



Knights News

Knights of Columbus
John F. Kennedy Council 1257
PO Box 923
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54702



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No. 06 - 10

Meetings and Socials at K of C Hall: 2708 Thomas Drive, Eau Claire, WI, knights@koceauclaire.org

Officers & Directors for 2009-2010

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Mathew Blaeser, Advocate, 832-2837

Jack Fay, Warden, 514-1988

Mike Theisen, Inside Guard, 579-2448

Scott Lewis, Outside Guard & Lecturer, 831-6136

Gerald Olson, Program Director, 834-1320

Trustees:

Roger Langkamp, 3yrs, 874-5375

Jim Bischel, 2yrs, 552-8852

Mark Aebly, 1yrs, 874-5574

Bill Chrostowski, Field Agent & Membership Director,
830-9371

Fran Koppa, Bowling Secretary 834-8915

Calendar of Events

**First Friday Of Every Month – First Friday
Mass at Immaculate Conception 7:00 AM
Breakfast to follow at Altoona Family
Restaurant. Knights and their ladies invited.**

**June 5-6, 2010 – Air Show, if you are signed up
to work please verify details with Bill
Chrostowski 830-9371 for concessions or Jerry
Olson 834-1320 for parking.**

**Tuesday June 8, 2010 – Regular Business
Meeting 7PM. We will have our nomination and
election of officers for the 2010-2011 year. We
will read the slate of officers that the Nomination
Committee has submitted and hear any other
nominations for the positions. After nominations
have been closed we will then elect the officers
for 2010-2011 year.**

**Monday June 14, 2010 – St James Round Table
Picnic will be held at the pavilion near the north
end of St James School at 5 PM. There will be a
brief meeting prior to the picnic and it is open to
all KC members of St James Parish.**

**Tuesday June 22, 2010 – Installation of officers
and bring your own steak, or other meat of your
choice, to grill. We will supply tossed salad,
baked potato/sour cream, and rolls for \$3 per
person. Social 5:30, installation at 6:15 and
dinner at 6:45.**

**July 22-24, 2010 – Country Jam, many will be
needed to help with parking. Proceeds go to our
charity fund. Contact Al Weix at 832-4792 to
sign up.**

Please submit your newsletter articles to Tim Carroll by the
24th of each month for the following months newsletter.

GRAND KNIGHT'S COMMENTS

Greetings Brother Knights, summer is here at last! It is a time for fun in the sun, a time for family, a time for vacation, a time to count our God given blessings, a time for sharing, a time for giving of oneself, a time for **CHARITY**. A time to help the less fortunate—to put in some hours into our **community** that gives us so much in return.

Thanks to all of you whole have volunteered for this weekend's **Chippewa Valley Air Show**. 25 knights have made the commitment to help raise funds for our many worthy charities. This year your Knights of Columbus Council is doing more to help those in need.

Who do we help? To name a few, there are the **intellectually disabled**, i.e. Special Olympian youth and adults from your Tootsie Roll Drive. The **battered women** and their children who will benefit from the 250 hours of donated labor to remodel the **Bolton Refuge House**. The **pregnant woman** and her **unborn child** benefit from your Lifesaver Sunday collections donated to Right to Life. Your hours at Country Jam and other fundraisers have generated the funds to assist those who had **house fires, floods, and other disasters**. Fellow Knights you matter. You are important. What you give on earth will be rewarded many times over. Remember "It is better to give than to receive".

Vivat Jesus!

Jerry Hamill, Grand Knight

Membership Report / Bill Chrostowski

Nothing imminent for the June 8th meeting, however a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degree exemplification may be in the works on Sunday, June 27th-pending availability of a 3rd Degree team. I should be able to confirm this by our June 8th meeting or possibly by this weekend's Air Show. Stay tuned on our new website for details.

AIR SHOW/CONCESSIONS / Bill Chrostowski

Rick Wanke and myself as concession stand managers will be attending a final meeting on Wednesday, June 2nd to get final details on the stand's operation (meeting is 6:30 p.m. at airports

maintenance shed). Here's what we know for now for sure: Be ready to be **ON THE JOB** at 8:00 a.m.- food should be ready to serve when gates open at 8:30. Bring **NO** food, drink or coolers-all will be provided. Be prepared to work to 5:00 p.m.-again, split shifts **AREN'T** allowed. You will be checked in **AND** out to verify our time served-therefore your gate pass is numbered.

It's my intention to personally provide you with volunteer workers' t-shirts and gate passes on Thursday or Friday before the shows. Rick or I will be in touch-call **RICK** at 834-5151 or **BILL** at 830-9371 (we'll know more after Wednesday night) Most importantly, be sure to show up-if an emergency arises please call one of us **ASAP**. Thee only thing worse than never volunteering is doing so and not showing-this puts everyone in a bind.

Therefore on **SATURDAY**, we are **COUNTING ON** Carol Porn, Dick Porn, Arnie Pichler, Jane Stark, Paul Stark, Paul Sheehan, Mike Theisen, Mary Lonsdale, Joe Lonsdale, Tom Hanks, Tony Pistilli, Dan Schulner, Rodger Bangen, Rick and I, Tim Carroll alternate.

Sunday's Crew-Sandy Beck, Jerry Beck, Paul Sheehan, Greg Martin, Jerry Whalen, Mike Theisen, Joe Kozuch, Terry Kovacevich, Carol Chrostowski, Roger Flaskrud, Barb Aebly, Mark Aebly, Ron Dalton, Rick and I.

We are cooking chicken and riblets. I'm assured we'll all get enough breaks and nobody will be overworked-Let's have some fun!
Community Programs



Brother Knight Jim Muysznski and unknown Gordy's worker in action at Gordy's Brat Stand

Community Report / Jack Fay

Building on the success of Brent Blaeser's tootsie roll effort in April, on May 13, 14, 15 & 20, 21, 22 our council did the traditional sale of Bratwursts from Gordy's Brat Hut at the Birch St location. We had lots of Knight participation as most shifts had at least four volunteers in attendance for the six days. Even though Scott Lewis was supposed to be building a shed (among other things), he ran our brat effort instead, some days working 12 hours. My experience there, as I think is true for our other brothers, included some great socializing (which means lots of stories, some undoubtedly true and some maybe not). The whole effort is a lot of fun and adds significant dollars to our Charity Fund.

Our effort almost ran into a big problem when Gordy's Customer Appreciation Day coincided with our final Brat day (May 22). Scott and Gordy's worked out a deal that made it a win-win for Gordy's and the Knights. Gordy's provided the brats, buns, and soda for free and the Knights agreed to sell them for \$1. Pulling together the Knights' brain trust and experience, Scott came up with a process to sell the max amount of brats with a minimum amount of wait time for customers. Not only was Gordy himself impressed by our service and our product, but also the Knights sold around 1,100 brats that day, with no customers having to wait.



Scott Lewis at Gordy's Brat stand May 2010

Thanks to Scott for putting this year's effort together. He rounded up the volunteers, negotiated with Gordy's on our behalf, got all of the assets necessary for the regular days and the high volume Gordy Customer Appreciation Day (including 1 gas grill and 2 charcoal grills). Last but not least,

smooth talked the Eau Claire County Health Department for our vendor's license.

Whether it's tootsie rolls or brats, the Knights know how to make a difference while having a little fun!

AIR SHOW/Tickets by Bill Chrostowski

As of 6:00 p.m. Memorial Day I have only received payment for 24 of the 100 tickets I have distributed- those of you who have outstanding tickets and/or money please call me to let me know your progress. All monies or tickets must be turned in BY Friday morning to the Boy Scout's Office- don't make me wait till the last second. I have about 25 of the FREE 12 & under tickets in hand- call me if you want some- call me if you can move some adult tickets. Thanks!

Web-site & Newsletter / Tim Carroll

<http://kofceauclaire.org>

I am pleased to announce that on May 22 the Knights of Columbus Council 1257 web-site went live! The link to the site is posted above. A special thanks goes to Marc McEllistrem, our web-master, who put this all together for us. I would also like to thank all the people that helped in this endeavor, either researching it in the past or providing feedback to Marc to get this up and running. There are many great things about this web-site. First people who are looking for the local Knights of Columbus council are now able to find our contact information. Second, we are now able to put greater amount of information about our mission, activities and community involvement up than I can normally fit in a newsletter. There are also links to the State and Supreme Knights of Columbus web-site as well as links to Knights of Columbus insurance. We have a brief council history, calendar of events, information on how to join and the latest issue of our newsletter posted as well. We are just beginning to develop what this will eventually become and I am already amazed at what a valuable tool for communication this will become inside our council and how it will our, "face," to the rest of the community outside the council. Please take the opportunity to visit our new web site and know that we will slowly be making improvements as we go.

I will now be able to email everyone who receives the newsletter via email a link to the newsletter on the web-site instead of the entire document. Due to the fact that the newsletter documents have been getting so large with the pictures, I have been

having trouble with email accounts being able to accept such large documents. If you have email access I strongly encourage you to contact me with your email address so that you can start receiving this newsletter electronically. The newsletter has become the largest operating expense that we have and it will more than likely be the way that we will have to go down the road. Not all members have access to email and we are going to continue to print the newsletter but I am sure that many more could receive the newsletter this way. We may also have a way to set members up with email accounts that have access to a computer but no email account. I will have more on that at a later date.

One final note, I would like to thank everyone who gracious enough to supply me with the pictures and material each month for this newsletter. I am the only the one who puts the material together, in essence we all have a hand in writing it. Thanks for all your support and assistance.

Odds and Ends

Our June Knight of the month is Brent Blaeser.

Brent was our chairman for the Tootsie Roll drive to benefit the intellectually disabled. Thanks to Brent for taking on this event as well as all the Knights that helped with this year.

Our April Family of the Month Is the Joel & Jane Levandowski family. Joel and his wife Jane have two daughters Kelsey and Becca and are members of Sacred Heart/St Pat's parish. Joel is active in parish construction projects and works maintenance at Regis. Jane is active in religious education and other parish activities. Their daughter Kelsey is a mass server and helps out at church breakfasts.

Our May Family of the Month is the Ryan & Charly Kostka Family. The Kostkas are members of St Olaf Parish and have four children Payton, Riley, Chase & Casey. Ryan and Charly are members of the Baptism Preparation Team and the Parish Bible Study Group. Charley has been involved in teaching at Regis Middle School 2001-03, Middle School Youth Ministry, Parish Pastoral Council and the "Embrace Parenthood" seminar. Ryan is very supportive and often has the children so Charly can participate in these evening activities.

Our June Family of the Month is the Tom and Joan Schwartz family. They have been members

of St Olaf Parish since 1971 and have three grown children and eight grandchildren. They have both been active in the Regis booster club when their three children attended Regis. Tom has been involved in St Olaf School Board, St Olaf Men's Club, St Olaf 500 Card Club, Parish Pastoral Council, Eucharistic Minister, Year of the Priest display at St Olaf and is currently working on a project on the vacant wooded lot at St Olaf. Joan has been involved with the St Olaf PTO, Birth Right, Parish Pastoral Council, Peace and Justice Committee, Prayer Chain, Garden Committee and Hospitality at the 8 AM Mass.

Our next big event will be Country Jam July 22-24. We will be working at Country Jam Again this year to earn money for our charity fund. Contact **Al Weix at 832-4792** if you will be able to help out.



Is this Larry, Curly and Moe? (Just kidding guys) No it's Willard "Jake" Jochimsen, Jerry Olson and George Derks working the Brat Stand at Gordy's May 2010.

Field Agent's Report / Bill Chrostowski

In accordance with the end of our fiscal year coming up on June 30th, we still need two Brothers to switch from associate to insurance members for our council to qualify for the Founder's Award. This can be done as simply as starting a \$300 annuity for yourself if you've been a member longer than a year or for as little as \$100 if you're a new member for less than a year.

If you have no life insurance on yourself at all or only through work, check with me ASAP to get a quote on some permanent coverage for a minimal amount. You'll never regret the options a Knights' policy gives you.