

MASON COUNCIL #9182 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

"KNIGHT TIMES"

CHARITY UNITY FRATERNITY PATRIOTISM

DECEMBER 1999 CALENDAR

Dec 11--Celtic Cross Icon District Wide Prayer Service and Program--St. James Church--7:00 P.M.

Dec 12—Sun—Pancake breakfast after the 9:00 Mass—Nov 14—Sun—Coffee and Doughnuts, 11:00 Mass.

Dec 12—Sun—Please join the Grand Knight in the Chapel as he leads the Rosary at 5:30 P.M. in memory of our recently departed brother knight, Edric Holdorph, prior to the officer's meeting.

Dec 12--Sun--Regular meeting; officers and directors at 6:00 P.M. (all members welcome)
Regular meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Dec 14—Tue--Mass for Vocations by the Mason Knights of Columbus Council #9182.

Dec 18--Sat--#9182 Council Christmas Party after Mass with a Taco Bar Dinner--bring the family--belly up to the bar, Santa plans to. After dinner you might just see things different than they really are, come on down.

Dec 19--Sun--Knights interested in going to Boysville to deliver the van load of sweatshirts should gather at the church between noon and 12:30. Call Gene or Lou for details.

Dec 25—Sat--Christmas Day --May the Blessings of this spiritual and joyous season be on you and your families.

MINUTES OF THE MASON KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #9182, November 14, 1999

The council was called to order by Deputy Grand Knight Madden at 7:00 P.M. Warden Murawski stated that all present were in possession of a

current membership card. All officers were present or excused. Deputy Grand Knight Madden led 16 members and 1 guest in the Lord's Prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Opening Ode. A motion by Bill Bond and seconded by Paul Miller to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as published in the Knight Times was passed.

There was no report from the Admissions committee.

Grand Knight's Report: Deputy Grand Knight Madden discussed the virtue of charity, and its significance to all of us. As Knights, we are continually afforded the opportunity to put this virtue into practice. Although we generate a great deal of money through our fundraisers, and use this, as well as any donations, to contribute to many charities, the money is not the core of our charity. The foundation of our charity is our personal commitment of time and our love and dedication that we exhibit through our participation in these projects. In addition, our faith is an equally important cornerstone of our charity. For these reasons, it remains crucial that we be ready to say yes when asked to support our parish and community through the various acts of charity that we undertake each year.

Chaplain's Report: Fr. Wakefield took the opportunity to share his experiences with an organization known as Ele's Place. Ele's Place was founded as an organized center for grieving kids who have experienced a loss within their family. (continued on page four)

(continued from the front page)

They meet weekly in a church in Lansing, although Ele's Place is not affiliated with any religious denomination. The group is composed of a group of volunteers, but they are always interested in adding additional volunteers, particularly men. The group offers training twice a year for anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer. Father has

spoken to Lou about the possibility of having the Knights provide some type of assistance in the form of a donation or even some assistance with one of the events that are held for the kids. He also discussed briefly some of the annual fundraisers that the group sponsors.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Knudstrup reported a starting balance of \$6,348.28 on October 10th, and an ending balance of \$5,793.35 on November 14th, with checks totaling \$948.16, and receipts of \$362.00, and interest of \$30.70. A detailed report was submitted.

Communications: The "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card program was discussed. The Charlotte council will be directing this program. A thank you from the Migrant Outreach Ministry was received. Thank you from the Cheerleading squad at Mason for our donation was also received, as well as a thank you from John Moody, candidate for state office. A letter from Fr. Mark and Project Clay was also read.

Financial Secretary's Report: Bills from Aldrich Floral, Gordon Food Service, Felpausch, and St. James were presented for payment. A motion from Ed Holdorph, and seconded by Rich Handziak to pay the bills as presented passed following a unanimous vote by the council.

Chancellor's Report: Chancellor Handziak reported that a floral arrangement was sent to the Lounds family on behalf of Calvin Lounds mother who passed away.

Report of Auditors and Trustees: None

Program Director's Report: A brief discussion was held prior to the Program Director's report that centered around being careful about the things we say and when and where we say them. This was precipitated over an incident in which a lady in the parish who used to volunteer her time for Knights functions was given the impression that her help was no longer desired. Whether this was a Knight or not is unclear, but the point is that we must be aware of what we say and how we say it because we can inadvertently convey some unintended messages through our remarks that reflect poorly on the entire council. Otherwise, the Christmas Party

is scheduled for December 18th after mass. A taco bar is being planned with the possibility of adopting a Mexican theme. A Byzantine mass is being planned for Feb. 29th, but a short informational gathering to explain the mass will be held on the 21st of February. We would like all of our Knights to be prepared to attend both events, although the schedule is still tentative.

Two additional spelling bees are to be held at St. James in January and February. The first for the diocesan level, and the second for the statewide competition for Level 1 (Grades 4, 5, and 6). The Giving Tree is going well. Gifts still need to be returned, but so far so good. A spelling bee was held on November 14th, however, the turn out was extremely poor despite an enormous amount of work that went into planning and organizing the event. We need to look at whether or not this level of effort might be better spent on another type of event, or whether the format might be changed to make this event more successful.

Blues Knight is coming up on January 22nd, so, in the meantime, Geoff Madden will be working on getting all of the necessary licensing and permitting paperwork turned in to the state. Geoff has also booked the Red Bell Blues band and tentatively Connie Crippen's band as an opening act. Lou and Geoff are chairing this event.

The fish fry committee is meeting to discuss ways in which to improve upon the fish fries for the upcoming year. Possible plans include selling ad space on placements and/or on banners to be hung in the hall, as well as a silent auction to be held in addition to our regular raffle events. Items would be cycled every three weeks. Lou will be working with local merchants to attempt to secure items for use in the silent auction. He will also be looking into procuring an item or items for the raffle.

Unfinished Business: Paul Miller reported that the "Stuff a Crib" program has concluded, and was a great success. He thanked everyone for their help with this effort. Chris Knudstrup made a motion to donate \$200.00 to "Stuff a Crib". The motion was seconded by Bill Bond and passed by the council. Following this, a motion was made by Rich O'Brien and seconded by Mark Leyko to donate \$200.00 to Ele's Place. This motion also passed.

New Business: Chris Knudstrup spoke about the Blackthorn event for this coming March. Need to solicit volunteers for the committee and labor for the event itself. Discussion of how we could assist this event without taking it over as a Knights function was held. A motion to pledge our assistance with this event was made by Ed Holdorph and seconded by Chris Stevens. The motion passed. Our assistance will consist of helping with set-up, tear down and the sale of beer at the event.

District Deputy's Report: District Deputy Leyko spoke about the ways in which we can help out. A tri-district meeting will be held on December 6th at council 788 in Lansing. All officers are encouraged to attend as well as anyone from the council who would like to go. On December 11th, a district wide Celtic Cross celebration will be held at St. James at 7:00pm. This will be about a 45 minute prayer service and everyone is encouraged to attend.

District Deputy Leyko then introduced Immediate Past State Deputy Richard McCloy who spoke to the council about the good works done by our council, our growth over the past 14 years, and the need to take pride in our efforts and always look to associate our good works with the mission of the Knights of Columbus. He then spoke about the commitment from the Knights of the Lansing Diocese to assist with the construction of a new youth retreat center in DeWitt. The total financial commitment is 3 million dollars. Each council will be asked to contribute \$5,000.00 over the next two years. Other moneys will be collected from the Lansing area, and the membership in the diocese. For the membership, a savings plan of 25 cents a day for one year is being solicited. A letter outlining the scope of this project, and how the money was to be raised was read. Immediate Past State Deputy McCloy challenged us to commit to this project.

Good of the Order: Please remember Duff Williams and his step father in your prayers.

Knight of the Month: Gene Murawski

Family of the Month: Richard Handziak Family

50/50 Winner: Chris Knudstrup who donated it to Stuff a Crib.

Attendance Jackpot Loser: David St. Pierre

The Closing ode was sung, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 P.M. by Deputy Grand Knight Madden.

Respectfully submitted, Michael P. Gergely,
Recorder.

Fraternal Birthday Wishes For December

- 01 Samuel Chrome
- 03 Randy Schroeder
- 03 Brian Spitzley
- 04 Louis Ebaugh
- 07 John Simpson
- 12 Albert Schulien
- 15 Thomas Murawski
- 17 Mike Smith
- 20 John Perry
- 29 Stan Chubb
- 31 James Smith

**ATTENDANCE JACKPOT
LOSER OF THE MONTH**

DAVID ST. PIERRE

Sorry we missed you. Hope to see you at the next meeting. Calendar the meetings. Do your best to attend. We need you here!

NO SHOW!! NO DOUGH!!

\$20 Jackpot at the next meeting

"Stuff A Crib" Final Report

On behalf of the staff at "Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing (PSGL), the young women and men who benefit from the counseling and support to seek and choose alternatives to abortion, and the newborn babies who have little or nothing, thank you Knights, St. James Parishioners and your families for your generosity!

Our "Stuff A Crib" committee was honored to present, on your behalf, the following donations to the staff of PSGL:

A complete crib, mattress, springs and bumper pad, 55 outfits and sleepers, 30 blankets and sheets, 4 baby afghans, 6 towels, 3 maternity items, 39 undershirts and onesies, 9 boxes of baby wipes, 43 dozen disposable diapers, 7 bibs, 41 miscellaneous baby supply items, 7 snowsuits, 10 bottles, 7 books, 19 toys and 3 pieces of baby equipment.

In addition, we presented PSGL with cash and checks totaling \$600.00. The Committee included Jim McEwan, Ed Holdorph, Grand Knight Lou Ebaugh and myself with some very timely help from Nick and Nate McNeely. Yes, my wife Terri came up with the original idea. Thank you for caring and providing pro-life alternatives to abortion and assisting babies and families less fortunate. God Bless You!

Paul Miller, Chairman

Please support the Annual State Wide Michigan Charities Raffle

The third Early Bird Drawing is January 14, 2000, so you still have time. Please sell the tickets that you received in the mail or buy them yourself. Every dollar counts and the money goes for several important charities in Michigan.

Each early bird drawing is worth \$10,000. The Grand Prize Drawing of \$25,000 is on January 23, 2000. There are ten other great prizes so please respond to the ticket mailings and sell the tickets. Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book for \$25.00. See Lou Ebaugh for additional tickets. Thank You!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

TIME AND TAXES WAIT FOR NO MAN (OR WOMAN)!

If you act fast, you might be able to keep our country from using your wages to buy one more \$1,500.00 screwdriver or even a \$10,000.00 toilet seat!! (or whatever they are paying for stuff like that these days -- you know how prices keep going up!). Remember that our Knights of Columbus offers IRA accounts where you and your spouse can delay,

or possibly avoid, paying taxes on some of your hard earned income. You can open an IRA account for as little as \$300.00 up to \$2,000.00 (if you are in the 20% tax bracket that's \$60 to \$400 bucks of taxes!) Remember too, that the compounded interest on your IRA is also tax delayed. The clock is running --- the time available to you to set up your 1999 Knights of Columbus IRA Flexible Premium Annuity will soon be gone! Need details? Give me a call!

Fraternally yours,

Tom Feiten, Field Agent
517/676-9691 or 800/808-2802

DUES FOR 2000

Financial Secretary Bill Bond has the dues billings for 2000 ready. Why not bring a check or cash for \$20, \$25 or \$35 to the next meeting and save the postage? This is a reminder to pay promptly to avoid extra follow up effort.

Will you consider the "TAKE FIVE" program and the "KNIGHT TIMES NEWS LETTER PATRON" program? You have an opportunity to participate in the "Take Five" program for an additional \$5.00 to support Michigan Charities.

Also, you can support your newsletter by becoming a "newsletter patron". For \$10.00 you get an individual or memory patron and for \$25.00 you get a business card size space for your message. Please consider a patron donation. The editor thanks you for your support.

EDRIC D. HOLDORPH 1949-1999

Dear Ed,

We know not when we will leave this earth and you left far too early. My family and I were on vacation in sunny Florida when we received the dreaded news of your sudden passing. We called Sharlene to pass on our concern and what a blessing it was to learn that Father Al was there, and Chris and Ricky and others to comfort your family.

Lou tracked us down and left a message on the machine. I thought I heard it right, but I wanted it to be wrong. We had just been together with you on Wednesday night taking the "Stuff A Crib" donations to the PSGL. We presented the donations and then Cheryl gave us a guided tour of the center. She just happened to mention a few projects at the center that would take some strong, good looking, strapping men to complete. Your eyes lit up a little. You and I and Lou had the same idea. Oh brother knights!

But then that's kind of a reflection of your life from my point of view, always helping others. You were a husband, a father, a foster parent, a man of faith, a knight, an usher, an officer, a fish fry guy, a co-worker, a volunteer, a friend and a guy who showed up when a job needed doing!

You were a leader in your own way. You lead by example and doing. You were not loud and boastful but when you felt very strongly about something, you spoke out and there usually wasn't much argument. You were a big man with a lot of body language that gave away many of your concealed thoughts and concerns. I could read your eyes on many issues and situations. You did not have to say much.

You were a big Ole Teddy bear. Sharlene said it, others said it. I think a lot of our brother knights thought it. You honored us as your friend and brother knight. That's what it's all about. We pass through this world only once and my friend, you left your mark.

You honored my family and I by being our friend. We saw you go through some low times and some great times. You asked me to be the confirmation sponsor for Josh and you invited Terri and I to share your tickets to your favorite singers concert, Shania Twain. It was a great show!

Lou and I sat down with Sharlene, Chris and Sandy the other night representing

your brother knights to see how they were doing and if we could do something to help them. We mainly talked about you and funny things we remembered. Their pain is there but they are strong and doing the best they can to keep the family together in this tragic time.

Well Ed, you know that I take some liberties from time to time as Editor of this newsletter and this is another one. However, I believe that I can state that my fellow brother knights join me in thanking you for being our friend and brother.

We will help your family any way we can and you may sleep now with the knowledge that you did make a difference!

We miss you. May you rest in peace. Paul

GRAND KNIGHTS CORNER

Best wishes to the council membership for the holidays! It was a great privilege to attend and watch my son Michael graduate from the Army Infantry school at Fort Benning Georgia. I would not have been able to do this if it were not for our Deputy Grand Knight Geoffrey Madden who was able to assume the Grand Knights role and responsibilities in November. You did a great job and thanks for your leadership!

Please take a moment and read this wonderful letter your Deputy Grand Knight Geoffrey Madden composed on Charity.

Brother Knights:

•I have been reflecting for some time on the virtue of charity - what it means to me, to us as Knights, and to God. I felt that it would be appropriate for us to remind ourselves of not only the need for charity, but to take a look at how we put this virtue into action in our council.

•Without charity, the outward deed is worthless. But, whatever is done out of charity,

no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, has virtue in the eyes of God. He looks not so much at what we do, but the love with which we do it.

•Most of you are aware of the many projects which this council undertakes each year: fish fries, pancake breakfasts, the Tootsie Roll drive, Blues Knight, and more. Last year, we donated quite a substantial amount of money from these endeavors to various causes and needs within our parish and community. However, it isn't money that is the root of our council's charity - it is our time.

•Our time seeks not only to raise money, but to raise awareness. If all we sought was the almighty dollar, we could pass a basket and be done with it. But, our efforts are for fellowship and support of our parish and community with our presence and leadership. Hence, our projects include Spelling Bees, Free Throw Contests, offering masses for vocations, and more.

•“And, they'll know we are Christians by our love....” The hymn we sing at Mass has a special meaning to our council and our approach to charity. Knights across the country and here in Mason support youth, empower families, respect life from conception to natural death, keep Christ in Christmas, pray for vocations, and more. Our love for these values is not optional. It is our belief. We need to understand that charity is not an option. It is part of who we are as Knights.

•Charity is never done for personal motives or reward. Those who practice true charity do not seek their own pleasure, but desire above all things to find joy in serving our Lord. We need to continually say “Yes” to serving God with our treasure, talent, and time!

•When you are called upon to serve - whether tending tables at a fish fry, being a judge at a Free Throw contest, shamelessly hawking Tootsie Rolls, or praying a rosary for vocations, - remember our obligation to live Christ in our presence and support our parish and community. “Vivat Jesus!”

Sincerely, Geoffrey Madden, DGK

Rosary at 5:30 P.M. in Chapel for our deceased brother Ed Holdorph.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT IS ESSENTIAL!
The conferring of the second third degree (Unity & Fraternity) is scheduled in Dewitt at St Judes, Jan 30, 2000 and Feb 6, 2000 at Council 788 in Lansing. Start planning, your membership director Gene Murawski will be calling!

REMIND YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS ABOUT MEETINGS! Let's continue to make a greater effort to get our members involved! You all can participate and help achieve the goal by saying yes to your directors when they call for your assistance on upcoming projects. How about when you are at Mass on Sundays, take a moment and introduce yourself to each other and share a thank you or could you extend a welcome to attend our membership meeting every second Sunday of the month. See you all at the next membership meeting on Sunday, December 12, 7:00 p.m. Officers Meeting-6: 00 p.m.)

THEY NEED OUR PRAYERS!

Please keep the families of Gene Murawski, Bill Bond and our deceased brother Ed Holdorph in your prayers.

Sincerely, Grand Knight, Lou Ebaugh