



ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL

Knights of Columbus



Editor Robert J. Fuggiti, PGK, FDD, PSW

February-March 2012

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The future is in our hands!

"It's a good day to do great things in the name of the Lord!" *John Grossman*

District deputies and the state leadership team gathered in Normal, Illinois in December for the annual midyear meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to check the course set in July for progress in growing the Knights of Columbus presence in Illinois. As the journey for this fraternal year began in July, district deputies gathered then to launch a new year with a focus on helping councils succeed. ***That is our mission!*** Key ingredients we believe contribute to successful councils are (1) building good working relationships; (2) developing effective communications; and, (3) planning. Supreme Council shares the same mission by providing leadership guidance and instructional material to help grand knights and district deputies in the performance of their duties. New this year is an Illinois district deputy guidebook that provides a supplement to Supreme Council material; and, it includes helpful checklists for district deputies. Our caution to leadership at both diocesan and district deputy levels is ***that these resources alone are not enough to help councils succeed; it also takes regular personal contact and review of the material and planning to really succeed!***

At this midyear meeting, leadership from each diocese participated in a more interactive discussion on how to help councils succeed. We reviewed approaches in relationship building among the councils; changes in communications and, progress made thus far. We demonstrated how easy it is to present the first degree such that all councils can do it! In fact two Columbian Squires state officers unexpected were ready to experience the first degree and we degreed them as part of our planned demonstration only with them as real candidates! This was a new approach in the agenda of our meeting that allowed us to clarify some misconceptions and take note of improvements needed. Many commented favorably on the concept and made a couple of suggested improvements which will be made the next time we gather for this purpose. That is what you need to do in your councils: try new approaches; make adjustments and then try again! Imagine how far you can go if this is done with your district deputy and his diocesan assistant! ***The future is in your hands!***

What can we do to succeed?

The definition of success differs from one person to the next; and, so it is helpful to have a standard measure of what success really means. The traditional measure of success is STAR council achievement. It can also be at various levels of the Illinois Spirit program. These measures are well rounded in that they take into consideration all of the key elements that ensure that a council is meeting the mission of the Knights of Columbus. An Illinois mission statement was prepared with input from grand knights, district deputies, and elected state officers a couple

of years ago as part of developments for a strategic plan. A full copy of that mission statement with goals and objectives is included in the Illinois district deputy handbook which has affectionately been called the "Big Blue Book" and most recently "The Play Book". If your district deputy hasn't reviewed that with you, ask him to do so. The book is also on our website at www.illinoisknights.org

The "Play Book" provides a ready source of reference for programming, charities and recruitment planning. Other resources available to plan for success include the Surge With Service booklet; grand knight handbook; and, other Supreme Council material. Again, there is no replacement for experience which comes in the form of your diocesan leaders. Please use them because they want to be used!

So what are those well rounded elements that are the keys to success? It would be simpler to say that if a council used the Illinois Spirit planning guide [Illinois SP-7] and the Columbian Award form {Supreme Council form SP-7] as planning tools, you will have you'd see them all, thought they can generally be summed up as follows:

- Charity is a fundamental criteria and a foundation upon which our order is founded. It is definitely part of our mission; and, both the Illinois Spirit SP-7 and Columbian Award form serve as planning tools to ensure this criteria is present;
- Interesting program activities provide opportunities for every Catholic man and his family to practice their Faith and have some fun too; again Illinois Spirit SP-7 and Columbian Award form serve as planning tools to ensure this criteria is present;
- Recording results including charitable and program activities timely and accurately i.e., semi-annual audits; Supreme SP-7; Illinois SP-7; Survey of Fraternal Activities, etc. ensures that you document your successes;
- Promoting fraternal benefits and informing members about the order's insurance products that help to protect their families represent our origins and Father McGivney's dream;
- Payment of both Supreme and State per capita represent modest contributions to an organization that provides much more than what those dues can provide; and,
- Recruiting and retaining your membership, by making sure that the entire list of criteria just shown before this one is in place and refreshed regularly!

Convention Planning!

Convention will be a time for celebration! We will gather the state family in fellowship and fun; recognize the accomplishments of our councils; prepare for the final lap of the fraternal year i.e. May and June as we surge with confidence to even greater heights! It is also a time to make our voices heard through resolutions and the election of officers. Make it your duty to have representation at the annual convention meeting and be prepared for a great time! Brothers, Illinois is a great jurisdiction with a rich history of great accomplishments in Charities, Programming and Fellowship! We work hard, pray hard, and convention is for us to play hard! This will not be a convention that you will want to miss. It will be held May 4, 5, and 6, 2012 at the Westin Hotel and Convention Center in Lombard, Illinois. ***Be there or be square! Come celebrate in the biggest "state family" reunion we ever had!***



Coats for Kids!



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Across our great jurisdiction, nearly 1,100 coats were distributed to children of families less fortunate to afford to purchase on their own! While our jurisdiction has participated in the Coats for Kids program in recent years, the state officers agreed to expand the program to a jurisdiction-wide project! I wish to thank the state officers for being agreeable and supporting this new initiative to purchase 4 cases (12 to each case) of coats for each diocese; that posed the seed of 48 coats for each diocese totaling 288. That is when the diocesan leadership and our local councils, chapters, assemblies and ladies auxiliaries joined hands in purchasing an additional 62 cases of coats for distribution; that totaled an additional 744 coats! The decision on where and how to distribute the coats was left to the diocesan leaders which included the membership of their diocese; each diocese was to select two locations designated for distribution. What a great example of unity of purpose! All for one [purpose] and one purpose for [all] who needed our help. I am so proud to be a Knight of Columbus and to be a part of a great jurisdiction as ours!

Some additional good came to our Order as part of our project to get coats to children who needed them. Charlie Daniels, diocesan chairman (the rock) of the Belleville diocese was handing out coats at a high school and began talking to the principal of the high school who was a former member of the Knights of Columbus. After some talking with the gentleman, Charlie took an application from him to rejoin our order! Way to go Charlie! In Chicago, Dale Smith, diocesan chairman (the rock) of the Chicago Archdiocese strategically worked with his diocesan team to select St. Ambrose parish as the site for coat distribution. His team is working with a group of men to reactivate an old council that one of our 90 year old members, Rubin Gaines, sought assistance with the effort. The pastor, Father "Boom Boom" Washington is a young priest who is very actively working to bring his Faith Community to more meaningful participation in the parish life. He welcomed the Coats for Kids project and is excited about getting his council back on track! It was truly a good day to do great things in the name of the Lord!

STATE CHAPLAIN

Most Rev. Joseph M. Siegel
Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar General of Joilet



Lent 2012

Dear Brother Knights,

The season of Lent is often compared to a journey. This image reminds us that, like the chosen people who wandered in the desert for 40 years and Jesus who spent 40 days of preparation in the wilderness, we too are on a journey of faith. As the Scripture readings at Mass will tell us, this season is to be a journey from sin to repentance, from darkness to light, from death to life, from the cross to the Resurrection. Our parish catechumens and candidates in the RCIA process will journey on the path toward the Easter Sacraments while we walk with them preparing for the renewal of our baptismal promises.

To help us make this journey fruitful, the Church recommends three ancient practices: increased prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Christ himself taught his disciples that these disciplines would strengthen us to grow in our faith and to turn away from sin.

Along with the Church's requirements for abstinence and fasting, each of us is encouraged to find our own way of incorporating these practices into our lives. I imagine that your parish offers many opportunities for spiritual enrichment during this holy season, like the Stations of the Cross, a parish mission or Eucharistic Adoration. As Knights, we know there are always many ways we can offer our resources, time and effort to assist the poor and needy in our communities as well as throughout the world. We need to also prayerfully consider to what kind of fasting and self-denial we are being called this Lent.

Let us pray for one another throughout our Lenten Journey, which we begin on Ash Wednesday. May this season help us grow in faith, hope and love, and prepare us for a worthy celebration of the Sacred Triduum and Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop Siegel

STATE ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN
Rev Chuck Tuttle

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

As you receive this message, we will either be preparing for Lent or have already entered into the journey of forty days. The significance of the number forty has many biblical references. The forty days and forty nights of rain that cleansed creation and began a new hope and promise for humanity. Moses was forty years in Egypt another forty years in the desert and the final forty years of his life leading the people as they wandered in the Wilderness that helped shape them into the nation of Israel. Twice Moses spent forty days on Mount Sinai before receiving the Tablets of the Law. Twelve spies reconnaissance the Promise Land for forty days. Elijah was forty days at Mount Horeb. Ezekiel laid on His right side for forty days symbolizing Judah's sins. Jonah was sent to warn the people of Nineveh that they had forty days in which to repent. Both King David and King Solomon ruled the people of Israel for forty years each. The forty days of fasting and prayer that prepared Jesus for his Mission and Ministry. Jesus spent forty days with his disciples following his Resurrection before his Ascension into heaven. These are but a few of the some 146 references to the number 40 in the Scriptures.

No wonder the Season of Lent has been designated as a period of forty days in which to survey one's life; to see what needs to be cleansed and renewed; to turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel; to fast, pray and open one's heart to the needs of others; to literally journey in the desert and wilderness of self-denial and abandonment. But Lent is not a season of pain, suffering and chastisement, as much as it is a "Springtime" of restoration, hope, and reconciliation. What will your forty days bring you through and to what end? Can you leave the past in ashes so as to rise to new life with Jesus at Easter?

Vivat Jesu

Father Chuck Tuttle



Associate State Chaplain

STATE SECRETARY

Donald "Skip" Kinyon kinyon@gallatinriver.net

Brother Knights,

I was just reading a report from our State Membership Director Jerry Bevignani in regards to a very successful weekend in membership recruitment. A New Year and a New Knight. That has a nice ring to it doesn't it? Just think more Catholic men and their families have joined the order to help better serve our Church, their communities and their fellow man. Just think of how proud the sponsors are of these new brother knights! Helping to spread the good news of our Lord and make this world a better place to live. Looking at the calendar and just talking with the Worthy State Deputy before you know it the Illinois State Convention will be on us. In talking with the State Deputy it sure sounds like it will be one great convention! The committee has been working very hard in providing plenty of activities for all. Worthy Grand Knights I want to empathize that our councils have all of the proper forms completed and sent in to the Supreme and State Councils. Make sure the per capita is up to date so your voice can be heard from the voting floor. Thinking of the State Convention it also reminded me that it is close to that dreaded tax time again so make sure all the council finances are in order and properly filled as well. With Tax time and the State Convention just around the corner that can only mean one thing, spring time will soon be here and that means councils can begin the outdoor activities such as council picnics and family get-togethers. Don't forget to invite potential members and former members to attend those council activities as well. Show them what it means to be a brother knight and what a little night life really means.

God Bless to all,

Skip

STATE TREASURER Bill Doerfler bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net

As most of you know the 39th annual March for Life has just taken place. The DGK and his wife from my Council which happens to be my son and daughter-in-law took part in the March. Here is a short recap of their trip:

While our trip might have been delayed due to weather the spirits and desires of the 1000 plus teens, adults, Clergy, and Religious from the state of Illinois were not suppressed. We then joined hundreds of thousands of people in participating in the 39th annual March for Life, in Washington D.C. Erica and I were blessed in being with an incredible group of people from the Diocese of Joliet including thirteen teens from our high school youth group at Immaculate Conception Church in Morris.

As we arrived in Washington D.C. we were joined by our Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Siegel. It was truly an honor to watch as he and 3 teens from the Diocese placed a wreath in honor at the Tomb of the



Unknown Soldier. This was then followed by a Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception celebrated by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, which began with a forty minute procession of Seminarians, Deacons, Priests, Bishops, Archbishops, and Cardinals, with many from the state of Illinois including: Francis Cardinal George, Bishop R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop Siegel and Bishop Popracki.

Monday began with an early start with a youth rally, Rosary, and Mass at the DC Armory. This was directly leading to the March for Life in the National Mall ending at the steps of the United States Supreme Courthouse. To see so many young people standing up alongside the very strong presence of brother Knights from across the country for their beliefs of prolife was incredible. I know that this March also had an enhanced effect on us as we are expecting our first child this June. As we have been going through this preparation for its birth I do not understand how anyone can say that life does not begin at conception.

We would like to thank the Illinois State Council as well as all the local Councils and Assemblies and brother Knights who helped make this trip a possibility. We appreciate your financial support, words of encouragement and prayers for all of us as well as continued prayers and action to end Abortion in the United States.

Thank You
Erica and Nick Doerfler DGK Council 845

Your State Treasure as been busy with ID checks for the month of January as we have signed 355 checks for in the amount of \$392,651.39. I want to thank all the council that has requested their money to be distributed. Councils that have not requested their money please do so as the ID organizations need your help.
Vivat Jesus

Bill

STATE ADVOCATE Ted Stites
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I hope everyone enjoyed and very blessed and happy Christmas season and that 2012 is off to a good start. By now you have received a letter from me detailing how to submit resolutions for the upcoming 2012 State Convention. The information is also available on the state council website, on the State Convention information page. All resolutions must be in my hands by March 30, 2012 to be considered at the state convention.

In a previous newsletter I provided several FAQs that pertain to how tax laws apply to the Knights of Columbus at the council level. Here are a few more FAQs, including one relating to insurance.

Question: Are Knights of Columbus councils and assemblies exempt from state sales tax?



Answer: Generally, state legislatures grant state sales tax exemptions or state or local property tax exemptions only to charitable organizations recognized by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3). Since the Knights of Columbus is not recognized as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3), councils and assemblies are not generally eligible for a state sales tax exemption, although the exemption may be available in certain states.

Question: Are donations to Knights of Columbus councils and assemblies deductible on the donor’s income tax return?

Answer: No. Donations to Knights of Columbus councils and assemblies for fraternal or social purposes are never deductible and most donations for charitable purposes are not deductible. In certain limited circumstances, donations for charitable purposes may qualify for a deduction under IRC Sec. 170(c)(4), the so-called pass-through charitable donation exception, provided that the recipient of the donation is recognized as a charitable entity under Section 501(c)(3). Knights of Columbus officers should understand that compliance with Section 170(c)(4) requires the council or assembly to file accurate accounting records with their tax returns in order to permit donors to claim a lawful deduction on their tax returns. See IRS instructions for Form 990, Form 990-EZ and Schedule A (Form 990, 990-EZ, 990-PF). Donations under IRC Section 170(c)(4) must be reported by filing Form 990 Schedule B. Donations of \$250 or more must be acknowledged as required by IRS publication 1771. Only charitable contributions by individual taxpayers may be claimed as deductions under Section 170(c)(4); non-person taxpayers, such as corporations and partnerships, are not legally permitted to claim a deduction for charitable donations under this provision.

Question: Do councils, assemblies, and home corporations need insurance?

Answer: Yes. All councils and assemblies should have adequate liability insurance coverage. The Supreme Council does not provide insurance coverage to councils and assemblies or to home corporations. The Supreme Council has arranged for liability insurance to be purchased by the councils through R.C. Knox & Company of Hartford, Connecticut. Councils should contact their State Deputy for information on how to apply. Home corporations that are associated with any Knights of Columbus unit are independent corporate entities and are not covered by council insurance policies. Accordingly, all home corporations (including all building associations) should make arrangements for adequate liability insurance coverage.

Keep in mind that when it comes to tax issues with your council, your best option to handle things correctly is to secure the services of a local tax accountant. The information offered here is a good general guidance, but it should not be considered an official source on which to base tax decisions that affect your council. Contact your tax professional for specific guidance.

Vivat Jesus!

Ted



At the meeting of **Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Council # 324** Chaplain Fr. Thomas McCarthy, O.S.A., blessed our new official council challenge coins. Father spoke on the “challenges” confronting each Catholic man in today’s world. These coins provide the council a means of fraternal bonding by creating a sense of brotherhood and belonging.

STATE WARDEN Rich Koerkenmeier
rkoerk@yahoo.com

Does everyone remember we have a birthday coming? On Founder's Day, March 29th 2012 the Knights of Columbus will be 130 years old. So now, for almost 130 years our order has been serving the Church, our families and communities and giving Catholic men countless opportunities to put faith into action!

Every K of C council has the potential to be a powerful organized force for good in our parishes and communities! Some of the most recent examples are the many Pro-Life council activities and the Coats for Kids Program coats distributions throughout our state. Our thanks go out to all the councils who made donations to make many coats available to needy children!

Now, as we progress further into the second half of this fraternal year, we should have reviewed our progress so far and made plans to help our councils achieve all that they are capable of. It is critical that we continue to improve on our communication with the membership of our councils so that we reach out to each brother Knight to ask for his help with the important work we strive to accomplish. Only by effectively informing our members of the many program opportunities they have available to participate in, can we keep them involved and help them to realize the great satisfaction of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

I would suggest that every council introduce each of their members to the "Illinois Knight's 365 Prayer" which was written by Associate State Chaplain Fr. Chuck Tuttle. Include it in council newsletters and pray it often at council events to ask the Lord's help in our endeavors and to increase awareness by our brother Knights that their council will accomplish more with their active participation.

Our goal must be to inform and invite every Catholic gentleman in our parishes to share the benefits of Knighthood in our order! Remember to spread the word throughout your councils about the great membership recruitment incentives being offered by the State and Supreme Councils The State Chaplains Membership Award at:

www.illinoisknights.org/marty/membership/MemberIncentive3Q.pdf

and the Supreme Council "Be Not Afraid!" Membership Campaign at:

www.kofc.org/un/en/membership/campaign/index.html

Remember that every council has the ability to form a First Degree Team to bring new brothers into the order when the candidate is available instead of waiting until a degree team is available. I would also suggest to all third degree members to try to attend and witness the new Third Degree Ceremonial if they have not already done so and to invite first degree members to participate in an upcoming Second and Third Degree.

Thank You Illinois Knights for all you continue to do for the Knights of Columbus!

God Bless and Vivat Jesus,
Rich Koerkenmeier, State Warden

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY
James Bednar jcbknightsponiac@gmail.com

Winter has arrived??? Or is it Spring already???

The weather has been a real curious experience this year, and so has been the delay in reaching out to new members for our Order. Oh, yes, we are taking on some new members and some council's are ahead of the curve but what about



everyone else. We must keep in mind that asking a Catholic man and his family to join us is key to the continuation of our home council, the State Council Knights of Columbus and the Order as a whole.

Do you use each of your Councils activities to look around and ask a Catholic man to join? I know I do, and so do the members of my home council. In fact I did that did today and asked a man, "if anyone had ever asked him to join" he replied, "yes". The positive part was he answered with a smile and the phrase, "thank you, for asking". No, he did not sign his form 100, his uncle will get that done, but he knows he is wanted. My point is that we are not always successful in getting the form signed that day, but the seed is planted and in the today's case a little water was added to help sprout that seed.

Ask a Catholic man and his family to join you and your Council in doing great things for the Parish and Church as a whole.

Tomorrow (1/30/2012), I will be heading to Galena, Illinois for the Winter Olympics, and my first attendance at the Illinois Special Olympics Board of Directors meeting. Bill Spainhour, has been on the board for the full 3 (three) terms, a total of 9 (nine) years doing a really fine job and I have been asked to replace him. I want to thank Bill for his 9 years of dedicated service to the Board of Directors of the Illinois Special Olympics. I know that he will miss the meeting and those that he worked with and I know that they will miss him. I look forward to working with the Board and trying to fill Bill's shoes (size 14).

One last comment: I would like to thank the individual members and the Councils who have sent in their checks for \$150.00 and more toward purchase of Wheel Chairs for the American Wheel Chair Mission. So far we have had reported donations of over \$2,600.00 for this great cause. If you are in need of information on the American Wheel Chair Mission please refer to the Illinois web site and if you have any questions please give me a call. Please make all checks payable to the American Wheel Chair Mission and you can send the checks to the State Office to my attention or to me directly or to the address of Dan Moberg which you can find on the web site.

Thank you for the support of this new program that pays dividends to the councils and recipients of the chairs.

God bless, j

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
Jerry Bevigani gameguru9@aol.com

Planning Equals Success

We can't stress enough the importance of proper planning to make your Council events and membership recruitment effective and successful. Take time to sit down with the Officers in your Council and determine the best way to identify the strengths of your Council.

In order to be successful you need to plan. You need to determine what your goal is; whether it is a pancake breakfast, anniversary dinner, membership recruitment drive or First Degree Ceremony. A council cannot announce at its monthly Council meeting that next Sunday we will have a pancake breakfast, or we decided tonight that we are going to have a First Degree tomorrow. If you do not plan, it is a good chance that no one shows up and the efforts of those involved will be diminished because of the lack of success. In certain cases we do need to be able to react fast to get the results that we need, but proper planning will lead to success.

As we enter the 8th month of the fraternal year, we are once again asking you to sit down and put together an effective plan for membership recruitment for the balance of the year. We have been providing many tools to help you via the weekly "News You Can Use" along with information and programs being sent to the Grand Knight. There is also a large amount of information available to you on the web. Just visit the State Website and review the materials listed under membership.



March is Founders Month for our order. What a great opportunity we have in the month of March to recruit new members into our Councils in honor of our Founder the Venerable Michael McGivney. Plan a recruitment drive at the parishes that you serve. Ask the magic question *“Would you be willing to join us as a Knight of Columbus”* Have a First Degree scheduled within 1 week of the recruitment drive, and bring them into the order. We are asking you in the month of February to hold First Degrees in Honor of your Parish Priest’s, and In March, name the degrees in honor of the Bishops in your Diocese. What a better way to join the Knights, but in honor of a members local Priest or Bishop.

We don’t want you to forget that the program in place is **Membership 365**. One new member per Council Per month. With strong Council programs and effective recruitment planning I know that every Council can reach for the stars and strive to be a Star Council. Your District Deputy, and Diocesan teams are in place to help you if you need it, you only have to come forth and ask.

Jerry Bevignani

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Frank Schwartz fjschwartzjr@ameritech.net

The State Convention is fast approaching and it is never too late to enter your Councils State Program of the year. Every Councils should! Deadlines for your submission is April 15, 2012 any submission not received by that date will not be reviewed or accepted. So get you program of the year submission in as soon as possible. Do not let the good works that your council does go unrecognized submit your package today.

Councils should also remember that the State Knight of the Year and State Family of the Year Awards will be given out at the State Convention and the deadline is also April 15, 2012 for these submissions. In order to qualify these awards, councils will have had to submit these individuals for the monthly award as well. If the Submittals for family of the month were sent only to Supreme, please forward a copy to the state office as well.

There will be many opportunities for councils to enter the State Program contest for the best membership table at a council event; with Free Throw Contests, Council Fish Fry’s, and many other council events. This is also an opportunity for councils to ask men to join the order. Help make our order stronger, our Church stronger and our Families stronger by asking a man and his family to join the order. With the recent attack on our beliefs by the federal government now more than ever we need to ask men to take a stand to defend our faith, our beliefs and our families.

The wheelchair program is still accepting Donations from Councils what has your council done to help those in need. Consider helping a vet, a child and those who need our help by donating \$125.00 for a wheelchair today.

The blood drive continues to be a great council event with 55 councils reporting more than one blood conducted so far this year. This is also a great event to have a membership table out asking men to join the order.

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



The 12th Annual Seminary Basketball Shootout at Mundelein Seminary took place January 27-29, 2012. Ten seminaries from the midwest participated in this endeavor sponsored by the Illinois State Council Vocation Support Program. The following seminaries that participated were Mundelein Seminary (Mundelein , Ill.), Conception Seminary (Conception Missouri), Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary (Winona, Minnesota), Pontifical College Josephinum Seminary (Columbus, Ohio), Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, (St. Louis, Missouri), Moreau Seminary (Notre Dame, Indiana), Mt. St. Mary Seminary (Cincinnati, Ohio), Sacred Heart Major Seminary (Detroit, Michigan), St. Francis Seminary (Milwaukee, Wisconsin), St. Paul Seminary (St. Paul, Minnesota). Pictured is Conception Seminary who won the tournament by beating Sacred Heart Major Seminary by 28 points.

The Free throw Contests are still ongoing with District Free throws starting in February. There will be several hundred families coming out with the children to participate in these events. Come out, assist at the event in your area, and cheer on the participants. Better yet, work the membership table at the event and help our order become stronger.

The Knights of Columbus 87th International Bowling Tournament is being hosted by Cahokia Council 4596, the tournament is being held at St. Clair Bowl in Fairview Heights, IL, starting March 24, 2012. Illinois is also proud to be hosting the International Knights of Columbus Camporee at O'Connell's Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park & RV resort 970 Green Wing Road, Amboy, Illinois 61310 August 3 – 10, 2012

Please see the state web site for the winner of the State Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest winners. The Free Throw Regional schedule and Regional Spelling Bee schedule

Look for the Squires Convention information in this news letter as well. Shelly and I would again like to thank you and your councils for all your hard work and efforts so far this year. Today is a great day to do good works in the name of the Lord.

40th. Annual State Columbian Squires Convention

The Illinois State Squires are proud to announce the 40th. Annual State Columbian Squires Convention. Friday, March 16, thru Sunday, March 18, 2012. Please keep the State Squires Officers in prayer as they prepare for their convention and election of new State Squire Officers.

LADIES AUXILIARY Sandy Decker
mabear1234@aol.com

Congratulations!
Our newest Ladies Auxiliaries are Lady Knights of Queen of Angels Council #4535, Wauconda, Lady Knights of Columbus Auxiliary #14463, Yorkville, and Lady Knights of Council #14929, Aurora.

Auxiliary Presidents please send your entry forms in by the February and March deadlines. Plan on attending the "Meet & Greet Ladies Auxiliary Awards Session" at the State Knights of Columbus Convention Sunday May 6th.

Grand Knights, District Deputies and Financial Secretaries ---Does your Council have a Ladies Auxiliary and if not, why not? Contact me at the above email address for formation information. Did you know that the Ladies Auxiliary is a Family Life Activities program of the Knights of Columbus?

STATE CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES DIR.

Erik Lockett kcerik.lockett@aol.com

Brothers,

Membership, Charities and Programming are more than a three legged stool. With proper planning and integration this is a recipe for success! Step back and ponder this for a moment. Charitable activities can often involve a fundraising activity or program. When planning for such an event, think about how you might reach out to an older member who has become inactive. When advertising such an event be sure and invite your entire parish and not just the current membership. Maybe



you can reenergize a veteran member and maybe you can find a new prospect in the parish that is receptive to your invitation to participate. Integrate Recruitment and Retention ideas at every opportunity.

Programming speaks to a diverse group. We have programs for our parishes, families, members, youth, and communities. We have opportunities to reach out and touch many lives. Each program is an opportunity to get the word out about who we are and what we are about. We don't need to hide our lantern under a basket, but let it shine for all to see. Every programming activity is an opportunity to talk to prospective members. Keep recruitment information and form 100s handy at a membership table whenever you have a programming event. When event planning, contact some veteran members and ask them if they would help mentor the new members. Passing the torch to a younger group can be attractive way to pay attention to those members who you haven't seen for a while.

For all of you potential "Iron Chefs" out there; here's a recipe for success:

1 Tbsp Recruitment + 2 tsps Programming + a pinch of Retention + a dash of Charities = A SUCCESSFUL Council.

Like any great Chef you can deviate from this recipe by adding a new twist or spice that keeps things fresh and unique. Integrating Charities/Recruitment/Programming/Retention makes a savory stock for any successful council!

Vivat Jesus!

Erik Lockett

General Assistance Fund (GAF) – Your path to help!

Imagine you are on a path and where you are on that path is more a function of the path behind you than of the path in front of you. A 29-year-old parish priest Father Michael J. McGivney formed the path of Charity behind you in 1882. The first Knights joined Father McGivney seeing their neighbors widows in grave need decided to do something about it. Our state General Assistance Fund (GAF), provides almost immediate support for people in dire need due to various natural and accidental disasters. It is actually a small effort in terms of dollars from each of our councils that provide the money to help people and institutions in their time of need.



Oak Lawn, IL Knights of Columbus and Women's Aux. St. Louis de Montfort Council 14553, Our Lady of the Ridge, Knights of Columbus, Council 13201, Holy Family, Council 2255 and a member from St. Gerald's Holy Name Society work together to distribute donated paper products valued over \$25,000.00, to help those in need in their community.

Over the years, we have helped pay for a new roof on a church that was damaged when a tornado struck; help a brother knights when fire swept through his home with repair start up dollars his insurance did not provide. Some of these GAF dollars were the first assistance that families of emergency responders received almost immediately after the 911 attacks.

The list goes on and on. All of this would not have occurred without your efforts and the efforts of the brothers who preceded you and will follow you.

I believe that a life lived engaged in charity and service to those less fortunate leads back to the source of all charity. We know where the path began and we know where it ends. Divine providence has placed us all on this path. My question is, Will you stand and watch, or join others in that walk down that path? Now it is time for each council to send in their GAF dollars for us to be ready to help those in need. It is your decision, so ask your council to send in those dollars now.

May God bless your efforts.

Jim Marino

STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIR & NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Robert J. Fuggiti no5025@aol.com

Welcome to 2012. I heard "the world is ending". I guess it's a good time to get council affairs in order. This makes it a good time to review your council goals and reports that are due. It may be our last chance to ask a Catholic gentleman to join the Knights of Columbus. Of course I don't believe the world will end this year. I do believe we should live each day as if it is true.

What's coming up?

If you've been reading the newsletter than you know the State convention is not that far off. Awards will be given to deserving councils who are keeping informed. As for the Public Relations Director award I would like to see a wind fall of forms for the P.R. award and, the Newsletter awards which is judged at the convention. You can download the forms from the state website or you can wait for the Convention packet that will be sent to the Grand Knights. The convention will be held in Lombard Illinois at the Westin hotel. For you that have been there before you know that the facilities are beautiful. The area is ideal for the ladies that like to shop and a good time should be had by all. Reminder for you first timer: the country store will be open all three days but will not take credit cards. They will take your check and if you have references they may take your (LOL). The Friday night party theme will be for "God and County". OK I'm looking a little ahead in regards to the convention but remember "2012 - is the end of the world".

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL OFFICE Denny, Donna & Rosita llinoiskc@illinoisknights.org

The convention packet is being stuffed and mailed this week. The mailing of credential cards will follow shortly.. Be sure when completing the credential cards that the stub is PRINTED CLEARLY. It serves as your convention badge.

ID Drive 2012: As a reminder, all past ID Chairmen have been deleted from our database. The Grand Knights will be asked to complete a new form for the ID Chairman and send it to the State Office.

This form is available on the State Website under the Charities Tab. Then click on the title "ID Drive" to view and download the Chairman as well as any other form you may need. Also note, the ID Report and Request for Distribution Forms can be completed on line using the Excel format. Save to your computer and the send it to donna@illinoisknights.org as an attachment. We record receipt of this form on our "Report Log" in the column "IDCH". Our early spring mailings for the 2012 ID Drive will be mailed to the Grand Knight or ID Chairman of record. Be sure your name has is on record at the State Office.

General Liability Insurance: The State Council Office is aware that many towns require permits for the ID Drive which are given on a 'first come first serve' basis. The permit requires a copy of the ID insurance form. The last 2 years we have had difficulties because our insurance policy does not begin until 7/1/2012. We can issue a 'Transition Letter' to the municipality explaining this issue. When the new policy is issued, those who received a letter will be sent the new Certificate of Insurance A copy will also be sent to the Council Chairman or Grand Knight requesting the certificate.

Charity Goals: Each Financial Secretary will be receiving a letter listing their Charity Goals and funds collected as of 1-31-12 for their council. Additionally, they will receive a listing of all the donors in their council to the Newman Apostolate Program. We ask they be sure to share this information with their Grand Knight, Program Chairmen and membership. This should aid every council in attaining their Charity goals by the end of the Charity year (June 30th, 2012). If our records do not agree with your disbursements, please contact the State Office immediately at 815-935-2262, 8AM-4PM Daily, to reconcile the differences.

The 1728 "Fraternal Survey" Report is due **now** and have been emailed to the State Office in record numbers this year. If completing this form by hand, however, be sure the council number is correct and written clearly and contains the proper signatures. A copy should be sent to Supreme, The State Deputy (c/o the State Office), and the District Deputy. This form can be completed on-line at the Supreme Website and copied to the appropriate parties' email addresses before clicking the Submit button.

Newman Solicitations: The 2011-2012 Newman solicitation has been mailed. Returns are arriving, but sadly, we have received a number of cards marked **DECEASED!**

Remember when a member passes away, fill out a form 100 and submit it to Supreme. Additionally, some members have **moved** and for each envelope returned to us because of a change of address, the State is charged 45¢. It only cost us 15¢ to mail our solicitation! To prevent this from occurring, when you change your address, please send us a *change of address form* so we can save that 45¢.

For those *Snow Bunnies* that escape to a warmer climate and put a temporary hold on their mail, when filling out that paperwork to stop your deliveries, please allow delivery of your 3rd class mail.... **THAT'S US!**



Years as member	Council Name:	Council #	City	First Name, M.I.	Last Name	Positions Held
60	St. Mother Cabrini	182	Chicago	S.K. Eugene R.	Liner	PGK
53	Effingham	665	Effingham	S.K. Harold	Bushur	PGK, PFN
65	Effingham	665	Effingham	B.K. Arthur A	Dasenbrock	
28	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	B.K. Daniel F.	Boik	
23	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	S.K. Dwayne O.	Cagley	
7	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	B.K. Edward G.	Finnegan	
23	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	B.K. William T.	Pleasant	
26	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	B.K. James K.	Renner II	
27	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	B.K. Daniel J.	Sedlock Sr.	
15	Msgr George A. Dzuryo	790	Streator	B.K. John G.	Tkach	
2	Granite City	1098	Granite City	S.K. Douglas T	Conrad	
23	Granite City	1098	Granite City	B.K. Al C	Jansen	
4	Granite City	1098	Granite City	B.K. William, H	Tallman	
34	Herrin Council	2164	Herrin	B.K. James	Bayles	
31	Herrin Council	2164	Herrin	B.K. William D.	Griffith	
23	Herrin Council	2164	Herrin	S.K. Joe M.	Maeser	G.K.
55	Breese	2869	Breese	S.K. Albert "Tossie"	Becker	
37	Breese	2869	Breese	B.K. J. Dennis	Huelskamp	
15	Breese	2869	Breese	B.K. Charles	Voss	
34	Charleston	4024	Charleston	B.K. Chris	Beurskens	
51	Charleston	4024	Charleston	B.K. Robert W.	Hussey	
20	Holy Trinity	4400	Joilet	B.K. John	Tonkovich	
65	FR CC Boyle	4698	Tinley Park	S.K. Edward J.	Derwinski	
65	FR CC Boyle	4698	Tinley Park	S.K. Edward J.	Derwinski	
48	Fr. CC Boyle	4698	Tinley Park	S.K. Richard	Stranc	
17	Cardinal Bellarmine	4849	Aurora	B.K. Barry	Dixon	
4	Fr. Ryan	5025	Chicago	B.K. Robert E.	Cribben	
55	Fr. Ryan	5025	Chicago	S.K. Thomas S.	O'Donoghue	
28	St. Petronille	5516	Glen Ellyn	B.K. Julio P	Lopez	
57	Divine Word	7331	Techny	S.K. Alexander	DelGiorno	
20	Divine Word	7331	Techny IL	S.K. Rev. Raymond	Quetchenbach, SVD	Chaplain PGKs Club
28	Divine Word	7331	Techny, IL	S.K. Jerry	Verdeaux	
51	Johnston City KofC	7989	Johnston City	B.K. Dario J	Flabbi	
3	St. Clement	12407	Dunlap	B.K. R. Barry	Johnson	

MAY THEIR SOULS AND ALL THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFULLY DEPARTED REST IN PEACE. AMEN.