



# The Explorer

A Publication  
Of The  
Kansas  
Knights of Columbus

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April 2009

## STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

April marks the beginning of the fourth and final quarter of this fraternal year. It is time when we, the leaders of our Order in Kansas, must review our progress in reaching the goals set at the beginning of the fraternal year.

In making my review as State Deputy, I find we are having a great year in programming with new records being set and participation increased. In membership, we are showing a positive growth rate directly attributed to membership recruitment activities of many councils. With continued efforts in recruiting we will meet our goals of reaching the **Circle of Honor**.



Everything in our Order depends on you, the members. As Knights of Columbus members, you should be dedicated and proud of what you have accomplished. Recruiting new members is every member's privilege and responsibility and it's the only way to sustain your council's growth. The prospects are out there waiting to be asked.

With men joining our Church at Easter and high school graduations in May, there is a new source for prospects. I challenge each member with a son, nephew, friend or brother graduating this spring, to recruit them into the greatest fraternity of catholic men, the Knights of Columbus. These young men coming into adulthood are our responsibility. We must offer them the tools of our Order and show them how to help one another and those less fortunate. We must invite these young men to join our Order and encourage them to become active. This is a choice they must make, but uncles, brothers, friends, or we, as fathers, must give them the opportunity and encouragement to make this choice. Make sure your council schedules first degrees to give these young men the opportunities they deserve.

As we begin our second month of "Membership Madness" be sure to check our state web site at [www.kansas-kfoc.org](http://www.kansas-kfoc.org) to see how Kansas came out in our head-to-head competition with Maryland in the month of March and how your district came out against your competition as well. Be sure to check out the state and district pairings for the month of April as well. With **hard work** and **Team Recruiting** across our state we will come out on top in April & May and I'll see you in the Winners Circle!

We have only three more months this fraternal year to reach our membership goals. To do this, we need every council active and every member recruiting. I challenge you to give membership recruitment your best effort. If you do, we will have the best membership year in our history. Together we can, and must, offer membership to every eligible Catholic man, and in doing so we will be answering the challenge of Pope Benedict XVI to "Follow Me, Help Us Build Us Build Up The Church".

Vivat Jesus

Francis G. Drouhard, State Deputy

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL:

- 1 **Deadline** for the following:
  - Diocesan Knight of the Year winners to Fraternal Chairman
  - Fulfillment of Adopt-A-Seminarian Pledges
  - Scrapbook entries to appropriate Directors
  - Pro-Life Donations Report Form to Pro-Life Chairman
  - Council History Reports to State Historian
- 1 Submit RSVP/Plaque Applications to Supreme
- 5 Major Degree at Osborne #4759
- 18 Major Degree at Leavenworth #900
- 19 Major Degree at Shawnee-St. Joseph #2332
- 26 Major Degrees at St. Paul #760, Wichita-Magdalen #10408, & Dodge City #2955

### MAY:

- 2-4 108th State Convention in Lawrence
- 25 Deadline for Knight's-Lite articles

## DID YOU KNOW?

**The start time of the State Convention Golf Tourney at Alvamar Golf Course has been changed from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.**

The State Knight of the Month is Brad Griffith from Hutchinson Council #7279.

Family of the Month winners of a Holy Family Plaque from Supreme were: Jerry & Donna Lies family of Council #2217-Andale; Philip & Bonnie Decker family of Council #6055-Burlington, and James & Karla Neihouse family of Council #8976-Downs.



**STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S  
MESSAGE**

Exciting things are going on in the great state of Kansas! We are presently in a war with the state of Maryland in the Membership Madness challenge. We are presently in the lead, however as you know when you are in the lead you automatically develop a target on your back. So, "HAVE YOU ASKED FOR A KNIGHT THIS MONTH?" The District Deputies are challenging each other throughout our state during the month of March to see who can bring in the most new or reinstated members. The winners in each bracket will be paired up against other winners during April & May. What a great way to keep us focused on the most challenging task of **MEMBERSHIP GROWTH** for the balance of this fraternal year. When every council in the state makes recruiting new members a monthly activity all year long, instead of only for a month or two, then membership quotas will certainly be achieved. You are improving every month as I am seeing the number of councils that have not recruited a new member falling greatly. How about getting that number to ZERO? Let us all make sure that every council has at least one new member this fraternal year.

The following is a list of Division Leaders along with councils having 75% of quota and above:

DIV	NUMBER	COUNCIL	% QUOTA
1	2127	Logan	100%
2	7646	Mound City	40%
3	12093	P. Village-St Ann	260%
	13354	Ft. Leavenworth	200%
	10755	Rossville-Silver	100%
	6665	Bird City-St Fran	80%
4	1392	Paxico	100%
5	10786	Osawatomie	140%
	11853	Baldwin	100%
	843	Mission-St Pius X	80%
6	2408	Bonner Springs	367%
	1383	Frankfort	220%
	3423	Pilsen	140%
	11067	Leawood-Nativity	133%
	10834	Lansing	117%
	2296	Eldorado	100%
	12858	Wichita-St Ann	100%
	10841	O.P.-Q. of Rosary	80%
	6781	K.C.-St. Pat's	80%
7	11692	Wichita-Resurr	133%
	13012	Topeka St Matt	100%
	2680	Scipio	100%
	1510	Norton	100%
	11352	Tonganoxie	86%
	10407	Gardner	86%
8	8196	Salina	114%
	2614	Arkansas City	113%
	1149	Paola	100%
	1832	Seven Dolors	100%
9	11661	O.P.-Holy Spirit	230%
	4708	Atchinson -Bened	227%
	8488	Manhattan-T More	80%
	1743	Hanover	77%
10	10932	O.P.-Ascension	195%
	7909	Olathe-Pr of Peace	157%
	900	Leavenworth	93%

The competition is heating up among the Division Leaders. Winners of each Division will receive a beautiful plaque at the end of the fraternal year.

The membership madness campaign is off and running. You should be able to see the results of the first month by checking the state Website. At the conclusion of the campaign your efforts will be rewarded with a plaque for 1st & 2nd places in each bracket. We will all be rewarded in seeing the growth rates at an "all time high" for the state of Kansas.

In this time of Lent, let us make an extra effort (sacrifice, if you will) to put into action our membership theme for the year, "FOLLOW ME, HELP US BUILD UP THE CHURCH". Each of us know at least one good catholic man that should be a Knight, but until now we just haven't stepped up to the plate and asked him. He may have been asked by many other people but you may be the one who can be his proposer.

May I take this opportunity to share a thought with you about this publication? The District Deputies and Grand Knights are the only members in your district who receive this paper. As leaders it is your responsibility to pass the information on to your brother knights. Unless this happens, your brother knights do not benefit from the years of experience and the effort that is being exerted to bring the successes of the past to light. Our State Officers and all the team members of the State Council, have a tremendous knowledge of what it takes to bring out the best our state has to offer and the Explorer is the tool by which this information is shared, hopefully, with every member of the Knights of Columbus in our state. Thank You for your conscious effort to make this happen.

Vivat Jesus,

Gary Hoppe,  
Kansas State Membership Director

**STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

The State Convention is less than one month away. Deadlines for Knight/Family of the Year and scrapbooks were due on April 1. Directors and Chairmen are busy choosing the winning entries for awards to be presented at the convention.

The State Convention should be the highlight of the fraternal year. Third degree members are eligible and encouraged to attend the business sessions. All members and spouses are welcome to attend the Convention Mass, banquet, dinner/mixer, etc. Encourage your spouse to attend the ladies luncheon. The entire weekend will be filled with exciting Knights of Columbus activities.

What about Star Council? Will your council receive this prestigious award? The one remaining report required to be filed at Supreme is the SP-7 form - Columbian Award Application. Samples of four (4) activities required in each of the five (5) areas of programming can be found inside the back cover of the Program & Membership Guide. Please review these activities right away and complete the application form. **Prior to the convention, all councils should have submitted this form to their District Deputy. He will be asked to bring them to the convention.**

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### *Adopt a Seminarian*

Church Activities Director Vince Melvin III reminds all councils to fulfill the pledge to their Seminarian and file the RSVP form at Supreme. In order to receive the \$100 refund and the year plate for your plaque, you must file the report. Even if your council is not entitled to a refund, you should still report the nature and amount of your support.

### *Vocation Poster Contest*

Vocations Chairman Vince Melvin III thanks all who submitted their vocation posters for the Vocations Poster Contest. Judging is nearly complete and winners will be announced at the convention.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### *Free Throw*

The State Free Throw Contest was held March 1st in Salina. Youth Activities Director Tom Schmeidler reports it was well attended (60 Regional Contest winners were present). The contestants were the top shooters in the state and showed it. **See the back page of The Explorer for the list of State Winners.** Thank you is expressed to all who helped make it a success. Tom reminds all councils to file their Free Throw Contest report (FT-1 form) with Supreme.

### *Columbian Squires*

State Squires Chairman Jeremy Rabe reports the State Squires Convention went well March 21-22 in Paola. If your council is interested in pursuing the feasibility of a circle, give Jeremy a call at 785-227-2395.

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family Life Director Dennis Schrick reminds all councils to continue selecting a Family of the Month and report it to Supreme. They could win a Holy Family Plaque.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### *Pennies From Heaven*

Thank you to the councils that have responded with items for the auction at the State Convention. However we are still in need of items for the Sunday night auction and items to sell at the country store. Time is short before the convention but it's not too late to consider bringing an auction or country store item. Popular items are usually homemade furniture or handcrafted items. Once again Father Bernie Gorges from Winfield Council #4713, will be the Auctioneer for the Pennies From Heaven Auction. If you are bringing items, please call Dale Weber, Pennies From Heaven Chairman at 620-326-6304. Thank you in advance for your donations for the convention.

### *Tootsie Roll Update*

State Tootsie Roll Chairman Pat Winchester reports donations are up nicely this year and the drive was a great success. Thanks to everyone who made the program a success. Pat reports the Special Olympics basketball tournament in Hays on March 19-21 was very well attended with over 1300 Olympians participating.

### *Pro-Life Update*

Pro-Life Chair Couple James & Theresa Pritchard say "Thank You" to all councils that filed their Evangelium Vitae and Pro-Life Report Forms. We will have the updated figures at the State Convention. Thanks also to those who have erected or updated memorials or road signs; latest

count is 106 memorials and 65 road signs. A suggested pro-life fund-raising activity is "Pocket Change for Pro-Life." Baby Bottles distributed after Masses on a given weekend are returned by the recipients a month later, filled with their extra "pocket change". Bottles are kept for reuse or donated to your local Crisis Center along with the collected funds.

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

### *Athletics*

State Bowling Chairman Dave Koch reports the 65th Annual Kansas State Men's Bowling Tournament was well attended and very successful. 116 teams consisting of 603 bowlers participated in this year's event. It was a great competition and fun for all. Special thanks to Topeka Council #13012 and to Co-Secretaries Dave Janner & Jim Secondo for all their hard work in making the tourney a success.

The State Sporting Clay Shoot is less than a month away. Solomon Council #1086 will host this year's tournament on April 18th at the Gypsum Valley Sporting Clays which is located just west of Gypsum. For more info, contact Dave Koch or Bob Martin, District Deputy #28.

### *Fraternal*

Fraternal Chairman Greg Lix reminds all councils to continue selecting a Knight of the Month and submit them to him by the 15th of each month. Each month a winning entry is selected as the State Knight of the Month and awarded a Kof C Crucifix. Address changes or corrections need to be sent to State Secretary Mark Roth to keep the mailing list current.

### *Publicity*

State Publicity Chairman Greg Lix reminds councils to send him articles on important news-worthy events in your council. He will see the articles are reported in your diocesan paper.

### *Knight's-Lite*

Knight's Lite Editor Duane Engel reminds all councils to closely check the next issue of the Knight's-Lite to be published in early April. It will contain many articles pertaining to the State Convention. Be sure to read them carefully.

### *History*

State Historian Larry Marstall is the keeper of State K of C Archives. Councils having items they wish to have included are asked to bring them to the State Convention and give them to Larry.

### *Webmaster*

Has your council recently hosted an event that should be shared? Send a picture and short summary to State Webmaster Todd Bachamp at [webmaster@kansas-kofc.org](mailto:webmaster@kansas-kofc.org). He needs information from councils to put in the "**Kansas Knights in Action**" section of the website.

2008-09 KANSAS STATE FREE THROW CHAMPIONS

*Continued on back page*

**2008-09 KANSAS STATE FREE THROW  
CHAMPIONS**

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
Age 10	Taylor Schoep	7909	Olathe	22/25
Age 11	Allyson Denning	4113	WaKeeney	20/25 4/5
Age 12	Katy Spencer	2217	Andale	19/25
Age 13	Kelsey Ricke	2774	Cunningham	20/25
Age 14	Lexi Riedel	4113	WaKeeney	20/25 4/5 5/5 4/5

<u>BOYS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
Age 10	Hunter Budke	921	Beloit	22/25
Age 11	Jordan Stevens	12016	Ashland	21/25
Age 12	Avery Fliger	3146	Basehor	23/25
Age 13	Austin Ryan	643	Altamont	21/25
Age 14	Kyle Wolf	6673	Lenexa	20/25 5/5

Scott A. Maurath  
 State Program Director  
 stateprogramdirector@kansas-kofc.org  
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**FEBRUARY 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: Jamie Cunningham wrote \$1,292,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in February.

Central Kansas Agency: Marty Gerleman wrote \$350,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in February.

Western Kansas Agency: Kirby Schmelzle wrote \$2,313,340 in life insurance protection on members and their families in February.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$34,230,497 in life insurance during the month of February.

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 2009.

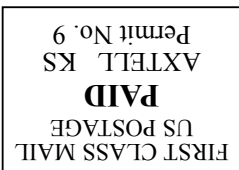
Jim Hensley	Dan Reed	Wade Greif
Marty Greene	Marty Gerleman	Justin Deges

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**

**Mark Roth  
 2164 N. Carlton  
 Liberal, KS 67901**



CHARITY  
UNITY  
FRATERNITY  
PATRIOTISM

# KANSAS STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



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March 26, 2009

Past State Deputy  
DONALD L. WAGNER  
1812 E. 152nd Circle  
Olathe, KS 66062  
913-829-9111

Brother Knights:

State Chaplain  
REV. DAVID METZ  
PO Box 528  
Wilson, KS 67490  
785-658-3361

On the reverse side of my letter is a Legislative Alert from the Kansas Catholic Conference regarding the Conscience Protection Regulation. This regulation was put into force by the Bush Administration and protects Doctors, Nurses and Health Professionals against discrimination when they decline to perform or participate in abortion or other medical procedures because of their religious or moral objections.

State Secretary  
MARK W. ROTH  
2164 N. Carlton Ave.  
Liberal, KS 67901  
620-624-6645

The Obama Administration has plans to rescind this regulation in the near future. The Department of Health & Human Services is having a Public Comment Period through April 9<sup>th</sup> for the public to voice their opinion on this matter. We must speak strongly, loudly and in great numbers to make sure members of our medical profession are not forced to take part in abortion and other morally offensive medical procedures. The web site address for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is listed in the Kansas Catholic Conference Alert. This site will allow you to send an e-mail to the Department of Health & Human Services voicing your opposition to the Obama Administration rescinding this regulation and also to show your strong support for keeping the regulation in place. For those members without e-mail, the Department of Health & Human Services may be reached toll free at 1-877-696-6775.

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913-731-1266

I would ask all Grand Knights and District Deputies to please see that your entire membership is educated on the importance of following through with a response to this very important matter. Vivat Jesus

Fraternally,

Francis G. Drouhard  
State Deputy

Vivat Jesus



## **Conscience Protection Regulation in Jeopardy – Please Contact HHS**

Recently, the Obama administration announced its intention to rescind an important conscience protection regulation put in place last year by the Bush administration. The conscience protection regulation President Obama seeks to overturn prohibits discrimination against health professionals, including Pro-Life doctors and nurses, who decline to participate in abortions or other medical procedures because of their religious or moral objections. The proposal to rollback these protections is being hailed by Planned Parenthood and other pro-abortion organizations as a major victory.

We are now within what is called the public comment period, when all Americans are allowed to express their views on this proposed rulemaking directly to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has set up a web page to help Catholics express their displeasure over the proposed Obama administration rulemaking. The website can be found here:  
<http://www.usccb.org/conscienceprotection/>.

Once you have arrived at that page, you will see a link which allows you to e-mail Health & Human Services. Please take a moment to register your support for the existing conscience protection regulation and your opposition to the effort to rescind it. **April 9 is the deadline.**

Withdrawal of the conscience protection regulation in question does not require congressional approval. The president has the power to rescind it on his own once the formal process, which includes public comment, is completed.

For time immemorial, doctors have sworn to “do no harm.” Now we are on the verge of permitting legal discrimination against them if they in fact uphold their oath. What shameful irony there is in a policy that punishes health care personnel, of all people, for believing in the sanctity of human life.