



**Knights of Columbus
Msgr Clement Kern Council #8284
555 S. Lilley Rd
Canton, Michigan 48188-1103**

June 26, 2013

Brothers - How about this for a new fraternal year resolution...I will get active in a new council program or activity this year! Enjoy Independence Day, the picnics and all the fireworks. Then come to our July general meeting on the 17th! See you there!

Vivat Jesus
Ed Harkins PGK
[734-634-0929](tel:734-634-0929)

Knight of the Year - Joe Nader. Joe earned KOM awards twice this past year. He also chaired two separate events for us and was a regular “chef” in our kitchen at our various breakfasts. Thanks for your great work in support of your council this year, Joe!



Family of the Year - David Lengel. David and his family, especially daughters Ana and Nadia, have served our council well this past year. At our breakfasts and at our Gleaners Food Bank Outing and at Breakfast with Santa, you could find the Lengel family helping out. His daughters served the parish strongly too as leaders in the Youth Group. David accepted the appointed positions of Membership Director and Lecturer. He also was our “Santa” this year too at Breakfast with Santa. The Lengel family is very deserving of our FOY award! Thank you, Lengels!



Shining Armor Award - Nelson “Rod” Rodriguez. Rod qualifies for this award by working 3 council service programs, attending 3 or more monthly business meetings, receiving his major degrees, meeting with our insurance agent and recruiting at least one new member. All in his first year of membership! Congrats and thanks, Rod!

Membership update - We officially ended the 2012-13 fraternal year at 110% of our new member quota for the year (11 new vs 10 goal). We also met our insurance member goal of 4 new insurance members. Let’s continue to look for new members. I’m sure we can do at least as well in the coming year as we did last year. Remember our plan...One Member, per Council, per Month!

Council Golf Outing - More to follow on this, but it's time to mark the calendar for Sunday **Aug 25th** and start getting your four-somes or two-somes or one-somes together for our annual council scramble golf outing! Proceeds go to support St. Vincent DePaul Society and all the good work they do. We are planning to be back at Fellows Creek...nice and close by! Again, mark your calendars now, spread the word and get a group together to have a bunch of fun that day!!! And stay tuned for more info to come. If you or anyone you know is interested in donating a door prize for the event, we will start collecting those shortly too. Just let PGK Ed Harkins or GK Hans Hansen know.

Charity Poker update - Our summer dates for charity poker fundraising at Electric Stick are officially off the calendar. Electric Stick plans to reopen in a temporary facility around Sept 1st and we may have some opportunities arise for us after that. In the meantime, Charity Poker Chairman Ed Harkins is looking into dates elsewhere and we tentatively are trying to lock down August 1 - 3 at Northville Downs. More to follow soon on this!

Aid for Oklahoma Tornado victims - We have been asked to join in with MDA Delivery Services, the Canton Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and churches to help fill a 53 foot trailer going to Oklahoma to help with the tornado recovery efforts. MSA will be sending an 18 wheeler down on Friday, July 12th. Please join other parishioners at St. Thomas a'Becket and bring in donations of new paper products (Kleenex, toilet paper, paper towels, etc.) up until Thursday, July 11th. Donations can be dropped off in the parish office. Thanks in advance for your generosity in this very worthwhile community activity!

May General meeting business - Another full house of 35 brothers in attendance. We agreed to again support the Sept 8th parish picnic with a \$200 cash donation. We also agreed to support the Fr. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Seminary with a \$100 donation. We are launching a "Baby Bottle" program that will raise money for pro-life initiatives. Read more about the program at the Supreme website link below. GK Ed Harkins released our council guidelines for child safety. See the complete guidelines statement at the end of this newsletter. The 2013/14 council calendar was discussed by DGK Hans Hansen, noting that officer meetings will be moved to the 2nd Thursday of the month and start at 7:00. General meeting dates and times remain unchanged, but we will move them to the FLC whenever available where there is more room. We are looking into the possibility of doing pancake breakfasts every month rather than every other month this year. The breakfast committee will take this up and report back to council.



<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/programs/babybottle.html>

Knights of Columbus sets new record for charitable contributions

More than \$167 million and 70 million hours donated to charity in 2012

The Knights of Columbus set a new all-time record for charitable donations and service hours in 2012.

The results of the K of C's Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity for the year ending Dec. 31, 2012, indicate that record amounts of money and hours — more than \$167.5 million and 70 million hours — were donated to charitable causes.

The Knights financial contribution for the year grew by more than \$9.4 million to \$167,549,817. Contributions increased for the 13th consecutive year.

The number of volunteer service hours also rose by nearly 64,000 hours from the 2011 total to 70,113,207 hours. At an average value of \$22.14 per service hour as estimated by Independent Sector, the value of the Knights' service hours last year exceeded \$1.55 billion.

Cumulative figures show that during the past decade the Knights of Columbus has donated \$1.475 billion to charity and provided more than 673 million hours of volunteer service in support of charitable initiatives.

Notable beneficiaries during the past year included Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, victims of natural disasters, local food banks, the economically disadvantaged and physically and intellectually disabled persons. Scholarships and educational support, as well as a variety of church and community projects were also prominent among the many initiatives sponsored by local K of C councils.

The survey found that there were more than 420,000 K of C blood donations during 2012. The Knights of Columbus was among the first groups to recruit blood donors, with formal efforts dating back to 1937.

“Throughout its 131 years, the Knights of Columbus has always practiced charity as its first principle,” said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. “With so many people enduring great hardship, the Knights of Columbus is happy to help provide solutions to real people’s problems through this great outpouring of charity by our members over the past year.”

Upcoming calendar dates:

Every Monday - Golf League, 5:30 start at Hickory Creek Golf Club
6/29 - Officer Training, 9:00 to Noon, STAB
7/1 - New fraternal year begins
7/4 - Independence Day. God Bless America!
7/11 - Officers meeting, 7:00 pm, room TBD
7/17 - Council general meeting, 7:30 pm, Family Life Center
7/18 - Summer Diocesan meeting, 6:30 pm, place TBD
7/28 - Corporate Communion, Officer Installation, Family Picnic (more to follow)
8/1 - Quad District meeting, STAB, time TBD
8/1-3 - (tentative) Charity Poker event, Northville Downs
8/15 - Officers meeting, 7:00 pm, room TBD
8/21 - Council general meeting, 7:30 pm, Family Life Center
8/22 - Pasta Dinner, 5:00 pm, FLC
8/25 - Council Golf Outing, Fellows Creek, 9:00 shot gun start (tentative)

Let us pray - Please remember all brothers of this council and others noted below who are sick or in distress in your prayers: Maureen Casey (Fr. Pat Casey's mother, passed away), Brother Frank Glentzer (passed away), Fr. Tom Slowinski (for a successful sabbatical and God's blessings), Fr. Noel O'Conner (medical issues), Denny McCann (sister-in-law with medical issues), Tom Kish (sister with medical issues), Pat Ward (recent surgery), Ben Zimincki (daughter, medical issues), Lionel "Rad" Radofski (recovering from illness), PGK Bill Simmerer (surgery recovery), Joe Kelly (medical issues).

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www.kofc8284.org/

www.facebook.com/pages/Knights-of-Columbus-8284-Canton-MI/235628156455332

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**Protecting God's Children** - We've talked about the need to establish council guidelines that work with both parish and AOD requirements for volunteers working with children. GK Ed Harkins wrote these guidelines for our council after consultation with both the parish staff and our State Warden. These are recommendations. Basically it will be the expectation that at least the top three officer level positions in the council (GK, DGK, Chancellor) go through the PGC program and formal background checks. The intent is as stated in the guidelines (that follow on the next page)...not to put any Knight in a position where someone might assume something is not right. This is as much for our own protection as it is for the protection of any child. Such is the world we live in today. If any council member has questions about these guidelines, contact GK Ed Harkins.

**Msgr. Clement H. Kern Council #8284  
Child Safety & Protection Guidelines for Officers**



I have decided to publish general guidelines for our council regarding background checks and Protecting God's Children (PGC) certification that will demonstrate that we as a council take the issue of child safety seriously.

Going forward it is recommended that all council officers receive a St. Thomas a'Becket parish background check and optionally go through PGC training and certification. However, it is most strongly recommended that the GK, DGK and Chancellor do so.

We will never intend to put any Knight in position where he could be in close, private or closed-door activities with children without that Knight having first had an appropriate background check made and/or having received PGC training and certification. Some examples of these activities would include playing Santa Claus, baby sitting, and teaching classes.

Public breakfasts or parish picnics or similar events where parents or guardians are present do not rise to the level of close interaction necessary to require a formal background check being made or PGC certification received.

Each year all council officers will be given a copy of these guidelines and a list of upcoming dates for PGC training/certification. If an officer receives PGC certification, he should notify the Grand Knight who will maintain a council record of those officers so certified.

These guidelines were developed after consultation with STAB parish leadership and the Michigan State Council Advocate.

Edward Harkins, Grand Knight  
Msgr. Clement H. Kern Council #8284  
Knights of Columbus

Dated: May 1, 2013