

The Magnolia Knight



Volume XV Issue IV April 2015

From Our State Deputy, Jim McCraw



State Deputy Jim McCraw

With the State Convention about three weeks away, councils are buzzing with excitement!

Electing delegates, getting their names submitted and printing off the credentials (and sealed by the FS), submitting last minute reports, making sure every deceased member is reported along with his highest office (PGK, PFN, DD, etc), and probably the most important... making sure your wife is registered for the Ladies Luncheon.

The convention is a really nice opportunity to visit with friends, compare notes and hopefully take home some new ideas. "Back to basics" was our theme a few years ago but if you think about it that should be our goal every year.

State Convention Chairman Paul Arguelles assures me this may be one of the best ever. They are making special efforts to promote this as a family event and really show off the wonderful qualities of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Both Bishop Kopacz and Bishop Morin are eager to be with their knights and we can expect a lot of good natured jabbing when they have a microphone. Bishop Kopacz has the youth and energy while Bishop Morin has "the hand", a true second class relic, for it touched St. John Paul.

In a recent conversation with Paul, he informed me they are going to provide a unique name tag identifier for all Grand Knights and Ladies Auxiliary Presidents.

Not sure what that will be but I expect they'll be the envy of the convention. Paul also reminded me that April 8 is the dead-line for Ads.

I want to encourage each council, assembly and auxiliary to bring their banner and participate in the Procession of Banners on Saturday evening. This is something David Scott introduced last year and added a lot to the color and pageantry to the weekend. With an outdoor feast on Friday in casual attire...Saturday is going to be dynamite!

In recent years, Supreme has begun to urge state deputies to begin each business session with the Opening Ode and end with the Closing Ode. To make this easy for us, we are providing Ode song cards which our delegates get to keep.

I am very pleased to announce that our Supreme Representative will be Tommy Harger, PSD from Virginia and one of the newest members of the Supreme Board of Directors. This will be Tommy & Patty's first state convention and they are looking forward to it. Please make them feel welcome in "our house".

Congratulations to the councils who have already met their Star Council goals and encouragement for those who are on target to qualify by June 30. Remember, any council who qualifies by June 30 will receive a \$4.50 per capita credit for every billable member on your roster as of July 1.

I can't say enough about the councils who are lighting up the state with 2nd and 3rd degrees this quarter. That is a key component in our efforts to energize members. That and good council programs. First degrees are also on the upswing. We have launched a Push for Star Council and State Star Council Director Bill Heath is very excited about the job the councils are doing and especially pleased with his brother District Deputies.

Most of you were prompt with the submission of your 4854 Special Olympics report to Supreme. Some needed a reminder.
Overall Mississippi had 70% participation

and received a check for \$2,500 for Mississippi Special Olympics. Supreme donated \$184,000 to states based on the percentage of response.

Our 4854 goal for 2015-2016 is 100%.

Congratulations to Dennis Antici, PGK, Council 10216, upon his appointment as District Deputy #6, succeeding Larry Roberts effective April 1, 2015. I also wish to congratulate Byron Tullos as the new Grand Knight for Fr Toner Council 13471 in Philadelphia. Byron is a former Financial Secretary and will succeed Brother Larry Kovach who will be moving to Texas in May. Larry did an outstanding job in Philadelphia and continued their tradition of solid leadership.

Brothers, this has been an exciting 9 months, and a real learning experience. Like a lot of first year grand knights, I wish I could go back in time. Since I can't, I'll use this knowledge to review our strategic plan and launch the 2015-2016 programs at the State Organizational meeting.

Before closing, I want to commend the Ladies Auxiliaries in our state. They have faced the same challenges as our councils. I knew this was coming when the year began and it was why I attended Ladies State Organizational meeting. I pledged my support to them and reminded them of their importance to our councils. Marcia Flagg and I are in regular contact. The State Officers are united in our support of their efforts. Their main purpose is to support the Council. It is our responsibility to assist them in recruiting members which in turn means they are recruiting for us. Some are not affiliated with the State and I hope that over the next year we can work together to attract them. I love my brother knights but when it comes to effective youth and family programs, we must have the ladies involvement which in turn will attract families.

My brothers, our goal for 2015-2016 is "Strengthening Catholic Families".

Vivat Jesus!

Lenten Fish Fries: The Day After

In nearly every council, when the party is over and the guests have left... it's common to see the grand knight stacking chairs, mopping the kitchen and taking out the trash.

But Lenten Fish Fries .. that's a different story right? The GK walks around schmoozing the guests, encouraging inactive members to attend a meeting sometime.. lots of PR and glad handing. King of the Castle. Prince among men.

That's what we thought until visiting Bishop Fahey Council 1908 in Hattiesburg and checking on GK Bill Jarrett and State Squires Chairman, Quincy St. Pierre.

The photo reveals all.... and it ain't pretty.



Third Degree In Jackson

St. Richard Council 15131, Jackson, hosted a Third Degree on March 26, 2015. Special thanks to Grand Knight Dave Fisher and the members of 15131 for their hospitality and an excellent meal.

The honoree was Fr. Michael O'Brien, pastor and long time supporter of the Knights of Columbus. Father Mike has served as Chaplain for a number of councils, including a stint in Starkville where is reported to have played a role in winning seasons for the Mississippi State Bulldogs. In addition, he was the model for the statue of St Michael the Archangel that sits in the Chapel at Ole Miss. Father was also a key factor in the formation of Council 15131.



Additional Per Diem This Year

The state will provide an additional \$25 per day for delegates and those authorized, to those staying in the Golden Nugget hotel. This means, Per Diem will be \$100/dy plus mileage at .30/mi one way.

Those not staying at the Golden Nugget will receive the standard \$75/dy plus mileage at .30/mi one way.

Memorial Mass For Deceased Members And Wives

On Saturday, April 25, Bishop Joseph Kopacz, Bishop of Jackson, will celebrate the State Convention's Memorial Mass for Deceased Members at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Biloxi. Mass begins at 8am.

As each name is called out by State Secretary Noel Aucoin, a Field Agent of the John Stice Agency will light a candle.

It is a beautiful service and comforting to those who still feel that loss. Councils are encouraged to invite families and especially widows of deceased members to attend this mass and the Ladies luncheon.

Shown in this photo with the candle stand that will be used are SK Michael Speers, Bishop Brunini Assembly 2269, and State Chaplain Msgr. Elvin Sunds.



Third Degree in Ocean Springs

Fred Westbrook Council 5654, Ocean Springs, hosted a Third Degree on March 14, 2015. One candidate traveled from Jackson in order to advance. Special thanks to Grand Knight James Starnes and the members of 5654 for their hospitality and an excellent meal.

The honoree was State Family Director Carl Brochard, PGK, FDD for his many years of service to the council and to the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi. Congratulations, Carl. Well deserved!



Procession Of Banners At State Convention

All councils, assemblies and auxiliaries are encouraged to participate in the Procession of Banners at the Saturday night banquet.

Bring banner, pole & base and label the base with your council/assembly number on a piece of tape.

Supreme Convention And Delegates

This August 3-6, the Supreme Convention will be held in Philadelphia, PA.

Insurance and Associate delegates and alternates will be elected at Sunday's final business session. To be eligible for Insurance Delegate, the member must be an insurance member at the time of the election.

Delegates are provided a per diem by Supreme. Delegates must stay at the convention hotel.

Non-delegates are encouraged to attend this Once in a Lifetime Experience. Registration packets will be available at that meeting. Registration is done online. All hotel reservations must be handled through Supreme, though members may stay at another hotel.

Ocean Springs Council Supports Pregnancy Center

At their monthly "social" on Wednesday, March 11th, KC Council 5654 saw David and Theresa Mohler present a thousand-dollar check to Linda Cumbest and Hein Nguyen of the Morning Star Pregnancy Center.

The funds were raised in a joint project with Knights of Columbus and the Mohler's "Tato-Nut" shop. Once s month, the Mohlers get up in the wee hours of a Sunday morning, go to their Tato-Nut Shop and start the process of baking more than 50 dozen of their famous pastries ("Tato-Nuts" is usually closed on Sundays). As they bake, the Knights transport the hot donuts to the KC Hall at St. Alphonsus Church in downtown Ocean Springs where folks come and get them in return for donations; if they prefer, people can take out a various-choice boxed dozen for a donation of \$10. Coffee, milk and juice are also available for those who wish to dine in and socialize.



All proceeds go to the Morning Star Center every month.

Starkville 3rd Degree Advances Fifteen Brother Knights

Conferring Officer PSD Peter Sukanek advanced 15 Brother Knights to Full Knighthood Saturday February 28 with the help of PSD Jerry Schmuck who was the Presenter of the Fraternal Charge also with the help of Warden George Read. The Honoree of the Degree was IPSD David Scott. Those who advanced are Council 802 Jason Caballero, Gerald Koca, Michael Miller and William Zirger - Host Council 6765 Fr Channappa Basani, Jason Caswell, and Richard Coughlin - Council 7974 Michael Smith -Council 9094 Zachery Doucet – Council 9543 Bradford Glass - Council 10901 Joseph Skinner - Council 13471 Gregory Baltzer, Kenneth Barnhill, Frank Rossomanno and Michael Taylor.





Fourth Degree Scheduled For Biloxi

Saturday, April 18, 2015

Registration at 12:00PM and Exemplification from 1:00PM to @ 2:30PM

Assembly #557, 717 Water Street, Downtown Biloxi (2nd Floor)

District Deputy Spotlight—Larry Roberts

In January, 1982, although I was not a Knight of Columbus, I was contacted by Mr. Ludovic Patin, and Mr. K.W. Davis to help try to reactivate St Mary Knights of Columbus Council 1998 in New Roads, Louisiana. The council had been inactive for about 10 years after selling their council home.

Fortunately, I was able to recruit 12 of my friends to join the knights with me. We were initiated into the first degree on March 14, 1982 and one week later on March 21, 1982 we were initiated into the second and third degrees. Our first council meeting was held on April 12, 1982 and I was elected Grand Knight. The Knights of Columbus have since become a very active and important asset to St Mary's Catholic Church in New Roads and I like to think that the impetus of that started with me.

On November I, 1985, I became a Sir Knight and reached full knighthood after being initiated into the Fourth Degree in Covington Louisiana. A few years later, I was honored to serve as Faithful Navigator of Archbishop Antoine Blanc Assembly in New Roads for two years.

Exemplifications have always been one of my passions and I have been doing the role of Chancellor in the First degree for 3 I years, Historian in the Fourth Degree for 27 years and was a Conferring Officer in the Third Degree for about 7 years. For two years I served as Historian on both the Louisiana and Mississippi Fourth Degree Exemplification teams.

In April 1998 I retired from Guaranty Bank and Trust Company in New Roads, Louisiana after 30 years as Controller and Chief Financial Officer and in September 1998 my wife and I moved to Madison Mississippi to be near our grandsons and watch them grow up. I became a member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Madison and transferred my memberships to KC Council 9543 at St. Francis and Bishop Brunini Fourth Degree Assembly 2269. It was immediately evident that Council 9543 was one of the best and most active KC Councils in the state of Mississippi. Fortunately, I had the privilege of serving two years as Grand Knight. This is such an active council that all the Grand Knight has to do is tell the members what needs to be done and then get out of their way.

The first year we received the Star Council award from Supreme and the second year we received the Double Star Council Award. One of greatest highlights of my Fourth Degree career was the extremely high honor of being appointed by Supreme as Master of the Fourth Degree for the State of Mississippi in the Bienville Province. The appointment was for a period of two years.

In addition to the Knights, I am also active in St. Francis of Assisi Parish. I currently serve as a Minister of Hospitality and as a Eucharistic Minister at Mass. I have also served as the evangelization representative on the parish council and also served on the Church Finance Committee with one year as Finance Committee Chairman. I have been the Facilitator of a small Scripture study group. I am a very proud member of the parish RCIA Team, having served as a candidate sponsor on three occasions and also serving as a reflection leader for the candidates during dismissal on Sundays.

Serving as District Deputy for District 6 over the past three years has been an extremely enjoyable experience. All 4 councils in District 6 are very active and each of them has excellent officer leadership and won numerous awards in the past for both membership and programs. They just need friendly reminders from the DD from time to time. It is the best District Deputy job in the state. What is really great is the closest council is only a 3 minute drive from my house and the longest drive only 25 minutes from my house. When I leave the District Deputy position on March 31, 2015, it will be with some great friendships and fond memories.

Southern Region State Free Throw Championship

Enclosed is the photo from today's (Saturday, 3/22/2015) State (Southern area) Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition. The competition today at St. Alphonsus' gym in Ocean Springs covered age groups from 9 to 16 years old. These basketball free throw scores are sent to Jackson to be compared with scores from other areas in the State and from this compilation overall state winners will be determined. The participants in today's event are all District winners in KC Districts from Hattiesburg down to the Coast, and from the Alabama to Louisiana state lines.



Pictured below from left-toright:

Front row: Dylan Rushing, Dominic Simpkins, Major Gorgone, Lauren Skinner, Shae Sigworth, Shaylyn Chandler

Second row: Tyler Quandt, Jacob Futch, Jason Tucker Santiago, Brandon Davis, Jacob Owens, Justice Davis

Back Row: St. Alphonsus Knights, Gordon Mathieu and Carl Brochard; KC District Deputy, Joe McCormick

Not Pictured here: Patricia Morgan

Ocean Springs Council Assists Family In Need

Knights of Columbus Council 5654 of St. Alphonsus Parish in Ocean Springs presented a \$1700 check to Mrs Toni Shields and her family at the monthly Knights' Social on Wednesday Mar 11. The money was raised by a joint-effort "garage sale" at the KC Hall with the Council Knights and Mrs. Shields and her family. The funds raised will help defray extremely expensive medical expenses incurred by a Shields family member.

Pictured is Council 5654 Financial Secretary, Lenard Tarrant (green shirt); Toni Shields and her husband Gabe with the check, and two of their sons, (l. to r.) Tyler and Brice.



Convention Checklist From State Secretary Noel Aucoin

Brothers and fellow convention goers,

There are specific activities that should be completed prior to and included in your convention agenda, when preparing for the event. To assist you, I've created a Convention Check List. I'm looking forward to seeing you all down on the coast.

Noel Aucoin State Secretary

- All form 100's submitted to Supreme
- Year End Programs Report Form submitted to programs I@bellsouth.net
- Best Activity forms completed and submitted to programs|@bellsouth.net
- Best Vocations Project Form submitted to programs I@bellsouth.net
- Best Council write-up completed and submitted to programs I@bellsouth.net
- Family of the Year form completed and submitted to <u>programs I@bellsouth.net</u>
- Knight of the Year form completed and submitted to <u>programs I@bellsouth.net</u>
- Convention registration complete (including the Ladies' Luncheon!!)
- Convention Ad placed by Council/Assembly/Ladies Auxiliary/Squires Circle
- Delegate slips filled out, printed and sealed by the Financial Secretary
- Necrology form filled out and submitted
- GK, DD, State Chairman and State Officer reports submitted to: <u>noel.aucoin@hii-ingalls.com</u> or Noel Aucoin, 14620 Porteaux Bay Dr. Biloxi, MS 39532

Convention Message From State Treasurer Philip Jabour

Brother Knights,

We are rapidly approaching Convention time and I want to bring up a few reminders. All checks for Bishop Gerow, Pro-Life, Ultrasound fund, and the Christopher fund should be sent to me, made out to the Knights of Columbus with a notation on the check showing what fund the check is for. They should be accompanied by a transmittal sheet. Don Cox and Dennis Riecke gave these out at the Mid-Winter meetings and they are on the State Web Site www. kofc-ms.org. Please get them to me by April 15. We will take them at Convention, but it helps a lot if we can process them before the convention.

All PID or "Tootsie Roll" checks should be made out to MS. KC Foundation and should be mailed to: Greg Patin, 1486 Kristen Drive, Jackson, MS. 39211. His email is gregpatin@att.net.

All checks for the Armed forces Chaplain fund should go to Bill O'Connor.

I hope you will contribute to The Gary Sinise Foundation. We had a moving presentation at the Mid-Winter of what they do for our veterans. If you contribute, make the check to his foundation, but mail the check to me.

All State and Supreme Per Capita has to be paid before convention. The State goes to me and the Supreme Per Capita is mailed to them.

We voted at the Convention last year to give an extra per diem to delegates staying at the convention hotel, if the hotel cost was above \$140 per night. This had to be approved by the State Officers before each convention to go in effect. The Officers voted to approve it for this year. But, if you do not stay at the convention hotel, you will not qualify for this. If you qualify, you will get an extra \$25 for two nights.

The regular per diem for those that qualify is \$75.00 per night for two nights. You have to stay at the convention hotel or attend both convention banquets to qualify for this per diem. You will also be paid mileage of \$.30 per mile one way if you are qualified.

I look forward to seeing you on the Coast. I have enjoyed visiting with so many of you at meetings, installations of officers, and Degrees this year. I can attest that the Knights in Mississippi are great cooks.

Vivat Jesus,

Philip Jabour
State Treasurer
Mississippi Jurisdiction, Knights of Columbus

Mailing Address: P O Box 5489 Brandon, MS 39047

Picayune Ladies Auxiliary Hosts Dinner Play Fundraiser

On Friday night April 10th and Saturday night 11th The Picayune Ladies Auxiliary will host a dinner play, in conjunction with Picayune on Stage.

The comedy production will be "The Big Five-Oh". It will be held at the KOC Hall, 408 Carroll St., Picayune, MS 39466. Doors open at 6:30pm and dinner is served at 7:00pm. A full meal of Homemade Meat Balls and Spaghetti, a vegetable, tossed salad, dessert, and iced tea and coffee will be served at the tables by our local boy scout troop. Reservations are necessary as seating is limited to 75 persons per night. Please call Donna of Family Furniture at 601-347-6883.

Tickets are \$33.00 per person. Hope to see you there.

Holy Savior Council Hosts St. Patrick's Day Party

Recently a St. Patrick's Day Party sponsored by Holy Savior KC Council 7854 was held.

The group picture shows some parishioners who attended.

Right: Grand Knight Craig Harrell and his wife, Heather.

Below: Deputy Grand Knight Steve Miller and his son Robert.







Assemblies Band Together To Lead Parade



Sir Knights from Bishop Gerow and Bishop Brunini Assemblies preparing to lead the Hal and Mals St Patrick's Day Parade on Mar 21st in Jackson, MS.

L-R: Worthy Sir Knight Paul Thomas, Worthy State Deputy Jim McCraw, Worthy Sir Knight Allen Scott, Worthy District Marshal Craig Harrell, Worthy Sir Knights Steve Miller, Antoine Otto, Bill Hetrick and Charles Sims.

Message From Past State Deputy Jerry Schmuck

Brother Knight,

If we have any "ham" radio operators out there who are interested in taking a Basic Amateur Radio Operator Training course in Madison, MS on April 21-22, 2015, here is the contact information to register for the course.

To register or for more information contact: Valarie Jackson at (601) 368-3219 or email vjackson@mhanet.org.

Thanks.

Jerry Schmuck, PSD

Oxford Council Celebrate Corporate Communion

Knights of Columbus Council 10901 attended 8:30 a.m. Mass as a Council on Sunday, March 15th at St. John the Evangelist in Oxford. The Oxford Knights and their ladies celebrate a quarterly Corporate Communion and Mass with Knights serving as Liturgical Ministers. Mass is followed by a special breakfast prepared by brother Knights.

The Corporate Communion celebration coincided with the Annual National Knights of Columbus Membership Drive. A brief description of Knights of Columbus' goals and charitable activities was presented after Mass by the Grand Knight of the St. John Council, Mr. Burke Nichols. Seven candidates were recruited as potential new members as a result of the outreach.

The Knights continued later that afternoon preparing home-made spaghetti sauce, cole slaw and garlic bread for the weekly Sunday Spaghetti Supper served each Sunday during the school year by volunteer groups of the Church. This special supper supports students on the Ole Miss Campus, many of whom do not have meal service Sunday evenings.

It was a great day for Council 10901 of Oxford: attending Mass and Communion as a Council; sharing Christian companionship; reaching out to Catholic men to share Knights brotherhood and faith; and performing a service to the Catholic Community of St. John.







Mississippi Star Council Top Contenders

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Council			Insurance
Courien	Location	Membership	Status
10216	Brandon	185.71%	60.00%
11995	Pass Christian	160.00%	33.33%
13471	Philadelphia	150%	66.67%
15382	Hattiesburg	128.57%	33.33%
15131	Jackson	120.00%	33.33%
7087	Kiln	116.67%	100.00%
1522	Bay St. Louis	100.00%	166.67%
7120	South Haven	100.00%	50.00%
7974	Columbus	80.00%	0.00%
848	Jackson	75.00%	100.00%
9543	Madison	68.75%	133.33%
11654	Wiggins	60.00%	33.33%
15155	Vancleave	60.00%	0.00%
10901	Oxford	57.14%	0.00%
9124	Gautier	50.00%	33.33%
9094	North Biloxi	50.00%	25.00%
7211	Lumberton	50.00%	0.00%
14051	Olive Branch	50.00%	0.00%
9958	Lizana	50.00%	0.00%
1244	Biloxi	42.86%	157.14%
4472	Pass Christian	42.86%	33.33%
7910	Gulfport	42.86%	0.00%
8912	Corinth	40.00%	33.33%
802	Meridian	40.00%	0.00%
10443	Grenada	40.00%	0.00%

DDs as you are pushing hard to get your councils STAR qualified, keep in mind how close many of your councils really are!

Councils that are conducting well-rounded programs and activities in the categories of Church, community, council, family, culture of life and youth are providing meaningful help to people and families. The Star Council Award means that you have met your membership growth (Father McGivney) Award; Founder's Award for insurance growth; and the Columbian Award for well-rounded council service programs and activities.

Vicksburg Council Holds Annual March For Life

On Saturday, March 28th, the Vicksburg Council 898 of the Knights of Columbus had their 5th annual March for Life. They walked from St. Aloysius High School to the Monument for the Unborn at the Vicksburg City Cemetery. Twenty-six

walkers made the one mile walk under cloudy skies and mild temperatures.

Members of Assembly 558 carried the colors and led the march. Once the monument, members of the council led the marchers in the rosary, remembering not only the victims of abortion, but the overall fight to preserve the dignity of life from conception to natural conclusion.





at

Oxford Council Supports Center For Persons With Intellectual Disabilities



children who reside at the North Mississippi Regional Center. Begun in 1972 as the Lafayette

districts as well as

school-aged

Development important community need in the Center, the Scott Center, one of 7 schools in the Oxford School District, serves special needs children ages 3 to 21 years. The Scott Center has a current enrollment of 39 students. important community need in the coming years" and in particular thanks Larson's Big Star and Kroger for allowing Knights to hold their Tootsie Roll Drive at their places of business. In particular, the

County

The Knights of Columbus were participating as part of the Mississippi Knights of Columbus Foundation program called Campaign to Support Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. Funds generated through this

campaign go toward local and state-wide activities which support individuals with special needs. Council 10901 sponsored a Tootsie Roll Drive for the Campaign.

Grand Knight Nichols said,
"Council 10901 will continue to
hold fundraisers to support this
important community need in
the coming years" and in
particular thanks Larson's Big
Star and Kroger for allowing the
Knights to hold their Tootsie
Roll Drive at their places of
business. In particular, the
Knights sincerely
appreciate those who donated
funds and purchased Tootsie
Rolls for this special
community project.

Grand Knight Burke Nichols
presented a check to Mrs.
Christy Williams, President of
the Scott Center Parent
Teacher's Association to support
the students attending the Scott
Child Development Center in
Oxford.

Center, the Scott Center, or
7 schools in the Oxford Scotlidren ages 3 to 21 years
Scott Center has a current
enrollment of 39 students.
The Knights of Columbus

The Scott Center, as it is locally known, provides services for severely mentally and physically challenged children who live in the Oxford and surrounding school

First Degrees In Jackson

St. Paul Council 10216 hosted a First Degree on March 1, Two candidates. St. Therese Council 8285 hosted a First Degree on March 2, Seven candidates. St. Richard Council 15131 hosted a First Degree on March 16, 2015, Two candidates. St. Francis Council 9543 hosted a First Degree on March 29, Nine candidates.

Councils are encouraged to submit a photo of their I^{st} degree candidates along with brief details to $\underline{jenning.jack@yahoo.com}$





State Officers Use Technology For Meetings

Because state officers are elected from all across the state, meetings are a challenge.

Between careers, family and other KC activities, finding a time to get together is one of the biggest challenges for our state officers. Add to that travel time and expense, you can imagine the scheduling difficulties. "We include travel time but even the four of us and Monsignor in the Jackson metro area, a mutually convenient time for a conference call with Noel and Mike is tough to arrange."

In January a conference call was used from the Diocesan Chancery's Conference Room to address a very hot council issue. Noel Aucoin and Mike Kassouf dialed in and then Dave Tebo, our MPC, connected as this involved getting immediate responses from the Supreme staff.

That was very successful and was added to our options list.

In February, the state turned to Skype as a potential solution.

State Secretary Noel Aucoin volunteered to connect and was pleased with the results. "There are certainly a few things we need to tweak, but it allowed me to attend my grand child's baptism and still make the meeting".

The next test will be for Mike to connect in Starkville and Noel in D'Iberville. We think being able to see the meeting attendees as well as the ability to interact is the goal. Also, we are keeping a close eye on cost-effectiveness.

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State Programs

State Programs Director- Guy Heying 601-209-2911 guyheying@eaton.com

Council Director-Sonny Daniels 601-431-5241 sonnyd@jordancarriers.com

Church Director-Ted Lander 901-237-3493 tedlander@bellsouth.net

Family Director-Carl Brochard 228-327-0066 broch57@bellsouth.net

Youth Director- Joe Jones Jr. 601-940-0078 jone9365@bellsouth.net

Community Director- Bob Leo 601-616-8396 hatchettmanze@aol.com

Culture of Life Chair Couple-Dennis and Muna Riecke 601-432-2207 dennisr@mdwfp.state.ms.us



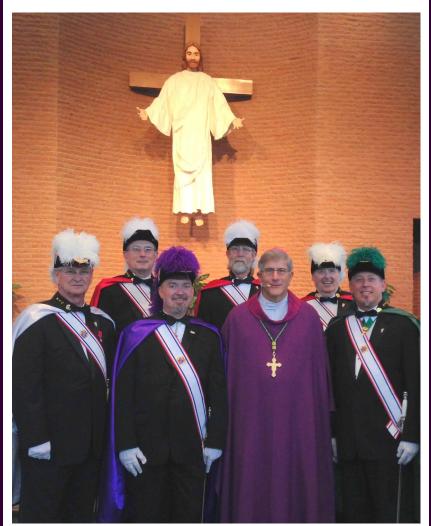






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Bishop Kopacz Celebrates Mass



Here is a pic of Worthy Sir Knights from Bishop Gerow and Bishop Brunini Assemblies who participated as Honor Guard for Bishop Kopacz at St. Therese in Jackson, MS on March 22, 2015

L-R: Worthy Past Faithful Navigator Johnny Biggert, Worthy Sir Knight Allen Scott, Worthy Color Corp Commander Michael Speer, Worthy Sir Knight Steve Miller, Bishop Kopacz, Worthy Sir Knight Bill Addie and Worthy District Marshal Craig Harrell.

Delegates To Select 2018 Convention Site

Delegates will select a site for the 2018 State Convention at the Final Business Session on Sunday.

2016 will be in Natchez. 2017 is in Tupelo. The Delegates determined two years ago not to go more than three years out when assigning locations.