



Missouri State Council Knights of Columbus

FEBRUARY 2010

Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism

“WE ARE KNIGHTS FOR LIFE”

GREG W. STRATMAN ~ STATE DEPUTY

JOHN KOLISCH ~ PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Honor Our Founder On March 29



STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR – JOHN KOLISCH

With all the area meetings over, we start the second half of this Fraternal Year.

The state programs have been presented to the council's via your District Deputy. I urge you to use as many programs as will fit your council's needs. All State Programs are listed on the State Web site (MOKofC.ORG) for you to view. The website is yours; please use it to your Council's advantage.

If your Council has not yet been listed with your local Kohl's Department Store, for the A-Team Program. Your council is missing out on \$500.00 each time you hold a fun raiser that benefits children. Ask your District Deputy for the details.

Please hold a membership blitz this March, it's not too late to meet or beat your council's membership goal. Remember, new members will keep our Order strong; together we can accomplish our goal of Columbianism.

Your Prayers and monetary help are still needed and will be needed for many months to come, for the victims of the Earthquake in Haiti. Donations by individual Knights can be made on line at the Supreme Council website (www.kofc.org). Council checks should be made out to Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. and mailed to one Columbus Plaza, New Haven, Ct. 06510. Please write "Haiti Earthquake Relief" in the memo section.

Let's all have a dynamic 2010 year. May God bless us all.

Up Dated Information - New Address:

Stan McClatchey DD#7, 1907 North Grove Drive, Independence, Mo. 64058

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – KEITH MILSON

It is not too early to start planning for the Spring Blitz, which has been set for March. Please report your plan of action for this important membership effort and ask for his assistance in your efforts. The State Membership Team is also here to ensure that you in having a successful membership month in February. Please call upon any of us; we are here to serve you!

Speaking of new members, no candidate should have a long wait or need to travel a far distance to join our Order. To help your council ensure that their new members are brought into the Order quickly, I encourage communication with your District Deputy and neighboring councils to coordinate a regular and frequent schedule of First Degrees in your area. If your council does not have a First Degree Team, consider forming one.

There are several membership recruitment incentives offered for the remainder of the year. Recruiters will earn 500 Recruitment Reward Points from Supreme for every new or readmitted member brought into the Order during the Fraternal Year. These points are redeemable for items from the Supreme Promotional Items catalog. PSD Lou Mautino has again offered a special drawing to all District Deputies who have every council in their district recruit at least one new member during the year. This drawing will be held at the Convention. As announced at the Mid-Year Meeting any District Deputy who achieves Star District will receive a Knights of Columbus ring.

Urge your council to promote the Shining Armor Award program to all new Knights. This is a great way to get new members active in the council right from the start. It also is an effective way to assist in your retention efforts! To qualify for this award, newly recruited Knights must, during their first year of membership: Attend at least three business meetings, Participate in three service activities, Meet with the councils insurance representative, Recruit at least one new member, and receive their Second and Third Degrees. Councils can order a special Shining Armor Qualification Card, Certificate of Recognition as well as a special lapel pin for those who meet the award's criteria. Contact the Supreme Council Supply Department for more information. Your council's Survey of Fraternal Activity was due on January 31st. If your council has not completed and sent in this report, please do so immediately! The Survey can be found on the Order's Web site or in the Council Report Forms Booklet that each Grand Knight has received. The Survey can be faxed to the Department of Fraternal Services at 203-752-4108 or mailed in to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Office, Department of Fraternal Services, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven CT 06510-3326, or filled online at kofc.org/un/officers/forms/council/1728.cfm.

2nd & 3rd Degree Dates

February 14, 2010 Council 1187 DeSoto 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am
February 21, 2010 Council 6435 House Springs 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am
February 21, 2010 Council 1896 Clinton 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am
February 28, 2010 Council 1121 Washington 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am
March 14, 2010 Council 8920 Cuba 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am
March 28, 2010 Council 9272 Smithville 1:00 pm
April 11, 2010 Council 1263 Perryville 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am
April 18, 2010 Council 13178 Vienna 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

4th Degree Dates

March 6, 2010 St. Louis
April 10, 2010 Kansas City

RELIGIOUS INFORMATION BUREAU – JOE ROSENTHAL

Father Lukefahr has written another book and we hope to have it available at the State Convention in April. Maybe even a book signing with donations to R.I.B. Father says this will be his last book but we hope not.

Speaking of books have you read one of Father's other books. If not, now is the time to step forward and learn more about our Catholic faith. Why should you take the time? This is a two fold question. The first answer is because we all need to learn more about our faith. The second answer is because you need to see how your money is being spent from R.I.B. It is one of these books that people request to learn more about Catholicism.

Speaking of how your money is spent, we need your council's, assembly's or auxiliary's donation for this year. Bill Lukas, Secretary-Treasurer RIB, mailed out your quotas early this fall. Please don't wait too long after you collect your dues for the coming year to mail in your RIB donations. Want to be in the Circle of Honor? Don't forget to send in your 100% Council donation by March 31st. Even better give a 125% and earn the RIB Apostolate Cross.

As we start the New Year remember that the \$7.50 donation per member goes a long way to support the evangelization in Missouri. The advertisements for the Catholic Home Study Service in the local papers keep increasing in costs. Therefore more dollars are needed to continue this extraordinary service offered by the Missouri Knights of Columbus. As your Council or Auxiliary makes its yearly donation, take the time, pray about your donation and increase your usual 100% to 125% of quota.

M.R. PROMOTIONS – ED COLUMBUS

The Fraternal year is half over and we have all survived the Holidays maybe a little heavier and a lot colder. We can now focus on the task at hand, The Contest of Concern For Special Olympics. With the final stages of the tootsie roll drive near, 208 councils have sent in their final reports representing \$531,432.34. That leaves 46 Councils left to send their reports to reach our goal of \$635,000. I ask these councils to please take care of sending their reports in soon so that all councils will be accounted for before the next Mariner when I would like to say, "all reports are in".

Good progress has been made on the disbursement of unclaimed past years turn around money. Only 1 councils remain who have not requested past MR money. Hopefully all past money will be requested during the month of January and I can report in the next Mariner that all money has been disbursed. Councils please don't forget, if you don't have anyone special to give your turn around money to, please consider the Contest of Concern.

Good progress has been made with Contest of Concern projects. Raffle sales are going well with over \$2000 sold so far. If your council still has tickets, please sell them and send me the stubs and money. So far 29 councils, and Auxiliaries have donated to The Contest of Concern for Special Olympics. I expect more councils and auxiliaries to get involved in supporting Special Olympics as Special Olympic events ramp up in their area. There are special awards available to Councils, Assemblies and Auxiliaries that make donations to the Contest

of Concern. Donation procedures are outlined in a letter sent out in early January. With a goal of \$35,000 and an annual commitment from the State Council to Missouri Special Olympics for \$30,000 help will be needed from all. Last year over 15,000 athletes participated in Special Olympic events across the State. That number represents an estimated 15% of the potential Special Olympic Athletes in Missouri. Much of the success of Special Olympics in Missouri can be traced to the commitment and involvements of the Knights of Columbus. Remember - "Knights and Ladies - A Winning Team - Helping God's Special People".

Vivat Jesus

CHURCH ACTIVITIES – RALPH CUPELLI

"Strengthening Our Faith by Our Actions"

In this month's column I wanted to alert you to a special retreat during Lent 2010 for Missouri Knights hosted by the **Abbey Guest Center at Conception Abbey** in Conception, Missouri. The Abbey Guest Center believes that this spiritual opportunity will enable Knights to better appreciate and celebrate the Paschal Mysteries this year. This special Knights of Columbus retreat will be held from **Friday supper through Sunday lunch, March 19-21, 2010**. The Knights retreat is called *United in Charity: Preparing for the Paschal Mystery*. Please consider spending a weekend with other Knights to refresh and renew your hearts and souls for the celebration of Christ's Paschal Mystery. FrPatrick Caveglia and seminarian Knights will lead reflections. You will pray the Liturgy of the Hours with the monastic community and celebrate the Eucharist in the basilica with the monks and seminarians, many of whom are brother Knights. There will also be quiet times for personal reflection and prayer. The *suggested donation for lodging, meals and conferences is \$125 for single and \$200 for double accommodations*. For more information, please call the Abbey Guest Center at 660-944-2809 or email them at guests@conception.edu. Please inform the members of your Council about this opportunity and invite them to think about joining other brother Knights at this special retreat. Also consider organizing a group from your council to attend.

I hope your District Deputy has shared with you the Church Activities Programs we discussed and emphasized at the December District Deputies Meeting. If you have questions about any of the Church Activities areas please contact me or a Church Activities Chairman. Now is the time for your parish, Catholic school, and/or religious education program to apply for a \$500 or \$1,000 **Monsignor Joseph Mancuso Catholic Education Grant**. Note the application is due by March 1, 2010. Forms are at www.mokofc.org/AdobeFiles/KOFCEducationGrantApplication2010.pdf

Recipients of 2009 grants also need to complete the evaluation form that is located on the website and submit it with your application. Please remember that the programs we fund are for the YOUTH of our parishes. Please contact Father Joseph Weber if you have specific questions concerning the grant or your application.

I hope your council has sponsored or supported a seminarian, novice or postulant. It is especially appropriate to do this in this Year of the Priest. Ensure if you contribute \$500 or more you complete the RSVP form found in your forms book. You will receive \$100 back from Supreme that you can donate to the **Missouri State Council Religious Vocations Fund** where our goal this year is to raise \$15,000. To achieve this goal we need every council, auxiliary and assembly to contribute at least 50 cents per member to the Fund with a dollar or more per member the preferred amount. The money we collect for the Vocations Fund is sent to the four dioceses equally. Send your checks now to Chairman Jeff Slama at 2806 Insbrook Lane, Joplin, Missouri 64804.

And don't forget to have a **religious appreciation event** to honor your pastor, priests, sisters and brothers. It honors and thanks them for their service and lets them learn more about the Knights of Columbus. Please let Religious Appreciation Chairman Tom Edgeller know of your event and contact him if you have any questions on how to organize a religious appreciation event.

During lent please take advantage of the many opportunities your council, auxiliary and assembly have to help your parish in support of its religious events.

Vivat Jesus

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – TOM MANOS

"Knights Upholding Life's Culture"

Last month Chairman Rick Boyle sent a mailing out to every Grand Knight, Auxiliary President and Assembly Faithful Navigator. Rick and I hope you have received this important letter concerning 2 programs.

One of the newest activities is the "Food for Families." Last November the Supreme Council announced a new activity. This program encourages each state to work with their local parish and other public places to collect for food banks in their area. Those states in which a significant number of Councils participate will be allocated a portion of the \$1 million fund for food banks in their areas.

I know many Councils in the great state of Missouri do some kind of activity like this now. We need to let the Supreme Council know about all the food collecting projects we do. The amount of \$1 million is a great amount of money. I know many areas where this could make a big difference. So please just take a few minutes and fill out the form I enclosed in the mailing. If you need a copy of this form, let me know I can get you one.

Rick also asked for your help in connection with the Agape House donations. I am sorry to say that donations have been slow in coming. We hope that this letter will remind you about how important this program is. Like in the past every Council, Auxiliary and Assembly that donates \$50 or more receives a certificate. This year we are going to present a plaque to the highest donation for a Council, Auxiliary and Assembly. To be in the running for the plaque, donations must be received by March 31, 2010.

This week I was talking to Chris Lewis the President of the American Wheelchair Program. He is very busy with the disaster in Haiti. Too many requests are coming in. A donation of \$75.00 will help purchase a wheel chair for those who can not afford one. We must do our part. Chairman Jerry Rouse has the new forms for the Councils. More than ever this program needs your help.

Savers of Life is just around the corner Chairman Ed Spence needs your seed order. This great program supports the Vitae Caring. With just

a few members in your Council would make a huge difference. Please make plans for the activity in May.

Chairman Bruce Gardiner reports from the Missouri Catholic Conference a proposal to end the state's income tax. Sounds great to me, except is a good thing for the state? Under this plan the state would substitute a higher sales tax on a broadened tax base. This includes tax on goods and services rendered and would include an assessed on educational services provided by our Catholic Schools. The state votes would have the final say because the Missouri constitution would have to be changed.

Chairman Reynolds Blackburn still has many special lapel pins for those who qualify for the Protecting All Life program. You just need 5 activities in a 12 month period. You don't even have to be a Knight to receive one. So, if there is someone in your parish you feel needs a little reconnection just fill out the form found in the State Directory.

Are you a member of the Fr. McGivney Guild? All Knights and their families need to join this program. The best part is there is no cost. An application can be found on the Supreme website, your Columbian Magazine or in the State Directory.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – DAVID DILLON

We are proud to announce that Sarah Hambrough from Council 7198, St. Charles, Mo is the Girls International Soccer Champion for 14 year olds. Congratulations to Sarah, her family and Council 7198.

Jim O'Fallon says don't forget the district and regional free throw contests are upon us. The council level contest should have been held in January. The medallions were passed out to the District Deputies at the mid-year meeting. The regional contest will be: Feb 21 for districts 24, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 54 Duschene HS at 12 p.m.; Districts 25,35,39,40,41,42,44,51 Feb 21 Mary Magdalene at 2:30 P.M.; Districts 12,18,19,20,21,22,23,49,52 March 7 Helias HS , Jeff. City at 12 p.m.; Districts 11,13,14,15,16,17,50,53 Feb. 20 9 a.m. at Springfield Catholic HS; Districts 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,55,56 Feb 21 Kearney HS 1p.m.; Districts 43,45,46,47,48 Feb 28 at Immaculate Conception in Jackson, Mo. 1 p.m.; Districts 26,27,28,29,30 Hannibal contact Edward Born 573-735-1047 for time and date.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS-HELIAS H.S. JEFF. CITY- MAR.21 AT 12:00 P.M.

J.Y. Miller wants to remind the winners of last years scholarships to submit their spring enrollment status to him. J.Y. would like to remind everyone to make the scholarship application forms available to all the schools and also remember scholarships are available to students still attending school. Also don't forget there is one scholarship only available to a member of the Ladies Auxiliary. **The applications for all scholarships have to be postmarked no later than February 15th of 2010.**

Bill Breeding wants the charter date for all the Scout Troops in the state by 1st of February. If you want to start up a new troop give Bill a call if you need any help.

Michael Auchly is glad to say that he is receiving applications for reactivation of old Squires Circles and applications for new circles. I would ask if you have a thought of starting a Circle give Michael a call so he can help you.

Tom Wildhaber wants to remind everyone that the State Essay Contest is in full swing and that the winning entries are due to him by the **28th of February 2010**. If you have any questions Tom is more than ready to answer them for you. **Only send the winning entries to Tom.**

Gene Hofstetter wants to remind everyone about the Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest is fast approaching its conclusion. Gene reminds everyone to make sure the rules on the size and contents of the posters are followed. **Gene must receive the winning entries by February 28, 2010. Only send Gene the winning entries.**

I am happy to say that the Youth of the Month applicants have started to increase but there are still many more deserving youth that haven't received this honor yet. Just a little reminder there will be a Youth of the Year from the Youth of the Month winners.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – MIKE GRAYSON

Is It Spring Yet! - Well, it soon will be! And with Spring comes baseball! Chairman Jim Cooper is making the plans for the Family Day at the ball park, and we will let you know the details as soon as possible.

We have had the honor several times this fraternal year of awarding a deserving family the honors of Family of the Month. It is unfortunate that there have been so few applications. So many families are deserving of the honors, if someone would only take the time to fill out the application. Applications are found in the Directory or can be made online at our website: www.mokofc.org Contact Charles Bexten for any questions.

Did your children have fun at the Christmas Party? Chairman Charles Kirchner and I would like to hear your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions.

I'll be looking forward to seeing all of you at the April Convention.

Vivat Jesus!

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – PAUL QUIRK

With the long winter nights upon us, one may think there is "little we can do in Council Activities." But, this is the perfect time to be planning for your Council Membership BLITZ in March. It is also a good time to make sure you have completed all your Supreme Forms (and mailed them) for your Star Council Award. And, while I'm thinking about things to do on a winter evening, how about getting your Scrapbook together for the April State Convention. Should you have any questions all you have to do is contact Marvin Armistead.

Please don't forget your Knight of the Month all you have to do is complete the on-line Form and email to Steve Sallwasser. It really is that easy.

Don't forget to thank your Ladies for everything they do for the Order. February is a good time to plan a special evening for "our Special Ladies". It is also a good time to get a Auxiliary started in your Council.

Until next month, Good Luck in all your activities, functions and Membership Drive. We are here to assist your Council. All you have to do is ask.