



The Magnolia Knight



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A Word from Our State Deputy

Mississippi Knights of Columbus
Editor- Noel Aucoin



State Deputy Larry Tabor

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Upcoming Events

◆ Exemplifications

Saturday, 10 September,
4th Degree Council 6872
Picayune

Saturday, 24 September,
4th Degree Council 802
Meridian

◆ State Golf Tournament

Saturday, 17 September,
Pine Burr Golf Club,
Wiggins Ms. Hosted by
Council 11541

◆ 2006 Convention Meeting

Monday August 22, 2005
Sacred Heart Church,
D'Iberville, Ms.

Worthy State Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, and fellow Knights of the Mississippi Jurisdiction:

I had the distinct honor represent our State at the 123rd Annual Supreme Convention in Chicago, 1-5 August with the other members of the Mississippi Delegation. State Officers attending as delegates were Danny Lechner, Peter Sukanek, and Jerry Schmuck. Dr. Paul Gospodarski, Master of the Mississippi Fourth Degree, attended as an alternate delegate in the absence of IPSD Rich Lieding. We also had the opportunity to attend the 3rd Annual Eucharistic Congress help upon the conclusion of the Supreme Convention. We all had a great time and benefited from the information discussed. Our Order is doing extremely well, in both membership and insurance growth. We are working on a summary of the resolutions that were passed; look for this coming to you soon.

Speaking of membership, I want to challenge each of you and every member in your council to ask an eligible Catholic man to join our Order. All you need to do is ask. If 90 something year old Grand Knight in Columbus can recruit 13 new members last year, surely us young Knights can recruit at least 1 new member this year. How does he do it? It is simple—he asks “Have you heard of the Knights of Columbus?” Then he says “Well, let me tell you the good things we do for our Church. You will find the Knights will provide you an opportunity to strengthen your faith by acts of charity.”

Congratulations to Grand Knight Gino Conti and Columbus Council 7974, winner of Supreme's Contest of Champions. The Columbus Council recorded the highest net gain and highest percentage gain in new members for the Mississippi Jurisdiction.

Leaders of our jurisdiction—State Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Program Chairmen, and Council Officers are encouraged to take the lead and recruit one new member before October 1st, 2005. Have your recruitment materials handy—Form 100s, brochures about the Knights, and be prepared to talk about the Knights and all we have to offer. Please give it a try; you might even surprise yourself when some Catholic man accepts your invitation to join our Order. Work with your parish Priest as he may give you prime leads to men who will make good Knights. Work the Masses; make contact with men and their families before and after the service. Wear your KC name

tag. Don't have one? Then order one as soon as possible.

By now everyone should be planning for the Membership Blitz in September and October. Plan your First Degrees and have your Degree kits on hand. Work with your District Deputies to ensure First Degrees are available as soon as your council approves a candidate's application. Schedule your candidate for a meeting with Admissions Committee, this shows your council's interested in the person. Be prepared to discuss the New Member Insurance Plan with your candidate. If necessary, contact your Field Agent for assistance, or better yet invite the Agent to be present at the Admission Committee interview.

How many council's expect to make their membership and insurance quotas this year? How many council's expect to make Star Council this year? Refer to the Grand Knights Handbook to see the requirements for Star Council. Besides meeting membership and insurance quotas, there is paperwork involved.

To be successful in membership recruitment, one must have a positive attitude. If you are unsure of your technique to ask an eligible fellow Catholic to join our Order, seek out a member of your council who has had success in recruiting new members. Remember, a two member “tag team” approach works best.

By now all councils should have completed and sent in their Report of Officers (Form 185) and Service Program Personnel Report (Form 365) to Supreme. The next major requirement due by August 15th is your council's Semi-Annual Audit. Let's get'er done!

We are a proud organization—1.7 million members strong. In 2004, our Order have more than 63.1 million hours of volunteer service and gave \$135.7 million to charitable and benevolent causes. Our Catholic faith brings us together and our strength comes from within each and every one of us. Keep up the great work and as always, contact me or the other State Officers or District Deputy if you have any questions or in need of assistance.

VIVAT JESUS!

Larry J. Tabor

123rd Supreme Convention Report

Worthy State Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, and fellow Knights of the Mississippi Jurisdiction:

We would like to share the following information from the 123rd Supreme Convention held in Chicago, Ill., Aug. 2 -4, 2005. The Delegates for the Mississippi Jurisdiction were: Larry Tabor (State Deputy), Danny Lechner (State Secretary), Peter Sukanek (State Treasurer), Gerald Schmuck (State Advocate), and Dr. Paul Gospodarski, Alternate Delegate for IPSD Richard Lieding.

Our first order of business was on Tuesday, August. 2, when we attended a training session on the new Internet program featuring "Real Time Reports". We were issued special access to several "real-time" reports directly from Supreme's data files.

Next we attended the opening Mass concelebrated with many Cardinals and Bishops. Following the Mass, Supreme Knight, Carl A. Anderson, opened the 1st business session and announced this year's theme "He is with us", signifying that Jesus is with us in all facets of our lives and comes to us in the Holy Eucharist. Later that night, we all attended the States Dinner with 1800-plus other Knights and their wives. Each state had the opportunity to sing their State Song while dinner was being served.

On Wednesday, August 3, we attended the Memorial Mass honoring Past Supreme and State officers. At the 2nd business session, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson gave his annual report outlining the accomplishments of the past year. In his report, he stated that we had grown in membership to 1,700,000, charitable contributions rose from 130 million to 135 million, hours of service grew from 61 million to 63 million, and Insurance certificates in force increased from 1,541,004 to 1,571,643. We have come a long way, but still have far to go.

The next item on the agenda was the reading of the resolutions. There were over 460 resolutions submitted and a number of similar resolutions were combined which condensed them considerably. Some of the key resolutions included were:

The Knights reaffirm our belief in the Sanctity of Life, repulsion of Same Sex Marriages, unwavering determination to

keep "Under God" in the pledge of allegiance, support of Pope Benedict XVI, support of our Priests and support for our Supreme Knight.

The Supreme Council made a major announcement during the convention that the Knights of Columbus would soon be in Poland.

On Thursday, following another beautiful Mass, the 3rd business session began. This session was dedicated to awards for membership and insurance gains. The most prestigious award, the International Family of the Year, was won by a young family from Minnesota.

Third Knights of Columbus Eucharistic Congress August 4 - 5

After the convention ended on Thursday, the 3rd Knights of Columbus Eucharistic Congress was opened. It started with a procession of Bishops, Cardinals, Priests, and the exposition of the Holy Eucharist. Several keynote speakers gave talks. Father Augustine DiNoia, O.P., spoke on "The Eucharistic Mystery: Summons to Adoration of Mind and Heart" (At the completion of each talk, there was choral meditation and prayers). Monsignor Jean Lafitte spoke on the Eucharist and the Domestic Church. A program for the youth was held later that evening.

On Friday morning, the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary was recited.

More speakers were on tap; the first talk was by Michael and Karen Splonskowski "Christ in the Eucharist: The Heart of the Family". Then John and Margaret McCarthy on Marriage and the Eucharist: That the Two Become One Flesh. Next were Musical Meditations on the Holy Eucharist. After silent meditation, a Votive Mass of the Holy Eucharist was held followed by a possession of Cardinals, Bishops, Priest, 200 4th Degree Honor Guards, Knights and their families to the nearby Park for Benediction.

The Eucharistic Congress was closed with the final blessing by His Eminence Francis

Cardinal George, O.M.I., Archbishop of Chicago.

Respectfully Submitted Larry Tabor, State Deputy and Danny Lechner, State Secretary

Bay St. Louis Holds Dinner

On Sunday, August 21, 2005, K of C Council 1522, featuring "CHEF TONY AND THE NEW POTS AND PANS CREW," will be hosting our "Third Sunday of the Month Dinner" at Our Lady of the Gulf Community Center from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Chef Tony's menu includes HOME-STYLE MEATLOAF, MASHED POTATOES AND GRAVY, SESAME GREEN BEANS, FRESH GREEN SALAD, AND FRENCH BREAD. Cost per dinner is \$5. All meals are served either eat-in or take-out. Plenty of seating is available in a nice family-type setting. Area Churches all have 11:00 A.M. Masses.

Squire News

Co-Squires Of The Year Named in OS

Vincent Arbogast, son of David and Claire Arbogast and William Miller son of William and Donna Miller all of Ocean Springs were recently named Co-Squires of the 2004/2005 fraternal year for Ocean Springs Squire Circle #2852, They were honored with this award at the installation of new officers for the coming fraternal year.



Springs Announce The Officers For The 2005-2006 Fraternal Year.

Chief Squire	Vincent Arbogast
Deputy Chief Squire	William Miller
Notary	Jeremy Lassere
Bursar	Bobby Gosselin
Marshal	Jonathan Whitman
Sentry	Luke Quave
Arm Captain	J T Starnes
Pole Captain	John Quave
Committee Chairmen:	
Spiritual	Michael Winters
Service	Michael Eskridge

On Vocations

Do you know who the Vocations Chairman for your diocese is?

Did you know each diocese has one? Well, the guessing is over! We are honored to have 2 Deacons serving in each diocese to promote Vocations, to include arranging Council support for our Seminarians through the RSVP program.

Serving the Jackson Diocese is Deacon Larry Campbell, from Southaven Council 7120. Larry can be contacted at 7415 Fox Trace, Southaven MS 38671. His home phone is 662-349-8613 and can be reached by email at lmc667@aol.com.

Serving the Biloxi Diocese is Deacon Robert Jones, from Ocean Springs Council 5654. Bob can be contacted at 418 Ruskin Ave, Ocean Springs MS 39564. His cell phone 228-238-8504. He can be reached by email at 1jones1@cableone.net.

Message from Deacon Campbell: We have come to the realization in northern Mississippi that our vocations problem is quite severe. With the illness of one of the SCJ fathers, we have a priest who is pasturing, at least on a temporary basis, two of our largest parishes. We are also informed recently that the SCJ fathers who serve the 9 northern counties of Mississippi will be downsizing from 12 priests to 6 in the next 3 to 5 years. I am quite sure situations like these will not be uncommon throughout the state.

Our brother Knights must first of all pray for vocations. Each council should make a special effort to host a holy hour of prayer for vocations in conjunction with Vocations Awareness Sunday, October 9th and Priesthood Sunday, October 30th. I propose each council conduct a vocations awareness program some time during the coming year. I would also encourage our councils to financially support our seminarians from the Jackson Diocese. If your council wishes to support a seminarian, please contact me and I will coordinate with Fr. Kent Bowlds to ensure the seminarians with the most need receive your support.

One last challenge. I see where the Serra Club in the Diocese of Memphis funds monthly birthday recognition of priests in their diocese. I contacted the Jackson Diocese Catholic newspaper, The Mississippi Catholic, to see what it would cost to do something similar in the Jackson Diocese. There are two sizes, the large costs \$58 per insertion and the smaller costs \$29 per insertion. If your council is interested in full or partial sponsorship for this worthwhile recognition of our priest, please contact me to make arrangements.

Fraternally,
Deacon Larry Campbell

Message from Deacon Jones: Supporting vocations to the priesthood and religious life is a top priority of the Knights of Columbus. One of the greatest services any Catholic can perform for the Church is to foster priestly and religious vocations. State and local council vocations committees foster vocations through prayers and offer support for vocations. **Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)** The Supreme Council encourages local councils to support vocations by giving a \$100 refund to a local council whenever it donates \$500 to a seminarian or postulant. More than \$22 million has been contributed under this program to tens of thousands of seminarians, novices and postulants. In addition to the material support provided by RSVP, Knights and their families also provide moral support by "adopting" a seminarian or postulant. They write letters of support, offer prayers and invite their adopted candidate to council-sponsored activities.

If you haven't already, adopt a seminarian, novice or postulant. They need you!!

Thanks and God Bless.

Yours in Christ,
Deacon Bob Jones

Council 9094
D'Iberville to
hold Dinner
and a Show

Contact

Elvin Raymond

228-392-0882

For Tickets

DINNER & SHOW ^{womanless}

"Prom Knight"

**** Featuring Fr. Bob H. & Fr. Louie L. ****

Aug. 27, 2005

Doors open at 6:30 Dinner Served at 7pm



**Council
9094**

In the Sacred Heart Parish Hall D'Iberville Ms

\$20/cpl \$10/sgl

BYOB

Set-ups available



State Public Relations
Chairman
Noel Aucoin
14620 Porteaux Bay Dr.
Biloxi, Ms. 39532
Fax: 228-935-6347
noel.aucoin@ngc.com

Vivat Jesus

4th Degree News

Remember Our Troops

I had the distinct privilege of attending both the Supreme Convention and Eucharistic Convention in Chicago last week. Upon my return home on Saturday, I stopped at a lounge in the Atlanta airport for a drink and to have a cigarette. The lounge was limited to 50 people at a time because of fire regulations.

As I was enjoying a cold gin and tonic, twelve army men, in their new fatigues, came in for a cold beer. There was not enough room for all of them, so many of the people in the room got up to let them all in so that they could have a drink and a cigarette. I was truly amazed at the response of so many people making room for our soldiers. They had just returned from duty in Iraq and were on RR for 90 days before returning to Iraq.

It is sometimes difficult to understand why we are at war and I remarked to a young lady sitting at my table that just the previous week, 28 Marines had died in Iraq. Sometimes you have

to say thanks to our men and women in the military. Three of us started talking and told the waitress to let them have all the beer they wanted but to give us the check. About an hour later, the soldiers got up to leave to catch their flights home. They tried to pay the bill, but were told it was already taken care of. Imagine my surprise when they came over to us to say thank you. We were the ones who said thank you for their service to our country and all Americans. We shook hands and hugged and so them off to their flights. What a wonderful return trip home.

If you see a soldier, don't be afraid to walk up to him or her and say thank you.

These are difficult times for everyone.

Especially for our military.

Please keep them in your prayers. . .

Dr. Paul

We're on the Web!
<http://www.ms-kofc.org>

State Chaplain's Corner *Fr. Mike O'Conner*

Brother Knights and coworkers in God's service, it is with great fraternal respect that I greet you. I have just begun my service as a priest and as State Chaplain, and I look forward to the rest of this year and the opportunities to share in God's grace with you all.

My call to the priesthood is still fresh in my mind (I was just ordained a priest for the Biloxi Diocese on June 11), and recently there has been a great deal of talk about "vocations." With these things in mind I thought I would do a short series of articles on vocations in general and later on my call to the priesthood.

This month I will concentrate on the most common of vocations. What is the most common vocation in the Church? While you think a moment about that question, I will consider the question, what is a vocation? The word vocation is derived from the Latin verb *Vocare* - which means to call, to invite or summon. We all share in the universal call to holiness, but when one talks of particular vocations in the Church most often he means serving God as a priest, brother or nun. But we should keep in mind that marriage is also a vocation. It is the most common call from God to a life of service. Today marriage, even among many Catholics, is no longer rooted in the giving of oneself to something greater. It is no longer lived as a vocation from God. Marriage, like other vocations, calls for one to give of himself in a way that requires real, and at times very difficult, self surrender and sacrifice.

We all know there are seven sacraments. Two of the sacraments are called "sacraments of service,"

they are Holy Orders and Matrimony. These two sacraments must compliment one another. It is from Holy Orders that the other sacraments spring, but it is from marriage that new life comes forth. Without sacramental marriage, lived as a vocation, there would be very few if any priests. Without new priests all the other sacraments would fade away.

Today we talk mostly about the vocations crisis in regard to the priesthood, but I call to your attention that we have a vocations crisis in marriage as well. There are far too few husbands and wives that live their marriage as a religious vocation of service to their spouse, children, grandchildren, the Church and all of society. There are far too few couples who are open to life in their marriage as an aspect of their vocation to bring forth new life to glorify God through his Church. I encourage those of you who are married to remember that marriage is a vocation.

As Christians our goal is to do God's will, that is to hear his "call" and respond to the vocation he gives us. We are all called to holiness and service. How that call is manifested in our lives is our vocation. We should pray often for well lived to marriage, priesthood, the religious life and the single state.

Yours In Christ,
Fr. Mike O'Conner