



Missouri State Council Knights of Columbus

NOVEMBER 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

Congratulations: To all the Council's earning The Star Award and special congratulations to our 12 Double Star Award winners. We are very proud of all our Council's hard work in making Missouri a Circle of Honor winner the last Fraternal Year.

I hope you were able to enjoy the Family Pilgrimage to Mary Mother of the Church National Shrine in Laurie, MO October 4th. Pilgrimage Chairman Jeff Slama and Laurie Council #10381 did an outstanding job organizing the program and the weather was beautiful.

I am happy to be able to report we are finding employment for our members and their spouses with the Job Bank Program. Update on the Savers of Life Program, now there are over 23 Councils involved in this Pro-Live Program and growing. For information, contact Ed Spence at edsgals@sbcglobal.net. Religious Information Bureau, Secretary-Treasurer Bill Lukas reports at this time we are ahead of last year's levels. Early responses from councils and auxiliaries have ten councils and twelve Auxiliaries achieving Circle of Honor status. Combined 15 more than last year at this time. We still have a long way to go. Family Life Director Mike Grayson threw out the first pitch (Cubs vs. Cardinals) at the Knights of Columbus day at the ballpark, fun was had by all.

District Deputies and State Officers meeting December 12th and 13th at Tan-Tar-A-Resort, Lake Ozark, MO . . . Please plan to attend. District Deputies you will need to bring your State Directory's to the meeting.

The 2010 Missouri State Convention will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO April 23-24-25, please make plans to attend. Any 3rd Degree member in good standing in the Order may attend.

Information Changes:

State Retention Chairman: Thomas Nelson new email Tom.nelson.61@gmail.com

Catholic Education Fund Chairman: Adrian Green new phone number 417-282-7862

Secretary to the Master: William J. Kirchner, 2507 McFarland Ln., West Plains, MO 65775; email bjkirch@townsq.com; phone 417-256-9912

President – St. Therese Little Flower Ladies Aux. #4962: Mary E. Wood, 8714 Ridgeway Ct., Kansas City, MO 64138, phone 816-358-1157.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR - KEITH MILSON

It's that time of year again...The Fall Membership Blitz held annually during the months of October/November.

A coordinated membership Recruitment Blitz is an all-out effort to maximize your membership teams' efforts by canvassing an entire parish on one or two weekends, gathering the names of prospective new members for follow-up.

For your council's recruiting efforts to succeed, you need to devise a plan of action and follow through on it. Your council will need an "Action Plan" that will lead you to strategies that can be implemented to execute a successful recruitment campaign. Supreme Council has a variety of materials available to you.

Basically there are five major phases to doing your Membership Blitz: The Preparation Phase, The Execution Phase, The Follow-Up Phase, The Orientation Phase, and The First Degree. First and foremost, as with any membership drive, obtain the pastor's permission to conduct a Blitz at the church during a specific weekend. Advertise the event in the parish bulletin building up to when it is held. Order recruitment materials from the Supreme Council Supply Department. By all means you will want to inform the insurance representatives about the dates of the recruitment drive and ask him to help out. Call upon your regional State Membership Chairman and ask for his advice and assistance. On that big weekend: Set up informational tables at every door of the church. Have plenty of prospect cards and pencils on hand to distribute to each man as he enters the church. Arrange for a membership recruitment announcement to be made during Mass by the priest endorsing the council. Have brother Knights on hand to answer questions and to collect prospect referral cards or names and contact information as men leave the church with their families.

Follow-up is very important: Personal contact must be made with every prospect within 48 hours! Inform each prospect and his family of the date, time and location for the informational seminar, and invite them. Offer transportation if necessary. On the night of the Orientation Meeting: Request that your council's chaplain start the event with a prayer and some words about the Order and its mission. Consider showing one of the recruitment videos available from the Supreme Council Supply Department. Make the requirements for membership known to those assembled. Offer each prospect a Membership Document (#100) to fill out before the event's conclusion

and have Brother Knights available to assist prospects in completing the form. Of course you will need to inform the candidates of the date of the First Degree. Schedule a First Degree no more than two weeks after your informational session. Leading up to the First Degree: Contact the candidates to remind them of the degree date and ensure they have transportation to the location. Don't forget to order degree certificates from the Supreme Council Supply Department as a fitting way to recognize your new brother Knights. Don't let the new members leave the degree without getting them involved and explaining the Shining Armor Award program. Your mission of retention of these men begins the moment they complete their First Degree!

Remember, there are a lot of qualified Catholic men just wanting to be asked to join. Now is the time to take your first steps toward offering these men membership in the Knights of Columbus.

The State Membership Team wishes each council a successful membership this month!

Lastly, if for whatever reason you cannot hold the Blitz in October, certainly do it in November.

2nd & 3rd Degree Dates

October 18, 2009 Council 1054 Jefferson City 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

October 25, 2009 Council 698 Springfield 1 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

November 1, 2009 Council 4387 Kansas City 1:00 pm

November 8, 2009 Council 6405 Jackson 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

November 15, 2009 Council 13823 St. Justin Parish St. Louis 1:00 pm

January 10, 2010 Council 3760 Mexico 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

January 31, 2010 Council 13750 Conception Seminary 1:30 pm

January 31, 2010 Council 823 St. Charles 1:30 pm

February 7, 2010 Council 4679 Salisbury 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

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 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 - Airport Marriott

April 10, 2010 Kansas City - Airport Marriott

RELIGIOUS INFORMATION BUREAU – JOSEPH ROSENTHAL

Has someone in your council taken a Catholic Home Studies course provided by your donation to the R.I.B. program? If so have them speak at your next meeting to give an account of what they have learned and also how your money is being spent. If you as a leader of your council have not taken a course, you should see firsthand how your money is being spent. Get online today and take a course. As we spread the word about our Catholic faith across Missouri we are in need of your help. The R.I.B. Fall Appeal will be out soon. We are asking each Knight who has taken a course to dig deep and donate more than their \$7.50 through their council. By donating a little more we can help someone learn about our faith.

Bill Lukas, Secretary-Treasurer R.I.B., has mailed out the yearly quotas for the Councils and Ladies Auxiliaries for the Religious Information Bureau to the Financial Secretaries and Ladies Auxiliary Presidents on record. To those Councils and Auxiliaries that paid their quotas last year thank you. If your Council or Auxiliary did not pay their quota last year there is still time to make it count. Mail today.

Where would this program be without the cooperation between the Vincentian Community, Fr. Oscar Lukefahr and the Missouri Knights of Columbus, what a team. Thanks to all of you for the work you do for evangelization.

M.R. PROMOTIONS - ED COLUMBUS

At the time this article was due all councils should have been in their final preparation for their tootsie roll drive. Our stated slogan for 2009 is "Knights and Ladies - A Winning Team - Helping God's Special People". It will take a "team" effort to reach our goal of \$635,000.

All Financial Secretaries of record on July 1st should have received information from Frank H. Kempker, Jr. PSD and Columbian Charities Treasurer on where to send their M.R. money along with deposit slips for Hawthorne Bank. I ask that the councils get their deposits done promptly and include their disbursement form for this years turn around funds. Get that money back and give it to the organization in your areas that can put it to good use.

There is still money from previous years that has not been requested. The Diocesan Chairmen and District Deputies will be calling Councils with money not requested and encouraging them to take care of this available money. My goal is to make Frank Kempker happy and clear up the books of all turn around funds. Grand Knights that do not have a specific choice for their money will be asked to consider the Contest of Concern for Special Olympics. The State Council has pledged \$30,000 to the Missouri Special Olympics. In 2008, over

15,000 Special Olympic Athletes participated in various activities across the state. Your turn around funds along with the money pledged by the State Council goes a long way toward helping these athletes afford to compete.

Again this year the M.R. team is sponsoring a fund raiser raffle for Contest of Concern for Special Olympics to help us reach our goal of \$35,000. This year we are going "Electric". We will have three quality prizes. First place will be a 40" LCD-HD Samsung T.V.; Second place will be a 17" HP Laptop Computer; Third place will be a Tom Tom GPS System.

All Grand Knights, Auxiliary Presidents, Assembly Navigators along with Assembly Auxiliary Presidents will receive envelopes by mail with raffle tickets in them to sell. All State Director and Chairmen will also receive raffle tickets and are asked to help support our effort. Please sell the tickets and return the signed stubs and money with their eleven digit phone number to Ed Columbus as outlined in the accompanying letter.

Vivat Jesus!

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – PAUL QUIRK

Well, here we are, summer is behind us and the first quarter of the Fraternal Year is behind us as well. There is no time like today to review your Council activities, check on your Membership Drives, schedule those First Degrees, and increase your Council activities. Now is also the time to sit down with your District Deputy and complete your Council Quarterly Check sheet. If you cannot locate this check sheet please email at dannetquirk@sbcglobal.net. I would gladly send you one.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES YOUR FIRST QUARTER REPORT IS DUE TO ME BY THE END OF OCTOBER. As always, I'm here to assist you. All you have to do is ask.

Don't forget to sign up for the State Bowling Tournament hosted by Bishop Timon Council 6405. For more information contact Brian Nugent at 573-243-8905. Special thanks to Lee Cahow and all the members of Branson Council 6470 for another successful Trap Shoot.

Public Relations Chairman Marvin Armistead reports that he is beginning to receive your Council Newsletters. It is not too late to put Marvin on your email chain; his email address is mearmistead@yahoo.com.

The Council Activities Team wishes all a very successful MR Drive, remember to take along a few Form 100's, you never can tell, you just might meet a future Knight.

Ed and Gerri Spence thank all the wonderful ladies that attended the Ladies Area Meetings this fall. I'm sure that all your Council's appreciate all that you do in support of our Great Order. Don't forget we are here to assist in anyway possible. For those Council's interested in starting a Ladies Auxiliary please contact Ed and Gerri at edgals@sbcglobal.net.

Ladies when you read this we will have finished all Area Meetings. Attendance was approx. 60 to 70 for each meeting with one exception and this was 20, but that was great for this was the smallest area in the state. We hope you picked up some information that you didn't know or may have forgotten. We just want the Ladies to know that we are always there for them for whatever their needs are.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – RALPH CUPELLI

"Strengthening Our Faith by Our Actions"

Our annual State Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage on Sunday, October 4, 2009, at the Mary, Mother of the Church National Shrine in Laurie, Missouri, was a very beautiful, spiritual and well planned and executed event. I want to thank everyone who made our pilgrimage so memorable, especially our State Chaplain Monsignor Marion Makarewicz; Jeff Slama, State Pilgrimage Chairman; Rich Purdon, Council Pilgrimage Chairman and the members of Mary, Mother of the Church Council 10381 and Ladies Auxiliary who helped with the ceremony and provided a great meal. I would also like to thank the many members of the Fourth Degree Honor Guard, led by State Master Ron Wood, who added to the beauty and ceremony of the day. Please plan to join us next October at Starkenburg.

It is time to have your parish, Catholic school, and religious education program apply for a \$500 or \$1,000 Monsignor Joseph Mancuso Catholic Education Grant. Past State Chaplain and Catholic Education Chairman Fr. Joseph Weber has updated the grant information and application form both of which can be printed from on our State K OF C website. Grant applications are due by March 1, 2010. Recipients of 2009 grants need to complete the evaluation form that is also located on the website. You can still contribute to the Catholic Education Fund by purchasing a Knights of Columbus license plate (\$25 for one year and \$50 for two years) and by honoring someone either living or deceased with a Memorial Plaque. Forms for both of these programs can be found on our website. Contact Catholic Education Fund Chairman Adrian Greenburg if you have any questions or want to make a contribution.

I hope that you have been successful in sponsoring a seminarian or postulant and your council, assembly or auxiliary has planned a Religious Appreciation Event in this Year of the Priest.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – TOM MANOS

"Knights Upholding Life's Culture"

My Brother Knights...

The P.A.L. (Protecting All Life) Program a new program started last year gives recognition to people who have diligently worked for Pro-Life causes. There is an application in your handout; please fill out and send to Chairman Reynolds Blackburn and he will submit it to the State Council for awards and pins. Please advise the Ladies Auxiliaries that this program is also for them.

The mission of the Agape House is to give those in need of a concrete demonstration of God's love for all of us. This is done through providing a safe clean place, and overnight lodging in an environment that says God cares for you, and we do care. The Agape House is

just that, a house. We are the mission and the agape love. Only through our gifts and prayers can there be a mission and demonstration of love and caring. Chairman Rick Boyle and the State Council has asked that each Council, Auxiliary, Fourth Degree Assembly give at least \$50.00 to this worthy cause.

The Knights of Columbus as partnered with the "Wheelchair Foundation", a nonprofit organization that provides wheelchairs to individuals with physical disabilities who cannot afford one. Chairman Jerry Rouse and the Missouri State Council encourages all Councils, Auxiliaries, Assemblies and Circles to promote this charitable program.

For every \$75.00 donated to the foundation, they provide matching funds to purchase one wheelchair.

We have seen in recent times the power of the vote. Elections of our lawmakers have been very close. Are you registered to vote? It is your right and obligation to vote for the officials who will make laws for all of us. We must voice to the lawmakers of this great country, state, county and local officials where we stand on the subject of "UPHOLDING LIFE'S CULTURE."

We are blessed to have the Missouri Catholic Conference, to watch our State's Lawmakers activities. Chairman Bruce Gardiner Jr. and the Missouri State Council recommends that each Council have an active program to pass on the information provided by the "MCC." One person might not have the power to change a bad law, but with the 42,000 + Knights and their families here in Missouri, we can and have made a difference.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – DAVID DILLON

Jim O'Fallon has been pleased with the participation of the councils in this years' Soccer Challenge. The shootouts are over at the council, district, and regional levels and now on to the state competition. The state shootoff will be held in Westphalia on November the 8th at 1:00 at their council hall.

J.Y. Miller reminds everyone that verification of enrollment is required to receive the scholarship funds for this semester. Since this is a lull time for the counselors at the schools now would be an excellent time to make sure that they have the scholarship forms for next year.

Michael Auchly doubled the number of Columbus girls and Squires Circles last year and wants to do the same again this year. Michael is more than willing to do whatever it takes to accomplish this goal. If there is any interest in your council for a Columbian Girls or a Squires Circle give Michael a call.

Gene Hofstetter reminds everyone that all adult leaders (Knights or non-Knights) who are in direct contact with the young people in KofC sponsored activities need to have a Youth Protection #4348 completed. Gene also reminds everyone that if you haven't spoken to the school about the Substance Abuse poster contest, that time is a wasting. Don't forget to get your kits ordered from Supreme.

Thomas Wildhaber wants to remind everyone that the essay contest is not far away. Thomas hopes you have spoken to your schools about the contest and that they have agreed to hold it again this year. Thomas wants to remind everyone not to forget the home schooled because they are also eligible to participate in the contests.

Bill Breeding is wanting to help form or help with existing troops in any way.

Keep the Youth of the Month applications coming. The youth appreciate this award more than we think.

The Youth Activities team wants to wish you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. We are looking forward to seeing all that can attend the mid year meeting in December.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – MIKE GRAYSON

I hope those who attended the Family Day at the Ballpark had a great time! The game was a heartbreaker, but it was well played, well attended, great weather, and I think everyone had a great time. Chairman Jim Cooper has already begun planning for next years game. We will let everyone know as soon as tickets are available.

Chairman Charles Bexston wants to thank everyone for all the Family of the Month applications. We are pleased to say we had five applications, all worthy families and well qualified, for the last period, and the winner will be announced soon. Keep up the good work everyone!

Soon will be the December meeting for the State Council, and Chairman Charles Kirchner and I are planning the Kids Christmas Party and Pizza Party. We hope everyone can join us for the afternoon, more details will be following.

My hometown of Desloge was the host of the "Traveling Wall", a memorial to the fallen from the VietNam War. It may not be related to the Knights of Columbus, but it IS related to Family! Seeing this wall is a very humbling experience. All of us have had family members in a branch of the service, and seeing this memorial to the soldiers that gave everything to protect what we hold dear to us is an experience that cannot be put in words. I urge all to see this traveling memorial if it comes near you.

Vivat Jesus!