

Knight Newsletter

**St. John the Evangelist Council #8342, Prairieville
May - 2010**

Council Officers

Chaplain: Father Eric Gyan (673-8307)
Grand Knight: Paul Allen (752-3544)
Deputy GK: Cliston Guillot (673-8238)
Chancellor: Gerald Blair (450-2504)
Recorder: Anthony Babin (673-8754)
Financial Sec: Merle Russelburg (622-3125)
Treasurer: Robert Templet, Sr. (673-2528)
Advocate: Lee Guidry (673-3330)
Warden: David Guedry (673-4201)
Inside Guard: Richard Holder (673-6354)
Outside Guard: James Hubbs (622-1468)
1-Year Trustee: Willis Broussard (622-1036)
2-Year Trustee: Tom Clausi (677-5544)
3-Year Trustee: Tommy Ruemker (622-4152)
Lecturer: Dr. Michel Hirsch (673-9457)

Council Directors

Programs: Cliston Guillot (673-8238)
Membership: Don Belanger (673-3766)
Squires: Ashley Rabalais (677-9648)
Church: Gerald Blair (450-2504)
Community: Lester Arnaud (363-6604)
Council Activities: Lester Sylvester (673-3165)
Family/Pro-Life: David Gregory (673-9592)
Fundraisers: Delphin Russelburg (622-4278)
Youth: Corey Orgeron (673-5445)
Vocations: Donald Joseph (363-6220)
Health Services: David Broussard (622-0656)
Public Relations: Scott McLin (673-1656)
Retention: Delphin Russelburg (622-4278)
Insurance: Merle Russelburg (622-3125)
Insurance Agent: Tim Fernandez (622-6384)

Family of the Month

April - Debbie/Tim Langlois

March - Janet and Whitney Amadee
February - Nancy and Ross Erwin
January - Mary and Lee Guidry
December - Georgia and Cliston Guillot
November - Catherine and Lester Arnaud
October - Melissa and Russel Madere
September - Becky and Robert Templet Jr.
August - Gayle and Byron Gautreau
July - Pam and Tommy Ruemker



Knight of the Month

April - Lee Guidry

March - Brian Ducote
February - Paul Duplessis
January - Tim Langlois
December - Lester Arnaud
November - Donald Joseph
October - Tommy Ruemker
September - Michel Hirsh
August - Louis Thomassie
July - Corey Orgeron

May Birthdays!

Dan Brignac (1)
Anthony Babin (6)
Eric Vahling (6)
Kenneth Braud (9)
Donald Holland (13)

Donald Joseph (13)
Tommy Foil (14)
Deacon Randy Clement (15)
David Songe III (16)
Brent Bourgeois (17)
Daymon Jackson (19)

Michael Doring (21)
Gary Hebert (25)
Greg Duplessis (25)
Shannon Allen (26)
Jason Mullins (29)

For all brother Knights whose birthdays are in May, we thank their parents for being PRO-LIFE; by their love for each other and by the grace of God, these good Catholic gentlemen were born.

Grand Knight's Column

Brother Knights,

I hope that everyone was able to honor your resolutions to do something a little extra during Lent this year. I know that our Council was active in supplying cooks for several parish Lenten activities. Dan Brignac prepared hamburgers for the HS Retreat on February 13th and Paul Duplessis followed suit at the HS Retreat on March 27th. Blake Bourgeois made chicken and sausage gumbo (see Special Events article below) during Holy Week and Byron Gautreau, Tommy Ruemker and Gerald Blair cooked jambalaya and hot dogs during Becky Petite's *Farm Day* on March 27th. I would like to thank these Brother Knights for volunteering their time and talents as well as the "helpers" who showed up to lend a hand.

During the March business meeting Fr. Eric requested KC help to hand out a complimentary copy of a book entitled *Rediscovering Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly after all the Easter Masses. Mr. Kelly is an accomplished Catholic speaker and author, with multiple titles on the NY Times, Wall Street Journal and USA Today bestseller lists. "At a time when many Catholics are disillusioned, questioning their faith, and filled with doubts about the relevance of Catholicism in the modern world, *Rediscovering Catholicism* informs, challenges and inspires" according to one review. Fr. Eric indicated that he plans to have follow-up parish discussion sessions on how we can implement the ideas put forward by Matthew Kelly. I would like to thank all the Brother Knights who volunteered to help with the distribution. Additional books will be available at upcoming Council meetings.

We were honored to have Mrs. Monica Herbert, Director of the Baton Rouge Pregnancy Problem Center, speak at our April business meeting. Monie spoke about the work that her small organization of 3-4 dedicated volunteers do to counsel young women, many in their teens, who are the poorest of the poor in our community. Our Council will be looking at ways that we might be able to provide needed material goods to the Center. Also at the April meeting we voted to support Special Olympics by donating \$50 to the State organization as well as an additional \$50 to the Pierre Part Council to help offset expenses incurred for a meal they prepared at the first day of the three day sporting event. Another motion was passed to donate one of our three soccer goals to the new Spanish Lake primary school and thanks to several Brother Knights the goal was delivered on April 9th to an appreciative school principal.

Did you hear of the victory in the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals on the Pledge of Allegiance? If not, the Court upheld the constitutionality of the words "one nation under God" in San Francisco on March 11th. The Knights of Columbus led a campaign to add the words "under God" to the Pledge in the early 1950's and the KCs were allowed to join in prosecuting the present case in 2005. "This decision is a victory for common sense," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "Today the court got it absolutely right: recitation of the Pledge is a patriotic exercise, not a religious prayer. This is a very good day for America."

At the March and April business meetings copies of the Council Bylaws were made available to all attendees. The bylaws were last updated in 2006 and it is an excellent guide on how to conduct Council meetings, elect officers, standing Committees, budget preparation, funeral procedures and other important KC procedures. Bylaws booklets will be available at future meetings so please pick one up and read it.

The Festival de la Prairie was the major St. John parish event during the last weekend in April. There were several KC members deeply involved through cooking, running booths, grounds setup and cleanup,

parking and many behind the scenes activities. Thanks to all Brother Knights for volunteering to help in this important parish fundraising event.

And finally, Happy Anniversary to the Knight of Columbus! The KCs were founded 138 years ago on March 29th when the Order was chartered in New Haven, Connecticut.

Vivat Jesus!
Paul Allen

Special Events/Recognitions



On Wednesday of Holy Week, Brother Blake Bourgeois cooked chicken and sausage gumbo for parishioners who attended the evening Lenten service. The Ladies Altar Society contributed a variety of potato salads. About 125 people enjoyed the meal and the fellowship. To give testimony to the quality of the gumbo, Fr. Eric decided to use what was left-over for the Deanery meeting he hosted after Easter.



*Geefoo giving Blake
some seasoning advice*

*Lee Guidry and Willis Brossard
taking a break to discuss world events*

We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Josh Bourgeois**, son of Ashley and Brother Blake, for earning the Rank of Eagle Scout. To become an Eagle Scout you must complete the requirements for 21 merit badges such as Science and Family Life. One also has to for six months. You may recall that Josh was 2009 fraternal year and he won District, Area Lafayette. Josh is an accomplished musician scholarship where he is a member of the Tiger Band. We are proud to see Josh become an Eagle Scout and hope to someday see him become a fellow Brother Knight.



Citizenship, First Aid, Environmental serve actively in a position of responsibility our Council's CYLA winner in the 2008- and participated in the State competition in and he is currently attending LSU on

Council Elections

Don't forget that the 2010-2011 fraternal year Council elections will be held at the May business meeting. Our nominations committee, Brothers Don Belanger (chairman), Robert Temple Sr. and Tommy Ruemker, is hard at work encouraging, cajoling and maybe even employing an occasional tug to get a full slate of Officers and Committee Chairmen. To have a vibrant Council we need committed volunteers who are willing to donate a little of their time and talent each month in a leadership role. So please say yes and contact any member of the committee. The primary requirement to be an Officer is that you must be a 3rd degree Knight in good standing. If you are more interested in starting off on a committee, you only need to be a 1st degree Knight. Let me know where your interests lie and believe me we'll use your talents on the appropriate committee.

Mark your Calendars

May - 2010

- 1/2 - State Convention in Lafayette - Paul Allen and Cliston Guillot voting delegates for KC8342
- 3 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 5 - April Charity Calendar drawing, 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 5 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 6 - First Degree at St. Mark, arrival by 6:30 p.m., ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
- 12 - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. in Community Center
- 13 - Council monthly Business meeting, dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 15/16 - Membership Blitz at weekend Masses
- 16 - Jambalaya lunch fundraiser and blood drive after 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. masses

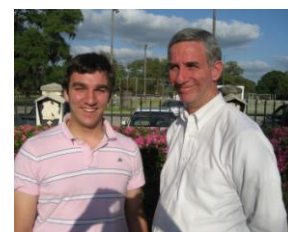
June - 2010

- 2 - May Charity Calendar drawing, 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 2 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 3 - First Degree at St. John, arrive by 6:30 p.m., ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
- 7 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 9 - **Date Change** - Council monthly Business meeting, dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 9 - **Location change** - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. in Ed Center
- 13 - Prairieville Community Cemetery fundraiser after 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses
- 19 - **Quarterly Communion and July Social with Officer Installation postponed to July 10th**

Help Your Membership Committee



The most recent 1st Degree Installation was held at St. Theresa on April 6th. St. John had the honor of having Euris Rodrigue and his son, Elliott, make their first degree together. Euris has been active in the parish for many years and Elliott is a senior at Catholic High School and a recent winner of the Council, District and Area



Catholic Youth Leadership Award. We also welcome Brother Gerald Bello who transferred from St. Louis King of Francis and has been a Knight for 35 years. All three of these gentlemen attended the April monthly meeting and were given a proper introduction to the Council with a great meal of jambalaya and bread pudding prepared by our cooks.

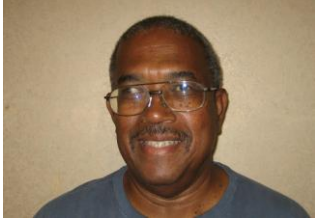
Brother Don Belanger, our Membership Director, has organized the next Membership Blitz for the weekend Masses on May 15-16. Fr. Eric again has graciously allowed us to speak from the pulpit after Mass to publicize our drive to sign-up new members. We will need volunteers at tables outside church to hand out forms and to answer questions. Please say yes and sign-up to help after the Mass you normally attend.

2010 Dues are Due!

Hopefully most of our membership have already paid their 2010 dues as this Newsletter goes to press but, if you forgot, please get your \$38 yearly dues to our Financial Secretary, Merle Russelburg (40503 Ethel St., Prairieville, 70769), as soon as possible. Remember that we also have a quarterly payment plan if that better meets your financial situation. It costs the Council postage to send out follow-up letters and time by our Retention Chairman to contact members in arrears so your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Getting to Know your Council Committee Chairmen

Vocations Chairman - Donald Joseph



Donald was born in New Orleans and grew up in the lower ninth ward and later in mid-city. He has a twin brother, Ronald, who still lives in New Orleans. He graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1961 and attended Southern University and Tulane, where he completed the requirements for a real estate license. Donald says he had the good fortune to marry Ann Marie Robinson 43 years ago. Donald converted to Catholicism while he was dating Ann. Ann and Donald first lived in Gentilly until they bought a home in New Orleans East where they raised three sons.

They now have 10 grandchildren that range in age from 6 months to 8 years old. Now you know why Donald is always heading to New Orleans to babysit! Unfortunately they lost their home to Katrina but fortunately for our KC Council they decided to move to Ascension parish in July, 2006. Donald was employed for 15 years with the State Board of Health testing animals for rabies. He developed allergies to the chemicals used and decided to make a career change into insurance and real estate. He was an insurance salesman and later manager for almost 30 years before he retired in 1999. He also sold real estate and continues to do so today in New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Donald has several hobbies including reading, gardening, traveling and studying the scriptures. Donald was in the discernment program to become a Deacon in the NO diocese; however this was disrupted by Katrina. When he learned he would have to start over in the BR diocese, he decided not to continue in the Deaconate. Donald is very active in the church as a Eucharistic Minister, Lecturer and is a member of several Catholic organizations including the Holy Name Society, Lay Carmelite Order and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Donald joined the KCs and our Council in 2007 shortly after he and Ann moved to Prairieville. He became a fourth degree Sir Knight in the Msgr. Lieux Assembly a little over a year later. Brother Donald serves as our Vocations Chairman and most recently organized a recognition ceremony for the St. John Altar Servers at the weekend Masses. Donald has a great sense of humor and you always know when he walks in the room by his outgoing friendly personality, his smile and his very unique laugh.

Youth Chairman - Corey Orgeron



Corey (aka Ceaux) was born at the Hotel Dieu in New Orleans and was raised along Bayou Lafourche in Cut Off. Needless to say Corey can call on a heavy Cajun accent when he meets old friends from the bayou at KC events. He graduated from South Lafourche High School, the mighty Tarpons, in Galliano then went on to LSU. He graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor Degree in General Studies followed by LSU Law School where he graduated in 1990 with a Juris Doctorate. Corey returned to Cut Off and as he says "hung a shingle and began practicing law". He has continued practicing

on and off while working as in-house counsel for several firms in the financial management area and is currently reorganizing a private civil practice aiding families and small businesses. Corey met Brandee Marie Curole and they were married in Brandee's home church in Belle Chase. Their marriage was blessed in Corey's home parish, Sacred Heart of Cut Off, the day after Christmas, 1995. Brandee and Corey have three children: two sons, Joseph and Teddy and a daughter, Lydia. You will find Joseph and Lydia competing at every KC youth event with Teddy usually tagging along right behind them trying to keep up. The Orgeron's are both very involved in Boy and Girl Scouting. Corey has been Scoutmaster for Troup 226 and is currently Chairman of the BR Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting. Corey serves as Counselor to the Squires and coaches youth sports. He also serves on the area Pro Bono campaign offering legal services to those in need. Is it any wonder that Brandee and Corey were selected the Council's *Family of the Year* in 2009. Corey has been an avid LSU baseball fan since he started attending games in 1984. He says he sits right behind the visitors bullpen and - I know this is hard to believe - taunts opposing pitchers "on occasion". He collects LSU baseball memorabilia and he says he has several thousand baseball cards, autographed balls and tons of LSU items. There is also another subject that Corey is avid about: Respect Life issues. Corey explains that he was adopted as a baby through Catholic Charities in N.O. and he knows very little about his birth mother other than she was Catholic and she chose adoption over abortion. He says this has led him to mourn each life lost to the menacing grip of abortion. We are indeed fortunate to have Corey in our Council and to use his leadership as our Youth Director.

Our Financial Health

The income for April was \$1050 and expenses were \$603. For the first ten months (83% of year) of the fraternal year, total income is \$26,579. (89% of budget) and total expenses are \$25,094 (84% of budget). The April income is primarily 2010 dues. The major April expenses were budgeted items including \$137 for Farm Day food, \$100 for the Council award to our CYLA winner, Elliott Rodrigue, \$100 for Special Olympics and \$281 for fundraiser/meeting food.

During the April business meeting the Council approved opening two accounts with excess funds available in the checking account. A **Capital Fund** CD for \$2000 will be purchased to support future projects and this account will be supplemented with a yearly deposit defined during the budgeting process. In addition, a **Distress Fund** savings account for \$3408 will be opened to handle cash flow problems and to support any Knights who are in distress. We anticipate that unexpected fluctuations in this account will be minimal but it is available if needed and approved by the Council membership.

Monsignor Lieux 4th Degree Assembly 2052



Your Faithful Navigator and S/K Blake LeBlanc attended the 4th Degree State Convention in late March. Congratulation to S/K Russell Ruh, a member of our Assembly, who was elected Worthy Master for the District of Louisiana during the Convention. S/K Russell is awaiting Supreme to examine his record of service before approving his promotion to 4th Degree Master for the District of Louisiana. It is a great honor to have Brother Russell in our Assembly.

We are pleased to announce that we have three new Sir Knights transfer into our Assembly in April: Gary Whipple, Steven Petite and James Linn. Let's welcome these S/Ks at an upcoming meeting.

Our first bingo day at Southeast Louisiana Veterans Home in Reserve has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 27th, at 1:00 p.m. This is a great way to honor these veterans for their service and sacrifices that they have gone through for our Freedom.

Tommy Ruemker, Faithful Navigator

Prayer Requests

Fellow Brother Knight's have asked that you remember the following Knight's, family and friends in your daily prayers: Lolita (Russelburg) McDaniel (dec) and the Delphin Russelburg family, Mark Gyan (heart bypass), Donna Guillot (stomach), Patty Tennyson (auto accident), Patsy Vincik (cancer), Lenus Guidry (cancer), Calagero Miserendino (cancer), Warren Curole (stroke), Ted Orgeron (cancer), Connie Vavasseur (dec), David Madere (prostate cancer), Dana Killian (biopsy), Javiar Silva family, Gerald Blair (back surgery), Donald Mayeux (ALS), Earl Bulot (kidney failure), Doris Compton (dec), Scott Dahlman (legal issues), John Glen Mayer (cancer), Rhonda Babin (digestive), Bernard Garnett (dec) and family.

Columbian Squires Circle 5101



The next Squires meeting will be Wednesday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center. We will be planning the car wash that will take place on May 16th in conjunction with the KC fundraiser and blood drive.

Esto Dignus, Be Worthy
Ashley Rabalais, Chief Counselor

Where to Go for Information

KC Websites

- **Council** - www.kc8342.org (administrator - Scott McLin at scottmclin@yahoo.com)
- **State** - www.louisianakc.org
- **Supreme** - www.kofc.org

Email Distribution - Paul Allen at paulwallen@cox.net or 225-752-3544

Council Shirts - Anthony Babin at ababin1@eatel.net or 225-673-8754

Name Tags - *What's My Name* at ddstark@sbcglobal.net or 817-581-4401

Senators - David Vitter at www.vitter.senate.gov and Mary Landrieu at www.landrieu.senate.gov

Representative - Bill Cassidy at www.cassidy.house.gov

Pro-Life - www.ProLifeLouisiana.org and www.usccb.org (US Conference of Catholic Bishops)



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.

Message from our Insurance Agent Brother Tim:



Thinking about a vacation ? If we've planned properly, chances are that some of our hard earned dollars have been set aside for this occasion. We recognize that if we plan to spend money in the pursuit of enjoyment, the ordinary fixed expenses - mortgage, utilities, etc. - must still be paid. So you need a vacation fund.

All this makes good sense. The soundness of the idea is obvious. Isn't it amazing that so many of us see the wisdom of planning for our vacation each summer, but fail to plan our long-range vacation - retirement. The government has thought about it and encouraged your independence at retirement age. Your place of employment has probably thought about it and planned a pension for you.

The only one left is you... it's time you thought about it. Find out how you can add to government and employer programs an amount sufficient to provide for you and yours. Call me today and we'll plan it together.

Tim Fernandez - Insurance Agent
225-772-2488 (cell), 225-622-6384 (office)
email: tcfern2@yahoo.com

Charity Calendar Drawing

(Drawing on April 7, 2010)



<u>Council</u>	<u>Sales, %</u>	<u>Winners, %</u>
St. John (8342)	54.5	55.5
MBS (10455)	14.9	21.1
IC (6326)	11.7	15.6
Assumption (1099)	2.7	2.2
St. Theresa (2657)	1.1	0.0
Guadeloupe (13145)	0.35	0.0
St. Jean (9247)	9.3	5.6
Msgr. Richard (2053)	<u>5.5</u>	<u>0.0</u>
	100.0	100.0



March	Prize, \$	Name of Winner	City	Sold by	Council
1	150	Phil Lewis	Gonzales	Church sale	8342
2	20	Jamie Phillippe	Greenwell Springs	Carl Robichaux	10455
3	20	Carolyn O'Bear	Placequimine	Anthony Babin	8342
4	20	Aaron Varnado	Independence	A.J. Lbello	6326
5	20	Matt Wyble	Baton Rouge	Church sale	10455
6	100	Charles J. Simoneaux	Napoleanville	Charles Simoneaux	1099
7	20	Judi Allen	Baton Rouge	Paul Allen	8342
8	20	Gary morris	Baton Rouge	Dennis Curtin	6326
9	20	Ada/Josh Davidson	Geismar	James Falgout	8342
10	20	Archie Molliere	Gonzales	Church sale	8342
11	20	Suzanne Ruiz	Raceland	Charles Sheppard	10455
12	20	Russ Landry	Thibodaux	Larry Harris	8342
13	100	Joy Olsen	New Iberia	Brian Ducote	8342
14	20	Thomas Gascon Jr.	Brusly	Henry Pizzalato	6326
15	20	Donald Folse	Baton Rouge	Donald Folse	10455
16	20	Eddie Guitreau	Duplessis	Delphin Russelburg	8342
17	20	Mia Riley Melancon	Baton Rouge	Church sale	10455
18	20	Mr/Mrs Josh Garreau	Ponchatoula	Harold Braud	8342
19	20	Drew E. Vincik	Gonzales	Bob Vincik	8342
20	100	Macy/Gabe Daigrepoint	Hessmer	Tommy Ruemker	8342
21	20	Pat Vicknair	Prairieville	Bob Vincik	8342
22	20	Alexis Rose Clausi	Beaumont	Tom Clausi	8342
23	20	Alison L. Matthews	Baton Rouge	Doug Toxclair	10455
24	20	Tonya Stelley	Geismar	Gerald Stelley	8342
25	20	Jimmey/Peggy Packard	Gonzales	Church sale	8342
26	20	Jim Dubos	Baton Rouge	Church sale	10455
27	100	Loretta McGehee	Prairieville	Church sale	8342
28	20	Fr. Mike Collins	Baton Rouge	Mike Collins	10455
29	20	Rachel Arceneaux	Baton Rouge	Randy Arceneaux	10455
30	20	Betty Acker	Morganfield KY	Merle Russelburg	8342
31	20	Lessiau Stephens	Gonzales	Geral Blair	8342

March Total - \$1070
YTD Total - \$4080