



The Explorer

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June 2016

STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

My Brother Knights:

The 115th Annual State Meeting of the Kansas State Council of the Knights of Columbus in Wichita wrapped up on May Day, May 1st. I wish to thank all



of the Past State Deputies, State Officers, Directors, Chairman, Committee Chairmen, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Delegates, the Convention Host Council Derby Council #4458, and most of all, Convention Chairman Paul Shearrer and his lovely wife Susan, for making this Convention not only mem-

orable, but also very efficiently ran. It truly was a great experience for me and I am glad that, working as a team, we were able to pull this operation off with very few errors! Well done!

As we start the last month of the fraternal year, there is still considerable work to be done. We must make one final push to reach our goals for this fraternal year. Every council must make an effort by June 30 if we are going to be successful.

If your Council supported a Seminarian this past Fraternal Year, make certain that you have submitted the RSVP Form #2863. Make certain that you have plans for transitioning your Council Leadership to the newly elected Officers. Make certain that your Council has submitted Service Program Personnel Report Form #365, Report of Fraternal Survey Form #1728, and the Columbian Award Application Form #SP-7.

In addition, it is too easy for a Council to say "see you in September" this time of year. Make plans now to participate in the "Father's Day Renewal of Wedding Vows" Program outlined in this month's Knightline. Schedule a golf tournament or a picnic during Family Week, August 8-14. Keep your members active and involved, and you are on your way to another successful Fraternal Year!

Many councils are very close to reaching their Star Council goal, only needing one or two members. Every council has potential for membership growth. Council's simply need to continue asking eligible men to join. Review your parish rosters and visit with your high school graduating class or RCIA candidates. You have nothing to lose by asking and a lot to gain. The Knights of Columbus has so many benefits to offer to a new member. his family. his parish and his commu-

nity. We just have to get the word out to those who are eligible and not be afraid to ask them to join. Then, schedule a first degree and make them a member. Remember, to receive the benefits of the Order, the Form 100 must be processed at the Supreme Office by June 30.

I know that I have mentioned this in previous months in this column, and if you attended the State Convention you probably heard about it, but Supreme will offer each Council a \$4.50 per billable member IF that Council achieves the Star Council Award! That is right, \$4.50 per billable member! What can this credit be applied to? Great Question! How about Supreme per capita, Catholic advertising, and any supplies purchased from Supreme, for starters!

We must also work to retain our members by getting them involved. Before considering the suspension of a member, you need to make personal contact with him. When visiting with this member make it personal and positive. Every member joins for a reason. We should not lose a member by failing to give him an opportunity or reason to stay. Again, the Knights of Columbus has so much to offer.

The best way to retain any member is by getting him involved. Before considering the suspension of a member, you need to make personal contact with him. When visiting with this member make it personal and positive. Every member joins for a reason. We should not lose a member by failing to give him an opportunity or reason to stay. Again, the Knights of Columbus has so much to offer.

There is still time for every council to become active in membership. There is time for you to meet your goals, but you must act. Sign up a new member or reinstate a former member today before the end of this fraternal year. Let's make Kansas #1 in membership and be in the Circle of Honor again this year.

I had a Grand Knight inform me that he had set up a "Grand Knight" forum online. What a great way for Council, District and State Officers to get together and discuss council issues. Give it a try. kansasgrandknights.freeforums.net

Vivat Jesus,

Patrick D. Winchester
State Deputy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE:

- 1-30 RECRUIT-RECRUIT-RECRUIT-RECRUIT**
- 4 4th Degree Exemplification at Junction City
- 5 Major Degrees at Hays and Ellsworth
- 9 Deadline** for receipt of articles for the Knight's Lite
- 12 Major Degrees at Leawood, Wichita, and Topeka
- 18 Major Degree at Leavenworth
- 25 Deadline** to submit bid for 2017 State Golf Tournament
- 30 Deadline** for receipt of **Columbian Award Applications (SP-7)** at Supreme
- 30 Deadline** for receipt of **RSVP Refund/Plaque Applications** at Supreme

JULY:

Regional District Meetings—Last Two Weekends in July – To Be Announced

- 1 Deadline** for receipt of **Report of Officers (Form 185)** at Supreme
- 8-10 State Officers & District Deputy Installation Meeting at McPherson
- 10 Distribution of Tickets for Religious Education Fund Drive Drawing to District Deputies
- 17 District Deputies: MUST HAVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUND TICKETS TO COUNCILS.**
- 30-31 17th Annual Golf Tournament at Emporia
- 31 Deadline** for ordering the Soccer Challenge Kit
- 31 Service Program Personnel Report (Form 365) due at Supreme**

DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas Knight of the Month is Marlin Bodin of Council #13394 - Corning

Family of the Month winners of a Holy Family Statuette from Supreme are David & Sharon McGill Family of Council 727 Emporia; Chris & Laura Ulupano Family of Council 1052 Westphalia; Jim & Brenda Kopriva Family of Council 3033 Atwood; Aaron & Caroline Moeder Family of Council 7485 Andover; Ray & Barbara Diedel Family of Council 12960 Lawrence.

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Brother Knights,

We are entering the last month of the 2015 – 2016 fraternal year and we can see the finish line quickly approaching. Now is the time to look at where your councils are as far as membership and what is it going to take to hit your council membership goal. I have been told

that all that State Council is interested in is winning contests and not helping councils with all of the other projects. I'd like to remind Grand Knights and Council Officers that if your council achieves the Star Council Award, it means you have worked hard at recruiting new members, participating in programming activities, AND giving these Catholic men a chance to help protect their families by purchasing Knights of Columbus Insurance products. By bringing new members into your council, your council is growing and active, and will be there into the future to work those programs that are so badly needed. Reaching the Star Council status means that your council is among the top of all of the councils in the State. This is an honor to be proud of and it should be a goal that every council should be working to achieve.

Supreme has reinstated the \$4.50 credit for every billable member on the roster of the councils that achieve Star Council. This in itself should be worth the extra effort to go out and find those non members and ask them to join the Knights of Columbus. There is no guarantee that this credit will be offered next year, so now is the time to take advantage of it. This credit will help pay your councils Supreme per capita so you can use the money you save for other projects.

We have one month left in this fraternal year to find those recruits and get them to a first degree so they will count on this year's roster. Reaching out to those non members and asking them to join us is the only way you can grow your Council. As the motto of Kansas states "To the stars through difficulty", we need to have our councils continue to reach for the Stars and achieve Star Council. No one said that it is a easy task, but if we continue to focus on membership then our councils will be "SHOOTING FOR THE STARS".

Vivat Jesus,

Bob Duffin
State Membership Director

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Over 100 councils either submitted their Columbian Award Application Form SP-7 at the State Convention in Wichita or have already filed it with Supreme. Was your council one of them? To qualify for the Star Council Award, you must have this form completed correctly and received by the Supreme office **prior to June 30**. Although it is not due until June 30, it makes good sense to submit it right away so the state team will not have to call you at the last minute.

The SP-7 form **must include four (4) activities** in each of the six (6) programming areas - Church, Community, Council, Family, Culture of Life and Youth. Inside the back cover of the Program & Membership Guide you will find twenty (20) examples of activities for each of the areas. It should be easy for your council to have completed most of these items. **If you list less**

than four items in each category, you will not qualify for the award. The Columbian Award is available to all councils.

Adopt-A-Seminarian: Please be sure to fulfill your council's pledge to the adopted seminarians right away so you can get the RSVP Refund/Plaque application submitted **prior to June 30**. The only way you will receive the \$100 refund for each \$500 donated to each seminarian is if you send a copy of the cancelled check, or other documentation, to Supreme along with the RSVP form found on the Supreme website. Even if you are not entitled to a refund, please submit the form and show your level of support. You will still qualify to receive a plate for your RSVP wall plaque.

Service Program Personnel Report (Form #365): Now that your council has completed the election of officers for the 2016-2017 fraternal year and submitted Form #185, Report of Officers, it is time to focus your immediate attention on appointing directors and chairmen. A report of the individuals filling those positions (Form #365-Service Program Personnel Report) must be submitted to Supreme **prior to August 1, 2016**. This is the first of three mandatory forms required to qualify for the Star Council Award. Both forms can be found on the Supreme website or submitted through Members Online. Be sure to submit them right away – don't wait until it's too late. A supplemental report can be submitted later if there are any changes or additions.

Family Life: Family Life Director Edwin Schmeidler, Jr. thanks all councils who participated in the Family of the Month and the Family of the Year program. Be sure to send your Family of the Month entries to Supreme by the 15th of each month.

State Convention: The Annual State Convention in Wichita was a resounding success! Many awards were given in various programming areas. Except for the Pennies from Heaven winners, all program awards are listed in the Director/Chairmen Reports included in the Convention Reports Book. Pennies from Heaven Chairman Richard Broz has submitted the following winners:

Division	Council #	Council Name	\$ Per Member
Div. 1	7446	Mound City	10.53
Div. 2	9535	Mayetta	13.73
Div. 3	9532	Wathena	8.56
Div. 4	3316	Scammon	16.34
Div. 5	1862	Wright	8.94
Div. 6	3273	Larned	10.40
Div. 7	2680	Scipio	7.83
Div. 8	1029	Junction City	8.29
Div. 9	8488	Manhattan	5.45
Div. 10	12577	Leawood-St. Michael	6.62

District Deputy Winner is District Deputy # 26 Randy Testa with \$5.08 per member.

Pennies from Heaven Chairman Richard Broz thanks all who helped run the Country Store, Pennies Raffle

and Pennies Parade at the 115th Convention of the Kansas State Council. A special thank you is extended to all who made donations.

Pro-Life Chair Couple Tom and Gail Schmeidler thank all councils that reported Culture of Life donations. Kansas State Convention totals showed 191 councils reported donations of \$403,807.31. Thanks also to those councils submitting Evangelium Vitae Applications. We hope to see many more in 2016-2017.

Kansas now has 84 Culture of Life memorials to the unborn. Councils and Assemblies have reported over 130 billboards or road signs along Kansas Highways. It is our hope that many more are under construction or in the planning stage. These serve as daily reminders to the public that the Knights of Columbus strongly supports the Culture of Life. Any updated information can be sent to Tom and Gail.

Thank You to Program Personnel: This has been a **very outstanding** year in programming. All State Directors and Chairmen have worked very hard and done an outstanding job. I personally thank the following Directors and Chairmen for a job well done:

Bruce A. Luehring - Church Activities Director and Vocations Chairman
Tom Halbleib - Religious Education Fundraising Chairman
Stephen E. Abels - Youth Activities Director & Free Throw Chairman
Michael Barnard- Columbian Squires Chairman
Rev. Dan Gardner – State Father Prior
Edwin Schmeidler, Jr. - Family Life Director
Paul Haverkamp - Community Activity Director, Commitment to Humanities Chairman & Special Olympics Chairman
Richard A. Broz - Pennies from Heaven Chairman
Tom and Gail Schmeidler – Culture of Life Chair Couple
Michael J. Grothoff - Council Activity Director & Health Services/Athletic Events Chairman
Gary Wondra – Publicity & Fraternal Chairman
Douglas E. Wietharn - WebMaster
James L. Pritchard – State Historian
Stanley Krier - Meetings Chairman

I also thank all the district deputies, grand knights and council program directors. Your teamwork, along with the state directors and chairmen, has set several records in our State Programs. **What a tremendous job you have all done!** Without all your hard work, our programs could not shine!

Todd R. Bachamp
State Program Director

JUNE/2016 EXPLORER INSURANCE REPORT

The Knights of Columbus agency department is proud to congratulate the following men for achieving the honor of Field Agent of the Month for their respective agencies:

Eastern Kansas Agency: Kirby Schmelzle wrote \$3,066,131 in life insurance protection on members and their families in April.

Central Kansas Agency: Adam Bruna wrote \$805,732 in life insurance protection on members and their families in April.

Western Kansas Agency: Darin Reed wrote \$1,000,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in April.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$35,625,071 in life insurance during the month of April. Please join us in congratulating the following men for their outstanding performance. These men lead the state or the Knights of Columbus insurance program in April of 2016.

J. J. Deges	Zachary Caro	Darin Reed	Wade Greif	Adam Bruna
Shaun McGovern	David Soukup	John Reboulet	Kirby Schmelzle	Eric Runnebaum

If you or someone you know would like to join our winning team of Field Agents please call 1-866-391-8781 for more information.

Vincent P. Melvin III
State Secretary
6016 S.W. Fairlawn Road
Topeka, KS 66619-1910

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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ONE MEMBER PER COUNCIL PER MONTH



SHOOTING FOR THE STARS!

