Read the Knightly News Every Month Online at mnknights.org!

State Convention Personnel Report DUE
Supreme Convention in Minneapolis, MN
Labor Day
Council Audit DUE
KofC State Softball Tournament in
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
State Camporee

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This was our theme last year, and this will be the theme again this year. We had over 900 new members join our state last fraternal year. This great work from the councils who recruited even just one new member. But as you saw from the list in last month’s Knightly News, we had over 60 council that didn't recruit even one new member.

How does your council plan on sustaining unless you have new members? Answer is, you won’t. Your pool of members to take on the officer and chairman jobs will dwindle and go unfilled. Older members will die off, and your council will decrease. Sooner or later it will cease to exist. Is that what you really want to happen?

This month and next month, our district deputies will be holding their local meetings. They will help you with our goals for membership and programs. The regional consultants and staff are also here to help your council grow.

We will be instituting a new program for suspensions, because many councils are not following the proper procedure of using a retention team to go out and talk to their Brother Knights. They just suspend without finding out why these gentlemen are not paying dues and coming to events. So, we want a paper trail to ensure that these men have been contacted. This is not additional work, but instead we are just asking every council to follow the procedure as it is written. More information about this program is on page 2 of this edition.

This month, Minnesota is in the line of sight of every Knight in the Order as the Supreme Convention convenes in Minneapolis. Please take time to watch us on Tuesday, August 6th, all day on EWTN: morning mass, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson’s State of the Order, and finally the State’s Dinner that evening. We have worked extremely hard in preparation for this event, and we have hundreds of Knights and family members working to make it a success.

Thank You to June’s Top Recruiters!
Alexander J. Milinner - 3 members
Daniel J. Falstads - 3 members
Seth A. Myhre - 3 members
A total of 34 members recruited 47 new Knights in June

State Convention Host Needed
Would your council or district be willing to host the 2021 Minnesota Knights of Columbus State Convention? The dates will be May 14-16, 2021. Guidelines for hosting are available from the Minnesota Knights of Columbus Office. There is state staff to work with your team and guide you through this.

The State Administrative Assistant and State Secretary will come talk with you about this and tour the hotel and/or facility you are proposing prior to the State Officers’ acceptance of the bid. Should you have any questions or want to receive a copy of the guidelines, give us a call at 320-587-0747 or contact us via email at glvdh@mchsi.com.

This is a great way to get your members involved in something larger than a local activity. It might bring together a group of Brother Knights who have not met before or worked on a project before, as well as providing an opportunity for those who want to get involved in something a little different. Members will see unity and fraternity at work first hand. Think about it! Talk about it! Thank you for considering it! Councils and/or districts wishing to submit a bid or indicate their interest should contact the Minnesota Knights of Columbus State Office as soon as possible. We’ll look forward to hearing from you!

His Blessed Mother
Father Gabriel Walz
statechaplain@mnknights.org
(320) 693-3313

In the fourth Glorious Mystery of the Rosary we reflect upon the mystery of the Assumption of Mary. On Thursday, August 15th we celebrate the Solemnity-Day of this mystery throughout the Church.

The Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary reminds us of the love our Lord Jesus Christ has for His Mother. While it has long been a part of our Tradition, the Assumption of Mary received a formal dogmatic definition from Pope Pius XII in 1950. In his document Munificentissimus Deus, Pope Pius wrote: “The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory” (44).

As Catholic men, Knights, and brothers, we entrust ourselves, our brethren, and our families to our Lord through the loving hands of His Blessed Mother. You are in my prayers!

Vivat Jesus!

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Vivat Jesus!
At St. Vincent de Paul Mass this weekend we had a visitor who spoke to us about his mission in eastern Kenya and requested funds to aid in the education and support of children in that part of Africa. Interestingly, the priest was an avowed Polish Catholic, and the theme of his homily was “solidarity” with other Christians around the world. Perhaps I read more into this than he intended, but I couldn’t help but be reminded of the Polish “Solidarity” labor movement led by Lech Wałęsa in the 1980’s, and how effective this was as the first crumbling brick in the wall of Soviet communism.

Of course this also led me to ponder on the parallels with our Order’s principle of Unity, and how we are called to assist our brother Christians around the world, but particularly at this time, those in Iraq. For those who are not aware of this initiative, 60 Knights of Columbus councils have been “paired” with parishes in Iraq, including four of our councils here in Minnesota. I encourage you to help in this fundraising effort and work with your councils to provide funds for this effort. Information will be provided on the State website at mnknights.org about how to do this and whom to contact.

Vivat Jesus!

New Suspension Program
We had a great year for new members: 900+. But apparently we had a “good” year for suspensions as well, as we lost over 500 members. (Just in the month of June, we had 71 suspensions.)

This should be a concern to everyone who wears the emblem of the Order! Why would someone want to leave a council? Wouldn’t they welcomed? Didn’t we communicate with them about our activities and events? Did we only talk to them when they were behind on their dues?

Part of the suspension process is a fact finding inquiry about why they are leaving. This requires personal contact.

However, we found out that this is not happening. The retention committees, usually composed of past grand knights, are not contacting these members. How do we know this? We check.

Here is an recent example. Last month, the son of a General Agent was on the list to be suspended. I checked; he did not receive a call. The process was not followed.

Starting this July, we will be doing follow-ups on suspensions. Each time a name appears on the retention list, our suspension chairman, Patrick Farley, will be mailing the council a worksheet that we can do a follow-up.

THIS IS NOT EXTRA WORK BEING HANDED TO THE COUNCILS. This is the work and the process that should already be taking place at council level for suspension procedures.

Once the council finishes contacting the individual, the district deputy will contact him. After that, a state staff person will contact him. This will all be recorded on the worksheet.

If this doesn’t happen, the member will NOT be suspended. Why? Because the process was not followed.

Also, the council must have a retention chairman listed on their Form 365 which is due by August 1st. No Chairman = No Suspensions. And remember, the financial secretary is not the council’s retention chairman.

Everyone needs to get serious about suspensions: how are they done, but more importantly, finding out why members want to leave the council and Order.

You took some time to get them to join, make sure you take the time to find them a place in your council.
Upon the death of a Brother Knight from your council, please send the following information to Fraternalism Director Randy Lindstrom at 609 25th Ave SW ~ Willmar MN 56201
mnkfcf@gmail.com ~ (320) 231-2584
1) Deceased Knight’s Name
2) Date of Death
3) Council Number
4) Town Iowa is in
5) Name of an Officer, Relationship, & Address
6) Indicate if he was a Former DD, Past Officer, etc.

Remember, Council FS must send in a Form 100 informing Supreme of this Brother Knight’s death.

The List of Deceased members is listed monthly in the online edition of the Knightly News at mnknights.org

Northwest
Patrick Dolan, General Agent 2315 N University Dr Suite L-5 Fargo ND 58102 Office: (701) 298-9922 Patrick.Dolan@kofc.org
East Central & NE Joe Caouette, General Agent 161 Main Ave W Winsted MN 55395 Office: (320) 485-2202 Joe.Caouette@kofc.org
Metro Area Lloyd Cybart, General Agent 1001 E Cliff Rd Sartell MN 56377 Office: (320) 686-7720 Lloyd.Cybart@kofc.org www.twincitieskofc.org
South
David Goedtke, General Agent 12 South All Ave Springfield MN 56087 Office: (507) 720-1652 David.Goedtke@kofc.org
Southwest
Jen Beebe, General Agent 2 Dart Dr Watertown SD 57201 Office: (605) 882-8689 Fax: (605) 882-0019 Jen.Beebe@kofc.org

Men of Action
Are you serious about the Knights? I can go on and on about all the benefits you have and what’s available through the Knights of Columbus, but do you add value to the Knights of Columbus? What are you doing to make the KofC a better organization?
We are not just any organization, we are a religious order, a brotherhood with a vow to take care of our families, each other, our parish, and our priest and to promote and defend our holy Catholic faith. Are you doing that?
So what can you do? Any product you have with the Knights, all the money you spend, does not go into anything that contradicts with our Catholic Values. Can any other company boast the same? We put our money, (well your money) where our mouth is. This generates charitable contributions to align with our first principle...Charity. Our insurance mission is one of the most significant in the nation.
Are you recruiting men into the Knights? Just think if every member in Minnesota, all 41,674 of us, would just bring in one new member this year...just one each. We’d double our numbers and break all kinds of records. What about half of us doing the same thing.
We need to evangelize the Knights of Columbus to every Catholic male age 18 and over, to let everyone know our mission, to bring each man closer to his faith. We have a responsibility and duty to defend and promote our faith, to defend and protect our families, and to support our parishes and priests.
We are not called the Guys of Columbus, we’re not the Dudes of Christopher, we’re called Knights for a reason, and we need to be Knights. We are men of action.

Give the gift of Knightly! Invite someone to join us today!
 Remember: Every council activity is an opportunity to invite other men to join us in doing God’s work here on earth! Grow the Order & increase our capacity to do good!

The District Schedule for the Marian Prayer Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians Icon is in the August Online Supplement at mnknights.org
The Program Link is at www.kofc.org/marianprogram

Knights of Columbus family?

Auxiliary News
Ladies get your auxiliary photos dusted off and ready to share. Looking for your 1st installation photos with your council? We’ll be happy to provide for you and your most recent installation or Auxiliary photos for 2019. Please mail or e-mail us your photos to the state office by May 15th, 2019.
See you all at the Fall Workshop.
“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not onto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Novena for Life & March for Life
Life Director John Bowlin saljohn67@q.com (651) 483-1877

Now, is an excellent time for planning a Novena for Life and a March for Life. The Novena for Life is a required program, meaning it must be conducted for inclusion in the life category. This Life Program will assist/facilitate your council in qualifying for the $10,000 Life Program Award and STAR Council. It is a prayer program, simple to the core but extremely important to developing a Culture of Life in Minnesota. Faith in the Family gives Life to the Community. Forty Days for Life is starting in October, a ProLife month, a month of prayer, praise, petition and gratitude for God’s Gift of Life. Christ teaches us to pray without ceasing. Prayer can lead us into companionship with Christ. In addition to your council’s Novena for Life, consider conducting the dedicated March program March for Life. It encourages councils to show public support for the Right to Life by organizing and participating in a local neighborhood March for Life. Councils should recruit participants from local Christian churches, local Catholic parishes, friends, neighbors, other prolife organizations. Your goal is to have a minimum of 50 marchers to obtain the necessary credit for this program. On the day of the event, wear Knights of Columbus branded apparel. Remember this can be a recruiting opportunity. You can order Choose Life Signs (#9341) through supplies online, available on Officers Online. Homemade signs work just as well, too.

We pray: God of life and love, You created us in Your image and sent Your Son to bring us eternal life. We thank You for Your Great Gift of Life. Vivat Jesus!
One Month Under Your Belt!
State Program Director Joe George
gprogramdirec-
tor@kofc.org
(651) 253-3112

How is your council doing on programs? If you attended the organizational meeting at the end of June, you were able to take in lots of training for every aspect of running a council including my department, programs. If you didn’t make it to the meeting this year, go to the State website where you can view all the Power Point presentations from the weekend.

One of the things I suggested to do to start the new fraternal year is to print off a Form SP-7, which is your Columbian Award application and enter all the programs that you know your council will be conducting this year into the categories where they best fit.

If you have holes, maybe look at a new program that your council hasn’t done before. A great way to find new programs is to talk with your pastor, which is something you should be doing on a regular basis. Let him know that you are there to be of service to him and the parish. Then ask him if there is an area of service that he thinks your council can do for him. You’ll be surprised how well that works. If you can help your pastor with his to do list, he will be a happy camper. Bring those projects back to your council meeting with enthusiasm.

At the 2019 Organizational Meeting, John Bowlin (Our Life Director) shared a great way with me to look at our programs.

**Faith in the Family brings Life to the Community**

Very well stated John. Thanks for all you do for our State.

As a reminder, make sure that your council is Youth Protection trained and you have submitted your Form 38b to the Supreme Office. If you have any questions or problems, please contact Joe George. We need to have all of this done before the Supreme Convention.

Supreme will build a custom Prospect Landing page for your council.

Master’s Memo
District Master Brad Jacobs
master@mnknights.org
H: (763) 477-4410
C: (763) 355-4312

We are now one full month into the fraternal year. Did you attend your July council meeting? How many activities have you participated in? Have you asked someone to join the Knights of Columbus? Remember that everything you do as a Brother or Sir Knight is an opportunity to tell someone about what we do.

Congratulations to the new Brother Knights and Sir Knights who attended the Degree at the Religious Charity in Marshall, MN. It was a wonderful celebration of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism all in less than 24 hours, with the help of the State Council. Thank you to the Holy Redeemer Assembly and all who had a part in putting this event together. The teams that taught the lessons of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degrees did a wonderful job. Our Minnesota 4th Degree staff beautifully taught the lesson of the 4th Degree, Patriotism. None of these things happen without candidates or without dedicated teams.

If you are interested in helping out with Ceremonials, please contact me or ask a team member. It’s a critical part of what we do and our survival as well as being a wonderful way to help promote the Knights of Columbus.

As you read this, many of us are attending at the 2019 Supreme Convention in Minneapolis. It’s been 20 years since the convention has been here, and we are exceedingly proud to welcome the Knights in this state and the way people have stepped up to help. The eyes of Catholics all around the world focus on the Supreme Convention where dozens of cardinals and bishops, and hundreds of priests join the delegates and guests for a few days of fraternity. Thank you to all who have had a part in assisting with this huge event. We can be very proud of the great job done and the lasting impression we’re leaving with so many.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 14th for the dedication of the new Chapel at Fort St. Charles. We are thrilled to have Bishop Hoepner celebrating the Mass and spending time with us. There will also be tours of the fort and island. There will be a block of rooms reserved in Warroad for the weekend. Please take advantage of this opportunity to see what the Minnesota 4th Degree has been supporting all these years. We should all be incredibly proud.

Exact times and information will be put out in the council newsletter. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 21st to go to Winona for the 2019 Fall Exemplification.

Chairman Matt Heffron

One Month Down, 11 to go
State Membership Director
Jesse Kosloski
membershipdirector@kofc.org
(281) 330-1112

I hope everyone has settled into the new fraternal year. Have all of you grand knights filled out your 2019-20 Fraternal Planner? If you haven’t, I highly recommend using it. It is set up to steer your council through the fraternal year. Each month is laid out in a neat and organized manner. It shows which programs are done during the month. It reminds you of what forms are due during the month. It’s a wonderful tool to take notes. There is even a page for you to write down your programs in the categories of the Faith in Action Program. The back cover lists the STAR Council requirements.

If your council needs to order 2019-20 Fraternal Planners, you can order them through supplies online. It is item number 5033.

Remember all of the various incentives that are set up for this fraternal year. They are listed on page 2 of some of them have deadlines, so don’t wait.

Let’s meet our quotas early and GROW THE ORDER!

Newest Marquette Province
Vice Supreme Master
Appointed from Minnesota

The Minnesota State Officers, along with District Master Brad Jacobs, congratulate Craig Larson for being named the Vice Supreme Master of the Marquette Province starting September 1st. He will oversee the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois. The last VSM from Minnesota was Greg van der Hagen some years back.

We wish Craig the best as he accepts this position.

State Deputy Marc Peters

Pregnancy Resource Center Support
Chairman Matt Heffron

Pregnancy Resource Centers have long been on the front lines of serving our country’s most vulnerable populations, and Knights of Columbus Councils and Assemblies have always been a critical support for them. This work is now a recommended program under Faith in Action. Support of all different kinds can qualify for this program: prayer programs, fundraisers, direct work at a center, or inviting representatives of a center to present at your parish or at a council meeting. Popular options range from baby bottle fundraisers, sponsorship of a center’s fundraising event such as a dummer or a 5K race, providing a cleaning or maintenance crew, or organizing a prayer campaign for a center.

Councils should always support any local center in their area. If you do not know whether there is a pregnancy resource center in your community, check https://elevatelifeusa.org/. Elevate Life is a resource organization for pregnancy centers in Minnesota and western Wisconsin, and their list of locations may help you find your nearest center. Although not every pregnancy resource center in the state is on their list, every center listed is committed to ethical and professional service and works to help save babies.

In addition, you can meet the goals of this program by supporting Elevate Life itself. Elevate Life provides training, information, and insurance coverage for its member pregnancy resource centers. These resources are vital for these centers to function in today’s world. One upcoming way to support Elevate Life is to participate in their golf tournament, August 5th at Crystal Lake Golf Course in Lakeville.

Sign up at https://elevatelifeusa.org/event/golf-tournament-2/ as a sponsor or as a participant. Of course, you can also raise funds on your own and donate directly.

Online Membership
KofC.org/JoinUs

A great option for those gentlemen who want to help out with the business side learn more about us, but aren’t ready to join a local council yet. See the supplement for invitation ideas.

To schedule a degree:
Go to mnknights.org, click on “About”, then click on “Exemplifications”
When you get to the Ceremonials page, scroll down to the box labeled “Degree Assignment” and click “here” in the first sentence
This will bring up the request form. Fill it out and click “submit” and you’re done!
Make sure you know Who, What, When, and Where before you start!

Sign up at https://elevatelifeusa.org/event/golf-tournament-2/ as a sponsor or as a participant. Of course, you can also raise funds on your own and donate directly.