



# THE MAGNOLIA KNIGHT



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—MISSISSIPPI

From the State Deputy's Pen...

Thomas F. (Tom) Chady

As one fraternal year ends, another one begins. Looking back, Mississippi had a very productive year. We were recognized in New Haven, CT, earlier this month for being one of the new jurisdictions to have submitted 100% of Supreme forms. Mississippi was also mentioned as being a recipient of the "To Be a Patriot Award". By reinstating Indianola Council, we met our NCD goal and currently are ahead of our Supreme membership goal returning Mississippi to the Circle of Honor. Congratulations to the following nine Star Councils: 898, Vicksburg; 2969, Clarksdale; 5556, Cleveland; 5654, Ocean Springs; 7120, Southaven; 8912, Corinth; 9094, North Biloxi; 9409, West Biloxi; , and 10216, Brandon.



In a year marked by the tragedy of September 11<sup>th</sup>, economic recession, and personal problems, your State Team continued to persevere. With your help, we

### Inside this issue:

In Need of Prayers, Support of a Sister	2
Bishop Gerow Fund, Exemplifications	3
Installation, Bishop Rodi, KOY/FOY	3
Convention First Place Winners	4
Squires, Families, Movies	5
Top Gun Councils, Program Awards	5
Mississippi Websites, MK Online, Ed.	6
Awards, "Raisin' de Roof"	7
Knights of Columbus Insurance	8

have restored Mississippi to near the top of our division and to one of the best in the Order. I think that the best is yet to come. We must strive not only to be near the top but also to reach the top spot once again.

To all the Team members and Grand Knights whose terms have ended, a heartfelt thanks for all your help in making Mississippi a better place for all. Our Team hopes that you and all returning and incoming members will continue our unwavering support for our bishops and priests, as stated in a resolution overwhelmingly passed at our recent State Convention.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone of our drive for K.C license plates to promote our Order and support seminarians. Although interest is high, actual form and payment submission has been slow. See our state website for a form:

<http://www.ms-kofc.org/kctags.pdf>

Vivat Jesus!

Tom

Tom Chady  
State Deputy



## From the Chaplain's Point of View...

Rev. Robert Dore

The readings for this weekend (June 30) invite us to reflect us on the importance of hospitality in our lives, especially our spiritual lives. It is an important them for us as the summer beckons us to relaxation and renewal. Fr. Henri Nouwen once wrote that hospitality is the creation of open and gracious space in which the stranger can shed his strangness. When you make someone on the outside feel like they're on the inside, you have practiced the virtue of hospitality. The woman in the first reading from the first Book of Kings did just that! Because of her generous hospitality, she was greatly blessed by God.

In the Gospel, Jesus speaks to his apostles on the importance of hospitality. When they are welcomed by others as believers in Jesus, Jesus himself is welcomed, and when Jesus is welcomed, the one who sent him is welcomed him too!

One of the things I know from my own family experience and from speaking with friends and parishioners is that summer can be an incredibly busy time for us - sports, activities, dancing, vacations, family reunions, recitals, graduations, and summer jobs. Let's be careful not to forget to take time to make that special place in our lives for the Lord and for

one another as his followers and especially for those strangers among us, who are in need of special welcome and care. The Lord promises that if we do this, "we will surely not lose our reward."





## IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS ...

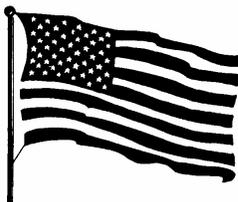


### Deceased

Mother of Bro. John Albano, Council 9124, Gautier  
 Bro. Fredric Custer, Council 11541, Gulfport  
 Bro. Bobby Evans, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Edmond Homer Dupont, Sr., grandfather of Bro. Wayne Griffin, Council 802, Meridian, and father-in-law of Bro. Bob Leo, DD4  
 Jewell Guerieri, wife of Bro. George Guerieri, Council 7120, Southaven  
 Mary Hannigan, wife of Bro. Tim Hannigan, Council 6765, Starkville  
 Mother of Bro. Joe Kerley, Council 848, Jackson  
 Mother-in-law of Bro. Cal Michel, Council 848, Jackson  
 Bro. Harvey Mitchell, Council 1522, Bay St. Louis  
 Bro. Ron Parsons, Council 9543, Madison  
 Mother-in-law of Bro. Neal Rhodes, Council 848, Jackson  
 Bro. Jerry T. Rudman, Council 7915, Brookhaven  
 Bro. George Rutherford, Council 848, Jackson  
 Father of Bro. Clinton Smith, Council 848, Jackson

### III

Bob Able, Council 7120, Southaven  
 Bro. Bob Alvarado, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Bro. Tommie Anderson, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Father Charles Boykins, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Elizabeth Brister, wife of Bro. Jerry Brister, Council 12166, Pascagoula



Bro. Jerry Brister, Council 12166, Pascagoula  
 Lynn Cappaert, widow of Bro. F.L. Cappaert, and grandmother of Bro. Brent Cappaert, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Carol Chady, Regent, D7, wife of Bro. Tom Chady, SD  
 Doris Chady, mother of Bro. Tom Chady, SD  
 Mavis Clark, wife of Bro. Fred Clark, Council 1605, Pascagoula  
 Robert "Bob" Clark, father of Bro. Gerry Clark, Council 8285, Jackson  
 Mary Crowder, daughter of Bro. Charles Ford and sister of Bro. Bill Ford, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Peggy Crosby, mother-in-law of Bro. Jerry Roberts, State Columbian Squires Chairman  
 Bro. William T. Ewell, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Ginger Johnson, wife of Bro. John Johnson, Council 12166, Pascagoula  
 Bro. John Johnson, Council 12166, Pascagoula  
 Bro. Gene Hale, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Dorothy Halstead, mother of Bro. Tom Halstead, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Bro. Tom Halstead, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Holly Halstead Harris, sister of Bro. Tom Halstead, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Hayden Hopper, Grandson of Bro. Ken Lubbers, DD2  
 Kathy Lee, wife of Bro. George Lee, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Bro. Lesta T. Lee, Jr., Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Marguerite McCraw, mother of Bro. Jim McCraw, State Council /Marian Hour of Prayer Director  
 Mother of Father Thomas McGing, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Father Peter Quinn, Biloxi  
 Bro. Melvin Ray, Council 1583, Gulfport  
 Bro. Elvin Raymond, Council 9094, D'Iberville  
 Bro. Bill Rigby, Council 9409, West Biloxi  
 Barbara Rossetto, wife of Bro. Tom Rossetto, Field Agent  
 Suzanne Rottman, wife of Bro. Greg Rottman, State Webmaster  
 Bro. Bill Seabergh, Council 898, Vicksburg  
 Mother of Bro. Roger Smith, Council 7120, Southaven  
 Angelina Tomaso, wife of Bro. Bud Tomaso, Jackson Diocese Vocations Director, Mississippi State Council  
 Bro. Duwayne Weber, Council 1605, Pascagoula

**Form #100  
Belongs in  
All of These Places**

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!

**SIGN UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

### SUPPORT OF A NOVICE SISTER



Our State Ladies Auxiliary has undertaken the support of a young Mississippi woman, who has entered the Holy Family Convent of

white veil with the habit. Sister Elora Schmidt, Postulant Directress, in a letter to State Deputy, acknowledged the \$500 check from the Ladies and the promise of continued support, and she enclosed a picture of Sister Rexann as a novice.

the Fanciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in Manitowoc, WI. Rexann Hammons was received into the novitiate on June 18, 2002, accepting the



**Special Intentions**

Bro. John Booth and family, Council 898, Vicksburg, whose home was destroyed by fire

Michael Lucas, stepson of Bro. Darnell Lepre, Council 9094, D'Iberville, in "harm's way" overseas

**BISHOP R.O. GEROW MEMORIAL FUND**

Larry Campbell, Chairman, Priest Education Fund

The 2001-2002 receipts for the Priest Education Fund amounted to \$51,783.71, with 57% being contributed to the Jackson Diocese and the balance to the Biloxi Diocese. Our total contributions since 1953 have amounted to \$1,159,645. We are grateful to the councils, assemblies, ladies auxiliaries, the state ladies auxiliary, and the individuals who made the program a success. We wish to extend special thanks to Vicksburg Council 898 for the largest donation of \$5000 and to Brookhaven Council 7915 for the highest per-capita donation of \$24.

With the ever-increasing cost of seminary training (\$20,000/year per seminarian), we need to make a concentrated effort to increase our level of giving. Our two dioceses currently have 15 men in training, and ease the burden on our bishops.

Again, I challenge us all to maximize our contributions to the Christopher Fund, an endowment program established by Supreme. Our jurisdiction is entitled to deposit up to \$5/member (or just over \$30,000) and get a matching donation by Supreme. Current annual interest paid on the Fund is 8%, which is shared equally by the two dioceses. Checks to the Christopher Fund should be sent to the State Treasurer. Also, our Knights of Columbus insurance program (and other life insurance policies, for that matter) can be used as an additional means of endowing seminarian education. Discuss the details with your field agent.

**INSTALLATION OF STATE OFFICERS**

Bishop William R. Houck of the Jackson Diocese installed the officers of the Mississippi Jurisdiction and District Deputies on Saturday, June 22, 2002, at St. Michael Catholic Church, Vicksburg, at the 5:30 p.m. vigil Mass. Officers installed for the 2002-2003 fraternal year, include Rev. Robert Dore, State Chaplain; Rev. James O'Riordan, Honorary State Chaplain; Thomas F. Chady, State Deputy; Richard T. Lieding, State Secretary; Larry Tabor, State Treasurer; Daniel J. Lechner, State Advocate; and Peter Sukanek; State Warden. District Deputies include Dennis C. Louis, DD1; Kenneth Lubbers, DD2; Tom Bryant, DD3; Robert Leo, DD4; Dr. Paul Gospodarski, DD5; Joseph R. Jones, DD6; Ricky Warren, DD7; Louis D. Schwartz, DD8; John Leonhard, DD9; Allan Konyon, DD10; Robert Boney, DD11; and Kerry Roberts, DD12. A reception and banquet at Vicksburg Council 898's council home followed the installation. All area priests were able to attend and participate in the banquet.

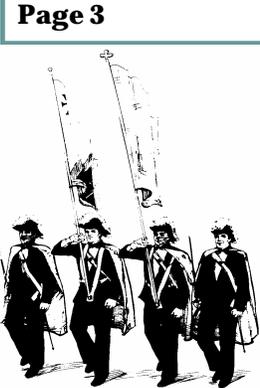


**EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE**

The State Deputy, Membership Director, and Ceremonials Chairman have selected the following upcoming dates and locations for second and third degree exemplifications in our jurisdiction:

Date	Location
August 18	Biloxi
August 25	Tupelo
September 8	Vicksburg
October 19	Bay St. Louis
November 3	Cleveland

Honorees at each will be Pope John Paul II and a local Knight or member of the clergy. Contact the host Grand Knight to make arrangements.



The Master, Mississippi District announces the following fourth degree exemplification:

Date	Location
October 12	Picayune

Please coordinate all Honor Guard activities or other Fourth degree programs with the Master, SK Jim Lambert, 601-798-1915

**OUR SD: ONE OF THE "BOYS"?**



SD Tom Chady holds his own with Supreme Chaplain, Bishop Daily, and Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, in a June 8, 2002, gathering in New Haven.

**Bishop Rodi Now a Sir Knight!**

A June 1, 2002, Fourth Degree Exemplification honoring the late Msgr. James M. Russell at St. Alphonsus Council 5654 in Ocean Springs had a class of 40 new Sir Knights. Included among them was Bishop Thomas J. Rodi of the Biloxi Diocese, who became a member of D'Iberville Assembly 557. Bishop Rodi celebrated the Mass at St. Alphonsus Church following the exemplification and referred to the Knights as "the right arm of the church."

**KNIGHT OF THE YEAR/FAMILY OF THE YEAR**

Two of the most prestigious awards that any State Council can bestow on its own are that of Knight of the Year and Family of the Year. Each council submits anonymous nominations to the State Program Director. At the State Convention, committees of delegates evaluate and rank the candidates - a most difficult task, as there are many very worthy individuals and families in the running. Bro. Raymond Cole, Msgr. James T. McKenna Council 2969, Clarksdale, was selected as his Brothers as 2001-2002 Knight of the Year. Bro. Cole was cited for his accomplishments in "rebuilding" his own council, in addition to his work in his parish, community, and at the State level. Selected as Family of the Year were the Art and Frances Dunn family of Father Patrick McAlpine Council 9094, D'Iberville. They "exemplify a married couple living the teachings of Christian values" and are deeply involved in the life of their parish, council, auxiliary, scouting, Squires, CYO, and school and are an example to us all!



# Convention 2002 - First Place Winners

## **Best Pro-Life Activity Award - Jackson Diocese: Father Robert Reitmeier Council 8848, Tupelo, MS**

### *Respect Life Day*

On January 22, 2002, our council chose to memorialize the anniversary of Roe v. Wade with a full day of positive pro-life activities commencing with a Respect Life Memorial Service. The day began early with an ecumenical pro-life demonstration in front of our church. Our parish youth invited those from other churches to join in a peaceful demonstration (holding signs and waving to passersby). The church sits on a hill on a very busy street and many of the hundreds of motorists replied with big smiles and honking horns. Many knights and their families joined in to support our youth. Both the local newspaper and television station covered the event.

Immediately following the demonstration the entire group worked together erecting the approximately 500 Crosses for the Innocent. Our church has a large sign at the street on which we placed a 4-by-20-foot "Crosses of the Innocent" banner, both in English and Spanish (we have a very large Spanish population in our church). It was amazing to see mother and daughter, father and son working together to place the crosses. By 3 p.m. it was time to relax before the 7-p.m. memorial service in the church.

The service began with intercessions and lighting of candles followed by readings and a responsorial psalm. Our priest gave a stirring homily directed primarily to the youth (the entire teenage group was in attendance) which was followed by music and a closing prayer. Following the service the entire congregation was invited to proceed outside to participate in the illumination of the Crosses for the Innocent.

A small white bag with sand and a votive candle was placed in front of every cross. It was a sight beyond description and the hill bit by bit, cross by cross became as bright as daylight. Every person in attendance was in awe as we stood back and admired the crosses. The lights burned well into the night.

The entire day was a success for our church and council in several ways - the Knights became personally involved with the youth and families of our parish. A large percentage of our membership (beyond the typical core group) got involved. And our church took a leadership role in the community and made a positive statement about the Culture of Life. The event was a success in every respect and we are already planning for next year. A picture is said to be worth a thousand words. One of the oldest and still most successful methods of advertisement is the highway billboard. For a billboard to be effective it must be visible, attractive and short and to the point. Our council is fortunate enough to have our own billboard that is located on a major highway in our area. Department of Transportation statistics show an average of 18,000 cars that pass it daily - more than 6,000,000 yearly. While this sign has been erected for about five years, it is just recently that we had a custom sign made. A vinyl sign, measuring 12-by-25 feet displaying the simple message, "All Life Is Precious" sends a fervent proclamation and announces to all the pro-life stance of the Knights of Columbus. This sign was installed in early January

2001 and will remain till early April 2001 and because of its vinyl composition will be used many times over. If just one like is saved the \$700 cost will be well worth the money spent.

## **Best Pro-Life Activity Award - Biloxi Diocese - Oscar J. Gelpi Council 6872, Picaune, MS**

### *Remembering the Unborn*

Council members made and painted 4,400 small crosses that represent the number of abortions that are conducted each day in the United States. Council members dedicated their time to placing the crosses on our church property to help make our community more aware of the number of abortions that take place daily in the United States. The local newspaper ran a picture of the crosses and helped make the meaning of abortion much more apparent to those that had never thought about what legalized abortion is doing in the United States.

## **Best Vocations Activity Award - Jackson Diocese Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802, Meridian, MS**

### *Monetary Support of Vocations*

The best thing we do for vocations is provide monetary support. This year we supported one seminarian by giving him \$150.00 a month to help with his many expenses while seeking his goal of priesthood. We also presented a gift of \$1,000.00 to a local home-grown seminarian, who was ordained into the priesthood this year and is currently serving as our Associate Pastor. We also presented a gift of \$500.00 to another seminarian who was ordained into the priesthood this year. In addition, we donated \$1,200.00 to the Bishop R.O. Geow Priest Education Fund this year. Moreover, we established a Father Daniels scholarship fund to help our youth with financial help in their various vocational endeavors.

## **Best Vocations Activity Award - Biloxi Diocese - Sacred Heart Council 12166, Pascagoula, MS**

### *Po-Boy Fundraiser for Mexican Nuns*

This vocations project was unique in the fact that it was a joint project between our council and the local Lodge of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. This was the first time that a joint fundraiser has ever been done between our two organizations. In the past, the Elks and Knights of Columbus have assisted each other with Carnival Balls, but never in this type of program.

A group of nuns from Mexico came to our Diocese approximately 2 years ago. Since their arrival they have worked diligently covering the entire Diocese serving the Hispanic community. They have been relying on donations and the kindness of those they have been ministering to, in order to defray their living expenses and traveling costs. They are currently seeking funds to build permanent living quarters, which would allow them to bring more of their Sisters up from Mexico to expand their work. Our council teamed up with the Elks Lodge and sponsored a Po-Boy sale to raise funds for the Sisters. Orders were taken from local professional offices and industrial sites by both Brother Knights and Elk members for approximately 3 weeks prior to the sale. On the day of the sale, members of both groups met at the Elks Lodge in the kitchen facilities located there. Starting at 8 a.m., po-boys were made and bagged up, along with chips and a homemade desert. Knights and Elks then started delivering the ordered sandwiches to several area offices and businesses in time for lunch. The quantity and quality of the po-boy lunches were well received and we received many compliments from our customers.

## **DAVID SCOTT, STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

This combined effort raised over \$1,100.00 for the Sisters. All costs for the fundraiser were split between our council and the Elks, so all of the money taken in was given to the Sisters to aid in their ministry. While this type of activity may not be that unusual, the fact that our two organizations were able to work together as one and provide much needed funds for the Sisters' continued work in the growing Hispanic community in the Diocese. Approximately, 30 man hours was put into this very worthwhile effort.

## **Best Church Activity Award - St. Lucy Council 11904, Lucedale, MS**

### *Coordination of Construction of New CCD Building*

Members of Council 11904 coordinated and worked on the construction project for the entire year. Tasks in the project included:

**Projects Prior to Construction** - construction drawing preparation, construction drawing approval by diocesan architects, preparation of bid packages for contractors, preparation of material packages for bids, review and award contracts to contractors, land preparation in way of building,

**Projects During Construction** -- coordinate contractors, inspect each phase of work, review billing and payment of each contractor, install new underground electrical system, install flooring, install all finish inside and outside work including trim and doors, landscape grounds surrounding building

**Projects After Construction**—select and order furniture, install bulletin boards and white boards, paint exterior trim on building

**Summary** - 25 of 40 members participated in some capacity, over 900 man hours spent by Knights of Columbus and their wives; the building cost \$250,000; the "lock and key" estimate by the Diocese was over \$300,000; - Knight involvement resulted in savings of \$50,000

## **Best Community Activity Award - St. Therese Council 8285, Jackson, MS**

### *Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Safety Fair*

Mississippi leads the nation in both the number of people who are killed each year from Traumatic Brain Injuries and the rate of incidence per 100,000 population. In the year 2001, over 980 citizens died and 11090 citizens were injured from a traumatic brain injury. The largest group who died and were injured were young men under the age of 28. Traumatic brain injury is the leading cause of death for people under the age of 30 in the United States. More than 5,300,000 people are currently living with the catastrophic results of traumatic brain injury. It is know as the "Silent Epidemic." The annual cost to taxpayers for the care of an individual who has survived a traumatic brain injury is more than \$200,000 per year which includes health care, lost wages, rehabilitation care home health care and medications.

In March 2001, the Grand Knight of Council 8285 presented this information to the grand knights of three other councils in the local area. He made a request for volunteers from his council and the three other councils to assist him in a project called the "First Annual Safety Fair." The purpose of the Fair was to get the word out about safety for our most vulnerable citizens, our youth ...Continued on page 6

# Our Squires

## The Magnolia Knight

Is a quarterly publication of the Knights of Columbus, Mississippi Jurisdiction. Any change of address should be

addressed to

Editor, *The Magnolia Knight*

1137 Pennock Place

Terry, MS 39170-8670

Thomas F. Chady, State Deputy

159 Redbone Rd.

Vicksburg, 39180-8901

Richard T. Lieding, State Secretary

1404 Gloucester

Jackson, MS 39212-3830

Larry Tabor, State Treasurer

9605 Blossman Place

North Biloxi, MS 39532-9707

Daniel J. Lechner, State Advocate

309 Belvedere Drive

Biloxi, MS 39531-3103

Peter Sukanek, State Warden

126 Cedar Hill Drive

Oxford, MS 38655-9602

C. Bruce Pabon, Immediate Past State Deputy

P.O. Box 414

Ocean Springs, MS 39564-0414

Rev. Robert Dore, State Chaplain

P.O. Box 11

Chatawa, MS 39632-0011

Most Rev. William R. Houck,

Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Jackson

Honorary State Chaplain

P.O. Box 2248

Jackson, MS 39225-2248

Most Rev. Thomas Rodi,

Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

Honorary State Chaplain

P.O. Box 6489

Biloxi, MS 39532-6489

Most Rev. Joseph L. Howze

Bishop Emeritus, Catholic Diocese of Biloxi

Honorary State Chaplain

P.O. Box 6489

Biloxi, MS 39532-6489

Rev. James O'Riordan

Honorary State Chaplain

100 St. Michael Place

Vicksburg, MS 39180

E.A. (Tony) Dardeau, Jr., Editor

*The Magnolia Knight*

12 Crestwood

Vicksburg, MS 39180-6244

(601) 638-3702

E-mail: DARDEAUEA@aol.com

Kenn Rains

Contributing Editor

1137 Pennock Place

Terry, MS 39170 - 8670

H - (601) 878-2157 Cell - (601) 260-6503

kerains@juno.com

Father Mullin Circle 81 of Vicksburg led the Mississippi jurisdiction for the period, July 1, 2001, through May 1, 2002, with sixteen new squires. More exemplifications are scheduled, and a new circle in Natchez is close to being realized. Congratulations to Jason Johnston of Circle 81 on being elected State Chief Squire and being chosen Squire of the Year. Bro. Joseph Niezgoda, Circle 2852, Ocean Springs, was named Counselor of the Year. We salute these fine young men and their leaders, who work so closely with them. **They are our**



## Supreme Families of the Month, February - May



Congratulations to Daniel and Colleen Kavanagh, Council 1244, Biloxi, and to Walt and Lashon Brown, Council 1034, Natchez, for being selected Supreme Families of the month for February and March, respectively. The April winners were Chuck and Jean Weiss, Council 7854, Clinton, and Julius and Joan Chastant, Council 9094, D'Iberville. For May, Leo and Margaret Borosky, Council 9124, Gautier, were honored. We are proud of these fine Catholic families.

## Going to the Movies ...

GKs Robert J. Foster, Council 5654, Ocean Springs, and Larry D. Miller, Council 7974, Columbus, were among 100 GKs, who were selected by Supreme to receive a Blockbuster Video Card for recruiting at least one new member during April and May, respectively. GKs T. Rory Ros, Council 898, Vicksburg, and Phillip Jabour, Council 10216, Brandon, were the June winners. Our congratulations to these Brothers!

# Top Gun Councils ...

**Gerald Schmuck**  
**Membership Director**

The following councils received Top Gun Status at our recent State Convention:

848 Jackson	6592 Bassfield	9409 West Biloxi
898 Vicksburg	6872 Picayune	9543 Madison
1244 Biloxi	7087 Kiln	10216 Brandon
2134 Greenville	8848 Tupelo	11934 Gluckstadt
4472 Pass Christian	8912 Corinth	11995 West Harrison
5654 Ocean Springs	9094 D'Iberville	12271 Seabee Base

# Program Awards

**David Scott, Program Director**

## Stellar Councils

848 Jackson, 898 Vicksburg, 2134 Greenville, 5654 Ocean Springs, 8848 Tupelo, 9094 D'Iberville, 9409, W. Biloxi, 10216, Brandon

## Distinguished Councils

1244 Biloxi, 2180, Laurel, 2969, Clarksdale, 4898 Long Beach, 5556 Cleveland, 6872 Picayune, 7974 Columbus, 8054 McComb, 9124 Gautier, 9543 Madison, 10499 Ocean Springs, 11904 Lucedale. 11934

Gluckstadtm 11995 W. Harrison, 12271 Seabee Base

## Councils of Excellence

802 Meridian, 1034 Natchez, 6592 Bassfield, 7087 Kiln, 7120 Southaven, 7915 Brookhaven, 8285 Jackson, 10443 Grenada, 11956 Columbia/Tylertown, 12331 Pass Christian

## Honor Councils

1908 Hattiesburg, 4472 Pass Christian, 5267 Greenwood, 7211 Lum-

berton, 7854 Clinton, 7910 Orange Grove, 10901 Oxford





# Mississippi KofC Websites

St. Mary Council 9124, Gautier, has had to move its website. New URL is <http://www.ms-kofc.org/9124/>. The State Council website can be seen at <http://www.ms-kofc.org/>, while other KofC websites in Mississippi are listed at <http://www.ms-kofc.org/898/counlink.htm#ms>. Councils are encouraged to develop websites, and limited help plus some web space are available. Please do not hesitate to contact to the State Council Webmaster, Brother Greg Rottman, [rottang@vicksburg.com](mailto:rottang@vicksburg.com), or to the Editor, Brother Tony Dardeau, [DARDEAUEA@aol.com](mailto:DARDEAUEA@aol.com), who assists Brother Rottman. Also, we ask that you report any new Mississippi KofC websites or website corrections, so that the directories can be kept current. We plan to continually update the State website, so that it will be useful and user friendly.

## Magnolia Knight Online

The *Magnolia Knight* is now online. On the main webpage for the Mississippi State Council: <http://www.ms-kofc.org/>, click on [Magnolia Knight newsletter \(.pdf\)](#). We have done this so that all Brothers with access to the Internet will be able to view the current issue. An Adobe Acrobat Reader is required.

### State Convention cont. from p. 4

and our senior citizens. These two groups constitute the largest number of individuals who are at risk for a traumatic brain injury. The goals of the project were to provide a means where safety information was provided to parents and children about safety in the home, community and at school. More than 30 different non-profit organizations exhibited safety programs throughout the day. Additionally, every child, adolescent and young adult who visited the exhibition booths was fitted with a free sports helmet. Senior citizens received information on how to make their homes safe from injuries caused by falls.

More than 125 Knights and members of their families volunteered to provide manpower for the safety fair. Our council agreed to cook all the hamburgers which were provided to the more than 3,750 people that attended the fair. Another council sent volunteers to wrap and distribute the food for the picnic as well as serve the beverages. Brother knights showed up at the fair grounds at 7:00 a.m. to set up the many booths, tents, tables, chairs and recreational equipment that was used throughout the day. Brother knights and family members received instruction on how to fit the children with the right size helmet and participated in the distribution of the safety information provided by the exhibitors. Knights and their families provided volunteer services throughout the day and assisted in cleaning up the fair grounds, taking down tents and booths and packing up the remaining materials to be used at the next safety fair.

These gentlemen and their families spent more than 12 hours that day and served more than 3,000 parents and grandparents, fitted and distributed 750 sports helmets for children, cooked and served more than 7,000 hamburgers, served more than 50 gallons of iced tea, 40 gallons of lemonade and distributed 30 cases of bottled water. Over 300 bags of popcorn, 400 cones of cotton candy and 25 cases of candy were served to participants in the

safety fair. The day was so successful that the Safety Fair will become an annual event with funds for the project donated by several attorneys and local companies in Mississippi. The City was so impressed with the project that the 2nd Saturday in May is now declared the Brain Injury Association of Mississippi Safety Fair Day. Without the support of brother knights and their families from four area councils, this event could not have been the success that it was. As a testament to the success of the Safety Fair, in the months after the Fair was conducted, there was a significant decrease in both the number of people killed and the rate of incidence of traumatic brain injuries for the local area that was served by the Fair.

### Best Council Activity Award - St. John Council 10901, Oxford, MS

#### Lessons in Charity Program

The main charity of our council is a city school for the handicapped. This city school is the only such school in a 70-mile radius of the city and many rural families are served by the center. Our council sponsored an innovative program so that the knights of our council could relate to the children of the center. A video of the children's newly learned talents that were acquired with equipment purchased by our council was shown. This covers one main area of charity of the Knights which is assistance to the handicapped and needy.

Another primary charity of the Knights of Columbus is support of widows and family. The next portion of the program provided education to Brother Knights and their families concerning the planning of wills. Two attorneys provided information on this subject. The Knights of Columbus Field Agent also attended the program and contributed to this important subject.

A third primary emphasis of the Knights is family and fellowship. A potluck dinner con-

cluded our program with fellowship between brother knights and their families.

The program combined the education and practice of charity in differing forms; that of handicapped awareness, the care of widows and families and the fellowship of brother knights. Our council was strengthened by this program since charity is the cornerstone of the Knights of Columbus.

### Best Family Activity Award - St. Paul Council 10216, Brandon, MS

#### Assistance of a Brother Knight and his Family

In the Spring of 2000, our council was faced with a critical financial decision involving a fellow Knight. Our Brother was afflicted with MS (Multiple Sclerosis) for nearly all of his adult life. As a progressive muscle disease, it had finally left him wheelchair bound. It became nearly impossible to transport him in the family automobile to scheduled physician appointments, church, and KofC activities that he dearly loved. Clearly, we felt a responsibility to assist our Brother Knight and his family.

Despite some initial skepticism, our council voted to secure a loan from a local bank for \$10,500 and form a committee to locate and purchase a high-rise 3/4-ton van. The committee finally located a used vehicle and effected the needed repairs and improvements to accommodate our brothers needs. Also, as if aided by divine intervention, a local RV dealer agreed to sell and install a wheelchair lift for half the normal cost. The side cargo door had to be raised further, increasing the cost and delay. However, these challenges could not deter us in our obligation.

Finally, we were able to present the keys and title for the vehicle to the family. Needless to say, they were most grateful for this assistance, particularly since their present vehicle was barely operational and there were no funds to repair it. Thankfully, up until our Brother's death in late 2001, the vehicle served him well, providing safe, reliable transportation without the worry of financial obligation. His widow recently sold the vehicle and used the proceeds to help pay his final expenses and to assist her in getting her life back in order and to help raise their teenage son.

The project accomplished the following: unified our brother knights to a committed effort to "do the right thing" for our fellow Brother and his family despite the financial risk to our council; successfully planned and secured the needed loan proceeds, purchased and equipped the ... Continued on page 7

## Contacting Your Editor

Remember that the *Magnolia Knight* is your State Council newsletter. You are encouraged to report on your activities so that the rest of us will know about them and profit from what you have accomplished. To contact your editor:

E.A. (Tony) Dardeau, Jr., Editor, *Magnolia Knight*

12 Crestwood, Vicksburg, MS 39180-6244; 601/638-3702; e-mail: [DARDEAUEA@aol.com](mailto:DARDEAUEA@aol.com)

**Note: Deadline for the October 2002 issue is September 15, 2002**

vehicle while guaranteeing payments of the monthly note; secured financial support for the project from other church organizations and individuals, parishioners, plus officers of our State KC Council; proved to the community and our parish that our local council was committed to assisting those in need. Finally, we paid off the debt early. Furthermore, an additional \$1,000.00 was raised which was given to our deceased Brother's widow.

The project would not have been successful without the help and commitment of all council members, parishioners and concerned benefactors in the community.

**Best Youth Activity Award – Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802, Meridian, MS**

*Toys for Hospitalized Children*

Christmas is a joyous time for all, especially children. Nothing could be worse for a child on Christmas than to be confined to a hospital bed. Not only does this dampen the spirit of a child, but it also affects the whole family. Our Council recognizes the need to become involved and help return a little of the Christmas Spirit to these unfortunate children in our local hospitals.

On Christmas Eve, 2001, seven Knights escorted Santa to the three local hospitals. Santa, with his bag full of soft and cuddly stuffed animals, walked through the hospital halls escorted by his helpers. He entered the room of each child in the adolescence ward and words cannot express the joy in the faces of the children upon seeing their unexpected

guest. Not only were the children's spirits lifted, but in almost every case there were parents and relatives in the room. Santa's presence was enough to let each child know that they would not be forgotten on Christmas. Before departing, Santa gave each hospitalized child a stuffed animal and in many cases gave one to a visiting brother or sister. A Christmas card was left with the parent so they would know that it was the Knights of Columbus who took the time to bring a little joy to their family on Christmas Eve.

This program not only required the valuable time of seven Knights on Christmas Eve but also took several hours of phone calls to the hospitals, news media and shopping for gifts and cards. Every hour spent on this activity was rewarded with a child's smile. It also reminds us that a little bit of time means a whole lot to the youth of our community.

### OTHER STATE CONVENTION AWARDS

**Best Council Award - Small** - 11934; **Medium** - 10216 Brandon; **Large** - 848 Jackson; **Extra Large** - 898 Vicksburg

**Best Newsletter – Small/Medium Council** - 12166 Pascagoula; **Large/Extra Large Council** - 802 Meridian

**Best Scrapbook - Small/Medium Council** - 11956 Columbia; **Large/Extra Large Council** - 1034 Natchez

**Pro-Life Memorial Fund Highest Donation - Jackson Diocese** - 9543 Madison; **Biloxi Diocese** - 2180 Laurel

**Drug Abuse Awareness Award - 8-11 year old** - 7120 Southaven; **12-14 year old** - 1034 Natchez

**Alcohol Abuse Awareness Award - 8-11 year old** - 1034 Natchez; **12-14 year old** - 2969 Clarksdale

**Top Proposers — South Dist.** - Scott Johnson, 5654 Ocean Springs; **Central Dist.** - Ron Barry 10216 Brandon; **North Dist.** - Raymond Cole 2969 Clarksdale; **Top Proposer of the Year** - Tom Chady, SD

**Sir Knight of the Year** - Tom Chady, SD

**Squire of the Year** - Jason Johnston, State Chief Squire; **Squires' Counselor of the Year** - Bro. Joseph Niezgoda, Circle 2852 Ocean Springs

**Best Auxiliary Scrapbook** - 11583 Gulfport; **Best Auxiliary Church Project** - 11956 West Harrison; **Best Auxiliary Community Project** - 1583 Gulfport; **Best Auxiliary Youth Project** - 1583 Gulfport; **Auxiliary Membership Award** - 898 Vicksburg



## And Even More Convention Rankings ...

**Church** - 2nd, 9094 D'Iberville; 3rd, 1034 Natchez

**Community** - 2nd, 7211 Lumberton; 3rd, 898 Vicksburg

**Church** - 2nd, 5556, Cleveland; 3rd 11654 Wiggins

**Family** - 2nd, 9543, Madison; 3rd, 12166 Pascagoula

**Youth** - 2nd, 5654 Ocean Springs; 3rd, 898 Vicksburg

**Newsletter - Sm./Med.** 2nd, 7120, Southaven; **Lrg./XL**

2nd, 9543 Madison

**Scrapbook - Sm./Med.** 2nd, 4472, P. Christian; **Lrg./XL** 2nd, 9543 Madison

**Auxiliary Scrapbook**- 2nd, 848 Jackson & 6872 Picayune; 3rd D'Iberville 9094

**Auxiliary Church Project** - 2nd, 11956 Columbia/Tylertown; 3rd D'Iberville

**Auxiliary Community Project** - 2nd, 11956, West Harrison; 3rd, 4898 Long Beach;



## RAISIN' DE ROOF

Dose Kaycees in Belooxey gon' have to fix dere Council home roof. How you gon' did that widout some money, hien? Mais dey got a good Cajun Boy, Tommy Joe Breaux (a.k.a. Tommy J. Wiltz, PGK) who make a tape, at one of dem casino on de Gulf (Isle of Capri/Biloxi) las September. Tommy Joe talk all about his xperiences in de Knite of Columbus. It's very funny, yeah. Tommy Joe gon charge you ten dollar for a tape, & he gon gave de proceed to be Belooxey Council fo fix de roof. Dats a good deal, yeah! If you want to got one of dem tape, sen yo \$10 to eider one below; KC Biloxi Council 1244, P.O. Box 34, Biloxi, MS 39533-0034 (228-374-1907)

Tommy Joe Wiltz, 146 St. Charles Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530-3327; datsmetjb@cs.com (228-374-7403) Or call de Gran Knite, Billy Gollot (228-374-2192)

An if yo council want to make som muney, you can get you som tapes (at least 10) for reel cheep. Just ax Tommy Joe.

Thank you too much. AAAYYYYYYYYYY EEEEEEEEEEEEE



*the Magnolia K night*

A publication of the Mississippi State Council

**Knights of Columbus**

1137 Pennock Place

Terry, MS 39170-8670

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Terry, MS  
Permit # 1



Protect your future with insurance plans that pay you dividends now and guarantee you a source of income when you retire

The future starts tomorrow. Contact me today.

**Jerry Woods – FIC General Agent**

558 Hillcrest

Cleveland, MS 38732-2025

(662) 846-6308; jwoods@cableone.net



Generation after generation, the best protection your family can have

**Knights of Columbus**  
**LIFE INSURANCE**  
Serving Knights and their families for over a century

**Knights of Columbus find strength through their common faith in God and their love of family.**

**The Knights of Columbus insurance program provides Knights and their families affordable financial security.**



