



The Explorer

A Publication
of the
Kansas
Knights of Columbus

SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2016

Saturday Mass



Saturday's Mass was held in the Emerald Ballroom of the Hotel. The Main Celebrant was Most Reverend Carl A. Kemme, Bishop of the Wichita Diocese. Concelebrants were Reverend Ted D. Stoecklein, State Chaplain, Reverend Daniel Gardner, Associate State Chaplain, and Priests from across the state.

Father Stoecklein began his homily paraphrasing the Gospel Reading, "The World Hates You."

Father Ted reflected on the ugly feeling of hate. It is a strong word and hard to hear. He further related the root of all anger and hatred are the three enemies of the soul: the world, the flesh and the devil. This kind of world is inordinate love for pride, control, self worth and ego.

The world that St. John refers to is that of the fallen creation. He doesn't mean the good of creation, rather that which is fallen hates you. We have a love-hate relationship with the world. We are made for God. Jesus tells us "If the world hates you, realize it hated me first." Let us rejoice that we are called to be friends of God.

"We are going to be hated but we are loved."

Kansas Catholic Conference

Michael Schuttloffel, Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference, gave an update on legislative issues in Topeka.

We had one strong win on an issue regarding religious freedom on campus at public universities. Universities across the country are adopting a policy which would require religious campus groups to accept people who do not share the group's beliefs. A bill was introduced and passed to prevent such a policy in Kansas.

The country needs the principles that the Knights stand for and the faith-filled life of service they provide.

115th Annual State Convention Banquet



The Convention Banquet Address was delivered by Gary R. Nolan, Vice President for Fraternal Training and Ceremonials for the Supreme Council. Also in attendance were Most Reverends Carl A. Kemme and Edward J. Weisenburger.

Gary Nolan began his address by extending greetings to Kansas and congratulations for 115 years of Columbianism on the plains. He shared the following:

Our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, has called us to make it a priority to address this genocide that is occurring in the world. We need to perpetuate a faith that is under fire. Councils need to band together, to help one another and those in need. Just because it is not happening in our neighborhood doesn't mean it is not happening. The Knights of Columbus financial numbers do matter and give each person in need help and hope. The "law of large numbers" equals many people coming together, in unity of purpose, unity in action.

The vision of Building the Domestic Church is about bringing people together...to work for our faith. We have to remember what is important and build programs to meet these needs. We have to partner with our Pastor. We need to ask, "Father, what do we Knights need to do to help you?" Grand Knights and District Deputies make a difference. Kansas is a bright star on the prairie.

DofI Donates \$1,000.00 to Kansas Knights of Columbus for maintenance of current sonogram machines.



Pictured: State Regent Patricia O'Brien presenting the check to State Deputy Patrick Winchester.

Squire of the Year

David King

The 2015 – 2016 Squire of the Year is David King. David is a member of Ascension Circle 5605 in Overland Park. He is 14 years old and an eighth grader at Ascension Catholic School in Overland Park. His parents are Jerry and Maureen King. David has one sister Elizabeth. His father is an attorney and his mother is a physician.

David joined the Squires in October 2012. He currently serves the Ascension Circle as Deputy Chief Squire.

David has taken primary responsibility for Squire Soda Sales at Council Fish Frys and during Men Under Construction. David asks other Squires to volunteer and participate in the purchase of pop and snacks as well as staff the table during the entire events to sell pop and snacks. The money raised is donated to charities and to help the parish.

David operates the video camera to record Mass and special events. Those recordings are then placed on YouTube for viewing by anyone who was unable to attend. He has filmed the parish mission, concerts in the church, Adoration with the Archbishop and Father Tom's Demonstration Mass. David also assisted with audio and visual presentations for Men Under Construction in which 1200 men attended to renew their faith.

David prepares the projections of lyrics for all school Masses and events. After he is provided the list of songs, he types in the lyrics, prepares the projections in the presentation software, sets up the projection equipment and projects the lyrics during Mass and other events.

David is an excellent student and has chosen to attend Rockhurst High School next year.

Congratulations to David King.

Squires Circle of the Year

Holy Trinity Circle 4743, Paola

The 2015 - 2016 Squire Circle of the Year Award goes to Holy Trinity Circle 4743 in Paola. The circle remains active under the direction of Counselor Matt Holub and Chief Squire Carter Holub. The circle is sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 1149, Paola.

The Holy Trinity Circle has met their membership quota for five of the last six years. They continue to host and participate in fundraisers each year for their charities. The Circles' major focus has always been Charity based on Church, School & Community.

In 2015, the circle donated in excess of \$500 to the school. They volunteered over 100 man hours of service assisting with fundraisers, the parish auction and other events with the sponsoring Paola Knights of Columbus Council.

Collectively, the circle has raised in excess of \$2000 and traditionally 80% of the funds raised have been given back to their parish, school and community.

Congratulations to Holy Trinity Circle 4743 of Paola.

Culture of Life Winners

1st Council 2937 Garden Plain This council held a Valentines Day dance and family fun night that raised \$28,000. The proceeds went to support the Pro-Life outreach program of St. Anthony of Padua in Garden Plain. There were 20 members (8%) involved for a total of 2000 man hours.

2nd Council 11352 Sacred Heart This council hosted a Baby Bottle Boomerang Event, baby shower, and Mother's Day collection that raised \$7,500. This council, along with 3 other churches in the area, has a rotating Pro-Life Billboard and has constructed billboards along the highway. There were 57 members (30%) involved for a total of 225 man hours.

3rd Council 10344 Washington This council upgraded an existing billboard by having a fellow parishioner design and paint a new custom Pro-Life billboard. Council members reinforced the structure of the billboard and proudly displayed the new design.



Squires Counselor of the Year

Matt Holub

The 2015 – 2016 Squires Counselor of the Year is Matt Holub. Matt is a member of Council 1149 Paola and works as a general contractor. Matt and his wife, Jill, live in Paola and have three sons: Carter, Corey, and Chase.

Matt is an outstanding leader and mentor to the young men of the Holy Trinity Circle in Paola. He has guided the Circle in meeting their membership goals five of the last six years, has steered them in fundraising opportunities and offered suggestions for charitable contributions. Matt has helped organize circle events to ensure success and has worked to maximize participation from circle members.

Matt has directed the majority of the communication for the Circle to keep the Squires, their parents and the parish informed of the Squire's events. Matt played an active role in organizing the 2016 Squires Convention.

Matt is very active in the Paola Knights of Columbus Council and currently serves the council as Youth Director and Chancellor. He is a member of the parish building & grounds committee and assists with the parish auction.

Congratulations to Matt Holub.

Alcohol Awareness & Abuse Poster Winners

Age 8-11 Division
 Braden Wilson
 1661 Abilene
 District 26

Drug Awareness & Abuse Poster Winners

Age 8-11 Division
 Danyela Holvorson
 12858 Wichita—St. Anne
 District 32

Age 12-14 Division
 Trevor DeLong
 862 Great Bend
 District 39

Upcoming Major Degrees

Date	Host DD	Host Council	Location
May 14	26	1029	Junction City
May 14	10	10932	Overland Park
May 22	31	2217	Andale
June 5	45	6984	Hays
June 5	38	3400	Ellsworth
June 12	11	11067	Leawood-Nativity
June 12	35	691	Wichita
June 12	20	11777	Topeka

Church Activities Awards

1st Council 1163 Axtell After continuous maintenance to the steep rocky area beside St. Michael's Hall, this council poured 138 yards of concrete to make a smooth surface that will last. Heavy rains would wash the rock away and cause ditches. Old sidewalks and the rock driveway were removed and hauled away. This council provided all of the labor. There were 43 members (17%) involved for a total of 648 man hours

2nd Council 10932 Overland Park-Ascension This council provided support for the Annual Men Under Construction Conference. The council provided morning coffee, coordinated continental breakfast, prepared lunch, provided parking support, vendor table set-up and clean-up for 1,200 men and 53 priests. There were 42 members (7%) involved for a total of 344 man hours

3rd Council 1832 Manhattan-Seven Dolors This council replaced the four exterior doors on the front of the Seven Dolors Church and repaired three other doors on the south side of the church due to decades of weather abuse. There were 7 members (4%) involved for a total of 480 man hours

Community Activity Winners

1st Council 2609 Belleville This Council assumed the organization and management of the annual Republic County Veteran's Day Parade to assure its continuation. There were 25 members (30%) involved for a total of 150 man hours

2nd Council 1832 Manhattan-Seven Dolors This Council built and installed "Keep Christ in Christmas" Nativity yard signs for people in the community. There were 12 members (6%) involved for a total of 525 man hours.

3rd Council 8059 Topeka-Mater Dei This Council organized and held a "Blue Mass" to honor first responders in their community. There were 30 members (30%) involved for a total of 200 man hours.

Free Throw Champions

GIRLS	NAME	LOCATION	SCORE
9	Sara Springer	Wamego	20
10	Kristen Stover	Neodesha	19
11	Charlotte O'Keefe	Overland Park	20
12	Aubrey Haxton	Argonia	20
13	Tara Olinger	Lenexa	21
14	Breanna Schroeder	Beloit	24

BOYS	NAME	LOCATION	SCORE
9	Alex Robertson	McPherson	23
10	Jacob Padilla	Berryton	23
11	William Rost	Overland Park	21
12	Mark Bogner	Galesburg	23
13	Luke Falkenstein	Oswego	24
14	Kaleb Hammeke	Hutchinson	23

Commitment to Humanities Awards

(Highest Dollar per Member)

Div 1:	Council 10326	KC - Blessed Sacrament	\$ 34.21
Div 2:	Council 12016	Ashland	\$ 55.40
Div 3:	Council 3210	Dighton	\$ 47.06
Div 4:	Council 11492	Munjoy-St. Francis	\$ 28.29
Div 5:	Council 2296	Eldorado	\$ 43.34
Div 6:	Council 5212	Scott City	\$ 50.71
Div 7:	Council 8491	Garden City-St. Dominic	\$ 61.96
Div 8:	Council 6761	Haysville	\$ 30.34
Div 9:	Council 976	Newton	\$ 23.43
Div 10:	Council 4458	Derby	\$ 28.57

District Deputy #49 George C. VonLeonrod is the winner of the highest District Dollar per Member award with \$ 34.04 per member.

Youth Activities Awards

1st Council 1163 Axtell The purpose of the activity was the construction of a new playground to attract more children. A 35 year old wooden structure was removed and new playground equipment was constructed in its place. To help fund the project, this council had a boiled shrimp, smoked pork chop and frog leg dinner. The dinner had a profit of \$4,800 and the council added \$3,550 for other fundraisers for a total of \$8,350.

2nd Council 3146 Basehor The purpose of the activity was to provide a safe environment for kids to get treats for Halloween. This council sponsored a Trunk or Treat Event on October 25, 2015. The event was for youth to have a fun and safe place to get treats for Halloween and to show off some amazing costumes. Approximately 200 children attended and 5 awards were given for the best decorated trunks. Hot dogs and drinks were served by the knights.

3rd Council 1181 Chapman The purpose of the activity was to host a free throw competition for 9 through 14 year old youth in the USD 473 school system. On January 13, 2016 knights gathered at the Chapman Middle School to conduct the competition. The competition was conducted during the scheduled Physical Education classes throughout the day. There were 318 participants and 12 winners were sent to District Competition.

Retiring District Deputies



During the Saturday morning Awards Presentation, State Deputy Patrick Winchester presented the retiring District Deputies an appreciation certificate and thanked them for their outstanding service on behalf of the State and Supreme Councils.

Randy Tanking	DD 2	Carl Schuetz	DD 4	Greg Beck	DD 5	Bob Hager	DD 7
Steven A. McGuire	DD 9	Kevin Stueve	DD 10	David E. Roos	DD 14	Lino S. Munoz	DD 20
Scott M. Sawin	DD 21	Randy Testa	DD 26	Frank Kotsch	DD 34	Tim Toon	DD 36
Chuck Huslig	DD 38	Rocky Feltis	DD 45	Richard Wolf	DD 47	Thomas Bayuk	DD 48
George C. Von Leonrod	DD 49	Jay Thies	DD 50	Steve Fellhoelter	DD 51	Scott O. Nichols	DD 55

Council Activities Awards

1st Council 1163 Axtell This Council built a new building on church property to be used as office space for their annual consignment sale fundraiser and to store materials for parish picnic & grounds keeping equipment. There were 29 members (12%) involved for a total of 587 man hours.

2nd Council 7769 Osage City—Scranton This Council teed up an entertaining day of golf for Knights members and their families. The day was filled with friendly competitions on nearly every hole that tested both the golfer's skill and luck. The council provided breakfast and lunch after the tournament. Nearly \$2,000 was raised for council charities. There were 25 members (25%) involved for a total of 285 man hours.

3rd Council 3146 Basehor This Council organized a night at the T-Bones baseball stadium for Knights of Columbus members and their families. Decked out in their bright red council polo shirts, they sang the National Anthem for the crowd to start the baseball game. There were 20 members (12.5%) involved for a total of 100 man hours.

Family Activities Winners

1st Council 3146 Basehor The Erik Jones family returned home to find their house on fire the weekend of February 13, 2016. A builder's staple through a wire to an electrical outlet was the culprit in this tragic event. Erik Jones is a local physical education teacher at Glenwood Ridge Elementary School in Basehor, Kansas. Mr. Jones, along with his wife and two children, were taken on a shopping trip and allowed to purchase \$500 worth of essentials to replenish much of their necessities. Grand Knight Ron McMillian escorted the Jones family to Walmart and picked up the tab for the essentials that the family needed.

2nd Council 10932 Overland Park-Ascension A group of Knights met at the Ascension Catholic Church on the afternoon of June 5, 2015 to load a smoker, food and refreshments. Next they proceeded to the Kansas City TBones baseball park. They set up the smoker and smoked hamburgers and hot dogs. Around 5:00 p.m. the members and their families ate and enjoyed the delicious food. After they had eaten, the members and their families proceeded as a group to the baseball game. They sat together in the same section and enjoyed the game.

Evangelium Vitae Award

Winners by Diocese

Dodge City Diocese:	Council	2352	Ransom
Kansas City Archdiocese:	Council	13354	Fort Leavenworth
Wichita Diocese:	Council	3677	Wichita
Salina Diocese:	Council	10344	Washington

State Winner

Dodge City Diocese: Council 2352 Ransom

Vocation Poster Contest Winners

Grade	Name	Dist.	Council	
1-2	Marissa Pechanec	39	2100	Olmitz
3-4	Lucy Punswick	8	11661	OP Holy Spirit
5-6	Michelle Zarybnicky	21	1743	Hanover
7-8	Katie Hale	29	7279	Hutchinson
Special Needs	Mathew J. Hoover	29	7279	Hutchinson

The overall state winner is **Katie Hale**

Culture Of Life Awards

185 Councils Donated \$403,807.31

District Deputy Award

Brian Spexarth, District 31 - \$28.32 per member

Div	Council	Amt / Member
1	2127 Logan	\$ 67.21
2	9535 Mayetta	\$ 85.76
3	9532 Wathena	\$ 59.29
4	10786 Osawatomie	\$ 93.05
5	2289 Piqua	\$ 81.08
6	15134 Wichita-Blessed Sacrament	\$ 27.80
7	796 Fort Scott	\$ 94.50
8	11352 Tonganoxie	\$ 39.60
9	601 Salina	\$ 35.56
10	2937 Garden Plain	\$ 95.71

**2015-2016 Kansas State
Family of the Year
William J. "Bill" and Lorraine
Muckenthaler
From Danville Council 3828**



It is with great pride that the Kansas State Council announces the 2015-2016 Knights of Columbus State Family of the Year: The William J. "Bill" and Lorraine Muckenthaler Family, St. Joan of Arc Parish, Council 3828 Danville.

The Muckenthalers' reside in Argonia, KS and are active members of the Immaculate Conception Church in Danville (a part of the St. Joan of Arc Parish in Harper). Bill currently serves as Lector, Greeter and Handyman, while Lorraine plays the organ and serves as Choir Director. Bill has served the parish in the past as a Mass Server and Eucharistic Minister. Bill has been the general handyman for the School, Church, Rectory and Hall since retiring in 1996 from forty years of service in Education. He has taken on numerous projects for the Church such as: building an altar extension, a cabinet for Holy Oils, book holders for the pews, cabinets in the back of Church, an enclosure to cover the heater in the Church and other small projects. Both Bill and Lorraine have spent many years as members and leaders of the Church Council, Knights of Columbus, and Altar Society.

Bill joined Council 3828 in 1986 and has held an office, including Grand Knight, in all but two years since becoming a member. He is currently serving the council as Second Year Trustee and Lecturer. He is a Former District Deputy and has served the Kansas State Council as Pennies From Heaven Chairman. Bill is also an active member of the Columbia Fourth Degree Assembly in Wichita.

Bill & Lorraine have three children: Lori Drouhard, Kevin Muchenthaler and Julie Canfield. Kevin is a member of the Augusta Council 5328 and Lori's husband, Francis Drouhard, is a member of the St Joan of Arc Council 3828 Danville. Francis is a Past State Deputy for the Kansas State Council. The Muckenthalers' have ten grandchildren.

The Bill & Lorraine Muckenthaler family have been an integral part of the Church, Youth, Community, and Knights of Columbus for many years. They are well deserving to hold the title as "Family of the Year". The Muckenthalers' are a model Knights of Columbus family.

**2015-2016 Kansas State
Knight of the Year
Glenn Helfrich
From Spearville Council 1539**



The Kansas State Council is pleased to present the 2015-2016 Knights of Columbus State Knight of the Year Award to Glenn Helfrich, Spearville Council 1539.

Glenn joined the Order in 1971. Since that time, he has demonstrated the principles of our Order and has been involved in numerous activities for his council, parish, and community. Glenn and his wife Sandra have a blended family of six children, six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Glenn is employed by Arrowhead West in Dodge City as a maintenance manager and also farms.

Glenn has held most of the positions in his council including Deputy Grand Knight and Grand Knight. As Grand Knight, his council received 1st place in highest percent of membership gain. While serving as Grand Knight, Glenn, was instrumental in starting the Spearville council's Annual KofC Cash Give Away that has continued for the last 25 years. Glenn is also an active member of the Fourth Degree Bishop Hennessey Assembly 0284 and has served the state council as a District Deputy.

Glenn has served his church and community well. He has been a Religious Education teacher and involved in various committees in his parish. Glenn was a member of the School Board for eight years and served as President. He has been active in 4H and served as Club Leader for 6 years. Glenn has also served on the Ford County Fair Board for 16 years and is currently active as a volunteer for the Hospice of the Prairie in Dodge City. Last fall, Glen and his wife, Sandra, chaired a benefit fundraiser that raised \$157,000 for the Heritage Foundation to build a new parish building for the historic St. Mary's Catholic Church north of Bellefont, KS in Ford County.

Glenn loves to cook and is always ready to head up a party, breakfast or major event. Anytime a family is in need, Glenn is always raising funds for them. Glenn has held numerous benefit meals for families with cancer & other disabilities. Glenn not only cooks the meals but also solicits donations anytime there is a need. Glenn is one of the members in charge of his council's annual Fish Fry. The proceeds from this event are donated to Catholic Social Services and the local youth center. It has been said "The bigger the project, the better for Glen". Glenn is the brother knight that is detailed, keeps good notes and can get things accomplished.