



ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL *Knights of Columbus*



Editor Robert J. Fuggiti, PGK, FDD, PSW

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2013

STATE DEPUTY Richard Spada richspada@comcast.net 630-932-9107

Growing in the Year of Faith!



Pope Benedict XVI announced the *Year of Faith* which began October 11, 2012, and extends to November 24, 2013. I thought it was pretty amazing that this great year of celebration started near the date that we celebrated our namesake, Christopher Columbus; and, extends to our nation's declared day of Thanksgiving! The parallels in what we do as Knights of Columbus and what Pope Benedict XVI is calling our Faith Community to do are equally amazing. In his announcement, Pope Benedict XVI calls for:

"...renewal of the Church...through the witness offered by the lives of believers."

Our Order, founded by a Catholic priest, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, has for now nearly 131 years bore witness to our Catholic Faith through our Charitable and other works in the areas of Church, Family, Community, Council, Youth, and Respect Life. In Illinois we have done this for now over 115 years! The document from Pope Benedict XVI *Porta Fidei* (Door of Faith), intends to lead each believer into a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church through four categories of:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Faith professed; | 2. Faith celebrated; |
| 3. Faith lived; and, | 4. Faith prayed |

As I ponder all the great things that Illinois councils do in these four areas, I cannot help but believe that our mission is clearly in union with the Holy See! Our charitable outreach has a tremendous impact on those less fortunate in many ways. Councils contributing to the General Assistance Fund (GAF) recently provided a means for assistance given in our very own towns of Ridgway and Harrisburg and extended out to victims of hurricane Sandy on the East coast. Our partnership with Special Olympics Illinois and other organizations that help those with intellectual disabilities are made possible through our members' council contributions from donations collected on street corners in September and through other innovative ways that councils raise funds. Illinois' Group Homes program has lent over \$9.3 million dollars involving 62 Group Homes since the start of this program. You members make it possible to provide zero-interest loans to qualified organizations that provide group home settings. There are currently 10 Group Homes with outstanding balances; all loans have been paid back or are on time and none has ever defaulted. Our Vocation Raffle program allows us to support every seminarian in the jurisdiction! Additionally, these seminarians are supported in many other ways including sponsorship of an annual basketball tournament between seminaries throughout the Midwest. Newman Campus ministry is the number one charity and it touches so many of our young Catholics attending secular universities, often away from home for the very first time! Illinois support to Pro Life causes is demonstrated in so many ways too! Illinois is now host to a special group home

named the Father McGivney Center of Hope and Healing giving a place called “home” to young moms who chose Life and helping them to learn skills as a mom and the working world that they must raise their child!

All of these great works fit the four objectives that our Holy Father asks us to focus upon during this Year of Faith. We do so well and yet imagine how much more we could do if our base was larger. The theme for this year's state convention is *Growing in the Year of Faith*, and, we demonstrate our growth in so many ways. As we do our charitable and other good works, we grow closer to God and stronger in our Faith! As a member of the Knights of Columbus, we do more praying and learn more about prayer which in itself brings us closer to God. This can only make us better husbands, fathers, co-workers, community leaders and overall Catholics. We bear witness to Christian life as followers of Jesus Christ through our participation in activities and charitable giving and thus strengthen and grow our practical Catholicity.

As we grow in Faith and celebrate in this Year of Faith, let's be generous in offering the gift of membership to those not among our ranks! Implement the *Founders Day Drive* initiative and take advantage of the *recruitment incentives* given by Supreme and State Councils i.e., \$9 credit for each new or reactivated member brought into the Order between January 2013 and June 30, 2013 (Supreme council); and, \$2 for each new or reactivated member from January 2013 through June 2013 (check from State council at end of year).

God bless you all and remember that you can grow in strength through *One Member Per Council Per Month!*

Vivat Jesus!

With Pope Retiring, Knights of Columbus Ask Members and All the Faithful to Pray
“Prayer for the Church in Anticipation of the Vacancy of the See of St. Peter”



(NEW HAVEN, Conn.) – The Knights of Columbus – the world's largest Catholic fraternal group – is asking its members and all Catholics to pray for the pope and the Church in anticipation of Pope Benedict XVI's retirement, scheduled for the end of this month.

The prayer, written by Knights of Columbus **Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori** of Baltimore, reads:

“O Lord Jesus Christ, Supreme Pastor of Your Church,
we thank you for the ministry of Pope Benedict XVI
and the selfless care with which he has led us
as Successor of Peter, and Your Vicar on earth.

Good Shepherd, who founded Your Church
on the rock of Peter's faith
and have never left Your flock untended,
look with love upon us now,
and sustain Your Church in faith, hope, and charity.
Grant, Lord Jesus, in Your boundless love for us,
a new Pope for Your Church
who will please You by his holiness

and lead us faithfully to You,
who are the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Amen."

The prayer is available online at www.kofc.org

"Until a new pope is elected, we encourage all members of the Knights of Columbus, their families and all Catholics to say this prayer daily for Pope Benedict, for the Church, and for our future pope," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson.

The Knights of Columbus has worked closely with the Vatican during the Pontificate of Pope Benedict. In December of 2012, at St. Peter's Basilica, the pope addressed attendees of a conference co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

Supreme Knight Anderson serves on several Vatican committees, and has worked both with Pope Benedict XVI and with his predecessor Blessed John Paul II. Earlier today, Anderson released a statement noting:

"In these remaining days of his papacy, our thoughts and prayers are with Pope Benedict XVI, who has worked so hard in leading the Church, and has always been such a good friend to the Knights of Columbus. We wish him all the best in his retirement. In addition, we pray for all those cardinals who will take part in the conclave, and for his successor, that God may inspire them as they carry out the mission with which they are entrusted."

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

Dear Brother Knights,

The news of Pope Benedict's intention to resign certainly came as a great surprise to everyone. We know that he is a man of faith and prayer, so his decision must have come after much reflection and spiritual discernment. We offer our prayerful support to him in these final days of his reign and in his retirement. We are grateful to God and to him for his ministry as the Vicar of Christ and the Successor of St. Peter. He has been a faithful pastor, teacher and spiritual guide not only for Catholics, but for all people of good will throughout the world.

Let us pray also for our Church during this time of transition. We entrust the work of the College of Cardinals in electing a new pope to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary. Let us live this Lenten season with a special fervor as we await the election of a new Holy Father.

LENT

We are now some weeks into Lent and most of us have settled into our Lenten resolutions and promises – what we are giving up or doing extra for this season. Yet after these 40 days and we come to the celebration of Easter, will we have really changed? Will we really be different people? Will this Lent have made a difference in our lives?

Lent isn't an end in itself. The changes we strive for during this season are meant to last all year, but it seems that so often, come Easter Monday, we find ourselves back in the same rut. One reason for this may be that our efforts at conversion and renewal, while sincere and well intentioned – often don't go deep enough. We tinker with the symptoms of our sins, make cosmetic changes in our lives – yet never quite tap the source, the cause of our spiritual illness.

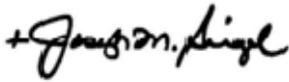
It is to just such profound change that Jesus calls us during this Lent of 2013. It is a call to radically re-orient our lives – to literally reach down to the roots of our being and examine the direction of our lives. This is a process that involves our whole person – spirit, mind and body. It is conversion of our attitude and beliefs, as well as our actions and words.

But first we must recognize this conversion is not something we can do on our own – we can't save ourselves – it's not a matter of finding the right self-improvement program. It takes the grace of God and our willingness to accept and embrace his invitation to salvation. It means being willing to undergo a sometimes painful uprooting of our former way of life – to crucify with the Lord our prejudices, sinful attitudes, and ingrained habits.

To prepare us to respond to the Lord's invitation, our acts of Lenten penance and discipline are meant to strip away the soft, deadening veneer that can make us lukewarm in our faith. May we open our hearts to the grace of conversion in these days and weeks ahead. Let us break out of our normal routines and through our intensified prayer, works of penance and charity allow the power of this season to reach so deep within us that any change will last more than just 40 days, but last a lifetime.

May this holy season of Lent bring you, your families and your Councils many blessings and graces. Let us remember each other in prayer.

Sincerely in Christ,



Bishop Siegel

STATE ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN

Rev Chuck Tuttle

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

The State Squire Circle is preparing to gather in Champaign, IL, the weekend of March 15-17, 2013, for their 41st Annual State Squire Convention. This gathering of young men and Council adult leaders is an inspiring event and one filled with much spirit and enthusiasm. It is at the State Squire Convention that the past year's achievements by the various Circles are recognized, workshops on leadership and service are presented and the new leadership for the next fraternal year is elected. The newly elected State Squire Officers are inducted at the State Knights of Columbus Convention and the newly elected State Chief Squire will address the assembled body.

Any Council that is privileged to sponsor a Circle recognizes the many benefits of such a sponsorship from the extra "manpower" of the Squires involved in Council activities and fundraisers to the membership growth potential when the Squire reaches 18 years of age. The entire Squire program is built around both a Spiritual development of the young man, as well as, a commitment of Service which empowers the young man to become a leader.

We have a strong State Circle in Illinois, but like any organization it can be better through more Councils recognizing the importance of establishing and supporting a Circle. The steps are easy and are explained very well in promotional material put out by Supreme.

The highlight of this year's Convention will be the presence of our State Chaplain, Bishop Joseph Siegel, who will be the main celebrant at the Squire Convention Mass and homilist. We are looking forward to another great Convention thanks to the exceptional leadership of Eddie Collins, State Squire Chairman, and Deacon Steve Pautler, State Squire Coordinator of Special Events.

Father Chuck Tuttle



Associate State Chaplain

ILLINOIS KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Sangamon Valley Council # 5754 sponsored the Annual Spelling Bee Contest at the local Council Hall in Petersburg, Illinois. Carley Hacke, won first place, and is pictured on the right holding the first place prize -- a Kindle. Alexis Hamblin, taking second place, is pictured on the left holding an electronic dictionary. Representing the Knights of Columbus is the host and Past Grand Knight Darrell Roll. The winners will go on to compete in the regional Spelling Bee Contest.

STATE SECRETARY Donald "Skip" Kinyon kinyon@gallatinriver.net

Brother Knights of Illinois,

Diane and I hope you enjoyed a very Merry Christmas and we wish each of you a most Happy and Holy New Year. As we move into 2013 there were forms that where due by January 31st. They are as follows;

The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity – form number 1728.

Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics – form number 4584.

The Free Throw Championship Participation Form – number FT-1.

Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Participation – form number 4001.

If you have not completed and submitted these forms by January 31st, Worthy Grand Knights, there is still time. The Supreme Council will accept late arrivals. Worthy Financial Secretaries and Worthy Grand Knights the Semiannual Council Audit, form number 1295-2 is due by February 15th. With the change to the New Year there are so many family and council activities that occur in such a short time span it is easy to forget these due dates. Of course each month is also a membership recruitment month so how about a new Knight for the New Year? The Supreme Council and the Illinois State Council has created some very nice incentives for the councils who will be recruiting the last 6 months of this fraternal year. Well Spring will be here soon and that means the Golf clubs can come out of hiding and before you know it the State Convention will be here as well. I know our State Deputy and the convention committees have been working very hard and are putting together a fantastic State Convention. Worthy Grand Knights make sure all of your required forms and per capita is paid by the proper date to insure admittance onto the convention floor.

Vivat Jesus,

Skip

STATE TREASURER Bill Doerfler

bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net

A mini financial 6 months update:

CHECKS

The state office and myself have had a busy past 6 months processing checks for you. Together we have processed a total of 471 ID checks (\$628,000.00), 176 vocational checks and 207 general fund checks (expense checks,bills,etc.). A total of 854 checks.

Home Loans Program:

We currently have 9 home loans with a balance of \$746,219.87 and all are current, with no past dues. We have been fortunate to grant a total of 62 loans for \$9,332,306.30 during the life of this program. We look forward to continuing this program as long as funding permits.

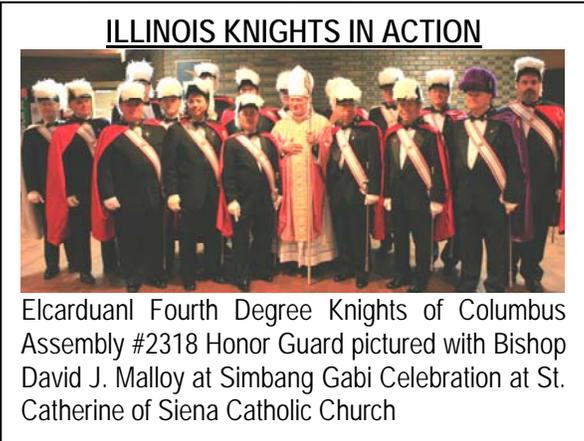
Just a reminder:

Many of you are still requesting you ID checks with a 2-3 week turnaround time. **PLEASE allow 6-7 weeks for your requests.** We understand that everyone is anxious to get the dollars collected to our chosen recipients. As a reminder the state office receives many requests in the mail in a short period of time. Also the US Mail doesn't move as fast as we wish. Denny, Donna and Vicky work quickly and diligently to get the checks to me and I in turn try to have all checks in the mail with-in 48 hrs. after I received them.

I thank you in advance for your consideration, timeliness and patience. We all work our hardest to get these monies to those who need them.

God Bless.

Bill



STATE ADVOCATE Ted Stites tstiteskc@charter.net

Over the last several years the state council has disseminated considerable information on annual IRS filings that ALL councils are required to complete. Many years ago the filing was not necessary for organizations that did not meet the minimum revenue level. Virtually all of our councils fell under that threshold. But several years ago, the IRS began to requiring organizations to file, even if they did not meet the minimum revenue level. Despite our best efforts to educate our councils, some did not receive the message. Now some councils have lost their tax exempt status and are forced to work with their tax accountants and the IRS to regain that status. Without the exemption, they are liable for federal taxes.

Every GrandK and financial secretary is allowed to apply for access to Officers Online through the Supreme website. In that application is documentation that clearly explains the tax reporting obligations of our councils. Grand knights and financial secretaries who do not have an account registered to access Member Management can create their account in a matter of minutes after receiving their Invitation Code. To get your Invitation Code, have your membership number in hand, and contact the Supreme Council Customer Service Department at (800) 380-9995. You should let them know that you are a grand knight or financial secretary and you wish to have an Invitation Code to register your account. Customer Service can also assist officers who have forgotten their username and/or password.

If you have access to Officers Online, visit the Officers Desk Reference. There you will find guidance on tax obligations, as well as information on a variety of topics and issues that all councils are faced with. By using the Laws and Rules of the Order, your officer handbooks, and this facility, you will have access to most of the information you need to serve your council and handle most issues on your own. You will learn much about the order that didn't know, and likely find information that will clarify things that you thought you knew. By understanding as much about the

Resolutions for the State Convention By now all councils should have received information concerning how to submit a resolution for the upcoming state convention. The packet included a sample resolution and details on the deadlines for submission. This is an official channel for your council to offer input to the upcoming state convention. Please review this information as soon as possible.

Vivat Jesus!
Ted

STATE WARDEN Herbert Bingham 309-691-8324 h.bingham9378@sbcglobal.net

Worthy Knights all, with the end of calendar year 2012, Christmas, New Years Day just past and the Fraternal year into the eighth month we are all working on Membership, Charities, retention and other activities toward making this Fraternal year another great one.

The Annual State Convention is on the horizon and Convention Chairman Frank Schwartz has planning underway. Councils have, or will soon have, credential cards in their hands. The Grand Knight's and a selected Delegate's cards need be filled out and sent, in care of Skip Kinyon, to the State Office as soon as possible. Every Council should find a way to be represented at the Convention. Many opportunities for participating in the direction of the Knights, through the Resolutions vehicle and the selection of State Officers for the coming year, will present themselves. In addition to planning Convention activities, selected District Deputies have, or will have, received their Convention working assignments from the State Warden.

As part of your Council's working your plan for the year, it is not too soon for your nominating committee to be working on a slate of candidates to be considered for offices in your council. First nominations, both by slate and from the floor, are presented in April. This effort is important and requires thoughtful, timely consideration. **Your Council's Officers are your Council's future.**

Filling entry level offices require as much thought as Chair Level positions. As Brother Knights are sought or seek to fill these posts it is important that those who may wish to be considered have the desire to be leaders, proceed through the Chairs and ultimately become Grand Knights of your Council, and even beyond in service to the Knights, the Church and the Community.

This period from now through the May Convention is a busy time and requires working your plan. However, there is much that can be accomplished after the Convention, especially in your quest for Star Council.

God's Blessing be with you and yours!
Vivat Jesus!

Herb

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY James Bednar jcbknightspontiac@gmail.com

Thoughts from the IPSD:

As the fraternal year slips by, we only have four months left before the end of the fraternal year, and we must continue to press forward and ask more Catholic men and their families to join us in our quest. We must add more men and their families so that our faith does not dilute under today's political climate. Our church, our Bishops, and our Priests need the continued support and protection that we offer.

As I sit here and write this piece we are just 12 hours into 2013 and I have been inspired by the things I have been reading in the Columbian and the five Illinois Diocesan Newspapers that I receive each month. In the last issue of Columbian Illinois was recognized for the opening of the Well of Mercy Father Michael McGivney Center for Hope and Healing (pg 18), **Running for Their Lives** which our own Bishop Thomas Poprocki, Springfield and Jeff Pauls, a co-leader of LIFE Runners a member of Council 1028 Belleville were recognized (pg 24).

In The Knights inr Action section: Father Paul Kunkel Council 4739 Byron, George R. Kutterer Council 6165, Father George J. Kuzma Council 11149 Wilmington were recognized for programming actions that they submitted. Each of these programs could easily be considered for Supreme Programs of the Year if they are written and supplied as Program of the Month. Publication of the activities in local newspaper and Diocesan Newspapers will alert potential members of the good things your council does and shows them what they can be a part of and all you have to do is ask them to join.

Over the last two months I have been pleased to see councils sending information to their Diocese papers about things such as the Coats for Kids (Belleville, Chicago, Peoria and Springfield Councils), the First two Squires in Illinois to achieve the Highest rank as Squires (Peoria), Parish School and Parish Fund Raisers in all Diocese.

Why am I inspired? I am inspired because that means the Councils are proud of the activities that their members participate in and want to share their activities with others and are active in membership growth. These councils know that for them to do what they do, they need to continually bring new members and ideas to their councils.

I ask that you remove the basket from your candle (charity, fraternity and unity) and let the light of your council shine bright and bold for all to see and ask a fellow Catholic man and his family to join us, today.

Have a blessed New Year and a successful membership growth year,
God bless.
Jim Bednar
Immediate Past State Deputy



STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Jerry Bevignani gameguru9@aol.com

Membership Recruitment A continued focus for our Councils

"One Member, Per Council, Per Month". This is the theme that we have been focusing on with all Councils for the fraternal year. Every Grand Knight should have received a credit card thumb drive in the mail, which featured *"The Power of One"* video that was produced by Supreme Council. I hope you have taken the opportunity to view this short video and share it with your Council Officers and Members. It is a very powerful message for all to see.

What is the true meaning of the *"One Member, Per Council, Per Month"* theme and why is it important for our Councils to utilize it in our monthly Council efforts? Growth in our Councils is the most important program that we as members of the Knights should be focused on. All of our councils do wonderful things for our Churches, Parishes, and Communities. Many people recognize and identify with the Knights, but how often have they come up, said **Thank You** for what you have done, but has anyone asked that individual to join your Council.

Every Council program and activity that your Council participates in should be an opportunity to recruit and invite new members into your Council. How do we do this? We always need to be in a recruiting mode for everything we do. When we hold an activity, we need to have a membership table, with someone there to answer questions. If you have a pancake breakfast, invite fellow parishioners to join. Your membership committee should be hard at work to integrate a recruitment effort in every program that you have. This is what *"One Member, Per Council, Per Month"* is all about. Regular recruitment efforts in all your Council programs and activities.

We would also like to remind you to start planning your **"Founders Day Recruitment Drive"** in the month of March. March 29 is the anniversary of the Founding of the Knights of Columbus. With that in mind, we are asking all Councils to work with the Pastors in their Parish to organize a Recruitment Drive in your Parish any time in March or April.

Our State Deputy has sent out a plan to help you organize this recruitment drive. We have also included a plan with the **Tools You Can Use** the first week of February. If you need additional help, please contact your District Deputy, as he is your best resource if you need help. Hopefully by now you have contacted your Pastor to get this started. If not, now is the time to call him.

Let's all strive to be membership active in our Councils. The goal for all Councils should be **Star Council**, let's not stop till we achieve that goal.

Jerry Bevignani,
State Membership Director

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR Frank Schwartz fjschwartzjr@ameritech.net

Something *WONDERFUL* Is About To Happen

Today you can make something wonderful happen in your or someone else's life. You may ask how or why or even who's life? The answer is easy, you are a Knight, and the Good works of the Knights of Columbus is worldwide. The Knights make things happen. They are there when a catastrophic event happens with works of charity, acts of kindness, with financial donations, and much more.



Around the State of Illinois as the Lenten Season comes upon us, Knights will have fish fry's, they will hold stations of the cross, they will hold 40 days of adoration for life, by spending hours with Christ in adoration, they will sponsor retreats, and so much more.

The question will be, will they offer other Catholic men and their families the gift of membership when conducting the many Programs they conduct? Will they have Membership tables out at all their events, with men at each of the areas of the table to answer questions? Will they help grow the order through their Programs so that their council can become a Stronger Right Arm of The Church?

Through the Knight's efforts and Programs, Wonderful things can happen. They can collect food for families; they can help families in need with donations of money and gifts of labor. Knight's can help get the word out through Programs of Pro-Life, programs that inform what the HHS Mandate will mean to the Catholic Church, its Hospitals, and Schools. The Knight's can help to make sure Marriage is, and remains, defined as the union of a Man and a Woman, and the fact life begins at Conception.

Our Programs are what attracts new members, new families, and more people to carry on the good works of the Knights of Columbus.

How can you make something Wonderful happen? Ask them to join us.

The 115th State Convention News

The weekend of May 3-5, 2013 will be this years' State Convention, where councils will submit their Programs in each of the 6 programming areas to complete to get the coveted Program of the Year Award. District Deputies will submit the names of men they feel will make a future leader and worthy of receiving the Rising Star Award. Councils will set their sights on obtaining the State Deputy Award, by becoming the best of the best, the most well rounded council in each Diocese. Our Ladies Auxiliaries will work to obtain many of the same awards.

The Celebration begins Friday at 6:00 p.m. with a family Movie "For the Greater Glory" sponsored by our General Agents. It will be followed by the Friday Night Party and Social from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. the theme is a 50's and 60's "Sox-Hop", as always it will include the Ladies Raffle, baby shower gifts accepted at the party and all weekend in the Country Store / Program Fair located in Magnolia rooms.

Saturday begins a fun filled day with a prayer service at 7:00 a.m., followed by the official opening of the Convention and, a Field trip to Enchanted Castle for kids, a Ladies Luncheon, and Ladies Raffle drawing. There are many areas to eat and shop nearby. The Convention mass will start at 4:30 p.m. followed by the State Deputy's Dinner and awards.

Sunday opens with a prayer service followed by a Business Session and then Closing Ceremonies around noon. Fun will be had by all there is truly something for everyone so come on out and see all the good things that the Knights of Columbus do around the entire State of Illinois.

Frank and Shelly Schwartz
State General Program Director and Convention Chairs

State Ladies Auxiliary Chairlady

mabear1234@aol.com

CHAIRLADY'S CORNER

ATTENTION GRAND KNIGHTS, DISTRICT DEPUTIES, & FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Please stop by the Ladies Auxiliary table at the Program Fair located near the Country Store area. If your Council does not have an auxiliary consider picking up a packet for information to start one. We, Ladies Auxiliary are **STATE recognized**.

If you decide to start an auxiliary that is **Supreme recognized**, then contact Columbiettes.org, Catholic Daughters of the Americas.org, or Daughters of Isabella, org. You'll need to get information for them thru the webpage or check on the January 2013 issue of the Paw Print Express Newsletter from the State on the www.illinoisknights.org website. Pull up the website and click the Ladies Auxiliary tab for the newsletter section.

Either way, I would be happy that you stepped forward to get an auxiliary going in your Council.

Auxiliary Presidents, thank you for all that you do with your auxiliaries. You are appreciated. Looking forward to meeting some of you at the upcoming KofC State Convention to be held at the Westin Hotel the weekend of May 3-5, 2013 in Lombard. Plan now to attend and have a fun filled family weekend there.

Sandy Decker
630-393-1891

STATE CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES DIR. Erik Lockett
kcerik.lockett@aol.com

Brothers,

Whether it's a kind word, gesture or a major sharing of time, talent and treasure; a charitable act touches many lives. The more charitable activities we have, the more lives we can touch for the better. Everyone wants to help someone less fortunate, but sometimes we feel like we are only one person. Are we really making a difference? We understand the awesome Power of **ONE!** Whether it's **ONE** person, **ONE** Council, or **ONE** jurisdiction **working together** to make a difference in lives. We help those with intellectual disabilities. We help support vocations. We strive to help keep a Catholic presence on campus. We try to help when disaster hits. We work to defend the rights of the unborn.

Charities, Programming and Membership are interwoven to make the tie that binds us firmly together as knights. Charitable activities should be a major part of a year-long plan for every council! We program our charitable activities into our fraternal year just like we do our other programs for family, parish, community, and youth. As our charitable drives or fundraisers become public, we have more people wanting to join with us and to help make a difference. It's easy to see how Charities / Programming / Membership can work together to strengthen our councils. An active council is attractive to prospective members. With more members we can do more. More shoulders to carry the load, fresh new ideas and a new enthusiasm which can be contagious. Often veteran members get caught up in this new enthusiasm and become active again.

As spring approaches, I encourage all Brother Knights to talk to your councils about strengthening our partnership with Special Olympics. While many councils support Special Olympics with donations, not as many actually volunteer and participate. Hopefully you have received a copy of the Spring Games scheduled throughout the State and a list showing the contact people in your area (if not contact your DD). I challenge you to start a new tradition. Sign up a few members to volunteer at the Spring Games and you'll be glad you did!

Vivat Jesus!

Erik Lockett



Troy Council # 9266 sponsored a golf scramble and donated the funds to to the Fr. McGivney Catholic High School, the Relevant Pregnancy Options Center and other local charitable agencies . Pictured is Rick Diericx, K of C golf scramble co-chair presenting a check to Mike Scholz, Principal of Fr. Michael J. McGivney Catholic High School. They are flanked by District Deputy Joe Willis, Deputy Grand Knight Mark Davis and Grand Knight Tom Tritsch.

STATE DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR Dale Smith dms4070@aol.com

The Easter Season is the time of the year when we reflect upon the sacrifice made by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and where we rejoice in his Resurrection. We renew our commitment to our Faith. Our commitment to insure a Culture of Life, and to the preservation of our religious freedom. Please ponder the words of a song by Country Gospel Singer, Bill Gaither. I believe that it embodies who we are as Knights of Columbus.

"What this dying world could use is a willing Man of God
Who dares to go against the grain and works without applause;
A man who'll raise the shield of Faith, protecting what is pure;
Whose love is tough and gentle; a man whose word is sure."

"God doesn't need an Orator who knows what just to say;
He doesn't need authorities to reason Him away;
He doesn't need an army to guarantee a win;"
"He just needs a Few Good Men."

"Men full of Compassion, who Laugh and Love and Cry-
Men who'll face Eternity and aren't afraid to die-
Men who'll fight for Freedom and Honor once again;"
"He just needs a Few Good Men."

"He calls the broken derelict whose life has been renewed;
He calls the one who has the strength to stand up for the Truth."

"Enlistment lines are open and He wants you to" -"Invite Someone In!"

"He just needs a Few Good Men!"

One Member per Council per Month

God Bless

Dale

STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIR. & NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Robert J. Fuggiti no5025@aol.com

Another sign that spring is coming is when the State Council starts getting ready for the annual convention. It is also a time to get our ducks in a row. Judging for numerous awards start at this point but if you (the council) do not meet you goals and quotas then filling in forms to get the awards is a waste of time. Why does the State Council give us so many goals? Could it be for you to strive to be the very best you can be. These goals are your roadmap to success. They give you the direction to become the council you should be. They are an opportunity.

Advertising your Council

What do you do to advertise your council? Do you have a newsletter? Do you have a website? Do you have a Public Relations Chairman or Director? If yes then you have started on your opportunity to advertising your council. With these three tools you can reach out, not only to members but to outside the council. Print up a council trifold brochure and pass them out with a form 100 every chance you get. Articles that you put in your newsletter and / or website can also be sent out to local news outlets, they are always looking for material to fill their space. The Columbian magazine is waiting for your pictures and short articles of your successes. If you use facebook or twitter



search under the Knights of Columbus. Why not have a council blog. Youtube has many videos shot by Knights of Columbus Councils. Think outside the Box. Opportunity is right in front of you but if you don't grab it then you are not moving forward.

Other tools you should use

www.KofC.org, www.Illinoisknights.org are both a wealth of information. Reports and forms can be found on the State site as well as this very newsletter you are reading. Did you know that if you wanted to start a council website the Supreme Council's website has starter pages you can download and use to organize you site?

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL OFFICE

Denny & Donna & Vicki illinoiskc@illinoisknights.org

The convention packet has been stuffed and mailed. The mailing of credential cards has already been done. Be sure when completing the credential cards that the stub is **PRINTED CLEARLY**. It serves as your convention badge.

ID Drive 2013 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 2013 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.

Something new this year, banks can be ordered either in the usual flavor OR in **5 other flavors!** The new order forms will be available and included in your ID pack later this Spring

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 7/1/2013 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 policy when it is written. A copy will also be sent to the Council Chairman or Grand Knight requesting the certificate.

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. Make sure your screen is maximized to allow you to enter all 3 email addresses.

Newman Solicitations: The 2012-2013 Newman solicitation has been mailed. Returns are arriving, but sadly, we have received a number of return cards marked **DECEASED!**

Remember when a member passes away, fill out a form 100 and get it to Supreme. Also enter his information into the In Memoriam Section of Forms found on www.illinoisknights.org.



Additionally, some members have ***moved*** and for each envelope returned to us because of a change of address, the State is charged 46¢ 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 46¢

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!** We are receiving '**Temporary Away**' envelopes which, if you had allowed delivery of 3rd class mail, it would have been held at your post office until you removed the Temporary Away on your mail. Just remember ... allow 3rd class mail to be held while you are away having fun in the sun! ☺

Winners of the 2012 Father Michael J. McGivney Essay Contest

Whole Article was Published on December 19, 2012 in [Institute News](#)

The Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family is pleased to announce the results in the 2012 Father Michael J. McGivney College Essay Contest. The first-place winner is Geoffrey A. Zokal (*a member of Council 8713-Eastern Illinois University and Mattoon Assembly 0223*), a senior at Eastern Illinois University, in Charleston, IL. Mr. Zokal's essay is entitled "How Beautiful is the Lamb: The Use of Aesthetics and Solidarity in Aiding Secular Society's Appreciation for the Incarnation."

Through the Father Michael J. McGivney College Essay Contest, which is named for the founder of the Knights of Columbus, the Pontifical John Paul II Institute seeks to encourage deeper reflection on the themes of culture, person, God, love, marriage, and family, especially as developed in the theological work of John Paul II and Benedict XVI. The contest is open to college students who are in their junior or senior years in the given academic year. As author of the first-place essay, Mr. Zokal will receive a stipend of \$2000.

FRATERNAL BENEFITS

By Thomas P. Smith Jr., Chief Insurance Officer

The Knights of Columbus is truly a remarkable, one-of-a-kind organization, and our insurance program continues to show its strength and stability in spite of economic turmoil. In fact, 2012 marked the twelfth consecutive year of growth in many categories, chief among them the volume of coverage issued. This accomplishment illustrates the faith our members have in the products and services we offer to protect their families.

Allow me to share a few of the Order's 2012 achievements with you.

- During 2012, the Order issued more life insurance than ever before in our history: \$8.1 billion.
- Our total insurance in force surpassed \$88 billion. To put this remarkable number in perspective, consider that at the end of 2001 we stood at \$42.9 billion.
- The Order introduced a Graded Premium Whole Life plan, which makes whole life coverage more "budget-friendly" than ever before. We also made improvements to the Systematic Withdrawal Options on our annuity products. Ask your agent how these additions to our portfolio can benefit you and your family.
- We finished the year with more field agents serving our members than ever before. Still, as our membership continues to grow, new agent candidates are always in demand across the U.S. and Canada. The ultimate goal is to have all of our members served by a dedicated, full-time agent. If you know someone who may be interested in becoming an agent, please contact me.
- During 2012, we celebrated four exceptional months that were in the "best ever" category. Records were set in February, May, August and November.
- More than 13,000 new retirement annuities were issued to our members and their families in 2012, and members continued to fund their current annuities in record numbers.
- Our A++ (Superior) rating from A.M. Best was reaffirmed and there continues to be no more highly rated life insurer in North America.
- Members purchased more long-term care policies from the Knights of Columbus than in the past five years. As other companies discontinued this vitally important product, the value and strength of our long-term care coverage remains solid.
- In the first full year since its introduction in the spring of 2011, our Income Armor disability income insurance has already been embraced by many members who needed to protect their income. If you have a job and you haven't spoken to your agent about this product, you should have that conversation soon.
- Associate members continued to become insured members, extending our shield of protection to themselves and their families. This trend is especially important to every agent, manager and member of the staff in New Haven. After all, this is the founding goal of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, and with each associate-to-insured conversion we take a step toward fulfilling his mission.

My purpose in sharing these statistics with you is twofold. First, take pride in the success your organization is having in fulfilling the vision of Father McGivney by caring for the financial security of our members and their families. Second, I want to remind you that today is a great day to meet with your professional agent to discuss coverage or review your current policies. If you don't know who he is, please visit kofc.org/findagent. You'll be glad you did.

IN MEMORIAM

MAY THERE SOULS AND ALL OF THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

Years	Cncil #:	First Name	Last Name	Positions
15	12005	SK James R.	Donnelly	P.G.K.
48	282	BK Bernard, A.	De Gasso	
48	282	BK Edward, G	Duda	
48	282	SK Mario, J	Avignone	
56	282	SK Joseph, F	Gorecki	
30	282	SK James, J	Martin, Sr	P.G.K.
72	282	BK Sola	John Baptist	
36	731	BK LEONARD H.	PAWLOWSKI	
1	731	BK CHARLES J	SCHROEDER III	
13	4698	BK Robert	Przybylski	
54	4698	SK Louis E.	Godette	P.G.K.
50	790	BK Ronald E. "Pup"	Mehalic Sr.	
44	1098	SK Frank J.	Gac	
20	790	BK Rocky	Reynolds	
31	1098	SK Gordon H.	Mason	
8	790	BK Francis F.	Finnegan	
45	2869	SK Kenneth	Richter	P.G.K.
10	4024	SK Michael J	Drake	P.G.K.
61	6165	SK Leo F.	Sander	
3	716	BK Scott H.	Hoereth	G.K.
32	658	BK JAMES R.	SPARROW	-
20	8321	BK Albert John	Skutt	
65	4836	BK JAMES, A	DAVLIN	P.G.K.
11	4836	BK JAMES, G	CUSHING	
19	4698	SK Francisco	Guttierrez	
28	7580	BK John B.	McCabe	
32	7580	BK Elmer C.	Palanza	
49	731	BK Joseph J	Szewczk	
66	731	BK Edwin C	Stoyanoff	
49	790	BK William	Nolan	
47	731	BK Bernard C	Douville	
3	7624	SK John J. "Jack"	Skura	
46	2932	SK Schwend	Calvin	P.G.K.
30	734	BK Andrew	Michalik	
14	7624	BK Raymond R.	Moser	
39	2869	BK George	Kampwerth	
56	716	BK Vernon F.	Thomas	
65	3761	BK Willie	Slobig	P.G.K.