



The Explorer

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STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

The 2009-10 fraternal year is underway. As leaders of our Order, we must set goals for ourselves and for our councils. Have you met with your council officers, directors and chairmen to put together a plan of action that will lead your council to the prestigious Star Council Award? Set your goals high for membership and programs, work hard toward them, and the rewards will



be great! Be sure to review and utilize the information & tools given you at the recent regional meetings. The tools have been provided, now it is up to you as Grand Knight to rally and motivate your troops.

Our new membership theme "The Year of the Volunteer" was brought about by our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. Early in 2009 he called together a large group of Charitable Organizations and encouraged them to volunteer in ways greater than ever before in order to help the increasing number of citizens affected by the current economic turmoil. The theme for that conference was "The Year of the Volunteer. We must work hard to help those in need and with the help of our members nation-wide, we will see them through these most difficult times. In this fraternal year we will also continue to answer the challenge issued last year by Pope Benedict XVI to "Follow Me: Help Us Build Up the Church". In his 2008 Papal Visit to the U.S. he said: "The Catholic community in this nation has been outstanding in its prophetic witness in the defense of life, in the education of the young, in care of the poor, the sick and the stranger in your midst. On these solid foundations, the future of the Church in America must even now begin to rise!" He described what the Knights of Columbus have been doing for the past 127 years! The Knights of Columbus is a big part of that solid foundation in the history of the Church in America. The call to volunteerism and the challenge to "Build Up the Church" has been set before us. We must call men to join our Order in numbers greater than ever before. With greater numbers our membership and programs will be stronger and enable us to help those in need in numbers greater than ever before. A larger and stronger Order can support the efforts of the Church and help our respective societies, which so greatly need men and families like ours.

As Grand Knights, you might wonder, "How can I accomplish successful goals in both membership and programming? You can't do it by yourself. Enlist help from your council officers, directors & chairmen, District Deputy, Field Agent and Council Chaplain. Discuss membership recruitment at every council meeting. Activate the Fraternity in Action Program by setting up committees to contact every member to enlist

their help as well and then --- keep them busy! Set your goals high and the rewards will be great! Set a date for your first degrees and then ask your council members to recruit toward them. Our State Officers and Program and Membership Teams are always ready, willing and able to assist you in your efforts. We are only a phone call away.

Won't you join me as we continue to follow Pope Benedict XVI in "Building Up the Church" and at the same time we will work hard to make this "The Year of the Volunteer" a historical one in the service to our Church and community. Vivat Jesus.

Francis G. Drouhard - State Deputy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST:

- 1 Deadline for receipt of Form #365 at Supreme
(REQUIRED FOR STAR COUNCIL AWARD)
- 2 Major Degree at Garden Plain #2937
- 4 Columbian Squires 84th Anniversary
- 4-6 127th Supreme Council Meeting - Phoenix, AZ
- 8-16 Knights of Columbus Family Week
- 14 119th Anniversary of the death of Fr. Michael J. McGivney
- 15 Deadline for receipt of Form #1295 (Semi-Annual Audit) at Supreme
- 15 Deadline for ordering Soccer Challenge Kit
- 31 Deadline to order Tootsie Rolls
- 31 Deadline for receipt of Knights-Lite articles

SEPTEMBER:

- 1 Form # 468 Columbian Squires Officers & Counselors Report due at Supreme
- 13 Major Degree at Louisburg #12437
- 20 Major Degrees at Fort Scott #796 and Olathe-Prince Of Peace #7909

DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas Knight of the Month for June, 2009 is Gerry Didde of Ottawa Council #3018.

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

Gary & Karen Dorrell family of Council #675-Severance; Kirk & Martha Dye family of Council #2937- Garden Plain; Michael & Cindy Henderson family of Council #6665- St. Francis; and Jerry & Connie Rockers family of Council #11853- Baldwin City.

The forms from the Council Report Forms Booklet are now available on the Supreme Council's Website at www.kofc.org. The forms can be accessed by selecting the "For Officers" option on the homepage.

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Let us momentarily enjoy our accomplishments of this past fraternal year. We have 1486 good Catholic men who have joined the ranks of our wonderful order in Kansas. We have given them a great chance to become better Catholics, husbands, fathers and citizens. Your hard work and dedication to the work of the Lord through the Knights of Columbus was outstanding and hopefully our state membership team provided ideas and assistance to you in obtaining your goals. We thank you for the tremendous response to our common goal of growing the Kansas State membership to over 36,000 members.

As Knights, our work for the Lord is never done. You have already demonstrated your zeal to continue our good work by setting dates for 40 Major Degrees for this present fraternal year, eighteen of which are set before Christmas. Eighteen districts have set dates for 1st degrees to be conducted by the mid-year meeting in December. If the other 37 districts will follow, we will not be denied "Circle of Honor" status again this year. It all happens on the council level as the Grand Knights and council officers lead the charge to grow in membership. HAVE YOU ASKED FOR A KNIGHT THIS MONTH? Many Grand Knights have adopted this as part of each monthly meeting to make every member in attendance conscious of recruiting all year long.

We have an exciting contest for every Knight in the State of Kansas for their recruiting efforts. We will award prizes to the top 3 recruiters in the State consisting of: 1st place prize is a Large Traeger Pellet Grill complete with a bag of pellets and \$300.00 worth of **STEAKS**. WOW! 2nd place prize is a Large Traeger Pellet Grill without the amenities and 3rd place prize is a beautiful encased BBQ Tool Set. The winners will be determined by the proposers name and membership number as listed on the Form 100. The proposers list is monitored by Supreme. If your name does not appear on the form 100 with your membership number, you will not get credit. I wish the best of luck to every Knight in the State of Kansas.

Please remember, if membership grows in your council, every other program will flourish because of the enthusiasm and influx of new fresh ideas. For that to happen, each council must have a group of Knights designated as the Membership Team. In addition, another group is needed to work on keeping the members in your council by working on inactive members. With these two groups in place, you will fulfill the theme "The Year of the Volunteer" as we carry on the Pope's request of one year ago to "Follow Me, Help us Build up the Church".

Remember to dedicate each 1st degree in honor of a priest this fraternal year. Pope Benedict XVI has proclaimed this the "Year of the Priest", thus the Knights of Columbus gives him our fullest support. Vivat Jesus,

Gary Hoppe - Kansas State Membership Director

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The 2009-2010 Fraternal Year is off to a great start! The District Deputies were educated on all the State Programs in Salina on July 11th & 12th. They are sharing their excitement with the Councils at the Regional District Meetings held across the state from July 18th through July 26th. Grand Knights, Officers, and Council Program Personnel will take the message back to their councils for implementation. Our goal for this year is to be #1 in programming but this can only be accomplished by having 100% participation from **all** councils.

After having filed your form #365 at Supreme by August 1, your next quest is to file the semi-annual audit by August 15. Make this your next priority. All forms may be obtained via the State Website at www.kansas-kofc.org.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Adopt a Seminarian

Vincent Melvin III, Church Activities Director, has requested an updated list of Seminarians from each Diocese and will send them to the Grand Knight of each Council as soon as he receives them. The Postcard Questionnaire / Pledge Forms were provided to the Grand Knights via the District Deputy and are required back to Vince right away. Vince encourages every council to consider adopting two or more seminarians if possible. Equalization of pledges among all seminarians is a priority and will be aided by prompt submittal of your council's pledge form.

Religious Education

The Religious Education Raffle tickets and request forms have been dispersed. Make sure the request form gets to the appropriate Parish individual (Pastor, Religious Ed Director, CCD Director, RCIA Director, etc.), and the form gets returned to our State Chaplain Reverend David Metz by October 1st. The Raffle Tickets fund this program, and it is never too early to start selling them. With **\$68,000** in prize money available, this raffle is sure to be a big hit! Get your councils on board today! Contact Religious Ed Fund Chairman Dean Haselhorst if you need more tickets!

Don't forget to help your parish in its sponsorship of Campus Ministries Sunday! Each council should help distribute and collect campus information cards at a mass during the first couple of weeks of August. This program will allow Newman Centers, Catholic Campus Centers, and parishes near college campuses to get in touch with Catholics attending school away from their home town.

Father McGivney Guild

Canonization of our founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney is closer to becoming a reality with each passing day. However, your continued prayers are needed to keep the process moving. John Kasper, PSD & State McGivney Guild Chairman, encourages all members to join the Fr. McGivney Guild, which has been set up by Supreme to further this cause. Applications may be obtained from the Columbia

Magazine, the Supreme and Kansas K of C websites, or by contacting John Kasper at 785-658-2276.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth Activity

Youth Activities Director, Tom Schmeidler, reminds all councils to order their Soccer Challenge & Free Throw Contest Kits right away. Order forms for the kits may be found on pages 3 & 5 of the Council Report Forms Booklet received in your Surge with Service Packet.

Columbian Squires

Chairman Jeremy Rabe is ready, willing, and able to assist your council in starting a Squires Circle. This is a great way to get the young boys involved and prepare them for K of C membership when they reach age 18. **Call Jeremy at 785-227-2395 for more information on starting a Squires Circle in your area.**

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family Life

With the start of a new fraternal year Family Life Director Dan Wimberly reminds all councils to keep the Knights of Columbus families growing and strong. One way to acknowledge those families who contribute to your council, community and church is to select a family each month as your council's Family of the Month and present them with a certificate # 1843 at church or at one of your council meetings. Also, you can send the name of your nominee to Supreme before the 15th and if they are selected as one of the 100 winning families drawn by Supreme each month, they will receive a letter from Carl Anderson and a Holy Family Plaque. This is a very worthwhile program and one Dan encourages each council to use every month.

K of C Family Week is August 8th-16th. All councils are encouraged to plan a family activity during that week.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Rolls)

Chairman Dale Weber reminds all councils the deadline for ordering Tootsie Rolls is August 31. The minimum order to receive free shipping is 33 cases so be sure to team up with other councils if necessary to reach the 33 case order to get the free shipping. Don't wait until the last minute-place your order early. The Drive will be held the weekend of October 9-11. The goal is to raise \$345,000 in Kansas to support our dear friends with intellectual disabilities.

Pennies from Heaven

EDAP funds have been heavily drawn upon the past 3 - 4 years due to floods and tornadoes. Chairman Gary Wondra requests that your council start early in its drive to help replenish the fund.

Pro-Life Update

Protection for the unborn is a primary goal for the Knights of Columbus. If we are to be successful in our Pro-Life endeavors, every council must participate in

Pro-Life activities. Does your council have a Pro-Life road sign? Be sure to send Pro-Life Chaircouple, Jim and Theresa Pritchard, a picture of your Council Road Sign so it may be included in the state photo album. Now is a good time to start planning some of the activities for the Evangelium Vitae Award. Call Jim or Theresa if you have questions or need ideas.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Athletic Events

Chairman Marcel Braun advises that August is an excellent month for Councils to participate in one of the Health Service Programs.

Fraternal

Knight of the Month entry forms are to be received by Fraternal Activities Chairman Greg Lix by the 15th of each month to be eligible for the K of C Crucifix awarded to the drawing winner.

Publicity

It's time for all councils to select a Public Relations Chairman to "get the word out" about the many excellent programs we conduct in our parishes and communities. Make sure you send his name to Supreme on the Service Program Personnel report form 365.

Website Update

Have you visited the state website at www.kansas-kofc.org? Contact information is available and up-to-date for State Officers, Directors and Chairmen, Insurance Personnel, Past State Deputies, Degree Team Captains and District Deputies. All forms are updated and ready to be used to report on council activities.

The Calendar of Events and the 2009-10 Program and Membership Guide will be updated shortly.

If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, please contact Todd Bachamp at webmaster@kansas-kofc.org.

Knights-Lite

Duane Engel, Editor, reminds everyone that **August 31st** is the deadline to submit articles for publication. Please be prompt so the issue won't be delayed.

History

Is your council's history up to date? We must preserve our history for future generations. Please be sure to appoint a Council Historian and make sure your council's history is filed with State Historian Larry Marstall.

Centennial Book

Centennial Book Chairman, Larry Marstall, is asking all Grand Knights to make sure **every member of your council** has the opportunity to purchase a copy of the history book, "**Fraternalism and Leadership – The Second Fifty Years of the Knights of Columbus in Kansas**". **An order form may be found on page 87 of the "Official State Directory" or you may contact Larry by e-mail at: historian@kansas-kofc.org.**

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

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 \$2,365,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in June.

Central Kansas Agency: Wade Greif wrote \$1,109,056 in life insurance protection on members and their families in June.

Western Kansas Agency: Darin Reed wrote \$1,571,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in June.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$36,342,704 in life insurance during the month of June.

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.

David Soukup	Jim Hensley	Dan Reed
Darin Reed	Joe Cummings	
Jamie Cunningham	Wade Greif	

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.

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