



## Fraternal Survey Due Jan. 31, 2009

Chief Squires and bursars are responsible for completing and submitting the 2008 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728C), found online at [www.kofc.org/squires](http://www.kofc.org/squires). Click on "Circle Forms" then select the appropriate file. The form may also be found in the *Circle Report Forms Booklet* (#401). To record your achievements give a copy of the Survey of Fraternal Activity Individual Member Worksheet (#1728A) to each member. Compile totals for the entire circle on the 2008 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity. The chief squire and bursar should sign and submit it.

The Survey can be filed online at [www.kofc.org/un/officers/forms/circle/1728C.cfm](http://www.kofc.org/un/officers/forms/circle/1728C.cfm), faxed to the Department of Fraternal Services at 203-752-4108, or mailed to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Office, Department of Fraternal Services, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326, before Jan. 31, 2009.

## Support and Pursue Vocations

Every Catholic has a vocation, which is composed of three related, but distinct aspects.

First, there is the common Christian vocation that comes in baptism. In general terms, vocation here means loving and serving God and neighbor, while carrying on the mission of the Church.

Vocation also refers to a "state in life" or a way of being Christian – priesthood, religious life, married, and single. States in life are the special lifestyle settings in which people live the baptismal vocation.

Finally, there is personal vocation. Our personal vocation takes shape in the unique combination of talents, personal characteristics, relationships and life circumstances – including both our common Christian vocation and our state in life – that points to the special role God wants us to play in his redemptive plan. Membership in the Knights of Columbus or the Columbian Squires is part of the personal vocation of many Catholic men and young men.



Many Christians are called to marriage, while some are called to be single lay people. Others are called to be priests, permanent deacons or members of the consecrated life. The Order's vocations program gives special priority to promoting these vocations. During Vocations Month, which is celebrated in March, Squires are encouraged to discuss the various vocations available

to them with their parents, counselors, father prior and others, and to give some thought to which path might be their calling.

As faithful members of the laity, Squires have a duty to support priests and encourage vocations to the priesthood. The Order's Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) is a perfect way to help. To participate, a circle must contribute a minimum of \$100 per seminarian and the circle is eligible to receive a rebate of \$20 from the Supreme Council for each \$100 donated. RSVP is unique in that funds go

*Continued on page 2.*

## Circle Rallies Community Around Fellow Squire in Need

Squire circles, like the Knights of Columbus councils that sponsor them, are fraternal groups. This means that beyond their common faith and desire to do good deeds, Squires share a bond like they do with their actual brothers. Their circle

becomes an extension of their family, and when one member is in need, the other members of an active circle come to his aide. When the Squires of **St. Joseph Circle 5102 in Mechanicsburg, Pa.**, learned that one of their fellow Squires was in need of assistance they organized a fundraiser for his benefit.



The circle was made aware of Squire Jacob Bender's need for a pool and ramp system which would increase his opportunity for therapy beyond the two days at a pool allotted by his family's health insurance.

Jacob, 10, has Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI), more commonly called brittle bone disease, a genetic disorder characterized by fragile bones that break easily. A person born with this disorder is affected throughout his or her lifetime. Having access to a pool would help Jacob strengthen his mus-



*Sandy Bender, mother of Squire Jacob Bender, accepts a check for \$5,100 from Chief Squire Alex Bianca of Circle 5102. Squire Jacob is holding the banner, while Squires from the circle watch.*

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## Spotlight, cont. from page 1

cles and hopefully lessen the impact of OI on his life. After meeting with Jacob's mother, Sandy Bender, the Squires learned that raising any amount of money more than \$1,300 would keep the family from going into debt.

The Squires achieved this goal and much more, donating \$5,100 to Jacob and his family.

The circle's service committee accepted the fundraising task and various options were discussed. The Squires decided that the most feasible activity that allowed the greatest community involvement was partnering with three local restaurants that would donate a percentage of the dollars spent during certain days.

After getting permission from their pastor, the Squires promoted the events in their church bulletin and offered tickets and flyers in the church after weekend Masses. Squires also provided information to the parish about the disease affecting Jacob, who serves as the circle's historian. When these tickets were shown at the participating restaurants, a portion of the total bill, between 10 and 20 percent, was donated to the Squires.

While the Squires initially were concerned since this was their first major project, the support of their counselors, family and parish made this project a success.

# Every Squire can Join the V.I.P. Club

When a Squire proposes a new Squire and lists his own membership number on the Membership Document (Form #280), he will automatically become a member of the Very Important Proposer (VIP) Club, once the document is processed at the Supreme Council office. The Supreme Council office will forward to the Squire a VIP certificate indicating the VIP Club level that he has obtained. You'll also be eligible to obtain and wear a VIP Club pin!

To qualify for the VIP Club, your name must be listed as proposer on a



new Squires' Membership Document (Form #280) submitted to the Supreme Council office.

Additionally, circles may want to hold contests to see who can bring in the most new members in the fraternal year. The circle can purchase a prize that will be awarded to the winner. Circles can also list the top recruiters on their web site, in their newsletter or their sponsoring council's newsletter, or in the parish bulletin.

It is important to recognize Squires who are bringing new energy into the circle.

## Vocations, cont. from page 1

directly to the seminarian. These donations are not intended to cover the cost of education; rather these funds are for the seminarian to use for his personal needs.

To qualify for the RSVP Award Plaque, the circle must:

1. Donate at least \$100 to a qualifying seminarian.
2. Funds must be drawn against the circle account.
3. Write at least four letters to the adopted seminarian within the July-June fraternal year.
4. Make at least one personal contact with the individual, if possible, during the fraternal year.
5. Demonstrate some form of involvement in parish and/or diocesan vocation efforts.

The RSVP Application Form

(#2863) must be filled out and returned to the Supreme Council office to qualify for a refund and an award plaque. Form #2863 is in the *Circle Report Forms Booklet* (#401) and on-line at [www.kofc.org/squires](http://www.kofc.org/squires).

Squires are also reminded that World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be held Sunday, May 3.

Squires should also be aware of the vocations DVD available from the Supreme Council. This DVD includes *Everyone Has a Vocation to Love*, *What's Yours?*, *Vocations to the Priesthood*, *Vocations to Married Life*, *Vocations to Religious Life for Women* and *Vocation to the Laity*. This DVD can be ordered from the Supply Department or via the Internet at [www.kofc.org/un/officers/media/order.cfm](http://www.kofc.org/un/officers/media/order.cfm).

## TOP JURISDICTION CIRCLES

Top jurisdiction recruiting circles are shown here by jurisdiction, number, location and number of new members from July 1 - Nov. 30, 2008. Jurisdictions with no membership gains or no circles are omitted. Large jurisdictions are represented in a ratio of one entry per every 40 circles.

AL	4481	Adamsville	3	4358	Paranaque	39	556	Elmhurst	7		
AZ	5000	Phoenix	5	1030	Concepcion	32	NC	4466	Charlotte	2 (tie)	
BC	2937	Port Coquitlam	5	4617	Natividad P.	30		5194	Denver	2 (tie)	
CA	5001	Laguna	6	4041	Santiago	26	OH	5033	West Chester	5	
	931	Lancaster	6	4325	Metro Manila	25	ON	1385	McGregor	5	
CO	2798	Colorado Springs	6	3163	1300 Pasay City	19 (tie)		2532	Oakville	5	
FL	4847	Jacksonville	4 (tie)	3423	Mauban Quezon	19 (tie)	PA	853	Greensburg	5	
	5148	Spring Hill	4 (tie)	2256	Pangasinan	19 (tie)	RI	5211	Coventry	1	
GA	4976	Roswell	3	MD	4914	Bryantown	7	TN	2655	Knoxville	12
GU	4856	Mangilao	8	MI	758	Dearborn Hts	2	TX	3611	San Antonio	21
IA	4930	Sioux City	7	MS	81	Vicksburg	1		2040	Keller	10
IL	5180	Chicago	2	MXSO	4852	Ciudad del Carmen	2		4748	Plano	9
IN	5205	Lebanon	4	MZ	4468	El Salvador	45	VT	4398	Richford	2 (tie)
KS	4217	Conway Spgs	10		4896	Talakag Bukidnon	18		4590	Milton	2 (tie)
KY	4884	Hawesville	2		3055	Pigcawayan	15	VA	5188	Virginia Beach	11
LA	4114	Simmesport	3 (tie)		3946	Mu Panabo	14	VP	4734	Jagna Bohol	75
	4676	Vacherie	3 (tie)		3814	Laguindingan	9 (tie)		5160	Talisay	13
LP	2190	Isabela	62		2368	Kidapawan	9 (tie)		4662	Tacloban City	11
	2504	Baguio	57	NE	4892	Bellevue	7		5238	Sagay Negros	6
	4613	Calapan	57	NH	3847	Epping	3	WI	108	Marshfield	10
	3767	Meycauayan	51	NJ	2264	Toms River	4				
	3039	Benquet	43	NL	1803	St. John's	4				
	2442	Cuyapo	43	NY	4714	Monroe	11				

# SQUIRES IN ACTION



Deacon Myron Novitsky Circle 2264 in Tom's River, N.J., held their annual Mother's Day fundraiser and brought in \$800. The event featured a breakfast, which fed more than 130 people, and a car wash, that was held from 8 a.m. to noon and cleaned 60 cars. Twenty-two Squires participated in the event, helping with the washing, organizing, shopping for supplies, setting-up and cleaning-up, and taking photographs. To publicize the event at the hall of St. Joseph Council 4969, Squires made phone calls, created signs and advertised at the church and council hall. Each mother who attended was presented a flower by the Squires.



Ian Harkins of St. Dominic Savio Circle 5078 in Parrish, Fla., places a worn flag on the pyre while Chief Squire Xavier Colon (left) prepares another flag for retirement. Squires hosted a flag retirement ceremony in which 150 worn flags were disposed of in a respectful manner. Members of the circle sang patriotic songs during the ceremony, which was appreciated by the veterans present. Also pictured is Paul Davis of Mother Cabrini Council 12155.

Father Mychal Judge Circle 4853 in East Haven, Conn., showed their support of our troops stationed in Iraq through their participation in the Pocket Flag Project. The program asks civic groups to fold miniature flags and attach prayer cards to them. These packets are sent to troops on the frontlines who carry them in their pockets. The prayer cards remind the soldiers that the senders support and thank them for their service. The East Haven parish of Our Lady of Pompeii has three active service men in Iraq and a total of 29 pocket flags were sent to each of these soldiers for distribution in their units. Six Squires, plus members of the parish community, made the activity a success.



The Squires of Gomburza Circle 1320 in Quezon City, Luzon, cleaned debris caused by Typhoon Frank, which submerged the city of Iloilo, flooded Metro Manila, southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Additionally, the huge storm capsized super-liner Princess of Stars, killed hundreds of people, and caused millions of dollars in damage.



In June, under the direction of Martin Reynolds, State Director of Squires, and Brother Vincent Council 7517 Grand Knight Richard De Zao, Squires performed an investiture ceremony for St. Polycarp Circle 5248 in Smyrna, Del. Pictured above are Squires, front row from left to right, Wesley

Vinton, Adam Bauer, Michael Gaylord, Justin D'Aguiar, Eli Krause, Thomas Gaylord, Patrick Vinton, Colin Pyle, Nicholas De Zao, and Sean Cancino (missing from the picture is James Massaquoi); back row are Knight counselors Michael Pyle, Charles Lackner, David Fullerton, Deacon Charles Robinson and Grand Knight Richard De Zao (missing is Knight Ian MacDonald). Knights of Council 7517 held a Halloween party (pictured at right) and Squires participated and assisted with the event.





## Submit Form #468 Now

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## Web Page Changes

The Squires section of the Knights of Columbus web site has been changed. The pages have been updated and a new programming page has been added. Go to [kofc.org/squires](http://kofc.org/squires) and give us your feedback.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Thurs., Feb. 5</b> Constitution Day (Mex.)	<b>Fri., Feb. 27</b> Independence Day (D.R.)
<b>Thurs., Feb. 12</b> Lincoln's birthday	<b>March</b> Vocations Month
<b>Sat., Feb. 14</b> Valentine's Day (U.S.)	<b>Tues., March 17</b> St. Patrick's Day
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## Plan to Attend State Circle Conventions

Make plans now for Squires from your circle to attend your jurisdiction's state circle convention. Attending a state circle convention gives a Squire the opportunity to participate in a large gathering of people from beyond the local area who may have new, different ideas. Many state circle conventions offer seminars, discussion groups and workshops on leadership topics.

Each circle is entitled to have four voting delegates and four alternates attend its jurisdiction's convention. The voting delegates are the chief squire, deputy chief squire and two delegates. Circle members elect their two delegates and four alternates. Squire delegates may propose, debate and vote on resolutions and any Squire may run for election to a state circle officer position. Any Squire may

attend a convention as a visitor. At the convention Squires meet other Squires from throughout the jurisdiction to discuss circle problems and develop solutions. Learning about other circles' projects can inspire Squires to undertake similar programs. The convention is a time for Squires to propose, vote on and begin planning jurisdiction-wide projects, such as charitable activities or sports tournaments. Many conventions include social activities, sporting events, trips to nearby attractions such as an amusement park, service projects, and an awards banquet. Additionally, counselors can share ideas that may benefit their own circles.

Contact your state squires chairman to find out when and where your jurisdiction's state circle convention will be held.

## Tips for Advancing to the Rank of Page

Have all of the Squires in your circle earned the rank of Page in the Squire Advancement Program yet? If not, the requirements are simple: be a Squire in good standing for at least two months and complete 24 "Page"



achievements, a minimum of four in each category. The categories are: home and family; Squires and Knights; community and country; and Church.

For example, to finish the qualifications in the Squires and Knight category, a Page is required to: know the Squires motto and describe the meaning of the Squires emblem; name the

founder of the Knights of Columbus and when, where and how it was started; name the founder of the Columbian Squires and when, where and how it was started; and know the names of the officers and counselors of the circle and the officers of the state circle.

Just learning these four items fulfills the minimum requirement for the category, and puts a Squire closer to becoming a Page.

To find more suggestions, visit [www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/members/squires/advpage.html](http://www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/members/squires/advpage.html).



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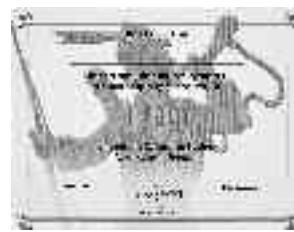
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