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North Carolina State Council

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Tar Heel Knight



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January 2008

Volume 31 - No. 7

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From The State Deputy

My Brothers,

2007 has gone out with a BANG!

We have a new arrival in the state, Council 14422, Rev. Joseph P. McNamara, OMI at NC State University. While their leadership team has not formally selected, their Faculty advisor (and Financial Secretary) will be George Wahl, PSD, FVSM. We all know his heart is into NC State (just ask him about the color selection for the State Officer's Jackets :-). Your support and prayers to these young men is needed. (Just think about their membership retention opportunities!)

Other items happened that make this month momentous:

All of our principles were demonstrated in the generous contributions to the Wounded Warrior program. Look for our State Warden's comments concerning this accomplishment. We should all be proud of our support for those who have sacrificed much to ensure our freedoms.

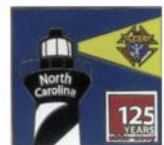
One of the most memorable events I have had the honor to do as your State Deputy was just last Friday, during the Christmas break. Your District Master and I conferred the honors of the Third and Fourth Degree on a member who is too ill to travel. The event was held in his home, with many of his council brothers there (in regalia no less) as witnesses. It was a moving moment when he was knighted. Although this new Sir Knight may not be with us long, I will remember his smile and gratitude for years.

In my brief time as your State Deputy, December is the best month ever. Can we do any better? You can count on it. There is a series of events coming up during the next few months that will mean that almost every weekend has something you can do as a Knight. The most important is the Right to Life March in Raleigh on January 12. This is a time that we can publicly demonstrate our support for those who don't have a voice in their lives. This event is "sandwiched" with our midyear meetings. If you have not done so yet, please let our State Secretary, David Jones, know of your attendance.

Just to let you know, my goal of having every council visited by a state officer this year is well on schedule. During the first six months, 45% has been visited. If you haven't seen us yet, you will!

From my family to yours, may your New Year be even more successful.

Fraternally yours,
John Gouldie,
NC State Deputy



At A Glance...

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The Official Publication of the Knights of Columbus of North Carolina



From the Office of the State Chaplain



Dear Brother Knight:

Finally we can say that our advent season is over, our celebration of Christmas is here. Your participation in the liturgies as lector, Eucharistic ministers, honor guards and ushers made the difference in your parish liturgies.

Praise the Lord for giving us the opportunity to be with Him one more year. As we approached the New Year, please take time to meditate on His goodness and forgiveness to us. Very soon we are approaching the mid-year meeting and we are focusing in the words of Jesus after his resurrection: "Do not be afraid" (Mat: 28:10). Fear is a word that many times keeps us away for the warriors of Jesus. As Knights we are call to be valiant not only proclaiming that Jesus is Lord, but over all giving a true example with our daily life. We are called to be authentic and faithful Catholics and as we participate in our mid-year meeting, let us remember that Jesus is inviting us to be strong and not to be afraid.

This is the year of our 125th anniversary, a year of gratitude and new compromises, a year of grace and service in the Lord. Let us keep building together ... the Kingdom of God is ours.

With my priestly blessings,
Padre Leon

Experience of a Lifetime

VIVAT JESUS: A new year is upon us and there is still work to be done. Let us ask ourselves, have we recruited a new member, if not, have we asked a brother catholic to join our ranks. Let us turn over a new leaf and make a New Years resolution to recruit a new member. What better way to kick of the New Year than by recruiting and hosting a First Degree?

I am challenging each Officer in every council to show the way by bringing in a new Knight. As leaders of our councils, districts and state we must all do our part.

The past year has been successful by reaching 50% of our goal, in the month of December. This is ahead of previous years and I commend all those who have participated in recruiting new members. We have also had some losses this year which was expected however, have we made a good faith effort to keep these men in the Knights. We all had a reason why we joined the Knights of Columbus and I am sure that reason was still their but for some reason we did not fulfill his needs. Let us look closely at our council programs and make sure they meet the needs of our members. Each year our programs need to be reviewed and revised to meet current situations.

And in closing I leave you with one more thought, have we made out new members welcomed? Have we contacted each and every member, have we talked to each of them? Operation Rescue is the way to go. If you don't know what Operation Rescue is give me a call and I will explain it to you. I have mentioned Operation Rescue at each of our conventions and meetings, Grand Knights check your notes.

VIVAT JESUS!

Ski

Pasquale A.. Wojciechowski,
Membership Chairman





MID-YEAR MEETING

It is very important that you follow through on your attendance to the mid year meeting. In case you forgot, our Mid-Year meetings are:

January 5 we will have a meeting at the Holiday Inn Select in Hickory.
January 19 we will have a meeting at the Hilton in Greenville.

The agenda for the meeting is included in this newsletter, but knowing what the IRS requires of us is very important, not only for council matters but for LAMB.

This is also a checkpoint in how your leadership team is doing. YOUR input is critical to continuing the success of our state.

SD John



Mid Year Meeting Agenda



Saturday, January 5 / 19, 2008

9:00am to 10:30am General Session

Opening Ceremonies

State Deputy's Report

State Chaplain's report

Membership report

Website Report

10:30 am to noon Break out sessions

Financial Secretaries

LAMB Directors

General Session

Hispanic community outreach

Programs

Noon to 1:30pm Lunch & Awards

1:30pm to 4:30pm Break out sessions

Financial Secretaries

LAMB Directors

General Session

Programs

State Raffle

Roundtables

5:00pm Mass – with the Bishop

Hickory – St. Aloysius

Greenville – St. Peter

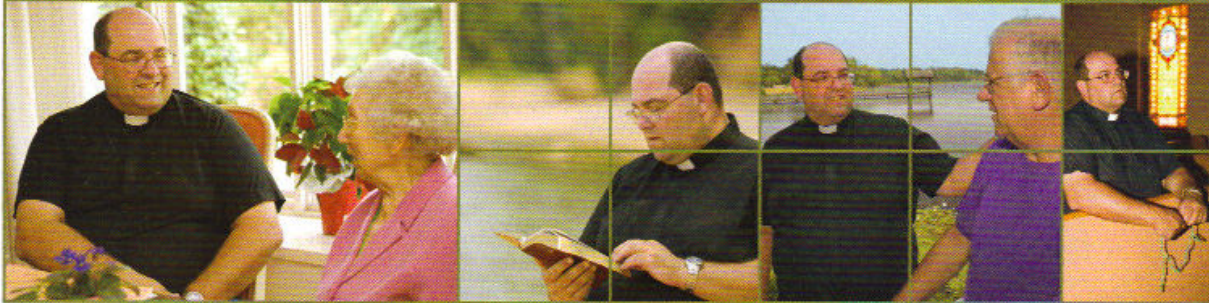
6:30pm Reception with the Bishop at the church hall

After the reception Drive home safely





“THE KNIGHTS HELPED ME TO DISCERN THAT GOD WAS CALLING ME.”



I have felt the call to the priesthood since I was nine years old at St. Stanislaus grade school. The call was simple: I knew that the priesthood would be a very good life for me. My parents were supportive. My mother would even tell friends and family, “John is going to be a priest.” But when the time came to choose a career, I chose engineering because I had not yet understood why God was calling me to the priesthood. Nevertheless, in my twenty years as an engineer, when a career decision was needed, thoughts of the priesthood persisted.

One Sunday at Mass the priest challenged us: If God had been good to us, how were we serving God with the gifts He gave us? I responded by joining the Knights of Columbus. It was a way of serving God in gratitude for all His gifts.

I soon became active in the various Council projects, and through the encouragement of the Knights, my prayer life was

strengthened, especially praying the Rosary. The Knights helped me to discern that God was calling me to use the gifts He gave me to serve others as a priest. This service to God’s people continues to be a source of fulfillment and joy.

Appropriately, it is the prayer life that the Knights encouraged that led me to contemplate the story of the rich young man in the Gospel of Matthew. Until then, I couldn’t understand how he could walk away sad after Jesus had called him. Then I realized that is precisely what I had been doing. Once I saw myself in that parable, I was able to give up engineering and respond to God’s call to the priesthood.

Rev. John Starczewski
Parochial Vicar
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
Greensboro, NC



KEEP THE FAITH ALIVE
www.kofc.org



Please, do all you can to encourage priestly and religious vocations.
Your prayers and support make a difference.

Rev. John Starczewski - Greensboro NC
“Columbia” - January 2008

Pray the Rosary for Vocations





2008 State Convention

The 2008 State Convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza Resorts in Asheville, starting on Friday, May 2nd and ending on Sunday, May 4th.



The 2008 State Convention social activities start Friday night with Bobby and Blue Ridge Tradition, from the great mountain music town of Asheville. Bobby and Blue Ridge Tradition quintet fronted by legendary banjo master Bobby Anderson, plays and sings a unique mix of traditional and not-so-traditional bluegrass music. The quintet is rounded out with Pam Crowhurst on the Fiddle, Cas Haskell on Bass, Jim Turpin on Mandolin and Chuck Wagner on Guitar.

Saturday morning, while the Knights are in their meetings, the ladies and youth have their own programs. At 9:30 AM in the Overlook Room there is a breakfast buffet, including a very unique fashion show. After breakfast, around 11 AM, the ladies will board buses for one of four off-site activities.

Visit the North Carolina Arboretum, which has beautiful gardens and the finest Bonsai collection in Southeast.

Browse around Historic Biltmore Village where some of the homes of the old Biltmore Estate works were converted into unique gifts shops, galleries, Cafés and restaurants, one-of-a-kind merchandise

Take a Trolley Tour of Asheville with stops along the way. It's a great way to see a lot of Asheville's sights and learn about the history from an experienced guide.

Shop at the Asheville Mall where there are plenty of department stores and shops under one roof.

Meanwhile, the youth will be boarding buses to go to the Asheville's Fun Depot, where there is a large assortment of arcade games and sport activities. They could drive bumper cars, climb the climbing wall, play miniature golf, laser tag and take their turn in the batting cages. There is also youth entertainment planned for Saturday evening, which at the time of this writing, has not been finalized.

The off-site activities will be completed early enough to allow plenty of time to rest, socialize and get dressed for Mass and the Banquet. The entertainment after the banquet, as of this writing, has not been finalized. We have three options and need to choose one.

Sunday Morning from 9:30 to around 11 AM, the ladies and youth will play white elephant games of Bingo in the Dogwood Room. Hopefully, we will have a little fun and socialize while the Knights are in their meeting.

Needless to say, the Hospitality Suite will be open Friday and Saturday evenings as well as Saturday and Sunday Mornings.

More detailed information, including brochures, are in the 2008 State Convention information packs that will be distributed to the Grand Knights at the January mid-year meeting.

Maybe having the 2008 State Convention in Asheville gives you an opportunity to spend a mini-vacation in the area; visit Biltmore House, Basilica of St. Lawrence, downtown Asheville, the River Arts District, the Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa, Thomas Wolfe's boyhood home or many other attractions in the area. You could sightsee at Looking Glass Falls, Sliding Rock or on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Hike on the many trails, go whitewater rafting or play a round of Golf.

Fraternally,

John Bateson,

DW16





Protocol

Is it a word that strikes terror in the hearts of us mere mortals or is it something we are just unfamiliar with? If the answer is both, let's shed some light on the issue to make it more understandable.

First, what is protocol? The dictionary defines protocol as: the forms of ceremony and etiquette observed by diplomats and heads of states. It is also the first copy of a treaty or other document prior to its ratification. Etiquette consists of the prescribed forms of conduct, implying the standards to be observed.

Each organization, from the smallest to the largest, has its own form of hierarchy. From the family unit to the US government, each has a body of persons organized or classified according to their rank or authority. The K of C is such an organization as is the Catholic Church.

For K of C purposes protocol describes a code of conduct setting forth:

1. An order of Precedence
2. Rules of Behavior
3. Degree of Obedience

Further protocol covers anything that is proper and in good taste. Always apply common courtesy and you will not go wrong. It must be remembered that we are displaying proper consideration for the office represented by the person. In no way should we let dislike for a person influence our respect for the office he holds.

This article will explain the first item, Order of Precedence. Remaining articles to follow will each take you through the other points. Protocol allows a means to honor our K of C officers and the members of the clergy within a set order of precedence.

In the K of C, the Grand Knight is the presiding officer in the local council. Other council officers are responsible to him. The council officers report to the GK and are given assignments by him. The GK reports to the State Deputy and consults with the District Deputy on matters pertaining to conducting the business of the council. The DD is a great resource and can provide a lot of information to a council during its council year.

The State Deputy is the highest elected official in the jurisdiction. As such special attention should be given to him and his wife, if present, when they attend any local council functions. The State Deputy and other state officers should be invited to attend your meetings or functions. Invitations, always in the form of a letter, should be sent at least six weeks in advance and signed by the Grand Knight. The other state officers, district deputies, priests or special guests should be accorded due recognition for the office or position they hold and all should be seated in a place of honor.

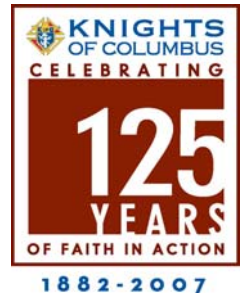
The State Deputy reports to the Supreme Knight in New Haven, Ct. All Knights honor and take our guidance and direction from our Clergy and the Church Hierarchy.

A shortened order of precedence, from the top, would be;

- Church Hierarchy
- Clergy
- Supreme Knight
- State Deputy
- State Officers
- District Deputies
- State Directors
- Grand Knight
- Council Officers

Further information will be forthcoming in future protocol articles. It is important to remember that the people who can help any council officer with a question in order of preference are; the Grand Knight, District Deputy, State Chairman and the State Officers. If they can't find the answer they will know where to go to get it. If questions about protocol come up or you would like me to cover a protocol issue in-depth, send me an e-mail to tminer@bellsouth.net. Please include in the subject line "Protocol Question" and give me a phone number to contact you if I have any questions.

Regards,
Terry Miner,
NC State Protocol Officer





VINCE CERULLO
REGIONAL DISTRICT DEPUTY 3

On occasion I think of what is my role in the Knights? Why am I here, what am I doing and why am I doing it? After 30 plus years with the Order there are times I attempt to put things into prospective. The answer that usually comes back to me is that the Knights make me a better Catholic. In our age of declining morality, declining educational structure and declining family life, I see where the Knights keep me from derailing. As probably most of us have experienced falling off the track is not a difficult thing to do. As part of my daily prayers for the past number of years I read the Life of the Saints, a short summary of each Saint's life and accomplishments. What I noticed in these readings is the common vein that runs through most of the Saints. That commonality is dedication and perseverance. This dedication and perseverance comes at different stages of life, later in life as it happened to St Augustine and for many of the Saints it comes in very early childhood. Once that dedication is made to follow Christ the Saints persevered to the end. Many of the Saints, especially from the early Church, were martyred due to their perseverance. Once they made their decision to follow Christ nothing, even the threat of death, deterred them from staying the course.

We, as followers of Christ in the name of Christopher Columbus, have a similar responsibility to Our Church and Our Order. We have committed ourselves to Christ through our baptism and to Our Order at the time of our First Degree. Our commitment must not subside but be renewed with more vigor each year. Each of us in this great Order of the Knights of Columbus has some responsibility. As a member of a council we should be as active as possible. We should be attending meetings, recruiting new members, working on programs of the council and be there when needed. Officers of the Order have a strong responsibility to be aware of what makes the Order run. They should have a strong working knowledge of procedures, policy and an awareness to assist those in their charge. We all have the obligation to see signs of need in others in the Order. We should be ready to assist our brothers when needed. This assistance could be financial, employment, assisting with shopping, driving etc.

With dedication and perseverance we will not necessarily become Saints but we will be able to stay the course in life and in our Order. We will have the ability to do what has to be done to move the Knights of Columbus in a strong forward direction.

Thank you all for all that you do for our Church, our Order and for our families.

Vivat Jesus,

Vince Cerullo
 RDD 3



From Your Church Director

Vivat Jesus!

January 2008, Who would of thought. Our mid year meeting is just a few days away and I look forward to meeting with all of you as we gather to see "How goes it?" With the new approach that our State Deputy has taken with the mid year meetings I anticipate more two way dialogue and that can only help all of us in our effort to increase our productivity in the support of our mission.

We will be going over the Traveling Icon, Round Table participation, and Church Programs in general. Should have lots of great ideas to share with each other. See you in Hickory and in Greenville.

Fraternally,
 Dave McGuire
 State Church Director





Third Degree Schedule

January 1 thru June 30

Jan 26	Havelock	6648	Amos Small Team	CO. Byrnes
Feb. 9	Raleigh	2546	Triad Team	CO. Brunner
Feb. 16	Kannapolis	12167	Bishop Bagley	CO. McGowan
Mar. 8	Fayetteville	2838	Bishop Waters	CO. Lewis
Mar. 29	Charlotte	10852	Triad Team	CO. McGowan
Apr. 19	Clemmons	9499	Bishop Begley	CO. Brunner
June 7	Garner	11266	Fayetteville	CO. Lewis

If any CO or Team Captain cannot commit to these dates, please let me know ASAP. Also we are looking to have a Third Degree on the coast probably in May. If any Team Captain wants to volunteer please let me know. We are planning on having rehearsal seminars in January and on February 2nd. More info on this later.

Vivat Jesus!

Joe Brunner, Ceremonials Director

STATE DIRECTORY

Brother Knights: Vivat Jesus. Please review your directories. If any data needs to be updated, please go to our state web site, www.kofcnc.org, select forms, and submit your change. If you are not sure you have received all changes to date, please e-mail your Admin. Asst. and he will gladly e-mail a cumulative list of changes to you. Recent changes received through 1/01/08 follow:

Page 7, Membership Director,
Ski Wojciechowski
Change e-mail to skiwoj@yahoo.com

Page 12, Council 2838, GK Sean F. McDaniel
Change name to Sean Fitzgerald McDaniel
Change address to
1425 Valencia CT
Fayetteville, NC 28305-3923
Change W to 910-678-0042
Change e-mail to smac333@nc.rr.com

Page 42, Council 12267
Delete GK Steve Joyce, replace with
Richard T. (Rick) Stoehr (Sharon)
1145 Woodbury RD
King, NC 27021-7323
H-336-983-2949 W-336-789-9161 x-2285

FAX-336-719-0072

rstoehrs@windsteam.net

Page 42, Council 12267

FS Joe Schumacher

Change e-mail to joeschu@windstream.net

Page 42, Council 12267

Add Chaplain

Rev. Mr. David Boissey, Deacon

156 Goff RD

King, NC 27021-8400

H-336-983-6272

dboissey@windstream.net

Page 42, Council 12267

Add Council e-mail

rstoehrs@windsteam.net

Page 43/60 – Council 12478/Assembly 3001

GK Richard Hamel – Change address to

58 Campbell Creek RD

Maggie Valley, NC 28751-6609

Fraternally,

Gene Tortone

Administrative Assistant

252-331-2338

tortone@roadrunner.com





KofC Chorale Joins Council 12119's 10th Anniversary Celebration at Fuquay-Varina



The year ended on a very high note as the Chorale journeyed South to the home of Father Albert J. Todd Council for the December 1 Saturday Masses and Banquet. It was with great pleasure that they added their voices to the two Masses, celebrated by Pastor Fr. Betti and concelebrated by Fr. Hernandez.



St. Bernadette's Catholic Church

PGK Jim O'Donnell prepared an enjoyable lunch for the Chorale and their wives preceded by a special Moravian Blessing. For the Evening Banquet, the Chorale sang a medley of patriotic songs and ended with "An Old Irish Blessing".

Spreading the mission of the Knights through song is extremely rewarding. 2008 will find the KofC Chorale at Raleigh, Newton, Burlington, Hickory and Hampstead in addition to the 3 State Meetings.



Reap the rewards by joining our group.
Drop an email to raymar@buggs.net.





Worthy Sir Knights All,

Vivat Jesus!

CHRISTmas has come and gone and once again, we have celebrated the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

District Master's Report

January 1st, 2008, brings us a new year and with it, new opportunities and challenges. I would like to encourage each of you to keep the spirit of Christmas joy in our hearts throughout the New Year. We all have many reasons to be thankful. God gives us challenges because he loves us. The reasons are not always obvious, but I believe everything that happens is due to His Divine plan. Let's all try, as Catholic gentlemen, to bring a little more kindness to our world, even when it is most difficult.

This brings me to the tasks that needs your immediate attention:

As mentioned in December, Annual Fraternal Surveys of Fraternal Activities, Form 1728C, are due to Supreme before January 31, 2008. There can be no excuses for not submitting this form. Please send copies to the Vice Supreme Master Bob Singer and me. If you file it electronically, be sure to print copies prior to submitting to Supreme. Once submitted, it CAN NOT BE PRINTED! While this form may appear redundant, since many activities duplicate those of your council, it must be filed. The excuse, "We included our numbers with the council's numbers", is not acceptable. Assemblies are required to report for themselves.

Pro-Life March – Raleigh, January 12, 1:00 PM:

ALL Sir Knights are invited to participate, in regalia, for the Pro-Life Rally and March in Raleigh. It will be held in Nash Square, beginning at 1:00 PM. After the invocation and guest speaker, the Fourth Degree will lead the march past the state government building and Governor's offices. Please make this a good showing for those who can speak for themselves.

Wounded Warrior's Leave Fund update:

The Vice Supreme Master will be giving a complete report and I do not want to steal his thunder. However, I do want to express my sincere thank you to everyone, the Assemblies, Councils, the pastors who were supportive, the Florida District, and all who gave donations to this most worthy cause. The North Carolina Chapter of the MOPH advised that one third of their donations came from the Knight of Columbus. What a wonderful outpouring of support for our wounded military men and women. May God bless each one of you.

Bi-Annual Assembly District Meeting Scheduled:

The District meeting has been set for Saturday, April 12, 2008 at the Council home of Council #2546. This meeting is a requirement of the Supreme Council. One of the purposes of this meeting is to nominate and present three names to Supreme for a District Master for a term of two years. As you are aware, my appointment was to complete the Vice Supreme Master's term due to his elevation. Please be prepared to send at least one delegate from your Assembly to this meeting and names for nomination of Master. Additional details will be forthcoming in February and March.

E-Mail Addresses, Data Changes:

If your Assembly is one of the few that has not provided an e-mail address for communications, please ask an Assembly member with email to strongly consider taking on this responsibility. Postage is costly. Thank you to all who have been sending in the data change copies to me. These are important. Also, if an assembly officer has a change of address, phone number and especially email, please notify the District Secretary and myself as soon as possible.

In closing, I extend to each of you and your families my best wishes for a Holy, Healthy, Prosperous and Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
SK Bob Grabasky, PSD
Master, Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree, North Carolina District





Brothers All,

Vivat Jesus!!

I hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas with family and friends! My very best wishes for a Happy, Safe and Prosperous New Year for you and yours. Imagine 2008, when just a few years ago, there was the big worry about computer crashes, etc. when the year 2000 came along.

Mid-Year Meeting: Planning, Planning, Planning. As the Mid Year meetings just around the corner, a different approach is in the works. To make any event successful, planning, new ideas and participation are most important for its success. The State Officers have been planning for a different format for these meetings which will include more input from you, the participants. Your job will be to relate to us what the needs of your Councils are and what we can do to help you achieve your goals. Our job will be to collate all this information and make it work for you.

Activity: The first half reporting period is now in the past and we are going to work on this aspect also at the Mid Year meetings. As with any new product, training, tweaking and fine tuning are a necessary evil for a successful completion. There was about a 70% participation across the State in activity reporting, however much less in the submission for recognition. This is the area that needs to change – Council recognition. The Councils are out there performing great deeds for the church, community, etc., but who knows? As the awards are presented for the 1st half reporting period, you will hear some great new ideas to take back and think about for your own Councils. This is why we meet – to share successes for the common good.

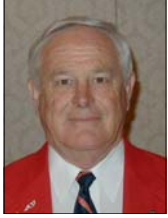
2nd Half Reporting: As we meet at the Mid Year meeting to discuss your successes, the next reporting period is right around the corner. The District Deputies will have the appropriate form for your Council and will meet with the GK, DGK and Program Chairman to document the Council activities. Even though the reporting period actually ends on March 31, the activity report must be completed by March 15. With Easter early this year, the State Officers must meet to plan for the Convention earlier than usual and the award winners are selected at this meeting. That does not mean that you cannot document on the activity form an activity that occurs between 3/15 and 3/31. Please make every effort to submit your activities for recognition for the great work that our Brother Knights are performing every day.

Convention: The State Secretary will be sending each of the Councils a check-off sheet as a reminder of requirements for the annual convention. Please be mindful of the deadlines noted on the form as these are very important for your Council and further recognition for Knight of the Year, etc.

Again, from my home to yours, Happy New Year!

Jack Murray, State Advocate





From the Desk of the State Secretary

Brothers All:

I want to extend to all of my Brothers, a very prosperous and happy New Year!

For the Grand Knights, your Supreme per capita is due January 1, 2008. Please have your Financial Secretary send your check in as soon as possible. Remember to have your annual survey of fraternal activity report form #1728 completed and turned in to the State Warden, Mike Durbin, at your Mid-Year Meeting.

Grand Knights, you should be putting together the dates for the next six month's 1st Degrees to be held in your council before July 1, 2008.

Your LAMB Directors should be requesting disbursement checks from the State LAMB Director as these checks should be delivered to the agencies within the first three months of next year.

The Free Throw Contest is fast approaching and your Youth Director should be lining up contestants for your council Free Throw Contest and that report is due January 31, 2008.

Vivat Jesus,

Dave Jones

Happy New Year Fraternal Surveys and Supreme Reporting

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

Starting a new year presents a time to look at past accomplishments and future goals. Many of you are 6 months away from being a Past Grand Knight. What is your legacy to the council? If you haven't thought of it, now is

the time. Enjoy these last 6 months but make them productive –set a goal –like Star Council – it isn't as hard to achieve as you might think!!!! Ask me if you want it and need help getting it!!!!

One of the key elements to achieving Star council status is filing your Supreme Reports on time. I have sent emails to councils that have delinquent or missing reports. It is never too late to submit your report and we are trying very hard to get all the reports submitted. With that said, your next milestone is the FORM 1723 Report of Fraternal Activity. It is our Fraternal Survey that the Order uses to justify its non-profit status and to record the charitable works of our Order. Needless to say, this report is extremely important to us and our Order

It is my hope that all of you will be joining us in January for the mid year meeting. At that time, I need a copy (whether you submitted it to Supreme or not) of your Fraternal Surveys. If you are having a hard time with the report, you have a wealth of support available to you. If you need to, you can always call me directly for help.

I hope the New Year is prosperous, safe and joyful for you and yours

God Bless,

Mike Durbin,
NC State Warden





PRO-LIFE

Brother Knights,

I would like to take this time to wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year.

Last month I posted the schedule for January, as it is very busy. I will do so again. January and October are the two busiest months for Pro-Life.

January 2008 Pro-Life events:

1/5/2008 Mid-Year Meeting in Hickory at the Holiday Inn Select &

1/19/2008 - Mid-Year Meeting in Greenville at the Hilton.

1/12/2008 – Right to Life March in Raleigh. This is on a Saturday, so everyone should be able to march!

Also plan to attend the Prayer Breakfast for Life. The cost is only \$15.00 per person. It starts at 10 am at the Brownstone Holiday Inn, 1707 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC.

1/18/2008 Charlotte March for Life, this is on Friday at 12:00pm.

1/22/2008 – Right to Life March in Washington DC. This is on a Monday this year.

2008 – A pivotal year. The elections this year will help determine some of the most key positions in government. It is imperative that these positions are filled with Pro-Life people. The presidency will help shape policy and fill key posts. If there are vacancies in the Supreme Court, we need them filled with someone who supports life, not abortion. We also need Pro-Life Senators to vote for these nominees. So vote for and support Pro-Life candidates.



Annual Baby Bottle Program – propose that each Council take the lead in their parish to distribute baby bottles (with their pastor's permission) after Mass. Have the parishioners take the bottles home to put change, bills, checks in them and return in a couple of weeks. The money will be turned in to the K of C State Secretary and deposited in an account for K of C Pro-Life Programs; include a letter letting us know how the Council would like the funds to be distributed. The Councils will need to buy the bottles the first year only, then they will have them for each succeeding year. You may have to replace any lost bottles. The top five Councils will be awarded the "Mary, Mother of the Life Within" Award (statue). It will be awarded at the Annual State K of C Convention. So check with your pastor today and put the dates on your calendars. Then put in your orders with Wal-Mart for your baby bottles. For more details and tips, order the "K of C Baby Bottle Campaign" step by step guide from me (no charge), or check our website (www.kofcnc.org), and download a copy. Each of the District Deputies has received a copy, so that they may provide guidance as well.

Remember our most powerful weapon against abortion is Prayer, so Pray, Pray, Pray!

I look forward to seeing you at the Mid-Year meeting and the other Pro-Life events in the new year.

John Wigger
Pro-Life Chairman
8681 Windsor Ridge Drive
Charlotte, NC 28277
Phone: (704) 752-3645
Email: cjwigger@bellsouth.net

Prayer for the Unborn

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love You very much; I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.

By Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen



Knights of Columbus and its Second Principle

As we move through the Christmas season, donations to send our combat wounded troops home for Christmas continue to arrive. While the Vice Supreme Master and the District Master will report specifics on the program, this article will concentrate on a more abstract element present during this Christmas season: **UNITY**. We learn many things during our second degree with regard to Unity, but how do we live it? There are hundreds of possibilities, but I would like to emphasize just a few that came to my attention during this campaign to send our combat wounded troops home for Christmas.

In last month's report we reported numerous assemblies as well as our State District donating thousands of dollars towards the effort. Moreover, through our Vice Supreme Master, other state districts have donated as well. You can start to see the thread of Unity. Assemblies across North Carolina from Elizabeth City to the Great Smokey Mountains and many places in between coming together to support a common cause. Likewise, multiple state districts, Georgia and Florida, are coming together to support that same cause. But, none of it is possible without the grass roots effort of all our programs within the individual assemblies and councils located in our parishes. And, as I am sure Fr. McGivney had prayed, our principle of unity would spill over into parish life. While the St. Thomas More community, through the leadership of its assembly and in cooperation with its parish raised over \$3,000, and I am sure many of the other assembly donations are a culmination of parish donations as well, St Thomas Aquinas' program provides a wonderful illustration of Unity.

The St Thomas Aquinas council and the St Thomas Aquinas parish raised and donated over \$12,000 in one weekend towards the cause. The council working closely (in solidarity) with their parish priest, Father Remo DiSalvatore, came together to support our troops. Not only did the council donate to the cause, but the church donated, the parishioners donated and even their parish middle school donated \$1,000 towards the total gift. The council prepared and executed flawlessly by advertising prior to the event and then providing men to execute the plan..

My brothers, UNITY is alive and well within North Carolina. While there are many stories and examples in each of our councils and assemblies, I thought this was a great Christmas story.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
God Bless!
Mike Durbin

LAMB Foundation of NC, Inc.

Worthy Brothers,

We keep getting close but no cigar. In 2008 lets put a little extra effort to reach the \$1,000,000.00 goal. This is reachable with minimal effort.

If we get 100 percent participation from all Councils it is achievable.

If we set a minimum goal of \$3,000.00 for each Council it is achievable

If we set a minimum goal of \$1,000.00 from corporate donations it is achievable.

Remember the LAMB drive is January 1 through December 31st. It is not a one or two weekend program. Identify your LAMB Director ASAP. Have him visit agencies in your area. Plan on having representatives from the agencies talk at a business meeting. Let the members know how the money we are collecting is being used.

In North Carolina, LAMB is the principal way by which we exemplify Charity. Our efforts are self-rewarding and we should go that extra step.

God Bless You for all you do for people who cannot help themselves.
AngelO
LAMB Director





Vice Supreme

Master's Report

Worthy Sir Knights,

I would like to wish each Sir Knight in the DeSoto a very Happy and prosperous New Year. I can tell you that we had a very successful 2007 and I am looking forward to even a better 2008.

I would like to bring you up to date with the "Wounded Warrior Christmas Trips Home" project that I have worked hard to make a success. I was notified last year that the Military Order of the Purple Heart had a program to send all of the Wounded Warriors, from the Iraq and Afghanistan Conflicts, who were confined to the military hospitals, built especially for them, at Camp Lejuene Marine Base and Fort Bragg Army Base, home for Christmas. This was a request these wounded servicemen had made.

In 2006 the Knights of Columbus raised \$9,000 for this cause. For 2007, having been appointed Vice Supreme Master, I introduced this program to the entire DeSoto Province. I want to say that I am extremely happy with the results of the 2007 campaign. The latest report I got from the M.O.P.H reads as follows:

"The Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Program has raised a total of \$165,000 and sent 4 Navy Corpsmen and 66 Marines from the Wounded Warrior Barracks of Camp Lejuene and 50 Soldiers from both Ft. Bragg's Warrior Transition Battalion and Womack Army Hospital home for Christmas – a Grand total of 120 Wounded Servicemen. ALL remaining monies will roll over into the 2008 Christmas Leave Program and will fund any Emergency Leave Travel during 2008 from these locations. This could not have been possible without your support and generosity. The Knights of Columbus donated \$51,540 to this great cause. (This includes monies donated by some Ladies Auxiliaries)."

I cannot thank each District enough for their donations. Due to some negative news coverage, I did an extensive investigation as to the use of ALL of the Wounded Warrior Christmas Leave Funds. I can assure you that 100% of the funds are being used for these Wounded Servicemen. All labor for this program was donated labor. If you have any questions regarding this program, please let me know.

Now for a lighter side of the past year and the upcoming 2008, I had the opportunity to attend two Exemplifications in Georgia, One Exemplification in Florida and One Exemplification in North Carolina, since September 1, 2007, when I became Vice Supreme Master. I have on my schedule at this time two additional Exemplifications in Florida, 1 additional Exemplification in Georgia and at least One Exemplification in South Carolina. I have asked each District to have at least two exemplifications this fraternal year.

I want to thank each of the Districts; I have visited for the kind consideration they have shown to myself and my wife. We have been accepted in each District as "old friends" and feel a part of each District.

Last Fraternal Year the DeSoto Province was a leader in the Fourth Degree in both Membership Gain and number of Exemplification, per District. I thank you each for this great accomplishment and hope you have set your goals to repeat in membership and exemplifications again this year.

If I can be of any assistance to any of you, don't fail to contact me. I am here to serve you.

Fraternally,

SK Robert J. "Bob" Singer, PSD, FDM
Vice Supreme Master, DeSoto Province



January 2008



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**Supreme Council
Family of the Month**

October 2007

Family of

David & Rita Zalonis

Council 6600 Greenville

Family of

Steven & Debbie Underwood

Council 7259 Newton Grove

Family of

John & Kitty Felten

Council 10910 Chapel Hill

Family of

Karl & Guadalupe Drafz

Council 13488 MCAS New River

Thirty councils sent their Family of the Month reports to the Supreme Council for October.

CONGRATULATIONS!

November 2007

Family of

Michael & Erin Durbin

Council 6648 Havelock

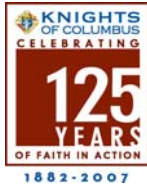
Family of

David & Cathy Hester

Council 12167 Kannapolis

Seventeen councils sent their Family of the Month reports to the Supreme Council for November.

CONGRATULATIONS!



THK Editor

Greg Ciesielski

333 Miller Blvd

Havelock, NC 28532



**Happy New Year!
Goodbye 2007
Hello 2008**

