



# **KNIGHTNEWS** SEPTEMBER 2008

*The Knights of Columbus, Father Patrick Power Council #4588, Livermore, CA*

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## ***GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE***

Brothers,

The 2008 summer is gone but your council is ready to move into high gear with many events being planned for you in the month of September.

- The September business meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, with pizza and drinks served beforehand. It will be held in the large hall at St Michael.
- The Youth Group is sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Soccer Challenge on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Church Group will hold a Clergy dinner on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> to honor all our Livermore clergy who serve us.
- The Church Group is holding a pancake breakfast on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for vocations and the clergy.
- The Council Group will be assisting setup and take down at the St. Charles parish Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Council will be cooking hot dogs and hamburgers at the St. Michael's parish festival on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The Oakland Chapter's 4<sup>th</sup> degree Color Guard will be in attendance at Father Bob's installation as pastor of St. Michael Parish on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The October Officer's meeting will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup> at St Charles in the Pope Room.

This is 8 events in 30 days. We need your participation at these events as either a knight helping out or as an attendee (preferably both).

One event that every knight should attend with his spouse is the Clergy appreciation dinner. This is the only event at both parishes that honors all the clergy. We need your attendance at this special event to show our support to the men and women who serve our families throughout the year. Plan now to attend.

Your program directors have spent many hours listening to what the members wanted from their council. This is the result. It is now up to you to start attending these events.

**Remember – A knight is known by his actions – what are you doing?**

Best wishes and God Bless,

*Ken Rief*  
*Grand Knight*

# NEWS FOR KNIGHTS

## Standard & Poor's reaffirms Knights of Columbus AAA rating *K of C's investment portfolio has "very strong credit quality"*

NEW HAVEN, CT - For the 16th consecutive year, the Knights of Columbus insurance program has earned Standard & Poor's highest rating: AAA (Extremely Strong). With more than 140 years experience, S&P is the financial industry's foremost independent rating bureau, providing investment, credit, and risk analyses of financial institutions around the world.

"K of C is achieving its primary objective of providing members and their families with high-quality, low-cost insurance products," the 2008 S&P rating report said. The Knights of Columbus insurance program has "a stable outlook," and in addition, its "capitalization is expected to remain extremely strong, and liquidity is expected to remain extremely strong also."

The report cited the strengths of the K of C's operational and financial management, calling its financial strategy "very conservative, as demonstrated by its capital structure, investment portfolio, and approach to business growth." It further claimed that "K of C's capital adequacy, as measured by Standard & Poor's capital model, is among the strongest in the industry."

Referring to the K of C's management of its assets, the S&P report stated, "the investment portfolio has very strong credit quality, with the majority of assets being invested in publicly traded investment-grade bonds. Management's strategy is to grow its business conservatively by offering profitable products and adhering to strict underwriting standards. Standard & Poor's expects this level of conservatism to continue."

"The company returned 87% of its earnings to its members in 2007," S&P added. "Its consistently strong profitability is attributable to high persistency rates, favorable mortality experience, and strong investment returns over the past 10 years."

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson welcomed the news from S&P, and noted that "despite the difficulties suffered by so many well-known financial institutions due to the sub-prime mortgage crisis, we have not only remained solvent but improved our financial stability, while continuing to provide top quality products and service to our members."

The Knights of Columbus recently received an A.M. Best Company rating of A++ (Superior) for the 33rd consecutive year. The K of C is one of only five insurance providers in North America to receive the highest ratings from both Standard & Poor's and A.M. Best, as well as certification from the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association (IMSA) for ethical business practices.

Founded 126 years ago, the Knights of Columbus is a fraternal benefit society and is the world's largest lay Catholic organization with more than 1.75 million members. Last year members of the Knights of Columbus donated more than 68 million hours of volunteer service for charitable causes, and contributed more than \$144 million to charity.

August 14, 2008



## Knights of Columbus launches news and information site for Catholics

The Knights of Columbus this week launched a brand-new Internet-based news and information service for Catholics everywhere: **Headline Bistro**. Headline Bistro is a website that provides a quick digest of daily news sources around the world that contain news of interest to active Catholics. Whether it relates to world affairs, national politics or news specifically about the Catholic Church, you'll find links to the original sources here. You'll also find video clips, detailed state-by-state information about voting and public policy, and recommended reading from the world of books. The web address is [www.headlinebistro.com](http://www.headlinebistro.com). You can also sign up for a daily e-mail that'll give you the day's top headlines. If you're already a subscriber to our other e-mail updates, just enter your e-mail address in the sign-up box and add Headline Bistro to your preferences. Tell all your Catholic friends about Headline Bistro!

Visit the Council Web Site at <http://www.kofc4588.org> — There is more content in the online version of the KnightNews — more pictures, more information and links. Check it out!!



## Chaplain Commentary

### Dear Brother Knights,

I take this moment to share important information with you regarding the November General Election. It is one of the blessings of liberty that we can vote on candidates and issues. While no one can tell you how to vote, we always pray that your well-formed conscience will accompany to the voting booth. After the May 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 decision of the California Supreme Court to declare as unconstitutional the age old definition of marriage as between a man and a woman, those of us who acknowledge Almighty God as the author of marriage have an opportunity, even a duty to act.

Proposition 8 is quite simple: “Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California.”

1. These simple words help to restore the very definition of marriage, a definition “written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator.” (Quotes from California Catholic Conference of bishops and the Catechism of the Catholic Church).
2. A **yes** vote on prop 8 overturns this radical court ruling. This infamous decision “discounts the biological reality of marriage, how deeply embedded it is in our culture, language and laws and redefines it to just mean a contractual agreement of partnership.” The high view of matrimony which the Holy Bible proclaims is to be contrasted with the view of the court which agrees with Robert Louis Stevenson, “Matrimony. . .is no more than a form of friendship recognized by the police.” How cynical is that?
3. Prop 8 secures parental rights: If the ruling stands, public schools will teach children that there is no difference between traditional marriage and “gay marriage.”
4. **Proposition 8 does not take away any of the domestic partners legislation.** To defend the nature of the great blessing of married life does not mean that we turn our back on our gay relatives, friends and neighbors. God loves each of them. He sent his Son live and die and rise for them as much as for anyone.

Please give this your prayerful consideration. Make sure you exercise your duty as Christian citizens and vote!

*Fr. Bob Mendonça*

*(editor's note: On page 7 of this newsletter is a poster from the California Catholic Conference on Prop 8)*

### COUNCIL WEBSITE CHANGED!

In an effort to provide better communication between the council members and the officers and directors, the council website has been redesigned. It has also been re-hosted and the URL (address) has changed to the more easily remembered [www.kofc4588.org](http://www.kofc4588.org) — also, many new features are being added to make it simpler for everyone to use. For one thing, instead of having to remember the Grand Knight's and other officers'/director's email addresses, which change every time a new slate of officers is elected, more generic addresses will be linked to the officers and directors actual email address at the server where our site is hosted, and **you** don't have to worry about updating your address book— that's all done behind the scenes. This will be the case for the webmaster and newsletter editor as well. On page 4 of this newsletter, in the box that lists each of the officers and directors, their (virtual) email address are listed below their name. They will also be available on the redesigned website instead of having their real address. Please explore the new website as it is going to be updating almost constantly as new features and content are added .

Chuck Harding, Council Technologist, and André Miron, Webmaster

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(Note: All phone numbers are area code 925 unless otherwise specified.)



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### To the following September Celebrants

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. Deacon Bill Archer Jr 2nd | James Tonowski 4th |
| Joseph Lennon 5th              | Tim Mello 5th      |
| Kenneth Reichmuth 5th          | Kenneth Rief 8th   |
| Thomas Jones 9th               | André Miron 11th   |
| Adriano Fortes 12th            | Barry Buckett 15th |
| Brian Wilson 24th              | Jeff Rucker 26th   |
| Gregory Smith 29th             | Andrew Smith 29    |
| Ronald Pasch Sr 30th           |                    |

### Best Wishes for a Joyful Day

### Knights and Wives Retreat

There will be a Scheduled Retreat for Knights and wives will be the weekend of 6,7,8, Feb. 2009 at St. Clare's Retreat in Soquel, Ca.

The Retreat Master will be Fr. Emmerick Vogt, O.P. topic will be "The Eucharist: A Way of Life Part 2"

We'll be getting reservation forms out in Sept. and anyone can contact me for info. and registration.

Thank you and may God Bless...John Beebe  
phone:443-7868 or email this one to:  
johnbeebe1@comcast.net

Name badges – Anyone Knight or Knight Lady interested in getting a Knight badge, please contact Brian Littrell at 447-9770. The cost is \$6.00 each. If you never received a badge, please advise Brian and it will be free.

Visit the Council Web Site at <http://www.kofc4588.org> — There is more content in the online version of the KnightNews — more pictures, more information and links. Check it out!!

## Council Director Report

Brother Knights we have a busy September with three events 1<sup>st</sup> on September 14<sup>th</sup> we hold our first Pancake Breakfast of the Columbian Year., September 20<sup>th</sup> we hold the Clergy Dinner to acknowledge and show our appreciation for the Clergy of St. Michael's and St Charles Borromeo, and the Oktoberfest at St Charles on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be assigning Service Teams to work at the various events alongside those Brothers and their family members not assigned to service teams that volunteer of their time to assist with these events.

I encourage each of you to join with me and step up, get involved and experience the true blessings of the Holy Spirit as we work and share together in unity to give to the community with our time, talents, and treasures for the benefits of the various charities during the year. Again please be involved and be apart of another successful Columbian Year,

Fraternally Yours,

## Steven Wilson

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### Church Director Report

Hello Brother Knights,  
My name is Eric Schwegler and I will be your new Church Director for the 2008-2009 Columbian year. I would like to call your attention to an important event that will be occurring this month. On September 20<sup>th</sup> our council will be hosting a clergy appreciation dinner to recognize and give thanks to the clergy from both St. Michael's and St. Charles. The event will take place in the St. Michael's hall and will start at 5:30 pm. If you are interested in attending, please feel free to contact me by email at [eschweg@comcast.net](mailto:eschweg@comcast.net) or by phone at 218-2277.

## Eric Schwegler

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### Youth Director Report

#### Squires Circle 4413 Awarded Circle of the Year!

Columbian Squires Circle 4413 was awarded Circle of the Year for 2007 – 2008 at the Squires State Convention in July. Our Circle was selected out of 60 active circles in the state of California as the circle with the most quality activities and achievements for the year. The award is based on subcategories including spiritual, service, membership, civic, athletic, social, athletic and circle activities. Our Circle won 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place in each of these categories. Congratulations to the Squires for their hard work and dedication. This is the second time our circle achieves this honor.

Visit the Council Web Site at <http://www.kofc4588.org> — There is more content in the online version of the KnightNews — more pictures, more information and links. Check it out!!

We celebrated our achievement with cake and refreshments on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

I was also honored to receive Counselor of the Year for 2007-2008. It has always been an honor and pleasure for me to work with our youth. They are our future and every moment I spend with them is a moment of joy. Thank you to all who took the time to prepare and submit my application as a candidate for this award.

Congratulations to Manny Smith who was elected to the position of State Circle Marshall.

### Welcome new Squires!

We held an Investiture Ceremony on August 7<sup>th</sup> and inducted three new Squires. A warm welcome to our new Squires Dominic Carrano, Joseph Francesco, and Henry Wanat. We are planning another Investiture for new members in October. Call Tony Lucero at 925 443-3573 for further information.

Thank you and God Bless All!

## Tony Lucero

Brothers,

Get well cards were sent to Katie Harding & Harry Kraft. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Mass for the Deceased Knights is set for November 5<sup>th</sup> @ St. Michaels. Time is 7:00. Reception will follow, but the Hall is not locked in yet. All Knights should plan on attending and support the families of the Deceased Knights.

## Barry Buckett

Chancellor



| September 2008  |                                     |                               |           |                         |        |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------|---|
| Sunday  | Monday                              | Tuesday                       | Wednesday | Thursday                | Friday | Saturday  |
|   | 1<br>Labor Day                      | 2                             | 3         | 4<br>Business Meeting   | 5      | 6   |
| 7   | 8                                   | 9                             | 10        | 11                      | 12     | 13<br>Soccer Challenge  |
| 14<br>Pancake Breakfast   | 15<br>Deadline for KnightNews Input | 16<br>Mass for Walter Alvarez | 17        | 18<br>Squires Meeting   | 19     | 20<br>Clergy Dinner   |
| 21<br>VA Mass   | 22                                  | 23                            | 24        | 25<br>Officers' Meeting | 26     | 27<br>Start St. Charles Membership Drive<br>Oktoberfest - St. Charles<br>Country Western Dinner Dance |
| 28<br>Finish St. Charles Membership Drive<br>St. Michael Parish Celebration | 29                                  | 30                            |           |                         |        |   |

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*"We must support traditional marriage as the source of our civilization, the foundation for a society that can be home to all human beings, and the reflection of our relationship with God."*

— Statement of the California Catholic bishops, August 1, 2008

# YES ON PROPOSITION 8

The text of Proposition 8 is simply:

**"ONLY MARRIAGE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN IS VALID OR RECOGNIZED IN CALIFORNIA."**

A **YES** vote on Proposition 8 does three things:

- Restores the definition of marriage in California**  
*God himself is the author of marriage. The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator.*
- Overturns the decision of the California Supreme Court**  
*On May 15, 2008 the Court ruled that to deny marriage to individuals of the same sex was unconstitutional. This radical change discounts the biological reality of marriage, how deeply embedded it is in our culture, language and laws and redefines it to just mean a contractual agreement of partnership.*
- Secures parental rights to teach children about marriage**  
*If the Supreme Court ruling stands, public schools will have to teach children that there is no difference between traditional marriage and "gay marriage."*



A YES vote on Proposition 8 **DOES NOT:**

Take away any rights or benefits from gay or lesbian domestic partners. Under California's domestic partners law (Family Code §297.5) they have rights and benefits identical to those of spouses.

Prepared by the staff of the  
 California Catholic Conference  
 1119 K Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814  
 (916) 313-4000 • www.cccatholic.org

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|  <p><b>JOHN "JACK" NOONAN</b><br/>ATTORNEY AT LAW<br/>5674 STONERIDGE DRIVE, SUITE 204<br/>PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA 94588</p> <p>463-3340<br/>FAX 463-3661</p>  | <p><i>Sign up a new Knight or Squire any time! We are all recruiters for our order. See the Membership Director Chuck Lewandowski or the council web site for more information.</i></p> | <p><b>Katie's Music School</b><br/>Piano, Guitar, Voice Theory</p>  <p>363 Clarke Ave.<br/>Livermore, CA 94551<br/>(925) 292-4840<br/>ktharding@comcast.net<br/>http://ktharding.home.comcast.net</p> |
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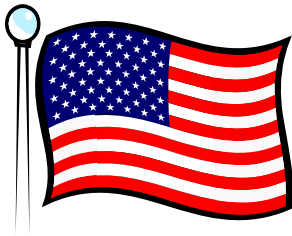


**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**Father Patrick Power Council No. 4588**  
**P. O. Box 1007**  
**Livermore, CA 94551**



**One Nation Under GOD.**

**Address Correction Requested**



**NOTICE**  
**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER**  
**4th at 7:30 P.M. IN THE**  
**LARGE HALL**

**I N GOD WE TRUST.**