

Hello Brother Knights!

I blew it, I missed my deadline for my comments in our monthly newsletter. So you won't find my message in the Newsletter.

So here it is via email.

Please forward this message on to others who you know don't normally get my emails – Thank You!!

First of all, last month's meeting went very well. I believe we had 24 attendees – up from 22 the meeting before!! We are growing in attendance, slow but with God's will, surely. Still shooting for 30.

Our next meeting is Thursday, October 13. This meeting will start at 5 pm in the St. Pius Church with a Holy Hour. Dinner will follow in St. Pius Farrell Hall at about 6 pm with our Council meeting at 7 pm. Please join us.

I also want to thank those who attended and participated in the two activities we were promoting last month:

1. We had great attendance at the Mass of Remembrance. I'm guessing 50 or 60 attendees. We had a bit of rain, so it worked great that we had some tent/canopies for cover. Once mass started though it became a beautiful sunny day. Perfect for us all to remember the unborn children we were honoring.
2. Marching at the Modern Woodmen Salute to Heroes March was not so strong. We had about 14 marchers/riders. Another beautiful day. I hope some of you were watching along the route. The tributes offered at Modern Woodmen Park were heart felt and touched us all. What a tragedy! Thank you again to all our 1st Responders. We must as a country unite to make sure this kind of catastrophe never happens again.

As I pointed out last month things are very busy. In addition to the events noted above we have also completed our annual Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive, held several voter registration drives, supported the Midwest Food Bank monthly food distribution, supported the Great River Challenge and presented the colors for the annual Rock Island County Relay for Life event.

In October more activities are planned. Key ones include:

1. The annual Columbus Day Dinner to look back a little at 2015-16 and honor our special, worthy Allouez Knights. Don't forget this event is being held at the Rock Island Holiday Inn on October 9 at 5pm. It's \$20 per dinner. We have over 60 participants already signed up to attend. Come join us and enjoy an evening with old friends and maybe make some new friends. Reservations must be received by October 5.
2. Our revered Holy Hour will be held on 10/13 at 5 pm at St. Pius Church as mentioned previously.
3. Coffee and Conversation following the St. Pius 7 and 9 am masses in the new McCarthy Hall on Sunday, October 2. Come check out the new parish reception hall!!
4. Semi-annual blood draw on October 14.

Reply back to me from this email for more information on any of these activities.

Finally, I wanted to talk about a very serious discussion we, as a K of C Council, have begun.

We have a large sum of money in our Money Market bank account set aside potentially for a Council hall or club house. In recent months Knights of Columbus Supreme has given clear direction that K of C councils should avoid committing to a hall unless very stringent requirements are met. These requirements focus primarily on the notion that the hall must be set up as an independent entity with a detailed business plan in place to be self-sufficient. Council halls can be great to generate excitement and enthusiasm for Council members, but they have also led to financial and resource over commitment from sponsoring councils. As many of you know, Allouez had a hall, but was unable to retain it due to the resources required. Also as a Non-profit organization we should not be holding onto significant funds. All income should be re-invested into our charitable mission. So what should we do?

Here is my proposal. For the next three months I am setting aside up to 20 minutes per meeting during the Old Business segment (near the end of the meeting) to discuss this situation. Any Allouez Council member wishing to speak about the future of the funding being held for a hall is welcome to speak for up to five minutes. This time must be reserved in advance via a direct request either in person, via internet, by phone, by letter or other direct means of communication with me, your Grand Knight. I must have this request no later than two days

before the meeting. For our 10/13 meeting, that would be by the end of the day (midnight) Tuesday, October 11. This time will be used to 1) present a serious proposal on how to use the money in our account or 2) in support or 3) in non-support of a previous proposal. Speakers must fit into one of these three categories. I am not interested in general discussions, I want specific proposals. All proposals must include the recommendation as to how to use the money and a description of how this proposal will further the mission of the Allouez Council.

After our December meeting, my leadership team will review the proposals and develop a summary document. This document will be presented in January and then used to ultimately create a resolution to be voted on. I hope the vote will occur in February, but it may take a little longer to be sure (an) appropriate resolution(s) is/are ready for a vote.

This is an important issue and very critical for the future of the Allouez Council. We must pull together and agree how to proceed. We have funds that must be put to use to further our mission as the Allouez Council of the Knights of Columbus.

I am ending on this serious note because I want you to think about this issue and give me feedback. As always please contact me via the methods noted below.

Thank you.

Let Jesus be our guide!

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Knights of Columbus

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