

Mike Kassouf
State Deputy

Mississippi State Council

2021 Convention Minute Book



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

The information contained in this booklet is restricted for use in conducting official business of the Order. Request for information with regard to officers not listed in this booklet should be directed to the State Deputy or Supreme Secretary.

Contents

Agenda

Convention Committee Assignments

Reports

- Committee Reports
- State Officer
- State Directors
- Grand Knights

Convention Minutes

Resolutions

**Mississippi State Council, Knights of Columbus
2021 Virtual State Council Meeting
Agenda**

WELCOME- State Deputy Mike Kassouf

PRAYER- State Chaplin Fr. Scott Thomas

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS- State Deputy Mike Kassouf

SUPREME KNIGHT'S MESSAGE - Video

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS – State Secretary Roy Gamez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2020 STATE COUNCIL MEETING– State Secretary Roy Gamez

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES- State Deputy Mike Kassouf

REPORTS OF STATE OFFICERS - State Deputy Mike Kassouf

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS - State Deputy Mike Kassouf

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND ALTERNATES TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL- State Deputy Mike Kassouf**

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS – State Advocate Bryan Cassagne

NEW BUSINESS - State Deputy Mike Kassouf

GENERAL AGENT MESSAGE – John Stice

PRAYER - State Advocate Bryan Cassagne

ADJOURNMENT- State Deputy Mike Kassouf



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Mississippi State Council
117th Annual State Convention



Convention Committees

The committees listed below are appointed to assist in the work of the convention. Meetings will be conducted at times decided by the committee chairman. Additionally, the *Credentials* will also meet on Saturday, 24 April 2021 to finalize and approve the Credentials report. Committee chairman (listed in **bold**), except the Election Tellers, will make a written report. The written report must include a listing of committee attendees present.

The committees are as follows:

1. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
Raul Gamez, State Secretary Saturday, 24 May 2021, 8:30 a.m.
Richard Greenwold, Asst. to State Sec.

2. AUDIT COMMITTEE
Daniel Lechner, PSD XXXXXX , XX April 2021, XX:00 a.m.
Guy Heying, State Treasurer
 Will Halpin 898
 Ted Applegate 6592
 Sam Awwad 8912
 Fames Reid, Jr. 10901
 Louis Clifford 15131
 James Cummings 16992

3. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
Philip Jabour, IPSD Saturday, XX April 2021, 4:00 p.m.
Bryan Cassagne, State Advocate
 Gerald Schmuck PSD
 M. James McCraw PSD
 Noel Aucoin

4. ELECTION TELLERS Saturday, 24 April 2021, 10:00 a.m.
 Jerry Schmuck PSD
 Noel Aucoin PSD
 Peter Sukanek PSD

Audit Committee Report

May 22, 2021

11:00 AM

Due to the COVID pandemic, the audit committee met virtually with State Treasurer, Guy Heying

The independent accountant's report for the year ending June 30, 2020 was discussed and accepted.

The State Council financial procedures for the period of July 1, 2020 through April 1, 2021 were also discussed. There were no discrepancies noted.

Based on our discussions, it is the opinion of the audit committee that the financial records of the Mississippi State council are in a healthy state.

The meeting concluded with a prayer at 11:15 AM

Committee Members in attendance :

Sam Awwarrd _____ Council 8 912 _____

Louis Clifford _____ Council-15131 _____

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Lechner, PSD, Chairman

STATE SECRETARY/ STATE DEPUTY REPORT 2020-2021

Reverend Father, Supreme Representative, Worthy State Officers and Deputies and Brother Knights, it is my pleasure and honor to submit the annual report as the State Secretary/State Deputy. My report is brief. First, I want to thank all my brothers for their prayers while I was in the hospital for four months. Second, I thank all of you for your undying support during the short period that I served as the State Secretary since I was asked by Supreme to fill the position of State Deputy for the remaining two months of the Fraternal year. It was a challenging period but very rewarding.

To all my Brother Knights, I not only thank you all that you do for the State of Mississippi. I humbly thank you for your support and trust in me during my tenure of serving as a State Officer. It has been **an Honor** serving you. God Bless you and your families.

Vivat Jesus,

Respectfully Submitted,

LTC Raul (Roy) Gamez (Ret)

State Secretary/State Deputy

State Treasurer's Report

2021 State Convention

Brother Knights,

I thank you for allowing me to serve as your State Treasurer to the 2020-2021 Fraternal Year. I know that this year has been difficult with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and I encourage each of you to stay strong in your faith and continue to do the good works of the Knights or Columbus. Our parishes and our brother knights need us now, more than ever.

The Treasurer has the responsibility to deposit all funds received, write checks for all approved expenses, and to accurately record all transactions on the State Councils account. The account is audited one a year by our independent CPA which occurred on September 25, 2020 without issue. Additionally, the State Council Form 990 was submitted to the IRS on time and accepted. Our annual 501-C non-profit organization report was submitted for the Mississippi Secretary of State's office and was accepted. The Audit Report, Form 990, and 501-C Certificate were forwarded to the Supreme Secretary.

During the 2020-2021 Fraternal Year, a new laptop was purchased and set up to handle the State Council's account with the latest version of Quick Books added. This was needed as both the old laptop and the quicken software were outdated.

The State Checking Account, at the direction of State Deputy Mike Kassouf, and the State officers, was transferred from Regions Bank to Trustmark National Bank. All funds in the prior Regions account have been fully transferred and the Trustmark account properly set up and recorded in the Quick Books system.

I have attached a copy of the 2020-2021 Sate Fraternal Year Profit and Loss Report for your review. If you should have any questions, I would be glad to show you further account details, as well as share a copy of the CPA Audit Report.

It has been my pleasure serving as your State Treasurer, and have enjoyed working with the other State Officers, and with the council across the state.

Respectfully submitted

Guy Heying

State Treasurer 2020-2021

Mississippi Jurisdiction

Mississippi State Council Knights of Columbus

Profit & Loss

May 2020 through April 2021

40000 · Total Income	
43000 · Earmarked Funds	
Total 43100 · Liability Insurance	12,043.20
43200 · Bishop Gerow Fund	
Total 43210 · Biloxi Diocese	39,025.00
Total 43220 · Jackson Diocese	48,011.00
43200 · Bishop Gerow Fund - Other	1,044.00
Total 43200 · Bishop Gerow Fund	88,080.00
43300 · MS Pro-life	
Total 43310 · Biloxi Diocese	1,000.00
Total 43320 · Jackson Diocese	3,625.66
Total 43321 · Ultrasound Initiative Fund	4,188.78
Total 43300 · MS Pro-life	8,814.44
43500 · Christopher Fund	
Total 43500 · Christopher Fund	650.00
43700 · Bishop Houck Fund	
Total 43710 · Biloxi Diocese	1,300.00
Total 43720 · Jackson Diocese	3,625.00
Total 43700 · Bishop Houck Fund - Other	2,472.00
Total 43700 · Bishop Houck Fund	7,397.00
Total 43000 · Earmarked Funds	116,984.64
47200 · Operations Income	
47220 · Bishop Rodi Disaster Relief Fund	
Total 47220.1 · Car Tags	738.00
Total 47220 · Bishop Rodi Disaster Relief Fund - Other	1,258.00
Total 47220 · Bishop Rodi Disaster Relief Fund	1,996.00
47260 · Other Types of Income	
47261 · Miscellaneous Revenue	
Total 73001 · Military Chaplain Fund	1,075.00
Total 47261 · Miscellaneous Revenue - Other	549.66
Total 47261 · Miscellaneous Revenue	1,624.66
47264 · Fees for Shirts	
Total 47264 · Fees for Shirts	608.00
43675 · Gary Sinise Foundation	
Total 43675 · Gary Sinise Foundation	200.00
48100 · Drug card rebate-Welldynexinc	
Total 48100 · Drug card rebate-Welldynexinc	5.00
Total 47260 · Other Types of Income	2,437.66
Total 47200 · Operations Income	4,433.66
40000 · Total Income	121,418.30

60000 · Total Outgoing

Reimbursement for per capita
 Total Reimbursement for per capita 56.25

60500 · Operating Expense

61000 · Business Expenses

Total 61100 · Bank Service Charges 185.93
 Total 61200 · Business Registration Fees 53.14
 Total 61300 · Postage, Mailing Service 313.05
 Total 61400 · Printing and Copying 46.00
 Total 61402 · Supplies - computers, etc 1,400.14

61500 · Supplies

Total 61510 · Engravings & Embroideries 1,959.11
 Total 61530 · Membership Supplies & Awards 991.15
 Total 61531 · Membership Retention Intelius 139.65
 Total 61550 · State Lapel Pins 1,100.00
 Total 61500 · Supplies - Other 139.58
 Total 61500 · Supplies 4,329.49

61600 · Contract Services

Total 61610 · Accounting Fees 1,491.05
 Total 61600 · Contract Services 1,491.05

Total 61700 · Communications

1,691.20

Total 61000 · Business Expenses

9,510.00

62000 · Travel and Meetings

Supreme Convention Expense
 Total Supreme Convention Expenses 3,464.48

62100 · State Meetings

Total 62101 · State Officers Meetings 315.36
 Total 62110 · Misc. State Travel 2,728.10
 Total 62120 · State Organizational 3,456.17
 Total 62130 · Membership Travel Expenses 333.12
 Total 62100 · State Meetings 6,832.75

Total 62000 · Travel and Meetings

10,297.23

Total 65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Reference

403.49

Total 65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications

485.56

66000 · State Convention

Total 66100 · Mileage, Per Diem Lodging 2,369.28
 Total 66200 · Plaques & Awards 1,914.00
 Total 66300 · Printing & Misc. Supplies 252.73
 Total 66000 · State Convention 4,536.01

Total 60500 · Operating Expenses

25,232.29

65000 · Earmarked Donations/Expenses

65100 · Priest Education

Total 65102 · Priest Education - Biloxi Dioc 53,197.00
 Total 65104 · Priest Education - Jackson Dioc 73,747.61
 Total 65100 · Priest Education 126,944.61

65200 · Culture of Life	
Total 65202 · Pro-Life Biloxi	2,050.00
Total 65204 · Pro-Life Jackson	7,531.83
Total 65200 · Culture of Life	<u>9,581.83</u>
Total 65300 · Insurance - Liability	12,208.68
Total 65240 · Retirement Fund For Religious	1,751.00
Total 65000 · Earmarked Donations/Expenses	<u>150,486.12</u>
70000 · Misc Donations	
Total 72000 · Disaster Relief(Bishop Rodi)	1,000.00
Total 70000 · Misc Donations	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total 60000 · Total Outgoing	<u>176,774.66</u>
Net Income	<u>-55,356.36</u>

Note: Due to issuance of Earmarked Distributions checks for the 2019-2020 Year were written during the 2020-2021 State Year. These totals were: \$83,164.61 -Bishop Gerow and \$3,862.83 -Pro-Life

Report of the State Advocate 2020-2021

Worthy Brothers All,

It has been a challenging year to say the least! Covid-19 hit us high and tight with the fastball and more changes have come our way as well. Through change comes growth brothers, and our church needs us in a way like never before.

Our Safe Environment Program, administered through Supreme's Office of Youth Protection is an important element in getting the job done right. We must be vigilant for signs of abuse. Any active council will at one time or another have Youth, Special needs and, or, the elderly at their activities or programs.

There is a load of information on Supreme's website on how to receive this training, where to find it, who needs it, or kofc.org/safe. You can also find useful information in the Fraternal Planner, which I believe is the most underused resource we have. Each council gets multiple copies and few seem to look at them again.

We didn't get it done last year guys. Over 20 of our councils were non-compliant. I know we can do better. We have too! Where will you stand?

Bryan V. Cassagne
State Advocate

State Warden Report

Reverend Fathers, Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy State Deputy and State Officers, and Brother Knights all, it is my esteem pleasure and honor to submit this annual report as your State Warden. I will keep this report brief. I think the main thing I can say about my first year as a State Officer is be prepared for anything and everything. Besides the constant learning of how the State Council actually runs, we have had to traverse the rigors of the Covid 19 Virus. Many of our meetings have been virtual and I regret not getting to meet all of you in person. Hopefully things will return to normal soon and we can go about our business of supporting the Church and our priests.

To my fellow State Officers, I thank you for helping the new guy learn on the fly. We have had many telephone calls, e-mails, zoom meetings and virtual conferences to replace the face-to-face meetings that we would normally have had. This has been a challenge, but as true Knights, we continued to work through them to accomplish our ultimate goals. Thanks for showing me the ropes and always being there to answer my questions and guide me along the way.

To our District Deputies, thanks for all of your help. You are truly the backbone of our order. Without your work and leadership, we would be in serious trouble. Keep up the great work.

To my Brother Knights, thanks for all of your continued hard work in these trying times. I know things have been very difficult with all of the Covid related setbacks, but you have continued to plow through to keep our councils alive and in the forefront of our church parishes.

It has been a great honor to serve as your State Warden. Thank you and may God bless you and your families.

Vivat Jesus,

Kenny J. Gonzales

State Warden

Mississippi Jurisdiction

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY REPORT

Brother Knights;

After two years as State Deputy, I have served this year as IPSD. This is not an elected position. Every past State Deputy is asked to serve as IPSD until his successor as SD, finishes his term in office.

The thought is, that it is good to have a PSD as an advisor to the State Officers. Having served in the position, the IPSD should have knowledge and experience to share with a new SD and the other State Officers. That is what I have done for this year. SD Mike Kassouff and I have worked together for several years as we have come up the offices together. I have been there for Mike to bounce ideas off of and to answer any questions he might have about how something is done. I could also tell him who to contact with Supreme to get a question answered.

I was SD when we had our first online State and Supreme conventions. As a trailblazer, I was able to advise Mike on how to make it through both online conventions. We have survived Covid and hopefully can get back to in person meeting on the local level and the Supreme level.

I have enjoyed working with all our Mississippi brother Knights and my fellow State Officers. One of the advantages of working your way up from Warden to State Deputy, is you know what is involved in each office. You also build relationships with the other State Officers as you work together for the Good of the Order.

I appreciate your letting me serve the Mississippi Knights Jurisdiction. It has been a pleasure to work with the over 7,000 Brother Knights in Mississippi.

Vivat Jesus!

Philip Jabour

Immediate Past State Deputy

District Master's Report - Fourth Degree

Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021



District Master Craig Harrell



District Master's Report - Fourth Degree
Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Your Excellencies Bishop Kopacz and Bishop Kihneman
State Chaplain Fr. Scott Thomas
District Friar Fr. Jason Johnston
Reverend Fathers
Worthy Supreme Representative
Worthy State Deputy
Worthy State Officers
Worthy Delegates
Brothers Knights all

Appointment

On September 1st, 2020, I was appointed by Vice Supreme Master Michael Porter as the new District Master for the Mississippi District. Prior to my appointment, I was honored to have served as a District Marshal under both FDM's Bill O'Connor and Jerry Schmuck. I succeeded FDM, Jerry Schmuck, who led the State as the District Master from Sept. 1, 2016- Aug. 31, 2020. I want to thank Jerry for his leadership and the success he brought to the 4th Degree in the Mississippi District during his 4-year appointment.

While serving as a District Marshal, I learned important information in keeping the Patriotic Degree in Mississippi viable and cohesive. My responsibility is to supervise assemblies throughout the State and to continue the success of my predecessors.



FDM Bill O'Connor
2012-2016



FDM Jerry Schmuck
2016-2020

District Master's Report - Fourth Degree
Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Bienville Province

The Mississippi District is one of five States belonging to the Bienville Province. Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee are the other States in the Bienville Province.

State Chaplain and District Friar

I'd like to extend my gratitude to State Chaplain Fr. Scott Thomas and District Friar Fr. Jason Johnston for accepting their appointments as the spiritual leaders of the Knights of Columbus for the State and the Patriotic Degree.



Fr. Scott Thomas



Fr. Jason Johnston

District Master's Report - Fourth Degree
Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Marshals

As with any leadership position, there are supporting positions that help in the success of an organization. For the District Master, those positions belong to the District Marshal's. A requirement to serve as a District Marshal is to have the uniform. The District Marshal has an important role in coordinating proper drill procedures of the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Color Corps members at specific ceremonies held throughout the State. They also share information they receive from me with their assigned assemblies to keep them updated on deadlines, informed, and reminded of upcoming events and activities occurring in the State. I want to thank them for their work and dedication. Currently, there are 10 District Marshal's in the State:

District 2: Bryan Cassagne (1719, 2227, 3281)
District 4: Bill Clark (557, 561)
District 5: Chuck Nannery (556, 2059, 2347, 3007)
District 6: Bill Jarrett (562, 563)
District 7: Sal Moreno (1251)
District 8: Chuck Heim (560, 2284, 3464, 3625, 3837)
District 9: Steve Miller (554, 558, 2269, 3826, 3863)
District 11: Eddie Stutzman (559, 2969)
District 12: Leonard Temple (2195, 2495, 3081)
District 13: Ted Williams (2131, 2734, 2916)

District Master's Report - Fourth Degree
Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

New Assembly

Both the Supreme Master and the Vice Supreme Master encourage the establishment of at least 1 new Assembly in each State of the Bienville Province each fraternal year. In Mississippi, we were able to meet that request by the formation of our newest Assembly at St. Richard of Chichester in Jackson, MS. The John Edward Tracy Assembly 3863 was officially ratified on February 5, 2021.



District Master Craig Harrell presenting the Assembly's formal letter for establishment to FN David Fisher.

District Master's Report - Fourth Degree
Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

MICHAEL J. O'CONNOR, ESQTEL.: (203) 800-4822 SUPREME SECRETARY FAX: (203) 752-41 1 8

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
1 COLUMBUS PLAZA
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06510-3326

February 16, 2021

Craig S. Harrell
Master, Mississippi District
2677 Wells Rd. Raymond, MS 39154

Worthy Master:

The following excerpts taken from minutes of meeting of the Board of Directors held February 5, 2021, will be self-explanatory and is forwarded to you for your information:

VOTED, to ratify the action of the Committee on Charters, upon request and approval of Vice Supreme Master Michael J. Porter and District Master Craig S. Harrell approving establishment of the following assembly:

Bienville Province, Mississippi
John Edward Tracy Assembly No. 3863, Jackson, MS

The assembly will consist of Fourth Degree members from St. Richard of Chichester Council No. 15131. With the establishment of this new assembly St. Richard of Chichester Council No. 15131 will detach from Bishop Gerow Assembly No. 554

Fraternally,



Michael J. O'Connor
Supreme Secretary

MJO:mgw

Cc: Dennis J. Stoddard, Supreme Master
Michael J. Porter, Vice Supreme Master

District Master's Report - Fourth Degree
Fraternal Year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Exemplifications

During the 2020-2021 Fraternal year, the Mississippi District participated in 7 online virtual Patriotic Degree exemplifications. Of those, Mississippi hosted 3 online virtual exemplifications. A total of 58 new 4th Degree members including 4 clergy were exemplified into the 4th Degree in Mississippi.

(MS) August 29, 2020 – 22 lay, 2 clergy
(AL) October 10, 2020 – 9 lay, 1 clergy
(ARK) November 21, 2020 – 3 lay
(MS) february 6, 2021 – 10 lay, 1 clergy
(ARK) March 27, 2021 – 5 lay
(AL) May 15, 2021 – 3 lay
(MS) June 3, 2021 – 2 lay

Assemblies

Currently, we have 39 Assemblies with 5 of the 39 listed as inactive. The information below lists how many active Assemblies submitted their reports.

1315 Audit – 20 of 34
1728 Fraternal Survey – 26 of 34
2321 Civic Award – 5 of 34
186 Report of Officers – 15 of 34

12 of 34 active Assemblies submit a newsletter or have a social media platform with which to share important Assembly news with their membership. This is one of the most important aspects of having a successful Assembly. Sharing information is vital in keeping membership informed of upcoming activities and programs, and the status and well-being of their Assembly.

District 5
Activity Summary
July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021

District 5 in the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus consist of five councils:

- Cathedral of Saint Peter Council #848 (Jackson)
- Vicksburg Council #989
- Holy Savior Council #7854 (Clinton)
- Saint Therese Council #8285 (Jackson)
- Saint Richard of Chichester Council #15131 (Jackson)

While COVID-19 certainly had a big impact upon District 5, each of the councils in the district continued to operate and provide excellent service to its parish, community and membership. The Supreme directed "Faith in Action" service program was utilized to a large degree by all councils. Each council was awarded the Columbian Award for excellent program activities. Three councils (#898, #7854 and #15131) all received the Founders Award for continued support and promotion of the KC Insurance Program. Two councils achieved their membership goals (#8285 and #15131) and were awarded the Fr. McGivney Membership Award. **We are pleased to announce that Council #15131 from Saint Richard of Chichester was awarded the KC Supreme Star Council Award...our order's highest council level award! Kudos to Grand Knight Chris Lombard and his hard-working assistants on this well deserved honor!**

Membership in District 5 councils was equal to #693 men at June 30, 2021.

Faithfully submitted by District 5 Deputy Chris Halliwell

Report for Council 9094

MISSISSIPPI KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT JUNE 01, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021. DUE TO COVID 19 SOME PROGRAMS WERE CANCELED

Faith:

All Year: Selected Knight of the Month and Family of the Month.

All year: Members Encourage Parishioners to praying The Rosaries and for especially Priestly vocations.

-All year: Member Writes Education/Inspiration Articles for church bulletins.

- All year: R.C.I.A- Process Prospective Applicants into the Catholic Religion.

- As Needed: Members volunteered to conduct R.C.I.A when classes are needed.

- All year: Members conduct church activities, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacristans as well as essential as Ushers.

- May: Council Members provided specific training to all Ushers that assist with the 4 Masses and Holiday Masses.

Continuation of Program Director Report for Council 9094:

- All year: Held Monthly Meetings.
- Spring: Council Members assisted with setup and volunteered in running Booths for the Spring Festival.
- June: Council Members volunteered with setup and running booths for Feast of the Sacred Heart Festival.
- As needed: Donated funds to St. Vincent De. Paul.
- June 2020: Council conducted Election for New Year.
- Christmas Cards Sales: Council purchased and sold Christmas Cards to Parishioners.
- Adoration: Council Members assisted with Adoration services.
- Keepers of the Hour: Council Members assisted.

Community:

- Lenten Fish Fry: During Lenten Council Members prepared and served meals of Fish and Shrimp.
- Veteran Day Meal to VA Patients at local Veterans Hospital: Council Members assisted, prepared and served a fish meal to Veterans.

Continuation of Program Director Report for Council 9094:

- Global Wheelchair Mission: Members collected and distributed wheelchairs, crutches, canes and walkers to people in need.
- Leave No Neighbor Behind: Council Members reached to Parishioners that have not been seen in
- Assisted Parishioners in need: Provided assistance in form of food and services (rebuilding and tree cutting).
- Christmas on Lemoyne Festival: Council Members provided assistance in setup and running of Booths.

Life:

- As needed during the year council member placed Flowers on Memorial Garden.
- Council Member placed Flowers and Crosses for Monument to Unborn.
- Council Member participated and assisted with the monthly Life Teen/Edge Program.

Louie M. Atchison, Program Director, Council 9094

Cc: Mark Sylvester, Grand Knight, Council 9094

Cc: Nicholas Martino, District Deputy #11



Knights of Columbus
ST. MARY GAUTIER COUNCIL, No. 9124
PO Box 246 Gautier, MS 39553

March 18, 2021

Grand Knight's Report
(2020-2021)

Worthy State Deputy,
Despite the COVID-19 Pandemic, Council 9124 has continued to be an extremely active council, during the 2020-2021 State Fraternal Year. We have held a minimum of four programs in all areas. We have continued to be visible in parish life through Faith, Family, Community, and Life Programs. A synopsis of our programs for this past year is listed below.

Faith Programs:

1. Conducted a Holy Hour Programs at St. Mary
2. Conducted a Marion Hour of Prayer Program at St. Mary
3. Conducted 5th Sunday Rosary Services at St. Mary
4. Supported one of the Diocesan Seminarians under the RSVP Program

Family Programs:

1. Consecrated the entire Council to the Holy Family at the beginning of the Fraternal Year
2. Submitted twelve Families of the Month candidates to Supreme
3. Submitted a Family of the Year Candidate for Consideration
4. Provided food to families during the Pandemic as part of our Leave no Neighbor Behind Program at St. Mary

Community Programs:

1. Sponsored two local Outreach Weekend feedings at the local Our Daily Food Soup Kitchen
2. Provided a Hurricane Prepared Program for St. Mary's Congregation
3. Hosted a Council Level Free Throw Competition at St. Mary
4. Sponsored a Blue Mass for local 1st Responders and their families

Life Programs:

1. Conducted a Novena for Life
2. Hosted a Silver Rose Mass and discussion
3. Participated in the Hwy-90 2020 Pro-Life Chain
4. Conducted a series of Rosaries for Pro-Life at St. Mary.

Respectfully Submitted,

Benny R. French

Benny R. French, Grand Knight
Council 9124

Council 16992 Report

In October we had our membership drive and our respect cross display. In November we did a baby bottle driveway raised money for St. Vincent DePaul. In December we put the manger up with the Holy Family. During Lent we held Lentin fish fry. We donated the money to Loaves and Fishes. On Mother's Day we gave out pins of the Virginia Mother and prayer cards. In April we had our spaghetti lunch and the money was donated to the center for non-violence. For Father's Day we gave out St Joseph pins with prayer cards. In June we had a membership drive. Council 16992 met all during Covid wearing masks and distancing. This council recruits regularly. We are planning to do an open house and show a movie about Fr. McGivney. it's hard for this council to recruit but we strive we have men here who aren't members we just can't seem to get it to click for them to join.

Submitted by

Jimmy Smith

117th Convention Minutes

Mississippi State Council, Knights of Columbus
2021 Virtual State Council Meeting

Saturday, April 24, 2021

10:00 am – 12:30 pm

State Deputy Mike Kassouf opened the meeting.

State Chaplin Father Scott Thomas led us in an opening prayer

State Master Craig Harrel led us in the Pledge of Allegiance

State Deputy Mike Kassouf welcomed and thanked all of the delegates for joining the 2021 Virtual Convention and expressed his regrets that the state meeting could not be held in person due to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. He advised the delegates that they will encounter the unique experience of attending a virtual convention over the next 2 hours.

State Deputy Mike Kassouf provided the following instructions to the delegates:

- The delegates must be registered in Election Buddy in order to vote. All registered delegates were emailed their access to the Election Buddy system. The delegates were advised that this is the last call for registration.
- Instructions were provided on how delegates were to ask and be recognized during the Business Meeting and that individuals have been appointed to monitor the Go-To-Meeting site for any delegate requesting permission to be recognized.
- Delegates were advised that the report of officers, budgets, and resolutions had all been distributed and displayed on the state website, and that each delegate was notified in advance via email for their review.
- State Secretary Roy Gamez and State Treasurer Guy Heying appointed to serve as our Credentials Committee
- Brother Richard Greenwold to serve as our parliamentarian for this virtual meeting.

Message from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Supreme Knight Kelly thanked Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson for all of his leadership and years of service as Supreme Knight over the years and commended him for all the good he did for the order. Next, he called attention to the Beatification of Blessed Michael J McGivney and that the beatification confirms the our founders vision and the mission of the Knight of Columbus. He spoke about the impacts of COVID-19 and called it one of the largest crisis the world has seen in many years. He commended the

Knight for meeting the crisis head on and for the energies the councils applied under the Leave No Neighbor Behind program. The knights contributed over \$187 Million in charitable funds and 77 Million charitable hours.

Additionally, Supreme Knight Kelly call upon the knights to lead the reopening of our Churches and our Councils, while enacting the newly released COVID recovery Plan. We as Knights must help the men of our parish to be better Catholics, husbands, and fathers. The focus this year is to walk in the Creative Courage of St Joseph and to be the embodiment of a true Catholic gentleman in our community. We must renew our commitment to the principles of the order, Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

State Secretary Roy Gamez provided the report of credentials as:

6 State Officers
1 Immediate Past Deputy
102 Delegates registered

Total voting delegates: 109

State Deputy Mike Kassouf reminded the delegates that they must register in Election Buddy in order to vote as a delegate.

State Deputy Mike Kassouf advised the delegates that due to this to being a virtual convention normal state convention rules will be suspended and the agenda abbreviated to include:

- Election of Officers
- Election of Delegates to the Supreme Convention
- Selection of the 2024 Convention Site
- New Business
- Closing Prayer
- Adjournment

State Deputy Mike Kassouf calls for Delegate Registration to be officially closed and calls for the final delegate count.

State Secretary Roy Gamez provided the final delegate count as:

6 State Officers
1 Immediate Past Deputy
102 Delegates registered

Total voting delegates: 109

State Deputy Mike Kassouf advised the delegates the even though we are using an electronic polling system for the vote, in case of an unforeseen issue, I have appointed past state deputy Philip Jabour as the judge.

Election of Officers

- State Deputy

Roy Gamez was nominated for State Deputy. No other Nominations were received. Ove Vote was cast for Roy Gamez as State Deputy

- State Secretary

Guy Heying was nominated for State Secretary. No other nominations were received. One vote was cast for Guy Heying as State Secretary

- State Treasurer

Bryan Cassagne was nominated for State Treasurer. No other nominations were received. One vote was cast for Bryan Cassagne as State Treasurer.

- State Advocate

Kenny Gonzalas was nominated for State Advocate. No other nominations were received. One vote was cast for Kenny Gonzalas as State Advocate

- State Warden

Nominations

Charles Hahn
Chuck Hiem

No other Nominations

Voting

109 Voting Members

Charles Hahn – 54 votes
Chuck Hiem – 15 votes

Charles Hahn declared the winner.

Note: 40 delegates did not submit their votes.

Election of Supreme Delegates

- Insurance Delegate (1)

Nominations

Guy Heying

No other nominations were received.

One vote cast for Guy Heying as the Insurance Delegate.

- Associate Delegates (2)

Nominations

Charles Hahn

Bryan Cassagne

No other Nominations were received

One vote cast for Charles Hahn and Bryan Cassagne as Associate Delegates

- Alternate Insurance Delegates (3)

Nominations

Craig Harrel

Lonnie Treadaway

Ted Lander

No other Nominations

One Vote is cast for Craig Harrel, Lonnie Treadaway, and Ted Lander as Alternate Insurance Delegates

- Alternate Associate Delegates (2)

Nominations

Noel Aucoin

Kenny Gonzalas

No other nominations

One vote is cast for Noel Aucion and Kenny Gonzalas as Alternate Associate Delegates

Selection of the 2024 Convention site

Current Convention Sites

2022- Southaven

2023- Meridian

- 2024 Nominations

Biloxi (Councils 9094 and 16992)

No other nominations

One vote cast for Biloxi as the 2024 State Convention Site

Closing Prayer was said by State Advocate Bryan Cassagne – Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J McGivney.

State Deputy Mike Kassouf adjourned the meeting at 12:28 pm.

2021 Resolutions

117th Annual State Convention Mississippi Jurisdiction



Knights of Columbus

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION Number 1

Whereas,

The Knights of Columbus is an international Order and considered as the strong right arm of the Catholic Church, and

Whereas,

Our Supreme Knight, Carl A. Anderson has announced his retirement on February 28, 2021 after more than 20 years of outstanding service to our Order, and

Whereas,

Brother Anderson leaves a legacy of Christian witness and service to the Church, Knights of Columbus and countless communities throughout the world of unprecedented levels of charitable giving, and

Whereas,

This includes more than 700 million hours of service and \$1.55 billion donated to charity over the last 10 years, 57,000 people receiving the gift of mobility through a new wheelchair, \$18 million donated to Christian Refugee Relief Fund, 900 Ultrasound machines donated to pregnancy resource centers across the U.S. and Canada since 2009, 400,000 new coats donated to children of the U.S. and Canada since 2009 through Coats for Kids Program just to name a few of our many accomplishments under his leadership, and

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved

That the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus sincerely appreciates the efforts of **Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson**, and expresses its gratitude for his leadership and inspiration in furthering the cause of Columbianism, and

Be it Further Resolved,

That we pledge our loyalty and appreciation to our **Worthy Supreme Knight Carl Anderson** for all he has done in the name of our Order, and pray for his continued good health and good fortune in all future endeavors.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION Number 2

Whereas,

On March 1, 2021 Patrick Kelly will begin work as the Orders Fourteenth Supreme Knight to continue the mission of Charity, Unity and Fraternity established 139 years ago by our Founder Blessed Michael J. McGivney, and

Whereas,

Brother Kelly has dedicated his life in service to our Church, our Country and has served our Order since joining in 1983 at Marquette University, and

Whereas,

Brother Kelly has served as a U.S. Navy Captain, a Diplomat, State Deputy of the District of Columbia 2012-2013 and as Deputy Supreme Knight since 2017, and

Whereas,

Brother Kelly is a third generation Knight with family service to our Order dating to 1915, and

Whereas,

Brother Kelly has a degree in Economics and Law from Marquette University and a Masters in Theology from the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family at the Catholic University of America and is more than qualified to take the Helm of the Knights of Columbus.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

That the Mississippi Jurisdiction congratulates Patrick Kelly on his election as Supreme Knight and pledges its support, its loyalty and its prayers.

Recommendation: Adopt as amended

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention
Of the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION Number 3

Whereas,

Supreme Representative Peter Harrison has honored this State Convention with his presence, and

Whereas,

Brother Harrison serves and provides great guidance to our Order, and

Whereas,

We, the delegates of the Mississippi State Council, realize that brother Harrison's assistance before and during the State Convention Call was extremely valuable and well received by all,

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved

That the Mississippi State Council expresses its sincere appreciation to Supreme Representative Harrison and extends a cordial invitation to come back to our Jurisdiction whenever he may find it possible to do so.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION Number 4

Whereas,

The 2021 State Convention Meeting, due to the continuation of the COVID-19 Virus, is being held via an online meeting and the delegates are not gathered at a single location, and

Whereas,

The members of Council 7120 Southaven and Assembly 2195 Southaven have spent the past two years planning to host the delegates of the 2021 State Convention in Tunica, MS, and will not due to the virus, and

Whereas,

The State Officers, and membership across the Mississippi Jurisdiction truly appreciate all the time, efforts, and energy expensed by Council 7120 and Assembly 2195,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved

That the 2022 State Convention will now be hosted by Southaven, assuring that the work already undertaken will not be lost, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That Meridian will host the 2023 State Convention, being their previously approved host year, as voted on in the previous State Convention, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That as the next two upcoming conventions will be assigned, the selection of the 2024 convention host will take place during the 2021 State Convention

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION No. 5

Whereas,

Bishop Joseph Kopacz was installed as the 11th Bishop of the Jackson Diocese February 6, 2014 and faithfully serves the Diocese, following the motto "**Let there be Light**", and

Whereas,

Bishop Louis Kihneman III was installed as the 4th Bishop of the Biloxi Diocese April 28, 2017 and faithfully serves the Biloxi Diocese, following the motto "**The Lord is My Shepherd**".

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved,

That the Knights of Columbus of the Mississippi Jurisdiction inspired by the service of Bishops His Excellencies Kopacz and Kihneman, pledge our allegiance and service to our current Bishops and our Bishop Emeritus Joseph Latino.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus
RESOLUTION Number 6**

Whereas,

The Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting the men and women in the armed forces of the United States, and

Whereas,

Many active members of the Knights of Columbus are or have been members of these armed forces, and

Whereas,

Members of the armed forces place their lives at risk to ensure the safety and freedom of the residents of the United States,

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved

That the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus expresses its sincere appreciation to the dedicated men and women serving and those who served in the armed forces of the United States, and

Be it Further Resolved,

That the members of the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus continue to pray for the safety of the men and women serving in said armed forces.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus
RESOLUTION Number 7**

Whereas,

The Mississippi Knights of Columbus Annual Bowling Tournament was authorized by resolution at the 115th State Convention held in Jackson, and

Whereas,

Although authorized by resolution, the Mississippi Knights of Columbus Annual Bowling Tournament has not been well attended in recent years, and

Whereas,

It is the recommendation of the State Officers of the Mississippi Jurisdiction that a resolution to hold the Bowling Tournament is no longer needed, in that a State Tournament has not been supported, and

Whereas,

The Mississippi State Council has not provided any expense or support to said Tournament.

Now Therefore be it Resolved

That any council of the MS Jurisdiction that would like to host a Bowling Tournament is encouraged to do so at their own expense.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus
RESOLUTION Number 8**

Whereas,

Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Argentina was elected by the conclave of Cardinals as Supreme Pontiff, the first Pope ever selected from the Americas and

Whereas,

Cardinal Bergoglio assumed leadership of the Holy Catholic Church, March 13, 2013 as Pope Francis, and

Whereas,

On December 13, 2020, Pope Francis celebrated fifty-two years in the Priesthood,

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved,

That the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus affirms its loyalty and allegiance to the Vicar of Christ, Pope Francis, and passionately prays for his continued good health and continued guidance to the Holy Catholic Church.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus
Resolution Number 9**

Whereas,

Article IV, Section 5 of the Mississippi State Council By-Laws state that the expenses of the State Officers, Delegates, District Deputies, and Past State Deputies shall be determined by resolution at each State Council Meeting for the ensuing annual meeting, and

Whereas,

Expenses for the State Membership Director, State Program Director and the four State Program Chairmen and those members deemed appropriate by the State Officers are determined by resolution at each State Council meeting for the ensuing annual meeting,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved

That pursuant to Article IV, of the Mississippi State Council By-Laws, per diem expenses for the Delegates, State Officers, and District Deputies to the State Council Meeting are hereby set and established to be paid at the rate of \$75.00 per day for two days for those individuals staying in the designated hotel or attending both convention banquets, and they will be paid mileage at the rate of \$0.30 per mile one-way, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That Past State Deputies in attendance are to be paid a per diem of \$75.00 per day for two days and they will be paid mileage at the rate of \$0.30 per mile oneway, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That, per diem expenses for the State Membership Director, State Program Director, the four (4) Service Program Directors and those members deemed appropriate by the State Officers to the State Council Meeting are hereby set and established to be paid at the rate of \$75.00 per day for two days for those individuals staying in the designated hotel or attending both convention banquets, and they will be paid mileage at the rate of \$0.30 per mile one-way, and

Be It Further Resolved,

That should the hotel cost for the State Council Meeting exceed \$140.00 per night before taxes and fees, the State Council Officers, may approve an additional \$25.00 per diem for two days for all attendees who are entitled to a per diem and who stayed in the approved hotel.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION Number 10

Whereas,

The Mississippi Legislature created a specialty car tag promoting the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus, with proceeds from the sales of such car tags going to the treasury of the State Council, and

Whereas,

The use of the proceeds from the sales of such car tags is decided by resolution at the State Convention,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved

That the proceeds received by the State Council from the sale of the Knights of Columbus specialty car tags during the 2021-2022 fraternal year shall be distributed as follows:

50% to the Bishop Gerow Priest Education Fund to be distributed equally between the Jackson and Biloxi Dioceses at the 2022 Convention.

50% to the Bishop William R Houck Mississippi Retired Religious Fund

Be It Further Resolved,

That each member of the Knights of Columbus in the Mississippi Jurisdiction is encouraged to support the above listed causes and to promote the Knights of Columbus by purchasing a Knights of Columbus specialty car tag.

Recommendation: Adopt as Amended

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers

**Resolutions to the Delegates of the 117th Annual State Convention Of
the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus**

RESOLUTION Number 11

Whereas,

The Knights of Columbus have a long history of supporting those who serve others in need and the men and women who serve as First Responders and Health Care Workers in this time of the COVID-19 Virus are going beyond the call of duty, and

Whereas,

Many active members of the Knights of Columbus are or have been First Responders and Health Care Workers, and

Whereas,

First Responders and Health Care Workers place their lives at risk to ensure the safety and care of the residents of the United States,

Now, Therefore Be it Resolved

That the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus expresses its sincere appreciation to the dedicated men and women serving and those who served as First Responders and Health Care Workers of the United States, and

Be it Further Resolved,

That the members of the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus continue to pray for the safety of the men and women serving as First Responders and Health Care Workers.

Recommendation: Adopt

Action: Adopted

Submitted by: State Officers