

# Knight Newsletter

St. John the Evangelist Council #8342, Prairieville  
October, 2009

## Council Officers

Chaplain: Father Eric Gyan  
Grand Knight: Paul Allen  
Deputy GK: Cliston Guillot  
Chancellor: Gerald Blair  
Recorder: Anthony Babin

Financial Sec: Merle Russelburg  
Treasurer: Robert Temple, Sr.  
Advocate: Lee Guidry  
Warden: David Guedry  
Inside Guard: Richard Holder

Outside Guard: James Hubbs  
1-Year Trustee: Willis Broussard  
2-Year Trustee: Tom Clausi  
3-Yr Trustee: Tommy Ruemker  
Lecturer: Dr. Michel Hirsch

## Service Program Directors

Program: Cliston Guillot  
Church: Gerald Blair  
Community: Lester Arnaud  
Council: Lester Sylvester  
Family: David Gregory  
Youth: Corey Orgeron

Vocations: Donald Joseph  
Pro-Life: David/Anne Gregory  
Health: David Broussard  
Public Relations: Scott McLin  
Squires: Ashley Rabalais  
Insurance: Merle Russelburg

Membership: Don Belanger  
Recruitment: Scott McLin  
Recruitment: David Broussard  
Retention: Delphin Russelburg  
Retention: Tim Langlois  
Insurance Agent: Tim Fernandez



*Family of the Month: Robbie and Becky Temple, Jr.*  
*Knight of the Month: Michel Hirsch*

## October Birthdays!

Willis Broussard (1)  
Roger Keese (3)  
Robert Smith (4)  
Jack Rhodus (5)  
Jerome Ledet (5)  
Weslee Meador (5)  
Chris Conti (6)  
Victor Sanchez (7)

Jim Mascarella (10)  
Gary Rowland (10)  
Robert Temple Sr. (11)  
Robert Temple Jr. (11)  
Samuel Gonzalez (12)  
Gerald Blair (13)  
Armand Kitto (13)  
Joe Variani (14)

John Knapp (16)  
Paul Mayon (19)  
Randall Le Jeune (21)  
Roland Robert III (23)  
Scott Simpson (25)  
John Malone (26)  
Blane Collins (28)  
William Freeman (29)  
Bolyn Wolf (30)

For all brother Knights whose birthdays are in October, 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,

I would like to welcome three new Brother Knights to our Council. Joe Variani, Dwight Robinette and Wes Meador made their First Degree on September 1st at St. Mark's. Please make an effort to welcome these new Brother Knights into our Council. The next First Degree installation will be hosted by our Council on October 1st. If you have not been to a First Degree installation since you became a Knight, this would be a good time to come and enjoy the ceremony.

Our Quarterly Communion and pot luck Social was held on September 19th and we had about 50 Knights and their families attend. Thanks to Paul Duplessis for cooking the pork entree and to Lester and Sadie Sylvester for coordinating the Community Center setup and handling all the myriad of details. Also thanks to David Gregory for his Pro Family/Pro Life presentation and to Cliston Guillot for standing in for me while I was at my new granddaughters Baptism in Houston.

The 2010 charity calendars arrived in early September and Brother Gerald Blair, Charity Calendar Director, will be doing his best to make sure all our members have calendars to sell. Brother Gerald has recruited two more Council's/Assembly's this year: St. Jean Vianney Council #9247 in Baton Rouge and Msgr. Paul F. Richard Assembly #2053 in Hahnville. This brings the total number of participants to eight and, with your help, we are hoping to sell 1500 calendars during the remaining months of this year. This is a major fundraiser for our Council so please try and sell at least 5-10 calendars to support our Council's activities. Gerald can be contacted at 225-450-2504 if you would like to arrange to pick up some calendars. We will also have them available at the upcoming business meeting on October 8th.

The MDF (Tootsie Roll) Drive was wrapped-up on September 27th just as this Newsletter was going to press. Richard Holder and Jim Hubbs puts a lot of effort into coordinating the collection. Richard just told me that the gross was \$3640. Unfortunately, we were unable to get the permit from the police department for the 4-way stop this year so the donations were down a bit. The Council will donate the proceeds again this year to McMains Children's Development Center in Gonzales (45%), Community Opportunities of East Ascension (45%) and St. Mary's Training Facility in Alexandria (10%). I would like to thank Richard, Jim and all the KC volunteers who gave their time to make the Tootsie Roll Drive a success.

The St. John Council Soccer Challenge took place on September 26th. The turnout was very low in part due to the LSU football game on TV, the inclement weather and all the other activities e.g., Farm Day, that were taking place on Saturday. The District and Area competition, also at St. John's, will take place on October 11th. Thanks to Brother Corey Orgeron for coordinating this youth activity.

In closing, please remember that, following Pope Benedict's lead, Supreme has declared this *The Year for Priests*. We will be saying the St. Jean Vianney prayer for priests during the rosary at our monthly meeting. St. Jean Vianney is the patron saint for priests and the 150th anniversary of his death was on August 4, 2009. Please remember Fr. Eric, Fr. William and all our priests in your prayers.

*Vivat Jesus!*

*Paul Allen*

## Special Events/Recognitions

The Law Enforcement Appreciation Banquet took place on September 23rd. St. Theresa of Avila Council #2657 hosted the event for the 34th straight year! Past Grand Knight Claude Babineaux did a fantastic job coordinating the banquet, as he has done since its inception in 1975. The MC was Russell Graham, a Brother Knight and the Troup A Public Information Officer. Other dignitaries present included the Mayors of Sorrento and Gonzales, the Ascension Parish President and several senior police officials. Four city, parish and state police officers received a KC plaque for their outstanding service to our community. The keynote address was delivered by Colonel Michael Admondson, Superintendent of the Louisiana State Police. He gave one of the most remarkable addresses on integrity, patriotism and leadership that I have heard in a number of years. It was a privilege to be in the same room with so many dedicated professional public servants.

St. John the Evangelist Council #8342 has received the Columbian Award for the 2008-2009 fraternal year. The award is conferred by the Supreme Council as a "tangible testimonial of the efficiency, industry and excellent activity programs of the Council". More details can be found on the Supreme website and in the KnightLine Newsletter.

## Help Your Membership Committee



We are now one full quarter into the new Fraternal year and eight Knights have joined our Council as new 1st degree members:

### July 2, 2009

James Falgout  
David Flynn  
Andy Sperandeo

### August 6, 2009

Shay Racca  
Kyle Haydel

### September 1, 2009

Wes Meador  
Dwight Robinette  
Joe Variani

A membership blitz is being planned during weekend Masses on October 3-4 to keep the momentum going. If you know someone who is interested in joining our Council, give him a Form 100 and help him fill it out. We have new information packets in the back of church near the Baptismal Font. You can also contact GK Paul Allen (752-3544), Membership Director Don Belanger (673-3766) or Committee members Scott McLin (673-1656) and David Broussard (622-0656 or 776-0613) if you need help or information.

## Our Financial Health

The September Financial Statement was presented at the business meeting on 9/10/09 by Worthy Treasurer Robert Templet Sr. Through the first two months of the fraternal year, the income has been \$6093 and the expenses have been \$4590 for a net year-to-date increase of \$1503. The Council has approved two unbudgeted expenditures of \$43 in July (rosary rings) and \$100 in August (Farm Day food) leaving \$507 available in the budget for the remaining 10 months of the fiscal year.

## Getting to Know your Council Officers

### Financial Secretary - Merle Russelburg



**Merle** was born in Henshaw, Kentucky and attended Union County High School. After High School he received an Associate Degree from Henderson Community College before entering the University of Kentucky. Merle graduated from UK with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture and he currently works for the United States Department of Agriculture (GIPSA). Merle married Kay Hagan and they raised four children, who all live in Louisiana. We were all saddened when Kay passed away in November, 2008. Merle and Kay have 10 grandchildren. Merle's hobbies include gardening and travel and he is a member of the St. John choir and a Eucharistic Minister. Merle has served as the Financial Secretary in our Council for a number of years and has been a source of stability in this important job spanning the tenures of several Grand Knight's. He made his 1st degree in November, 1980, and has been a 4th degree Sir Knight in Assembly 2052 since March, 2000. We look forward to many more years of drawing on Merle's experience in his Financial Secretary role.

### Treasurer - Robert Templet Sr.



**Robert** is a native Louisianan born and raised in Gonzales where he attended Gonzales High School. Robert married Cynthia Eskind and they have three children, two sons and a daughter, twelve grandchildren and one great grandchild. Robert is retiring from Turner Specialty Services, LLC as this Newsletter goes to press. This will give Robert time to pursue his music hobby. He started playing the trumpet in the Gonzales HS band and over the years has been a member of several area bands including the old Blue Note Band in the 50's. He has made two recordings, one with a Band called The Other Side in the 70's and a Swamp Pop CD with Kenny Cornett and the Killing Time Band three years ago. Robert and Cynthia enjoy travel with frequent stops at Antique and Flee Markets. Roberts "2nd career" in the KC's started in May, 1972. He was a charter member of the St. Amant Council 6389 before transferring to St. John's where he has served as GK and almost every other Council position. As if that is not enough, he is a past DD (#24), current DD (#25) and an Officer and Color Corp/Honor Guard member in our 4th Degree Assembly 2052. If you have any questions about the Knights, ask Robert!

## Mark your Calendars

### October - 2009

- 1 - First Degree at St. John's: arrival at 6:30 p.m., ceremony 7 p.m., dinner 8 p.m.
- 3-4 - Membership Blitz before and after weekend Masses
- 5 - 4th degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall
- 7 - Charity Calendar drawing at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 7 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 7:00 p.m.)
- 8 - Council monthly meeting: dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 10/11- Charity Calendar sales after weekend Masses
- 11 - Soccer Challenge (District/Area) at St. John's field : registration 1:00 - 1:30 p.m., District competition start 1:30 p.m., Area competition start about 2:00 p.m. Contact Corey Orgeron (673-5445, 4393774) for details
- 14 - Columbian Squires meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Education Building
- 14 - Senior Citizens Banquet in the Community Center, 11:30 a.m. start
- 18 - Jambalaya fundraiser and blood drive after 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses
- 23 - Halloween Party set-up in Community Center starting at around 9:00 a.m., volunteers needed
- 25 - Halloween Party, starts at 6:00 p.m. in Community Center

### November- 2009

- 2 - Fourth degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall
- 4 - Charity Calendar drawing at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 4 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 5 - First Degree at St. Amant KC Hall : arrival at 6:30 p.m., ceremony 7 p.m.
- 11 - Columbian Squires meeting, 7:30 p.m. in Education Building
- 12 - Council monthly meeting: dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 19 - Serve lunch at Christ The King on LSU campus

## Columbian Squires Circle 5101



Two new candidates completed the investiture ceremony during the September Squire meeting. We are happy to have Christian Bohannon and Jacob Dewitt join our Circle. We followed the investiture ceremony with some darts and ping pong.

Upcoming activities on the Squires calendar:

- **October 3-4** - participating in the KC Membership Blitz before/after weekend Masses.
- **October 14** - regular monthly Circle meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Ed Center. The regular monthly meeting has been moved to the second Wednesday of the month to accommodate several middle school Squires who have Christian Formation on the first Wednesday of the month. We will keep this schedule through December
- **October 18** - car wash to be held during the KC jambalaya fundraiser. Proposed times are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. pending discussion at the October Circle meeting.

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



## Monsignor Lieux 4th Degree Assembly 2502

And the winner is ..... the HDTV raffle drawing took place at the September 7th Fourth Degree meeting. Congratulations go to the winner, S/K Donald Hoffman. Thanks to S/K Donald Joseph for acquiring the TV at cost from Mr. Percy Butler at the Sears Store in Gonzales. The Assembly made about \$950 on the raffle. The money will be well spend on upcoming Pro Life and Patriotism activities planned over the next few months.

Mark your calendars. The 4th Degree Christmas Social will start at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 6, at Mike Anderson's in Gonzales. Please RSVP the Faithful Navigator (622-4152) by November 2nd so that we can get a head count.

*Tommy Ruemker, Faithful Navigator*

## Where to Go for Information

### **KC Websites**

Council - [www.kc8342.org](http://www.kc8342.org) (administrator - Scott McLin at [scottmclin@yahoo.com](mailto:scottmclin@yahoo.com) )

State - [www.louisianakc.org](http://www.louisianakc.org)

Supreme - [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)

**Email Distribution** - Paul Allen at [paulwallen@cox.net](mailto:paulwallen@cox.net) or 225-752-3544

**Council Shirts** - Anthony Babin at [ababin1@eatel.net](mailto:ababin1@eatel.net) or 225-673-8754

**Name Tags** - *What's My Name* at [ddstark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddstark@sbcglobal.net) or 817-581-4401



The popularity of KC Insurance remains strong despite the stagnant overall economy. Members value the security and protection that K of C Insurance products provide their families. This marks the 34th consecutive year in which the Knights of Columbus has earned A.M. Best's A++ (Superior) rating, and the 17th successive year the Order has earned the AAA (Extremely Strong) rating from S&P. Because of the financial stability the Knights of Columbus has maintained throughout its 127-year existence, it can confidently offer competitive rates on its products as well. K of C Flexible Premium annuities are currently guaranteeing a minimum of 3.00% interest. For more information go to the KC website [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) or contact Brother Tim Fernandez. Don't wait until it's too late - do it today!

Tim Fernandez - Insurance Agent

225-772-2488 (cell)

225-622-6384 (office)

email: [tcfern2@yahoo.com](mailto:tcfern2@yahoo.com)



## *Charity Calendar - August 2009 Winners*

The Charity Calendar drawing is a key fundraiser for our Council. This money is used to help fund the charities, youth activities, appreciation banquets and church programs that our Council sponsors. The 2010 calendar sales will start in September and we hope that you will support the Council by helping us sell calendars. The winners each month will be published in the monthly newsletters and sent to everyone on our email distribution list. Any questions should be directed to our Calendar Chairman, Gerald Blair (450-2504).

<b>August</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Name of Winner</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Calendar Sold by</b>
1	150	Lyle Dixon	Pasadena, TX	6326	Curtis Jones
2	20	Jamie Messina	Baton Rouge	10455	Church sale
3	20	Don Brassette	Raceland	10455	Randy Damon
4	20	Heather Leeth	Gonzales	2657	Church sale
5	20	Russ Landry	Thibodaux	8342	Larry Harris
6	20	Donald Folse	Baton Rouge	10455	Don Folse
7	20	Karla Walker	Praireville	8342	Delphin Russelburg
8	100	Glenda Duplessis	Duplessis	8342	Paul Duplessis
9	20	Randy Guillaume	Baton Rouge	10455	Carl Robichaux
10	20	Ivy Jane Braud	Baton Rouge	10455	Church sale
11	20	Phil Delahoussaye	Lafayette	10455	Dirk Soileau
12	20	Janet Amedee	Gonzales	2657	Church sale
13	20	Ashley Snyder	Baton Rouge	6326	AJ Labello
14	20	Raymond Belmer	Baton Rouge	10455	Carl Robichaux
15	100	Shelton Babin	Geismar	8342	Ashley Rabalais
16	20	YEP Program	Praireville	8342	---
17	20	Dean Landry	Gonzales	8342	Gary Robin
18	20	Brian Babineaux	Praireville	8342	Delphin Russelburg
19	20	Carol Gauthier	Baton Rouge	10455	Church sale
20	20	Joe Killian	Praireville	8342	Delphin Russelburg
21	20	Chris Cole	Gonzales	8342	Anthony Babin
22	100	MBS Council 10455	Baton Rouge	10455	---
23	20	Dolores LeBlanc	Baton Rouge	8342	Mike LeBlanc
24	20	Anita Murphy	Denham Springs	6326	AJ Labello
25	20	Merle Russelburg	Praireville	8342	Merl Russelburg
26	20	Paul Cashio	Willow Lake Ave	8342	Ashley Rabalais
27	20	Margie Trahan	Franklin	8342	Brian Ducote
28	20	Mike O'Neal	Praireville	10455	Church sale
29	100	Lucille Russelburg	Sturgis, KY	8342	Delphin Russelburg
30	20	Scott Doucet	Zachary	8342	Tommy Riemker
31	20	Hiram Arnold	Praireville	8342	Church sale