



# The Circle Compass

December 2008

*Lead the way.*

## PEACE ON EARTH, WITH PROSPERITY, AND RESPECT FOR LIFE!

As you enjoy the Christmas Season and celebrate the birth of Jesus, pray for a lasting peace in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Georgia, Sudan, and throughout the world. Pray also that the current economic and moral collapse be replaced with a new economic prosperity, along with a Culture of Life and a Civilization of Love. May you and your family enjoy a Joyous and Merry Christmas and a Happy, Holy and Peace-Filled New Year!

## 2008 ANNUAL GOALS

As the midpoint of the fraternal year approaches, how is your jurisdiction doing towards meeting its Squires membership, new circle development and Squires to Knights goals? The Orderwide goals of 200 new circles, 10,000 new Squires and 5,000 Squires as new Knights will be obtained if each jurisdiction reaches its goals. Work the next six months of the fraternal year to reach and beat our program goals to help the Squires program to be bigger and better than ever!

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **December**

- 2 "Light Up For Christ"  
– 8:00 P.M. local time
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 25 Christmas
- 26 Boxing Day (Canada)

### **January**

- 1 New Year's Day  
Feast of Mary, Mother of God
- 19 Martin Luther King Day
- 22 March for Life (Washington, D.C.)
- 24 Walk for Life (San Francisco)
- 31 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity  
(#1728C) due

## MARCH FOR LIFE – WASHINGTON, D.C., SAN FRANCISCO, OTTAWA!!!

Plan to join tens of thousands of other pro-life advocates on Thursday, January 22, 2009, in Washington, D.C. at the annual March for Life! If you live in the western United States, join the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Walk for Life in San Francisco on Saturday, January 24, 2009! Live in Canada? Join the national March for Life on Thursday, May 14, 2009 on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Ontario, or check with your state council office for the date of marches in your own national, state, or provincial capital. Studies indicate abortion can result in increased risk for the woman of infertility, depression, breast cancer, even death - by suicide, or other complications of abortion. Tell the world that abortion not only kills the unborn baby, but abortion hurts the whole family - women, men, and children, too! Squires and Knights should politely but firmly demand an end to abortion and for protection of the lives of persons yet unborn! Knights and Squires - "**Defend Life**"!!!

## SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY DUE NEXT MONTH

Bring to a circle meeting in December or early January copies of the Fraternal Survey Individual Member Worksheet (#1728A) to be filled out by each Squire. The bursar should compile the figures from each sheet into totals to be entered on the Circle's Fraternal Survey form (#1728C). The 2008 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728C) (available at [www.kofc.org/squires](http://www.kofc.org/squires)) is due from every state and local circle. Reported figures will allow a tally of the total number of dollars and volunteer hours donated by Squires and Knights to charitable and fraternal causes during the 2008 fraternal year. 100% of circles should submit their reports to the Supreme Council office by the deadline date - January 31, 2009!

## OFFICERS, CHAIRMEN AND COUNSELORS REPORTS (#468) OVERDUE?

If your circle hasn't yet submitted Form #468, don't delay! This report is vital for communicating with your circle officers, chairmen and counselors!

## **NUMBER OF SCHOOL-BASED SQUIRES CIRCLES CONTINUES TO GROW!**

Catholic high schools are increasingly welcoming new Squires circles onto their campuses. In October alone, new circles were started at Bishop Fenwick H.S. in Franklin, Ohio and at Xavier H. S. in Middletown, CT. The Ohio circle started with 23 Squires, while the Connecticut circle had 28 charter members. School-based circles usually draw all of their members from the school, counselors are Knights who usually are teachers, coaches or administrators at the school, and the circles meet before, during or immediately after the school day on school grounds. If there are any Catholic schools in your area that would be a good location to start a new Squires circle, have a state squires committeeman or a representative from a local council or assembly approach the school's principal about starting one!

### **"SQUIRE ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM"**

Larry Prather, chief counselor of Circle 5022 in Harker Heights, TX, knows something about the new "Squire Advancement Program" – one of his Squires, Deriek Iglesias, was the first Squire Orderwide to advance through all five levels and to be named a "Squire of the Body of Christ." Here's how Brother Prather described how his circle implemented the program and the results he's seen so far:

First and foremost, we gave a copy of the Counselors' Guide and the workbooks to our Pastor for review. Then we met with Father to get his take on the SAP and what he thought about implementation. He loved the program and immediately told us to implement it and that he would support the program any way that he could. He suggested a couple of Knights he thought would be good as a counselor for the SAP and also suggested that the selected counselor do ONLY the SAP.

Until we got the new counselor registered, we introduced the SAP to the Circle officers at an officers' meeting. We went through the entire program with them. They thought it was a very good program. We then went through the books with them signing off on all the items that they had already completed in the previous 12 months. When finished they all had completed Page, or higher, levels depending upon how active each had been. Voila....we now had acceptance.

We had the **Circle Officers** present the SAP at the next Circle meeting. They talked about what was in the program and "bragged" that they had all attained at least the rank of Page. They then asked the Counselors to talk to the Circle and help them implement the program Circle-wide. The circle members were immediately on board. The Circle and the Counselors agreed that the Circle and ALL activities of the Circle would be based upon the SAP requirements. For example: Each committee forms plans based upon the SAP and the members rotate

summarizing the committee report, which allows them to complete an SAP requirement for public speaking. Community Service - in conjunction with a parishioner, who "adopted a highway", the Squires do the cleanup of a 2 mile stretch of road next to the church once every 3 months.

Church Service - almost all of our Squires have become altar servers, to the delight of our Pastor. They also clean up the Church after each Mass plus help out Father with whatever things he needs done.

Service to the Knights - the Knights have asked for help in cooking meals and serving meals as fund raisers. The Squires have now become a permanent fixture at all Knight fund raising events.

Our Squire membership has gone from 15 to 48 in just over 3 years, much of it as a result of the SAP. **ALL** of our Squires that have turned 18 have become Knights. Because of the SAP requirement of knowing "Robert's Rules of Order" they are active members in the towns/cities where they are now attending college or are serving our country in the military. All of these young men will be 3rd Degree Knights by next summer.

When will your circle get with the program?

### **SQUIRE RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGNS**

Every circle's very existence is dependent on recruitment of new members on a regular basis. Each circle's membership recruitment committee should conduct recruitment campaigns throughout the year at church, in school, and in religious education classes. Squires should recruit altar boys, classmates, teammates, brothers, cousins, friends and neighbors. If your circle does not already have a Squires ceremonial team, the officers should organize one so they can schedule and hold regular investiture ceremonies throughout the year as new candidates are recruited. At fraternal year-end, June 30, 2009, the names of 18-year-old Squires will be removed from the circle's roster. Plan now to replace these members before fraternal year-end with new, younger Squires.

### **RECRUITER INCENTIVES!**

Each Squire who recruits a new member is automatically entered in the VIP (Very Important Proposer) Club, and will be sent a VIP Club certificate indicating which recruitment level he has achieved. Recruitment of a new member can also fulfill a requirement for certain levels of the Squire Advancement Program. Moreover, each Squire whose name is listed as a recruiter on a new Squire's membership document received at the Supreme Council office between October 1 and December 31, 2008 will be entered in a drawing for one of two Classic iPods that are being given away!