



The Explorer

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STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

As Summer draws to a close and Autumn rapidly approaches, council activities are building momentum. Getting your activities started early is key to a banner year. Work with and ask for support from your Council Officers, Directors & Chairmen, District Deputy and Insurance Agent to reach the high goals you have set for your council in this fraternal year. Remember the second principle of our Order, Unity. If we are united in Purpose and



Cause, there is no mountain that together we can't conquer; your goals will be attained and the rewards will be the greatest in your council's history.

In planning your council's activities try to involve all members. Participation is key in retaining membership. Always look for ways to encourage your inactive members to become active.

Activate your Fraternity In Action Program by having your calling committee contact all your members and solicit their help to make your year as Grand Knight be the most successful in your council's history. Ask for their help and then keep them busy! A successful council is a busy council.

Reports of first degrees are coming in from across the state! Be sure your council sets several dates for degrees and then recruit toward those dates. Don't be left out of the contagious momentum sweeping the state. Membership growth is key to the future of your council and our Order. A larger and stronger membership allows us to better serve our Church and community and help more of those in need.

At your September meeting be sure to plan your "Father Wants You" membership campaign and implement it within the Order-wide membership blitz in the month of October. Our Bishops of Kansas are very supportive of this program and are encouraging our parish priests across the state to take part. By now you should have received an informational letter from State Membership Director Gary Hoppe. We also covered this program in our Regional Meetings. Be sure to ask your priest for his support in this program by including the "Father Wants You" insert in your parish bulletin in October and also by giving pulpit announcements encouraging men of the parish to step forward to join our great Order. Hand out the interest survey cards (Form 921A) as men enter church and set up degrees in honor of your parish priest to bring these interested men into our Order.

The theme to our recently concluded Supreme Convention in Quebec City was "**Building a Civilization of Love through Charity, Unity and Fraternity.**" As we plan our activities for the year remember to be charitable in your

works, united in your efforts and fraternal toward your Brother Knights, and the rewards will be great! Let's work hard in the coming months to recruit and help our fellow man, and together we will all answer Pope Benedict XVI's call: "**FOLLOW ME, HELP US BUILD UP THE CHURCH.**"

Vivat Jesus
Francis G. Drouhard
State Deputy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER:

- 1 Form #468 Columbian Squires Officers & Counselors Report Due
- 1 Deadline for Receipt of Knight's-Lite Articles
- 14 Major Degree at Wamego #1370
- 20 4th Degree Exemplification in Wichita
- 21 Major Degree at Sharon #2224
- 28 Major Degree at Derby #4458

OCTOBER:

October is Respect Life Month—Schedule a Pro-Life Fundraiser or Seminar

- 1 Deadline for Religious Education Fund Requests
- 12 Columbus Day (National Holiday Observed 10/13/08)
- 10-12 Conduct Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Roll) Campaign
- 12 Major Degree at Hays #1325
- 19 Major Degree at Ottawa #3018
- 19 Major Degree at Lawrence #1372
- 19 Major Degree at Ellis #2133
- 25 Deadline for GKs to return Religious Ed Fund Tickets & Donations
- 26 Major Degree at Topeka #11777
- 30 Deadline to report Soccer Challenge reports to Supreme & State Council
- TBA Major Degree at Lenexa #6673
- TBA Major Degree at Overland Park #11534

DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas Knight of the Month is Jamie Andrews from Topeka Council 534 in District 20.

Family of the Month Winners of a Holy Family Plaque from Supreme were:

John and Connie Terry family, Council 3033, Atwood; Charles and Nancy Herrenbruck family, Council 3316, Scammom; Richard and Eva Parrott family, Council 6984, Hays.

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

HAVE YOU ASKED FOR A KNIGHT THIS MONTH? Yes, many of you have. I have been hearing of a great many 1st Degrees taking place in the month of August. Thanks to those councils who stepped up to the plate and conducted degrees early on. For those of you who have yet to have a degree, please get on with one in September. The rewards are fantastic, the enthusiasm is growing by leaps and bounds in the councils that are discovering that we truly can grow our councils in the early months of our fraternal year. Our members do want to belong to a GROW-ING organization. It's special to have new blood in the Knights, so let's keep up the great work.

Let us implement with great **enthusiasm** your "Father Wants You" membership campaign. This tool should be very effective with the full support of the Bishops of Kansas. Let us not forget to have plenty of survey cards and form 100s at our disposal for our October Blitz. Let us not forget to make sure to check our level of excitement for new members. The more enthusiasm you have about the Knights of Columbus, the more excited people will be to join us.

Now that we are getting all these new members, let us now make sure that we enroll them in the SHINING ARMOR AWARD program (see item #s 1700, 4292 & 4293 on pgs 7-8 in the 2008 supply catalog). This program is not only good for the new member but is wonderful for the council and the order as a whole. Think of it for a moment. To qualify for the award, the new member takes part in 3 council activities within the 1st year, he attends 3 meetings, finds out about all the Insurance Programs that are available to his family, becomes a 3rd degree member and brings in a new member. All of these things make the new member a strong member and strengthens the council also.

One very important matter which is necessary for the "Shining Armor Award" to work effectively is that the Grand Knight must ask about the participants and their progress at every meeting, i.e. - complementing the new members and encouraging their progress towards their goal. Without this monthly encouragement the program will not work.

Our goal is to have at least half of our new members by December. You are off to a great start. If we make this a state-wide effort, everyone putting forth their best effort, it WILL happen.

Vivat Jesus,
Gary Hoppe, State Membership Director

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Regional District Meetings have been completed and the programs for 2008-09 have been presented to the councils. With all the information fresh in your minds, now is the time for Grand Knights to plan strategies with your officers and program team to make this year the most success-

ful in history. If you haven't already, be sure to hold your planning meetings soon. The most urgent programs at hand are the Religious Education Fund Requests/Ticket Sales, Adopt-A-Seminarian, and Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Roll) Drive to "Help People with Intellectual Disabilities". Lastly, remember to call your local radio stations and request them to play our PSA with the voice of Bill Self, coach of the Kansas Jayhawks, for the Tootsie Roll Drive scheduled for October 10-12.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Adopt-A-Seminarian

Church Activities Director, Vincent Melvin III, has contacted each Diocesan Vocation Director and is awaiting the official list of Seminarians. This will be available to the councils, assemblies and circles soon. Grand Knights are reminded to complete the Postcard Questionnaire/Pledge Form, provided to the Grand Knights by your District Deputy, and return it to Vince right away. Equalization of pledges among all seminarians is a priority and will be aided by prompt submittal of your council's pledge form. Since school expenses begin when the session starts in late August/early September, your pledges are needed early to assist the Seminarians at this critical time.

Religious Education Fund Applications

Religious Education Chairman Rev. David Metz awaits receipt of the applications for funds from your parishes. He would like to remind you that October 1 is the deadline for submitting those applications and reminds you to get them in early so they can be tabulated and funds can be distributed.

Religious Education Fund Raising

By now, Grand Knights should have received your council's raffle tickets from your District Deputy. Religious Education Fund Raising Chairman Dean Haselhorst requests your council to work diligently at getting the allocated tickets distributed far in advance of the October 25th deadline to return funds to the District Deputy. A reminder: any person, group, or organization may participate in the purchase of these tickets! Please be sure to request additional tickets to help make this the most successful year ever!

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth Activities

Have you ordered your Free Throw Contest Kit, Essay Contest Kit, Soccer Challenge Kit and Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Kit from Supreme? Thomas Schmeidler, Youth Activities Director reminds all councils to order them right away. The order forms are on pages 3 & 5 of the Council Reports Form Booklet or online with the Supreme Council.

Columbian Squires

Does your council sponsor a Squires Circle? Remember, a Squire today is a Knight tomorrow. There is no better way of training future K of C leaders than through the Squires program. A small investment in a Squire today will pay big dividends in his future and the future of your council. Call Squires Chairman Jeremy Rabe for assistance in getting started.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family Life

Dennis Schrick, Family Life Director, reminds everyone that now is the time to honor those outstanding families in your Council. Choose a Family of the Month each month and submit their name to Supreme before the 15th of the following month. By doing so, they will become eligible for one of 100 Holy Family Plaques awarded each month by the Supreme Council. Recognize these families by publishing their names in your Sunday Bulletin. By using this program, it will make those families chosen better members of your Council.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Rolls)

Have you ordered your Tootsie Rolls and contacted your fund drive locations to assure they are secured for the weekend of October 10, 11, & 12. Chairman Pat Winchester suggests arrangements need to be made early, so all locations in your area are covered. Multiple councils within a **metropolitan** area are asked to work together in securing the locations so the merchants do not become irritated with more than one council trying to man the same location. Ask companies if there are matching funds available. We must concentrate all our efforts positively if we are to reach our goal of \$325,000 this year. The Knights in Kansas will again be sponsoring the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament in Hays next March. Helping citizens with Intellectual Disabilities in Kansas and seeing their faces light up makes all your hard work worthwhile.

Pro-Life

October is Respect Life Month and now is the best time to plan your council's Pro-Life activities. The Evangelium Vitae Award requires councils to be involved in the four-part plan of action that is described on page 25 in the Program and Membership Guide. Be sure to enter a Pro-Life scrapbook to vie for awards at the next State Convention. Start your meetings with a prayer for Pro-Life or say the Pro-Life Rosary. If you would like a copy of this rosary, let me know. School and CCD classes are starting up and this would be a good time to start educating your youth and parishes on the Sanctity of Life.

Fundraisers should be planned to reach a goal of at least \$3.00 per member. It is early but give some thought to planning for the January Baby Shower. If your Council is doing the "Bottles for Life" fundraiser that was explained at the regional meetings, start collecting baby bottles or buy new ones since supplies at stores may be limited. Choose a month for the activity and start the planning process. For help in any of the areas mentioned above contact the State Pro-Life Chair couple Jim and Theresa Pritchard at 913-294-3303 or pro-lifechaircouple@kansas-kofc.org.

Pennies from Heaven

Dale Weber would like to remind people it is never too early to hold a Pennies From Heaven Fund Raiser and/or begin working on items for the Country Store at the State Convention next spring. District Deputies are asked to actively involve all councils in this very worthy state program. Summer storms have already drawn on these funds.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Athletic Events

The Annual State Golf tournament was held on August 2nd and 3rd. Chairman David Koch would like to thank Council 727 of Emporia under the direction of Former State Warden Vince Hammerl for hosting this annual event.

Fraternal

Do you have an outstanding member that needs to be recognized for the work they do? Submit their name to Fraternal Chairman Greg Lix by the 15th of each month and they will be entered into the Knight of the Month drawing. The member chosen as the State Knight of the Month will receive a certificate and a K of C crucifix. The winner's name is also listed in this monthly newsletter and on the home page of the website. Entries can be mailed, e-mailed, or sent electronically from the state website. Paper forms can be found in the state Program & Membership guide. Be sure to mail all name and address corrections for the state directory to State Secretary Mark Roth.

Publicity

Our councils do lots of good work every month to help our church, community, council, youth, and families. Don't keep it a secret! Publicize it! All councils are encouraged to appoint a Publicity Chairman and submit the person's name to the Supreme Council. The PR Chairman will then receive periodic mailings from the Supreme Council concerning publicity. Additional help can also be found by contacting Publicity Chairman Greg Lix.

Webmaster

Webmaster Todd Bachamp thanks all those who have e-mailed comments regarding the new website. As a reminder, all councils are asked to please review their information which can be found under 'Councils' then 'By City' or 'By Council Number'. Please e-mail all updates to webmaster@kansas-kofc.org.

Has your council ever needed to host a First Degree but the council's team is not available or not yet certified? We would like to help. With the capabilities of the new website, we can now show council first degree dates on the calendar. Councils can now e-mail their first degree information to the webmaster and it will be posted for other councils to see. The information should include the date, time, location including street address, and contact person.

Please note that hosting councils that publish their first degree date on the state website must be prepared to hold the first degree even if they have no candidates as there may be candidates from other councils. Councils taking candidates to a first degree at another council must contact the host council to inform them of the number of candidates who are coming.

Let's work together to help ensure that candidates don't wait weeks or months to take their first degree. This is one more tool for your membership toolbox!

Knights-Lite

September 1 and December 22 are the upcoming deadlines. Articles are to be received by Duane Engel, Editor, in order to make the edition. Submit them early.

Scott A. Maurath, State Program Director
stateprogramdirector@kansas-kofc.org

SEPTEMBER EXPLORER INSURANCE REPORT

The Knights of Columbus agency department is proud to congratulate the following men for achieving the honor of Field Agent of the Month for their respective agencies:

Eastern Kansas Agency: David Soukup wrote \$2,312,500 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Central Kansas Agency: Jim Zuperku wrote \$1,405,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Western Kansas Agency: Darin Reed wrote \$2,420,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$17,847,678 in life insurance during the month of July.

Please join us in congratulating the following men for their outstanding performance. These men lead the state for the Knights of Columbus insurance program in 2008.

David Soukup	Bill Roggenkamp
Mark Stallbaumer	Mark Locke
Steve Schmidt	JJ Deges

If you or someone you know would like to join our winning team of Field Agents please call 1-866-391-8781 for more information.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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