



St. Mary Knights of Columbus Council 9962
Newsletter: December 31, 2008

2008/2009 Council Officers:

Chaplain Fr. David Grondz 385-9933 brodavid@stphilipnerihouse.org	Grand Knight Jeff Cypher 382-5879 lawscience@sbcglobal.net	Deputy Grand Knight Joe Myers 269-420-2816 (c) sjijmj2@sbcglobal.net	Financial Secretary Barry Smith 388-4618 ponytailboss@hotmail.com	
Treasurer Bill Medonis	Chancellor Terry Wallace	Warden George Blades	Recorder Jeremiah Bannister	Advocate Bernie Westrick
Trustee (1 Year) Thomas Holewa	Trustee (2Year) Jim Durecki	Trustee (3 Year) Mike Wachowski	Inside Guard Scott Farley	Outside Guard Larry Forrester

From the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

This past year our Council has truly risen to the call! We have grown in membership to 80. More gentlemen are stepping up and joining the St Mary Council and becoming active in the many wonderful things going on in the parish community. The families of our brother knights are pitching in with a renewed sense of community also.

Our members have volunteered countless hours to various Church services as Extra Ordinary Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Sacristans, Altar Servers, and have contributed as members on the various Parish Committees and Groups (Finance, Parish Council, Bart Hall, Men's, Events, etc.). We have reestablished a "Pennies for Priests" program for Seminarians and have promoted vocations in this parish with our every breath. A few members are active in the ministry to Borgess Nursing Home and Rose Arbor Hospice Residence, regularly give blood at Red Cross Blood drives, generously help the elderly and shut-ins, and lead in the prayer of the Rosary on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Though our parish no longer has a school on site, our Council Youth Director has coordinated the Soccer Challenge and Spelling Bee for the St Augustine and Vineyard Academy Schools and has organized the K of C Local and Diocesan Free Throw Tournaments here at St Mary Bart Hall. We have also supported a St Mary Scout troop. We have conducted a neighborhood basket ball camp, and have helped with the planning and implementation of the new St Mary "Bigs" Group (neighborhood outreach).

Financially, the Council has contributed to Parent to Parent of South West Michigan (education and aid to parents of mentally impaired children), MI Special Olympics, Disability Resource Center of SW MI, Residential Opportunities Inc., Morality in the Media, the Take 5 program, Holy Cross Children's Services (Boysville), Project Rachael, Hospice of Kalamazoo, Right to Life of Kalamazoo, St Vincent DePaul, Salvation Army, Caring Network for new mothers, Catholic Family Services, a local family in need, and the "Life ethics" curriculum at the Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. We have made donations of over \$1500 to local Catholic schools as tuition assistance and have helped cover the cost for Vacation Bible School and CCD books and supplies in our parish. We have organized and helped raise moneys for a World Youth Day Fund that aided our youth in a trip to Australia to meet Pope Benedict. The list goes on...

Columbianism is alive and well in our Council. This is all not very surprising when you consider that the Parish, as a whole, is being renewed. Don't you feel the energy, can't you hear the talk, and aren't you seeing the changes? Catholicism is ardent in our Parish.

I am very proud, as well as you should be also, to boast that we are members of St Mary Council 9962!

Fraternally,

Jeff Cypher, GK

Knight and Family of the Month(s)

Congratulations to the following Brother Knights who were chosen by their fellow members to be Knights of the Month:

Bill Medonis (June); George Blades (July); Joe Myers (August); Andrew Myers (September); Bill Medonis (October); and Jeff Cypher (November).

Congratulations are also in order to those chosen as Families of the Month, who by their example, have shown us how to be true model Christian families:

Bernie, Pat, and Tom Westrick Family (June); Lou and Chris Hernandez Family (July); Larry and Marijo Forrester Family (August); Terry and Jamie Wallace Family (September); Lou and Chris Hernandez Family (October); and the Bernie, Pat, and Tom Westrick Family (November).

Remembering our Faithful Departed Brothers

In November we remember our departed brothers with a Memorial Ceremony and a Solemn Requiem Mass. The following members have passed before us: Stanley Chase, David Czuk, Richard Farrer, Leo Golembiewski, Harold Hale, Ed Hargot, Paul Lester, Leo Orr, Ray Pike, James Shannon, Donald Tobin, James Tyria, Ron Union, Bill Watson, and Reverend Larry Kroll. Also remembered are our departed sisters: Sally Blades (Deceased wife of George), Flora Chase (deceased wife of Stanley), Ann Durecki (deceased wife of Jim and mother of Joe), Wanda Hargot, (deceased wife of Brother Ed Hargot), and Anna Marks (deceased wife of Dave). Please remember them and their families in prayer.

Fall MI Drive held on October 10-12

A big "Thanks" go out to Wayne Kudwa for organizing this event. Thanks also to all who participated. Approximately \$841.05 was raised and distributed as follows: \$162.21 distributed by the State Council, \$600.00 to Parent to Parent of Southwest Michigan, and \$72.84 to Special Olympics of Michigan.

Christmas Wreath Sale

Thanks to Jerry Hoppe who made wreaths again this year we earned \$450 that will be donated to Residential Opportunities Inc., a nonprofit mental health organization in Kalamazoo that is a leading provider of residential and support services for individuals in Southwestern Michigan with developmental disabilities.

Super Bowl Sub Sandwich Sale:

January 29 through February 1 is the date for this year's Super Bowl Sub Sale. Each year, this is one of our major fund raising efforts. Please be generous with your time when you are asked to help out.

Turkey, Ham, Beef, and Bologna/Salami subs are available; all with either provolone or American cheese. Please call Dave Marks at 342-9815 for more information.

2008 Fraternal Survey:

Below is a copy of the Fraternal Activity Individual Member Worksheet. Please complete and then cut and paste into an e-mail to me at lawscience@sbcglobal.net before Jan 23. If you don't have e-mail, please clip out the form, fill in, and send back to me a 2825 Hylle St, Kalamazoo, MI 49006 by January 23.

1. Number of visits you made during 2008 to:

Sick - caring for the sick/nursing homes/hospitals..... _____

Bereaved - visits of condolence _____

2. Number of times you served as a blood donor during 2008 _____

3. Estimated hours of community volunteer service during 2008:

Church Activities - service in all Church related activities..... _____

Community Activities - service in all community related activities..... _____

Youth Activities - service in all youth related activities..... _____

Miscellaneous Activities - service in areas not outlined above..... _____

4. Number of hours of fraternal service during 2008:

Sick/disabled members and their families - household chores, transportation, tutoring, counseling, etc. _____

If You Haven't Yet, You Should Think About Life Insurance

The Knights of Columbus was founded March 29, 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney to assist widows and orphans in the then impoverished Irish Catholic community. The primary motivation for the Order was to be a mutual benefit society. As a parish priest in an immigrant community, McGivney saw what could happen to a family when the breadwinner died and wanted to provide insurance to care for the widows and orphans left behind. He himself had to temporarily leave his seminary studies to care for his family when his father died.

Give it some thought. Give our insurance agent a call. Robert Julian, 269 644 4321 or e-mail robert.julian@kofc.org

Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time and Place</u>
Jan 7	Council Monthly Meeting	After 7:00 PM Mass in the Church lower level
Jan 9-10	MI State Bowling Tournament	Battle Creek, Mass at St Philip @ 6:00 PM
Jan 11	Diocesan Spelling Bee	1:00 PM, St Monica Parish Center
Jan 15	Bingo Kitchen	5:30-9:00 PM, Bart Hall, Volunteers Needed!!
Jan 17	3 rd Degree District Meeting	9:00 AM, St Mary (Kalamazoo) Rectory Meeting Room
Jan 17	4th Degree District 2 Meeting	10:30 AM, St Gerard, Lansing
Jan 18	Pancake Brunch	Serving after the 9:00 AM Mass in Bart Hall
Jan 19	Red Cross Blood Drive	Noon - 5:00 PM, Borgess - Lawrence Center
Jan 20	Assembly 0513 Meeting	7:00 PM, St Mary Rectory Meeting Room (Master Dennis Henderson will attend)
Jan 22	Bingo Kitchen	5:30-9:00 PM, Bart Hall, Volunteers Needed!!
Jan 24	Local Free Throw Tournament	Noon Reg., start at 1:00 PM, Bart Hall
Jan 26	Parish Council Meeting	7:00 PM, St. Mary Rectory Meeting room
Jan 29	Bingo Kitchen	5:30-9:00 PM, Bart Hall, Volunteers Needed!!
Jan 29-Feb 1	Super Bowl Sub Sale	Making and selling through weekend, help needed
Feb 4	Council Monthly Meeting	After 7:00 PM Mass in the Church lower level (Insurance Rep, Bob Julian will attend)
Feb 9	Fr David (Chaplain)'s Birthday	All day
Feb 15	Pancake Brunch	Serving after the 9:00 AM Mass in Bart Hall
Feb 16	Red Cross Blood Drive	Noon - 5:00 PM, Borgess - Lawrence Center
Feb 17	Assembly 0513 Meeting	7:00 PM, Council 1616 Hall
Feb 21	Diocesan Free Throw Tournament	Noon Reg., start at 1:00 PM, Bart Hall
Feb 25	Ash Wednesday	
Feb 28	Council Retreat	Philip Neri House

2008-2009 Fraternal Calendar

The Council Calendar for the 2008-2009 fraternal year is now drafted. Please e-mail the Grand Knight or call Jeff Cypher at 382-5879 for a copy. You may also check out the St Mary Web site at <http://www.stmarykazoo.org/> and click on the menu for "Parish Groups - Knights of Columbus".

Help Cut the Cost of Postage

If you have an e-mail address that we could send your mailings to, please send it to the Grand Knight lawscience@sbcglobal.net and the Financial Secretary ponytailboss@hotmail.com

Have a Happy, Peaceful, and Blessed New Year