

Knight Newsletter

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

May - Randy and Diane Clement
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

May - Rene Theriot
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

June Birthdays!

Marion Mayeaux (2)
Shelton Babin, Jr. (2)
Randolph Breaux (2)
Gary Robin (4)
Gary Millet (6)
Timothy Whitney, Jr. (6)
Greg DeBose (6)

Jim Gentry (9)
L.J. Badeaux (10)
Myles Mire (11)
David Broussard (15)
Delphin Russelburg (16)
Daryl Chopin (17)
Danny Landry (18)

Chris Casselberry (18)
Robert Mineo (18)
Ken Leary, Sr. (19)
John Carpenter (21)
Isaac Carpenter (23)
Brett Luquette (24)
Ron Lindsey (29)

For all brother Knights whose birthdays are in June, 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,

The May-June time frame is always a busy period for our Council. One of the major items of business is to elect new officers for the upcoming fraternal year which begins on July 1st. Our nominating committee, composed of Brothers Don Belanger (chairman), Tommy Ruemker and Robert Temple Sr., worked hard to obtain a full slate of nominees and for some positions up to three candidates were identified. The elections were held at the May business meeting and the results are summarized below:

Grand Knight - Paul Allen
Deputy Grand Knight - Corey Orgeron
Chancellor - Clifton Guillot
Recorder - Anthony Babin
Treasurer - Robert Temple Sr.

Advocate - Lee Guidry
Warden - David Guedry
Inside Guard - Robert Vincik
Outside Guard - Charles Schnexaydre
3 year Trustee - Paul Duplessis

I would like to congratulate all our new officers and I would especially like to thank those Knights who served our Council as officers in the past year. It is good to see some new faces on the list but it is also important to recognize those gentlemen who gave their time and talent to make our Council one of the best in the State. I would also like to thank Fr. Eric and Brother/Doctor Michel Hirsch for agreeing to stay on in 2010-2011 as Chaplain and Lecturer, respectively.

The next step in the process is to fill some key committee chairmen posts and I will be contacting some of you asking for help. One key role that we need to fill is Membership Chairman. Brother Don Belanger was kind enough to fill in this past year but would like to step aside so if you have an interest in serving on the membership committee, please let me know.

Speaking of belonging to one of the best Council's in the State, at the State Convention this year we learned that St. John Council 8342 was ranked 23rd out of 299 Council's in Louisiana! The ranking is done by how well you do on membership, insurance and program activities. Our Council scored 876 points out of a possible 1000 points. We achieved perfect 100 point scores in insurance, church, community, family and youth and received a 90 in council activities. We are very close to qualifying for Star Council and need 5 new first degree members (see *Help Your Membership Committee* section) at the June 3rd installation. Again, thanks to all those volunteers in 2009-2010 who turned out to help during our numerous Council activities.



Horace Shows asked if the Knights would grille hamburgers for the First Communion Class on April 17th and Brother Jeff Mire volunteered to cook what turned out to be about 250 burgers for the children and their parents. Thanks to Jeff (on left in picture) and his friend David Glatt for stepping up and helping.

Another thanks goes out to Brother Geefoo (Paul Duplessis) and his neighbor Todd Huser for building two 12' long wooden player benches for the St. John baseball field dugouts. Ashley Bourgeois has organized a St. John Youth Group softball team and she asked if the Knights would make some benches before the first practice on May 23rd. Paul and Todd answered the call. Go take a look before the next KC meeting. They are built to last.

Grand Knight's Column (continued)

There is an important date change that I need to bring to your attention!!! Because of a scheduling conflict in the Community Center, we have had to move our June business meeting forward one day to Wednesday, June 9th. Please remind fellow Brother Knights of the change whenever you see one.

Vivat Jesus !

Paul Allen

Special Events/Recognitions

Knights of Columbus 2010 State Convention



The Louisiana State Convention was held this year at the Cajundome in Lafayette, Louisiana. The voting delegates from our Council were GK Paul Allen and DGK Cliston Guillot. One of the key events at the convention is the election of State Officers and this year our own Brother Vernon Ducote was elected State Treasurer. In addition, out-going State Deputy Ben Davidson will be replaced by Ronny Boudreaux. The new State Warden will be James Riente from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Council in St. Francisville. You may recall that James spoke at our Council meeting in April on the YEP Program. New State Secretary will be John Boudreaux and State Advocate is Judge Paul deMahy. During the banquet, Brother Cliston, State Family Director, made a presentation on the Louisiana Family of the Year and presented the award to Prosper and Beverly Toups Jr. from Houma Council 1317. Brothers Robert Temple Sr. and Vicen Alvarez both were also present at the Convention in their roles as District Deputies. One final award of note was Brother Tim Fernandez who received one of the three Insurance Agent recognitions. As I mentioned before, our Council placed 23rd out of 299 Council in the running for Council of The Year. Being in the top 10% is a great honor and is recognition for all the hard work by our St. John KCs.

2010 Dues are Past Due!

Brother Knights - there are still 25 members who have not paid their 2010 dues. A second notice was sent out in early May so, if you forgot, please send your \$38 yearly dues to our Financial Secretary, Merle Russelburg (40503 Ethel St., Prairieville, 70769), or drop it off at the church office as soon as possible. Remember that we also have a quarterly payment plan if that better meets your financial situation. We have to pay a fee to both Supreme and State for everyone on our roles and part of your dues is used to pay that per capita assessment. It also 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. If for some reason you want to withdraw from the Council, please give us a phone call so that we can notify Supreme and start the withdrawal process.

Mark your Calendars

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

July - 2010

- 1 - First Degree at St. Amant, arrival by 6:30 p.m., ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
- 5 - Fourth Degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall, Black Bayou Rd.
- 7 - June Charity Calendar drawing, 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 7 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 7 - Columbian Squires monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. in Community Center
- 8 - Council monthly Business meeting, dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 10 - Quarterly Communion at 4:40 p.m. Mass
- 10 - **"Salute to Our American Service Personnel and New Officer Installation"** banquet, 6:00 p.m. in St. John Community Center
- 17 - KC Leadership Seminar (KCLS) at Dutchtown High School

Help Your Membership Committee



Brother Don Belanger, our Membership Director, organized a very successful Membership Blitz at the weekend Masses on May 15-16. Fr. Eric again graciously allowed four Brother Knights (Tommy Ruemker, Charles Schexnaydre, Don Belanger and Paul Allen) to speak from the pulpit after Mass to publicize our drive to sign-up new members. The theme of the presentation was *Service to Others* and apparently it struck a cord because we received 5 Form 100 applications and 5 cards requesting more information. Thanks to all the Brother Knights who volunteered to help man the tables, answer questions and publicize the Order by proudly wearing their Council shirts.

As the fraternal year draws to close on June 30th our Council has recruited to-date 22 new 1st degree Knights. With the success of the Blitz we hope that we will reach our membership/retention quota from Supreme at the final Installation ceremony on June 3rd allowing the Council to receive Star Council status. This would be a tremendous honor for the entire Council since it encompasses not only recruiting but also insurance and program (Youth, Church, Community, Council, Family) activities.

And speaking of the first degree Installation the next 1st degree ceremony is at St. John The Evangelist. We start at 7:00 p.m. sharp so if it's been awhile since you have experienced a 1st degree Installation this is a good one to attend. Two members of our Council, Robert Templet Sr. and Tommy Ruemker, are on the degree team so why not join us on June 3rd.

Getting to Know your Committee Chairmen

Community Chairman - Lester Arnaud



Lester (LJ) was born and raised in New Orleans. He graduated from St. Augustine High School and attended both Xavier and Southern Universities. In 1960 he joined the Air Force and served for 4 years. Lester is very active in all our Council programs that support our military including the Soldiers Welcome Home group and the recently started visits to the SE War Veterans Home in Reserve to the call Bingo (see 4th Degree write-up below). He graduated from the U.S. Public Health Service School of Radiologic Technology and worked at the Medical

Center of Louisiana in New Orleans where he retired as an X-ray supervisor after 36 years of service. He married Catherine Williams 45 years ago and they have 5 children and 9 grandchildren. Two of their daughters are Pediatric MDs. Lester says he spends his spare time enjoying his grandchildren and working on his coin collection. He made his first degree in January, 2004 and became a 4th Degree Sir Knight in June, 2005. Lester and Catherine moved to the Prairieville area almost 4 years ago, shortly after Katrina, and fortunately for us transferred into the St. John KC Council where he is active in coordinating all the Council's Community activities. His ready smile and caring personality is hard to miss after just a few minutes talking to Lester.

Family and Pro-Life Chairman - David Gregory



David's first name is actually Jacque but he goes by his middle name for reasons which we will need to have him explain at one of our Council meetings. David was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi until the family moved to Metairie when he was 15. He attended East Jefferson High School and then LSU in Baton Rouge where he received Bachelor and Master degrees in Clinical Social Work. His family background is very interesting. His grandfather was a Russian Jew and he died during

the Bolshevik Revolution. His father was a professional musician who played with Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey. His mother's family were Presbyterian and are decedents of General Andrew Pickens of revolutionary war fame. David's father was Jewish, he was christened in the Presbyterian church, baptized in a Baptist church, attended a Methodist church but went to Catholic grade school as a child. David says "that after 30 years of going to a Catholic church with Ann and his children I was confirmed in the Catholic Faith in 1991 and it was the greatest decision I ever made". Obviously Ann (Landry) has had a tremendous influence on David's life. They will have been married 40 years in September and have a son, who is an Afghanistan veteran, two daughters and three grandchildren. David has worked 36 years for the VA providing individual, group and family therapy. Many of his patients suffer from combat related injuries and trauma. He has also previously worked with the elderly, blind, chronically ill and those with mental disabilities. He has received National recognition from the Secretary of Veteran Affairs for his work in psychiatric care. In his down-time he says he likes antiquing, Cajun music and dancing, baseball and looking after the grandchildren. Apparently, he was a pretty good baseball player in Jackson because he hit a home run in an All-Star game and his team won the Jackson City Championship. David joined the KCs in March, 2003 and we are very fortunate indeed to have David and Ann as our Council's Respect-Life couple and David as our Family Chairman. David has a very quiet and unassuming personality but when he rises to talk about Family and Pro-Life issues during Council meetings everyone listens carefully to his words.

Our Financial Health

The income for May was \$3217 and expenses were \$2407. With eleven months behind us (92% of the fraternal year) total income is \$29,796. (100% of budget) and total expenses are \$27,501 (92% of budget). The May income is primarily from the fundraiser and the 2010 dues. The major May expenses were hotel bills for our delegates to the State Convention, food for the fundraiser and Council overheads (plaques, food, stamps, etc.). The May fundraiser and blood drive were both very successful. The net fundraiser profit was \$1075 and 52 units of blood were collected. Thanks to all Knights who helped with the fundraiser and who donated blood.

Monsignor Lieux 4th Degree Assembly 2052



We now have visited the SE War Veterans Home in Reserve twice to call BINGO with the veterans. It is really a great honor in addition to being a lot of fun interacting with both the men and women who have served our Country many years ago. We have lunch in the dining room and then retire to the activity room for about an hour of bingo. They seem to really enjoy it, especially when they win \$1 for a BINGO! Sir Knight Lester Arnaud (see picture at right) has secured the Caller position and, so far, has escaped any verbal abuse. The next BINGO for our hero's will be June 25th and we will leave St. John's Community Center parking lot at 11:00 a.m. sharp. If any Brother Knight is interested in joining us, please e-mail me (truemker@eatel.net) so I will have a list of how many to expect. Come join the fun!!!!!!!



Tommy Ruemker, Faithful Navigator

Columbian Squires Circle 5101



The Squire State Convention is on June 5-6 in Broussard and two Squires and two Counselors are planning to attend. It should be an interesting experience and we will talk about the event at the June 9 monthly meeting. Note that the location of the meeting in June has been changed to the Ed Building to accommodate the KC Council business meeting. At the Squire meeting we will be planning a canoe trip on the Wolf River on June 11th.

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: Lolita (Russelburg) McDaniel (dec) and the Delphin Russelburg family, Donna Guillot (stomach), Patsy Vincik (cancer), Lenus Guidry (cancer), Calagero Miserendino (cancer), Warren Curole (stroke), Ted Orgeron (cancer), David Madere (prostate cancer), Faith Rose Silva (baby, dec) and the Javier Silva family, Gerald Blair (back surgery), Rhonda Babin (stomach surgery), Ann Joseph (blocked artery), Effie Johnson (stroke), Diane Belanger, Richard Holder's sister (breast cancer), Glenn Williams (dec), Freddie Cole (dec) and the Anthony Babin family, Michael Logarbo (dec), Pat Giroir sister-in-law (cancer), Adrain Moore (cancer).

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)



Congratulations to Brother Tim for State Council Insurance Award

Message from our Insurance Agent Brother Tim:



One of my fellow field agents recently called on a Brother Knight who allowed his KC insurance policy to lapse by not paying his premiums. This field agent simply called to ask if he would please return the lapsed policy. Because the member considered the policy to be worthless now, he asked the agent why he wanted it back.

The field agent replied that when the member died, he wanted to avoid the unpleasant task of explaining to his widow and children that the policy was worthless. He wanted to avoid the excitement the widow would feel when she found what she thought was a life insurance policy, only to become further depressed when she found it was useless and belonged in the wastebasket.

Fortunately this story has a happy ending. The member in question was able to conserve this valuable protection for his loved ones by reinstating his insurance. Call me today to discuss your insurance needs. Let's not have any surprises for your widow.

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

Charity Calendar Drawing

(Drawing on May 7, 2010)



<u>Council</u>	<u>Sales, %</u>	<u>Winners, %</u>
St. John (8342)	54.5	55.0
MBS (10455)	14.9	20.0
IC (6326)	11.7	14.2
Assumption (1099)	2.7	3.3
St. Theresa (2657)	1.1	0.0
Guadeloupe (13145)	0.35	0.0
St. Jean (9247)	9.3	5.8
Msgr. Richard (2053)	<u>5.5</u>	<u>1.7</u>
	100.0	100.0



April	Prize, \$	Name of Winner	City, State	Sold By	Council
1	250	Robert Null	Geismar	Anthony Babin	8342
2	20	Johnnie Moinot	Geismar	Gerald Blair	8342
3	100	Donald Folse	Baton Rouge	Donald Folse	10455
4	20	Lynette Bell	Baton Rouge	Bill Freeman	8342
5	20	David P. Klier	Walker	Jerry Klier	9247
6	20	Aleda Dekeyzer	Boyce	Robert Vincik	8342
7	20	Don Barrios	Raceland	David Himel	9247
8	20	Sonny Mitchell	Greenwell Springs	Curtis Jones	6326
9	20	Jim Gentry	Prairieville	Church Sale	8342
10	100	Alicia Bourgeois	Lafayette	Brian Ducote	8342
11	20	Joei Flallasehek	St. Amant	Mindy Carle	8342
12	20	Adam Arceneaux	Chicago IL	Randall Arceneaux	10455
13	20	Bill Politz	Napoleanville	Charles Simoneaux	1099
14	20	Sydney Acosta	Napoleanville	n/a	1099
15	20	Joe Corona	Gonzales	Brian Ducote	8342
16	20	Mark Quebedeaux	Baton Rouge	Church Sale	10455
17	100	Patsy W. Doucet	Boutte	Gary Doucet	2053
18	20	Eugene J. Leblanc	Sunshine	Mike LeBlanc	8342
19	20	Jeff Miller	Baton Rouge	Henry Pizzolato	6326
20	20	Kathy Tanner	Prairieville	Paul Cashio	8342
21	20	Trevor Benoit	Morgan City	Brian Ducote	8342
22	20	Robbie McCrory	Gonzales	Robbie McCrory	8342
23	20	George Farrish	Brandon, MS	A.J. Lebello	6326
24	100	Bryan Duplessis	Duplessis	Paul Duplessis	8342
25	20	Kevin Kelly	Plaquemines	Anthony Babin	8342
26	20	Bolyn Wolf	Prairieville	Delphin Russelburg	8342
27	20	Helen L. Hebert	Lockport	Bob Harrison	2053
28	20	Nolan P. Diaz	Baton Rouge	Brigham Ragusa	10455
29	20	Shellie J. Simmons	Southfield, MI	Dwight Robinette	8342
30	20	Donald Folse	Baton Rouge	Donald Folse	10455

April Total - \$1150
YTD Total - \$5230