



# The Explorer

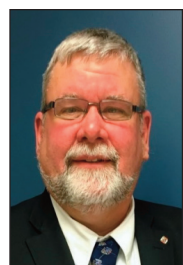
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Sept 2016

## STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE



September is here! Children are back in school and football season has begun. Most councils in the state are meeting and putting their Action Plans into motion for this fraternal year. Involve as many members as possible. Contact them by phone, email, Facebook or talk to them at church. Participation is the key factor in maintaining membership, as well as, attracting new members. New members should be assigned to a project of their interest and use the Shining Armor Award Program to keep them involved.

God has blessed all of us with special gifts and talent. As members of the largest Catholic Family Fraternal Service Organization, we have the opportunity to do great things for our Church and for the Order. Together, we can and will make a difference. This means providing our members ways to demonstrate their faith through the Domestic Church Initiative and through acts of service to others. Charity is the prime virtue of our Order. In Unity, we can accomplish great things. By living our faith, others will know what it means to be Catholic and a proud member of the Knights of Columbus. Listen to your membership and give them the opportunity to contribute their special gifts and talents to your council.

This is often the time of suspensions. Before suspending a member, you must contact them personally, find out what the problem is and take steps to rectify the problem. There may be circumstances that justify having some patience and understanding. These are trying economic times for many. Let us exercise the principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity when it is deemed worthy.

Many reports of Admission Degrees have already been received, we need a lot more scheduled and the degree preformed. Several Major Degrees are scheduled this fall. I ask each council to schedule an Admission Degree in the month of

September and then recruit towards that date. Do not try to attain your membership at the last minute. If a prospective candidate and their family shows an interest, do not put them off for several months, (every council has an Admission Degree Team). Membership is the key to the continued growth of our honored Order. **We need to ask them to join us!**

Every council should host a Church Drive in October. I have sent the District Deputies the guidelines to run a successful Church Drive. Let's get these scheduled now with your pastor, order supplies from Supreme and if you need assistance, please call the Membership Team or myself.

Vivat Jesus,  
Vincent P. Melvin III  
State Deputy

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **SEPTEMBER:**

- 1 Form #468 Columbian Squires Officers and Counselors Report Due
- 11 K of C World Day of Prayer for Peace
- 15 Family of the Month due to Supreme
- 25 Major Degree in Wichita-Blessed Sacrament District 35
- 25 Major Degree in Mayetta District 2
- 30 Deadline for Religious Education Fund Requests to State Chaplain

### **OCTOBER:**

**October is Respect Life Month—  
Schedule a Culture of Life Fundraiser  
or Seminar  
October is Order Wide Church  
Drive Month**

- 1-9 Charitable Service Outreach Week
- 2 Respect Life Sunday – participate in life chains, culture of life rallies, etc.

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## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS OCTOBER** *Continued*

- 2 Major Degrees in Topeka-Mother Teresa and Hill City
- 6 Major Degree in Lenexa-Holy Trinity
- 7-9 Conduct Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Roll) Campaign
- 8-9 Council Church Drive
- 9 Major Degree at Manhattan-Seven Dolors
- 13 Order Christmas Poster Contest kit
- 15 Family of the Month due to Supreme
- 10 Columbus Day Observed
- 17-23 Council Admission Degree Week
- 22 Major Degrees in Garner and Clonmel
- 23 Major Degree in Hays.
- 25 Deadline for GKs to return Religious Ed Fund Tickets & Donations to DD
- 29-30 5th Sunday Rosary Prayer Service and or Corporate Communion
- 29 Deadline to report Soccer Challenge reports to Supreme & State Council
- 29 4th Degree Exemplification at Seneca
- 30 Major Degree in Ft Scott
- 30 Order Free Throw Championship Kit

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Kansas Knight of the Month for July is Patrick Sims Council 7279 District 29.

Supreme Family of the Month winners for June:

David and Debbie VanLaar Family Council 10834-Lansing, William and Patricia Chamberlain Family Council 1181- Chapman, Carey Mooradian, Family Council 2608-Topeka, Dustin and Melissa Hern Family Council 3828-Danville, Pat and Julie Sieve Family Council 6671-Valley Falls, Brice and Anita Feldt Family Council 8411-Topeka, and Lenny and Jill Vohs Family Council 12546-Wea Congratulations to all our winners.

### **STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Question: Why is membership so important? Why are we to be "Fishers of Men"?

Answer: Membership is the key to our Order growing and thriving. There will be a day soon when many of us are not here to do the good work that we do. Someone is going to have to take up

that mantle from us when our appointed time comes.

We must find capable men who are willing to step up the plate and perform the main principle of our Order: Charity. Without those men, we will cease to exist. There is the answer. It's not about awards, or goals or quotas. It's about people helping people. Brothers taking care of brothers and their families.

Question: Okay, I get why, now how?

Answer: Well, that's a long complicated answer that would take the entire newsletter to respond to. Let's try to sum it up simply: Ask them. Ask your friends, your men's clubs at church, RCIA candidates, anyone who attends Mass at your parish. As long as they are 18 and a practical Catholic, they qualify. You can do so through one-on-one communication, through invitations sent through the mail, through pulpit speeches and whatever opportunity your individual parish may have. The key is to, in some way some form, tell them they need to join the Knights of Columbus. There is how you can be a FISHER OF MEN!

Vivat Jesus,  
John W. Schulz  
State Membership Director

### **INSURANCE AGENCY MESSAGE**

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: Luke Henry wrote \$2,445,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Central Kansas Agency: Tim Voegeli wrote \$2,005,941 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

Western Kansas Agency: Darin Reed wrote \$25,000,000 in life insurance protection on members and their families in July.

The three agencies combined to write a total of \$42,954,411 in life insurance during the month of July.

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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 July of 2016.

J. J. Deges, Luke Henry, David Soukup, Adam Bruna, Bill Weber, Darin Reed, Zachary Caro, John Schibi, Adam Cebula, Shaun McGovern, Wade Greif, Kirby Schmelzle and Dan Reed.

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.

### **STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

The Regional District Meetings have been completed and the programs for 2016-2017 have been presented to the councils. With all the information fresh in your minds, now is the time for Grand Knights to plan strategies with your officers and program team to be "Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening our Parish" and make this year the most successful in history. If you haven't already, be sure to hold your planning meetings soon. The most urgent programs at this time are the Religious Education Fund Requests/Ticket Sales, Adopt-A-Seminarian, The Family Fully Alive and Commitment to Humanities Drive to "Help People with Intellectual Disabilities". Remember to call your local radio stations and ask them to play our PSA with the voice of Gregg Marshall, coach of the Wichita State Shockers Men's Basketball team, for the Tootsie Roll Drive scheduled for October 8-10.

Are you using your "Fraternal Leader Success Planner" as much as possible? Be sure to review the "Reminders" and "Things to accomplish" sections to help you with planning and tracking your council's activities.

Has your council selected a Publicity Chairman? By submitting this member's name on the form 365 Report of Program Personnel, he will receive helpful information from the Supreme Council concerning publicizing your council activities. This person could also be responsible for ensuring scrapbooks are submitted in each of the six programming areas.

A majority of us carry a cell phone that is capable of taking pictures. Encourage members to take pictures at the different events and send them to the Publicity Chairman. In addition to the traditional scrapbook, you could also use a service such as Shutterfly, Snapfish, Wal-Mart, Costco, or others to print and bind a book to submit to the many Activity Scrapbook competitions. Many councils go unrecognized for the fantastic programs and activities that their councils participate in. Scrapbooks are a visual reminder of the great works you do to share and help develop other councils.

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

#### ***Adopt-A-Seminarian***

All councils are reminded to support their parish priests and seminarians as we: "Build The Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parishes". Church Activities Director, Gary Wondra, has contacted the Diocesan Vocation Directors in each diocese to request a list of seminarians. The official list of seminarians will be distributed to all councils, assemblies and circles soon. Every council, assembly and circle should have submitted to Gary the online pledge form or the post card pledge form provided by your District Deputy. Any council, assembly or circle that needs a new or additional seminarian should contact Gary instead of trying to select one on their own. By allowing the state council to appoint seminarians, equal amounts of financial assistance may be provided to all seminarians. Seminarians need your financial assistance at the beginning of their school year as many of their expenses are incurred at this time. In addition to your financial support, seminarians also need your prayers, cards and letters of encouragement and phone calls. Make sure your adopted seminarians know the Knights of Columbus will always be there for them.

#### ***Religious Education Fund Applications***

Religious Education Chairman Rev. Dan Gardner awaits receipt of the applications for funds from your parishes. He would like to remind you that September 30 is the deadline for submitting those applications and reminds you to get them in early so they can be tabulated and funds can be distributed.

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### ***Religious Education Fund Raising***

By now, Grand Knights should have received your council's tickets. Steve Abels requests your council to work diligently at getting the allocated tickets distributed far in advance of the October 25 deadline to return tickets and funds to the District Deputy. A reminder: any person, group, or organization may participate in the purchase of these tickets! Please be sure to request additional tickets to help make this the most successful year ever!

## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

### ***Youth Activities***

Have you ordered your Free Throw Contest Kit, Essay Contest Kit, Soccer Challenge Kit and Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Kit from Supreme? Bob Duffin Youth Activities Director, reminds all councils to order them right away. The order forms are online on the Supreme Council's website. [www.kofc.org/surge](http://www.kofc.org/surge)

### ***Columbian Squires***

Does your council sponsor a Squires Circle? Remember, a Squire today is a Knight tomorrow. There is no better way of training future K of C leaders than through the Squires program. A small investment in a Squire today will pay big dividends in his future and the future of your council.

## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

### ***Scott Nichols Family Life Director,***

Thanks each council for selecting a Family of the Month and submitting their name to Supreme by the 15th of the following month. By doing so, they are entered in the drawing for one of 100 Holy Family Plaques awarded each month by Supreme Council.

ALSO... recognize these outstanding families by publishing their name in your parish bulletin the council newsletter, and by presenting them with a Family of the Month Certificate. Using this program to honor families for their service to Church, community and council promotes the example we wish to display in building the domestic church.

FINALLY, please take time and seek out "The Family Fully Alive". A great list of prayers, devotions and family activities to utilize, so look it over, plan ahead, **lead and enjoy** our responsibil-

ity as Catholic gentlemen. **Google this:**  
**[kofc.org/familyfullyalive](http://kofc.org/familyfullyalive)**

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

### ***Commitment to Humanities (Tootsie Rolls)***

Have you ordered your Tootsie Rolls, asked the local radio stations to play Coach Marshall's public service announcement and contacted your fund drive locations to assure they are secured for the weekend of October 7, 8 and 9? Chairman Barney Wolters suggests arrangements need to be made early so all locations in your area are covered. Multiple councils within a metropolitan area are asked to coordinate when securing the locations to avoid conflict and so the merchants don't receive duplicate requests from different Councils. Don't forget to ask merchants if there are matching funds or base donations available. Many will do this. Remember to seek donations for case quantities of Tootsie Rolls. In a time when a lot of the funding has been cut to the groups that support the people with intellectual disabilities, it is our duty and our responsibility to encourage our councils to support this worthwhile cause and to assist these people that rely on us for help. Please, encourage your councils to step up to the challenge and raise funds through the Tootsie Roll drive. With your hard work and that of your councils, we can achieve the goal of raising over \$400,000. The Knights in Kansas will again be sponsoring the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament in Hays next March. Helping citizens with intellectual disabilities in Kansas and seeing their faces light up will make all your hard work worthwhile.

### ***Pennies from Heaven***

Bruce Luehring reminds Grand Knights that now is the time to start your fundraising efforts for the Pennies from Heaven Program. It will be easier to obtain your "Goals" when you work on this each month. Contact Bruce Luehring with information on the items you have for the auction at the State Convention. District Deputies are asked to remind all councils to become involved in this worthy program. You never know who in you District or community you will be able to help

## **CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES**

October is "Respect Life" Month and now is the time to plan your council's Culture of Life activities. There are numerous fundraisers and activ-

*Continued next page*

ities to really participate in the Culture of Life initiative. It is early, but please start your planning for the, "January Baby Shower," and the, "Bottles for Life," fundraisers that were explained at the regional meetings. Fundraisers should be planned with the goal of reaching at least \$6.00 per council member before June 30, 2017.

Outside of your fundraising efforts there are multiple other activities to plan. To further promote the Culture of Life program, you can begin your council meetings with a prayer asking for God's help in protecting the sanctity of life. Consider scheduling a rosary to further your participation. We highly recommend hosting an event where a speaker comes and educates attendees on subjects pertaining to Culture of Life such as crisis pregnancy centers and how we can help them, the prevention of abortion and euthanasia, or the process of adoption.

There is also the Evangelium Vitae Award which requires councils to be involved in the four-part plan of action described on page 21A of the Program and Membership Guide. There is something that everyone can contribute, so please help us make our goal of 100% council participation for this year's Culture of Life program. For questions about any of the areas mentioned above, please contact the State Culture of Life Chairman Lino S. Munoz at 785-249-2075 or [cultureoflife@kansas-kofc.org](mailto:cultureoflife@kansas-kofc.org)

### ***Athletic Events***

Council Activities Director and Athletic Events Chairman Tom Halbleib reports that, despite the heat, it was a wonderful weekend for golf at the Salina Municipal Golf Course in Salina for the 2016 Kansas State Golf Tournament. Twenty-four teams participated in this wonderful annual event from all across the state. Nine teams emerged as winners across three flights; with first, second and third place winners in each flight.

### **Championship Flight**

1. Joe Hay, Mitch Knipp, Mikeal Knipp, and Stan Knipp
2. Jim Randell, Tony Dellasega, VJ VanBelelaere, and Thomas VanBelelaere
3. Pat Martin, Mitch Kay, Connor Martin, and Marc Ziegler

### **1st Flight**

1. Greg Kratz, Dean Crager, Greg Keller, and Gary Kratz
2. Tim Austin, Dave Freeman, John Augustyn, and Joe Augustyn
3. Mike Baalman, Todd Basgall, Neil Jacobs, and Jim Stroot

### **2nd Flight**

1. Wes Weishaar, Frank Kohman, Tom Augustyn, and Shale Ziegler
2. David Fox, Terry Bohm, Gerry Mai, and Matt Bachofer
3. Matt Foltz, Dale Franks, Cliff Feuerborn, and Dustin Rockers

Three special contests were held and that money was used to sponsor Seminarian's from the Salina Diocese. Council 601 would like to thank all the golfers for their generous support in raising over \$1,000.00 for this worth while cause.

Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to Council 601 Salina for hosting the tournament and social outing after Saturday's round. And a special thank you to Joe Bachover the chairman of the tournament and his team, especially the wives who contributed so much to make the event truly a family event.

Please plan to join us in Garden City on July 29 and 30, 2017 for the 2017 State Golf Tournament hosted by Council 3210. They are already working hard to make the 2017 tournament the best ever. We are still looking for a council to host the 2018 and the 2019 golf tournaments. If your council is interested please contact Tom Halbleib, Council Activities Director and Athletic Events Chairman for more details. Till then, hit 'em long and straight.

### ***Fraternal***

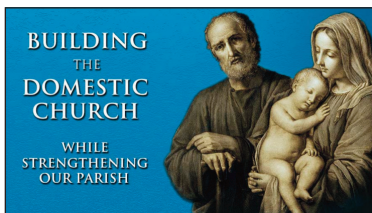
All councils should recognize a member every month for their outstanding contribution towards the council goals. Submit your council's Knight of the Month to Fraternal Chairman Mike Barnard by the 15th of each month and your brother knight will be eligible for the "State Knight of the Month" drawing. The winner will receive a certificate, K of C crucifix and will be listed on the homepage of the state website and in the monthly newsletter. Please submit monthly entries via mail, e-mail or electronically from the

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**Dale A. Weber**  
**State Secretary**  
**514 E. 33rd St. South**  
**Wellington, KS 67152**

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**"Fishers of Men"**



Forms/Kansas link on the state website. All name and address corrections for the State Directory should be sent to State Secretary Vincent Melvin III.

### ***Publicity***

Every day councils do tremendous work to help our Church, Youth, Family, Culture of Life, Communities and Councils. Councils must publicize the works that we do! The council Publicity Chairman or any other designated member is encouraged to write newsletters and submit articles to get your council information and good works noticed. Your Publicity Chairman will receive mailings from the Supreme Council for tips and ideas. Additional help can be found by contacting State Publicity Chairman Mike Barnard.

### ***Webmaster***

Webmaster Doug Wietharn reminds all councils to please review their information which can be found under 'Councils' then 'By City' or 'By Council Number'. Please e-mail all updates to [webmaster@kansas-kofc.org](mailto:webmaster@kansas-kofc.org).

Has your council ever needed to host an Admissions Degree but the council's team is not available? We would like to help. Councils can e-mail their Admissions Degree information to the webmaster and it will be posted for other councils to see. The information should include the date, time, location including street address, and contact person. Please note that hosting councils that publish their Admissions degree date on the state website must be prepared to hold the Admissions degree even if they have no candidates as there may be candidates from other Councils.

### ***Knights-Lite***

January 1 is the upcoming deadline for articles to be sent to Tom Schmeidler, Editor, in order to make the edition. Submit them early.

Tom Schmeidler  
State Program Director