



THE KNIGHT LINE

BREESE COUNCIL #2869

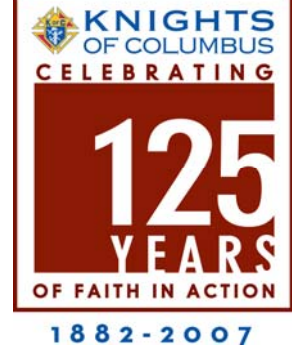
JANUARY 2008

CHARITY

UNITY

FRATERNITY

PATRIOTISM



Grand Knight's Notes

With the coming of this new year of 2008, I took a few minutes to reflect on the activities of our council during the last year while recalling how so many Knights of Columbus members in our Breese Council, across our nation and in other countries are willing to give so generously of their time and talents to do good for others. Many of you brother Knights have given of yourselves time and again offering many hours of service in the many activities of our council. I applaud you for your efforts, for being willing to share your gifts unselfishly while practicing the principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

This new year will offer many and varied opportunities for each of us to grow by challenging ourselves to do things that at first seem too difficult to achieve. I am

convinced there are many brother Knights among us who have yet undiscovered talents and skills waiting to be developed and put to use in serving our council possibly as officers or event chairmen and in turn serving others. We also need to be ever mindful that there are countless other Catholic gentlemen of all ages in our parish families who share common values with us who could also find membership in the Knights of Columbus to be a rewarding experience. I believe we Knights do these men a favor by inviting them to join our ranks and then work together with them in our endeavors.

Grand Knight
Rich Koerkeuemeier

New Brother Knights

Five young men have recently joined our ranks by completing their First Degree Exemplification on Thursday, December 27th. Please join me in welcoming these men to the Breese Council as they begin their journey in the Knights of Columbus:

Todd Albu, Michael Deiters, David Detmer, David Rakers and Matt Stratmann.

Let us all keep in mind that there are likely many other eligible Catholic gentlemen among our parish families, friends, co-workers and acquaintances who would benefit from membership in our order if we would only ask them to join.

New Start Time for Columbian Assn. Board Meetings

The start time for monthly Columbian Association Board Meetings has changed from 7:30 PM to 8:00 PM beginning with the January 2nd 2008 meeting. (The meeting night will remain on the 1st Wednesday of each month).



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KC & D of I Blood Drive - Wednesday, January 16th

The time has arrived once again for another KC & D of I blood drive by the American Red Cross scheduled for Wednesday, January 16th from 2 PM to 7 PM at the Breese KC Hall.

All presenting donors will receive a complimentary American Red Cross magnetic ribbon. Although the Red Cross goal for this drive is 80 units, at the drive last January 112 people arrived to donate and 107

units of blood were collected. At the July 07 collection, 97 persons, including 19 brother Knights donated 84 units. The Daughters of Isabella will again be on hand to help prepare and serve snacks and drinks sponsored by our council. With the help of many brother Knights and family members we can make this another productive drive and top the Jan 07 total!



Annual Columbian Association Meeting & Election of Officers – January 17th

The annual Columbian Association Meeting and Election of Columbian Board Officers will be held on **Thursday Jan 17th**, 8 PM at the Breese KC Hall. Remember, all Breese Council members are invited and are encouraged to attend this meeting to consider and vote for board members to represent them. The Columbian Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month to discuss and act on important maintenance, personnel and operations issues for our council home. The terms of 3 members will expire in

January 2008 so 3 will be elected. Gerard Rolfingsmeyer has served 2 terms of 3 years each and will retire from the board; Joe Eilers and Mike Kuhl have each served a 3 year term and will be running for re-election. Please consider whether you may be interested in serving on the Columbian Board and speak to nominating committee members Dennis Book, Bob Foote or Curt Zurliene. We thank all the board members for their years of service in these important positions!

Membership Dues

Annual council membership dues are payable now for the 2008 calendar year. Dues Categories are as follows:

Honorary Life Members, (minimum age 70 with at least 25 consecutive years of service, or 50 years consecutive service regardless of age) along with priests and brothers, pay no dues and are issued a permanent membership card.

Honorary Members, (min age 65 with at least 25 consecutive years of service) pay \$10 dues and are issued an honorary membership card and an annual membership card.

Full Time Students pay \$10 dues and are issued an annual membership card.

Permanent Deacons pay no dues and are issued an annual membership card.

(Breese Council collects ½ normal dues from full time students and no dues from Permanent Deacons.)

1st, 2nd, 3rd Degree Members not in above categories, pay \$20 dues and are issued an annual membership card.

Dues checks payable to “Breese Knights of Columbus” can be brought to the annual membership dinner on January 19th, dropped off at the Breese KC Hall or mailed to Breese KofC, PO Box 124 Breese, IL 62230

Annual Membership Dinner - January 19th

All Breese Council Knights, their wives and families are invited to our annual membership dinner on Saturday, January 19th beginning at 5 PM. Simply pay your 2008 membership dues (except as noted in above story) as

you enter to join your Brother Knights and Ladies for great food and fellowship as we begin a new calendar year.



Respect Life Activities - January 19th-22nd

Breese Council members will offer Lapel Roses for donations to benefit Pro-Life activities after Masses held on January 19th and 20th. Our council has again made \$1000 available to help local high school students pay for the Life Caravan bus trip to Washington DC for the 35th Annual Rally and March for Life on January 22nd.

Thanks to the generosity of council members and parishioners, funds collected in recent Magnetic Ribbon and Lapel Rose collections are available to help these students support a "Culture of Life." Locally, all are invited to a prayer service and march scheduled for Jan. 22nd from 12 to 1 PM (weather permitting) at the Clinton County Courthouse led by the Clinton County Citizens for Life.

Council Activities Planning Meeting - January 24th

Please bring your ideas; join your brother Knights for a meal at 7 PM in the KC hall dining room followed by our planning meeting to discuss council activities and scheduling for the next six months. Your input and ideas are appreciated.

Texas Hold-em & Blackjack - Sunday, January 27th

Our next Texas Hold-em and Blackjack Tournament has been scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, January 27th. Doors open and Blackjack play begins at 2 PM, and the Texas Hold-em tournament will commence at 3 PM. Please help to spread the word to those you know who may be interested in playing.

Spotlight on Squires



Our Breese Columbian Squires Breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 27th from 8 AM to 1 PM at the Breese KC Hall. Chief Counselor Doug Kuhl would appreciate help from a few brother Knights to help supervise work crews etc. Please contact Doug if you can help. Bring your friends and family to enjoy a great breakfast and to support our Squires!

The Squires are also planning an investiture on Wednesday evening January 9th to bring new members into the Circle of thirty members. Any young men 12 to 18 years old interested in joining should contact Chief Counselor Doug Kuhl at 526-7788 or 830-1896. Doug is still in need of a brother Knight to serve as Assistant Counselor for the Squires Circle. Please contact him if you could help.

Lenten Fish

If you haven't yet checked the 2008 calendar you may be surprised to learn that the Lenten season begins very early this year with Ash Wednesday falling on February 6th and Easter Sunday on March 23rd. Please keep in mind and help spread the word to family, friends and neighbors about the excellent fish meals that will again be available on Ash Wednesday and the seven Fridays during Lent.

Family Mass, Council Meeting & Ladies Program - February 14th

Please join us on February 14th at the Breese KC Hall upstairs for Mass at 7 PM, followed by a Ladies Program after Mass and our regular monthly council meeting at 8 PM.

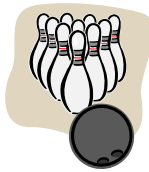
Spelling Bee & Free Throw Competition

Our annual council spelling bee for area students has been scheduled for Sunday, **February 17th** and the annual Free Throw Competition will also be held approximately **mid-February** at Mater Dei High School, more details will be included in the February newsletter.



Downstate Bowling Tournament - February 23rd & 24th

No registration information has been sent out yet but dates are set. More info should be available soon.



Past Grand Knights Party – March 8th

Attention all Breese Council Past Grand Knights, mark your calendar now to reserve March 8th for the Past Grand Knights Party. Invitations will be sent later. Hope to see all PGKs and wives there!

Fourth Degree Exemplifications Coming

There are opportunities coming soon to become a Fourth Degree Knight with Exemplifications scheduled for March 15th at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows and here at our Breese Council Hall in October of 2008. Give some serious thought to becoming a Fourth Degree member, a great way to combine your Catholic faith and patriotic spirit. Speak to Joe Langhauser, Faithful Navigator of the Bishop Althoff Assembly for further info.

Council Shirts & Caps

We will be taking orders for Breese Council Shirts and Caps at the annual Membership Dinner on January 19th. A sample shirt and cap will be on display at the dinner. The shirts are white "Outer Banks" brand polo shirts embroidered with the KC logo and Breese Council name. Cost for small to X-large will be \$30 or less (depending on size of our order to the supplier, cheaper

with a larger order) while larger sizes will be a few dollars more. Caps are red, white and blue with embroidery and will cost \$10. An order form will also be placed on the bulletin board at the KC hall lounge. The best time to order will be at the membership dinner or very soon after as a larger quantity order from our council will lower the cost for all.

Departed Brother Knights

During the first half of this fraternal year our council has suffered the loss of four of our brother Knights. Bernard G. Niemann, Marcellus Niemeyer, Wendelin Schumacher and Francis Wilke have passed from this earthly life since July 1st of 2007. I ask all Breese Council Knights to make an effort to join us each time we gather together to pray and offer our condolences at the funeral home after the passing of each member.

We have been notifying members by e-mail and will continue to do so, but I would ask that any member who would like to be notified but does not have e-mail access or does not frequently check their e-mail to contact the Grand Knight so that you may be notified by phone after the passing of a brother Knight. grand-knight@breeseKnights.com, or 974-1910.

Consider State KC Convention

Brother Knights and wives, as you begin planning vacations etc. for 2008 you should consider a possible trip to the Illinois State K of C Convention to be held near Chicago on Memorial Day weekend. This is always an enjoyable trip for Knights and Ladies, great fellowship, great food, a chance to meet many KC members from other parts of the state, and who knows, maybe a

chance to hear a bishop sing one or two of his favorite songs. A bus from our area will likely leave on Friday morning May 23rd and return Sunday afternoon May 25th. Ask some of the Past Grand Knights of our council for their recollections of past conventions. More details will be available in the coming months.



Breese Knights of Columbus Council #2869
480 Walnut Street
P.O. Box 124
Breese, IL 62230
(618) 526-7898

Grand Knight - Rich Koerkenmeier
7612 Wayne Road
St. Rose, IL 62230
Cell: (618) 974-1910
Home: (618) 526-2029
grandknight@breeseknights.org

Financial Secretary - Joe Langhauser
P.O. Box 5
Breese, IL 62230
Day: (618) 526-4277
Evening: (618) 523-8189
fs@breeseknights.org

K of C Insurance Field Agent - Jeff Niemeyer
Any inquiries regarding insurance:
(618) 210-0365
jeff.niemeyer@kofc.org

Hall Manager - Carl Ratermann
(618) 526-7898 (K of C Hall)

Special Olympics Recycling Program

In the first eleven months of 2007 our council generated \$178.40 in income to the Illinois Special Olympics Recycling Program which puts us 7th in the state and first in the Belleville Diocese. \$3910 was generated statewide through 11-30-07. Please keep those recyclables coming.

Mailing Address Changes & E-mail Addresses

Please notify Financial Secretary Joe Langhauser of any mailing address change as soon as possible. Please notify GK Rich Koerkenmeier of any e-mail address changes and to add your e-mail address to the Breese Council E-mail list to receive reminders of upcoming events, departed brothers rosaries etc.

State Essay Contest

Chairman Rich Bagby will soon be distributing materials to area schools to invite students to participate in the Illinois Statewide K of C Essay Contest. The contest topic is "Why Should School Uniforms Be Allowed in or Prohibited from Public Schools?" Judging will determine the best essay from each of two divisions: the Junior Division consists of entries from 7th, 8th and 9th grades, the Senior Division-10th, 11th and 12th grades. Winning essays go on to Diocesan level judging and those winners on to state.

Knight of the Month - Gary Jansen

Gary Jansen has been selected as our January Knight of the Month. Gary is a Past Grand Knight of our council and currently serves us as a Trustee as well as Council Activities Director often dealing with athletic events for council members. He is also a co-chairman for our Texas Hold-em tournaments, is a long time Friday fry crew member and has served as a Bingo crew leader for several years. He has six years experience as a Columbian Association Board member and was a co-chairman of the KC hall renovation committee. As a member of St. Dominic parish, he is a co-chairman of the fry crew for parish fundraising dinners and the annual parish picnic in addition to his duties as usher at parish masses. Please remember to thank Gary for his service!

Family of the Month - Rich & Pat Bagby

The January Family of the Month is Rich and Pat Bagby of St. Boniface Parish in Germantown. They are the parents of three grown sons, a grandson and two granddaughters. Rich and Pat together serve the Church, community and our council in many ways. Pat is the Pre-Cana Program Director for the North Central Deanery of the Belleville Diocese while Rich and Pat work together as presenters in the program. Both are Eucharistic Ministers and church choir members, while Rich serves as a lector at Masses and has been teaching a parish Bible study. Rich has also been studying in the Diaconate Program, this past September having advanced to the Order of Acolyte and is looking forward to ordination as a Permanent Deacon on July 26th of 2008.

Pat continues to teach at District 12 Elementary School in Breese while Rich has retired as an English teacher at Central High School. He also has had twenty five years involvement with the Boy Scouts at the local, district and council levels and has recently begun working in Pastoral Care at St. Josephs Hospital in Breese. Rich has been involved in Breese Council activities as a Friday fry crew member, has served for the past few years as Moderator at our Spelling Bee events and will also serve as our Essay Contest chairman this spring. Please congratulate and thank Rich and Pat for their work!

