

Knight Newsletter

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

Council Officers

Chaplain: Father Eric Gyan (673-8307)
Grand Knight: Paul Allen (752-3544)
Deputy GK: Corey Orgeron (673-5445)
Chancellor: Cliston Guillot (673-8238)
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: Robert Vincik (673-8458)
Outside Guard: Charles Schexnaydre (673-5747)
1-Year Trustee: Tom Clausi (677-5544)
2-Year Trustee: Tommy Ruemker (622-4152)
3-Year Trustee: Paul Duplessis (673-8711)
Lecturer: Dr. Michel Hirsch (673-9457)

Council Directors

Programs: Corey Orgeron (673-5445)
Membership: Charles Schexnaydre (673-5747)
Squires: Ashley Rabalais (677-9648)
Church: Gerald Blair (450-2504)
Community: Richard Holder (673-6354)
Council Activities: Lester Sylvester (673-3165)
Family/Pro-Life: David Gregory (673-9592)
Fundraisers: Delphin Russelburg (622-4278)
Youth: Philip Joseph, Sr. (363-6505)
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

Aug - Becky/Robbie Templet Jr.

July - Danielle - Ashley Rabalais
May - Diane and Randy Clement
April - Debbie and Tim Langlois
March - Janet and Whitney Amadee
February - Nancy and Ross Erwin
January - Mary and Lee Guidry



Knight of the Month

August - Tommy Ruemker

July - Elliott Rodrigue
May - Rene Theriot
April - Lee Guidry
March - Brian Ducote
February - Paul Duplessis
January - Tim Langlois

September Birthdays!

John Denman, Jr. (1st)
George Oubre (4th)
Charles Bishop (5th)
Keith Boudreaux (6th)
Harry Harvey, Jr. (7th)
Kenneth Lee (8th)
Kevin Sanford (8th)
Matthew Ducote (9th)

Lawrence Millet (11th)
Paul San Soucie (11th)
Roger Weidner (11th)
Randy Braud (12th)
Paul Silvio (12th)
David Gregory (15th)
Gary Whipple II (15th)
Jon Hebert (16th)

Joseph Killian (18th)
Nelson Morvant (20th)
John McGovern III (21st)
Ronald Osborne (22nd)
Lawrence Parisey (26th)
Lee Guidry (26th)
Brian Wynne (29th)
Paul Bouchereau (29th)

For all brother Knights whose birthdays are in September, 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. We join in celebrating their lives.

Grand Knight's Column

Brother Knights,

August was a fairly quiet month for Council Activities but with the start school things will pick back up quickly in September.

We had a very successful fundraiser on August 15th. Brother Delphin reports that we had lots of volunteers to help Byron cook the jambalaya and as well as to serve and sell the lunches. The net profit was \$1551, which is outstanding. As mentioned in the church bulletin, these funds will be used to support our youth programs such as the Substance Abuse Poster Contest, Soccer Challenge, Free-Throw Competition, Essay Contest, Halloween Party and for the Cub Scout Den and Boy Scout Troup that we sponsor. So thanks to all of you who helped make the fundraiser a success.

There was an Area E meeting called by our new Area Coordinator, Brother Vicen Alvarez, on August 9th at the St. Amant KC Hall to plan the upcoming fraternal year. Our Council will again be hosting the District and Area Soccer Challenge on Sunday, September 26th. We decided to move the start time to early evening (5:00 p.m.) to encourage greater participation. There are three additional events that you will be hearing more about in the near future: Marian Hour of Prayer program and Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose visit this November and the Chili for Children Cook-off at LSU in March, 2011.

There is also a popular "sporting" event for KC members in August and September. The area horseshoe tournament will be held on August 29th in Plaquemine. Brian and Matt Ducote and Paul (Geefoo) Duplessis plan to carry the banner for our Council. After they win the Area contest, they will go to State on September 11 in Patterson. We wish them luck and expect to see two trophies, one for doubles and one for singles, at the September business meeting.

You may recall at a Council meeting a few months ago, we donated one of our three soccer goals to Spanish Lake Primary School on Bluff Road. I am happy to report that the goal has now been moved and assembled by Council members in time for the start of school. It was very hot, very muddy and very heavy but the goal is now usable and the school principal was very happy to have it.



A couple noteworthy items before I close. I would like remind everyone that Supreme is encouraging each KC member to join the Fr. Michael J. McGivney Guild. The Guild serves as a source of information about the life, work and spirituality of the Founder of our Order. The Guild is easy to join online <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/index.html> and is free. So please take a few minutes to join the Guild.



And secondly, I would like to congratulate our own District 24 Brother Vicen Alvarez for being named the **District Deputy of the Year** in Louisiana. Vicen worked tirelessly to support all the Council's in the District and attended almost all of our Council meetings during the year. This is a well deserved award and I would encourage everyone to thank Vicen for his service at your next opportunity.

*Vivat Jesus !
Paul Allen*

Special Events/Recognitions

The Supreme Convention was held in Washington D. C. from August 3-5 and two Brother Knights from our Council, Worthy State Treasurer Vernon Ducote and Worthy Chancellor and State Community Director Cliston Guillot, were able to attend. Cliston filled us in on the Convention happenings during the Good of the Order portion of the August business meeting and perhaps some of you were able to see the event on ETNW TV.

A couple highlights were the presentation of the **Gaudium et Spes Award to Cardinal Ortega** for his 30 years of fighting for freedom of religion in Cuba. His acceptance remarks were inspiring and he stressed the "I am My Brother's Keeper" motto of the convention. On a less serious note, during the State Dinner each State is honored by the singing of a song representative of that State. The Louisiana table was loudly cheered when "The Saints Go Marching In" was sung by the quartet on stage. The Mardi Gras beads, flags and umbrellas were proudly displayed by our State attendees.

I would encourage everyone to go to http://www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/conv_2010_hp.html to see videos and highlights of the Convention.

Mark your Calendars

September - 2010

- 1 - June Charity Calendar drawing, 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 1 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 2 - First Degree at St. Mark, arrival by 6:30 p.m., ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
- 6 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 8 - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. in Community Center
- 9 - Council monthly Business meeting, dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- 11 - State Horseshoe Tournament, Kemper Williams Park in Patterson
- 18 - Quarterly Communion at 4:30 p.m. Mass followed by Social in Community Center
- 18 - Fourth Degree State Officers Installation at St. Louis King of France
- 19 - 2nd and 3rd Major Degrees in Pierre Part
- 22 - Law Enforcement Appreciation banquet at St. Theresa KC Hall, 6:15 p.m. arrival, 7:00 p.m. start
- 24-25 - KC Golf Tournament in Lafayette
- 26 - Council/District/Area Soccer Challenge at St. John, start at 5:00 p.m. on field near Community Center

October - 2010

- 4 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 6 - June Charity Calendar drawing, 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 6 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 7 - First Degree at St. John, arrival by 6:30 p.m., ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
- 13 - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. in Community Center
- 14 - Council monthly Business meeting, dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- 17 - Jambalaya fundraiser and blood drive after 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses
- 20 - Senior Citizen Banquet at St. John Community Center, arrive 11:00-11:30 a.m., lunch at noon
- 24 - Halloween Party at 6:00 p.m. in St. John Community Center

Help Your Membership Committee



We were very fortunate this year to have four Brother Knights step forward and volunteer to support our membership efforts. Charles Schexnaydre (second from right) is our Membership Chairman. Supporting Charles on the Committee are (from left to right) Jim Gentry, Rene Theriot and Tommy Foil. Our quota from Supreme this year is a net increase of 16 members so we need everyone's help in identifying prospective Knights.

The Council would like to welcome new 1st Degree Knight, **Deacon Ed Martin** (left in picture). Ed has been "dogged" by Brother Delphin for a number of years and with Ed's ordination in June he succumbed to Delphin's persuasive manner. The Installation was held on August 5th at St. Theresa and the ceremony honored Pope Benedict XVI and KC 8342 Brother Earl Bulot. Earl is a former State Officer and is currently fighting serious renal health problems. We welcome Deacon Ed to our Council and look forward to working with him on Church activities.



Our Financial Health

The **2010-2011 fraternal year budget** was unanimously approved at the August business meeting by the 38 members present. The budget projects an income of \$36,675. This is an increase over 2009-2010 actual income of \$33,923 primarily due to a \$2,750 increase in Charity Calendar profits. The projected expenses include a \$1500 deposit to partially replenish our Capital Fund that was drawn down as a result of the \$7,500 donation to the Future of Our Faith building campaign. Also new in the budget this year is support for new youth activities (Farm Day, Essay Contest, Camp Joshua) and incorporation of a second undefined fundraiser for a Brother Knight in Distress or special targeted charity (e.g., Community Cemetery).

The **Semi-annual Audit** was conducted in July as required by Supreme. The audit team is composed of the three Trustees and the Grand Knight. Financial Secretary Merle Russelburg and Treasurer Robert Templet, Sr. did an excellent job prior to the meeting preparing the necessary paperwork for the audit team to review. The voucher system makes the audit straightforward and no problems were uncovered by the team. The semi-annual audit form #1295 was submitted to Supreme prior to the August 15th deadline.

The **50/50 raffle** at the August business meeting was a near record. \$144 was collected and Brother Gerald Blair had the \$72 winning ticket. In addition, a donated \$25 gift certificate from a local restaurant was raffled off for 2nd place and Brother Ken Leary will be visiting Ralph and Kacoo's soon.

The most profitable fundraiser (\$5730 in 2010) that the Council undertakes starts in early September with the distribution of the **2011 Charity Calendars**. We are please that another Council, Msgr. Badeaux Council #3054 in Lockport, has joined our ranks (9th participant) along with two additional sponsors. Anthony Babin has done a great job of coordinating the many calendar details and we hope that you will support this important fundraiser again this year by surpassing the 775 calendars that our Council sold in 2010. Hopefully we will have the new calendars available at the September 9th business meeting.

Getting to Know your Officers and Committee Chairmen

Youth Director - Philip Joseph Sr.



Philip was born in New Orleans and grew up in the Carrolton area near the Orleans-Jefferson Parish line. He started high school at St. John Vienna Prep and graduated from Warren Easton High. After HS he attended Delgado Community College where he received an Associate Degree in Electrical Construction. Philip says he has a very diverse bloodline with grandparents on his father's side being French and on his mother's side being Spanish and Choctaw Indian. Philip worked for 10 years as an electrician in IBEW Local 130 in New Orleans doing commercial and industrial installations. He decided to move his family to Los Angeles where he worked in the Inglewood Unified School District for 18 years until his retirement in 2006. At the time of his retirement he was Facilities Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation. He decided to return to his Louisiana roots after Katrina and "un-retire" by joining ICM Investments where he manages restoration and renovation projects for residential and commercial properties. Philip married Marlene Dupre' 35 years ago and they have three sons, a daughter and two grandchildren. He says that he enjoys art, architectural design and coaching. During Philip's tenure in Inglewood he received several coaching recognitions and championship awards. He received an "Outstanding Service to Students and Education" recognition from the city council of Los Angeles and he served five years on the Youth Sports Advisory Committee for the city of Gardena, California. Is it any wonder that our Council quickly asked Philip if he would be interested in becoming our Council's Youth Director shortly after he made his 1st Degree earlier this year. Even though he commutes daily between Baton Rouge and New Orleans he agreed to take the job and our Council is fortunate to have Philip leading our Youth activities.

3-Year Trustee - Paul Duplessis



Geefoo was born Wilfred Paul but hardly anyone knows him by his real name. I asked him how he got that unusual nickname and he explained that when he was 5 or 6 years old he was thrown from a horse jumping across a ditch. His uncle looked down at him laying on the ground and said Gee Foo (happy fool) in French and broken English. I'm not making this up. Geefoo is a native Louisianian born in Geismar in his parents home just off River Road. His grandfather established the Duplessis Post Office and his father was a school board member for 35 years. He attended Dutchtown grade school Ascension Catholic Junior and Senior High School in Donaldsonville. After high school he joined the Marines where he proudly served our country from 1957-1960. He says he went to boot camp in San Diego and spent the next 2 years and 9 months stationed in Hawaaii. No wonder he enjoyed his years in the service. He ended up a Lance Corporal and says he was the smallest man in the squad so naturally was given a BAR, the heaviest weapon in a platoon to carry. When he got out of the service he enrolled at McNeese State University in Lake Charles where he graduated in two and a half years with a B.S. in Agriculture and Business. Geefoo joined Honeywell after college where he worked for 30 years in their Geismar Fertilizer plant until his retirement in 1997. He started off his career in the Quality Control Lab and later was a maintenance technician. Paul married Glenda Nugent 49 years ago they have two sons and four grandchildren. He likes to hunt, fish and has a large garden but everyone in the Council knows that Geefoo's passion is cooking. Geefoo has a long KC legacy. His father was a 4th Degree member for 45 years and Paul has been a 4th Degree Knight for 47 years. He is an Honorary Life member, a past Grand Knight in our Council and he is most proud of the fact that both his sons are KC members. Those of you that go to Saturday Vigil Mass each week know that Geefoo has been an usher and Eucharist Minister for probably as long as you have been going to Mass at St. John. Paul is one of those special individuals that has spent untold hours quietly serving others. The spirit of our St. John The Evangelist Council is due to Brother Knights like Paul Duplessis.

Monsignor Lieux 4th Degree Assembly 2052



The next bingo day at the Southeast Veterans Home in Reserve will be Friday, August 27th at 1:00 p.m. and we will leave St. John at 11:15 a.m. sharp.

The 4th Degree Color Guard will be posting the Colors at the Law Enforcement Banquet on September 22nd at St. Theresa Council Home on Irma Blvd in Gonzales. The banquet opening ceremony starts at 7:00 p.m. All St. John KC members and their wives are invited to attend this banquet honoring our Law Enforcement personnel.

*Tommy Ruemker
Faithful Navigator*

Columbian Squires Circle 5101



The next Squire meeting will be on September 8 in the Community Center at 7:00 p.m. We anticipate that three new Squire candidates will be installed during this meeting. If you have a child or a grandchild who might like to join the Squires please contact Ashley Rabalais (677-9648 or by e-mail at arabalais@eatel.net). This program is a great way to learn leadership skills while at the same time having fun and making new friends.

*Esto Dignus, Be Worthy
Ashley Rabalais, Chief Counselor*

Prayer Requests

Fellow Brother Knight's have asked that you remember the following Knight's, family and friends in your daily prayers:

Donna Guillot (nausea, dehydration), Patsy Vincik (cancer), Lenus Guidry (cancer), Calagero Miserendino (cancer), Rhonda Babin (stomach, nausea), Ann Joseph (blocked artery), Brother Don Belanger (urinary tract surgery), Diane Belanger and her mother Genevieve McCarroll, Brother Ben Babin (deceased), Brother George Oubre (retina surgery), Linden Gaspard (deceased), Shirlyn McCrory (deceased), William Spence (deceased), Carol Ducote (broken hip, surgery), Brother Ken Leary (diabetes complications), Past State Deputy Tommy McGuire (deceased), Brother Earl Bulot (leg amputation), Carl Duplessis (deceased), Joby Arceneaux (deceased), J.T. Smith (deceased), Bill Blair (lung cancer), Brother Pierre Landry (broken leg), Fr. Vic Panaligan (cancerous tumor).

We also ask you to pray for all who serve in the military and especially for Brother Gary Whipple who will soon be deployed to Afghanistan and for Brother Paul and Audry Cashio's grandson, Thomas, who is returning for a second tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Forward prayer requests to our **Prayer Line** coordinator, Brother Tommy Ruemker, at truemker@eatel.net

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

Prayer Line - Tommy Ruemker at truemker@eatel.net or 225-622-4152

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

Fr. McGivney Guild - www.fathermcgivney.org

Baton Rouge Pregnancy Problem Center - www.pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com

St. John Church Office - www.stjohnchurch.org, stjohnchurch@eatel.net or 225-673-8307

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)



Message from our Insurance Agent Brother Tim:



Did you know that:

- 2009 was our best year ever for insurance sales growing by 13.3%, even as the industry as a whole was shrinking by nearly 5%.
 - On December 31st, more than \$74 billion worth of insurance was in force and this has increased to \$77 billion through the 1st half of 2010.
 - Last year we issued 67,945 new life insurance certificates which was more than all other fraternal benefit societies combined.
 - Our lapse rate is one of the lowest in the industry at 3.8%. The industry average is 7.9% !
- Annuity sales were spectacular. The 19,000 annuity contracts issued in 2009 were double the number issued in 2008.
 - For the 18th consecutive year, S&P has rated us "Extremely Strong" and has given us their top rating of AAA. Also, for the 35th consecutive year, A.M. Best has rated us "Superior" and given us their top rating of A⁺⁺.

Call me to arrange a visit and we can quickly and accurately determine the right amount of life insurance for your family. If you need additional coverage, I will propose a solution from the Order's highly rated insurance program that will meet your needs and your budget. As a professional agent and a brother Knight, I have no greater responsibility.

Tim Fernandez - Insurance Agent
225-772-2488 (cell), 225-622-6384 (office)
email: tfern2@yahoo.com

Charity Calendar Drawing (Drawing on August 4, 2010)



<u>Council</u>	<u>Sales, %</u>	<u>Winners, %</u>
St. John (8342)	54.5	50.9
MBS (10455)	14.9	22.2
IC (6326)	11.7	15.1
Assumption (1099)	2.7	2.4
St. Theresa (2657)	1.1	0.0
Guadeloupe (13145)	0.35	0.0
St. Jean (9247)	9.3	6.1
Msgr. Richard (2053)	<u>5.5</u>	<u>3.3</u>
	100.0	100.0



July	Prize, \$	Winner	City, State	Council	Sold By
1	150	John Waits	Reserve	8342	Gerald Blair
2	20	James Melancon	Baton Rouge	10455	Ken Melancon
3	100	Kim T. Jean	New Orleans	8342	Dwight Robinette
4	20	Lajuanda Collier	Beaumont, TX	8342	Anthony Babin
5	20	Faye Couvillon	Baton Rouge	10455	Ken Melancon
6	20	Ann/Stephen Pettiss	Prairieville	8342	Ashley Rabalais
7	20	Emily/Garrod McGehee	Humble TX	6326	Jason Felder
8	20	Adrea Bullion	Prairieville	8342	Delphin Russelburg
9	20	Jerry Zeller	Baton Rouge	10455	Ken Melancon
10	100	Donald Joseph Sr	Prairieville	8342	Donald Joseph
11	20	Douglas Melanson Sr.	Marrero	2053	Waren Deemar
12	20	Timmie Gaudet	Pierre Part	10455	Carl Robichaux
13	20	Mike Maillet	Baton Rouge	10455	Carl Robichaux
14	20	Matt Ellis	Baton Rouge	10455	Church Sale
15	20	Jamie Phillippe	Greenwell Springs	10455	Arlene Robinchoux
16	20	Esther Braud	Geismar	8342	Anthony Babin
17	100	Raymond Achord	Walker	6326	AJ Labello
18	20	Mayola Brown	Prairieville	8342	Harold Braud
19	20	Ladies Altar Society	Prairieville	8342	Delphin Russelburg
20	20	Debbie Lea	Walker	6326	AJ Labello
21	20	Mary Broussard	Natchitoches	8342	Paul Cashio
22	20	Mark G. Cambre	Baton Rouge	10455	Church Sale
23	20	Flossie Shaunnessy	Baton Rouge	9247	Church Sale
24	100	Vince Whittington	Baton Rouge	9247	Vince Whittington
25	20	Adrian P. Breaux	Denham Springs	6326	AJ Labello
26	20	Angela Landry	Prairieville	8342	Danny Landry
27	20	Hiram L. Arnold	Prairieville	8342	Delphin Russelburg
28	20	Chere Ringo	Prairieville	8342	Anthony Babin
29	20	Cherie Prejean	Port Allen	10455	Carl Robichaux
30	20	Kay Rabalais	Baton Rouge	10455	Church Sale
31	100	Curtis Jones	Denham Springs	6326	Curtis Jones

July Total - \$1150
YTD Total - \$8500