

KNIGHTLY NEWS

Leadership Edition

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Official Publication of MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

February, 2008

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LESSONS FROM NATURE

At the age of 14 I learned about growth rings in tree stumps while helping my father cut the winter supply of wood to heat our farm home in southeaster Minnesota. What started out as a hard day of work ended up as a lesson about nature.

During one busy fall day I learned that trees grow faster during some years than others. I learned that each ring on a tree stump represents a year of growth and growth rings are of different sizes due to varying conditions. It was explained that the amount of precipitation makes a difference in growth as well as the richness of the soil or the competition for sunlight. The trees that grew on the rich soil with a better moisture supply by the creek grew faster than those on the hillsides where the soil was rocky and thin and the moisture wasn't as consistent during the growing season. Trees that were shallow rooted usually didn't grow as fast as those that were deeply rooted on richer soil. The trees on the edge of the woods or near an open area did better because they received more sun light. Even some of the larger branches had a story to tell about the growth of the tree. As long as there were leaves in the spring, there was growth during the summer and there were growth rings.

KC councils are a lot like trees when it comes to growth. Some council's are located in more fertile conditions than others. These are the ones in or near our growing population areas. Some council's get more exposure than others just like some trees get more sun light and consequently do better. Some council's have a stable but consistent source of new members just like some trees have a good moisture supply. Some council's have Round Tables in other parishes. Are these Round Tables like healthy branches or are they more like under nourished twigs? Every council is different but unlike trees, councils can alter some of their environment.

Each council knows its local growth conditions and potential – or should know those conditions. Is your council healthy or has past leadership created an artificial drought or cut off the sun light. Check your councils past growth record. **I have never seen a tree stump where there was not at least some growth in the rings each year even under the most adverse conditions.** *There should never be a KC council in Minnesota without some growth each year unless 100% of all the Catholic men in the parish are KC's.*

Minnesota's Newest Bishop To Join Us

On March 15, 2008 Bishop Michael Hoepfner of the Diocese of Crookston will be taking his 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree at St Elizabeth's Church in Dilworth. He was ordained the seventh Bishop of Crookston on November 30 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Crookston.

He is and always has been a supporter of the KC's; his father was a Grand Knight many years ago. When asked the reason he hadn't joined before, he said, "I wasn't asked."

He has reserved this day in his busy schedule to join us. If he can make time to spend the day with us, don't you think there may be others who could take time to join us. It would be nice to have a large group of new Brother Knights joining with him as well as many current members to welcome them.

Dilworth is a suburb of Moorhead and the home parish of our current State Chaplain Fr. Joe Richards. It's an easy drive from anywhere in central/NW Minnesota.

For more information or if you are planning to attend please contact DD #17 Rick Morgan at 218-287-2262 or rick.morgan@northlandcollege.edu.

Regional Free Throw Competition



Region 1
Chair: John Serie
Phone: 507-283-8141
Date: Feb. 24, 2008 - 12 Noon p.m.
Place: St. Catherine's School
Luverne, MN
Districts: 24, 25, 26, 27

Region 2
Chair: Cahrles Schwab
Phone: 507-234-5259
Date: Feb 24, 2008 - 12:30

Place: Loyola High School
Mankato, MN
Districts: 28, 30, 35, 56

Region 3
Chair: Jim Frie
Phone: 507-895-4383
Date: March 9, 2008 - 11 a.m.
Place: Lourdes High School
Rochester, MN
Districts: 2, 33, 36, 37, 38, 40

Region 4
Chair: Joe Kriegel
Phone: 320-894-4157
Date: Feb. 24, 2008 - 12 Noon
Place: Redwood Valley High School
Redwood Falls, MN
Districts: 23, 29, 45, 48, 52

Region 5
Chair: David Steen
Phone: 218-784-3133
Date: Feb. 17, 2008 - 1:30 p.m.
Place: Ada/Borup Jr./Sr. High School
Ada, MN
Districts: 13, 14, 41, 50

Region 6
Chair: Dennis Boeckers
Phone: 320-847-2320
Date: Feb. 17, 2008 - 12:30 p.m.
Place: Sauk Centre High School
Sauk Centre, MN
Districts: 16, 17, 20, 21

Region 7
Chair: Steve Freese
Phone: 218-534-3856
Date: Feb. 24, 2008 - 12:30 p.m.
Place: Aitkin High School
Aitkin, MN
Districts: 9, 15, 18, 22, 54

Region 8
Chair: Mike Peplinski
Phone: 218-728-5570
Date: DD's will be notified - 12 Noon
Place: St. James School Gym
West Duluth, MN
Districts: 8, 10, 11, 44, 49, 51

(continued on page 4)

State Convention Resolutions

Any council wishing to submit resolutions for consideration at the Minnesota KC State Convention to be held in Willmar in May must submit them no later than March 1, 2008 to:

Jim Terwedo, State Advocate
3700 West 220 Street
Jordan, MN 55352

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

February 6, 2008 - Ash Wednesday
February 15, 2008—Semiannual Audit Report Due (Form #1295)
March 1, 2008 - Resolutions Due
March 23, 2008—Easter
March 25, 2008 - LC Day of the Unborn
March 29, 2008 - Founder's Day
March 30, 2008 - State Free Throw Competition

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

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Together We Can Do It

By: Gene Hippe, State Deputy

Can the Minnesota Knights of Columbus be the most influential Catholic men's organization in the state? You Betcha! We are well on our way to being able to say we are a strong and growing organization rather than being looked at as a weak and declining bunch of "old guys" doing the same things Knights were doing 50 years ago. You Grand Knights and District Deputies are the leaders that can make that change – make that difference. **We need to work together** and lead by example.

First we need to grow and strengthen the order. Then we need to evaluate the programs in each council to make sure these are the activities our members want for 2008. Councils need to share their best programs with others so all our councils and their members have programs that relate to today's problems and concerns.

Our Data Information Specialist, Dean Bouta, has been able to break down a Supreme list of **10,000 former members** into a list for each council. These are members who were suspended at one time. **We need them back!** Go over the list when you receive it. Cross out the deceased members and any who have left the Catholic Church and joined another church. The rest can be reactivated and count as a new member.

Another list Dean has broken down is **3,000 Inactive Insurance Members.** They have an insurance policy and at one time were suspended but are listed as members on your council roster. Your FS gets a membership list for your council in July and January. Inactive members are listed with an N on the list. If you reactivate them, your council gets credit for a new member.

Keep signing those new members and find out what kind of projects your members want for your council. Don't be afraid to make some changes and try something new

Mark It Down—KC State Convention May 15-17, 2008

Time to Order Tootsie Rolls

By: Marc Peters, Dev. Disabilities Fund Raiser Director

At the mid-winter meeting, your district deputies received the ordering packets for the 2008 developmental disabilities fundraiser program also known as the tootsie roll drive. The grand knights will get this packet at their local district meeting in January. Those councils who don't have a district deputy or whose district deputy did not attend this December meeting had their packet mailed to the address of the grand knight on record.

Please take time to read the instruction letter enclosed and then follow the instructions. All orders must be received by **March 1st**. No order means no product to pass out which means no funds to distribute to your local organization. Last year we collected over \$400,000 to distribute to organizations that work with people with developmental disabilities.

All brother knights should mark down on their new 2008 calendar April 25, 26, & 27 as tootsie roll weekend. A 2 to 3 hour commitment is all it takes to make this happen. More information at your local council meeting or ask your grand

State Programs

By: Ray Wojtyciak, State Program Director

I had a great time at the mid winter meeting. I was pleased to see all of you **District Deputies** that committed to make the time to attend the meetings and participate in the weekend. Membership and forms seemed to be the main topics. Speaking of forms, there are still more than **80 councils** that have not been recorded at Supreme as having sent in their **form 365 (directors and committee chairs)**. This alone eliminates 1/3 of our councils from achieving the **Star Council Award**. Are you one of them? However, on the positive side, we have only 10 active councils that have not filed their **form 185. Congratulations and Thank You!!**

Have you filed the **form 1728** fraternal activity report? **It was due 1/31/08!!** This is the report that determines whether or not we can maintain non-profit status. Did you realize that your Financial Secretary and Treasurer do not have their bonding in effect if the **semi-annual audits (forms 1295)** are not filed? This form is due February 15, 2008!! Approximately 1/3 of the councils in the state of Minnesota did not have their bonding in effect during July to December. This is just a little troublesome. **Are you one of these councils?**

My Brother Knights, there is still time to send in these reports. Please get your council officers into the habit of using the little yellow **Leadership Guide** booklet to track all of these due dates.

You will be receiving the **YEAR-END REPORTS** packet in the mail very shortly. It will contain a **questionnaire** to be completed and filed by **April 10, 2008. This is an absolute deadline!!** Filing this form is a requirement to be eligible for **State non-competitive Awards**. You will also find a **form** for your service program entries. This may be copied for multiple entries and may also be found in the Supreme forms booklet. It is also available online from Supreme.

How are you doing with your programs? How about membership?? Is retention working for you? It is very difficult to fill a bucket with a hole in it. A smart man will fix the leaks first! You can do this with exciting programs, and interesting and short meetings. Keep the members that you have active and interested, then recruit new members with new ideas and enthusiasm.

Free Throw contests, Timberwolves tickets, Poster and Essay contests, Tootsie Roll fund raiser for People with Developmental Disabilities, Family of the Month entries to Supreme— man, I could go on forever, but you know the routine. **Let's GIT R DONE!**

It sure sounds to me like it is getting close to State Convention time. Have you started to make your convention plans?

Ahh, the Knights of Columbus, I love it. See you at the Convention!!

**KC Day at the Dome
Sunday, August 17, 2008
Game at 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota Twins vs. Seattle Mariners
Pre-game Mass - 10 a.m.
(Tent outside of Gate D)**

Are You?

By: Fr. Joe Richards
State Chaplain

We are now a week or two into the season of Lent. This penitential season is a time for us to reflect on our spiritual lives and see how we are doing in living that life that Christ calls us to each and every day. How are you doing? Have you made room in the busy-ness of your schedule to take extra time for prayer? Are you doing your part in the life of your parish? Are you fasting? Are you sharing the gifts that God has given to you with those around you? These are some of the questions that we need to continue to ask ourselves and hopefully you can answer with a resounding YES to each.

May this Lent be filled with God's grace and blessings.

**Report your council's Blitz numbers
to State Membership Director
Ken Ford!**

1ST DEGREE TEAM DISTRIBUTION

Forty nine of our 257 councils have a 1st degree team. Those councils and the men on the teams are to be commended for their commitment to something so fundamental and important to the continued growth and success of the KC's in Minnesota. We need twice that many teams if we are to continue to be viable organizations in our parishes and communities. We need to hold 1st Degree Exemplifications for the candidates not hold the candidates for several months for the exemplifications. We need at least one team that can be shared by the councils in every district. Please consider forming a team.

To obtain the First Degree books, have the council FS order them from Supreme. Your District Deputy has the authority to certify a 1st Degree Team once they are appointed by the GK.

Certified First Degree Teams

435 Minneapolis	4718 Alexandria
945 Owatonna	4797 Hutchinson
1013 Rochester	4863 Sauk Centre
1076 New Ulm	4909 Medford
1491 Brainerd	4912 Ivanhoe
1544 Bemidji	4967 N. St. Paul
1632 Stillwater	5078 Mora
1636 Long Prairie	5569 Rosemount
1640 Virginia	7604 Eagan
1685 Shakopee	8337 Duluth
1781 Plainview	8571 Princeton
1841 Silver Lake	9138 Rice
2018 Anoka	9139 Osseo
2023 New Prague	9261 Gilman
2573 Mahanomen	9601 Loretto
2764 Willmar	11460 Rochester
2840 Grand Rapids	11679 Fort Ripley
3166 Detroit Lakes	11941 Rogers
3278 Park Rapids	12098 St. Cloud
3473 Deerwood	12581 Frazee
3603 Foley	12822 Waite Park
3820 Paynesville	13027 Rochester
3827 Bloomington	13144 Walker/Hack.
4021 St. Paul	13609 Spring Valley
4145 White Bear Lake	

EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE

Sunday	02/10/08	Faribault	889	Dist. 37	So. Suburban	Charles Ernste	507-332-2524
Sunday	02/17/08	Anoka	2018	Dist. 4	Metro	Bob Mathewson	763-754-2892
Saturday	03/01/08	Wadena	1636	Dist. 19	Korzendorfer	Robin Delage	320-732-4367
Sunday	03/02/08	Bloomington	3827	Dist. 4	So. Suburban	Mark Ruddy	763-744-6434
Sunday	03/09/08	Paynesville	3820	Dist. 19	Metro	LeRoy Schlangen	320-597-2080
Sunday	03/09/08	Sleepy Eye	3134	Dist. 37	Columbus	Myron Seidl	507-439-6312
Saturday	03/15/08	Dilworth	12581	Dist. 14	Korzendorfer	Rick Morgan	701-261-9969
Saturday	03/29/08	Brainerd	1491	Dist. 19	Korzendorfer	Mike Knakmuhs	218-829-9581
Saturday	04/05/08	No. St. Paul	4145	Dist. 4	Columbus	Mike Schilling	651-738-3626
Sunday	04/06/08	New Prague	2023	Dist. 32	Metro	Jim Mladek	507-364-5659
Sunday	04/06/08	Rochester	11460	Dist. 37	So. Suburban	Jeff Baniewski	507-289-3145
Saturday	04/12/08	E. Grand Forks	2573	Dist. 14	Korzendorfer	Ed Miller	218-861-6457
Sunday	04/13/08	Ivanhoe	4912	Dist. 19	So. Suburban	Marcellus Sik	507-694-1757
Saturday	05/03/08	Rosemount	5569	Dist. 32	Columbus	Peter Kay	651-423-5225
Sunday	06/01/08	St. Michael	11941	Dist. 19	Metro	Bryan Nichols	763-286-9068

If you plan to attend any exemplification, it's your responsibility to contact the District Deputy for starting times and with the number of candidates. To schedule a third degree exemplification, call Jim Hurt—Director of Ceremonials—(651)777-5829 & send a copy of the degree

State Free Throw Championship Information

By: Terry Englund, Chairperson (Ph: 763-528-1455)

This year the KC's and Timberwolves are welcoming everyone to join in on the fun. It will be a two-day event, starting with a banquet on Saturday. The banquet includes: pizza, pasta, and salad buffet, dance, arcade, and Timberwolves players and speakers. On Sunday the Championship begins and we'll finish with an exciting (hopefully winning g) game with the Utah Jazz.

Below outlines the activities for this two-day event:

Saturday, March 29

KC Marian Council
1114 American Boulevard W.
Bloomington, MN

Social Time/DJ: 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Banquet: 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

Speakers/Timberwolves: 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 30

Target Center
600 1st Avenue N.
Minneapolis, MN

Regis.: 9:00-9:30 a.m.

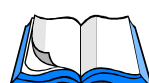
Championship: 9:30 a.m.

Game Works: 12:30 p.m.

Timberwolves Game:
2:30 p.m.

Hotel rooms are available at a reduced rate. Reserve your room by contacting the *Comfort Inn* (800) 7585 or (952) 854-3400, located at 1321 E. 78th Street, Bloomington, MN. Shuttle buses will be provided to bring you to the banquet, Mall of America and the E-train, which takes you to the game on Sunday.

Please join us for both days. Everyone is invited. This is also an opportunity for you to invite a friend or a particular group to a Timberwolves game at reduced rates. Complete the order form below for tickets.



State Directory Updates

Council #14250, New Brighton

Martin D. Schutz
Financial Secretary
5991 Gardena Lane NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Phone: 763-571-9354

Council #14429, Minnesota

Bruce Bot
Grand Knight
1744 County Road 24
Minneota, MN 56264
Phone: 507-872-5465

District Deputy #2

Dennis Bronk
57195 Couty Road 23
Millville, MN 55957
Phone: 507-798-2463
E-mail: bronks@deskmeccia.com
Councils: 639, 1781, 5202

Council #3659, So. St. Paul

Michale Bealka
Grand Knight
7604 Banning Way
Inver Grove heights, MN 55077
Phone: 651-457-2644

Council #3863, Redwood Falls

James A. Nester
Financial Secretary
505 Galles Drive
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
Phone: 507-637-8879

Council #4374, St. Paul East

Eric C. Coad
Fianncial Secretary
279 Pendryn Hill Court
Woodbury, MN 55125
Phone: 651-730-4170

Council #7187, Ortonville

Paul Strong
Grand Knight
38177 Willards Drive
Ortonville, MN 56278
Phone: 320-839-3385
E-mail: pstrong@ortonville.net

General Agent

Dale Robinson
Phone: 651-757-4400

Why Do Members Drop Out?

By: Ken Ford, Membership Director

Over the next few months I will be discussing why men leave the Knights of Columbus. The first six reasons I will go into detail and discuss the various ways we can approach the situation. The first two are:

1. Lack of Communication

- * There was no newsletter, written or e-mail.
- * No personal contact. The person that helped him join abandoned him.
- * The new member had no idea what was going on. He was never called or contacted about helping with a project or going to a meeting.

This seems a very easy fix but in the studies done, this is the number one reason. We can correct this. We should bring the new member to his first meeting or two. Make sure that he and his family feel welcome. If the new member and his spouse does not feel welcome or a part of the council, he will leave. His wife and children **MUST BE MADE TO FEEL WELCOME**. We are a **FAMILY** organization. Get his wife and children involved. If you don't have an activity that they are interested in, then help them start one.

2. **No program** for new Knight & family. FINE ONE. Get them involved. Use the interest survey (part of admissions committee responsibility). If you don't have these, have your FS order them right away. We must have new and exciting programs. If something needs changing, do it. Find programs that appeal to the 2008 family. Above all, **HAVE FUN!**

February Grand Knight Things To Do

- Recruit new members
- Conduct Poster Contest
- Schedule and hold a First Degree
- Hold Student Loan Lecture Program
- Submit Semi-Annual Audit Form 1295 (Due Feb 15)
- Ensure that local Free Throw winners advance to District/Regional Contest
- Recruit members for the Fourth Degree Exemplification
- Prepare for the KC Day of the Unborn (March 25)
- Remember your Sweetheart on Valentine's Day

INSURANCE CORNER

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Metro Area

Dale Robinson, General Agent
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White Bear Lake, MN 55110
PH: 651-757-4400

Southern MN

Aaron J. Jelinek, General Agent
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Rochester, MN 55906
PH: 507-281-2970



How Do You Appear?

By: Tom Grinnell, District Master

It is my understanding this issue of the Knightly News is mailed to the leaders of Councils and Assemblies in the Minnesota District. And this is good because you are the Knights I would like to address.

The past few months I have been looking at the pictures in the Columbia magazine and searching for pictures which include our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. I have found many and it is amazing that I have yet to find a picture of him in a sport coat with an open collar shirt, or in a golf shirt and a pair of jeans, or a tee shirt and a pair of shorts. Why is this? Pictures include him in church, with the Pope, with a group of Polish knights, with cadets, with veterans, and at social functions. He is always with a shirt and tie. Why is this? Is he making a statement? Does he take his work seriously? Is he proclaiming a message with his appearance? Is he focused? Do you think he is prepared? Does he know what his job expects and requires of him? It appears so. I believe so.

What is your attitude towards the Knight of Columbus? What kind of impression do you want to make on a prospective member? How do you conduct your council/assembly meetings? Do you use the outline provided by the Supreme Office or do you conduct your meetings in a casual way and then wonder why your attendance is small? Would you be proud to have the Supreme Knight visit your council/assembly meeting? If he announced he would be at your next meeting what would you do? How would you prepare for it and how would the meeting be conducted? Would there be any change in what you normally do? When he asks about your personal recruitment efforts what would you say? Would you be proud of them? After all membership is the asset of your council/assembly.

Think about it Brother and Sir Knights, how are you approaching the Knights of Columbus? Does your approach reflect your efforts? Is it a casual approach or something you take seriously? Do your results reflect your efforts? Do you forge the river or go with the flow? If you go with the flow in what direction is the flow going? Do you need an attitude adjustment? Is it worth the effort?

May you and your loved ones have a very happy St. Valentines day, may God bless you in your efforts to build His kingdom through the Knights of Columbus and may He continue to bless America.

(Regional Free Throw cont. from Page 1)

Region 9

Chair: Mike Wocken
Phone: 612-747-4463
Date: Feb. 23, 2008 - 1:15 p.m.
Place: Big Lake Middle School
Big Lake, MN
Districts: 19, 34, 42, 47, 55

Region 10

Chair: Jim Ebert
Phone: 952-442-2621
Date: Feb. 24, 2008 - 12:30 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph Catholic School
Waconia, MN
Districts: 31, 32, 46, 53, 57

Region 11

Chair: Shawn Leuer
Phone: 763-449-9938
Date: March 1, 2008 - 2 p.m.
Place: Holy Name of Jesus School
Wayzata, MN
Districts: 4, 5, 6, 7, 12

Region 12

Chair: Peter Kay
Phone: 651-423-5225
Date: Feb. 22, 2008 - 9:30 a.m.
Place: Holy Spirit School
St. Paul, MN
Districts: 1, 3, 39, 43

All State Free Throw Competition questions should be asked of Terry Englund, Chair at 763-315-0980 or via e-mail at: tenglund@comcast.net.

IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING RECENTLY DECEASED



For these we pray:

Blooming Prairie #4323
Roger Peterson
Bloomington #3827
Richard P. Denning
Edwin P. Hogan
Carl S. Wettenberg
John R. Hayes, Sr.
Reuban H. Swanson
Walter S. Lauby
Cloquet #5132
Kenneth Marden
Cold Spring #5344
Donald Donnay
Crystal #3656
Wayne A. Wander
Joseph Gabriel
Frank P. Surma
Frederick L. Brown
Thomas H. Murphy
Eagan #7604
"Rev." Thomas H. Brioschi
Elk River #5296
James H. Reding
Holdingford #9307
LeRoy Bialka
Lakeville #8367
Patrick J. Donnelly
LeSueur #2895
Arthur E. Anderson
Little Falls #1804
Everett Smith
Nashwauk #5283
Clayton W. Metzger
North Minneapolis #4454

Thomas V. Edwards
Ortonville #7187
Gordan C. Dawald
Pierz #3982
Daniel P. Langer
Dennis H. Gall
Pine City #2357
Kenneth Bible
Red Wing #1223
Dale J. Robinson
Rice #9138
Louis Parenteau
Richmond #8303
Donald Braegelmann
Silver Lake #1841
Raymond Wosmek
South St. Paul #3659
Chester C. Cashman
Othmar P. Kuechle, FDD
St. Cloud #961
William R. Plantenberg
Willmar #2764
Howard McCLeary
Harry E. Kidrowski

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES:
Please submit names of dedceased members to:
Bill Hoffman, Fraternalism Chair
100 North Cordova Avenue
LeCenter, MN 56057
Phone: 507-357-6179



MN KC State-wide E-Mail System

Attention: All DD's, GK's, and FS's

Information and instructions are now available to councils (GK & FS) and District Deputies about the new Minnesota Knights of Columbus state-wide e-mail system that will soon be ready to use. The State Council looks forward to communicating with you in a new way.

Fourth Degree Exemplification
April 19, 2008
Kahler Hotel - Rochester, MN

Fall Fourth Degree
Exemplification
October 25, 2008
Holiday Inn - Willmar, MN



KC Auxiliary News

By: Margaret Hendricks,
Historian/Publicity

This is a reminder to local Auxiliary Presidents to send in your volunteer hours for 2007 to State President, Ann Aeschliman. Watch for upcoming state board minutes and info on the upcoming State Convention in April. Remember to get your forms in by their deadlines.

Pray that a Respect Life Chair and a 3rd Person on Audit volunteers to be on the State Board.

The Pope's List

All new or reactivated members who receive their First Degree between Dec. 1st and April 20th will have their name recorded in a book which will be presented by Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson to the Pope when the Pope visits the US in April. The proposers of those new members will receive a special commemorative medallion from Supreme.



Check out our web-site:
www.mnknights.org