

THE MAGNOLIA KNIGHT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSISSIPPI JURISDICTION OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Vol. 11, No. 4

August 2011



State Deputy

Gerald E. 'Jerry' Schmuck, Gulfport

State Secretary

David Scott, Madison

State Treasurer

Jim McCraw, Jackson

State Advocate

Noel Aucoin, D'Iberville

State Warden

Philip Jabour, Flowood

Immediate Past State Deputy

Dr. Peter C. Sukanek, Oxford

State Chaplain

Father Bob Higginbotham, D'Iberville

Send Council, Assembly and Circle news and announcements by the 10th of each month to:

Fred Middleton
4322 Bloombury St.
Southaven, MS 38672
fredmiddleton@comcast.net
901-218-2393

The Magnolia Knight

On the Web
www.ms-kofc.org

Coming Events

Saturday, Aug. 27, Financial Secretary Training, St. Joseph's Church, Starkville, 10 a.m.

Monday, Sept. 12, 1st Degree Exemplification, Hernando DeSoto Council 7120, Southaven.

Sunday, Sept. 18, 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification beginning with registration at noon, Rev. Clifford Meador Council 10443, Grenada.

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification, Fr. Patrick McAlpine Council 9094, D'Iberville.

Sunday, Oct. 9, 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification, Bishop Fahey Council 1908, Hattiesburg.

Saturday, Oct. 22, 4th Degree Exemplification, D'Iberville.

Saturday February 25, 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification, Msgr. James T. McKenna Council 2969, Clarksdale.

FROM THE STATE DEPUTY

MY SUCCESSORS WERE CORRECT: IT HAS BEEN 'A WHIRLWIND' BEGINNING

By GERALD E. 'JERRY' SCHMUCK

Worthy State Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Brother Knights of the Mississippi Jurisdiction and Worthy State Officers and Members of the Ladies Auxiliaries:

When I was elected as your State Deputy, some of the Past State Deputies

warned me that I needed to work fast because "time would fly by."

How right they were! It doesn't seem that long ago and we were completing our State Convention.

Since then our Worthy State Secretary, David Scott, and I have been to New Haven for a training seminar, we've had the installation of officers and Schools of Columbianism and the Supreme Convention.

In June, David and I were invited to New Haven to learn more about our jobs, meet the other officers in the various Jurisdictions throughout the Order and work on our strategic plans and goals. It proved to be a very informative meeting, and I think David and I are both better prepared to help Mississippi be successful because of it.

Then the 1st of July came around and the whirlwind started. July was packed full with the various Council installations of officers, but we also had to fit in an exemplification hosted by 1244 Biloxi, the installation of state officers and the three Schools of Columbianism. We started off our installation of state officers on Friday July 15 with a prayer service led by our State Chaplain, Fr. Bob



Gerald Schmuck

Higginbotham. From there, the rest of the installation went without a problem. Thanks again to the ladies of the Woolmarket Auxiliary along with the men of Long Beach Council 4898 and my own Seabee Base Council 12271 for all the help and support they provided. Without them the installation would not have been the success it was.

Immediately following the state installation, we held the regional Schools of Columbianism. We, the state officers, appreciate the efforts of Councils 1583, Gulfport; 10443, Grenada; and 13131, Jackson, and thank them for hosting us this year. I want also like to thank all the councils who had representatives present for these very informative meetings. Our State Membership Chairman, Mike Kassouf, and State Programs Chairman, Elvis Gates, did an outstanding job of presenting our goals and objectives for this year.

The Supreme Convention was held this year in Denver. We had the privilege of watching two of our Bishops, Bishop Latino and Bishop Houck, process in with hierarchy at the Masses. Also in the procession was our own State Chaplain, Fr. Higginbotham. Your delegates this year were Immediate Past State Deputy Peter Sukanek and I along with Jim McCraw, Noel Aucoin and Elvis Gates. I think a good time was had by all, but I think Jim especially enjoyed himself. Some very important things came from this convention, I encourage you to go to the Supreme website and check them out.

As in past years, membership and retention are a very important part of our yearly goals. On the membership and recruitment side of the house,

(Please See 'Whirlwind,' Page 2)



SUPREME CONVENTION DELEGATION

Led by State Deputy Gerald E. 'Jerry' Schmuck of Gulfport, the Jurisdiction was well represented at the Supreme Convention in Denver and had personal time with Supreme Knight Carl Anderson (left) and Bishop William E. Lori. The Mississippi representatives included Immediate Past State Deputy Dr. Peter C. Sukanek of Oxford, Treasurer Jim McCraw of Jackson, Advocate Noel Aucoin of D'Iberville and Program Director Elvis Gates of Long Beach.

'WHIRLWIND,' FROM PAGE 1

we are doing very well. Since July 1 we have consistently been among the top three jurisdictions Orderwide for recruitment. As of today, we are No. 2, running very close behind Utah. However, Kentucky is very close behind us. (Editor's Note: The Jurisdiction replaced Utah as the leader shortly after this column was written.) Our Supreme Membership and Program Consultant, Dannie Harris, is from Kentucky and has issued them a challenge to pass us. I told Dannie to hang on because we were "fixin' to leave them in our dust." Congratulations to the 21 Councils who are active in recruitment so far this year. We need you other 40 Councils to get active too so my promise (threat) to Dannie will hold true.

Retention, on the other hand, is not doing so well. So far we have brought in 43 new Knights, but we have also lost 30. I realize that the three Councils that had the most losses were trying to "purge their

books" before the beginning of this Fraternal Year, but as we all know, Supreme does not move as quickly as we would like sometimes. Those of you that lost members will have to work a little harder now to catch up.

Round tables are another issue that we need your help on. Our goal for this year is 40 round tables; the same as last year. However, as of this writing, we have only one round table registered with the state. Many of you are supporting more than one Parish in your Council; please help us out by establishing or re-establishing the round tables in the Parishes that you are supporting.

On the subject of paperwork, we all know that the job is not complete until the paperwork is done. We still have a few councils who need to submit their reports to Supreme. I will not name the specific councils here, but there are four councils out there that have not submitted their Report of Elected Officers Form 185. There are also 11 councils that have

not submitted their Service Program Personnel Report Form 365. The officer's report 185 was due not later than 1 July and the programs report was due by 1 August. However, if you have not submitted them yet, Supreme will still accept them. I would like to see 100% completion of the reports by 1 September so please get them in quickly.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our order and jurisdiction. Without your efforts, Mississippi would not be the successful jurisdiction we are today. Keep up the great work all of you do and as always, contact me, any of the State Officers or your District Deputy if you have any questions or need assistance.

Linda and I wish all of you a very successful year. We thank everyone for their support and hospitality and look forward to serving you in 2011-12.

Vivat Jesus!

**FAIRWAYS
FOOD
FELLOWSHIP
FUN**

1ST THOMAS F. CHADY



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT
SEPT. 11, GULF HILLS GOLF COURSE, OCEAN SPRINGS
HOSTED BY FR. PATRICK McALPINE COUNCIL 9094
OPEN TO KNIGHTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ONLY
REGISTRATION BEGINS 7:30 A.M.
SHOTGUN START AT 9 A.M.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

LARRY TABOR, 228-365-6515, LNDTABOR@CABLEONE.NET

JOEY PAFTE, 228-697-4397, NANSTOO@BELLSOUTH.NET

NOEL AUCOIN, 228-327-2951, NOEL.AUCOIN@HIL.INGALLS.COM

**2011 FAMILY
OF THE MONTH WINNERS**

The following are Jurisdiction winners of the "Family of the Month" contest, determined monthly in a random drawing held at the Supreme Council office from among nominees submitted throughout the Order:

January - Francis and Donna Polizzi, Council 802, Meridian; Alvin and Dianne Lunn, Council 6872, Picayune; Joseph and Lori McCormick, Council 10499, Ocean Springs; Gary and Pam Young, Council 15155, Vancleave. **February** - Andrew and Kelly Ribar, Council 48098, Long Beach; Aaron and Bridgete Achord, Council 7915, Brookhaven; Billy and Linda Johnson, Council 11956, Tyertown. **March** - Sam and Ann Greco, Council 8285, Jackson; John and Nellie Cruso, Council 9673, Biloxi. **April** - Charles and Toni Rainey, Council 2180, Laurel; Ron and Suzanne Myers, Council 9124, Gautier; Chad and Kim LaFontaine, Council 10216, Brandon; Charles and LouAnn Heim, Council 11995, Pass Christian. **May** - David and Carla McHan, Council 898, Vicksburg; Joseph and Eileen Keller, Council 11934, Gluckstadt. **June** - Thomas and Lai Hing Xerri, Council 2134, Greenville; Michael and Beth Sterling, Council 7120, Southaven; Charles and Nora Miller, Council 10499, Ocean Springs.

**Starkville Council Hosts
Financial Secretary Training**

The Mississippi Jurisdiction will sponsor a second Financial Secretary Training session in Starkville on Saturday Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at St Joseph's Catholic Church.

The session will focus on the areas of duties and responsibilities; basic member management/member billing; and advanced member management/member billing

All Financial Secretaries are urged to attend as this training will strengthen their role as an officer. Each FS will need to have a laptop as Member Management/Billing is a web-based program.

Pre-training registration is encouraged so trainers will have an expectation of attendance. Register via email to kassouf@bellsouth.net with name, Council number, years served as FS and if you are currently using Member Management and/or Member Billing.



CONVENTION CHAIR RECOGNIZED

District Deputy 1 Raymond Ball presents the District Deputy's Certificate of Appreciation to George Read, Past Grand Knight of Oxford St. John Council 10901, for his "outstanding service, leadership and dedication to duty" as committee chairman for the 2011 K of C State Convention in Tupelo. Also joining in the presentation was Council 10901 Grand Knight Basel Richmond.



NEW FLAG FOR MADISON ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI COUNCIL

Upon his return from a year-long deployment to Afghanistan, U.S. Army Capt. Andrew Adcock presented a flag ceremoniously flown on Independence Day to fellow members of Madison St. Francis of Assisi Council 9543. Capt. Adcock deployed as the Deputy Chief of Public Affairs for Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan. He is a 4th Degree Sir Knight with the Bishop Brunini Assembly at Saint Francis of Assisi. The presentation ceremony included (from left) State Master Larry Roberts; Capt. Adcock; Council Grand Knight Rene Bodin; Deputy Grand Knight Bill Amadio; and Bishop Brunini Assembly Faithful Navigator Johnny Biggert.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE MCGIVNEY GUILD

*By Thomas Zettler, PSD
Jurisdiction Chair, McGivney Guild*

At the last report from Supreme, dated July 25, the Mississippi Jurisdiction had a total of 896 members of the McGivney Guild, with an Order-wide membership of 143,000.

We have some 6,000 Brother Knights in our Jurisdiction, but less than 15 percent are members of the Guild. Why are so many hesitant to join the Guild, which has a stated purpose of praying for our founder's elevation to the honors of the altar?

Membership is FREE!!! It costs you only the time that it takes to apply. You can enroll by using the K of C website (www.kofc.org), where you locate the McGivney Guild.

Please take the time to enroll and be a part of the grassroots effort of seeing our founder, the Venerable Father Michael McGivney, canonized in our lifetime.



SOUTHAVEN HERNANDO DE SOTO 7120 INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

District Deputy 2 Joe Suhanin (left photo) prepares the jewel for Kathryn Lander to place around the neck of husband Inside Guard Ted Lander during the installation ceremony for new officers of Southaven Hernando DeSoto Council 7120. The officer corps for the new Fraternal Year includes (from left) Grand Knight Fred Middleton, Deputy Grand Knight John Robinson, Lander, Chancellor Robert Purifoy, 2nd Year Trustee Dan Garrigan, Chaplain Fr. Gregory Schill, Financial Secretary (appointed) Jim Farris, Recorder Gene Miller, 1st Year Trustee and Immediate Past Grand Knight Tom Cusker and Warden Bill Grayson. Other officers are Treasurer Dan Bicknell, Advocate Tim Hudson, Outside Guard Roger Smith and 2nd Year Trustee Bill Sonnemann.