

# Knights of Columbus Council 7186

## Year End Status Report

### May 2, 2008



Worthy State Officers,

Wow – where has the year gone? We have been a very active in our fifth year for our Council. We have averaged involvement and/or coordination with almost three events a week. We now have over 117 in our Council to help with all of these activities. We also added 10 new members this year. Because of our increased visibility, the Saint Mary Magdalene Parish and School community has begun to look more and more to the Knights for assistance with events they have going on. Below is a summary of the major initiatives the Council undertook and/or completed, though it is not a complete list of all we accomplished or participated in.

#### ***Membership***

It's been another great year for us in this category with a net increase of over 10 gentlemen into our Council. And with over 117 members now in the Council, the great news is that we are deeply entrenched with Parish. StMM parish has now grown to over 1200 families. We could not have grown our membership without the undying dedication from our membership Director, John Sherland.

#### ***Service***

As the Grand Knight, I have tried to get “family” back into the council this year. We donated a Christmas tree to the school and hosted a father/child social where the kids made ornaments for decorations again this year. We have contributed in many other ways, such as and setting up chairs for weekend masses in the gymnasium. We have also had two Pot Luck family nights before our business meetings – one in October and one in April.

Youth. We have worked with the youth on several occasions this fraternal year. Our council hosted the local Free Throw competition. For the fifth year in a row, we also sponsored Scout Sunday, a recognition and celebration of or local Cub/Boy/Girl Scouts. We donated money for the awards, prepared refreshments, and attended the ceremony as a sign of support. At Halloween, one of the Knight's hosted the second annual pumpkin carving activity for the kids and awarded a prize for best pumpkin carved. For the third year in a row we have helped by cooking hot dogs and hamburgers at the spring festival. We were invited to help serve lunch for the first time at the Chess tournament where StMM school students won the overall event.

Community. OpLAMB collection efforts this year were over \$2000. The success of the Summer Read-A-Thon program last year dictated that we host this event again with funds going toward our OpLAMB contributions. The four blood drives we now sponsor each year have met with overwhelming success. We are now conduction twice yearly clean day for the Adopt-A-Highway program run by the state DOL. This year we revamped our Fish Fry events with resounding success. We served over 1100 people over three nights, surpassing prior years by a large margin. This allowed us to exceed our budgeted amount raised by nearly triple.

Church. We adopted seminarian Don Maloney for the second year in a row. The Council participates in an hour of adoration that follows our chair setup for Mass once a month. We helped with the Santa's workshop festivities in early December, with Poinsettia's sales and lunch sponsorship. In the fall we sponsored the dunking booth at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish founding event.

### ***Ceremonials***

The Council's 1st Degree team held four 1<sup>st</sup> Degrees this year. In addition, we sponsored one 2<sup>nd</sup> Degrees. Our 1st degree team is led by our own Rob Prewitt. Many thanks go out to each of the team's members for their hard work and long hours in making this a superb effort each and every time. It has been a wonderful process to see them improve with each degree.

### ***Audits/Finances***

Our council has the benefit of a knowledgeable and diligent Treasurer and Financial Secretary. When the Trustees met this January to audit the books, their job was made easy by these two men and everything was found to be in order.

We will end the year with over \$6,000 in the bank thanks to the generous contributions of our brother Knights and several successful fundraisers. This year the Council had a budget and we exceeded the budget for the first time. We will look at our financial status and see what the budget outlook is for 2008-2009. A committee will begin work soon to discuss a budget for next year to ensure we stay on firm financial ground and are able to contribute even more to the needs of our brethren.

### ***Summary***

It has been an honor and I am humbled to have been elected and served as the Grand Knight for the Fr. H. Charles Mulholland Council 7186. My only hope is that I have served my Church, my Community, and my brother Knights well in this capacity. With the leadership we have within the Council I am comforted to know that we will have an active place in our Parish and school for years to come and will serve it well.

And in a year where I emphasized “**family**”, I am grateful to my wife, Kathy, for her love and tireless support during my tenure as Grand Knight. I could not have taken on this task and carried it out without her.

Vivat Jesus!

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