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LOCAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

The Knights of Columbus Council # 853 of Manistee, MI is a Columbian Award winner for the 2009-2010 Fraternal Year. The award is presented for excellence in the sponsorship of programs that serve the Church, Community, Families, and Youth – as well as council members.

The announcement was made the Knights of Columbus International Headquarters located in New Haven, Connecticut. District Deputy Richard Karsnick presented the engraved plaque to the Manistee Council at the Council Meeting held on October 25, 2010, also attending was Gaylord Area Manager Roger Hansen.

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, president of the international organization, in recognizing the local winner, said, “Please accept my sincere congratulations on attaining this prestigious award. The dedication to the Order shown by your council is seen in the high standard of excellence you have achieved. At the same time, I encourage you to carry forward this enthusiasm to meet the challenges that will face the Knights of Columbus in the years ahead. May this award be a reminder and an inspiration to the members of your council to continue to promote the ideals of Columbianism for the good of the Church, your community, and the Order.”

In accepting the award, Grand Knight Jim Berish, head of the local Manistee Council, said “Receiving this award is quite an honor. We’re very pleased with this accomplishment.”

Monsignor J. M. Steffes Council # 853 conducts a great many local programs and activities including the Palm Sunday Weekend “Tootsie Roll Drive” for the Mentally Impaired, Adopt-a-Highway Semi-Annual Trash Pickup, a Youth Free Throw Championship, a local Council sponsored Scholarship Award, Saturday Rosary at the Medical Care Center, Jail/Prison Ministry, Salvation Army Bell Ringing, support of the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Coats for Kids program, support of Pro-Life activities, and many others.

The Manistee Council is a very dedicated service organization and regularly conducts a multitude of service programs; they have been awarded the Columbian Award for at least the past seven years in a row.

The Knights of Columbus is the world’s largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families, and young people. With more than 1.8 million members in over 14,000 councils around the world, the Knights of Columbus annually donates over 150 million and 69 million hours of service to charitable causes. For more information please visit www.kofc.org or contact Manistee Council Grand Knight Jim Berish, email jimberish2@provide.net, phone 723-483.