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North Carolina State Council

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February 2008

Volume 31 - No. 8

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From The State Deputy



My Brothers,

The Mid-year meetings are now in the record books, but are not history. For most of you it was the first time to meet our State Chaplain, Padre Leon. We are truly blessed to have him on your leadership team. He is truly a remarkable man, who brings an insight into our community, family, and parish that we are sometimes unaware. For instance, he reminded us our need to support the pastor. Not just the pastor's ministries, but the pastor himself. Padre related to us his experience in the seminary and the support the Knights gave him. Then he told us how that support changed after he was ordained. WOW, I never thought about it. (Oh and by the way, he is challenging your leadership team to ever higher goals!)

At the meeting over 85% of the councils were present to review the progress of the first six months. Your attendance demonstrated your commitment to the Knights of Columbus. So what did we learn at the midyear meetings? Initial feedback to me about the meeting itself was that you were pleased with multiple locations, the one-day format, and the breakout sessions. (in Greenville, the Financial Secretary training was Standing Room Only!). You told us that the roundtable discussions were a welcome activity at the meeting. You also told us that our biggest challenge is consistent, meaningful and timely communication. Your State Advocate Jack Murray will be publishing your comments, and what actions will be taken to resolve the issues that cause you concern. As to me, the highlight of the weekend was the Mass celebrated by our Bishops at each meeting. Their positive comments concerning the Knights of Columbus made me proud to be called a Brother.

So what is coming up? Several events are on the horizon that needs your attention. Just like this week we prepare for the Super Bowl, Lent is soon upon us, this is the time for us all to put our lives in order for the Lord. We should all be mindful of what it means to be a member of our one unifying aspect of our order, our FAITH. Easter is the apex of our religious belief.

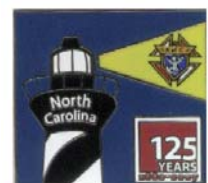
The Saturday after Easter we celebrate the 125th birthday of the Knights of Columbus. On this weekend we should all make a special effort to commemorate that day. You should consider coordinating a Knight's Mass, and with your pastor's permission, conduct the Membership Blitz that weekend. Giving a fellow parishioner an opportunity to join the finest men's organization in the world should be a goal for us all. If you want one of your leadership team to be there for your recruitment drive, please let me know, we have over 70 dedicated Knights in your leadership team who would be happy to assist you. You only have to ask!

My brothers, thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Please make me aware of any need you and your council may have.

Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally yours,

John Gouldie,
NC State Deputy



The Official Publication of the Knights of Columbus of North Carolina



State Chaplain

Dear Brother Knights,

As we are entering into the season of Lent and, after participating in our mid- year meeting, we must meditate on how to welcome the strangers. A stranger is someone who for any reason is not familiar with our culture or life environment even though he may be part of our faith, community or may speak our language with an accent.

Our Mid- year meeting theme was “BE NOT AFRAID” and we meditate that fear most times is evil. Let us focus in the theme as we reflect in the stranger in our midst. As Knights of Columbus we have grow stronger as we are celebrating our 125 anniversary, yet there is more to accomplish. We, as the State Council, want to focus on welcoming the immigrant in our local councils by letting them fully participate in our activities. The question asked may be. How can we welcome them? Well, years ago, we faced the same situation with our African American brothers; today the reality’s JUST different. These brothers most of the time do not speak English, or Spanish perhaps is their second language. Yet their love and desire to help and support the church is similar like ours, the problem is that understanding their culture and traditions may change the whole way of thinking or seeing in terms of the church.

Thinking outside the box, the Knights of Columbus are known as a wealthy institution, where the members are professionals only. These people separate themselves from the poor. Yet they love to help and support the poor and disable. We know that this is not true, yet, we as brother Knights, many times don’t mingle with the immigrants or do not participate in the celebration of the Holy Mass in Spanish.

If our goal as we celebrate our 125 anniversary is to welcome the strangers, let us go forth and get more involved in the activities of the Hispanic ministry. Let us be part of their community, than we may invite them to be part of ours. Then our immigrant brothers will feel and experience that we, the Knights of Columbus, are just Christians who are also parishioners. The only purpose he/she has in mind is to go into heaven, to work for the parish and to support their family.

I want to conclude this letter using the words of the two great leaders of our Church in North Carolina: From the West we heard: “I am always looking forward, to the presence of the Knight of Columbus in regalia,” and from the East said: “We came and always will come to the Knights of Columbus for their support.” We, the State Council should say from our hearts. “Here we are... we want to do God’s will and support the ministries of our church.”

Dear worthy brother Knights, today more than ever ... don’t be afraid ... just have faith.

Vivat Jesus!

With my priestly blessing,

Padre Leon

NC State Chaplain





FUND RAISER INFORMATION

At the two Mid-Year Meetings, I passed out, to the District Deputies, the Raffle Ticket Packets for each Council. Included in this packet was information about the Raffle as well as several hundred tickets, for your Council Members to sell. The number of tickets was based on your Council's past records.

It is very important that EVERY COUNCIL do their part in selling these tickets, as this is the major income for the State Council to carry out their activities. The Raffle is also a terrific opportunity for your Council to make a good amount of money, as they keep 1/2 of the cost of each ticket. For several Councils, the Raffle is their main fund raiser for the year.

It has been some 20 years since State Per Capita has been increased. This is possible by having a successful Raffle Fund Raiser each year. To give you an example, last year the State Council realized a Gross of \$70,000 from the Raffle. Of course the N.C. Councils also realized \$70,000 for their coffers, also. This would amount to an increase of \$5.00 per member, in State Per Capita, if we do not have a successful Raffle. This make is imperative that EVERY COUNCIL do their part in selling these tickets.

To show you how good of a project this is for your individual Council, I have several Councils and Assemblies in Florida who, after finding out about their opportunity to make \$2.50 for each ticket they could sell, requested tickets for their Councils/Assemblies. Of course the North Carolina State Council will realize \$2.50 for every ticket sold, no matter what state sells them.

I noticed that on the Raffle Tickets, it did not state the number of days for the Alaska Cruise. This is a ten (10) Day vacation, Seven Day Cruise the three days in Alaska.

If you have any questions regarding the Raffle Fund Raiser, please contact me at (252) 237-8007 or rjskofc@nc.rr.com I will do what ever you need to make your Council Selling Experience a good one.

Fraternally,
Bob Singer, PSD, VSM
Fund Raiser Chairman



2008 State Athletic Events

March 1st - Basketball Tournament - Winston Salem- Host Council #2829

April 26th - Softball Tournament - Raleigh - Host Council # 2546

Sept 27 - Bocce Ball Tournament - Winston Salem – Host Councils # 2829, # 9499, #10504

We are still accepting bids for the 2008 State Bowling and Golf Tournaments.

Please support our State Athletic Events and special thanks to all the host Councils.

Fraternally,
Tim Whelan
State Athletics Chairman





Mid-Year Resolutions

As you enter into the last 6 months of the year, do you have an action plan to accomplish your goals? Have you set goals for yourself as Grand Knight and for the Council? Have you contributed to the State Council's "every council active" effort? Did the series of mid-year meetings trigger additional questions, ideas, and programs you can bring to your council? Are you excited about what WE as an order are doing locally, regionally and internationally? Are you excited about being a Grand Knight?

So many questions!! So many ideas!!! And at times, so little time!!! But, NOW is the time!! You have 6 months left to create an impact within your council, parish, and community and it does not have to be an earth shattering impact at that. Often times, it is the small impacts, programs, and ideas that can provide the most benefit to the most people. How about STAR council? You can be a STAR council if you want! How about our principles? While our Charity includes time, treasures, and talents, what about Unity? You can live our second principle of Unity by inviting men and their families to join our efforts or by supporting your priest or by supporting a district or state event/program. Likewise, maybe create a new program that supports vocations, your parish or even a family event by baking a dessert for the state-wide competition. There are so many ideas and programs that you can do. Have you planned a Founder's Day Mass celebrating the 125 years of our Order? Though time is short, there is still time to do great things.

As for me, I ask myself what can I do to be a better Catholic, father, husband, and person? My affiliation with the Knights of Columbus assists me in these goals. I hope it does for you as well. Until I became truly active in our Order, I was a 1 hour a week catholic. The Order has enabled many of the activities in my daily life to be in service of the Lord and that 1 hour a week has exponentially increased. My New Year resolutions include being more available to more knights across the state. I want to continue to grow our Order by asking more men to join us and to promote our principles by the way I lead my life. I want to re-learn Spanish so that I might be able to better communicate with our Hispanic brothers and sisters and to better understand their culture. I want to be a better man and a holier man. I want to aide all my brothers throughout the various levels of leadership to be successful. Lastly, I want to help in any way I can – Do not hesitate to call.

God Bless!

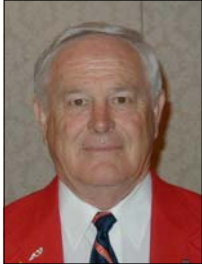
Vivat Jesus,
Mike Durbin, NC State Warden

Personnel News:

We have two new men on the leadership team to assist you in your council and district work.

Dan Lange, FDD will be assuming the role of Regional District Deputy #4 out in the western side of the State. He is replacing State Secretary David Jones who was the interim stand-in for Steve Fitzgerald. Dan will be working with District Deputies Bernie Gehring, Nick Walsh, Tom Greenlee, Chuck Saleski, and Ricky White and the councils they support.

Tony McWilliams, Deputy Grand Knight of the new council at NC State University will be the College Council Coordinator. He can assist with getting a Knights of Columbus presence in your local college and university. He can be reached at: ajmcwill@unity.ncsu.edu. He is a graduate student, so please contact him early if you want his help (School is JOB 1)



From the Desk of

the State Secretary

Brothers All:

Grand Knights, your state per capita bills will be coming out on February 1st. Please have your Financial Secretary pay this bill as soon as possible. Your Supreme and state per capita must be paid if you are to be seated at the State Convention.

Grand Knights, you must meet with your District Deputy so that he can complete your Recognition Program Reports. The District Deputy must mail these reports to the State Advocate, Jack Murray by March 15, 2008. The Service Program Awards must be mailed to the State Secretary using the forms in the Supreme forms booklet. This would be one of your outstanding programs your council preformed this year...you could have one for Church, Community, Council, Family, Youth and Membership. Your council could be awarded by the State Council and the Supreme Council for the best program in each category. Remember to submit your Knight of the Year, Golden Knight of the Year, Family of the Year and our new award, Rookie of the Year. Guidelines for these awards can be found in your Grand Knights handbook.

The convention checklist for the Grand Knights will be mailed the 1st of February. You should use this as a checklist for preparation for the State Convention.

Councils must hold elections for delegates and alternates and your credentials must be mailed to the State Secretary as soon after the election as possible.

This is your opportunity to make your council one of the best councils in the state under your watch as their chosen leader, GRAND KNIGHT.

Vivat Jesus,

Dave Jones,
NC State Secretary

Dear Knights,

Pro-Life Event

This is an invitation for the K of C in the Charlotte area to participate in the spring 2008 40 Days for Life - February 6th - March 16th. For this vigil, we are inviting groups, churches or organizations to each take a day during the vigil for a total of 40 groups, one per day. Please prayerfully consider the Knights picking one of the 40 days to be out there. This is a prayerful, peaceful vigil i.e. you just stand and pray, that's it! The minimum requirement for group participation is for two people to be there together for at least one hour during your assigned day. A prayer book will be provided, which has rosary prayers, stations of the cross, litanies, etc. - more than enough prayers to cover an hour. Please contact me about getting you assigned one of the days.

Also we are having a kick-off rally on Monday night, February 4th, 7:30pm at St. Ann's, in their school cafeteria. We hope that you can come.

I look forward to hearing from you! This is a national event that is spreading like wildfire among the pro-life movement. The Knights in many cities are participating.

Peace,

Andrea Hines - Campaign Director, Phone 704-996-4597, email hinesal@aol.com



State Advocate's Message

My Brothers All – Vivat Jesus!

We are entering upon the busy time of the year as we approach the Annual Convention. Everyone has reports that are due and must be recorded from the State Officers, Directors, etc. Grand Knights will receive a Check List of requirements from the State Secretary soon and working with their own management team and DD's will be successful in reporting activities, etc. Please refer to the 2007 - 2008 Recognition Manual (Yellow Cover) for directions on the process for submitting nominations for State Knight of the Year, State Family of the Year, Golden Knight of the Year and Rookie of the Year. A reminder, the 2nd half reporting, which goes on a single piece of paper, must be done in conjunction with your District Deputy. All requests for recognition of your **2nd half activities** must be on the State Council Recognition request form and only submit one request for each of the Program areas. This is separate for your request for Top Program of the year which must also be submitted individually by Program. All of these guidelines are listed in the Recognition Manual.

We have received many positive comments relative to the table discussions at the Mid Year meetings. The facilitators did an excellent job to keep everyone on track and ensuring the quality of discussion in the allotted time frame. Believe me when I say that all aspects of the statements received will be reviewed by the State Officers. Your comments and observations were well received and noted. I have broken down both reporting areas (Greenville & Hickory) and forwarded to the State Officers for their review. We will analyze all the information and report our findings to you. Some of the items you mentioned will be acted upon immediately.

Some of the hot topics that were noted: communications in all areas, web site, training, retention, and management of your Councils. "Dignitary" visits were also noted as high on some lists. Your State Deputy has already made this as one of his high priority items for this year. We (the State Officer's) will be visiting Councils and attending functions as requested. Please be mindful that there are 118 Councils and only six (6) of us. We get invitations to your events, however there may be 2-3 scheduled on the same date, etc. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.

As always, thank you for everything you do in support of all programs – God Bless.

Fraternally,

Jack Murray
NC State Advocate



Special Guests at the Mid-Year Meetings, East and West



(L-R) Brother Levi C. Leyba, PSD, FDM, Supreme Hispanic Development Field Coordinator
Bishop Michael Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, along with the State Officers and Honor Guard
Bishop Peter Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte



The 2008 State Convention in Asheville, May 2 - 4, 2008

Mrs. Rose Marcaccio is the chair for our ladies activities. Rose wants all the ladies to have a good time at the 2008 State Convention. While the Knights are in their meetings, the ladies will have their own program. On Saturday at 9:30 AM in the Overlook Room, the ladies will gather for a buffet breakfast, including a fashion show. All the ladies involved in the fashion show have refused to say a word about it, except it will be very unique and the original designed outfits are made by the models, it's become a bit of a mystery.

Asheville, being a major tourist attraction, has much to offer. This posed a bit of a dilemma to the ladies activities committee in selecting off-site activities. The question was; what would the ladies like to do to have fun and at the same time not be pressured to get back to hotel in time to freshen-up before the Mass and the banquet. The Committee came up with seven viable options and then narrowed the field to four options. After breakfast, around 11 AM, the ladies will board buses for one of four off-site activities:

Visit the North Carolina Arboretum and see beautiful gardens and the finest Bonsai collection in the Southeast. The Baker exhibit Center also features ongoing exhibits on science, art and culture.

Browse around Historic Biltmore Village, which is a quaint England community constructed in the late 1890s. Many of the picturesque residences have been converted into unique gifts shops, galleries, Cafés and restaurants. The village shops and galleries offer a diverse selection of limited editions and one-of-a-kind merchandise.

Learn about Asheville's treasures by taking a sightseeing tour through the historic districts in a vintage trolley with a trained tour guide, which combines humorous stories and historical information into a fun-filled tour.

Shop at the Asheville Mall to your hearts content. The department stores in the Mall are Belk, Dillard, JC Penny and Sears. Additionally, there are plenty of shops that offer Accessories, Apparel, Books, Cards, Electronics, Jewelry, Shoes, Specialties, etc.

Sunday Morning, between 9:30 and 11 AM, while the Knights are in their meeting, the ladies and youth may gather in the Dogwood Room to play white elephant games of Bingo.

The Couple and Family Registrations include the buffet breakfast, off-site activities and white elephant games of Bingo.

Fraternally,

John Bateson,
DW16



Sad News -

SK John Grey who was the focus of our attention during Christmas week, passed away. His joy in becoming a Third and Fourth Degree member was, to me, truly a memorable experience.

Respectfully,

SD John Gouldie





Directory Changes continued...

Page 43 – Council 12281

Add council e-mail jphorvat@peoplepc.com

Delete Grand Knight, replace with
John P. (JP) Horvatt Carolann
1020 Royal Tern Dr.
Hampstead, NC 28443-7137 H-910-270-1699
jphorvat@peoplepc.com

FS Italo Rasteli Add wife Isabella
Add e-mail dbbram@bellsouth.net

Page 43 – Council 12455

Delete Financial Secretary Kraehenbuehl replace with
Michael A. Benigno
12740 Rosalie St.
Raleigh, NC 27614-7698

Page 43 – Council 12478

GK Richard Hamel – Change address to
58 Campbell Creek Rd.
Maggie Valley, NC 28751-6609
Change e-mail to hamelrs@charter.net

Page 44 – Council 12481

Change council e-mail to jday7@triad.rr.com

Delete Grand Knight, replace with
James D. Day Sharon
337 Lorven Dr., Lexington, NC 27292-8389
H-336-239-9103 jday7@triad.rr.com

FS Ralph Schwartz- Delete work phone

Chaplain Fr. Al Gondek
Change e-mail to fral@triad.twcbc.com

Page 46 – Council 12885

Delete Grand Knight, replace with
Edward (Ed) Basso Paula
1345 Regatta Dr., Wilmington, NC 28405-4269
H-910-256-0066 epbasso@bellsouth.net

Page 64 – FVSM George Wahl - Add spouse Mary

Change address to
820 Ravenwood Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27606-1634
Change H-phone to 919-233-7568

Page 64 – PSD Don Dubois

Change e-mail to dubois.kofc@yahoo.com

Page 69 – FAYETTEVILLE TEAM

Delete Ty Bardon, replace with
Thomas (Tom) Zumbahlen
PO Box 53815
Fayetteville, NC 28305-3815
910-323-5521 tzumkci@juno.com

Page 69 - Add AMOS SMALL TEAM

Captain: William P. (Bill) Conklin
3911 Russell St.
Hope Mills, NC 28348
(H) 910-424-7158 billkofcpfn@embarqmail.com

Council 12017 Invites You!

Come join us and the rest of the community and participate in the Knights of Columbus (Council 12017) Shamrock Fun Run & Walk.

The event will take place on 15 March 2008, at St. Mark's Catholic Church on Eastwood Rd. Opening ceremonies will start at 7:30 AM, with the 6 mile and 2 mile event starting at 8:00 AM.

After the fun run and walk, there will be free food and refreshments for all participants, raffles, 50/50 drawings, awards, a Special Olympics demonstration, and the much anticipated performance by the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band from MCAS Cherry Point!

You don't have to be a runner to enjoy this event. Come on out, bring your neighbors, walk for a Hero, and enjoy the remainder of the morning by cheering for our Olympians and by listening to the Marine Corps Band!

All money made from this event will go directly to the Wounded Warrior Fund and Special Olympics.

Should you have any questions regarding the event, please contact Patrick Lilienthal at - 910-270-9472 or by email at plilienthal@crowdercc.com



THE



END



Third Degree Schedule

February 1 thru June 30

Feb. 9	Raleigh	2546	Triad Team	CO. Brunner
Feb. 16	Kannapolis	12167	Bishop Bagley	CO. McGowan
Mar. 1	Charlotte	10852	Triad Team	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
May	Kill Devil Hills	8759	Bishop Waters	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



Greetings to all from Fayetteville and Vivat Jesus!

I hope this note finds each one of you well in your corner of North Carolina.

Congratulations to the Family of James & April Bianucci of Council 6700 in Gastonia and the Family of James & Rita Brennan of Council 10852 in Charlotte for being selected as Supreme Families of the Month.

Thank-you to all of you who have so well responded to my request of Family of the Month Participation. It truly is a simple program to participate in, and I know each council in this state has families that deserve to be recognized. Again, thank-you to all.

Don't forget to move ahead with your Family Favorite Dessert program. Grand Knights, please work with your District Deputies and encourage them to move forward with this fun family program. Time is short, so the competitions need to be held soon. Remember, there will be a District competition followed by a Regional competition. Those Regional winners will be judged at the State Convention in Asheville. I hope to taste some truly delicious desserts!

God Bless,

Colin Jorsch,
Family Life Director



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF FAITH IN ACTION





Chorale Embraces St. Francis



*St. Francis of Assisi
Home of Council 9709
Chartered Jan 6 1988*

The KofC Chorale arrived in Raleigh at the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi on January 25 to help celebrate the 20th Anniversary of KofC All Saints Council.

The Saturday banquet honored Reverend David J. McBriar for his service to the Council as their Chaplain.

After singing for Saturday Mass and several songs for the Banquet, Sunday brought the Chorale, bleary eyed, but willing, into the church at 6:30 AM to sing the Prelude and accompany the Cantor during Mass.



Brother Knight Joe Lynch from Edenton, NC , was welcomed back to the Chorale after having two serious surgeries. Joe celebrated his 81st birthday in December.

THANK YOU !

Brother Tom DuPree and members of the All Saints Council for all the support with arrangements, lunches and the very welcome breakfast Sunday morning to take care of the “inner man”.

JOIN *this rugged group of men, their dedication is infectious !!
Their next engagement will be in Newton on March 29.
Interested ?? Drop an email to raymar@buggs.net.*



District Master's Report

Worthy Sir Knights All,

Vivat Jesus!



Shortly, we will embark on the Lenten Season, a time when we as Catholics, look inside ourselves and reflect upon our lives as Christians. This is a time when a personal sacrifice is offered for atonement and cleansing of our souls in preparation for Easter. What will you do in preparation?

As children, many, if not all of us, gave up candy during Lent. Not easy for any youngster to do. I dare say all of us are beyond that stage of our lives. Would you consider attending daily mass or visiting a Brother who may no longer be able to get out of the house? Maybe you could make a vow to pray a rosary for peace and the safety of our military men and women. We have many options, but truly make a concerted effort to do something that is a sacrifice and not an every day event. The Lord will bless you many times over and you will feel better about yourself.

January was a busy month. The State Deputy held two mid-year meetings which were fantastic! The traditional Saturday evening mass after both meetings were a special treat as the celebrant for each was the Bishop of the respective diocese. At both masses, the Fourth Degree provided and Honor Guard and I was fortunate to participate in both.

The Fourth Degree also participated in both Right To Life rallies held in Charlotte and Raleigh. I attended the Raleigh march and what a wonderful showing by our members. Thank you all for taking the time to show that the Knights of Columbus stand up for Life. Once again, we were treated to having both Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Jugis in attendance and march with the Honor Guard.

On January 22nd, the State Deputy and I attended the Right To Life march in Washington, DC, as many of you did also. Our Bishops concelebrated a 10:00 am Mass at the Basilica for the North Carolina delegation. There were very few seats available.

At the conclusion of mass, Bishop Burbidge inquired of several Fourth Degree members if it would be possible to have a Fourth Degree Honor Guard for this Mass in the future. Therefore, I ask the membership to begin making preparations for January 22, 2009 to attend the mass and honor Bishops request. An Honor Guard would require a minimum of 40 men in regalia. More on this as the year progresses.

By the time you read this, everyone should have filed a Form 1728, Survey of Fraternal Activity which I have talked about for the past two months

VA Updates are now on the State web site, www.kofcnc.org, by going to communications and selecting the tab "VA UPDATES". The web site is slowly becoming more current and easier to use. If there is something you would like to see on the Fourth Degree portion, please let me know. Soon, I will be adding a calendar of Assembly Officer Installation dates including the name of the installing VSM, FVSM, FDM or myself.

Finally, I would ask all Faithful navigators to nominate a member of your assembly to be considered for the honor of Sir Knight of the Month. In the past months I have tried to alternate between assemblies in the East and West, and with your assistance, this will continue. Please take the time to nominate one or more of your members who deserve to be recognized.

God Bless,
SK Robert J. (Bob) Grabasky, PSD
NC District Master



Vice Supreme Master's Report

January is behind us. Fraternal Survey Reports were due by January 31; did you get your report in on time? This report is of utmost importance as the information from this report is what the Order uses to support our "non-profit" status. If yours is not in yet, please get it in immediately.

February starts us in our Exemplification period for the DeSoto Province.

Every Assembly should support the District Master, by recruiting as many candidates as possible for each Exemplification. District Masters must guarantee a number of rooms and meals for each Exemplification. If this guarantee is not met, the loss is from the Masters account. This account comes, only from exemplification income as there is no per-capita for the Fourth Degree. I ask EVERY ASSEMBLY to do their part in this great work.

It appears that the DeSoto Province VAVS work is progressing really well. My personal thanks to all who participate in this worthwhile program.

Even number years are the years each District holds their biennial meetings. These should be already scheduled. At these meetings nominations are received for the District Master position. A maximum of three nominations will be considered from each District. District Master appointments can be made from other than the nominations made by the district. Master positions are made by the Supreme Knight. He must consider many qualities of any candidates.

Thanking you for your continued effort in making the DeSoto Province the best in the Order.

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



District Free Throw Contest Winners, District 14
Photo courtesy of Tom Riley, Council 6700 Gastonia



The BLITZ is Coming

The BLITZ is Coming

Have you started planning the Founder's Day membership Blitz yet? The Supreme Council can assist. They recently sent me the following:

Any successful Blitz requires that a council has the materials on hand that prospects need to read in order to make an educated decision about joining the Order.

Please find attached the web address for the Blitz material order form:

<http://www.kofc.org/cmfr/resources/BlitzFormNew.pdf>

Or you can direct all of your councils to the Supreme Council website for information on conducting a Blitz.

Now is the time to prepare for a March Blitz - order materials and get volunteers ready to recruit.

This was a note sent directly from Kevin Brady our Supreme Membership Director.

Getting prepared is 90% of the battle. So what preparations need to be done?

Again, the Supreme Council gives us some guidelines:

The Preparation Phase

- Obtain the pastor's permission to conduct a Blitz at the church during a specific weekend.
- Order recruitment materials from the Supreme Council Supply Department
- Schedule an Orientation Date within 1 week of the membership drive
- Schedule a First Degree within 2 weeks of the membership drive.
- Contact your Assembly for an Honor Guard for the Blitz. (1 or 2 men would be Great!)
- Advertise the event weekly in the parish bulletin building up to when it is held.

Inform the Field Agent about the recruitment, orientation and first degree dates

The Execution Phase

- Set up informational tables at every door of the church. Have plenty of prospect cards and pencils on hand to distribute to each man as he enters the church.
- Arrange for a membership recruitment announcement to be made during Mass by the priest endorsing the council.

Have brother Knights on hand to answer questions and to collect prospect referral cards or names and contact information as men leave the church with their families.

The Follow-Up Phase

- Personal contact must be made with every prospect within 48 HOURS.
- Inform each prospect and his family of the date, time and location for the informational seminar, and invite them.

Offer transportation if necessary.

BLITZ information continued on Page 13





BLITZ information continued

The Orientation Phase

- Request that your council's chaplain start the event with a prayer and some words about the Order and its mission.
- Consider showing one of the recruitment videos available from the Supreme Council Supply Department.
- Make the requirements for membership known to those assembled.
- Offer each prospect a Membership Document (#100) to fill out before the event's conclusion.
- Have brother Knights on hand to assist prospects in completing these forms.
- Conclude the event with some light refreshments.

Inform the candidates of the date of the First Degree.

The First Degree

- Contact the candidates to remind them of the degree date.
- Ensure they have transportation to the location.

Have a designated mentor for that new member to help him get involved and active.

Doing this will help make your recruitment drive successful, and help retain that new member.

PRO-LIFE

Brother Knights,

I would like to thank every one of you who attended the Pro-Life Rallies and Marches in January. Unfortunately my wife and I became ill and were unable to attend.

On January 18, 2008 President George W. Bush proclaimed January 20, 2008 as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. The proclamation was issued by the White House Press Secretary and published by the National Right to Life Organization.

Annual Baby Bottle Program – As a reminder this program ends April 1st and the money must be turned in to the State Secretary by that date. Include a note stating which Pro-Life Organization you want the funds to help.

Another reminder - it is very important that we elect Pro-Life people this year. There are no issues more important than Life. Without this basic right, all other issues are meaningless.

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.

Yours in Christ,

John Wigger
Pro-Life Chairman
8681 Windsor Ridge Drive, Charlotte, NC 28277
(704) 752-3645 - 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



Kudos

Thanks to Most Reverend Peter Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte, and Most Reverend Michael Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, for celebrating a Mass at the meetings and sharing their thoughts about the Knights.

Thanks to DDs Ricky White, Rick McCormick, and RDD Art Schneider for the excellent job of coordinating the manpower supporting the midyear meetings.

Thanks to GK Jim Rand (Hickory) and GK John Andrason (Greenville) for coordinating the evening reception and meal at their churches.

My sincere thanks goes out to all those who led the presentations at the midyear meetings. Especially to Financial Secretaries Ken Ward (Mint Hill), Ron Imrick (Burlington) and John Purcell (Elizabeth City) who worked with State Treasurer Greg Kent to make the FS Training successful.

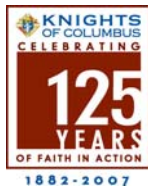
Thanks goes to Margie Campbell our external accountant who attended the Hickory Midyear and added to the discussion of both the FS and LAMB Training sessions.

Thanks to Dr. Iverson Riddle (from the Riddle Center) and Danny Rice (Caswell Center) for their presence at luncheon and their brief words giving us insight how our LAMB funding supports their respective facilities.

Thanks to Angelo, who led the LAMB coordinator training at both locations.

Lastly, thanks to Padre Leon, who attempts to keep your State Deputy focused on the good works of the Order.

SD John Gouldie



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