

THE MAGNOLIA KNIGHT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSISSIPPI JURISDICTION OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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March 2012

FROM THE STATE DEPUTY

GIVE EVERY CATHOLIC MAN DESERVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN OUR ORDER

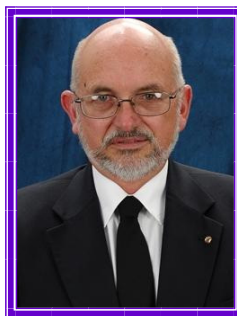
BY GERALD E. 'JERRY' SCHMUCK

As time goes by it seems to get harder and harder to find meaningful topics to write about every month. Hoping to find some inspiration for this month's topic, I decided to go through some back issues of our Magnolia Knight for some "enlightenment."

Two articles got my attention. In March 2009 then-State Deputy Danny Lechner wrote an article titled "Remembering the Reason Behind the Founding of Our Order." In March 2010 then-State Deputy Peter Sukanek wrote an article titled "Reaching Out – The Bedrock of Our Order." Both articles reminded us that March 29 is Founder's Day and discussed the reasons why our Founder, Blessed Fr. Michael J.

McGivney, started the order. The basis of our Order is charity. This means that we must always reach out to those in need and personally give of our time to help others.

We Knights and our Ladies throughout Mississippi are doing that through our various programs. Where ever Linda and I go we see and hear so many praises for all that you do. We as Knights are truly doing our best to live up to Fr.



GERALD SCHMUCK

McGivney's dream. But there is still so much more out there for us to do. In order to do more we need additional help.

The more men we invite into our Order, the more we can do! We need to give every Catholic man the opportunity to join us. I think every one of us can say that being a Knight and doing our charitable works has made us better Catholics. We owe it to every man to give them the opportunity to join us. With more men (and women) we can do so much more.

Our theme this year has been "I am My Brother's Keeper." What better way is there to be your brother's keeper than by inviting him to join

us? Many of you have done well with recruitment this year and I thank you for that. Now it's time for all of us to go out and get "just one more."

On a lighter note, those of you that did not show for the State Bowling Tournament, you missed a good time. Natchez Council 1034 did an outstanding job again this year. We only had four Councils participate, but I can truthfully say that a good time was had by all. They even got me out there. JoAnn Brown from the Greenville Auxiliary needed a partner for doubles, so I became a member of her Auxiliary for the day. She mentioned something about needing to wear an Auxiliary shirt, but thankfully she didn't have one big enough to fit me.

Next year's Tournament will be hosted by Council 1244, Biloxi. We'll have more information for you on dates, etc. later this year.

The State Convention is rapidly approaching. Have you got your registration in? In order to have a successful convention, the committee needs your registrations and ad forms as soon as possible. If you don't have the forms, they are available on the web. Please do not delay. Get them in now!

Once again, thank you for all you do for our State and thank you for allowing me to be your State Deputy.

CONVENTION INFORMATION

BY ELVIS GATES, STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Fellow Knights: The State Convention is quickly approaching. If you are a delegate, an alternate or just a member coming down for the fraternity of being with your fellow Mississippi Knights, it is time to get your registration information in.

The hotel has advised me that half of the rooms we have blocked for our convention are already reserved, but I have received less than half of the registrations for delegates to the convention. Unless you plan to commute each morning and night to the events, please call the hotel and get your rooms reserved now while they still have them available.

(See Convention, Page 2)



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.kofc-ms.org

THE END IS NEAR! THE END IS NEAR!**BY ELVIS GATES, STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

Fellow Knights, the END truly is NEAR! The end of another Fraternal Year, that is.

Grand Knights and District Deputies should have received the awards entry forms for this year. If you are in Council leadership, I urge you to PLEASE report on the works of your Council this year and to send in entries for EVERY ACTIVITY AREA in which you performed some work. Even if you don't think your activity will "take the cake" for the best of the year, you just DON'T KNOW until you write it up and send it in.

Along the same lines, Grand Knights please take time to complete the End of Year Report in it's entirety so we have a record of your Council's activities this year for inclusion in the annual Minutes Book the State Deputy and State Secretary will be beating up on you about! We always have Councils that don't take the time to say a few words about what they did each year and it really takes away from the history of the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi when we don't have this information. Please spend a few minutes to give a quality report about what happened good or bad in your Council this year. This report is our testimony to the future KC's in Mississippi that will look back in time and see how things were done "back then."

Finally, this will be my last article for The Magnolia Knight as State Program Director (okay, so another End is Near!) I have been honored to be

CONVENTION
(FROM PAGE 1)

I also ask you to send your registration forms and payment in as soon as you can. We are looking forward to putting on a great convention for you down here on the Coast and look forward to seeing you here at the Hollywood Casino, April 27-29 in Bay St Louis, MS. Check the website for registration information and more details: www.kofc-ms.org

part of this state's leadership team these past few years but feel other men should contribute some of their talents as well to keep new ideas coming and to keep this job from becoming "stale." I am not disappearing from activity with our Order and look forward to other areas where I can help. I will always be a phone call or email away to help any of you whenever you need me.

Vivat Jesus, Brothers!

**GAUTIER CONTRIBUTES**

Gautier St. Mary's Council 9124 sponsored an American Red Cross blood drive in which 48 pints of blood were collected. Council members Robert Barr (from left) Daryl Ladner and Robert Myers were among participants. (Submitted by Robert Barr.)

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED
TO REGISTER,
RESERVE A ROOM,
FILE YEAR-END REPORTS
AND NOMINATE
KNIGHT & FAMILY OF THE
YEAR**

**MARCH 25 IS DAY OF PRAYER
FOR THE UNBORN CHILD****BY DENNIS AND MUNA RIECKE,
STATE PROLIFE COUPLE**

The Knights of Columbus Day for the Unborn Child is March 25, and Councils are asked to hold a special prayer service or conduct a prolife Mass or rosary service in their Parishes on or around this day. Councils should consult with their pastor to establish the time and type of service.

This event should be publicized to encourage Parish and community participation. The Supreme Council has a variety of materials that can be used with the Day of the Unborn Child activities. These include: "Prayer for Life" cards (No.4665); "Winning Words of Life," a four-page flyer (No. 2275); "A People of Life - And for Life" brochure (No.4795) and poster (#4804); "Pray the Rosary to End Abortion" prayer card (No.2075) and poster (No.2073); and "Gospel of Life" prayer card (No.4237 in English or Spanish) and poster (No.4238). All materials are available from the KC Supply Department for no charge when ordered in reasonable quantities. More information on the KC Day for the Unborn Child is available at the "community" section of kofc.org/service

Although time is running out, there is still time to complete two prolife activities for the State program year. Councils can participate in Supreme's Day for the Unborn Child and by making a donation of at least \$100 to the Mississippi Memorial Prolife Fund. Checks should be made payable to the Mississippi State Council Knights of Columbus and should be sent to State Treasurer Jim McCraw at 927 Whitworth Street, Jackson, MS 39202 (jmccraw1148@comcast.net).

Donations will be accepted at the State Convention and awards will be given for the highest donation by Councils and Assemblies in each Diocese.



MADISON COUNCIL ASSISTS VETERANS

Madison St. Francis Council 9543 assists veterans who participate in bingo at the Jackson Veterans Center. Participants include Past Grand Knight Jim Griffin and Past Deputy Grand Knight Greg Lovelady and State Master Larry Roberts, calling the numbers. Bingo winners receive \$1 booklets to spend at the gift shop or buy pizza or other items.



PID FUNDS SUPPORT CLINTON LIFE SKILLS

Dr. Charles 'Chuck' Weiss, Grand Knight of Clinton Holy Savior Council 7854 presented a check from People with Intellectual Disabilities fundraising drive to the Life Skills program at Clinton Junior High School. Joining in the ceremony were (from left) Sheila Williams, Lindsay Thomas, Principal Anthony Goins and Carol Ann Franklin, Director of the Life Skills program.

SEND GEROW CONTRIBUTIONS TO STATE TREASURER

BY DON COX, CHAIR, GEROW FUND

Brothers, it is time to start your Council donation approval cycle so that donations to the R.O. Gerow Memorial Fund can be mailed in time to support convention.

Just a reminder: checks should be mailed to State Treasurer Jim McCraw using the transmittal, with a duplicate of the transmittal to the program chair. Please follow this procedure to help ensure accurate record keeping.

In the event you cannot mail the checks prior to the April 15 deadline, of course, we will accept donations during convention.

Vivat Jesus!

JANUARY FAMILY OF THE MONTH

Adam and Jessica Farragut of Pass Christian Msgr. Leech Council 4472 were the Mississippi Family of the Month winner in Supreme's random drawing.

Other state Councils submitting entries were 802, 1605, 2134, 2180, 5556, 5654, 7120, 8054, 9124, 9543, 9673, 10443, 10499, 10901, 11904, 11934, 11956, 13502, 15155.



PASCAGOULA COUNCIL 1605 CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Pascagoula Msgr. P.J. Carey Council 1605, whose members are drawn from the Parishes of St. Joseph in Moss Point, St. Ann Mission in Hurley and St. Peter and Our Lady of Victories in Pascagoula recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. Since being chartered on Feb. 12, 1912, Council 1605 has contributed to secular and non-secular organizations and charitable causes in local, state, national and international locations. Council 1605 honors the legacy of all the brothers and their wives who have gone before. Current Grand Knight Steve Frederic (front right) is a third generation member of the Council. His great uncle, Solomon Frederic, was a Council charter member. Joining in the celebration with GK Steve were (front, from left) Deacon Frank Martin, Cecil Byrd and Butch Garrett and (back) Joe Farr, Glen Montgomery, Steve Overman, Billy George and George Hinkel.

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER CONFIRMS 3 YOUNG ADULTS



The Sacrament of Confirmation was held at Pass Christian St. Joseph the Worker Council 12271 Naval Construction Battalion Center Seabee Base Memorial Chapel for three young adults. Most Reverend Bishop Richard B. Higgins, STI, DD, attached to the Archdiocese for the Military Services, conferred the Sacrament. Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Paddy Mockler, Fr. John Raulph, Fr. Patrick McDermott, Fr. John Kelly, Fr. John Schuetze and Fr. Mitch Zygodlo. Receiving the Sacrament were Jessica Hebert, Christian Manganti and Anna Rodgers. These candidates prepared for the Sacrament under the instructions and guidance of Director of Religious Education Lori Nadeau with assistance from Tanya McClellan. The 4th degree Knights of Columbus from Fr. Vincent Capodanno Assembly 2759 provided an Honor Guard for the event. Following Mass, the chapel community provided a potluck dinner for the Bishop, confirmundies and guests. To conclude the evening, Faithful Navigator Bob Zeller presented Bishop Higgins with a check for \$1,000 from the Catholic Religious Offering Fund to help support the many ministries of the Archdiocese for the Military Services which cares for the religious needs of all Catholic military members worldwide.



RAIN IS NO PROBLEM FOR THESE GUYS

A pouring rain was no deterrent for Madison St. Francis Council 9543 when cooking is the priority. The Council cooked 128 pork butts for the Boy Scout fundraiser. Bob Ganz, Grand Knight Rene Bodin, Ed Marsalis, Greg Lovelady and Bill Amadio enjoyed the job despite the weather conditions..



OCEAN SPRINGS LENDS A HAND

Ocean Springs Fred L. Westbrook Sr. Council 5654 served 100 pounds of fish and 30 gallons of seafood gumbo to more than 150 people to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Marshall Fayard (from left), George Wavre, St. Vincent de Paul President Gerald Bourgeois Deputy Grand Knight Dennis Van Acker and Hunter Grantham.



Members of D'Iberville Fr. Patrick McAlpine Council 9094 provided dinner for military families at the Fisher House, which provides assistance to military and families during times of need. Butch Philio, Larry Tabor and Ed Creech prepare the food in the photo at left and Ed Guardanapo (left) and Tabor learned more about the facility's role from Fisher House Director Larry Vetter.

COUNCIL 9094 INTRODUCED TO FISHER HOUSE BY ED GUARDANOPO

D'Iberville Fr. Patrick McAlpine Council 9094 provided a dinner for residents and their families at the Fisher House located at Biloxi's Keesler Air Force Base. Past Master Larry Tabor knew about the many organizations who support this worthwhile program and volunteered Council 9094 to cook a meal and donate this service to the program.

Director Larry Vetter welcomed the Knights and conducted a brief tour of the facility and explained the role of the program. The Fisher House program is a unique private-public partnership between The Fisher Foundation and America's military in its time of need. The program recognizes the hardships of military service by meeting a humanitarian need beyond that normally provided by both the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs.

For members of the Armed Forces, retirees, veterans and their families, the Fisher House offers shelter and support during a medical crisis. This special support is even more important to a family during the most stressful time—the hospitalization of a wounded, injured or ill service member, veteran or family member."

MAJOR EXEMPLIFICATION IN STARKVILLE SATURDAY MARCH 24 ST. JOSEPHS PARISH HALL/CENTER

Dress attire for Exemplification is dress slacks and dress shirt; tie and sport coat are optional.

2nd and 3rd - \$16. Check made out to "Knights of Columbus State Council" at registration.

Lunch served at no charge.

All candidates should be accompanied by a 3rd Degree Knight.

8x10 Class picture will be available for \$10 each (shipping included).

9:30 a.m.	Registration
10:30 a.m.	2 nd Degree
3 rd Degree	Immediately following 2 nd Degree
1:30 p.m.	Lunch

Please email starkvilledegree@bellsouth.net with your numbers for degree as well as names as we will provide Degree Certificates for each candidate for both Degrees. We also will need a head count for meal preparation: Contact the following with questions: Gerald Michael, 985-856-6562, gerald-michel@aol.com; Mike Kassouf, 662-320-9482, Kassouf@bellsouth.net; Richard Sowers, 662-323-9584, richardsowers@bellsouth.net

VA, GULF COAST COMMUNITY PLAN VIETNAM VETERANS SALUTE

The Veterans Administration Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park, VA Vet Centers and many community partners from the Gulf Coast region will host a Vietnam Veterans Salute event March 31.

The free event will be held at Battleship Memorial Park to honor Vietnam Veterans across the Gulf Coast region and provide Veterans the opportunity to connect with one another.

An Honor Ride parade led by Rolling Thunder Alabama Chapter 1 and

motorcyclists from the Gulf Coast region will kick off the event at 10 a.m. in downtown Mobile, and the opening ceremony for the Salute event will begin at Battleship Memorial Park at 11 a.m. Other features include Veteran reunions, resource and family tents, vendors, live music and special presentations by Vietnam Veterans.

This event is open to everyone. Additionally, Battleship Memorial Park is providing Vietnam and Vietnam-era Veterans with free museum tickets.