



The Explorer

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April 2010

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 hard work and 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.

If your council conducted the "**Father Wants You To Be A Knight Of Columbus**" membership campaign in March, be sure to follow up on all your prospects, obtain a signed and completed Form 100 on each one and set a First Degree very soon to bring in these new members. Give them the benefits of membership now rather than later as they could provide the spark that turns your council into a vibrant one.

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 wrapped up our final month of "Membership Madness" at the end of March be sure to check our state web site at www.kansas-kofc.org to see how Kansas came out in our head-to-head competition with Indiana in the month of March and how your district came out against your competition as well. Indiana has been a very formidable opponent but with **Hard Work** and **Team Recruiting** hopefully our April 1 numbers will show we were able to prevail!

"**The Year of the Volunteer**" is quickly ratcheting down. 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 issued by Pope Benedict XVI to "**Follow Me, Help 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
- 10 Major Degree at Leavenworth #900
- 11 Major Degree at Shawnee #11126
- 18 Major Degrees at Dodge City #2955 & McPherson #5222
- 25 Major Degrees at Great Bend #862 & Wichita-Magdalen #10408

MAY:

- 1-3 109th State Convention in Wichita
- 11 Major Degree at Leawood Nativity #11067
- 16 Major Degree at Kansas City #6781
- 25 Deadline for Knight's-Lite articles

DID YOU KNOW?

The State Knight of the Month is Bradley Le Beau from Norton council #1510 .

Family of the Month winners of a Holy Family Plaque from Supreme were: Jerry & Donna Lies family of Council #2217-Andale; Michael & Teresa Peterson family of Council #4118-Wichita; Mike & Kathy Slipke 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 Indiana 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 challenged each other throughout our state during the months of January, February & March to see who could bring in the most new or reinstated members. 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 goals 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.	COUNCIL	NAME	% OF QUOTA
1.	11735	K.C. Holy Name	133%
	13019	St. John	100%
2.	1181	Chapman	133%
	1061	Herington	100%
3.	826	K.C. Lafayette	133%
	7446	Mound City	100%
	12093	Prairie Village St. Ann	100%
4.	6671	Valley Falls	75%
	13354	Ft. Leavenworth	250%
	3146	Basehor	217%
	12546	Wea	160%
	13087	Baileyville	150%
	8511	Manhattan KSU	150%
	13394	Corning	117%
	12960	Lawrence Corpus Christi	83%
5.	1370	Wamego	100%
6.	7485	Andover	129%
	11067	Leawood—Nativity	113%
	12858	Wichita—St. Anne	86%
	12437	Louisburg	88%
7.	2408	Bonner Springs	200%
	1901	Greeley	100%
8.	12577	Leawood St. Michael	150%
9.	10408	Wichita Magdalen	105%
	4708	Atchinson Benedictine	88%
	976	Newton	84%
10.	10932	O.P.—Ascension	113%
	7909	Olathe—Prince of Peace	100%
	4458	Derby	92%
	6673	Lenexa—Holy Trinity	86%

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 wraps up March 30th. You should be able to see the results by checking the state Website. At the conclusion of the campaign your efforts will be rewarded with a plaque for 1st & 2nd & 3rd

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, "**The Year of the Volunteer**", and the Holy Father's challenge "**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 six (6) 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 submit 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 7th in Salina. Youth Activities Director Tom Schmeidler reports it was well attended. The contestants were the top shooters in the state and showed it. 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.

2009-10 KANSAS STATE FREE THROW CHAMPIONS

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
Age				
10	Zoe Schultz	2772	Grinnell	20/25
11	Holly Turner	12437	Louisburg	22/25
12	Lakin Preisner	727	Emporia	21/25
13	Kayla Underwood	7441	Chetopa	20/25
14	Kelsey Ricke	2774	Cunningham	23/25

BOYS

Age				
10	Jayce Dighans	11853	Wellsville	20/25
11	Clayton Schwarz	2773	Grinnell	20/25
12	Parker Swanson	11661	Kansas City	21/25
13	Colton Pitko	7291	Eureka	24/25
14	Jace Larson	2955	Dodge City	22/25

Columbian Squires

State Squires Chairman Jeremy Rabe reports the State Squires Convention went well March 27-28 in Wichita. 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 Dan Wimberly reminds all councils to continue selecting a Family of the Month and reporting 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 Chanute Council #1046, will be the Auctioneer for the Pennies From Heaven Auction. If you are bringing items, please call Gary Wondra, Pennies From Heaven Chairman at 620-586-3328. Thank you in advance for your donations for the convention.

Tootsie Roll Update

State Tootsie Roll Chairman Dale Weber reports donations are on par with last year and the drive was a great success. Thanks to everyone who made the program a success. Dale reports the Special Olympics basketball tournament in Hays on March 18-20 was very well attended with over 1200 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 115 memorials and 68 road signs. Please follow up on our State Deputy's request to show the ***Stem Cell Video***, at Church, at Council meetings and at any Public Forum available to you.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Athletics

State Bowling Chairman Marcel Braun reports the 66th Annual Kansas State Men's Bowling Tournament was well attended and very successful. 112 teams consisting of 587 bowlers participated in this year's event. It was a great competition and fun for all. Special thanks to Newton Council #976 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. Salina Council #601 will host this year's tournament on April 10th at the Gypsum Valley Sporting Clays which is located just west of Gypsum.

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 that the articles are reported in your diocesan paper.

Knight's-Lite

All councils check out 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. He needs information from councils to put in the "Kansas Knights in Action" section of the website.

Scott A. Maurath
State Program Director

APRIL/2010 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: Joseph Cummings wrote \$1,500,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in February.

Central Kansas Agency: Jim Zuperku wrote \$2,119,694 in life insurance protection on members and their families in February.

Western Kansas Agency: Aaron Johnson wrote \$4,301,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in February.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$40,436,723 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 February of 2010.

David Soukup
Dan Reed
Justin Deges

Kirby Schmelzle
Darin Reed
Bill Roggenkamp

Jamie Cunningham
Jim Zuperku
Mark Stallbaumer

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

Mark Roth
2164 N. Carlton
Liberal, KS 67901

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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785-887-1700

Attention: All Councils and Assemblies

To: Grand Knights and District Deputies,
Starting in 2008 (for the 2007 tax year) and each year there after
**EVERY COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY MUST FILE A FORM 990 WITH
THE IRS.** The tax exempt status of your council or assembly will be at risk
if you do not file.

Councils with gross receipts over \$25,000 must file form 990
however; those councils and assemblies having gross receipts less than
\$25,000 must file the 990N or e-postcard form on line through the IRS
website. There is no 990N paper form. To access the filing system, go to the
IRS website www.irs.gov. Click on "Charities and Non-Profits" on the bar
across the top of the page and it will take you to a page where you will see a
bolded topic for Form 990N. The process to file the 990N or e-postcard on-
line is fast and easy. Completing the e-postcard requires the eight items listed
below:

1. Employer Identification Number (EIN) also known as a Tax
Identification Number (TIN).
2. Tax Year
3. Legal name and mailing address.
4. Any other names the organization uses.
5. Name and address of a principle officer.
6. Web site address if the organization has one.
7. Confirmation that the organization's annual gross receipts are
normally \$25,000 or less.
8. If applicable, a statement that the organization has terminated or is
terminating (going out of business).

You will be asked to register and enter your council's or assembly's
own Employer Identification Number (EIN). **This number must be on file
at the Supreme office.** If it is not on file with Supreme Council you will
need to provide it to the Supreme Advocate's office immediately.

The form will ask for your tax year. If you do not have an established
tax year, you may choose to use either the calendar year or some other fiscal
year, such as the fraternal year which ends June 30th. All 990 forms are due
each year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your tax year.
For example if your tax year ends December 31st your 990 form will be due
May 15th. You cannot file until after your tax year ends.

(Continued on reverse side)

The IRS will revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that fails to meet its annual filing requirement for three consecutive years. Therefore, councils, assemblies and council home corporations that do not file the e-postcard, 990N or Form 990 for three consecutive years, will have their tax-exempt status revoked as of the filing due date of the third year. **Losing your tax exempt status means you would be required to file income tax returns and pay income tax. All monies collected through council fundraisers or other activities would be treated as income and therefore would be taxable by the IRS!**

Gentlemen, less than 50% of our councils and assemblies have complied with this new filing requirement. The deadline is fast approaching. Please take care of this matter immediately for the continued success of your charitable works of the Knights of Columbus in your community. Please call me at 785-527-2103 with any questions you may have.

Fraternally,

Mike Baxa
State Advocate
e-mail: stateadvocate@kansas-kofc.org
Phone: 785-527-2103