



Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709 St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community

September 2009

<http://www.kofc9709.org>

The Official Publication of Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709

COUNCIL 9709 AWARDS \$4,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

All Saints Council presented \$1,000 checks to two Cardinal Gibbons High School students, the principal of The Franciscan School (TFS) and the coordinator of the St. Francis Early Childhood Learning Center at its Sept. 1 business meeting.

Mary Ashley Darrow, daughter of Brother Mike and Carol Darrow, and Morgan Murray, daughter of Brother Mike and Linda Murray, each accepted checks from Brother Kent Siefkes. The scholarships are merit-based and are awarded on the basis of a student's academic, athletic and civil service achievements.

Mary Ashley Darrow, a sophomore, was selected by the Scholarship Committee for her strong academic performance at Cardinal Gibbons as well as her involvement in numerous ministries and activities, including volunteering as an altar server, supporting the Migrant and Children of Chernobyl Ministries, working on Operation LAMB drives and at the Tammy Lynn Center, and participating in a number of school-related fundraisers.

Morgan Murray, a junior, was selected for her excellent grades and her participation in community projects and team sports. Morgan volunteers her time at local food drives, works with the Catholic Parish Outreach Ministry, cooks for WIHN, supports the Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen, is involved in the Women's Shelter and has worked on site for Habitat for Humanity. She is also a Eucharistic Minister at St. Francis.

Brothers Jerry Cucurullo and Mike Darrow also presented \$1,000 endowment checks to TFS Principal Jennifer Bigelow and ECLC Coordinator Nancy Bourke to be awarded to students on a needs basis.

This is the second year Council 9709 has contributed to the education of Catholic children, and the amounts donated this year are twice that of last year. Kristen Murray, sister of Morgan, was the first recipient of the \$1,000 Cardinal Gibbons High School Scholarship, and TFS and ECLC both received \$500 last year. Funds from the Council's annual fundraiser barbecue have been dedicated to the Scholarship Program for the past two years as part of the annual budget process.



Brother Kent Siefkes (R) presents Megan Murray a check for \$1,000 as (L-R) father Mike, sister Kristen and mother Linda look on.

SIGN UP SHEETS FOR LAMB, MIGRANT MINISTRY DINNER AND RBC CENTER ON COUNCIL WEBSITE

Sign up sheets for Operation LAMB, the Migrant Ministry Dinner and the RBC Center are now posted on the Council website www.kofc9709.org. Brother Knights are encouraged to sign up now for these activities.

Operation LAMB runs over the weekend of Oct. 2-4. There are some 146 slots available at eight locations in the north Raleigh area. The State Council's assigned goal for Council 9709 this year is \$27,011, and the spring collection only netted a total of \$6,624.54. Last year, the All Saints Council collected \$24,358.03, the third highest amount for a Council in North Carolina.

This is the second year the Council has sponsored a Migrant Ministry Dinner at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Louisburg. There are a variety of opportunities to participate in this activity, including preparing food for the dinner as well as going to Louisburg to serve the dinner. Some 23 Knights and Ministry volunteers served over 200 migrant workers last year.

The RBC Center schedule is also up and available to volunteers. The first of 24 scheduled events is Sept. 25. The Council intends to work 30 events this year, so there will likely be some add-ons.

FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT:

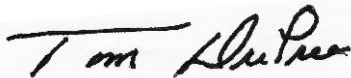
Greetings Brother Knights,

As I discussed in my GK Article for August, this year has been declared "The Year of the Volunteer." This month, you and I have the opportunity to live that theme by volunteering for four activities: the Adopt-A-Highway Trash Pick-Up (Sept. 12), the Migrant Ministry Dinner (Sept. 20), the Blood Drive (Sept. 26) and Operation LAMB (Oct. 2-4). Please go to the Council's website www.kofc9709.org and sign up.

On Saturday, Sept. 19, our Council will celebrate the Operation LAMB program by hosting a "kick-off" breakfast at Jacoba Hall starting at 8:30 a.m. and ending at noon. We will have representatives from the eight agencies who benefited from the \$43,923 our Council and three others donated last year who will show us how they help those who benefit from LAMB.

Our SPECIAL guest at the breakfast will be SK William W. (Bill) Scott, PSD, "Father Tootsie," Founder of North Carolina's Operation LAMB. We will be celebrating his 35 years of service to the LAMB Foundation. Other State officers have been invited to attend. Come, have breakfast, meet your fellow Brother Knights and their families and see firsthand the difference we have made.

Vivat Jesus!


COUNCIL 9709 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**September 2009**

- 12 – Adopt-A-Highway Trash Pick Up, 9 a.m., Parking Lot
- 16 – Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Ben's Place, 8100 Country Trail
(NOTE DATE CHANGE)
- 16 – Abbottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 19 – Operation LAMB Breakfast, 8:30 a.m., Jacoba Hall
- 20 – Migrant Ministry Dinner, 2 p.m., Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Louisburg
- 29 – Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conference Rm
- 30 – Information Night, 7 p.m., Anthony Hall

October 2009

- 2-4 – Operation LAMB, Friday 3-9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m.-9 p.m. See website for locations
- 6 – 1st Degree Ceremony//Business Meeting, 7 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 17-18 – Membership Blitz, all Masses
- 20 – Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., TBD
- 21 – Abbottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 24 – 4th Degree Exemplification, RTP Sheraton, Raleigh
- 27 – Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conference Rm

November 2009

- 3 – Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 17 – Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., TBD
- 18 – Abbottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 24 – Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conference Rm

FOR THE FIRST DEGREE KNIGHT . . . KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a number of scholarships available to all Brother Knights in good standing regardless of degree and their families through the Knights of Columbus. The scholarships are also available to family members of a deceased Knight who was in good standing at the time of his death:

Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships – There are 62 of these scholarships awarded annually to students entering as freshmen The Catholic University of America or other Catholic colleges and universities in the United States. Twelve of the \$1,500 scholarships are awarded to students attending The Catholic University of America; the remaining 50 are available to students attending other Catholic institutions. The scholarships are competitive and awarded on the basis of academic excellence and are renewable for three years subject to evidence of satisfactory academic performance and the discretion of the KofC Committee on Scholarships. Forms for the scholarships at The Catholic University of America can be obtained from The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. 20064. Application forms for other Catholic institutions can be obtained after Oct. 1 by writing the Department of Scholarships, Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 1670, New Haven, Conn. 06507-0901. The applications are due by March 1.

Fourth Degree John W. McDevitt Scholarships – In tribute to Past Supreme Knight John W. McDevitt, the delegates to the 116th Supreme Council Meeting established the John W. McDevitt Scholarship Fund. The earnings of the fund provide scholarships on the same basis as the Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarship Fund and are available to Brother Knights, wives, widows and sons and daughters of members, including those who died while in good standing at the time of their deaths. Applications can be obtained in the same manner as above.

Endowed Scholarships – Applicants for the Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships may instead be considered for an endowed scholarship, with deadlines and qualifications generally the same as for the Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships. The **Percy J. Johnson Endowed Scholarships** are awarded to young men who demonstrate financial need, and a copy of the Student Aid Report (SAR) is required in addition to the application. The **Anthony J. Labella Endowed Scholarship** is designed to assist others through his bequest. The **Frank L. Goularte Endowed Scholarship** is awarded on a needs basis for deserving students. Applicants need to submit a SAR in addition to the application for this scholarship.

COUNCIL 9709 WELCOMES THREE MORE TO ITS RANKS

Council 9709 welcomed Brother Eric F. Robinson into the Council at a 1st Degree Ceremony held before the Sept. 1 business meeting. Two other additions took their 1st Degree August 12 at St. Luke the Evangelist Council 12455: Brother John Cuomo and Brother Deacon Michael Thangwah. Joseph R. Czejkowski and David A. Gall were voted into the Council Sept. 1 but did not make the ceremony.

Council 9709 will need to recruit another 13 new members during fraternal year 2009-2010 to achieve Star Council status. The original goal set by State for Council 9709 was 13 new members; however, at least four Brothers have resigned so far this year, which raised that initial goal to 17. So far this year, the Council has added one reactivation, which counts toward the goal, as well as the three new members inducted August 12 and Sept. 1. The Council will also need to add five new insurance members.

A Council achieves Star Council status by meeting the requirements for the Colombian Award, the Father McGivney Award and the Founders Award. The Colombian Award is presented to a Council that conducts and reports to Supreme at least four major involvement programs in each of the four sections of the Service Programs: Church, Community, Council and Family and Youth. The Father McGivney Award is presented for showing a net increase in membership of five percent for Councils with memberships over 100. A Council can get the Founders Award by achieving a net increase in insurance members of 2.5 percent for Councils over 100.

Council 9709 last achieved Star Council status for fraternal year 2007-2008.



Brother Jerry Cucurullo (R) welcomes Brother Eric F. Robinson into the Council. Brother Cucurullo sponsored Brother Robinson.



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.

STANDARD & POOR'S RATES KofC INSURANCE "VERY STRONG"

“The insurer financial strength rating on Knights of Columbus (KofC) is based on its extremely strong capital, very strong competitive position resulting from its unique strategic advantage in the Catholic market, historically strong profitability, and extremely strong liquidity. KofC has a distinct competitive advantage in the Catholic market, characterized by an affinity among the society and policyholders, a strong agency force, and a loyal customer base (with a lapse ratio of 3.4 percent) in 2007, which is among the best in the industry). Agents are able to develop a unique rapport with their clients, which helps promote sales and persistency. KofC's sales are predominantly whole life, but it also offers term life, annuities, and long-term care products.

“KofC's strategic plan remains to grow its membership and to provide its members with high-quality, low-cost insurance protection and asset accumulation while maintaining its financial strength and expanding its fraternal activities. KofC's capitalization is extremely strong, maintaining significant redundancy at the 'AAA' level, as measured by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services' capital model. Total adjusted capital increased to \$2.07 billion as of year-end 2007 from \$1.99 billion as of year-end 2006 as a result of good statutory earnings.

“Operating performance is strong, with an average return on assets (ROA) of approximately 70 basis points (bps) from 2003 to 2007. The society returned 87 percent of its earnings to its members in 2007. Its consistently strong profitability is attributable to high persistency rates, favorable mortality experience, and strong investment returns during the past 10 years.

“Standard & Poor's views KofC's liquidity as extremely strong, with a liquidity ratio of 246 percent at the end of 2007, reflecting an asset portfolio that consists primarily of high-quality, investment-grade bonds. In addition, the strong affinity between agents and the company has led to very favorable persistency. This policyholder loyalty, as well as the company's concentration on the whole life insurance business, has resulted in a very low lapse rate. We believe the company's asset/liability management (ALM) process is adequate because of its stable liability structure, low lapse rates, and very conservative asset allocation.”

--Standard & Poor's RatingsDirect, Aug. 21, 2008

OFFICER INSTALLATION DRAWS 43

Some 43 Knights, wives, family members and two priests were on hand as Council 9709's officers for fraternal year 2009-2010 were formally installed at a brief ceremony held in church after the August 22, 5:30 p.m. Mass.

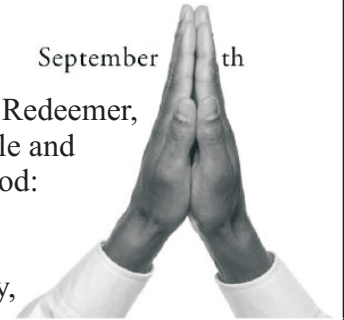
The officers marched down the aisle in a cross formation with Grand Knight Tom DuPree, Deputy Grand Knight Dick Bridges and Chancellor Kent Siefkes forming the top part of the cross. Warden Mike Wrzesien, Recorder Shawn Bayle, Brother David Bole (for Financial Secretary Dennis Kelleher) and Treasurer Jerry Powell formed the arms of the cross. Trustees Ralph Guenther, Dave Vogelpohl and Brother Joe Azzopardi (for Trustee Mike Darrow), Advocate Tommy Dalton, Inner Guard Bill Nowak and Outer Guard Tim Dyer completed the tree of the cross.

District Deputy Hadon Ware assisted by District Warden Don Williams conducted the ceremony. Father Bill served as Council Chaplain for the ceremony; Father David, who was returning from travel, came to the follow-on potluck dinner held in the Founders Room. Pictures are on the Council website.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE SEPT. 11th

September 11th

With you, O Mother of the Redeemer,
may the hymn of the humble and
the poor rise to almighty God:
may He, the merciful one,
bring peace to the earth,
reconcile brothers at enmity,
confound Cain,
make Abel rise again;
may he bring all of creation
to the design he had at the beginning
in the love of the Son,
in the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



-- Pope John Paul II

At its 122nd annual meeting in 2004, the Supreme Council resolved that September 11th be observed each year as a World Day of Prayer for Peace.

2008-2009 COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF THE YEAR HONORED

Grand Knight Tom DuPree recognized four Brother Knights with "Knight of the Year" awards for fraternal year 2008-2009 at the potluck following the annual officers installation ceremony.

Brother Ralph Guenther was awarded "Golden Knight of the Year" honors. Criteria for this award include having served as a Knight for at least 15 years and a record of distinguished service. Brother Guenther, who is a Past Grand Knight and current Trustee, has been a Knight for over 23 years.

Brother David Bole received recognition as "Rookie of the Year," an award for a Knight who has distinguished himself through service with the Knights of Columbus for no more than 18 months. Brother Bole is currently serving as Chairman of the Family Committee. He became a Knight on Nov. 4, 2008.

"Family of the Year" honors went to Brother Kent Siefkes and wife Virginia for their dedicated service to the Knights of Columbus and the church. Brother Siefkes has served as Chancellor of the Council for the past two years and is very active in pro-life events as well as serving as coordinator of the lectors for St. Francis. He has been a Knight since Dec. 6, 2004.

Brother Tom DuPree received "Knight of the Year" honors for his exemplary service to the Council, the Church and the Community. Brother DuPree has served as Treasurer, Deputy Grand Knight and Grand Knight of the Council and coordinates the cross bearers ministry in the church as well as the semi-annual blood drives. He has been a Knight since March 9, 1999. The Council will select and submit nominees for these awards at the State level in April 2010 for fraternal year 2009-2010. Pictures are on the Council website.

COUNCIL 9709 HONORS BRO. DILGER IN "YEAR OF THE PRIEST"

In this "The Year of the Priest," Council 9709 had the honor of assisting with the reception for Bro. Fred Dilger on the occasion of his taking his solemn profession of vows as a Franciscan Friar of Holy Name Province. Some six Knights and two wives cooked 750 hot dogs and served them after the 11:30 a.m. Mass August 30.

Knights participating included Brothers Dick Bridges, Don Donaghy, Ralph Guenther, Frank Lewek, Bill Nowak, and Jeff Szymendera. Terry Donaghy and Carol Ware also helped.

Bro. Dilger is the son of Pat and Fred Dilger, who are members of the Parish. Five of his seven siblings are also members of the Parish.