



# The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

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From the desk of the State Deputy, Noel Aucoin

*"Strengthening  
Catholic Families."*

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Brothers,

Greetings to you all. Brothers we had a pretty good October. At the time of this article, we had broken in the top 25 (at number 24) and about 25% of our membership quota. Although the number of projected Admission Degrees are lagging behind, we are exceeding the number of projected Formation and Knighthood degrees. Good work may Brothers. We should be shooting for 50% of our goal by January 15. Having said that, I am issuing a challenge to all State Officers, Directors, Chairmen, District Deputies, Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries.

Give me one KNIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS. As we learned either in early religion classes or maybe later in life during the RCIA training, one of the precepts of the Church is to evangelize. The Knights of Columbus is the perfect vehicle to live this commitment to grow our faith. I'm not sure about everyone but as for myself, I have grown in my faith because of the Order. Extending the invitation to Catholic men in your parish is helping them and consequently his family grow in his faith, therefore evangelizing. Don't forget about the financial possibility for your council if you reach Star Council Status by January 15. NO STATE PER CAPITA!! This could mean hundreds of dollars NOT coming out of you treasury.

I'd like to take time now and talk a bit about the 4th Degree arm of our order. In particular, the Patriotic arm of the Mississippi Jurisdiction. Recently, the Bienville Province (consisting of the Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee jurisdictions) held it's Provincial Meeting. During this session, there were 4 major awards given out. The Mississippi Jurisdiction took 3 of the 4 awards. Honored were: District Marshall, M. Wayne Ebelhar was named Marshall of the Year; C. Mark Landry Assembly 3007, D'Iberville (consisting of Councils 9094 – D'Iberville, 9673 – Woolmarket and Council 15155 – Vancleave) was named Assembly of the Year; and District Master, Jerry Schmuck was named Master of the year with 120% of increase in membership. Congratulations to Wayne, Jerry and my home Assembly, 3007. Past State Deputy, Jerry Schmuck has done an outstanding job as District Master and all the honors garnered by the jurisdiction is a direct result of his dedication.

Brother Sir Knights, there has been much discussion since the announcement of the change to the regalia. I knew, when it was revealed at the Supreme Convention, that there would be plenty of resistance and resentment. Know this Brothers, State Deputies or District Masters were not consulted nor were we given a vote. Jerry and I both knew that we would have many Sir Knights decide just not to dress out anymore. This is truly regrettable. I, myself, remember (as a boy) seeing my grandfather and uncle Flitter Roberts dressed out in their regalia and thinking I wanted to do that. This change is hard but we have all taken a pledge to obey our elected officers and I hope when the initial shock wears off that we will decide to accept the new uniform. In many cases, this new look will just not be accepted. I can only hope that in time we can move forward and still be the most visible arm of the order.

God Bless,

Vivat Jesus,

Noel

## In Memory Warren Doiron

Jules "Warren" Doiron, Jr., 81, of Vicksburg, passed away at home on October 6, 2017. Born March 22, 1936, he was the eldest son of the late Jules Warren Doiron, Sr. and May L. Doiron. He is survived by his Wife of 58 years, Camille Carollo Doiron of Leland, MS and his brother, Greg Doiron (Shirley) of Mandeville, LA. Son, Mark Doiron of Madison, and Daughters, Whitney Doiron (Michelle) of NC and Sheri Doiron McBride (Jimmy) of Vicksburg. Grandchildren: Chad and Shelby Doiron, Ryan Raines (Priscilla), Sarah Raines, Candice Hicks (Matt), Thomas McBride (Candace), Shelby Walker (Chris) of Greenwood, Jay McBride (Amber) of Lexington, Billy and Abby Vadeboncoeur (NC). Great-Grandchildren: Hunter, Carly, Abbey, Brendon, Madison, Heidi, Jaylen, and his precious pet, Grits. Warren was affectionately known as the "Great One" among nieces and nephews and friends. Preceding him in death, his beautiful daughter, Barbara "Bobbi" Raines and his brother, Phillip Doiron, Sr. of Vicksburg. Warren was a graduate of St. Aloysius High School, a member of "The Brothers Boys" for the Flashes Football Team and Eagle Scout in Troop 7. He attended Mississippi State University and was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Warren was an Operations Manager for Chaney Oil Company, an Allstate Exclusive Insurance Agent and Real Estate Agent for Upchurch Realty before retiring to "CamWar", Warren and Camille's dream home. Due to health concerns, they moved back to Vicksburg to be close to family. Throughout his life, Warren was dedicated to his community. As a Jaycee, he was active with the Miss Mississippi Pageant and business manager for the first runner-up in the Miss America Pageant. Warren starred in several major plays and musicals with the Vicksburg Theater Guild. Warren believed in scouting. He established Boy Scout Troop 102 at St. Michael's Catholic Church. Warren was a member of the Lions Club and a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 898 for over sixty years where he was appointed District Marshal. As an outdoor enthusiast, Warren founded the Red Carpet Bass Master's club and enjoyed hunting and fishing with his wife and kids. During many Christmas seasons, Warren played "Santa" bringing joy to kids. With the guidance of Bishop Richard Gerow of the Jackson Catholic Diocese, Warren, his father and others helped with the establishment of St. Michael's Catholic Church. As a member, he was active in choir, known for singing "Ave Maria" and served as a Eucharist Minister where he ministered to the prison community. As important as community was, Warren and Camille put their family first. They spent countless hours supporting their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in academic, athletic and spiritual activities. Warren's humor will be remembered by all who knew and loved him. Camille's family jokingly adopted him as the only "Cajun" allowed to join their Delta Sicilian family which comprised of 14 brothers and sisters. He fondly told them "I improved the family." Classmates of Camille voted Warren as honorary member of Leland High School, "Class of 1958". From his kids, thank you, Daddy, for your unconditional love. Services will be held at St. Michael's Church (Vicksburg) Wednesday, October 11; Visitation at 10am and Mass at 11am. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Vicksburg Catholic Schools, St. Michael's Catholic Church, or PAWS Rescue, all in Vicksburg.



District Marshal Warren Doiron and Color Corp Commander Craig Harrell at the Cathedral of St. Peters in Jackson, MS for Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration on Dec 10, 2012.

The 1st time Warren and I met was in 2011 at a 4th Degree Exemplification that was held in Madison, MS. At that time, Warren was the Color Corp Commander for Vicksburg Assembly 558 and in charge of his Assemblies training and activities and I was a Sir Knight from Bishop R.O. Gerow Assembly participating in the Color Corps activities at the Madison exemplification. He and I hit it off right away and thus began our friendship. We participated together at several 4th Degree events.

In 2012 Bill O'Connor, who was the Marshal at the time, was selected to become the new Master of the District of Mississippi in the Bienville Province. He needed to find someone to succeed him as the Marshal for the Central District, which consisted of Assembly 558 in Vicksburg, Bishop R.O. Gerow Assembly 554 in Jackson and Bishop Brunini Assembly 2269 in Madison. A District Master prefers someone who is active in both the Council and the 4th Degree. Someone he can rely on for assistance and who is dedicated. He selected Warren. What a great selection it was!

That same year, I was appointed as the Color Corp Commander for Bishop R.O. Gerow Assembly 554 by Faithful Navigator Ed Jones. I was now in charge of all training and activities of the Color Corps for Bishop R.O. Gerow Assembly 554. Both Warren and I traveled the state, together at times, in support of District Master Bill O'Connor at 4th Degree exemplifications and events. During this time we met many brother Knights. We both served in our respective appointments until early 2014. I remember Warren calling me to inform me he was unable to continue. I'll never forget that call. It was an emotional conversation and I was blessed to be a friend he could share it with!

He was very passionate in his duties as the Marshal of the 4th Degree. A man that carried his responsibility as the Marshal of the Central District to the fullest. He enjoyed it immensely! Now, he would have to take a step back and it was not easy for him to do. Not long afterwards, District Master Bill O'Connor approached me to ask if I would consider taking on the position of Marshal for the Central District. I really didn't know if I was ready. Following Warren would be a big responsibility. He did such an amazing job as Marshal. I needed to think about it. A few days later, Warren called me to ask if I said yes and I told him I was thinking on it. He jokingly said, "I understand. I'm a hard act to follow, you know, with my charisma and good looks and how I carry myself. You learned from the best, son, ain't nothing

Heather and I saw Warren and Camille at a luau that the Vicksburg council held and he still had his great sense of humour. Heather and I spent a great deal of time that evening visiting with he and his wife, Camille. He always thanked me for bringing 'his girlfriend' (my wife, Heather) with me to any event he was present at.

In between occasional phone calls, I was fortunate to see Warren two more times, on Sept 30, 2016 at St. Joe's Homecoming game in Madison, MS and on May 18, 2017 at St. Joe's Monogram Induction Ceremony at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in Jackson, MS. He was at both events to support his grandchildren. The last picture I have of Warren and I was taken at that Homecoming game after our halftime Honor Guard event. During the Monogram ceremony in May, along with his wife Camille and other family members, he happened to be sitting about 3 feet directly in front of me as I participated with 5 other brother Knights in an Honor Guard. Well, knowing Warren and how he likes to cut up, I expected him to do or say something to me. Then, looking directly at me, he softly said, "Don't you smile, boy. Marshals don't smile. You better not smile". I looked away and felt my lips fighting the urge not to even show a hint of a smile. I held my composure for as long as I could until he said it a few more times and yeah, I smiled. Then he laughed and said, "I got ya!" Yes Warren, you got me!

I along with 15 Worthy Sir Knights representing all 3 Assemblies from the central district paid their respects by participating in the Honor Guard for Warren's visitation and funeral mass that was held on October 8 at St. Michael's in Vicksburg, MS., including Past State Deputy Jim McCraw (554), Past District Master Larry Roberts (2269), Past District Master Bill O'Connor (554), Charles Hahn (558), John Piazza (558), Van Stewart (558), Tony Dardeau (558), Mike Ruggles (558), Paul Donovan (558), Allen Derivaux (558), Robert Foley (558), Don Brown (558), Steve Miller (554), Johnny Biggert (2269), and Dan Artman (2269). State Secretary Philip Jabour was also present at the visitation and mass.

To you my friend, I bid farewell. Thank you for your friendship, your guidance, your dedication to the Knights of Columbus, your leadership, your humour and for enriching the lives of so many individuals who were fortunate to have known you.

Vivat Jesus!

Craig S. Harrell

Marshal District 5

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Jackson, MS  
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## **Regional meetings**

### **Jan 6 11:30- 3:30 Southern Regional**

Ocean Springs - 421 Washington Ave Ocean Springs, MS 39564

#### **Required**

State Officers (coat & tie)

Membership & Program Directors (coat & tie)

Southern region District Deputies (red polo shirt & dress slacks)

Southern region Council Officers/ Chairmen (casual dress)

#### **Optional**

Individual Program Directors/Chairmen (State shirt & dress slacks)

### **Jan 7 12:00- 4:00 Central Regional**

St Richard Jackson - 1242 Lynnwood Drive Jackson, MS 39206

#### **Required**

State Officers (coat & tie)

Membership & Program Directors (coat & tie)

Central region District Deputies (red polo shirt & dress slacks)

Central region Council Officers/ Chairmen (casual dress)

#### **Optional**

Individual Program Directors/Chairmen (State shirt & dress slacks)

### **Jan 13 11:30- 3:30 Northern Regional**

Grenada- 320 College Blvd Grenada, MS 38901

#### **Required**

State Officers (coat & tie)

Membership & Program Directors (coat & tie)

Northern region District Deputies (red polo shirt & dress slacks)

Northern region Council Officers/ Chairmen (casual dress)

#### **Optional**

Individual Program Directors/Chairmen (State shirt & dress slacks)

## **By the Numbers**

**St. Teresa of Avila:** “Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless his people.”

135 years of Service to our God, our Church and our Communities.

15,589 Councils

\$177.5 million and 75 million hours of volunteer service donated last year.

\$1,622,606,995 donated in last decade.

\$105 Billion of life insurance in force.

Coats for Kids – 394,722 since 2009 in 49 states and all 10 Canadian Provinces.

Food for Families – in 2016 3 million pounds of food and almost \$1.6 million.

Global Wheelchair Mission – more than 64,000 in the last 8 yrs.

PID – Last year 300,000 hours volunteered and over \$4 million to Special Olympics and another \$4.2 million to other programs.

Habitat for Humanity – Last year \$600,000 and over 1 million hours donated.

Blood Donors – more than 400,000 last year.

Youth Athletics - \$1.7 million.

Scholarships - \$7.6 million from local councils and \$1.3 million from Supreme.

Christian Refugee Relief – \$13 million last three years.

Smart Homes for disabled veterans – 3 sponsored by Knights in partnership with Gary Sinise.

Ultrasound Machines – 829 valued at over \$40 million in all 50 states and Canada.

Military Chaplains Scholarship Fund – nearly \$2 million.

A short quick read on the good works that you do. More members mean more good works. Never stop evangelizing our Catholic population. You are changing people's lives!

Bryan V. Cassagne

State Membership Director

## BISHOP GEROW (PRIEST EDUCATION) NOVEMBER INPUT TO NEWSLETTER

### APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> DONATION DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING

Some organizations have already made their donation and this is exciting because it shows your support for our Bishops and seminarians (our future priests).

Your treasurer and I are starting our dialog to ensure our records match. This will allow us to present checks to each of our bishops at the convention and to inform them of your hard work raising funds in support of this program.

**Remember** our Goal is **100% Participation** by all Councils, Assemblies and Ladies Auxiliaries.

Please attempt to make your donation prior to the above deadline to minimize the record keeping during convention. If that is not feasible, I will be in the Convention Registration Area to accept your donations.

Vivat Jesus  
Don Cox

### Council 9094 Right to Life Crosses



On Sept. 30, the Knights of Columbus D'Iberville Council 9094 placed crosses in front of Sacred Hearth Church to remind parishioners about the Right to Life Month and the sanctity of life in all of its stages.

### Council 9094 Patriotic Degree



Members of the Color Corps and Honor Guard with the Master of the 4th Degree  
Jerry Schmuck



On October 28, the C. Mark Landry Asseblly 3007 in D'Iberville held a 4th degree and welcomed in 18 new members. Congrats to all our new Sir Knights.



## Cardinal Fest Chili Cookoff 2017

Once again Council 15131 was the overwhelming People Choice winners, The award winning 2017 chili cooking team consists of Robert Stedman, Raymond Spratley, Greg Hampton, and Louis Clifford.

I want to send out a big appreciation to Micah Carrington, Andre DeGury, Dave Fisher, and Harold Hardin for their service during the Fest. Robert Munroe SK, GK

Just another example of Knights of Columbus Council 15131 effectively serving St Richard Parish, School and Community.



## St Richard School third annual White Mass.

The White Mass was held on October 18 celebrated by Fr. John Bohn honoring doctors, nurses, and other medical specialists. The Knights of Columbus Council 15131 of St Richard Catholic Church provided a brunch after Mass. The children of St Richard's made gift bags for all that attended the brunch after Mass.



## Bishop R.O. Gerow Assembly 554 Officers Installation



Front L-R: Kay and Bill Addie (Inter Sentinel), Lynn and Ed Jones (Faithful Admiral)  
2<sup>nd</sup> row: Toni and Bob Butkowski (Faithful Purser), Martha and Dave Fisher (Faithful Navigator)  
3<sup>rd</sup> row: Steve Miller (Faithful Pilot), Dorinda and Mike Kirby (Faithful Trustee), Craig Harrell (Faithful Captain)

## Patriotic Degree Bishop R. O. Gerow Assembly 554



A total of 17 - 3rd Degree members including Fr. Alben and Deacon Nick Adam along with 3 members from Louisiana completed their journey into full Knighthood at a Patriotic Degree hosted by Bishop R.O. Gerow Assembly 554 at St. Richards in Jackson, MS honoring Past District Master Larry Roberts for his 31 years of service as a team member. This was Larry's last 4th Degree exemplification as a team member.





## Grenada Council 10443 Admission Degree



Front row new members : John Michael McDaniel, Manuel Calero and Patrick Mardis.

Back row: Buddy Honeycutt (District Deputy), Lee Munstenteiger (Trustee) and Jerry Guilambo ( Deputy Grand Knight).



An Honor Guard escorts the procession of the statue of the Blessed Mother during the Consecration of the Diocese by Bishop Kopacz in Jackson

## Honor Guard for St. Joe's Homecoming Game in Madsion, MS



L-R: Marshal Craig Harrell, PDM Larry Roberts, CCC Johnny Biggert, CCC Steve Miller, SK John Wren