

# The

Fall 2008

# ILLINOIS

# LINK

The official newsletter of the Illinois Fraternal Congress



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## Illinois fraternal make a difference



**Modern Woodmen** employees, plus over 100 volunteers from the community, planted trees at Chippiannock Cemetery, Rock Island, which was heavily damaged during a July storm. In addition to employees, local Modern Woodmen Youth Service Clubs also volunteered by assembling lunches for the volunteers.



**Royal Neighbors of America** members helped two deployed military families with much-needed home repairs. Projects included installing siding, ceiling fans, fencing, gutters, and soffits; winterizing windows; making a bathroom handicapped accessible; and completing a flooring project.



**October 25, 2008**



## Royal Neighbors executive meets with Senator Grassley

Judith Tshibangu, marketing and fraternal executive for Royal Neighbors of America, traveled to Washington, DC, to meet with U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley



Judith Tshibangu

from Iowa. During the meeting, Mrs. Tshibangu discussed the important role fraternal play in our country and updated the Senator about what Royal Neighbors is doing to help Iowa residents. Royal Neighbors not only gave tens of thousands of dollars to flood victims, but helped clean up after the disaster. The society also is building a green home in Parkersburg for a family who lost its home due to a tornado. The possibility of partnering with Senator Grassley's office on these efforts was also discussed.

## CHFS holds 28th General Convention

Catholic Holy Family Society (CHFS) held its 28th General Convention on August 14-16, 2008. This was the first Convention since Catholic Fraternal Life merged with Holy Family Society of the USA.

Embassy Suites Hotel in Oak Brook, IL, served as the location for the three-day event, which concluded with an excursion to the Drury Lane Dinner Theater

in Oak Brook Terrace. The General Convention began with NFCA President Joseph Annotti's address to the CHFS Delegates and Supreme Board. In his speech, Mr. Annotti emphasized the importance of all fraternal society members lobbying their legislators in support of our tax-exempt status.

Forty-seven Delegates represented 18 states at the CHFS Convention. The incumbent Supreme Board Members and Trustees were unanimously re-elected.

## Brian Haynes, financial services veteran, joins Royal Neighbors as CFO

Brian Haynes has been appointed Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of Royal Neighbors of America, effective November 3, 2008.

A 24-year veteran of the insurance and financial services industries, he has experience in accounting, treasury, auditing, risk management, and investment interaction from such prestigious firms as GE, Genworth Financial, and Weyerhaeuser.

Earning his Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Puget Sound and his Masters in Business Administration from the University of Chicago, Brian has Securities Licenses 7, 26, and 65, and is a certified GE Six Sigma Black Belt, a quality and process improvement program.



Brian Haynes

## Catholic Order of Foresters' employees participate in National Denim Day fund-raiser

Catholic Order of Foresters (COF) raised more than \$810 while participating in Lee National Denim Day. This marks the 12th year employees have supported Denim Day which raises money for breast cancer research, education, treatment, and screening.

Employees who donated not only wore jeans to work on October 3, but also placed names on a giant denim pocket in memory of families and friends who survived, are still fighting, or lost their battles with cancer.

According to COF President David Huber, "As a fraternal organization, both our membership, more than 139,000 nationwide, and home office employees invest countless hours supporting community, parish, school, and humanitarian causes. Besides Denim Day, employees this year also volunteered time packaging meals at Aurora's Feed My Starving Children's facility."



COF employees gather around the memorial denim pocket.

## Catholic Order of Foresters elects officers, trustees; announces marketing VP

Catholic Order of Foresters (COF) held its 48th National Convention in Green Bay, WI. During the August quadrennial session, 246 delegates met to elect three executive officers and twelve trustees; make Constitution and Bylaws' revisions; and set the tone for the Order's progress for the next four years.

Re-elected to serve four-year terms were President David Huber, Vice President David Krebs (previously a trustee), Corporate Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Stuart Buchanan, and Trustees Delores Klein, Alan Spilar, Thomas Munninghoff, Thomas Lepinski, James Demulling, Peter Lemire, Myron Deslauriers, and Gary Snell. Newly elected Trustees Joseph Maidl, Rodney Oligmueller, Eugene Even, and Larry Galles joined the High Court/Board of Directors. Board members' terms will run from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2012.

### Mark Walsworth

Mark Walsworth has joined COF as Vice President of Marketing/Communications, bringing 20 years of sales and marketing experience in the insurance, financial, health benefits, and pharmaceutical services industries.

Joining COF from ScriptSave® where he served ten years as senior vice president of sales, he was responsible for major account sales and management across a variety of market segments. He built a broad account base for ScriptSave's nationally recognized discount prescription drug card program, penetrating and developing untapped market segments and generating relationships with more than 25 fraternal associations.

Prior to that, he utilized his background in insurance/financial sales and agency management to develop The Walsworth Company, a marketing and management consulting firm specializing in life and long-term care insurance sales and sales management. He assisted financial institutions, insurance companies, and agencies by orchestrating seminar marketing strategies, creating sales presentations, and providing sales/product training and advanced sales support.

A Geneva, IL, resident, Mark received a B.B.A. in marketing, finance, and general business from Western Michigan University. He holds a Chartered Life Underwriter designation, the highest designation in the life insurance industry, and has earned Certified Financial Planner certification.



Mark Walsworth

## NFCA 2009 Calendar

### March

5-6 Illinois State Fraternal Congress Annual Meeting

### April

2-4 NFCA Secretaries and HR Sections Mid-Year Meeting, Las Vegas, NV

5-7 NFCA Presidents Section Mid-Year Meeting, Las Vegas, NV

16-18 NFCA Fraternal and Communications Sections Mid-Year Meeting, Bloomington, MN

29-May 1 NFCA Investment Section Mid-Year Meeting, Chicago, IL

### May

2 JOIN HANDS DAY

### September

17-19 123rd NFCA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX

*The LINK newsletter is issued by the Illinois Fraternal Congress to share information of mutual interest to members of Illinois fraternal benefit societies. It is published compliments of Royal Neighbors of America.*

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[www.ifc-fic.org](http://www.ifc-fic.org) for more information.*



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**Greetings  
from  
Stuart  
Buchanan,  
*IFC President***

Cubs World Series hopes dashed, Chicago Bears Superbowl chances dismal. As fall comes to a close, what do we have to look forward to this winter? The Illinois Fraternal Congress annual meeting March 5 and 6, 2009, at the Lisle Hilton.

The IFC Board is working hard to develop an informative, educational, and fraternal program. On Friday, March 6, we will put fraternalism in action by volunteering at Feed My Starving Children's Aurora facility. Here we will assemble packaged meals destined to travel worldwide and ease starving children's suffering. As a past volunteer, I have found the experience very rewarding.

In response to stressful times impacting the fraternal industry's bottom line, we have formed a fraternal leaders panel to discuss expense reduction steps that work in today's difficult environment.

The National Fraternal Congress has worked closely with us on the program agenda and hopes to persuade one or more Illinois state legislators to attend the meeting.

In closing, I wish all of you a happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in March.