



# The Explorer

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Knights of Columbus

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**Sept 2010**

## STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Children are back in school and our lives are again beginning to take on a more structured schedule. Most of the councils in the state are meeting and putting their plans for this fraternal year into action. The key to having a successful and prosperous year in membership and programming is to get your activities started early. In planning your council activities, try to involve all members; especially new members by using the "Knight in Shining Armor" program.



Charity is the prime virtue of our Order. By living our Faith, others will know what it means to be Catholic and a member of the Knights of Columbus. God has blessed all of us with special gifts and talents. In this

"Year of the Volunteer" we have the opportunity to do great things for our Church and the Order. Together, we can make a difference. This means providing your members ways to demonstrate their Faith through acts of service to others. Listen to your membership and give them the opportunity to contribute their special talents to your council. As Grand Knight, ask for their help and keep them busy! Busy councils are successful councils.

Reports of first degrees are coming in from across the state and several Major degrees have been scheduled. Be sure your council sets several dates for degrees and then recruit toward those dates. Membership growth is essential to the future of your council and our Order. A larger and stronger membership allows us to better serve our Church, our community and those in "need." At your September meeting, set up procedures to enact the "October Biltz" in your council. Don't wait to try to attain your membership goals at the last minute. If someone shows an interest, do not put him off for several months. Conduct a first degree and get him active, even if he is the only prospect. Allow him the opportunity to share his talent.

The Theme at this year's Supreme convention in Washington D.C. was "I am my Brother's Keeper". 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. Let's work hard in the coming months to recruit and help our fellow man, and together we will be able to say "I am my Brother's Keeper."

Vivat Jesus  
Mark W. Roth, State Deputy

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **SEPTEMBER:**

- 1 Form #468 Columbian Squires Officers & Counselors Report Due
- 12 K of C World Day of Prayer for Peace
- 19 4th Degree Exemplification in Seneca
- 19 Major Degree at Louisburg #12437
- 26 Major Degrees at Sacred Heart #10407, Haysville #6761 and Topeka #2608

### **OCTOBER:**

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

- 1 Deadline for Religious Education Fund Requests to St. Chaplain
- 8-10 Conduct Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Roll) Campaign
- 11 Columbus Day
- 17 Major Degree at Manhattan #1832
- 24 Major Degree at Dodge City #2955 and Wichita #4118
- 25 Deadline for GKs to return Religious Ed Fund Tickets & Donations to DD
- 29 Deadline to report Soccer Challenge reports to Supreme & State Council
- TBA Major Degree at Lenexa #6673
- TBA Major Degree at Mound City #7446

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Kansas Knight of the Month is Ted J. Appelhanz from Topeka Council 534 in District 20.



## **STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Brother Knights,

The summer months are behind us, so let's get down to business. Have you been to a council meeting this fraternal year? Are you talking about recruiting? Has your council made plans to offer membership to every eligible Catholic man in your parish?

If not, now is the time. Don't let another council meeting go by without planning a first degree and a strategy to recruit within your parish. The cure for a slow start is to get busy. Look at all of your resources when putting a list together of potential men to call on. Have you examined the new parish members list? Have you contacted the RICA candidates from last Easter? How about the fathers of the kids in your Catholic school.

Remember it's important for each member to develop their own personal prospect list. Be ready for any opportunity to promote the Knights of Columbus. Use the AMS (After Mass Speech) template that your DD has provided to you, for having that personal one on one discussion with prospective members.

The Knights of Columbus has such a great story to tell. We do so much to promote family life and to support our Clergy, our Church, and Community that we have an obligation to share our message with every eligible Catholic man. We need to let them know that last year in Kansas we gave \$2.5 million to charity and 1.6 million hours of volunteer service to worthy and needy causes. These totals should make us justifiably proud.

It's hard to imagine that anyone who knows about the great works the Knights of Columbus do would not want to be a part of this great organization of Catholic men. It all starts with someone asking them to join us. That someone is **YOU**.

Vivat Jesus,  
Jim Gerber, Kansas State Membership Director

## **STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

The Regional District Meetings have been completed and the programs for 2010-11 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 8-10.

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

### ***Adopt-A-Seminarian***

Church Activities Director, Mike Baxa, 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 pledge form, provided to the Grand Knights by your District Deputy, and return to Mike 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. Mike asks each council to pray for their adopted seminarian, and to send cards and letters of support

### ***Religious Education Fund Applications***

Religious Education Chairman Rev. Ken Schuckman 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 Kelly McKinney 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? Andy Gilner, 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***

Greg Lix, 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 Parish Bulletin and Council Newsletter. Using this program and honoring families for their service to Church, community and council will encourage greater participation in 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 8, 9, & 10. Chairman Dean Haselhorst 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 Ron & Paula Zishka. 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 \$6.00 per member. It is early but think about 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 Ron and Paula Zishka at 913-787-7222 or [pro-lifechaircouple@kansas-kofc.org](mailto: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, 2010, the feast day of our Lady of Guadalupe, in Monterrey, Mexico. The Rose will journey through Kansas between September 5 – September 26 beginning in Axtell, Kansas and ending in Kansas City, Ks.

The route will take the Silver Rose from Axtell, Concordia, Salina, Hays, Great Bend, Dodge City, Liberal, Plains, Ashland, Hutchinson, Wichita, Derby, Chanute, Parsons, Pittsburg/Ft Scott, Paola, Tonganoxie and Kansas City. At each stop a special prayer service and or Mass honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated. Check the Kansas State Council's website for details of each stop.

### *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 the 11th annual Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament was held July 25 and 26 at The Golf Club at Southwind, Garden City Kansas. Wilbert Riebel and Dighton Council Number 3210 are commended for hosting a successful tournament. The accommodations at The Golf Club at Southwind were outstanding. I believe all present enjoyed the hospitality from both the Dighton Council and The Golf Club at Southwind. Tournament results were not available at the time of this article. Results will be posted on [www.kansas-kofc.org](http://www.kansas-kofc.org) when available.

The 2011 Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament will be hosted by Emporia LEO Council Number 727. The tournament will be held at the Emporia Municipal Golf Course July 23 and 24, 2011. 2012 Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament will be hosted by Salina Council Number 610. Location for this event has yet to be determined. Plan now to attend. Spouses are welcome to participate.

Councils wishing to submit a bid to host the 2013 Kansas State Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament need to do so in writing to State Council Activities Director, Marcel Braun no later than June 1, 2011.

### *Fraternal*

Remember to recognize an outstanding member every month for the time they contribute towards your councils goals. Submit your council's Knight of the Month to the Fraternal Director Doug Wietharn by the 15th of each month. They will be eligible for the monthly drawing for the 'State Knight of the Month' and receive a certificate and a K of C crucifix. The winner will be listed on the homepage of the states website and in the monthly newsletter. Please submit entries as soon as possible via mail, e-mail or electronically from the forms link on the state website. Applications to be mailed can be found on page 30 of the State Program & Membership guide. All name and address corrections for the State Directory should be sent to State Secretary Scott Maurath.

### *Publicity*

Our councils do tremendous work every day to help the Church, Youth, Family, Pro-Life, Community and Council. We are not a secret organization. We need to publicize the work we do! The council Publicity Chairman or any other designated member is encouraged to write newsletters and submit articles to get your council information and stories noticed. Your PR chairman will receive mailings from Supreme Council for tips and help. Additional help can be found by contacting State Publicity Chairman Doug Wietharn.

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**Webmaster**

Webmaster Todd Bachamp reminds all councils 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](mailto:webmaster@kansas-kofc.org).

Has your council ever needed to host a First Degree but the council's team is not available? 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.

**Knights-Lite**

December 29 is the upcoming deadline. Articles are to be received by Dale Weber, Editor, in order to make the edition. Submit them early.

Dale Weber  
State Program Director

**SEPTEMBER/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: Luke Henry wrote \$2,376,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Central Kansas Agency: Wade Greif wrote \$996,702 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Western Kansas Agency: J.J. Deges wrote \$6,500,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$26,317,000 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 July of 2010.

J.J. Deges	Dan Reed	Luke Henry
R.J. Meyer	David Soukup	Mark Stallbaumer
Kirby Schmelzle	Matt Rutt	Darin Reed
Mark Locke	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

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