

# THE MAGNOLIA KNIGHT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSISSIPPI JURISDICTION OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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APRIL 2013

## A WORD FROM THE STATE DEPUTY

### THE JURISDICTION'S MARCH RECRUITMENT EFFORT WAS SPECTACULAR!

BY JERRY SCHMUCK, STATE DEPUTY

For the last few months I have asked for your help with making our Jurisdiction grow. What a difference a month can make!

When I wrote last month's article, we were in negative numbers for Jurisdiction growth and I asked for your help to turn that around. You came through in spectacular fashion. We made up the losses in February and brought in 50 new Knights in March. Congratulations to all who brought in new members and thank you for your hard work. March turned out to be the best month we have had so far this year.

Speaking of hard work, I hope your Council sent in its award packages for this year's convention. Our Pro-

gram Chair, Ben Mokry, tells me that package submissions were pretty slim this year. You should not sell yourselves short. Every Council that is program-active should have a submission in at least one of the program areas. Has your Council been active in all six program areas? If so, that's great! Then your Council should have submitted six packages for award consideration. Did your Grand Knight submit a package for best Council award? Once again, don't sell yourselves short. We can't recognize the "best of the best" unless you let us know what good things you have accomplished this year.

Let's talk a little bit about insurance. To begin, I would like to welcome our newest Field Agent, Devin Hood. Devin is newly assigned and will be covering Councils 802, 7854, 8038, 8285, 9543, 11934 and 13471. While Devin will be a big help, we are still short agents and have several Councils that do not have an assigned FA. To those who do not have an FA assigned, all I can say is "hang on." We are doing the best we can to get someone there to help you. In the meantime, if you have insurance needs, please contact the Stice Agency at 1-800-380-9995. You can also mail them at 328 S. Sage, Suite 304, Mobile, AL 36606.

Our General Agent, John Stice, has assured me that someone in his office will be able to take care of your needs. Several Councils (22) are either at or near Star Council status for membership but need some help on the insurance quota side. Contact your Field Agent and ask him how he plans on helping you attain your

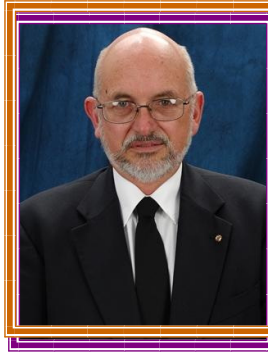
goals. If you do not have an agent assigned, once again, call the Stice Agency. They will do everything they can to help. However, if you truly want to become a Star Council, you must be able to help yourself. The

way to do that is through the new-member annuity program. Any brother Knight who has been a member for less than a year is eligible. It will cost \$100, but don't consider it lost money. It is invested in an interest bearing "savings account." The Council's Financial Secretary needs to send the member's check attached to a Form 100 to the FA or to the Stice Agency. They will process the form and it will count as a new insurance member. If you have an associate member who is interested in this program but has been a member for longer than a year, the minimum cost to start the annuity is \$300.00. The annuity program is a worthwhile program and is a quick and easy way to save money toward retirement or a "rainy day." I have had one for several years now and it has grown considerably since I first signed up.

Speaking of programs, do you remember our telling you about the credit Supreme is giving to all Councils who recruit a new member between Jan. 1 January and June 31? For each new member brought in during that time, the Council will receive a \$9 credit toward its July Supreme per capita bill.

For example, Council 8054 McComb and Council 6765 Starkville both brought in six new members in March. That means that both Councils will receive a \$54 credit on the July per capita bill for bringing in

(PLEASE SEE SD COMMENTS, PAGE 2)



GERALD SCHMUCK



#### STATE CHAPLAIN

Father Bob Higginbotham, D'Iberville

#### 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

Send Council, Assembly and Circle news and announcements by the 10<sup>th</sup> 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

**COLOR GUARD LEADS MAL'S PARADE FOR 13<sup>TH</sup> YEAR**



**The Fourth Degree Color Guard, featuring gold, green, purple, white and red capes, led the Mal's St. Patrick's Day Parade in Jackson for the 13th year. Making up the team were State Master Bill O'Connor, District Marshal Warren Doiron, State Treasurer Jim McCraw and sir knights from Bishop Gerow Assembly 554 in Jackson, Bishop Brunini Assembly 2269 in Flowood/Madison and Vicksburg Assembly 558. The parade attracted an estimated 70,000 people, generated about \$7 million in revenue to area businesses and raised about \$30,000 for the Blair Batson Children's Hospital.**

**SD COMMENTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

those men. The more men you bring in, the larger your July per capita credit will be. This program will continue through June 30, so take as much advantage of it as you can.

Also, Each time a Council participates in a First Degree Exemplification between April 1 and June 30, and brings at least one new member into that Council, the Council will be entered into a drawing for one of two all-expense paid trips to Italy for the Grand Knight, Membership Chair and their wives.

In addition, each time a Council conducts a charitable program between April 1 and June 30 - and reports that program to the Supreme Council using Supreme's special incentive

campaign membership and programs entry form - the Council will be entered into the drawing for one of two trips to Italy for the Grand Knight, Program Chair and their wives. There is no limit to how many entries - either for participation in First Degrees or programs conducted - that a Council is eligible for. The Supreme Officers will review all program report forms submitted to determine eligibility for the drawing.

Convention time is here. Have you elected your delegates and sent your delegate memo along with your necrology list to the State Secretary and to me? If not, we need them NOW! Your delegates this year will be responsible for voting on resolu-

tions (current resolutions are available for viewing on the web), electing delegates to the Supreme Convention, and electing a new slate of state officers.

While these are important jobs, there will still be some time for relaxation and visiting in one of the hospitality rooms. Vicksburg has been working hard on preparations and I'm sure all that attend will have a good time.

Brothers, in closing I thank you for all the hard work you do for your Councils, the State and our Order. Together, we are making a difference. Linda and I look forward to seeing each of you and your families in Vicksburg.

Vivat Jesus!



**MISSISSIPPI STATE COUNCIL 109TH MEETING  
APRIL 26-28, VICKSBURG CONVENTION CENTER  
YEAR OF FAITH**

**VISIT [WWW.KOFC-MS.ORG](http://WWW.KOFC-MS.ORG)**

**FOR SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**





### **PHILADELPHIA KNIGHTS HOST HOLY CROSS CELEBRATION FOR FR. AUGUSTINE'S FIRST YEAR**

Philadelphia-Tucker Fr. Raphael Toner Council 13471 hosted a 1st anniversary celebration on St. Patrick's Day for Fr. Augustine Palimattam (second photo from left), who was introduced to the Parish by Fr. Elvin Sunds last year during the St. Patrick's Day celebration the Council held for the Parish. Corned beef sandwiches and cabbage soup along with other Irish fare was prepared to celebrate the occasion. The featured dessert was an anniversary cake for Fr. Augustine, who hails from Kerala, India, and who has won the hearts of Holy Cross parishioners as was evident at the affair. (Submitted by Grand Knight Ron DiPalma, Philadelphia Council 13471.)

### **SOUTH REGION CROWNS FREE THROW CHAMPIONS**



Results of the South Region Free Throw Competition were: Boys 10, 1st Matthew Alexander, D'Iberville Council 9094; 2nd Christopher Clark, Pascagoula Council 12166; 3rd Caleb Anderson Ocean Springs Council 5654; 4th Ronald Myers D'Iberville Council 9094. Boys 11, 1st William Hinman Pascagoula Council 12166; 2nd William Weatherly Ocean Springs Council 5654; 3rd Zell Fayard, D'Iberville Council 9094; 4th LaDana Parker Pascagoula Council 12166; Boys 12, 1st Layton Businelle, D'Iberville Council 9094; 2nd Jeffrey McLoughlin Ocean Springs Council 5654; Boys 13, 1st Dawson Underwood, D'Iberville Council 9094; 2nd Joshua Kelly, Pascagoula Council 12166; 3rd Xavier Bass, Vancleave Council 15155; Boys 14, 1st Jacob Bennett, D'Iberville Council 9094; 2nd, John Carmack, Vancleave Council 15155. Girls 10, 1st Gabriela Patino, Ocean Springs Council 5654; 2nd Shaylyn Chandler, Gautier Council 9194. Girls 11, Emma Hancock, Ocean Springs Council 5654; Girls 12 Emma Kisterson, Ocean Springs Council 5654. (Submitted by Carl Brochard and Robert C. Barr.)

### **FEBRUARY FAMILIES OF THE MONTH**

Mississippi winners of the February 2013 "Family of the Month" contest obtained through a Supreme Council drawing were: Benjamin and Carol Lee Cantin, Ocean Springs Fred L. Westbrook, Sr., Council 5654; Eugene and Betty Bradt, Gautier St. Mary's Council 9124; and Roger and Cristel Hudson, Gulfport St. Joseph the Worker Seabee Base Memorial Chapel Council 12271.



**MARCH FOR LIFE WREATH-LAYING**



**Fr. Scott Thomas, pastor of Greenville St. Joseph Parish and Former State Faithful Friar, and State Culture of Life Chair Dennis Riecke, placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, DC, during the March for Life. The Diocese of Jackson sponsored the wreath.**

**GAUTIER SPONSORS LENTEN BLOOD DRIVE**



**Past Grand Knights Daryl Ladner (left) and Joe Furlan were among Knights who participated in a Lenten blood drive sponsored by Gautier St. Mary's Council 9124. The event raised 24 pints of blood. (Submitted by Robert C. Barr.)**

**PHILADELPHIA YOUTH WORK TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT**

**BY DOUG PROSEN**

'The youth of today are lazy and have no respect for others.'

You hear these comments regularly, from very young parents to the elderly.

They are, overall, baseless statements. They just are not so!

As part of an ongoing historic cemetery restoration at Philadelphia Holy Cross Church, four young women entered into a project that might be perceived by people of all ages as frightening. They cleaned headstones, some 100 years old, in a project overseen by Philadelphia Fr. Raphael Toner Council 13471.

For three hours on a cool Sunday afternoon, they cleaned the markers using patience, diligence, pride, warm water, soft brushes, guts and elbow grease.

At the conclusion, their parents – Projects Committee members Doug Prosen, David LeBlanc and Cemetery Committee Co-Chair Marcie Prosen – joined the exhausted young women in giving thanks and beaming with pride.

Now that's truly today's youth!



**Philadelphia Holy Cross Church CCD class students (from left) Alyssa Duncan, Megan Hemphill, Haley Holland and Madeline LeBlanc spent a recent Sunday afternoon cleaning headstones in a historic Philadelphia cemetery.**

**ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS**

State Youth Director Joe Jones announces the following age-group winners in the annual State Essay Contest:

9<sup>th</sup> Grade, Anastasia Walrod, Pass Christian Fr. R.J. Sorin Council 11995.

10<sup>th</sup> Grade, Marella Faila, Picayune Oscar J. Gelphi Council 6872.

11<sup>th</sup> Grade, Suzanne Schulz, Pass Christian Fr. R.J. Sorin Council 11995.

12<sup>th</sup> Grade, Renelle Failla, Picayune

**SUPREME SEEKS NEWSMAKERS**

The Supreme Council and *Columbia* magazine want to learn more about significant charitable events - before they happen.

The Order wants to increase efforts to promote charitable causes as well as the hands-on assistance that Knights provide to those in need. Of particular interest is the work of Councils conducting activities that provide significant assistance to the poor, such as distributing food or participating in a home-building project. In addition to programs like the Ultrasound Initiative, Coats for Kids and Special Olympics, are there any unique charity projects?" The Supreme Fraternal Communications office wants to know so that personnel can consider hiring a professional photographer to document the work.

Please send a sentence or two about the event, the date and contact information to State PR Chair Fred Middleton at [fredmiddleton@comcast.net](mailto:fredmiddleton@comcast.net) or call him at 901-218-2393.

Supreme seeks to build a collection of photographs to tell the charitable story.

Finally, as we enter State Convention season, jurisdictions will be naming winners in the Service Program areas. As winners are sent to Supreme, please see that a COPY of the entries are also sent to the Communications Department.

**JACKSON ST. THERESE KNIGHTS RAISE FUNDS FOR ULTRASOUND MACHINE**

Jackson St. Therese Knights of Columbus Council 8285 hosted a Grillin' for Life event supporting the State and K of C Supreme Council priority to provide for a culture of life.

Knights help buy ultrasound machines as a resource for prenatal care in pregnancy clinics around Mississippi. The machines, which cost more than \$25,000 and require specially trained staff to operate, help women see the child in the womb even at very early stages of pregnancy. Supreme matches funds raised by local Councils.

In addition to St. Therese Knights, teams from Brandon and Long Beach set up at St. Therese Church in Jackson. Brandon St. Paul-Flowood Council 10216 won the trophy as best all around. The winner's trophy will travel between Councils in

future years. The competition raised \$1,000 for the cause.

St. Therese reinstated the Grillin' for Life event after a lengthy hiatus. From 2005 to 2010, the event distributed more

than \$21,000 to culture of life

causes. It started with K of C-only teams for fun and expanded to include professional teams. Most of the Jackson-area Councils were involved in operating the event, especially Madison St. Francis and Brandon St. Paul because they have the manpower. But it outgrew available



**Brandon Reigns as Reinstated Grillin' for Life Champ**

resources and was not generating adequate proceeds.

This year's event was a "back to the roots" effort focused on K of C Councils only. Supporters are optimistic that it will grow to include more K of C teams next year, building fraternity among Councils and generating more funds for pro-life activities.

**D'IBERVILLE KNIGHTS KICK IT UP A NOTCH DURING LENTEN SEASON TO SUPPORT A FAMILY IN NEED**

**By Ed Guardanapo**

In addition to cooking to fill as many as 220 plates on each of the six Fridays in Lent this year to benefit the R. O. Gerow Fund for Priest Education, D'Iberville Fr. McAlpine Council 9094 at Sacred Heart Parish added a shrimp spaghetti dinner to assist the family of Ike and Pamela Kincke in raising funds to offset some of the medical costs for their son, Lucas.

With assistance from the Kincke's daughter, Amanda; their extended family; and members of the D'Iberville Sacred Heart Parish, the Council planned and coordinated the event. Lucas was hospitalized with Respiratory Distress Syndrome, a severe form of pneumonia. Lucas, who also battles Cerebral Palsy, pulled through the crisis.

Service to their Parish and the Gulf Coast community is nothing new for these Knights, known as the KC Kitchen Krewe. They come to the fray armed with six cookers (fryers), a variety of pots and pans and grills, all encased in a wagon with everything needed to prepare food.



**Teddy Harder and Amanda Kincke prepare the salad and shrimp spaghetti for hungry guests.**

On each Friday of Lent, the Krewe prepared 68 pounds of catfish, 45 pounds of shrimp, 12 pounds of hush puppies, 20 pounds of cole slaw and eight gallons of baked beans. The dinners are expected to add more than \$5,200 to the R.O. Gerow fund, a record pace for the Krewe.



**Grand Knight Nick Martino (left) and Patrick Aucoin were part of the team serving double duty.**

Although their work is lovingly given, these men are always looking to display the image of what a Catholic gentleman and a member of the Knights of Columbus truly stand for: What you do for others, you do in Jesus' name.