



KNIGHTLY NEWS

ST. RAPHAEL COUNCIL

#14171



Volume 6, Issue 5

September/October 2012

The Grand Knight's Corner



By Bruce Kleckler

Why did you join?

Brothers,

I invite all of you to take a few moments and reflect. Why did you join the Knights? Was it because you wanted to wear the cape and carry a sword and maybe march in a couple parades? Or maybe it was because you wanted to stand on street corners and pass out Tootsie Rolls? Was it because you wanted to become more involved in one or two (maybe more) of the many things we do for the kids throughout the year? The Soccer Challenge, the Free Throw Contest, Breakfast with Santa, or the Essay Contest, Poster Contest or Spelling Bee? Maybe it was because you wanted to help out with the semi-annual Blood Drive or Friday Fellowship Dinners during Lent, the Valentines Dinner Dance, the Parish Picnic, or the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup effort? Or maybe it was just because you wanted to join the group and enjoy the company of other catholic men and families as we occasionally dine together, or attend a hockey or baseball game, or just pray together at a Knights' Mass. Maybe it was because you wanted to stand

in solidarity behind your priests and bishops, to defend Religious Liberty or the rights of the unborn.

Whatever your reasons for joining the Knights, I ask you now.... Are you doing it?

Ours is truly a vibrant council, one of the top councils in the state of Illinois. We've been a 'Star Council' or 'Double Star' every year of our existence. In the short time since the council was formed in November 2006, we've raised nearly \$100,000 for the Intellectually Disabled. We topped \$20,000 last year and I expect when the final count is in we should easily match that this year. Last year we were the #1 council in the state, per capita, in ID donations. We have also been one of the top councils in the state for Blood Drive donations, collecting about 500 units of blood per year at our semi-annual drives for the last few years. Our Breakfast with Santa won 'Program of the Year' honors a couple years ago, the Friday Fellowship Dinners during Lent have been a huge success, and that mile stretch of 75th Street between Olympus and Gartner has never been so clean.

But the truth is, as great as this council has become in a short period of time; we have the capacity to do even more. I know this is true for almost any organization, but more than 90% of the work we do is performed by less than 1/2 of the members. We have 178 members in our council, but at most of

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September-October 2012

these events we see the same 40 or 50 guys all the time. Don't get me wrong, I love you active guys, but I would also love to see some new faces at some of these events, and maybe even a few new events, with more fresh faces. As I scan down thru the roster, I see a couple dozen names of guys I don't think I even know. I would love to have a few of you show up at an event some evening (or morning or afternoon) and introduce yourselves to me. We also have a couple dozen guys who have not paid their 2012 dues yet, three quarters of the way thru the year.

So I'll ask again.... Why did you join the Knights? Are you doing it? And if not, isn't it time to start? Our goal this year, to achieve 'Star Council' once again, is to recruit 12 new members. If we wish to achieve 'Double Star' once again, we need 24 new members. But what I would really like to see more than that is to have 24 current members who have not been active, jump back in with both feet and become active. Please join us? Again?

Let's also try to get more of our current Knights involved enough to receive their advanced degrees.

At your First Degree ceremony, some time in the past, the Grand Knight congratulated you on taking the first step in your journey. He then said... "May you, by your study, words and deeds, show that you are worthy of advancement to the 2nd and 3rd degree."?

The truth is, I'm sure you are all worthy. Advancement to the 2nd and 3rd degree is really just a matter of declaring your personal commitment.

What's your level of commitment? Are you in?

I suggest... Let's make it a party! Let's stage a St Raphael invasion of the Major Degree Ceremony in

Westmont on Sunday October 21st, and make it our own.

How many guys do you think we could get to attend? I wonder what the record is? You think we could take over?

YBIC

Bruce Kleckler

Deputy Grand Knight's Corner

By Chris Prazak

Thank You St. Raphael Community

September has been a very busy month of fund raising efforts for St. Raphael Council #14171, of the



Knights of Columbus. With the help of many volunteers including Knights, Ladies Auxiliary, their families, and friends, these efforts have been successful and will help our council provide

charitable works of support to many deserving programs throughout our parish, school, and community. Thank you to all our volunteers that provided service at the Golf Outing, Last Fling, Football Mania ticket sales, and Intellectual Disabilities Drive. We could not have accomplished these goals, without the generous support of our entire St. Raphael community. Your Knights thank you all for the continued support of the Knights of Columbus.

Our Council will host the KC Academy on Saturday October 20, 2012 beginning at 9:30am in Room #162. The topic of this seminar will be "The Role of Council Officers" which is recommended for all Officers, Directors, and any Knights that are considering a leadership position in the future. The KC Academy is very informative on specific

leadership roles and duties, and will benefit our Council's future success. Please RSVP to District Deputy Tim Rogers, as a lunch will be provided and coffee and donuts will be served at 9am, prior to the KC Academy. For more information and RSVP please contact Tim Rogers at 630-822-1532

Knights of Columbus Golf Outing - a Huge Success!

By Bill Niemiec, Event Co Chair

On Saturday August 25th, 2012, the St. Raphael & St. Elizabeth Seton Knights of Columbus conducted their annual Charity Fundraiser golf outing at Carillon Golf Club in Romeoville IL. With the generous help of the St. Raphael Woman's Auxiliary, all enjoyed the event. A record 120 golfers participated in the event, which raised over \$7,000! Many generous sponsors and donors contributed to the success of this fundraiser through the sponsorship program and donations of prizes for the raffle and silent auction. A record 30 sponsors provided hole sponsorship funding. Jim Shannon of S & S Activewear donated great looking golf shirts to all participants, while Lexus of Westmont provided a "Hole-in-One Contest". Some great golf was played, as evidenced by the winning scramble foursome at 15 under par. Below are a few photos of everyone having a great time on a beautiful day for golf and a photo of all of our sponsors.



Football Mania Update

By Sean Hagen

Football Mania is underway and the football season is underway. As of October 9th, 448 tickets were sold and over \$8,900 had been raised which will net to something over \$6,000.

Well done Sean and thanks to all the Knights that worked hard to sell tickets.

Knights of Columbus White Sox Night...



By Glenn Domovic

The second Knights of Columbus Night was Wednesday, September 12th with the White Sox play the Tigers. This was a special night because \$4.00 out of every ticket the Knights purchase will go to Special Olympics. The more tickets we purchase with this form, the more money that goes to Special Olympics.

the crowd that lined the streets throughout the parade route. Below are some photos from the parade.



Note from Your Editor— We really need Your Articles and Photos on Time. . Please send your pictures, news and articles to me by the 4th Monday of each month! Thanks,

Ted Schultz

Ted Schultz- Editor

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

Last Fling and Labor Day Parade



By Ted Schultz

The Council again participated in the Labor Day Parade with the 4th Degree Sir Knights in regalia. A strong representation from the Assembly was present. The weather was warm but we proudly marched and received warm welcomes from

In addition to the parade, many of the Knights and their spouses from our own Council #14171, assisted at the Fling in working the Beer Tents. This year we were assigned the Sponsors Tent and the Entertainment Beer Tent. I was a cool and wet night but the crowds keep us busy in the Sponsor's Tent with a little slower attendance at the Entertainment Tent. After all, if you have a free sponsors ticket for that evening, your going to come rain or shine.

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September-October 2012

A big thanks to all the Knights, spouses and the Ladies Auxiliary that helped that evening. Below are some photos from the Entertainment tent



This is my last Newsletter from Illinois. We will be leaving for our annual "snow birding" adventure in Green Valley, AZ in the next couple of days. Thus, I will be relying on all of you to keep me informed by sending me articles and photos for future Newsletters. We are back for about ten days at Christmas but other than that we will not be back until May. Keep the driveway and sidewalks shoveled for me.

Membership Update

Visit our website: www.straphaelfc.org
September-October 2012

By Norm Bishop

The St. Raphael Knights of Columbus Council just became 180 members strong last week. This year our membership goal is to break the 200 members mark. Together we can achieve this. Lets discuss how? All you need to do is ask a Catholic man, "Have you thought about joining the Knights of Columbus?" "I've seen you and your family at church, have you considered joining the Knights of Columbus?" "Larry, it's your time to become a Knight of Columbus." "How about doing an activity on Saturday with a bunch of great parish guys?" Lets ask!

Your never too old, but you have to be 18 years of age to join the Knights. And now you can make it a husband and wife pair, because we have a ladies auxiliary. The ladies are already actively doing charitable works and they really look good doing charity!

Our goal to be a single star award council is twelve new members. For a double star, which we have been awarded in previous years, we need twenty-four new members.

Remember all you need to do is ask.

Tootsie Roll Drive Exceeds Goal

By Norm Bishop

The Council had great weather on two weekends in a row. Our dedication to the Blessed Virgin Mary of this year's Intellectual Disabilities (tootsie roll) drive and the efforts of many brothers, families and friends, resulted in a great result. We raised over \$22,000 this year. We made our Council goal. There are many people that every year make a significant effort to a worthwhile cause that is at the fundamental foundation of our

brotherhood...Charity. We always seek to improve and I want to personally thank Mike Manly, who stepped up this year to be our co-chairman. The next group of tried and true dedicated Brothers are the location chairpersons. Once again they stepped up and organized the storefronts, church and street corners. Each year we try at least one new thing and this year we tried a couple. Dan Schwartz's River and Jefferson worked through the mid day hours on Friday this year and raised more than \$1200 during this period. This is a period than we traditionally shut down between the morning and evening rush hours. We tried Garden Fresh & True Value location. Dave Gotowko chaired this new location and worked many of the shift times himself when he couldn't get volunteers. Sun burned yet in good humor, Dave we appreciate your effort. Chuck Burkhart chaired Walmart this year and despite a rough start on Saturday with a little league baseball team fund raising alongside the Knights has a great result. Chris Prazak and Tom Burns and volunteers had outstanding results at Caputo's and 95th and RT 59 Jewel. Once again Nick Tsigaras' and Joe Hvala's team gave outstanding results at Casey's, Oswald's and the paint store; and came right back out and led the 83rd and Naper Plainfield street location. Nick and Joe, next year I need to split you fellows up as we need experienced chair people at other locations. John Lamb and Andre Zavala, got their family and friends out and had a great result at 95th and Book. Last but certainly our church drive was very successful this year due to the efforts of Bill Foye and his two great kids. I also want to thank Linda and George Villa who chaired the counting effort, and whose team of volunteers were great. They kept asking for a raise and I kept giving them another 5%...but you know what a 5% raise in terms of volunteerism means...heartfelt appreciation for a job well done. There were many volunteers and I wish I could mention each by name and the effort they contributed. Most importantly, we thank the Naperville community for their kind generosity and supporting the Intellectually Disabled.

Don't forget, we have plenty of tootsie rolls left over and available for Halloween Candy. The price is \$30 per case of 300 (less than 10 cents apiece) and \$5 for a box of 50 tootsies. What a deal! All money goes to the ID fund. A great cause and everyone needs to have Halloween candy. Ask Mike Manly or myself. Thanks again for your support.

Highway Cleanup

By Allan Francis

We had approximately 10 Knights of Columbus helping with the Highway Clean Up on Saturday, September 29th--the Feast Day of St. Raphael and all of the Archangels. The project went smoothly and we had just about the right number of Knights for the moderate amount of refuse and clutter that we picked up. Six bags of trash were collected.

The entire effort took just under two hours from start to finish and we even rallied around our new DuPage County Highway Clean Up Sign at 75th & Olympus for a few Group Photos of our hard working Clean Up crew after we finished.

Carson Days Fundraiser

By Rick Peabody

Our Carson Days fundraiser is coming soon in early November and we need to sell booklets. Knights are needed. The Knights distribute sales coupon books for a donation of \$5, which the Knights get to keep. The donor receives various discounts for purchases using each of the coupons. Contact Rick for more details on how the program works and to volunteer to distribute coupon books.

News From the District Deputy

By Tim Rogers

We are already three months into the fraternal year having already completed several programs with many, many more on the calendar. One, in particular, will take place on October 20 at St Raphael in room 162 beginning at 9:30 A.M., KC Academy! The focus will be on council officers duties, managing programs and answering your questions. We also have a surprise KC Academy professor joining us who was recently added to the faculty. Whether you are an officer or not, this will be a real good learning experience. Don't miss it!

We have a great parish with awesome men who are not yet knights. Be sure to extend invitations to them to join in the experience for we are the strong right arm of the church and play a major role to the future. I urge all of you to stay active and involved as you possibly can for many are counting on us.

Vivat Jesus!

What's Going On with the Fourth Degree Sir Knights?

By Chris Prazak, Fourth Degree Captain

We had a beautiful day for the September 3, 2012 Labor Day Parade with our Color Guard and 30 Sir Knights marching in Regalia, including State dignitaries. The crowd of people watching the parade was huge this year, and very warmly receptive to the Knights as we passed by. Our marchers were honored to carry a very large banner, on loan from the State Council, which stated our fight and desire for Religious Freedom, as members of the Knights of Columbus. This banner and our participation brought out a great amount of applause from

the audience and our thanks to Jim Russell for securing it for the parade. We had members from the Squires Circle of Naperville in the parade carrying their banner, along with Knights and some Family members passing out Tootsie Rolls while dressed in Intellectual Disabilities collection vests. Our numbers were low in candy distributors, as we actually had a large amount of Tootsie Rolls left at the end of the parade this year. For everyone's future plans, this Parade is open to ALL members of the Knights and their family members to march in, as a collective group representing our order. After the parade a picnic lunch was hosted by our Council at the Judd Kendall VFW Post #3873 with grilled food and libations fit for a crowd of hungry and thirsty parade marchers. It was a fun day, and our thanks goes out to Sir Knights Alan Francis, Andrea Zavala, Terry Fenelon, Grand Knight Bruce Kleckler, and District Deputy/ Faithful Navigator Tim Rogers, along with all the Family's and Volunteers that worked very hard to make this event special for all our guests.

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 September 2012 Good of the Order)

Colleen Groharing	Bob Mellars
Amber Burns	Charlotte Burns
Alex Jackson	Brain McInerney
Julie Peabody	Mike Lietz
Ms. McGill	George Pappas
The men of Kankakee planning to attend a CRHP weekend	

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Major Degree-Westmont	October 21, 2012
Fourth Degree Exemplification at Marmion Academy	October 27, 2012
Carson Days Fundraiser	November 8 & 9, 2012
Bishop's Burse	November 17, 2012
Our Lady of Guadalupe Icon at St Raphael's	November 17-23, 2011
Breakfast with Santa	December 1, 2012
Blood Drive at St Raphael's	December 15, 2012
Fourth Degree Exemplification-Lisle Windham	February 9, 2013

SUPPORT OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS AND THEIR BUSINESS.

If you would like to have your 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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