



KNIGHTLY NEWS

Leadership Edition

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Lessons From Nature

By: State Deputy Gene Hippe

Most of us have seen a bare embankment near a building construction site or on the slope of a road that is being graded. We have seen the results of erosions caused by a summer thunderstorm or melt water from winter snows and from strong winds when top soil is very dry. We even see the effects of erosion in farm fields before the crops get large enough to provide protection to the soil or after the crops have been harvested and the protective cover has been eliminated or reduced. And of course there is erosion caused by major floods. Good conservation practices can reduce and practically eliminated most soil erosion whether it is from water or wind. There are many good conservation programs that have been proven effective. These include terracing, contour farming, chisel plowing, water retention ponds, dams, windbreaks, and protective plantings such as grass. Many of our KC councils have good conservation programs for retaining membership. All should have retention committees. Councils have programs and activities which offer a variety of choices for involvement of members. But, just like soil erosion programs, a membership retention program needs to be applied before it can become effective. Eighty percent of members who drop their membership within the first two years, do so because the council never got them active. Councils have the programs to retain members, but they need to activate all their members and especially the new ones. One of the most effective soil erosion control methods is to plant a grassy cover. As the seeds sprout and the blades grow, the roots begin to intermingle and thus become something similar to a carpet. Our new members are like seeds that sprout and grow. As they grow they strengthen the council through unity, which is the second principle of our order. Don't keep planting new seeds only to let them wither and die. Nurture those members by getting them active and involved. ***Cut down on the erosion of our membership!*** Find out the interest areas of the members and get them involved with a committee and a project.

State Deputy Message By: Gene Hippe, State Deputy

Everything is indicating this will be a banner year for local KC councils in Minnesota. A banner year for councils really means that the Grand Knights and their officers, directors and chairmen have been doing a good job.

The newsletters I receive are loaded with exciting projects in all five of the activity areas. Fund raisers for various causes are always a mainstay in the newsletters but a wide variety of other projects and activities are being shared in the papers. And sharing is important, because not all members are able to attend every meeting and in fact some of our older members can no longer attend any meetings, but they still want to know what their council is doing.

It is interesting that so many of our councils are involved with adorations and leading the Rosary before Mass or at other times. I'm sure Fr. McGivney is pleased with what he is seeing in Minnesota. Also, he must be pleased with the new councils that are being formed and the new members that are coming into the Order. But, I can't help but wonder if he is not a little disappointed with the lack of effort to retain more of our members. I think many of our members "drop out" because our retention committee members and officers don't reach out to them and get them involved.

This year a large number of our councils are on track to attain Star Council. It is a great honor for a council and it's GK to receive this award. It is a joint effort which requires meeting both the membership and insurance quota and having four projects in each of the five activity areas. The GK's name is included on the award from Supreme, but it is the council that receives the honor. Last year two of our councils received "Double Star Council" which recognizes a council that doubled its membership quota.

Remember, no awards are given unless the paper work is completed and submitted on time. ***Don't miss an award because the paper work wasn't***

See you at the Minnesota KC Convention May 15-17, 2009
St. Cloud Holiday Inn

What To Do With Form 185

Form 185—Report of Officer's Chosen— **MUST** be sent to the Supreme KC Office, with a copy also mailed to the State Deputy/State Office immediately following your council election. This information is important and needed! Mail it in!



Check out our web-site:

www.mnknights.org

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

May 3, 2009—World Day of Prayer for Vocations
May 15-17, 2009—State KC Convention
May 25, 2009—Memorial Day

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State Programs

By: Ray Wojtysiak, State Program Director

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!!

WOW!! I'm up to my eyeballs in End of Year reports and program entries. It is great to see the quality, as well as the quantity of program entries being submitted. You have put a lot of work into preparing these reports and I am proud of what you have accomplished. Congratulations on another good year!

Unfortunately, a sizeable number of councils will miss qualifying for the non-competition awards simply because the required forms were not filed and/or they did not recruit any new members. These are things that we can be in control of. I challenge you to make a commitment to work a little harder next year.

Speaking of membership, there still is time to bring in new members to help meet the requirements for STAR COUNCIL, and the best part of it all is that you will have a jump start for non-competition awards for next year. How much better can it get.

Remember to file the form SP-7, Columbian Award by June 30 2009. The form you filled out for overall programs is similar, but is not the same. This form should be sent to Supreme and a copy to the State Deputy or State Program Director.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the State Convention!

Remember to keep in mind that God Loves You, and also, impatience is only a scratch away from anger. THINK ABOUT IT!!



State Free Throw Contest Winners

Girls

Age 10	Michele Remer	Grand Forks
Age 11	Noelle Langwrthy	Pine Island
Age 12	Alea GerhartzSauk	Centre
Age 13	Brittany Roelike	Belgrade
Age 14	Caroline Sjoberg	Lakeville

Boys

Age 10	Jackson Feddema	Cleveland
Age 11	Colin Squiers	Blue Earth
Age 12	Joel Klein	Avon
Age 13	Luke Monson	Bricelyn
Age 14	Nathan Monson	Bovey

Congratulations to all the participants at the State Free Throw Contest. They were all very respectful toward the judges and each other. We have some great kids!

Thanks to everyone that helped at the local, district, regional, and state contests!

Keep the Faith

By: Father Ron Hubery, State Chaplain

The April 13th issue of Newsweek magazine was titled, "The Decline and Fall of Christian America." The number of identified Christians has fallen from 86 to 76 percent. The number of Americans claiming no religious affiliation has nearly doubled since 1990, rising from 8 to 15 percent. The numbers can seem very disturbing but they should remind us of the commitment we need to make in living our Christian faith. The importance of our efforts as Knights of Columbus members to live our Catholic faith is so vital to the life of our parishes and communities.

This Easter season invites us to trust more deeply that Jesus is the way and the truth and the life. People are searching for meaning in their lives. People are striving to answer what is the meaning of happiness. The Church, and our faith in Christ, provides this assurance that no secular thing can provide for us. That is why I look forward to the State Convention where we can come together and support one another in faith. We will be renewed in ways to share the good news happening in our Church and through the efforts of the Knights of Columbus. May God bless all of you and the way by word and example you witness that Christ is alive and present to all of us today and forever.

COUNCIL'S: SEND IN YOUR REQUIRED FORMS

Some council's have not sent to Supreme all the required forms. Every year each council needs to complete and send to supreme Form 185 for the election of officers, Form 365 for the appointment of program personnel, the Annual Fraternal Survey and twice a year the Semi-annual Audit. Grand Knights, you have been advised of this numerous times, fill out the forms and send them in NOW!

STATE CONVENTION

Two delegates from each council plus the Board of Directors make up the State Council. That is 264 councils x 2 plus 7 officers = 535 voting members. In addition, all District Deputies and State Program and Membership staff are expected to be in attendance.

If we include Past State Deputies, Student Loan Board, insurance agents, spouses and other member's and guest's, we could have over 1000 people at the Saturday evening awards banquet. Don't skip this once a year business meeting and awards celebration or only go to part of it. Attend the entire weekend event. Your Grand Knight has all the details or call the convention chairman, Gene Markman, at 320-253-3635.

KC State Convention is in the Air

By: Joe Konrardy, State Warden

With the State Convention just a few weeks away, I encourage each Council to spend time with this year's resolutions during a Council meeting if you have not done so yet. The resolutions outline the current position of the State Council and they are highly recommended to be approved. Although only 2 delegates have the opportunity to represent your Council at the vote, every member is invited to attend and observe the proceedings.

The February issue of the Knightly News has a full listing of all roles. Every Council has been assigned a role of preparation or assistance at the convention. You can look at the list on-line if you need to refresh your memory. Convention Judges and Tellers will be put to work during the elections. Warden Assistants will work their assigned times to handle a number of things, including door duty to check membership cards.

To gain access to all member only meetings, each member will need to show their 3rd Degree membership card. Sorry, but 4th Degree cards will not work for this purpose. The membership card is not valid until it is signed by the member. Please check yours today and confirm you have signed your card. This will eliminate a bottle neck at the door as our meeting starts.

The entire State Council is looking forward to seeing you, spending time together and making this year's convention the best yet. See you in St. Cloud!

First Degree at State Convention

By: Dave Whatmuff, Ceremonials Director

Following the success of the First degree at the Convention in Willmar last year, and at the mid-winter meeting in Bloomington, we are planning to hold a First Degree at this year's Convention in St. Cloud.

This is a great opportunity for candidates to be initiated into our brotherhood, in the presence of the State Officers and representatives from Supreme, as well as our brother knights from Councils throughout Minnesota.

The exemplification will start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening, the 15th of May, please have candidates there for registration by 6:45pm.

If you plan on bringing candidates, please contact me by email at: KCDegreesMN@gmail.com or by telephone at 763-420-4995.

Reminder to Councils



Council and/or personal donation checks to Pennies for Seminarians and Jim Campbell Fund may be turned in at the Minnesota KC State Convention if not already mailed in. Thank you for all donations!

Student Loan Fund donations may also be made at that time!

State KC Softball Tournament

Mark Your Calendars!
36th Annual K of C Softball Tournament
August 29-30, 2009—Jefferson Fields,
St. Peter, MN
Hosted by: St. Peter KC Council #1509

EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE

Date	Location	1st Degree	2nd Degree	3rd Degree	Host DD	Phone #
05/02/09	Old St. Joseph School/Rosemount	9:00 a.m.—5569	11:00 a.m.—Fr. John Deere	Metro	Peter Kay	651-423-5225
05/03/09	St. Michael's School/St. Michael	10:00 a.m.—4174	12 Noon—Bob Nichols	Columbus	Don Legatt/FS	763-745-3525
05/15/09	STATE CONVENTION	7:30 p.m.	No second or third degree will be held.		Dave Whatmuff	763-420-4995
06/06/09	St. Bernards/Thief River Falls	10:30 a.m.—Dist. 9	12 noon—Lourdes	Korzendorfer	Robert Buresh	218-681-7204

If you wish to host or have requested a major degree and do not see it here, please contact Dave Whatmuff, Director of Ceremonials (763) 420-4995, e-mail KCDegreesMN@gmail.com. If you plan to bring candidates to any exemplification, contact the host DD with the number of candidates via e-mail (DDxxMNKnights.org). To see a complete schedule of degrees, check the state web-site at www.mnknights.org.



Let's Go Camping

Everyone is invited to the Fifteenth Annual Minnesota KC Camporee. This year the event will be at the Lakeshore RV Park in Ortonville on August 28-30. The entire family will enjoy the events scheduled. Be prepared for Bunko, horseshoes, kid's games, music, and dancing. There will be a Rosary and Mass on Saturday.

The resort has paddle boats, train rides, bumper boats, mini-golf, and an arcade. There are a number of motels nearby for those who don't camp but want to be in on the fun. You may contact the RV Park at 1-800-936-7386 or at: www.lakeshorervpark.com.

For information on the Camporee, contact: Dan Gerold at 952-445-1652 or via e-mail at: jangerold@hotmail.com.

It is not too early to register for some Family Fraternal Fun!



May Grand Knights Things to Do

- Schedule and hold a First Degree
- Send Delegates/Attend State Convention
- Prepare Slate/Elect Council Officers
- Submit Form 185 right after Election
- Send Cashier's Check for Tootsie Roll Funds ASAP
- Distribute MR Checks to recipients immediately
- Recruit High School Graduates
- Remember your Mom
- Go fishing
- Observe Memorial Day



A Faith Filled Program Fund Raising for Youth Religious Education

By: John Schlagel, Chairman
Fund Raising for Youth Religious Education

Come visit us at our Youth Religious Education Display on Saturday at the State Convention. We'll be there to answer your questions and perhaps provide you some helpful ideas to get you started with your parish fundraising.

See you at the Minnesota
KC State Convention!

Tootsie Roll Drive Winds Down

By: Marc Peters, M-R Fund Raiser Chairman

Thank you for your support on Tootsie Roll Weekend. Your efforts will help those organizations that help people with developmental disabilities. For a few select councils, the weekend is coming up. For most councils, this weekend has come and gone. It's time to wrap it up. Here are 5 good reasons for turning your money in now!

1. The money collected **does not** belong to the council or the Knights. It belongs to the organizations you have collected for. If you call the organization, they're going to tell you, "Show me the money!" Let's get it to them! Send it to the State Council and it will get turned around and out them: PRONTO!
2. This is the end of the two-year cycle for the state officers. Everything changes July 1st. It is much easier for the "old" officers to get this completed than it is for the "new" officers who will have to learn their jobs. Please get the money in now so that it can get through the system before the end of the fraternal year.
3. For most Grand Knights, their term ends in June. All their duties should be wrapped up. One of their duties is to see that the MR money has been turned in. On the order form, all GK's signed off stating that they would get the money turned in by May 10th. How good is your word?
4. At our convention we want to make a good first report to the delegates. I want to be able to give SD Gene Hippe a good accounting of what is, so he can report at his "State of the State" report on Saturday morning.
5. Because it is the right thing to do.

All report forms were sent out in March to the GK's. If you lost your packet you can get all the materials you need to complete this important task on line. Go to: www.mnknights.org; click on the Third Degree emblem; click on reports; and scroll down to MR report forms.

I look forward to seeing you at the state convention!



Spring has sprung!
Time to plant the seeds!
New life has begun!
Give thanks to God indeed!

Carry It With You

By: Berry Hobbs, State Membership Director

Our State Deputy has used nature in guiding us in doing the work for our Order. A year ago, he was writing about the hunter or the fisherman who needed to have the proper equipment to hunt or fish and have the proper understanding of how and when to properly use the equipment. He wrote this wonderful line. *You can't catch fish without a rod and reel, and you can't sign a member without a Form 100.* Carry it with you.

A few weeks ago, a friend of mine was at the Mayo Clinic Fitness Center, and after his workout, he chatted with a couple of friends. As he left for home, he was smiling with contentment knowing that he had just recruited two future members for the Order. We are a few weeks away from the end of the Fraternal Year. Continue to search out those who are not members of the Knights of Columbus and get them signed. As the State Deputy said, "Become familiar with the Form 100 and have one with you at all times."

The Easter season is behind us. Many new converts have joined the church, and those gentlemen are so anxious to become involved with the church. I feel very certain that a large number of them would be very happy to become members of our Order. Please take time to seek out those who have just completed the RCIA and ask them to join our ranks.

About the McGivney Medallion. Any member who recruits two new candidates is eligible for the Medallion. The candidates must complete at least the first degree. Either the Grand Knight or the Financial Secretary must send me the name and address of the recruiter. The timeline is the current fraternal year, July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. To search out those who qualify for the medallion, the Form 100 has listed the proposer. If there is any questions on this, call me at 507-529-9059.



KC Auxiliary News

It's convention time in St. Cloud! This year's convention is hosted by State Board members. We've been working very hard to make this event wonderful and different from past State Conventions. Stop by the table and take a chance on one or both "Family Fun Baskets." An autographed book by Carl Anderson "A Civilization of Love" will be included. We hope all Auxiliaries will be represented at the convention. Remember to stop by the State Auxiliary Hospitality Room Saturday evening after the banquet.

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Financial Secretary Reminder

As we come to the end of the fraternal year we are trying to ensure that we make our quotas or get things in by the deadline.

One VERY IMPORTANT thing that needs to be done all year is to send in Form 100's immediately after a new member takes his 1st Degree. Remember, a new knight doesn't receive his fraternal benefits and your council doesn't add him to your roster until his form is processed at the Supreme office. Don't wait until you have a few more to send in, do it right away.

How would you feel if his benefits became needed and the form was in your briefcase?

Supreme Convention in Phoenix

By: Craig Larson, State Treasurer

Have you ever wondered about going to the Supreme Convention? This year it is being held Aug 4-6, in Phoenix, AZ. There is also a Marian Congress on Our Lady of Guadalupe following the convention Aug 6-8.

Any KC member can attend the convention and proceedings but delegates must be elected at their state convention. Delegates are elected at our state convention, usually after lunch on Saturday. Nominees need to make themselves known to State Advocate Jim Terwedo prior to the nomination process. The Minnesota jurisdiction elects ten delegates and ten alternates.

At every Supreme Convention there is Mass each morning with the opening Mass being the largest. There are usually several Cardinals, 70-80 Bishops and 400-500 priests along with the 100+ member Honor Guard and about 3000 members and guests in the audience. The procession takes about 15-20 minutes. This past August it was broadcast live on EWTN. It is a spectacular thing to experience.

Delegates are required to attend all business sessions and the dress code is suit and tie. Everyone is encouraged to attend the States Dinner on Tuesday night where the dress code is tuxedo/white dinner jacket for the men and formal for the ladies.

Delegates are paid per-diem and mileage to offset expenses and the hosts from the Arizona State Council have planned many activities for guests to enjoy while in Arizona. They also have promised warm weather.

If you have any questions regarding the Supreme Convention please contact State Secretary Ricardo Acevedo.

ROUND TABLES

Supreme set a goal of 100 Round Tables for our state. Currently we have 62. If a council has a small parish(s) with which they are affiliated, this is a perfect opportunity to establish a Round Table (RT). Appoint one person who goes to that parish as the RT Coordinator and send in the paper work to Supreme. This gives your council credit for a church activity project. For more information call the state RT Chairman, Chuck Ernste at

WHEEL CHAIR PROGRAM

Councils and individuals are starting to raise and send funds to purchase wheelchairs for needy children and adults in poor countries. Imagine not being able to walk and not having a wheelchair! A wheelchair costs \$150 plus \$150 in shipping costs. Make out checks to the "Wheel Chair Foundation"; send them to Javier Valenzuela at 406 Julii St, Willmar, MN 56201. Javier will credit each council for their donations and within a year we hope Minnesota KCs can send at least 100. wheel chairs to people

IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING RECENTLY DECEASED



For these we pray:

Albany #3628
James J. Thelen
Austin #1202
Allen J. Frank
Bird Island #2000
Douglas Amberg
Blaine/Coon Rapids #5141
Richard J. Paul
Raymond J. Peter
Chisholm #3539
William P. Loulan
Cold Spring #5344
Celestine G. Pierskalla
Crosslake #9657
Mark L. Norman
Crystal #3656
Laurence A. Schmidt
Richard D. Dvorak
Edward Weglarz
Duelm #12519
Donald E. Winkelman
Duluth-St. Benedict #8337
O. George Renaud
Faribault #889
Sylvester B. Emge
Louis L. Kramer
Leo F. Meiller
Foley #3603
Al A. Maier
Gaylord #7051
James E. Deis
Grand Rapids #2840
Arnold Madsen
Holdingford #9307
Melvin Muyres
Hopkins #2232
Emmett W. Zachmann
Charles V. Lodermeier
Minneapolis #435

Edward B. Weeres
Thomas M. Godlewski
Herbert S. Anderson
George J. Kissel
William A. Polak
John V. Rouen
Moorhead #4463
Louis Costello
Ortonville #7187
Irvin S. Adelman
Osseo/Maple Grove #9139
Paul H. Kerber, F.D.D.
Pierz #3982
Leoard F. Pohlkamp
Sauk Rapids #11346
Aloys J. Bueckers
LeRoy R. Kipka
Sleepy Eye #3134
Edward Krzmarzick
Otto A. Sellner
Virginia #1640
Arthur L. Dincau
Theodore J. Pietrini
Willmar #2764
Donald Cain
Mathias Kotzenmacher
Winona #639
Bishop Loras J. Watters

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



Fourth Degree Exemplification Report

By: Tom Grinnell,
District Master

On April 18th, 131 Brother Knights received the degree of Patriotism in the beautiful ceremony of this degree. The exemplification was followed by the Exemplification Mass with seven priests, a deacon, an honor guard of over 60 Sir Knights, the Minneapolis Men's Knights of Columbus choir and over 600 participants.

The Joy of Giving Luncheon was enjoyed by 150 ladies with tribute given to the "Minnesota Military Family Foundation".

The welcome banquet had 600 in attendance including nine Sir Knights, of which four were priests that were inducted into the Minnesota Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Hall of Fame. They are Msgr. Francis J. Garvey from the Benson/Willmar Assembly; Fr. David E. Gallus, OSC and SK Frank J. Voight from the Little Falls Assembly; Fr. Al J. Svobodny from the Minneapolis Nicollet Assembly; Fr. Gregory J. Mastey and SK Richard R. Herbst from the St. Cloud Assembly; SK Evert E. Lehtola and SK Patrick M. Rein from the Shakopee Assembly; and SK John Bachand, PSD, FM, FVSM from the Anoka Assembly. This honor was conferred upon these men for their dedication to the Good of the Order and their service to their Church, their Community and their Country. Please include your congratulations to these men in your greetings to them.

May God bless you in your efforts to build His kingdom and may He continue to bless America.