



# The Explorer

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June 2017

## STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

As we start the last month of the fraternal year, there is still considerable work to be done. We must make one final push to reach our goals for this fraternal year. Every council must make an effort by June 30 if we are going to be successful.



Several councils have already met the requirements for the coveted **Star Council Award** and

the **"Sunflower Award for Excellence"** with the submission of their Columbian Award Application. Many other councils are very close to reaching their Star Council goal, only needing one or two members. Every council has potential for membership growth. We simply need to continue asking eligible men to join. Review your parish rosters and visit with your high school graduating class or RCIA candidates. You have nothing to lose by asking and a lot to gain. The Knights of Columbus has so many benefits to offer to a new member, his family, his parish and his community. We just have to get the word out to those who are eligible and not be afraid to ask them to join. Then, schedule a Admission Degree and make them a member. Remember, to receive the benefits of the Order, the Form 100 must be processed at the Supreme Office by June 30.

We must also work to retain our members by getting them involved. Before considering the suspension of a member, you need to make personal contact with him. When visiting with this member make it personal and positive. Every member joins for a reason. We should not lose a member by failing to give him an opportunity or reason to stay. Again, the Knights of Columbus has so much to offer.

There is still time for every council to become active in membership. There is time for you to meet your goals, but you must act now! Sign up a new member or reinstate a former member today before the end of this fraternal year. Let's make Kansas #1 in membership and be in the Circle of Honor this year!

Vivat Jesus

Vincent P. Melvin III  
State Deputy

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **JUNE:**

#### **1-30 RECRUIT-RETAIN-REACTIVATE-ADMISSION DEGREE**

- 11 Major Degree at Junction City  
host council #1029
- 11 Major Degree at Topeka  
host council #534
- 11 Major Degree at Wichita  
host council #691
- 11 Major Degree at Wakeeney  
host council #4113
- 26 **Deadline to submit bid for  
2018 State Golf Tournament**
- 30 **Deadline for receipt of  
Columbian Award Applications  
(SP-7) at Supreme**

### **JULY:**

- Regional District Meetings - Last two weekends in July - more info to follow
- 1 **Deadline for receipt of Report of Officers (Form 185) at Supreme**
  - 1 **Deadline to submit council  
History Reports to  
State Historian**
  - 14-16 State Officers & District Deputy  
Installation Meeting in Wichita
  - 15 Distribution of Tickets for  
Religious Education Fund Drive  
Drawing to District Deputies

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS *Continued*

### **20 District Deputies: MUST HAVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUND TICKETS TO COUNCILS.**

- 21-23 18th Annual Golf Tournament at Emporia
- 29-30 5th Sunday Rosary Prayer Service and/or Corporate Communion
- 31 Deadline for ordering Soccer Challenge Kit
- 31 Service Program Personnel Report (Form 365) due at Supreme**

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas Knight of the Month for March is Bernie Antes of Council #12960 - Lawrence-Corpus Christi.

The Kansas Knight of the Month for April is Frank Von Geyso of Council #9856 - Leawood-Lady of Peace.

Family of the Month winners for the month of March:

Terry Egidy Family of Council #1901 - Greeley; David Pankaskie Family of Council #2614 - Arkansas City; Luis Reyes Family of Council #5212 - Scott City; Charles Bauer Family of Council #7446 - Mound City; Bryan Guy Family of Council #9510 - Colwich; Reuss Anderson Family of Council #12546 - Wea; Frank Moley Family of Council #16595 - Olathe St. John Paul II.

Family of the Month winners for the month of April:

Aaron Cheney Family of Council #534 - Topeka; Dennis Fund Family of Council #1370 - Wamego; Sean Krier Family of Council #1645 - Tipton; Kevin Bowmaker Family of Council #6761 - Haysville; Cole Bonham Family of Council #7909 - Olathe Prince of Peace; Andrew Brown Family of Council #12932 - Eudora;

## STATE CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

The most Reverend Dan Gardner,  
State Chaplain

This past May was a busy month. Besides the annual state convention, I also planned two High School Baccalaureate Services, participated in one High School Graduation Service and attended another. One Saturday morning I con-celebrated the Diaconate Ordination for two young men and the following Saturday morning I rejoiced with the rest of the Archdiocese in the priestly ordination of two men. Neither of these two men come directly from our archdiocese, but are intimately united with us now. One, Fr. Michael Guastello, came from across the state border, Kansas City, Missouri, so he did not travel far. Fr. Daniel Coronado came from Costa Rica. I had the honor of hosting him when he first arrived several years ago. He had already studied English and knew it pretty well, but yet needed to improve upon it before entering an American seminary. Now his bilingual skills will come in quite handy for his ministry with us. Both men are well grounded and will be great assets for God's work here.

State Deputy Vince Melvin did a quick survey at one of the convention meetings asking those of different age groups to stand. It was easily noted that the 60+ crowd was the largest and the bulk of the crowd. Only one was 20 years of age or younger. I note that the two new priests that I mentioned earlier are 44 and 38 years old, respectfully. There was a lot of mention to recruit young men to join the Knights. I must have been around 24 when I joined, or at least I became an insurance member at that age. I sat there wondering, were the Knights 40 years ago saying the same thing? "Recruit young members, we are getting older!" Was it a concern at that time? I have no clue. Lest we fear, every organization always needs to recruit younger people, or cease to exist, so the Knights are no different. What is different now, and I am particularly encouraged by it, is that the younger people want more spiritual for-

mation within the Knights. It seems reasonable considering the times in which we live, and the confusing messages we all receive about people, respect, dignity, equality, for example. I am glad that the Knights are going in that direction which will benefit all of us, individually and collectively.

Vivat Jesus!

### STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Country Singer George Jones had a hit way back in 1965 called "The Race is On" which was about horse racing. Well, we are in the home stretch now in recruiting and the race is on. Only this month is left for your Council to make Star Council. Achieving this goal should be your primary focus this month. If you are already there congratulations! Have you achieved 150% membership for the Sunflower Award For Excellence? If not, keep pushing it hard to get to our newest award.

If you haven't made the goal of Star Council yet, look at reactivations and reinstatements. These members joined at one time because they believed in the Knights of Columbus. For one reason or another, they went away. Now is the time you can bring them back. We have seen many Councils make Star Council based on reactivations. If they are an insurance member, they count as both a new member and a new insurance. Reach out to those who left the order. Bring back our prodigal sons.

On a personal note, I want to thank the entire membership team for their assistance and support this year. Without them our achievements could not have been possible. I especially want to thank State Deputy Vincent P. Melvin III and all the State Officers for their guidance and leadership over the year. Each one of them has been encouraging and helpful in completing the tasks of the job of State Membership Director.

Ultimately, recruiting members in the Knights of Columbus is up to the local

Councils. We thank all of you that have bright men into the Order this year. We pat you on the back for a job well done. Let's keep fishing for new members. Let's keep our pole in the water as the sun is setting on the fraternal year. Let's be FISHERS OF MEN!

John Schulz  
State Membership Director

### STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Over 100 Councils either submitted their Columbian Award Application Form SP-7 at the State Convention in Topeka or have already filed it with Supreme. Was your Council one of them? To qualify for the coveted Star Council Award, you must have this form completed correctly and into Supreme **prior to June 30**. Although it is not due until June 30, it makes good sense to submit it right away so the state team will not have to call you at the last minute.

The SP-7 form **must include four (4) activities** in each of the six (6) programming areas - Church, Community, Council, Family, Culture of Life and Youth. Inside the back cover of the Program & Membership Guide you will find twenty four (24) examples of activities for each of the areas. Additionally, a minimum of four (4) of these programs must be designated as Domestic Church activities. Domestic Church activities can be attributed to any category and there can be multiple Domestic Church activities conducted in a single category. Please visit [kofc.org/domesticchurch](http://kofc.org/domesticchurch) for a list of qualifying programs. It should be easy for your Council to have completed most of these items. **If you list less than four items in each category, you will not qualify for the award.** The Columbian Award is available to **all** councils.

**Adopt-A-Seminarian:** Please be sure to fulfill your Council's pledge to the adopted Seminarians right away so you can get the RSVP Refund/Plaque application submitted prior to June 30. The only way you

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will receive the \$100 refund for each \$500 donated to each Seminarian is if you send a copy of the cancelled check, or other documentation, to Supreme along with the RSVP form, which is found on the Supreme website. Even if you are not entitled to a refund, please submit the form and show your level of support. You will still qualify to receive a plate for your RSVP wall plaque.

**Service Program Personnel Report (Form #365):** Now that your Council has completed the election of officers for the 2017-2018 fraternal year and submitted Form #185, Report of Officers, it is time to focus your immediate attention on appointing directors and chairmen. A report of the individuals filling those positions (Form #365-Service Program Personnel Report) must be submitted to Supreme **prior to August 1, 2017**. This is the first of three mandatory forms required to qualify for the Star Council Award. Both forms can be found on the forms CD and on the Supreme website. If your council will be changing leadership in the Grand Knight position, please be sure the new Grand Knight receives this 2017-2018 CD so these forms can be completed and sent in now. Be sure to submit them right away - don't wait until it's too late. A supplemental report can be submitted later if there are any changes or additions.

**Family Life:** Family Life Director Scott O. Nichols thanks all councils who participated in the Family of the Month and the Family of the Year program. Be sure to send your Family of the Month entries to Supreme by the 15th of each month.

**State Convention:** The Annual State Convention in Topeka was a resounding success! Many awards were given in various programming areas. Except for the Pennies from Heaven winners, all program awards are listed in the Director/Chairmen Reports included in the Convention Reports Book. Pennies from Heaven Chairman Bruce Luehring has submitted the following winners:

All awards will be presented in July at the District Deputy Installation Meeting.

**Division Winners:**

Division 1: Council 2906 Tampa  
\$ 12.20 per member

Division 2: Council 11779 Elkhart-  
St. Joan of Arc \$ 21.45 per member

Division 3: Council 11492 Munjor-  
St. Francis \$ 13.51 per member

Division 4: Council 3828 Danville-  
St. Joan of Arc \$ 6.21 per member

Division 5: Council 1052 Westphalia  
\$ 11.26 per member

Division 6: Council 3273 Larned  
\$ 12.33 per member

Division 7: Council 902 Flush  
\$ 12.00 per member

Division 8: Council 1029 Junction City  
\$ 8.99 per member

Division 9: Council 13012 Topeka-  
St. Matthew \$ 4.68 per member

Division 10: Council 4458 Derby  
\$ 4.68 per member

**District Deputy Winner:**

District Deputy: 26 Randy Testa  
\$ 7.45 per member

Pennies from Heaven Chairman Bruce A. Luehring thanks all who helped run the Country Store, Pennies Raffle and Pennies Parade at the 116th Convention of the Kansas State Council. A special thank you is extended to all who made donations.

Culture of Life Director Lino Munoz thanks all councils that reported Culture of Life donations. Kansas State Convention totals showed 176 councils reported donations of \$397,095.11. Thanks also to those councils submitting Evangelium Vitae Applications. We hope to see many more in 2017-18.

Kansas now has 98 Culture of Life Memorials and over 79 billboards or road signs along Kansas Highways. It is our hope that many more are in the planning stage or under construction. These serve as daily reminders to the public that the Knights of Columbus strongly supports the Culture of Life. Any updated information can be sent to Lino.

**Thank You to Program Personnel:** This has been a **very outstanding** year in programming. All State Directors and Chairmen have worked very hard and done an outstanding job. I personally thank the following Directors and Chairmen for a job well done:

Gary Wondra - Church Activities Director and Vocations Chairman  
Steve Abels - Religious Education Fundraising Chairman  
Robert Duffin - Youth Activities Director, Free Throw Chairman, and Columbian Squires Chairman  
Rev. Jarrett Konrade - State Father Prior  
Scott Nichols - Family Life Director  
Barney Wolters - Community Activity Director, Commitment to Humanities Chairman, & Special Olympics Chairman  
Bruce Luehring - Pennies from Heaven Chairman  
Lino Munoz - Culture of Life Director  
Tom Halbleib - Council Activity Director & Health Services/Athletic Events Chairman  
Mike Barnard - Publicity & Fraternal Chairman  
Doug Wietharn - WebMaster  
Jim Pritchard - State Historian  
Stan Krier - Meetings Chairman

I also thank all the District Deputies, Grand Knights and Council Program Directors. Your teamwork, along with the State Directors and Chairmen, has set several records in our State Programs. **What a tremendous job you have all done!** Without all your hard work, our programs could not shine!

Thomas Schmeidler  
State Program Director

## INSURANCE REPORT

The Knights of Columbus agency department is proud to congratulate the following men for achieving the honor of Field Agent of the Month for their respective agencies:

Eastern Kansas Agency: David Soukup wrote \$2,682,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in April.

Central Kansas Agency: Adam Bruna wrote \$2,669,245 in life insurance protection on members and their families in April.

Western Kansas Agency: Darin Reed wrote \$1,833,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in April.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$32,710,718 in life insurance during the month of April.

Please join us in congratulating the following men for their outstanding performance. These men lead the state or the Knights of Columbus insurance program in April of 2017.

Darin Reed  
J. J. Deges  
Tyler Meyer  
Luke Baker  
Adam Bruna  
Dan Reed

David Soukup  
Bill Weber  
Kirby Schmelzle  
John Schibi  
Steve Schmidt

If you or someone you know would like to join our winning team of Field Agents please call 1-866-391-8781 for more information.



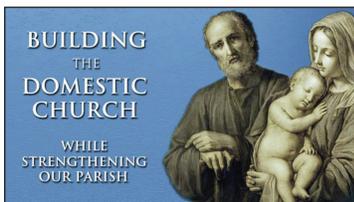
# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

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