



The KNIGHT'S FLAME

Holy Spirit Council 11460 • Rochester MN

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Grand Knight Message

In many respects, I think February is the highlight of our council year. We're over the rush of projects for Christmas and early in the year, and we skip the regular monthly meeting to instead have a "Light Night with the Knights." I strongly encourage all of you to come. Please, please, bring your spouse or girlfriend, and feel free to invite another Holy Spirit gentleman and his spouse/girlfriend to join us. Council Activities Director Mike Riester is doing a great job pulling it together, and Lecturer Dave Rossman will be having a short program about a worthy cause in the Rochester area (not a KC recruiting program). This is a chance to relax and get to know each other better, in a relaxing, no-pressure atmosphere! Child care will be provided, and there will be some great door prizes. See the article in the newsletter for more details.

And, please don't forget to do something special for your wife or girlfriend on February 14 !!!

Wow – way to come through folks! Due to an e-mail glitch, we ended up with almost no workers signed up for the January 22 pancake breakfast with only 3 days to go. The plea went out, and you came through. I was there during the first shift and into the beginning of the second shift, and I saw an overwhelming number of workers turn out to pitch in. Thanks to each and every one of you for being there when we needed you! Special thanks to Brad Brech and Jerome Lensing, who head up this program (FYI - they would welcome another coordinator to help!). The pancake breakfast itself was a success, and we will give just over \$750 to the Holy Spirit youth to be used to help our sister parish St. Paul's Church in Pass Christian, Mississippi with their recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

Speaking of pancake breakfasts, the Spring Valley KC council is hosting one on February 26 as a fund-raiser for a member of their council who suffered a major injury recently. I plan to head down for breakfast after the 8:15 Mass at Holy Spirit that day, and I can carpool with any others interested. Let me know if you want to come along. See the article in the newsletter for more details.

A few months ago, I put out the request for someone to head up a proposed Adopt-A-Highway project. A big thanks to Dave Nissen for stepping forward to take this on! We've now got a 2-mile section of county road within our parish boundaries, and we'll be doing the clean-up 3 times each year (and we'll be sure to get a picture of the sign with our name on it as soon as it goes up!). I'd like to be creative in staffing this, and not have the same few volunteers do all the work every time. If you've got a small group of 5-10 people (age 12 and older) who would be willing to carve out a half day either just once or once every year to help, please let Dave Nissen know. For example, this might be an interesting service project for 2-3 families to get together on.

The dues billings are out, and Financial Secretary Jim Decker tells me payments are coming in at a good pace – about 1/3 are in so far. If you haven't sent your dues in yet, please do it NOW to save Jim and myself from needing to follow-up with you. (Wives – if you pay the bills, please surprise your husband and pay it for him!)

Thanks to Paul Daley and all his helpers (especially his family!) who put on another great Free Throw Competition on January 29. Thanks to Brad Brech and all the helpers doing the Souper Bowl event on February 4-5. And Dave Rossman and I (and others?) will be having a relaxing and renewing experience February 3-5 at our annual retreat at Christ the King retreat center – hope you can join us next year!

And lastly, remember that the 4 principles of our order are Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. You never know when you may need to know this.

Hope to see you on Thursday, February 9th!

Vivat Jesus!

Dave Hubka, Grand Knight

Calendar

Light Night	Holy Spirit Commons	Thursday, February 9	7:00pm
Free Throw Contest (District)	Lourdes High School	Sunday, February 12	
Mike Souhrada Breakfast	St. Ignatius, Spring Valley	Sunday, February 26	7am - 1pm
Pancake Breakfast	Holy Spirit Gym	Sunday, March 19 or 26	after morning Masses
Major Degree	Lourdes High School	Sunday, April 9	TBD
Toosie Roll Drive		April 28-30	

Get-to-Know-a-Knight

Mike Riester was our lucky winner at the January meeting. Mike is our Council Activities director for the year. He and his lovely wife Pat have two children one currently attending the University of Minnesota Duluth and the other still at Holy Spirit. Mike and Pat are both involved in the Green Team at Holy Spirit.

Birthday Celebrations

Knights with birthdays in February are Damian Ahlstrom, Larry Bodensteiner, Michael Branson, Brad Brech, John Kalwasinski, Chris Larsen, Steven Strickland, Chris Wood, and Glenn Opdycke-Hansen. Wish them a great birthday the next time you see them! Thanks to all for being Knights in 11460.

Light Night

Our annual Light Night with the Knights will be held on February 9th at 7:00 in the Commons in place of our regular meeting. There will be soft drinks, wine, and cheese provided by the Council. All men of the parish are invited. Current and prospective members are encouraged to bring their wives. Child care will be provided. This is a great time to introduce your friends to the Knights in a no-pressure environment. For those who are interested, Ed Higgins will be giving a short talk on the priest's Guest House here in Rochester.

Free Throw Contest

Paul Daley

The KC youth free throw contest was held on Sunday, January 29th with about 20 boys and girls participating. Here are the winners in each age category:

<i>Age</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Boys</i>
10	Shannon Strickland	
11	Hannah Anderson	Jerod Jensen
12	Stephanie Helt	Kody Jurgenson
13	Laura Melquist	
14	Rachel Ward	Philip Oertli

The winners now move on to the district competition which will take place at Lourdes High School, Sunday, February 12th.

I would like to thank the following Knights for all of their help with the event: Dave Hubka, Jim Decker, Jerome Lensing, Dale Brucki, Jeff Block and Scott Helt.

Good luck to all of the winners as they move on to the next round!

Pancake Breakfast in March

There will be a pancake breakfast in March to benefit our youth group's mission trip to Juarez. As of this printing the actual date is up in the air but it will either be the 26th or the 19th. Put this on your calendar and please consider volunteering to

help. Brad needs to know who he can count on to staff these breakfasts. Don't wait until his last minute appeal. If you can help, let him know!

McGivney Book

The book "Parish Priest" is now out, detailing the life and chronicling the cause for canonization of the founder of the Knights - Fr. Michael McGivney. Our council will be buying a couple of copies for the parish library, but feel free to drop down to your favorite bookstore and pick up your copy today. If you're the kind of guy who likes doing the iPod thing you can also grab it from audible.com.

Adopt a Road

Dave Nissen has volunteered to coordinate our council's service on "adopt a road" - the county version of "adopt a highway". Dave has a lot of experience in this area and has developed an especially efficient system that works well for his family. We're looking at a couple of two-mile section of county roads within the parish boundaries. This would make an ideal family project. We'll need to get together a cleanup crew for this spring. If you're interested, why not give Dave a call at 252-1096?

Benefit Breakfast for Mike Souhrada

Brother Mike Souhrada, a member of Council 13609 in Spring Valley, was recently hurt quite seriously. He was working on a house in Spring Valley; he slipped and fell from the roof breaking three vertebrae, several ribs, his sternum and sustained multiple bruises. He is currently in St. Mary's and is wearing a Halo with skull pins to keep fractures in alignment. His full recovery date is unsure, but he is walking with a walker.

A benefit breakfast will be held on Feb 26th from 7am-1pm at St. Ignatius Catholic Church. There will be helping with the breakfast of French toast, eggs, pancakes, sausage, milk, juice, and coffee. You are invited to this benefit to assist Mike and family through this very difficult time. If you can't attend, please consider helping him in other ways.

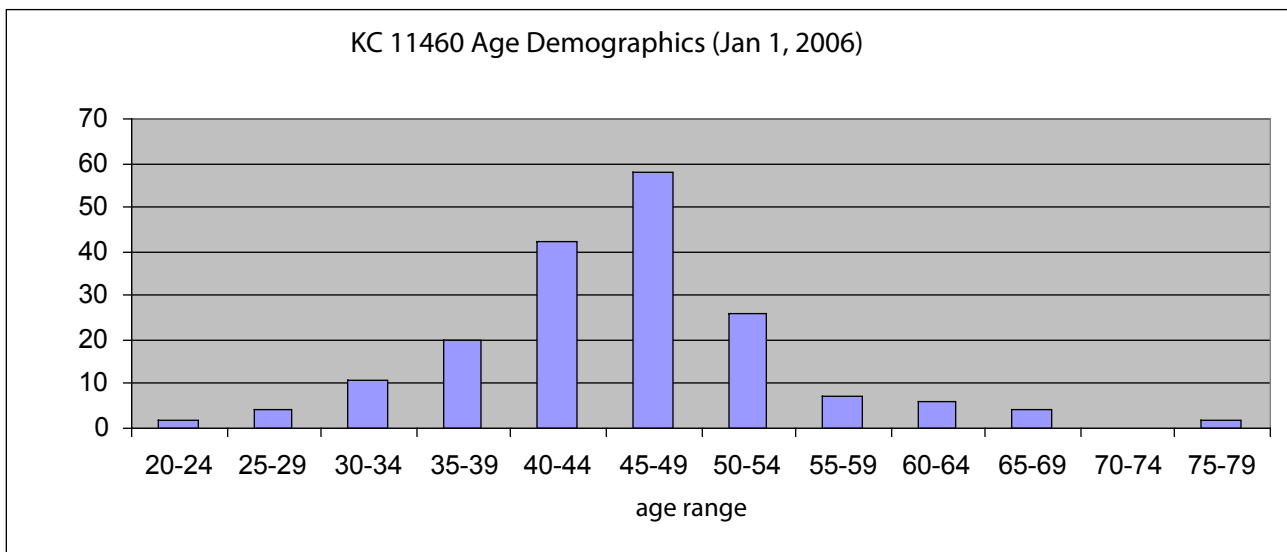
GK Dave Hubka and others from our council will be going and pooling rides. Give Dave a call if you are interested in going.

Council Demographics

Dave Hubka

First of all, I want to emphasize what a strong, healthy council we are. We have an active membership, strong leadership, an impressive set of programs, a good reputation, and in many cases we are the model held up for other councils to follow. This is a very strong statement for a council only 11 years old! My heart-felt thanks to all members past and present who've put in the energy and time to make our council all that it is.

With that said, I've been taking a look at the demographics of



our council, based on a January 1, 2006 snapshot of data. The age demographics are an eye opener – please take a look at the chart, and notice how thin our ranks are at the younger age brackets. And when I dive down further and look into the specifics of our younger members, it becomes apparent that we are having a problem getting younger folks recruited and involved in leadership. For example, we have only 6 members under 30, and 5 of them were recruited elsewhere and then transferred into our council. And, of the 17 members in our council under 35, none of them is now or ever has been an officer, a director, or the leader one of our major, ongoing activities.

This isn't a problem for us today, but if we don't address it soon, it will clearly become a problem for us a few years down the line. We can't let the bubble in the chart simply move to the right. We need to be backfilling the ranks of our membership and leadership with younger members.

How can we do this? There are two obvious ways that occur to me. First of all, look around you, and consider asking a younger man at Holy Spirit to join our ranks. Second of all – and this hits much closer to home – if you have a son, ask him when he turns 18 to join our council. I've heard a number of you give your personal story of how you joined the KCs when you turned 18 – we owe it to the younger generations to invite them to join when they are 18 as well!

I have a few more ideas that aren't quite so obvious, but I don't pretend to have a silver bullet. I would appreciate hearing any ideas you might have. And if any of you younger members would like to help me head up a recruiting effort for younger members, please get in touch with me. Thanks!

Little Known Saint of the Month

Dave Dykstal

"Little known", perhaps, to Americans that is. This month our Saint is another New World saint - Miguel Febres Cordero or Michael of Ecuador, the patron saint of Ecuador, born Francisco Febres Cordero Muñoz.

Francisco was born in Ecuador in 1854 to a well-to-do family. He was born with a foot deformity that left him unable to walk

until he was five years old. At five he had a vision of the Virgin Mary hovering over the roses in his family's garden. She was calling to him. His family could see nothing of the vision and was astonished when he got up and walked. He continued to have visions and conversations with the Virgin Mary for some time, but was never able to walk well, which led him to his vocation as a scholar.

Young Francisco joined the De LaSalle Brothers, overcoming the objections of his parents who saw the brothers as having lower status than priests. He took the name Miguel at that time.

Brother Miguel specialized in the teaching of languages at the seminary in Cuenca and was a prolific writer of textbooks, poetry, a catechism, and books on Castilian Spanish linguistics, but found his real joy in preparing young children for their First Communion - a job he did for 26 years.

His scholarship earned him much respect and he was elected to the National Academy of Ecuador in 1892. In 1907 he travelled to Europe to help translate his order's religious documents from French to Spanish, civil unrest in France at that time making it imperative to save them. He travelled to Spain and was in Barcelona when trouble broke out there leading to the destruction of some Church property and placing him and the other Brothers under considerable stress. He became ill and died of pneumonia on February 9, 1910.

Miracles attributed to him began occurring almost immediately after his death. His body was moved from Spain to Ecuador in 1937 during the Spanish Civil War and his tomb in Quito is a site of pilgrimage to this day.

He was canonized in 1984 by Pope John Paul II. His feast is February 9th.

Knights of Columbus Council #11460

January 12, 2006 General Business Meeting

Submitted by David M, Rossman, Council Lecturer

Opening

Grand Knight Dave Hubka called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Library of Holy Spirit School. There were 10 members present at the start of the meeting and 2 additional members joined in later on. Also attending was Mr. Aaron Jelinek, General Agent of the Knights of Columbus. Dave led the group in the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Dave shared with the group thank you letters received this past 2 months from David Lamb, Hope Lodge, RMH Cancer ward, and Christmas Anonymous. The minutes from the November 2005 meeting were discussed and approved. No new applications were read.

Officer's Reports

The Financial Secretary presented income and expense reports for November/December 2005 and January 2006 to-date, with revenues of \$1,848.03 and \$50 respectively, along with expenses of \$3,271.53 and \$743.17. Both reports were reviewed by those present and approved. He also issued a report of those members who are still delinquent of year 2005 dues.

Treasure Bill Oertli presented the 6 moth financial report of expenses and revenues.

Directors Reports

Membership Director: Larry Burgart sent in a report that 4 new members were gained at the December 15th 1st Degree. One of those new members, Joe Weigel was present tonight.

Church Activities Director: Mike McDermott was absent. He had arranged for the lighting of the Christmas Nativity Scene this last month.

Community Activity Director: Ken Lentz- no report.

Council Activity Director: Mike Riestler reported the Light Night with the Knights would be held on February 9th. Daycare will be provided and postcards will be sent. Members are encouraged to bring potential new members.

Family Activities Director: Joe DiCecco - no report.

Youth Director: Paul Daley talked about the annual free throw competition on 1-29. Trophies will be purchased for the winners. Volunteers are needed.

Old Business

Adopt-A-Road Project: Dave Nissen will be in charge of our efforts. He will be looking for up to 10 volunteers each time for about 1 hour, and requested funds for trash grabbers. He will apply with the county for the section of 75th Street west of Douglas.

Pancake Breakfast January 22nd will be with the Youth Group with funds dedicated for the Katrina relief effort with no doubling of funds this time. The youth are pre-selling tickets. Brad is looking for workers. Pancake Breakfast 3/19 or 3/26 will be for youth mission trip

New Business

The Council decided to not provide assistance to the Friendship Park group.

Souper Bowl Booya is scheduled for February 5. Brad is looking for workers.

Men's Retreat Call: Dave Rossman presented information on the Men's Retreat on February 3,4,5 and offered car pool rides to those interested.

Fr. McGivney book: 2 copies will be purchased by the council, one for the school library and one for the parish library.

\$100 was authorized for the Rochester Area Catholic School **Tuition Scholarship Banquet** on 2-3-06.

Aaron Jelinek talked about his roll as general field agent for the Knights of Columbus and passed out literature concerning the benefits of KC Insurance.

Good of the Order

Prayers were offered by the Grand knight for Brother Robert Schmidt of Council 1781 and PSD Willard Strand.