

## The Knightly News – January 2015

### **The Grand Knight's Corner.....**

Happy New Year Brother Knights. I'd like to thank you all for your efforts & talents in contributing to a successful charitable year for our St. Raphael Council. As we start 2015 I hope all Knights will consider taking an active part in our council activities. Please choose a program that is dear to your heart, or that has your interest and come out to volunteer and lend a hand and your ideas. If you have been away from the council we want you to know that we desire your Brotherhood and participation at our events. We ask you for a little bit of your time whenever you have an opportunity to do so. As our Brother Lee would often say to us, "many hands make lighter work" and will ultimately build a stronger support system for our favorite charities. Let's make 2015 the year of the volunteer! May God bless you and your families in the New Year.

Fraternally,

Brother Chris Prazak

## GIVING THE GIFT OF LIFE



Brother Alan giving the rare & important red double cell blood.

The Saint Raphael/SS Peter & Paul Blood Drive was a tremendous success with 202 units collected including 13 units of double cell.

Congratulations to Ralph, our blood drive chairman, and all the volunteers who help bring THE GIFT OF LIFE to so many people.

The Heartland People were ecstatic as 12 area hospitals will benefit from our blood drive.





Community Director,  
Bob Hanson, with  
some of the staff at  
ALMOST HOME KIDS

Bob was looking for somewhere the Knights could help a worthy organization in our local community when he came across ALMOST HOME KIDS. This Naperville organization provides transitional care in a home like setting for children with complicated health needs, trains their families and offers respite care. Since opening in 1992 ALMOST HOME KIDS has served over 1,000 kids who have chronic medical complexities.

On Christmas day Bob delivered a 48 piece chicken dinner, 8 pounds of sides, rolls, cookies and egg nog to the staff at ALMOST HOME KIDS. What a great way to exercise the principal of Charity and thank the staff for giving up their holiday to help the kids and their families. Great job Bob!

Help Your Council by buying or selling

### **Football Mania Tickets**

This fun fundraiser helps raise money to support the many charities that depend on us throughout the year. Winners are determined by the score at the end of each quarter of the Superbowl on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are only \$5 and the average odds of winning a prize are 1 in 14.

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



The excitement and the smiles on the kid's faces was enough to tell you this was a great event.

As usual, Sir David and all the volunteers came through with a great breakfast, fun games, arts & crafts and Santa Claus memories.





## FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Please consider joining the Patriotic Degree of our order which will be held Saturday February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Sheraton Lisle Hotel. Every Third Degree Knight is eligible. If you're not a Third Degree, consider attending our upcoming Major Degree February 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Raphael. You will then be able to participate in the Fourth Degree Exemplification two weeks later. Contact Dan Schwartz at 630 881-8686 or [drsnet2014@yahoo.com](mailto:drsnet2014@yahoo.com) for details.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1/8 Semi-annual District Meeting
- 1/13 Monthly business meeting and social
- 1/19 Free Throw Contest
- 1/27 1<sup>st</sup> Degree
- 2/8 Major Degree at St. Raphael 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree
- 2/14 Annual Dinner Dance and presentation of the Knight & Family of the Year
- 2/21 Fourth Degree Exemplification



Please send submissions to the Knightly News to: [caburkart@wowway.com](mailto:caburkart@wowway.com)

## State Meeting Springfield December 5-6-7

The Knights of Columbus state of Illinois meeting was held over the weekend of December 5-7 in Springfield at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel. In attendance were state officers and district deputies from all around the state. From the St Raphael Council 14171 were district deputy Tom Casey, and state officers Jim Russell of the KC Academy, the educational arm and Tim Rogers who is the state roundtable chairman. This meeting takes place twice a year and focuses on planning, training and goal setting. The district deputies then hold meetings with their councils . The primary messages focus on membership, programming and charities.

Some of the meeting highlights:

- Our State Deputy Skip Kinyon presented Special Olympics with a check for \$100,000. We Knights typically present them with a similar amount at the summer meeting. Special Olympics Illinois is the largest and most active chapter and the Knights are the largest supporter of this heartfelt cause. The world games are being held in Los Angeles this year commemorating their 50th anniversary where we have already donated \$1.5 million!!! This will be a big deal this year.
- Deputy Supreme Knight and Past Illinois State Deputy Logan Ludwig addressed the group and announced we have now placed over 500 ultra sound machines and donated over \$20 million to the Culture of Life Fund saving many lives. Just an fyi our St Raphael council championed the placement of the first ultra sound in the Joliet diocese in 2010.  
It was a councils'-wide team effort from several parishes and was placed at Waterleaf Woman's Center also saving many lives.
- The Annual Vocation Raffle was held on Saturday night at the State Deputies banquet and was a record setter bringing in over \$240, 000 all going to our 200+ Illinois seminarians. A special thanks to all those who participated for without your efforts none of this would be possible for our future priests appreciate your kindness and generosity.
- A special thanks to all Knights for your generosity and support in making results like this possible. Your dues and participation all add up to making great things happen.

Our council continues to make a big impact to our parish , community and even at the state level . You all make a difference. Keep up the good work and invite your friends to join us as we continue to be on the leading edge of the new evangelization.

Vivat Jesus!

Your State Officers