

*"Strengthening  
Catholic  
Families."*

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# The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

Volume XV Issue IX

September 2015

## From Our State Deputy, Jim McCraw



### State Deputy's Words of Wisdom

**"Go to the peripheries"**. That's a very condensed version of the Holy Father's recent message to priests. It ties perfectly with our focus on Retention and Growth. Pope Francis is saying every Catholic is important. Worry about them. Make contact with them. We are saying every member is important. Worry about those you no longer see. Make personal contact with them.

Thinking about visiting some of those forgotten fellows on your roster can evoke the same response we hear from our kids as we plan for a family reunion. "I don't want to go. I don't know those people". **You do know that works both ways.**

New men to the parish may have a similar thought about visiting your council. Some members who have been less active because of kids or work find a lot of new faces in the council when they come back. The fraternal aspect may be why they're back. For them, it's a lot like those new men to the parish. A welcoming spirit can ease the discomfort of finding change.

The question we should all ask ourselves is "Are we a welcoming council or a private club?" Churches face the same question. Some parishes have a lot of "visiting" after masses, while others are like the Indy 500 with drivers racing to their cars and out the parking lot. Which one is welcoming? As I attend masses throughout the state, I always like seeing KCs wearing their name tags greeting folks at the doors. I make a point to wear mine and am disappointed when no one speaks to me. Not as State Deputy, but as a brother knight hoping to meet other knights. I like the fraternal aspect.

After mass, the celebrant visits with folks outside and thanks them for being there. So... why can't we do that too? Just make them feel welcome. Visitors always appreciate the hospitality, and regulars can become friends. Setting this example for other knights in our council is an important part in building the parish family.

Get outside of your comfort zone. Claim a purpose. Maybe your purpose Sunday is to meet two people. They may not become knights but they might enjoy knowing you and being part of your parish. When you travel, wear your name tag to mass. Evangelize the art of Welcome.

The Jackson Diocese Office of Family Ministry is encouraging parishes to participate in the Knights of Columbus "[Building the Domestic Church](#)" program. I hope to see it in the Biloxi Diocese as well. Councils should work with the pastors and liturgical ecclesiastical ministers to assist and actively participate in this program that reaches every aspect of the parish and family.

**As I close, let me encourage you to get excited about the new Holy Family icon starting Oct 1. Make plans to also have it displayed in your parish, schools and roundtables.**

**"Go to the Peripheries"!**

Jim

## Holy Family Icon Has Arrived

State Chaplain Monsignor Elvin Sunds received the first Holy Family icon and will keep it on display until it begins its journey around the State. Mississippi will have two icons and will begin using the Holy Family in October in Districts 6 and 7.

This icon ties in with Strengthening Catholic Families. The Knights of Columbus has provided a large supply of Building the Domestic Church booklets to the Jackson Diocese Office of Family Ministry to be offered to each parish in the diocese. Councils are reminded of the importance of working with their parish as well as roundtable and mission parishes to facilitate this program. New booklets will be shipped to each council between mid September and October.



**Photo L-R:** Msgr Sunds, Mike Kassouf, Philip Jabour, Ben Mokry and Jim McCraw. Photo courtesy of David Scott.

## Second Degree In Hattiesburg



20 Brother knights advanced to the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree in a ceremonial hosted by District 7 Council 1908 at Sacred Heart High School Chapel in Hattiesburg.

The candidates were supported by members of Council 802 Meridian, Council 1908 and Council 15382 both in Hattiesburg.

## Officer Installation



Brother Knights of Council 11934 Gluckstadt at their Installation of officers Sunday August 9, 2015 at St. Joseph 's Catholic Church.

Also in attendance were Chaplain Fr. Kevin Slattery, State Deputy Jim McCraw, State Treasurer Phillip Jabour, and District Deputy Dennis Antici.

## Field Agent Presents First Award

Brother Ken North came up with a terrific idea to recognize the council with the most members converting from Associate to Insured in a year... within his territory.

Fr. Toner Council 13471 in Philadelphia received a huge check... literally... for \$250 and a perpetual traveling plaque which they will retain until someone else earns the title.



*“ I don’t think there’s any other Catholic volunteer association that is making such a difference day in and day out in our communities for charity. That is our mission. And we are going to grow and accomplish that mission. ”*

**Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight**

## Notre Dame Seminarians Relax



The seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans take advantage of a few days before resuming classes to kick back and relax around the pool.

Judging by the serious looks, it’s clear they are in a deep theological discussion.

One of the projects we will take on this year is to make sure they have nice sound system for that area courtesy of the Mississippi Knights of Columbus.





# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

Dear Brother Knight,

The Knights of Columbus is committed to assisting our Christian brothers and sisters who are suffering in the Middle East. At this year's Supreme Convention, I [announced](#) a "Season of Truth" dedicated to raising awareness of their plight, and the plight of other religious minorities in the region.

The violence in the Middle East has led to many deaths and the greatest refugee crisis since WWII. Over four million people have been displaced. Among the most affected are Iraqi and Syrian Christians, who are the victims of ongoing systematic cleansing and persecution. While the Christian population in Iraq once numbered above a million, violence has reduced that number by more than 65%. This human catastrophe has drawn commentary from Pope Francis, who said this of the persecution:

Today we are dismayed to see how in the Middle East and elsewhere in the world many of our brothers and sisters are persecuted, tortured and killed for their faith in Jesus. In this third world war, waged piecemeal, ... a form of genocide is taking place.

As Knights of Columbus we cannot be part of what Pope Francis has called the "complicit silence" of many who hear of these atrocities and do nothing. We must act.

To date, we have donated more than \$4 million to relief efforts in Iraq and Syria through the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund. We have also launched a website and released a [commercial](#) to raise awareness of the crisis. However, more assistance is needed, as the response from the international community has been woefully inadequate.

Please go to [christiansatrisk.org](http://christiansatrisk.org) to learn more about this humanitarian emergency and to make a donation that will provide material assistance to these refugees. Please also consider sharing this message with your family and friends.

As Knights of Columbus, we are called to stand in solidarity with all those Christians around the world who are suffering from violent persecution, offering spiritual and material assistance to these victims of crimes against humanity. Please pray daily for our Christian brothers and sisters—for their perseverance in faith and hope, the improvement of their living conditions, and the restoration of peace in their land.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and support.

Vivat Jesus!

Carl Anderson  
Supreme Knight

**Knights of Columbus**  
1 Columbus Plaza  
New Haven, CT 06510  
(203) 752-4000

# Knights of Columbus Wooden Cross Program

The Knights are offering a program to buy Crosses, made in the Holy Land, for the Councils to sell. The Crosses cost \$5 each with a minimum of 10 for an order. There is no charge for freight, if the Council orders the Crosses. They will bill the Council. They cost \$5 and the suggested selling price is \$10. We are asking that the \$5 profit per Cross be donated to the relief fund that the Knights have set up for the Christian refugees that are being killed and persecuted by ISIS. There is a holocaust going on in Syria, Lebanon and Afghanistan. Unfortunately the mainstream American press has ignored this tragedy.

Several Councils have already voted to sell the

Crosses. It fits right in with the Keep Christ in Christmas program. You can sell both items from the same table. Please consider doing this in your Council. I am working with the Councils in the Jackson Diocese and Noel has agreed to work with the

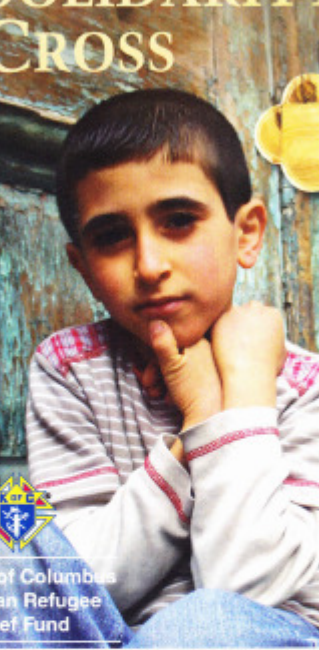

Councils in the Biloxi Diocese. If you have any questions, contact one of us. Guy has agreed to count this as a Church Program. Starkville put this on Facebook and the last I heard from Mike, they had already sold 40. I would hope that even a small Council could order 20 and sell them. We need to help our fellow Christians that are being killed and forced to leave their homes. An order form is attached.

Vivat Jesus,

Philip

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## SOLIDARITY CROSS





**Knights of Columbus  
Christian Refugee  
Relief Fund**

**A symbol of Suffering**  
**A symbol of Unity**  
**A symbol of Hope**

- Local councils and assemblies may use the form below to order crosses for \$5 each (minimum order of 10 crosses; free shipping).
- Councils then offer the crosses in their parishes and communities for a suggested donation of \$10 and make a single payment of the net proceeds to the Christian Refugee Relief Fund, payable to Knights of Columbus Charities, P.O. Box 1966, New Haven, CT 06509-1966

***A council project in support of persecuted Christians in the Middle East***



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**MAIL TO: Knights of Columbus Supreme Council**  
78 Meadow St, New Haven CT 06519-1759  
**FAX: 1-800-266-6340**  
**PHONE: (203) 752-4214**  
**EMAIL: supply@kofc.org**

**REQUIRED INFORMATION - PRINT CLEARLY FOR MAILING LABEL**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (APOSTAL BOX UNLESS NECESSARY) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME TEL. # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL # \_\_\_\_\_

ASSEMBLY # \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE # \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT \_\_\_\_\_

CHARGE TO (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT ABOVE NAME & NO. OF COUNCIL, ASSEMBLY OR CIRCLE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE CODE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE REQUIRED (P, S, G, R, P, C, O, C, A, N, A, N, Y) \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

OR charge it to your Mastercard ☐ or VISA ☐      Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

QUANTITY (MIN 10)	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
10	5 inch Olivewood Cross made by Christian craftsmen in the Holy Land	\$5.00	

## Kiln Council 7087 & Assembly 3464 Host Second Annual Car Show

Brother Knights,

September 12th will be our second annual car show. This year we will be having it at Annunciation Church. Please come help if at all possible. We will start getting things ready at 7am.

September 17th we will be having a first degree starting at 7pm. Let's show our support for our new members by have a large turnout. If you are interested in joining the degree team we will be practicing September 10th.

Our theme this year is "keeping families together." Please attend this month's meeting and bring your ideas of what we can do to promote this. If you feel strongly about it, we will get you help and let you run with it. If you just have the idea, that's great, we can get a committee together and make it happen.

The more brothers we have active the more ideas we have flowing and the more we can do! Please be active and let's show what we can do and how we can help our community and our parish. As the song says, the guy was watching all the bad and hate in the world and he asked God "why don't you do something?" God said "I did, I made YOU!!!"

We are men of God, let's do his work!

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## Luau In Vicksburg

On August 15th, Council 898 in Vicksburg held it's first annual luau, complete with the guest of honor, a roasted pig. The luau was not only open to the knights, but also friends and adult family members. Those attending ate, danced, and had a great time. Special thanks to those who worked to decorate, cook, and make the evening a great success.





## Making Our Councils More Inviting

*Convention attendees discuss membership growth*



State Deputy Jim McCraw and State Advocate Ben Mokry attend Supreme Membership Meeting

*In his remarks to the attendees of the Membership 365 seminar on Monday, Aug. 3, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson pointed to the example that councils bring to their communities through their good works.*

*"Through this witness we will grow by attraction," he said.*

*Deputy Supreme Knight Logan Ludwig, in his own remarks, said that "the greatest value of the Knights of Columbus is the difference we make to our members, our communities and our parishes."*

*During the seminar, Supreme Director Paul Lambert led a discussion on making a lasting impression through the First Degree. Supreme Director Tom Harger followed with a discussion on the need to nurture newly developed councils and work toward Star Council status.*

*Supreme Director Javier Martinez spoke about the potential that ethnic groups, including Hispanic Catholics, offer to help grow the Order and contribute to its charitable work. During the discussion, one participant suggested that the Knights of Columbus can provide a useful bridge for pastors seeking to reach out to ethnic communities in their parishes.*

*Supreme Director and Chief Insurance Officer Tom Smith told participants, "Don't play the membership game without a potentially valuable player — your Knights of Columbus insurance agent."*

*He emphasized the need for cooperation between the fraternal and agency sides of the Order for the mutual success of both.*

*The seminar concluded with the debut of the Order's new membership recruitment video. ♦*

## Church Activities

Summer is over, the school year has begun, weekend football and all of the related activities are coming soon - but before we get all of those tailgate smells and our ears ring with cowbells what are you planning for your Church activities?

A few programs that we are focusing on this year as a State can be implemented over the coming months by your Councils. Please contact me for more information on any of the below programs. I will be in touch with your Council's Church Program Activity Chairman and more information will be submitted in future newsletter issues.

**RSVP Program** – Are you currently supporting a Diocesan seminarian? The young men studying to become our future Priests need our support of prayers, communications, fraternal fellowship, and any amount of financial support that the Council can give. This activity counts as 2 projects on Supreme's annual activity awards and some funds can be rebated through Supreme's RSVP Program. We are working with our Diocesan Vocation Directors in both the Dioceses of Biloxi and Jackson to ensure our seminarians are being supported. Can your Council help make an investment in the future of the Catholic Church in Mississippi? If so please contact me

for more information.

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month** – this happens quarterly and you will see in your Fraternal Leader Success Planner many Councils schedule Corporate Communion on this Sunday. For the State of MS sponsoring at your church a parish meal and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary prayer service will count as two activity points. Knights, their families and other parishioners are encouraged to pray the rosary as a corporate body every time a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday occurs during a month. Serve a spaghetti or chili dinner to those attending and enjoy the time together as a Church family. Did any Councils host this activity in August? Next opportunities will be November 29<sup>th</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>. Finger rosaries and more materials can be ordered from Supreme by using the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary Kit (SR-KIT).

No matter which professional or college team you will be following in the coming months, let's unite together and make sure as Knights in the State of Mississippi we are united together and serving the needs of our Church.

Ted Lander - Church Director and Grand Knight

Council #7120

Email to [tedlander@bellsouth.net](mailto:tedlander@bellsouth.net)

## Fourth Degree Exemplification In Madison



Mississippi welcomed 14 new Sir Knights at a Exemplification held at St. Francis of Assisi, Madison on August 8, 2015. Shown with the class are District Marshal Craig Harrell, State Treasurer Philip Jabour, State Deputy Jim McCraw and District Master Will O'Connor. The late Sir Knight Charles Wilkerson was the honoree.

State Deputy Jim McCraw addresses the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Banquet on raising awareness of the religious genocide and persecutions taking place in the Middle East and our responsibility to passionately protect and exercise the democratic process of the vote.





## Mississippi's Newest Knights

Council		New Knight	Council		New Knight
802	Meridian	Archie McKinley	6765	Starkville	Michael Becher
802	Meridian	Samuel Coleman	6765	Starkville	Brett Bailey
802	Meridian	Patrick Quito	6765	Starkville	David Buys
848	Jackson	Gary Conerly	7120	Southaven	Christopher DeRoche
898	Vicksburg	Tomas Mondragon	7854	Clinton	Harold Grove
898	Vicksburg	David Stone	8848	Tupelo	Anthony Williams
1034	Natchez	Ken Burnette	8848	Tupelo	Alexander Emplaincourt
1034	Natchez	Joseph Gunning	8848	Tupelo	Charles Watts
1034	Natchez	Ashley Bennett	8848	Tupelo	Timothy Criddle
1034	Natchez	Charles Garrity	8848	Tupelo	Spencer Hanskiewicz
1522	Bay St Louis	George Ferry	8912	Cornith	Eric Orman
1583	Gulfport	Jonathan Ladner	9094	D'Iberville	Robert Kutterhoff
1583	Gulfport	Christopher Romano	9094	D'Iberville	Dakota Clark
1605	Pascagoula	James Gates	9409	Biloxi	Nestor Dela Rosa
2134	Greenville	Jack McNeil	9124	Gautier	John Goleman
2134	Greenville	Phillip Olivi	13471	Philadelphia	John Crenshaw
2134	Greenville	Curtis Peeples	13471	Philadelphia	Tristan Stovall
4472	Pass Christian	David Paysse	14051	Olive Branch	Tracy Lindsey

**Congratulations to these gentlemen for joining the Knights of Columbus**

### Round Table Corner

This year is now underway and so far I only know of 2 councils that have round tables. I sure hope there are more out there. If any others have been sent in please let know. It is not that hard to accomplish and submit to Supreme. Each council can get the form on line and send a copy to supreme on line and to your DD, State Programs, nd copy to me. Each council that has a member in another parish has the potential for a round table. I need some help in getting this done.

I will be getting with each council that can have a round table and does not have one I will get in touch you very soon. The state council needs every ones help on this. Thank you and until later.

Vivat Jesus

Joe Jones, State Round Table Chairman

# THE CENTERLINE

Ingalls Shipbuilding

A Division of Huntington Ingalls Industries

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## Derek "Mojo" Medjesky will carry Torch at Ingalls 5K

He was team captain of the Pascagoula Panthers with 15 junior varsity touchdowns. He was voted most school spirited in 2004. He impersonates Elvis and considers himself a ladies' man.

Derek "Mojo" Medjesky has accomplished much in his 30 years of life. And on Sept. 12, he will bear the torch to start the fourth annual Ingalls 5K on the Causeway, which benefits Special Olympics Mississippi.

"We're thrilled that they chose him to be the torch bearer," said his father, Ingalls retiree Mike Gilly. "We've participated every year, and Mojo just loves the 5K. First of all, there's loud music; and he likes to get up and dance. He likes the free stuff, and he especially likes the New Orleans Saints cheerleaders who are going to be there."

Mojo knows how to work a room and is especially fond of talking to the ladies. Mojo is also the world's biggest Saints fan – when they're winning – according to his brother, outside machinist Bryan Gilly.

"He'll cheer for whoever is winning," Bryan said. "He also likes the Vikings, Green Bay, or any team that Brett Favre played for. He loves Drew Brees and Favre."

Bryan and Mojo have always been close, their father said. Mike Gilly had four children and had divorced before meeting Mojo's mother Karen. The other children had married or moved away by the time Mojo was growing up. So his little brother Bryan was his best friend.

"My Dad always taught me that I am my brother's keeper," Bryan said.

Mike added, "Even though Bryan was his younger brother, Mojo followed him; and this encouraged Mojo's development. When Bryan learned to ride a bike, then Mojo had to learn to ride."

Bryan doesn't recall anyone ever teasing Mojo for his disabilities. In fact, Mojo was very popular.

Mojo played as number 22 for the Pascagoula Panthers and was the team's unofficial mascot.

"Anyone who graduated from Pascagoula High School from 2002 to 2007 knows Mojo," Bryan said. "And if they played football, Mojo remembers all their jersey numbers."

Mojo works at America's Thrift Store in Ocean Springs twice a week. He is very independent as long as he has microwavable meals, video games and television.

Mike's wife Karen, retired Ingalls Procurement Planning control representative, passed away in 2012, and Mojo's father has also passed, leaving Mike as the sole guardian. Mike wishes to continue caring for Mojo as long as he's able.

"When you learn that a child has Down syndrome or some other disability that will require lifelong care, you think it's the end of the world," Mike said. "Then as this child grows up and develops, you learn that it ain't the end of the world. In fact, it's a blessing."



Derek "Mojo" Medjesky displays the torch he will carry at the fourth annual Ingalls 5K on the Causeway to benefit Special Olympics Mississippi. With him are his brother, outside machinist Bryan Gilly and his father, Ingalls retiree Mike Gilly.

### Ingalls 5K on the Causeway Race and Fun Run/Walk

- Saturday, Sept. 12, at the FitCenter on Singing River Island
- Early Registration ends Aug. 22
- Adults \$15 (Early) for Tie Dye Cotton Tshirt or \$20 (Early) for Dri-Fit Tshirt
- Kids Under 12 Fun Run \$7 Tie Dye Cotton Tshirt or \$10 for Dri-Fit Tshirt
- Proceeds benefit Special Olympics Mississippi
- 5K Starts at 8:30 a.m. followed by a 1 mile Fun Run 9:30 a.m.
- Register online at: <http://ingalls.huntingtoningalls.com/ingalls5k/>
- To learn more, contact Joni Goodman at (228) 935-4580



## Knights Designate Christopher Fund To Support Retired Priests Fund



In July, Former Master Larry Roberts approached State Deputy Jim McCraw about the need to support the Retired Priests Fund in Mississippi. After a lengthy conversation, SD McCraw agreed to present this to the State Officers on the condition that Brother Roberts would coordinate the effort.

The State Officers agreed and decided the annual Christopher Fund checks given to each bishop be designated for the Retired Priests Fund as an expression of gratitude for the generous life of service our priests give to Mississippi.

## Campaign for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PID)

“.....Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine”....Mathew 25: 40

Mississippi is rated number two in generosity by the Fiscal Times, a news analysis and opinion publication based in New York City and Washington D.C. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) there are an estimated 551,972 people living in Mississippi with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Helping to keep Mississippi in the top five states for generosity are the Knights of Columbus. Our State Council has established a Campaign for **P**ersons with **I**ntellectual **D**isabilities (PID). The PID encourages Knights of Columbus Councils across Mississippi to raise money for local organizations which provide services to persons with intellectual disabilities in Mississippi. Usually this is done through the Tootsie Roll sales but Councils have the autonomy to raise funds in other ways.

### Procedures for Receiving a Donation and Disbursing Funds to Local Organizations

Council will mail the donation to the Executive Director (ExD) of the Foundation along with a *Council Audit Form* and *Council Disbursement Request Form*. The forms are located on our state web site [www.kofc-ms.org](http://www.kofc-ms.org).

The ExD will check the *Council Disbursement Request Form* to ensure that the Council deducted 25% donation to the Foundation from the total donation amount.

The ExD will check the disbursement request for correct amounts to be disbursed to organization(s) per request from the Council(s).

The ExD will process a disbursement check(s) for the organization selected and forward the check(s) to the State Deputy for his signature. Once signed, the State Deputy will mail the check(s) to the Council Grand Knight along with a cover letter.

My family knows about this great generosity of our Knights of Columbus. Many years ago, thanks to Council 848 we attended a life changing convention for Down Syndrome families. Our 5<sup>th</sup> child, Maura was born with DS, the most common intellectual birth disability. As a result of their generosity we grew new heart muscles and began the good work of loving her. Maura is no longer with us, but gosh she LOVED her tootsie rolls!

VIVAT JESUS

Victor Gray-Lewis, Executive Director  
K of C Foundation of Mississippi

## Setting Youth On Fire

Not necessarily in the literal sense. The youth are the future of our church. Too many these days fall away from the Church because their faith has no fire. They have rocked along with the faith of their parents, going to Mass each Sunday because their parents go, because it is expected of them. Too often our parish youth groups are an extension of the parish religious education programs and often less than exciting for the youth. CYO leaders have been CYO leaders for years, and they have been doing the same things they did when they were part of the CYO growing up. When our youth leave home, they fall away from the Church because it is easier to sleep in on Sunday morning or they have found more exciting things to do on their weekends.

But it doesn't have to be this way. There are many programs out there for our youth that parishes may know about, but don't know how to implement them or have the resources to implement them. What can we as KCs do? First, we can communicate among ourselves to learn about successful youth programs operating in our state. We can work at the regional, diocesan, and state level to bring together parish youth directors to present workshops on how to ignite the faith fire in our youth. We could incorporate our youth into programs where we help other people. If a council participates in Special Olympics, it may be possible to have the youth work with us to help the participants.

If we have a project where we go help people in your parish, get the youth to go along and help. Our youth want to have something to do and something that makes them feel useful. We shouldn't ask them to wash dishes after our Lenten fish fry, but if we are helping elderly parishioners clean up and fix up their homes, the youth may be very interested in helping here too.

We can also work with the CYO groups to help them raise money for their own projects and programs. There are many youth conferences nearby that features speakers who can inspire our youth. The council can help the youth group raise money to attend these conferences. I wouldn't recommend just "writing a check" to the group, but work with the youth to raise the money to they take ownership of the fundraiser and become more involved. Youth are more likely to attend these conferences if they have worked to raise the money to go, and the conference becomes the reward for their work.

## District Marshall Stands Out At Supreme Convention

Sir Knight Wayne Ebelhar was elected as an Insurance Alternate Delegate at the State Convention in Biloxi and promptly forgot about it. Six weeks before the Supreme Convention in Philadelphia, PA he was informed he would represent Mississippi in place of IPSD David Scott. Fortunately for Wayne, PSD Robert Fratesi had attended numerous Supreme Conventions and provided a great deal of education on what to expect. One of the big honors at this event is participating in the honor guards for the masses.

There is a great deal of competition but Wayne had several things in his favor: his green cape, his height and being from Mississippi.







# MISSISSIPPI STAR RECRUITER JULY AND AUGUST

Council		Star Recruiter	Council		Star Recruiter	
898	Vicksburg	Richard Stone	1034	Natchez	Dan Miller	
1522	Bay St Louis	Paul Pitts	1605	Pascagoula	William Clark	
7854	Clinton	Craig Harrell	8912	Cornith	Larry Gann	
9094	D'Iberville	Philio Schuyler	9094	D'Iberville	Edward Creech	
9124	Gautier	Robert Barr	9409	Biloxi	Douglas Dixon	
13471	Philadelphia	Johnny Crenshaw	13471	Philadelphia	Doug Prosen	
14051	Olive Branch	John Chiumento	8848	Tupelo	Ted Williams	
4472	Pass Christian	Donald Smith	7120	Southaven	Ted Lander	
2134	Greenville	Darrell Martinek	2134	Greenville	Wayne Ebelhar	
2134	Greenville	Richard Clark	1583	Gulfport	Douglas Smith	
802	Meridian	William Nix	802	Meridian	Salvador Moreno	
802	Meridian	David Klutz				

**The above Brother Knights have qualified for the drawing – Congratulations!**

Recruit a member and receive a Mississippi Star Recruiter Pin.

Each new recruiter is entered into a drawing.

Drawings – October 1<sup>st</sup>, January 1<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

**Winner Receives Hotel and Registration fee's free for the next State Convention for him and his wife.** Prize is not transferable. **Entry names are taken from the form 100's that are emailed to [membership@kofc-ms.org](mailto:membership@kofc-ms.org).**

## July 1 to September 30<sup>th</sup>

Receive 2000 VIP points for every new or former member recruited plus in honor of Pope Francis' visit to the United States in September you will get a special medallion minted for his historic visit for recruiting in the First Quarter.



## 2015 Silver Rose Schedule

### One Life, One Rose Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program

Date	Day	Dis t.	Coun- cil/ As- sembly	Location	Service Location
13-Sep	Sunday	4	802	Meridian	St. Joseph Church
14-Sep	Monday	4	13471	Philadelphia	Holy Cross Catholic Church
15-Sep	Tuesday	4	6765	Starkville	St Joseph's Church
16-Sep	Wednesday	1	10901	Oxford	St. John's Church
17-Sep	Thursday	2	13502	Batesville	St Mary's Church
18-Sep	Friday	3	5556	Cleveland	TBA
19-Sep	Saturday	2	7120	Southaven	TBA
20-Sep	Sunday	2	7120	Hernando	TBA
21-Sep	Monday	1	8912	Corinth	TBA
22-Sep	Tuesday	1	8848	Tupelo	TBA
23-Sep	Wednesday	6	School	St Anthony's School - Madison	TBA
24-Sep	Thursday	6	School	St Joseph's School - Madison	TBA
25-Sep	Friday	5	School	St Richards School - Jackson	TBA
25-Sep	Friday	5	848	St Peters - Jackson	TBA
26-Sep	Saturday	5	15131	St Richards - Jackson	St. Richards
27-Sep	Sunday	5	898	Vicksburg	TBA
28-Sep	Monday	5	898	Vicksburg	St Aloysius High School
28-Sep	Monday	5	898	Vicksburg	St Francis Xavier School
29-Sep	Tuesday	6	10216	Flowood	St. Paul Catholic Church
30-Sep	Wednesday	6	9543	Madison	TBA
1-Oct	Thursday	6	8038	Pearl	TBA
2-Oct	Friday	5	School	Sister Thea Bowman School - Jackson	TBA
3-Oct	Saturday	7	7915	Brookhaven	St. Francis of Assisi
4-Oct	Sunday	7	1034	Natchez	TBA
5-Oct	Monday	7	8054	McComb	TBA
6-Oct	Tuesday	8	A 562	Hattiesburg	Holy Rosary Church
7-Oct	Wednesday	12	9124	Gautier	St. Mary's Church
8-Oct	Thursday	11	15155	Vancleave	Holy Spirit Church
9-Oct	Friday	12	10499	Ocean Springs	St Elizabeth Seton
10-Oct	Saturday	11	9673	Woolmarket	St Mary's Church
11-Oct	Sunday	10	12271	Seabee Base	St. Joseph The Worker Church
12-Oct	Monday	11	9409	Biloxi	Our Lady of Fatima
13-Oct	Tuesday	10	4472	Pass Christian	St. Paul Chapel
14-Oct	Wednesday	9	1522	Waveland	St Clare
15-Oct	Thursday	13	7087	Kiln	St. Matthew Church
16-Oct	Friday	9	11995	Most Holy Trinity - Pass Christian	Most Holy Trinity Church
17-Oct	Saturday	9	11995	Most Holy Trinity - Pass Christian	Most Holy Trinity Church
18-Oct	Sunday	9	6872	Picayune	St Charles Church



## The Supreme Convention - A First Timer's View

Ben Mokry, State Advocate

"Syrian Christians are in grave danger. We may disappear soon. I need your help. I need your support. I need your co-responsibility. [By helping] you will have saved the church of the apostles. The church that gave us Paul and many holy people and saints." So spoke Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart, Archbishop of the Melkite Greek Catholic Arch eparchy of Aleppo. His heartrending plea for help was for his people in this historic crossroads region who are being turned out of their homes, murdered, and terrorized. "If peace is not restored, all hope will be lost for Syrians, Christians and Muslims alike. The wound to my people is a wound to the entire body of Christ." His words in halting English, spoken from the heart touched the hearts of every one of the 1,200 plus attendees in the banquet hall.

Supreme is asking Councils to purchase olive wood crosses, handmade in the Middle East, to sell as one way to support Christians. (<http://www.kofc-ms.org/solidarityCross>) We are also invited to individually donate through Supreme's website. (<http://www.kofc.org/en/christianRelief>)

The presence of Archbishop Jeanbart was both a call to action and a reminder of what Knights are about, service to those in need. Our work saves lives. There is more to be done. Please don't rest.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson highlighted for attendees the impressive impact Knights had over the last year including \$173 million in charitable contributions and 71 million hours in volunteer service. The individual service awards were inspiring. Among the award winners was Council 11658, Harrison Township, Michigan that won in Council Activities. One of its Brother Knights, only 30 years old and recently married, was diagnosed with a rare blood disorder that usually strikes people in their 60s. The Council cooked dinners, shoveled snow at his house, and took care of many needs. Inspired by the need of their Brother, the Council has raised over \$100,000 for cancer research by events such as fish fries, Super Bowl parties, and bowling tournaments. Our own Council 7120, Southaven, placed second in the Council activity category for its many activities under the title "Faith and Spiritual Formation." Hearing about the amazing accomplishments by our 1.88 million member strong Order in just one year impressed me with how much we accomplish by working together.

The Mass celebrations were a high point. Watching over a hundred priests, Bishops, and Archbishops process in is quite a sight. The choir was pitch perfect. Sitting in the large convention hall with Knights and families from across the globe was a beautiful witness that while we speak in many tongues we are Brothers in one community of faith.

But the convention planners know that serious events need to be balanced by fun. Phyllis and I enjoyed many hospitality suites as we followed Jim McCraw around practicing the art of grip and grin. The hospitality suites were a blast, each one decorated and stocked to outdo the next. I met a member of the Texas delegation who was of Czech descent like me and with roots in Granger, Texas where my mother's family came from. We had a great time sampling the state foods and beverages. Like mini state fairs. The state pin swap on Monday was also a fun circus and I'm glad to report that I managed, with a little help from Wayne Ebelhar, to give away the 100 Mississippi State pins that I had brought.

In two years the convention will be in relatively accessible St. Louis. Even if you don't make it as a delegate plan to go and join in the experience. Most events are open to regular members and families and are worth experiencing at least once.

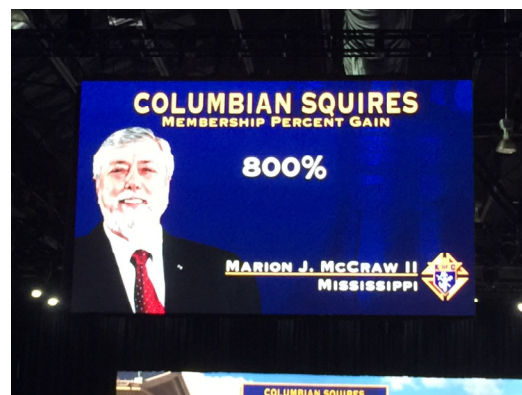
Some things I learned. If I get to go again, I'll bring more shorts and fewer suits. I'll make more time to research the sites and walk around to as many as I can until I can't take another step. And I'll practice taking more natural one-handed group selfies.

## Mississippi Attains 800% Growth In Columbian Squires

State Deputy Jim McCraw was presented with a beautiful acrylic trophy by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. Mississippi's Columbian Squires had the highest percentage of growth in the Knights of Columbus at 800%.

This achievement was the result of the outstanding job done by Council 1522 in Bay St. Louis with the Fr. Paddy Mockler Circle in Waveland.

Congratulations Brother Jay Gamble and his dedicated team of youth leaders!



## The Council Social

Brother Knights:

The main theme this fraternal year from Supreme and our state leadership is all about FAMILY! Our family lives are the day-to-day churches we all attend. How are we serving that church? What can we do as knights to be better stewards of these fabulous gifts God has given us? While there are going to be articles after articles in Columbia and our states newsletters about things we can do to serve our families, I am offering one here: the council social.

We all know that family life can pull at our limited resource of time. We want to be "there" when our families need us and we also want to be "there" when the church and council needs us. Think of how much easier it is to support our councils when we have support from our families! We should strive to find ways to make our families even more a part of our council lives whenever we can. Council Socials will go a long way to helping with that task. Letting our wives\children socialize with the families of our

brother knights should make everyone feel like they belong to the organization. Hopefully this will make some of those long hours away from home in support of our projects and activities, much easier to accept back home.

Socials don't have to be elaborate or fancy. Just get together quarterly for a pot luck dinner, hand out some Family or Knight of the Month certificates and just share some fellowship. During the summer time it could take the form of picnics and involve horseshoe throwing, volleyball, all sorts of outdoor fun activities. In the wintertime it can be Halloween costume parties or "trunk or treat" events....later you can have Thanksgiving and Christmas parties. Whatever you want to do that gets our families involved!

Just think of ways to get our families more involved with what we do and you will love the dividends it will pay.

Vivat Jesus!

Elvis Gates, State Council Activities Chairman

## Council 6765 Officer Installations



Recently, Council 6765 held the Installation of Officers ceremony at St. Joseph Parish in Starkville.

The council was able to use their Church, Alter Servers, their District Deputy, and Priest in the ceremony which was really a nice touch.

## First Degree In Starkville

Starkville Council held a First Degree Wednesday August 5 and bought in 3 new Knights. Left to right are Brett Bailey, Michael Becher, and David Buys.





## Fourth Degree Exemplification Held In Olive Branch

Our Lady Queen of Peace hosted a Fourth Degree Exemplification August 22 in Olive Branch. Congratulations to the 24 Knights who. A special thanks to John Chiumento, Ted Lander, Otha Jones, Fred Ward, the State Degree Team, State Master of the Fourth Degree Bill O'Connor, and the Color Corps Commanders. Also District Marshals Lonnie Treadaway and Craig Harrell. All these men were involved in the planning of the Exemplification. A tremendous job well done by all.

In attendance were three Color Corps Commanders and two District Marshals. Twenty-four brother Knights advanced to the Fourth Degree of the Order.

The Honoree for the Exemplification was Father Leonard Elders who has been the Pastor at St. Joseph in Holly Springs and the Faithful Friar for the Olive Branch Assembly. A special thanks to Father David Szatkowski for the time and message he shared with us at Queen of Peace.



## Family Of The Month

Council Family Directors, I am still accepting reports for the "Family of the Month " for your council, Please get these reports in to me as soon as possible, I will see that you will still get credit for it from the State.

As far as the report to the Supreme Council that date has passed, they should have been in to supreme by July, 15, 2015, to be eligible for the Supreme Family Plaque.

The next program for you to consider is the "Food - 4- Families " program, this is also a Supreme required program, to qualify, a council must collect a minimum of 1000 lbs. of food, to be donated to a parish food pantry or a local food bank, In addition the councils must contribute a minimum of 100 man hours in meals to needy families, these are the requirements for Supreme to get (2) project points.

For the State, your council must sponsor a food drive, collect a 100 bs or 200 lbs of food for the needy, spend 10 hours 15 hours, or how many hours you can, with whatever man power you can provide, and your council will still receive (2) credit points from the State.

Some Ideas for the collection of food for families are putting a box out side of your church for collection after Mass, in addition to this ask your parish priest if he would make an announcement about your food collection, at Mass.

Also you can collect food a your local food markets. If you have a bingo program pu ta box in your bingo hall at each bingo session. These are just a few Ideas, I'm sure that you can come up with a few more.

Bob Leo, State Family Director

## Record Attendance At Council Social Gathering

On Monday, August 3, Knights of Columbus Council 11654 held their Social Gathering and had a record attendance that included Knights and St. Francis parishioners, their family and friends at the Las Fajitas Restaurant.

Congratulations were extended by the Grand Knight, David Russel, to the following families who were honored by the Knights of Columbus as Families of the Month:

- Ø Parish Family of the of The Month - Ernie and June Callahan,
- Ø Knights of Columbus Family of The Month - Sherwood and Elaine Beckham.



Many parishioners commented, "it was great to socialize with so many wonderful friends".

Council #11654, which is a smaller council, in a city of 3,600 people, is experimenting with additional methods to familiarize others about the Knights of Columbus and also increase its membership. They are

finding this is one method that involves the entire community and people of all ages that includes *faith, family and fun!*



## Supreme Convention Takes



Asst State Chaplain Fr. Scott Thomas with His Eminence, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston.



Mississippi Gives boisterous Second to a key motion.



Delegation has informal lunch between Supreme Convention Business Sessions.

## The Cause For The Canonization Of Fr. Michael McGivney

As the Chairman for the Cause of Father Michael J. McGivney for our Jurisdiction I want to bring this month's (August 2015) issue of Columbia to your attention. On pages 8 thru 11, there is an excellent article about the continuing Cause for our Venerable Founder, Father McGivney. If you have not read it, I enjoin you to do so. Also included is an application form to join the Guild as well as two prayer cards which will hopefully be prayed at your Council/Assembly meetings in addition to any other prayers you might recite.

As I have mentioned many, many times in previous articles and/or talks, there is no charge to be a member of the Guild. You can join online at "fathermcgivney.org" or by sending in the application form which i mentioned is included in the month's magazine. As a member you will receive a newsletter which updates the progress of the Cause. I cannot understand why every member of the Knights of Columbus would not seize the opportunity to participate in the movement to see our Founder raised to the Honors of the Altar. As it stands now, one miracle through Father McGivney's intercession is needed for Beatification and a second for canonization. All of us believe that God listens to prayer. If all of us recited the prayer for the canonization of Father McGivney, I have no doubt that his Sainthood will be forthcoming in short order. How proud we would all be to know that our marvelous Order was founded by Saint Michael J. McGivney.

In the article I referenced in the August Columbia magazine, it mentions that there are 158,000 members worldwide. It would be a blessing to all of us in the Jurisdiction if our membership in the Guild was 100% instead of the current 16%. Come on Brothers, take five minutes of your time and join the Guild. I do not think you will ever regret it!

Vivat Jesus,

Tom Zettler. PSD, Chair for the Cause

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## Meridian Council Donates To Parent Circle Support Group

SK Dave Klutz, Deputy Grand Knight for Meridian Council 802, presents a check for \$600 to Tracy Bragg of the Parent Circle Support Group.

This group supports parents with mental disabilities and provides services and events for the children. The money was raised during Council 802's annual tootsie roll drive.

The proceeds from councils' PID Drive can be used through many different avenues in our communities. Be mindful of all the different possibilities to help.





**2015 2016**  
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*In Service To One, In Service To All.*

## Programs At-A-Glance

### ORDER MATERIAL

### PROMOTE ACTIVITY

- **CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST**
- **COATS FOR KIDS**
- **ORDERWIDE CHARITABLE SERVICE OUTREACH WEEK**
- **ORDERWIDE CHURCH DRIVE**

### CONDUCT ACTIVITY

- **SOCCER CHALLENGE**