



Proceedings of the
93rd Annual State Convention
Biloxi, MS
April 25 - 27, 1997

Knights of Columbus
Mississippi State Council

State Deputy

Jesse J. Quinn, III

Charity Unity Fraternity Patriotism

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
93RD ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
MISSISSIPPI STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

First Business Session

Friday, April 25, 1997

State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III called the Delegates to order at 6:00 p.m. He then called the Grand Knight of Biloxi Council #1244, Billy Davis to the podium to introduce A. J. Holloway, Mayor of Biloxi. Mayor Holloway, a brother knight, welcomed the Delegates to Biloxi.

State Secretary Guy S. Todaro, Jr. gave the response on behalf of the State Council to Mayor Holloway (The State Secretary's remarks can be found immediately after the minutes of the First Business Session.).

State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III called to order and opened the First Business Session of the 93rd Annual State Convention of the Mississippi Jurisdiction at 6:15 p.m. State Warden Ted V. Knowles verified that all present possessed a current membership card of the Third Degree. The State Deputy opened the meeting by reading a prayer wrote by State Chaplain Reverend Father Jeffrey Waldrep. Mike Gilly, Master of the Fourth Degree of the Mississippi District, lead the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

State Deputy Jesse Quinn, III welcomed the delegates to the convention and made some opening remarks. He introduced the Roundtable Coordinators in attendance and recognized the delegates from the councils chartered since our last convention. He then introduced Former District Deputy Buddy Cupit who was in attendance. Buddy and his family recently moved to Virginia.

State Deputy then recognized Immediate Past State Deputy Tom Zettler who made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 92nd Convention. The motion was seconded by Peter Sukanek, delegate from Council 10901 Oxford. The motion was unanimously approved.

State Warden Ted Knowles then explained the seating of the delegates for the Second Business Session scheduled for Saturday morning. He then had his assistants pass out copies of the Resolutions to be presented to the delegates, and read out the committee meetings logistics.

State Deputy Jesse Quinn, III introduced Supreme Director Vincent L. DiLeonardo from Delaware. Supreme Director DiLeonardo's wife, Dale, was also in attendance at the Convention.

State Deputy Jesse Quinn, III made a few remarks about the theme of this year's convention, "1,000 Knights for Christ."

State Deputy Jesse Quinn, III appointed the following convention committees and asked that they meet and report in writing at the appropriate times during the convention.

The committees listed below are appointed to assist in the work of the convention. With the exceptions of the Credentials Committee, Resolutions Committee, Audit Committee, and the election tellers, all committees are expected to meet between 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 26, 1997 at the place designated by the chairman. Each **committee chairman** (listed in **bold**), except the election tellers, will make a written and oral report to the convention when called upon. In the event a delegate is not present, then his council's alternate will be expected to serve in his place.

Committee Appointments

The committees were as follows:

1. **Credentials: Guy S. Todaro, Jr., State Secretary**
Julius D. Broussard, #1244; Nickola G. Pitalo, #1583; Charles Avery, #11654; James Holland, #11904; Joe Kirby, #6592; Ralph Howard, #8760.
2. **Resolutions: Bruce Pabon, State Advocate**
Jesse J. Quinn, Jr., PSD; Thomas R. Zettler IPSD; DD Richard T. Lieding, #8285; John G. Savoie, Jr., #10443.
3. **Audit: DD Daniel J. Lechner**
Michael Liberto, #10443; Thomas F. Chady, #898; James R. Leatherwood, #8912; DD Curt P. Stasny.
4. **Ceremonials: DD Donald F. Cox**
Harvey Caldwell, III, #5267; Robert A. Grant, #10901; B. R. Frederic, #1605; Don Schwartz, #2180; Charles Mink, #4898.
5. **Public Relations: Kenn Rains, Magnolia Knight Editor**
Patrick Quinn, #5267; Albert J. Rocconi, Jr., #5556; Richard Vasek, #6765; Fred Cunningham, #848.
6. **Election Tellers: Robert Fratesi, PSD**
Dennis E. Ladner, Sr., PSD; Wiley Price, Jr., PSD.
7. **Financial Secretaries: DD Joseph "Lessie" Ladner**
Charles D. Bounds, #7211; Gordon Cowie, #8038; DD Buddy F. Honeycutt; DD Robert L. Hudson; Kurt Dobbelt, #7974; and all Financial Secretaries present at the Convention.

8. **Membership: Dennis Riecke**
John R. Ward #7910; Joseph Bonfiglio, #7915; Thomas J. Homsany, #10499; Andrew T. Mitchell, #1522; Joseph Furlan, #9124; James H. Simmons #9094; DD Natale J. Zummo.
9. **Good of The Order: Ted V. Knowles, State Warden**
Warren Reso, Sr., #4472; Joseph B. Goellner, Sr., #1908; Frank Whitehead, #10216; Richard W. Warren, #1034; Charles J. Morlino, #2945; DD Richard W. Spence.
10. **State Convention: David DiLorenzo**
Robert J. Leo, #802; Rob Hudson, #8848; Gordon B. Coker, #7120; Thomas W. Thornton, #898; DD Thomas A. Wedig, Jr., Bobby Weldon, #9409.
11. **Mileage and Per Diem: Keith B. Merritt, State Treasurer**
John Bernardi, #2134; Daniel Gillis, #11541; John C. Minninger, #11934; Andre Damiens, #6872.
12. **Church Activity: Salvatore A. "Bud" Tomaso**
David L. Koch, #802; Harvey C. Mitchell, #1522; Thomas Canizaro, #2180; Douglas J. Cocilova, #5556; James C. Mounsey, #6872; James H. Craig, III, #7915; Claude L. Vinson, Sr. #8760; Materno J. Yapit, #9409; Edward Croal, #11541.
13. **Council Activity: Peter C. Sukanek**
George A. Rutherford, #848; Andrew "Terry" Hurst, #1583; Leon J. Shapley, #2945; Carl J. Brochard, Sr. #5654; Elbert Cuevas, \$7087; Ken Simon, #7974; Thomas S. Thompson, #8912; Lynn Eberhardt, #9543; A. C. Mack McCarney, #11654; Raymond Tanet, #11956.
14. **Youth Activity: Jim Lambert**
Frederick T. Clark, #1605; Mike Robinson, #2969; James W. Farris, #7120; L. C. Guillotte, #8038; Larry Tabor, #9094; Hollis J. Moran, #9958; Ray Shields, #11904; Troy Mabile, #11956.
15. **Family Life: Harvill Richardson**
Joe Garrity, #1034; Dr. William Jarrett, #1908; Reveral P. Ladner, #4472; Chris A. Daley, #6592; Wilson J. John, Sr., #7211; Joe Serio, #8054; Donald Tiblier, #9124; Dennis Diester, #10216; Joseph R. Jones, Jr., #11934.
16. **Community Activity: Gerry Clark**
William R. Davis, #1244; William P. Koepe, #2134; William G. Hincks, Jr., #4898; Lloyd T. Everhardt, #7854; Jerry Schmuck, #7910; Marvin Cannon, #8285; Joe Tannehill, #9234; George Roberts, #10499.
17. **Pro-Life: Ken Lubbers, State Pro-Life Chairman,**
Sterling "Skip" J. Peters, Sr., #7854; Michael Campanali, #7087; Jim Glover, #2969; Rick Penick, #8054; Kenneth Swanson, #5654; Anthony J. Moran, #9958.

The First Business Session was closed by the State Deputy by reading a prayer wrote by State Chaplain Reverend Father Jeffrey Waldrep at 6:30 p.m. The delegates adjourned for the Friday night dinner social.

**Opening Remarks By State Secretary
Guy S. Todaro, Jr.**

Mayor, and with all due respect an even more appropriate title, Brother Knight A. J. Holloway, we appreciate your remarks to open this, our 93rd Annual State Convention. We have always enjoyed our stay in your fair city. We are sure this year will be no exception.

This is a special year for our host council, Biloxi Council 1244. 1997 marks their 90th Anniversary. I personally know how hard these brother knights have worked to ensure that we will have a rewarding and memorable convention.

This is the 93rd time that brother knights of the Mississippi Jurisdiction gather as one unified body of men; to rekindle old friendships, to celebrate the successes of how Columbianism and the Catholic Church have advanced in our great state; and to share lessons learned from those areas of opportunity that we still have to improve on.

Furthermore, it is the 93rd time that we come to pay our respect to those brothers who have gone ahead of us to light the way to eternity.

But this year there is one more reason to meet, one more area that we should address as an organization, and as individual Catholic American citizens. This year we meet to elect the men who will prepare and lead us into the Third Millennium, the year 2,000 A. D. and beyond. This journey will be a pilgrimage of conversion.

Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, is calling us to be ready for the year 2000; to evaluate our lives now and have something to celebrate as we enter the next millennium.

1997 marks the first year of the Church's preparation of the next millennium, 1997 focuses on God the Son.

The time is now for us to stand up and be counted. We have to take a more active role as Catholic American Citizens. We Knights of Columbus, "selected sons of the Holy Church," should reflect as we gather at this convention, and fine tune our focus to laser sharp; to exemplify to ourselves and those we serve that our behaviors and our actions truly reflect the values that we cherish; our mission as a brotherhood, and our vision for the future.

Our success will depend on how well we apply the values found in the Gospel to our own lives and to our treatment of each other.

This year our number in Mississippi has grown to over 5,500 men, organized in 51 councils, 6 roundtables and 22 assemblies.....and we will continue to grow.

We will continue to proudly proclaim our Catholicity. We will continue to be the strong right arm of the Church. We will continue to be the family, fraternal organization determined to make a difference in this small corner of the world that God has entrusted to us.

It is no secret that we have much work to do. How tragic it is that in America you can only legally kill people if they are related to you - your unborn children, your parents or your grandparents. Today's society touts these as rights rather than crimes.

The late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago wrote the following in a letter to the Supreme Court urging them not to recognize the right to physician-assisted suicide, "Laws exist to protect life. When it begins to legalize the taking of life, one has the right to ask what lies ahead for our life as a society."

So as we prepare our Order and our society for the next millennium, we have to rediscover what it is to be an American Citizen. We have to exploit the power that we have as Catholic American Citizens, and be prepared to take a stand and demand that the values we have as individuals, the values that we find in the Gospel, be reflected in the laws of the land and the principles of our society.

We will not be constrained. We will not be intimidated. We will empower ourselves with the knowledge and resources necessary to prepare and be ready to lead into the Third Millennium.

Again, Brother Holloway, we appreciate your warm welcome. We are looking forward to spending a fantastic weekend in the New Vegas of the South, Biloxi.

Thank you.

Grand Knights Reports

Monsignor John J. Burns Council 802
Meridian, Mississippi
David L. Koch

The Council officers were duly installed by Past State Deputy Tom Zettler substituting for District Deputy Nat Zummo in July. The following officers for 1996-1997 fraternal year were installed:

Chaplain.....	Father James Brett
Grand Knight.....	David Koch
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Tom Zettler, PSD
Chancellor.....	Bill Webster
Financial Secretary.....	George Walston
Recorder.....	John Harwell
Warden.....	Pete Vining
Treasurer.....	Craig Melancon
Advocate.....	Frank Polizzi
Inside Guard.....	Joe Dicks
Outside Guard.....	David Smith
Trustee.....	Mouise T. Richards
Trustee.....	Scott Dibbs
Trustee.....	Bob Leo
Program Director.....	John Maloney
Church Director.....	John Kasper
Community Director.....	Jack Schons
Council Director.....	Mouise T. Richards
Youth Director.....	Frank Polizzi
Family Director.....	Bill Webster
Membership Director.....	John Harwell
Bingo Chairman.....	John Maloney

To serve as the Grand Knight of the Meridian Council is, indeed, an honor. This, the oldest Council in the State, continues to be the best Council in the State. The myriad of activities that we perform continue to be the hallmark of our devotion to church, community, and family.

CHURCH:

St. Patrick Parish started a building program this year and pledges were solicited from parishioners. The Council had a strong desire to be a major part of this building program and as a result, we pledged a total of \$72,000 to this program. We are proud of our participation and believe that these monies will promote our love of church as well as being an example of generous giving.

We continue to support two seminarians with monthly financial donations. In addition, since one of these seminarians is a Brother Knight from our Council, we perform additional works of support in his case. In addition to these donations, we have continued our monthly tithing to the three churches served by our Council by donating 10% of our bingo proceeds for their use. We continue to conduct quarterly corporate communions, lead the rosary at all Masses during January, May and October, sponsor and serve a breakfast to the members of the First Communion class and host a reception for the members of the Confirmation class, supply coffee and donuts each Sunday after 8 am Mass, sponsor the Holy Thursday vigil before the Blessed Sacrament, and support the Priest Education Fund of the State Jurisdiction.

COUNCIL:

Our Council has a social every second Tuesday. These are get-togethers for the Brothers to interact with each other outside of the business arena. In addition, we sponsor a Council pool tournament and a horseshoe tournament for members, conducted a health program, utilize our First Degree Team at every opportunity, participate in the Knight of the Month, Quarter, and Year programs, provide fruit baskets to our sick members and have Masses said for the deceased Brother and their immediate families, and participate in the state sponsored softball and bowling tournaments.

COMMUNITY:

Perhaps our highlight event is the presentation each year of the Monsignor John J. Burns Award for community service. This year's recipient was our Mayor. This was a well attended event and was very well covered by the media. We have a two mile portion of highway under the "Adopt a Highway" program of the State of Mississippi. We participate in the Salvation Army bell ringers at Christmas, the Tootsie Roll drive in May, Habitat for Humanity building projects, as well as our monthly visits to East Mississippi State Hospital,

YOUTH:

We sponsor a local free throw contest and our winners participate in the State contest; we assist the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts financially and otherwise; we hold numerous contests for the students at St. Patrick School; on Christmas eve, we travel to all of the local hospitals and give stuffed animal gift to all of the children in those hospitals; we support the "Close-Up" program at Meridian High School.

FAMILY:

We participate each and every month in the Supreme Family of the Month program. In addition, we elect a Family of the year and enter them in the State competition. We include our widows in all of our activities with personal invitations; we held a Christmas party for the children of our members, and sponsored a Halloween party for the parish. We held a casino night for our ladies and conduct a memorial Mass for deceased members in November.

I do not suggest that the above activities cover the entire spectrum of our activities program. However, these give you an idea of an active and involved Council. It is truly a privilege to serve as the Grand Knight of this Council and lead a group of dedicated, Catholic men in service to their church, community and fellow man. We have been blessed and through our actions, we attempt to share those blessings with others.

Respectfully submitted,
David L. Koch
Grand Knight

**John T. Savage Council 848
Jackson, Mississippi
George A. Rutherford**

The following Council Officers were elected in June 1996, and installed in September by Former District Master Henry Kajdan:

Grand Knight	George Rutherford
Deputy Grand Knight	Chester Lamparty
Chancellor	George Saab
Recorder	Gerald Graham
Treasurer	Charles Payment
Advocate	Joseph Miller
Warden	Fred Cunningham
Trustees	Walter Schilhab
	Ivan Lambert
	J. J. Befort
Financial Secretary	Henry Kajdan

The following were appointed as committee chairmen:

Church	Fred Cunningham
Council	Chester Lamparty
Membership	Ivan Lambert
Community	Jerry Graham
Youth	Joe Wagner

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Donated \$1800 to St. Peter Cathedral Building Fund.
2. Donated \$750 to Priest Retirement Fund.
3. Donates 450/mo.(\$600/yr) to St. Vincent de Paul Society.
4. Donates \$75/mo.(\$900/yr) to Catholic Service Appeal.
5. Council participated in honoring Msgr. Michael Glynn at his 50th anniversary of ordination.
6. Council participates in REACH program.
7. Members assist in maintenance of building and grounds at ST. Peters Cathedral.
8. Members are involved in church roles as Commentators, Choir, Cursillo Ushers, Deacon, and Building Committee.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Council conducts monthly combined Social (with dinner) and Business meeting on first Tuesday.
2. Council conducted a membership drive in November.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Council participated in the Tootsie Roll Drive.
2. Council provides food and clothing to the elderly and needy.
3. Council participates in Special Olympics.
4. Council participates in Willowood program for disabled and handicapped children.
5. Members regularly visit the sick and elderly.
6. Projects members participate in as Volunteers:
 - Gleaners (A food distribution organization).
 - St. Dominic's Hospital.
 - Habitat for Humanity.
 - President of a civic club.
 - Prepare tax returns for the elderly.
 - Provide transportation for elderly and paraplegics.
 - Municipal Zoo.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Council conducted a Memorial Mass in November.
2. Participates in Supreme Family of Month program.
3. Mails greeting cards, get-well cards, anniversary cards to members and families.
4. Council presents families of deceased members with Certificates of Condolence.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Council has program to recognize altar servers in all city parishes.
2. Conducts a scholarship program and gives monetary awards to students of members.
3. Participates in drug and alcohol program Mississippi at the junior and senior high school levels.
4. Supports CYO program Mississippi in parishes.

As can be noted, though a small Council of active members, Council 848 is an active Council in both our Church and Community. The Council received the "Distinguished Council" Status in 1995-96, and has more than required points for the "Council of Excellence" Status for 1996-97. Council 848 is proud of its achievements.

It has been my pleasure to serve Council 848 for the 1996-97 year.

Respectfully submitted,
George A. Rutherford
Grand Knight

**Vicksburg Council 898
Vicksburg, Mississippi
Thomas W. Thornton**

Grand Knight	Thomas Thornton
Deputy Grand Knight	Greg Rottman
Chancellor	Jerry Boland
Warden	Rory Ros
Advocate	Tony Dardeau
Financial Secretary	Chad Sonnek
Treasurer	George Roesch
Recorder	Mike Lee
Trustee	Bobby Evans
	Alan Derivaux
	Tom Chady
Chaplain	John Cesare
Inside Guard	Joe Montalbano
Outside Guard	Kevin Westbrook

The Council had another successful year which included multiple activities in each of the five service program areas. A summary of membership and program activity highlights is noted below.

MEMBERSHIP:

The council conducted several First Degree exemplifications during the fraternal year. The council realized a net increase of 20 members for a total membership of 328. The following members were deceased during the year: F. L. Cappaert, Joe Evans, Bill Geesler.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Activities were highlighted by continued support to the diocesan mission church in Saltillo, Mexico and two other significant events. The council held monthly breakfasts to raise money which is taken to the mission by members along with medicine and other requested materials. The council was again privileged to host the priests of the Jackson Diocese to dinner and hospitality during the week long convocation held in Vicksburg. The council also worked with parish members to provide dinner as part of the 25th anniversary celebration for Father McGing.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Activities were highlighted by continued support to the Meals on Wheels program as well as major events in both the church and local communities. Hot meals were prepared and delivered by members to needy and elderly in the community. The council again organized and sponsored the annual Harvest Dinner for the three Catholic parishes of Vicksburg. A major effort was also provided to organize with the parishes in support of a Habitat for Humanity house being constructed. The council organized and held fundraising efforts that contributed over \$9500.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

The council meets weekly and members pray the rosary before each meeting. The council computer home page on the Internet continued to advertise council activities. Efforts of several members also resulted in the formation of a Roundtable in Port Gibson associated with the council. The Vicksburg Council First Degree Team welcomed the new members at this Roundtable.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

The council held two major family activities during the year and recognized a Family of the Month throughout the year. During the church Lenten season, a Fish Fry was held each Friday at the council home to provide an opportunity for families to gather together. Prior to Lent, a Mardi Gras Family Dance was held.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Activities included the annual Free Throw contest, support to Vicksburg Catholic Schools, Boy Scouts, CYO, and various activities through the year. Included were Fourth of July and Labor Day Picnics, Children's Christmas Party, Easter Egg Hunt, Hay Ride and Teenage Dances at the council home.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas W. Thornton
Grand Knight

**Bishop R. O. Gerow Council 1034
Natchez, Mississippi
Joseph G. Garrity**

In July of 1996, the duly elected and appointed officers were installed by our very own district deputy Richard Spence. It has been many years since there has been a state officer from our Council. I am sure Richard will uphold the tradition of past state officers from our Council.

The officers for the 1996-1997 fraternal year are as follows.

Chaplain.....	Rev. Al Camp
Grand Knight	Joseph Garrity
Deputy Grand Knight	Patrick Doherty
Chancellor.....	Ronnie Brumfield
Financial Secretary.....	Henry Foggo, III
Recorder	Elwood Black
Treasurer	Conrad Anderson, Jr.
Warden	Jimmy Searcy
Advocate.....	George Souderes, Jr.
Inside Guard	Clark Jackson
Outside Guard.....	Gene Simonton
Trustee.....	Ricky Warren
	Richard Spence
	Darren Cowart

The 1996-1997 fraternal year was one of many new and exciting happenings for our Council. The last few years we have been initiating a lot of new members. These members are the ones that have stepped forward and into officer positions. Many of this year's officers have never held an office and have been in our Council less than three years. This was also my first year as Grand Knight which made for some interesting times. I have made numerous mistakes this year but because of the dedication of my officers we have had a tremendous year. The one thing that stands out for this year was that our Council chartered our first Ladies' Auxiliary. I would like to thank all the ladies who put forth a tremendous effort to get this started. I would like to personally thank Denise Foggo, the first President, for making it all happen. I have enjoyed working with the ladies and look forward to the upcoming year.

The following is a summary of our Council's activities during the 1996-1997 fraternal year:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Members serve as ushers, lectures, eucharistic ministers, CCD teachers, organist, etc.
2. Brother heads parish Maintenance Council. Work nights at Cathedral School football field.
3. Sponsored and held parish blood drive. This insures all members of St. Mary's is covered by local blood bank.
4. Sponsored and fed RCIA.
5. Sponsored a youth and chaperoned trip to Saltillo.

6. Make K of C hall available for church activities.
7. Brothers attend retreat at Manressa.
8. Co-sponsor church softball team.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Held annual tootsie roll drive.
2. Held fund-raiser for Catholic Charities. Southern Outdoor Expo.
3. Brothers serve on both public and cathedral school boards. Brother heads Mayor's War on Drugs and Crime Stoppers.
4. Make semi-annual donation to local Stewpot.
5. Made cash donation to Natchez Children's Home Orphanage.
6. Brothers visit sick and elderly at least once a month.
7. Sponsor bowling team of K of C members.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Publish quarterly newsletter.
2. Held membership drive.
3. Won K of C state bowling tournament.
4. Hold quarterly pancake breakfast.
5. Hold semi-annual spaghetti benefit.
6. Held adult Council Halloween party.
7. Participated in the raising of the flag for the local pageant.
8. Held five Lenten Fish Frys.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Held memorial service for deceased brothers.
2. Participated in Supreme Family of the Month.
3. Submitted a Family of the Year nomination.
4. Send resolutions to families of deceased brothers and to brothers with deceased family members.
5. Announce and pray for any brothers or brothers family that are sick or in distress.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Support and help CYO with activities.
2. Sponsor Boy Scout Troop 158.
3. Brothers serve as Scout Masters, teeball, softball, and baseball coaches
4. Held Christmas party for children.
5. Present altar servers with recognition certificates.

In closing, I would like to say it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Grand Knight of Bishop R. O. Gerow Council 1034. I have learned from my mistakes and hope to build on them so as to make our Council stronger. I would like to recognize and publicly thank our recently retired Financial Secretary, Brother George Souderes, Jr. This brother has been our Financial Secretary for over 20 years. He has been a rock for our Council and we thank him.

One final note, when our bowling team traveled to Clarksdale for the state bowling tournament we experienced car trouble. Brothers Steve and Louis Barbari went above and beyond the call of duty to get our vehicle fixed. They baby-sat us all weekend and opened their home to us. These brother knights exemplified the beliefs and ideals of our order. Thanks again Steve and Louis.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph G. Garrity
Grand Knight

**Biloxi Council 1244
Biloxi, Mississippi
William R. Davis**

Chaplains	Rev. Tony Arguelles
	Rev. Frank Scott
	Rev. Peter Quinn
Grand Knight	Billy Davis
Deputy Grand Knight	Robert Boney
Chancellor	Al Konyon
Advocate	Frank Tarrant
Recorder	Jerry Gollott
Warden	GiraurdDarnell
Financial Secretary	Harry Steinwinder
Treasurer	Charles Harrison
Lecturer	Stearn Pluff
Inside Guard	Sonny Ross
Outside Guard	Joe Sen
Trustee	Curtis Harrison
Trustee	Julius D. Broussard
Trustee	Gerald Rose

CHURCH ACTIVITIES - Robert Boney, Director

1. Marian Hour of Prayer at the council home.
2. Made donation to the Priest Education Fund.
3. Sponsored a Seminarian.
4. Members participated as Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, and CCD teachers in local churches.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - Jerry Lamey, Director

1. Held annual tootsie roll drive.
2. Held annual Shrimp Bowl; proceeds donated to Doll & Toy Fund and St. Vincent de Paul Societies.
3. Held golf tournament; proceeds donated to Women's Crisis Center.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES - Julius Broussard, Director

1. Conducted membership drive.
2. Quarterly banquets for Knights of Quarter and other awards.
3. Published monthly news letter.
4. Held membership Christmas Party.
5. Sponsored Knights of Columbus softball team.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES - Dennis "Doc" Ladnier, Director

1. Presented Family of the Month awards.
2. Held annual family picnic.
3. Held Family Fun Day as part of Family Week celebration.
4. Held memorial service for deceased members.
5. Presented a family Bible to a newlywed couple.

Respectfully submitted,
William R. Davis
Grand Knight

**Pere LeDuc Council 1522
Bay St. Louis, Mississippi
Harvey C. Mitchell**

Council election was held on June 3, 1996. Election was as follows:

Chaplain	Father Mike Sucharski
Grand Knight	Harvey C. Mitchell
Deputy Grand Knight	Andrew T. Mitchell
Chancellor	Teddy Morel
Recorder	Carl Dugas
Financial Secretary	Earl Bourgeois
Treasurer	T.J. Collier
Advocate	Leslie Blaze
Warden	Al Kingston Jr.
Inside Guard	Raymond Meyers
Outside Guard	Jerry West
Trustee 3rd	John Gonzales
Trustee 2nd Year	Sam McCardle
Trustee 1st Year	Kent Sellie

MAY:

The icon of Our Lady of Guadeloupe was on display at St. Augustine main chapel. The icon was visited by over 1000 people of this area. On June 1 the final day over 100 people attended the Mass said by Father Mike Sucharski. The rosary was also said for deceased members.

JUNE:

Initiated 7 new members 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree. Made cash donation to two seminarians.

JULY:

Held the annual OLG crab festival. Over 40 knights worked the four day festival. Made cash donation to St. Rose Church; made cash donation to two seminarians.

AUGUST:

Made a cash donation to two seminarians. Held a rosary at the social meetings.

SEPTEMBER:

Made a cash donation to three seminaries.

OCTOBER:

Initiated two new members. Said the rosary for Bishop Houck for a speedy recovery from his heart attack. Prepared and served two meals for adoration members. Made a cash donation to three seminarians. Cleaned St. Mary seminary for All Saints Day.

NOVEMBER:

Had a Mass at hall for all deceased members. Donated six turkeys to the needy.

DECEMBER:

Initiated six new members. Plan and had a Christmas party. Donate \$600.00 for clothes for battered children. Made cash donations to three seminarians. Made cash donation to Father Patrick Quinn at Saltillo, Mexico. Made \$100.00 donation to buy high baseball booster club.

JANUARY:

Continued with progress on land for new home. Attended school of Columbianism at Gulfport. Grand Knight Harvey Mitchell, Deputy Grand Knight Andrew T. Mitchell.

FEBRUARY:

Elected delegates to State Convention: Grand Knight Harvey Mitchell, Deputy Grand Knight Andrew T. Mitchell. Alternates Jay Marsh and Kent Sellier.

MARCH:

Had four new members attended the degree at Kiln Council. Projected date for new home on Seminary Dr. & Ruller St. is December of 97.

NOTATION:

Deceased members for 1996: Kirt Abbot, Joseph Debenideto, Norman Tartavouille, Curtis Matherne, Santos Saucier, James Roland, Marian J. Wolfe.

Submitted the first day of April, 1997

Harvey Mitchell

Grand Knight

**Bishop Gunn Council 1583
Gulfport, Mississippi
Andrew T. Hurst**

No report submitted.

Monsignor P. J. Carey Council 1605
Pascagoula, Mississippi
Fred T. Clark

The duly elected officers of council 1605 were installed by our Worthy District Deputy, Mister Buddy Cupit. In attendance were the District Deputy's wife, Barbara and our Worthy State Secretary, Mister Guy Todaro Jr. and wife Lisa, our Worthy State Advocate, Mister Bruce Pabon and his wife, Marilyn, our Worthy State Warden, Mister Ted Knowles and wife Vernie. A dinner was held following the installation.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain.....	Rev. Gerard Cleary
Grand Knight	Frederic T. Clark
Deputy Grand Knight	David Kazal
Financial Secretary	Mark Frederic
Chancellor.....	Dennis Denmark
Warden	Jerry Kennedy, Jr.
Treasurer	Ernest Falgo, Jr.
Recorder	Jerry LeBlanc
Advocate.....	Matt Zelenka, Jr.
Trustee 1 Year	Guy S. Todaro, Jr.
Trustee 2 Years	B. R. Frederic
Trustee 3 Years	Duwane Weber
Inside Guard	Mark LaDouceur
Outside Guard	Charles E. Talley
Lecturer	Ted V. Knowles

ACTIVITIES

DAVID KAZAL, PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: Jerry J. LeBlanc - Chairman

1. Held Corporate Communion at parishes served by our council (Our Lady of Victories, Sacred Heart, St Joseph, St Ann).
2. Knights active as Eucharist Ministers, lectors, ushers, parish council , music, RCIA sponsors, finance committee, Cursillo leaders and kitchen, Arise leaders and kitchen.
3. Donated \$200.00 to Priest's Education Fund.
4. Held prayer for vocations each meeting.
5. Said the "Rosary" before most every meeting.
6. Participated in the "Rosary Rally" at the Gulf Coast Coliseum.
7. Conducted a Marian Hour of Prayer.
8. Hosted Memorial Mass and Banquet in honor of deceased members for members, and widows and families of deceased members.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: B. R. Frederic and Dave Kazal, Co-chairman.

1. Participated in state "Tootsie Roll Drive" for the mentally retarded and handicapped.
2. Sponsored a drug and alcohol abuse program.
3. Held Christmas party for member and community kids with gifts and food.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: David Kazal, Chairmen.

1. Installed newly elected officers at our annual installation banquet. In attendance were:
State Secretary Guy Todaro Jr and his wife Lisa,
State Advocate Bruce Pabon and his wife, Marilyn,
State Warden Ted Knowles and his wife Vernie, and
District 10 District Deputy Buddy Cupit and his wife, Barbara.
2. Celebrated St Patrick's Day with a dinner and a dance.
3. Honored deserving Brothers with Knight of the Quarter and Year awards.
4. Published a monthly Newsletter with a calendar of events.
5. Participated in K of C State Bowling Tournament.
6. Sponsored a Certified First Degree Team and several First Degree Exemplifications.
7. Sponsored a Certified Second and Third Degree Team and held six Exemplifications during the year.
8. Council had social night each Tuesday night when regular business meeting were not scheduled with most of the third Tuesdays of each month being a meal social.
9. Held Awards Banquet.
10. Have billiard tables available for members and guest.
11. Special aid given to several members in distress.
12. Made liaison with council's Ladies Auxiliary and they agreed to take charge of Hall Decorations for all our functions and also agreed to be our communication vehicle in establishing a telephone committee to disseminate information to our members.
13. Have Bingo every Friday night to raise funds to support all our activities.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES: Jerry Kennedy Sr, Chairman.

1. Held Fraternal Benefits Social for Members and their wives or girlfriends.
2. Honored deserving Family of the Year.
3. Held adult Christmas Party for members and guest.
4. Held New Years Day Party for members and guest.
5. Donuts, coffee, milk and juice furnished after each Corporate Communion.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Earnest Falgo Jr, Chairmen.

1. Sponsored Boy Scout Troop 230.
2. Maintained Msgr. Eamon T. Mullin Scholarship Fund to assist deserving Catholic youths to attend Resurrection Catholic School.
3. Sponsored Christmas Party for kids.
4. Several members serve as coaches in youth sport activities.
5. Donate the use of our hall each Sunday night at way below our cost to Resurrection Catholic School Bingo to raise funds for use of our local catholic schools.
Estimated value \$9,200.00.

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES: Dave Kazal and Duwayne Weber, Co-chairmen.

1. Held membership drive at three of our local parishes.
Results were seventeen (17) new members and promises from many more.
Effort is continuing.
2. Continuing public relations campaign to inform the parishes and public of the Knights of Columbus and of what we do and what we are about.
Have Knight of Columbus news published in the various parish newsletters and the local news media.

CLOSING STATEMENT:

I want to thank our State Officers for their help and encouragement - they were always there when we needed them. To the officers, directors, chairmen and workers of our council - My most heartfelt thanks. You deserve it for putting up with me. And to the Ladies Auxiliary, you all have been great in your support of this council and of me. Also my most heartfelt thanks. This 1996/97 fraternal year has been great and it was great ONLY BECAUSE OF YOU.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred T. Clark
Grand Knight

**Bishop Fahey Council 1908
Hattiesburg, Mississippi
William L. Jarrett**

It is my duty and pleasure to report the activities of the Bishop Fahey Council #1908 for the 1996-1997 Fraternal Year. The council finished the 1995-1996 Program year by qualifying for Distinguished Council and Top Gun awards, thereby giving our council a set of goals to aim for the new Fraternal Year.

One of the highlights of 1996-1997 year was a visit to our council by State Deputy Bubba Quinn and State Membership Director Dennis Riecke during our council membership drive in September. The eloquence of Brothers Quinn and Riecke in their presentations at the masses of the three Catholic churches in Hattiesburg was one of the keys to the success our council achieved. Many thanks go out to them.

Our council was also struck by the loss of Charles Abadie, Walter Yates, and Patrick Crabtree during this Fraternal Year. Our prayers go out to their families.

Elections were held in late June and the new officers were installed by District Deputy Curt Stansy on July 20, 1996 at Sacred Heart Church:

Elections were held in late June and the new officers were installed by District Deputy Curt Stansy on July 20, 1996 at Sacred Heart Church:

Chaplain	Fr. George Murphy
Grand Knight	Bill Jarrett
Deputy Grand Knight	Alvin Justelien
Chancellor	John Donahue
Recorder	John Krumpos
Financial Secretary	Michael Bucciantini
Treasurer	Dave Collins
Lecturer	Dennis Kramer
Advocate	Joe Goellner
Warden	Bill Kerley
Inside Guard	Heath Thompson
Outside Guard	Walter Yates
Three Year Trustee	Louis Csaszar
Two Year Trustee	Bill Kinkopf
One Year Trustee	Michael Anderson

The following members served as Committee Chairmen and Assistant Chairmen for the 1996-1997 Fraternal Year:

Membership:	Rob Eddy - Chair John Lawrence - Assistant Garret Doucet - Assistant
Council	Steve O'Malley - Chair David Beckett - Assistant
Church	Bill Kerley - Chairman, Sacred Heart Gilber Gomez - Sacred Heart Jim Schnur - Chairman St. Thomas John Wooton - Assistant St. Thomas
Family	Mark DeLaHunt - Chairman Peter Hanks - Assistant
Youth	Russell Hendley - Chairman Joey Hoda - Assistant
Tootsie Roll Drive	John Krumpos- Chairman Bill Jarrett - Assistant

A summary of the council's program activities for 1996-1997 are as follows:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- a) Council donated \$500 to the Priest Education Fund;
- b) Council members participated in Mass services as lecturers, ushers, and ministers at St. Thomas and Sacred Heart Churches;
- c) Council members participated in CCD training and served as Sunday School instructors at St. Thomas and Sacred Heart Churches;
- d) Council members served on the Sacred Heart School Board and St. Thomas Parish Councils;
- e) Council members provided labor for putting up and taking down booths at the Sacred Heart Seafood Jamboree and Fall Festivals.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- a) Council conducted annual May Tootsie Roll drive;
- b) Council members serve in the St. Vincent DePaul Society;
- c) Council set up booths for the Hattiesburg Hubfest and Old Tyme Festivals;
- d) Council members participated in the Casino Night for the Civitan Camp for the mentally handicapped;
- e) Council members visited home bound members and parishioners in the area nursing homes;
- f) Council donated \$200 to the St. Vincent DePaul Society to help pay for their new facility;
- g) Council hosted the annual St. Thomas picnic.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

- a) Council held a Fall membership drive and sponsored a First, Second, and Third Degree Exemplification;
- b) Council participated in the state KC softball tournament;
- c) Council maintained a council newsletter to inform members on current activities;
- d) Council sponsored a work day to clean up and repair council properties;
- e) Council held installation and reception for new officers;
- f) Council held dinner to announce council award winners and kickoff Tootsie Roll Drive;
- g) Council held second annual New Years Eve Dance to help raise money for the Building Fund;
- h) Five council members attended the annual School of Columbianism;
- i) Two council members attended the district meeting in January.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

- a) Several council families participated in the Hattiesburg area ProLife Chain;
- b) Council participated in the Supreme Family of the Month;
- c) Council sponsored a monthly Family night social for members and their families;
- d) Council submitted a nominee for the State Family of the Year;
- e) Council held a Memorial Mass for deceased members of the council and the order;
- f) Council held its second annual 4th of July picnic for members and their families, featuring swimming, horseshoes, and fireworks;

- g) Council sponsored its annual Right-to-Life Golf Tournament, proceeds of which were donated to the local chapter of Concerned Mothers of America.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- a) Council sponsored CYO Back-to-School Swimming Party;
- b) Council members are heavily involved in community youth activities, particularly soccer, scouting, baseball, CYO, and Sacred Hear School;
- c) Council held its annual Kids Christmas Party, where kids bring a gift for "Santa" to give to other children who are less fortunate;
- d) Council held its annual KC Free Throw;
- e) Council hosted the district KC Free Throw;
- f) Council sponsored a boy and girl for Boys and Girls State, respectively;
- g) Council hosted a Scout Roundup Swimming party.

CONCLUSION

It has been an honor to serve as the Grand Knight for this council. The success our council has enjoyed this year has been mainly due to the hard work of the officers, committee chairs, and the individual members. I thank them for their efforts, and I look forward to serving with them during the next Fraternal Year.

Respectfully submitted,
William L. Jarrett Jr.
Grand Knight

**Father Korstenbroek Council 2134
Greenville, Mississippi
C. O'Kelly Hickman**

No report submitted.

**Laurel Council 2180
Laurel, Mississippi
William Gatzman**

Officers For 1996-97

Chaplain	Rev. Ken Ramon-Landry
Grand Knight	Bill Gatzman
Deputy Grand Knight	Don Schwartz
Chancellor	Tom Canizaro
Financial Secretary	Rich Hollingsworth
Treasurer	John P. Myers
Recorder	Charlie Rawls
Warden	Glen Waguespack
Inside Guard	Don O'Brien
Outside Guard	Arthur Axton
Advocate	Joe Flick
3 Year Trustee	David Hughes
2 Year Trustee	Lawless Fitch
1 Year Trustee	Jim Yaggi

The following activities were conducted by the council.

CHURCH:

Chairman Walter Copeland

1. Pot luck supper for clergy & food collection
2. Participate in parish life
3. Lectors, ushers, pastoral council, CCD teachers
4. Vocations - visit to St. Joseph Abbey
5. Lead rosary after mass May & October
6. May school Draw down set-up & clean-up
7. Pentecost picnic set-up & clean-up
8. Christmas card sales
9. New Year's Eve Draw Down clean-up
10. Priest Education Fund gumbo sale

COMMUNITY:

Chairman Don O'Brien

1. Pancake breakfast - Pregnancy Crises Center
2. Tootsie Roll Drive
3. Pot luck supper & supply collection abused women
4. Parish blood drive - quarterly
5. Painting Domestic Abuse Center
6. Lenten Soup Supper sponsor
7. Stations garden construction

8. Right to Life monument
9. Pancake breakfast for needy - Christmas baskets

COUNCIL:

Chairman Charlie Rawls

1. Sponsor First Degree Team
2. Publish monthly newsletter
3. Fraternal benefits program
4. Installation of officers & mass
5. Super Bowl Party
6. Knight of the Month
7. Knight of the Year
8. Awards Day & pig roast

FAMILY:

Chairman Glen Waguespack

1. Monthly Family of the Month program
2. Monthly Family Corporate Communion
3. June canoe trip
4. August canoe trip
5. Memorial mass for deceased brothers
6. Christmas party
7. Pro-life rosary
8. Pro-life life chain

YOUTH:

Chairman Ricky Williams

1. Squire's Circle 3768
2. Free throw contest
3. Easter egg hunt April 1996
4. Easter egg hunt March 1997
5. Jr. High CYO dance
6. Coach soccer
7. Train altar servers

Knight of the Year awarded to Don Schwartz; Family of the Year awarded to Don & Jena O'Brien.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gatzman
Grand Knight

**C. G. Shapley Council 2945
Leland, Mississippi
Leon J. Shapley**

On June 26, 1996 the duly elected and appointed officers were installed by our Worthy District Deputy, Ben T. Bailey. A steak dinner followed and was enjoyed by the members and their wives. The installation took place in the K. C. Hall. The following officers were installed:

Chaplain.....	Rev. Sean T. Atkinson
Grand Knight.....	Leon J. Shapley
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Louis P. LaBella, Sr.
Recorder.....	Edward L. Lubbers
Financial Secretary.....	Anthony Santucci
Treasurer.....	Mike P. Columbus
Chancellor.....	Frank P. Aldridge
Warden.....	Sam J. Morlino
Lecturer.....	
Advocate.....	Edward Petro
Inside Guard.....	James F. Santucci
Outside Guard.....	Louis J. Santucci
Trustee 1 Year.....	Albert Bassi
Trustee 2 Year.....	Jerry W. Santucci
Trustee 3 Year.....	Charlie J. Morlino

The following members were appointed to serve as Program Directors and Committee Chairmen:

Program Director.....	Anthony Santucci
Church Activities.....	Edward L. Lubbers
Community Activities.....	Jerry W. Santucci
Council Activities.....	Mike P. Columbus
Family Activities.....	Shawn N. Sullivan
Youth Activities.....	Anthony P. Santucci
Membership Directors.....	Edward L. Lubbers

The following activities were performed by our Council during the past year.

MEMBERSHIP:

We have initiated 0 New Members to our Council during the Fraternal Year.

Initiated.....	0	Members
Reactivated.....	0	Members
Readmission.....	0	Members
Reapplication.....	0	Members
Reinstated.....	0	Members
Suspension.....	0	Members

Transfers to Council	1	Members
Transfers from Council	0	Members
Withdrawn in good standing	0	Members
Deaths in Council	3	Members

As of April 1, 1997, we have a total of 62 members in our Council 58 Active and 4 Inactive members.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Donated \$700.00 to the Priest Education Fund (Proceeds from the Cat-Fish Fry).
2. Purchased a \$100.00 raffle ticket for the Annual Parish Bazaar.
3. Brother Knights led the Congregation in the Praying of the Rosary after Mass every Saturday and Sunday during the Months of May and October.
4. Had Masses offered for Deceased Parish Members.
5. Provided Liturgy Team, which includes Lector, Commentator, Ushers, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Gift Bearers for Sunday every 1st Sunday of the Month.
6. Provided Church the Weekly Church Bulletins.
7. Sponsored a Large Billboard "Pence Be To You" Easter Billboard on Highway 82 between Greenville and Leland.
8. Sponsored "Keep Christ In Christmas" radio spots on local radio stations in Greenville.
9. Sponsored the Presentation of the Lives of the Saints and those who were Beatified during the Season of Lent.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Participated in the state-wide Tootsie Roll Drive to raise funds for the mentally retarded. We raised approximately \$2200.
2. Aired The Columbus Day Message from the Supreme Knight on local radio station, WBAQ, in Greenville.
3. Volunteered the use of our Council Hall to the community in the event of disaster.
4. Allowed civic organizations to use the Council Hall free of charge.
5. Rented Council Hall to persons having parties for a small fee.
6. Took Poinsettia plants to members of our Parish who were in the Nursing Homes at Christmas Time.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsored Nurses to take Blood Pressure of K.C. Members and all the Parish Members after Masses on a weekend in May and September.
2. Conducted an Insurance Program featuring Jerry Woods, our Area Agent, followed by a Social.
3. Sold Hamburgers and Pepsi Colas at the Annual Leland Arts & Craft Festival.
4. Sold several Football Pools and Raffles.
5. Sponsored Delegates to the State K.C. Convention.
6. Held a drawing for a cash prize at each Meeting to encourage attendance at meetings.
7. Maintained an active Telephone Committee to enhance participation in Council Activities.
8. Participated in the State KC Bowling Tournament.

9. Held a "Recognition Reception" honoring our Families of the Quarter and Year, and members and their wives who donated their time and skills throughout the year.
10. Gave Rosary Rings and small statues of the Blessed Virgin to Members that led the Congregation in the praying of the Rosary.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Held Honorary Dinner for Graduating Catholic High School Seniors of our Parish.
2. Presented Bibles to our Graduating Seniors (4).
3. Presented The C.G. Shapley Sportsmanship Award to a High School Senior.
4. Sponsored Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the young children of our Parish that were in the 3rd grade and under.
5. Presented "Altar Servers Award" Certificates to 1 High School Senior who served as Altar Boy until he graduated from high school.
6. Maintained a Personal Representative on the District Drug Free School Advisory Committee. (Our Council has a seat because of our work with Drugs).
7. Sponsored a Santa Claus Program for the Young Children of the Parish.

FAMILY LIFE:

1. Held Memorial Services for Deceased Members.
2. Sponsored a Right-To-Life Booth at the Annual Parish Bazaar.
3. Held a Social for members and their wives at our Installation of Officers.
4. Held a Columbus Day Social for members and their wives.
5. Chose a "Family of the Quarter" 4 times and a "Family of the Year".
6. Held a Christmas Party and Social for members and their wives.
7. Sent Get-Well cards, Anniversary Cards, and New Parents Cards to members.
8. Places Anniversary Announcements of members on the local radio station.
9. Gave a "Scriptural Rosary" cassette to each of the families that are chosen as our Families of the Quarter, as a promotion of saying the Rosary.

CONCLUSION:

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as the Grand Knight of C.G. Shapley Council 2945 in Leland this past year. I would like to thank all of the Officers, Chairmen, and all of the other Members of the Council who worked hard to make this a very successful year. As you can see from the above report we were a busy Council.

Respectfully submitted,
 Leon J. Shapley
 Grand Knight

**Monsignor James T. McKenna Council 2969
Clarksdale, Mississippi
Richard Finimore**

No report submitted.

**Monsignor Leech Council 4472
Pass Christian, Mississippi
Revernal P. Ladner**

Council 4472 is composed of 41 brothers from the Parishes of St. Paul and Our Lady of Lourdes. This year we began with a drive for bone marrow donors for a young girl named Katie Terrell. We had a poboy sale which raised over \$800 to assist her family with their expenses in traveling back and forth weekly to Jackson for treatment. We continue to seek marrow donors as a match has not been found.

We have a family social each month and encourage all families to attend. The third weekend in July found us cooking and serving gumbo at the St. Paul Seafood Festival, of which Brother Ken Reaver is the chairman. Ken also serves on the School Board. We work on many projects for St. Paul School which include awarding two scholarships totaling \$ 1 000 to continue a sixth grade boy and girl's higher Catholic education. We are in the process of installing playground equipment at this time at St. Paul School. We have brothers serving as eucharistic ministers, lectors, commentators, and choir members. St. Paul is celebrating its third jubilee of 150 years. We have been assisting with the different events for the jubilee celebration this year.

Our most outstanding project is still our Mardi Gras Parade at which we have many retarded citizens at our hall to view the parade. We provide food, drinks, and a secure place for our guests to enjoy the parade. The King even gets off the float to give them doubloons. This has been a 10-year effort of joy for us.

Our first degree team has been busy assisting other districts who do not have a team to perform the first degree. We are always willing to help when asked. Msgr. Leech is beginning to grow. We just had a membership drive and are anticipating eight to ten new members.

I would like to give special thanks to our Ladies Auxiliary, who support us in every way. Sometimes without their help we would not have many of our activities. These are but a few of the things we have done and continue to do in our Parish. I look forward to a growing and successful year.

Respectfully submitted,
Revernal Ladner
Grand Knight

St. Vincent DePaul Council 4898
Long Beach, Mississippi
William G. Hincks

This is my second and final year as Grand Knight for Council 4898. This past year, I had two main goals for this council and my service. First and foremost, I wanted to start a program that would encourage family participation from the council members. To do this, we started having monthly family dinners in conjunction with the Family of the Month and Knight of the Quarter program. By March, we were averaging in attendance to these dinners approximately 75 people, a good start. Second, I felt that the Knights of Columbus do a great deal in our community, but few knew that the hard work and financial contributions were originating from our council. With the help of our parish office and priest, the council received recognition for its work through announcements in the weekly bulletin and monthly calendars that the parish provides to the congregation. We were able to spread the word about what the Knights of Columbus are and what they do, plus this action also led to the initiation of three new knights.

Other highlights from the year include a new program in our council. We hosted an appreciation dinner for the Long Beach Police and Fire Departments, and over 80 officers and their families attended. Often these men and women receive little credit for the work that they do, and we wanted to change that. Also hosted an appreciation dinner for the Parish staff and Thomas School staff. Most of these people are volunteers, and we just wanted to say thanks for the work they do around the Church and the parish.

Respectfully submitted,
William G. Hincks, Jr.
Grand Knight

Monsignor John F. Clerico Council 5267
Greenwood, Mississippi
Harvey B. Caldwell, III

On July 10, 1996, the duly elected and appointed officers were installed by the Worthy District Deputy Buddy Honeycutt at a social/dinner for brother knights and their wives at the Council hall.

The following officers were installed:

Chaplain	Msgr. Thad Harkins
Grand Knight (Jan. to present)	Harvey B. Caldwell, III
.....	Brad Burden (July to Jan.)
Deputy Grand Knight (Jan. to present)	Patrick Quinn
.....	Harvey B. Caldwell, III
Chancellor	Michael Sanford
Recorder (Jan. to present)	Laughlin Quigley
.....	Patrick Quinn
Financial Secretary	Nick Joseph, Jr.
Treasurer (Feb. to present)	Brad Burden
.....	Brian Cooper
Advocate	Ewing Henson
Warden	Orlando Fratesi
Trustee	Nick Serio
Trustee	Jesse Quinn, Jr.
Trustee	Kevin Vanderlip
Inside Guard (Jan. to present)	Bobby Vandevender
.....	Laughlin Quigley
Outside Guard	Johnny Lusco
Chaplain	Kevin McCarthy

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Maintained the bus and van for the parish
2. Members taught Sunday school classes
3. Members served on the parish council
4. Members served on the parish finance committee
5. Members participated on liturgical roles on a regular basis
6. Members participate in the senior choir

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Held a Tootsie Roll drive in support of the mentally retarded
2. Manned the local community food pantry
3. Members visited with the sick and elderly at the local hospital and nursing homes
4. Members served on the board of directors of the local Habitat for Humanity
5. Members served on board of the Pregnancy Crisis Center
6. Members donate blood monthly, different members each month

7. Presented the Tootsie Roll High Roller award to a non K of C volunteer who helped us with our Tootsie Roll drive

FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES:

1. Held a memorial Mass for deceased
2. Held a BBQ rib dinner for members and their families
3. Sponsored a drive to raise funds for the local pregnancy crisis center
4. Presented Family of the Year award
5. Held Christmas gift exchange and dinner for members and their families
6. Members spoke in church in support of pro-life efforts

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Assisted the CYO with their Halloween Carnival and spaghetti supper
2. Held an Easter egg hunt for the Sunday school children
3. Members coached a youth baseball team
4. Members coached a youth soccer team
5. Cooked hamburgers for the CYO during their canned food for the food pantry
6. Members trained altar servers

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Hosted the State Organizational Meeting and prepared meals for the attendees
2. Hosted Ladies Auxiliary and their meeting
3. Hosted a reception for the new State Officers
4. Hosted one of the three Schools of Columbianism
5. Hosted a fraternal benefits night for Council members
6. Held a membership drive at church
7. Published a quarterly newsletter
8. Held monthly council socials
9. Sponsored certified 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree Teams
10. Held installation of officers for council
11. Presented Knight of the Year award
12. Sponsored Mississippi State Football pool
13. Hosted a council Christmas party and gift swap
14. Put on a 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications in Tupelo, Madison, Ocean Springs, Pascagoula, and Grenada
15. Provided CO for 3rd Degrees in Lizana, Bay St. Louis, Kiln and Slidell, LA.
16. Held 1st Degree in Greenwood
17. Provided 1st Degree team members for various 1st Degrees over the State of Mississippi
18. Assisted Grenada council in cooking turkeys for fund raiser
19. Sold tickets for Priest Education fund
20. Held a clean-up of the council hall

Although these are not all of the activities that were conducted by our council, it is representative of the many things we accomplish throughout the year.

I would like to thank all of the members of our council and their families for the support you have shown me in the short time that I have been Grand Knight. It has been an honor to serve as Grand Knight of the Msgr. John F. Clerico Council 5267 since January 1997. I look forward to serving my council and the Order for the many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Harvey B. Caldwell, III
Grand Knight

**Father Rotondo Council 5556
Cleveland, Mississippi
Douglas J. Cocilova**

On July 24, 1996, the duly elected and appointed officers were installed by the Worthy District Deputy Ben Bailey, Jr. at a social/dinner for Brother Knights and their wives at the council home.

The following officers were installed:

Chaplain	Father Charles Bucciantini
Grand Knight	Doug Cocilova
Deputy Grand Knight	Tom Bryant
Financial Secretary	Ben T. Bailey, Jr.
Chancellor	Albert Rocconi, Jr.
Recorder	Peter Rocconi
Treasurer	Jody Rocconi
Advocate	Michael Rocconi
Warden	Johnny Capocaccia
Inside Guard	Richard Kanary
Outside Guard	Marvin Lott
Trustee (one year)	Ron Koehler
Trustee (two year)	Albert Rocconi, Jr.
Trustee (three year)	Harry Delles

The following members served as committee chairmen:

Program Director	Tom Bryant
Church Director	David Rocconi
Community Director	Richard Kanary
Council Director	Harry Delles
Youth Director	Jeffrey Capocaccia
Family Director	Michael Aguzzi
Membership Director	Johnny Capocaccia

A summary of the program activities follows:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Watch film on Pope John Paul.
2. Mass said for Vocations.
3. Monetary support to the Parish Priest.
4. Donation to Priest Education Fund.
5. Knights assembled and removed the Parish outdoor Nativity scene.
6. Distributed vocation prayer cards at mass.
7. Sponsored "Keep Christ in Christmas" Billboard.
8. Held mass for "Pro-Life".
9. Brother knights serve in many capacities of church activities such as: members of the pastoral council, financial committee, ushers, lectors, choir, eucharistic ministers, CYO sponsors, teachers, etc.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Raised money for the mentally handicapped program, receiving matching funds.
2. Held blood drive during the year.
3. Promoted Columbus Day with message on local radio.
4. Made and delivered Christmas packages to Parchman Prison inmates.
5. Donation made to Cleveland High Booster Club.
6. Donated money to Muscular Dystrophy.
7. Donated food and cooked meal for youths from churches in our community who collected canned foods for the local Helping Hands Organization.
8. Individuals participating in leadership roles in the local community.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Insurance night held for Knights and wives; insurance program, and social.
2. Published a quarterly newsletter.
3. Sponsor and maintain 1st Degree Team.
4. Sponsored softball team in the State Softball tournament.
5. Monthly supper and social held for Knights and prospects.
6. Held installation of Council Officers with social dinner for Knights and wives.
7. Organized and held four football pools on College games as fund raisers.
8. Sponsored spaghetti supper - served approximately 2000 people.
9. Allow use of K.C. Home at discount rates to aid fund raising groups.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsored Memorial Mass for Deceased Members.
2. Selected a Family of the Month and a Family of the Year.
3. Sponsored bocci tournament for members, wives, and guests.
4. Sent Get Well or Sympathy cards to sick Knights and their families.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsored Local Free Throw Tournament.
2. Participated in State Free Throw Tournament.
3. Knight teaches and trains new altar servers.
4. Party for Altar Servers - encouraged and showed appreciation for their involvement in church.
5. Provided Santa Claus for the church youth Christmas party.
6. Knights participate as coaches in soccer, football, and baseball community youth programs.
7. Knight teaches Hunter Safety Program for youth and adults in the community.
8. Help CYO with anything they request during the year. Knights serve as adult advisors.
9. Sponsored a youth to Girl's State.
10. Sponsored a girl to the Jr., Auxiliary Ball.

It has been an honor for me to serve as the Grand Knight of Cleveland Council 95556. A Grand Knight depends on the work and dedication of the Council's members. Our Council's success is attributed to those members whose tireless efforts continue to push us forward year after year. Thank you to all the officers, chairmen and council members who supported me and all our activities. Special thanks to Deputy Grand Knight Tom Bryant and District Deputy Ben Bailey, Jr. for their support and guidance. A very special thanks to all the wives who helped with the many projects and supported their husbands in so many ways.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas J. Cocilova
Grand Knight

**F. L. Westbrook Council 5654
Ocean Springs, Mississippi
Carl Brochard**

On July 10, 1996, the duly elected and appointed officers were installed by the Worthy District Deputy Buddy Cupit followed by a social/dinner for Brother Knights and wives at the Council Home.

The following officers were installed:

Chaplain.....	Rev. Msgr. James J. Hannon
Grand Knight.....	Carl Brochard
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Ken Swanson
Financial Secretary.....	Irwin Obermuefemann
Chancellor.....	George Peloquin
Recorder.....	Dean Crosier
Treasurer.....	Charles Nannery
Advocate.....	Don Graham
Warden.....	Bernie McGinley
Inside Guard.....	Scott Johnson
Outside Guard.....	Mike Westbrook
Trustees 1 year.....	Mark Castercone
2 years.....	August "Gus" Brune
3 years.....	Hank 'uber

The following members serve as committee chairmen:

Program Director.....	Frank Szczepanski
Community.....	August "Gus" Brune
Council.....	Frank Pasquini
Youth.....	George Emile
Family.....	Scott Johnson
Church Activities.....	Den Trenouth
Membership Director.....	Bernard McGinley
Chief Counselor (Squires).....	Joe Niezgoda

A summary of the program activities follows:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. (4) Brother Knights serve as RCIA team leaders
2. (4) Brother Knights serve as Eucharistic Ministers
3. At least (4) Brother Knights serve as ushers at every Mass
4. (3) Brother Knights serve in the choir
5. (2) Brother Knights are instructors for CCD
6. (4) Brother Knights serve on the Parish Council

7. One Brother Knight volunteers at least 30 hours a week helping out with various duties at the church
8. Donated to St. Alphonsus Scholarship Fund for under-privileged children to go to Catholic school
9. Brother Knights conducted blood drive for parish
10. Donated \$1,100 to the Priest Education Fund
11. Sponsored monthly Corporate Communion
12. Sponsored Marian Hour of Prayer
13. Prayed the Rosary every Wednesday during November
14. Provided liturgy team member--lector, commentators, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers and gift bearers each week
15. Held "Priest & Religious Appreciation Dinner"
16. Provided coffee and doughnuts for parish fellowship each Sunday after Mass
17. Sponsored large cross "Keep Christ in Christmas"
18. Donated to needy families at Christmas
19. Brother Knights visit and take the Eucharist weekly to shut-ins
20. Brother Knights provide transportation for disabled persons to Sunday Mass
21. Brother Knights attend monthly Mass at local nursing home
22. Brother Knights attend Christmas Mass and party at local nursing home
23. Provided financial assistance to seminarian

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Held "Policemen and Fireman of the Year" (4) awards/dinner
2. Sponsored "Just Say No" drug awareness program with city police
3. Helped support and maintain Domestic Abuse Family Shelter
4. Help with fund raisers for St. Vincent de Paul Society
5. Participated in Tootsie Roll Drive
6. Participated in Columbus Day Program
7. Council sends sympathy cards and flowers to family members of sick or deceased Brother Knights
8. Council sponsors a weekly bingo
9. Brother Knight assisting in building and repairing homes for Habitat for Humanity
10. Donate services and provide food, ice, etc. to "Lord Is My Help" soup kitchen
11. Held Mothers Day Rose Sale and contributed proceeds (\$614) to Morning Star Crisis Center

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Presented anti-abortion program for families
2. "Family of Month" awarded monthly
3. Held a memorial service in November for deceased Knights at Council Home
4. Sponsored Mass and Sacrament of the Sick for parish ill and elderly - followed by refreshments
5. Sponsored social dinners monthly for the families of K.C. members
6. In closing of Knight's activities, we stress that this Council is a family participation council - not just for the men

7. Held Easter egg hunt
8. Family Easter dinner with gifts from the Easter bunny
9. Family Christmas dinner with gifts from Santa Claus

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Support St. Alphonsus and St. Elizabeth Seton C.Y.O. for their mission activities in Mexico (Held appreciation dinner in conjunction with Council 10499)
2. Provided the Girl Scouts with use of the Council Home for various functions
3. Sponsored youth dances
4. Support the Squires in our Council Home
5. Held "Free Throw" contest
6. Accompanied youth to "Free Throw" tournament
7. Presented vocations awareness program/dinner for CCD students
8. Presented anti-abortion program/dinner for CCD students

SQUIRES:

1. Presented gifts to nursing home for Christmas
2. Held Mardi Gras party for nursing home patients
3. Collect food for "Lord Is My Help" soup kitchen
4. Sponsored "Teens for Christ" rally
5. Donated funds to "Lord Is My Help" soup kitchen
6. Supported basketball free throw competition
7. Sponsored "Power House Musical Rally for Christ"
8. Attend state Squires Convention
9. Attend professional basketball games, football games, dances, etc. as a group
10. Donated funds to Morning Star Pregnancy Center
11. Held overnight lock-in

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Held five (5) initiations for 1st Degree
2. Held four (4) 3rd Degree initiations

There are many more worthy projects that we worked on and I would like to thank, every member for all the support I have received this past year and for all of the tireless hours they have devoted to the Knights of Columbus.

Respectfully submitted,
 Carl Brochard
 Grand Knight

Shelby Council 6555
Shelby, Mississippi
Bruno D. Fava

Our council is one of the smallest in the state. It is an honor for me to submit the Grand Knights report for Shelby Council 6555 on the fraternal year 1996 - 1997.

We began the year by electing the following officers:

Grand Knight	Bruno Fava
Deputy Grand Knight	Albert Pongetti
Chancellor	Victor Malatesta
Treasurer	Sam Mangialardi
Financial Secretary	Joe Radicioni
Advocate	Joe Capoccia
Warden	Joe Bramucchi
Chaplain	Father James Carroll
Inside Guard	Tippy Olivi
Outside Guard	Albert Malatesta
Trustee	David Malatesta
Trustee	Joseph Mengerelli

The above named duly elected officers were installed by our worthy district deputy, in St. Mary Church July 31, 1996.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Our Council members serve as lectors, collection counters, and Eucharistic ministers. Also members of the maintenance committee for Church repair whatever is needed to be done, and also take care of Church grounds and shrubbery, etc.

Made a donation of \$440 to the Priest Educational Fund.

Donate \$125 to the annual spaghetti dinner which is a fund raising project for the Church. Also helped the ladies to cook and clean the Marion Hall, wash and clean all cooking utensils, and also wash all dishes.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Collected \$1,195 during Tootsie Roll Drive for the mentally retarded. Did additional work for the Knights of Columbus Hall such as painting, few repairs, and also bought additional chairs and tables.

Sold a football pool which netted \$500 for the Council. Gave Christmas presents to the inmates at the State Penitentiary at Parchman at a cost of \$100 to the Council.

Had a memorial service for all deceased brother Knights. Gave a Christmas party for all of the alter boys of the Parish. Also gave a supper for all the men of the parish trying to recruit new Knights of Columbus members. Sponsored two (2) Bocci Tournaments.

At the closing of the meeting we recite one decade of the rosary for the Success of the pro-life movement.

Fraternally submitted,
Bruno Fava
Grand Knight

Father Malacy Burns Council 6592
Bassfield, Mississippi
Chris A. Daley

Grand Knight	Chris Daley
Deputy Grand Knight	Allen Aultman
Warden	Scottie Burns
Chancellor	Timothy G. Hawthorn
Advocate	Todd Graves
Treasurer	Patrick S. Burns
Recorder (7/96-11/97)	John Paul Kirby
(11/97-7/97)	Robert Barrett
Financial Secretary	Robert H. Carr
Trustee	Robert L. Graves
Trustee	Ted L. Applewhite
Trustee	Charles A. Harrington
Chaplain	Father Cuddie
Inside Guard	James Stephens
Outside Guard	Eddie Dally

This was a very good year as far as the program for the state awards go. We had a banner year. We had lots of good programs. One of our biggest was a dinner we had for a girl, 16 years old, in our church. We raised about \$5,000 for her hospital bills and her rehabilitation.

That is some of the good things that happened to the council this year. But there was some hard times in our council too. We have a small council and it is hard to lose good friends but when it is people that you count on for the life of the council it makes it that much harder. I lost my recorder in November and his brother too in the same accident. These were two young men that had the life ahead of them. That was one of the hardest things to do was find his replacement for the year. Our council was brought together in this tragedy.

I am dedicating this year's good fortune to all of my deceased members of this year. Their names are John Paul Kirby, Joseph Kirby, and Vincent Burns. These good men will be missed and remembered in our prayers for the rest of this year and forever.

Our activities were:

CHURCH:

1. Assisted parish for homecoming.
2. Assisted parish in building a new rectory.
3. Held St. Patrick's Day Dance.

COMMUNITY:

1. Held blood drive.
2. Held Family Dinner.
3. Breakfast for the high school senior council.

COUNCIL:

1. Held a first degree.
2. Participated in state softball tournament.
3. Sponsored New Year's Eve Dance.
4. Held quarterly social.
5. Attended state free-throw contest.

FAMILY LIFE:

1. Sponsored family trips to coast for Mardi Gras.
2. Held memorial mass for deceased members.
3. Held monthly Corporate Communion.

YOUTH:

1. Held Halloween Carnival.
2. Held Christmas party for kids.
3. Held free-throw contest.
4. Sponsored altar servers.
5. Held Easter Egg Hunt.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Daley
Grand Knight

**Father John P. Egan Council 6765
Starkville, Mississippi
John Beggs**

This past year brought a reasonably constant level of activity for our council with our various service projects. November and December 1996 were very busy as we held an awards banquet on November 16th to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our council charter. In December, we held a draw-down party to close out a raffle and give away a Caribbean cruise for two (the boat sailed in March). The party was a huge success and the proceeds went to the St. Joseph Church Building Fund. This cruise raffle will now be an ongoing activity for our council. St. Joseph Catholic Church burned to the ground in the early morning hours on Good Friday due to a damaged electrical cord on small dormitory sized refrigerator in the sacristy of the church. The Knights immediately swung into action and helped out with various activities so that the usual Lenten Stations of the Cross, soup lunch, and Good Friday services could go on as planned. The Knights are continuing to actively assist Fr. Mike and other parishioners with other activities to keep the Masses and other church related activities going. The Starkville Council also now has a round-table in West Point and we will be ramping up our involvement in that community as well. We are also sad to report that Brother Lynn Cook, a Charter Member and Past Grand Knight of the Starkville Council, passed away in October 1996. The Knights sponsored a Mass for Lynn and were present at the wake service. We have been successful in recruiting new members, and we are continuing to pursue this aggressively.

The following are the Council officers that were duly elected and installed by District Deputy #2, Buddy F. Honeycutt:

Grand Knight	John H. Beggs
Deputy Grand Knight	William J. Ebel
Financial Secretary	John D. Simmons
Treasurer	Wil White
Advocate	David Breaux
Recorder	Terry Engelken
Warden	Gary M. McFadyen
Chancellor	Thomas Hannigan
Trustees	Richard Benton
	S. John Obringer
	James R. Heitz
Guards	Allen Saucier
	Adam Gilbert

Some representative activities for Council 6765 are listed below:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Church clean-ups (Fall and Spring).
2. Council sponsored time-slot during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
3. Participation in Parish Life activities as Lectors, Eucharistic ministers, etc.
4. Lenten soup lunches and Stations of the Cross.
5. Cruise raffle for church building fund.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Tootsie Roll drive.
2. Blood drives (Fall and Spring).
3. Assisted an elderly gentlemen in moving.
4. Participation in Walk for Life for Crisis Pregnancy Center.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Development of a World-Wide-Web site.
2. Quarterly council social events.
3. Sponsored First Degree exemplification.
4. Sponsored Funeral Mass for Brother Lynn Cook.
5. Held 20th Anniversary Awards Banquet.

FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsored Parish picnic.
2. Family of Month program.
3. Super Bowl party.
4. Cruise raffle draw-down party.
5. Family Corporate Communion.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Altar server pool party.
2. CSA & CYO Sponsors.
3. Community youth involvement (soccer, 4H, etc.)
4. Coordinated children making Stations of the Cross pictures after church fire.
5. Altar server training.

Respectfully submitted,
John H. Beggs
Grand Knight

Oscar J. Gelpi Council 6872
Picayune, Mississippi
James C. Mounsey

The 1996-1997 year got off to a good start with a commitment by all of the newly elected officers to unity and fraternity. All of the directors were in place by July 1st and got off to a running start. Our first goal was to get the council back into the good graces of our parish. This was well on its way by the end of August and has progressed positively throughout the entire year. The Knights of Columbus is now the group that is called by all in the parish anytime there is any need for funds, labor, or involvement. Our Priest and all of the ministries in our parish know that Council 6872 is truly a Catholic men's organization that can be counted on at any time.

During this past year, we have sent four of our brothers ahead of us. The following Knights are the officers and directors of Council 6872:

Chaplain.....	Father John Noone
Grand Knight	Jim Mounsey
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Joe Dominick
Chancellor.....	Sidney Graf
Recorder.....	David Plaisance
Financial Secretary.....	Richard Planchard
Treasurer.....	Jim Lambert
Advocate.....	George Heikamp
Warden.....	Kenny Bergeron
Inside Guard.....	Tom DeCourcy
Outside Guard.....	George Breaux
Trustees.....	Ed Arthur
	Paul Bucca
	Floyd Dupre
Program Director.....	Joe Dominick
Church Director.....	Melvin Berthold
Community Director.....	L.J. Reiss
Council Director.....	Floyd Dupre
Family Director.....	David Plaisance
Youth Director.....	Randy Authement
Membership Director.....	Sidney Graf

Programs for the year included monthly support of a Seminarian, St. Vincent DePaul, Life Line, and Boy Scout Troop 351. Our monthly youth dance was a great success. We also assisted in the Parish picnic, setting out 4000 crosses for the unborn, and numerous other smaller projects.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Mounsey
Grand Knight

**Father A. C. Denis Council 7087
Kila, Mississippi
A. Elbert Cuevas**

Chaplain.....	Reverend Ivan J. Weis
Grand Knight.....	A. Elbert Cuevas
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Mike Campanali
Chancellor.....	Ray A. Billeaud, Jr.
Financial Secretary.....	Richard Hoda
Recorder.....	Mike Campanali
Treasurer.....	Mike Ladner
Advocate.....	Joseph Cuevas
Warden.....	Howard Ladner
Trustee.....	O. J. Shiyu
.....	Wayne Cuevas
.....	Jimmy Ray Hoda
Inside Guard.....	Gerard Necaie
Outside Guard.....	Phillip Hoda
Lecturer.....	Joe Hoda

The 1996-1997 Fraternal year has been filled with first time events for our 21 year old Council.

Our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive, \$10,000 Draw Down and Turkey Shoot continue to be successful providing needed funding for our many charitable events. Weekly Bingo is striving and continues to offer members and wives the opportunity to come together and work as a family unit who's mission is to assist church and community.

This year we increased our pro-life efforts and placed crosses on one of the three parish church lawns we support. We also purchased plaques and a cemetery headstone for the three churches.

Our first event was our sponsorship of a First, Second, and Third Degree. We enjoyed the event and especially enjoyed being able to showcase our council home which members have worked so hard to complete.

May God continue to Bless our Work.

Respectfully submitted,
Elbert Cuevas
Grand Knight

Hernando Desoto Council 7120
Southaven, Mississippi
James W. Farris

At our regular Business Meeting on June 3, 1996 the following officers were elected to led the Council for the 1996-97 Council year.

Chaplain	Father Dermot Twomey, SCJ
Grand Knight	Jim Farris
Deputy Grand Knight	Jim Beatty
Chancellor	Don Gerads
Treasurer	Ray Rodriguez
Recorder	Jim Brewington
Financial Secretary	Dan Garrigan
Advocate	Roy Szekely
Warden	Karl Lubbers
Inside Guard	Larry Vaughn
Outside Guard	Vic Hageman
Trustee	Frank Dominioni
Trustee	Frank Miller
Trustee	George Guerieri

In May our annual Tootsie Roll Drive netted just over \$2000. The proton we received went to Desoto Industries in Hernando. At our monthly Pancake Breakfast for the Priest Education Fund in May we treated the Mothers of our parish. We presented the First Communion children each with a packet which contained a rosary, prayer card, and instructions on how to say the rosary. There were four Knights who accompanied the youth to Saltillo in July. A Celebration of the Family outing was held and deemed a success by all were there. A Memorial Mass was held for deceased members, with their widows as our guest for a meal afterwards. The annual Christmas Tree Drive was a huge success this year. We had a Chili Supper and a Bowl Game Lottery and a Christmas Party for members and their guests. The Council provided Santa Clause for the Desoto Industries Christmas Party at which the proceeds from our Tootsie Roll Drive was presented. To bring attention to the Abortion issue, we erected the Crosses for the Innocent two times this past year. We promoted a Blood Drive and provided Friday evening meals during Lent in corporation with the Parish, with all proceeds going to the Samaritans. The annual Religious Appreciation dinner for the Religious in our area was enjoyed by all who attended. A Valentine Dinner for Knights and their Ladies and a Free Throw contest for the youngsters was also held.

In addition to these activities there was our ongoing projects: Pancake Breakfast for the Priest Education Fund, Monthly Corporate Communion with the Rosary before Mass, Rosary before meetings, rosary before the 8:00 am mass on Sundays, quarterly Family of the Month, regular maintenance of the Church grounds and buildings, providing needed transportation to Mass for a disabled Knight, visiting the sick. We publish a Monthly News Letter and have started to include a calendar also.

We are also proud that we have initiation Eight new Knights in the past year, with our First Degree Team.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Farris
Grand Knight

**Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Council 7211
Lumberton, Mississippi
Wilson J. John, Sr.**

In August 1996, the duly elected officers of Council 7211 were installed by our Worthy District Deputy, Curt Stasny. The following officers were installed:

Grand Knight	Wilson John, Sr.
Deputy Grand Knight	Charles C. Wagner
Financial Secretary	Charles D. Bounds
Chancellor	Frank W. Niemeyer
Recorder	Preston R. Stuit
Treasurer	Joseph J. McQueen
Advocate	Vernon J. Necaie
Warden	Jesse F. Clark
Lecturer	Richard F. Cullen
Trustee	Preston R. Stuit
Trustee	Dale E. Firmin
Trustee	Richard F. Cullen
Chaplain	Father Clark Bearden

The following members were appointed to serve as Program Directors:

Program Director	Curt P. Stasny
Church Director	Joseph J. McQueen
Community Director	Frank DiGiovanni
Council Director	Curt P. Stasny
Family Director	Wilson J. John, Sr.
Youth Director	Charles D. Bounds
Membership Director	Preston R. Stuit

A Summary of the Program Activities are as follows:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Council participated in the Marian Hour of Prayer
2. Council held a Draw Down to help pay the Church Insurance
3. Council members were Cursillo Team Leaders
4. Council held a Donut Sale for Saltillo
5. Council replaced fire extinguishers at Church
6. Council cleaned the brick on St. Paul's in Tylertown
7. Council replaced lights & ballast at St. Joseph's
8. Council replaced toilets at O.L.P.H.
9. Council donated funds to the Priest Education Fund
10. Council donated a Christmas gift certificate for Father
11. Council helped with the St. Joseph's Alter in Poplarville
12. Council donated to the St. Joseph's Alter Society
13. Council donated to the O.L.P.H. Alter Society
14. Council provided soup for the Stations of the Cross

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Council held a Donut Sale for Morning Star Pregnancy Center
2. Council painted the Twelve Baskets Food Bank on the Coast
3. Council provided clothing to a Poplarville Student
4. Council held the St. Jude's Bike-a-Thon in Lumberton
5. Council cut bushes at the Welcome Sign in Poplarville
6. Council erected the sign for Twelve Baskets Food Bank
7. Council members visited Pat Crabtree (now deceased)
8. Council helped the St. Vincent de Paul with a garage sale
9. Council erected 4,400 crosses in Tylertown
10. Council erected 4,400 crosses in Columbia
11. Council provided a KC information booth at the Chamber Festival
12. Council held KC Tootsie Roll Drive
13. Council set up and participated in the Live Nativity at the Chamber Festival
14. Council held a Bingo for the Morning Star Pregnancy Center
15. Council planted flowers at Median in Lumberton
16. Council put up a Pro-Life Billboard
17. Council made visits to the Adventist Nursing Home
18. Council donated funds to a heart patient
19. Council member is Chamber of Commerce President

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Council held a Crawfish Boil Membership Drive in Tylertown
2. Council held a Church Membership Drive in Tylertown
3. Council held a Church Membership Drive in Lumberton / Poplarville
4. Council held a Church Membership Drive in Columbia
5. Council held a Breakfast Membership Drive in Tylertown

6. Council held a Lunch Membership Drive in Columbia
7. Council entered a Scrapbook
8. Council established a Round Table in Columbia / Tytertown
9. Council held a dinner at Stonewall's for the Knights
10. Council provided an award to the Grand Knight
11. Council held an Installation of Officers Fish Fry
12. Council held a gun raffle
13. Council held an Awards Banquet
14. Council hosted a 1st Degree in Lumberton
15. Council provided a dinner at Chesterfield's for Bingo workers

FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITIES:

1. Council donated food for three needy families
2. Council provided Thanksgiving Food Baskets
3. Council held a Memorial Mass
4. Council repaired a trailer for a needy family
5. Council participated in Supreme Family of the Month

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Council sponsored a Squires Circle
2. Council sponsored youth in a Softball Tournament
3. Council held a Swim Party
4. Council sponsored a Youth Goofy Golf Day
5. Council held a Camp out & Campfire Mass for youth
6. Council held a Breakfast with Santa
7. Council held a KC Free Throw Competition
8. Council held a Youth Batting Cage Tournament
9. Council provided 13 tickets and transportation to a Hockey Game
10. Council promoted, donated and took youth to a Retreat
11. Council donated money to the Funds For Fun Day at Poplarville Lower Elementary
12. Council held the Squires State Installation Dinner
13. Council provided trophies for the KC Council Free Throw
14. Council donated and delivered trophies to the District Free Throw
15. Council donated to the Boy Scouts of America
16. Council sold T-shirts for Squires
17. Council provided night guards at C.Y.O. Convention

The members of Council #7211 owe a special thanks to our State Deputy Jesse Quinn III, State Membership Director Dennis Riecke and District Deputy Curt Stasny. Their support made our council the most active and fastest growing council in the State!

Respectfully submitted,
Wilson John, Sr.
Grand Knight

**Holy Savior Council 7854
Clinton, Mississippi
Lloyd T. Everhardt**

In our Sixteenth Program Year, the following served as Officers and Committee Chairman:

Officers:

Chaplain.....	Rev. Noel Prendergast
Grand Knight	Lloyd T. Everhardt
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Rockie Kunstmann
Financial Secretary	Ray Raybert
Chancellor.....	Charles Collins
Warden	Peter Villari
Treasurer	Brian Bowers
Recorder.....	Fred Roquemore
Advocate.....	Craig Harrell
Trustee:1 Year	Dennis Graves
Trustee 2 Years.....	Ferdie Callegan
Trustee 3 Years.....	Fred Roquemore

Committee Chairmen:

Program Director	John Moulis
Membership Director	Fred Roquemore
Church Director	Arnie Senger
Vocations Chairman.....	Charles Collins
Community Director.....	Brian Bowers
Pro-Life Couple	Rockie and Laura Kuntsmann
Youth Director.....	John Haselhorst
Council Director.....	Lloyd T. Everhardt

Past Grand Knight's Committee:

Ferdie Callegan
Charles Collins
Sterling Peters
Fred Roquemore
Lloyd T. Everhardt

The focus of Holy Savior Council during the year has been new membership. Our council achieved 180% of its membership goal, focusing on the needs of our parish and parishioners with special needs, our annual golf tournament to provide funds for adoption programs in the area, and we are committed to standing in solidarity with our priest. We are very proud of our councils activities this year and they are as follows:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Members serve on the Church Finance Committee
2. Members serve on the Parish Council
3. Members serve as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectures, Ushers
4. Member teaches Adult Religious Education every Sunday morning
5. Remodeled the Parish Center kitchen
6. Decorate church for Christmas

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Organize and conduct Tootsie Roll Drive
2. Members coach and assist in community sports program Members assist with meals on wheels
3. Members assist the 4^C in Clinton

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Hosted the Second Annual Adoption Option Golf Tournament
2. Hosted 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree exemplification
3. Hosted wine and cheese party for membership drive
4. Supported and participated in softball league
5. Attended the Mid-Winter Meeting
6. Attended and participated in the 1996 State Convention Host a pancake breakfast for Priest Education Fund

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Members serve as scout sponsors for Boy Scouts
2. Members teach in Religious Education Program

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsor Quarterly Wives' Night out

A special thanks to those who give their time and talent to make our Council's year very successful and meaningful. We are looking forward to a very active 1997-98 to help serve the spirit of our brotherhood.

Respectfully submitted
Lloyd T. Everhardt
Grand Knight

**Father Harry Wade Council 7910
Orange Grove, Mississippi
Gerald E. Schmuck**

Another year has gone by and the members of council 7910, through hard, diligent work, have expanded on their past accomplishments. We have grown in faith, numbers, and involvement in our many projects. As a team, we can be proud of our accomplishments this past year. It is an honor for me to be a part of this team and to be able to serve this outstanding council.

In July 1996, the officers of our council were properly installed at St. Joseph's by our Worthy District Deputy, Daniel Lechner. The following officers were installed:

Chaplain	Rev. Antone J. Lynch
Grand Knight	Gerald Schmuck
Deputy Grand Knight	Robert Delahunt
Chancellor	Edward Brennan
Financial Secretary	Daniel Squillante
Treasurer	Willie Fernandez
Advocate	Robert Stalnaker
Warden	Lionel Tootle
Recorder	Brendon Davidson
Inside Guard	Thomas Cullinan
Outside Guard	David North
Three Year Trustee	John Ward
Two Year Trustee	James Moran
One Year Trustee	Peter Bass

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Robert Delahunt

1. Assisted on all programs in the council
2. Followed through on all reports to be submitted

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: E. J. Roberts, Chairman

1. Annual Marion Hour of Prayer
2. Assisted and supported St. Vincent DePaul
3. Provided active support for RCIA
4. Assisted in parish Vision 2000 celebration preparations
5. Sponsored Living Way of the Cross
6. Sponsored a parish wide marriage communication night
7. Sponsored a Catholic family information night
8. Sponsored a quarterly K of C communion Mass

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Julius Williams, Chairman

1. Support Gulf Coast Battered Women's center
2. Support Morning Star
3. Support Toys for Tots
4. Support Special Olympics
5. Active in PPP program at school
6. Visit sick and elderly
7. Support Christmas in April
8. Support Long Beach Regional Center

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: John Ward, Chairman

1. Membership drive
2. Quarterly newsletter
3. Fraternal Benefits night
4. K of C Softball Team
5. Knight of the Month
6. Upgrade and repair of church hall
7. Monetary support to our priest
8. Monetary support to our church

FAMILY ACTIVITIES: Joel Varnado, Chairman

1. Life Chain
2. Pro-life rally
3. Memorial Mass
4. Family of the Month
5. Assisted a needy brother night
6. Assisted a parish family
7. Monthly family social
8. Cooked and served food at family picnic

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Todd Stoner, Chairman

1. Sponsor and support CYO
2. Sponsor a yearly Easter egg hunt
3. Sponsor a monthly youth Mass
4. Sponsor and coach a girl's softball team
5. Sponsor a CYO dance
6. Participate in youth convention
7. K of C Free Throw contest
8. Provide appreciation certificates for altar servers

While this list of activities is not complete, it does show how active the knights of our council have been over the last year.

In closing, I would like to thank our priest, Father Lynch, all of the knights, and our Worthy District Deputy, Daniel Lechner, for all the help and support I have received this past year as a new grand knight. It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve council 7910 this past year. Because this council works together as well as it does, I look forward to the challenge of improving on this year's successes.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald E. Schmuck
Grand Knight

Brookhaven Council 7915
Brookhaven, Mississippi
James H. Craig, III

Brookhaven Council 7915 continues to grow in it's faith and love of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. This love extends to all those we serve as true Knights of Columbus. The council has worked well together to accomplish many of the goals and objectives slated for this fraternal year.

Installation was held in July with District Deputy Richard Spence presiding. Installed were the following:

Chaplain.....	Father Liam Pentony
Grand Knight.....	Jim Craig
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Ronnie Nettles
Chancellor.....	Hollis Cowen
Lector.....	Victor Becker
Financial Secretary.....	Thomas Corken
Recorder.....	Glenn Bodin
Warden.....	Nick Battaglia
Treasurer.....	Paul Reuter
Advocate.....	Bynum Meeks
Inside Guard.....	Gordon Legett
Outside Guard.....	Chris Delaughter
Trustee.....	Thomas Phillips
Trustee.....	Wade Ditcharo
Trustee.....	Aaron Achord

We continued our work in the area of promoting family unity with our Quarterly Corporate Communion and Brunch. Countless hours were spent by Brother Joe Bonfiglio and other Brother Knights to make these brunches a success.

As a new program, before each meeting, brother knight's assemble to pray the rosary for vocations and the sick of our parish.

Under the direction of Brother Knight Ronnie Nettles, we were able to have another very successful year with our Tootsie Roll Drive. The citizens and businesses of Brookhaven responded well to this years drive with collections totaling \$ 4437.00. Knights, some of which for the first time, went out to distribute proceeds of this years drive to three area school districts for use in their special programs. It was very moving to see the great works that this money does for those less fortunate than us.

We held our annual crawfish boil fundraiser with over 1500 pounds of crawfish boiled and sold.

In October our annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser was held and enjoyed by all. Our Christmas Party was held at Brother Wade Ditcharo's and enjoyed by all.

Again we spread the word of Coumbianism and the Catholic church at Brookhaven's annual Ole Brook Festival. New Orleans style Jambalaya and the best Beignets on this side of the Mississippi were served along with good fellowship.

Our White Elephant Sale fundraiser was also very successful this year with a gymnasium filled with antiques, furniture and brick-a-brack items for sale.

Our Round Table in Magee is making great strides in bringing columbianism to the people of Magee. Recently, the round table completed the installation of new gutters at St. Michaels as well as painting the church. They have also had a membership drive creating further interest and education into the Knight's of Columbus to serve their area. The leaders of the Magee Round Table are:

Coordinator..... Bill McPhail
Secretary..... Joe Wall

We again had two deaths to report in our Council, Brothers Dr. James E. Williams and Jasper B. Becker.

I would be remiss in my report without thanking all those who have been of assistance to me in my first year as Grand Knight. Special thanks to my program director and Deputy Grand Knight Ronnie Nettles, who truly spearheaded and handled the numerous activities of our council.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Craig
Grand Knight

W. H. (Bill) Jolly Council 7974
Columbus, Mississippi
Joseph W. Haftek

No report submitted

St. Jude Centennial Council 8038
Pearl, Mississippi
Lorende C. "L.C." Guillotte

No report submitted

**Charles R. Brill Council 8054
McComb, Mississippi
Joseph W. Serio**

The following officers were elected to the office indicated on May 16, 1996:

Grand Knight	Joe Serio
Deputy Grand Knight	Vincent Culotta
Chancellor	William Garner
Recorder	William Hogan
Treasurer	Mitchell Bellipanni
Advocate	Michael Canclenne
Warden	Michael Lensing
Inside Guard	Ronald LaBruyere

Members of the Board of Trustees are:

Grand Knight (Ex Officio)	Joe Serio
Three Year Trustee	Michael Lensing
Two Year Trustee	William Garner
One Year Trustee	Keith Wall

Serving at the Supreme Knight's pleasure is:

Financial Secretary	Harry Creagan
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Appointed by the Grand Knight are:

Chaplain	Rev. Don Derivaux
Lector	Ron LaBruyere

The officers who served last year did a good job of turning attendance and activities around through fellowship and meeting place changes. Our goal this year was to re-establish our service in the Church, Community, Family, Council, and Youth areas.

Our success in this area is brought out by the fact that we are applying for recognition as a Distinguished Council.

Among the outstanding things we did this council year was an effort to be sure everyone in the parish sent a postcard to his Senators and Representative urging them to vote to override the Presidential Veto of the Partial Birth Abortion Bill. The ushers collected the cards from the parishioners at each Mass. We addressed and stamped them and mailed over 700 cards at a cost of over \$140.

Another of our favorite projects is the Pall Bearer service we offer to the nuns at St. Mary's of the Pines, a retirement community operated by the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

We also sponsor a retreat for men each year at St. Mary's retreat center.

We sponsored quarterly Corporate Communion for the families, made an award at the County Fair to the 4H livestock winners. During October, we lead a rosary before each Mass. We supported our Catholic School with a fund raiser, participated in a Memorial Service for deceased members. We rang bells for the Salvation Army during their Christmas drive, and one of our members played Christmas Carols on his trumpet during this time. We held a membership drive and signed up five members and initiated four of them into the first degree four days later. One more fund raiser is planned, because we will be donating to the Bishop's Seminarian Fund, and plan a Scholarship for a seminarian.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Serio
Grand Knight

St. Therese Council 8285
Jackson, Mississippi
Richard T. Lieding

St. Therese Council 8285 enjoyed a successful 1996-1997 fraternal year. The majority of the Council worked hard and were very supportive of our service programs and other activities. The efforts of three brother Knights were exemplary and should be noted for the record. These men are Mike Kirby, Deputy Grand Knight and Program Director; Marvin Cannon, Chancellor and Church Director; and Dr. Paul Gospodarski, Trustee. It should also be noted that the family of Brother Gary Lazich worked above and beyond the call of duty.

The following Knights served as officers for the 1996-1997 fraternal year:

Chaplain.....	Fr. Tom Lalor
Grand Knight.....	Richard T. Lieding
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Mike Kirby
Chancellor.....	Marvin Cannon
Recorder.....	Jim Woods
Financial Secretary.....	Roy Patterson
Treasurer.....	Doug Simmons
Advocate.....	Dr. Mike Harkins
Warden.....	Elmer Solomon
Inside Guard.....	Louis Covert
Outside Guard.....	J. D. Marsh
Trustee 3 rd Year.....	Stan Martin
Trustee 2 nd Year.....	David Longo
Trustee 1 st Year.....	Dr. Paul Gospodarski

During the past fraternal year our service projects were well balanced in each of the five program areas. Business meetings were well attended. Unfortunately, our suspension rate was up and our recruitment efforts failed to keep pace with it. As my council's Grand Knight, I was also disappointed with the lack of an active insurance field agent for my council.

Highlights of our activities this past fraternal year include:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

1. Priest Appreciation Fish Fry
2. Reception for Fr. Quinn Memorial Mass
3. Maintain Rectory grounds
4. Distribution of finger Rosaries and Prayer Cards

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Support of Sim's House for Abused Women
2. Rummage Sale for Prison Ministry
3. Quarterly Blood Drive
4. Annual Tootsie Roll Drive

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

1. Sponsorship of 1st Degree Team
2. Membership Drive
3. On-going fund raisers at the Jackson Coliseum
4. Men's "Knight Out" at the Generals

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

1. Quarterly Corporate Communion
2. Memorial Mass for deceased members
3. Annual picnic
4. Flowers given out at Mass to Mothers on Mother's Day

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. Acolyte of the Year Reception
2. Auction to benefit St. Therese Elementary School
3. Poster/essay contest for Catholic Schools Week
4. Annual free-throw contest

Respectfully submitted,
Richard T. Lieding
Grand Knight

**St. Joseph's Council 8760
Holly Springs, Mississippi
Claude L. Vinson, Sr.**

Officers for the Fraternal Year of 1996-97 were duly elected or appointed.

The following persons were elected as indicated:

Chaplain.....	Fr. Paul Casper
Grand Knight	Claude Vinson, Sr.
Deputy Grand Knight.....	James Rayford
Chancellor.....	Eddie Dixon
Recorder.....	Derrick Richmond
Financial Secretary.....	Ralph Howard
Treasurer	Ron Kopacz
Advocate.....	Dr. David Stratmon
Warden	Lashon Adkins
Inside Guard	Victor Beard
Outside Guard.....	Joseph Vinson
Trustees	Jevon Adkins
	Felix Osuji
	Cecil Jones

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Council members assist at Mass as lectors and ushers.
2. Members also serve as extra-ordinaire ministers.
3. One member is president of the Pastoral Council
4. Members are active in the Legion of Mary.
5. Council donated \$250 to priest education fund.
6. One member is catechist for the Parish.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. One member is a candidate for Alderman in city-wide elections.
2. One member ran for a seat on the municipal school board.
3. Member donated time to help remodel building for homeless shelter.
4. Member constructed retaining wall to keep the bottom floor of homeless shelter from flooding.
5. Participated in Annual Tootsie Roll Drive.
6. Hosted banquet and invited members of religious community.
7. Member was Santa Claus for children in the community.
8. Recognized person in community for service to humanity.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Held a special buffet for members and guests at installation ceremony.
2. Hosted the council's eight annual Red and White Awards and recognition banquet.
3. Selected Knight of year.
4. Staged annual raffle to raise funds for council's programs.
5. Selected Family of the Year.
6. Selected Citizen of the Year.
7. Hosted District 1 meeting.
8. Held monthly Pancake Breakfast for Parish.
9. Attended mid-winter meeting in Oxford.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Held annual free-throw tournament for area youth.
2. One member is adult leader in Life Tee Program.
3. Held and sponsored Easter Egg Hunt for parish youth.
4. Sponsors and supervises the opening of local gym for area youth.
5. Members donate time to officiate youth recreational activities.

FAMILY LIFE

1. Selects Family of the Month and recognizes family members at monthly breakfast.
2. Selected Family of the Year and honored members with plaque at annual banquet.
3. Voted to host Ethnic Socials through the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Claude L. Vinson, Sr.
Grand Knight

**Father Robert Reitmeier Council 8848
Tupelo, Mississippi
Salvatore (Bud) F. Tomaso**

Chaplain	Rev. Meyrl E. Schmit
Grand Knight	Salvatore (Bud) Tomaso
Deputy Grand Knight	Rob Hudson
Chancellor	Ken Leick
Financial Secretary	Paul Robison
Recorder	James Pogue
Treasurer	Richard Lockhart
Warden	Steve Torrent
Advocate	Mike Tapscott
Inside Guard	Bob McDade
Outside Guard	Billy Hoing
Trustee	Keith Merritt
Trustee	Gene Pavone
Trustee	Bill Kordik
Program Director	W.C. Barber
Church Director	Bud Tomaso
Community Director	Marcel Crudele
Council Director	Keith Merritt
Family Director	Dale Schimmoel
Youth Director	Red Hopson
Membership Director	Rob Hudson
Lecturer	James Pogue

With the help of God and the cooperation of our members, our council enjoyed another good year.

At our annual retreat we were reminded that the mission of the Knights of Columbus is to do the Father's will. The projects and activities that we all are involved in should be doing just that. Therefore, it would be redundant to write an extensive laundry list of these activities.

Our members are very active in all phases of parish life and in devotion to the Eucharist and to our Blessed Mother.

Among other activities, our council had a successful Tootsie Roll Drive and erected 320 Crosses of the Innocent in conjunction with an ecumenical Pro Life Service. We had good response to our Open House and welcomed several new members.

Our families participated in a local Pro Life prayer chain and sponsored other family activities.

The Youth Committee coached all sporting events at our parish and presented beautiful crucifixes to graduating seniors.

Brothers visit the sick and had a good blood drive. They also set-up and cooked for 250 parishioners at the parish mission.

We took part in these and many other projects all for the greater honor and Glory of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud Tomaso
Grand Knight

**St. James The Less Council 8912
Corinth, Mississippi
Thomas S. Thompson**

Grand Knight	Tommy Thompson
Deputy Grand Knight	Henry Meeks
Financial Secretary	Matt Czarnecki
Treasurer	John Winterscheidt
Warden	Louis Cordova
Recorder	Dan Angiulli
Advocate	Bob Hauser
Trustees	Bob Hauser
	Jack Hora
	Oliver Delonge
Chaplain	Chris Mills
Tootsie Roll Chairman	Tommy Thompson

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Held two pancake breakfasts, one for council fund raiser and one for the Priest Education Fund.
2. Donated money, for bulldozer work for church pavilion.
3. Donated money for church playground.
4. Held two corporate dinners for council members and their spouses.
5. Hosted District meeting In October 1996.
6. Held raffle in conjunction with pancake breakfast for the Priest Education Fund.
7. Paid for 1/4 page advertisement at state convention.
8. Donated money to our pastor for Christmas gift.
9. Attended District meetings.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. Cleaned u church playground.
2. Hosted a Lenten soup supper.
3. Helped CYO sponsor a Halloween Costume Party held at the church.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Cleaned up church and grounds for Annual Church Picnic.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsored local Knights of Columbus basketball hoop shoot competition and awarded participants at mass.
2. Helped CYO sponsor various activities.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Purchased and installed an air conditioner for a very needy elderly parishioner.
2. Sent out get well cards.
3. Purchased mass cards for deceased relatives of council members.
4. Led the state in money raised per member for the annual Tootsie Roll Drive.

Fraternally yours,
Tommy Thompson
Grand Knight

**Father Patrick McAlpine Council 9094
D'Iberville, Mississippi
Larry J. Tabor**

As our thirteenth fraternal year is coming to an end, it is my pleasure to report the council officers and activities for the 1996-97:

Council Officers:

Chaplain.....	Fr. Patrick McDermott
Grand Knight.....	Larry Tabor
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Ed Creech
Chancellor.....	Julius Chastant
Financial Secretary.....	Arthur Dunn
Warden.....	Milton Schoendorf
Treasurer.....	Milton Strandridge
Recorder.....	Ron Baldwin
Advocate.....	Jim Fleenor
Lecturer.....	Tom Bassett
Inside Guard.....	John Mitchel
Outside Guard.....	Carol Arrington
Trustees.....	Greg Davis
	Lonnie Arnold
	Cecil Krohn

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Council membership hovers at 100. New membership has increased by four this fraternal year. I am sorry to report two of our council membership died during the year, Brothers Louis Gutierrez and Mark Whyte.

GENERAL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Council meetings were held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. The general business meetings are conducted on the first and social activities are held on the second meeting.
2. Father Patrick McAlpine Council 9094 continues to uphold the virtues of our founder Father Michael J. McGivney. Recruiting new members has always been our objective and keeping them has become our more pressing issue. Just like most councils, competition for our member's time is extremely high. Like any many other organization, we constantly impress on our members the need to keep their dues current. However, we can not afford to continue to carry those who do not keep their dues up to date.
3. Our council strives to conduct and maintain activities which support the Fraternal Activities Program of the State and Supreme. In some cases, council member support is less than satisfactory. We did manage to submit the State Council Activity Report for this fraternal year.
4. Council 9094 received outstanding support from our Worthy District Deputy Danny Lechner. Through his guidance, we were able to host the District Free Throw Contest. We appreciate his tireless efforts and meaningful counsel.
5. The councils of District 9 have initiated the process to establish a District First Degree Team. Individual parts have been assigned and meetings are scheduled. The target date for the team's certification is August 1, 1997.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

1. Council 9094 sponsored various fraternal programs for the 5 major activities. We submitted the appropriate State Program Report that specifically outlines these activities.

CLOSING REMARKS:

1. I want to thank our Worthy District Deputy, Danny Lechner, for his support and patience. Through his help, our council has been able to meet its many challenges.
2. On behalf of all the members of Father Patrick McAlpine Council 9094, I offer special thanks and appreciation to Father Patrick McDermott. Without him, we would not have the generous support of the entire Sacred Heart Parish.

3. A special word of appreciation goes out to the current council officers and the general membership for their untiring support during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry J. Tabor
Grand Knight

**St. Mary Council 9124
Gautier, Mississippi
Don P. Tiblier**

During the 1996 State Fraternal Year, we have tried to build on the successes of last year and continue the same positive trends this year. After bringing in nineteen new members and raising our average meeting attendance to seventeen members last year, and with the help of my Programs and Membership Director Robert Barr, we have brought in another eighteen new members and raised our average meeting attendance to over twenty members for this State Fraternal Year.

We completed the conversion and renovation of the old parish church building into a parish/KC meeting hall. Our renovations included taking a junk room and converting it into a nice kitchen complete with tile floors, refrigerator freezer, stove, oven, storage, and sink. Besides being used as the KC Hall, it is also open for use by any other small parish group. The hall was used this year during Lent when our Council prepared and served Friday night Fried Fish Dinners for the parish. We provide a good meal at a good price and excellent example of KC fellowship and fraternalism.

We also held a vocations awareness program for the youth of our parish. The program included talks from Father Mike, three seminarians, a nun, our parish Deacon, and representatives of all parish organizations. The main purpose was to illustrate that everyone is called to service in one way or another and that you only need to listen to find your true calling (vocation).

We have continued to be visible in parish life through our monthly corporate communions and socials. We now average over twenty-five members and their families at each month's service. These and other activities for this year are listed below.

CHURCH ACTIVITY PROJECTS PERFORMED

1. Participated in the life of the Parish as Parish council members, lectors, Ushers/Greeters, Eucharistic Ministers, Choir members, etc.
2. Renovation of old church.
3. Trip to Satillo, Mexico for youth.
4. Sponsored Rosary for the sick.
5. Sponsored a farewell dinner for Seminarian David Shoemaker.
6. Marian Hour of Prayer.

7. Passed out Rosary Bouquet Cards.
8. Lent KC Sponsored Friday night Fish Dinners.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY PROJECTS PERFORMED

1. Tootsie Roll Drive to help retarded/handicapped persons.
2. Collected food for various Parish sponsored food drives.
3. Visits to the sick and bedridden.
4. Helped with plans for Gautier's 10 Year Anniversary.
5. Participation in Jackson County Fair through St. Mary's Church Booth.

COUNCIL ACTIVITY PROJECT

1. Published a monthly newsletter.
2. Participated in various Degree Initiations.
3. Attended State KC Convention in Meridian, MS.
4. Sponsored a Fraternal Benefits discussion with council's Insurance Agent.
5. Fall Membership Drive.
6. Council addressed by New District Deputy.
7. Participated in District Eleven Meeting.
8. Sponsored a Columbus Day Dessert Social.
9. Council Christmas Party.
10. Participated in Mississippi's KC Southern District Meeting.
11. Spring Membership Drive & Social.

FAMILY LIFE ACTIVITY PROJECTS PERFORMED

1. Monthly Corporate Communion.
2. Monthly socials.
3. Sponsored Mother's Day Dinner.
4. Helped Sponsor Sister Martin's Golden Jubilee Celebration.
5. Council Honor Brother Joe Burke & his wife for achieving 60 years of marriage.
6. Set up and helped at the Annual Parish Picnic.
7. Participated in Biloxi Rosary Rally with Council banner.
8. Held a Memorial Mass for Deceased Brothers.
9. Sponsored a respect for Life Rosary.

YOUTH ACTIVITY PROJECTS PERFORMED

1. Supported CYO - Co-Leaders are council members.
2. Participation in community youth programs: Coaching of youth soccer, Coaching of Youth baseball, acting as Boy Scout Leaders, sponsored an Easter Egg Hunt, etc.
3. Council Sponsored Free Throw Contest.
4. Council Sponsored District Free Throw Contest.

Respectfully submitted,
 Don Tiblier
 Grand Knight

**Indianola Council 9234
Indianola, Mississippi
Joe Tannehill**

Council Activities were greatly reduced this past year due to the major medical problems experienced by our Council's main driving force and motivator - Grand Knight Joe Tannehill. Joe was TOTALLY out of action from August - October of 1996 and has not gotten back to full capacity of motivating our Brother Knights. Activities as a Council have been almost at a total standstill.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

1. Spaghetti Supper
KC's cooked all meals and coordinated deliveries and pickup line.
Cleaned Up Parish Hall before and after.
2. Responsible for Waste Removal
KC's take care of waste removal for Parish Plant.
3. Participation in Mass
KC's served as Lecturers, Eucharistic Ministers, Gift Bearers and Ushers at least once per month in each category.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

1. Blood Drive
Sponsored and manned Blood Drive for the Parish.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Tootsie Roll Drive
Planned and conducted Annual Drive

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. CCD Social
Helped Sponsor and provided Food and Refreshments for CCD Classes Social.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Tannehill
Grand Knight

Reinhart Schroeder Council 9409
Biloxi, Mississippi
Materno F. Yapit

It is an honor to furnish this report from Council 9409, showing the great accomplishments of my Brother Knights. There were numerous first time projects that made significant impact on our council. With a new marketing technique our profit on Christmas tree sale was also healthier, thanks to penny-pinching brothers.

On June 27, 1996 the duly elected officers were installed by the Worthy District Deputy, Daniel Lechner at a dinner for the Brother Knights and wives, with the Worthy State Advocates Bruce Pabon, and wife Marilyn as honored guests.

The following officers were installed:

Chaplain.....	Msgr. Francis Farrell
Grand Knight.....	Materno Yapit
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Willbert Rigby
Chancellor.....	John Caranna
Recorder.....	Gerard Rodriguez
Financial Secretary.....	Stephen Ferry
Treasurer.....	James Starks
Advocate.....	Edward Ring
Warden.....	Gregory Bertucci
Inside Guard.....	Robert Mount
Outside Guard.....	Ernie Brown
Trustee 1 Year.....	Daniel Lechner
Trustee 2 Year.....	Joseph Tiblier
Trustee 3 Year.....	Bobby Weldon

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Willbert Rigby

1. Gave counsel to all committee chairman
2. Assured that all required reports were submitted on time
3. Assisted on all programs conducted by the council

CHURCH COMMITTEE: John Caranna,

1. Performed clean-up on all building on our church property Held Marion Hour of Prayer
2. Held Corporate communion breakfast
3. Repaired broken pews
4. Participated in the annual diocesan rosary rally
5. Participated in Light up for Christ as
6. Participated in Parish mission
7. Made contribution to the Priest Education Fund

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: Greg Bertucci;

1. Held St. Vincent DePaul Benefit dinner
2. Held annual garage sale
3. Held annual clothing drive for battered women and children
4. Held annual blood drive
5. Held annual New Years Eve party
6. Held annual St. Patrick dinner Party
7. Held annual Tootsie Roll drive

COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Peter Halat:

1. Installed newly elected officers at annual installation banquet
2. Held 10th Annual anniversary Dinner
3. Held annual Max Roybal Golf Tournament
4. Held Christmas tree sale
5. Held eye screening test
6. Honored deserving brothers with Knight of the month, quarter end year
7. Collected food items each business meeting night
8. Held Rosary prior to business meeting

FAMILY COMMITTEE: Jerry Rodriguez:

1. Held fraternal benefit night
2. Held Memorial Mass for our deceased brothers
3. Held Ladies Night Appreciation
4. Honored deserving families of the month and year

YOUTH COMMITTEE: Joseph Gibbons:

1. Held Alter server training and recognition program
2. Held council Christmas party
3. Held annual Easter egg hunt
4. Sponsored local free throw contest and took winners to district and state competition
5. Assisted and supported CYO group

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: John Durham, first half of the year
Sherwood Beckham, remainder of the year:

1. Sponsored membership drive
2. Followed through and attended degree exemplifications
3. Exceeded membership goals for the fraternal year

Respectfully submitted,
Materno Yapit
Grand Knight

St. Francis of Assisi Council 9543
Madison, Mississippi
Mark Beyea

Council 9543 installed the following as officers for the fraternal year. District Deputy Nat Zummo presided over the installation.

Chaplain.....	Fr. Kent Bowldes
Grand Knight.....	Mark Beyea
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Lynn Eberhardt
Chancellor.....	Mark Doiron
Financial Secretary.....	Dennis Riecke
Treasurer.....	John Newman
Warden.....	Ramon Machado
Recorder.....	Robert Murphy
Advocate.....	Jody Hill
Inside Guard.....	David Scott
Outside Guard.....	Greg Abadie
Trustee, 3rd Year.....	Dick Henry
Trustee, 2nd Year.....	Jimmy Nelson
Trustee, 1st Year.....	Charlie Dyar

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: Howard Hotard, Chairman

1. Knights constructed a special baptismal pool for Easter Vigil baptism of RCIA members.
2. Knights operated concession booth at annual church fund raiser
3. Knights served steak dinners at kick-off to Christmas Gala fund raiser for church debt reduction
4. Knights led the praying of the rosary on Friday evenings during Lent
5. Knights led the Stations of the Cross one Friday during Lent
6. Knights participated in the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday
7. Council donated \$125 to Parish Building Fund Raiser
8. Knights prepared and served a meal at Parish Advent Fair

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Bill Moore, Chairman

1. Council conducted a Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit the mentally retarded
2. Knights provided manpower to help run the Stewpot soup kitchen
3. Knights operated drink concession at Canton Balloon Fest to benefit MADCAP (Madison Countians Against Poverty)
4. Knights volunteered as workers on Habitat for Humanity home building project

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Clay Beard/James Nelson, Co-Chairmen

1. Council hosted a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degree exemplification
2. Held a Council Awards Banquet
3. Sponsored a Camp-Out and Pig Roast for members and their families
4. Knights worked as ticket takers at Memorial Stadium as Council fund raiser
5. Knights sold Christmas cards as a Council fund raiser
6. The Council sponsored two parish-wide blood drives
7. The Council sponsored a parish-wide men's retreat
8. Council Assisted in forming a Round Table at St. Joseph's parish in Gluckstadt. Round Table became a Council same year.
9. Held an Information/Recruitment Night
10. Held a Membership Appreciation Picnic
11. Conducted an Annual Planning Meeting
12. Members of Council attended School of Columbianism
13. Council made and sold candles as fund raiser
14. Held Membership/Retention Steak Dinner

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Dave Scott, Chairman

1. Knights provided transportation once a month for mentally retarded young people to attend Reach functions
2. Operated concession stand at St. Joseph's High School football game
3. Conducted a Free Throw Competition with 96 participants.
4. Council donated \$300 to fund raiser for handicapped youth
5. Council awarded certificates of appreciation to alter servers

FAMILY ACTIVITIES: Jessie Barrileaux, Chairman

1. Knights held two corporate communion masses
2. Sponsored a family Fly-a-Kite Day outing
3. Sponsored Family Night at the Jackson Generals baseball game
4. Council donated \$125 to Birth Right of Jackson, a Pro-Life Organization
5. Knights donated turkey dinners to two needy families
6. Knights helped set up for Birth Right of Jackson fund raising event
7. Council donated \$100 to Parish Adopt-a-Family Program at Christmas
8. Knights prepared and served pancake breakfast for Mother's Day
9. Sponsored a maternity clothing drive to benefit Birth Right of Jackson

Respectfully submitted,
Mark J. Beyea
Grand Knight

James D. Hart Council 9673
Woolmarket, Mississippi
Harvill P. Richardson

Council 9673 began the 1996-97 fraternal year with the election of officers. The installation was conducted by our worthy District Deputy, Brother Daniel J. Lechner in July 1997. The following brothers guided our council to a very successful year.

Chaplain.....	Fr. Gregory Barras
Grand Knight.....	Harville P. Richardson
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Lonnie Parvin
Chancellor.....	Mike Seidule
Financial Secretary.....	John Poelma, II
Treasurer.....	Scott Higginbotham
Warden.....	Joseph Souza
Recorder.....	Eugene Fioranelli
Advocate.....	Michael Skrnich
Inside Guard.....	Andrew Primeaux
Outside Guard.....	Brian Casey
Trustee, 3rd Year.....	James Wallace
Trustee, 2nd Year.....	Thomas Pietrangelo
Trustee, 1st Year.....	Joseph Seidule

Council 9673 continued this past year to prosper and grow from the hard work of our new elected officers. It has been so instrumental in our success for the past year.

As I look back on this past year, it has been heart warming and rewarding for me personally. I personally thank all my brother knights, and their families for all their support, and for their dedication they put forth last year.

Our attendance at business meetings and Knights of Columbus socials has greatly increased. This fact alone reflects our commitment to our Christian brotherhood.

Our council being a small council, has worked very hard on all our programs to include many additional fund raisers. For the St. Vincent de Paul society, one of our members collected can goods and toys last Christmas for the children to the needy families. Our final program report which reflects over 3,000 points for a small council is indicative of our council's work.

It is my sad duty to report the passing of our two of our brothers, Walt Ewing and Ostis Bosarge. In summation, I want to express my sincere gratitude to my brother knights in Council 9673, both individually and as a Council, for doing a superior job this past year; a job that took long hours and dedication to the principles we stand and work so hard for.

It is my undying wish and prayer that we will continue to grow fuller in spirit, and in the camaraderie, we experienced this past fraternal year. May God continue to bless everyone of us. Also, God bless our state and country.

Respectfully submitted,
Harvill P. Richardson
Grand Knight

**St. Ann's Lizana, Council 9958
Gulfport, Mississippi
Hollis J. Moran**

The following report covers most of the activities of St. Ann Lizana Council 9958 for the fraternal year of 1996 - 1997.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

1. The council conducted and provided supplies for the church bazaar in June. Over \$1300 was raised for the parish.
2. On Easter Sunday, 17 pots of Easter Lilies were purchased for the altar.
3. A free dinner was served to all parish members in honor of the mothers on mothers day. Door prizes were given to the mothers.
4. Held a Marion Hour of Prayer.
5. Paid for the repair of commercial refrigerator, freezer, air conditioner units for the church hall.
6. Lead the Rosary before Mass and supply Eucharistic ministers.
7. Purchased 14 pots of Poinsettias for the altar at Christmas.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

1. Sponsored a family picnic at auxiliary Easter egg hunt.
2. Held a free dinner for community in honor of Columbus Day.
3. Volunteers in the local fire department.
4. Clean a two mile section of highway that was adopted by the council.
5. Assist those non members in need.
6. Visit the sick from the community at home and in the hospital.
7. In union with the ladies auxiliary. The council sponsors a free bingo and lunch for the seniors of our community. Prizes are donated by the members.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

1. Provide volunteers to assist with CYO functions
2. The council provided some of the gifts, money and Santa for the children's Christmas party for ages 0 to 10.
3. The council sponsors a little league basketball team
4. The council sponsored a free throw contest in which 111 took part.
5. Assisted with the Easter egg hunt held by the auxiliary.
6. Donated money to the CYO for convention expense.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

1. Produce a news letter to keep members informed.
2. Monthly socials before meetings.
3. Hosted a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree in June.
4. Assisted 3 members with hospital bills.
5. Held installation of officers and banquet.
6. Enjoyed a Christmas banquet where the cost of admission was one new toy for the children's Christmas party.
7. Sponsor weekly bingo on Tuesday night.
8. Conduct several raffles for the benefit of the building program.
9. In September we conduct a \$5,000 Draw Down for our building fund.
10. All regular bingo workers go out to eat quarterly.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

1. Purchase 14 turkeys for the food baskets at Thanksgiving.
2. Provide help for the Parish Sponsored Dinner held each December.
3. Provide awards for Family of the Month and for Family of the Year.
4. Assist families in the council and in the community who are in need.
5. Memorial mass for deceased members.
6. Give \$25 to each member and his immediate family if they are admitted to the hospital, up to twice a year, to help the family with expense of visiting or eating at the hospital.

We owe the success of our council programs to the dedication of members of our council who are truly knights.

Respectfully submitted,
Hollis J. Moran
Grand knight

St. Paul Council 10216
Brandon, Mississippi
Dennis P. Deister

This is a report of the efforts of our council for the 1996-97 fraternal year.

Our council is directed by the following officers:

Chaplain.....	Rev. Edward Balser
Grand Knight	Dennis Deister
Deputy Grand Knight	T)an Hammond
Chancellor.....	Ed Prybylski
Warden	Neil Hillstrom
Recorder.....	David Cannon
Treasurer	Ray Butts
Advocate.....	Lloyd Long
Inside Guard	Martin Bisek
Outside Guard	Rick Fielding
Trustees	John Lewis
	Frank Whitehead
	Barry Willett

St. Paul Council 10216 meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month for business, and the 4th Tuesday of each month for a family social.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

1. Rosary before every business meeting.
2. Corporate Communion 5th Sunday of month.
3. Members serve on parish Pastoral Council.
4. Knights serve as ushers, Eucharistic Ministers.
5. Stations of the Cross
6. Maintenance Program for church. (Pastor creates list.)
7. Playground equipment maintenance and water fountain installation for St. Paul Learning Center.
8. Maintenance and repairs for Rectory for pastor.
9. Knights initiated and participated first Benevolence in Fund for parish. First fundraiser, exceeded \$6000 for needy families.
10. Marion Hour of Prayer.
11. Birthday party for pastor.
12. Provide Rosary's at Memorial for the unborn.
13. Bulletin Board for Church use.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Turkey Shoot (money and turkeys donated to needy families in the community).
2. Donated 100 barbecue chicken dinners to "Gleaners".
3. Tootsie Roll Drive.
4. Work with REACH Program.
5. Work with parish on Habitat for Humanity.
6. Quarterly Parish Blood Drive.
7. Visited sick and confined.
8. Member-hosted Halloween Party, fishing rodeo, and Rosary at Laurelwood Community.
9. Served as hosts for Palaces of St. Petersburg exhibit.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

1. Hosted Parish Lenten Fish Fry.
2. Host Parish Family Breakfast each month.
3. Parish Christmas Party co-hosted with Men's Club.
4. Assisted with Father Balser's 40th Jubilee.
5. Honor Guard served at Christmas and Easter services.
6. Served as hosts and crew for parish outings aboard the "Friendship".
7. Construction work on Father Balser's home for retired priests.
8. Yearly clean-up for grounds of church, learning center and activity building.
9. Publish council newsletter.
10. Publish Church Bulletin weekly.
11. Worked with St. Francis, St. Jude, St. Therese, and John T. Savage Councils by attendance at special events. Also Fourth Degree Honor Guard of combined councils.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

1. Family Social each month.
2. Family of the Month Program.
3. Breakfast with Knights' families, Mother's Day Champagne Breakfast, and Thanksgiving Dinner for families away from home.
4. Recognize family achievements at church during Mass (Eagle Scout - 1; Parvuli Dei - 2)
5. Mass said for Deceased Members.
6. Work with select members of parish given to us by pastor to help with their needs.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. Assist with Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs.
2. Member played Santa for Scout groups.
3. Member responsible for track and judging at Pinewood Derby.
4. Assisted five boys working to achieve Eagle rank on Eagle service projects in churches and community. (Built bandstand at Jackson Prep, conducted food drive for Community Stewpot, installed french drain system at St. Paul's, painted gym and build stage at Lakeside Presbyterian Church.)
5. Sponsored Halloween Party for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.
6. Conducted parish free throw and participated in district event.
7. Provide adult supervision on boating and fishing outings for parish youth.

8. Work with CYO for convention.
9. Assemble partitions for CCD classes.
10. Teach CCD classes.

It has been an honor for me to serve as Grand Knight for St. Paul Council 10216. I would like to thank my fellow KC members for their patience and assistance. The enthusiasm and tireless service given have been an inspiration. I am looking forward to another year of serving our brotherhood.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis P. Deister
Grand Knight

**Father Clifford Meador Council 10433
Grenada, Mississippi
John G. Savoie, Jr.**

Serving as Grand Knight this past year has been an honor and a privilege, and has also been a spiritually rewarding experience for me. I have grown to better serve my church, council, Brother Knights, and most of all my God with a deeper and sincere appreciation for what he has allowed me to do.

I would like to thank all of our members for their support and hard work in helping to make our council what it is today—active, on the move, and growing in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Special, thanks go out to Buddy Honeycutt, District Deputy #2, who has been my pillar to lean on during this year, and State Deputy Jessie Quinn III for his unfaltering encouragement.

Council Officers

Chaplain	Father Thomas Delaney
Grand Knight	John Savoie
Deputy Grand Knight	Bill Stringer
Financial Secretary	Ed Merriman, Jr.
Chancellor	Mike Liberto
Treasurer	Paul Marascalco
Recorder	Raymond Liberto
Advocate	Fred Grossman
Warden	Ed Merriman, Sr.
Lecturer	Chris Cummings
Inside Guard	James Mardis
Outside Guard	Bo Oaks
Trustees	James Cook
	David Upchurch
	Ed Merriman, Jr.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

1. Sponsored quarterly rosary recitals for parish.
2. Members taught CCD classes.
3. Sponsored monthly corporate communion.
4. Members serve as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers.
5. Members serve in choir.
6. Made donations to MS State Hospital.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Held "Police and Fireman" appreciation dinner at Thanksgiving.
2. Held CPR class.
3. Participated in Tootsie Roll drive.
4. Held two Blood Drives.
5. Member serves as Drug Education Teacher.

FAMILY

1. Held memorial mass for deceased members.
2. Held quarterly Pot Luck suppers.
3. Helped with Easter Egg hunt for parish.
4. Held Family Corporate Communions.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. Assisted CYO with haunted house.
2. Assisted CYO with Halloween carnival.
3. Chaperoned CYO on Diocese Fun Day.
4. Assisted CYO with N.W. Mini Convention.
5. Member participated in Saltillo Mission.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

1. Held two membership drives.
2. Monthly newsletter.
3. Held BBQ fund-raiser.
4. Held "Fried Turkey" fund-raiser at Thanksgiving.
5. Held "Fish Fry" for Priest Education Fund.
6. Established "Lady's Auxiliary".
7. Hosted 112,3 Degree exemplification.
8. Established "Scholarship Fund".

Respectfully submitted,
John Savoie
Grand Knight

**Msgr. Gregory Kennedy Council 10499
East Ocean Springs, Mississippi
Thomas Homsany**

On July 20, 1996, after an enjoyable social hour, the installation of officers took place, followed by a delicious dinner prepared by members of Council 5654 as part of a deal, whereas, they cook and clean-up at our installation and we do the same at theirs. So far, it's working out fine. Honored guests included State Advocate Bruce Pabon and his wife Marilyn, State Warden Ted Knowles, State Program Director Tom Chady and his wife Carol, State Council Activities Director Peter Sukanek, State Pro-Life Southern Regional Coordinator Antoine Otto and his wife Betty, District Deputy Danny Lechner and his wife Roberta, District Deputy Buddy Cupit, Grand Knight Carl Brochard and his wife Mary. The following officers were duly installed by District Deputy Buddy Cupit aided by Antoine Otto acting as his Warden:

Chaplain	Deacon Martin Finnegan
Grand Knight	Thomas Homsany
Deputy Grand Knight	Richard Greenwold
Financial Secretary	Kerry Roberts
Chancellor	Robert Delaney
Treasurer	Wilfred Gonsoulin
Recorder	Randy Verret
Advocate	Roland Hillebrand
Warden	Frank Hilt
Trustee 1 st year	Bruce Pabon
2 nd year	Richard Osborne
3 rd year	Millard Dorsey
Inside Guard	Alan Smith
Outside Guard #1	Russell Marcellus
Outside Guard #2	Charlie Rose
Lecturer	George Roberts

An annual dinner was held on July 30 in honor of a top local Policeman, Fireman, Educator and two Religious Coordinators, at which time beautifully engraved plaques were ceremoniously presented to each of the honorees.

I'm happy to say that, after a 3-year "leave of absence" our 1st Degree Team was reorganized and was re-certified by District Deputy Don Cox on December 5, 1996. As of that date, we have conducted 4 First Degree ceremonies and were responsible for initiating 7 of the 12 new members brought into our Council this year. Of course the 2 recruiting drives held in November of 1996 and March of 1997 was the prime reason we were able to accomplish this.

A successful 6-month-long Draw Down Raffle was completed at our New Year's Eve dance. This raffle originated in March 1996 with the first winning ticket being drawn on June 16th and every week thereafter in the amount of \$75 with two \$400 and one \$500 winner being drawn in

October, November, and December. The final winning ticket in the amount of \$1000 was drawn at the New Year's dance where all parishioners were invited to attend.

As part of our church projects, the parish hall and all classroom floors were cleaned, stripped, washed and waxed in preparation of upcoming CCD classes to be conducted for the year. The entire wall behind the stoves & the sinks in the parish hall kitchen were protected and securely locked in with a stainless steel covering. A very sturdy 4'x 6' wooden kitchen table supported by 4"x 4" legs with a stainless steel overlay on top and on the bottom shelf was built. Much needed storage cabinets, top and bottom, were constructed in the room behind the kitchen and, in the aftermath of our church parking area being concreted, many hours were spent by Council members in clearing the debris, removing large rocks imbedded in the grass, and left by the construction workers and leveling the surrounding lawn area with many yards of sand to insure proper water drainage.

Other activities undertaken included preparing and serving breakfast for all parish high school graduates, sponsoring the local Free Throw contest in conjunction with Council 5654, boiling eggs and assisting with the annual Easter Egg hunt, participating in the Pro-Life Chain, attending the Rosary Rally as a Council, conducting weekly Divine Mercy Chaplet prayer meetings and conducting the Marion Hour of Prayer with 32 people in attendance.

All in all, we've had a pretty good year and I expect that next year will be even more productive with an increase in many areas. Things have already commenced in the area of Vocations, whereas, we are supporting a Seminarian with a contribution of \$500 followed by steps being taken to keep in touch with him, visiting him, corresponding with him, inviting him to some of our functions and taking a genuine interest in his well-being. In another area, plans are being formulated to sponsor and organize a Softball Tournament for teams on the coast. So, things should be looking up as we enter the 1997-1998 Fraternal Year.

Last, but definitely not least, as usual, the Ladies of the Knights have been the backbone of our Council from 'Day One', being there whenever needed, always ready to serve when asked and helping to keep us guys on the straight and narrow.
Ladies, we love you!!!

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas "Tony" Homsany
Grand Knight

**St. John's Council 10901
Oxford, Mississippi
Robert A. Grant**

Sometimes it seems the more things change, the more they stay the same. That is true for Council 10901. We elected new officers this past fraternal year, but the commitment of our council to the ideals of charity and service remain steadfast. Our officers include Fr. Kevin Slattery, Chaplain; Tony Grant, Grand Knight; Gary Yeck, Deputy Grand Knight; James Reid, Chancellor; John Caron, Advocate; Sam DeJohn, Recorder/Lecturer; Dennis Ott, Treasurer; John Czarnetzky, Warden; Ron Rychlak, Inside Guard; and Steve Carroll, Outside Guard. Our Trustees are PGK Bill Reynolds (1), Buddy Kahler (2), and PGK Peter Sukanek (3). Bob Hudson (also District Deputy for District #1) serves as our Financial Secretary.

Our council, like most councils in the Mississippi jurisdiction, has what we believe to be a strong activity program. We offer several options for participation in all areas of activity, many of which have been embraced and expected by the entire parish. We try to encourage the praying of the Rosary by leading that wonderful prayer before the 9:00 am Mass each Sunday and by making sure our children receiving First Communion also receive a Rosary to assist them in their prayer life. We also begin each council meeting by praying the Rosary for vocations and special intentions.

We continued our Lenten Fish Fry-day program to raise money for our church building fund. This activity has been very well received this year. Our weekly serving average has increased from about 75 dinners per week to almost 100 dinners per week. Our membership puts in a tremendous number of man hours on this program, and we look forward to its continued growth and success. We were also fortunate to be able to continue to serve as agents for stadium seat rentals at Ole Miss football games this past fall. This fund-raiser enables us to do much charitable work in our community.

Our council participated in the Supreme RSVP program for the first time this past year, and proudly presented a check for \$500 to our own Marty Gillespie, who is studying at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. This year, we hope to be able to present two checks, one to Marty and a second to Dennis Selva, a St. John's parishioner studying at Catholic U. in Washington, DC. Dennis is the son of Domingos and Mary Selva. Domingos recently received the honors of the first degree in our council. We ask your prayers in support of these young men and their families.

As Peter mentioned in his report last convention, our council formed a Roundtable at St. Mary's Church in Batesville on May 5, 1996. The first degree held that day culminated a period of hard work and dedication by our District Deputy, Bob Hudson, and our state officers. In addition, our council held six more first degree exemplifications since that date and welcomed twenty more new knights to our beloved Order.

All in all, it has indeed been a busy and fruitful year for the Oxford council. I would be remiss if I didn't thank our officers, both past and current, for their many, many hours of hard work. Their dedication has propelled our council to new heights of service.

I would also like to again extend the invitation Peter offered to all councils throughout the Mississippi jurisdiction. If you have a child in school on the Oxford campus of the University of Mississippi, please let us know if we can be of service to you or to them. College life is challenging enough without feeling you're all alone. Let your kids know that we are here for them. And we hope you'll look us up when you're in town.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert A. (Tony) Grant
Grand Knight

St. James Gulfport Council 11541
Gulfport, Mississippi
Edward C. Croal, Jr.

Chaplain	Msgr. James McGough
Grand Knight	Ed Croal
Deputy Grand Knight	Harold Noll
Chancellor	Mike Croal
Secretary	Fritz Oberlies
Treasurer	Jay Oberlies
Advocate	Chris Breard
Recorder	Cliff Hess
Warden	Dennis Weiland
Inside Guard	Joe Robert
Outside Guard	Kelly Dibble
Trustee	Art Spradey
	Roland Lafontaine
	Leonard Collins

ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

Church	Billy White
Council	Harold Noll
Community	Toby Dombrowski
Family	Dan Gillis
Youth	Brian Oberlies
Membership	Stephen Spratley
Bingo Chairman	Art Spratley
Program Director	Mike Croal

Though still a young Council we took on many activities this past year, some of those were:

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

1. Parish Cemetery
2. Priest Education Fund
3. Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Commentators
4. Adult Choir and Spirit Choir
5. Started remodeling of Parish Center Kitchen
6. Church work day, fixed pews, bathrooms, etc.
7. Donated funds to Altar Society for Christmas trees for the Altar area
8. Provided soup and sandwich on Friday night during Lent

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Participated In Tootsie Roll Drive
2. Served a breakfast for high seniors of the parish and their parents
3. Held blood drive in July collecting 67 pints—the most ever for the parish
4. Provided technical expertise on Gulfport High Technology Committee
5. Members an St. James School Board
6. Donated to St. James Endowment
7. Donated to Cheshire Mental home
8. Held second blood drive

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

1. Serve biweekly parish breakfast (2nd & 4th Sundays)
2. Distribute monthly newsletter
3. Participated in State softball tournament
4. Purchased refrigerator for parish center
5. Had guest speaker for Christopher Columbus program
6. Participated in Ministry Fair—manned a information table—got 6 possible candidates
7. Sponsored golf tournament
8. Had Council Christmas Party for members, wives and children (Santa came)
9. Raffled off a handmade Doll House, proceeds going to Altar Society

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

1. Have monthly corporate communion
2. Cooked and served parish picnic meal
3. Manned hamburger and dart booths for parish bazaar
4. Helped cook spaghetti for parish Christmas party
5. Selected Knight and Family of the Year

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. Members are football, baseball, basketball and soccer coaches
2. Members are basketball and soccer referees
3. Purchased ad in CYO convention program and donated funds
4. Held free throw competition
5. Cooked and served breakfast for 90 teens who participated in a lock-in

Respectively submitted,
Edward C. Croal, Jr.
Grand Knight

Father Paul Gillis Council 11654
Wiggins, Mississippi
A. C. "Mac" McCarney

No report submitted

**St. Lucy's Council 11904
Lucedale, Mississippi
Donald F. Cox**

Council 11904 (an active, dedicated and growing Council) was chartered on October 28, 1996. Its original membership were previously members of Council 11654, Lucedale/Wiggins.

The Council Officers consist of:

Chaplain.....	Curba Merrill
Grand Knight.....	Don Cox
Deputy Grand Knight.....	Jamie Holland
Financial Secretary.....	Richard Clement
Treasurer.....	Ray Pierce
Warden.....	Kevin Schneider
Advocate.....	Ray Shields
Chancellor.....	Mike Fairley
Trustees.....	Dr. Victor Landry
	Earl White
	Ennis Grady
Inside Guard.....	Charles Crump
Outside Guard.....	Rob Smith
Recorder.....	Marven Smith

There is probably not a more dedicated and responsive "team" of Council Officers anywhere in the state. For the majority of them, this is their first time as a Council Officer and they have accepted my guidance and direction with a totally positive and responsive attitude and performed their assignments in an exemplary fashion.

Our Council choice for Knight and Family of the Year were difficult ones. Anyone of about 12 key people (like the Apostles) could have justly been chosen for these positions of honor. As stated above, it was a difficult one; however, the selection was Ray Shields, As Knight Of The Year, and Mr. & Mrs. Ennis (Yvonne) Grady as Family Of The Year. My thanks to them and all my Brother Knights for their support and dedication.

Program activities for this new Council were varied and enjoyable for all concerned. Activities were in each of the Program Categories. Highlights of our Council activities included:

- Hosted a Free Columbus Day Pancake Breakfast for all members of our Parish; received donations for Priest Education Fund.
- Sponsored a World Youth Day Cookout with games and various activities; this included a Columbus Coloring Book Coloring Contest.
- Established a Highway Clean Up Activity on Highway 63.
- Sponsored a Parish Marian Hour of Prayer.
- Sponsored a City-Wide Free Throw Contest.
- Held an Installation of Officers Banquet.
- Hosted a Council Award Banquet and Selection of a Knight and Family of the Year.

We are continuing to strive toward our membership goal from our original membership of 31 members. We have added two members and by the Grace of God will bring Knighthood to all of the men of St. Lucy's Parish in Lucedale.

In summary, thanks to all the men of my Council for their support during this year as their Grand Knight and the Leadership from our State Officers who were always there with answers to questions and their welcome assistance. Special thanks to my wife, Carol, who was my Assistant Grand Knight Assistant District Deputy and Assistance Ceremonial Director.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald F. Cox
Grand Knight

**Gluckstadt Council 11934
Gluckstadt, Mississippi
Joseph Jones, Jr.**

Grand Knight	Joseph Jones
Financial.....	John Minninger
Deputy Grand	Charles Campbell
Chancellor.....	Michael Miler
Recorder	Charles Minninger
Treasurer	Ivan Cunningham
Advocate.....	Thomas Stolz
Warden	Billy Endris
Trustee for 1	Dennis Strong
Trustee For 2	James O. Connor
Trustee For 3	Anthony Fertitta
Inside Guard	George Cox
Outside Guard.....	Alan Henderson
Chaplain	Kevin McCarthy

Gluckstadt Council 11934 had a remarkable year. We started out as a Roundtable in July of 1996 and since that time we have grown to council strength and were chartered on March 5, 1997. We were chartered with 33 members and now have 34 and we hope and plan to continue to grow as our church does.

We were active as a Roundtable in many areas with most of the thanks of this going to our advise from Bro. Lynn Eberhart Council 9543, who guided us along the right road and District Deputy Nat Zumo for all his help and continued support. Our deepest heart felt thanks goes to Brother Dennis Riecke for his many hours of labor and answering what (we feel) at times probably seemed like some pretty dumb questions. And our District Deputy Rich Lieding for whom much has been said and of whom you will continue to here much more of over the years. There are also many more person whom have contributed to our success that are too many to name and to them we say much thanks.

To this point, we have already held a First Degree Exemplification and are busy getting involved in the many other projects of the Knights of Columbus. We hope to come back to this meeting next year with a list of accomplishments in every area.

Finally, we pray for the help of the Holy Spirit, so that we can uphold the expectations of our God and our Brother Knights.

Respectively submitted,
Joseph Jones, Jr.
Grand Knight

District Deputy's Reports

District Deputy #1 Robert L. Hudson

Worthy State Deputy and Brother Knights,

As I said in my report last year, it has been both a pleasure and an honor to have had the opportunity to serve the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus as the District Deputy of District One.

District One consists of the following councils:

7120 - the Hernando DeSoto Council in Southaven

8760 - the St. Joseph Council in Holly Springs

8848 - the Father Robert Teitmeier Council in Tupelo

8912 - the St. James the Less Council in Corinth

10901 - the St. John's Council in Oxford

As noted in my District Deputy Report of last Year and at the time of our Convention, Council 10901 in Oxford was in the process of establishing a Round Table in Batesville. The First Degree Exemplification was held on May 5th in Batesville and twelve new Knights were added to the Oxford Council. Shortly after the Round Table in Oxford was formed, Council 8848 in Tupelo was successful in establishing a Round Table in New Albany. The First Degree Exemplification was held on June 2nd in New Albany and twelve new Knights were added to the Tupelo Council. Both Oxford and the Tupelo councils should be very proud of their accomplishments.

During the past Fraternal Year, District One had three District Meetings. On July 28th, the first District Meeting was held in Tupelo. Our second meeting was on November 3rd in Corinth, and our third meeting was held in Holly Springs on March 16th. Each of these District Meetings focused on membership recruitment and reviewing each council's ongoing program for the year. After each meeting, each council came away with a great amount of new ideas and opportunities to improve their council activities.

As District Deputy, I have actively campaigned and encouraged all the councils in District One to recruit new members to the Knights of Columbus. Membership has been the focus of District One and a personal focus of mine.

As we all know, the Fraternal Year of 1995-1996 was a banner year for the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi. The State had a goal of 300 Knights from January to June 30 and 311 new Knights were added to the state's membership, surpassing the projected goal. District One produced 46 new Knights from January to June which was almost 15% of all new Knights produced in the State - a reason to be very proud. Oxford and Tupelo led the way with 21 and 22 - a total of 43 new members. Congratulations to those two councils.

Three councils in District One have First Degree Teams - Oxford, Tupelo, and Southaven. During the Fraternal Year, these three councils held ten First Degree Exemplifications and six more are planned through June 30.

Each of the councils in District One has produced new members this past year. To date, Oxford 10901 lead the way with thirty, Tupelo 8848 with twenty, Southaven 7120 with eight, Holly Springs 8760 with three, and Corinth 8912 with one new member - over 60 new Knights to date.

During the year, District One attended Second and Third Degree Exemplifications in Greenwood, Tupelo, and Grenada with over sixty Knights participating. Additionally, thirty-three Knights received the Fourth Degree at exemplifications in Greenwood and Oxford. The Fourth Degree in Oxford was the stepping stone to the formation of a new Fourth Degree Assembly. The application has been submitted and a new assembly will be chartered shortly.

Oxford Council 10901, this past year won the "Star Council," "Distinguished Council," and "Top Gun" Awards. At their First Degree Exemplification in February, this council went over the one hundred members and only five years old. Six First Degrees and thirty new Knights have been added to this council this Fraternal Year. Congratulations Oxford.

Tupelo Council 8848 this past year won the "Star Council," and "Top Gun" Awards, and they added twenty new members this past year. Once again they led the State with the highest total dollars, over \$13,000 collected in their Tootsie Roll Drive. Tupelo has held that honor for over eleven years. Over 300 crosses were displayed in front of their church - the "Crosses of the Innocent." Congratulations Tupelo.

Southaven Council 7120 is off to a great start on membership - eight new Knights to date and three First Degree Exemplifications. The "Crosses of the Innocent" were displayed two times this year in front of their church. A good year in Southaven.

Corinth Council 8912 once again led the State with the highest donation per member in their Tootsie Roll Drive, and this council has led the State in this category for eleven years. This council is one of the smallest in the State with only thirty-one members. This continuous record proves that commitment to a goal and persistence can produce a winner. Congratulations Corinth.

Holly Springs Council 8760, another very small council with thirty members, added one new member. Though a very small council, they are extremely active in their parish and their community. A good year in Holly Springs.

Each of the councils in District One are committed to improving membership numbers. Each council is focused on Charity - helping their fellow man and each council truly also places high priorities on Unity and Fraternity. Each council will continue to ensure that the needs of their councils, churches, and communities are their first priority.

In closing, I want to personally thank each Grand Knight, their Council Officers, and members for their commitment to the Knights of Columbus. Their support and cooperation was the key to a very successful year for District One.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert L. Hudson
District Deputy #1

**District Deputy #2
Buddy Honeycutt**

Worthy State Deputy,

Serving as District Deputy for this year has been very rewarding. I have gained insight and experience in the workings of the Order. I have made new acquaintances that I shall treasure forever. I have learned the true meaning of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

Following the organizational meeting in July, I began the year by installing the officers in all five of the councils in my district. Those councils are Council 2969 in Clarksdale, Council 5267 in Greenwood, Council 6765 in Starkville, Council 7974 in Columbus, and Council 10443 in Grenada. In addition to attending regular business meetings at the councils, I had the honor of attending Awards Banquets in Clarksdale, Starkville, and Greenwood.

Membership has been one of our goals this year. Every council has held membership drives. On March 23, Council 10443 in Grenada hosted a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree Exemplification. Twenty-eight candidates received the 2nd and 3rd Degrees. There were nine candidates for 1st Degree in attendance. More degrees are planned for the months of May and June.

In the area of new council development, I am pleased to announce that the Knights of Columbus will soon be active in the West Point area once more. On March 15-16, State Deputy Quinn, Membership Director Dennis Riecke, State Treasurer Keith Merritt, various members of the Columbus Council, and I held an information session and membership drive in West Point. A follow-up meeting was held in early April resulting in a total of 10 reinstatements of membership and 7 applications for new membership. Several other parishioners have expressed an interest in joining. A third meeting will be held on April 23 to schedule a 1st Degree and begin organization.

The parishioners of Starkville woke up on Holy Saturday morning to the news that their Church had completely burned during the night. Council 6765, under the leadership of Grand Knight John Beggs, has worked closely with Father Mike O'Brien to prepare facilities for services since the fire. The Knights in Starkville should be commended for their continuing efforts to support the Catholic faith in Starkville.

The year has not been without conflict and controversy. Differences of opinion and prejudices can be expected to surface from time to time in any large organization that draws its membership from such a diverse group of individuals. However, when such controversies do arise, it is the responsibility of those involved to sit down together as Brother Knights to identify the controversy, and to resolve the issue through the lessons of our Order – Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. I am pleased to announce that harmony exists today where conflict once resided.

I would like to thank the officers and members of the councils in District # 2 for their support and cooperation during this year. I especially thank you, Worthy State Deputy, for your confidence and support during this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Buddy Honeycutt
District Deputy # 2

District Deputy #3
Ben T. Bailey, Jr.

Worthy State Deputy,

The following report is submitted for District #3 which includes the following councils:

#2134- Fr. Korstenbroek, Greenville
#2945- C. G. Shapley, Leland
#5556- Fr. Rotondo, Cleveland
#6555- Shelby
#9234- Indianola

It has been a pleasure for me to serve again as your District Deputy for District #3. This 2nd term has been a challenge as was the first and I appreciate having the opportunity to work another year with the councils in my district. With the many family and community responsibilities and activities (outside K of C) our brother knights are engaged in, it is sometimes difficult to get concentrated efforts for our many projects. I want to thank those brothers in the councils of District #3 for their K of C work and hope they have received satisfaction for the efforts they made.

As with the previous year, our main goals for the 1996-97 year were to increase membership and to get more current members to become active. Three 1st degrees have been held since July and we plan to have 1 more in May. We initiated or reactivated 10 new members during this period and 6 have continued their journey through 2nd and 3rd. With the initiation in May we hope to bring the total new members to 14 and give us a net gain for the year..

At the State Convention, Cleveland's Brother Knight, Ronnie Aguzzi and Family received the coveted Family-of-the-Year Award. Cleveland received "Distinguished Council" and has qualified for Supreme's "Star" Council Award. Cleveland also received the 3rd place Family Activity Award (Spaghetti Supper) and the 3rd place Council Activity Award (Bocci Tournament). Indianola received "Honor" council. We congratulate these winners and those who worked tirelessly in support of their councils.

All councils in District #3 plan to continue their successful "Tootsie Roll Drives" and all councils made contributions to the Priest Education Fund. Greenville had very good participation in their Free Throw Contest and Home-made Sausage Sale. They also plan to construct two memorials to the unborn children killed through abortion.

Again thank you for letting me serve as district deputy. We will continue and hopefully improve on our efforts to promote the principles of our order.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben T. Bailey, Jr.
District Deputy #3

**District Deputy #4
Richard T. Lieding**

Worthy State Deputy,

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus as the District Deputy of District #4. The opportunity to be of service to my brother Knights was very much appreciated.

For the 1996-1997 fraternal year, District 4 consisted of the following councils:

848 - John T. Savage, Jackson
898 - Vicksburg
7854 - Holy Savior, Clinton
8285 - St. Therese, Jackson
11934 - Gluckstadt

All officers were duly installed—8285 on July 21; 7854 on July 29; 898 on July 30; 848 on August 6; and 11934 on April 4.

District #4 is a very dynamic one. All of the councils of District #4 have active and effective service programs. Each council has submitted all required Supreme and State forms promptly and this is greatly appreciated by me.

Membership is very important to our district. Two of the councils, 848 and 8285, have full 1st Degree teams. During the first nine months of the fraternal year, six 1st Degrees and on 2nd/3rd Degree were held in District #4. In addition, District #4 cooperated with District #5 to ensure 1st Degrees were scheduled on a monthly basis in the Jackson area. With the exception of council 848, all of the councils had effective membership drives. These efforts have paid off. Supreme's membership report for our district dated 4/1/97 showed that 160% of our membership quota has been achieved. However, most of District #4 suffers from the lack of a full-time insurance field agent. The same report referred to above showed that only 7% of our insurance quota had been achieved. This is a very serious matter that must be addressed.

In other matters, District #4 was well represented at the School of Columbianism held at St. Jude's on July 21. A district meeting was held at St. Therese on October 19. The Central Region Mid-Winter Meeting was hosted by our district at St. Therese on January 11. The District Free-Throw Contest was jointly held with District #5 on February 22 at St. Therese.

The highlight of this fraternal year was the twin births in our district of two new Knights of Columbus entities. A Round Table was formed in November at Port Gibson and is part of the Vicksburg council. On March 5, 1997, the Gluckstadt Round Table was chartered as a council when a 1st Degree was held there to initiate the last charter member. It has been a pleasure to work with these new groups of very dedicated and active Knights.

In closing, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the officers and members of each of my councils for their hard work, dedication, loyalty, and friendship. To you, worthy State Deputy, I express my thanks for your trust in asking me to serve, and for your guidance and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard T. Lieding
District Deputy #4

**District Deputy # 5
Natale J. Zummo**

Worthy State Deputy:

The following report is submitted for District 5 consisting of the following councils:

802 Meridian	8038 Pearl
10216 Brandon	9543 Madison

All council officers were installed in their respective parishes. A School of Columbianism was held in Pearl and was attended by councils from District 4, 5, & 6.

Council 802 Meridian is an outstanding council which held several 1st Degrees. Meridian had an excellent team. This year they took several awards at convention including Knight of the Year. Their support of the church and community through their Bingo program is outstanding.

Council 9543 Madison is a council with the highest growth potential in the state. Their participation in the community set an example to all knights. This year they started a new council in Gluckstadt. This new council has a lot of excitement and will do great things in the coming years.

Council 10216 Brandon had a great year. Under the new leadership, this council is growing and doing outstanding programs.

Council 8038 Pearl, this council has had a great year. Their support of the youth has been an inspiration to me. This year the Grand Knight L. C. Guillotte had had surgery and was out for half the year. The Deputy Grand Knight, Ed Dunn did an outstanding job of filling in. New member recruitment was outstanding. Their Round table in Forest has strong support and is doing good work in their parish.

I had the distinct privilege of starting a Council in Gluckstadt. This new council started in February and had a bright future. They have thirty-two charter members and have already started recruiting and are participating in the Tootsie Roll Drive. I would like to thank Rich Lieding, DD #4 for his assistance in starting this new council.

In closing, I want to thank the councils, their officers, and members of District 5 for their dedication to Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Their outstanding recruitment and programs made this a banner year for the Mississippi Jurisdiction.

It has been both an honor and privilege to serve our honored order, under your leadership as District Deputy.

Respectfully Submitted,
Natale J. Zummo
District Deputy #5

**District Deputy #6
Richard Spence**

District 6 consists of the following Councils:

1034-Bishop R.O. Gerow in Natchez
6592-Father Malachy Burns in Bassfield
7915-Brookhaven
8054-Charles R. Brill in McComb

Worthy State Deputy and Brother Knights,

It was certainly an honor to be selected District Deputy #6 by State Deputy Jesse Quinn. I hope and I pray for to guidance of our state officers in the year to come. I had the privilege of being installed in July as District Deputy by our State Deputy in Greenwood, Mississippi. It has been an honor to serve our State Deputy and the Knights of Columbus in the past 1996-97 fraternal year. I installed officers in McComb Council 8054 in June with your State Deputy. It was good to see Brother Joe Serio well and active again in the Knights of Columbus.

I installed officers in Brookhaven Council 7915 in July at a lovely banquet also attended by your State Deputy and many state officers. I feel the leadership of Brother Jim Criag and his officers will serve to promote true Columbanism in the 1996-97 year.

In July, I also had the honor of installing officers of Council 1034 Natchez, my home council. It was inspiring to see such energy in this Council. I congratulate Brother Joe Garrity and his officers on a successful year.

In August I made the long trip to Bassfield Council 6592 to install their officers. This is a very youthful, active council. I look forward to serving Brother Chris Daley and his officers in ft year to come.

I attended a mid-winter meeting in Natchez of all of our State officers hosted by Council 1034. It was very successful and educational to me as a District Deputy.

On January 11th, I attended a mid-winter meeting for Grand Knights and their officers at St. Teresa Council 8285 in Jackson.

It has been a very active year in my life as I learned my duties and fit them in my busy work schedule. Worth State Deputy, I will conclude by saying that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the State Jurisdiction as District Deputy. I wish you good luck in the years to come and I hope you will always remember your association with the Knights as a blessing in your life. God bless you and your family.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Spence
District Deputy #6

District Deputy # 7
Curt P. Stasny

No report submitted.

District Deputy # 8
Thomas A. Wedig, Jr.

No report submitted.

District Deputy # 9
Lessie Ladner

It has been a pleasure to be District Deputy of District Nine for the second year. The councils of my district daily live the life that Father McGivney dreamed. Biloxi has worked very hard on the convention, beginning last May, and continues as we go to convention today. During the year they were still striving to set the highest example of Columbianism to be found. From the Knights of the Quarter to the Shrimp Bowl for the doll and toy fund, they stayed on a straight and productive course. I have never felt more at home as I do in Biloxi.

I have never seen a council as busy as Bishop Gunn. The catering and use of the facilities are amazing. Grand Knight Terry Hurst has done an outstanding job of having programs and cooking and most of all attending to his brother knights when they are in need. This council prides itself on its dedication to Catholic education and seminarians. This council has also made me a part of their family, and I have grown and learned the true meaning of brotherhood.

St. Vincent de Paul Council in Long Beach is a vital part of that parish family. This council is also very involved in the support of Catholic Education. Ever on their minds is the Priest Education Fund, spearheaded by Brother Paulino Carrubba. Council 4898 is starting to grow as the area grows. One of the many projects they work hard at is the Tootsie Roll Drive. Brother Leonard Nahlem was chairman last year and did an outstanding job.

Msgr. Leech Council has gone through some hard times, but is now on the way up under Grand Knight Revemal Ladner. The Mardi Gras Parade for the mentally retarded was a real treat again this year. While everyone else is having a good time, the members of this council are cooking and hosting a party for these exceptional people. Their dedication to St. Paul School with scholarships, working on the grounds, and helping with fund raisers is just a small part of what this small council does.

St. James Council is the fastest growing council in this district. They are a recognized part of St. James Parish. Their breakfasts after Mass have been a recurring fund raising tool for them. I expect to see an assembly in the near future. Working with FS Fritz Oberlies has been a learning experience. He has become a very good friend on whom I have often called on for advice. The mixture of youth and age makes it possible for this young council to move forward at a rapid pace. Grand Knight Ed Croal runs the best organized meetings I have ever seen, short and to the point. My thanks to these brothers for the prayers and support given to me.

I would like to thank State Deputy Bubba Quinn for giving me the opportunity to serve my brother knights in my district. What I have learned in the last two years is unbelievable. From working with a council in serious trouble and seeing it begin to move forward, to seeing councils do many great things has been the most rewarding job I could have. My heartfelt thanks to my councils during my illness with their prayers, visits, and calls. To the next District Deputy that serves this district I leave him with this, "Be the brother that comes to visit once a month, not the man coming to tell us what to do."

Respectfully submitted,
Lessie Ladner
District Deputy #9

**District Deputy #10
Daniel J. Lechner**

District #10 is comprised of Council #7910, Orange Grove, Council #9094, North Biloxi (D'Iberville), Council #9409, West Biloxi, Council #9673, Woolmarket, and Council #11654, Wiggins.

It was my distinct privilege and pleasure to install the officers of each of these councils (with the exception of Council #11654, Wiggins) during the months of July and August, 1996.

The year started with the school of Columbianism, which was represented by all the councils in my district. At the meeting, old and new officers and committee chairmen were inspired by our State Deputy, State officers, and State Committeemen.

Council #7910, Orange Grove, under the leadership of Grand Knight Jerry Schmuck, has excelled in every aspect of Columbianism. They held two membership drives resulting in several new members, had fund raisers to help the needy, and performed many projects around the church.

Council #9094, North Biloxi (D'Iberville), under the leadership of Grand Knight Larry Tabor has turned itself into a growing and dynamic council. The council excels in charity by donating time, energy, effort, and money to St. Vincent DePaul, Scouting, and various other organizations. They also contribute many manhours to the church by serving as ushers, Eucharistic ministers, CYO advisors, and CCD teachers.

Council #9409, West Biloxi, under the leadership of Grand Knight Materno Yapit, has become an accomplished council. This council's success is due to having more programs and thus requiring more brother knights to become active. Their members have contributed many manhours to charitable fund raisers and to programs promoting the church and its teachings.

Council #9673, Woolmarket, under the leadership of Grand Knight Harvill Richardson, has made great strides in becoming a stronger and more active council. I feel that this council has a very bright future ahead.

All of these councils have submitted their required reports in a timely and orderly manner. In January, I was privileged to acquire, in my District, council #11654 in Wiggins. This council under the leadership of Grand Knight A. C. McCarney, has the potential of becoming one of the best councils in the District. I am proud of these councils because of their ability to work together for the good of the order. This was evident when they recently merged to plan the formation of a District Degree team. I am grateful to State Deputy Jesse Quinn III for affording me the opportunity to serve these great councils.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel J. Lechner
District Director #10

**District Deputy # 11
Donald F. Cox**

I, Donald F. Cox, assumed the position as District Deputy of District 11 on 26 August 1996, due to the family relocation of previous District Deputy, Buddy Cupit. District 11 includes:

Council 1605	-	Pascagoula
Council 5654	-	Ocean Springs
Council 9124	-	Gautier
Council 10499	-	Ocean Springs
Council 11904	-	Lucedale (Council membership was previously part of Council 11654, Wiggins/Lucedale. Council 11654 became part of District 10.)

Some highlights of this Fraternal Year for District 11 include:

- Formation of New Council (at home council) in Lucedale.
- Host Council of Two 2nd & 3rd Degree Exemplifications.
- Certification of a New 1st Degree Team (Council 10499).
- Hosting a District Level Free-Throw Contest; two of the winners at the State Level were from this District.
- All Councils were close to or achieved Supreme Membership Quotas.
- All Councils achieved at least Honor Council at State Convention for Program Activities.
- All Councils hosted a Membership Drive.
- All Councils were represented at the School of Columbianism and the Mid-Winter Meeting.

My sincere thanks to our State Deputy, Jesse (Bubba) Quinn, III, for selecting me as a District Deputy. It has been an honor serving my Brother Knights of District 11. I have enjoyed working closely with my fellow District Deputies and State Officers during the Fraternal Year. By the Grace of God, I look forward to achieving future goals during the 1997-1998 Fraternal Year.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald F. Cox
District Deputy #11

**Second Business Session
Saturday, April 26, 1997**

State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III called to order and opened the Second Business Session of the 93rd Annual State Convention of the Mississippi Jurisdiction at 9:35 a.m. State Warden Ted V. Knowles verified that all present possessed a current membership card of the Third Degree. The State Deputy opened the meeting by reading a prayer wrote by State Chaplain Reverend Father Jeffrey Waldrep. District Deputy Danny Lechner lead the Delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

State Secretary Guy S. Todaro, Jr. presented the following Credentials Committee Report:

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MISSISSIPPI STATE COUNCIL
93RD ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION**

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

STATE OFFICERS

State Chaplain	Jesse J. Quinn, III
State Deputy	Guy S. Todaro, Jr.
State Secretary	Keith B. Merritt
State Treasurer	C. Bruce Pabon
State Advocate	Ted V. Knowles
State Warden	Thomas R. Zettler
Immediate Past State Deputy	

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MISSISSIPPI STATE COUNCIL
1997 STATE CONVENTION COUNCIL DELEGATES**

Council No.	Council Name	Delegate No. 1	Delegate No. 2
802	Meridian	David L. Koch	Robert J. Leo
848	Jackson	George A. Rutherford	Fred Cunningham
898	Vicksburg	Thomas W. Thornton	Gregory K. Rottman
1034	Natchez	Joseph G. Garrity	Richard W. Warren
1244	Biloxi	William R. Davis	Julius D. Broussard
1522	Bay St. Louis	Harvey C. Mitchell	Andrew T. Mitchell
1583	Gulfport	Andrew T. Hurst	Nickola G. Pitalo
1605	Pascagoula	Frederick T. Clark	B. R. Frederic
1908	Hattiesburg	William L. Jarrett	Joseph B. Goellner, Sr.
2134	Greenville	William P. Koepp	John P. Bernardi
2180	Laurel	Tom Canizaro	Don Schwartz
2945	Leland	Leon J. Shapley	Charles J. Morlino
2969	Clarksdale	Mike Robinson	Jim Glover
4472	Pass Christian	Revernal P. Ladner	Warren Reso, Sr.
4898	Long Beach	William G. Hincks, Jr.	Charles Mink
5267	Greenwood	Harvey Caldwell, III	Patrick Quinn
5556	Cleveland	Douglas J. Cocilova	Albert J. Rocconi, Jr.
5654	Ocean Springs	Carl J. Bochar, Sr.	Kenneth Swanson
6555	Shelby		
6592	Bassfield	Chris A. Daley	Joe Kirby
6765	Starkville		Richard J. Vasek
6872	Picayune	James C. Mounsey	Andre Damiens
7087	Kiln	Elbert Cuevas	Michael Campanali
7120	Southaven	James W. Farris	Gordon B. Coker
7211	Lumberton	Wilson J. John, Sr.	Charles D. Bounds
7854	Clinton	Lloyd T. Everhardt	Sterling "Skip" Peters, Sr.
7910	Orange Grove	Gerald E. Schmuck	John R. Ward
7915	Brookhaven	James H. Craig, III	Joseph Bonfiglio
7974	Columbus	Ken Simon	Kurt Dobb
8038	Pearl	L. C. Guillotte	Gordon Cowie
8054	McComb	Joe Serio	Rick Penick
8285	Jackson, St. Therese	Richard T. Lieding	Marvin Cannon
8760	Holly Springs	Claude L. Vinson, Sr.	Ralph Howard
8848	Tupelo	Salvatore F. Tomaso	Rob Hudson
8912	Corinth	Thomas S. Thompson	James R. Leatherwood
9094	D'Iberville	Larry J. Tabor	James H. Simmons
9124	Gautier	Donald Tiblier	Joseph Furlan
9234	Indianola	Joe Tannehill	
9409	West Biloxi	Materno Yapit	Bobby Weldon
9543	Madison	Lynn Eberhardt	

Council No.	Council Name	Delegate No. 1	Delegate No. 2
9673	Woolmarket	Harvill P. Richardson	Lonnie R. Parvin
9958	Lizana	Hollis J. Moran	Anthony J. Moran
10216	Brandon	Dennis Diester	Frank Whitehead
10443	Grenada	John G. Savoie, Jr.	Michael Liberto
10499	Ocean Springs	Thomas J. Homsany	George Roberts
10901	Oxford	Robert A. Grant	Peter C. Sukanek
11541	St. James, Gulfport	Edward C. Croal	Daniel Gillis
11654	Wiggins	A. C. Mack McCarney	Charles Avery
11904	St. Lucy's, Lucedale	Ray Shields	James Holland
11934	Gluckstadt	Joseph R. Jones, Jr.	John C. Minninger
11956	Fr. Patrick Quinn	Raymond Tanet	Troy Mabile

DISTRICT DEPUTIES

District 1	Robert A. Hudson
District 2	Buddy F. Honeycutt
District 3	
District 4	Richard T. Leiding
District 5	Natale J. Zummo
District 6	Richard W. Spence
District 7	Curt P. Stasny
District 8	Thomas A. Wedig, Jr.
District 9	J. Lessie Ladner
District 10	Daniel J. Lechner
District 11	Don F. Cox

PAST STATE DEPUTIES

G. David Atteberry
Robert Fratesi
Dennis E. Ladnier, Sr.
Jesse J. Quinn, Jr.
Wiley Price, Jr.
Stanley M. Swentkowski

HONORARY STATE CHAPLAINS

Bishop William R. Houck
Bishop Joseph L. Howze

Respectfully submitted,

Guy S. Todaro, Jr., State Secretary
Charles Avery
Julius Broussard
Ralph Howard
James Holland
Joe Kirby
Nickola Pitalo

After the Credentials Report, State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III introduced Supreme Director Vincent L. DiLeonardo, PSD. Brother DiLeonardo expressed greetings from the Supreme Knight, Supreme Officers, and the Board of Directors. He then reviewed the past year and discussed some changes and appointments at the Supreme level. He then discussed the membership and insurance figures for both the Mississippi Jurisdiction and the Order.

Most Reverend Joseph Lawson Howze, Bishop of the Diocese of Biloxi, and Honorary State Chaplain, addressed the delegates. He was followed by Most Reverend William R. Houck, Bishop of the Jackson Diocese, and Honorary State Chaplain. Both were very inspirational.

The following reports were presented by the State Officers:

**State Chaplain's Report
Reverend Jeffrey Waldrep**

It is with a deep sense of regret, in my last official act as your State Chaplain, that I am unable to address you in person at this 1997 Knights of Columbus State Convention—a time when you gather in the spirit of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. As I respectfully forfeit my privilege to be with you in order that I may officiate at my sister's wedding, be assured of my thoughts and prayers during your time together.

Lives were changed? It happened to Mary and Joseph as they were trying to figure out where to go with their lives. It happened to James and John, to Simon and his brother Andrew as they went out to cast their nets. It happened to Zacchaeus as he went to see who Jesus was. It happened to Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Elizabeth, Simeon and St. Paul. Each of their lives were changed when they encountered Jesus, the Son of God.

This year, as we prepare for the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 by first reflecting on Jesus Christ, you brother Knights gather to celebrate the fact that your lives and the lives of many brother Knights throughout the state reflects the change Jesus has made in your lives. From the moment you went through your first degree in our beloved order, you began to live out Jesus' command of "loving God with your whole heart, mind and soul and loving your neighbor as yourself" through the basic principles laid down by our founder, Fr. Michael McGivney. Today, I want to salute you brother Knights for the honorable way you have served our Lord and the Catholic people of our beloved State. Never before has our state witnessed such enthusiasm about the Catholic faith from a fraternal group of Catholic men. Never before has parish after parish throughout the state witnessed such an emphasis on bringing families together. Never before has so many individual lives been touched by Christ's presence through services offered by you and your perspective councils.

The question is why now? Why has our fraternal order grown in such proportions? I believe that your success is a direct reflection on your strong Catholic faith, the hard work of your council's Grand Knight and officers and the untiring leadership of our district deputies and state council. To each person here today and all of the brother Knights you represent who sacrificed time and energy to pray as a council, to dream up projects and to execute those projects, I hold you up to Christ as a blessing. It is people like you that become a prized companion on our journey through life.

There is a story told about a monk "who in his travels once found a precious stone and kept it. One day he met a traveler, and when the monk opened his bag to share his provisions with him, the traveler saw the jewel and asked the monk to give it to him. The monk did so readily. The traveler departed overjoyed with the unexpected gift of the precious stone that was enough to give him wealth and security for the rest of his life. However, a few days later he came back in search of the monk, found him, gave him back the stone, and entreated him, 'Now give me

something much more precious than this stone, valuable as it is. Give me that which enabled you to give it to me." As you leave this convention to go back to your individual councils, remember that it is not merely what you do for others that is most important. It is not merely the number of people that you get together. It is not even the number of projects that you have that is most important. What is most important is "how you do what you do!" For if you truly believe in the presence of Christ in your lives and hold true to the example witnessed by Fr. McGivney then all that you do will reflect these core beliefs in Christ and in our order. And what more of a blessing could you receive than if someone came back to you and said, "I saw what you accomplished, could you please give me what enabled you to be so generous."

You have been changed because of the difference Jesus has made in your lives. Let us rejoice and be glad for the good work that has begun in each of you and our beloved order over the past year. And, let us pledge ever more faithfully to reflect Christ's presence in light of Fr. McGivney's basic principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

Respectfully submitted,
Father Jeffery Waldrep
State Chaplain

State Deputy's Report
Jesse J. Quinn, III

My Brothers, each of us in this room is privileged to be a member of the Knights of Columbus. Knighthood is important, because we are the Catholic Church's Christian soldiers. I believe that Knighthood is a vocation. It is a special call from God to evangelize, to bring people closer to Christ. We, Knights, evangelize by the way we live our Faith, and by bringing Catholic men and their families together through our Order, so that they too will be inspired to actively live their Faith.

Two years ago, with these motivations in their hearts, our State Council members began to organize this Jurisdiction, so that our councils could achieve unparalleled success. First, our State Program Personnel developed a State Activity Program that is inclusive by nature and is designed to promote the ideas and growth of the Order. Then, they volunteered to travel to three locations across the State of Mississippi to bring the Schools of Columbianism to you, rather than asking you to travel to one location for their convenience. You responded to their efforts by attending in record numbers. Over 200 Grand Knights, council officers and chairmen have attended the Schools of Columbianism in each of the last two years.

As a result, we were off to a quick start from the very beginning.

I am proud to say that during the 1995-1996 Fraternal Year, councils throughout our state, conducted programs designed to support the Catholic church, strengthen family life, and aid those people that God put us on this earth to help. Six of our councils did such an outstanding job that they were recognized by the Supreme council with its highest award, the "Star Council Award". I ask the council delegates of these councils to rise, Council #5556 Cleveland, Council #7910 Orange Grove, Council #8848 Tupelo, Council #9958 Lizana, Council #10901 Oxford, Council #11541 Gulfport/St. James. These councils did an outstanding job in promoting Columbianism and certainly should be commended.

MEMBERSHIP

With all this positive activity taking place, naturally our Order began to grow rapidly. Last year, every council in the State of Mississippi was active, and as a result, 529 Catholic men were inspired to join the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi. This is the highest one year total in the history of the Mississippi Jurisdiction.

In addition, our Jurisdiction finished in first place in net membership recruitment in the Supreme Council's Division VI, and it was recognized at the 1996 Supreme Convention in Chicago, IL, with the "Supreme Knight's Award".

This outstanding success has continued today. Because you, my Brothers, allowing the light of Christ to shine by your deeds and you actively seek to bring Catholic men and their families into the Knights of Columbus. This year, Mississippi is once again in first place in net membership gain. If our success continues and if we are able to finish the year in first place, it will be the first

time in the history of the Mississippi Jurisdiction that this has been done for two consecutive years.

NEW COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT

Men join the Knights of Columbus, because they see who our members are, what you stand for, what our councils are doing, and they want to be a part of it. It is gratifying indeed, to know that the Catholic men around us are so inspired by our examples that they choose to join us in our efforts to do God's will.

Brothers, you have done so much this year that your reputation as active Catholic Brothers, has spread far beyond your individual councils and parishes. It has inspired the formation of roundtables and councils across the State of Mississippi. Last May, District Deputy bob Hudson organized a roundtable for the Catholic men of Batesville, who had a burning desire to join our Order. One month later, District Deputy Hudson again expanded our Order by organizing a roundtable for the Catholic men of New Albany, and Brothers, your influence continued to grow.

In October, State Program Director Tom Chady and District Deputy Rich Lieding formed a roundtable in Port Gibson with the help of Fr. Tony Pudenz, and in December, District Deputy Don Cox instituted our 49th council, Council #11904 Lucedale, and you influence continued to grow.

In March, District Deputy Rich Lieding and District Deputy Nat Zummo working with Roundtable Chairman Joe Jones, instituted our 50th council, Council #11934 Gluckstadt, and District Deputy Tom Wedig instituted our newest roundtable in DeLisle, and finally, District Deputy Curt Stasny working with Roundtable Chairman Raymond Tanet and Fr. Tommy Conway, instituted our 51 council, Columbia/Tylertown.

Since July 1, 1995, 858 Catholic men have joined the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi. With this gain in membership, our Jurisdiction presently qualifies for an additional delegate to the Supreme Convention; however, if we are unable to maintain 2000 insurance members through the end of the Fraternal Year, we will lose this third delegate to the Supreme Convention On April 1, we had 2010 insurance members, which exceeds the required number by only 10 members.

RETENTION

To me, losing a member is losing a Brother. Through the Bible, we learn that God cares for us so much that he knows every hair on our heads. Each individual is all important. What is the value of an opportunity to lead a man and his family to Christ? What is the value of seeing a man take up his cross, because of your example, and actively live his Faith. It is immeasurable. Did I know that this can be effectively done through the Knights of Columbus. God does not tell us that leading people to more active Christian lives will be easy, nor does he guarantee that everyone will immediately cooperate, but he does tell us that the rewards in heaven will be great.

Our approach to membership retention is not a demand that you do not suspend members; rather, we do not want you to suspend any Brother Knight until every effort has been made to save his membership. When a council fills out a Notice of Intent to Suspend form, the council is essentially saying that it has done everything that it could possibly do to save a particular member without success. These forms are not only a notice for the members in question, but our State Council views them as an opportunity to save a Brother Knight. Each time that I have a Notice of Intent to Suspend form, I have contacted the District Deputy or the Council Grand Knight to ask that they make personal contact with the members facing suspension. I have also written each of these men personally, and in some cases, I have made personal contact to point out the value of our Order and to ask that membership be retained. Because of our combined efforts, we were able to reduce suspensions from 251 members two years ago to 164 members last year. This is especially significant when we realize that every single member is important.

“1000 KNIGHTS FOR CHRIST”

2000 years ago in Galilee, God called a handful of poor fishermen to spread his message to humanity. Despite being persecuted and condemned at every turn, and without automobiles or airplanes, without telephones or televisions, and without any form of mass media, these ordinary men did the impossible and changed the world for all eternity.

Brothers, if twelve poor fishermen can change the whole world for all eternity, isn't it possible for one good man in today's world to effect positive change in a parish? And, if one good man can have a positive influence on a parish, couldn't a whole group of dedicated men, such as an active Knights of Columbus Council or Roundtable, have a significant impact on the people in their community? And, if this group of dedicated men were to set truly positive examples by the way they live, so that all the men around them were inspired to join them in their efforts to do God's Will, wouldn't the impact of their actions be magnified? The answer is most definitely, YES. I know this, because this is exactly what is happening in the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi today.

2000 years ago, God had twelve poor fishers of men.

Brothers, here in Mississippi, God has the Knights of Columbus. Because of the fantastic examples that you are setting in your parishes and communities, we are influencing people to actively live their Faith, and many of these people are joining our Knights of Columbus Family. As a result, we have a realistic opportunity to win “1000 Knights for Christ” during a two year period culminating with the end of this Fraternal Year. Just imagine the impact of 1000 newly activated Catholic men working for God in Mississippi through the Knights of Columbus. The possibilities are unlimited, and what a testimony it will be to the example being set by our current members!

How do you think Bishop Howze and Bishop Houck feel about the actions of our Knights as they watch us light a fire in the hearts of 1000 Catholic men in Mississippi? Surely, every Catholic priest, brother and sister will be impressed with the great number of Catholic men and their families that are being lead to closer relationships with God through the Knights of Columbus. This astounding feat can be accomplished if we, like the fishermen of old, listen to the “Call of

God", live our Faith, and if we actively seek to invite Catholic men and their families to join the Knights of Columbus.

My ardent desire for the future of our Order is to see the Knights of Columbus become the premier organization of Christian men in Mississippi, an organization that all the people of the Catholic church in our state will look up to with boastful pride. These aspirations are attainable, but to reach them, we must value every member as a brother, and we must live up to the principles that we endorse.

Years from now, we will remember.

Respectfully submitted,
Jesse J. Quinn, III
State Deputy

State Secretary's Report
Guy S. Todaro, Jr.

As your State Secretary, it is my duty, my privilege, as well as my honor, to present this report to you today. This report reflects Supreme's figures from April 1, 1996 to April 1, 1997 for the Mississippi jurisdiction.

We have had a total net gain of 330 members as shown in this report. The number of insurance members has reached 2,000.

Since our last convention, 81 Brother Knights have completed their mission here on earth, and have started on that final journey to eternity. It should be noted that Michael Lensing, PGK of Council No. 7910, McComb passed away after the Necrology was printed. His name does appear in this report, and will be printed in the minutes of this convention.

Also, Fr. Patrick Quinn Council No. 11956 was chartered after April 1, 1997 and is shown in this report for informational purposes only.

Brothers, as I stated in my opening remarks yesterday, we must rise to the challenge and prepare ourselves and our world for the Third Millennium.

Do you realize how blessed we are to be afforded this honor? What a marvelous time to be alive. Only one generation in fifty crosses into a new millennium. We have truly been graced. We have been selected to be part of a historical moment in time.

A great and noble part is ours. Shall we seize the moment? I hope that we will. Shall we use this event to change ourselves and try to reshape the values of our society? I pray that we will.

Just like Columbus, we have been chosen to be the Christ bearer to the new world; the world of the year 2000 and beyond. We do not have to cross the vast unknown waters of the oceans. We do not have to fear everyday of our lives as we set sail that we will fall off the edge of the world. We do not have to live in fear of savage tribes as we spread the Good News of the Gospel. Or do we?

Is not our vast ocean, humanity? Is not our edge of the world, that delicate balance between war and peace, love and hate, right and wrong? Is not the savage tribe, ourselves; when we struggle with that constant battle within our own conscience? The ones that involve pro-life, euthanasia, pornography, the ethics and morals of our politicians and leaders. And yes, even the scandals that we sometimes create in our own lives, by not living by the principles of our Holy Church.

To face this challenge we have to have unquestionable unity. To succeed in this quest, we have to be a team, a team with indisputable leaders. These leaders must be men of principle. If society is our customer, then our leaders must be customer driven; willing to go beyond the call of duty to meet and exceed the needs of our customer. Our leaders also must be open and listen to the ideas of others and respect each and every one's individuality. Our leaders must be able to remove the

barriers that are placed in our way by others (including unfortunately some from within our own organization) that try and prevent us from succeeding in our mission. And last but not least, our leaders must show others the way, by the example of their lives. They must walk the talk and be living examples of the values that we cherish and are at the very soul of our existence as an Order.

The first step starts with you. Do not take your voting responsibility lightly. The second step is all of our responsibility. When we see someone exhibit a behavior that is not becoming of a Knight, whether it is in public or within this or any of our council chambers, we should not allow that behavior to continue unchallenged. Behaviors reflect values, and our values should be the same ones that are found in the Gospel of our Savior.

Brothers, it has truly been a pleasure and a honor to serve you and our jurisdiction as your State Secretary. My travels to every corner of this great state have allowed me to meet many of you and your families. You have touched my life deeply, and I feel I am a better Catholic, a stronger Catholic American Citizen from knowing you. I hope in some small way, I have been able to touch your lives too. At your pleasure, I pray that you will allow me to serve you in the future.

The following is the status of membership by Councils in the Mississippi Jurisdiction as of April 1, 1997 as compared with totals of April 1, 1996. Also noted are the names of deceased members per Council. Figures are based on the monthly report of membership from Supreme.

Council No.	Council Name	1996	1997	Increase	Decrease	Deceased
802	Meridian	213	223	10	-	1
848	Jackson	89	81	-	8	5
898	Vicksburg	308	328	20	-	3
1034	Natchez	188	197	9	-	2
1244	Biloxi	364	363	-	1	4
1522	Bay St. Louis	165	192	27	-	8
1583	Gulfport	319	306	-	13	9
1605	Pascagoula	273	276	3	-	5
1908	Hattiesburg	120	131	11	-	3
2134	Greenville	161	155	-	6	3
2180	Laurel	117	118	1	-	1
2945	Leland	67	62	-	5	3
2969	Clarksdale	271	275	4	-	3
4472	Pass Christian	38	41	3	-	-
4898	Long Beach	140	133	-	7	1
5267	Greenwood	78	80	2	-	1
5556	Cleveland	146	150	4	-	2
5654	Ocean Springs	174	186	12	-	3
6555	Shelby	38	40	2	-	1
6592	Bassfield	81	86	5	-	4
6765	Starkville	47	49	2	-	1
6872	Picayune	86	87	1	-	4
7087	Kiln	53	69	16	-	0

Council No.	Council Name	1996	1997	Increase	Decrease	Deceased
7120	Southaven	73	79	6	-	0
7211	Lumberton	50	79	29	-	0
7854	Clinton	51	56	5	-	0
7910	Orange Grove	102	113	11	-	1
7915	Brookhaven	67	82	15	-	2
7974	Columbus	37	44	7	-	0
8038	Pearl	71	70	-	1	1
8054	McComb	53	56	3	-	1
8285	Jackson, St. Therese	86	88	2	-	1
8760	Holly Springs	35	38	3	-	0
8848	Tupelo	139	154	15	-	0
8912	Corinth	28	30	2	-	0
9094	D'Iberville	91	96	5	-	2
9124	Gautier	78	105	27	-	1
9234	Indianola	42	44	2	-	0
9409	West Biloxi	82	90	8	-	0
9543	Madison	128	116	-	12	1
9673	Woolmarket	60	62	2	-	2
9958	Lizana	61	64	3	-	0
10216	Brandon	68	49	-	19	2
10443	Grenada	33	41	8	-	0
10499	East Ocean Springs	78	89	11	-	0
10901	Oxford	69	102	33	-	0
11541	Gulfport, St. James	86	105	19	-	0
11654	Wiggins	41	30	-	11	0
11901	Lucedale	-	32	32	-	0
11934	Gluckstadt	-	33	33	-	0
11956	Columbia/Tylertown	-	-	-	-	0
	Total	5,245	5,575	413	83	81

A total net gain of 330 members is shown by this report. Included are 2,000 insurance members and 3,575 associate members. Also included in these totals are 497 honorary life members, 97 honorary members and 337 inactive members. Included in this report are 81 deceased members reported by their Councils since the last convention. (Note: Columbia/Tylertown, Fr. Patrick Quinn Council was chartered after April 1, 1997.

The following members have been reported by their Councils as deceased since our last convention.

802	Meridian	George O. Powell
848	Jackson	Wilbur J. Henderson Kerth Keck Spengler McManus William McGarry, PGK George Saab, PGK
898	Vicksburg	F. L. Cappaert Joe Evans Bill Geesler
1034	Natchez	Francis J. Gasquet Leo J. Sork
1244	Biloxi	Frank Blackmon Dominic A. Fallo Andrew C. Puzz Anthony Ragussin
1522	Bay St. Louis	Kirk Abbott Joseph DiBenidetti Curtis Matherne James Roland Santos Saucier August Scafidi Norman Tartadoulle Marion J. Wolfe
1583	Gulfport	Willie Adam, PGK Louis Paul Bussolati Leon C. Capdepon Thomas L. Hall Leo J. Haydel Metro Marchak John R. "Jack" Matthews Augustus A. Simpson Frank N. Waits

1605	Pascagoula	Aubrey C. Beckham, Sr. Carson M. Bowman John V. Coggins Charles J. Lippian Kinson L. Martin
1908	Hattiesburg	Charles F. Abadie, PGK, PFN Patrick Crabtree Walter H. Yates
2134	Greenville	J. Charles Ammons, PGK Vince J. Cascio George D. Dudula
2180	Laurel	Dr. William L. Carr, Jr.
2945	Leland	Richard P. Columbus Mike B. Fratesi Paul H. Jones
2969	Clarksdale	Recie Barbieri Ben Catalina Lew Houston, III
4898	Long Beach	Leo M. Dubuisson
5267	Greenwood	Louis J. Naaman, Sr.
5556	Cleveland	Julius P. Rocconi, Sr. Matthew (Matt) Short
5654	Ocean Springs	Louis A. D'Andrea, PGK Joseph L. Morris, Jr. Christopher M. Nielsen
6555	Shelby	Albert Pongetti
6592	Bassfield	Vincent Burns Pete Gates John Paul Kirby Joseph T. Kirby
6765	Starkville	Lynn Cook

6872	Picayune	Ignatius J. D'Antoni Thomas W. Dubourg David Plaisance Joseph A. Robicheaux
7910	Orange Grove	Otto Roemer
7915	Brookhaven	Jasper B. Becker Dr. James E. Williams
8038	Pearl	Glenn Ansel Anderson
8054	McComb	Michael Lensing, PGK
8285	Jackson, St. Therese	William Schmidt
9094	D'Iberville	Louis R. Guttierrez Mark T. Whyte
9124	Gautier	Walter B. Perez, Jr.
9543	Madison	Sidney David
9673	Woolmarket	Otis Bosarge, Sr. George "Walt" Ewing
10216	Brandon	John Fennell Richard Reeht

Special Note: Unfortunately, Michael Lensing, PGK of Council No. 8054, McComb passed away after the Necrology was printed. His name does appear in this report and will be printed in the minutes of this convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Guy S. Todaro, Jr.
State Secretary

State Treasurer's Report
Keith B. Merritt

Your Excellencies, Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy Supreme Director, Worthy State Deputy, my fellow State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy Vice Supreme Master, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, and Brothers:

Des Colores!

In my financial report at the 1996 convention, I made you aware of a very serious situation. That situation was the non-availability of any financial records prior to 1993. It is my obligation to report to you what was done after the convention to comply with standing resolutions that demanded financial records from the previous five years be handed over to the new Treasurer.

Immediately following the convention, State Deputy Quinn wrote a letter to three past State Deputies requesting their personal help in reconstructing financial records for the period in question. They could not supply any records. Although ultimately responsible for oversight in making sure the resolutions of this body are followed, those State Deputies were not the State Treasurer or Executive Secretary during those years immediately prior to 1993. I wrote to the State Treasurer who had direct responsibility of the records, and I wrote to the Executive Secretary who had direct audit and compliance responsibility. In my letter I listed the resolutions per se. I demanded their immediate compliance in supplying the Order with those records. Neither Brother responded with any credible information.

I was then given authority by State Deputy Quinn to investigate the possibility of reconstructing bank records for the years in question. I met with the President of a banking institution to discuss this option. From that conversation I learned that the amount of money we would spend versus the amount of verifiable information we might obtain would be prohibitive. Also, other Brothers in the Order who were very concerned, personally contacted the past Treasurer and Executive Secretary to no avail.

At the State Officers meeting in August of 1996, we, as a group, discussed all of these efforts and came to the conclusion that every reasonable effort had been made to do the right thing. There was nothing more to be gained so we put the matter to rest and moved on. What we have today are four years of complete, verifiable records.

Let's talk about this past year. Please look at the financial summary you have just been handed. It is self-explanatory and lists our sources of income, expenses, and year-end balance. I want to explain to you how expenses are managed.

At the beginning of fraternal year 1995, State Deputy Quinn and I made a pledge to create a true set of "checks and balances" in our approach to how your money is spent. That's right. Your money. We are ever mindful of that fact and are respectful of it. Every check written by me was preceded by a written authorization from the State Deputy. Every penny spent had a purpose in

advance. Think about that. Every penny spent, either for reimbursement of travel expense, supplies, awards or even stamps, was done with a receipt in hand first.

For two years I have not written any checks without authorization. This puts the ultimate responsibility for spending wisely squarely on the shoulders of the State Deputy who alone has discretionary authority over our funds. As State Treasurer, I report on a regular basis to the State Deputy on our income level and current balances. Together we plan for upcoming expenses, such as Schools of Columbianism, and the State Convention.

Coming into office, the State Deputy set a budget and has adhered to it at all times. Further, my job is to review all requests for reimbursement, check for errors, write the check, and send it to the State Deputy who, again, exercises his ultimate discretion when he mails it to the recipient. Some Brothers may have disagreed with the time it took to be reimbursed, however a prudent policy of review serves everyone's best interest and eliminates mistakes or duplicate payments.

After careful consideration I have put forward several resolutions that will provide guidelines in the management of our funds. It is my goal to be able to provide any incoming Treasurer with a folder containing everything he needs to comply with our resolutions. This will give him direction and confidence in the performance of his duties. For example, it is good business to require two signatures on each check. It is good business to not have countersigned checks in any authorized signers possession at any time. It is good business to maintain a consistent relationship with a statewide banking institution versus jump-starting an account from one term to another. It is good business to have the State Deputy pre-authorize each expense in writing before payment. I have done that for two years and we enjoy a surplus of funds today.

Brothers, this is all about your money. It is about the management and spending of your hard earned per capita taxes. As a fellow Brother, and as State Treasurer, I know how much that means to you. As I have traveled around the state, many of you have expressed how much it means to you personally for us to spend wisely. You want many services, but expect us to stay within our budget and to keep enough on hand for any emergencies. If we are going to spend over \$35,000 per year, each of you has the absolute right to ask where it is going.

Be ever mindful of that fact. I have said repeatedly that I have no secrets. That means the State Treasurer has no secrets. He is there to answer your questions about our financial status at all times. This is why he is obligated to bring his records and receipts to the audit committee at the convention. If a State Treasurer does not provide a full explanation to you at any time, you have reason to be concerned and to demand an answer. Do not stop asking. It is your money. Trust is established when you can freely exchange information. When that free exchange is eroded, you have a problem.

For two years I have shown you all by example that I view my role as State Treasurer as your advocate for careful, prudent management of your money in providing the resources for the services you deserve. I could not have done that without two ingredients. One is the trust and confidence you have given me in the exercise of my duties. The other is the absolute conviction and resolve of State Deputy Jesse Quinn, III to always do the right thing. He has exercised his

authority over our finances with skill, careful planning, prudent meal reimbursement, advance travel approval, and the questioning of every invoice for supplies or services with one important question: Is this really necessary and will it help us serve our Brothers? The answer, before spending, must be yes. You need only look at the success enjoyed by all of us for the last two years to realize how effective this State Deputy has been. Planning for adequate financial resources takes vision, and he is one of those rare individuals who has it. It has been a pleasure to serve with him.

Two years ago we left the convention in Jackson in turmoil. Several Brothers expressed to me their concern of our ability to overcome hurt feelings and split loyalties. Yet, in the same breath, these Brothers acknowledged that as Knights of Columbus, we must put aside our disagreements and move forward for the good of the Order. I think everyone, in their hearts, knew that some Brothers had not done the right things and were not fully above board in their actions. On the other hand, we, as a group, know that we must do the right things and stand for honor and integrity.

We must not and cannot put up with the lack of it. Failure to speak up when you believe something is wrong is unacceptable. Do not ever promote anyone to a higher level who is not fully doing what is in the best interest of the Order. Remove those individuals who are self serving or who seek honor without service. That is what I believe you have asked of your State Officers and District Deputies. This is what you demand of yourself, because you are all leaders. We retain what is good from the past because we want to live in happiness and peace. We want to experience over and over again those values that make us strong.

That is why, from this day forward, all of us must support the new officers who will be elected tomorrow, and the District Deputies who will be appointed later. Brothers, to be as successful in the next fraternal year as we have been in the last two, we must be the horses that pull the wagon in the same direction.

Therefore, remember that yes, you are all leaders, but you are men first. Men make mistakes. If you have a problem with one of your leaders, be man enough to go to him first and express your concerns. The job of State Deputy is a good example. Anytime you are dealing with people, places, or events you are going to make some decisions that, in hindsight, you wish you could change. Do not be critical of his every flaw and misdirection. Pull the wagon as a team and lend support at every opportunity. If any one of you feels that you cannot do that, then step down and move out of the way. There is too much good in what we do to be divisive. Be a stand-up man in all you do or say.

Lastly, I hope I do not embarrass anyone with what I am about to say. I love you. I give all that I am, all that I have, all that I'll ever have to Jesus. Love is really all that I can give to you that will remain forever. My Cursillo weekend in Dedeaux last October taught me these truths. I pray that God will continue to bless the holy ground in Dedeaux and The Pines. So many, many lives have been uplifted because of the experience. I ask each of you to commit to a Cursillo weekend soon. Do not wait. Do not hesitate to do the right thing for God, your family, and yourself. Over and over again we are challenged to evangelize within the world we live.

The Knights in this room who are Cursillists are some of the greatest evangelists you will ever meet. The Cursillo transcends all ages and lifestyles. In my Cursillo, for example, there was Father Dennis Carver who is now the spiritual director of Dedeaux. There were very old men, and very young. Brother David Hughes' son was there. His transformation into a new spiritual awareness inspired us all. Your transformation will inspire your children, your spouse, and all with whom you interact.

I'll leave you with this. Last Friday, a co-worker of mine had a heart attack while on his lunch break. As a service technician he was in the field in Aberdeen, MS. For the first time in months, he had an assistant present. Once back in the car, he couldn't breathe. He directed the assistant through downtown Aberdeen to the hospital where skilled personnel worked to stabilize him. Later, they transported him to Tupelo where I saw him on Monday morning. He was waiting on multiple tests to find the damage to his heart. His name is Larry. His pastor entered the room and shortly thereafter, he asked Larry this question: Son, do you know Jesus? Larry, with tear-filled eyes, said yes. He knew because on that day he had an assistant. He knew because every traffic light through the town turned green. He knew because skilled people were there when it counted most. Commit to the Cursillo Movement. You, too, will see life with the clarity of truth.

May God Bless You All.
Keith B. Merritt
State Treasurer

**State Treasurer
Keith B. Merritt
(4-1-96 to 3-31-97)**

Beginning Balance.....\$40,799.34

Income

Per Capita39,128.70
Interest.....896.58
Total Income.....40,025.28

Expense

1996 Convention.....18,635.65
State Chairmen's Expense2252.95
State Officers Expense4551.78
Schools of Columbianism2650.56
Directory.....603.50
Columbian Squires500.00
Magnolia Knight1633.32
New Council Development.....675.00
Misc.....973.36
Administrative Expense3105.64
Total Expense\$35,581.76
Net Income/Expense4,443.52

**Financial Statement Acct.#410-0341487
(4-1-96 to 3-31-97)**

Beginning Balance.....\$40,799.34
Total Income.....40,025.28
Total Expense35,581.76
Checking Acct. Balance (3/31/97).....45,242.86

Respectfully submitted,
Keith B. Merritt
State Treasurer

**State Advocate's Report
C. Bruce Pabon**

Brother Knights it has been a privilege and an honor to serve as The State Advocate for the Mississippi Jurisdiction for the last two years. In the past 2 years I have found that the Advocate is more than just a defender of the cause, he is an Ambassador for the cause.

This year (1996-1997) was a busy year for me, starting with the installation of State Offices in Biloxi. Next, was the installation of State Officers in Greenwood, followed by three Schools of Columbianism. This, in turn was followed by installation in Gautier, Ocean Springs #5654, Ocean Springs #10499, and others. Just think, this was only July.

In August it was off to the 114th Supreme Council Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. Unbelievable, is the only way to describe it. Mississippi was honored for our membership efforts by being in 1st place in Net Membership for our Division.

Back from the convention and off to the State Softball Tournament, then installation in Laurel, Long Beach, 2nd and 3rd degree in Tupelo, membership drive in Woolmarket and many other events.

My point in mentioning the above is to show that the State Council has many duties and that we try to do what and be where you want us. Every weekend and several times during the week there are events we can and do try to attend. Boy was I wrong when I said the Advocate was like the "Maytag Repairman".

In conclusion, I would like to say that the last two years have been a learning experience for me. I feel that the thoughts and ideas each of you have shared with me have helped in this learning process.

I thank each of you for allowing me to serve you as your State Advocate and hope that you will allow me to continue to serve you and Columbianism in this the Mississippi Jurisdiction. Vivat Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Bruce Pabon
State Advocate

State Warden's Report
Ted V. Knowles

Being your State Warden for the past two years has given me the privilege to get to know and love so many of you, my Brother Knights, I have had the thrill of mining Now Councils, and Roundtables and taking on a life of their own. I have had the privilege of witnessing hundreds of Catholic Gentlemen make that final commitment and join a Brotherhood of Catholic Men, who's tenants are Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

At our last convention in Meridian, I reported that our jurisdiction had charted a course which would surely make it one of the top Jurisdictions in the Nation. It happened, but only by the dedication of each one of you, and your desire to be the best that you could be. We demonstrated not only to our local communities and State, but to Supreme, that we not only pledged to be; Charitable, United, and a Brotherhood. But that we live by those principles in our daily lives.

I, am sure that most, if not all of you, know that I had to undergo my third Open Heart Surgery back in October '96. Based on the words of the Nurses and Doctors who were at my bedside day and night, the Lord had ample opportunity to call me home. He chose to leave me here a while longer. This I feel was because He had work for me to do in his name and for His greater Glory.

I mention the above only to say, my wife Vernie and I are truly humble and thankful for the outpouring of your group and personal prayers, not to mention the Masses that were said for my recovery. Your prayers were answered. I am recovering very well, and am ready to continue to serve you and our great jurisdiction.

Again I have said too much. However, I can't close my report without thanking all of you, my Brother Knights, for your warm hospitality shown to my wife Vernie and myself. Your love and prayers have been felt and heard. You have given life to the words Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Thank you and God Bless.

Respectfully submitted
Ted V. Knowles
State Warden

**Immediate Past State Deputy
Thomas R. Zettler**

Worthy State Deputy, your Excellencies, Worthy Supreme Director, for the last time, my fellow State Officers, worthy Master, worthy Past State Deputies, worthy District Deputies, Delegates and Brother Knights:

When I entered the State Family some fifteen years ago, I was not thinking of this moment when I would essentially be saying my official goodbye to you. My journey through the various positions in the State have included serving you as a District Deputy, state chairman state program director, and in all of the State officer positions. To say that I have enjoyed these years is certainly an understatement. But the reason I have enjoyed them is because of all of you. I have met numerous Knights throughout these years whom I have come to adore and many I have tried to emulate. I have been treated with respect and dignity far beyond that required by whatever position I have held at the time. I thank you for your respect, your dedication, and your love of church and country.

It is sometimes difficult to move aside, after being in a position akin to State Deputy of what I consider to be the best Jurisdiction in the Order. I deeply thank all of the Brothers with whom I have served especially in the State officer positions. I would be remiss if I did not thank many of you who were always there to bolster my confidence when it was on the wane. You are truly a gem in my life and I pledge to each and every one of you that I will offer a prayer for you each and every day of my life. I also thank two Brother Knights who, to me, are the epitome of what knighthood is all about. Please join me in thanking Bishop Howze and Bishop Houck.

During my two terms as your State Deputy, I had only two themes that I pursued. The first and most important was to encourage you, all of you, to be the best Catholics you could possibly be. What a gift we have been given in our faith! What a gift we have in the Eucharist! Jesus coming to us in all of our frailty to give us the necessary strength and motivation to continue on this pathway of life. I encouraged all of you on many occasions to openly LIVE your Catholic faith. Do not be hesitant to make the Sign of the Cross in a restaurant or in other public gatherings. That small act could possibly result in someone being filled with a desire to learn more about our faith. I promoted and still promote a frequent reception of the Eucharist. We Knights should be at the forefront of each and every activity at our Parish. Are you? We should be examples in our family life to those who share this earth with us. I thank God for my beautiful JoAnne who has been and continues to be my helpmate and partner in life. We should sponsor activities that show our deep love and devotion to Mary. I wonder if all of you carry your rosary with you as you promised to do in your First Degree. I wonder even more, if in addition to carrying it—you say it occasionally. It is a powerful prayer and surely we know that Jesus listens carefully to His Mother. I wonder if you make an occasional visit to the church to thank God for all of His blessings. And while I have these thoughts, I know that as Knights you are doing the best you can. I have seen many examples of Catholicity in action. I am proud of who we are and what we are.

My other theme was simply to "do your duty". But do you realize how encompassing this phrase is? If we did our duty, everything would fall into place. We would be first in membership each and every year. We would have a 100% submission of the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities. There would be no need to double check on anything. We would so far surpass the other Jurisdictions that we would be the leader to whom everyone looked for example. But unfortunately, we do not always do our duty. I am asking here and now that all of you resolve that from this moment on you will do what is required by your office. Serving as an officer in your Council is not an ego trip. It is a lot of hard work and demands sacrifices on your part. However, you voluntarily agree to serve and in so doing you also pledge to do your very best. Then do it!!

On a personal note, I am obliged to thank all of my brothers from my home Council 802. They have made many a personal and financial sacrifice for me over these past 15 years. To all who have served as Grand Knight, to all of my Brothers who encouraged me and supported me in my attainment of higher office, I am truly indebted and eternally grateful. It now appears that I am home to stay!

My Brothers, I deeply thank you for giving me the glorious opportunity to serve you. I made no great mark at the Supreme level, I won very few awards, I never led in any category. But I had the opportunity to meet you, to worship with you, to break bread with you, to pray with you, to laugh with you, and yes, on a couple of occasions, to cry with you. For that I am eternally grateful. May I always be an example of a man who lives his faith and loves his God and thereby serves his fellow man.

Fellow Past State Deputies, please make room for me in the back of the room. Thank you.
VivatJesus.

Fraternally submitted,
Thomas R. Zettler
Immediate Past State Deputy

General Agent's Report

Reverend State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Supreme Representative, Past State Deputy, State Officers, Field Agents, District Deputies, State Chairmen, Delegates, and Brother Knights,

It is indeed a pleasure and an honor to be a part of this team. We have a powerful partnership. Our last complete calendar year ending December 31, 1996, saw achievements which made the past facts look small by comparison:

Life insurance written	\$4,075,352,955
Annuity premium of	\$ 191,588,547
This represents a net gain of	\$2,393,982,488
for the year, after all death claims, matured endowments and surrenders	
Total assets during the calendar year 1996	
increased by	\$ 562,853,425
Reaching an all time high of	\$6,338,763,022
Premium income amounted to	\$ 713,185,144
Benefits paid to beneficiaries and members,	
death claims, maturities, annuities, etc.,	
Amounted to	\$ 159,758,922
Dividends paid to Insurance members	\$ 201,028,166

The Knights of Columbus are on a mission that began over a century ago: to protect mothers and children from hardship. Today, the Knights are one of the largest Catholic charitable organizations in the world. Our members donated more than \$100 million annually to worthwhile causes. The Knights also give millions of Catholic men, women, and children the security of knowing they're protected by one of the highest rated insurance companies in North America: AAA (superior) by Standard and Poor's and A++ (superior) by A. M. Best.

Last year, Knights and their families gave nearly 50 million hours of volunteer service to their communities - and were one of the largest supporters of Special Olympics - making some very special dreams come true. Whether a child is cold or hungry or homeless, it's a comfort to look up and see a Knight standing there.

Respectfully submitted,
Henry Mosco, FIC, LUTC
General Agent

State Vocations Chairman's Report

Only three vocations programs were submitted for consideration for the Best Vocations Program. This is very disappointing since I know that many councils must have had programs in their areas. This is an important part of our work as Knights of Columbus. Many councils are still praying the rosary for the intention of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, but my brothers we have to do more than pray. We have to work at it.

The situation is looking a little better. The Diocese of Biloxi has six men in seminary with two to be ordained in June. The Diocese of Jackson has five men in seminary and John Bohn will be ordained at the Cathedral in Jackson. This will be at 10:00 am on May 31st. It would be nice to have some of our knights in attendance. Maybe even a fourth degree honor guard. John has received scholarship money from the Knights and receives a monthly stipend as well. This is part of the RSVP program which is a blessing to these young men.

Several months back Bishop Houck had a meeting with representatives from various parish organizations on the subject of vocations and it was suggested that each parish have a vocations chairperson on the pastoral council. We need to promote prayer in our parishes and must raise the awareness of the critical need for vocations to fill the needs of our dioceses, and these needs are now. We are not talking the distant future. We are talking within the next few years. In the Jackson diocese eleven priests will reach retirement age within the next five years. We will have one or maybe two men ordained in that time. We are already about ten short. What can we do?

Encourage prayer in your parishes. Pray the rosary. Encourage adoration of the blessed sacrament. In Lafayette, La. most vocations come from areas that have Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Does this tell you something?

Fr. Bill Henry is the Vocations Director for the Jackson Diocese and I'm sure he has a counterpart in Biloxi. He asked me to tell you that he is ready to come and speak at your meetings or at programs for the young people. Fr. Bill would also like for you to send him the day and time of your council meetings. He would like to arrange to come and be present and speak at your meeting. You know that he is a knight also. So when you go home send him this information.

Don't forget that the greatest influence on a young person begins in the home. Talk to your children about the religious life and pray with them and for them.

Form a vocations committee. It is important.

May the favor of the lord rest upon us and bless our work as Knights of Columbus.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud Tomaso
State Vocations Chairman

**State Youth Director's Report
(Including Columbian Squires)**

Youth Activities

The State Free Throw contest this year appears to a very light turn out. So far I have received from Supreme a report showing only 15 councils participating this year. If you have not filed the report that was due in January, please do so.

Columbian Squires

The Columbian Squires Program is doing excellent. This year's activities were great, and there are more planned.

The softball tournament was hosted by Circle 4234 in Picayune. Five Circles participated and Laurel Circle won the tournament once again.

There were 3 Corps D'Elite winners in the state this year. Laurel, Ocean Springs, and Picayune. Laurel was also the recipient of the coveted Brother Barnabus Award.

The Squires State Convention was held in Picayune this year, and the knights of Council 6872 did an excellent job of preparing for the convention. Lance Lambert of Circle 4234 was elected State Chief Squire, and William Hughs of Circle 3768 was elected Deputy Chief Squire.

Council 7211 and Circle 4288 of Lumberton-Poplarville sponsored the installation of State Squire Officers. Father Clark Bearden of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Lumberton, was named Father Prior of the State Circle. There was also an investiture held at the meeting, in which 8 new squires were invested.

Youth retreat number 55 was held at Sacred Heart in Deadeaux this year, and 8 Squires worked kitchen crew along with knights, and over 75% of the 42 candidates were Squires from various Circles around the state.

Next weekend, May 4th will be the second State Squires meeting this year. It will be held in Picayune and the topic will be "Do I Have A Vocation." The guest of honor and main speaker will be Deacon Mike Snyder of Ocean Springs, who will be ordained a Priest in June. Also addressing the statewide gathering of Columbian Squires will be seminarians Michael Austin of Bay St. Louis, and Chris Munch of Poplarville. Knights from Councils 2180, 6872, 7211, 5654 and 1583 will provide the food and beverages.

This fraternal year we didn't have any-new Circles started. However Supreme Council reports to me that 18 Squire Inquiry Kits were sent to our councils who requested them. State Squires Chairman, Jim Yaggi and I will make ourselves and the State Squire Officers available to any council who request our assistance in starting a Squires Circle.

In a letter dated March 27th, Supreme council reiterates what I've been saying and asking of you for 2 years now. The best place to start a Squires Circle is in our Catholic Schools. Any council or

assembly can sponsor a Circle. In this years youth reports, our councils show a very strong support for CYO programs and this is excellent on your part. A Columbian Squire Circle, sponsored by a local council or assembly can offer a young man a perspective of life that CYO organizations cannot. I urge you to consider sponsoring a Columbian Squire Circle in your area. The young men and god will love you for it.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Lambert
State Youth Director.

Post Script:

I would like to thank Bishop Joseph Howze for inviting the Squires of Circle 4234 to serve our convention Masses. This shows the support our Bishops have for our Squires program. The young men serving are our State Chief Squire Lance Lambert who is 17 yrs. old, John Pitts, our State Burser Squire-who is 15 yrs. old, and Matt Barousse, Chief Squire of circle 4234, who is also 15 yrs. old. Where else do you find these older teenage boys still serving Mass as altar servers? The answer is , in very few parishes, except where there is a Columbian Squires Circle.

State Mental Retardation Report

All District Deputies, Grand Knights and Council Members:

The Knights of Columbus in Mississippi have had another successful Tootsie Roll Drive for the Mentally Retarded in Mississippi. This money will be distributed to over 75,000 mentally retarded persons in Mississippi.

We want to thank each and every Knight, their families, the friends of the Knights of Columbus and the Mississippi Association for Retarded Citizens for all their hard work in helping others who cannot help themselves. We set a goal of \$124,800.00 for 1996. We did not achieve this goal, but we collected a net of \$67,233.05 even though 12 (approximately one fourth) of our Councils failed to turn in a report for 1996. When these reports are turned in the proceeds will be added to the 1997 Program.

The Mississippi State Council Officers and named Past State Deputies will again act as the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus Foundation of Mississippi, Inc. I have asked the District Deputies to act as District Chairmen for the 1997 Program.

District Deputies will present this program to the Grand Knights at their District Meetings in January. Grand Knights are asked to present the program to the membership at a Council meeting prior to the Drive.

Grand Knights should appoint a Local Council Chairman and send his name and address to Joseph B. Goellner, Sr. We ask your serious consideration in selecting a Local Chairman and give him your full support and aid him in selecting his Committee Chairmen.

We have set a Net Income Goal of \$132,900 for the State of Mississippi in 1997. We should achieve this goal, if we maintain our enthusiasm and devotion to this program. We hope that each and everyone of you will visit your local Mentally Retarded Association and see how your contribution has helped that organization. If you need any stimulation in this program, that visit will be all that you will need. Not every Council participated last year. We hope that every Council will participate this year.

The State Deputy presents a trophy to the Council that collects the largest net income per member. The Corinth Council won the 1996 trophy with a net income per member of \$187.33. The State Deputy will present the highest gross income per Council Trophy to the Tupelo Council again for 1996. They collected a gross income of \$13,142.69. We all want to congratulate these fine Councils for their extraordinary work for the Mentally Retarded in Mississippi.

The proceeds of this drive will be sent to us and we will deposit your proceeds in an account for the Knights of Columbus Foundation of Mississippi, Inc. The co-signers of this account will be the State Deputy and the State Treasurer. When you send your Council Disbursement Fund Request Form to us with your Federal Tax Exempt letter, we will return your funds in September

1997. Remember ALL funds must be disbursed prior to November 1, 1997 to be included in the 1997 Fund Drive Report.

This year we ask you to use the week of May 12th through May 18th to collect for this Drive. The first part of the week is for business donations and Friday the 16th and Saturday the 17th for city-wide Drive. Our insurance for workers collecting for this Drive will only be in effect on Friday May 16th and Saturday May 17th.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the net will be for the State Council's, retarded program and seventy-five (75%) of the net for local Council's retarded programs. The money raised must be spent to aid in the area of mental retardation and only that area.

Remember, with every two cases of Tootsie Rolls, you receive one cap and one canister bank free. Additional caps and canisters may be ordered at a nominal cost, but don't wait until the last minute. If aprons are needed, they can be ordered from Developmental Services Center, 1304 West Bradley Avenue, Champaign, Illinois 61821. The cost of the aprons are \$5.00 each plus a \$2.50 handling charge per order.

All moneys less the cost of Tootsie Rolls and aprons should be forwarded to State Chairman Joseph B. Goellner, Sr. immediately on completion of the Drive. Billing for Tootsie Rolls and aprons will be to the ordering Council and they should be paid for at that level with moneys withheld from the total receipts for that purpose only—no other moneys can be expended. Strict control by Councils should be exercised in all areas of this program. Tootsie Roll orders of 50 cases or more will be sent freight prepaid—smaller Councils can consolidate their orders through their District Deputy and take advantage of prepaid freight. THE DISTRICT DEPUTY WILL ORDER FOR ALL COUNCILS IN HIS DISTRICT.

A program outline, along with a set of guidelines and sample proclamation, are enclosed for your convenience to promote the Drive. As soon as the project is completed, send all moneys to State Chairman Joseph B. Goellner, Sr. with report forms as indicated.

If you have any questions or difficulties, please contact us. We would appreciate it if you would invite one of us to your Council to help explain this program.

Good luck to each Council!

Fraternally yours,
Joseph B. Goellner, Sr.
State Mental Retardation Chairman

Mississippi State Council
1996 Mental Retardation Drive

NO.	COUNCIL	GROSS INCOME BEFORE DEDUCTIONS	NET INCOME	NET AMT PER MEMBER	AMOUNT TO COUNCIL FOR DISTRIBUTION	STATE DISTRIBUTION	MATCHING FUNDS 1996	ACCUMULATED TOTAL FUNDS DONATED	RECOMMENDED GOAL FOR 1996 MRD
802	MERIDIAN *	502.00	502.00	2.27	376.50	125.50	0.00	376.50	1500.00
848	JACKSON	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	5000.00
898	VICKSBURG	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	3000.00
1034	NATCHEZ	1591.54	1555.54	8.06	1166.65	388.89	7000.00	8166.65	1800.00
1244	BILOXI	2545.85	2028.35	6.87	1521.28	507.09	0.00	1521.28	3000.00
1522	BAY ST. LOUIS	1207.00	1000.00	8.38	760.00	250.00	750.00	1500.00	1500.00
1583	GULFPORT	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	1500.00
1605	PASCAGOULA	3640.31	3331.19	12.07	2498.39	832.80	0.00	2498.39	5500.00
1980	HATTIESBURG	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	3200.00
2134	GREENVILLE	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	1800.00
2180	LAUREL	2520.55	2333.05	19.77	1749.79	583.26	12248.51	13998.30	2800.00
2945	LELAND	2710.00	2200.00	32.84	1650.00	550.00	3000.00	4550.00	3000.00
2969	CLARKSDALE	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	2000.00
4472	PASS CHRISTIAN	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	2000.00
4898	LONG BEACH *	3889.75	3500.00	24.65	2625.00	875.00	0.00	2625.00	3000.00
5267	GREENWOOD	3134.00	3032.40	38.88	2274.30	758.10	0.00	2274.30	4000.00
5555	CLEVELAND	1394.99	1394.99	9.43	1048.24	346.75	4185.00	5231.24	2000.00
5654	OCEAN SPRINGS *	1211.00	1041.75	9.12	1231.31	410.44	0.00	1231.31	2800.00
5555	SHELBY	1176.73	1047.98	27.38	800.99	266.99	2403.00	3203.99	1800.00
5591	BASSFELD	767.00	757.00	9.23	567.75	189.25	0.00	567.75	1500.00
5765	STARKVILLE	795.00	645.00	12.90	483.75	161.25	0.00	483.75	1000.00
5872	PICAYUNE	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	6000.00
7087	KILN	977.50	718.75	13.31	538.06	179.69	0.00	538.06	1800.00
7120	SOUTHAVEN	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	2000.00
7211	LUMBERTON	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	800.00
7884	CLINTON	733.00	681.25	14.18	510.94	170.31	0.00	510.94	1500.00
7910	ORANGE GROVE	1833.55	1503.55	13.79	1127.66	375.89	0.00	1127.66	1800.00
7915	BROOKHAVEN	4437.00	4297.42	62.41	3223.07	1074.35	0.00	3223.07	4500.00
7974	COLUMBUS	1536.47	1339.27	28.50	1004.45	334.82	0.00	1004.45	1800.00
8038	PEARL	2269.95	2097.45	30.40	1573.09	524.36	3619.27	5092.36	2500.00
8054	McCOMB	1414.50	1414.50	26.69	1060.88	353.62	3182.64	4243.52	2000.00
8285	ST. THERESE	927.51	729.51	8.79	547.21	182.40	0.00	547.21	2500.00
8760	HOLLY SPRINGS **	559.13	559.13	18.83	494.35	164.78	0.00	494.35	1500.00
8848	TUPELO	13142.69	13142.69	88.21	9857.02	3285.67	0.00	9857.02	18000.00
8912	CORINTH	6027.45	5619.55	167.33	4214.96	1404.99	4214.96	8429.92	6000.00
9054	NORTH BILOXI **	278.00	140.00	1.44	105.00	35.00	0.00	105.00	1200.00
9124	GAUTIER	1299.10	1161.10	12.09	870.82	290.28	0.00	870.82	1500.00
9234	INDIANOLA	1387.95	1101.83	24.49	826.37	278.48	2490.00	3306.37	1200.00
9409	WEST BILOXI **	500.00	500.00	6.25	375.00	125.00	0.00	375.00	2500.00
9543	MADISON	2619.10	2425.25	17.20	1818.95	606.31	0.00	1818.95	3000.00
9673	WOOLMARKET **	113.50	113.50	1.77	85.13	28.37	0.00	85.13	2000.00
9958	LIZANA	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	2000.00
10216	BRANDON	1666.29	1493.79	22.63	1120.34	373.45	0.00	1120.34	2000.00
10443	GRENADA	1121.00	863.00	23.32	647.25	215.75	0.00	647.25	3000.00
10499	OCEAN SPRINGS	1811.00	1641.75	19.78	1231.31	410.44	0.00	1231.31	2800.00
10901	OXFORD	NO REPORT		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	2800.00
11541	ST. JAMES	895.00	800.00	8.82	450.00	150.00	0.00	450.00	1500.00
11654	WIGGINS	NEW		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	1000.00
TOTALS FOR 1996		72726.41	67233.05	12.37	50424.79	16806.26	42983.38	93408.16	132900.00
TOTALS FOR 1995		91740.02	81899.95	18.52	61425.02	20474.93	50852.19	112576.68	124800.00

** NO DISBURSEMENT FORM

** NO AUDIT OR DISBURSEMENT FORM

MR - NO REPORT (MONEY & FORMS) BY November 1, 1996



Knights of Columbus Foundation of Mississippi, Inc.

1996 DISTRIBUTION OF STATE MENTALLY RETARDED DRIVE FUNDS IN MISSISSIPPI

ORGANIZATION RECEIVING DONATIONS	PROGRAM FUNDED BY DONATIONS	AMOUNT DONATED	TOTAL FUNDS DONATED
MS. SPECIAL OLYMPICS 16 AREAS - \$300. EACH	ALL 16 AREA DIVISIONS OF MS. SPECIAL OLYMPICS STATEWIDE-ALL COUNTIES	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
CHRISTIAN SERVICES CENTER	WORK TRAINING CENTER FOR SPECIAL MENTALLY RETARDED ADULTS 3 TO 1 MATCHING FUNDS	308.28	924.78
K OF C INTERNSHIP CASE MANAGER ELLISVILLE STATE SCHOOL	MISSISSIPPI KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR MARY ANN HOLMES	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
K OF C INTERNSHIP CASE MANAGER ELLISVILLE STATE SCHOOL	MISSISSIPPI KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR CHARLES CUPIT	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
K OF C INTERNSHIP CASE MANAGER ELLISVILLE STATE SCHOOL	MISSISSIPPI KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR JOHN JONES	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00

TOTAL DISTRIBUTION TO THE MS MENTALLY RETARDED-1996	\$67,233.05
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TOTAL FEDERAL AND STATE MATCHING FUNDS - 1996	\$43,908.16
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ACCUMULATED TOTAL RECEIVED BY THE MENTALLY RETARDED	IN MS. - 1996	\$111,141.21
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ACCUMULATED TOTAL RECEIVED BY THE MENTALLY RETARDED	IN MS. TO DATE	\$4,579,785.00
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Respectfully submitted,

DAVE ATTEBERRY
State Co-Chairman
JOSEPH GOELLNER
State Co-Chairman

Following the Foundation of Mississippi report, State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III closed the Second Business Session with a prayer written by State Chaplain Jeffrey Waldrep at 11:40 a.m. The delegates were free to eat lunch and then attend their assigned committee meetings.

**Third Business Session
Saturday, April 26, 1997**

State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III called to order and opened the Third Business Session of the 93rd Annual State Convention of the Mississippi Jurisdiction at 2:35 p.m. State Warden Ted V. Knowles verified that all present possessed a current membership card of the Third Degree. The State Deputy opened the meeting by reading a prayer wrote by State Chaplain Reverend Father Jeffrey Waldrep. Prayer was offered for several brothers who were currently in poor health, including Fred Clark, Lessie Ladner, and F. L. Westbrook. District Deputy Natale Zummo lead the Delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

State Program Director Thomas F. Chady presented the following program report.

State Program Director's Report

The State Program area underwent few significant changes this year. To become more visible and to encourage greater participation, we split the Mid-winter meeting, like we had done to the School of Columbianism, into three regional meetings rather than one statewide gathering. The regional meetings increased attendance and participation dramatically. We added special projects and broadened some of the other regional activities in order to bolster more regional involvement.

We continued the new award category; the Council of Excellence to reward councils completing a number of activities while achieving a positive net growth. In the inaugural year, one-fourth of the state's 48 council attained this new level. This year we had a record number of councils qualifying for distinguished council especially in the membership category. We also decided to continue to recognize second and third place activities with certificates in the Supreme Award areas.

Another significant improvement was the incorporation of delegates in the judging of all major award categories, resulting in increased submissions in most areas; especially pro-life and "Knight" and "Family" of the year entries.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas F. Chady
State Program Director

**1997
CATEGORY**

	<u>Total Council</u>	<u>Distinguished</u>	<u>Council of Excellence</u>	<u>Honor Council</u>	<u>No Report</u>
Small	15	5	5	0	5
Medium	17	7	6	3	1
Large	11	8	1	1	1
X-Large	6	2	2	1	1
Total	49	22	14	5	8
Percent		49%	29%	10%	16%

**ACTIVITY REPORTS
TOTAL SUBMISSIONS**

Church	11	22%
Community	13	27%
Council	7	140/0
Family	8	16%
Youth	10	20%
Vocations	4	8%
Pro-Life	8	16%
Knight Of The Year	12	240/0
Family Of The Year	15	31%

State Church Activities Director's Report

In reading the program reports that were submitted prior to this year's convention, it became obvious that the men in our order are taking the lead in their parishes in the various liturgical ministries and in the building, remodeling and repair of the churches and the church properties. The support for the religious and the priests through dinners which honor them and through monetary gifts is very gratifying.

What we need now is a push on vocations. This is a vital issue which has been covered to great lengths. Let's work on this.

Our order has two strong pillars. Devotion to the Eucharist and devotion to our Blessed Mother. Promote the rosary as an important form of prayer. Promote adoration of the blessed sacrament. Pray the rosary at your meetings, organize a service with exposition of the blessed sacrament in your parish. You will be blest,

Finally, pray for our priests, our bishops and for our Holy Father the Pope that the Lord will give them strength in their ministries.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud Tomaso
State Church Director

State Family Activities Director's Report

No report submitted.

State Community Activities Director's Report

Although I have not been this Activities Director for the full year, I wish to thank the State Deputy (Jessie "Bubba" Quinn) and State Program Director (Tom Chady) for the confidence shown me in this appointment.

Having been on a two year sabbatical from all activities, to complete my college education, I was pleasantly surprised to find the changes that had taken place in the state programs activities guidelines.

Because of the changes, some of the instructions on filling out the state activities reports were not understood fully and some mistakes were made on the mid-year reports. These mistakes were expected and we corrected those needed on each of the reports. We not only deducted points for reporting errors but credited a large number of points that were either miscalculated or mis-reported. The year end reports were evidence that the councils used our feedback in correcting their reporting, by very few errors being made. I feel that the state membership appreciates the changes made and how we worked with each council submitting reports to assist them in improving their reporting.

In the past, members felt it was a waste of time in submitting their reports. Now they can see that the State Family has a concern for them and wants each and every council to succeed. I firmly believe that the changes made have and will continue to improve the outlook that the membership has towards the State Programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerry Clark
State Community Director

State Council Activities Director's Report

A total of thirty-eight Councils reported activities in the Council area. The total number of points awarded was almost 15,000. Unfortunately, only seven of these Councils reported a "Best Council Program." Of all the Councils reporting, thirty-five met the minimum criteria, in this program area, for Honor Council (i.e., at least one special project and a total of four programs). Twenty-six Councils met the minimum criteria for Distinguished Council (i.e., three special projects and a minimum of five programs).

One innovation this year in the Council area was the summarizing and reporting of all Council activities for the mid-winter meeting. This summary was made available to each of the Councils at the meetings. The purpose of the summary was for everyone to see the types of activities Councils around the state were involved in. This may provide some ideas for future programs in the Council area, and it may also encourage some Councils to report programs they already perform, but have omitted from the reporting form.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter C. Sukanek
State Council Director

Council Activity by Council	802	848	898	1034	1244	1522	1605	1908	2180
Special									
VIP Program	50								
Membership Drive	50	50	185	50	55	65	65	75	
Monthly/Quart Newsletter	75		75	55	50		65	50	55
Fraternal Benefits						65	55		50
First Degree Team	50		75		55		75		75
Second Degree Team							75		
Third Degree Team							75		
Fourth Degree Team			75						
State Athletic Event	215		55	50			150	65	
Monthly/Quart Social	5	55	75	65	65	70	120		
Scrapbook Competition	65		55						
Other									
Host 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Degrees	80		80					20	
Provide 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd Degrees			60						
Council Rosary	25		45						
Prayer Cards			20						
Aid to Women's Aux	10		25						
Web Page			45						
E-mail			35						
Website activities			45						
Special Meetings			45						
Games	60		70				20		
Fundraisers	45			45			45		
Special Socials	190		95	80		125		70	20
Knight of Month/Quarter	40		25						20
Knight of Year									
Officer Installation Mass									
Installation Banquet			20				25		
Aid to Members in Distress	30		30				20		
Awards Night	20		45						25
Assist Other Councils, Assemblies	10		45						
Convention Advertisement	10		10						
Convention Hospitality Room			35						
Council Cleanup/repair			75					35	
District Mtg. Hospitality									
Birthday Card Program	35								
Council Retreat									
Complimentary Badges									
Council Columbus Program	20								
Host Convention	45								
Sporting Events	45		25		25				
Eating/Drinking Support			90						
Grave Marker									
Council Directories									
Health Program									
TOTAL	1155	105	1445	345	225	330	790	315	245

Council Activity by Council	4898	5556	5654	6592	6765	6872	7087	7120	7211
Special									
VIP Program						50			
Membership Drive					100		150	55	325
Monthly/Quart Newsletter	50	50	75			50		65	
Fraternal Benefits		65	65			50	50		
First Degree Team	50	50	50					50	
Second Degree Team			55						
Third Degree Team			50						
Fourth Degree Team									
State Athletic Event		50		50					
Monthly/Quart Social	100	75	75	50	50		65	75	
Scrapbook Competition								55	65
Other									
Host 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Degrees		25	245	35	20		35		20
Provide 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd Degrees									
Council Rosary									
Prayer Cards									
Aid to Women's Aux									
Web Page					20				
E-mail									
Website activities									
Special Meetings									
Games									
Fundraisers	45	70	45			45	80		35
Special Socials	55			35		35		50	40
Knight of Month/Quarter			25			20			
Knight of Year									
Officer Installation Mass									
Installation Banquet		35	70					25	20
Aid to Members in Distress									
Awards Night					25				45
Assist Other Councils, Assemblies			25						
Convention Advertisement		10							
Convention Hospitality Room									
Council Cleanup/repair									
District Mtg. Hospitality			45						
Birthday Card Program			25						
Council Retreat									
Complimentary Badges									
Council Columbus Program									
Host Convention									
Sporting Events									
Eating/Drinking Support									
Grave Marker									
Council Directories									
Health Program									
TOTAL	300	430	850	170	215	250	380	375	550

Council Activity by Council	7854	7910	7915	8038	8054	8285	8760	8848	9094
Special									
VIP Program		50		50		65			
Membership Drive	65	55			65	50	50	155	65
Monthly/Quart Newsletter		50	50		50	50		65	65
Fraternal Benefits		50	50						
First Degree Team			50		50	65		50	
Second Degree Team									
Third Degree Team									
Fourth Degree Team									
State Athletic Event		65							50
Monthly/Quart Social	65	50	50	65				50	65
Scrapbook Competition									
Other									
Host 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Degrees	60				20	40		135	
Provide 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd Degrees									
Council Rosary				35					
Prayer Cards									
Aid to Women's Aux									
Web Page									
E-mail									
Website activities									
Special Meetings									
Games									
Fundraisers			90	35		90		35	
Special Socials			45				20		70
Knight of Month/Quarter					20	20		20	
Knight of Year									
Officer Installation Mass									
Installation Banquet			25				20	25	
Aid to Members in Distress									
Awards Night							20	25	
Assist Other Councils, Assemblies									
Convention Advertisement									
Convention Hospitality Room								335	
Council Cleanup/repair									
District Mtg. Hospitality									
Birthday Card Program									
Council Retreat						35			
Complimentary Badges								20	
Council Columbus Program									
Host Convention									
Sporting Events	45								
Eating/Drinking Support								25	
Grave Marker			20						
Council Directories									
Health Program									
TOTAL	190	320	360	185	205	415	110	915	315

Council Activity by Council	9124	9409	9543	9673	9958	10214	10443	10499	10901
Special									
VIP Program		50							
Membership Drive	120	55		75			130	100	130
Monthly/Quart Newsletter	65	75			65	50	75	75	65
Fraternal Benefits	55	50							55
First Degree Team							65	55	55
Second Degree Team							65		
Third Degree Team							65		
Fourth Degree Team									
State Athletic Event		75							
Monthly/Quart Social		55		75	65			75	
Scrapbook Competition									
Other									
Host 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Degrees			25		35		45		170
Provide 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd Degrees									
Council Rosary								25	
Prayer Cards									
Aid to Women's Aux									
Web Page									
E-mail									
Website activities									
Special Meetings									
Games									
Fundraisers		45	45	90			90		
Special Socials	70		70			25			90
Knight of Month/Quarter									
Knight of Year									
Officer Installation Mass				45					
Installation Banquet				45				45	
Aid to Members in Distress					10			35	
Awards Night		20	25						25
Assist Other Councils, Assemblies						25			
Convention Advertisement									
Convention Hospitality Room									
Council Cleanup/repair									
District Mtg. Hospitality									
Birthday Card Program									20
Council Retreat									
Complimentary Badges									
Council Columbus Program									
Host Convention									
Sporting Events									
Eating/Drinking Support									
Grave Marker									
Council Directories		20							
Health Program		45							
TOTAL	310	425	165	330	175	100	535	410	610

Council Activity by Council	11541	11904
Special		
VIP Program		
Membership Drive	50	110
Monthly/Quart Newsletter	55	
Fraternal Benefits		
First Degree Team		
Second Degree Team		
Third Degree Team		
Fourth Degree Team		
State Athletic Event	55	
Monthly/Quart Social		
Scrapbook Competition		
Other		
Host 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Degrees		
Provide 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd Degrees		
Council Rosary		
Prayer Cards		
Aid to Women's Aux		
Web Page		
E-mail		
Website activities		
Special Meetings		
Games		
Fundraisers		
Special Socials	20	
Knight of Month/Quarter		20
Knight of Year		20
Officer Installation Mass		
Installation Banquet		25
Aid to Members in Distress		
Awards Night		
Assist Other Councils, Assemblies		
Convention Advertisement		
Convention Hospitality Room		
Council Cleanup/repair		
District Mtg. Hospitality		
Birthday Card Program		
Council Retreat		
Complimentary Badges		
Council Columbus Program	20	
Host Convention		
Sporting Events		
Eating/Drinking Support		
Grave Marker		
Council Directories		
Health Program		
TOTAL	200	175

Awards/Reports Chairman's Report

The function of the awards/reports chairman is to keep track of the submission of reports that are required by the State and Supreme Councils. The reports forms booklet published by Supreme each year is a most valuable tool in this endeavor. However, it appears that some Councils do not know of its existence or simply ignore the requirements contained therein. This is truly a shame because each and every report fulfills a function. Primary among these reports is the Annual survey of Fraternal Activities. This report is utilized by the Supreme Council in the continuing battle to maintain our tax exempt status. It should be submitted by each Council on time each and every year. Sadly, this is not the case. As of mid-March, our Jurisdiction still had four Councils outstanding. I have said many times, "do your duty" when elected to a Council office. I can only ask now - "have you?" If, in the future, you are privileged to lead your Council, make it a priority to submit the required reports when they are due and to whom they are to be sent.

Fraternally submitted,
Tom Zettler, PSD
Awards/Reports Chairman

1997 State Free Throw Championship Report

The 1997 State Free throw Tournament was held on March 22, 1996 in Jackson, MS at St. Therese's Parish Center. A total of 53 participants, representing 19 different councils, were in attendance from the coast to the northern areas of the state. There is a chance that several of our state winners could be in the running for the International competition.

Twenty-one (21) councils submitted their form #2824 (Free Throw Participation Report Form) to Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services.

The winners were:

Name	Council Represented	Age	Sex	Score(out of 25)
Sederick Williams	898	10	M	15(4of5)
Tranyce Peoples	898	10	F	13
John "Tyler" Conn	5654	11	M	22
Cheryl Minor	8285	11	F	20
Owen Grissom	4898	12	M	16
Nikki Breland	7211	12	F	18
Jamaal Moore	5556	13	M	20
Racheal Sanders	9673	13	F	18
Ronald Stephen Smith	5654	14	M	20
Tierra Fountain	9124	14	F	15

I would like to make three special notations. First, in the future, all participants need to make sure they bring their score sheet from the local and/or district competitions to the state competition. Second, all local and/or district winners are invited to the state tournament. Some districts have a competition but the majority do not, so it is not fair to the local winners in those districts, not to be able to participate in the state tournament. We must remember that this event is for the children and the more we can get to participate the more Christian influence can be spread. Third, this year I had a terrible series of events concerning the state award trophies purchased through the Supreme Supply Department. I received either the wrong or damaged items on three (3) occasions so far, which has delayed half of the participants from receiving their awards for over one and one half months after the competition. I have negotiated a price lower than Supreme's for equal or better quality trophies plus free engraving at a trophy shop in Jackson for the 1998 competition. I would highly recommend that they be used instead of the Supreme Supply Department in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Yours In Christ,
Gerry Clark
State Free Throw Tournament

State Health Services Chairman's Report

As society in general is becoming increasingly more health conscious—the Mississippi Knights of Columbus have jumped right in to help promote and educate the parishes and communities in which they are associated, primarily topics related to health and well-being. Many councils have experienced great enthusiastic response to their health related programs; this I am sure, will aid in making each succeeding program more successful—not only councilwide but state and nationwide.

Programs which councils are sponsoring include those on dietary concerns, eye and ear safety and diseases, parish blood drives, "Say No to Drugs" programs, CPR classes, basic first aid, bicycle safety, talks from local physicians and dentist on current topics of interest.

Thus, the importance for such programs need not be overlooked for not only are these of great benefit to health and life, they are evangelistic promoting Columbianism in a very positive manner.

in closing, I would like to thank our worthy State Deputy for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity. As always, he has been an inspiration to us all and truly an asset to our state; and we wish him Godspeed in his future undertakings.

Respectfully submitted,
Wade H. Ditcharo
Health Services Chairman

State Membership Director's Report

This report provides a brief summary of my activities for the period April 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997. Other details of the state's membership activities and accomplishments are listed in the State Membership Committee report in this convention minute book.

My talk is divided into two parts. It could be called the good, the bad and the ugly. The first part concerns something that troubles me as a Knight. I hesitate to mention it but, as a witness to the anguish, turmoil and damage these events have caused, I decided to convey to you my observations in this area in the hope of avoiding such incidents in the future. This is the bad and ugly portion. I will close with the good portion.

Over the last two years I have witnessed or become aware of a few, unfortunate incidents where pride, ego, hate, and childish, inappropriate actions have caused some deep divisions in local councils and in the state council. This undermines and counteracts our good works and tarnishes the noble image of our Order. Remember these words from our degree exemplifications "Harm not your brother in thought, word or deed". And another quote "Appearances are sometimes deceiving". And still another - "Judge not your brother, lest you be judged".

Many more people than I had previously believed get their feeling and ego hurt easily by careless words, lack of tact, inappropriate criticism and unfounded rumors. **When faced with such situations, you must seek the truth until you discover it and base your decisions on that truth. You must separate fact from fiction prior to acting or making a decision.**

If you are the subject of unfounded, damaging rumors - **CLEAR YOUR NAME.** My great grandfather told my father something many years ago when my father was working in the family factory sanding church pews. My great grandfather - I knew him as "Pops" said "Charlie, never do anything to disgrace your family name and never let anyone defame your family name". My dad recently related that to me at Easter. You see, he is embroiled in a controversy in his parish. It is so serious that he was considering resigning as Deputy Grand Knight and as Pastoral Council President and going to another church. I said to him "Dad, no one will ever force me from my parish. These people who falsely accuse you will win if you leave. Some will think your departure implies the rumors were true." He decided to remain in his parish and is attempting to clear his name and publicize the facts of the controversy.

We can never be sure of what effect our words and deeds will have on others. We can never anticipate how others will react or what the ultimate consequences of our actions will be. My best advice to you is to think before you say or do anything so as to meditate on the possible consequences your actions may have on others.

If you become aware that you have hurt someone - apologize to them. Apology is difficult for many people but the healing process cannot begin without a sincere, contrite apology. Swallow your ego, be humble and just do it. Sure, it involves an admission of guilt, but it's like going to confession - once you have decided to do it and then do it, you will feel better.

In the movie *The Prince of Tides*, Nick Nolte said "In families there are no sins beyond forgiveness". Regardless of whether other people apologize to you, forgive them. Hold no grudge throughout your life. As Joe Bonfiglio says "Remember that each person must be treated not as an object or number but as a unique human being created in God's image and likeness.

What I cannot comprehend is that fine Knights become inactive because they didn't get elected or appointed to a position or get "their way". If they truly learned and understood the principles of our Order, they would not become inactive. Their behavior reminds me of kids playing in a sandbox and if their game hasn't been selected to be played, they grab their toys and go home and perhaps don't play with their friends for months. What a shame! My advice to these people is - you are adults, act like mature individuals. Stop living in the past.

Revenge, vindictiveness, envy, jealousy, hate, and greed serve no useful purpose. Life is too short for these destructive - and sometimes - obsessive, consuming traits.

Fr. McGivney was an astute observer of human behavior. I urge all Knights to repeatedly attend our degree exemplifications, to meditate on the words and principles they contain. If we kept the principles of our Order - Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism in our hearts, words and deeds, these situations would not arise.

Can we be so unforgiving that we let trivial incidents cause us to sever our membership in the Knights of Columbus? We are a democratic fraternal society. Majority rules. Just because your council decides to do something you do not favor, is that any valid reason to desert your brother Knights and those who benefit from our charitable works?

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is a special privilege, an honor, held fiercely in such high regard by some that they will do everything in their power - often acting alone - to revitalize their council. All of us can recall Knights who have "saved" councils that were on the path to dissolution. Such valiant, unselfish actions by these Knights lucidly illustrate to me the high regard we should all hold our membership. Their actions are a superb testament to their belief in the noble purpose and works of our Order and their desire to continue serving their fellow humans. Let these deeds serve as the utmost inspiration to you when you become discouraged or frustrated about the lack of participation by some of our brother Knights and their families.

There will always be a few Knights at your side to make your council programs a success. Never forget that. Your programs help put your "Faith in Action" just as the chosen twelve apostles spread the Word of God throughout the known world. Vivat Jesus!

Now, on to the truly gratifying aspects of these last two years.

April 1996 - June 1996

We concentrated on new round table development and constantly urged all councils to conduct first degrees during the April 1996 - June 1996 period to have a strong recruitment finish for the Supreme Membership year. New round tables were established in Gluckstadt, Batesville, New Albany and Columbia/Tylertown. During this period we had a tremendous net gain of 190 Knights. In June 1996 we had an unbelievable month with a net gain of 92 and a gross gain of 101. We announced a State Recruitment Incentive program at the 1996 State Convention in which we would award wind breakers to the Top 10 Proposers for April - June 1996. The winners were:

Bob Hudson (10901 Oxford)	Fr. Tommy Conway (7211 Lumberton/Poplarville)
Joe Bonfiglio (7915 Brookhaven)	Curt Stasny (7211 Lumberton/Poplarville)
Jerry Troxler (10901 Oxford)	Dennis Riecke (9543 Madison)
Michael Gary (7974 Columbus)	Lynn Eberhardt (9543 Madison)
Joe Martin (10901 Oxford)	John Ward (7910 Orange Grove)

Final Standings - Supreme Membership Year (7/95 - 6/96)

We finished in first place in Division VI (under 5,300 members) with a recruitment and retention net gain of 365 members and a net percentage gain of 7.08%. This net percentage gain ranked Mississippi 6th out of 66 jurisdictions. Every council was active, recruiting at least one new Knight during the year and 40 councils (83.3%) had net gains. Twenty-one of forty-eight councils (43.8%) met or exceeded their Supreme Quota. We exceeded Supreme's membership goal of 409 by recruiting 529 Knights. How did the year compare to previous years? In 1979 Supreme started retaining statistics on retention and recruitment so my comparison can only be based on data from 1979 to present. The gross gain of 529 and the retention and recruitment net gain of 365 are the highest on record. The 164 suspensions and withdrawals are the third lowest on record and the net overall gain (including deaths and transfers) of 278 is the second highest. Buddy Cupit, District Deputy #10 was awarded the Star District Award.

In summary we met three of the four main membership goals we set for Mississippi by leading our division; exceeding a 5% net gain and having every council active. We lacked establishing 1 more new council to achieve our new council development goal of 2.

July 1996 - June 1997

The State Membership Committee report in this convention booklet provides details on training provided at the Schools of Columbianism and Midwinter meetings; State Recruitment incentives and the scheduling of membership drives. Consult that report because these items are not covered in this report.

At the Schools of Columbianism, I distributed a revised edition of the *Membership Recruitment Handbook for Councils in Mississippi* to each council. I urged them to set dates for open houses and church drives. Most of my weekends were spent traveling with our State Deputy Jesse "Bubba" Quinn III to councils for talks at church drives and other recruitment functions.

We stressed the importance of recruitment after each degree exemplification and during district meetings. We also stressed the importance of retention and following the correct billing and suspension procedure.

Supreme Membership Incentive Campaigns

Supreme established a "In Solidarity With Our Bishops" membership campaign. For the "Quick Start" July 1 - August 31, 1996 part the following councils were awarded either a Fr. McGivney canvass portrait, a Holy Family icon, or a Fr. McGivney photo montage for recruiting at least 5 members in this period:

802 Meridian	1605 Pascagoula
10901 Oxford	11541 Gulfport - St. James

For the June 1 - December 31, 1996 phase of this campaign councils were assigned membership quotas and awards were given to recruiters, councils and district deputies who met various requirements. The following 13 councils met their membership quota for this period and the Grand Knights and Membership Directors received a silver Cross pen with the emblem of the Order:

898 Vicksburg	1522 Bay St. Louis	1908 Hattiesburg
7120 Southaven	7211 Lumberton/Poplarville	7854 Clinton
8038 Pearl	9124 Gautier	9409 West Biloxi
9543 Madison	10901 Oxford	11541 Gulfport
	11654 Wiggins/Lucedale	

The following 5 District Deputies received one of the following books, *Faith and Fraternity or Columbianism and the Knights of Columbus* for having their district meet its membership quota for this period: Rich Lieding (DD#4), Nat Zummo (DD#5), Curt Stasny (DD#7), Danny Lechner (DD#10), and Don Cox (DD#11).

The following 11 Knights received the videotape, "In Solidarity at Aqueduct" commemorating the Papal mass the Order hosted for recruiting at least 3 new members during this period:

Brian J. Dubaz (1244 Gulfport)	Wilson J. John Jr. (7211 Lumberton/Poplarville)
Lloyd Everhardt (7854 Clinton)	Preston R. Stuit (7211 Lumberton/Poplarville)
James H. Rigby (9409 West Biloxi)	Charles R. Campbell (9543 Madison)
Robert L. Hudson (10901 Oxford)	Fritz J. Oberlies (11541 Gulfport - St. James)
John R. Ward Sr. (7910 Orange Grove)	Don F. Cox (11904 Lucedale)
Ernest J. Falgo, Jr. (1605 Pascagoula)	

Midwinter Meeting

At the Midwinter meetings councils were asked to provide a date for their membership drives to be held from January - March 1997. A recruitment letter was provided to all councils for their use to invite prospects to this drive. Three church drive talks were provided to the District Deputies and councils were encouraged to use them at their church drives. The response to this request was excellent as 40 of the 50 councils scheduled some type of membership recruitment activity. It was truly gratifying that so many councils used these materials and held their functions without on-site assistance from the State Officers or State Membership Director. It signaled to me that councils were willing to take the initiative and execute their drives if they had appropriate invitation letters

and church drive talks. The development and use of these materials should be an annual or semiannual practice.

State Council Membership Incentives

At the Midwinter meetings in December 1996 we announced that the state council would award 100.00 Sears gift certificates to the top 5 proposers for the January - March 1997 period. The District Deputy from the district with the greatest net gain would also receive a gift certificate. The winning Knights were John Leonard (7910 Orange Grove), John Ward (7910 Orange Grove), Joe Martin (8848 Tupelo), Joe Jones Jr. (11934 Gluckstadt), and Mack McCarney (11654 Wiggins). The winning District Deputy was Tom Wedig (DD#8) with a net gain of 26. These Knights received recognition and their certificates at the 1997 State Convention.

At the State Convention in April 1997 we announced a state membership recruitment campaign called "1,000 Knights for Christ". The state council would award a T-shirt to each Knight that proposed at least 2 members during that period and also a golf shirt to each Knight proposing at least 5 members during that period. Both shirts were white and had a full color emblem of the Order circled with the theme title. The T-shirt winners were:

Tom Chady (898 Vicksburg)	Jerry Roberts (898 Vicksburg)
Lessie Ladner (4472 Pass Christian)	Warren Reso (4472 Pass Christian)
Harvey Caldwell (5267 Greenwood)	Robert Barr (9124 Gautier)
Don Tiblier (9124 Gautier)	Millard Dorsey (10499 Ocean Springs)
Roland Hillebrand (10499 Ocean Springs)	Don Cox (11904 Lucedale)
Martin Pavolini (11995 Pass Christian)	James Dubisson (11995 Pass Christian)
Richard Cuevas (11995 Pass Christian)	Rhett Maynard (11995 Pass Christian)

The golf shirt winners were:

John Leonhard (7910 Orange Grove)	Buddy Honeycutt (10443 Grenada)
Raymond Tanet (11956 Columbian/Tylertown)	

Top Proposer of the Month Awards

The Top Proposer of the Month awards were presented to the following Knights at the 1997 State Convention during the awards banquet:

April 1996	Andrew Mitchell Joe Bonfiglio	1522 Bay St. Louis 7915 Brookhaven
May 1996	Curt Stasny Bob Hudson	7211 Poplarville/Lumberton 10901 Oxford
June 1996	Rob Hudson Bud Tomaso	8848 Tupelo 8848 Tupelo
July 1996	Fritz J. Oberlies	11541 Gulfport - St. James

August 1996	Bob Hudson John Harwell	10901 Oxford 802 Meridian
September 1996	Don Cox	11654 Wiggins/Lucedale
October 1996	James H. Rigby, Sr.	9409 West Biloxi
November 1996	Tom Chady	898 Vicksburg
December 1996	Tom Chady Andrew Mitchell	898 Vicksburg 1522 Bay St. Louis
January 1997	Andrew Mitchell Bill Reynolds	1522 Bay St. Louis 10901 Oxford
February 1997	Joe Martin	8848 Tupelo
March 1997	Joe Jones, Jr.	11934 Gluckstadt

Top Proposer of the Year Awards

The Top Proposer of the Year awards were presented at the 1997 State Convention awards banquet.

First Place - Andrew Mitchell (1522 Bay St. Louis) with 33 members, received a plaque.

Second Place - Bob Hudson (10901 Oxford) with 31 members, received a Pope John Paul II medallion.

Third Place - Tom Chady (898 Vicksburg) with 24 members, received a silver Cross KC pen.

State Council Membership Awards 1996-1997

Congratulations to the 32 councils (65%) that reached or exceeded their State Quota. This increased from 28 councils last year. Seventeen (34%) councils achieved Top Gun status, as compared with 8 last State fraternal year.

Councils attaining State Quota:

802 Meridian	1034 Natchez	2180 Laurel
5556 Cleveland	5654 Ocean Springs	6592 Bassfield
6872 Picayune	8054 McComb	8760 Holly Springs
9234 Indianola	9409 West Biloxi	9543 Madison
9673 Woolmarket	9958 Lizana	11904 Lucedale

Councils attaining Top Gun Status:

898 Vicksburg	1522 Bay St. Louis	1908 Hattiesburg
6765 Starkville	7087 Kiln	7120 Southaven
7211 Lumberton/Poplarville	7854 Clinton	7910 Orange Grove
7915 Brookhaven	7974 Columbus	8848 Tupelo
9124 Gautier	10443 Grenada	10901 Oxford
11541 Gulfport - St. James	11654 Wiggins/Lucedale	

Council Size Category Membership Awards

In the small council category - council 7211(Lumberton/Poplarville) had the highest net gain (35) and highest percent net gain (70.0%).

In the medium council category - council 10901 (Oxford) had the highest net gain (30) and highest percent net gain (44.1%).

In the large council category - council 1522 (Bay St. Louis) had the highest net gain (33) and highest percent net gain (23.0%).

In the extra large council category - council 898 (Vicksburg) had the highest net gain (27) and highest percent net gain (10.0%).

Final Standings - Supreme Membership Year (7/96 - 6/97)

For most of the Supreme Membership year, Mississippi led our division in membership recruitment and retention. As of 4-1-97 we had a gross gain of 329 and wanted to attain our goal of 1,000 new Knights in two years. We had a gross gain of 529 the previous year so we needed 471 Knights or 142 more Knights in April, May and June 1997. We thought this was attainable and promoted reaching it at the 1997 State Convention. We concentrated our efforts on forming new councils in Columbia/Tylertown and Pass Christian and forming a new round table in West Point. **We reached our goal by recruiting 1025 new Knights in 2 years and finished in first place in our division for the second consecutive year. These two feats have never been accomplished in the history of our state council.** For the April - June 1997 period we had a gross gain of 167 and a recruitment and retention net gain of 107.

The final Supreme membership year standings as of July 1, 1997 had Mississippi finishing in first place in Division VI (under 5,500 members) with a gross gain of 496; a recruitment and retention net gain of 328 and a net percentage gain of 6.04%. The net percentage gain ranked Mississippi 4th out of 66 jurisdictions. We exceeded our Supreme membership goal of 435 by 61 Knights. Our gross gain of 496 was the third highest on record. Our recruitment and retention net gain of 328 was the third highest on record. Our overall net gain (including deaths & transfers) of 228 was 50 less than the previous year and the fourth highest indicated on Supreme's records (back to 1979). Suspensions and withdrawals were 168 (4 more last year) and the fourth lowest on record.

As was the case last year, 21 of the 48 councils (43.8%) which existed at the beginning of the Supreme Fraternal year reached or exceeded their Supreme Quota. Thirty-seven councils (77%) had net gains in membership as opposed to 83.3% the previous year. All but five councils recruited at least one new member during the year as compared with all councils the previous year.

We had 5 Star Districts compared to one last year. Supreme presents the Star District Award to District Deputies that have attained a district-wide net gain of 70% of the accumulated council membership quotas and 70% of the accumulated council insurance quotas during the fraternal year. Congratulations to the following District Deputies who received the Star District Award for 7/96 - 6/97: Bob Hudson (DD#1), Richard Spence (DD#6), Curt Stasny (DD#7), Tom Wedig (DD#8), and Don Cox (DD#11).

Circle of Honor

Each year the Supreme Council has an award competition called the "Supreme Knights Circle of Honor". The award assigns points to the top jurisdictions based on their accomplishments in the areas of net gain, percent net gain, overall net gain, new council additions and new council percent gain. The 15 jurisdictions receiving the most points each win the award. Mississippi won the award receiving 60 points which ranked us 7th out of the top 15 jurisdictions. North Carolina was first with 72 points.

New Round table and Council Development

Round tables

The District Deputies did a great job of scouting locations for new round tables. Early in the State fraternal year (April - July 1996) new round tables were established in Batesville, Columbia/Tylertown, Gluckstadt, and New Albany. In September 1997 we formed a round table in Port Gibson. Near the end of Supreme fraternal year (April - June 1997) we established round tables north of Pass Christian in West Harrison county and in West Point, where we once had a council. In the last two years the Mississippi State Council has formed 9 new round tables (Forrest and Magee in addition to those listed above). Prior to this period only one active round table, Belzoni, had existed.

I believe that we should focus more effort on round table development as almost all of the larger communities, cities and parishes now have councils. A round table can help bring those "men's clubs" into our fold and provide valuable guidance and programs. They can also reestablish the Order's link with those former members who reside in small communities without councils and those men can be found in many rural areas. We need to reach out to these former members and bring our Order to these communities so they can benefit from our programs.

It is important to remember that once organized and doing charitable works, astonishing growth and excitement can occur and lead to the formation of a council. This occurred last year in parishes with only 60 or 70 families. Three of our new councils (Columbia/Tylertown, Gluckstadt and West Harrison) started as round tables less than a year earlier.

Councils

Our Supreme New Council Development goal has been 2 for several years. We were disappointed last year that we could not reach this goal since we only formed one new council in Wiggins/Lucedale (11634). Early in the State fraternal year through the recruiting efforts of Don Cox (DD#11) this council split to form a new council in Lucedale (11904). By March 1997 the Gluckstadt round table - under the leadership of Joe Jones, Jr. - had grown to reach council size (11934). In April 1997, the constant enthusiasm and energy of Curt Stasny (DD#7), Fr. Tommy Conway and round table coordinator, Raymond Tanet, led to the establishment of the Fr. Patrick Quinn council in Columbia/Tylertown (11956). In what must be the shortest time from round table (April 1997) to council status (June 1997), District Deputy Tom Wedig was true to his word and spearheaded the effort. Considerable credit for the chartering of the Fr. R.J. Sorin council (11995) in West Harrison north of Pass Christian also goes to John Leonard (7910 Orange Grove) and Kiln council 7087 members Richard Hoda, Richard Cuevas, Scottie Cuevas and GK Elbert Cuevas.

We formed 4 new councils during the Supreme year which was 200% of our quota and the highest new council development percentage gain in the order. Sixteen of the sixty-six jurisdictions formed 4 or more new councils during the year. In the last two year Mississippi has formed 5 new councils which is 50% of the new councils formed in the state during the last 10 years.

Closing Comments

In summary, reflecting back on the last two years I have served as your State Membership Director it is gratifying that all of our efforts produced the following remarkable accomplishments. We achieved our most important membership goals by:

- 1) leading our division for 2 consecutive years
- 2) exceeding a 5% net gain for 2 consecutive years
- 3) having every councils active in 1 year
- 4) recruiting a record 1025 Knights in 2 years
- 5) establishing 9 new round tables and 5 new councils
- 6) leading the order with a 200% net percentage gain in new council development
- 7) receiving the Circle of Honor award

What impact will our efforts and all the new Knights have on our families, youth, schools, communities and churches? The 1996 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities reveals that Knights in Mississippi increased their amount of charitable service by 74,000 hours (27% more than 1995) to 342,189 hours. Hopefully, that trend will continue.

As a measure of my efforts I offer the following statistics - My records indicate that during the April 1996 - June 1997 period I attended 17 membership drives, 11 first degrees, 8 first, second and third degrees and three district meetings. I spent an estimated 652 hours performing the duties of my office during this time and 554 hours for the July 1995 - March 1996 time frame for a total of 1206 hours in 24 months (50 hours/month).

I have sincerely enjoyed serving you as your State Membership Director. At times it was very tiring and sometime frustrating but it was tremendously rewarding. I will always cherish the friendships I formed and marvel at the fine activities that occur as a result of the generous, unselfish devotion of so many committed Catholic men and their families. I sincerely thank every Knight that has assisted me with information, travel arrangements and recruitment efforts. I especially thank those councils, Knights and their families for the hospitality extended to me as I traveled around the state with our State Deputy, Jesse Quinn. I hope this report serves as a testament to astonishing success of you, who helped explain our Order to prospects, made phone calls, planned socials and church drives, scheduled degrees and did countless other things to expand our Order. A special thank you to all Grand Knights, Membership Directors, District Deputies and State Officers for all your support over the last two years. You had many other duties but were always there to assist with my activities with a cheerful smile. Our State Deputy, Jesse Quinn assembled a fine team and as our leader our success or failure depended upon his leadership and vision. He made membership recruitment and retention a top priority and our record certainly reflects that. I will always treasure the many hours I spent traveling with him discussing our strategy and learning how to be a successful, effective recruiter. To him I owe much gratitude for many things and plenty enjoyable hours but most of all for asking me to serve with him.

My greatest source of satisfaction is, and will continue to be, the beneficial effect all those new Knights will have on their communities, schools, youth, families and churches through their charitable service. Equally satisfying is the knowledge that their participation will strengthen their faith and that of their families. They will become better Catholics and better men all because we chose to invite them to join and actively participate in the Knights of Columbus.

Fraternally submitted,
Dennis Riecke
State Membership Director

State Retention Chairman's Report

This emphasis on our state retention program this past year has been the following and complying with the retention program as set out in SURGE. In many instances it meant the establishment and proper utilization of the council retention committees, at other times it meant holding District Deputies accountable for the necessary follow-ups and last, but most important, was the active involvement of our State Deputy. His continued emphasis in "following the procedures" plus his personal follow-up action has caused this state to have one of the lowest suspension years ever while allowing the proper removal of members who sincerely choose not to stay within our ranks.

The approach this past year has shown that when our Brother Knights fall behind financially, if they are contacted personally and are convinced that they are wanted and their talents needed within our order they will stay. When they believe that it is not just the money that we want, they will stay. In many instances these men who were going to drop their memberships were re-contacted and re-fired in the spirit of the Order, they not only stayed, but helped make their councils grown in areas important to them.

I want to thank our Worthy State Deputy Jessie Quinn III for the opportunity to serve on his Team and in some way help the Knights of Columbus in the State of Mississippi shine as never before.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Rigby
State Retention Chairman

State Roundtable Chairman's Report

During the year, 1996, the culmination of what was begun more than a year before, took final shape in forming a Roundtable in Magee, Miss., with the wholehearted cooperation of Fr. Bob Goodyear, pastor of St. Stephens Church. The First Degree team from Brookhaven motored up to Magee and administered the First Degree exemplification to a nucleus of men needed. Mr. Billy McPhail of Mendenhall, Miss. was selected as secretary of the Roundtable since he along with Fr. Goodyear were the main individuals who rounded up and had the candidates ready when our First Degree team arrived.

Prior to the Magee episodes I was contacted by District Deputy Nat Zummo of District 8 who informed me of the pending establishment of a Roundtable in Florence, Miss. Unfortunately, due to my being "under the weather" at the time and place he wanted me to meet him, I had to forego the trip but informed him that if he failed to complete the necessary details that I would, as soon as possible, go to Florence to complete the project for him. It was not necessary for Brother Zummo finalized the objective and formed a Roundtable.

The Roundtable projects during the year, in my opinion, filled a great need for small parishes. I have learned of various ones having been formed but unfortunately all but the two mentioned above were formed without my personal knowledge and those despite my having been given the title of Chairman of Roundtable. I will not dwell on this letdown. More importantly, to me, is to know that our Order has, and continues to be, spreading over our state where the objectives of Columbianism are more important.

In closing, I want to thank our State Deputy Jesse Quinn, III for having bestowed on me the distinct privilege of serving him as chairman of Roundtable. The duties have been most rewarding and I shall always consider it an honor to have been associated with him during his tenure as State Deputy. His outstanding leadership and dedication will serve as a model for others who follow him.

Fraternally submitted,
Joseph F. Bonfiglio
State Roundtable Chairman

State Public Relations Chairman's Report

The 1996/1997 fraternal year was a year filled with news of a fast-paced Mississippi Jurisdiction. As *Magnolia Knight* Editor I was privileged to be a focal point in the reporting of much of the Mississippi "happens."

The *Magnolia Knight* is the official state newsletter published bi-monthly (around) the 15th day of even numbered months (i.e. April, June, August, etc.) with information submitted no later than the last of the month prior. There are several featured areas of the newsletter including comments from the State Deputy, a calendar of coming events, membership news, a section for news around the state, etc. There were six newsletters published in the 1996/1997 Fraternal year (as of 4/26/97); April, June, August, October, December, and February. Copies of the above issues are included for State History.

The cost of the *Magnolia Knight* has remained constant to the costs of the 1995/1997 fraternal year. I have used Alpha Printing of Jackson, Mississippi as the prime printer for most of the printed work that has fallen to me. Alpha Printing has not only continued to watch costs with us, they have been extremely cooperative with regard to last minute deadlines and schedule changes. The cost per publication for 12 pages remains at about \$320.00 pre-tax and before the cost of pictures and/or inserts, etc. We have continued the non-profit, bulk postage at a current cost of \$85.00 per year and about \$55-\$60 per publication mailing. There was an increase in per-piece postage in 1997 of about \$.015 per copy for mailing. The mailing list remains at about 500 addressees which includes Supreme Officers, State Officers including our two Honorary State Chaplains, Past State Deputies, District Deputies, State Council members, Council Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries, Roundtable Coordinators and Secretaries, current and former State-level officers of the Fourth Degree, State Ladies' Auxiliary Officers, Council level Ladies' Auxiliary Presidents and Secretaries, (Columbian) Chief Squire, (Columbian) Chief Counselors, Editors for *The Mississippi Today*, *The Gulf Pines Catholic*, and *Columbia* (the official Knights of Columbus magazine).

Beginning April 25, 1997, Supreme initiated a media advertising blitz nation-wide on several key cable channels including CNN and its Headline News affiliate. A copy of Supreme's April 17, 1997, announcement with dates and times is included for the record.

It has been my pleasure to report on the exciting events happening in membership this past fraternal year. The 1996/1997 year along with the 1995/1996 year may be a banner two years for the Jurisdiction; as of 4/26/97, the Jurisdiction is only about 100 members shy of a record 1,000 Knights in net gain. I am privileged to be in a position to cover the reporting of this high adventure. I look forward to supporting the State leadership in 1997/1998.

Respectfully submitted
Kenneth Rains
Editor, *The Magnolia Knight*

State Pro-Life Chairman's Report

About 1.5 million abortions are performed every year in America,

That's 125,000 abortions each month,

That's 28,846 abortions each week,

That's 4,110 abortions each day,

That's 171 abortions each hour,

That's close to 3 abortions each minute,

That's an abortion every 21 seconds.

Pick a few of these numbers that catch your eye, and try to memorize them so that you will be more informed on the issue.

Why? Some people try to avoid the horrors of the issue of abortion by fooling themselves into thinking that abortion is rare, as if the numbers change the morality. You can help these people understand.

IT IS NOT RARE!

At a rate of 1.5 million deaths a year, Mississippi's current population would drop to zero in less than two years.

Our goal is to stop abortions. Loving and helping women who feel they have no other option is the proper way for us to move toward this goal.

At the same time we must educate ourselves on the facts surrounding abortion, such as these numbers.

Keeping ourselves informed is important to keeping a proper perspective on our work. Abortion supporters often say they want abortion to be safe, legal and rare. The @ngly high number of abortions that are being performed each day show that if there are any efforts put forth to make abortion rare, they are failing.

----- The previous is excerpted from Birthright of Jackson, Inc. Newsletter -----

Our work is not yet done.

The 4,400 traveling crosses will continue the need to be displayed...the billboards to be erected...the donut sales and bingos to be held ... the memorials, plaques and headstones to be installed...the Adoption Option Classic Gold Tournaments to be held...the Masses and prayers said...

Our work is not yet done.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Lubbers
Pro-Life Chairman

State Historian's Report

In answer to some of your questions concerning the State history I am submitting the following information.

It is now three years past the closing date of this edition. Since then, two State Deputies and myself have been trying to obtain information from the councils, directors and committeemen. Some have cooperated and some have not.

Approximately two months ago I decided to put together what I had. Some of the council's reports had to be retyped, the others could be printed as is. I assembled some of the Director's reports by researching the minutes book and past copies of *The Magnolia Knight*. Some information could not be obtained.

It took me five hours and four reams of paper on a copy machine to print twenty copies of this booklet. Dave Sherman, a brother knight, allowed me to use his machine and paper at Greenville Lumber Company at no charge to the state. Several copies were distributed to past state deputies, state officers and dignitaries. A copy has been on the scrapbook display table since the beginning of the convention.

The state officers have discussed the printing and distributing of this history book to the councils. At this time they are researching the cost per number and plan to discuss this at the summer meeting. It will be then before anything can be decided.

To the councils, directors and chairmen, I express my appreciation for their cooperation. To the last three state deputies, I wish to thank them for allowing me to serve as State Historian.

Fraternally submitted,
Robert Fratesi, PSD
State Historian

State Ceremonial Chairman's Report

Ceremonial activities during this Fraternal Year have been a driving force to achieve our membership goals.

Nine 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications were held from August 1996 through April 1997 and these exemplifications were shared by the Pascagoula and Greenwood Teams. These degrees were hosted by District Deputies in District 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 11. My thanks to these District Deputies for their support during this year.

A Statewide First Degree Schedule was published this year and over 70 First Degree Exemplifications were forecasted. I am not able to report how many exemplifications took place since the Ceremonial Director does not receive a copy of the District Deputy Exemplification Report.

Note: An informational copy to the Ceremonial Director should be considered to provide better support to the State Deputy.

Eighteen First Degree Teams have been identified serving Fifty Councils. This at times has created problems and has caused us to violate Supreme Guidelines by scheduling 1st Degree Exemplifications the same day as 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications. Due to the work of these degree teams, we have added over 250 members as of 1 March 1997. Just imagine what could be achieved if every council had an active First Degree Team. I am convinced that we would achieve double this membership number since candidates would not be lost due to the waiting period until an exemplification is held and there would be no reason to violate Supreme Ceremonial Guidelines.

My appreciation to both the 2nd and 3rd Degree Teams for their unselfish performance this year in supporting this important Knight of Columbus function and my thanks to our State Deputy for allowing me to serve the membership of the Mississippi Jurisdiction during this Fraternal Year.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald F. Cox
State Ceremonial Director

Knights of Columbus Audit Report

The Knights of Columbus Audit Committee met and reviewed the State Council records, and the financial statement of the K of C Foundation of Mississippi, Inc., which covers the period of April 1, 1996 through March 31, 1997.

The review consisted primarily of a cursory examination of the general ledger, bank statements, canceled checks, deposits and invoices. This review is substantially less in scope than an audit.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material changes that should be made to the financial statement as presented.

Respectfully submitted,
Knights of Columbus Audit Committee
Daniel J. Lechner
Thomas F. Chady
Curt Stasny
James R. Leatherwood
Michael Liberto

1997 State Convention Mileage and Per Diem Report

The Mileage and Per Diem Committee met today at 1:00 p.m. Per the direction of Resolution No. 7 for the 1995 Convention Minutes Book, the committee agrees to the \$0.20 per mile one way and \$45.00 per diem for Delegates, District Deputies, State Officers, and Program Chairmen. A per diem of \$45.00 for two days shall be reimbursed to Past State Deputies in attendance.

The attached spreadsheets contain the details of this report. A special note of thanks to Kenn Rains for his assistance in producing this final report.

Respectfully submitted,
Mileage and Per Diem Committee
Keith B. Merritt, State Treasurer
John Bernardi
Daniel Gillis
John C. Minninger
Andre Damiens

State Treasurer's Convention Per Diem & Mileage Report - 4/27/97

State Officers	Office	Miles	Mile X # attending	Mileage X .20	No. of Days	Per Diem Days X \$50	# attending	Total
Fr. Jeffrey Waldrop	State Chaplain	290	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Jesse J. Quinn, III	State Deputy	230	230	\$46.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$146.00
Guy S. Tolano, Jr.	State Secretary	25	25	\$5.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$105.00
Kath B. Merritt	State Treasurer	312	312	\$62.40	2	\$100.00	1	\$162.40
Bruce Pihon	State Advocate	5	5	\$1.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$101.00
Ted V. Knowles	State Warden	25	25	\$5.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$105.00
Thomas R. Zettler	Immediate Past State Deputy	168	168	\$33.60	2	\$100.00	1	\$133.60
subtotal		1055	765	\$153.00		\$600.00	6	\$753.00
Past State Deputies								
Stanley Sweetkowski	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
Marvin Lott	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Dennis Lechner, Sr.	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
Wiley Price, Jr.	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
Robert Fratesi	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
Rodney Sandoz	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Jesse Quinn, Jr.	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
Norman Klein	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Fred Westbrook, Jr.	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
John Pat Myers	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
G. David Atcherry	Past State Deputy	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
subtotal		0	0	\$0.00		\$700.00	6	\$700.00
District Deputies								
Robert L. Hudson	District Deputy, District 1	330	330	\$66.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$166.00
Buddy Honeycutt	District Deputy, District 2	230	230	\$46.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$146.00
Ben T. Bailey, Jr.	District Deputy, District 3	293	293	\$58.60	2	\$100.00	1	\$158.60
Richard T. Leding	District Deputy, District 4	170	170	\$34.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Natalie J. Zammio	District Deputy, District 5	175	175	\$35.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$135.00
Richard W. Spence	District Deputy, District 6	224	224	\$44.80	2	\$100.00	1	\$144.80
Curt P. Shany	District Deputy, District 7	65	65	\$13.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$113.00
Thomas A. Wodig, Jr.	District Deputy, District 8	60	60	\$12.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$112.00
J. Leslie Lechner	District Deputy, District 9	25	25	\$5.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$105.00
Daniel J. Lechner	District Deputy, District 10	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
Donald F. Cox	District Deputy, District 11	60	60	\$12.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$112.00
paid as delegate								
subtotal		1632	1632	\$292.40		\$1,000.00	10	\$1,292.40

State Treasurer's Convention Per Diem & Mileage Report - 4/27/97

State Program Personnel								Total
Name	Office	Miles	Miles X # attending	Mileage X .20	No. of Days	Per Diem Days X \$50	# of delegates	Total
Dennis K. Riecke	State Membership Director	180	180	\$36.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$136.00
Thomas F. Clady	State Program Director	delegate	delegate	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Salvatore Toranzo	State Church Director	delegate	delegate	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Gerald W. Clark	State Community Director	170	170	\$34.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$134.00
Peter C. Subarek	State Council Director	delegate	delegate	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Harold Richardson	State Family Director	delegate	delegate	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Bryan J. Lambert	State Youth Director	60	60	\$12.00	2	\$100.00	1	\$112.00
at total		410	410	\$82.00		\$300.00	7	\$382.00
Council Delegates								Total
Council		Miles	Miles X # del.	Mileage X .20	No. of Days	Per Diem Days X \$50 X # of Del.	# of delegates	Total
802	Meridian	168	336	\$67.20	2	\$200.00	2	\$267.20
848	Jackson	170	340	\$68.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$268.00
898	Vicksburg	215	430	\$86.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$286.00
1034	Natchez	224	448	\$89.60	2	\$200.00	2	\$289.60
1244	Biola	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$200.00
1522	Bay St. Louis	35	70	\$14.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$214.00
1583	Gulfport	12	24	\$4.80	2	\$200.00	2	\$204.80
1605	Pascagoula	25	50	\$10.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$210.00
1908	Hattiesburg	80	160	\$32.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$232.00
2134	Greenville	290	580	\$116.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$316.00
2180	Lumberton	114	228	\$45.60	2	\$200.00	2	\$245.60
2945	Leland	278	556	\$111.20	2	\$200.00	2	\$311.20
2969	Clarksdale	309	618	\$123.60	2	\$200.00	2	\$323.60
4472	Pas Christian	25	50	\$10.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$210.00
4898	Long Beach	20	40	\$8.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$208.00
5267	Ocean Springs	230	460	\$92.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$292.00
5356	Cleveland	293	586	\$117.20	2	\$200.00	2	\$317.20
5654	Ocean Springs	5	10	\$2.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$202.00
6535	Shuford	0	0	\$0.00	2	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
6592	Biola	109	218	\$43.60	2	\$200.00	2	\$243.60
6765	Starkville	228	456	\$91.20	2	\$200.00	2	\$291.20
6872	Preyvine	60	120	\$24.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$224.00
7087	Kalin	30	60	\$12.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$212.00
7120	Saukville	315	630	\$126.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$326.00
7211	Lumberton	65	130	\$26.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$226.00
7634	Clinton	170	340	\$68.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$268.00
7910	Orange grove	10	20	\$4.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$204.00
7915	Brookhaven	160	320	\$64.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$264.00

State Treasurer's Convention Per Diem & Mileage Report - 4/27/97

Council	Miles X # del.	Mileage X .20	No. of Days	Per Diem Days X \$50 X # of Del.	# of delegates	Total
7974 Columbus	250	500	2	\$200.00	2	\$300.00
8038 Pearl	175	350	2	\$200.00	2	\$270.00
8094 McComb	150	300	2	\$200.00	2	\$260.00
8285 St. Theresa - Jackson	170	340	2	\$200.00	2	\$268.00
8760 Holly Springs	360	720	2	\$200.00	2	\$344.00
8848 Tupelo	312	624	2	\$200.00	2	\$324.80
8912 Corinth	362	724	2	\$200.00	2	\$344.80
9094 D'Arville	5	10	2	\$200.00	2	\$204.00
9124 Oshtler	10	20	2	\$200.00	2	\$204.00
9254 Indiana	260	520	2	\$200.00	2	\$292.00
9409 W. Billet	0	0	2	\$100.00	1	\$102.00
9543 Madison	180	360	2	\$200.00	2	\$290.00
9673 Woodmarket	5	10	2	\$100.00	1	\$106.00
9958 Lizana	10	20	2	\$200.00	2	\$204.00
10216 Brandon	180	360	2	\$200.00	2	\$290.00
10443 Grenada	230	460	2	\$200.00	2	\$292.00
10499 Ocean Springs	5	10	2	\$200.00	2	\$202.00
10901 Oxford	330	660	2	\$200.00	2	\$322.00
11541 Gulfport	10	20	2	\$200.00	2	\$204.00
11654 Wiggins	42	84	2	\$200.00	2	\$216.80
11904 Lucedale	60	120	2	\$200.00	2	\$224.00
11934 Gluckstadt	183	370	2	\$200.00	2	\$274.00
11956 Fr. Patrick Quinn	135	270	2	\$200.00	2	\$254.00
subtotal	7265	13324		\$9,500.00	95	\$12,164.80
Grand Totals	16131	31,192.20		\$12,100.00	124	\$15,292.20
	total miles	total mileage X .20			total # del & attendees	Grand Totals

prepared by State Treasurer Keith B. Merritt - 4/27/97

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State Membership Committee Report

TRAINING PROVIDED

At the Schools of Columbianism in Greenwood, Biloxi and Pearl the grand knights and membership directors reviewed topics contained in the Membership Recruitment Handbook for Councils in Mississippi which was provided to each council membership director. This was also done last year. Council Membership Directors were encouraged to study this material to formulate plans for a planned membership drive. Councils were asked to provide the State Membership Director with membership drive dates within the first three months of the State Membership year and most did so.

To eliminate any confusion regarding whether or not a council has reached state quota or top gun status, a handout explaining how to calculate membership standings for the state year was provided to all councils at the Schools of Columbianism. A cutoff date for receiving credit for any Form 100's not recorded on the 4-1-97 monthly Supreme Council Statement was established. Councils were held responsible for reporting this information by sending a photocopy of such Form 100's to the State Membership Director prior to the convention so that plaques could be engraved and presented at the State Convention. Distribution of this flyer and establishment of a cut off date should be continued as a standard practice each year to eliminate any confusion and allow proper recognition at the State Convention.

First, Second and Third Degree dates were set for the July - December 1996 period. Each District Deputy strove to sponsor a First Degree in his district each month and this helped initiate new Knight on a regular basis. This practice should be continued each year because it prevents lengthy delays between the time you recruit a new Knight and when he is actually initiated. Councils are able to plan their recruiting efforts around the degree dates and always have a schedule of these dates to provide for new recruits.

At the Midwinter Meetings in December 1996 in Oxford, Ocean Springs and Natchez councils were provided with the details of the Supreme Membership Campaign Jubilee 2000. A recruitment letter was developed and supplied to all councils for their use to invite prospects to their membership activity. Three church drive talks were provided to the District Deputies and councils were encouraged to use them at their church drives.

Councils were instructed to come to the midwinter meeting with a date of their planned membership drive in the January - March period. This was an excellent idea and this practice should be continued as it was complied with by 40 of the 50 councils and about 37 councils actually held their scheduled membership drive in this period. This was a tremendous response and it was gratifying that so many councils had their members use and/or alter the provided church drive talks. Councils took the initiative instead of relying on state council personnel to deliver these talks. Again, I want to stress that this should be come a standard practice.

Councils were repeatedly encouraged to discuss prospect names at each council meeting during the Membership Director's report to continually build their prospect lists. Sites for new council development and new roundtables were discussed and District Deputies were entrusted to formulate action plans and discuss expansion of our Order with parish priests in specific areas within each district.

RECRUITMENT INCENTIVES

At the Midwinter Meetings in December 1996 in Oxford, Ocean Springs and Natchez councils were provided with details of the Supreme Membership Campaign 2000. Councils were informed of the revised VIP program instituted by the Supreme Council. VIP certificates and pins will automatically be sent to all proposers provided their membership number is written on the Form 100. Supreme will also award 500 points for each new member recruited. The points can be used to obtain items from the Supreme Supply Catalog and may be pooled among council members. Flyers on this program were supplied to all councils.

The Mississippi State Council sponsored a recruitment incentive program for January - March 1997. The top 5 proposers will be awarded a 100.00 Sears gift certificate. The District Deputy with the highest net gain for this period will also receive a similar gift certificate. The winners will be duly recognized and presented with their certificates at the State Convention at the Saturday night banquet.

In March 1996 a letter and flyer were sent to all District Deputies, State Officers and Chairman and Grand Knights announcing the Mississippi State Council April - June 1997 membership recruitment incentive program. Our theme was "1,000 Knights for Christ". For each 2 Knights a proposer recruits during this period the prospect will receive a T-shirt emblazoned with this theme and the third degree emblem of the Order. A golf shirt will also be awarded to each prospect who recruits 5 Knights during this period. A full color design will be embossed on these shirts.

SUPREME MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS

All figures given below are current as of April 1, 1997 for the Supreme Membership Year July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997.

329 Gross gain (new members and readmissions)	-- 28 more than last year
108 Suspensions and withdrawals	-- 18 less than last year
221 Retention and Recruitment Gain	-- 46 more than last year
80 Deaths/Transfers/Inactives	-- 6 less than last year
141 Net Gain	-- 52 more than last year

Our Supreme Quota is 428 (gross gain) and we need 99 more new Knights by June 30, 1997 to reach it. We should be able to exceed this quota. The net gain of 141 members exceeds the State net gain for all years since 1979 except for 1980, 1981, 1990 and 1995. We need a net gain of an additional 137 members or 46 members each month (April - June) to equal last years net gain of 278 members. All committee members were confident that we could attain this goal.

We need a gross gain of 471 to reach a two year gross gain of 1,000 Knights. This can be attained by recruiting an additional 142 Knights or 48 members each month (April - June). I stressed the significance of this figure as Mississippi Knights have a chance to accomplish something that has never been done in the history of our jurisdiction, that is, recruiting over 1,000 Knights in a two year period. All committee members were confident that we could attain this goal.

COMMITTEE IDEAS & DISCUSSION

A variety of good topics and ideas were discussed as committee members related personal experiences of successful recruitment techniques and some failed efforts. The most important points were not to let the meetings drag on with long discussions concerning logistical details of future events. The officers meeting is the appropriate place to plan and evaluate events. Several members firmly believe that it is imperative to have a mix of young and old members but that it is more difficult to recruit young people these days since they are so busy with family activities. The key is for the council to determine what these families are doing when they socialize etc. and provide similar council activities. The council membership director should inspire council members to discuss council activities with prospects. Knights and council leaders are the role models and prospects examine our deeds. Let prospects know you are proud to be a Knight.

Respectfully submitted
Dennis Riecke (State Membership Director)
John Ward (7910)
Joe Bonfiglio (7915)
Tony Homsany (10499)
Andrew Mitchell (1522)
Jay Marsh (1522)
Joe Furlan (9124)
James Simmons (9094)
Millard Dorsey (10499)
Michael Gary (7974)
Natale Zummo (District Deputy # 5)

Financial Secretaries' Meeting Report

Seventeen Financial Secretaries were present. Thanks for your support. Grand Knights must carry the message to councils whose Financial Secretaries were not present.

District Deputy Lessie Ladner spoke of the importance of the Financial Secretary's involvement, including:

- Election Report Form #185
- Committee Appointments Form #365
- Survey of Fraternal Activity report
- Semi-Annual Audits

The Financial Secretary's position is an important, appointed position. Go by the Financial Secretary's Handbook, and do it right the first time. The Financial Secretary must be the best supporter of a council at all times. Remember to update your membership records and record the dates each member received their Second and Third Degrees.

The Survey of Fraternal Activity Report is not the responsibility of the Financial Secretary. However, most councils put it on the Financial Secretary's shoulders. This should also be the responsibility of the Council's Program Director.

Regarding dues and money collected, all of these funds must go through the Financial Secretary to insure an audit trail is established for the council. This is a Supreme requirement.

Regarding suspensions, all new members should be counseled on the importance of his involvement within the Knights of Columbus. Don't just recruit and leave a member to fend for himself. Let him know his presence is important. Failing to inform a prospect beforehand will give the council a suspension a year later.

Our Worthy State Deputy spoke on the State Per Capita concerning inactive insurance members. We respectfully request that the State consider a workshop for Financial Secretaries at the School of Columbianism.

Your Financial Secretary is a key member in your council. Support him and his job. He can make your job easier.

Respectfully submitted,
DD Joseph "Lessie" Ladner
DD Robert L. Hudson
DD Buddy F. Honeycutt
Charles D. Bounds
Gordon Cowie
Kurt Dobbel
and all Financial Secretaries present at the Convention.

State Convention Committee Report

The State Convention Committee met today at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Convention Chairman David DiLorenzo.

The committee made the following suggestions:

1. Continue to provide the convention packets at the Mid-winter meetings. Then follow up this information with a reminder pamphlet at the end of February.
2. That the convention costs remain as is.
3. That the convention sites provide a variety of youth activities and some form of babysitting.
4. That future host councils get records from past conventions to improve in areas where they have had trouble.

The committee wishes to commend the host convention committees and their staff for the excellent preparation for this convention. Grand Knight Billy Davis and Biloxi Council 1244 have done an excellent job in meeting our needs.

Respectfully submitted,
David DiLorenzo
State Convention Chairman

Good of the Order Committee Report

The Good of the Order Committee met and discussed many things. The following are considered to be things that can, and should be done to improve the Order in the Mississippi Jurisdiction. Therefore, we make the following recommendations:

1. In the event of the death of a Brother Knight, the local council's Financial Secretary should immediately report the death to the State Secretary, who in turn should notify the State Deputy, and request that someone from the State Family be assigned to represent him at the Brother Knight's wake, funeral, or both.
2. That local Councils have a Mass said for the deceased Brother Knight, and/or enroll him in the Sacred Heart Society.
3. That local Council's establish, under the direction of a State Benevolence Committee Chairman, a network to inform other councils and the State Family, of a Brother Knights who are sick or in distress.

4. That the three Schools of Columbianism, and the Mid-Winter meeting in January of each year be continued.
5. That Grand Knights submit an interim "Survey of Fraternal Activities Report, along with their Mid-Year Program report.

Respectfully submitted,
Ted V. Knowles, State Warden, Chairman
Richard Spence
Joseph Goellner
Richard Warren
Charlie Morlino

Pro-Life Committee Report

Jerry Boland presented the program supporting Birthright of Jackson, Inc. Through the sale of a "Mother with Child" gestation calendar with proceeds from the sales to help offset the expenses of Birthright. The calendar is \$5.00, or with a \$10.00 donation a Birthright client and her pre-born child could be adopted.

Ken Lubbers recommended that each council's Grand Knight appoint a Pro-Life Chairman who should register himself with the National Committee for Human Life Amendment, Inc., 1511 K Street N., Suite 335, Washington, D.C. 20005. This committee keeps its clients apprised of the daily issues brought forth in legislation.

Our committee then got into a lengthy discussion concerning adoption and which agency or center to support....Birthright, Morning Star, Catholic Charities, etc. Consensus was to support the one you best felt comfortable with.

Sterling Peters eloquently argued the issue that abortion was much easier and cheaper than adoption. An abortion could be had for about \$350.00 and a few hours time. Adoption takes eight to ten years time and \$50,000.00 to \$150,000.00, depending on who was handling the adoption. This is ridiculous and unacceptable.

Legislation must be enacted to make adoption easier and cheaper. It was recommended that the Knights of Columbus, statewide, make a concerted effort to bring about this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Lubbers
State Pro-Life Committee Chairman

Ceremonial Committee Report

The Ceremonial Committee meeting was held with eight (8) Brother Knights in attendance, including our Supreme Representative, Vincent DiLeonardo, who is Ceremonial Chairman for the State of Delaware, on the Ceremonial Committee for Supreme, and is a member of a First Degree Team in his home council.

FIRST DEGREE

All attempts should be made to follow Supreme's guidelines by not holding First Degrees the same day as Second and Third Degree Exemplifications. In addition, if necessary, First Degree Team members should not be Third Degree Team members, if performed on the same day.

All councils should pursue First Degree Teams with backups and rotate backups for practice and familiarization. Emphasize the importance of forming a First Degree Team when a new council is formed.

Publicize First Degree Schedules, including use of the *Magnolia Knight*.

SECOND & THIRD DEGREE

Form additional Second Degree Teams to allow Second Degrees to be performed independent of Third Degrees.

Suggestions made to soften dialogue between D.P. and T.M. to avoid over exciting the candidates.

FOURTH DEGREE

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification is scheduled for October 11, 1997 in Gautier.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The committee requested the Supreme Representative to consider asking the Supreme Council to handling Ceremonial paraphernalia, such as banners and robes to defray the expenses for a new team.

If you propose a candidate, go with him to all Degrees. We should emphasize more attendance by members at Degrees to show support for the candidates. Vivat Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald F. Cox
State Ceremonial Chairman

State Bowling Tournament Report

No report submitted

State Softball Tournament Report

No report submitted

Report of the Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee of the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus would like to submit the following report to the Delegates of this convention for their consideration.

The Resolution Committee met on Friday, April 25, 1997 from 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. to address and make recommendations on the following fifteen (15) Resolutions.

The Resolution Committee consisted of:

C. Bruce Pabon, State Advocate
Thomas R. Zettler, Immediate Past State Deputy
Jesse J. Quinn, Jr., Past State Deputy
Richard Lieding, District Deputy #4
John J. Savoie, Jr., Grand Knight 10443

Respectfully submitted,
C. Bruce Pabon
State Advocate, Chairman

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 93rd Annual State Convention
of the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas,

Biloxi Council Number 1244 has been such an excellent host of the 93rd Annual Convention, and

Whereas,

The officers, members, and wives have arranged to put on such an outstanding convention,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the sincere thanks of those in attendance at this convention be extended to the host council for the superior manner in which they discharged their responsibility.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by C. Bruce Pabon, State Advocate)

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Whereas,

Brother Vincent DiLeonardo and his lovely wife Dale has honored this State Council with their presence, and

Whereas,

Brother Vincent DiLeonardo is a Worthy Supreme Director, and

Whereas,

We the delegates of the Mississippi State Council realize that Brother Vincent DiLeonardo's address at the Convention Banquet will be extremely informative and well received by everyone,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Council expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to Brother Vincent DiLeonardo, a Supreme Director, and his wife Dale, and extend to them, a cordial invitation to return to our Jurisdiction whenever they may find it possible to do so.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by C. Bruce Pabon, State Advocate)

RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas,

The Mississippi Knights of Columbus Thirty-Fourth Annual Handicap Bowling Tournament was authorized by resolution adopted at the State Convention held in Meridian, and

Whereas,

Members from throughout the Jurisdiction participated in the tournament, and

Whereas,

It is the express desire by vote of participants to again hold this activity in 1998,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Council sponsor at no expense to itself, the official Mississippi State Knights of Columbus Thirty-Fifth Annual Handicap Bowling Tournament for its membership. Said tournament to carry the official sanction of the American Bowling Congress. The time, date, and place of the tournament will be set at the discretion of the host council, with all business for the tournament to be resolved at a meeting held during the tournament. A report will be given at the State Convention by the chairman of the bowling tournament.

Be It Further Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Council present at no expense to itself and as provided by the bowling association, appropriate trophies to the winners of certain events conducted during the tournament.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by C. Bruce Pabon, State Advocate)

RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas,

The members of the Mississippi Knights of Columbus desire to participate in a softball tournament,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Council sponsor at no expense to itself, the official Mississippi State Knights of Columbus Annual Softball Tournament for its membership. The tournament is to carry the official sanction of the American Softball Association. The time, date, and place of the tournament will be set at the discretion of the host council, with all business for the tournament to be resolved at a meeting held during the tournament. A report will be given at the State Convention by the chairman of the softball tournament.

Be It Further Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Council present at no expense to itself and as provided by the softball association, appropriate trophies to the winners of certain events conducted during the tournament.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by C. Bruce Pabon, State Advocate)

RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas,

Beginning last year (1996), the five Supreme Service Awards, Mississippi State "Knight of the Year", and "Family of the Year" Awards were all judged by a group of delegates at the State Convention, and

Whereas,

Submissions increased based on this common and unbiased judging process by Brother Knights, and

Whereas:

Five to seven State Convention delegates representing various parts of the state judged generic Supreme Service Award projects and at least 25 delegates voted on generic "Knight of the Year" and Family of the Year' candidates, and

Whereas:

The Mississippi State Program Committee, in its entirety, believes that all major State awards should be judged by the same criteria.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the judging for all State awards mentioned above be done by State convention delegates, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Program Director and State committee chairman should continue to exercise full and complete authority, henceforth, to conduct judging and awarding all major State awards aforementioned herein effective immediately.

Recommendation: Refer to the State Deputy

Action: PSD Robert Fratesi made a motion to amend the Recommendation to read "Refer to the State Deputy and State Deputy-Elect." Amendment was seconded. Amendment was defeated on the floor. The State Deputy then asked for a show of hands in favor of the Resolution. The vote was 87 out of 101 in favor of the Resolution. The Resolution was adopted.

(Submitted by Mississippi State Program Committee)

RESOLUTION NO. 6

Whereas,

The De L'Epee Deaf Center in Gulfport attends to the needs of the deaf citizens of the Biloxi Diocese and is funded in part by the Diocese of Biloxi, and

Whereas,

The De L'Epee Deaf Center is the only center of its kind in the State of Mississippi, and

Whereas,

The De L'Epee Deaf Center in Gulfport also does work for the deaf citizens of the entire State of Mississippi,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsor at no expense to itself, the De L'Epee Deaf Center in Gulfport, Mississippi. The sponsorship will be in name only. This program will be a voluntary program only.

Recommendation: Reject

Action: Accept Recommendation --- Not against, but see no reason to give only support in name only.

(Submitted by C. Bruce Pabon, State Advocate)

RESOLUTION NO. 7

Whereas,

The Fred L. Westbrook, Sr. Knight of the Year Award has been in existence for Many years and has been acknowledged as the State Knight of the Year Award since its inception, and

Whereas,

The Fred L. Westbrook, Sr. Knight of the Year Award is judged by an impartial panel of persons not connected with the Knights of Columbus, and

Whereas,

There has been some confusion because of the awarding of two Knight of the Year Awards, and

Whereas,

Past State Deputy Fred L. Westbrook, Jr. has made provisions for the continuance of this award long into the future through a trust,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the Fred L. Westbrook, Sr. Knight of the Year Award be recognized as the official State Knight of the Year, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That Past State Deputy Fred L. Westbrook, Jr. be given full authority to conduct the judging and awarding of this Knight of the Year honor until such time as he relinquishes this authority to another.

Recommendation: Reject --- The Trust has been withdrawn and will no longer be funded.

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by Monsignor John J. Burns Council 802)

RESOLUTION NO. 8

Whereas,

Parishes and missions are strengthened by the participation of the Knights of Columbus,

Whereas,

Mississippi is a rural state with only 2% of the population being Catholic,

Whereas,

Roundtables are very effective in small parishes with insufficient numbers to form their own councils and, in effect, function as mini-councils.

Whereas,

The Knights of Columbus Mississippi Jurisdiction now has 8 roundtables located at some distance from their affiliated councils.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That Article IV, Section 5 of the Mississippi State Council By-Laws be amended to read that per diem expenses be paid for Delegates, Roundtable Coordinators, State Officers, District Deputies, State Membership Director, State Program Director and the five Service Program Directors to the State Council Meeting at the rate currently set by the Mississippi State Council with allowance for mileage one way at the current rate to be based on mileage figures furnished by the Mississippi State Highway Patrol.

Recommendation: Reject --- Cost would be approximately \$1,200.00, and this would make them equal to delegates.

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by Richard T. Lieding, District Deputy #4)

RESOLUTION NO. 9

Whereas,

Resolution No. 9 adopted at the State Convention held in Jackson, Ms. on April 28, 1991, states that an update on the State Knights of Columbus history be published every 10 years, and

Whereas,

This resolution is to remain in force until deleted or amended by subsequent convention resolution, and

Whereas,

Obtaining this information from some councils, State Directors, and committeemen has taken two to three years after the deadline, and

Whereas,

Lack of interest has made this history update a secondary project,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the entire Resolution No. 9 adopted at the State Convention in Jackson, MS. on April 28, 1991 pertaining to the mandatory update and publishing of the State Knights of Columbus history every ten years be deleted.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by Robert Fratesi, PSD, State Historian)

RESOLUTION NO. 10

Whereas,

Article IV, Section 5 of the Mississippi State Council By-Laws states that the expenses of the State Officers, State Membership Director, State Program Director, and the five Service Program Directors, Delegates, District Deputies, and the past State Deputies shall be determined by resolution at each State Council meeting for the ensuing annual meeting.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 of the Mississippi State Council By-laws, per diem expenses for the delegates, State Officers, District Deputies, State Membership Director, State Program Director, and the five Service Program Directors to the State Council Meeting for the ensuing year are hereby set and established to be paid at a rate of \$50.00 per day for two days, plus mileage at \$.20 per mile one way, to be based on mileage figures furnished by the Mississippi State Highway Department.

Be It Further Resolved,

That Past State Deputies in attendance are to be paid per diem of \$50.00 per day for two days and no allowance for mileage.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by J. Quinn, III, State Deputy; Rev. J. Waldrep, State Chaplain; G. Todaro, Jr., State Secretary; K. Merritt, State Treasurer; B. Pabon, State Advocate; T. Knowles, State Warden)

RESOLUTION NO. 11

Whereas,

The funds of the Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus must maintain integrity,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

No prior countersigned checks shall be in the possession of the second signature at any time.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Warren Reso, Council #4472 made a motion to amend the Resolution to read "No blank countersigned checks shall be in the possession of the second signature at any time." Seconded by Harvey Caldwell, Council #6872. Resolution adopted as amended.

(Submitted by Keith B. Merritt, State Treasurer)

RESOLUTION NO. 12

Whereas,

In fraternal years 1995-1997, the Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus has maintained Council funds in a banking institution that by there written resolution requires the following standards:

- 1) Signatures and Social Security numbers of the current State Deputy, current State Secretary, and the current State Treasurer, and
- 2) Two of the three must sign all checks with the current State Secretary signing only when acting in capacity as Acting State Deputy.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That these standards must be applied from one fraternal year to the next, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That it shall be the responsibility of the current State Treasurer to implement these standards at the beginning of each fraternal year.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: This is a By-law change and requires 2/3 majority. The vote was 96 out of 101 in favor of the Resolution. Resolution was adopted.

(Submitted by Keith B. Merritt, State Treasurer)

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Whereas,

The Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus banking account has been established by the current State Treasurer, and maintained with a banking institution available statewide, and

Whereas,

The continuance of this account from one fraternal year to the next would greatly benefit the Knights of Columbus of Mississippi by continuity of interest earnings, reliability, and credibility,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That this banking institution shall be maintained as it is until and unless a change of banking institutions is necessary for the benefit of all Knights of Columbus of Mississippi, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That a change of banking institution can occur only after a majority recommendation of the Mississippi State Council Officers in an official business meeting where six or more of said officers are present, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That should a change be accepted, it would be the responsibility of the State Treasurer at the next available statewide meeting of the Mississippi Knights of Columbus to report as to why the banking institution was changed.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by Keith B. Merritt, State Treasurer)

RESOLUTION NO. 14

Whereas,

The funds of the Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus must be maintained with responsibility,

Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the State Treasurer will not issue payments for any reason without advance written approval of the State Deputy for each expense, with the exception of any authorization by resolution of the Mississippi Knights of Columbus State By-laws.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by Keith B. Merritt)

RESOLUTION NO. 15

Whereas,

The Mississippi Knights of Columbus State Council funds must remain secure, and

Whereas,

During fraternal years 1995-1997 a commercial crime bond had been purchased and maintained for the Mississippi Knights of Columbus State Council,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That from one fraternal year to the next, a commercial crime bond be purchased for an amount of \$40,000.00 and that the bond must be on the positions of those State Officers who are recognized by bank resolution as having authority over the Mississippi Knights of Columbus State Council funds.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Accept Recommendation

(Submitted by Keith B. Merritt, State Treasurer)

Following the Resolutions Committee Report, State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III closed the Third Business Session at 4:20 p.m. with a prayer written by State Chaplain Father Jeffrey Waldrep.

Saturday night festivities included the State Banquet and Awards Presentations. Supreme Director Vincent DiLeonardo was the keynote speaker of the banquet.

State Awards Program

The following awards were presented for the 1996-1997 Fraternal Year. Additional awards for achievements in membership are listed in the State Membership Director's Report starting on Page 156.

Honor Councils

848 Jackson
1244 Biloxi
4898 Long Beach
9234 Indianola
10216 Brandon
10499 Ocean Springs

Councils of Excellence

1583 Gulfport
1605 Pascagoula
4472 Pass Christian
5267 Greenwood
6592 Bassfield
6872 Picayune
7854 Clinton
7087 Kiln
8038 Pearl
8054 McComb
8285 Jackson, St. Therese
8760 Holly Springs
9094 D'Iberville
9543 Madison

Distinguished Councils

802 Meridian
898 Vicksburg
1034 Natchez
1522 Bay St. Louis
1908 Hattiesburg
2180 Laurel
5556 Cleveland
5654 Ocean Springs
6765 Starkville
7120 Southaven
7211 Lumberton
7910 Orange Grove
7915 Brookhaven
8848 Tupelo
9124 Gautier
9409 West Biloxi
9673 Woolmarket
9958 Lizana
10443 Grenada
10901 Oxford
11541 Gulfport, St. James
11904 Lucedale

Best Newsletter Awards

Extra Large/Large Council - 1583 Gulfport
Medium/Small Council - 10499 Ocean Springs

Best Scrapbook Awards

Extra Large/Large Council - 802 Meridian
Medium/Small Council - 7120 Southaven

Best Pro-Life Project Awards

First Place - 7087 Kiln
Second Place - 7854 Clinton
Third Place - 7211 Lumberton

Best Vocation Project Awards**Jackson Diocese**

First Place - 898 Vicksburg
Second Place - 802 Meridian

Biloxi Diocese

First Place - 9409 West Biloxi
Second Place - 2180 Laurel

Priest Education Fund Award
Highest Donation by a Council - 4898 Long Beach

Mental Retardation Program Awards
Largest Donation by a Council - 8848 Tupelo
Largest Donation Per Member - 8912 Corinth

Membership Awards

Highest Percentage Gain
Extra Large - 898 Vicksburg
Large - 1522 Bay St. Louis
Medium - 10901 Oxford
Small - 7211 Lumberton

Highest Net Gain
Extra Large - 898 Vicksburg
Large - 1522 Bay St. Louis
Medium - 10901 Oxford
Small - 7211 Lumberton

Top Proposer of the Year
#1 Andrew Mitchell
#2 Bob Hudson
#3 Tom Chady

Outstanding District Deputy Award
Bob Hudson, District Deputy No. 1

Best Council Awards
Extra Large - 898 Vicksburg
Large - 5654 Ocean Springs
Medium - 9409 West Biloxi
Small - 7211 Lumberton

Past State Deputies Award
802 Meridian

Supreme Council Service Activity Awards

Best Church Activity
First Place - 898 Vicksburg
Second Place - 11541 Gulfport, St. James
Third Place - 898 Vicksburg

Best Community Activity

First Place - 2180 Laurel
Second Place - 6592 Bassfield
Third Place - 2180 Laurel

Best Council Activity

First Place - 802 Meridian
Second Place - 10901 Oxford
Third Place - 5556 Cleveland

Best Youth Activity

First Place - 10901 Oxford
Second Place - 8285 Jackson, St. Therese
Third Place - 802 Meridian

Best Family Activity

First Place - 898 Vicksburg
Second Place - 802 Meridian
Third Place - 5556 Cleveland

State Family of the Year Award

Ralph Agussi & Family (5556 Cleveland)

State Knight of the Year Award

Mouise Richards (802 Meridian)

Fourth Business Session

Sunday, April 27, 1997

State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III called to order and opened the Fourth Business Session of the 93rd Annual State Convention of the Mississippi Jurisdiction at 10:06 a.m. State Warden Ted V. Knowles verified that all present possessed a current membership card of the Third Degree. The State Deputy then opened the meeting with a prayer. Sir Knight Mike Gilly, Master of the Fourth Degree of the Mississippi District, lead the Delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Most Reverend William R. Houck, Bishop of Jackson Diocese and Most Reverend Joseph Lawson Howze, Bishop of Biloxi Diocese, addressed the Delegates and thanked them for their continued support.

Supreme Director, Vincent DiLeonardo addressed the Delegates and again thanked them for their fraternity and hospitality.

Sir Knight Mike Gilly, Master of the Fourth Degree of the Mississippi District, addressed the Delegates.

**District Master's Report
Mississippi District
Bienville Province**

It is truly an honor and a privilege to write this summation and to offer it to the minutes of the 1997 Convention.

First, let me begin, by congratulating the Biloxi Council #1244 and the D'Iberville Assembly #0557 for hosting this years convention. I wish them well for a very successful event.

I thank Former Master John "Pat" Myers for his support, dedication and his accomplishments as Master of the Mississippi District, of the Bienville Province. I thank the worthy Vice Supreme Master, Marvin Lott for his support and encouragement. I thank the worthy State Deputy, Jesse Quinn III, for his support and assistance. I commend him for his accomplishments as the Chief Executive Officer of the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus. I thank each of the State Officers: Ted Knowles, State Warden; Bruce Pabon, State Advocate; Keith Merritt, State Treasurer; and Guy S. Todaro, Jr., State Secretary, for their support and assistance.

I thank my family for their love and support, especially, my wife, Karen, whose patience and understanding makes everything worthwhile. I thank the District's Marshal, Ken Broussard, Sr. for his "Can Do" attitude and his much appreciated friendship and to the Master's Staff members: Ernest Falgo, B. R. "Punky" Frederic and John Szymonik. These brother Knights insure that the Master complies with the *Laws and Rules Governing the Fourth Degree*. Finally, I thank you, the brother Knights of Mississippi. I could not be here without your nomination and support.

I was appointed on October 17, 1996, by then Supreme Master, Darrell Beck. He explained what he expected of me and he stated that I would be held personally responsible for the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree in the State. I was overwhelmed at my appointment. I got off to a slow start and I apologize for it.

I was duly installed by Most Reverend Bishop William Houck, on October 25, 1996, during the Bienville Provincial meeting, held in Vicksburg and hosted by the Vicksburg Assembly #0558. Sir Knight Mike Lee was the Faithful Navigator. I began my tenure as Master, in the month of November. I encountered my first problem, caused by a letter, wrote on my behalf and it had slighted a brother Knight. I, also, established two dates for exemplifications. I was determined to use both of the District's Degree Teams.

The first Exemplification was to be held on March 8, 1997. The honoree was Guy S. Todaro, Sr. The Team was under the direction of Former Master, Fritz Oberlies and consisted of Fr. Dominick Fullam, Fr. Mike Sucharski, Ken Broussard, Sr., Ed Croal, George O'Connor, John Szymonik and Guy S. Todaro, Jr. They performed well. The Honor Guard at church was splendid and had a good showing of members.

Fifty-five new Sir Knights received the honors of the Fourth Degree. The Bishop Gunn Assembly #0556 and Council #1583 were very gracious hosts. I thank Charles Underwood, III, Faithful Navigator, Terry Hurst, Grand Knight and the Ladies Auxiliary and their members for a very memorable event.

John Ward, Faithful Navigator of the Fr. Harry Wade Assembly #2347, was the winner of the Ring Raffle, which proceeds were to aid the Master's Fund.

The second Exemplification was scheduled and planned for April 5, 1997, in Oxford, and was difficult to organize. The honoree would be the late Bishop Joseph Brunini. Everything was on track. Candidates names, their applications and money was coming to me slowly, as did the previous exemplification. I slipped the deadline in an effort to secure more candidates. On March 19, 1997, I would make the final decision to either "Go or No Go". I declared this exemplification as a "Go". I had sufficient candidate applications and money to meet all the expected expenses. I had already procured ample candidate equipment. The members of the Brunini family were notified. Plaques honoring the late Bishop and host Council were procured. Motel reservations were in place.

Then I encountered Degree Team problems. The Degree Teams from the surrounding States had prior commitments and were not available. I was determined to hold this event. John and Nancy Welsch, members of the Brunini family, had already accepted the invitation to the Banquet. I was not going to cancel this event because the Oxford Council had worked very long and hard to get this Exemplification organized and they wanted to form a new Assembly. With all the options reviewed, I chose to assemble a team of members from the coast team and some members from the brother Sir Knights who offered their services to participate on this Degree Team. The Degree Team consisted of the following Sir Knights: Ken Broussard, Sr., Ken Broussard, Jr., Ernest Falgo, B. R. "Punky" Frederic, Tony Grant, Bob Hudson, Ted Knowies, John Szymonik and Guy S. Todaro, Jr. These brothers did an outstanding job and I commend them for their efforts. I also appreciate them from taking the time from their busy schedules to aid and support the Mississippi District Fourth Degree.

The Exemplification and Banquet was a tremendous success. 30 new Sir Knights were added to the ranks. I thank all who were involved, especially Sir Knights: Tony Grant, Grand Knight of the Oxford Council and District Deputy, Bob Hudson and State Council Director, Peter Sukanek.

The Exemplification was well planned and organized from their end. The results of the feed-back from the attendees of the Exemplification and Banquet, all stated they were well pleased and impressed. The Exemplification and Banquet were both held in the Oxford United Methodist Church, Activity Center. I thank that Church for allowing us the use of their facilities.

The Oxford Council #10901 now has attained sufficient members to form the 23rd Assembly. The paper-work for this new Assembly is in process and will soon be chartered in the name of Fr. Cletus Manon, the first Pastor of St. John's Church in Oxford.

Supreme had established the membership gain quota for the District at 89. We came very close with the number of 85 (96%). I take great personal satisfaction in knowing that this was accomplished within six months of my appointment. I hope future exemplifications will be as successful, but easier to organize. Currently, I am planning another Exemplification on October 11, 1997 in Gautier, at Council #9124.

The job of Master is difficult and without the support of your peers, it can be traumatic. In the past six months, I have tried to be a good Master. Often, I did not meet the expectations of the people I was involved with, I hope they will forgive me. To those who made this time enjoyable by their friendly courteous attitude, I thank them. Finally, with your continued support and prayers, we will improve upon the success of the Fourth Degree here in Mississippi.

Respectfully submitted, I am
Mike Gilly, Master
Mississippi District
Bienville Province

Dennis "Doc" Ladnier, PSD, gave a report to the Delegates on the 93rd Convention.

Larry Campbell gave a report on the Priest Education Fund donations for 1997. The following report was compiled with the assistance of both diocesan offices.

Bishop R. O. Gerow Memorial Fund

Council Number	Council/Assembly/ Auxiliary	1953 - 1996 Donations	1997 Donations	Total Donations
802	Meridian	\$32,973	\$1,000	\$33,973
802	1251 Assembly	\$1,850	\$200	\$2,050
802	Ladies Auxiliary	\$2,350	\$250	\$2,600
848	Jackson	\$26,705	\$1,000	\$27,705
848	0554 Assembly	\$940	\$600	\$1,540
898	Vicksburg	\$54,050	\$3,600	\$57,650
898	0558 Assembly	\$2,600	\$350	\$2,950
1034	Natchez	\$37,327	\$1,192.50	\$38,519.50
1034	0559 Assembly	\$275		\$275
1244	Biloxi	\$32,000	\$1,000	\$33,000
1244	Ladies Auxiliary	\$300	\$200	\$500
1522	Bay St. Louis	\$27,914	\$1,500	\$29,414
1583	Gulfport	\$63,759	\$4,000	\$67,759
1583	0556 Assembly	\$2,209		\$2,209
1583	Ladies Auxiliary	\$1,925		\$1,925
1605	Pascagoula	\$136,695	\$200	\$138,695
1605	0561 Assembly	\$400		\$400
1605	Ladies Auxiliary	\$1,525	\$100	\$1,625
1908	Hattiesburg	\$11,175	\$500	\$16,175
2134	Greenville	\$53,844	\$2,500	\$56,344
2134	0555 Assembly	\$52,509	\$600	\$58,509
2134	Ladies Auxiliary	\$3,400	\$250	\$3,650
2180	Laurel	\$18,730	\$1,609	\$20,339
2180	0563 Assembly	\$1,500	\$100	\$1,600
2180	3768 Squires Circle	\$621	\$100	\$721
2945	Leland	\$20,312	\$700	\$21,012
2969	Clarksdale	\$27,570	\$1,000	\$28,570
4472	Pass Christian	\$4,774	\$100	\$4,874
4472	Ladies Auxiliary	\$725	\$50	\$775
4898	Long Beach	\$49,601	\$4,800	\$54,401
4898	1719 Assembly	\$3,700		\$3,700
4898	Ladies Auxiliary	\$500	\$650	\$1,150
5267	Greenwood	\$18,240	\$1,224.04	\$19,464.04
5267	1569 Assembly	\$425	\$450	\$875
5556	Cleveland	\$11,650	\$800	\$12,450
5556	1503 Assembly	\$750	\$200	\$950
5654	Ocean Springs	\$23,155	\$500	\$23,655
5654	2059 Assembly	\$813	\$200	\$1,013
5654	Ladies Auxiliary	\$100		\$100
6555	Shelby	\$6,860	\$500	\$7,360
6592	Bassfield	\$1,750	\$100	\$1,850
6765	Starkville	\$1,025		\$1,025

Bishop R. O. Gerow Memorial Fund

Council Number	Council/Assembly/ Auxiliary	1953 - 1996 Donations	1997 Donations	Total Donations
6872	Picayune	\$26,015		\$26,015
6872	2227 Assembly	\$1,000		\$1,000
7087	Kiln	\$4,660	\$300	\$4,960
7120	Southaven	\$3,863	\$600	\$4,463
7120	2195 Assembly	\$920	\$200	\$1,120
7120	Ladies Auxiliary	\$75	\$100	\$175
7211	Lumberton	\$35,571.81	\$683.43	\$36,255.24
7854	Clinton	\$3,635	\$50	\$3,685
7910	Orange Grove	\$1,370	\$175	\$1,545
7910	2347 Assembly	\$50	\$100	\$150
7910	Ladies Auxiliary	\$200		\$200
7915	Brookhaven	\$10,150	\$1,500	\$11,650
7974	Columbus	\$1,175	\$500	\$1,675
8038	Pearl	\$1,979	\$50	\$2,029
8054	McComb	\$6,720	\$500	\$7,220
8285	Jackson, St. Therese	\$1,409		\$1,409
8760	Holly Springs	\$2,200	\$250	\$2,450
8848	Tupelo	\$2,400	\$1,000	\$3,400
8848	2131 Assembly	\$200	\$200	\$400
8912	Corinth	\$900	\$200	\$1,100
9094	D'Iberville	\$2,486	\$100	\$2,586
9124	Gautier	\$2,824		\$2,824
9234	Indianola	\$3,190	\$200	\$3,390
9409	West Biloxi	\$5,527	\$1,151.59	\$6,678.59
9543	Madison	\$806	\$680	\$1,486
9673	Woolmarket	\$682.50	\$200	\$882.50
9958	Lizana	\$1,530	\$370	\$1,900
9958	2284 Assembly	\$310		\$310
9958	Ladies Auxiliary	\$400	\$100	\$500
10216	Brandon	\$1,025	\$200	\$1,225
10216	2269 Assembly	\$100	\$120	\$320
10216	Ladies Auxiliary	\$50		\$50
10443	Grenada	\$863	\$660	\$1,523
10499	Ocean Springs	\$1,295	\$300	\$1,595
10901	Oxford	\$400	\$200	\$600
11541	St. James, Gulfport	\$35	\$100	\$135
11654	Wiggins			
11904	Lucedale		\$100	\$100
	St. Mary's	\$474		\$474
	State Ladies Auxiliary	\$2,700	\$300	\$3,000
	Individual Contributions	\$1,682	\$533	\$2,215
	Miscellaneous	\$11,547		\$11,547
	Total	\$881,995.31	\$43,128.56	\$925,123.87

Election of State Officers

State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III requested that the election tellers take their position. He then called for the election of State Officers, by opening the floor for nominations.

State Deputy

Ted V. Knowles, State Warden nominated Guy S. Todaro, Jr. for the office of State Deputy for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. There were no other nominations. Ken Simon, 7974 Columbus, moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Peter Sukanek, 10901 Oxford. Motion passed. Guy S. Todaro, Jr. was elected by acclamation.

State Secretary

George Roberts, 10499 Ocean Springs, nominated Bruce Pabon for the office of State Secretary for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. There were no other nominations. Carl Brochard, 5654 Ocean Springs moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Harvey Caldwell, 5267 Greenwood. Motion passed. Bruce Pabon was elected by acclamation.

State Treasurer

Thomas R. Zettler, Immediate Past State Deputy, nominated Ted V. Knowles for the office of State Treasurer for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. There were no other nominations. Thomas Canizaro, 2180 Laurel moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Warren Reso, 4472 Pass Christian. Motion passed. Ted V. Knowles was elected by acclamation.

State Advocate

Thomas Thornton, 898 Vicksburg, nominated Thomas F. Chady for the office of State Advocate for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. Thomas Canizaro, 2180 Laurel, nominated David Hughes for the office of State Advocate for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. There were no further nominations. Thomas R. Zettler, Immediate Past State Deputy, moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Joe Serio, 7915 Brookhaven. Motion passed. Thomas F. Chady was elected by a vote of 70 to 31.

State Warden

Marvin Cannon, 8285 Jackson, St. Therese, nominated Richard T. Lieding for the office of State Warden for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. Joseph Goellner, 1908 Hattiesburg, nominated David Hughes for the office of State Warden for the 1997-1998 fraternal year. There were no further nominations. Larry Tabor, 9094 D'Iberville, moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Lynn Eberhardt, 9543 Madison. Motion passed. Richard T. Lieding was elected by a vote of 52 to 50.

**Nomination and Election of Delegates
to the 115th Supreme Convention in Montreal, Canada**

Thomas Zettler nominated Ted V. Knowles
Lessie Ladner nominated Thomas Chady
Tony Homsany nominated Bruce Pabon
Ed Croal nominated Lessie Ladner
George Roberts nominated Dennis "Doc" Ladnier
Ray Shields nominated Donald F. Cox
Gordon Cowie nominated Gerry Clark

Julius Broussard, moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Harvey Caldwell. Motion passed.

The results of the voting are reported below:

Ted V. Knowles - 80 votes
Thomas Chady - 41 votes
Bruce Pabon - 31 votes
Lessie Ladner - 22 votes
Dennis "Doc" Ladnier - 14 votes
Donald F. Cox - 7 votes
Gerry Clark - 7 votes

Ted Knowles, and Thomas Chady, will join State Deputy Guy S. Todaro, Jr. and Immediate Past State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III as Mississippi's Delegates to the 115th Supreme Convention in Montreal, Canada.

In early 1997, the Mississippi Jurisdiction was close to the threshold of Insurance Members to gain an additional delegate to the Supreme Convention. Therefore, an additional delegate was needed from the floor.

Julius Broussard nominated Harvey Caldwell
Tony Homsany nominated Bruce Pabon
Terry Hurst nominated Lessie Ladner
Gordon Cowie nominated Keith Merritt

Joe Serio moved that the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Chris Daley. Motion passed.

The results of the voting are reported below:

Harvey Caldwell - 4 votes
Bruce Pabon - 43 votes
Lessie Ladner - 20 votes
Keith Merritt 33 votes

Bruce Pabon will be our additional delegate to the 115th Supreme Convention in Montreal, Canada if we do exceed the threshold of Insurance Members by June 30, 1997.

**Nomination and Election of Alternates
to the 115th Supreme Convention in Montreal, Canada**

For Associate Alternates:

Keith Merritt - 85 votes

Don Cox - 50 votes

Dennis "Doc" Ladnier - 49 votes

For Insurance Alternates:

Dennis "Doc" Ladnier - 1st Alternate

Danny Lechner - 2nd Alternate

Lessie Ladner - 3rd Alternate

**Nomination and Selection of the Site
for the 2001 State Convention**

Larry Tabor made bid for Council 9094 D'Iberville to host the 2001 State Convention.

Gordon Cowie made a bid for Council 8038 Pearl to host the 2001 State Convention.

By a hand vote of 77 to 12, Council 9094 D'Iberville was accepted as the host of the 2001 State Convention.

Additional councils including 4472 Pass Christian, 7910 Orange Grove, 9409 West Biloxi, 9673 Woolmarket, 9958 Lizana, and 10499 Ocean Springs agreed to co-host the event with Council 9094.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

District Deputy Lessie Ladner made a motion that the Mississippi Jurisdiction pass a resolution nominating Jesse J. Quinn, III for the office of Supreme Director. The motion was seconded by Gordon Cowie, 8038 Pearl. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, State Deputy Jesse J. Quinn, III made some closing remarks. The 1997 State Convention adjourned with prayer at 12:15 p.m.

These proceedings of the 93rd Annual State Convention of the Mississippi State Council of the Knights of Columbus are respectfully submitted,

Guy S. Todaro, Jr.
State Secretary

