

## Special Investiture for Squires

Every year, many Squires turn 18 years old and, at the conclusion of the fraternal year, graduate from the program. These young men are now ready to become Knights. When this time comes, consider holding a special ceremony such as the one held by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7612 for some Squires graduating from St. Michael the Archangel Circle 4423.

Chief Counselor Mike Hussle approached Grand Knight Thomas Greul because he had several Squires turning 18. This group of young men have been lifelong friends and had spent the last eight years together as Squires. All were interested in becoming Knights.

They discussed the idea of having a closed First Degree exclusively for these Squires, and brought the idea to incoming State Deputy Richard V. Siejack. He agreed to the idea, and the council would also keep their original degree schedule.

The council wanted to schedule the First Degree before the boys went off to their respective colleges, but



*Pictured after the first degree ceremony are, back row, new Knight Erich Hohl, District Deputy Stephen Partenope, State Deputy Richard V. Siejack, Grand Knight Thomas Greul, and Chief Counselor Mike Hussle; front row, new Knights Jeff Hohl, Brandon Bowers, Robbie Safko, and Pat Wachter.*

since one boy did not turn 18 until September, they decided to hold the degree during the Thanksgiving weekend. Additionally, two of the Squires' fathers wanted to join the Order at the same time.

"The exemplification of the First Degree went off flawlessly," Greul said

*Continued on page 4.*

## Plan to Honor Mothers in May

Squires should conduct programs on or around Sunday, May 10 in honor of Mother's Day. There are many things Squires can do to show mothers in the community that they are important. Don't forget to involve other relatives who are mothers, including grandmothers, aunts, sisters and cousins with children, as well as other mothers in the Church community.

Think about holding a special Mass or dinner dedicated to mothers. Give each mother a rose or another flower afterwards.

Organize a special event or fundraiser for unwed mothers and pregnant women in your area who are choosing life for their babies. Get involved with an organization that provides assistance to women in these situations. Circles can also devote prayers to Mary, mother of Jesus, or pray the rosary to end abortion.

This Mother's Day, show mothers that you appreciate all they do.

## "Adopted" Maternity Home Benefits from Squires' Help

One way for a circle to help their community is by "adopting" an agency or organization and providing assistance to them on a continual basis. The Squires of St. Timothy's Circle 5001 in Laguna Niguel, Calif., have increased their charitable efforts during the past three years and now have multiple adopted causes which they support annually. In 2008, the Squires voted to add Toby's House in San Juan Capistrano, Calif. to this list.



"Our mission is to serve God, our Church and our community," said Chief Squire Mark Loftus. "We intend to support Toby's and several other earlier committed causes (Corazon de Vida, and the Community Service

Programs, Inc.) as part of our ongoing annual plans."

Founded in 1998 by Kathleen Eaton, Toby's House is a Christian organization dedicated to serving pregnant woman in need of housing. Toby's provides vocational and spiritual advancement through counseling, education, prayer and a life-based value system that empowers these women to become confident, contributing members of the community.

Toby's runs three homes consisting of a six-bed family unit home, a three-bed adoption facility, and a six-bed transitional living program. Since 1998, these locations have been a



*Squires of Circle 5001 gather for a photo at their third annual spaghetti dinner, the proceeds of which went to support Toby's House.*

refuge for more than 200 women and their children. Residents are allowed to live free for the first 30-days while they seek employment, enroll in

*Continued on page 2.*

# Brother Barnabas Award Requirements

The Brother Barnabas Award recognizes the best program activities among the thousands conducted annually by Squire circles Orderwide. Every circle is encouraged to submit its best, most successful, most unique program of the fraternal year for consideration for a Brother Barnabas Award. Of these submissions, 25 are chosen annually to receive the award, making this award a sought-after, highly competitive honor. When choosing a program to submit, consider the impact it had on the group it was serving (your church/parish, your school, your community or an organization) and keep in mind how much work and how many volunteers were needed to organize and complete the project.

Each circle's best program activity must be described in detail on the Brother Barnabas Award Application (Form #279). Be sure the

form is filled out completely and in detail so the judges can get a clear understanding of the program. Submit the form to the Supreme Council office by June 30.

The submissions are judged on the following criteria: the nature of the activity; participation of the circle; results; originality; committee planning; delegation of responsibility; how much money was raised and/or time donated to a charitable organization; and how effectively was the program publicized before and after the event on the radio, television, in newspapers, church bulletins, on the Internet and your circle's web page.

To obtain an application form visit the circle forms section on [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) in the Squires area. The form can be printed and mailed to Columbian Squires, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326.

## Corps d'Elite Awards

The Corps d'Elite Award recognizes circles that achieve a high level of all-around excellence. All circles can earn the award by submitting the proper form and achieving certain requirements.

Applications are due June 30, and are available in the the Circle forms section of [kofc.org/squires](http://kofc.org/squires). Mail the form to Columbian Squires, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326.

## Spotlight, cont. from page 1

school or complete job training. Toby's is a work-based program, and believes in providing mothers with all the tools necessary to reach self-sufficiency. Expectant mothers receive prenatal care, birthing education, support, and baby items. Toby's program offers life skills education classes daily to residents who learn parenting, cooking, budgeting, and job seeking skills. The program also includes Bible study, one-on-one counseling, and Domestic Violence group therapy.

For the past 18 months, the Squires of Laguna Niguel have been an integrated extension of the Toby's House support program. The boys dedicated their third annual spaghetti din-

ner fundraiser in June 2008 to Toby's. More than \$1,500 was raised and allocated to fund bus passes and food vouchers for those in Toby's work-based transition program.

Additionally, the Squires provide infrastructure assistance such as painting bathrooms, yard work and putting up Christmas lights. Earlier this year, the Squires dropped off some warm dinners for a new mom. They also brought Halloween candy to the transition home, which is located near the beach, to pass out to trick-or-treaters. To help mothers acclimate to their temporary homes, the Squires also provided Toby's with back-packs filled with a month's supply of toiletries including toothpaste, toothbrushes,

deodorant, mouth wash, soap, shampoo, etc. Along with these necessities, the boys also included teddy bears for the babies and Bibles for the mothers. The Squires also helped provide another mentor to Toby's program. One of the Squires' mothers, who has a teaching credential, volunteers at Toby's to help the mothers as part of the transition program.

"We will pass along these commitments to future Squires and remain a permanent and integrated support resource for our community," said Loftus.

To "Spotlight" the good work of your circle, send an email to [William.Obrien@kofc.org](mailto:William.Obrien@kofc.org).

## TOP JURISDICTION CIRCLES

Top jurisdiction recruiting circles are shown here by jurisdiction, number, location and number of new members from July 1, 2008 - Jan. 31, 2009. Jurisdictions with no membership gains or no circles are omitted. Large jurisdictions are represented in a ratio of one entry per every 40 circles.

AB	4759	St. Albert	1	3039	Benquet	43	NL	1803	St. John's	4	
AL	4981	Mobile	6	2442	Cuyapo	43	NY	2541	Wantagh	18	
AZ	5000	Phoenix	5	4358	Paranaque	39		4714	Monroe	11	
BC	2937	Port Coquitlam	5	5230	Longos Pulilan	36	NC	4466	Charlotte	3	
CA	931	Lancaster	9	1030	Concepcion	32	OH	5033	West Chester	6	
	3698	S. San Francisco	6 (tie)	4617	Natividad	30	ON	5217	Toronto	12	
	5001	Laguna	6 (tie)	4041	Santiago	26		4328	Alliston	11	
CO	2798	Colorado Springs	6	MB	5057	St. Agathe	1	PA	853	Greensburg	5
CT	1545	Cheshire	2	MD	4914	Bryantown	7	QC	4921	Ste Rose De Lima	3
FL	5148	Spring Hill	5	MI	758	Dearborn Hts	2	RI	5211	Coventry	2
GA	4976	Roswell	8	MO	4893	Chesterfield	2	TN	2655	Knoxville	12
GU	4856	Mangilao	8	MS	81	Vicksburg	1	TX	3611	San Antonio	21
IA	4930	Sioux City	7	MXSO	4852	Ciudad del Carmen	2		5107	Zapata	15
IL	4284	Lisle	17	MZ	1875	Tacurong	22		2722	Spring	13
IN	5205	Lebanon	4		4896	Talakag Bukidnon	18	VT	4398	Richford	3
KS	4217	Conway Spgs	10		3055	Pigcawayan	15	VA	5188	Virginia Beach	11
KY	4884	Hawesville	6		3946	Mu Panabo	14	VP	4734	Jagna Bohol	75
LA	4114	Simmesport	6		2130	Iligan	12		3726	Iloilo	14
LP	3408	Sariaya	100	NE	4892	Bellevue	7		5160	Talisay	13
	2190	Isabela	62	NF	1803	St. Johns	4		4662	Tacloban City	11
	2504	Baguio	57	NH	3847	Epping	3 (tie)				
	4613	Calapan	57		4897	Londonderry	3 (tie)				
	3767	Meycauayan	51	NJ	5169	Paterson	7				

# SQUIRES IN ACTION



Last summer, Squires from **St. Patrick Circle 2041 in Brampton, Ont., Canada**, volunteered at a Special Olympics softball event sponsored by Ontario Knights. Pictured are Squires who served as score keepers, runners, water boys and bat boys during the afternoon's festivities. Squires learned how to properly keep score and worked together in many different ways throughout their day at Coronation Park in Toronto. The Squires and their counselors agreed that the event was what being a Squire is all about: helping others while having fun.



**San Miguel Arkanghel Circle 4931 in San Miguel, Mindanao**, helped Knights from their sponsoring Council 9063 with the digging and general clean-up of the town's main drainage canal during their summer vacation. There was a lot of debris to remove due to the regular overflow of the canal during the rainy seasons. This activity reminded the Squires to "be worthy" and serve their community. As a reward for their hard work, the Squires, along with members of the youth choir, enjoyed a day at the beach.



Last fall, the Squires of **Dutch Saints Circle 4929 in Pella, Iowa**, spent nearly 24 hours together in one weekend. They started with an investiture ceremony where they initiated five new members into their circle. Afterwards, they ate lunch together, went swimming, attended evening Mass, had a bonfire and an all night camp out. More recently, they helped out at the Memorial Mass and raked leaves for a Knight and his wife who are recovering from injuries.

Michael Linde, Squire counselor and grand knight of sponsoring council 12334, said, "It's great to see the enthusiasm these young people have as they put their own ideas and faith into action."

## Send Us Your Squires News

Use the "Squires Newsletter/Major Activity Report" (#363) in the *Circle Report Forms Booklet* (#401), or use the on-line form at [www.kofc.org/squires](http://www.kofc.org/squires) to submit your news.



**Liceo de Pulilan Circle 5230 in Longos Pulilan, Luzon**, held a charter presentation and installation of officers ceremony recently. The event was witnessed by State Squires Chairman Jose F. Cuaresma, who was the guest of honor and speaker. In addition to Knights from their sponsoring council, the ceremony was attended by District Deputy Ferdinand R. Magsakay and some Squires from District M-22 headed by Knight Fernan Dealca, district chairman.

Through the circle, Squires socialize and work together as a group of friends with other groups including student government officers, civic welfare services, Liceo brass band and senior scouts.

Recently, Squires from Liceo de Pulilan Circle 5230 and Knights from Liceo de Pulilan College Council 14466 in Bulacan, Luzon, distributed Christmas gifts, clothing, food and books to needy members of the community.



## Celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Your circle can participate in the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on Sunday, May 3, in a variety of ways. Promote a prayer event in your parish or circle. Order and distribute the "Prayer for Vocations/Prayer to Know One's Vocation" prayer card (#1874); the full-color vocational bookmarks (featuring, respectively, Father McGivney [#4200], a religious brother [#4201], and a religious sister [#4202]); and two vocational posters featuring young men (#2959) and young women (#2960); from the Supreme Council Supply Department. Also available is a vocations DVD.

Remember to listen to what God is calling you to do. Be open to a religious vocation and encourage others to consider one.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Sun., April 5**  
Palm Sunday

**Thurs., April 9**  
Holy Thursday

**Fri., April 10**  
Good Friday

**Sun., April 12**  
Easter

**Sun., April 19**  
Divine Mercy Sunday

**Fri., May 1**  
Labor Day (Phil.,  
Mex., Dom. Rep.)

**Tues., May 5**  
Puebla's Battle  
(Mex.)

**Sunday, May 10**  
Mother's Day

**Mon., May 18**  
Victoria Day  
(Can.)

**Sun., May 24**  
Feast of the  
Ascension

**Mon., May 25**  
Memorial Day  
(U.S.)

**Sun., May 31**  
Pentecost

## Ideas for Achieving the Swordsman Level

Squires should strive to emulate Jesus and do good works in their parish and community. The Squires Advancement Program (SAP) is geared to provide ideas and opportunities for Squires to help while becoming leaders.

The third level of advancement in the Squires Advancement Program is Swordsman. To reach this level, a Squire must be active for at least nine months, have attained the levels of Page and Shield Bearer, and complete 16 activities in four categories (home and family, Squires and Knights, community and country, and Church) listed in the SAP Counselor Guide.

There are three activities that are required for this level. A Squire must be able to give a short speech to his circle about his favorite hobby or sport. A Squire must also serve on a circle activity committee and help run at

least two activities sponsored by the committee. Additionally, Squires must be able to describe the three types of vocations (married, single and clerical), an important part of their Catholic faith.

Beyond these aspects, there are many options for fulfilling Swordsman achievements, including:

- Lead a personal prayer at a circle meeting;
- Keep a scrapbook of achievements and awards;
- Visit a facility for the homeless or a pregnancy assistance center;
- Participate in a program, such as Special Olympics, that supports people with disabilities.

Make these activities in which your entire circle can participate. Your circle can learn and advance together while having fun.

### *Squires to Knights, cont. from page 1*

of the Nov. 28 ceremony. "Four boys and one father received the honors of the First Degree of our order witnessed by 20 brother Knights."

State Deputy Siejack praised the council for the special degree and the excellent job the degree team did. He also welcomed the new Knights and charged them to become active members of our Order.

After the exemplification, the council chamber was opened to mothers, wives and girlfriends and all gathered to enjoy an Italian meal prepared by the Knights.

While the council originally hoped to install all six Squires and the two fathers at the same time, this was not

possible due to schedule conflicts. A second ceremony was held in December and their fellow former Squires served on the first degree team that installed their friends.

"This was a wonderful example of unity and fraternalism," said Greul. "The council continues to work closely with the circle to ensure that Father McGivney's dream continues to spread and grow. By working together they are ensuring that our young men who are raised with a strong Christian background will continue to shape and mold into young adults as they bridge into Knighthood, ready to stand up for what they believe in."