

Siena Post Dispatch



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

March 2008

Grand Knight's Message

A handful of Knights had a skull session in February on strengthening membership. I'll distill the discussion to two areas we can improve on: mentoring First Degrees to maintain the interest that drove them to taking that first step of joining the Order, and reaching out to our inactive members with a mailed piece informing them of the year's activities. There are many who don't hear from us since we stopped mailing newsletters. Some of them have likely added email but we don't have that address. We will point toward getting out a mailing in April that invites these members to May's meeting, which includes our last planned dinner of this Columbian year. I need assistance planning this important contact. Please volunteer March 10th.

Did someone mention "mailing"? We've conceived the marketing of Tootsie Rolls by the box to local businesses. We owe it to ourselves to try this alternate approach. Let's plan it now and do it right after Lent. Who will tackle this?

Vivat Jesus!
Grand Knight
Dan Biggins

Retreatants Thankful

Those of us who went on retreat to Bellarmine Hall in February want to say "Thanks" to all of the Brother Knights that prayed for us. We all had a wonderful experience, each different as a retreat should be. There are other opportunities for retreats throughout the year if you would like to go and weren't able to make our February weekend...just contact Hank Schmalen @ hschmal@comcast.net or (847) 426-7326 for information. Also, mark

your calendars for February 20 - 22, 2009 and join us next year. *Come to the quiet!*

February Meeting Action

A letter was read describing injuries sustained by a brother Knight while involved in a fundraiser to rebuild a Catholic elementary school. Successful recovery from multiple surgeries is underway. It was moved and seconded that 8596 donate \$500 to this Brother from St. Bede - St. Pius Council in Ingleside to help defray medical and rehabilitation expenses. Vote will be taken March 10.

Another funding request will be voted on same night. Each year our youth group makes a trip to help needy in a given area. This year it is a road trip to Omaha. The youths are fortunate to have Hank serve as a leader. The Oracle of Omaha is not underwriting the trip, but we can help do so. We will vote on contributing \$500 toward the group's expenses.

September Festivals

Forget think Spring, let's think Fall! The Drive for People with Developmental Disabilities is September 19 and 20th, and Dennis Gardynski already has the McKinstra room reserved.

The Irish Fest Committee is in full swing and considering changes to reinvigorate attendance. Some of these will be discussed at our March 10 meeting.

No contact yet from Heritage Fest, but once again it will be the weekend between these other two.

Establishing leaders for each day of Irish and Heritage worked well last year and will be our

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model going forward. This distributes the workload, freeing up weekend time allowing all of us to enjoy these gatherings. Raise your hand at Monday's meeting to volunteer to be lead for a day.

Upcoming Knight Events

March 6	Officer's Meeting @ 7:00
March 10	First Degree and Business Meeting 7:30
March 16	Blood drive 8 to 11:30
March 17	St. Patrick's Day!
April 10	Officer's Meeting @ 7:00
April 14	Business Meeting @ 7:30
April 20	Parish Breakfast

Future Dispatch Entries

If you know of any Brother Knight or Brother's family member who is in need of our prayers, or an announcement you would like to see published in our Siena Post, please email the information to janddbiggins@sbcglobal.net for inclusion in our Council's next newsletter.

Prayer Offering