

KNIGHTLY NEWS

Leadership Edition

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First Place International Winner - Council #9905

By: Ricardo Acevedo, State Deputy



Knights of Columbus are known everywhere as men you can count on to roll up their sleeves when there's a worthy project that needs doing. This year's winner in the Church Activities category is St. Joseph's of Lino Lake, MN. It is a council that lives up to that reputation in its little community about 20 miles north of St. Paul. In the 19060's St. Joseph parish built a new, larger church, Dan the old one, which had been built in 1897, fell into disrepair during four decades of neglect.

In 2004, Knights of Council #9905 established a "save Old St. Joe's Committee," and began to lay plans for restoration of the old church, but initial estimates put the cost at more than \$830,000. Soon an alternate plan, relying on volunteer labor and donated materials, took shape. Council leaders organized a wide variety of projects, including gutting and replacing the interior drywall, putting up a new roof, refurbishing the pews, restoring the stained glass windows rebuilding window frames, restoring Stations of the Cross, and installing plumbing in the building for the very first time. The project was completed for less than \$150,000, and was the subject of many positive stories in the news media.

More than 40 Knights, wives, friends, parishioners, and community volunteers joined together in the restoration project for more than 3 1/2 years. Six of the volunteers were inspired to join the Knights of Columbus. The first official celebration in the restored church was a wedding anniversary and renewal of vows by a Knight and his wife who had been married there 50 years earlier. Today, Old St. Joe's has come back to life, and is being used for small weddings, daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and as a teaching tool in RCIA classes.

Convention delegates welcomed State Deputy Ricardo Acevedo and Catherine, Past State Deputy Eugene Hippe and Gloria, and St. Joseph of Lino Lakes Council Grand Knight Terry Meyer and Jan, as they received the Supreme Council's 2009 Church Activity Award. The above and more photos can be found at: www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/convention_2009/awards/international_service/church/html.

What an honor it was to go up with PSD Eugene Hippe, his wife Gloria and Grand Knight Terry Meyer and his wife Jan to receive Supreme Council's 2009 Church Activity Award. In the year of the volunteer, this is a great example of volunteerism by council members and the parish community to help their local Church. Just another example of what can be done when community people all work together. There were many State Deputies that commented on what a great job that was done in Minnesota. They all agreed this was a very worthy International Award winner. Congrats to all who contributed to this very worthy Church Activity Winner.

To all Grand Knights in the state of Minnesota, remember to submit your activities to the State. You never know if you may have an International Program winner.

The Supreme Convention was one of the very best I attended. There's more in the report from the State Warden, Ray Wojtysiak. This year was special with the very 1st International Marian Congress and then the Guadalupe Festival. Our new state pin with Our Lady of Guadalupe fit very well with the theme of the convention.

Let's recruit more members to do more great works for Our Lady of Guadalupe in Minnesota!

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Membership

By: John Tanaka, State Membership Director

I am honored to have been selected to help lead our state membership team. In accepting the position of State Membership Director, I intend to do my very best to help Retain Membership, Recruit New Members, Develop New Councils and Round Tables, and to Build Ceremonial Teams to meet the needs of our members. Our goal this year is to show year to year growth in membership. We have several staff members available to help accomplish this task and need two more to fill the position of Retention/Reactivation Chairman and NCD out-state.

While there is plenty of good news to celebrate on the membership front, we must not lose sight of the huge unrealized potential in the countries where we are active. In the United States, for example, we have more than 1,287,000 members, but there are as many as 30 million eligible Catholic men who are not yet Knights.

The theme for the 2009-10 members "The Year of the Volunteer" follows this call to service by not only asking Knights and their families to serve, but to encourage them to bring men with a similar commitment to helping others into our Order - increasing our ability to serve our neighbors. Our members help our communities and people in need in many ways - by sponsoring blood drives or youth sports teams, raising funds and volunteering for Special Olympics and

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FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- September 11, 2009—KC World Day of Prayer for Peace
- October 3, 2009—Marathon for Nonpublic Education
- October 10, 2009—State Soccer Challenge
- October 10, 2009—Suspension of Councils for Nonpayment of Supreme Council Assessments
- October 17, 2009—4th Degree Exemplification/Marshall

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Much Joy & Info Received

By: Father David Maciej,
State Chaplain

By the time we read this September Knighly News, those of us attending the Supreme Convention in Phoenix will have a wealth of experience to look back on from that gathering. Writing this before I leave on August 2nd, I'm anticipating the inspiration that can come from other chaplains, as well as all the Knights and their loved ones who will be attending.

A note regarding the St. Michael medals for our military personnel: I'm grateful for the good number of you who have already requested a medal to be sent. Perhaps you might consider asking your parish priest or administrator for names of those in the military. Show your gratitude to them if they share these names, and certainly be respectful of their wishes if they would rather not give out that information.

August is one of the months dedicated to Mary in a special way, especially with the Solemnity of her Assumption on August 15th. In our mid-summer meeting of July, we had a wonderful emphasis of dedicating ourselves anew to the rosary, as well as to Our Lady of Guadalupe. We know that in addition to belonging totally to Jesus, our Savior, we are also "Mary's Knights." May she intercede for us and our work as we ask her help and that of all the saints and angels.

It's great to have our Associate State Chaplain, Fr. Richard Colletti, with us! Many of us got to know him at the mid-summer meeting, and many more of you will be blessed to make his acquaintance in the weeks and months to come.

Finding the Lord's beauty and love can be challenging, especially as we continue to battle the pro-abortion/anti-life mentality of a very secular culture. As we continue this struggle, may we also pause to see the many good people and things that the Lord puts in front of us each day. Find your joy in his presence, so often given to us through others and their love for us!

Where Has The Summer Gone?

By: Craig Larson, State Secretary



I don't know about you but the summer sure seemed to go by fast for me. It seems like last week that we were together in St Cloud for the state convention. Hopefully everyone had the opportunity to do a bit of R & R over the summer months. Now it's time to get busy.

One of the first orders of business for all the councils is to make sure all their required forms have been sent in to Supreme with a copy to the state deputy. Forms #185, 365 and the semi-annual audit should have been sent in. If they haven't been sent, get them in now.

In this "Year of the Priest" has your council planned anything to honor your parish priest? Each Grand Knight received a pack of prayer cards and some suggested activities to honor all priests. You can use one of the suggested ideas or create one of your own.

If your council hasn't worked up a tentative schedule for the year, now would be a good time to do so. Plan those pancake feeds, fish fries, spaghetti dinners and ditch cleanup projects and appoint someone to chair each event. Try to make sure that all members have the opportunity to help out. Call the new guys! Don't just call the "same old gang" for the annual events. Sooner or later we will all need someone to take the lead so make sure that there a few capable members to do the work.

We all need to stay informed regarding healthcare legislation. Please let your representatives know that you would like your voice to be heard.

Thank you to all the councils who have sent in their per capita payments. Best of

What Is Per Capita & Why Is It Needed?

By: Tim Rice, District Deputy #32

Anyone who has gone to the grocery store, bought back to school clothes, paid college tuition or paid for just about any product or service has seen these costs rise considerably over the past decade. These increased costs have affected households and businesses across the nation.

Your Knights of Columbus State Council is no different than any other business in our country. Since your State Council does not have a product or service to sell, it must rely on the members to finance its operation. This financing is accomplished through assessments to the individual councils. These assessments are more commonly known as per capita charges. So what happens with this money that is collected from each council during the month of July each year? As mentioned earlier, the State Council is a business and has to be operated like one in order to serve the needs of the individual councils.

There is the State office which has to be staffed and provided with office equipment and supplies. And, let's not forget postage, insurance, utilities, telephone and other expenses associated with operating any office.

A major expense incurred in the operation of the State Council comes under the broad heading of communication. The State newsletter, *Knighly News* (leadership Issue) is sent out to grand knights and other officers nine times each year. There are an additional three issues which goes to the entire state membership. The annual cost for this communication is \$66,857.50.

Other expenses that fall under this communications umbrella consist of the State E-mail system, costs associated with the mid-summer and mid-winter meetings, and travel expenses as state officers and directors travel around the state offering help in the area of recruitment, retention and programming. They also deliver messages of changing programs and offering encouragement and praise. All this communication is vital for the success of the local councils and also to be sure the entire state is operating with the same "game plan."

The State convention is another large item on the State Council's expense report. This event is an opportunity to again communicate with the local councils as well as recognize those councils that have excelled in various programs. Every other year elections are held to provide the State Council with leaders to guide them as they support the 259 councils across the state. The convention also provides a time for fellowship and fraternity with other Knights who attend this annual event.

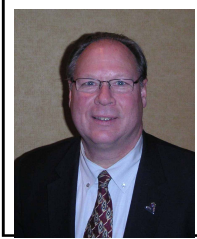
The present State per capita is \$7.50 per member (less honorary life & disabled members. This is billed in July of each year. This amount was raised by \$2.00 in 2007. The amount of per capita is not decided by the State officers, but is voted upon by delegates to the State convention.

Earlier I mentioned that costs for practically all goods and services have risen over the past decade and these additional expenses warranted the increase in per capita. Another factor contributing to the needed increase was the fact that

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Reminders

By: Joe Konrardy, State Treasurer



If you haven't completed and sent in Forms 185 and 365, do yourself a favor and get these done today! They are extremely important to have completed that each officer of your council will receive communications from both the State Council and Supreme. Monthly newsletters and other program and recruitment materials are sent to the folks who are listed on these forms. Missing names can be updated by "re-filling" the same form and adding the new updated information. Please make sure these forms have been submitted.

It's great to see more on the state email system. All state officer emails have been updated to reflect the current position holder. Feel free to use it at any time to communicate with us. Oh yeah, we'll accept phone calls too.

Last housecleaning item—please submit checks to the state council made payable to "MN State Council." The memo area in lower left hand corner can "ear mark" where the funds go to if you have a specific purpose for sending. Only the MR Tootsie Roll Drive has a separate account and it will be communicated how to have cashier checks made out. Please, at no time should a check to the State Council be made out to an individual on the state council. If you have any questions, send a note or call. The state officers are here to help you.

EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE

Date	Location	1st Degree	2nd Degree	3rd Degree	Host DD	Phone #
09/12/09	CEREMONIAL TEAM MEETING					
10/10/09	St. Francis School—Brainerd	1491—9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.		Mike Knakmuhs	218-829-9581
10/17/09	Fourth Degree Exemplification—Marshall, MN—There will be no 2/3 Degress this weekend					
10/31/09	St. Peter's—North St. Paul	4145—9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.		Mike Schilling	651-738-3626
10/31/09	Epiphany—Coon Rapids	2018—10:00 a.m.	12 Noon—Bob Nichols	Metro	Jim Schwalbe	763-757-3330
11/14 & 15/09	Special Olympics—There will be no 2/3 degress this weekend.					
11/21/09	Owatonna—KC Hall	10:00 a.m.	12 Noon		Tim Rice	507-451-3606
12/04/09	Midwinter Meeting	First degree to be held Friday evening			Dave Whatmuff	763-420-49995
12/05 & 6/09	Midwinter Meeting—There will be no 2/3 degrees on Saturday or Sunday					

If you wish to host or have requested a major degree and do not see it here, please contact Dave Whatmuff, Director of Ceremonials (763) 420-4995, e-mail KCDegreesMN@gmail.com. If you plan to bring candidates to any exemplification, contact the host DD with the number of candidates via e-mail (DDxxMKNights.org). To see a complete schedule of degrees, check the state web-site at www.mnknights.org.

Thank You's Received

By: Marc Peters, M-R- Chairman

This month I got a large envelope from our State Secretary, Craig Larson. Boy, I thought more work! What a pleasant surprise when I opened up the envelope and saw thank you notes from many organizations that have received money from our efforts way back in April.

A thank you to #2018 from Dept. of Human Services. They bought music books and devotional material for their patients. Northern Cass DAC says thanks to #13144—the economic downturn has had dramatic & devastating effects. Two different councils got a thank you from Anoka-Hennepin School District. The Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis Office of Marriage & Family Life acknowledged donation from #4374, #1632-and #14250. Northeast Metro thanks #3657 and #4697 for money that will be used for grants. Friends of Faith and Light Heartland thanks #3827 for money that will go towards retreats. And so it goes.

I had a council tell me that they were not going to do it this year because they didn't receive a thank you note from their organization. Is that why we do this—to get a pat on the back? O suggest to that council that they look up the first principle of our Order, Charity.

September is start up month for some councils. Take time to invite the recipients to your meeting to tell about what they did with your donations. Remember—PASS OUT THOSE CHECKS! Next Tootsie Roll Drive—April 23-25, 2010.

(**Membership** cont. fr. page 1)

other programs for people with intellectual disabilities, holding food drives for local soup kitchens. Through these and other actions, they show prospects first-hand the great work that our Order does and encouraging them to join the Knights of Columbus.

Your State Membership Staff is committed to helping you accomplish membership growth in your Council and in the State during this fraternal year. **We came within 29 members last year.** We look forward to working with you to succeed in 2009-10.

If you have any questions, please call me at 507-288-1767 or e-mail me at membershipdirector@kofc.org.

Information, Forms & Membership

By: Ray Wojtysiak, State Warden



Minnesota had 10 Delegates, 3 members of the Clergy and our Administrative Assistant, along with a number of wives in attendance at the Supreme Convention in Phoenix. We listened to our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, charge us with the responsibility of building a **“better culture of life”** as the Order observes the **‘Year of the Volunteer’** and **‘Year for Priests’**.

This past year we have contributed a record amount of charitable donations as well as a record amount of volunteer time. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson stated “It’s a fantastic record of accomplishment,” adding that, “even in those hard times of 2008, brother Knights stepped up and contributed an average of nearly \$85 per capita.” We also pledged as a Catholic fraternal organization to dedicate our energies to fight against any health reform plan that includes abortion funding as any part of the plan. We must fight to protect the sanctity of life from conception to death, but we must do this in a peaceful and respectful way. Prayer and peaceful action is a must! Contact your Senators and Representatives regarding our opposition of abortion funding! In addition to defending the dignity of life, the Knights **“can’t step aside”** from defending marriage, Carl Anderson said. **“We are going to build a better culture,”** Anderson concluded, and it will take **“courage to stand up for life and marriage”**.

Many of us took the time and opportunity to stay in Phoenix for the 1st International Marian Congress and Guadalupe Festival. It was a most rewarding and memorable experience. Pictures and video may be seen at www.kofc.org.

Minnesota was also represented in the 4th Degree Honor guards throughout the week by brothers Greg van der Hagen, Bob Mathewson, Bob Penas and Terry Englund. We were honored to have Archbishop John C. Nienstedt, State Chaplain Fr. David Maciej and Knights on Bikes Chaplain Fr. Bill Skarich in attendance at the convention.

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School Begins

Contact your local Catholic School to make plans for the Marathon for Nonpublic Education on October 3, 2009!



Fourth Degree Update

By: Tom Grinnell, District Master

Many of us look at the Labor Day weekend as the last of summer and the beginning of the beautiful fall season. The orange buses will once again become a common scene and many families will prepare for the excitement of another school year. Yes, it is a time of teaching and leaning; and it does not just apply to the younger generations. Many adults are moving forward seeking degrees in various fields of education which they never got around to accomplish for one reason or another.

Brother Knights, how are you progressing with your Degrees? Have you considered the Degree of Patriotism? Now is the opportunity to achieve this degree in one easy lesson on October 17th in Marshall, MN. The class starts at noon and in two and a half hours you will graduate with your Degree of Patriotism. You will be presented a beautiful certificate of accomplishment signed by the Supreme Master, Sir Knight Lawrence G. Costanzo. Cost is only \$70 which includes dinner at the Welcome Banquet. Registration information is available on the Minnesota State Council web site: www.mnknights.org. or may be obtained from any Fourth Degree Assembly. Questions may be directed to me at grinnell9@mchsi.com. I hope to welcome you in Marshall October 17th, and in the interim, may God bless you in your efforts to build His kingdom and may He continue to bless America.

Program Update

By: Robert Mathewson, State Program Director



“Growing membership supports good programs and good programs support membership.”

Wow!! Where did the summer go? Here it is Labor Day, State Fair, and the return of school. Fall is just around the corner.

We have the State Soccer Challenge on October 10, 2009. DD’s—please remember to send in your District winners to us by September 31. The challenge will be held at the Coon Rapids Soccer Complex located at 1821—111th Avenue NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433, starting at 10 a.m. I hope you encourage a lot of support for your participants!



Check out our web-site: www.mnknights.org

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(What is Per Capita cont. from page 2)

20% of the state members are honorary life members and per capita charges are not levied on these members.

Here is a brief history of the per capita charges. In 1987 it was raised by 50 cents from \$4.00 to \$4.50. In 2002 it was increased by \$1.00 to \$5.50. The present \$7.50 charge was the result of the vote at the 2007 convention. Research shows that per capita charges by councils from across the Country range from \$7.00 to \$11.00.

The Supreme Council levies a similar per capita charge and this serves the same purpose for Supreme as the per capita for the State. This charge is \$3.50 per active member and is billed twice per year in January and July at \$1.75 per active member for each billing.

In summary, when a council is determining their dues, the officers need to keep in mind that there will \$11.00 per member in State and Supreme per capita charges.

Your State officers are diligent in their efforts to contain costs. Some of these efforts include encouraging participation in the State E-mail system, holding mid-summer and mid-winter meetings at the Bloomington Marian KC Hall as opposed to renting expensive hotel meeting facilities. Also, contracting for competitive rates at motels in close proximity to the meeting place has saved a substantial amount of money.

Rest assured that these funds are necessary and used in a prudent manner by the State and Supreme Councils as they administer the programs of the world's largest Catholic family, fraternal service organization.

(Information, Forms & Membership cont. fr. page 3)

Now to the business, please check to make sure your council's reports are sent in. Check your Leaders Guide booklet to confirm which reports are due. Now is a great time to start building a membership prospect list. Many of us are not comfortable enough to ask a friend to join us, so let's give those names to someone who enjoys doing that type of job. Teamwork is what the Knights of Columbus is about.

Please be aware of the buses and children headed back to school. Many of these kids may be future Knights of Columbus members. Let's protect them!

IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING RECENTLY DECEASED



For these we pray:

Albert Lea #1590
August Lee
Bloomington #3827
George A. Rooney
Gregory P. Miller
Almon G. Hoye
Glenn M. Champlin
Albert R. Colford
Blue Earth #1836
James L. Oelke
Browerville #3663
Roger G. Twardoesk
Buhl #5612
Jack F. Petnat
Chishoolm #3539
Andrew Bobier
Detroit Lakes #3166
George L. Disse
Richard Campion
Foley #3603
Wilfred M. Ferschweiler
Willard J. Grow
Foreston/Milaca #11856
Gilbert Kosel
Gaylord #3656
Arnold Berdan
Glenwood #8571
Peter Meyer
Grand Rapids #2840
Walter Mester, Sr.
Holdingford #9307
Michael Breth
Kimball #11345
Llord Kunkel
LeCenter #5085
Jack Baker
Lino Lakes #9905
Lloyd Cuddeback

James Gregoire
Dr. Dwayne Tegels
New Prague #2023
Alvin Hertaus
Eugene Wann
New Hope #3656
Rev. Henry T. Vakoc
Donald A. Hollsten
Princeton #8571
Wugwnw G. Bewlair
Dennis R. Frank
Redwood Falls #3863
Clarence Petracek
Rosemount #5569
Philip Henamn
Gerald J. Grrits
Donald Hermerling
St. Cloud #5548
Gilbert Schmidt
Virginia #1640
Stephen F. Buria
Wadena #2107
John Schertler
West St. Paul #4184
Thomas Epperly
Willmar #2764
Charles Kneisl
Winona #536
Capt. Vioncent Telles Sr.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES:
Please submit names of deceased members to:
Richard Hirschfelt
9700 45th Avenue N. Apt. #305
Plymouth, MN 55442
E-mail:
rhirschfelt1945@yahoo.com

Marshall #1621



KC Auxiliary Events

September 19, 2009 — Fall Bowling Tournament hosted by the Faribault Auxiliary at Faribault Bowling Center. Cost is \$30 for bowling and lunch and \$12 for lunch only.

October 10, 2009—Fall Workshop hosted by Albert Lea Auxiliary. This will be held at St. Theodore's. The theme is "Mary's Garden, Cultivate Well—Keep Saturated with Love—Reap a Harvest of Peace, Joy, and Happiness. Guest speaker is Carrie Tripp of Birthline, Inc. Remember to get registrations in by the deadline.

Respect Life By: Pat & Deborah Larson, Respect Life Chaircouple

Respect Life can have different meanings, but one message. The underlying principle to respect life is supporting the Dignity of Human Life in all its stages. As Catholics and Christians when we hear Respect Life, our thoughts first turn to Pro-Life and the rights and respect for the unborn. While the Pro-Life cause is important, we need to take the Respect for Life into other stages as well.

As we grow we may be challenged with events that affect our ability to live life as we may want. These challenges may be physical, mental, social or economic. How can we expand our Respect for Life to help others in need and make it a part of our daily lives?

First we need to recognize the importance of human life. That all human life is a gift from God to be respected. As Knights we support and propagate the Church's position against abortion, and work closely with organizations that provide support to mothers, children and families. We need to be aware that there are other fronts where the dignity of human life could sure use a 'boost'.

- Those living lives challenged by disabilities, addictions
- Those who live in Care facilities as they are no longer able to care for themselves
- Those dealing with hardships created by discrimination, intolerance

I am sure that within the geography of each Parish there are opportunities to provide service to those whose lives are being reshaped. Volunteering for Care facility visitation, becoming a Birthright volunteer, working with the Parish Outreach Coordinator, Chairing your Council Respect Life position are but a few ways to provide visible signs of Respect for Life. All it takes is that first step.

We need to remember that Respect for Life must begin with us as individuals. In the disposable world we live in we are confronted daily with the disregard for the dignity of human life. How we react to those challenges can serve as a reminder to others of how precious and valued every life is.