



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Bishop Britt Council #8117    www.kofc8117.com

October 2010

## GRAND KNIGHT REPORT

Dear Worthy Brothers,

This year has already been very eventful compared to others in the past. We sponsored the Steak and Corn Roast, a Major Degree initiation, and a First (1<sup>st</sup>) degree initiation, all by the third week of September. Last year, our council members had such a successful year, positively impacting our church, family, and community and in the process earned the highest honor a council can be awarded; the Double Star. Each and every one of you had a part in making it happen by using the gifts God has given you. Without the commitment and dedication of each of you, the momentum alone, from such a great prior year would not have carried us through. My personal thanks to all of you as I truly am blessed to have you all as brothers, and be part of our council.

This year we are embarking upon new ways to manage our activities. *I know you all will be very excited to see and partake in, our progression into technology. Our officers all have agreed that having a well managed internet site that is interactive will benefit everyone. Our goal is to have all information posted monthly, but more important, make it our primary way to sign up for our upcoming events.* Using technology to sign up for the MI (tootsie roll) Drive, Poinsettia Sale, Raffle, Pancake Breakfasts, and Golf Outing, to name a few will be a beneficial time saver, and a way to quickly interact for all of us. Mere words cannot explain how really exciting this venture is, and what it will do for to help build our council over the next many years.

Please make this your year to choose your events to participate. We all joined the Knights for our own personal reasons, and by joining in, and helping out with our various events will help all of us learn more about what we strive to accomplish as The Knights of Columbus. I truly hope I have to chance to meet each and every one of you. As many of your worthy brothers will tell you, I have a great memory for names and faces. Please give me the honor of meeting you, (if I already haven't), and putting your face with the names I have gotten to know so well.

May God bless you and your family in a special way for the commitment and dedication that you so unselfishly give.

Vivat Jesus!

Your Grand Knight,

Gregory A. Apel

IN SERVICE

TO ONE.

IN SERVICE TO  
ALL.

### **REMINDER!**

**Next general  
meeting is on**

**October 19**

**at 7:30 PM**

### **In this issue:**

Chaplain's Corner	2
Meaning of	
Volunteering	2
Upcoming Events	2
Please Pray	2
Thanksgiving	
Pie Sale	3
Special Request	3
40 Days for Life	4
KofC Order Form	4
Gerald Sutter Award	5-6
Events Accomplished	7
Officer Info	8

## LOOKING AHEAD

**October 19** General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm  
St Robert

**October 30-31** Stewardship Weekend St Robert

**October 31** Donut Sunday  
St Robert

**November 1** All Saints Day

**November 7** Rosary 10:30 am  
St Robert Chapel

**November 9** Officer's Meeting  
6:30 pm St Robert

**November 16** General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm  
St Robert

**November 20-21** First Ever Knights Thanksgiving Pie Sale after St Robert Masses  
(St Thomas, also?)

**November 21** Donut Sunday  
St Robert



### **Prayers for Worthy Knights, Families, and Friends**

Brother Steven Kolenda requests prayers for: Mother, Mary Jo Kolenda, Multiple Myeloma cancer; Grandmother, Lorraine Williamson, Blood Clot in leg & complications after surgeries; Nephew, Jeremy Hoffman, Lymphoma (18-yr.-old)

Brother Dick Kleff's beautiful bride, Dee, is recovering from Achilles tendon surgery.

Brother Tom Heintzleman is undergoing knee surgery. Pray for a strong and swift recovery.

Past Grand Knight, Arnie Zueger is continuing to recover from recent heart related surgery. Please continue to pray for a strong recovery.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

*By Fr. Len Sudlik*

The month of October begins with our call to respect all human life from the moment of conception until the Lord calls us to heaven through our natural death. It is through our witness to the sanctity of life that we recognize that God is the author of all life and all human life is in God's hands.

Witnessing can take many forms. For some it may take the form of a protest outside of an abortion clinic. Others might feel the need to wear a symbol of life like the baby feet on their clothing. Still others may have traveled to Washington, D.C. for the annual march. But all of us can witness through the example of our everyday lives.

- Have you ever spoken with admiration for the parents of the child who was born with Down Syndrome or some other disability?

- Have you ever spoken in favor of prison reform and the hope that those who have committed terrible crimes might come to understand their actions and ask God's mercy?

- Have you ever voted from your pocketbook so that those who do not have adequate health care or access to quality education might be given the opportunity for a better life.

- My mother at 93 is losing her memory and continually repeats herself. She is in a nursing home and receives wonderful care. Do I not want that same care for everyone who reaches many years?

Cherish life. And let others know what you value through the everyday conversations and actions in your own life.

## THE MEANING OF VOLUNTEERING TO ME

*By Jim Kewelaar*

I recently heard a quote that sums up volunteering for me:

**"To receive something you never had, you must do something you have never done"**

Seven years ago I agreed to volunteer at God's Kitchen with my wife and 3 children. (It was my wife's idea) I thought it would be a good experience for my kids. I want them to see that when their IPOD breaks it not that big of a deal.

However, I surprisingly got more out of it than I expected. The wonderful opportunity to share God's love with my fellow man is inspiring. My family and I have been doing this once a month now for the last seven years. It reminds me that I never really have a bad day at work. It draws me closer to God and my family. It draws me closer Christian Brothers and Sisters through fellowship as well.

I have definitely received a gift that I would not have received if I did not do something I have never done.

First Ever Knights #8117

## **Thanksgiving Pie Sale!**



Saturday, November 20 and

Sunday, November 21

After all Masses at St. Robert's

(possibly St. Thomas, if someone from St. Thomas will co-chair the event)

Pumpkin Pies

Volunteers needed to help sell!

### **REQUEST FROM FR. JIM CHELICH FOR ACTION FROM COUNCIL 8117**

Dear Brother Knights,

As most of you know St. Thomas Parish is in the same city block as Fulton Manor; it is also near Guardian Angel Homes sites. Fr. Jim is asking for volunteers to work with them to see if the K of C can be of help to them in any way. This would be an excellent outreach program covering many of our reasons for being Knights.

Some ideas are:

- Rides to church
- Visiting with folks who live there to brighten up their day playing games, cards, just talking, taking for walks or whatever is needed
- Presentations as slide shows, sing along, etc.
- Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist
- Anything else needed or your ideas!

I would be contacting these homes to see what is needed. All would be under HIPAA confidentiality rules and may require background checks and TB tests yearly.

If anyone is interested, including family members of knights, please contact me, Dick Kleff: [dickkleff@catholicweb.com](mailto:dickkleff@catholicweb.com) or (616) 974-1092

Thank you.

## **DOUBLE STAR AWARD**

### **RECEIVED**

The Knights of Columbus Council 8117 of Ada has earned the distinction of Double Star Council, for the 2009-2010 fraternal year. The organization's headquarters, located in New Haven, Connecticut, made the announcement. The award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership recruitment (reaching 200% of quota, thereby making it a "double star") and retention, promotion of the fraternal insurance program, and sponsorship of service-oriented activities.

This is the first time our Council has ever received such recognition and we were only one of eleven councils in the entire state that received such designation.

"Receiving the Double Star Council Award is quite an honor for us. We're extremely proud of this accomplishment," proclaimed Arnold Zueger, Grand Knight, head of this local council.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Church, their communities, families, and young people. With more than 1.8 million members in over 13,000 councils around the world, the Knights of Columbus annually donated more than \$151 million and 69 million hours of service to charitable causes.

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE TO END ABORTION - FALL 2010 CAMPAIGN

This fall, from **September 22 - October 31**, our community will be uniting with many others from coast to coast -- and internationally -- for a major, simultaneous, pro-life mobilization -- the *40 Days for Life* campaign.

YOU can help save lives!

*40 Days for Life* is a focused pro-life effort that consists of:

- 40 days of **prayer and fasting**
- 40 days of **peaceful vigil**
- 40 days of **community outreach**

We are praying that, with God's help, these efforts will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city -- and in America.

### **Take a Stand for Life**

While all aspects of *40 Days for Life* are crucial in our effort to end abortion, the most visible component is the peaceful prayer vigil outside the local abortion facility.

Our council will be scheduled to participate in the prayer vigil near the clinic located at 320 East Fulton. **Our dates are Sunday, October 10, and Saturday, October 23.** You will receive an e-mail for more details.

---

## ORDER FORM

### CAPS – NAME BADGES - SHIRTS

#### Caps

Navy blue or white soft front with a 2 inch embroidered emblem of the order. Cost is \$9.00 per cap.

<u>Number</u>	<u>X \$9.00</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Blue</u>		
<u>White</u>		

#### Shirts

Light grey golf type shirt with pocket. Two inch embroidered emblem of the order and council name and number above the pocket. These shirts run fairly large in size. I wear an XL. Cost is 16.00 per shirt.

<u>Size and Number</u>	<u>x \$16.00</u>	<u>Total</u>
------------------------	------------------	--------------

M   L   XL   XXL .

#### Name Badges

Name badges will be ordered at your request. All officers and directors should have one. If you usually work an event such as coffee and donuts it would be good to have one. Cost is \$3.00

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Title</u> eg: PGK, FDD,
-------------	---------------	----------------------------

To order call Dick Kleff at (616) 974-1092 or e-mail dickkleff@catholicweb.com. Money is due upon pick-up. These items will not be delivered. They must be picked up at a meeting, function or other gathering of the council.

GERALD SUTTER CELEBRATES 50 YEARS  
AS A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS!



Jerry Sutter is celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> year as a Knight of Columbus. Venerable Michael McGivney started our first council 128 years ago. Jerry has been a member for 50 of these years. According to our calculations he has been a member for almost 40% of the entire time we have been in existence.

This is truly a lifetime accomplishment and something to really take notice. The following information was compiled about seven (7) years ago, as Jerry and family were awarded Knight Family of the Year in 2003. Please see this Worthy Brother's chronology and lifetime achievements, as documented by Worthy Brother, and Past Grand Knight, Harvey Cosgrove.

**Born:**

Barbara was born to Annabelle (deceased) and Mack (deceased) Currie - Detroit, 11/1/31

Gerald was born to Leo (deceased) and Agatha (deceased) Sutter Detroit. 12/13/30

**Brothers and Sisters:**

Barbara - 2 brothers, Mike and Richard. 1 sister Betty (deceased)  
Gerald - 11 brothers, Leon (deceased), Bob, Jimmy (deceased), John (deceased), Eugene, Tommy, Bill, George, Danny, Ralph (deceased), and Ronnie. 6 sisters, Betty (deceased), Rosemary, Dorothy (deceased), Rita, Marcella, Mary (deceased).

**School:**

Barbara - Memphis High School Class of 49', Memphis Michigan  
Gerald - St. Catherine's High School Class of 49', Detroit Michigan

**Married**

Gerald and Barbara met at a Social put on by a Catholic Young Peoples Group. They dated for a while and where married on 7/4/53. The 4th of July.

**Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren:**

Barbara and Gerald have 8 children. Pamela, Conrad, Carolyn, Daniel, Gerald Jr., Monica, Edmund, and Eric; all of whom have married and produced 26 Grandchildren and 8 Great Grandchildren

...Continued on Page 6

Work:

At the time they met Barbara was working as an operator at Michigan Bell. Gerald was driving a delivery truck for Grennan Bakery. After Barbara gave birth to their first child she became the homemaker and has remained the cornerstone of stability for family life ever since. Gerald's work career is as follows:

1952 -1955, Grennan Bakery, Delivery Truck Driver – (Sales)

1955 -1956, Mills Bakery, Delivery Truck Driver- (Sales)

1956 -1996 Quaker Oats – Sales Representative

1961 -1974 Knights of Columbus, Hall Manager

As a Catholic Family:

As a homemaker for all these years it has been Barbara's leadership that *has* kept the Sutter family so active in the Catholic Church. Barbara is the most spiritual person I know and her commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church has been the cornerstone of stability which has held the family together for all these years.

1953 – 1963 Gerald and Barbara began their catholic life together at St. Matthews in Detroit, MI, where they baptized 5 children. They also contributed generously to several School Building Fund Expansion Projects.

1963 -1974, in Harper Woods Michigan they became parishioners at Our Lady Queen of Peace where they baptized 3 children. Gerald joined the Ushers Club at this time and has remained an Usher ever since. Both Gerald and Barbara began participating in annual retreats at this time and have both continued this tradition at each parish ever since. At Queen of Peace. They contributed generously to both the High School Building Fund and the Parish Building Fund.

1974 --1980, Gerald and Barbara moved to a little town outside Ann Arbor Michigan called Whitmore Lake, and became members of St. Patrick's Parish. While at St. Patrick's Gerald ran for Parish Council and eventually served as Parish Council President for two y-ears. During Gerald's tenure St. Patrick's completed a New Parish Hall Project which they also contributed generously to. After the project was completed the New Hall was destroyed by a tornado and had to be rebuilt

1980 - Present, Gerald and Barbara moved to Cascade Township and joined St. Robert's of Newminster. At St. Robert's Gerald and Barbara have continued their involvement in Retreats, Ushers Clubs, Golf League, contributed generously to both classroom expansion building funds and the new Parish Building fund. Gerald and Barbara both volunteer their time at Sf. Roberts to help with Holiday Decorations, Knights of Columbus events, and parish picnics.

**Congratulations and thank you Jerry for a lifetime of great achievements, your dedication, and numerous contributions to family, church, community, and the Knight of Columbus. We are truly honored to have you as a brother Knight!**

## EVENTS ACCOMPLISHED

### **Steak and Corn Roast**

This event went off without a hitch. Phil and Kathy Wosinski did a stellar job planning, and executing this fund raiser for the Walters/Blaschka Nursing Scholarship Fund. We all owe many thanks to Phil and Kathy for all of their hard work and dedication.

### **Major Degree**

We hosted a Major Degree initiation whereas 27 First 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Knights from all over West Michigan moved forward with Knights of Columbus. The Major Degree Team did an outstanding job presenting the Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Third 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree initiations. We had two State Representatives join the ceremony and Dinner. Bob Fox, State Treasurer, and Gary Merritt, State Program Director and their wives respectively joined the celebration. I am taking this opportunity to personally thank Mike Terwilliger for all of his hard work in managing and directing this most successful event.

### **First Degree**

Shortly after the Major Degree ceremony, we also held a First Degree Initiation. Each year, we host four (4) of these events to bring new Knights into our council. We need nine (9) new members total to achieve "Star Council. We need 18 to achieve "Double Star." I honestly think we can achieve Double Star two years in a row, if everyone pitches in and brings in new members. Most potential Knights are just waiting to be asked to join our organization.

### **Distinguished Worthy Knights**

On September 11, 2010, our council truly had an honorable award to present. Worthy Brother Jerry Sutter was awarded a prestigious certificate for 50 years of service with Knights of Columbus. See pages 5-6 of this newsletter.



## ANNUAL MI TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE!

The collection total for the October (St. Robert's) portion of our MI drive was \$1,352!

A big thank you to all who volunteered and contributed to this worthy cause.

## **Bishop Britt Council #8117**

**www.kofc8117.com**

6477 Ada Dr. SE  
Ada, MI 49301

Proudly serving:  
St. Robert of Newminster  
and  
St. Thomas the Apostle

Visit us at:  
[www.kofc8117.com](http://www.kofc8117.com)

---

---

### **Your 2010-11 Officers**

Chaplain	Fr. Len Sudlik	lsudlik@strobertchurch.org	(616) 676-9111 x.22
Grand Knight	Gregory Apel	greg.apel@att.net	(616) 957-1951
Past Grand Knight	Arnold Zueger	arnoldzueger@sbcglobal.net	(616) 676-0827
Deputy Grand Knight	Sean Gibbons	sean.gibbons@comcast.net	(616) 682-5355
Chancellor	Curtis Rowe	rowe.curtis@comcast.net	(616) 942-9388
Recorder	John Fuhs	jncfuhs@yahoo.com	(616) 942-2884
Financial Secretary	Daniel Baas	bdodan@sbcglobal.net	(616) 949-9555
Treasurer	Paul Allie	famallie@comcast.net	(616) 676-3027
Membership Director	Ralph Sherman	rlsherm@sbcglobal.net	(616) 676-5556
The Advocate	Mike Terwilliger	mterwilliger4@comcast.net	(616) 676-8944
Warden	Jack Crandell	jack816@vzw.blackberry.net	(616) 540-4379
Inside Guard	J. Christopher Norman	jnorman272@aol.com	(616) 676-9099
Outside Guard	Paul Troutwine		(616) 774-3901
Trustee One Year	James Milanowski	jmilo42@att.net	(616) 774-8471
Trustee Two Year	Phil Wosinski	philw191170@gmail.com	(616) 676-2183
Trustee Three Year	Arnold Zueger	arnoldzueger@sbcglobal.net	(616) 676-0827
Program Director	Jim Keuvelaar	keuvelaj@gmail.com	(616) 464-0833
District Deputy	Douglas Kokot	ddkokot@catholicweb.com	(616) 891-6922
Benefits Representative	J. Michael Taylor	taylorgr@tds.net	(616) 356-1186