



knights of columbus

Msgr. Weis Council #10596

• 8501 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321 • 219-836-8610 •

September 2009

From the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

It's hard to believe another month has passed. There has been so much to do and more to come in the months ahead.

September begins with Labor Day on the first Monday of the month. As a result, the meeting of all officers, elected and appointed, and trustees will be on Wednesday, September 9th in the Solar Room at 7:00 PM.

The regular monthly business meeting will be the second Monday of the month September 14th, in the Solar Room at 7:30 PM.

Forty Days for Life begins Wednesday, September 23 and runs through Sunday November 1. For more information visit www.40daysforlife.com

Our fall fish fry and raffle will be on Friday, September 25. Extra raffle tickets are available. This is one of our larger fund raising events. We would appreciate you spreading the word and selling additional tickets. If you need more let us know.

This brings us to the end of the month and our second meeting which is on Monday, September 28 at 7:00 PM.

Busy month. October looks to be just as eventful. With a brief look ahead, the next blood drive is Sunday, October 4th. Brother Knights, you, your family and friends, can we alone collect 50 pints??

The second collection on October 10 & 11 would be dedicated to 'Support our Seminarians'. We need Knights at every mass, wearing logo wear, for the collections. Since we are there this would be a good weekend for a membership drive. Brother Joe has suggested a new member steak fry at our business meeting October 12th, Columbus Day.

I need to stop, so many dates to remember. I would like to suggest putting this newsletter on your refrigerator but my wife would not allow me make the suggestion.

Please remember the dates above and give of your time, talent and treasure.

Grand Knight

Tom Alexander

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

September 23 to November 1

40 Days for Life is a coast to coast pro-life mobilization project, in which 209 cities are joining in praying that this effort will spur an end to abortion. We here can participate in three ways:

- 1)pray as a group with fellow parishioners during those 40 days for an end to abortion (call 836-5337)

- 2)stand with many others for some period of time during those days at the abortion clinic in Merrillville, in peaceful, prayerful public witness against abortion (call 836-5337)

- 3)privately make a point to pray and fast for 40 days for an end to abortion

Come on now--you can participate in some way--we all CAN!!



CONGRATULATIONS

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Our State Deputy informs us that the State is at 11.88% of our intake goal with 193 new members since July 1st. At this rate, we are well on our way to regaining the title: Circle of Honor.

Vision to Action - Regain the Title - Circle of Honor

News from State Officers

FROM OUR STATE DEPUTY

Dear Brother Knights:

August is the month we focus on membership. It is appropriate that this time occurs at the beginning of the fraternal year. However, membership recruitment is not just an August event - membership recruitment and retention is a twelve month project.

Supreme has set a goal of 1625 new members for the Indiana Jurisdiction for the 2009-2010 fraternal year. Last year, 1495 Catholic gentlemen joined our Order; however we let over 1300 members leave our ranks.

I believe we need to regain those 1300 we lost and add the Supreme goal and therefore we should set our sights on 3000 new members. People told me that we could never make the intake goal of last year of 1495 with that many suspended members, however we did it!

As I reflect on our accomplishment of last year, I am reminded of a very powerful quote "Some people dream of worthy accomplishments, while others stay awake and do them."

August is the month that will begin the journey to regain the title - the distinction of Circle of Honor.

For that to happen, we must begin now to plan our membership campaign. Membership Director Dale Waters wishes for you to form a new membership committee comprised of the Grand Knight, Council Membership Director and the insurance Field Agent.

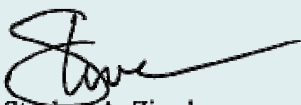
You also must begin to organize for the fall Membership Blitz for the months of September and October. Your District Deputy has an outline of information for you to have a successful membership blitz.

A new generation of Knights is essential to every Council and to our Order to continue and expand the works of charity within our communities and spread the word of the Gospel. When we ask a Catholic gentleman to join our Order, we are giving a gift. We are sharing with another person the wonderful, amazing force that is the Knights of Columbus.

So, I urge you this month and the days, weeks and months to come to share our vision with other men. Turn this vision to action and ask a person to join!

Sincerely,

Vivat Jesus,



Stephan A. Ziembra
State Deputy

FROM OUR STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

I would like to start off by thanking our State Deputy Steve Ziembra for having the confidence in me to be State Membership Director. I have some big shoes to fill over the next year. The last two years the State of Indiana did two things it never did before - reach Circle of Honor and make its intake goal while letting more than 1300 members go.

Well this year we are going to "Regain the Title". Yes we are going to get back Circle of Honor, and not only are we going to get it back but WE WILL get it back by the state convention in April. We are going to recruit every week, every month not just 2 times a year. I am asking each council to create a membership committee of the Grand Knight, Membership Chairman, and Field Agent. This committee is to meet once a month to plan out the next month's recruitment plan. They will then report to me and the General Agent what they will be doing. We can then track what works and what doesn't and pass on to you, and suggest what we can try.

One thing we know will work is to each week ask a catholic gentleman to be a Knight. If you do this and ask 50 men the 10% rule says 5 will say yes. BUT if you can answer his questions that he's asking you 'what's in it for me', we could change that 10% to 50 or 75%. Once in the order he'll be asking us not what the Knights can do for him, but what can he do for the Knights of Columbus. So let's get out there and start asking.

Remember to also think inside the box like our State Secretary Tom Gawlik says. Supreme has a lot of recruiting tools for us. In the supply Catalog there are at least 58 items you can order and 50 of them are free. Order them and use them. We are shooting for 2010 new members by the end of the fraternal year 2010.

Vivat Jesus,

Dale R. Waters

State membership Director

CEREMONIAL TEAM

The State is looking for men who would like to be a part of the ceremonial teams that conduct new degrees.

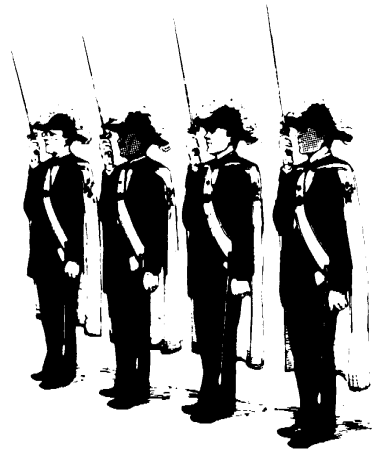
We are in need of a lot of new members so that we can have the State of Indiana covered better.

An incentive for joining? For any active member who joins a degree team, the council will get a "council activity credit" for this fraternal year.

We need new degree teams!

If you have any questions — of if you would like to join a team — please contact:

Mark Wopinski
State Ceremonials Chairman
9185 Maple Drive
St. John, IN 46373
219-365-0547
mwopinski@sbcglobal.net



FROM YOUR CHAPLAIN

A new month is upon us, another month into a fraternal year in which we strive to regain the title: Circle of Honor.

As we do so, we are reminded about some of the ways this could best be done and about the most perfect way this can be done: by keep ourselves deeply rooted in our faith.

Regaining a title is going to mean nothing to us if it is merely a matter of numbers. How many members do we need to recruit, how many to retain, how many councils to begin, how many to reactivate, et cetera. Yes, these are elements that are necessary. The reason for what we do is given to us by our founder, Servant of God, the Blessed Michael J. McGivney.

We are a fraternal order dedicated to caring for family as we live our faith in the world.

Our insurance program helps us to care for our biological family. Our programs help us to care for both our biological family as well as our spiritual family, the Church.

Our mission must have meaning if we are to draw more people to our order. If people see men who are filled with joy as they carry out their works of unity, fraternity, charity, and patriotism, those people will want to join us. There will be no need to twist arms or cajole in any way, shape or form.

So, you want to regain the title? As the Nike commercials of old used to say, "Just do it!" Live the life of a Knight of Columbus to the fullest extent possible. Let people see how happy and fulfilled you are as a Knight. And when they ask about your source of happiness, smile at them, reach your hand into your pocket, and pull out a Form 100. J

As we celebrate the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 8th, I will ask Our Lady to intercede for our order to her Son. May God bless you as you continue the noble work of the Knights of Columbus!

Mother Theodore Guerin, Patroness of the Indiana Knights of Columbus, pray for us.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. Mike

Rev. Michael J. Yadron

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OUR SEPTEMBER BABIES!

- 2 James W. Kaspar
- 3 Thomas R. Rogan
- 5 James W. O'Drobinak
- 6 Bernard L. Glasgow
Howard M. Gralewski
- 8 Matthew T. Brough
- 9 John B. Hasse
- 11 David A. Kritzer
- 12 Gary A. Lee
Joseph Stefanich
- 14 Dennis S. Banach
James A. Florek
- 18 Omar A. Porras
- 22 Paul T. Capriglione
- 23 Harold F. Ware
- 24 Jack J. Nosich
- 25 Eric J. Mlodecki
- 28 David E. Gutowski
- 30 Jay T. Grunewald

PRIESTS, BROTHERS, NUNS.
THEY NEED US.
WE NEED THEM.

Vocations are everybody's business!