



The Explorer

A Publication
Of The
Kansas
Knights of Columbus

VOL. 14 NO. 58

<http://www.kansas-kofc.org>

Sept. 2009

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 support us in this endeavor and 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 in July. Be sure to ask your priest for his support in this program, and for approval to hand out the "Father Wants You To Be A Knight of Columbus" flyer and "The 24 Hour Knight" flyer to the men of your parish in October, and also by giving pulpit announcements encouraging men of the parish to step forward to join our great Order. Hand out the flyers and the interest survey cards (Form 921A) as men and their families enter church, and set up degrees in honor of your parish priest to bring these interested men into our Order.

The theme of our recently concluded Supreme Convention in Phoenix, Arizona was "**We Stand With**

Peter In Solidarity With Our Bishops and Priests". As we plan our activities for this year, "The Year of the Priest" and "The Year of the Volunteer", let us remember to "Stand Firm" in support of our Bishops and Priests, be charitable in our works, united in our efforts and fraternal toward our 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 continue to 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
- 11 K of C World Day of Prayer for Peace
- 13 Major Degree at Louisburg #12437
- 20 Major Degrees at Fort Scott #796 and Olathe #7909

OCTOBER:

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

- 1 Deadline for Religious Education Fund Requests to St. Chaplain
- 1 Major Degree at Lenexa #6673
- 3 Major Degree at Manhattan #1832
- 9-11 Conduct Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Roll) Campaign
- 11 Major Degree at Topeka #4254
- 12 Columbus Day
- 17 Major Degree at Leawood #12577
- 25 Major Degree at Wichita #4118
- 25 Deadline for GKs to return Religious Ed Fund Tickets & Donations to DD
- 30 Deadline to report Soccer Challenge reports to Supreme & State Council

DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas Knight of the Month is Joseph Becker from Severance Council 675 in District 1.

Family of the Month Winners of a Holy Family Plaque from Supreme were:
John and Margaret Kerr family, Council 796, Fort Scott; Melvin and Angie Juenemann family, Council 1510, Norton; Paul and Angie Herrman family, Council 2340, Liebenthal; Thomas and Velma Boley family, Council 3400, Ellsworth; Bill and Diane Heinen family, Council 6671, Valley Falls.

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am hearing of many 1st degrees taking place in my neck of the woods; how about your area? We are keeping up with the competition in the "World Series of Membership", however the opposition is breathing down our backs. Many of you are having 1st degrees, so let's make sure the Financial Secretaries are sending in the form 100's ASAP. The strategy now is to send in all form 100s as soon as the degrees are completed as we need to beat these teams pretty hard at this point in time. It appears we are bucking some pretty large states, so we need to call on all councils to step up to the plate and make good contact with the prospects available to us.

HAVE YOU ASKED FOR A KNIGHT THIS MONTH? Brothers, we must constantly stay on top of this membership battle. We must talk about it at every meeting so our council members get into the proper habit of asking everyone, "**ARE YOU A KNIGHT**"? Let us consider some different approaches to prospects, such as: Did you know that by becoming a Knight you receive a FREE Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit which provides accidental death coverage for all members in good standing? When talking to a man about joining the order, the most important benefit of membership to tell him about is how being a Knight of Columbus has helped you better yourself, better your community and better the world. Tell him about the fraternal bond between you and your Brother Knights, the pride you take in being a part of an organization that is making a difference in the Church, community and the world, and how it has helped you grow closer to your faith and your family.

Please don't forget that you have the membership team at your beck and call. Do not be shy, if you would like a guest speaker, help with an "Information night", help with organizing membership efforts, retention teams etc., all you have to do is ask. Remember these team members have a tremendous track record with the Knights and are willing to assist you.

May I suggest that when you schedule a 1st degree, you call neighboring councils and make them aware of your event and ask them to do the same for you. More opportunities to bring in new members will benefit us all.

Vivat Jesus

Gary Hoppe – Kansas State Membership Director

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Regional District Meetings have been completed and the programs for 2009-10 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 successful 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 9-11.

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 tickets & 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

Dan Wimberly, 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 9, 10, & 11. Chairman Dale Weber 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 \$345,000 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 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 described on page 25 of 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, copies of which may be obtained from Jim & Theresa Pritchard. 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 \$4.00 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.

The Knights of Columbus in Kansas will participate in a North American effort paying special tribute to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, through the Silver Rose Relay Program. This program involves running a Silver Rose from Ontario through the United States and ending on December 12, 2009, the feast day of our Lady of Guadalupe, in Monterrey, Mexico. The Rose will journey through Kansas between October 18 – November 8 beginning in Kansas City, Kansas and ending in Wellington, Ks.

The route will take the Silver Rose from Kansas City, Kansas west to Oakley, south to Garden City, east to Wichita and south to Wellington and into Okalahoma with scheduled overnight stops in 20 cities in 22 days. At each stop a special prayer service honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated. Be sure to watch the October issue of The Explorer for a route schedule.

Pennies from Heaven

Gary Wondra would like to remind Grand Knights 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.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Athletic Events

Council Activities Director Marcel Braun reports there were 104 golfers at the Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament held July 25 & 26 at Emporia. Flight winners were:

1st Flight: 1st: Joe Bachofer, Jerry Ryan, Bob Bergman and Scott Sloan, Salina 2nd: Pat Martin, Conner Martin, Mark Ziegler and Michael Ziegler, Salina 3rd: Mike Baalman, Todd Basgall, Jim Stroot and Vince Stroot, Wichita

2nd Flight: 1st: Mike Dvorak, Kevin Nelson, Kim Nelson and Bob Baumer, Emporia 2nd: Glen Gabel, Earl Brungardt, Allen Brungardt and Ken Haas, Hays 3rd: Mark Miller, Shawn Feuerborn, Matt Foltz and Bernie Gilner, Greeley

3rd Flight: 1st: Greg Kratz, Dean Crager, Randy Mjelde and Greg Keller, Pittsburg 2nd: Jerry Klaus, Tim Ruder, Leon Jacobs and Brian Karlin, Victoria 3rd: Butch Ludolph, Dave Pracht, Pat Tastove and Jim Thweatt, Westphalia.

Congratulations to Emporia Council No.727 and Chairman Gene Ohlman for a successful tournament.

The 2010 State Golf Tournament will be hosted by the Dighton Council No. 3210 at the Garden City Southwind Golf Course. Plan now to attend. Spouses are welcome to participate.

Fraternal

Do you have an outstanding member deserving of recognition 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 tremendous 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 asks all Knights to send him updates for the website so that he can keep it current.

Knights-Lite

December 22 is the upcoming deadline. 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

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: Mark Stallbaumer wrote \$1,800,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Central Kansas Agency: Trey Coleman wrote \$820,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Western Kansas Agency: Justin Deges wrote \$2,217,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$24,916,932 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 2009.

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Dan Reed | Jamie Cunningham | Jim Hensley |
| David Soukup | Justin Deges | Joseph Cummings |
| Darin Reed | Wade Greif | Bill Roggenkamp |

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
AXTELL KS
Permit No. 9



Contact Congress – Health Care Reform Will Subsidize Abortion

The U.S. House and Senate are expected to vote after Labor Day on health care reform legislation that could result in the largest expansion of abortion since Roe V. Wade.

In July, committees in both the House and the Senate approved bills that would result in the federal funding of abortion on a massive scale. The committees rejected amendments that would have prevented federal funding of abortion.

The House and Senate was on recess during the month of August, and Senators were in their home district taking the public's pulse on health care reform.

August and September could be the most important months in the history of the pro-life cause.

Every Knight of Columbus and their family members should urge their representatives in Congress to oppose any health care legislation unless specific amendments are added to prohibit abortion subsidies. Therefore, members of the House should be asked to support the Stupak Amendment. Members of the Senate should be asked to support the Hatch Amendment. All lawmakers should be asked to OPPOSE the health care legislation unless these amendments are added.

We urge you to:

- Attend public events and town hall meetings to let your representatives in Congress know your opinion.
- Call the local and Washington offices of your senators and congressman.

For contact information for your senators and congressman, go to the National Right to Life Committee website at www.nrlactioncenter.com or the Kansas Catholic Conference website at www.kscathconf.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.

From your Knights of Columbus Field Agent...

The fraternal year is nearing completion. Congratulations to those councils who have already made their membership quota for the year. Many others are getting close to reaching their goal. I'm eager to help.

One of these goals is likely the attainment of the Star Council award - the most prestigious award the Order offers at the council level. I'm certainly committed to helping on the insurance side, but I'll be glad to help on the membership side as well.

If you know an eligible Catholic man who might be interested in joining the Order (and who among us doesn't), he's probably just waiting to be asked. I can help you, either by approaching him myself, or by "coaching" you - transferring sales skills that you can use to recruit him and other prospects. As always, I'm at your service.

From your Knights of Columbus General Agents....

The rewards of being an insurance agent for the Knights of Columbus are many. Beyond the unlimited earning potential, you'll also earn respect from the community-and the self-esteem that comes from providing valuable, needed services to our members of the Order. You'll help clients plan for the future, freeing them from worrying about what's ahead. What you do will have a positive impact on your life, your family's, and the lives of our membership.

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT:

WESTERN KANSAS

George Spinelli, CLU, FICF, LUTCF, CSA
108 E. 10th St
Ellis, KS 67637.
785-726-4899

CENTRAL KANSAS

Greg Schafer, LUTCF
832 N. Cypress Ct.
Wichita, KS 67206
316-683-4900

EASTERN KANSAS

John Mahon, FICF
307 Dakota
Holton, KS 66436
785-364-5450