

KNIGHTLY NEWS

Leadership Edition

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Knights of Columbus — 126th Supreme Convention

By: Most Rev. Michael J. Hoeppner, Bishop of Crookston

The Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus, held this year in Quebec, Canada, concluding Thursday, August 7, 2008, was the 126th Supreme Convention for the Knights and the very first for me. What a delight it was! I have certainly been to my share of conventions in my life. Yet, without a doubt, the 126th Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus was absolutely outstanding! Oh, for sure, there was the usual delight and excitement at seeing brother Knights and their wives, the delight of joining with other members of the Order from around the states, the country and world for some days of camaraderie. Quebec is certainly a charming city and offers convention goers wonderful sights, rich history, and sumptuous food. All of that is wonderful, but what made this convention truly outstanding was it's own real meat, and by that I mean it's message and the commitment to make the substance of that message a reality.

The message was clearly stated in the theme for the convention: "Building a Civilization of Love Through Charity, Unity and Fraternity." Whether it was Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson calling on all Knights to live out their faith in all aspects of their lives, or His Eminence Jean-Claude Turcotte, Archbishop of Montreal, reminding us that we are people of faith who know that building a civilization of love means that other false standards must be challenged, all the speakers at this convention, one after another, energized convention-goers and forged a shared conviction that with our hard work, and God's grace, we can make a difference and real change can be achieved for a civilization of love.

It was reported that this past year, the 1.75 million Knights worldwide donated more than 68 million hours and more than \$144 million to charity. These are world-class numbers. These are numbers that make a difference. The delegates at the convention adopted resolutions calling for "legal and constitutional protection... for the definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others" and opposing "any governmental action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide and other offenses against life." Knights have forged a commitment to work for this and will work to muster all Catholics to do so too. Knights have committed themselves to work for the eradication of "the abortion regime of Roe v. Wade." There are 150 million Catholics in North America and, as Supreme Knight Anderson put it: "if we stand together and demand better from our politicians, we can transform politics."

We can make a difference. We can be agents for change. Pope Benedict XVI offered his greetings to convention-goers and urged the Knights to be a "leaven of evangelical renewal in the Church and the world." This convention, the 126th for the Knights and my first, was outstanding in providing those who were fortunate to attend, renewed impetus and hope to be this leaven and to truly make a difference in this world in building a civilization of love.

Lessons From Nature

Many of us have a tendency to give up on an idea, a goal or an objective when we meet stiff or prolonged resistance. However, there are some who rise to the occasion and try or fight harder when confronted with what might seem to be insurmountable odds. Both man and beast have been known to perform unimaginable feats of determination and perseverance when confronted with life and death situations.

Recently I heard an unfamiliar sound as I walked across my lawn. After locating the source of the sound, I witnessed a life and death struggle between a fair sized Common Garter Snake and a small Northern Leopard Frog. It was the pitiful sound of the frog that I had heard. The snake had about 1/3 of swallow the frog, it had to relax its grip and lunge moments of transition that the frog would try to tightened its grip. After watching this struggle for snake open its mouth too wide for a bigger bite. I determination and perseverance I had ever witnessed.



the rear of the frog in its mouth and in order for it to forward for a bigger mouthful. It was at each of those escape and would "croak" as the snake once again about 10 minutes, the frog was able to free itself as the couldn't help but think this was the greatest

We as Knights are faced with a challenge that will take determination and perseverance also if we are to be successful. That challenge is to be persistent in our opposition to abortion. We must support the agenda of "Respect Life" – "Pro-Life". Over 40 million babies in the US have been aborted since 1974 when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of abortion on demand in the case of Roe vs Wade. This is not a political issue, it is a moral issue that goes back to Biblical times when God handed down the Ten Commandments to Moses. **The Fifth Commandment states "Thou Shall Not Kill"!** Abortion is the killing of a live human fetus. Abortion is murder! We must remain united in our efforts to stop abortion and respect life.

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State Soccer Challenge
October 11, 2008

See You There!

Check out our web-
site:

www.mnknights.org



FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS
September—Council Soccer Challenge Held
October 4, 2008—Marathon for Nonpublic Education
October 11, 2008—State Soccer Challenge
October 25, 2008—4th Degree Exemplification @ Willmar
November 1, 2008—Council free throw kits should be ordered.
December 5-7, 2008—Midwinter Meeting @ Bloomington KC Hall

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State Deputy Message

By: Gene Hippe, State Deputy

The Supreme Convention in Quebec City is history. Minnesota was recognized for the tremendous effort made by local councils in recruiting new members. It was truly and honor for Gloria and I to walk across the stage and receive congratulations from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. This is the first year in the 18 year history of the Circle of Honor Program that Minnesota has met it's membership goal. Thanks to all the councils that had positive growth this past year. Sixteen of our councils made Star Council this past year and three others were Double Star.

Our State Family of the Year, the Tuan Huynh family from Brooklyn Center came in second for being recognized as the International Family of the Year. We are so proud to them!

I am looking forward to working with all the DD's, local councils and state staff during the remainder of this fraternal year. You are all part of a tremendous team called Minnesota Knights of Columbus. Let's grow and be strong for our founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney.

Plan Ahead for 2009 Convention

By: Craig Larson, State Treasurer

Many councils take a break in the summer months and are now getting back into action. Others have been busy all summer with county fairs and community festivals. Now we need to get busy since two months of the council year have already gone by.

Please make a plan for the year if you haven't already done so. Maybe you are working on the same schedule as in past years. Whatever the case, I'll bet that there will be some adjustments to your schedule. Perhaps you will drop an activity or two and add another one or two. Some things don't work the way they used to and need to be changed, that's progress.

The state council has to make some changes from time to time as well. One of our concerns is the attendance at the State Convention. Of our 250+ councils, 35% haven't sent delegates for the past few years and we would like to change that. Why not add the convention as a council activity and plan for it now? Next year's convention is May 15-17 in St Cloud which is an easy drive from anywhere in the state. The Holiday Inn will have something for everyone to enjoy making it an enjoyable weekend for the whole family.

September Grand Knight Things To Do

- Schedule and hold a First Degree
- Prepare an agenda for your meeting and follow it
- Conduct your meeting according to Supreme guidelines
- Schedule and conduct the Soccer Challenge
- Volunteer for the Fall Classic
- Encourage members to join the McGivney Guild
- Make sure your forms #365 and 185 have been submitted
- Order Christmas Cards from Don Kinker

Reflections

By: Father Ron Huberty
State Chaplain

I am grateful for the opportunity to have attended the 126th Supreme Convention in Quebec. What a great experience to be there with the group from Minnesota and all the other Knights. It was a very inspiring experience especially the three Masses. The Mass on Wednesday, August 6th, was the Feast of the Transfiguration. The disciples Peter, James, and John went up the mountain and experienced Jesus' transfiguration. Peter said in Matthew's Gospel, "Lord it is good that we are here." How good it was for the three disciples to experience this moment with Jesus to lift them up in spirit so they could continue to follow Jesus on the journey to Jerusalem.

Attending the convention I can say with great joy as did Peter that it was good to have been there. The great spirit of prayer at the Masses is another example of the great gift we have as Catholics to celebrate the Eucharist. The inspiring homilies and speakers focused on the theme of building a civilization of love. They urged us to always live what it means to be a Knight and to use our God given gifts of time, talent and treasure for acts of charity, building up the unity of the Knights and the Body of Christ, the Church. Like the disciples who had to come down the mountain and go back to our homes and communities. We can thank God for the uplifting moments in life that help us to continue to live our faith in our every day lives, in the joys and challenges we face in living our Christian faith, in building a society of love for God and our neighbor.

As another school year begins it is a good time to remind ourselves that in order to live our faith we need to always be learning about what it means to be a Christian in the Catholic Church. We can be that model of learning to our young people that living our faith is a lifetime journey that requires the same commitment and dedication we strive to live as Knights of Columbus. Taking the time to pray and read will help us to grow in our faith. Thank you to the Knights for such a great experience in Quebec and I look forward to many more in ways we will share our faith together.

Communications

By: Joe Konrardy, State Warden

You are reading the Knightly News (first time or for the past um-teen years) and I ask you "Why?" Why do you take the time to read this publication? You read it for the news. You read it for guidance. You read it to "get" the messages from the leadership, both spiritual and fraternal. And this is all part of communicating between us all.

Now I am going to ask you one more question. Why can't we send this information to you faster and at a lesser cost? We could if more of our State's Council leadership would sign into their email system. We could send out more information to you and at the same time reduce state Council expenses if we could send notes out electronically. More insightful thoughts, ideas and even helpful hints on a regular bases. But we can't. We can't save mailing costs because the vast majority of our DD's, Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries have not accessed their email. They have not taken advantage of having the KC email system send notes to their home email address through forwarding from the KC site to yours! They have not asked a fellow Knight who has email to help them get set up because they do not have email at home. And I don't know why. All I can say is "Thank You" to the 12 DDs out of 58 who have set up their KC email to forward to their home email address, "Thank You" to the 46 FS' from a group of 258 Councils who have set up their email to forward and "Thank You" to 28 Grand Knights who have done it already. But we can not use the system until we have the majority of our leadership set up to use.

Help us communicate better by following the set up instructions posted on our web site (www.mnknights.org). Look for the instructions in the newsletter section as not only are they posted there but also is a short cut to the email system, YOUR email system.

Photo Highlights from the 2008 Supreme Convention - Quebec City

Father Ron, State Chaplain

VSM, Greg van der Hagen in Honor Guard

Bishop Michael J. Hoepfner

State Deputy Gene & Gloria Hippe
Receive Congrats on Circle of Honor

EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE

	Date	Location	1st Degree	2nd Degree	3rd Degree	Host DD	Phone#
Sunday	09/21/08	Sts. Peter & Paul @ Ivanhoe	10:00 a.m.	12:00 Noon	To Follow	Marcellus Sik	507-694-1757
Sunday	10/19/08	Columbian Hall @ Hastings	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	To Follow	Peter Kay	651-423-5225
Sunday	11/08/08	St. Peter's @ N. St. Paul	9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	To Follow	Mike Schilling	651-738-3626
Saturday	11/22/08	St. Eliz. Ann Seton Sch. @ St. Cloud	9:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	To Follow	Pat Imgrund	320-253-6092
Saturday	11/22/08	Holy Rosary @ Detroit Lakes	10:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	To Follow	Rick Morgan	218-287-2262
Saturday	12/13/08	Queen of Peace @ Cloquet	10:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	To Follow	Mike Peplinski	218-728-5570

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 (DDxxMKNKnights.org). To see a complete schedule of degrees, check the state web-site at www.mnknights.org.

Leadership Tips

Financial Secretaries

All application for withdrawal of a member must include a personal letter written and signed by the member with his signature notarized by a Notary Public. Notary Publics can be found at most governmental offices and many professional offices. A copy of the notarized withdrawal letter must be sent to the current State Deputy at the same time it is sent to Supreme.

All forms submitted to Supreme for suspension of a member must follow the procedure outlined in the FS Handbook. Any forms that do not contain the proper signatures and information required will be rejected and returned by Supreme. Copies of the Form 185 sent to Supreme must be sent to the current State Deputy or you can expect to start the process again because Supreme checks with the State Deputy.

GK's and FS's

Beginning Sept. 1st, Supreme is offering a new annuity program to new members. This annuity can be accessed for a one time minimum fee of \$100 and pays 4 1/2% interest. Any member with an annuity counts as an insurance member. This should make it easier for councils to meet their insurance goals for Star Council.

Grand Knights

To qualify for awards, you must submit Form 185 listing your council officers and Form 365 listing appointed chairmen and directors. Also, the Semi-annual Audit is due now.

Form 365 must include a Retention Chairman. You will not be able to suspend a member unless a chairman who is active is listed. Retention is not the responsibility of the FS. The FS processes the paperwork. The Retention Chairman and his committee are responsible for making a personal contact before a Form 185 is processed for suspension.

Many council's are listing "No phone listed" on their suspension paperwork. Contact the person who signed the member or someone on your roster with the same last name to obtain a current phone number and address. Use the internet and type in MN 411 and follow the instructions to find an address or phone number. Our state staff has checked a number of suspensions that listed no phone, but they have found a number. You must contact your members and find out why they don't want to remain as a member.

If a member hasn't paid his dues for several years, find out why and negotiate a settlement. It may be easier to retain a member than to find a new one. At one time he said yes to become a member. Don't lose him!

Membership Directors

Your job is to get others to help you recruit. Make sure every council activity provides an opportunity to recruit. This includes breakfasts, fish fries, spaghetti suppers, free throws, etc... Start your church membership drives several weeks before the actual date so you can have pulpit and bulletin announcements in advance.

Schedule 1st Degrees every month or two. Hold the degrees for the members, not the members for the degrees. If there are no new members on the date of the scheduled degree, hold a practice degree. If your council does not have a degree team, form one or find out where other degrees are being held.

Church Directors

Set up a luncheon or breakfast with your pastor, the GK and you. Find out what you can do to support the church and the pastor. Do this several times a year.

Round Table Chairmen

Round Tables typically are for smaller parishes that may be too small to sustain a KC council. Meet with the pastor and find out what he would like the Knights to do to support him and the parish. Ask about maintenance and similar needs. Conduct several membership drives each year or during each breakfast or supper. A round table is expected to bring new members into your council each year.

Each year a new form has to be sent to Supreme with a copy to the current State Deputy listing information for each Round Table sponsored by your council. Supreme clears its records on July 1 of each year. The Supreme goal for our state is 100 and last year there were only 80 parishes listed as RT's. There are over 350 small parishes that could be a Round Table. Forms need to be filled out and submitted now.

Where are they? Still not reported!

**Out of 260 councils—85 Form 185's missing! 153—Form 365's Missing!
Get 'em in to both the Supreme Office and the State Office! Thank you!**

A Moral Obligation

By: Berry Hobbs, State Membership Director

During an address to the state deputies, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson stated that "we have nothing less than a moral obligation to offer every eligible Catholic man the opportunity and the privilege of membership in our Order." Perhaps the reason for his remark can be clearly seen in the theme for the 126th Supreme Convention, that we are engaged in "building a civilization of love through charity, unity, and fraternity."

During his recent trip to the United States, the Holy Father showed the world that he recognizes the value of the service rendered by the Right Arm of the Church. Recognizing the principles of the Order and the value of being a Knight of Columbus, the Holy Father called all Knights of Columbus to be aware of the importance of the lay apostolate for the building up of the Church in unity and missionary zeal.

The Holy Father's commission should not only apply to the Knights of Columbus, but it should also apply to all Catholic gentlemen. Hence, we must open our eyes and look down the pew. We must seek out those who are not members of the Knights of Columbus and invite them to become a member of our honored Order. Recruiting new members is essential. If we are to continue to grow and maintain a sense of well-being in our councils and the Order, we must seek out new members. Offering a man membership in the Knights of Columbus gives him the opportunity to improve his own life and his community. Membership allows him to experience the fraternal bond that Knights share while growing closer to his family and his faith.

For the council's recruiting efforts to succeed, a plan of action must be developed that reflects the council's strengths; the action plan must be implemented to execute a successful recruitment campaign. Sometimes, the hardest thing about recruiting is taking the first step. Recruiting a new member can be as easy as asking him to join. Amazingly, many individuals haven't joined the Knights simply because they have never been asked to join. When the opportunity arrives, take the initiative and start a conversation with a potential prospect and sign him up.

During the next few weeks, we must focus on making our councils prepared for the upcoming membership BLITZ. First, and foremost, the council leadership must be aware of the process of conducting a membership BLITZ. Review the Membership BLITZ process and order the needed materials from the Supreme Supply Department. Finally, initiate a publicity campaign, placing before the future membership the particulars of your campaign. Parish bulletins, local media outlets, and the public display of posters are only a few of the strategies that we might use.

To everyone who is not a member of our Order, we must take it upon ourselves to extend to them

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Fourth Degree News

By: Tom Grinnell,
District Master

Brother Knights, on September 11, 2001 about three thousand people in the World Trade Center in New York lost their life to terrorists from the result of airliners deliberately crashed into the Twin Towers. In October of the same year the U.S. House Joint Resolution 71 was approved by a vote of 407-0. It requested that the President designate September 11th of each year as "Patriot Day." President Bush signed the resolution into law on December 18, 2001. It is a discretionary day of remembrance. We are to fly our American banner at half-staff and to observe a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time.

Patriotism is the principle of the Fourth Degree of the Order. As Patriots this is a day to truly commemorate "Patriot Day." What did your assembly or council do or what does it have planned to commemorate the many American Patriots that have gone before us. Maybe an Assembly / Council Mass or Rosary would be appropriate. You might want to include an honor guard. An act of terror is an act of hate and hate is still within our world. Satan is ever active. Yes there is much to pray for.

The degree of Patriotism will be exemplified October 25th in the Willmar Civic Center, at twelve noon. All registration and meal requests can be made through your local assembly or directly with the District Master. Your remittance must accompany your registration. Registration forms can be obtained on the Minnesota Knights of Columbus web site.

God bless you in your efforts to build his kingdom and may God

Marian Hour of Prayer

By: Deacon Jim McLaughlin Chairman

On 9-8-08, our current Marian Hour of Prayer Program (Feast of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary) will be concluded. This program, dedicated to Our Lady of Charity, was inaugurated at the morning Mass at the Supreme Convention on 8-8-07. The inauguration ceremony was led by Cardinal Jaimie Ortega Y Alamino of Havana, who blessed the framed images of Our Lady of Charity being held by all of the State Deputies attending the convention. Our Lady of Charity is the Patroness of Cuba.

Over the period of 9-8-07 to 9-8-08 there were six framed pictures which traveled from District Deputies and their Councils throughout our great state of Minnesota.

The Marian Hour of Prayer was started in 1979 by the Supreme Council in New Haven, CT. In the years since 1979, there has been 15 special Rosary centered programs. As each prayer program was selected, an image or object was chosen as a central focus to draw all Catholics together in prayer. Icons, pictures, and a Celtic Cross have been used since 1979.

DD's can be very proud in making this current program successful. Communication is important and as shown by Our Lady of Charity program, it does bring success to all involved. We must not forget that the Knights are about service in and for Christ and His church!**Special Request:** The six framed Our Lady of Charity Pictures are in possession of Dd # 55 new #43, #20 new #16, #46 new #37, #42 new #39, #3 new #50 and #3 new #54. Please return the framed pictures of State Deputy H. Eugene Hippe as soon as possible and include the log book.

Thanks to all who have attended and participated in this prayer program.

IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING RECENTLY DECEASED



For these we pray:

Bloomington #3827
Eugene F. Grazzini, Sr.
Marvin M. Quast
Marcellus J. McMullen
Lyle G. Smith
Cloquet #5132
Frank Martindale
Crystal #33656
Edward T. O'Malley
Clifford O. Sipe
Eveleth #2583
Elio Varani
Lakeville #8367
John P. Berdan
Montgomery #1573
Geo. J. Kaderlik
Moorhead #4463
Rick Ignatus
Sylvester Bruggeman
Nashwauk #5283
John J. Anich
No. St. Paul #4967
Ralph Jackelen
Plainview #1781
Donald Rahrman

Princeton #8571
Paul Kummet
Red Lake Falls #10732
John V. Schaefer
Richmond #8303
LeRoy Sbatath
Benedict Amda
Shakopee #1685
Jerry Lebens
Silver Lake #1841
David F. Ruzicka
William G. Schaeve
Emil C. Kalvoda
Slayton #2587
Warren F. Kerr
Harlan J. Ruppert
So. St. Paul #3659
Richard A. Cosgrove
St. James #3427
Dewey Lee Sandmeyer

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



Auxiliary News

By: Margaret Hendricks, Historian/Publicity

Per capita payments of \$3/member as of May 1 are due on September 1 to State Auxiliary Treasurer, Anita Doll, 512 Lower Heritage Way, Farmington, MN 55024. Make check payable to Minnesota KC Auxiliary. Please include # of members on the memo line.

State Bowling Tournament is Saturday, September 20. Registration is due on September 1. Come even if you are a non-bowler. A fun day for all is planned.

The Auxiliary Fall Workshop will be October 11 at St. Michael's Church in Farmington. A great speaker is planned. Get forms in by the deadline.

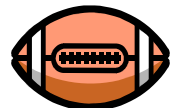
Has your council/auxiliary joined the Football Frenzy? It's an easy money maker for your council/auxiliary. Check the State Paper for details and contact Art Hendricks at: awhendricks@hotmail.com.

Volunters Needed - Can You Help?

Volunteers are still needed for the 2008 Special Olympics Fall Classic to be held November 7-9, 2008. Please contact Robert Hazelton at 651-690-1938 or via e-mail at: lindabobstpaul@msn.com. to volunteer. Given an hour or two or whatever you can spare to some very special people. It will be something you remember for a very long time! You will be glad you did!

Football Frenzy

By: Art Hendricks, Chairman



Don't wait until the last day. Get your ticket now and sell a few to your neighbors and friends. So far only one council has turned in any ticket stubs with the money. The money, stubs and unsold tickets have to be back to me by October 15th. They are on a run, don't let them get to far ahead of you. Remember that your council gets 50% or about \$2.50 of the profits from each of the tickets your council sells. Ask your Auxiliary to help you in the sales. You know that they want to help you with all of your projects. This is not a gambling event, it is a sweepstakes, so this will not interfere with your charitable gambling.

If you want more tickets please contact Art Hendricks at: awhendricks@hotmail.com and then put in the subject line "Football Frenzy."