



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

<http://www.kofc9709.org>

March 2010

The Official Publication of Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709

COUNCIL SUBMITS AWARDS NOMINATIONS TO STATE



New Brothers Raul Cedeño, Peter Brzezinski and Bob Presutti bring to 24 the number of new members brought into All Saints Council this fraternal year.

Council's expanding support of pro-life initiatives should be submitted for special recognition, the more so since passage of the \$10,000 pledge to Room at the Inn (see article below). The Council's fundraising efforts for the fraternal year to date have exceeded \$28,000 (counting half the LAMB total, which is conducted on a calendar year basis), and the consensus was that that program was worthy of special recognition. The Council's excellent Social Gatherings Program was written up for recognition as well, given the number of activities other than just having dinner at local restaurants. Lastly, the Council's expanding Scholarship Program is being submitted under the Youth category.

The Council is submitting the Sept. 19, 2009, breakfast honoring "Mr. Tootsie" Bill Scott, PSD and founder of Operation LAMB in North Carolina, under the special category of State Chaplain's Award. The Council's newsletter is also being submitted for the Duane Russell Award.

COUNCIL PLEDGES \$10,000 TO ROOM AT THE INN

Attendees at the March 3 business meeting voted to pledge a total of \$10,000 over five years to Room at the Inn, a Catholic organization in Charlotte serving pregnant college women throughout North and South Carolina. Some \$2,000 of that pledge was already budgeted for fraternal year 2009-2010 and was approved for disbursement at the Feb. 2 meeting. The remaining \$8,000 will be budgeted in \$2,000 increments over the next four years.

State has asked all KofC Councils in North Carolina to contribute the equivalent of \$100 per member over five years to fund the organization's new \$1 million facility in Charlotte. The \$10,000 pledge approved March 3 represents half of the amount State is requesting from All Saints Council's 200 members. Members may pledge individual contributions and get more information about Room at the Inn on the Council website or at www.rati.org.



FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT:

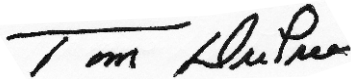
Greetings Brothers,

As we continue our Lenten journey in preparation for Easter, I would like to ask for your support by praying and giving of your valuable time for several upcoming Council programs.

We still need volunteers to take the Mass Census during March, to work at the RBC Center, to donate blood on Saturday, March 27, or to help with the blood drive if you cannot donate, and to volunteer to help with the BBQ/Dedication of our new Community Center and Chapel on Sunday, April 25, by signing up for one of the many subcommittees.

Please consider a personal donation to Room at the Inn. The pledge form is on our website.

Operation LAMB is the main way we practice the guiding principle of our Order, Charity. It is important that each Brother participate. Your family is also welcome to join us in passing out Tootsie Rolls and soliciting donations for the intellectually handicapped. The agencies we have supported are depending more than ever on what we provide. We will present checks to those agencies Friday, March 19, at the St. Raphael Fish Fry at 7:00 p.m. All Knights and their families are invited to attend.


CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(More details available at www.kofc9709.org)

MARCH 2010

- 13 - Adopt-a-Highway Trash Pick Up, 9 a.m., Parking Lot
- 13 - St. Patrick's Day Parade, noon-3 p.m., Raleigh
- 16 - 2nd Degree Ceremony, 7 p.m., St. Raphael's
- 17 - Abottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- *17 - Social Gathering/Fraternal Benefits Night, 7 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 19 - LAMB Checks Presentation, 7 p.m., St. Raphael's Fish Fry
- 19 - Lenten Soup Supper, 5-7 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 20 - 3rd Degree Ceremony, 3 p.m., Council 7186, Apex
- 27 - Blood Drive, 6 a.m.-4 p.m., Clare Hall
- 27-28 - Membership Blitz, all Masses, Breezeway and Stewardship Rm
- 30 - Officers Meeting, 7:15 p.m., Anthony Hall Conference Room

APRIL 2010

- 6 - 1st Degree/Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 9-11 - Operation LAMB, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Locations TBD
- *16 - Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Potluck and "Evan Almighty" Movie
- 21 - Abottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 24 - 3rd Degree Ceremony, 3 p.m., Council 9499, Clemmons
- 25 - Facilities Blessing/Annual BBQ, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Jacoba Hall
- 27 - Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conf Room

* Note Date Change

FOR THE FIRST DEGREE KNIGHT . . . OPERATION LAMB

Operation LAMB is the single largest charitable activity conducted by the Knights of Columbus. Brother Knights in yellow aprons have been soliciting donations from passers by and doling out Tootsie Rolls all across the nation since 1974.

Since its inception, the Operation LAMB program in North Carolina has raised about \$20 million for the intellectually disabled in the state. Thanks to the generosity of the state's residents, North Carolinian Knights have been raising almost \$1 million annually since 2008.

Brother Knights of Council 9709 solicit donations outside of grocery stores in the northwest Raleigh area. Eighty-five percent of what a Council collects is distributed to local charities. The remaining 15 percent is sent to the State where it is distributed to organizations supporting the intellectually handicapped in areas of North Carolina where no local Knights of Columbus Council exists.

A nonprofit foundation (IRS 501(C)(3) Corporation, Federal Tax ID #56-2139696) has been set up for the purpose of collecting and distributing funds. As a result of the foundation's status, donations to LAMB are fully tax deductible.

Last year the Council missed its goal of \$27,011 and collected only \$25,879.27. Council 9709 added its collection for 2009 to the coffers of Father Price Council 2546, Our Lady of Lourdes Council 12025, St. Luke the Evangelist Council 12455 and St. Raphael Council 9880 for distribution to local organizations in Raleigh. Charitable organizations are invited to apply for funds from the local Knights of Columbus Councils and make presentations to a panel with members from each Council represented.

A total of \$45,151.11 was distributed to ARC of Wake County, the Frankie Lemmon School and Development Center, Hilltop Home, Community Partnership Inc., the Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities, the Wake Autism Society, Wake Enterprises, Learning Together and Nancy Frazier of Harris Creek Elementary School for field trips.

Operation LAMB derives its name from Matthew 25:48: "as you did it to one of the [L]east [Among] [M]y [B]rethren, you did it to me."

APRIL 25 COUNCIL BARBECUE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

This year's annual barbecue on Sunday, April 25, will be similar in format to last year's but somewhat larger in scope. The tent in the school parking lot will be substantially larger, and plans are to feed some 3,000 people, up from a record 2,244 last year. And, there will be more activities, including headline entertainment on the main stage near the parking lot tent throughout the day.

The barbecue will be linked to the Church's new building blessing ceremony, which will be conducted by Bishop Michael Burbidge. Food service will start at 11 a.m., and the activities will commence at the conclusion of the blessing ceremony. The event will close earlier this year, at 7 p.m. rather than 8 p.m. Council Barbecue Chairman Shawn Bayle has been actively planning the event with the Church staff since November, and as of Feb. 10 had established 10 subcommittees to do the detailed planning and coordination.

"I would encourage all Brothers to contact whichever subcommittee chair for whom he wants to put in some volunteer hours," said Brother Bayle. "We need all hands on deck to make this successful."

Brother John Izzo along with Brother Jerry Heindel will head up the all-important **Main Kitchen Subcommittee**, which will operate the barbecue from front to back in Jacoba Hall. That subcommittee will need dozens of volunteers to sell food tickets and serve the meals. Brother Dave Bole will be organizing the **Secondary Food Subcommittee** that will be marketing cotton candy, popcorn, soft drinks and proposed ethnic food stands. Brother John Lewandowski will be heading the **Delivery Subcommittee** for off-site meal sales.

Brother Tommy Dalton will take the lead on the **Logistics Subcommittee** that will oversee the entire operation on the Church campus making sure that everything is where it needs to be and all activities are properly staffed. Staffing will include coordination with a variety of Ministries and groups who will assist in sharing the workload. Linked to that subcommittee will be Brother Tim Stevens who will organize the **Set Up/Clean Up Subcommittee**, a very manpower-intensive operation both before and after the barbecue.

Brothers Akuro Adoki, Dominic Paredi and Mark Baumgartner will head the **Entertainment Subcommittee**, organizing and running children's games and the musical entertainment and coordinating a variety of entertainment venues across the campus with the GIFT Fest Team. **Sports Subcommittee** Chairman Mike Wrzesien will be responsible for conducting the Council's annual Soccer Challenge and coordinating a number of other sports-related activities for youth showcasing the new gymnasium.

Deputy Grand Knight Dick Bridges will coordinate the activities of the **Council Subcommittee**, staffing a membership table, running a mini-Operation LAMB drive, selling State Vacation Raffle tickets and coordinating parishioners' signing up deceased veterans for the Council's annual Memorial Day Mass.

Brother Bayle will work the Sales/Public Relations Subcommittee, and Brother Steve Becker is coordinating Council support of a Church-run **Grownups Night Out Event** that may be held prior to the actual barbecue.

Sign up sheets will be posted on the Council website in March. All Knights are encouraged to sign up for shifts in advance. The Council recorded some 373 volunteer hours for last year's barbecue, but there were a number of shifts that were over-staffed, and there were a number of shifts outside the main mealtime hours that could have used a few more volunteers.

COUNCIL STATE VACATION RAFFLE TICKET SALES ON TRACK

As of the March 3 business meeting, All Saints Council had sold a total of 231 State Vacation Raffle Tickets. Some 395 remain in Brother Knights' hands to be sold, and there are some 172 tickets currently available for distribution to Knight sales volunteers before the barbecue or for sale at the April 25 annual barbecue. Two tickets have been lost.

Top seller so far this year is Ann Vogelpohl, who has sold 44 tickets. Brother Ron Hassan was the top seller last year with 135 tickets sold, including 125 at last year's barbecue. Council 9709 was the fifth highest seller of State Vacation Raffle tickets last year and was recognized for that achievement at the State Organizational Meeting July 25, 2009, in New Bern.

The Council gets to keep \$2.50 per ticket sold and will get an extra dollar for every ticket it sells over 775, or 100 more than the Council sold last year. Last year the Council pocketed some \$1,687.50 from raffle ticket sales.

Prior to last year's barbecue some 615 tickets of the 700 tickets allocated to the Council by State had been distributed for sale to Brother Knights. Of those, 15 were returned after the barbecue and were sent back to State as unsold. Ten were declared lost. Brother Knights unable to sell tickets they hold this year need to get them back to Deputy Grand Knight Dick Bridges no later than April 15.

BROTHER TONY & MARGE EVANS FAMILY OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH



Tony and Marge Evans

March's "Family of the Month" award goes to Brother Tony Evans and wife Marge for their participation in Council activities as well as volunteering in the Raleigh Community. Together they donated over 800 hours of volunteer service in 2009 alone.

Brother Tony volunteers as a Lector and also participates in the Donut Delivery to the USO and The Healing Place, the Special Olympics, and works the concession stands at the RBC Center and the Durham Bulls Athletic Park. Outside of Council activities, he volunteers as a tax preparer for AARP giving aid to the elderly and works as a volunteer counselor for the Medicare Part D prescription drug program.

Marge volunteers several hours a day at Wakefield Elementary School (on a year-round calendar) assisting first graders with reading and math. She and Brother Tony also both work at Catholic Parish Outreach and are regular blood

donors at the Church drives. They delivered barbecue meals-to-go to local businesses as part of the St. Francis Council's annual barbecue fundraiser last spring.

Brother Tony and Marge have six children, all of whom are involved volunteering in their communities. Their son Mike was given the Council's Knight of the Month award last November.

They have been happily married for 52 years and when not volunteering in the Community enjoy traveling and spending time with their family.

BROTHER RALPH GUENTHER IS MARCH'S KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Council officers have selected Ralph Guenther as March's Knight of the Month for his work on the RBC Center fundraising activity for the Council for the past five years. Brother Ralph initiated the Council's participation in the RBC Center's concessions program for nonprofits in 2005 and has run the program ever since. Revenues coming to the Council for those five years total about \$27,500 to date and have enabled the Council to make many significant charitable donations to deserving programs and agencies in the Raleigh area as well as across the state. Two years ago he also agreed to manage the funds received for area Councils' participation in the Durham Bulls Athletic Park (DBAP) beer sales program for nonprofits because of his experience with the RBC Center, another task that he undertook with great success.

Brother Ralph has been a Knight for over 20 years, including one break in membership when he became disappointed with his Council in New Jersey because it was not doing anything. Brother Ralph has had no such disappointment with All Saints Council 9709. He has served the Council as Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight and Trustee and is a frequent participant in all of the Council's activities. He was selected "Golden Knight of the Year" for the State competition for fraternal year 2008-2009.

Brother Ralph came to North Carolina via northern New Jersey where he worked for IBM for 22 years and New Jersey Bell for 19. He and his late wife Carol married in Queens, N.Y., in 1960 and had three children. Deborah, the oldest, lives in Greece with husband Demetrios and two sons, Dino (20) and Jason (18). Will is single and lives in Bluffton, S.C. Youngest son John, a member of Council 9709 himself, wife Meg and their two daughters, Anna (3) and Lily (9 months) live in Holly Springs. Carol passed in 2009 after a long bout with cancer, and her funeral was held at St. Francis with a color guard of Brother Ralph's fellow Sir Knights from Bishop McGuinness Assembly 778. Father Bill told those attending Carol's funeral Mass that "the heart and soul of the Parish" was present, all out of respect for what the Guenthers have given the St. Francis of Assisi Community.



Ralph Guenther

COUNCIL QUALIFIES SEVEN DISTRICT CHAMPIONS FOR STATE

Some 27 boys and girls ages 10-14 participated in the All Saints Council's annual basketball Free Throw Championship Saturday, Feb. 20. Seven Council championship winners are now qualified to move on to the State Championship, Saturday, March 6, in Burlington. The Council qualified seven District champions last year as well.

Council winners in the boys' competition were: Matthew Tjalma (10), Alex Shearer (11), Cameron McNabb (12) and Vaughn Johnson (13). Winners in the girls' competition were: Shea Stephenson (10), Allison Becker (11), Sara Rumford (12) and Katie Magee (14). Some 24 boys and girls from St. Francis participated, and all received certificates from Youth Committee Chair Mike Wrzesien after the competition.

Following the Council Free Throw Championship at 9 a.m., the Council also conducted the District Championship beginning at 10:30 a.m., with winners becoming eligible for the State competition. Jacqueline Kirsch (11) representing Chapel Hill Council 10910 won the District competition for her age group. There were also two 11-year-old boys, one from Council 10910 and another from Durham Council 13812, who competed in the District competition, losing to St. Francis' Alex Shearer. All District winners received a medal from District Deputy Hadon Ware.

Some 12 Knights from the Council were on hand to help support the competition: Brothers Steve Becker, Dave Bole, Dick Bridges, Ken Bridges, John Cuomo, Tru Hall, Larry Leins, Kent Siefkes, Tim Stevens, Mike Supianowski, Tim Wiwel and Mike Wrzesien.



Council Free Throw Champions: Standing (L-R) Vaughn Johnson, Alex Shearer, Katie Magee, Sara Rumford; Kneeling (L-R) Allison Becker, Matthew Tjalma, Shea Stephenson and Cameron McNabb.



Knights of Columbus
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"Retirement--Ouch!"

by Rudy Sturk
KofC Marketing Services
Field Management, New Haven, Conn.

This month's column is for all you baby boomers out there. Do you know what is sneaking up on you? Retirement!

Ouch. I know. It's hard to believe isn't it? Seems like just yesterday. But it's coming and coming fast. And that's actually the good news. Let me share with you some tidbits that may be of interest.

The trend by companies to freeze or end their employee pension plans may have a big impact on baby boomers now on the cusp of retirement.

Boomers with pension plans have counted on monthly retirement checks at the end of their careers, but more employers are ending their plans or halting future benefit accruals. Those at greatest risk include boomers in their late 40s and early 50s who are still at least a decade from retirement but too old to save enough to make up the difference in their pension benefits.

An August 2005 survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers showed that nearly half of companies that expect to change their pension plans in the next year are considering freezing benefits for all employees. More than a third that offered pensions have already pared back these benefits over the last three years.

"This will definitely be a problem for baby boomers," says Karen Friedman at the Pension Rights Center. "You've been at a company under the plan and worked for years with that expectation, and then it's taken away."

Your Field Agent Tim Kilpatrick can help you with retirement planning. Call him at 847-3799 (H), 880-3463 (C) or send him an e-mail to Tim1002@earthlink.net or Timothy.Kilpatrick@kofc.org.

STATE SETS COUNCIL'S 2010 LAMB GOAL AT \$26,656

The North Carolina State Council has set Council 9709's 2010 Operation LAMB goal at \$26,656, three percent more than the \$25,879.27 the Council collected for 2009. All Saints Council collected an average of \$134 per member, according to State calculations announced at the Midyear Meeting in Fayetteville Jan. 23, more than double the statewide average of about \$58 per member.

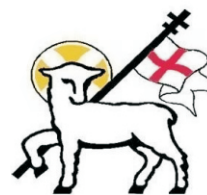
"The strong support from our Brother Knights resulted in us nearly meeting our goal in 2009," said LAMB Committee Chairman Dave Vogelpohl at the Feb. 2 business meeting. "I am confident that I can count on their continued support to meet our 2010 goal and help the 'Least Among My Brethren.'"

All Saints State-set goal for 2009 was \$27,011, which was three percent higher than the \$26,224 the Council collected in 2008. Still, Council 9709's 2009 collection was the highest among the six Raleigh Councils.

LAMB Committee Chairman Dave Vogelpohl announced the dates for the 2010 LAMB drive at the Feb. 2 business meeting. Council 9709 will conduct four LAMB drives in 2010: April 9-11, June 4-6, Oct. 1-3 and Nov. 22-23. The June drive has been scheduled to accommodate the Brier Creek Walmart, a major source of donations, as well the Leesville, Stonehenge and Morrisville (McCrimmon Corners) Harris Teeter stores. Unfortunately, the June dates are the same as for the North Carolina Special Olympics swimming competition this year, which will mean a larger than usual requirement for Knight manpower that weekend. Shift sign-up sheets will be posted on the Council website at least a month prior to the drives.

For the first time, individuals can now make on-line donations to Operation LAMB using Paypal at the LAMB Foundation website at www.lambnc.org. There is also an endowment fund to handle stock donations.

Brother Vogelpohl also announced that the Council has applied for \$1,000 grants from the three Walmart stores in the Council 9709 footprint as well as the Sam's Club in Morrisville.



LAMB
FOUNDATION OF NC

Helping People with
Intellectual Disabilities since 1974

POSTER TO BE COUNCIL AD IN STATE CONVENTION PROGRAM

The winning poster in the 10-year-old category of All Saints Council's Essay/Poster Contest will be used as the advertisement the Council will submit to the State Convention's Program. The Council traditionally buys an ad in the program each year, and Youth Committee Chairman Mike Wrzesien thought submission of the Council's winning poster entry would make a nice backdrop for the Council's ad.

"It's simple, yet it says all it needs to," said Brother Wrzesien. "While participation in the contest was not what we had hoped for, the quality of the two entries received has made the contest worthwhile."

Gretchen Friedman's "Love with your Heart!" poster earned her a \$25 Borders gift certificate that Brother Wrzesien presented to her Feb. 20 during the Council's annual Basketball Free Throw Contest. Gretchen competed in the 10-year-old girls category. Five-year-old sister Audrey's poster also earned a \$25 Borders gift certificate.

Both girls used the theme of "In Honor of the Year of the Priest, Who is my Priest and What does he mean to me" in creating their posters. Students in grades preschool through fifth could submit posters no larger than 9" x 12" for the contest. Students in sixth through 12th grade could write essays on "the responsibility of the Catholic citizen in a free society." There were no other poster entries and there were no essays received.

Photos of the Friedman family and the winning posters have been posted on the Council website. The posters will be forwarded to State for competition at that level.

COUNCIL CONDUCTING MASS CENSUS IN MARCH

At the request of Director of Parish Operations Ben Whitehouse, Council 9709 will be taking a census of parishioners attending weekend Masses from Feb. 27-March 21. Three Knights per Mass will be counting parishioners entering the church as well as those remaining in the entry area outside of church over four weekends this spring as well as in the fall. The data collected will be used by the Church to determine the requirements for serving parishioners at Masses in the future.

Three Knights per Mass will be required to conduct the survey, and the sign-up sheets for volunteers is posted on the Council website at www.kof9709.org. Volunteers will need to arrive at least 30 minutes before Mass and will have to remain on duty until approximately 15 minutes after Mass starts.