



# The Explorer

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July 2016

## PAST STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

In the words of that song by the band, The Grateful Dead, "What a long, strange trip it's been." Elected two years ago in Manhattan, I became the State Deputy of Kansas. I am proud to have served you, and I need to both update the State Council, and express my appreciation to the Officer, Directors and Chairman that make this great big machine go!



First, the State Officers are a great representation of the leadership in our Order in Kansas. These men are truly great Officers, leaders, and most of all, friends. It has been an honor to serve for and with them, and I look forward to watching them grow both the Order, and into their new jobs as they further their Knights of Columbus journey.

Next, Kansas fought the good fight, and managed to recruit or reactivate 1266 new members, just short of our goal of 1300. Our net intake was 877 members, falling just short of our goal of 900. Our net/net was a bright spot, as we logged in just 389 suspensions and withdrawals, leaving our Net Growth in Kansas this Fraternal year at 344, surpassing our goal of 300. That means that in these last two years, the Order has grown by 626 new members. As of the close of business, June 30, 2016, Kansas' membership in the Order stands at a proud 37,687.

I thank each Grand Knight, Council Membership Director, and every recruiter for their efforts in recruitment this year. To State Membership Director Bob Duffin, Regional Membership Chairmen John Schulz, Barney Wolters, Pat Burnett, Kenneth Hammerbacher, and State Retention Chairman, last minute fill in Mike Johnston, I say, "Thank You" for your dedication, and hard work, and for a job well done.

Thirdly, as witnessed at the State Convention in Wichita, new records were set this year in many

programs. The most notable accomplishments were Culture of Life, Commitment to Humanities, and Adopt-a-Seminarian program donations. I thank State Program Director Todd Bachamp, Family Life Director Edwin Schmeidler, Jr., Community Activity Director Paul Haverkamp, Youth Activities Director Steve Abels, Pennies From Heaven Chairman Richard A. Broz, Columbian Squires Chairman Mike Barnard, State Web Master Doug Wietharn, Church Activities Director Bruce Luehring, Religious Ed Fund Chairman Tom Halbleib, Publicity and Fraternal Chairman Gary Wondra, State Historian Jim Pritchard, Culture of Life Director Tom Schmeidler, Council Activities Director Mike Grothoff, State Meetings Chairman Stan Krier, and State Father Prior and Association State Chaplain Rev. Dan Gardner, I thank you for your efforts and your commitment. Records, however, are meant to be broken and I look forward to seeing new ones being set this next fraternal year.

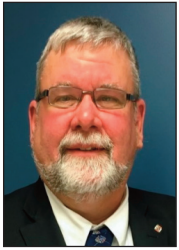
Finally, this issue of "The Explorer" marks the end of my term as your State Deputy. Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for the honor and opportunity to serve you these past two years. Angela and I thank each of you for the hospitality you have shown us as we traveled throughout Kansas. You have touched our lives in a very special way. The vision of our founder, the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, remains alive and thriving in the great State of Kansas.

God Bless each and every one of you.

Vivat Jesus

Patrick D. Winchester  
Immediate Past State Deputy  
Kansas State Council

## STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE



The 2015-2016 fraternal year ended on June 30th, and what a great finish for the Kansas Jurisdiction. The details of this finish are in our Immediate Past State Deputy Pat Winchester and outgoing State Membership Director Bob Duffin's column. Every member in the state should be proud of the accomplishments achieved in the areas of Membership, Programming and Insurance Promotion.

I had the privilege of recently attending the State Deputy Training and Installation Meeting in New Haven, Connecticut. Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson gave the opening presentation. In his presentation, he stated that the Knights of Columbus did not have to rewrite or revise our mission statement every few years. Our mission statement was the intent of the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney 134 years ago when he founded the Order. Our four principles, Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism and the ceremonies involved in each of these degrees, state simply and clearly what our mission, our purpose is.

The Supreme Knight laid out the Action Plan for organizational success: For Supreme, for Kansas and for each council in our jurisdiction. These keys are important and I think they are worth repeating in this column:

- "We have a moral obligation to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus." Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson. Be membership growth oriented 24/7/365 days a year. Too often, we start our membership efforts in the late Fall. We must start recruiting now!
- We have implemented a New Award this year, the Sunflower Award for Excellence. The requirements to achieve this award are above and beyond the State Council Award.
- Last November our Insurance Department surpassed \$100 billion of life insurance in force. Work with your Field Agents, for recruitment and insurance needs.
- The State Council has sent up a five-year Action Plan, which has been approved by our Supreme Council. This plan will push Kansas into the Cir-

cle of Honor when followed. Each council should set up a three to five-year growth plan for membership and programming.

- Building the Domestic Church – While Strengthening our Parishes. Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson stated this is "not an optional" program. All councils will implement this into every aspect of the Knights of Columbus.
- Promote all your activities, before and event and after the conclusion of your event. The more people know the good works we do, the more likely they will want to join our family.
- Dedication – we must have every Knight in Kansas dedicated to fulfilling Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney's dream. A council in every Parish, or at least a Knights of Columbus presence in every parish.
- Be open to change, try a new idea or function.
- Utilize your Leadership Team. The State Officers, State Membership and Program Directors, Directors, Chairman, District Deputies are help to help and assist you.

It is an honor and privilege to serve the State of Kansas as your State Deputy. I look forward to working and assisting each and every council in the state, and I hope that together, we can build on the success that Kansas has had and maintained and we will continue to grow the Order in both Kansas and worldwide.

Vivat Jesus

Vincent P. Melvin III  
State Deputy

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MONTHLY

- Hold Fundraisers for Pennies from Heaven and Culture of Life
- Select your Family of the Month and submit to Supreme
- Select your Knight of the Month and submit to Fraternal Chairman
- Sign up a new member "Building the Domestic Church – Fishers of Men."
- Fulfill your Adopt-A-Seminarian pledge

### JULY

#### **Regional District Meetings Begin**

- 1 Report of Officers (Form 185) due at Supreme
- 5 Order Soccer Challenge Material and Essay Contest Material
- 13 Order Church Drive Kits for October
- 9-10 District Deputy Installation Meeting in Park City
- 10 Distribution of Applications/Reply Statements & Tickets for Religious Education Fund Drawing to District Deputies
- 16-17 **Regional District Meetings in Mahattan, Topeka, Shawnee, Hiawatha, and Pratt**  
District Deputies to distribute Applications/Reply Statements & Tickets for Religious Ed. Fund Drawing to Grand Knights at all Regional District Meetings
- 23-24 **Regional District Meeting in , Wichita, Parsons, Garden City, Oakley, and Victoria.**
- 30-31 17th Annual State Golf Tournament in Salina hosted by Council 601 Emporia  
5th Sunday Rosary Prayer Service and or Corporate Communion
- 31 **Deadline** for ordering Soccer Challenge Kit  
**Deadline** for DD's to distribute Religious Education Tickets to Grand Knights

### AUGUST

- 31-4 134rd Supreme Council Meeting in Toronto, Ontario
- 1 **Form #365—Service Program Personnel Report due at Supreme (REQUIRED FOR STAR COUNCIL AWARD)**
- 4 Columbian Squires 91th Anniversary
- 7-14 Knights of Columbus Family Week
- 13 Form #1295 Semi-Annual Audit Report due at Supreme
- 14 126th Anniversary of the death of Fr. Michael J. McGivney
- 15-21 Orderwide First Degree Week
- 24 **Deadline** for receipt of articles for the Knight's Lite
- 31 **Deadline** for ordering Tootsie Rolls  
Order Coats for Kids

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas State Knight of the Month - William Becker of council 675 Severance in District 1 has been selected as the Kansas State Knight of the Month for May.

The Kansas State Family of the Month - Family of the Month - Information concerning the Family of the Month winners was not received in time for inclusion in this edition. It will be included next month.

## PAST STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Gentlemen,

It has been a pleasure serving as your State Membership Director for the passed two years. This last year has been both tiring and very rewarding for me in my position and for the State. We have had the great honor of bringing in 1266 new members into the Knights of Columbus in Kansas. We had 49 councils in the State make their membership goal, and of those councils, 39 made the honor of Star Council. We had 6 of our District Deputies make the honor of Star District and we were able to get a new council at Newman Collage along with numerous round tables around the State. For all of these accomplishments I would like to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication to the order. The down side is that we only brought in 1266 new or reactive members not the 1300 we needed, so the State did not make it to the Circle of Honor.

Missing the top goal by 34 members is disheartening, but growing the order in Kansas by 344 new members is what it is all about, and we accomplished that. The fact that we are growing in the State of Kansas means that our order will be here long after we are gone, and that should make every member feel proud of what we have done.

I would like to thank Past State Deputy Pat Winchester for giving me the opportunity to serve you these past two years. I would also like to thank all of the State officers, Directors and Chairmen, District Deputies, General and Field agents and all of you for your support through out

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## **PAST STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

*continued*

the year. I want to say congratulations to Vince Melvin III and his team as they take the Knights of Columbus to the next level. Thank you again and let's "KEEP SHOOTING FOR THE STARS".

Thank you,

Bob Duffin

Past State Membership Director

## **STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Brother Knights,

In St. Matthew's Gospel, he related the story of how Jesus told Peter and Andrew "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." As good Catholic gentlemen, it is our duty to follow in the footsteps of Christ. Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson has said it is our moral obligation to offer membership to every eligible Catholic male. For these reasons, we have chosen FISHERS OF MEN as our state membership slogan for this fraternal year. Every member of the Knights of Columbus should be talking to men in their parish and asking them to be a part of the largest Catholic fraternal organization on earth.

The goal of every Council should be to obtain the Star Council award. To do so, Councils will need to attain their membership and insurance goals and file the Service Program Personnel Report, Survey of Fraternal Activity Report and the SP-7 Report. In addition, this year, the State Council has added an award: The Sunflower Award For Excellence (SAFE). This award will require Councils to reach 150% of their membership goal, 100% of their Insurance goal and turn in multiple forms on or BEFORE the published deadline. Details of what forms need to be turned in can be found in the Programming and Membership guide that is on the state website and will be distributed by your District Deputy. Please look at this as soon as you can. The very first form will be the Service Program Personnel Report which is due on or before August 1.

The State Council has assembled an excellent membership team for the coming year and all of us are here to do one simple thing: help you attain Star Council and SAFE. That is our mission and

our focus. We can't reach our goals without you reaching yours. Feel free to call on your regional membership director or me. Together, we all can be FISHERS OF MEN!

Vivat Jesus,

John W. Schulz

State Membership Director

## **STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

We are embarking on a new year with efforts focused on the "Building the Domestic Church." Through our Community of Prayer, School of Faith and Charity, and the Mission of Evangelization. Some of the new initiatives will include building on our Missionary Service, Growth of parish-based councils, and furthering our integration into Parish life. In the upcoming months and at your regional meetings to engage every Knight and their families in this new and exciting initiative. To quote Pope Francis, "The Church is a family of families, constantly enriched by the lives of all those domestic churches."

While looking forward to this new endeavor we must continue towards every council planning and working to attain the highest award for a council – **the Star Council Award**. There are **three requirements** for the Star Council Award: 1) attain the membership goal, 2) attain the insurance goal, 3 file three reports (**ONLY THREE**). The first of the three reports is Form 365 Service Program Personnel Report that is due prior to August 1, 2016. Send the report in even if your council only has one or two chairmen. Every council should have a Chaplain, so put his name on the report and send it to the Supreme Council office. An amended form can be filed at any time during the year as new service personnel are appointed. If your council elected a new Grand Knight, it is the new Grand Knight's responsibility to appoint the directors and chairmen and submit the report. Do not confuse Form 365 Service Program Personnel Report with Form 185 Report of Council Officers which was due July 1, 2016.

Tom Halbleib, Athletic Events Chairman, reminds all interested golfers the 17th Annual State Men's Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 30-31 in Salina at the Municipal Golf Course hosted by Council #601 Salina.

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## **STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE** *continued*

Bob Duffin, Youth Activities Director, invites all councils to participate in this year's Soccer Challenge. Grand Knights are asked to reserve a date for the event in Sept. or Oct. All kits need to be ordered before July 31. While they are ordering the Soccer Challenge kits, they can also order the kits for the Free Throw contest and essay contest. One activity to promote relationships between Knights and future Knights is for Councils to hold a Teens vs. Knights softball game and picnic. If you have other ideas to share for Youth Ac-

tivities, send photos and stories to Bob at [youth@kansas-kofc.org](mailto:youth@kansas-kofc.org).

Regional District Meetings are scheduled for July. These meetings are important for a successful kickoff to our new Fraternal Year. Every council should plan to have the following members in attendance: Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Financial Secretary and the Program & Membership Directors. All other members are invited to attend also. Please refer to the following schedule for the meeting in your region.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Meeting Place</b>	<b>Districts Attending</b>
Topeka	7/16	1:00 pm	Mother Teresa, 2014 NW 46 <sup>th</sup> St	3, 18, 19, 20, 23, and 24
Manhattan	7/16	1:00 pm	St. Thomas More Church	25, 26, and 27
Hiawatha	7/17	1:00 pm	St. Ann Parish Hall, 508 N 8 <sup>th</sup> St	1, 2, 4, 21, and 22
Shawnee	7/17	1:00 pm	Sacred Heart Church 2646 S. 34th	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Pratt	7/17	1:00 pm	Meeting Hall 1223 N. Main	39, 40, 41 and 47
Wichita	7/23	1:00 pm	St. Catherine, 3636 N Ridge Rd	29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36
Garden City	7/24	1:00 pm	St. Dominic's 615 JC St	49, 50, 53, 54 and 55
Oakley	7/24	2:00 pm	Parish Annex 625 Freeman Ave	51 and 52
Parsons	7/24	1:00 pm	Meeting Hall, 1723 Main	14, 15, 16, and 17
Victoria	7/24	1:00 pm	1867 Memorial Hall, 503 Main St	37, 38, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 48
Salina	TBA	TBA	St. Mary Church, 230 E. Cloud	28

Tom Schmeidler  
State Program Director

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RAFFLE**

It is time for Religious Education Program Raffle for 2016! Your council's financial support of this raffle is vital to the continued success of this program. Without each council's and assembly's support, the Kansas Knights would not have been able to raise \$170,000 and fill grants to over 288 Catholic education programs across the entire state.

Councils and assemblies will soon receive their Religious Education tickets. Please start soliciting donations for this very important fund im-

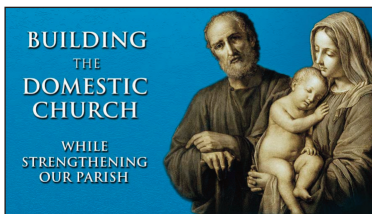
mediately. There are many ways you can promote and participate in this program. You can advertise in your parish bulletins and council newsletters, speak to other organizations about sharing the purchase of a ticket, advertise at parish events and share the good this program does with friends and family. What better investment can each one make then helping educate and share the Catholic faith with our future?

Steve Abels  
Religious Education Fund Chairman

**Dale A. Weber**  
**State Secretary**  
**514 E. 33rd St. South**  
**Wellington, KS 67152**

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**"Fishers of Men"**

### **A MESSAGE FROM FR. DAN GARDNER**

Greetings Future Saints of Heaven! For about a year now I have been using that greeting at mass. It is a simple but profound way of reminding us that our goal in life is to return to our Creator, but we are not there yet, so we continue to grow in our relationship with Christ. Hopefully, this greeting will remind people to evaluate their lives and re-commit themselves daily to being with the Lord.

Let me say that I appreciate the guidance I received from Fr. Ted Stoecklein, our former State Chaplain and from our former State Deputy Pat Winchester. Thank you both and may you know how God is blessing you and your family each and every day.

As I write this article, the church celebrates the feast of St. Maria Goretti. A young Italian woman who dedicated her life to the Lord, and at the age of twelve, fought off a 19 year-old man who wanted to rape her. She reminded him of the sin he was trying to commit. He stabbed her several

times. She died two days later and forgave her attacker from her heart. While in prison, he converted from a sinful life to living with the Lord. Amazingly, he was present in Rome for her canonization.

This October, Pope Francis will canonize another twelve year old person, a young man from Mexico: José Sanchez del Río. This young man bravely expressed his faith in the face of persecution of the church ninety years ago. The movie, "For Greater Glory" depicts the events of that time and he is one of the main characters. I encourage you to watch it. It is rated "R" for violence.

I mention these two young people as examples for us to work each day for the glory of God. In our work as Knights, it may seem that the daily routine is insignificant, but it lays the foundation for something wonderful. Let us be faithful in our calling to serve the Lord!

Vivat Jesus!