



# Missouri State Council Knights of Columbus

SEPTEMBER 2009

# Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism

**“WE ARE KNIGHTS FOR LIFE”**

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GREG W. STRATMAN ~ STATE DEPUTY

JOHN KOLISCH ~ PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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## STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR – JOHN KOLISCH

This is the year of the PRIEST; Pope Benedict XVI has set aside June 19, 2009 to June 19, 2010 as a year to show our appreciation to our PRIESTS. Ways we can show our special appreciation for our priests and bishops, hold a religious appreciation dinner, take your parish priest out for dinner, remember him on his Birthday, most of all support the religious in your area by supporting a seminarian, he is the future of our Church. There are many ways to show our support, pray for our Priest, they pray for us.

It is starting to cool down and guess what, the M.R. drive (tootsie roll drive) will be here before we know it. Is your Council ready for the best year ever? This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, lets be sure to do our best for GODS special people.

I would like to welcome Joe Rosenthal as our new Religious Information Bureau Director; Joe has held many other directorships. Joe's e-mail is (kcsportingclays@gmail.com). Also, Mike Grayson as the new Family Activities Director Mike's e-mail is (mdgrays@sbcglobal.net).

We are off to a great start this fraternal year, recruit new members each month in your Council you can do this. We will have all the state programs listed in detail on the State web site ([MOKOFC.ORG](http://MOKOFC.ORG)) for your access, please use them to help plan your council's activities, have the best year ever and have fun in furthering Columbianism.

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – KEITH MILSON

As we roll into the end of summer it is time to start evaluating your membership recruitment goals and strategies. The highest recognition of a successful council and a measure of the leadership of the Grand Knight is whether the council obtains the Star Council Award. Laying the groundwork for a successful membership program is essential to the chances of your council obtaining the top level as Star Council. Get your council off to a strong start this year!

Some simple first observations of your strategies should include the following questions: Has your membership recruitment team been contacting prospective members? Have you scheduled a membership drive? Have you scheduled a First Degree or contacted a neighboring council to find out their schedule? Has your retention committee been actively working to keep the members that you already have? Have you invited your insurance agent to attend your meetings and functions? Have you invited the agent to help the recruitment and retention committees? Have you asked your District Deputy to assist you in your efforts? Have you contacted your regional state recruitment and retention chairmen and solicited their help? If your council serves more than one parish, have you established contact with the pastor and set up your roundtable?

One man alone is not a rock; one man alone is isolated. As Grand Knight, you cannot and should not try to do it all on your own! If you can't answer yes to all of the questions above, NOW is the time to make that call, send that email, contact those Brother Knights that you need to help or keep, your council strong and earn that Star Council Award. Members of the State Membership Team are anxious to work with each council to help you have a successful year.

During the next month we ask that each council report to their District Deputy the names and contact information of who will be serving as the Membership and Retention Chairman for your council. This info will help us make direct contact with those men to offer our assistance and guidance. We also ask that you report the names and contact information on those serving on your First Degree Team. Tony Braun, our Ceremonials Chairman, will use the information to compile a data base to help you in case one of your team members is sick or out of town. Please get both sets of information to your DD this month.

### **2nd & 3rd Degree Dates**

September 13, 2009 Council 6018, St. David Parish, Arnold 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am  
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 a.m.  
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, 1st Degree 10:30 am  
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, 1st Degree 10:30 am

## **2nd & 3rd Degree Dates Cont.**

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  
April 18, 2010 Council 13178 Vienna 1:00 pm, 1st Degree 10:30 am

## **RELIGIOUS INFORMATION BUREAU – JOSEPH ROSENTHAL**

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. This way we can help spread the word about our Catholic faith across Missouri.

Speaking of spreading the word of our Catholic faith, have you taken one of the R.I.B. courses supplied by Catholic Home Studies and paid for by your donation to R.I.B.? If you have not now is the time to see what your R.I.B. donation provides to individuals.

Fr. Lukefahr thank you for your knowledge in providing us these courses over the years. Also thank you for your guidance in our faith formation.

## **MR PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR - EDWARD COLUMBUS**

Congratulation to all of the returning members of the Missouri Knights of Columbus team and welcome to all the new members, you are in for a most enjoyable year. A new fraternal year has officially begun and the largest Statewide fund raising program, the annual tootsie roll drive, to help the Knights of Columbus Developmental Wing of Cardinal Glennon Hospital in St. Louis, is not to far in the future.

The M.R. slogan this year is: "Knights and Ladies A winning Team - Helping God's Special People." Our M.R. goal is \$635,000. Approximately half of all money raised goes to the Developmental Wing and the remaining half comes back to the local councils to be distributed to their local charities that help the mentally handicapped.

To assist the local councils toward a successful M.R. drive are four Diocesan Chairmen; Ernie Useted of the St. Louis Archdiocese; Richard Dudenhoeffer, Jeff City Diocese; James Soptick, Springfield / Cape Girardeau Diocese, and Bill Stump of the Kansas City / St. Joseph Diocese. Don't hesitate to contact me or one of these Chairmen if you have any question or if you need help.

District Deputies are busy distributing to their council, the information they picked up at the July meeting. All Grand Knight's are ask to follow the direction in the checklist on page P59 of the Directory and be ready for a successful M.R. Drive. Remember, no donation is to small when it goes to help God's Special People.

Let's all work as a "Team" and make this M.R. Drive one of the best ever.

## **COUNCIL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – PAUL QUIRK**

Talk about getting off to a fast start, with most if not all the District Deputy Meetings behind us it is now time to implement the Programs that were discussed. With that in mind there is a lot of State Council Activities planned for the coming months.

Don't forget to contact Fraternal Recognition Chairman Steve Sallwasser with your Knight of the Month selection by September 30th. Steve's email is [HYPERLINK "mailto:dsallwasser@juno.com"](mailto:dsallwasser@juno.com) [dsallwasser@juno.com](mailto:dsallwasser@juno.com). Let's have a good turn out; I know you all have deserving Knights in your Council's.

The State Golf Tournament is behind us now, and at this printing the winners have not been announced. But, for you lucky and good golfers look for your name here next month. Athletic Events Chairman Randy Maune reports 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 all you bowlers Council 6405 will be hosting the State Bowling Tournament on October 24th and 25th. For more information and to sign up please contact Brian Nugent 573-243-8905. If your Council is interested in hosting a sporting event please let Randy Maune know.

Tony Braun, State Clown Club Chairman reports the Annual Clown Club Convention held at the Capital Crown Plaza in Jefferson City was a success and everyone had fun. If you attended the State Fair I hope you had a chance to stop by and visit your Knights of Columbus Clowns.

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 [HYPERLINK "mailto:mearmistead@yahoo.com"](mailto:mearmistead@yahoo.com) [mearmistead@yahoo.com](mailto:mearmistead@yahoo.com).

The September issue of the **Mariner** is going to press with a September 5th deadline date. Ken Wehmeyer asks that all your District news be to him for the December issue by November 1st.

And, last but not least is our State Web Chairman Mike Grudzinski. Mike has been busy at the keyboard maintain and updating your State Web Page. Mike welcomes any and all suggestions.

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – RALPH CUPELLI**

*“Strengthening Our Faith by Our Actions”*

Now that school has started it is time for your council, assembly, or auxiliary to support at least one seminarian, novice or postulant. The first and best option is to contribute directly to them. If a council contributes \$500 or more to support a seminarian, novice or postulant, Supreme will refund \$100 for every \$500 increment up to \$400 per person under the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP). The names of each diocese’s seminarians can be obtained from your Vocations Chairmen: Kurt Sommerhauser for the St. Louis Archdiocese, Dale Fick for the Kansas City – St. Joseph Diocese; Richard Wolfe for the Jefferson City Diocese; Marcus Schaefer for the Springfield-Cape Girardeau Diocese (East); and, Richard McNerney for the Springfield-Cape Girardeau Diocese (West). Refunds received under the RSVP should be donated to the State Religious Vocations Fund to increase our support of vocations at no additional cost to the council.

A second way to support seminarians is to contribute now to the Missouri State Council Religious Vocations Fund by sending a check to Chairman Jeff Slama at 2806 Insbrook Lane, Joplin, Missouri 64804. Our Religious Vocations Fund goal is \$15,000 this year and we ask that each council, auxiliary and assembly contribute 50 cents per member to the Fund with a dollar or more per member the preferred amount. The money we collect for the Religious Vocations Fund is sent in equal amounts to the four dioceses.

We also ask you to pray for vocations and encourage young men and women to consider the religious life in this special Year of the Priest.

Please join us Sunday, October 4, 2009, at the State Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage. 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 KOFC 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 for Councils to order your Roses for Life. The cost will remain the same \$15.00 per 100 roses. You must order in multiples of 100 roses. You also can order them with or without the Knights of Columbus Emblem. 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.

Chairman Jerry Rouse has information on hosting a blood drive. Also, Jerry can help Council’s purchase a wheelchair for someone who can’t afford it. With a donation of only \$75.00 and the matching fund from the “Wheelchair Foundation” could change someone’s life. This new program is a Supreme project and Knights around the world have responded with great zeal.

The Agape House also needs you help. Chairman Rick Boyle and the State Council is asking all Councils, Auxiliaries and Assemblies to donate \$50.00 to this worthy cause. We as Knights do have charity in our hearts and for those who need our help.

The Father McGivney Guild is a program in which every Knight and his family should join. The cost is zero, yes, something for free. Chairman Richard Wieberg is sorry to report only some 6,700 are members of this Guild. Are you and your family a member of the Guild? Information and application are in the State Directory; also you can find an application in the Columbian Magazine.

Chairman Bruce Gardiner Jr. reported, we hear about Congress are putting together a health insurance bill for all Americans. It sounds great for us who don’t have health insurance, but the Missouri Catholic Conference reports that this bill includes a “pro-choice stand.” The MCC is our watch dog. They report on the State and Federal lawmakers. For more information about the MCC and what is going on in Jefferson City and Washington D.C., check out their web-site.

Until next time, may God Bless, Tom Manos, Director

## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – DAVID DILLON**

The soccer challenge at the council level need to be held during the month of September, this is a fun opportunity for all of our youth ages 10 to 14 to show off their soccer skills. Remember, after the council level it is the district level in October followed by the regional shoot-offs, and then on to State. Check the web site for the dates, times and locations of the regional shoot-off and the State finals. For more information contact Jim O'Fallon.

I am happy to announce that Council 14067 has started both a Squires Circle and a Columbus Girls Circle. It doesn't take much to form a Squires or Columbus Girls Circle, just the desire to give some time and a little energy to work with the youth in your parish. If your Council or Auxiliary would wish to start a circle please contact Michael Auchly.

School is fast approaching and if you haven't contacted the schools about the essay contest time is running short. The topics for the essay contest for grades 5 thru 8 "Strong Families Build Strong Communities" and Grades 9 thru 12: "Is Modern Society Pro-family or Anti-family?" Tom Wildhaber will answer any questions that you have on the essay contest.

When doing the Substance Abuse Poster Contest order the kit from Supreme (Form #SA-KIT) and be sure to follow the rules. Poster size is 11" X 17". This is a great way to work with your local police or sheriff department DARE program. Olivia Deekins from Westphalia was a Supreme Council winner this past year. Gene Hofstetter will be more than willing to answer all your questions on the substance abuse and child protection.

Students that received scholarships from the state council this year will need to make sure that the schools give their enrollment status to the scholarship committee or J.Y. Miller. All payments will be made to the schools, NOT the individual.

Bill Breeding is wanting to help your council form a scouting troop. This could be from Cub or Brownie all the way to Venture Scout. Youth of the Month recognizes the youth in your council who are working hard at school, home, community, etc and deserve to be recognized for all their hard work. So take a look at what the young people are doing in your parish, and give them the reorganization they deserve. It doesn't take long to go to the Web site, complete the application and send it to me .

## **FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR – MICHAEL GRAYSON**

As members of the Knights of Columbus, we often find ourselves in positions of leadership. Leaders in our Councils, our Parishes, and our communities. We can't forget that we are also leaders in our families! I invite all of you to look at [www.fathersforgood.org](http://www.fathersforgood.org), a website from the Supreme Council made to offer advice and insight in our daily lives and family relationships.

I'll be looking forward to seeing many of you at the Family Day at the Ball Park in September! Tickets were sold out quick this year (many thanks there to Jim Cooper), and I know the game with the Cubs will be great!

Going forward a bit, Charles Kirchner and I will soon start making plans for the kids Christmas Party at the December meeting. We hope to see a lot of our kids there for a great afternoon.

Has your Council turned in an application for the Family of the Month? I'm sure every Council has a family that goes "above and beyond" what a family can be expected to do. Send those applications to Charles Bextan, and don't be afraid to resubmit if they aren't a winner.