



Missouri State Council Knights of Columbus

MARCH 2010

Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism

“WE ARE KNIGHTS FOR LIFE”

GREG W. STRATMAN ~ STATE DEPUTY

JOHN KOLISCH ~ PROGRAM DIRECTOR

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR – JOHN KOLISCH

This is the time of the year when all we can do is dream of warm weather and times spent at the lake. Well, My Brothers, wake up to the real world, their is work to be done. March is coming and the spring Membership Blitz is here. Is your Council doing all it can to meet your membership goal? Have you planned for success; it will not come on its own!

I am very proud of our Directors, Chairman, District Deputies, and you the Grand Knights, yes our State Programs are flourishing all over the State. As I have been traveling from one end of our state to the other, it is just amazing what our individual Councils are doing for our Church and their Communities in the name of The Knights of Columbus. We all can be very proud to be called a Knight of Columbus in our great State of Missouri.

Our State Convention will be held in Jefferson City, this April 23, 24th and 25th at the Capitol Plaza Hotel. Please plan to attend; any 3rd. degree member may attend. We will be electing State Officers at the Convention.

Financial Secretary Changes

Council #9981

Eugene Fallert
939 Fernview Drive
Creve Coeur, MO 63141
D/314-545-7044 N/314-434-6236
Cell 573-535-9507

Council #11382

Tom Hecei
111 Timberidge Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – KEITH MILSON

It's time for our big Spring Blitz membership drives! Hopefully your council has set a plan in motion to ensure that you can reach out to those potential members and invite them to join us, but let's review a few last minute items that may need your attention to ensure a smooth and successful event. By now you should have coordinated the Blitz with the Pastor of the parish or parishes that your council serves. Contact him once more to confirm the details and ask him to give a short endorsement either before or after your pulpit speech. Make sure that someone has ordered sufficient quantities of Prospect Cards, Membership Documents (Form 100's), posters and flyers to place in approved and appropriate places inside the church. Provide an announcement for the parish bulletin for each of the two weekends prior to the drive. Prepare a tabletop display highlighting council activities and events as well as membership benefits, including handouts and copies of council newsletters. Leave sharpened pencils in the pews for completing Prospect Cards. Enlist Brother Knights to work as teams of two or three at each church door to hand out flyers and prospect card. Make sure you have collated materials to hand out to each man so as not to cause a backup at the doors. Arrange for the pastor, grand knight, membership director, or District Deputy to make a brief announcement explaining the K of C, encourage men to complete the Prospect Cards and hand them in as they leave. Again position Knights at the doors when Mass is over to answer questions or collect Cards. Make sure you have someone to help restock the tables and supplies. When the drive is over turn over all the prospect cards and Form 100's over to the membership director of your council so that he can follow up with these men and work with the admissions committee. Have a pre-planned date and location to hold a follow-up meeting for the prospects to present more detailed information on the Knights and your council in particular. Schedule this meeting no more than a week after the Blitz. Schedule a First Degree no more than two weeks after the Blitz. At the conclusion of the Blitz, send in a report to your District Deputy to let him know of your successes.

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 Semi-Annual Audit is due on February 15th. If your council has not completed and sent in this report, please do so

immediately! The Report of Fraternal Activities report was due January 30th and is a requirement for Star Council. Supreme has a short grace period, so if you did not get it in yet, please do so immediately! These forms can be found on the Order's Web site or in the Council Report Forms Booklet that each Grand Knight and Financial Secretary has received. The Form 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.

As a reminder, there are several incentives out there for District Deputies: Past State Deputy Lou Mautino has again offered a special drawing for a Knights of Columbus "wist" watch that all District Deputies who have every council in their district recruit at least one new member during the year will be qualified for. This drawing will be held at the State Convention in April. And every District Deputy who obtains Star District this year will receive a beautiful Knights of Columbus ring at the July meeting.

As always the State Membership Team is here to serve you and your council. If we can help in anyway, please contact. We want to help every council achieve the best results possible.

2nd & 3rd Degree Dates

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

This month is quiz time. These excerpts are from some of Dr. Lukefahr's books, do you know which book they refer. I will let you know the answers later. A. It explains how God speaks to us and how we should reply. B. Uses scriptures, stories and common sense to help us achieve emotion health, spiritual growth and real happiness. C. Shows what it means to be Catholic. D. It relates the meaning of the Rosary, Marian sacraments and more. E. It explains the purpose and meaning of life. Why are we here?

If you have not read or taken one of the RIB courses, now is the time. You can see how your money is being spent and how others are learning about our Catholic faith. As I was reading one of the courses I realized how much I either forgot or didn't know. I know you will also. Pass along to your council the information about the RIB program and invite each member to sign up for one of the courses.

Convention is fast approaching and so are the deadlines for recognition at convention. March 31st is the deadline for the Circle of Honor. This gets your council the recognition that it needs, showing its dedication for evangelization of our Catholic faith. How do you get that recognition? Just send in your 100 to 125% RIB donation by March 31st to be included in the Circle of Honor. If you don't remember your quota ask your Financial Secretary, he has recently received a mailing with the quota.

Now for the answers. A. We Pray: Living in God's Presence, B. A Search for Happiness, C. The Privilege of Being Catholic, D. Christ's Mother and Ours, E. We Live: To Know, Love, and Serve God

M.R. PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR – ED COLUMBUS

With 27 councils left to report the MR totals stand at 90% of goal with \$572,806.16. Please try to get your final reports to me by the end of March. My Chairmen and I will be calling councils that have not returned their final report or still have outstanding turnaround money available.

Thank you to all of the councils that met the deadline with Supreme on submitting form #4584, Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics with Supreme. At this printing 39 councils have report donations of \$39,084 including 317 volunteers totaling 2628 hours. Last year we received an additional \$3750 from Supreme for Special Olympics. There is still time for your Council to donate to the Contest of Concern for Special Olympics and be recognized at the State Convention. Awards will be presented for donations in three categories, Bronze for \$250 - \$499; Silver for \$500 - \$999 and; Gold for \$1000 and up.

The raffle for Contest of Concern is going well. Sales are brisk with a total of \$2669.00 so far. Thanks to all who are making this effort a success. Please send your ticket stubs and money to Ed Columbus as you get them. Tickets will be sold all the way until the drawing at the State Convention. If you are not able to get the money and stubs to me before the convention, bring them with you and they will get in the drawing.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the convention. It has been a privilege and a pleasure working with all of you these past two years. I have made more friends than I can ever count.

Thanks to all who have made the MR program a success. Thanks for the memories.

"Knights and Ladies - A Winning Team - Helping God's Special People"

CHURCH ACTIVITIES – RALPH CUPELLI

“Strengthening Our Faith by Our Actions”

With our Columbian year two-thirds over how are you doing in achieving your goals in Church activities? Have you contributed to the **Missouri State Council Religious Vocations Fund**? Every council should have contributed at least 50¢ per member by now. Our Religious Vocations Fund goal this year is \$15,000 but as of the first of February councils, auxiliaries and assemblies have only contributed \$1968.10. Not a very good show in this Year of the Priest. The money we collect for the Vocations Fund is sent to the four dioceses equally. Vocations are the lifeblood of the Church so please support vocations by sending your per capita contributions now to Chairman Jeff Slama at 2806 Insbrook Lane, Joplin, Missouri 64804.

It also isn't too late for your council to sponsor or support a seminarian, novice or postulant. Ensure if you contribute \$500 or more you complete the RSVP form found in your Supreme forms book. You will receive \$100 back from Supreme that you can donate to the **Religious Vocations Fund**.

Time is running out if you haven't planned 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.

Lent and the Easter Season is an excellent opportunity for your council to get involved in supporting parish activities and showing how the Knights of Columbus support our Church. I hope you will take advantage of it.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – TOM MANOS

My Brother Knights,

The Community Activity Team and I wish you a fulfilling Lenten Season.

First, old business, in January Chairman Rick Boyle and myself sent out a mailing to all Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries. Included in this important post, I enclosed a form to Supreme Council for the “Food for Families” program. I would like to thank the 8 Councils who did complete the form and submitted to the Supreme Council. I have received a message from that committee that mention that we need 20% of the States Councils to report if we can received any funds from the \$1 Million grant. So Worthy Grand Knights or Worthy Financial Secretaries, please take just a few minutes to fill out and submit this form. I would hate to miss out on free money.

The time is coming near for the State Convention. We are working to have the best convention ever. Chairman Rick Boyle reminds us that we are going to have plaques for the most dollars donated to the Agape House, for the Council, Assembly, and Auxiliary levels. We will also have certificates for each others that make a contribution.

Chairman Jerry Rouse notes that Chris Lewis from the American Wheelchair Foundation will be attending the Convention in April. Chris is schedule to address the Knights and Ladies at the luncheon on Saturday.

“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.

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. Chairman Richard Weiberg said we are on track from last year recruiting new members. We can do better, so please mention at your next Council meeting to join this important program.

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. Please note, you don't need to be a member of the Knights of Columbus to receive this honor.

Chairman Bruce Gardiner reports from the Missouri Catholic Conference the Missouri State Budget is to eliminate funding for the Alternatives to Abortion program. With the State Budget over \$23 Billion, the writers of the budget can find \$2 million to preserve this program. Many State funded programs are defended as being an investment in Missouri's future, for example, funding for colleges and public schools. Then what can be more important for the future than saving the lives of the unborn children?

Until next time, May God Bless...

YOUTH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – DAVID DILLON

Jim O'Fallon thanks all the councils that have participated in the free throw contests. The state free throw finals will be held on March 21st at 12 P.M. at Helias High School in Jefferson City. Jim asks all the councils to send to him the number of participates they had for the free throw contests.

J.Y. Miller and his committee will start judging the applications for scholarships in the very near future. It may seem a long ways off but you need to start thinking about getting ready for next years scholarships.

Bill Breeding is willing and waiting to help any council needing help starting or working with a Boy Scout troop.

Michael Auchly is happy to announce that the number of councils wishing to start Squires and Columbian Girls Circles is increasing. This shows the youth want a good Catholic organization that they can belong to. Contact Mike if your council is interested in

forming a circle or if you have any concerns about present circles. Michael also wants to announce that there will be a quilt raffle again this year at convention to help with the cost of the Circles convention this summer at Potosi.

Tom Wildhaber thanks all the councils for getting their winning entries to him. Tom hopes to get all the entries read and the winners announced in the near future.

Gene Hofstetter thanks all the councils for getting the winning substance abuse posters to him. Gene is judging them for the state winners and will soon announce the winning entries.

The Youth of the Month applicants are coming in but would love to see a lot more. The selection for the Youth of the Year will be announced at the State Convention next month.

The events in the state youth programs are winding down for the school year, don't let the youth slip from your council programs. Keep the youth in your thoughts because they are the future of the Knights of Columbus.

The Youth Activities Team is looking forward to seeing everyone at convention next month.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – MIKE GRAYSON

I recently had the honor, along with the District Deputy, of presenting a Family of the Month plaque. This was done during a Sunday Mass, and I can tell you that the family receiving the plaque were thrilled! When you have a family receive honors like this, please try to make the presentation as big as possible. I know the family will appreciate it even more! See Chairman, Charles Bexton, for all the details.

We have begun investigating a Family Day at Worlds of Fun Amusement Park near Kansas City. Before we can proceed much farther, we really need to know what kind of Response there would be. Please contact either myself or Chairman Charles Kirchner with your thoughts.

The Family Day at the Ball Park is down to the final details. It will be another game against the Chicago Cubs, and we already know that there will probably be fewer tickets available. As soon as we can make the announcement, grab your tickets early! It was a sell-out last year, and a really great game. I know this year's will be just as good. Be ready to send that ticket money in to Chairman Jim Cooper as soon as we let you know all the details.

Until then, THINK SPRING! And we will see you at the convention!

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES – 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 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. It is 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.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March 1, 2010	Applications due for "Monsignor Joseph Mancuso Catholic Education Program Grants"
March 5, 2010	Deadline for Articles submitted for April Mariner
March 15, 2010	Applications due for "State Family of the Month"
March 21, 2010	Free Throw Contest - State Finals Jefferson City - Helias HS
March 27, 2010	KC Founders Day - Sporting Clay Shoot, Branson - Ozark Shooters Sports Complex
March 31, 2010	Applications due for "State Knight of the Month"