



Next Exemplifications:
August 18, 2018 Madison, MS
September 8, 2018 Van Buren, AR

Bienville Province Newsletter

REPORT FROM VICE SUPREME MASTER MICHAEL J. PORTER

August 2018
VOLUME 10

Dear Worthy District Masters,

I just returned from the Supreme Assembly meeting in Baltimore, MD. It was a wonderful meeting and filled with information I will share with each of you at the upcoming Provincial meeting.

First, let's welcome the new District Masters for our Province:

Alabama - Pete Parrish; Arkansas - Jeff Priore; and Louisiana - Don Ducote

Secondly, let's thank those Masters that are retiring after serving their District with pride and distinction:

Alabama - Steve Koach; Arkansas - Newton White; and Louisiana - Warren Deemer.

We appreciate your service and dedication to the Order and to this Province!

In order for our new Masters to prepare properly for the upcoming September Provincial meeting, I would like to hold a phone conference on Thursday, September 6, 2018, at 7:00 PM CST. Please let me know ASAP if this date is good for everyone. I will send out the agenda and contact numbers in the next few weeks.

Things to have for the meeting: *Exemplification Schedule for 2018-2019, *Plan for Success in Membership Growth, *Plan to Add One New Assembly to Your District, and *Where the Opportunities Are.

At this meeting, I will let you know what to prepare for in more detail and what your roles will be at the Provincial meeting. In the meantime, for those current Masters that are stepping down, please contact your District Master in waiting and train them on your District, and turn over any materials, equipment, and Master's funds that you have as soon as possible.

Lastly, please send me your Provincial meeting reservations this week. I only have a small handful to date. I will not wait until the last minute to order our banquet meals, lunches, etc. Call your Faithful Navigators, State Officers, Former Masters and Former VSM's, and let them know my drop-dead cut-off is September 15, 2018. If I don't have a reservation and check in hand by that date, they will be able to attend the meeting, but not partake in the lunch or dinner. I am very busy with my company at this time of the year and I have to be able to stay out in front of this meeting, so please make sure this happens sooner rather than later. I am putting this responsibility on each of you to make sure your District understands this timeline.

Fraternally,
Mike



What's Happening Around the Province

Alabama District -Assembly # 3302 - Pork Fest

Steve Koach, District Master

A PORKTASTIC EFFORT AND RESULT FOR THE 4TH BY THE 4TH!

Our Assembly delivered another fantastic Porktastic event on July 2 and 3 to feed many Independence Day picnickers and raise scholarship money for seminarians desiring to become Catholic military chaplains. The effort started with pre-sales after June masses, and meat preparation and smoking on the 2nd of July through the late morning of the 3rd. Our appreciative customers picked up their fully-cooked and wrapped purchases during the afternoon preceding the 4th of July Holiday. In the end, 54 pork butts and 58 racks of ribs were rubbed, smoked, and delivered without complaint, raising over \$1,400. The Catholic Patriot thanks the many Sir Knights, Knights, and Ladies Auxiliary members who supported and worked our only planned Assembly fundraiser for the year. Success!

Mississippi District -Assembly # 554 - Flag Retirement

Jerry Schmuck, District Master

In February 2018, the FN of Assembly 554, Dave Fisher, was approached by Scout Master (SM) Josh Garner, of St. Richard Troop # 30, as to the feasibility of the CC providing instruction in marching, posting of Colors, and proper flag etiquette. The event was unanimously accepted by the membership at the March meeting and a tentative date of May 12th was mutually agreed upon.

As the plan developed, the Assembly felt it would be a good opportunity to perform a flag retirement ceremony as a closing to the flag presentation. He indicated that he already had numerous flags that needed to be retired and the scouts had a ceremonial script in place. Fr. John Bohn, pastor and a vet himself, was contacted for permission to hold the event on church property and he was 100% behind it. The FN and SM agreed that it would be most fitting to hold the event at the STR community 4th of July picnic. We collected in the neighborhood of 30+ flags. The Marshall, Craig Harrell, was given the new date and a request went out for CC support.

The scouts marched about 300 yards to the event site. When they entered the grounds, there were cheers from the 400 or so spectators like these young men never heard before. Fr John said the ceremonial prayers. Taps was played at intervals, 3 times, by Council 15131 volunteer Mike Pawlik. The scouts, in pairs, presented the flags and then handed them off to the fire master. We spent approximately 1 hour and then retired from the field in the same manner that we took it.

The reaction was outstanding. The FN had several vets and other spectators comment on “what took us so long to do this,” “are you going to do it next year,” and “the picnic needed some patriotic element added to it.” A couple emotionally just said “thank you.” Fr. John has assured the planning committee he wants this to become a standard part of the picnic.





- ❖ Prepare for the Provincial Meeting
- ❖ Update your District Directory
- ❖ Send me updated State Officer Information
for the Provincial Directory
- ❖ Plan your 2018-2019 Exemplifications and Copy Me

DATE TO REMEMBER

**September 28-29, 2018
Birmingham, AL
Provincial Meeting**

Star Assembly Award 2018-2019

Make sure your Assemblies plan to earn the Star Assembly Award for this fraternal year. As a reminder, here are the requirements for this Award.

- Publish and distribute to the Assembly membership a minimum of six Assembly Newsletters during the 2018-2019 fraternal year. A copy of each newsletter must also be sent (either in print or electronically) to the Vice Supreme Master at MJPKNIGHT9282@AOL.COM.
- Meet the Assembly's membership goal with a net gain of 10% additions over deletions.
- Complete and submit the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728), which is due January 31, 2019.
- Complete and submit to your District Master by April 30, 2019 the "To Be a Patriot Award" application.
- Earn the Civic Award by conducting a minimum of four patriotic programs during the 2018-2019 fraternal year and reporting those programs to the Supreme Master by June 30, 2019 on the "Civic Award" application.
- Complete and submit the "Report of Officers Chosen for the Term" (#186).



Provincial Membership Goals

Here are the current membership numbers from Supreme as of July 1, 2018.

District	Membership Goal	YTD new members
Alabama	163 (86) 47%	77
Arkansas	134 (50) 62%	84
Louisiana	370 (157) 57%	213
Mississippi	124 (34) 72%	90
Tennessee	230 (94) 59%	136
Totals	1,021 (421) 58.71%	600

Percentage of Provincial Goal reached: **58.71%**



FORMS PAGE

Here is a list of the Supreme- and Province-required forms, and when they are due. When completed, check the box so you know you're on track. Please send all forms to your District Master and copy me at MJPKNIGHT9282@AOL.COM.

FORM Supreme Form - Province Form	DUE DATE	COMPLETED? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monthly Newsletter (Star Assembly Award)	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/>
#1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity	January 31	<input type="checkbox"/>
#TBP-1 To Be a Patriot Award	April 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
#990 Tax Report EZ - Due Date depends on Year End	May 15 -- November 15	<input type="checkbox"/>
#2321 Civic Award	June 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
#186 Report of Chosen Officers	June 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
#1315 Annual Assembly Audit Report	August 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sir Knight of the Year Award	July 15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Family of the Year Award	July 15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assembly of the Year Award	July 15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clergy of the Year Award	July 15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Upcoming Bienville Province Exemplifications

Here is a list of the Exemplifications in the Province coming up for August and September of this fraternal year.

August 18, 2018	Madison, MS
September 8, 2018	Van Buren, AR

Fraternally,

Michael J. Porter
Vice Supreme Master
Bienville Province
615/308-6777