



*"Strengthening
Catholic
Families."*

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The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

Volume XV Issue VII

July 2015

From Our State Deputy, Jim McCraw



It is my pleasure to congratulate our newly elected and re-elected grand knights and council officers. It is my hope that together, we will continue to exemplify Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

To the outgoing leaders... you have my sincere appreciation and admiration for being relevant in your parish, for providing opportunities for your members to make a difference and for being an example in your household.

In 2014-2015 we laid the foundation of fraternity and unity. Rather than focus on state goals, we put every effort into supporting our councils. *Developing Catholic Leaders* was our battle plan. Numerous membership and Financial Secretary workshops were held statewide. After the State Convention, our MPC Dave Tebo and incoming MPC Joe Ramirez conducted Leadership Workshops for council officers at three locations. The response was very high and we

will continue these throughout this year. So, leadership training remains a key component. Why? If each of us understands what our duties are and where they fit in the council's operation, things begin to mesh at the council, district and state levels.

How productive was this foundation year? You invited 332 new and former members into our ranks and they are all at least 1st degree members. This was a banner year for members making sure their families will be protected when that inevitable time comes. Mississippi is close to being fully staffed with Field Agents to make sure each of you has an opportunity and access to visit with a field agent to review your own financial plan.

Achieving Star Council is the standard for a balanced council. So far 16 councils qualified for Star. Of those Council 7120 and 10216 achieved Double Star and Council 15382 achieved Triple Star. There is one more still under consideration and, if approved, will be number 17 and our 3rd Double Star Council.

Retention is a high priority for me. When we lose a member, I take it personal. Too many members were suspended from the Order in 2014-2015. At mid-year, we put in tighter controls while providing more resources to help councils find "missing" members. We're now down to those who no

longer wish to be a knight. One diligent brother tells me about making sure deceased members were off their roster. He called the widow to express his condolences and the "dead man" answered. It's always good to verify.

To help councils understand the suspension process, a Breakout Session "Retention versus Suspension" has been added to the Schools of Columbianism. State Advocate Ben Mokry and State Program Director Guy Heying will facilitate a panel discussion of Star Council GKs on "Best Practices from the Best".

So what about this year? *Strengthening Catholic Families* will compliment Supreme's Building the Domestic Church: "Family Fully Alive". We'll have more about this in the August Magnolia Knight.

Let me again pledge my support for the Ladies Auxiliary. I urge each of you to promote the Ladies Auxiliary as an important partner in our goal of *Strengthening Catholic Families*."

I will close by saluting our state's team of leaders. With their efforts, and yours, a strong focus on retention within each council, and many acts of charity, this will be one of our most successful years.

Fraternally,

Jim



Magnolia Knight Evolving To Provide More Content

The Magnolia Knight is adding new features to better serve our State Council, our Local Councils, and our Assemblies.

While many of our officers across the state utilize the Fraternal Leader Success Planner, there are many brothers that are heavily involved in planning events throughout the year but do not have the opportunity to work from the planner.

Moving forward information from the At-A-Glance spreadsheet will be posted

in the Magnolia Knight to help plan upcoming events.

Also, monthly quotations from Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, will be listed in the newsletter.

And important dates from the Liturgical year and / or important dates/event from our Order's Fraternal calendar will be highlighted.

Suggestions for additional content from our brothers is always encouraged.

"We have a moral obligation to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus."

*Carl Anderson,
Supreme Knight*

Membership 365

Happy New Year! While we start a new Fraternal year every July 1, recruiting is a year long process. It never stops.

Father Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus to help provide assistance to women and children of deceased Catholic men.

By reaching out to our fellow Catholic men we are providing the avenue that Fr. McGivney envisioned.

While it is our obligation we should be enthusiastic that we have the opportunity to share our fraternal benefits, our many charitable endeavors, our family activities with like-minded members of our community, and our youth programs.

All these things help to build our faith, strengthen our families, and fulfill our calling to be charitable to those around us. Ask someone to join now.

Many Exemplifications Taking Place Around The State

Over the several weeks, Councils and Districts across the state have been hosting Exemplifications to welcome new Knights into our Order and also to advance current members on their journey to full knighthood.

Extremely encouraging were the number of Second Degree Exemplifications that were taking place. As many as four have recently been held.

At Council 10216, St. Paul—Flowood, 23 Brother Knights from nine area councils and two districts came together for the Degree ceremony.

The candidates along with DD's, State Officers, and Past State Deputy, Rich Leiding are pictured to the right.

Let's keep the momentum going!



St. Richard Council 15131 Honors Priest With Vestments

As a going away present, St. Richard Council 15131 presented Pastor Fr. Mike O'Brian Knight of Columbus vestments.

Father Mike, pictured at right, is wearing the vestments during the dedication and blessing of the new columbarium at St. Richard Parish.

The dedication ceremony took place on May 31st.



Local Artist Donates Sketch To Council

Recently, a unnamed local artist donated this amazing sketch to Picayune Council 6872.

The sketch was created with nothing over than paper and a black ball pen.

Unsure of what to do with the sketch Bryan Cassagne conferred with State Deputy Jim McCraw on how it should be used and / or displayed.

They decided to post a picture of the sketch here in the Magnolia Knight to solicit ideas for it's use.

All proceeds generated by the use of the sketch will be used to support a state fund/ project.

Upcoming Editions Of The Magnolia Knight

The month of August brings an important event to our Order, none more than this August.

With the recent decision by the SCOTUS the attacks on Christianity and the Family, as described by The Bible, are stronger than ever. We as Knights must do all we can to strengthen our families.

Beginning Monday, August 10th, is the Knights of Columbus Family Week. What events are your council and assembly planning for this week? Please make every effort to plan one or more activities involving our families.

Also during this week is the Orderwide First Degree Week. Plan a First Degree to take place in your council this week.

Corporate Communion are held on the fifth Sunday of the months that have five Sundays. Does your council do anything special on the Fifth Sundays?

Before we know it Advent will be upon us. What activities does your council sponsor during this joyous season?

Essay contests, the Soccer Challenge, The Free Throw Contest, CYO groups, Religious Education programs. These are some of the

youth activities that we are active in supporting.

Throughout the year the Magnolia Knight will focus on events and activities that define who we are. With "Strengthening Catholic Families" as the foundation of our Fraternal year the newsletter will focus on Family and Youth.

Use the Magnolia Knight to network with other councils by sharing your events and learning from events that others participate in.

Hernando DeSoto Council 7120 Hosts Blood Drive

On Father's Day, June 21st, Hernando DeSoto Council 7120 hosted a blood drive at Christ the King Parish in Southaven. Lifeblood from Memphis provided the services for those in the community to give the gift of life.

Being the first blood drive held in several years, the turnout was great. Fifty-one donors were able to contribute with just a few being turned away do to not meeting all of the requirement.

Each donor received a t-shirt and cap from Lifeblood while the Knights offered a free breakfast to those who participated and all the fathers in attendance.



Field Agent, Jim Priddy and GK Ted Lander supported the blood drive

Fourth Degree Scheduled For August 8th

Bishop Brunini Assembly 2269 is hosting a Fourth Degree Exemplification on August 8th at the St. Francis Family Life Center in Madison.

The event honoring Sir Knight Charles Wilkerson begins promptly at 2:30 pm while registration opens at 12:30 pm.

You must be a Third Degree Knight in good standing to participate in the Degree. The cost is \$70 per candidate which includes a Fourth Degree Social Baldrick, a Fourth Degree lapel pin, and payment for the banquet that follows.

All candidates and Fourth Degree observers must be appropriately attired in a black tuxedo, black bow

tie, pleated white tux shirt with lay down collar (no butterfly collars), black cumberbund, and black footwear. Military personnel may wear dress uniforms.

For more information contact Larry Roberts at 601-898-3935 or 769-613-8585.

New Orderwide Prayer Program Taking Shape

The Domestic Church is a new orderwide prayer program that is being rolled out by our Supreme Council. Going hand-in-hand with our states theme for the new fraternal year, Strengthening Catholic Families, this new program helps families to build on their faith as a unit. Remember, "a family that prays together stays together." The web link for more information on the program is <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/domestic-church/building-domestic-church.pdf>.

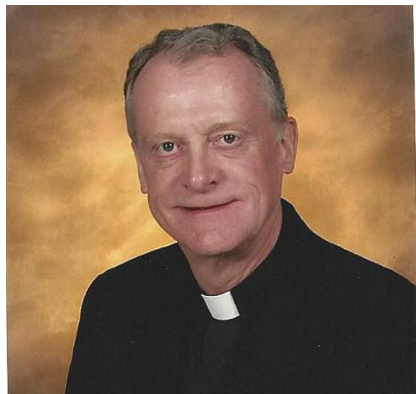
To help with the awareness Supreme is supplying the state with

two icons to be used in our state efforts to spread the message. State Chaplain, Msgr. Elvin Sunds, will lead a team of Knights that will coordinate the travel of the icons Throughout the state.

A new focus for this program will provide for the icons to make their way to schools, mission churches, and parishes without a council prescence but do have a roundtable in place.

The initiative will begin after the Supreme Convention in August.

State Chaplain's Report



Dear Brother Knights,

As we celebrated Independence Day we celebrated one of the principles of our order, "Patriotism." We also celebrated one of our core values, "Family."

Summer is a time when families spend more time together. Family vacations, outings, and visits to relatives serve to strengthen families. Pope Francis recently called the whole Church to renew its efforts to strengthen families. Family is the basic building block of society and of the Church. Building strong Catholic families is the most important thing we can do as Knights of Columbus.

Pope Francis reminds us that families are called to holiness. They are "the domestic church where Jesus grows in the love of a married couple, in the lives of their children." To help families grow in holiness as "domestic church," the Knights of Columbus initiated a program entitled, "Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive."

It is available in booklet form from Supreme or downloadable from the Knights of Columbus website. It consists of prayers as well as engaging and fun family activities suggested for each month of the year. It also suggests activities local councils can sponsor to help all families of the parish. I encourage every council to strongly promote this program. Our families need and deserve it. A state committee is being formed to assist local councils in promoting this program.

Supreme is asking us to highlight "Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive" through a traveling Icon of the Holy Family. The Holy Family Icon will arrive in Mississippi in

mid-August. A prayer service is provided with the Icon. The Icon will travel to parishes throughout the state for six months. Local councils are asked to coordinate with their District representative and pastor to arrange dates for the Icon to be in their parish. Councils may also help parishes without a council to host the Icon. It is an excellent way to promote the mission of the Church as well as the mission of the Knights of Columbus to parishes that do not have a council.

My hope for my brother Knights and their families is that every council will actively participate and promote "Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive." Moreover, my hope is that each district and each council will make family life a priority by hosting the Holy Family Icon in parishes throughout the state.

Vivat Jesus,

Msgr. Elvin Sunds
State Chaplain

Ladies Auxiliary Attend Leaders Attend State Installation Of Officers

The leaders of the Mississippi Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary recently attend the State Installation of Officers in Jackson.

Shown left to right are:

Linda Schmuck, State Chaplain;
Carolyn O'Connor, Regent;
Bobi Frey, Immediate State President
and Northern Roving Regent;
Marcia Flagg, State President; and
Barbara McCraw, former State Officer
and First Lady.



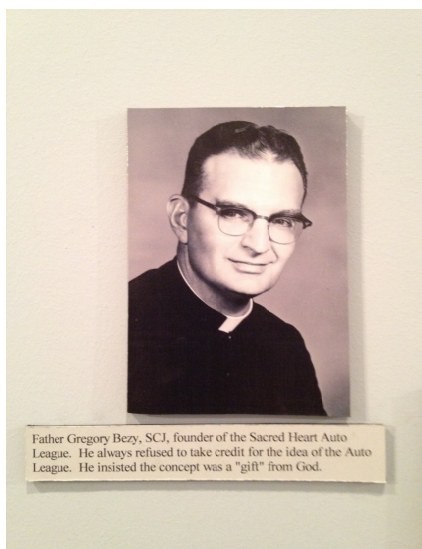
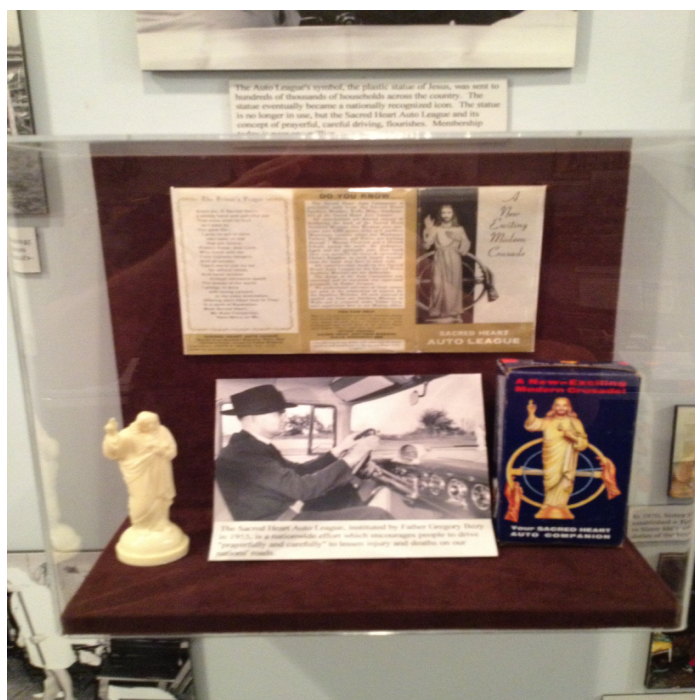
Mississippi Catholic History

Sacred Heart Priests in Northwest Mississippi

The Desoto County Museum in Hernando, Mississippi has a exhibit of the history of the Sacred Heart Priest, SCJ, from the time they were invited by the Bishop of Natchez to the area in the 1940's up to building the new, modern Sacred Heart School in Southaven. Before they came the area was a "Catholic no mans land".

Besides starting parishes and schools across the northern MS border, Fr Greg Bezy started the Sacred Heart Missions and Auto League in Wales. Other noticeable accomplishments was the making of the film, "The Spitfire Grill", using the proceeds to build new Churches and schools in the early 2000's. For more information on the SCJ's and Sacred Heart Southern Missions visit www.shsm.org.

Submitted by DD#2 Dennis Fink, Fr Greg Bezy Assembly, Southaven, MS



Mississippi 2015 Star Councils

Congratulations to these Councils for achieving the highest honor and deserving the honor of being recognized as a Star Council for Membership and Insurance Growth. Star Council is the ultimate goal for any council. For the fraternal year 2014-15 ending on June 30, 2015, if your council attained Star Council you will receive the following:

Star Council - Council will receive 10,000 VIP points

Double Star Council - Council will receive 20,000 VIP points

Triple Star Council - Council will receive 30,000 VIP points

Star Councils

Council	Location	District	Percent Inc.	Grand Knight
0848	St Peters Jackson	5	113%	Ivan Lambert
1244	Biloxi	11	110%	Paul Arguelles
1522	Bay St Louis	9	125%	Paul Pitts
7087	Kiln	13	117%	Gary Cuevas
7910	St Joseph Gulfport	10	114%	Hugh Frazier
8054	McComb	7	100%	Larry Maniscalco
8912	Corinth	1	100%	Larry Gann
9094	D'Iberville	11	100%	Jeff Riopelle
9543	Madison	6	125%	Tunney Vanevender
10901	Oxford	1	157%	Burke Nichols
13471	Philadelphia	4	150%	Byron Tullos
15121	Poplarville	13	100%	Bernard Nowak
15131	St Richards Jackson	5	160%	Dave Fisher

Double Star Councils

Council	Location	District	Percent Inc.	Grand Knight
7120	Southaven	2	200%	Ted Lander
10216	Flowood	6	229%	Anthony Carpenter

Triple Star Council

Council	Location	District	Percent Inc.	Grand Knight
15382	St Thomas – Hattiesburg	8	314%	OD Landrum

Assembly 2195 Takes Part In Memorial Day Ceremony



Sir Knights participating this year from left to right are PGK Francis Miller, District Marshall Lonnie Treadaway, Color Corp Commander and PFN Fred Ward, State Church Director and Council 7120 GK Ted Lander, and outgoing FN John Robinson.

Each year Twin Oaks Funeral Home and Cemetery in Southaven has a very moving Memorial Day ceremony honoring veterans from past and present. Fr. Gregory Bezy Assembly 2195 provides the Honor Guard for the event.

It is an honor to take part in this event each year.



Auxiliary President Addresses State Leaders



Auxiliary President Marcia Flagg addresses those who attended the banquet.

State Auxiliary President Marcia Flagg was invited by the State Council to attend the Installation of State Officers and District Deputies for 2015-2016 and to address the group during the banquet. Her message was one of unity and a commitment to support the goals of the state council and the local councils.

She also talked about using the KC model of a Roundtable for groups of ladies who may not have enough members to establish their own auxiliary. State Deputy Jim McCraw expressed his continued commitment to the Ladies Auxiliary "To be a Family Fully Alive, we must have our ladies involved as partners." He urged the district deputies to promote auxiliary development throughout their districts. The State Council is promoting this particularly in small or mission parishes as a way to support a men's roundtable or small council.



Pictured (L-R) Membership and Program Consultant Ray Lopez, PSD-Utah; State Secretary Noel Aucoin; State Secretary Jim McCraw; State Secretary Marcia Flagg.

Installation of District Deputies For Fraternal Year 2015—2016

On Saturday, June 27th, During the vigil Mass at The Cathedral of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Jackson the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus installed the State Officers and District Deputies.

Bishop Emeritus Joseph Latino made a few remarks regarding the Knights of Columbus and their charitable works. He then blessed the jewels that were presented to the state officers and DDs as they were installed. Barbara McCraw presented a rose to the wives of the state officers and district deputies. Afterwards, a banquet catered by Madison Council 9543 was held in the Parish Hall.



Seeing Knights In Action Encouraged Nick Adams To Enter The Seminary

I walked into the chambers of Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802 with no idea what I had gotten myself into. I had heard of the Knights of Columbus growing up, but I never really knew what the KCs were all about.

I moved to Meridian after graduating from the University of Alabama in 2008. After living and working in town for about a year, I began to realize that there was more to life than making a buck. As I got more involved at my local parish, I kept meeting all these men for whom I had great admiration. They lived their faith so clearly and so proudly, and they invited me to do the same.

After getting my first degree, I quickly realized that there was more to being a Knight than I had ever imagined. These guys were helping to build homes for Habitat for Humanity, they sacrificed their time every Wednesday to work at the hall for bingo, an event that brings in thousands of dollars for the local Church and local charities. They visited the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals. They brought the love of Christ to people in the community.

The relationships that I built with these Knights inspired me. They showed me that living the Catholic faith brings some challenges, but it mostly brings joy. I credit my Council for having a big role in my decision to enter the seminary. Through their dedication to their vocation and their Church, they showed me a way of life that leads to God. That's what I had been searching for my entire life.

As I have progressed through the seminary, other councils, like those in Flowood, McComb, and Pearl, along with my home council, have supported me through their prayers and financial support through the RSVP program. These programs provide much appreciated funds to seminarians to help them through their time in school.

As I enter my fourth year at Notre Dame Seminary, I continue to pray for and stay involved with the men who provided this example to me. I will always have a special place in my heart for the Knights of Columbus in Mississippi, because they live their faith. They live, work, and have fun, with the Gospel in mind.

Nick Adam
Council 802, Meridian Mississippi
Seminarian for the Diocese of Jackson

Schools Of Columbianism

Schools of Columbianism start this weekend. If you have not taken the time to register there is still time. This registration process helps the host council plan for a meal as well as the state planning for number of pass outs. Follow this link to on the state web site

To register; http://www.kofc-ms.org/events/SOC_register_frm.php

To see who is coming; <http://www.kofc-ms.org/events/reports/index.php>

For Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Program Directors and Financial Secretaries and Brother Knights wishing to learn more about Columbianism Bound by Brotherhood.

NORTHERN REGION – JULY 11TH

Oxford Council 10901 Host Grand Knight Burke Nichols

St John the Evangelist Catholic Church - 416 South 5th St., Oxford, MS 38655

Lunch 11.30 to 12 Meet 12 noon to 4 pm

CENTRAL REGION – JULY 12TH

Pearl Council 8038 Host Grand Knight Bob Ganz

St. Jude Catholic Church - 399 Barrow Street, Pearl, MS 39208

Lunch 11.30 to 12 Meet 12 noon to 4 pm

SOUTHERN REGION – JULY 18TH

Biloxi Council 9409 Host Grand Knight Stephen Smith

Our Lady Of Fatima - 2090 Pass Road, West Biloxi, MS 39531

Lunch 11.30 to 12 Meet 12 noon to 4 pm

Mississippi Jurisdiction District Deputies For Fraternal Year 2015—2016



DD1 Mark Dye



DD2 Dennis Fink



DD3 Bernie Brown



DD4 Danny Setaro



DD5 Charles Hahn



DD6 Dennis Antici



DD7 Luis Yberra



DD8 Sherwood Beckham



DD9 Chuck Heim



DD10 Roy Gamez



DD11 Mark Fontenot



DD12 Joe Goellner

Not pictured is DD13 Stradford Goins

Programs At-A-Glance

- Order materials for Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest
- Order materials for Soccer Challenge



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In Service To One, In Service To All.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

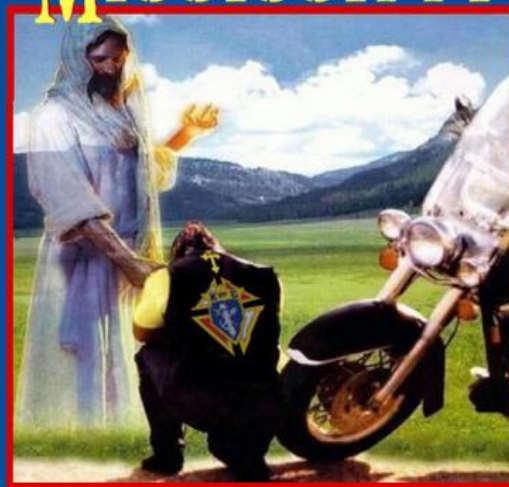
Second Responder Program Disaster Response Team

Knights of Columbus
Biloxi Diocese's Regional Area
Brent Woodfill, Council 1522
woodfibt@bellsouth.net

Knights of Columbus
Jackson Diocese's Regional Area
Anthony Kumor, Council 8038
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Mississippi Jurisdiction of Knights of Columbus
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KNIGHTS ON BIKES MISSISSIPPI



IN GOD WE TRUST AND RIDE