

# Knight Newsletter

**St. John the Evangelist Council #8342, Prairieville  
December, 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 Templet, 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



*Knights of the Month: Donald Joseph  
Family of the Month: Lester and Catherine Arnaud*

## December Birthdays!

Kelly McGovern (1)  
Hiram Arnold (3)  
Rodney Logarbo (3)  
John Stafford (4)  
Sam Watts (4)

Richard Holder Sr. (9)  
Paul Allen (10)  
Dwight Robinette (11)  
Robert Vincik (19)  
Fr. John Carville (21)  
Paul Taranto (22)

Timothy Savage (24)  
Stephen Pettiss (25)  
Lester Sylvester (30)  
Pierre Rabalais (31)  
Lawrence Kimble (31)

For all brother Knights whose birthdays are in December, 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 am sure that everyone knows that the St. John "Future of Our Faith" pledge campaign has been underway for the past two months. I have seen many Council members working with the different campaign committees, visiting parish families asking for pledges, working the phones, cooking dinner for the meetings and even making supporting presentations from the pulpit at the weekend Masses. I am also proud of my Brother Knights for voting at the November business meeting to make a sizeable donation to the campaign in the name of the KC's. One of our Order's core commitments is to support our church and priests and so I thank all our members who have donated their time, energy, skills and money to the "Future of Our Faith" campaign.

The annual lunch that we prepare for the students and faculty at Christ the King on the LSU campus took place on Thursday, November 19th. We had a really great turnout of both students and KC volunteers. The unofficial "meals served" count was 483 and this does not include the students that went through the line more than once! Paul Duplessis and his crew of cooks prepared cowboy beans over rice, tossed salad and sliced pound cake for desert. Amazingly we had just enough food left-over at the end to feed the CTK staff and the KC volunteers. This is really a fun Council activity and I thank all the volunteers in the picture (Byron Gautreau is not in picture but helped with the cooking). Amy Soileau, shown kneeling in front of the menu flip chart, coordinates the lunch at CTK and she told me that St. John always bring by far the most people to serve the students. I took several pictures and you will be able to see the rest of them on our Council website ([www.kc8342.org](http://www.kc8342.org)).



Brother Corey Orgeron tells me the State Soccer tournament on November 15th was a huge success with 54 kids from all over the state participating. Both Joseph and Lydia Orgeron, our Council representatives, came in second place in their respective age categories, increasing on their scores from the Area competition. Unfortunately, State only awards first place trophies but they still did us proud.

I will wrap-up my column by reminding everyone of some key upcoming dates. We will have our Council's Quarterly Communion at the December 5th Saturday vigil Mass. Please wear your Council shirts. The Communion will be followed immediately with the family Advent celebration pot-luck dinner in the Community Center. Brother Tommy Ruemker has volunteered to fry turkeys and Worthy Lecturer Dr. Michel Hirsch will give a presentation on current Right-to-Life and Health Care issues from a doctor's perspective. So please try to attend and be sure to bring your family. In January we have two Pro-Life marches: the Bishop march at the Catholic Life Center on 1-10-10 and the 4th Degree march in Gonzales on 1-16-09. More info will be released on these important activities in December.

I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends.

*Vivat Jesus!*  
*Paul Allen*

## Help Your Membership Committee



We would like to welcome Javier Silva into our Council. Javier made his First Degree at St. Amant on November 5th. We also had four transfers this month from other Councils: Joseph Barnett from Council 11604 in Jacksonville, Arkansas, Robert Mineo from Council 2409 in Luling, Felix Dawson from Council 9247 in Baton Rouge, and Gary Whipple from Council 291 in Carthage, New York. Please make an effort to meet these Brother Knights and welcome them into the fraternity of our Council.

As a result of the Membership Blitz weekend in October plus the efforts of a couple of our members, we approved at the October and November Business meetings 9 new candidates for induction. The next First Degree installation is on December 3rd at the St. Theresa KC Hall and we hope to have most, if not all, of these candidates installed during this ceremony. There is also a 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification in Chalmette on December 13th so it is possible for these gentlemen to receive all three Degrees in December.

We are all recruiters for our Order so if you know someone who might want to join our Council, give him a Form 100 and help him fill it out. You can also contact GK Paul Allen (752-3544) or Membership Director Don Belanger (673-3766) if you need information or would like us to follow-up.

## Special Events/Recognitions

The Knights of Columbus has sponsored the *Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program* for 50 years to honor the Blessed Virgin under her title *Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas*. The rose is a symbol of the Order's commitment to the pro-life cause, and Our Lady of Guadalupe is the proclaimed patroness of the pro-life movement. In 2009, three silver roses will begin in London, Ontario, and will take separate routes through western, central and eastern regions of the United States. At the end of November, all three roses will meet in Texas and be passed over to the Knights from Monterrey, Mexico.

One of the Silver Roses passed through Baton Rouge on November 14th and a rosary followed by Mass was held at St. Joseph Cathedral in downtown Baton Rouge. The Fourth Degree Color Corp members throughout the Diocese, including four Sir Knights from our Council (picture below), took part in the ceremony honoring our Blessed Mother Mary. Sir Knight Cliston Guillot, our Council's Deputy Grand Knight and the State Family Life Director, made the picture frame outlining the Our Lady of Guadalupe print that will be circulated in Area E as well as the frames for the pictures going to the other 11 Areas in the State.



**S/K's left to right - Vernon Ducote, Anthony Babin, Louis Thomassie, Faithful Navigator Tommy Ruemker**



**Silver Rose**



**Our Lady Of Guadalupe Imprint inside Juan Diego's cloak after Mary's appearance in 1531**

## Mark your Calendars

### December - 2009

- 2 - Charity Calendar drawing at 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. Amant KC Hall, arrival at 6:30 p.m., ceremony 7:00 p.m.
- 5 - Advent Quarterly Communion at 4:30 p.m. mass followed by Council dinner in Community Center
- 6 - Fourth Degree Advent season social, 12:30 p.m. at Mike Anderson's in Gonzales
- 7 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 8 - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:15 p.m. in Community Center
- 10 - Council monthly meeting, dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 13 - 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification in Chalmette. Contact Don Belanger (673-3766) for details
- 25 - **Christmas Day**

### January - 2009

- 1 - **New Years Day and Feast of Mary, Mother of God**
- 4 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 6 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 7 - First Degree at St. St. Mark's: arrival at 6:30 p.m., ceremony 7:00 p.m.
- 9/10 - Charity Calendar sale after weekend masses
- 10 - Bishop's Respect Life March at the Catholic Life Center in Baton Rouge
- 13 - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:15 p.m. in Community Center
- 14 - Council monthly meeting: dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 16 - Fourth Degree Pro-Life March in Gonzales at 10:00 a.m. followed by rosary and guest speaker
- 17 - Jambalaya fundraiser and blood drive after 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses
- 17 - KC free-throw contest at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Center gym
- 22 - March for Life in Washington D.C.

## Monsignor Lieux 4th Degree Assembly 2052



The 4th Degree Christmas Social will be on Sunday, December 6, starting at 12:30 p.m. at Mike Anderson's in Gonzales. 30-40 Fourth Degree Sir Knights and their spouses are expected.

The annual Fourth Degree sponsored Pro-Life March will take place on January 16 in Gonzales starting at 10:00 a.m. After the parade, a rosary will be dedicated to the unborn followed by a guest speaker who will discuss Respect Life issues. All are welcome to take part in showing our unity for this important event.

*Tommy Ruemker, Faithful Navigator*

## Getting to Know your Council Officers

### *Membership Director - Don Belanger*



**Don** was born in Houma and spent his early years in the Houma and New Orleans areas. He says he learned his hard work ethic while attending two schools for dependent boys: Madonna Manor followed by Hope Haven, both in Marrero. He attended Redemptorist High School in NO. Like many people during the World War II "Greatest Generation", Don worked at many jobs starting at a young age. These included managing two Dairy Queen stores, a Specialty Drink salesman, a printing pressman, a phonograph record buyer, salesman and bookkeeper, a route salesman for Lance Inc., and finally with

Southern Bell where he started off as a lineman and ended up as a BellSouth Plant Manager and Maintenance Engineer. Don retired from BellSouth in December, 1994, but immediately volunteered to help the American Red Cross as the State of Louisiana Disaster Training Coordinator. Don is married to Judith Diane McCarroll and they have five children (3 sons, 2 daughters), eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Don and Diane will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on January 9, 2010! Don enjoys reading but he says he especially enjoys communicating his vision of our great country to Senators Landreaux and Vitter and Representative Cassidy. We all know that Brother Don can be very persuasive. Don's KC career is extensive to say the least. He made his First Degree in 1964 at DeLaSalle Council No. 3411 in NO and, by my count, St John's is the 5th Council he has faithfully served. He has been Grand Knight in two different Council's, Charter member and first Financial Secretary for 8 years at Our Lady of Lourdes in Violet, District Deputy for District #4 and he has held practically every other office at the Council level. As a new GK, I affectionately refer to Don as my Worthy Consultant. Brother Don is also a 4th Degree Sir Knight has served as a Faithful Navigator, Color Corp Commander and is a charter member of the St. Bernard Assembly in Chalmette. Our Council is very fortunate to have Don's smiling face, mischievous personality and strong commitment to service in our midst.

### *Columbian Squires Chief Counselor - Ashley Rabalais*



**Ashley** was born in Bunkie and grew up in the small town of Cottonport, a few miles to the east of Bunkie. His father and both of his grandfathers were farmers in the Cottonport area. He attended Bunkie High School and went on to LSU where he graduated with honors in Mechanical Engineering. Ashley has worked for Total Petrochemical Co. for 14 years. He spent 4 of those years in one of the Total Petrochemical plants in Southeast Houston and the last 10 years in their plant in Carville. While he lived in the Houston area he was a volunteer firefighter in Seabrook, TX. Ashley married Danielle Gauthier and they have

two children: Walker (current Squire Bursar) and Camryn. His hobbies include golf, boating, fishing and, not surprisingly, LSU football (although after the Ole Miss game last weekend I may have to recheck his feelings on this allegiance). Ashley says that someday he would also like to get into woodworking when he has more free time. Ashley made his KofC 1st Degree in August, 2004 and his 2/3 Degrees in August, 2005. He has been very involved in Council activities from the very beginning. Most of us remember him as the very successful Charity Calendar czar and this year he traded that hat in to become the Chief Counselor for our Squire Circle. We are very fortunate to have Ashley working with our Youth and as you can see from the Squire activities he is teaching them how to develop leadership skills.

## Columbian Squires Circle 5101

New officers were installed during the November Squires meeting. Congratulations to the new Chief Squire, Nathan Bradley. Other Officers are Walker Rabalais (Bursar), Ross Bouchereau (Notary) and Ben Flood (Deputy Chief Squire).



Left to Right: Walker Rabalais, Ross Bouchereau, Nathan Bradley and Ben Flood

December activities for the Squires include assisting Brother Corey Orgeron build a bonfire (December 4), monthly meeting (December 8) and the Squires Retreat and Olympics in Milton, Louisiana (December 12-13).

**Note:** due to a conflict in the Community Center, the next Squires meeting will be on Tuesday, December 8 and not on the normal 2nd Wednesday of the month.

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



## Our Financial Health

The income for November is \$1136 and the expenses are \$2307. For the first five months of the year (42%), the total income is \$13,731 (46% of budget) and the total expenses are \$10,486 (35% of budget). The November expenses include two unbudgeted items: \$160 for KC logo on donated black aprons and \$462 to build an inventory of Council Polo shirts at Acadian Graphics. Both these items will be partially offset by future sales of apron and shirts. The detailed November Financial Statement will be presented at the business meeting on 12/10/09 by Worthy Treasurer Robert Temple Sr.

There was also a major one-time donation approved by the Council at the November business meeting of \$7,500 to the St. John The Evangelist "Future of Our Faith" campaign. These funds will come from a Council CD at Regions Bank that matures on 1-12-10.

## 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

**Senators** - David Vitter at [www.vitter.senate.gov](http://www.vitter.senate.gov) and Mary Landrieu at [www.landrieu.senate.gov](http://www.landrieu.senate.gov)

**Representative** - Bill Cassidy at [www.cassidy.house.gov](http://www.cassidy.house.gov)



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
*Making a difference for life.*

*We recently received word from Supreme that Brother Kirk Duplantis has been appointed the new General Insurance Agent for the Baton Rouge area. Kirk can be contacted at 225-295-1090 or by email at [kirk.duplantis@kofc.org](mailto:kirk.duplantis@kofc.org). We hope to have Kirk join us at an upcoming monthly Business meeting so that he gets a proper introduction to the hospitality of our Council. Welcome aboard Kirk!*

**Message from our Insurance Agent and Brother Tim:**

Most people buy life insurance for one or two reasons, they love someone or they owe someone or both.

When we die, we create a debt. Immediately, our family needs to pay the funeral home for its services. They may also have to pay deductibles not covered by medical insurance. Any outstanding loans such as a mortgage, car loans and student loans will still have to be paid. Our life insurance will pay the people we owe to make it easier on the people we love.

We will also want to provide our family with an emergency fund, education fund, day care or childcare fund (if we have small children), wedding fund (if we have daughters) and an income replacement plan to provide for ongoing living expenses.

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.

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

**Continued on Next Page**

# Charity Calendar



October is always a big month for the Charity Calendar drawing. The grand prize of \$2000 is pulled from the tumbler for Columbus Day, October 12th. This year the grand prize winner is Mindy Coogan. Mindy has been purchasing and helping the KC's sell calendars since this fundraiser began so it is fitting that her name be randomly drawn from the tumbler. Delphin Russelburg presented the check to Mindy along with congratulations from the KC's.

## October, 2009 Winners (Drawing held on November 4th)

Date	Prize	Name	City	Sold by	Council
1	20	Thad Woodward	Prairieville	Church sale	8342
2	20	Cathy Gendron	Denham Springs	Mindy Coogan	8342
3	100	YEP	Prairieville	Council Donation	8342
4	20	Yvette Caillouet	Baton Rouge	Charles Shepard	10455
5	20	Everett Barrow	Baton Rouge	Tony Busby	6326
6	20	YEP	Prairieville	Council Donation	8342
7	20	Keith Babineaux	Prairieville	Craig Braud	2657
8	20	Merle Russelburg	Prairieville	Merle Russelburg	8342
9	20	YEP	Prairieville	Council Donation	8342
10	100	Donald Folse	Baton Rouge	Don Folse	10455
11	20	Jacqueline Brown	Prairieville	Church Sale	8342
<b>12</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Mindy Coogan</b>	<b>Livingston</b>	<b>Delphin Russelburg</b>	<b>8342</b>
13	20	Geraldine Lynette Rhine	Jeanerette	Brian Ducote	8342
14	20	Frances Horner	Prairieville	Church Sale	8342
15	20	Betsy Taylor	Baton Rouge	Church sale	10455
16	20	Austin Watts	Prairieville	Sam Watts	8342
17	100	Lydia Varisco	Prairieville	Michael Varisco	8342
18	20	Lonnie Bergeron	Abbyville	Brian Ducote	8342
19	20	Kathryn Ponder	Prairieville	Church sale	10455
20	20	Randy Forbes	Denham Springs	AJ Labello	6326
21	20	David Amadee	Gonzales	Craig Braud	2657
22	20	Cydney Kenaley	Baton Rouge	Delphin Russelburg	8342
23	20	Johnny Allen	Walker	Anthony Babin	8342
24	100	Mary Yeates	Baton Rouge	Church sale	10455
25	20	MBS Church	Baton Rouge	Council Donation	10455
26	20	Cathy Bourgeois	Gonzales	Mindy Coogan	8342
27	20	Debby Sutton	Denham Springs	AJ Labello	6326
28	20	Chris Mayers	Gonzales	Robert Templet	8342
29	20	Jacob Busby	Denham Springs	Tony Busby	6326
30	20	Monti Marie Gruse	Hammond	Jamie Ordoyrne	6326
31	100	Malcolm Babin	Duplessis	Delphin Russelburg	8342