

## Remember to keep the FUN in FUNdraising!!!

As we are fond of saying, Charity is the first principle of our order, which is certainly true. However, should not to forget the other principles of our order....Unity and Fraternity.

This year Texas Knights have continued to outperform even the very high standards that we set in the past. Three Hundred Sixty Five of our councils have already given over 100% of their goal despite the difficult economy and the blows that Mother Nature sent our way. Yes, across this great State we are continuing to honor our Order by our generosity. In addition to supporting our Bishops Fund in each Diocese through Texas State Charity, we provided over \$104,000 to the victims' of Hurricane Ike. One Hundred and Seventy Five of our Councils gave over \$252,000 to support our Seminarians through the RSVP Program. Again this year we had tremendous support for the Wheel Chair program, and one council raised over \$33,000 for this project. It is impossible to accurately quantify the total amount of money that the 715 Councils throughout the Sate of Texas have raised through your constant fundraising efforts. A very conservative estimate puts the figure well over \$10,000,000.

Occasionally, in our zeal to do good for others, we forget to have **FUN** ourselves. We simply forget the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> principles of our Order.... Unity and Fraternity. My short definition of the Knights of Columbus is, "We are an Organization of Catholic men who serve others and have **FUN** doing it" The bottom line is, that while we are doing so much for others we also must do good for ourselves. We should not be so totally focused on making the fundraiser successful, that we take the **FUN** out of it. Make the planning meetings **FUN**. Make the event itself **FUN**. When it's over celebrate with those who made it happen. In other words have **FUN!!** If we do this, we will have more willing hands in the vineyard for our next event. I have yet to meet the Brother Knight who wanted to leave the order because his Council was participating in too many **FUN** activities. As we approach the end of this fraternal year and you have your final push to make your goals, keep the **FUN** in your **FUN**draisers.