

Siena Post Dispatch



**A Monthly Publication of Siena Council No. 8596
Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 271, Dundee, IL 60118
October, 2005**

Grand Knight's Message

September was a challenging month for our council. We survived Irish Fest. We conducted a First Degree. We prevailed at Heritage Fest. We even managed a respectable showing at the annual MH/Tootsie Roll Drive. Four major events in two weeks, and we even managed to finish off with a successful Blood Drive.

Over the past several months I have encouraged, I have pleaded and I have even cajoled everyone for participation and help. This month, it is time for me to say "Thank you" to each and every member who participated and helped us get through this very arduous month.

We could never have had a successful Irish Fest without the recruitment and supervisory efforts of Brother Mike Graziano and his wife Mary and Brother Dick Williams and his wife Margie. Their diligence paid off in the number of Brother Knights who volunteered their time to make this activity a success.



Our Council's Food Tent at Irish Fest

Special thanks must also go to Brothers Rich Hoster and Hank Schmalen who worked tirelessly all weekend to make Irish Fest a success. From set up to tending the corn roaster, to grilling pork for the

sandwiches, to emptying the trash ... if there was a job to be done, Brothers Rich and Hank were there to do it ... all weekend long.



Brothers and Past Grand Knights Rich Hoster And Jim Merva surround our "Grand Lady", Mary Graziano in our Irish Fest Food Tent

I must also extend a special thanks to Brother Kevin Montavon and his wife. It was Kevin and his wife who collected and counted the money and tickets every night of Irish Fest ... late into the night after everyone else had gone home.

Just a week after Irish Fest, we gave our new corn roaster and booth a workout at West Dundee's

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Heritage Fest. Brother Dan Biggins took the lead on this project, and has the council's and my sincere gratitude. Brother Dan made all the arrangements with the Village, scheduled the volunteers and was around to make sure everything went as planned. I have to also thank Brother Graziano again for obtaining the health permit and helping set up the booth. Also, thanks again go to brothers Hoster and Schmalen for towing the roaster and helping set up and tear down the booth.

I don't think our council could begin to coordinate the annual MH Drive without the efforts of Brother Dennis Gardynski. Brother Ski is our MD Man! Without him, we wouldn't have a MH Drive, and I thank him from the bottom of my heart.

And finally, to all of the brothers, their wives and families who helped and participated ... thank you ... thank you thank you!

I have gone to great length to list all of these Brother Knights, and their wives, for two reasons. First, and most obvious, is because they have all worked so hard and contributed so much they have earned the gratitude of the entire council.

My second reason for listing everyone's contributions is somewhat more subtle. I hope you all take note of just how many members it takes to successfully conduct these activities. These events don't just happen ... they are the result of many members all working hard and all working together. That is what unity and fraternity is all about. It is about Brother Knights working together for a common cause and common goal.

As this September has proven, our council can work together and can achieve great accomplishments. If we are to continue this success and continue to grow as a council, however, we can't just stand on our laurels, we must move forward and renew.

We are coming up on our fall recruitment blitz, and I have a major challenge for each of you. I

know you have all worked very hard this month, but this challenge doesn't require any work. I am sure each and every one of us knows at least one man in the parish that is not a member of the Knights of Columbus and would make a wonderful Knight. Now is the time to ask him to become a "Knight Before Christmas." Not every man we ask is going to be interested in joining us, but if we don't at least ask ... those who may be interested will never have the opportunity ...

Vivat Jesu
Jim

PADS HELP NEEDED

Our first opportunity is coming up in October to help those less fortunate. We have agreed to supply two people, the third Monday evening/Tuesday morning of every month while the shelter is open. The dates for this year are:

October 17-18	Zion Lutheran Church	OPEN
November 21-22	TBD	The Schmalens
December 19-20	TBD	OPEN
January 16-17	TBD	OPEN
February 20-21	TBD	OPEN
March 20-21	TBD	OPEN
April 17-18	(If needed)	

All you have to do is show up with a non-sugar snack and milk (our council will reimburse you), and help the PADS Staff in whatever way they need. This might be putting out a snack, or helping to give out bedding, etc.

It is from 7:00pm to about 9:30 or 10:00pm on Monday night, and then again from 5:00am until 7:00am the next morning to help with breakfast and cleanup. This can be a wonderful experience for you to share with your spouse or older child.

If you can volunteer and do not have an ID card from past years, Brother Schmalen will need to pre-register you.

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CALL OR EMAIL Brother Hank with the month that you would like to help.....and THANKS!

Contact Hank Schmalen at (847) 426-7326, or hschmal@sbcglobal.net

HOAGIE SALE !!! YUM !!!!

Coming in October is a fund-raiser for Habitat for Humanity and all you have to do is EAT (well, and you do have to buy the sandwich). This event will be announced in the church bulletin and orders will be taken after the Masses for pickup at Masses on October 29-30.

What a great way to watch the Bears.....with a HOAGIE in each hand !!!!! And knowing that you are helping Habitat THREE WINNERS all right there !!! So when the opportunity knocks open your wallet and help your belly and Habitat !!!!

Annual Retreat Weekend

It's not too early to get our 2006 retreat weekend on your calendar so that nothing interferes with it! We have only 12 slots next year (only 11 left) and I want to give first opportunity to our Brother Knights before I invite other men of the parish to join us. It is Friday February 17th at 6:00pm to Sunday the 19th at noon. Talk to those that have made this retreat.....it's an awesome experience!!! It's at a great location at Bellarmine Retreat Center in Barrington. You have your own room, the food is great and, above all, the time with God is not to be missed. If you have already made your decision to go, let me know or if you have questions give me a yell. Brother Hank Schmalen at (847) 426-7326 or hschmal@sbcglobal.net.

October Birthdays

Ed Kaczynski
Marc Lobit
Dave Edwards
Mike Gallagher
Dale Larson
Bob Carlson
Rudolph Kouba
Earl Mc Grath

Ignacio Pena
Matt Gilmore
Bill Blume
Mark Nelson
Dick Williams
Joe Uryasz
Dan Biggins

Happy Birthday to all!

Catholic Men's Conference

On **Saturday, October 8th** the Catholic Men's Conference will again be held at NIU. It is a day of great speakers, reflection, reconciliation, Mass and a chance to recharge your spiritual batteries. We will carpool from St. Catherine's, leaving about 7:30 am and returning about 5:30pm. Give attendance some serious thought and prayer. More info will be coming or contact Hank Schmalen at hschmal@sbcglobal.net.

Upcoming Events

Officers Meeting	October 6	7:00
Council Business Meeting (Columbus Day)	October 10	7:30
Rosary Weekend	October 15 & 16	
Men's Conference	October 8	

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“The Good of the Order”

Please remember in your prayers the following Brothers and family members who are ill or in distress:

Jim Roy
Dan Stroick
Bill Livingston

Chris Gardynski
Bob Waclawik

If you know of a Brother Knight or Brother’s family member who is in need of our prayers and is not listed above, please email the names to jas.winstead@worldnet.att.net for inclusion in our next newsletter.

Upcoming ...

In next month’s issue of the Siena Council Post Dispatch, we will publish the financial results of our Irish Fest, Heritage Fest and MH Drive activities.

We will be sponsoring a Parish Family Breakfast in November. The date isn’t quite firm yet. Our breakfasts require “All Hands”, so start making plans to help out.

Our annual Council Christmas Party is scheduled for Friday, December 9th. This is always a fun evening for all ... members, families and especially the little kids. I’m sure we’ll again have a decidedly “Italian” Santa making an appearance to the delight of all. See next month’s Post Dispatch for more details.

Important To Do’s...

Invite a friend, or just a fellow parishioner you think would make a good Knight to join us and become a “Knight Before Christmas.”

If you have an announcement or article you would like to have appear in the Siena Post Dispatch, please mail or email it to jas.winstead@worldnet.att.net.