



# The Circle Compass

FEBRUARY 2009

*Lead the way.*

## iPOD RECRUITMENT AWARDS DRAWINGS!

Winners in the final drawing for iPod Classic players are **Randy C. Canal of Christ the King Circle 4114 in Simmesport, LA and Jacob Terlaje of Saint Peter-Saint Paul Circle 5006 in Mangilao, Guam.** To be eligible for the drawing, a Squire must have been listed as proposer on a newly recruited member's Squires Membership Document (#280) that was received at the Supreme Council office during the October - December quarter. Each of the iPods has 80 gig with a 2.5 inch screen and holds up to 20,000 songs/25,000 photos/100 hours of video. Congratulations to each of these recruiters!



## 2008 "ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY" DUE JANUARY 31

The **2008 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity** (#1728C) was due at the Supreme Council office by **January 31**. Copies of Form #1728C can be found at [www.kofc.org/squires](http://www.kofc.org/squires) and also on pages 7-8 of the "Circle Report Forms Booklet." A copy is also enclosed for chief counselors. If your circle has not already done so, please have your chief squire and bursar work with the circle to submit the form as soon as possible. Help assure 100% circle reporting in your jurisdiction! ***These figures are used to help justify the continued federal tax-exempt status of the Knights of Columbus! Submission of this report is also a requirement for your circle to qualify for the Corps d'Elite Award!***

## K OF C "DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD"

Wednesday, March 25 is the date for this year's observance of the eighth annual Knights of Columbus "Day of the Unborn Child." Circles are encouraged to hold pro-life events, such as a Rosary for Life, a special Mass on behalf of the unborn, or other spiritual and service programs on behalf of unborn children and their mothers on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

## PROMOTE "SQUIRES MONTH" IN APRIL

During April, Squires should remember Fr. Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, and Squires founder, Brother Barnabas McDonald. Brother Barnabas died on April 22, 1929, so this year marks the 80th anniversary of his death. Ask local or state/provincial officials to issue a proclamation recognizing April as "**Columbian Squires Month.**" Promote greater public awareness and hold a Squire recruitment drive, featuring an "open house." Invite prospective members to circle activities to see the Squires in action at social, service and spiritual activities, such as a Mass and breakfast or awards dinner. Hold a special investiture ceremony for new members on April 22<sup>nd</sup> in honor of Brother Barnabas.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **February**

- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 President's Day (U.S.)
- 25 Ash Wednesday

### **March**

- 1 Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarship Applications Due
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 25 K of C "Day of the Unborn Child"
- 29 Founder's Day

### **April**

- 1-30 "Squires Month"
- 12 Easter
- 22 80th Anniversary of Death of Brother Barnabas, Founder of the Squires

### **May**

- 3 World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- 10 Mothers Day

## **HOLD FIRST DEGREE FOR 18 YEAR-OLD SQUIRES DURING “SQUIRES MONTH”**

Plan with your sponsoring council to hold a special First Degree during “Squires Month” for 18 year-old Squires graduating from your circle. Encourage the graduating Squires to recruit their 18 year-old friends to become Knights at the same time. Squires who are 18 years-old may be Knights, while also continuing as Squires until the end of the fraternal year. On June 30, 18 year-old Squires’ names will be automatically removed from the circle’s roster, without being counted as a loss to the circle when calculating the circle’s annual net gain. Encourage every 18 year-old Squire in your circle to become a Knight during a First Degree held during “Squires Month!”

## **“WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS”**

Your circle’s spiritual activities committee could plan special vocations programs, such as a vocations retreat, a visit to a seminary, or a “vocations fair” for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on May 3. The Supreme Council has two DVD’s available – “Vocations to Marriage” and “Vocations to Priesthood” for order through the Department of Fraternal Services.

## **“SQUIRE ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM” – CERTIFICATES AND NAME BADGES**

When a Squire completes the requirements for the “Squire of the Body of Christ” level of the Squire Advancement Program, the chief counselor should provide the Department of Fraternal Services with three items:

- 1 - a copy of the Squire’s “Squire Advancement Record;”
- 2 - the “Squire of the Body of Christ Service Project Report/Certification Form,”
- 3 - “Certificate and Name Badge Order Form.”

Blank copies of the later two report forms are enclosed for chief counselors. The certificate and name badge will both be personalized and provided to the circle at no charge. Please order four to six weeks before the scheduled date of the awards presentation. Please be certain the Squire has completed all of the requirements, including a major service project, which must have benefited a Church institution.

Certificates and name badges are also available for each of the other four levels of advancement. They may be ordered from the Supply Department using Supply Order Form #1. Name badges for Page, Shield Bearer, Swordsman and Lancer levels are \$1

each, while certificates for these levels are free, except for shipping charges.

## **OFFICERS, CHAIRMEN AND COUNSELORS REPORT (#468)**

Some circles still have not submitted this report for the 2008-09 fraternal year. Without it, counselors (whose names are removed every June 30) cannot be listed on circle rosters for the current year, Squires’ officer roles are not entered in their records, and both counselors and Squires may not receive materials they need to do their jobs. Has your circle’s notary submitted Form #468 yet? It’s his job, and it’s a requirement for the Corps d’Elite Award!

## **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE!**

Applications for Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships are available from the Supreme Council Scholarship Office. They are due by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Scholarships are for entering freshmen, \$1,500 per year, renewable upon satisfactory academic performance for up to four years, to be used toward a bachelors degree at a Catholic college or university in the United States. Check [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) in the “Scholarship” section for further information on Canadian, Philippine, Mexican, and Puerto Rican scholarships, and for vocations scholarships.

## **MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT**

Encourage your membership committee chairman to hold a Squires membership campaign at school, at church, or wherever it is most likely to attract new members for the circle. The chairmen and his committee should have all of the circle’s Squires submit names of prospective members and should assign a Squire to approach each prospect about joining. Invite prospects to a circle activity, or to an “open house,” to meet the other Squires and to see the Squires in action!

## **STATE CIRCLE CONVENTIONS APPROACHING!**

If your jurisdiction holds a state circle convention, encourage every Squire and counselor to take part! Check with your state squires chairman for this year’s convention dates and location. The state circle convention is a learning opportunity for both Squires and counselors, where they can report on their circle’s activities and exchange ideas. Squires wishing to further develop their leadership skills and to run for state circle officer positions should plan to attend their jurisdiction’s state circle convention!