

**Date:** 02:04 PM CST, 11/18/2022

**From:** Urban Knaves of Grain Communications <communications@knaves.org>

**To:** Kevin <communications@knaves.org>

**Subject:** Knaves Knewsletter - November 2022



# Knaves Knews

UKG... Because home is where great beer is brewed!

## November 2022

\*\*\* Claim the Urban Knaves of Grain (UKG) as your club when you signup for the AHA (American Homebrewers Association). By using the links in this Knewsletter, your AHA dues payment helps UKG through funding kicked back from the AHA. Click our club link to [Join or Renew with the AHA](#).

Save \$5 with our **Promo code: Urban-Knaves-of-Grain**

### Contents

Welcome  
New Members  
Calendar  
Roulette  
Photos  
Competitions  
Financials  
Brewery Review  
AHA Membership  
Club Schwag

### Board of Directors

Abbess - [Eileen Uchima](#)

First Lady / Head Penguin -

[Mike Uchima](#)

Master of the Coin - [Darrell](#)

[Proksa](#)

### Welcome Address



Hail Knaves!

Happy Fall AND Happy Holidays to everyone. With the first snow of the season behind us and all the decorations in the stores for a month already, I feel like the Holidays start earlier every year. Whichever mindset you are currently in, I hope everything is going well for you.

First, let's start with a joyous announcement...

**BubbleHouse** has agreed to continue hosting us in 2023! Our new home is pretty perfect for us, with fabulous beer, a great central location, and awesome hosts! Thanks again to Jon, April, and Jed for sharing their space with us.

On to another announcement which I am thrilled

Master of Coms - **Kevin**

**"Woj" Wojdak**

Chaplain of Education -

**Ray Nonnie**

Brother of Events

Planning - **Tim Devitt**

Minister of Tournaments /

Drunk Monk - **Dan**

**Acheson**

Monk at Large - Tom

Hayosh

Monk at Large - Dave Fetty

Monk at Large - Curt

Czapski

Retired Abbot - **Chuck Fort**

Contributions

Mike Uchima - Photography

Woj - Photography

Ed Bronson - Photography

## Communications Channels



[ukg.slack.com](https://ukg.slack.com)

Click here to request an invite from a Board member.

 [Groups.io](https://groups.io/g/ukg)

<https://groups.io/g/ukg>

to make...our annual Holiday party at Two Brothers Roundhouse is a go! We will gather on Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30 PM for dinner, and a pint or two or maybe more (always drink responsibly!) of holiday cheer. Stop at the bar to

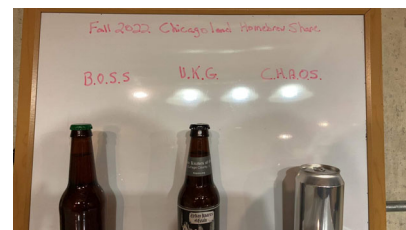


grab a beer from our hosts and then look for signs leading you to the UKG party. Usually we are upstairs in either the Lager or Stout room but, watch for updates on Slack or on the calendar once we have a room assignment. Our party will consist of a buffet, brief meeting, bottle share, and our Holiday 6-Pack Beer Roulette exchange (see details below). Significant others are warmly invited to attend. We have also invited our meeting hosts from BubbleHouse to join us. It's rejuvenating to take some time just before Christmas to hang out with good friends.



The multi-club bottle share finally occurred. Well-attended by UKG and BOSS, (CHAOS apparently missed a memo) we shared three beers: the UKG Star Party American Wheat Ale named "UKG

Brings The Party!", a Bohemian Pils from BOSS, and a Belgian Quad from CHAOS. Our beer, bottle, and present ation about the technical aspects of the brew reigned supreme! Many thanks go out to all who helped make that happen.



We've had some wonderful social outings since the last Knewsletter. The Train Crawl, featuring

Editor's Note:

*Most images in the newsletter can be enlarged to see further detail. Simply click on the image and it will open into a new window.*

Revolution, Pilot Project, All Rise, District Brew Yards, and On Tour Brewing was a big hit. Outings to Sturdy Shelter in Batavia and comedy night at Elmhurst Brewing were both great fun, with fabulous beer and great company. I'm



looking forward to some awesome upcoming trips to Two Hound Red and Brother Chimp, and a winter brew-in just to name a few! We plan to stick a

bit closer to home for the next couple months, and likely venture a bit farther come Spring.

See you all at the Holiday Party!

As always, keep an eye on the calendar and Slack for updates on meetings, social activities, DMC, etc. If you have anywhere you would like to suggest for a social night, or a tech topic which you would find interesting, please post to Slack or email the Board.

Sláinte,  
Eileen

P.S. Please remember that this is *YOUR* club. Your suggestions are always welcome! Please consider contributing a short article or photos for the newsletter, a brewery review, a suggestion for a Tech Talk, or a Social Night venue idea. Email Woj at [Knews@Knaves.org](mailto:Knews@Knaves.org) or email Eileen directly at [President@Knaves.org](mailto:President@Knaves.org).

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## Welcome to Our New Members!

- Alex Jones - Lombard
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# UPCOMING on the Calendar...

## December

- **Sunday, December 11th @ 2:00 p.m.** - Social Sunday at **Two Hound Red Brewing Co.**, 486 Pennsylvania Ave, Glen Ellyn
- **Tuesday, December 20th @ 6:30 p.m.** - UKG Annual Holiday Party at **Two Brothers Roundhouse**, 205 N Broadway, Aurora. Bring your 6-Pack for Holiday Beer Roulette and any homebrew you'd like to share during the evening. This is our last hurrah for 2022. Bring yourself and your significant other to enjoy the festivities. There will be food provided.



## January

- **Saturday, January 14th @ 9:00 a.m.** - Brew-In at Tim's House, 1675 Whispering Oaks Dr, West Chicago. Bring some equipment over to brew in Tim's large heated garage or just bring yourself to hang out and socialize a bit.
- **Tuesday, January 17th @ 7:30 p.m.** - Monthly Meeting at **Bubblehouse Brewing**, Lisle.
-  **Sunday, January 22nd @ 2:00 p.m.** - Social Sunday at **Brother Chimp Brewing**, 1059 W. Orchard Rd, North

Aurora

## Other Activities Into 2023

- **February**
  - Winter Pub Crawl - TBD
  - Knighted Knaves Cup Judging @ Monthly Meeting - American IPA ... No Hazies!
- **March**
  - Drunk Monk Challenge (DMC) Sorting Party - March 5th
  - DMC Wednesday Judging - March 8th
  - DMC Friday Judging - March 9th
  - 25th Annual Drunk Monk Challenge, March 11th

For more details on any of these events, see the [Club Calendar on the website](#).

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### Christmas Beer Roulette

It's time to play "**Christmas Beer Roulette**"!

We'll do the Roulette exchange live at the Club Holiday Party at Two Brothers Roundhouse on December 20th. You still have time to brew or get something together.



#### Basics

Bring a 6-pack of your beer, mead, or cider to the exchange and leave with a mixed 6-pack of your fellow UKG member's brews to enjoy over the holidays. A key will be distributed after the gathering so it's not a complete mystery what 6 brews you have in your 6-pack.

### **The How-To Explanation**

On our designated meetup day, each participant club member brings a 6-pack of all of **"one" style** of their Christmas or other Special beer, mead, or cider to the party. At check-in, you sign in and note the beverage name and description of what you brought on the sign-in sheet.

To facilitate anonymity and make this a mystery for everyone, Woj will assign your 6-pack a number and give you a note with your number so, you can claim your pack at the end once all mixed 6-packs have been created. Your bottles will also be assigned a random number and the plan is that you go home with a set of completely random bottles with none of your own and no doubles.

You share brews with fellow club members at the gathering while the packs are organized.

When all participants have checked in, we'll use a random number generation program to select brews to fill the 6-packs making sure to not include the brewers own brew in his/her pack. The more brewers we have participating, the more random the 6-packs will end up.

After all packs have been created, we each grab our 6-pack and continue to socialize.

Hopefully, you're already planning your brews for the holidays and are willing to share a 6-pack with your fellow club members.

The exchange will take place Tuesday, December 20th at our Annual UKG Club Christmas Party. If you cannot make it to the party but still want to participate, make arrangements with a fellow UKG friend to bring your beer.

If you're interested in participating, please post your intentions to the Google doc at: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kxjZ2l-B7Av\\_ToZS6Kj0PwNuCQsn4ZGrCsnCgvKJi7c/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kxjZ2l-B7Av_ToZS6Kj0PwNuCQsn4ZGrCsnCgvKJi7c/edit?usp=sharing).

The more people who play, the more beer variety we'll have and the more diverse our 6-packs will end up. So, bring a 6-pack of your brew and join the exchange. It's simple and fun!

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## **Recent Event Photos**

Views from the 2022 September Pub Crawl. Click on any image to see it larger.







### Wedding Announcement

Noah (Wojdak) and Rebecca got married September 17, 2022.

Noah works as Cellar Master for the DMC and selects the beers for **Best of the Rest** throughout the year.

**Brave Noise Movement**



We have all heard about sexual harassment issues in the local (and not so local) brewing industry, and this group is trying to do something about the problem. This is a collaboration with a goal: A safe and discrimination-free industry. Pro-brewers and homebrewers alike can register on the website to pledge their support for this movement. After registering, you will receive a copy of the Brave Noise recipe to brew in support. Check out Brave Noise at [bravenoisebeer.com](http://bravenoisebeer.com)



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## Competitions

### Competition Wins

September 17, 2022 — Wortapalooza, Long Grove, IL

- **Dan Acheson**

- 2nd Place BoS - "Winfield Ate Her" - 9A: Dopplebock
- 1st Place (2nd Place BoS) - "Winfield Ate Her" - 9A: Doppelbock - Dark European Lagers table
- 3rd Place - "Kiwi Juice" - LSX5: New Zealand Pilsner - Pils Table
- 2nd Place - "Luck O' The Somethin" - 15A: Irish Red - Scottish & Irish Ales table
- 1st Place - "Flanders Export - Cherry Chocolate Edition" - 29B: Fruit and Spice Beer - Fruit Beer Table
- 2nd Place - "Piwo Winfieldizkie" - 27A5: Piwo Grodziskie - Smoke and Wood Table

- **Mike Kimble**

- 2nd Place - "Cat Spit Stout" - 16C: Tropical Stout - Dark British Table

- **Jeff Landers**

- 1st Place - "N.E.I.P.A. Are Still Gross - Aka 118 Days" - C2D: Ice Cider - Cider and Mead table
- 2nd Place - "At Least It's Not a N.E.I.P.A. - Aka 118 Days" - M2D: Stone Fruit Mead - Cider and Mead table
- 1st Place Place - "And That's A Wrap - A.K.A. - 118 Days" - Hop Water - Light Riff Table

- **Jim Silverstein**

- 1st Place - “N.E.I.P.A. Are Still Gross - Aka 118 Days” - C2D: Ice Cider - Cider and Mead table
- 2nd Place - “It's My Birthday, And I Wants It. My Precious Flanders.” - 23B: Flanders Red Ale - Euro Sour Table
- **Ray Nonnie**
  - 1st Place - “Pliny The Eldest” - 21A: American IPA - American IPA Table
- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak**
  - 3rd Place - “Lazy Days Fishing” - 27A2: Kentucky Common - American Amber and Brown Beer Table

October 1, 2022 — **Brixtoberfest**, Willow Springs, Illinois

- **Dan Acheson - "Stan the Winning Like Crazy Man!"**
  - 1st Place BoS - “Flanders Export” - 23B: Flanders Red Ale
  - 2nd Place - “Lovetail Lite” - 1A: American Light Lager - Standard American Beer Table
  - 2nd Place - “Winfield Ate Her” - 9A: Doppelbock - Strong Beer Table
  - 2nd Place - “Luck O’ The Somethin” - 15A: Irish Red - English, Scottish & Irish Ales Table
  - 1st Place - “Flanders Export - Cherry Chocolate Edition” - 29B: Fruit and Spice Beer - Fruit Beer table
  - 1st Place - “Flanders Export” - 23B: Flanders Red Ale - Sour Beer Table
  - 2nd Place - “Piwo Winfieldizkie” - 27A5: Piwo Grodziskie - Wheat Beer
- **Mark Niemczewski**
  - 2nd Place - “Cold Hearted Snake”, 34B: Mixed Styles Beer - Specialty IPA Table
- **Ray Nonnie**
  - 3rd Place - “Tmarve Pivo”, 3D: Czech Dark Lager - Other European Lagers Plus Alts Table

October 1, 2022 — **CFA Rocktoberfest 2022**, Madras, OR

- **Dave Fetty**

- 1st Place - 27A2: Kentucky Common - Historical Beer Table
- 2nd Place - 3D: Czech Dark Lager - Czech Lager Table
- 3rd Place - 4B: Festbier - Pale Malty European Lager Table

October 1, 2022 — **Merrimac Valley Homebrew Club Competition**, Lowell, MA

- **Dave Fetty**

- 2nd Place BOS - "Saison 12" - 25B: Saison
- 1st Place - "Saison 12" - 25B: Saison - Belgian and Trappist Ales Table
- 1st Place - 1C: Cream Ale - Pale American, International Lager & Ale Table

October 1, 2022 — **ASH Fall Classic**, Tempe, AZ

- **Dave Fetty - "I'm Winning Everywhere Because I Can...and DO!"**

- 1st Place - 3D: Czech Dark Lager - Dark or Strong European Lager Table
- 2nd Place - 27A2: Kentucky Common - Pale or Amber American Beer Table
- 1st Place - "Saison 12" - 25B: Saison - Saison or Strong Belgian Table

October 15, 2022 — **Michigan Mead Cup**, Brighton, MI

- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak**

- 3rd Place - "The Eleanor" - M2A: Fruit Mead - Cyser Table

October 15, 2022 — **Sowers Cup**, Lincoln, Nebraska

- **Dan Acheson**

- 2nd Place - "Winfield Ate Her - Lite" - 6C: Dunkles Bok - Amber European Beer Table

- **Dave Fetty**

- 2nd Place - 26D: Belgian Dark Strong - Trappist Ale Table

- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak with Co-Brewers Dan Acheson, Eileen Uchima, Ray Nonnie, Noah Wojdak, Mike Uchima, Mike Kimble**

- 3rd Place - "Passion-Fruiter"- 29A Fruit Beer - Fruit Beer Table

October 29, 2022 — **Hoppy Halloween Challenge**, Fargo, North Dakota

- **Dan Acheson**

- 1st Place - "Star Partyin'" - 18B: American Pale Ale - American Ale Table
- 2nd Place - "Flanders Export - Cherry Chocolate Edition" - 29B: Fruit and Spice Beer - Fruit Beer table
- 2nd Place - "Winfield Ate Her" - 9A: Doppelbock - Bock Table

- **Mike Kimble**

- 1st Place - "Midnight Driver of a Love MacHine" - 26D: Belgian Dark Strong - Belgian Strong Ale Table

- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak**

- 2nd Place - "Cool Runnings" - C2D: Ice Cider - Specialty Cider & Perry Table

November 5, 2022 – **Charlie Orr Memorial Chicago Cup Challenge**, Tinley Park, IL

- **Dan Acheson**

- 2nd Place - "Daadee Ma's Apple Chai" - C2E: Cider with Herbs and Spices - Cider Table
- 3rd Place - "Righthand Milk Stout - Chocolate Chai Edition" - 30A: Spice, Herbed, or Vegetable - Spiced Beer Table

- **Mike Kimble**

- 2nd Place - "Midnight Driver of a Love MacHine" - 26D: Belgian Dark Strong - Belgian and Trappist Table

- **Ray Nonnie**

- 2nd Place - "Austrian Alps" - 5D: German Pils - Pale Bitter European Beer Table

- **Mark Niemczewski**

- 2nd Place - "Cold Hearted Snake", 34B: Mixed Styles Beer - Historical, Alternative, and Experimental Table

November 12, 2022 – Oregon Brew Crew Fall Classic, Portland, OR

- **Dan Acheson**

- 1st Place - “Pretty Sure the Girls Scouts Didn’t Drink This” - 30A: Spice, Herbed, or Vegetable - Spiced Beer Table
- 1st Place - “Kiwi Juice” - LSX5: New Zealand Pilsner - Pale Commonwealth Beer Table
- 1st Place - “Piwo Winfieldizkie” - 27A5: Piwo Grodziskie - Historical Beer Table
- 3rd Place - “Winfielder Green Bottle Beer” - 2A: International Pale Lager - International Lager Table
- 3rd Place - “Star Partyin’” - 18B: American Pale Ale - Pale American Ale Table
- 3rd Place - “Daadee Ma’s Apple Chai” - C2E: Cider with Herbs and Spices - Specialty Cider and Perry Table

**Midwest Homebrewer of the Year (MWHBOY)**

Top 10 UKG member standings on the 2022 circuit as of November 15, 2022.

- Dan Acheson - **1st**
- Jay Kash - 38th
- Brad Ramsey - 78th
- Jeff Landers - 88th
- Kevin "Woj" Wojdak - 97th
- Andy Day - 99th
- Jerry Hodge - 127th
- Joe Formanek - 129th
- Greg Ellwanger - 161st
- Dave Fetty - 171st
- Alex Chambers - 192nd
- Jim Silverstein - 192nd

**Master Homebrewer Program**

***Circuit of America 2022 Standings***

(As of November 15, 2022 - **BOLD** indicates rank in top 10. Top 10 in Circuit of America win awards.)

- Dan Acheson - **4th**
- Kevin "Woj" Wojdak - 51st
- Jay Kash - 175th



- Jeff Landers - 207th
- Joe Formanek - 255th
- Mike Kimble - 378th
- Alex Chambers - 411th
- Andy Day - 451st
- Gerald Hodge - 646st
- Kevin Wojdak, Dan Acheson, Eileen Uchima, Ray Nonnie, Noah Wojdak, Mike Uchima, & Mike Kimble - 675th



### ***Master Homebrewer Program Lifetime Rankings***

- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak** - Master Brewer plus 1 x Silver Star, 2 x Bronze Stars
- **Dan Acheson** - Master Brewer plus 1 x Bronze Star

### **Upcoming Competitions of Note**

- **Happy Holidays Homebrew Comp (MWHBOY)**  
 Judge Registration: Open  
 Entry Registration: Open  
**Judging Dates: December 9-10, 2022**
- **Kansas City Bier Meisters Homebrew Comp (MWHBOY)**  
 Judge Registration: Open  
 Entry Registration: 12/1/2022  
**Judging Dates: February 17-18, 2022**

See the **AHA Homebrew Competition Calendar** to find upcoming competitions to possibly enter.

- **Midwest Homebrewer of the Year Circuit Competitions**
- **Master Homebrewer Program — Circuit of America Competition** - Drunk Monk Challenge represents Illinois on the Circuit. Top 10 winners recognized on the circuit.

- [Circuit Competitions List](#)
  - [American Homebrew Association Competition Calendar](#)
  - [Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing \(MCAB\) competition circuit](#)
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## Financials



### ***Annual Dues***

Annual membership renewal dues are **\$20**.

Click the PayPal link below or mail a check payable to "**UKG**" to:

Darrell Proksa  
128 Sherwood Ct  
Downers Grove 60516

Click this link to pay your dues:

**[Click here to Pay Now.](#)**

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Questions about dues? Please contact Darrell at **[treasurer@knaves.org](mailto:treasurer@knaves.org)**.

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## Brewery Review

### [LogOff Brewing](#)

Rancho Cordova, CA

<https://logoffbrewing.com/>



By Eileen Uchima with edits from Mike Uchima

If you take a trip to the Sacramento, California area, you will find not just wonderful wine, but also a thriving craft beer scene. Mike and I were there to visit our daughter, Heather and her boyfriend, Mike Zuro, whom many of you know. We were treated to some great local wine, cider, and hard kombucha while we were there, too.

Probably my favorite brewery from my visit was Heather and Mike's local watering hole, **LogOff Brewing**. The vibe there is very neighborhood pub with some regulars showing up every evening. There is plenty of indoor and outdoor seating where you can watch the hummingbirds visit the many feeders. Inside, you find friendly staff, some pinball and board games, and many patrons with pooches in tow. No lawsuits there yet, banishing our furry friends!



The beers there were all quite good to excellent, with a strong variety. I visited in June and had the following (just to name a few):

- Walker, Texas Oranger - Citrus and vanilla wheat beer (very good, great vanilla notes)
- Ume Blossom – Japanese rice lager with tea and plums (excellent!)
- Hazy, Lazy Days – NEIPA with Citra and Mosaic (excellent)
- Dragon Fire – American Red Ale with great malt character (very good)

Mike visited in late October, and had:

- Dragon Fire (already mentioned above)
- Oktoberfest – nice toasty malt character, well-balanced
- Hopsweeper West Coast DIPA – Mike's a sucker for anything with Nelson Sauvin hops

In fact, I only had one beer there that I didn't love. There was a raspberry beer on tap (the name escapes me and it is not on the current tap list). The raspberry was somewhat aggressive and very candy-like.

Heather and Mike Z. were asked to guest brew there and made a Saison for the LogOff Anniversary bash. I got the privilege of naming the beer, given the rule that it HAD to be named for an 80's movie as that would be the theme for the party. Although I had to return home before the party, I did get to try the beer before they canned it..."Desperately Seeking Saison"!

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## Join the AHA and Help UKG

(American Homebrewers Association)



**Join the AHA Now**

Every year, the UKG purchases club insurance through the AHA (American Homebrewers Association) to protect our club and its members from incidents that may happen during club events and activities.

One of the ways we lower the cost of the insurance is by having a certain percentage of UKG club members also be AHA members. Your support of the AHA lowers the cost of insurance for the UKG.

If you are already an AHA member but aren't sure whether you've claimed UKG as your club, then click the following link to learn how you can **[Add Homebrew Club Affiliation](#)** to your AHA membership.

[Click here for our Club's AHA Membership Referral Link](#)

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## Club Schwag

### *LogoUp.com Merchandise*

We have an account at [LogoUp.com](http://LogoUp.com) for making UKG club logo embroidered shirts, hats, bags, and a whole lot of other cool products. The merchandise is top quality and you can even get a club logo on name brand products such as Nike, Izod, or Under Armor. There are no minimums for orders and we can place an order anytime. Go to [LogoUp.com](http://LogoUp.com) and pick out items you want. Then, email Woj at [marketing@knaves.org](mailto:marketing@knaves.org) with your item numbers and colors and he'll coordinate placing the order with you.



### *UKG Work Shirts*

Our official UKG work shirts are Charcoal Gray Dickies brand work shirts with the club logo over the left pocket and a full back transfer of the woodcut graphic on the back. Optionally, you may get your name and/or homebrewery name embroidered over the right pocket.



Because the shirt is custom made to order, the cost per shirt ranges from \$45 - \$50 depending on size needed and custom embroidery, etc.

Club work shirts orders are placed by special order with our vendor and custom made to order. We place a new order 1-2 times per year and need to order so many shirts to make the order happen. Contact Woj at [marketing@knaves.org](mailto:marketing@knaves.org) to get on the list for the next order.

Club woodcut graphic T-Shirts are also ordered at that time.

## Available for Immediate Purchase

### *UKG Woodcut Graphic T-Shirts*



- UKG Woodcut Graphic T-Shirt  
(Charcoal Gray T-shirt with white and black vinyl design on Front)  
Size: Medium  
Only 1 left... just ask.  
\$12 each



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Questions about Club Schwag or interest to buy anything?  
Please talk to Woj or email him at [marketing@knaves.org](mailto:marketing@knaves.org).

*All items are sold at cost to club members except items which go through the  
LogoUp.com website which has their markup.*

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## Contact us.

If you have any ideas for content for this newsletter, please send them to  
[Knews@Knaves.org](mailto:Knews@Knaves.org).



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Downers Grove, IL 60516

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