



TENNESSEE State Council Newsletter

STRONGER MEN-STRONGER FAMILIES

October 2016

STRONGER FAITH-STRONGER CHURCH-STRONGER COUNTRY Eric Pelton Editor

State Deputy Message

Brothers All:

How the time flies! The first quarter of our fraternal year is over! We are about to start phase 2 of our membership growth plan. Do you know what “the plan” is? More on that in a bit.

As of today, Tennessee is 6th in the Order (the entire order of 74 jurisdictions!) in new member growth. That is something of which to be very proud. 14 councils have recruited 50% or more of Supreme’s annual quota for them in less than 3 months! Councils 3837 in Union City and 12012 at St. Henry in Nashville are over that goal! 57 councils have recruited at least one new member.

And that also means 36 councils have recruited NONE. 9 councils have a net negative number for the year so far. No new members, only suspensions. Brothers, we cannot thrive and grow to do God’s work

and help our church and community that way. We *must* find ways to engage our membership and keep them active.

Here is “the plan” at the council level, stated last month: Our Worthy Membership Director, Kevin Petite, has challenged each state officer, state staffer, district deputy and council officer to “find one” this year. When we do this, we will add almost 1200 new Knights to the Tennessee Council and move over the 12,000 mark for the first time.

In late October, Kevin Petite and I will hold special membership meetings in Lenoir City and Greeneville to bring the plan to our brothers in Northeast Tennessee. Details will be sent by e-mail. We will do the same in Chattanooga at a later date. We missed the East TN kickoff but we have not forgotten!

My Brothers-we all only have so much time to accomplish what God asks of us.

4th Degree Exemplification



14 New candidates with wives at St Ann Church.
Guest Speaker was the Mayor of Memphis Jim Strickland.



4th Degree Dinner in Memphis

Spot light on Blessed John Paul II, Council #15585

A small seed planted by Pastor, Fr. P.J. McGinnity, has grown to be a large tree with the establishment of a new Council of the Knights of Columbus at St. Joseph the Worker in Madisonville TN.

It all started with Fr. P.J. expressing his vision for the Parish which included the formation of a Knights of Columbus Council. Soon thereafter, Ed Harless, who recently became a Fourth Degree Knight, and Father P.J., began discussions on how to make his vision a reality.

Their first step was to invite Mike Wills, State Deputy, and Jerry Dougherty, District Deputy to a planning meeting at Saint Joseph the Worker on December 5, 2011. Mike and Jerry suggested that a Parish Round Table be established at St. Joseph the Worker sponsored by Council 12633 at St. Thomas the Apostle in Lenoir City. They explained that once the Round Table had grown to thirty members an application for a full Council could be made. A goal of 18 months was established to achieve thirty members

That first meeting started the ball rolling. Ed quickly formed a small planning team consisting of parishioners Jim Parmelee, Dan Callan, and Terry Chmel, who were already members of the Knights of Columbus and the Round Table was established in January. A plan was developed that focused on recruiting new members and by April the New Round Table had exceeded 20 members. In just six months after the Round Table was established, Bishop Richard Stika transferred his membership to become the 30th member which qualified the Round table to become a full council. Thanks to Jerry Dougherty's full support throughout the process the Round Table at Saint Joseph the Worker had 40 members when the Council application was submitted in October.

The members elected to name the new Council in honor of **Blessed John Paul II**. Pope John Paul II is recognized as one of the most influential leaders of the 20th century. A key goal of his papacy was to transform and reposition the Catholic Church. His wish was "to place the Church at the heart of a new religious alliance that would bring together Jews, Muslims, and other Christians Churches in a great religious armada". Saint Joseph the Worker shares the vision of Pope John Paul II to reach out to the larger community with love, hospitality, openness, and joy. Blessed John Paul II Council, # 15585 was chartered in November 2013.

Our Council continues to grow and holds regular fund raisers to support "***Coats for Kids***"; "***Seminarians***"; "***Keeping Christ in Christmas***"; "***Right to Life***"; and other Parish, Dioceses, and Community programs and services

Fr. P.J. recently retired and returned to his home in Ireland. We are very fortunate to have Fr. John Orr, who currently serves the Knights of Columbus as State Chaplin, as our

Pope John Paul II Council 15585 in action



Installation of Officers



Spring Mowing

Council #15585 at St Joseph the Worker



Valentine Dance



July Ramp Building

Spotlight on Council 15393



Installation of new cross



Second Place Trophy for Steak Cookout

St Brigid Council #15393 had their first meeting December 2012 and Jim Barnes was the first GK, 2014 Ed Stahl became the 2nd GK and currently Jon Hellen is the GK. The Council began with 39 members, have lost six to the Lord since our beginning and there are now 52 members.

The Council's main goal is to assist Father Bruce with social out-reach in the community and one of the main fund raisers is cooking pork butts. They have put on 2 to 3 social events a

year, some fund raisers and some no charge such as parish breakfasts once a month.

"Two of our main charities are the M R Drive, Birthright and a local charity Martha's Manor that provides daily activities for ladies with learning disabilities. Martha's Manor is very close to our hearts and relies completely on donations from the public. We also assist the parish by providing and cooking food the parish picnic."-

Jon Hellen GK

Council 15393



Installation of new officers 2016-17

Council will celebrate its 4th Anniversary in December 2016



Memphis TN

Knights support Buddy Up Tennis

The Knights of Columbus Council 544 at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Nashville presented a check for \$1,650 to the Murfreesboro chapter of Buddy Up Tennis on Saturday, Sept. 10, during the annual kickoff luncheon for Buddy Up Tennis. The money is a portion of the funds raised by Council 544 for the Knights' MR Foundation, which supports agencies that serve people with intellectual disabilities across Tennessee. Buddy Up Tennis serves individuals with Down syndrome in an enjoyable and supportive environment by providing an opportunity to learn and play tennis, in order to impact athletic, social and

emotional development. For more information about the organization, visit <http://buddyuptennis.com>.

