Knighly News

St. Raphael Council

#14171



Volume 7, Issue 1

January-February 2013

### The Grand Knight's Corner



By Bruce Kleckler

Happy Lent!

Wow. I just got home from a busy Friday Fellowship Fish Dinner, the second of the season. Once again, the same as last week, our guys came out of the woodwork and turned out in big numbers to help out. Thank you all for all you do. With 2 weeks under our belt, and 4 more weeks to go, I think we're off to a great start.

Just a few short weeks ago, during January, I was thinking that we were in kind of slow time of year. Christmas was behind us, and Lent hadn't begun yet, so it felt like a lull. But now that Lent has arrived, it's once again busy, busy, busy, as we all look forward to the most important holiday of the year. Hard to believe Palm Sunday is only 4 weeks away.

Looking back for a moment over the past couple months, maybe it wasn't a lull at all. Maybe there was more going on than first meets the eye. Just before Christmas, the December Blood Drive was highly successful, and that evening about a dozen (or a few more) members from our council

attended a Christmas Party with our big brothers, the Naperville Council 1369. We had a great time, and a few of us won some nice raffle prizes, so Norm Bishop and I decided to celebrate and share our good fortune by hosting a little holiday party for all the officers and directors. That was another great evening of fellowship, as roughly 30 people gathered to eat the turkey and ham that Norm and I won at the 1369 party. We had a great time.

Also in January, we held the Annual Free Throw Contest. And coming up this weekend will be the District event. See the article below by Tom Burns regarding this event. Good luck to all.

The first week of Lent started with a bang. We held our monthly council meeting on Tuesday and the Assembly held their meeting on Ash Wednesday complete with an Ash Wednesday Service and the imposition of ashes. Of course we can't forget about Valentine's Day on Thursday, and then our Friday Fellowship Fish Dinners. With two Fridays behind us, we're off to a great start, and I expect we'll continue.

We sold 189 fish dinners the first week and 203 the second week selling out the second week by 6:45 pm. And of course along with that, lots of pizza, mac 'n cheese, drinks, and remember, the fellowship is free. As they have been in past years, the Boy Scouts of St Raphael Troop 510 were a great help. If the remaining four Fellowship Fridays are also successful, this could be our best year yet.

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Talking about a great meal with fellowship, below are some photos taken by Chuck Burkart at the second Fish Dinner:



We capped off the week with our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual February Valentine's Dinner Dance Luau on Saturday night. See some photos below:



At the Valentine's Dinner Dance Luau, we recognized our Knight of the Year; Dan Schwartz and Family of the Year; Tom and Joann Casey. Congratulations to all!





Sometime during the madness tonight, Norm and I did sit down with Fr. Mark for a few minutes, and outlined what we want to do with our membership drive this Spring. Fr. Mark was tremendously supportive, and we'll have no issues with a full blown membership drive after Easter, during the month of April; more on that to come.

In the meantime, here I've just filled an entire page with the things we've done the last couple months and plan to do the next few weeks, and I know I even forgot a few things. Oh.... The Poster Contest, the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, and probably a few hundred emails sent and received.

As a reminder, promoting Pro Life events is one of the major program areas for the Knights of Columbus.

This upcoming banquet on March 23<sup>rd</sup> sponsored by our Big Brother Naperville Council 1369, benefitting Waterleaf Women's Center and The Michael McGivney Center, won program of the year honors last year and promises to be even bigger this year. We will make a donation as a council, and I would also encourage as many of you as possible to attend and make a donation to this great cause as well. Make your reservations early. I hope to see many of you there. See more information regarding the Pro Life event from Dan Gallaher later in the Newsletter.

So like I said, maybe it wasn't such a big lull after all. We just paused a moment to reload, and we're off and running toward Easter. I guess I'll end the way I began. Happy Lent!

## Deputy Grand Knight's Corner



By Chris Prazak

### "Home Court" Knights of Columbus Major Degree

St. Raphael Council #14171 will host a Major Degree on Sunday March 17, 2013 with registration beginning at 12pm outside of the Administration Office. The 1st Degree Ceremony will begin at 12:30pm, followed by the 2nd & 3rd Degree Ceremonies. A dinner will be provided following the completion of all the Degrees. There is No Cost to members of #14171 wishing to advance in Degree. 1st Degree Members, this is a wonderful opportunity to experience your very own 1st Degree team in action, while re-examining the foundation of charity, as our Order's main principle, all on our "home court" at St. Raphael. This offers a perfect platform for advancement to the higher Degrees, with dinner and fellowship to boot! For more information about becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus please contact Membership Director, Norm Bishop at [303-475-0608](tel:303-475-0608), or at [nbishop@piesold.com](mailto:nbishop@piesold.com)

### Our Council Welcomes Five New Sir Knights

On February 9, 2013 five members of the St. Raphael Council participated in the 109<sup>th</sup> annual Fourth Degree Exemplification of the Marquette Province, Illinois District 1. This huge event was

held, as it has in recent years, at the Lisle Wyndham Hotel on Warrenville Rd. in Lisle Illinois and included 700 people attending the dinner banquet. Attending the ceremony, in support of our new Sirs, were many of our Worthy Sir Knights dressed in Regalia, including District Director and Faithful Navigator Tim Rogers, Commander Terry Fenelon, Grand Knight Bruce Kleckler, Glenn Domovic, and Chris Prazak. Our Council's support was evident at all facets of the Exemplification and also included State Officer Jim Russell, District Director and Past Grand Knight Tom Casey, Jeff Craney, and of course, all the Ladies of our Brother Knights that brightened our evening. The Fourth Degree class of 2013 added 172 Sir Knights to our District, and 35 members to our Bishop Romeo Blanchette Assembly #3044. It is with great pleasure to introduce our newest Worthy Sir Knights of St. Raphael Council #14171 class of 2013; Sean Hagen, Frank Kerkemeyer, Mike Manly, Dan Schwartz and Paul Susa. Gentlemen welcome to the Patriotic Degree, and the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus! Next year's Exemplification date has been set and will be held on February 22, 2014 at the Lisle Wyndham Hotel. Below are photos with our new Sir Knights with our other Worthy Sir Knights.



## Free Throw Contest...

By Tom Burns

On January 21st, St. Raphael Knights of Columbus held the annual Council Free Throw Championships

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at St. Raphael gym. 22 boys and girls participated and there were 20 Knights who helped register, count free throws, rebound, take pictures, and offer encouragement to everyone. We thank the kids for their participation and the mothers and fathers who made the effort to get them there. Everyone received a participation certificate and the winners will be advancing to the District Championships in February. Good luck to all the champions in their pursuit of the State Championship.



## Knights of Columbus-St Raphael's Church School Spelling Bee...

By Chuck Burkart

The all school Spelling Bee was held February 6<sup>th</sup>. It's a fun event, but tense as one wrong letter eliminates you from the competition.

The first place winner was Ana Analitis. Second place went to Jacqueline Schuman and third went to Katie Reed, daughter of Knight Bob Reed.

All three winners will advance to the regional competition that will be held March 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Phillip the Apostle school in Addison.

Congratulations to our winners and best of luck at the regionals.



## Knights Family Meal...

By Chuck Burkart

Everybody enjoyed the Knight's Family Meal at Uncle Bub's in Westmont. Barbecued ribs, pulled pork, brisket, barbecued chicken, slaw and cornbread were just a few of the items on the menu.

No committees, no 50/50, no voluntold – just good food and fun. It was an excellent time to get to know your brothers and their families better at a casual meal.

Bill Foye did an excellent job putting this program together. Everyone had fun and it was suggested we do this at least quarterly. White Fence Farm will probably be our next destination.





## Membership Director Reminder...

By Norm Bishop, Membership Director

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is a privilege. Our Founder Venerable Father McGivney, set a path for Catholic gentlemen to share their faith and collective good works for greater good in what we today know as the Knights of Columbus. Our simple acts of Charity, devotion to the Catholic Church and our fraternal fellowship, allows each of us to follow our founder's leadership. This month as we celebrate founder's day, lets honor our founder by asking another Catholic man to join the KNIGHTS of Columbus and our council. Simply asking is the first step. Talk about the various Council activities and the fun we have doing our charitable works and fun with our wives and families at our social activities. During Lent we will have a membership table at each of the fish dinners. Encourage your sons, brothers, fathers, grandfathers, cousins to join our ranks. Encourage them to find out more about our organization. Together we do great things for the greater good, and together we are brothers in Christ. Simply ask the question, have you considered joining the Knights of

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Columbus? Come join a great group of men and their families.

## Membership Dues Reminder...

By Dave Bedel, Financial Secretary

### 2013 Membership Dues

Just a friendly reminder to all that your 2013 Membership dues Invoice was mailed in early January. Well over half of you have already sent in your \$35 payment for the year and I thank you very much. Your 2013 Membership card will be mailed to you upon receipt of your 2013 dues. For those of you who have not paid yet, please consider doing so at your earliest convenience, as this will prevent additional invoices, emails and phone calls in the future.

Do keep in mind that each of our membership is assessed a per capita yearly fee by Supreme, State, Joliet Chapter and for Liability Insurance totaling close to \$13 per member. Your Dues payment is essential to help defray this cost and also provide additional funds to support the many causes and programs that make us who we are.

Thanks again for those who have sent their dues in already!

## Supporting Pro Life...

By Dan Gallagher

Hi All! First, here are some statistics, from lifenews.com, which is a great website...

"The United States marked 40 years of legalized abortion in all fifty states at any time for any reason throughout pregnancy on January 22nd, the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Since that time, there have been approximately 55,772,015 abortions that have destroyed the lives of unborn children.



The best estimate for the current number of annual abortions in the United States — involving both the surgical abortion procedure as well as the dangerous abortion drug RU 486 — is 1.2 million.

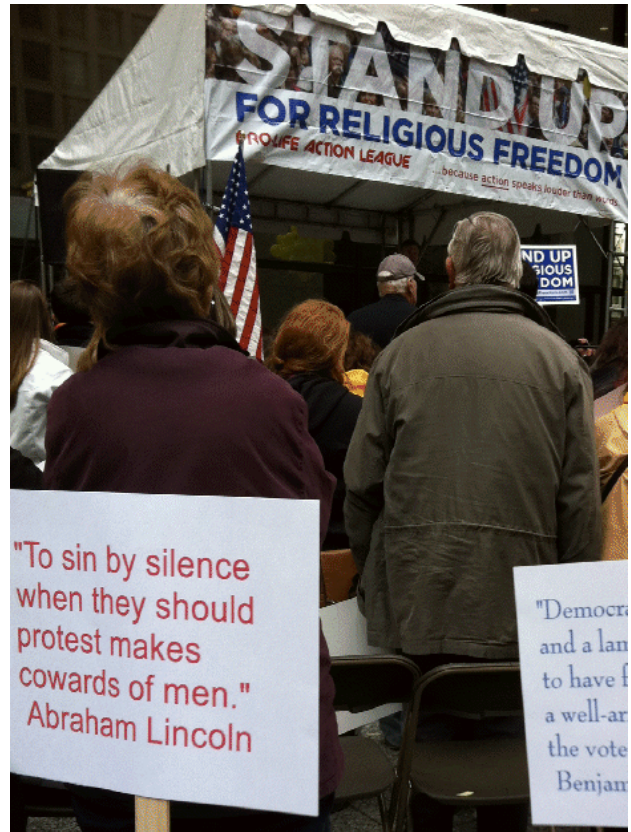
This number means that there are about 3,300 abortions daily and 137 abortions per hour every hour in the United States.

This means that on average, an abortion is done every 30 seconds in the United States.”

As I reflect on these numbers, it’s hard to believe that our great country has allowed this to occur. Each of us was once at the point one week before our birth, usually 39 weeks after our conception. Is there any doubt that each of us was a human being at that point? Well, for the last 40 years, it has been quote “legal” unquote to end such a human life. But does our Creator approve of this? If not, then such a “law” is no good, and eventually, it will be changed.

When our U.S. Constitution was signed, it was “legal” to buy and sell human beings. It took almost 80 years, but we eventually abolished slavery. The same thing will happen with abortion, when enough people have the knowledge and the courage to voice their opposition. Fortunately, more and more people today are displaying such courage.

Below are some pictures from a recent demonstration in Chicago, organized by Eric Sheidler of the Pro-Life Action League. It started at Federal Plaza, with hundreds marching up the middle of Dearborn Street, and ending at Daley Plaza, where several great speakers were heard, including Fr. Rocky Hoffman.



Speaking of serious demonstrating, our Council was proud to once again sponsor a bus to the March For Life in Washington, D.C. on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Over 600,000 people were there to voice their opposition to our current "laws", and to promote a culture of life.

We need to increase respect for the essential nature of the traditional family, which provides the most stable environment for bringing children into the world and for nurturing them. There are exceptions to every rule, but as a rule, government or volunteer programs will not do as good a job as biological fathers and mothers will do.

We continue to support the wonderful work of the Women's Centers in our area. We need to provide some help for women who are struggling with an unplanned pregnancy, to give them some practical support, making it easier for them to choose life.

On March 23, at 7pm, there will be a Celebrate Life Banquet, at Bobak's Signature Events in Woodridge, to benefit Waterleaf Women's Center in Aurora, and also the McGivney Center of Hope and Healing in Chicago. Bishop Siegel will speak, along with Relevant Radio talk show host Drew Mariani. It promises to be a great event!! God bless!!

Celebrate Life Banquet. Registration is due by March 1<sup>st</sup>

Saturday, March 23 at 7pm. It would be great to see you there!!

Please fill out the form (see below) and mail it to Al Knoeck at the address noted on the registration form by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Final Results from Football Mania...

By Sean Hagen

Here are the overall totals:

Number of tickets sold:	232
Gross receipts:	\$1,160

Charity Mania's cost/activated tickets:	\$ 348 - \$1.50/ticket sold
Charity Mania's invoice for 500 printed tickets:	\$ 123 - \$ 0.246/ticket ordered (500)

Net amount raised from Super Bowl	\$ 689
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Added to the regular season, Football Mania netted approximately \$6,000 – \$7,000 this year!

Football Mania is strong fund raising for the Knights. Keep up the good work.

**Note from Your Editor--- We really need Your Articles and Photos on Time. . . Please send your pictures, news and articles to me by the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month!**

Thanks,

*Ted Schultz*

**Ted Schultz- Editor**

Phone: 630-244-3402, Email: tschultz@sbcplus.com

### Please Pray For

*As we go to the Lord and place these petitions before Him, let us do so with optimism, hope and faith.*

*Please remember in your prayer:*

*(From the February and January 2013 Good of the Order)*

#### February Good of the Order:

Justin Feydesz	Jim Jelinek
Laura Gasik	Jack Lefevor
Maureen Milano	Bob Mellans
Mary Kay Kuducis	Paul Isherwood
Jason & Kristin Trakan	Joe HJlava

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**January Good of the Order:**

Justin Feyes	Nick Bryan
Mary Kay Kuducis	Sam DiGiovanni
Darrell Hutton	Paul Nistler
Maureen Milano	Darlene Nartker
Bob Mellans	Bob Emerson
Dawn Groves	Anne Taxter
Eileen Peebles	Amber Burns
Jack Lafavor	Jim Jelinik
Laura Gasik	Skelly Speers


**DATES TO REMEMBER**

***Mark your calendar for the following dates!***  
***More to come on future activities***

First Degree	February 26, 2013
Fellowship Fish Dinner	March 1, 2013
Sts Peter and Paul Blood Drive	March 2, 2013
Spelling Bee-District Competition	March 2, 2013
Special Olympics swim meet	March 6, 2013
Fellowship Fish Dinner	March 8, 2013
March Business Meeting	March 12, 2013
Assembly Meeting	March 13, 2013
Fellowship Fish Dinner	March 15, 2013
St. Patrick's Day parade	March 16, 2013
Major Degree at St. Raphael's	March 17, 2013
Free Throw Contest-Regional Competition	March 19, 2013
Fellowship Fish Dinner	March 22, 2013
Celebrate Life Fundraiser	March 23, 2013
First Degree at St. Raphael's	March 26, 2013
Easter Sunday	March 31, 2013
Business Meeting	April 9, 2013
Assembly Meeting	April 10, 2013
Corporate Communion 10:45am Mass	April 14, 2013
State Convention-Lombard, IL	May 3-5, 2013
Blood Drive-St. Raphael's	June 15, 2013

**SUPPORT OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS AND THEIR BUSINESS.**

If you would like to have you business listed in the Newsletter, please send your request to Grand Knight, Bruce Kleckler @ bkleckler@wideopenwest.com. Once approved, send your business card size ad in a jpg format to the Newsletter Editor, Ted Schultz & tschultz@sbcplus.com.



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**PRO LIFE FUNDRAISER REGISTRATION FORM**



REGISTRATION FORM: Advance registration and payment required by March 1, 2013

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish / Council: \_\_\_\_\_

All plates \$40: \_\_\_\_\_ # Veggie/Pasta \_\_\_\_\_ # Beef \_\_\_\_\_ # Chicken

[ ] I am unable to attend, but would like to make a donation in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] I am including my registration amount for \$40 per person in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "Knights of Columbus" and mail registration form to Al Knoeck, 1030 North Avenue, Naperville, Illinois 60540. Contact John Zabinski (630-747-8439) or John Moravacek (630-983-9209) with questions, or e-mail us at KofCProLifeBanquet@gmail.com.

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