



# THE KNIGHT LINE

BREESE COUNCIL #2869

MAY 2008



CHARITY

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PATRIOTISM

## Grand Knight's Notes

It is with a degree of sadness that I now work to complete this letter after learning of the passing of our brother, Past Grand Knight John C Mills. John served our council as Grand Knight during the 1993-1994 fraternal year. He was a Sir Knight of the Bishop Althoff Fourth Degree Assembly and served for a time as Chief Counselor of the Breese Columbian Squires group.

Soon after I began as Grand Knight, I had occasion to meet John and he offered his help if ever I was in need of it. On a few occasions throughout this year I did ask John for assistance but found in each case his schedule would not permit it as he already had other commitments. Over a short time by speaking to those who knew him, I came to learn that John was a person who regularly gave of himself to others, in giving of his time and talents to help many people in many different ways.

He was active in various ways in parish life; as a catechist for confirmation students, was president of the parish pastoral council, and was a parish representative on the Deanery Reflection Group. I am told that John was always willing to help with any project around the parish.

Is John's service not an example to us of what Christ teaches in the Gospels, of putting others needs before our own, of giving of our time and God given talents to help others when they are in need? We salute John for his service to our council, the Church and community and know that his service is a model for us to follow and that he will be sadly missed by those whose lives he touched.

I wish to thank the 22 Past Grand Knights and other Breese Council members who participated in the Rosary for our departed brother John in addition to the 10 Past Grand Knights and council members

attending the funeral.

With the sudden passing of PGK John Mills fresh on our minds, now is a good time to review and consider the KC Insurance information I have included in this letter. Please contact KC Insurance Field Agent Jeff Niemeyer for more information.

Again, I wish to thank my brother Knights of the Breese Council for their service over this past month. Our council held a beautiful Pro-Life Prayer and Wreath Laying Service at the Monument to the Unborn in front of the Breese Knights of Columbus Hall. Thanks to our Pro-Life chairman Tony Antonacci for his work in organizing this event, to Deacon Bob Lippert who actually wrote the beautiful prayer service, to our priests, Father Ben Stern who presided and to Fathers Pat Peter and Chuck Tuttle. Thanks also to Linus Klostermann, to Phyllis Mensing and the teachers and students of the Breese Public School of Religion Program.

Breese Council members helped at the Special Olympics Spring Games held this year at the Highland High School on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Although the weather was less than ideal, the athletes worked hard to test their skills and many awards were presented. Three teams of Breese Knights participated in the God's Special Children Golf Classic hosted by our friends of the O'Fallon Council on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Much fun was had by all.

Thanks to our Texas Hold-em workers another successful tournament has been completed. The next event is set for Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Grand Knight  
*Rich Koerkeuemeier*

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## State Essay Contest 2nd Place Winners

Two essays from the Breese Council recently took 2nd place awards at the state level in the Illinois KC State Essay Contest. The essay of Maddy Wilson is the second place winner in the Junior High School Division while the entry of Kendra Deerhake was judged second place winner in the Senior High School Division. Congratulations to both on their writing skills and fine work.



### Family Mass & Council Meeting - May 8



Please join us upstairs at the Breese KC Hall as Council Chaplain Father Chuck Tuttle celebrates Mass for us at 7 PM on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> prior to our council meeting at 8 PM.

### Nicholas Junker Ordination - May 10

Nick Junker, our Breese Council Brother Knight, will be ordained as a Catholic priest on Saturday, May 10 at a 10 AM Mass at St. Peters Cathedral in Belleville. Nick, who now lives in Belleville, joined our council in April 2006 while serving at St. Dominic Parish.

Bishop Edward Braxton has invited all Knights of Columbus members to attend the Ordination Mass in which the Sir Knights of the Bishop Althoff Fourth Degree Assembly will serve as Honor Guard. Please call or e-mail GK Rich Koerkenmeier for information on ridesharing.

### Headstone Cleaning - May 17

With mild temperatures returning, Chairman Ron Kleiboeker is again seeking brother Knights to join his team and in cleaning tombstones at the St. Augustine/St. Dominic Cemetery west of Breese. Ron is tentatively planning a Sat. May 17<sup>th</sup> cleaning date. Please call Ron at 526-7191 to offer your assistance for this important project!

### MD Dinners May 19 & 22 - Help Needed

Brother Knights & Ladies, we need your help in preparing and serving at the Mater Dei Band Dinner (Monday, May 19) and the Parent-Senior Night Dinner (Thursday, May 22). Earnings from the Band Dinner will be used to offset the cost of bus expenses to the upcoming KC State Convention so all who are attending the convention are expected to help work at this dinner. Please contact GK Rich Koerkenmeier or DGK Rich Robben to volunteer.



### State Convention - May 23-25

Fifteen Breese Council Knights and Ladies are preparing to travel to the Illinois State KC Convention on May 23-25. Many activities are planned as well as opportunities for fellowship with brother Knights and Ladies from across the state. Our Council has submitted a resolution to suggest the implementation of a Supreme Council "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest.

### Council Meeting & Officer Elections

The annual election of council officers will be held during the June 12 council meeting. Brother Knights, if you are asked by our Deputy Grand Knight to take on the duties of an office in the council I would ask that you seriously consider the request! If you have been asked, it is because others have seen in you some evidence of leadership ability even if you may not have seen it yourself!

### Annual Council Golf Scramble - July 13



Believe it or not our Annual Breese Council Golf Scramble will be here soon! Start spreading the word and making your team plans for the tournament which is scheduled for Sunday, July 13 at Bent Oak golf course with shotgun starts at 7:30 AM and 1:00 PM. Cost will be \$60 per player which includes lunch, a great dinner and drinks. Call Chairmen Curt Zurliene at 526-2018 or Phillip Moss at 526-7053 to reserve a team.

### Fourth Degree Exemplification - October 12

Third Degree Knights have an excellent opportunity to enhance their participation in our order by advancing to the level of 4<sup>th</sup> Degree at the Exemplification coming to Breese on October 12. 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 or other 4<sup>th</sup> Degree members and watch for upcoming newsletter inserts for further details.

### Mailing & E-mail Address Changes

Please notify FS Joe Langhauser of any mailing address changes as soon as possible. Please notify GK Rich K. 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. See the Council Contact information for e-mail addresses and phone numbers.



### Monthly Council Newsletter Online

Visit the Breese Council website ([www.breeseknights.org](http://www.breeseknights.org)) to view the Council Newsletter shortly after publication. You may be able to view the newsletter before you receive it by mail!



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### Family of the Month - Deacon Bob & Lucille Lippert

Please join me in congratulating Deacon Bob and Lucille Lippert who have been selected as our May Family of the Month. Bob and Lou are the parents of five children and 12 grandchildren. Bob was assigned as Pastoral Associate at St. Anthony and St. Augustine Parishes in 1999 and has served as Parish Life Coordinator at both since May 2005. Deacon Bob wrote a wonderful Pro-Life Wreath Laying Ceremony which he recently helped to present at the Monument to the Unborn outside our KC hall. Lou is also very involved in parish life as Sacristan, choir member, chairperson for the parish trivia night, helping the with parish rummage sale etc. During Bob and Lucille's time there, St. Anthony parish has been busy with many improvements to parish facilities. Please

thank Bob and Lucille for their service to our Church, council and community.



### Knight of the Month - Joe Langhauser

Our council Financial Secretary Joe Langhauser is very deserving of the May Knight of the Month Award. Not only does Joe do an excellent job of handling much of the financial, membership, recordkeeping etc. work for the council, he continues to serve as a bingo crew captain, fry crew member, and Lenten Fish committee member. In addition to these duties, he is able to successfully lead the Bishop Althoff 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly as Faithful Navigator in their many appearances and endeavors. Joe has been an invaluable source of assistance to the Grand Knight in trying to keep council activities working well. He continues to serve St. Boniface Parish as Eucharistic Minister, usher, cemetery committee member and as a member of the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Please congratulate and thank Joe for his countless hours of service to our council.

### Spotlight on Squires



Twenty members of the Breese Squires Circle, along with Chief Counselor Doug Kuhl and several Breese Council Knights, traveled to Springfield, Illinois for the State Squires Convention April 11-13. The Circle received awards for their State Basketball and Bowling victories, and in elections at the convention, Breese Squires Circle Chief Squire Luke Essenpries retained the office of State Bursar Squire, while Michael Harper was elected to the office of Pole Captain. The Squires enjoyed the indoor pool and a Saturday visit to the Abraham Lincoln Museum. Thanks to Squires Chief Counselor Doug Kuhl for his outstanding work with the Squires Circle.

### MRLD Funds Distributed

Our Council is pleased to be able to make donations of nearly \$7,000 to nine organizations which do great work to help many deserving individuals. These gifts were made possible by the generosity of countless individuals and businesses in the area who made donations to the MRLD Mental Retardation/Learning Disabilities Fund Drive, (sometimes known as the Tootsie Roll drive), held last September. Chairman Ray Brosch, along with approximately 140 Knights and Squires Circle members, took to the streets of Breese, Germantown and St. Rose, as well as local churches, to make collections which enabled our council to top the MRLD goal set for us by the State Council. Donations were made to the following organizations:

- Aviston Terrace Group Home
- Catholic Social Services of Southern Illinois
- Don Bosco Children's Center
- Ministry to Sick and Aged
- Clinton County Community Link
- Warren G Murray Developmental Center
- Illinois Center for Autism
- Special Olympics Area 12-Highland
- Clinton County Advocates for Recreational Activity



### Catholic Radio 92.7

Remember to check out 92.7 FM Catholic Radio broadcasting from the Carlyle area. Catholic radio can be a great way for you to deepen your understanding and appreciation of the beauty of the Catholic faith!



TOP-RATED PRODUCTS...  
OUTSTANDING DIVIDENDS

**Dividends Paid to** **More than \$3 Billion**  
**Knights of Columbus** = over the last  
**Policyowners** ten years  
(1997-2007)

**Our Dividends**

The Order's Board of Directors voted an interest factor of 8.15% for dividends paid in 2008 - among the very best in the insurance industry. Are you getting your share?

This dividend scale is a reflection of the continuing sound management of the Order's insurance program as well as a tribute to those members and wives who have entrusted their financial futures to the Order. In an era when some insurance companies have reduced dividend payouts, we anticipate that the Order will pay more to its policyholders in 2008 than ever before.

**The Order**

- Highest (AAA, Extremely Strong) rating from Standard & Poor's.
- Highest (A++, Superior) rating from A.M. Best.
- Certified by the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association.
- Over \$65 billion of individual insurance in force.
- Over 1.6 million policies in force.
- Paying claims for over a century.
- All with a professional agent who is also a brother Knight.

**Breese Knights: Contact Jeff Niemeyer - KC Field Agent**  
(618) 210-0365 jeff.niemeyer@kofc.org or visit 'Find an Agent' at www.kofc.org

**We're Applying for the Job**

If you are looking for a life insurer you can trust with your family's future, look no further. If you are interested in securing a safe stream of income in your retirement years - guaranteed - look no further. We're applying for the job.



**The mission hasn't changed since 1882. Our members and their families always come first.**

## Lower Price Possibly, Better Value Never

Why should I depend on the Knights of Columbus for my life insurance and some investments?

- **Financial Strength-**
  - Rated **AAA Extremely Strong** by *Standard & Poor's* (the top rating given by S&P) for 14 consecutive years
  - Rated by *A.M. Best* as **A++ Superior** (the top rating given by A.M. Best) for 31 consecutive years.
  - Proud member of **IMSA** (*Insurance Marketplace Standards Association*).
  - The Knights of Columbus in 1 of 4 insurance companies out of 1,500 in USA with all three accreditations.
- **Service-**Our Supreme Knight and all the members of the Board of Directors are Brother Knights-the decisions they make are made in the best interest of the members and their families.

Our founder, Father McGivney, had a dream to create a Catholic organization to take care of widows and orphans of deceased members. The dream of Father McGivney is foremost in the minds of all those at the helm of the Knights of Columbus. The entire force of 1,400 field and general agents are dedicated to assist Knight of Columbus families through professional insurance, retirement and education planning for each member and their family.

- **Fraternal Benefit Society Insurance Dividends**
  - **Dividends paid out in 2001 were \$275 million**
  - **Dividends paid out in 2002 were \$297 million**
  - **Dividends paid out in 2003 were \$318 million**
  - **Dividends paid out in 2004 were \$337 million**
  - **Dividends paid out in 2005 were \$344 million**

Ask any insurance company the following questions:

1. What does the company do each year to promote our Catholic values? (**Knights of Columbus 2004 - \$139.7 million donated to Catholic Charities with 64.04 million man hours of donated charitable service**)
2. What has the company done to support our parishes and schools? (**Knights of Columbus - \$148 million in church loans for local parishes and schools. We made 19 new loans totaling \$33.6 million for 2005**)
3. How many times did the company televise the Holy Father on worldwide television last year?
4. What kind of pro-life campaign does the company have?
5. What has the CEO or the company done to combat stem cell and embryo research?
6. What has the company done to promote and support vocations for the Priests and Religious life?
7. How much did the company contribute to help the families of victims of September 11 and Katrina and Rita Hurricane relief in 2005?
8. What kind of support does the company give each year to Mother Angelica's Eternal Word Television network?
9. How much does the company contribute each year to support the Holy Father's charities? (**Knights of Columbus 2005 - \$1.6 million donation from this year's earnings from Order's Vicarius Christi Fund.**)
10. Does the company guarantee a Catholic University education to children of Knights of Columbus members who are policemen, firemen or military and who are killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty from criminal violence?
11. Provides Accelerated Benefits Options of those terminally ill insured to receive, prior to death, partial distribution from their whole life coverage.
12. **Fraternal benefits paid in 2004 amounted to \$662,000 for accidental death for the member and or spouse, \$17,500 for stillborn and \$36,000 for infant deaths. To date, \$7,285,500 of free benefits paid to 4592 families of brother Knights in last 12 years.**
13. **Record membership of 1,722,126 members, with 81,172 new and reactivated members added in 2005. In 2005 the order lost 27,029 brother Knights. The deceased members and their spouses are remembered in the daily Mass at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Ct.**
14. The Order paid out \$172 million in death benefits of deceased brother Knights in 2005. All total the Order has paid \$2 billion in death benefits in the 124 year history.
15. To our living members, the Order has paid \$7.4 billion in maturities, dividends, interest, annuity proceeds, long term care benefits and disability waivers.

**Is there a better price than the Knights? – Possibly**  
**Is there a better value? - Never**