

# Knight Newsletter

**St. John the Evangelist Council #8342  
August, 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 Director: Cliston Guillot  
Church Dir.: Gerald Blair  
Community Dir.: Lester Arnaud  
Council Dir: Lester Sylvester  
Family Dir.: David Gregory  
Youth Dir.: Cory Orgeron

Vocations Dir.: Donald Joseph  
Pro-Life: J. David/Anne Gregory  
Health Serv.: David Broussard  
Public Relations: Scott McLin  
Squires: Ashley Rabalais  
Ins.Promotion: Merle Russelburg

Membership Dir.: Russel Madere  
Recruitment Com: Scot McLin  
Recruitment Com: David Broussard  
Retent'n Dir: Delphin Russelburg  
Retention Com.: Tim Langlois  
Insurance Agent: Tim Fernandez



*Family of the Month: Tommy and Pam Ruemker  
Knight of the Month: Corey Orgeron*

## August Birthdays!

Nelson Nunez (1)  
Louis Thomassie (3)  
Troy Dempster (5)  
James Falgout (5)  
Merlin Salzman (5)  
Paul Cashio (9)  
Blake Vincik (10)

Byron Borderlon III (11)  
Ted Babin (12)  
Robert Reed (14)  
Johnnie Tarver (15)  
Gerald Hitzman, Jr. (15)  
Charles Wambsgans, Jr. (19)  
Harold Braud (23)

Ashley Rabalais (26)  
Whitney Amedee, Jr. (29)  
James Morrissey (29)  
Austin Watts (29)  
Mark Gyan (30)  
Scott Dantonio (31)  
Vernon Ducote (31)

For all brother Knights whose birthdays are in August, 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,

It is a great honor for me to follow in the footsteps of the many past Grand Knights still active in our council. I would like to particularly thank Tommy Ruemker for his tireless service over the last two years. Tommy was fond of saying that he had the easiest job in the council but don't believe a word of it. He spent many evenings and weekends doing council business, made endless phone calls, and he was usually the last one out the door making sure all the lights were off and the gym floor was mopped. He has taken on an even bigger role in his "retirement" as he will become the 4th degree Faithful Navigator as well as a 3-year Trustee in our Council. So thanks Tommy for a job well done and we look forward to supporting you in your new role in the Msgr. Lieux Assembly.

We also have several new Officers this Fraternal year including Robert Templet Sr. replacing Tim Goatly as Treasurer, Clifton Guillot will become the Deputy Grand Knight/Program Director, Don Belanger (Director), David Broussard, and Scott McLin are taking over for Robert as the Membership Committee, Lee Guidry replaces Ron Lindsey as Advocate, Willis Broussard is taking over for Don Belanger as 1-year Trustee and Dr. Michel Hirsch was appointed as Lecturer replacing Paul Duplessis. I would like to thank all the men who are rotating off as well as those who have agreed to stay on and serve the council for 2009-2010.

I would also like to recognize the new committee chairmen because they are the ones who make our programs happen. Donald Joseph will become the new Vocations Chairman, Lester Arnaud the Community Chairman and Ashley Rabalais has agreed to replace Mark Bradley as the Squires Director. I'm looking forward to a great year of service to our families, church and community.

We are starting a new feature in the Knight Newsletter with a "Getting to Know Your Council Officers/Committee Chairmen" section. The short biography of two officers/chairmen each month will be kicked-off featuring your new Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight/Program Director (see below). I take complete responsibility for the quality of the pictures and let me apologize in advance for any errors in the biographies.

Hopefully many of you joined us for the Quarterly Communion and District Officers Installation Banquet on July 25th. The guest book was signed by 92 attendees! I would like to thank Lester Sylvester who coordinated the banquet. The food was great thanks to our cooks Paul Duplessis, David Guedry, Willis Broussard, Gerald Blair and Tom Clausi. Don Belanger put the Program together and made sure that we followed the script. Also thanks to our Squires and Scouts who helped served the meal and to all our Brother Knights who pitched in and helped setup the hall, assisted in serving and then cleaned up afterwards. It's was a real team effort.

I would like to welcome three new KC members. James Falgout, David Flynn and Andrew Sperandeo, made their first degree on July 2nd. Please make an effort to welcome these men into our Council.

August should not be quite as busy as July. There is a 2nd and 3rd degree exemplification on August 16 in Pierre Part. The membership committee will be contacting our Brother Knights in our council who have

## Grand Knight's Column (continued)

made only their first degree to encourage them to attend. If you have only made your first degree, please seriously consider attending this exemplification and say yes when our membership committee calls you.

Also in August we have a fundraiser on Sunday, August 9th. Delphin can always use help and these fundraiser are a major source of income allowing us to do our service projects. So please try to help us with a little bit of your time on the morning of the 9th.

And finally, Tommy Ruemker has agree to continue coordinating the release of the Prayer Request for our Brother Knights, family and friends who are ill and home bound. If you are aware of anyone who is in distress and needs our prayers, please contact Tommy at 622-4152 / truemker@eatel.net or me at 752-3544 / paulwallen@cox.net.

*Vivat Jesus!*

*Paul Allen*

### Special Recognitions

During the Installation Banquet, retiring Grand Knight Tommy Ruemker presented plaques for two very special recognitions:

*Knight of the Year : David Guedry*  
*Family of the Year : Corey and Brandee Orgeron*

As Tommy said, it is very difficult to select these awards when so many of our members give so much time and energy to our council, church and community. David Guedry and the Orgeron family reflect what the Knight of Columbus are all about and it is a privilege to have them as part of our KC family. So let's all congratulate David, Corey and Brandee for their well deserved selection.

Also at the Installation banquet, we recognized the Catholic Youth Leadership winners from our Council:

*CYLA winner : Penny Gyan, daughter of Joe and Pam Gyan*  
*CYLA winner : Josh Bourgeois, son of Blake and Ashley Bourgeois*

Penny graduated from Runnels High School and will be attending Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, in the fall. Josh graduated from Dutchtown High School and will be an LSU Tiger. In addition to a certificate recognizing their participation in the CYLA program, both Penny and Josh received a \$100 check as our Council winners. As I said during the presentation at the banquet, it is a honor to have such fine young adults represent our council and St. John the Evangelist parish.

## Getting to Know your Council Officers

### Grand Knight - Paul Allen



**Paul** was born and raised in Kansas City where he attended De La Salle High School. He studied science in college eventually getting a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the U. of Colorado. Paul worked 35 years for Exxon Chemical Co. and retired in 2002 as Chief Engineer. Paul has been married to Judi (Pryor) for 45 years and has a son, three daughters and four grandchildren. He joined the KC's after retirement and has served the Council as Lecturer and DGK plus he recently made his 4th degree. His hobbies include collecting and operating Lionel toy trains, family genealogy and playing golf when visiting family in Houston and San Diego. Paul is a 3 year member of the St. John's Mission Honduras volunteer team and has recently been working to design and install water clean-up facilities at the Mission sites as well as organizing a humanitarian aid shipment through the USAID Denton program for the Mission schools.

### Deputy Grand Knight - Cliston Guillot



**Cliston** was born in Marksville, LA and attended Bunkie High School. He studied Mechanical Drafting and Design at LaSalle Extension University which he put to use in a 34 year career at the ExxonMobil Chemical Plant and Refinery. He retired in September, 2008. Cliston and Georgia (Aymond) have been married 44 years and they have a son, three daughters, 5 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter. Cliston has been a Knight for over 26 years and has served in a wide variety of roles including Grand Knight, 4th degree Faithful Navigator, District Deputy, Area Coordinator and he is currently State Family Activity Director. In Cliston's "spare time" he has been a volunteer fire fighter, usher/Eucharistic minister and helper with CCD at St. John's, plays in a Cajun/swamp pop music band (since 1962) and at one point was disc-jockey for a Saturday morning Cajun radio program on WSLG. Cliston's broad experience will be put to good use this Fraternal year as our Program Director!

## Mark your Calendars

### August - 2009

#### Day

- 3 - Fourth degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall
- 5 - Charity Calendar drawing at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center foyer
- 5 - Officer and Committee Chairmen meeting following calendar pull (about 6:45 p.m.)
- 5 - Columbian Squires meeting, 7 p.m. in the Community Center gym
- 6 - First Degree at St. Theresa Council Hall: arrival at 6:30 p.m., ceremony 7 p.m.
- 9 - Jambalaya fundraiser: serving line volunteers needed around 9:00 a.m.
- 13 - Council monthly meeting: dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 16 - 2nd/3rd degree exemplification in Pierre Part: contact Don Belanger (673-3766) for details

### September - 2009

#### Day

- 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.)
- 2 - Columbian Squires meeting 7 p.m. in the Community Center gym
- 3 - First Degree at St. Mark's: arrival at 6:30 p.m., ceremony 7 p.m.
- 7 - Fourth degree monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. at St. Amant KC Hall
- 10 - Council monthly meeting: dinner ready around 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. sharp
- 26-27 - Troop 131 Scout retreat

## Columbian Squires Update



Thanks to Mark Bradley for his leadership over the last two years and welcome aboard to Ashley Rabalais as the new Chief Counselor. The next Columbian Squires meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5th, in the Community Center.

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

## Help Your Membership Committee



Our membership quota for 2009-2010 is 15 new 1st degree Knights. We are off to a good start with the installation of David, James and Andy (see GK column) in early July. Membership is the lifeblood of our Order so if you know someone who is interested in joining our Council, give him a Form 100. You can also contact our Membership Director Don Belanger (673-3766) or Committee members Scott McLin (673-1656) and David Broussard (622-0656, 776-0613) if you need help or information.

## Our Financial Health

The GK, DGK, Trustees, Financial Secretary and Treasurer met on July 14th to conduct the semi-annual audit and to develop the budget for the 2009-2010 Fraternal year. The proposed budget will be sent to the entire council distribution list in a separate release so that it can be reviewed by members prior to our August 13th meeting. In the way of overview, the operating income is projected to be \$29,650 and these funds will be used for our many charity and youth activities, KC State/Supreme fees and council overheads. A detailed breakdown will be available in the budget release. In future newsletters a short summary of income and expense status will be included in this section of the newsletter.

## Did you know?

The Council has an excellent informative website thanks to Scott McLin. The address is [www.kc8342.org](http://www.kc8342.org). Scott is the administrator and you can email him at [scottmclin@yahoo.com](mailto:scottmclin@yahoo.com)

We also are continually updating our email distribution list. Currently, 191 of our 223 members receive Council information electronically. This save us considerable postage. If you are not on our email distribution list or if your email address has changed, **please** contact me at [paulwallen@cox.net](mailto:paulwallen@cox.net).

Our Council has a dress shirt for use at Council banquets, quarterly communions, wakes, etc. All you need to do is 1) purchase a Stafford® Essentials Wrinkle Free Oxford White (\$14.99 - \$19.99) from J.C. Penny's at the Mall of Louisiana on Bluebonnet, 2) mark your shirt with your name and give it to Brother Anthony Babin, 3) Anthony will coordinate sending your shirt to Ed Martin (Acadian Graphics) to get the K.C. Emblem embroidered on the shirt (about \$7.00). There are a minimum number of shirts required before an order can be placed with Ed so please be patient.



The Council has a quota of 5 new insured Knights in 2009-2010. One investment vehicle available is to purchase a KC annuity. Tim tells me that the current rate is 3.75% and must be held for at least 7 years. There are tax advantages to annuities and if you have at least \$500 to invest and you are unhappy with the current CD rates, contact Tim and he will be happy to explain the advantages of a KC annuity.

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