# KENTUCKY MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER STATE COUNCIL



Fr. Roy Dentinger Council #390 formed a team in Louisville to do the Polar Plunge for Ky. Special Olympics.

Continued on page 9



#### STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

Tempus Fugit - Memento Mori...Time Flies - Remember Death. Those are the Watchwords of our Order. Those Watchwords don't just apply to you or I, they apply to our councils, The Knights of Columbus, our Catholic Church and even our beloved country. Brothers, we have entered the second half of our Fraternal Year. Some councils have had a great first half, some are running as usual, and some are struggling to survive. Your future and that of your councils depend on you. We will celebrate new councils, anguish over lost councils and be thankful for the councils that continue to move forward and help strengthen our Catholic men and their families. We have a responsibility to recruit and evangelize. We have a responsibility to be "Good and Faithful Servants". Thank you for all that you do!



Tom Johnson SD

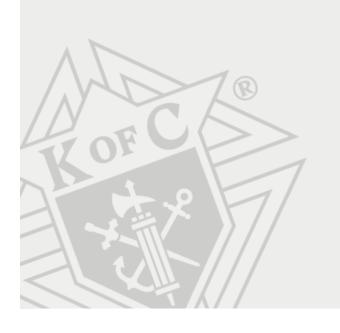
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#### **KY State Council Newsletter**

#### **Chief Editor**

Cameron Peck PSD, FDM

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#### **Contributions**

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# KOFC IMMACULATA VISIT

#### Brother Knights,

Two years ago, when I took over the reins of the KY Jurisdiction, I announced that one of my goals was to support our Catholic schools. Some progress has been made but not nearly enough. I appreciate and I wish to thank those councils that have supported our Catholic schools. With that said, not all councils have the privilege of belonging to a parish where they have a school. And then, there are a few Catholic schools within the State that are independent of a parish yet are deeply devoted to teaching our young Catholic students and help grow in their Catholic Faith. Immaculata Classical Academy is one of those schools.

I had the good fortune of meeting the school principal Justin Fout and hearing the students sing at the Right To Life March on January 23rd in Frankfort. I was not familiar with Immaculata, but I was quite impressed by their manners and their voices. Many of the hymns that they sang in Latin brought back memories of my days as a server. A true reverence for the celebration of the Holy Mass.

I had the opportunity to visit Immaculata Classical Academy on February 28th. You see, by taking the time to say hello to Justin before mass, I learned that he is a brother knight, and I learned that that fathers of several of the students were also brother knights. This led to the invitation to visit the school campus and open a discussion on how the Knights of Columbus could partner with our Catholic High Schools to not only promote the Knights of Columbus but to also offer these young men an opportunity to continue the Catholic education in college or in working with strong men of faith...the Knights of Columbus.



An interesting twist was that while he has been a Knight for several years, he had no idea that the Knights of Columbus offered numerous scholarship opportunities, produced videos and provided so much support to seminarians through the RSVP program, helping feed families through the Food for Families program or the level of support provided by the ASAP programs. He even mentioned that there were several students discerning a religious vocation.

## IMMACULATA CONT.

We had a good meeting, and I was invited to attend mass with the school children. I especially enjoyed seeing the faces and reverence of the little ones. **Precious indeed!** 

# Unapologetically Catholic / Classical Liberal Arts Curriculum / Whole Person, Whole Family

Immaculata Classical Academy is an independent Catholic, classical school for the whole family, including children with special needs. We serve children in the Louisville area from preschool through high school.

Their mission is to provide a rigorous, Catholic, classical liberal arts education to young people so that they may become virtuous men and women who seek to know, love, and serve God. A true education must consist of more than intellectual formation; it must have as its goal the development of the whole person, mind, body and soul. This of course requires the right kind of teacher, which we have consistently sought since the school's beginning: a person who is highly qualified and knows his/her subject intimately, but most importantly, is striving for holiness.



Take Care & God Bless,

Tom

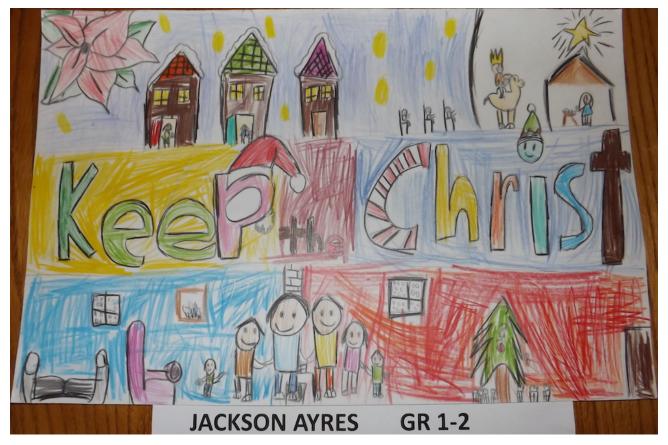
KY State Deputy

# KEEP CHEST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Below are photos of the State Winners of the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. They have been forwarded to Supreme to be considered on the national level.



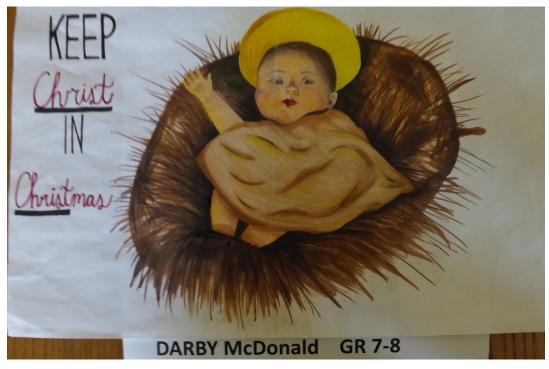
# WINNERS CONT.





# WINNERS CONT.





# PROVIDING BEDS FOR THE HOMELESS

February 28th, 2024 was a "Big Day" for The Gathering Place Mission in Georgetown, KY. On this day The Mission celebrated the opening of their newly renovated men's shelter with a ribbon cutting ceremony, facility tour and cake!

Members of St John St Francis Council 11470 in Georgetown, KY donated funds raised from their annual golf tournament to purchase new beds and bedding to help furnish the newly renovated "men's shelter". The Gathering Place Mission Director, Heather Johnson, thanked the members of Council 11470 for their generous donation of \$8,500. "This most generous donation has enabled The Gathering Place Mission to purchase 12 additional beds and bedding to provide a warm place for 12 additional men to come and rest in their time of need".

In addition to the financial support provided by the council, the council provides meals to the mission on the 6 Fridays of Lent.

#### Submitted by Tom Johnson



left to right: Kimbal Ford, Board President, Tom Johnson, KY State Deputy, Heather Johnson, Executive Director, Tim Stout, Grand Knight, Steve Stewart, Dick Schweitzer, Oscar Chavarria of Council 11470.



# **POLAR PLUNGE**

Fr. Roy Dentinger Council #390 formed a team in Louisville to do the Polar Plunge for Ky. Special Olympics that took place on February 24 at the Main Event in Louisville. Brother Bob Lescinski and four other team members raised \$2281, a new record for the council, and they took the plunge using the name, the Polar Knights.

Submitted by: Paul Tadatada PGK









# SPECIAL OLYMPICS

#### 2024 Salute to Summer Games

First, thank you to you Msgr. James Willett Council #7847, which has already made the first donation in support of this year's Knights of Columbus Salute to Summer Games.

The Salute to Summer Games is back for a fifth year. Once again, with the support of the State Deputy, the Salute to Summer Games has returned as a Knights of Columbus-specific campaign. From now through the 2024 State Summer Games (scheduled for May 31-June 2 at Eastern Kentucky University), individual Knights and Councils across the state will have an opportunity to raise money to support Special Olympics with the goal being to add the Knights of Columbus as an official State Summer Games sponsor.

The Salute web site (sokysalute.com) will go live on or before March 15. So, your March Council Meeting is a great way to talk about your Council's support. There are two ways to take part. You can:

- Identify a team captain, sign your Council up online at sokysoalute.com and raise money online. You can support the Salute this way without using any Council money.
- Make a direct donation to the Salute to Summer Games.
   If your Council does decide to make a donation, it can be sent to:

Special Olympics Kentucky Attn: Salute to Summer Games 105 Lakeview Court Frankfort, KY 40601

Council donations will appear on the Kentucky Knights of Columbus page on the Salute Web site.

Last Year's Salute to Summer Games was our most successful ever, with nearly 50 Councils working together to raise or contribute more than \$13,300. Our goal again this year is to raise \$12,000 (or about \$1 for every Knight in the state.

More communications about the Salute will be coming to Grand Knights soon. If you have any questions, contact Mark Buerger at <a href="mailto:mbuerger@soky.org">mbuerger@soky.org</a>.



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONT.

#### **Spring Provides Statewide Volunteer Opportunities**

The Special Olympics Kentucky Spring Sports Season offers opportunities across the state for Councils to support Special Olympics competitions as volunteers. There will be a track and field meet in nearly every region of Kentucky. There are also two regional soccer tournaments where volunteers are needed. No sports experience is necessary for most of the positions. Upcoming events include:

April 13 - Area 5 Track and Field Meet - Bowling Green High School

April 20 - Area 1 Track and Field Meet - Calloway County High School, Murray

April 20 - Area 2 Track and Field Meet - Owensboro Middle School

April 20 - Area 3 & 9 Track and Field Meet - Johnson Central High School, Paintsville

April 20 - Area 8 Track and Field Meet - Great Crossing High School, Georgetown

April 21 - Versailles Regional Soccer Tournament; WYSA Complex, Versailles

April 27 - Area 6 Track and Field Meet - Southwestern High School, Somerset

April 27 - Area 7 Track and Field Meet - Ryle High School, Union

April 28 - Louisville Regional Tournament; Lynn Family Training Center, Louisville

May 11 - Area 4 Track and Field Meet - Mercy High School, Louisville

For more information about how your Council can volunteer, contact Michaele Roy at <a href="mroy@soky.org">mroy@soky.org</a>. To register to volunteer, visit <a href="https://soky.org/volunteernow/">https://soky.org/volunteernow/</a>.





# STATE DEPUTY TOM JOHNSON

#### **State Deputy's Report:**

Brother's we've made some strong moves in our **UPHILL** battle. Eight months have passed with 4 months to go. So where do we stand...

**Membership** – 247 members against a target of 465 or 53.12%. We've had a good February and gained a little ground. We're still 218 members behind. That means we need 55 members per month for each of the four remaining months.

**Under 50 intake** – 119 against a target of 225 or 52.89%. That shows that 51% of our new members are under 50 and that's a good thing!

**Online Membership** – 149 against a target of 217 or 68.66%. That number will increase once the Feb numbers are sent in by Supreme.

**Founders Award** – I have a hard time believing that only 2 councils have been credited for attending two Fraternal Benefit Nights with the required number of attendees. Guys, you have several opportunities to attend a FBN over the next several months. Don't miss out on Star Council because you wouldn't give an hour of your time to learn about a benefit that will serve you and your family for years to come.

# JOHNSON CONT.

**Faith Formation** – 2 against a target of 3. This will be completed at the upcoming State Convention.

New Council Development – 1 against a target of 2. We're running out of time if we hope to achieve this goal.

**Membership Drives** – 23 form 450's have been turned in by your DDs. This simply tells me thatour councils are not performing exemplifications. I can also see that in the number of assigned online e-members that have not been asked to join a council. Shame on us.

**Council Engagement** or rather Every Council recruiting at least 1 member – 69 against a target of 100 or 69%. If the other 31 councils recruited one member, we would be headed in the right direction.

**Charitable Giving** - \$969,341 against a target of \$850,000 or 114%. Wow! Great Job everyone. Many thanks!

**Volunteer Hours** – 209,539 against a target of 200,000 or 104.77%. These numbers will only go higher if and when all councils would turn in their Annual Survey Report 1728. The bottom line to all of this is that we have 31 councils that have a good shot at achieving Star Council. If that happens, it will be the most Star Councils within the KY Jurisdiction in a given Fraternal Year in recent memory. Good luck to those 31 councils! To the other 69 councils...the ball is in your court. You either want it or you don't. I'm here to help, but you have to do the work.

# JOHNSON CONT.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember**: Your councils should be gearing up for all the upcoming activities over the next several months.

#### MARCH:

- March 2nd Diocese of Lexington was established by Saint Pope John Paul II in 1988.
- March 10th Daylight Saving time begins.
- March 15th is the last day to submit a resolution for consideration at the State Convention in May.
- March 17th St Patrick's Day
- March 30th Archbishop Shelton Fabre was installed as the Archbishop of Louisville 1 year ago.
- March 29th is Good Friday
- March 31st is Easter Sunday

#### **APRIL**

- April 10th is the deadline for all past due bills to be paid if a council wishes to have voting rights at the State Convention
- April 15th Federal & State Income Tax Day
- · April 26th thru the 28th State Convention in Frankfort

#### MAY

- May 5th Bishop John Stowe was installed as Bishop of Lexington in 2015
- May 12th Mother's Day

These are just a few that quickly come to mind. I'm sure there are many more.

# JOHNSON CONT.

#### **HEADS-UP!**

Did you know that part of the National Eucharistic Revival will be passing through Kentucky on its way to Indianapolis? That's right, the Southern route, known as the Juan Diego route, will be entering KY from TN on or around June 30th. It will be in Franklin, Auburn, Bowling Green area until July 4th when it then travels to New Haven, KY, and various sites within the Louisville archdiocese until July 9th when it moves into Indiana. What an opportunity and blessing for all KY Catholics.

I am working with State Secretary Luke Williams to develop a plan that we hope many of the councils and members will be able to participate in.

Stay Tuned for additional details!

Take Care & God Bless, Tom Johnson State Deputy



# STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JOHN LIST

"Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified."

Who are the "Jews" of our times, and who are the "Greeks"? What kind of "signs" and what kind of "wisdom" are the currency of our contemporary society? We know that Paul had an ongoing battle with the Judaizers who were insisting on circumcision and dietary restrictions as necessary adherence to the Torah. Jesus also took issue with the Pharisees and the scribes who criticized his followers for a failure to observe purification rituals, among other things. So perhaps the first group are presented today among those who disparage the orthodoxy of the Holy Father when he encourages us to reach out to those on the fringes: "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them!"

Greeks seeking wisdom... Remember the welcome that Paul received from the Athenians when he spoke of the "unknown God" who created the universe? And the immediate rebuff when he spoke of a "resurrection from the dead"? Today we call this "thinking outside the box", but how hard it is when someone presents a perspective that does not fit the parameters of our principles. I admit, I find it difficult. But as I look back over the journey of my soul (and I know I still have a long way to go), the most memorable insights have always come after climbing over some mountain of my presumption, or after having passed through some valley of emotional turmoil.

# FR. JOHN CONT.

"We proclaim Christ crucified..." Only when I nail my ego to the cross is my soul opened to the grace of God. Allow me to share two such moments, one emotional and one intellectual. After my grandfather passed while in my first year of theology, something slammed shut in my relationship with God. It wasn't exactly anger, just a cold distance. Four years later, now in my second year of theology, a young nephew passed; this time the "sword of sorrow" put me on my knees- and my heart was opened to the Father's tender compassion. The rational revolution I experienced is a bit more complicated, but it centered on a significant development in tribunal ministry which took place almost ten years ago. At that point I had been in this particular ministry for over twenty years, so I thought I had a pretty good handle on the requirements. Then Pope Francis issued a motu proprio designed to make the ministry much more pastoral, but my initial response was something like, "He can't do that, can he?" Turns out, he could, and a subsequent dive into the history of said ministry showed me that the "change" was more consistent with the longer history than my self-assured (read "selfrighteous") conception. "The Sabbath was made for man..."

May your Lenten journey carry you over Calvary, all the way to the empty tomb.

Vivat Jesus! Fr. John List State Chaplain



# STATE SECRETARY LUKE WILLIAMS

#### January 2024-Kentucky State Per Capita Billing Update

As of February 29th, I have received payment from 79 of 99 Councils (80%). This is a great number considering last year at this time we only received payment from 67% of our councils. I would like to personally thank all those paid Councils for helping me with the job I do as State Secretary. I will be sending reminders again to the Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries and District Deputies of those Councils who have not responded with payment or acknowledgement that the statement was received by their council. If any council feels they need help with anything, please contact the State Deputy or any State Officer. The assessment must be paid before the 2024 State Convention to avoid being denied delegate representation.

#### **KY State Convention Delegate Certification**

Delegate Certification Forms for the 2024 State Convention to be held April 26-28, 2024 in Frankfort, KY were sent to Grand Knights and District Deputies on January 29,2024. "Certified" Delegates have voting rights on resolutions and Elections at the convention. These certified Delegates also receive mileage reimbursement from the State for attendance to the Convention if their Council is current on per capita payment and the State Secretary has the completed Delegate Certification form.

It is the District Deputy's responsibility to ensure that each of his councils have sufficient time to complete and return the forms by the established deadline. The forms must be completed and distributed as specified in Article I of the KY State Bylaws. Each Council is to submit one copy of the completed Delegate Certification Form to the District Deputy, retain one copy for their records and send one form to the State Secretary to arrive no later than **April 17th**, **2024**. I an anticipating a large group of attendees this

## WILLIAMS CONT.

year since the Convention is being held 3 weeks earlier that usual. Please send in the Council Delegate Forms early.

In the event duly elected Delegates are unable to attend meetings; Alternates whose names are stated on the form will be recognized. I look forward to seeing many of you in April!

NOTE: You do not have to be a delegate to attend the State Convention proceedings but do have to have a valid Membership Card to enter the business meetings. Let me know if you wish to attend the Convention and we will make sure you have the information needed.

#### **KY State Convention Annual Report**

I am in the process of putting together the "Kentucky State Council 2023-2024 Annual Report" for the upcoming State Convention. This report includes documents and reports presented at the 2023 State Convention that was held May 19-21, 2023. The Annual Report will also include 2023 Reports from State Committees, current State Officers, District Deputies, Service Program Chairmen, and Directors. The Resolutions to be considered at the 2024 State Convention and the Candidate for State Officers that the State Advocate sends out before the Convention, will be included in this Annual Report which will be distributed at the 2024 State Convention.

I want to bring up 4 (Four) important tasks needed for upcoming deadlines dealing with the State Convention meeting in April....

- 1. The local Council Delegate selection/certification process should begin immediately and return the completed document to the State Secretary by April 17, 2024. Completed Delegate forms can be mailed via USPS. The State Secretary will also accept scanned or photographed forms sent via text message or they can be emailed. If anyone has a question about this process, please contact me.
- 2. Resolutions from local Councils must be filed with the State Advocate by March 15th. The State Advocate will send those Resolutions deemed constitutional, to each council of the jurisdiction no later than April 15th.
- 3. Per Capita statements that are not paid before the State Convention mean the local Councils delegates will not have a vote at the Convention or will be reimbursed for meeting expenses.

## WILLIAMS CONT.

4. The request has been sent recently to District Deputies, State Officers, Service Program Chairmen and Directors asking them to submit their 2024 reports by March 24th at the latest. Please make sure your District Deputy has an accurate description of all the great activities your council has done (or is on your schedule and will done by June 30, 2024). The success of the Kentucky State Council 2023-2024 Annual Report depends on the input I receive so start on your reports early and answer the call for reports when it goes out.

#### **KY KofC State Convention "Program" Advertisement**

I humbly ask anyone with a Business or Business contact to please consider placing an Ad in this year's 2024 KY KofC State Convention Program that will be distributed at the Convention. All money raised from the Ads pays for the printing and any remaining funds help offset all costs of the Convention which includes meeting, banquet, and hospitality spaces. If you need more information, please contact the KY KofC Convention Chairman Steve O'Bryan at his email contact. <a href="mailto:obky13@gmail.com">obky13@gmail.com</a>

#### St. Juan Diego National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is coming to Kentucky!

The details are posted as of last Friday....We can now Register for the Events and Destinations with dates and times now on the links listed below. The KY State Council will be sending more details for local Councils to be a cooperative part of the St. Juan Diego Pilgrimage events from June 30th till it crosses the river into Indiana on July 9th. You can start your pilgrimage now by visiting the Eucharist in any church near you!

#### **Diocese of Owensboro**

https://events.blackthorn.io/en/DnDCa1K7/g/juandiego/juan-diego-route-diocese-of-owensboro-4a2PDnqpRV/overview

#### **Archdiocese of Louisville**

https://events.blackthorn.io/en/DnDCa1K7/g/juandiego/juan-diego-route-archdiocese-of-louisville-4a2PDnqpRw/overview

## WILLIAMS CONT.

#### And finally...

We have been in the Lenton season for 2 ½ weeks now and I am hopeful that all are getting the graces necessary to find that person our Lord wants us to be. There are so many distractions going on around us and Lent is a time for us all to be still so we can search for the love and peace necessary to be better Disciples. Make your way to confession soon and go before the Eucharist with Prayers for a successful search during Lent.

Vivat Jesus, Luke Williams KY State Secretary



# STATE TREASURER DICK BURNS

Brothers Knights,

#### Tempus Fugit!

Wow, two thirds of the way through the Fraternal Year! Doesn't seem that long since the last convention when the delegates gave me the honor of serving you as your State Treasurer for a second term. I'm continuing to learn a lot, and I'm getting a feel for how much more I have to learn about the business of the State.

The State Officers met last month to review the Resolutions for this year's State Convention in Frankfort. They were the standard boiler plate resolutions that we make every year: Annual Budget, In Support of, and In Memory of. We haven't received any resolutions from the Councils yet. You have until March 15th to get them to State Advocate Gary Dykuis.

#### Celebrate!

Two Councils have significant Anniversaries in February.

- Msgr. Braun Council 17257 in Owensboro celebrates its 5th anniversary on St. Patrick's Day March 17th
- St. Joseph Council 12354 in Mt. Washington celebrates its 25th anniversary March 1st

#### Recruit! and Retain! (or else...)

We have 14 Councils that are only 1 or 2 new members from reaching their quota. When they get them, they'll join these councils which have already met or exceeded their membership quota.

## BURNS CONT.

- Council 5453 in Hebron (160%)
- Council 7847 in Hopkinsville (143%)
- Council 12965 in Oak Grove (200%)
- Council 14128 in Somerset (240%)
- Council 14290 in Owensboro (100%)
- Council 15063 in Pikeville (120%)
- Council 15452 in Lexington (120%)
- Council 18126 in Shelbyville (140%)

It can be done, and these councils are well on their way to achieving Star Council status! And a Well Done! to the 3 Councils who recruited their first new members for the fraternal year in January:

- · Fr. DeJaco Council 5220 in Alexandria
- Bishop Soenneker Council 10725 in Owensboro
- Monsignor Braun Council 17247 in Owensboro

That still leaves 32 "active" Councils that haven't recruited a new member yet. Whether or not your Council has a church drive, you can and should be asking Catholic men to join the order and take advantage of being a member of the Knights of Columbus. I'm sure you know men at church who aren't members and who could benefit from it (hint: every Catholic man will benefit from being a Knight!). As our State Membership Director Fr. Phil DeVous so eloquently put it "Recruiting is evangelizing, and evangelizing is recruiting"!

If we don't invite others to join, our councils will slowly die. We've got several in that shape right now.

Use online membership to get new members that benefit, and get them into the Order quickly. Hold frequent new Exemplifications to get them into your Council quickly, and then get them involved in one of your programs right away to help keep them interested and help you retain them.

### BURNS CONT.

If each Knight asks 4 men a year to join the Order, and only one of them says yes, you'll still double the size of your council. If you don't ask, you don't grow!

#### **Changing of the Guard!**

The State Officers and State Convention co-chairs are gearing up for our 121st Convention, which we've moved to the last weekend in April this year in order to avoid conflict with graduations and other May events. It'll be held in Frankfort at the Capital Plaza Hotel. It's time to make reservations.

This year is the year when the State Officers' two-year terms expire and we'll have a vacancy for State Warden. If you're interested in becoming a State Officer, consult the State Advocate Gary Dykhuis on the candidacy process.

I hope to see representatives from every Council there! It's a great time to meet brothers from all over the Commonwealth, to conduct the business of the Jurisdiction, and to have fun!

Vivat Jesus! Dick Burns State Treasurer

Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works. James 2:18



# STATE ADVOCATE GARY DYKHUIS

Worthy Brothers,

#### Resolutions for 2024!!

March 15th is coming, that is the date that councils can submit a Resolution to be considered at the State Convention. This year our State Convention is April 27-28, 2024. If your Council has a Resolution, please get it to the State Advocate, with copies to the State Deputy and State Secretary. Resolutions committee will review them and make recommendations to all the Delegates at the Business Meeting. Each Resolution will be opened for discussion and voted on. The Resolutions that deal with matters beyond our Jurisdiction will be submitted to the Supreme Advocate for consideration at the Supreme Convention.

The Liturgical Season, has a short Ordinary time followed by Lent, with Ash Wednesday on February 14th. What is your Lenten Sacrifice? I look forward to the Fish Frys, but also taking time for Daily Mass and the Stations of the Cross at least once this year. Have a Blessed Lent.

#### **Council Forms**

If you have not submitted "Form 1295 Semiannual Council Audit Report" please take time to get it in. This is for the period ending December 31st. this report is Due February 15th. It is also IRS For 990 time again.

As of this Newsletter, there are still 2 councils that have not submitted **Form 185** "Report of Officers Chosen for the year." There are also 27 Councils that have not submitted a **Form 365**, "Service Program Personnel Report."

Again, if you have not submitted "Form 1726 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity" please take the time to complete as it was due on January 31, this is a very important, also. Make sure each member has a chance to report their activities.

## DYKHUIS CONT.

#### Safe Environment Training

If you missed the e-mail, please resubmit Form 365, with the name only of the brother that missed the e-mail and are past the time limit. If you have completed this training in the last 2 years, the training is good for three years. We can make Kentucky's "Safe Environment Training "goal. This means, Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director need to complete the training. The same requirement is for youth helping you in your events (Fish fries, pancake breakfast, chicken cooks). If you need help, please call any State Officer, or me (270-828-6164 or 703-625-6735), we are available.

#### **Recruit and Retain**

We are in a New Fraternal Year; we have four months to recruit New Members and Families in our Kentucky Knights of Columbus order. This is a great time, with "Lenten Fish Fries" to recruit a new member, maybe it is the man that is helping. Use the online on your cell phone to sign them up. It is also a Great Time to invite those High School Seniors and First Year College Students to a meeting. Use "Into the Brech Video "as a recutting tool. It is a great Gift that needs to be offered to every Catholic man and his Family. There still is **FREE MEMBERSHIP**. for a New Member and he can join on his iPhone, cell phone by going to www.KofC.Org. The new **Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**. The new Young Members and Families have the Best Ideas and know some of best practices. Make sure you are checking your "Prospect Report" for new online members, call them and invite them to your council meeting.

Please remember, Supreme has the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on line or you can read the ceremony, the best way is to hold an Exemplification after a Sunday MASS. You can invite the congregation to be a part. This is a Great way to have a New Third-Degree member, with some Great New Ideas and can help with our projects the Council has. Please welcome former members to come back to the order. Ask any Affiliate Member to come back.

Vivat Jesus, Gary Dykhuis State Advocate



# STATE WARDEN MIKE KUCHENBROD

#### Worthy Brothers,

We are in to the last half of the fraternal year, and we need to keep our goals in our sights. With our fish fries happening, this is great time to recruit new members. Have your Membership director or Chancellor work on having extra volunteers around for these events, it is a good chance to socialize with parishioners and have that conversation about what it means to be a knight and how easy it is to join.

We also have opportunities for Fraternal Benefits nights coming up over the next several months:

- March 13th with Asset Advisors
- April 2nd Retirement and Distribution Planning with Financial Advisor Ed Slott
- May 6th TBD
- May 13th TBD
- May 15th TBD
- May 22nd with Asset Advisors

Those with TBD are still in planning, so watch for them.

I am sure more information will be available as we get closer to these events, remember your councils need to attend 2 of these (with sufficient numbers). This is the easiest part of the Star Council requirements, plan ahead so you have enough attendance. Earn points early to qualify for more awards at the State Convention in May.

By this time, councils should be wrapping up their ticket sales and writing that check for any cash that was collected during ticket sales. Use this Friday to sell those last tickets and get them turned in to your council chairman running the program so they can get the sold tickets and funds collected.

## KUCHENBROD CONT.

Please make checks payable to "Kentucky Knights of Columbus State Charities". Please Do Not Send Cash. I will need Tickets sold, unsold and Checks by March 8, 2024. You can check results at www.basketballsweeps.com, starting April 10, 2024.

State Charity Recipients – Recipients of Grants from the Kentucky Knights of Columbus Charity are not restricted to Catholics or religious based needs. The Charity is financially sound, and councils and individuals are encouraged to submit for a grant for a worthy cause.

You can find the grant request information in the program guide on pages 39-40 which is available at <a href="http://kykofc.wpengine.com/programs/overview-and-guide/">http://kykofc.wpengine.com/programs/overview-and-guide/</a>.

Vivat Jesus, Mike Kuchenbrod State Warden



# DISTRICT MASTER JOE CARTER

# "Patriotically Promoting Our Faith, Walking Humbly with God"

Many of you have already heard what I am about to mention. I can almost hear the "Here we go again!" comments. Nevertheless, despite the background noise, I will continue.

When we joined the Knights of Columbus, we swore our commitment to Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Those of us who completed the Patriotic Degree, are additionally committed to Patriotism. Charity and Patriotism are **primarily** commitments to care for and protect individuals outside of the Knights of Columbus, while Unity and Fraternity are commitments to care for, protect, and honor those within the Knights of Columbus. In other words, fifty percent (50%) of our obligations are to each other.

#### Unity

Early on in elementary school, teachers taught me that unity was the state of forming a complete object from many individual items. Unity was described as a harmonious bringing together of multiple elements whether those elements be inanimate or human. As I grew physically and spiritually, the Bible augmented my understanding of unity. In fact, the notion of unity is so powerful it is mentioned ten (10) times in the Bible. In the Bible, unity is seen as the unity of believers through the Holy Spirit, and ultimate unity among all believers through Jesus Christ. It is a divine gift that brings God success, growth, and glory.

# Psalm 133:1, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

This verse immediately sets the tone for the biblical meaning of unity. It is something good, something pleasant, something to be desired. In the original language of the Bible the word for unity was ἐνότης, pronounced henotes (hen -ott-ace) which means "Oneness".

#### **Fraternity**

A fraternity is a group of men formally organized for a common purpose, interest, or pleasure. At its core, "Fraternity" evokes a sense of communal belonging, a shared destiny, and a collective purpose.

Wikipedia says, "A fraternity (from Latin frater: "brother"; whence, "brotherhood"). A fraternal organization is an organization, society, club, or fraternal order traditionally of men associated together for various religious or secular aims...Fraternity in the Western concept developed in the Christian context, notably with the religious orders in the Catholic Church during the Middle Ages."

We are the Knights of Columbus! In times of trouble or sorrow, we comfort each other, we console each other, and reassure each other that no one is alone. We also pray for each other. We are One! So goes one so goes all!

In recent years, our brotherhood has been infested with the primary enemy of Oneness. An enemy so corrupting it has been labeled a Cardinal Sin. I am talking about - Pride. A person's inability to subordinate their desire to the wishes of the group is being prideful. When you search the internet, you will discover that the basic meaning of the word pride comes from the Ancient Greek word ὕβρις pronounced hubris. It is related to the need for victory instead of reconciliation (even if it does not always mean winning). This is an insidious enemy. It poses as a friend, helper, sympathizer, and supporter; but instead, it is skillfully manipulating the victim's separation from the fraternal unit. This enemy's notion of Oneness is truly Oneness - itself.

One of the most recent examples of the enemy at work is of course the change of the Patriotic Degree Uniform.

There are agents of the enemy who imply that the change in uniform is a dreadful thing. The reasons given for it being so horrible are:

- I just spent money to buy the old regalia.
- Everybody likes the old regalia.
- My priest/bishop does not want us to change uniforms.
- I wanted to pass my uniform to my son/grandson when I die so he could wear it.
- The new uniform cost too much.
- The new uniform makes us look like Prep School students.

I am very much sympathetic to the financial burden purchasing the new regalia imposes on some. I encourage all assemblies to brainstorm and explore as many possibilities as possible to help members purchase the uniform.

I have also heard some of the other comments, but not in the context the enemy would have you believe. They were not expressed preferentially. They were mentioned in the context of they would miss the old uniform, not that they were against the current uniform. When I wear the current uniform, all I receive are compliments and so will you.

I like the way Bishop Perez, who at the time was the See of Cleveland, explained the change in uniform to a complaining Sir Knights in his parish.

"Change is difficult," Bishop Perez told his brother Knights."

"Change happens in our lives whether we want it or not," he said, explaining that for a priest like himself, it can mean changing assignments in the diocese. For the Knights, it's retiring much-revered attire that has identified the knights for nearly a century.

Bishop Perez said it can be difficult to leave a parish where the priest has formed relationships. "But I pledged obedience when I said, 'yes' in May 1989," he said, referring to his ordination and the promise to obey the bishop and his successors. For Bishop Perez, that has meant serving as a parochial vicar and pastor at several parishes in Philadelphia before his call to be an auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, and now the bishop of Cleveland.

He said one Knight who was upset about the uniform change told him that he will leave the organization in July when the new uniform policy takes effect.

"I told him to reflect on what it is that caused him to join in the first place,"

Bishop Perez's comments made me stop and think about why I joined the Order. I initially joined the Father John B. Adair Council 7129 in 1978 in Greenwood, South Carolina when it was chartered. I was a railroader (considered a hazardous industry) with two small children and no life insurance. After learning about the insurance program the Knights offered, I was prime to join. During the first years, I only attended meetings because I was supposed to. No one bothered me and I didn't want to be bothered. Several years later, I was transferred to the Washington, DC area and joined the St. Mary's Council 1470 in Leonardtown, MD. One evening another Brother Knight invited me to a Bible study. I attended because I didn't know how to say no to an offer to read the Bible. It's there that I grew my faith and my Knighthood.

While I joined for the insurance, I stayed so I could continue growing my faith.

A lot of us joined the Order because of its visibility and good works in the parish and community. Some joined because of the fraternal benefits, while many of us are Knights for the Christian Brotherhood. Whatever your reasons, they are too great to give up because of a uniform change.

**Get Active! Grow the Order! Grow the Assembly!** 

God bless!, Vivat Jesus!

seph W. Carter S.

**Kentucky District Master** 



# GENERAL AGENT DANIEL SCHACHLE

#### **Happy Easter from Knights of Columbus Insurance**

Happy Easter! Easter is the very end of March, the 31st, so I will take this time to hope you conclude your Lenten observances with a celebration of the Resurrection! March is Ethics Awareness Month for the insurance industry. Oxford languages defines ethics as "moral principles that govern a person's behavior or the conducting of an activity". In many professions there is an ethical code that practitioners are to observe. In medicine, we've boiled down the Hippocratic oath to, "First, do no harm." Attorneys have the American Bar Association's "Model Rules of Professional Conduct." In psychology there are codes of conduct for both treatment and for research.

The insurance industry is no different. Here at the Knights of Columbus, I think all members are familiar with our founding principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. These have been ingrained in us. However, there are also four Core Values that all who represent the Knights subscribe to. By "represent the Knights" we include Supreme Officers, employees, independent contractors like our General Agents, Assistant General Agents, and Field Agents who are expected to live up to the four Knights of Columbus Core Values. From our Code of Ethics and Conduct handbook the Core Values are these:

- · Integrity: Firm adherence to ethics, honesty, and a moral code.
- Professionalism: Promoting the highest standards in all we do.
- · Excellence: Leading by example and constantly striving to be the best.
- Respect: Treating each other with the highest regard.

## SCHACHLE CONT.

Our Field Agents consider it an honor to be assigned to serve local councils and take seriously their responsibility to care for each of our members. Furthering Blessed Michael McGivney's vision of caring for the widow and orphan is their goal, as well as, ensuring financial security for our members.

Our Field Agents strive to always live up these Core Values in all their work with each local council and our members.

#### Vivat Jesus!

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# STATE HISTORIAN BILLY HANCOCK

# HISTORY - K OF C HUTS

When the United States enters World War I, Supreme Knight Flaherty writes President Woodrow Wilson telling him that the Order plans to establish centers to provide for the troops' "recreational and spiritual comfort." The Knights' services, he says, will be offered "regardless of creed." By the summer of 1917, the Order opens service centers, or "K of C Huts," in training camps and behind the lines of battle. The Knights and independent fund drives raise nearly \$30 million to finance the huts.



A group of Knights of Columbus secretaries are pictured outside of a K of C Hut at Camp Zachary Taylor in Kentucky in 1918

### HANCOCK CONT.

One hut was located at Camp Zachary Taylor. With the entry of the United States into World War I in 1917, the Army opened Camp Zachary Taylor on the outskirts of Louisville, Kentucky. It was the largest Army training camp in the country at that time. Designed for 44,000 men, the camp at its peak housed 59,900. After war's end in 1918, Camp Zachary Taylor was closed in 1921. I don't have any documents to show any council or assembly support for the hut. However, Councils 390, 1290 and 1455 were in the area. I speculate this area later became Camp/Fort Knox.

I do have documents to support council and assembly support for the hut at Fort Thomas. There had been an Army presence at Fort Thomas from the 1890s into 1946. In later years Fort Thomas served as a depot, induction center, and military hospital. Most of the garrison was transferred to the Veterans Administration in 1946, but military activities continued until the fort was closed in 1964.

Huts were run by secretaries hired by the Knights of Columbus. The huts were administered by the Committee On War Activities, Supreme Board Of Directors, Washington, D.C. A member of Newport Council (Bishop Mulloy Council 1301) served as secretary of the Fort Thomas Hut. Following is an extract from the July 31 (unfortunately no year) minutes of Assembly 307 showing their support.

Continued on next page

### HANCOCK CONT.

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Bishop Flaget Assembly, Fourth Degree , K. of C. held its
 regular meeting July 31 at Stevie's Ft. Mitchell Ky.
 It was agreed to accept a donation of $ 1.00 a month from
 each member to furnish a supply of tobaco at the Ft. Thomas
K. of C. Hut.
On the first of each month the F. C. expect to receive a
 "case note" from every member to pay for the "makin's".
The following who were present paid their donation for Aug.
Oym Maher
 Dr. J. Averdick L. J. Hughes
                                       H . Druffel
 Jno Donovan Wm. Holters Dr. Jos. Reardon Jno, B. Dillon sr Fred Muething Dr. J. J. Maloney
 Jno. B. Dillon jr. Stephen Case Jno. T. Murphy
 For those that need an excuse to visit Our Mut in Ft Thomas
 we have placed pictures of President Wilson and Genral
 Pershing. Go out and examine them.
               Fraternally submited,
                                         Dr. J. J. Haloney F.C
Dr. Jos Reardon F.N.
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Again, thanks to Deacon Bill Theis for sending me historical documents that contributed to writing this article.

For the Irish and those that want to be – Happy St. Partick's Day. Wishing all a Blessed and Happy Easter!

# Submitted for the March 2024 Newsletter by: Billy R. Hancock, PSD State Historian

PS: If anyone can provide addition information on other huts in Kentucky, I would appreciate receiving it.

# **CALENDAR**

March Founder's Day

29

April State convention

26-28



# NEWSLETTER

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