



Missouri State Council Knights of Columbus

AUGUST 2009

Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism

“WE ARE KNIGHTS FOR LIFE”

GREG W. STRATMAN ~ STATE DEPUTY

JOHN KOLISCH ~ PROGRAM DIRECTOR

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR – JOHN KOLISCH

The State Council Directors would like to congratulate the newly elected Council officers and offer any assistance you may need. With the New Fraternal Year under way, I urge you to take advantage of the various programs the State Council has to offer. Such as the Pro-Life SAVERS OF LIFE, half of the funds collected go to the Vitae Caring Foundation the other half staying in your Council for your Pro-Life programs, contact Chairman Ed Spence for more information at edsdgs@sbcglobal.net.

An update on the Job Bank Service, I would like to thank the employers for listing their openings with us and placing our Brother Knights all over the state. At this time we have over 200 Brother Knights and or Spouses listed looking for employment, we need even more jobs, please contact the State Webmaster if you know of any job openings. This is the time to start a Ladies Auxiliary or Columbian Squires or Columbus Girls Circle if your Council does not support one already. Consider sponsoring a seminarian in your Diocese. By now most of the Districts Deputies have held their area meetings and the Councils are in the planning mode, hopeful you choose some programs you may not have taken advantage of in the past.

Please visit our website MOKOFC.org for all the new updates. Council Program Directors, new this year we will have the State sponsored programs that are listed in the State Program Manual on our Website along with contact information to better assist you with your program choices. Congratulation Missouri Knights of obtaining Circle of Honor in Membership this past fraternal year, 1149 net new members came into the Missouri Jurisdiction, yes you did it. We had a great 2008-2009 Fraternal Year, let's have even a better 2009-2010 Fraternal Year.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – KEITH MILSON

The State Council Membership Team would like to extend our congratulations to the newly elected group of officers in each council and offer our assistance as you prepare for the start of a new Fraternal Year. The State Council is eager for your success and we want to be an integral part of your preparations for the coming year. We have pledged to help every council to attain Star Council status. During the fraternal year that just ended we set a new record in Missouri as we had over 40 councils make Star Council. As Grand Knight you can expect to hear from your District Deputy or other State Membership Team member during the next month to discuss your membership program for the coming year, because we want you and your council to be among the Star Councils this year. We also need to work together to help Missouri attain the Circle of Honor Award from Supreme by attaining 2100 new members in our state during the coming year. This is possible if we work together and have a plan.

Recruiting new members is essential to the continued growth and well being of your council and the Order. Offering a man membership in the Knights of Columbus gives him the opportunity to improve his own life and his community. Membership allows him to experience the fraternal bond that Knights share while growing closer to his family and his faith. For your council's recruiting efforts to succeed, you need to devise a plan of action and follow through on it. Get your membership committee organized! As with any project, planning is the key to having a successful membership program. When looking for members to serve this committee, choose Knights who are enthusiastic about the Order, are detailed oriented, good planners, and will follow through on projects. Also, and members with sales experience, have worked in advertising or marketing, and are comfortable speaking in front of people would be great additions to the committee. Recruiting can be as simple as one Knight asking a qualified man to join. Ultimately it comes down to bringing in new members into our Order. Your regional Recruitment and New Council Development Chairman (Please see the Program Directory or the State Council website for the complete list) as well as your council's Insurance Agent and District Deputy are available to lend their experience and expertise to your council to help make, or keep, your council strong and vibrant. Supreme Council is a great resource for membership and retention information for your council. Their website has a "For Officers" section that includes links to pages with information on membership recruitment strategies as well as retention strategies. This section of the website will also have updates on campaign materials as well as special incentives for recruitment efforts.

The growth of your Council and Knights of Columbus depends not only on recruiting new members, but also on retaining current ones. These retention efforts for new members begin once he joins the Order. In addition efforts must be made to retain current members and to keep them enthusiastic about the Order. Our State Retention Chairman Tom Nelson, your District Deputy and again your council's Insurance Agent are eager to assist your council to help preserve the members that you have already recruited. Work with them to keep good men in your council.

I look forward to another fantastic year in Missouri and ask you to join us as we show that we are indeed "Men of Faith and Men of Action!"

RELIGIOUS INFORMATION BUREAU – BILL LUKAS SEC/TREAS

Brother Knights and Ladies, I would like to personally thank each member of our Order who participated this past fraternal year in assisting the Religious Information Bureau in attaining the third highest ever contributions. One hundred eighty councils and 80 auxiliaries made or exceeded their quotas. What an accomplishment considering our shaky economic times and financial hardships placed on many of you. This fraternal year's slogan is "Spreading the TRUTH to Many". The goal for R.I.B. this fraternal year ending in June, 2010 is \$280,000. We will be working hard to increase enrollments in our Home Study Courses by changing our advertising mix from fewer "big city" newspaper ads to more smaller town ads, increasing the use of multiple internet web sites and experimenting with billboard advertising. By mid August, letters will be sent to every council Financial Secretary and auxiliary President setting quotas for the fraternal year and explaining in detail the calculation method and procedure and timing for the submission of contributions. Please continue the momentum we have achieved as we start our new fraternal year in support of the Religious Information Bureau. Also, we encourage every Knight and Lady to take advantage of all the Religious Information Bureau has to offer and sign up for one of the excellent Home Study Courses authored by Father Oscar Lukefahr. Again, thank you for your past and continuing support of R.I.B.

MR PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR - EDWARD COLUMBUS

A new fraternal year is upon us and thanks is in order to our State Deputy, Greg Stratman for appointing me for a second year. The 2009-2010 M.R. Program has two new Diocesan Chairmen and a new Slogan and Goals. Returning for a second year are Richard Dudenhoeffer, Jefferson City Diocese. Ernest A. Useted, III for the St. Louis Arch Diocese. New to the M.R. Program are - Bill Stump, Kansas City/St. Joseph Diocese and James Soptick, Springfield/Cape Girardeau Diocese. The seasoned and new Chairmen, look forward to working with all of the Councils, Assemblies and Auxiliaries for a successful year.

This years slogan is, "Knights and Ladies - A winning Team Helping God's Special People." This years goal is \$635,000 with 100% participation but the councils. The second part of the M.R. Program that takes place after the Tootsie Roll Drive, is the Contest of Concern for Special Olympics. More information will be presented at the December meeting. This years Goal is \$35,000.

Please keep in mind that to be successful we all need to work together. Knight and Ladies, working toward being "A Winning Team - Helping God's Special People."

Vivet Jesus.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – PAUL QUIRK

As we begin a new Fraternal Year the Council Activities Team welcomes all the new and returning District Deputies as well as the new and returning Grand Knights. I'm sure we are all ready to start this year off on a positive note. The Council Activities Team is here to assist you, your Council, and your District. Chairman include: Tony Braun, Clown Clubs; Steve Sallwasser, Fraternal Recognition; Randy Maune, Athletic Events; Marvin Armistead, Public Relations; Ed and Gerri Spence, Ladies Auxiliaries Chairpersons; Mike Grudzinski, State Web Page; and Ken Wehmeyer, **Mariner** Editor.

We have some upcoming activities of note for you and your Council's involvement.

Randy Maune announces the State Sporting Clay/Trap Shoot will be hosted by Our Lady of the Lake Council 6470 and held at the Ozarks Shooter Complex on September 26th to sign up contact Lee Cahow at 417-339-3709. And, for the bowlers the State Bowling Tournament will be held on the weekends of October 24th & 25th and October 30th and November 1st hosted by Council 6405 if interested in signing up contact Brian Nugent at 573-243-8905.

Ed and Gerri Spence have four Ladies Auxiliary Area Meetings scheduled for October. All Meetings start at 12:00 (noon). Bishop Timon 6405, Jackson will host Area 6 Meeting on October 4th, Pope John XXIII 6018, Arnold will host Area 5 Meeting on October 18th, October 25th the Ladies Auxiliary 9533 in Springfield will host Area 4 Meeting and on October 31st Columbia 1529 will host the Area 2 Meeting.

Fraternal Recognition Chairman Steve Sallwasser asks that you forward to him your Knight of the Month application by September 30th. Tony Braun, State Clown Club Chairman reports the Annual Clown Club Convention held on August 7th & 8th at the Capital Crown Plaza in Jefferson City was a success and everyone had fun. If your Parish or Council is interested in having the Clowns entertain at an event please contact your local Clown Club.

Public Relations Chairman Marvin Armistead asks to be included on your Council Newsletter mailing list. You can find Marvin's email and home address in your State Program Directory.

The **Mariner** with Ken Wehmeyer is once again rated one of the top publications in the Order. Our first **Mariner** deadline is September 5th.

And, last but not least is our State Web Chairman Mike Grudzinski asks that you promote the Missouri Knights of Columbus Job Bank to both employers and Brothers looking for work.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – RALPH CUPELLI

"Strengthening Our Faith by Our Actions". I hope that you are excited to begin this new Columbian Year as I am! I am truly looking forward to serving you as Church Activities Director supported by our outstanding Chairmen. Church Activities focuses on encouraging and supporting religious vocations, honoring our priests and religious, and supporting our parish religious programs. Pope Benedict has initiated the Year of the Priest this June 19th and it runs through June 19, 2010. Supreme has mailed every Grand Knight a new holy card featuring a prayer for priests. Additional cards can be ordered from Fraternal Services at \$3 per hundred. I hope you will use this prayer at every meeting during the Year of the Priest.

The Church Activities Team reviewed all our Church Activities programs with the District Deputies the weekend of July 10-12. The first of our programs we need you to support is the Religious Vocations Fund. We ask that each council, auxiliary and assembly contribute 50 cents per member with a dollar or more per member preferred to the Fund. We need to support and encourage as many seminarians as possible because the future of the Church depends on us having more priests. I am sure that your council, assembly or auxiliary supports vocations, so please send your Religious Vocations Fund check now to Chairman Jeff Slama at 2806 Innsbrook Lane, Joplin, MO 64804. Last year the Religious Vocations Fund goal was \$12,500; however, we only collected \$12,384.61 mainly because only 13% of the councils, 13% of the assemblies and 40% of the auxiliaries contributed a combined total of \$6,755.50. The remainder of the money was raised primarily from the collections at State K of C and Fourth Degree Masses. Our goal this year for the Religious Vocations Fund is \$15,000. We can make this goal with your support. Please plan to attend the State Knights' Pilgrimage on Sunday, October 4, 2009. We will honor mothers and family life at the Mary, Mother of the Church National Shrine at Laurie, Missouri. The Shrine is on the grounds at St. Patrick's Church on Highway 5 in Laurie. The Pilgrimage begins at 10 a.m. and lasts until around 2:30 p.m. Lunch is available for \$9. A form is available on the State K OF C website so please complete it so we have an idea of how many will be attending and the number of lunches to prepare.

Fourth Degree Honor Guard members are particularly encouraged to dress out and participate. Please mail or email the form to Chairman Rich Purdon at P.O. Box 906, Laurie, MO 65308. His phone number is (573) 372-6418.

STATE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – TOM MANOS

“Knights Upholding Life's Culture”

My Brother Knights,

It is that time of the year again when we order the roses. The price has not changed; it is still \$15.00 per 100 roses. You can order with or without the Knights of Columbus logo.

These roses are hand-made in a shelter workshop and will be ready for pick up by your District Deputy at the State Winter Meeting. Some Council's in Missouri do not order roses, but participate in other ways. Please let us know if your Council does participate by completing the "Roses for Life Order Form" found in the State Directory.

The Father McGivney Guild is important to every Knight. Are you a member of the Guild? With the 43,000+ Knights in Missouri we only have 6,500+ Knights and their families as members. There is no cost, so please become a member.

The Missouri Catholic Conference reports budget cuts to the "Alternatives to Abortion Program." This program provides a wide range of emergency services to women facing crisis pregnancies. The Department of Health contracts with providers including Catholic Charities of St. Louis and Kansas City-St. Joseph. Research shows that providing alternative services encourages more women to carry their unborn child to term thereby reducing the number of abortions. In the context of the multi-billion dollar state budget, the \$1.9 million allocated for this program represents a very modest investment toward saving the unborn children. This program has been a key component of that pro-life effort. Please contact Governor Nixon @ governor.mo.gov or phone 573-751-3222.

The Agape House needs you help too, we are asking all Councils to donate \$50 to this outstanding program. If your Council having a blood drive, that's great. During the summertime, inventories are always low. Information again is in your State Directory.

Until next time, may God Bless.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – DAVID DILLON

The summer is rapidly coming to an end and the youth activities are going full steam ahead.

Jim O Fallon reminds everyone that the council soccer challenge shoot offs need to begin next month. Now is time to make arrangements for the place, time and advertising, to make this year even more successful than last years Soccer Challenge. Jim will be getting the dates for the regional contests out very shortly.

Michael Auchly doubled the Squires Circles last year and wants to do it again this year. Michael says if you show the interest and desire to form a Columbian Squires or Columbus Girls Circle he will be there to help get it accomplished.

J.Y. Miller reminds everyone to check on the changes made on the qualifications for the different scholarships this year. J.Y. also wants to remind this years' winners to get proof of enrollment to him soon as possible so he can get your check to you.

Gene Hofstetter is up for the challenge of judging the substance abuse posters, so lets be sure to get with the schools and or your local law enforcement to try to incorporate the poster contest with the DARE programs. Gene would also like to remind you that if someone in your council is working in close contact with the youth programs they need to complete the youth protection form.

Thomas Wildhaber has the essay contest topics ready and asks that you get in touch with the schools in your area about incorporating the essay contest in their curriculum, and don't forget the home-schooled students. This is one way for the students to work on their writing skills.

Bill Breeding is there to help with the Boy and Girl Scout troops in your area. This can be in forming a new troop or getting support from the Knights for existing troops.

Keep sending me your "Youth of the Month" applications. With everyone having a busy summer the applications are down, but I know that our youth are out there working and helping in anyway they can so lets give them the recognition they deserve. The youth are the future so don't let them pass by without trying to show our support and guidance.

FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – JOE ROSENTHAL

Sold Out – That is a great sound. As Chairman Jim Cooper stated, the Worthy State Deputy thanks you, the Worthy Director thanks you, I thank you and Cardinal Glennon Hospital thanks you. For what you ask. The Knights of Columbus Family Day at the ballpark tickets for Missouri were sold out, The Knights of Columbus Developmental Center at Cardinal Glennon Hospital will receive \$1500 for the 300 tickets that were sold. Jim you did a great job this year. Thank you.

Charles Bexten, Family Recognition Chairman, requests your help by sending in applications for the Family of the Month. This can be done either online at mokofo.org or by mailing in the application that is in the Directory that you received from your District Deputy. While doing the Missouri Family of the Month, don't forget the Supreme Family of the Month. Visit the Supreme website at kofc.org and send in your Family of the Month.

While on the Supreme website visit Fathers for Good. This is a program designed to give fathers the tools to become a better dad.

UPDATES TO THE PROGRAM DIRECTORY MANUAL

Grand Knights

Council 2353

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Financial Secretaries

New Financial Secretary Council #1171 Westphalia, MO

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New Financial Secretary

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St. Joseph the Worker #10200

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Ladies Auxiliary

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Sherry Badder
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Council 8334 - Holy Spirit Council

Leanda DeDoner
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Council #14561 - St. Gianna

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