



ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL NEWS

December 2001 Vol 3 Issue3



District Deputies to Meet

The District Deputies will converge on the Holiday Inn, Matteson, IL for the Mid-Winter Meeting, January 11,12,13, 2002. At this meeting the District Deputies will review progress for the first six months of the fraternal year for both the State as a whole and individually by their Districts. This will be a new twist and a chance for one on one assistance in looking at the past and moving on to a positive future with our Districts.

The weekend will begin with a Friday night welcome gathering and business will begin on Saturday with the business session at 11:00 AM with all District Deputies in attendance. The Mass will be at 5:00 PM with the State Deputy's Banquet to follow at 7:00 PM.

Sunday will dawn bright with an 8:00 AM Prayer Service to remember all those who lost their lives to the hands of the terrorists. The business session will resume at 9:00 AM and adjourn no later than 12:00 noon.

A Gift That Keeps on Giving

There is no better time than now to ask a Catholic man to join our Order. During this Holiday Season give someone that one special GIFT, that same GIFT someone gave to you, membership in the Knights of Columbus. Someone cared enough to give you the best gift that they could so why not pass it on. Don't wait until tomorrow, do it today!

Membership Is Number 1 - Frank Ryan

Since the attack on our country on September 11, 2001, we have been in a mood of apprehension we're not sure what is going to happen next. The terrorists have put a lot of us on hold. As we take a look at what our priorities are, we want to make sure that our families are well protected and our life is in order as it was before the attacks. I think this has a lot to do with the membership growth the last couple of months. People often have other things on their minds besides joining the Knights of Columbus. Now is the time for us to let our fellow Catholic men know about the works that the Knights of Columbus have been doing since and before the attacks. We as a group of men now more then ever, need to set an example of being involved with our Church and our communities by helping in any way possible to get this Great Nation back on its feet and by showing the terrorist that we will never surrender to their tactics.

With the Holidays coming up what better time to **ASK** a family member, your neighbor, the person you work with, the person that sits next to you in church to join the Knights of Columbus. We need to show our prospective members all the good works we do for our Church, Communities, Families and the Youth of today. Explain the programs that your council participates in every year. We as Knights don't toot our own horns enough about what we do. Let everyone know about all the good things your councils do. Keep your family and all the families of those who lost love ones in this tragedy in your prayers daily and we will get through this together. God Bless America and our Order.

Merry Christmas to one and all



From your State Officers

May the Peace of Christ

Be in your heart

*Bishop Roger L. Kaffer
State Chaplain*

*Reverend James McIlhiney
Associate State Chaplain*

And In your Home

*Bill & Jeanie Spainhour
State Deputy*

During the Most Holy Season

And all through the New Year.

*Logan & Ina Ludwig
State Secretary*

*Paul & Judy Havrilka, Jr.
State Treasurer*

Share the Holiness of the season with everyone!

*Phil & Alice Barone
State Advocate*

*Bob & Linda Fuggiti
State Warden*



By the Christ child's Love,

Guide you,

Frank & Mary Ryan
State Membership Director

Rich & Linda Spada
General Program Director

Be with you;

protect you and all your family

Larry & Bev Smith
Charitable Activities Director

Jim & Pat Bednar
State Public Relations Director

Through out the year

Joe & Rosemary Yaeger
Executive Secretary

A very Blessed Christmas wish to all!

State Deputy Bill Spainhour

My Brother Knights,

The events of the past few months have changed our world. The environment that we lived in on September 10, 2001 is drastically different than the one we live in today. The historic mission of the Knights of Columbus is needed more than ever. This is a time for action. We must be unified and we must respond to the call. We must work for common good and defense of our society.

People today are looking for ways to help. They want to contribute. They are searching for a sense of accomplishment. We have heard of the rise in attendance at church services. Many people are volunteering to assist various social and charitable groups. Many Americans are now taking stock of their lives. They are spending more time together as families. They are more aware of social issues and the needs of others in their communities.

We as Knights must meet the challenges of this new world environment. We must offer our assistance in this changing world. We must open the doors of our Order to the Practical Catholic Men who are in search of a means of contributing their time and efforts for common good. We must open our doors, our hearts, and our minds to these men and allow our membership to grow. We must welcome back former members. In this new world environment we will be charged with enhancing and continuing our current programs and developing new programs to meet the challenges of a new society. In order to accomplish the tasks that lie ahead we must be strong in manpower and in voices. We must be visible and we must be heard.

Since the attack on America, our citizens are re-evaluating the meaning of freedom. The groups that have been destroying our society in the name of freedom, some unwittingly, have lost manpower and visibility. We must add manpower and be more visible than ever. Their voices are weak. Our voices must be strong and heard by all.

The Knights of Illinois will be prepared to meet these challenges.

The Knights of Illinois will continue to support our Church and our Communities.

The Knights of Illinois will be a strong voice in shaping a society for common good.

The Knights of Illinois will stand for God and Country.

The Knights of Illinois will Open Wide the Doors to the Knights of Columbus.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of my wife Jeanie and our family to wish all of you and your families a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New year.

Fraternally,
Bill Spainhour
State Deputy

Bill Brown, PSD - VOCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM - Ron Ziemba, PSD

We wish to share with you a letter of appreciation recently received from a seminarian:

Dear Knights of Columbus,

Thank you very much for your kind monetary gift. It will be put to good use. It's always nice to hear from the Knights. Although, I'm not a Knight, I would like to learn more about joining. If possible, could I get information about joining? Once again, thank you very much. Please continue to pray for all of us here, and rest assured of my prayers for you!

*Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Ryan Janusick*

Ryan is a first year college seminarian from the Springfield Diocese and is attending Cardinal Glennon College Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. We as Knights of Columbus must continue to support these seminarians spiritually, morally and financially. We don't have to ask them to join, they realize what our organization is all about and many of them want to be a part of this great fraternal organization called the Knights of Columbus.

SQUIRE NEWS – Rich Spada

A successful Squires statewide bowling tournament was held October 7 at King Pin Bowl, Springfield. For the third year in a row, Breese Circle teams were triumphant by winning both First and Second Place. High Squire bowler was Breese Circle member and State Sentry Squire Ed Kehrer. First Place in the counselor division went to Breese Chief Counselor, Mike Niemeyer. A Pizza party was then held at nearby Field House Pizza. Congratulations to bowling chairman Ed Kehrer on a well run event.

State Deputy Chief Squire Tony Schenk and State Arm Captain, both from Evansville Circle have developed an incentive plan with a great list of prizes to help increase Squire Membership. For every membership application leading to a new member, the proposer will receive a chance in the drawing to be held at the Squire's State Convention in April.

Congratulations to O'Fallon Council (Belleville Diocese) on having their new Squire Circle receiving the first new Charter this fraternal year in Illinois. Ahren Langhauser, New Circle Development Chair, Immediate Past State Chief Squire and Chief Squire of Breese Circle, reported that along with O'Fallon, Alton and Bethalto Circles (Springfield Diocese) are ready to hold an investiture and reactivate those Circles. Dolton/South Holland (Chicago Diocese) is six members closer to reactivating their circle. Ridgeway Circle (Belleville Diocese) held a Columbus Day Investiture and brought in 11 new members. With the combine activities of the Membership and New Circle Development Committees, the goal of doubling the membership of Squires in Illinois this fraternal year looks to be within reach.

The annual Basketball Tournament, chaired by State Bursar Squire from Breese and State Marshall Squire Josh Devera from Streator is scheduled with playoffs on 3-10-01 at Breese and Streator and the championship games played on 3-17-01 in Springfield.

This year the Squires State Convention, chaired by State Chief Squire Eric Walter from Evansville is scheduled for April 5 through 7, 2001 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield.

Congratulations to all the Illinois Circles that received awards from Supreme for their activities during the 2000-2001 fraternal year, namely Breese Circle on winning the order wide Ten Pin Bowling Tournament, receipt of the Corp d'Elite Award and on being runner-up for a Brother Barnabus Award.

State Free Throw +Spelling Bee + Essay – Rich Spada

It is not too late to order your kits for the State Free Throw and Spelling Bee contests. These activities present a great opportunity for our young people and for your recruitment efforts. Don't forget the essay contest too. If you have any questions about these activities please call Mike Nettekmeier (Free Throw) at 618-526-4997 or Bernie Mennemeyer for the others at 217-523-2931. Many thanks to District Deputy, Vince DeRosa of Chicago and Council 662 in Sterling for responding to our invitation to host regional free throw competitions. How about others stepping forth to offer assistance, Mike Nettekmeier would appreciate hearing from you!

Council Family Reunions – Frank Ryan

November marks the beginning of the holiday season, a traditional time of family homecomings. During this month sponsor a council "family reunion" by bringing your members' families together in faith and fraternity. Sponsor a holiday celebration at your council. Along with inviting your members, ask former members and prospective members and their families to attend. Let these former Knights see that they can still experience the fraternity that originally attracted them to the Order. Also, show prospects that the Knights of Columbus is a family affair. Also, include non-active members and their families in your events. Along with social events, sponsor a Memorial Mass for deceased members and their families. Invite widows and children of deceased members to these events, to show them they are still a part of the Knights of Columbus. Also again include prospects, former members and non-active members in these services.

What better time to implement the "Welcome Back Brother" program that you will find in your State Membership Program Booklet. Now is the time to find out why someone left the Order, they may be just waiting for someone to **ASK** them to come home for the Holidays.

Programs of the Month - Rich Spada

This issue we will review back to the beginning of the fraternal year, all of the past timely information was not available for the last issue.

Church

July	Fr. John Menco 6707
August	Good Shepard 5573
September	St. Joseph/St. Rose 11147

Family

July	Collinsville 1712
August	Lansing 3540
September	Trenton 2932

Community

July	Fr. John Menco 6707
August	Highland 1580
September	Collinsville 1712

Council

July	St. Francis 11092
August	Belvedere 735
September	Damen Hildbrand 650

Youth

July	Trenton 2932
August	Scott Air Force 4239
September	O'Fallon 4239

Senior of the Month

July	Wayne Decker, St. Irene 6710
August	Jim Wiesbrook, St. Francis of Assisi 11092
Sept.	Robert Schreiber, Highland 1580

Family of the Month

July	David & Rose Ahrens Council 1581
	Al & Bonnie Abbonato Council 6521
Aug.	Frank & Rose Montefalco Council 5732
	Joe & Theresa Pietruszynski, Council 11092

Knight of the Month

July	Jack Gorski, St. Irene 6710
Aug.	Eugene Bringazer, Jr. O'Fallon 4239
Sept.	Brian Schmitz, Alleman Council 1853

December - Membership Invitation Program - Frank Ryan

Close out the year in December with a membership invitation program. Send greetings to the prospects and former members who attended your November events and **ASK** them to consider becoming a part of your council. Be sure to emphasize the benefits that membership in the Knights of Columbus holds for them and their families. Schedule a First Degree exemplification during this month so your new members can reap the gifts of membership before the Start of the New Year. Also, contact non-active members of your council and **ASK** them to become involved again in the council's family. You can find how to run the Invitation Program in your State Membership Booklet.

Be Positive

Major Degree Schedule - Gary Nolan, PSD

Date	1st	2nd & 3rd	Host DD			Location of the Degree
12/2/01	Noon	1:00 PM	John Reuss	23	3755	Chicago - Trinity Council
12/9/01	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	Gerald Knuth	36	736	Aurora - St Therese Church Hall
1/19/02	Noon	1:00 PM	Joseph Buscher	69	4608	Hillsboro - Council
1/25/02	N/A	7:00 PM	Alan Urban	32	9770	Frankfort - St Anthony Council
2/3/02	Noon	1:00 PM	Mark Schwartz	51	3507	Pekin - Bp Schlarman Council

PHOTO CONTEST

In the last issue the photo of the Statue of St. Francis of Assisi that can be found near the Lodge at Starved Rock State Park was identified by bro. Albert Skutt, Chancellor Council 8321, Lacon. A Christmas CD was sent to him for his keen eye and his knowledge. Good job!

Stem Cell Research – Larry and Marjorie Theriault

On several occasions, it has been implied by friend and foe alike that the Catholic Church, as well as the Knights of Columbus, is opposed to Stem Cell research. When in fact the opposite is true! Then where do these ideas come from?

Stem cell research has shown that these cells can be used to eliminate or curtail certain diseases including but not limited to diabetes, spinal cord injuries, immune deficiencies, cancer, and corneal repair. A variety of adult stem cells from such sources as placentas, amniotic fluid, umbilical cords, blood, fat, liver, pancreatic tissue, bone marrow, and the brain, have all shown great promise in curing these diseases. Some parents of newborns are banking their baby's umbilical cord against a possible future requirement for healing.

Here is where the controversy begins! There are those who say we should use human embryos for the source of these stem cells. The problem is that the embryo has to be killed in order to get them! Others say we should clone embryos for the single purpose of destroying them to get their stem cells. Ethically, the issue is very basic. We can use stem cells for research (do no harm), however, we cannot kill the donor to get them.

Columbus Day Drive Winners - Frank Ryan

The following brother were winners in this years Columbus Day Drive and will receive: each proposer a Pen & Pencil set, the Grand Knight a Howard Miller Clock and the District Deputy a Pin & Pencil set. Congratulations, brothers!

Chicago Archdiocese	Bob Doyle	12173
Joliet Diocese	Henry Nellet	12882
Rockford Diocese	Dennis McCoy	3880
Peoria Diocese	Gerald Harcharik	730
Springfield Diocese	Patrick Cruyton	460
Grand Knight	Lyle Colby	790
District Deputy	G. "Hank" Martin	DD 56

Councils that have reached the quota:

Chicago: 1268, 4698 and 11112, 12173

Joliet: 5573, 12882

Rockford: 654 and 3880

Peoria: 427, 574, 790, 3507, 11223, 12407, and 12576

Springfield: 364, 577, 1704, and 1580

Belleville: 4239,

Make sure all the information is turned in by the end of November, the drawing will be held on **December 10, 2001**.

Charities – Larry Smith

Here are the latest figures on the MR/LD Drive:

Belleville Diocese	\$ 89,214.71
Chicago Archdiocese	\$486,647.13
Joliet Diocese	\$282,016.74
Peoria Diocese	\$175,399.64
Rockford Diocese	\$174,094.76
Springfield Diocese	\$102,170.31

Again, these are partial figures; all of the MH/LD funds and reports were due on November 1.

Bill - Vocations Raffle - Ron

The Vocation Support Raffle is coming to a close, December 31, 2001 and the drawing will be held Saturday January 12, 2002 during the State Deputy's Dinner at the Mid-Winter District Meeting in Matteson, IL. You and your friends cannot win unless they purchase a ticket, so get them while they last. This is a great fundraiser for your Council and for the State Vocations Support Program.

Don't forget to collect back the Vocation Support Raffle Books from your members and for every book of 15 tickets, your Council turns in \$6.00.

State Secretary – Logan Ludwig

Each month the Elected and Selected State Officers meet to chart the course of the state and to see that the state stays its course. Following are actions taken on your behalf and for the uplifting of the Order.

Below are the Charities action points from the October and November meetings.

CHARITIES: 10-13-2001

- MR/LD goal for Council 734 reduced to \$7,500.00
- Approved 2002 MR/LD Fund Drive dates of September 20-21, 2002
- No action taken on prior General Assistance Request for Church repairs in Segel. Request to be resubmitted.
- Approved request of \$1000.00 for Encounter Weekend for potential seminarians at Conception Seminary
- Approved request for \$5,000.00 for continuation of Multi-Media Program at St. Joseph Seminary, deferred to a later meeting.
- Approval of Newman Campus Ministry allocation for 2001 is \$220,000.00
- Final settlement of the Barry Harris bequest is \$1,660.00 and will be deposited to the Newman Fund
- Completed legal documents of five (5) interest free loans and will be filed at the State Office
- Hero's Fund donations will not be credited toward the State Charity Goal
- RSVP funds are not counted toward Charities goals since Charities, Inc does not record them.

CHARITIES: 11-10-2001

- Approved \$2,500 for St. Michael the Archangel School in Sigel
- Approved \$1,000 for St. Mary's School in Forest Park.
- Approved Campus Ministries distribution recommendation for Newman Funds.
- Approved \$700 to Joliet Diocese and \$6,000 to Rockford Diocese under "brick and mortar" Newman program.
- Approved \$90,000 as this year's annual donation to Special Olympics
- Approved \$50,000 annual donation for 5 years to Darrell and Ursula Beck Special Olympics Volunteer Training Center.
- Approved \$20,000 donation to Riverside Art Center for purchase of van.
- Approved \$2,400 for vocations posters for Chicago Archdiocese.
- Did not approve request from Magic for Special Education

Visit the Illinois State Council Website at: www.illinoisknights.org

Notices for the newspaper should be sent to: illinoisknightsnews@hotmail.com

What is the best way to get a man to join the Knights of Columbus? **ASK HIM!!**

Following are the State Council Action points from the October and November 2001 meetings:

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL ACTION

10-13-01

- Approved Newsletter subscription rate of \$8.00/yr.
- 2001-2002 Vocations Seminar List for all Dioceses is completed and mailed.
- Approved 2003 Bowling Tournament for Bishop Muldoon council 470, Rockford.
- 2003 Horseshoe Tournament host decision deferred to January 2002 meeting
- Clarified State Softball Tournament host for 2002-2003
- State Squires Convention is planned for April 5-7, 2002 at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield
- Approved donating the \$1,260.00 rebate from the Cardinal game to Cardinal Glennon Development Center.
- Diocesan Program Consultants will fill open districts as District Deputies until an appointment is made.
- Major Degree Flyer must be mailed 6-8 weeks prior to scheduled date to be successful.
- NCD Activity Progress is to be updated to reflect all NCD activity.

11-10-2001

- Appointed SS Ludwig to serve as Eucharistic Congress Chair
- Approved donation to Donald Korta, Jr. family of \$2,000
- Assigned Newman Fund check distribution to elected & selected officers
- Scheduled December State Officers meeting for Dec. 8-9 in Galena.
- SS and SW to meet with Mark Ault to discuss web site
- Personnel issues will be discussed at future Executive Committee meeting
- Highland Council #1580 to host 2002 State Softball Tournament
- Squires Convention scheduled for April 5-7 in Springfield
- Approved name changes for councils #1028 and #4200.
- Assigned representation of state officers to Nov., Dec. and Jan. major degrees, and other functions.

NOW YOU CAN RECEIVE THE

Illinois State Council Newsletter

Now every member can receive the Illinois State Newsletter for the low subscription price of only \$8.00 per year. The Illinois State Council will be 104 years old in 2002 and it will be an exciting year. The best way to stay informed of the celebration is by reading the State Newsletter. Why not give it a try?

All you need to do is send in the coupon in this issue to our state office

Be an informed member

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

The dead line for submission of your 1728 is just around the corner (January 31, 2002) and again in Illinois we are striving to have 100 % of the Councils reporting. Do not wait; ask for the input of your members on what they have done for the Church, Community, Youth, Charity and their brothers and families.

Submitting this form is very important for the Order since the information submitted by the councils is one of the reasons we remain a tax exempt fraternal organization. This is one small way of telling others about what we, the Knights of Columbus, do for others. We here in Illinois are proud of the fact that we are number one in the United States in Charitable donations and volunteer hours, let's be proud again this year.

Semi Annual Audit Report

Your financial officers should be preparing to turn over the books to your Trustee's for the Audit. Encourage them to complete the work as soon after the New Year as possible to avoid the last minute rush. Be good stewards of the Council and complete your audit early.

2002 Mental Retardation/Learning Disabilities 2002 Fund Drive – Larry Smith

With the anticipated final figure for this years drive still a little out of reach, it looks like we will pass the \$1,500,000.00 mark, the Knights of Columbus, Illinois State Council proudly announces that the 2002 drive is scheduled for September 20 and 21, 2002. Already Governor George Ryan and Mayor Richard Daley (Chicago) have both offered their support by signing a proclamations designating September 20 and 21 as "Help Mental Retardation/Learning Disabilities Citizens Days".

Mark your calendars, appoint your chairman and ask your local Mayor to join both the Governor and Mayor Daley in a similar proclamation. Pull out your aprons and check them out, if you need new ones why not order them today long before you need them. Contact your local merchants early for locations to solicit, ask for matching funds, prepare your business solicitation letters, and if you can still work the intersections get them reserved.

Bits and Pieces

- The number one answer given by new members as the reason they join the Knights of Columbus: Someone asked them to.
- Why do men join the order? When 3000 new brothers were asked that question, this was the majority answer: "To do good for the Church and Community"
- In 2000-2001 the average age of members Order wide and in the State of Illinois was 56 years old.
- In 2000-2001 the average age of new members brought into the Order was 42 years old, in Illinois the average age of new members was 39 years old. Interesting isn't it!
- Why do we want to ask a Catholic man to join our order?
 1. For the man himself and for his family
 2. Spirituality (for what he can share and what he can receive)
 3. Fraternity (in community and in faith)



Bring a fellow Catholic Gentleman and his family in out of the cold by inviting them to become part of the largest Catholic Fraternal Service Organization in the world. Give them the opportunity to feel the warmth of the security that can only be found in the Knights of Columbus. Ask them to join with us and ask them to be involved in your council, church, community, youth and family activities.

Into your hands we commend their Spirits



Richard N. Nielson, Washington Council 1456,
53 years of service
Daniel F. Kelly, St. Rita Council 2034,
48 years of service
Salvatore V. Caruso, St. Rita Council 2034,
44 years of service
Gerald A. Bushur, Effingham Council 665,
39 years of service
Harold G. Niebrugge, Effingham 665,
41 years of service
Don E. Forrester, Bethalto Council 4688,
26 years of service
Frank Krzus, Sr., Genoa Council 1659,
40 years of service
Leonard E. Seitz, Highland Council 1580,
66 years of service
Julian Frey, Highland Council 1580,
61 years of service
Albert J. Lunitz, Highland Council 1580,
55 years of service
Wayne Gutzler, Highland Council 1580,

52 years of service
Victor C. Diesen, Highland Council 1580,
51 years of service
Edwin A. Brendel, Highland Council 1580,
48 years of service
Edward J. Schmitt, Highland Council 1580,
42 years of service
Philip C. Dare, Highland Council 1580,
39 years of service
Gervase Holtgrave, Highland Council 1580,
27 years of service
Daniel Alberternst, Highland Council 1580,
18 years of service
Peter B. Micheletto, Highland Council 1580,
17 years of service
Charles Rehkemper, Highland Council 1580,
2 years of service
Thomas D. Riley, Johnston City Council 7989,
17 years of service
Matt Stritzel, Johnston City Council 7989,
25 years of service

Chester H. (Chet) Ziemiecki, St. Daniel the Prophet
10575, 13 years of service
- William J Banta, St Daniel the Prophet Council
10575, 7 years of service
Charles J. Dieterle, Dixon Council 690
18 years of service
Francis R. Klein, Dixon Council 690
6 years of service
Mark P. Manning, Fr. J. C. Stroot, 3243
13 years of service
Wilbur E. Heinz, Fr .J. C. Stroot, 3243

48 years of service
Richard T. Freibert, PGK. Fr. J.C. Stroot 3243
52 years of service
Arnold Trame, Trenton Council 2932
47 years of service
Jerry Krouba, Brother-in-law of Logan Ludwig,
State Secretary

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FACSIMILES ARE ACCEPTED

"Open Wide the Doors to the Knights of Columbus in Illinois"

Illinois State Council
Knights of Columbus
P O Box 681
Kankakee, IL60901-0681

A Blessed Christmas to All!

And

A Happy New Year, Too!