



# The Magnolia Knight



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Mississippi Knights of Columbus  
Editor- Noel Aucoin

## A Word from Our State Deputy



State Deputy Larry Tabor

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### Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Exemplifications**  
Saturday, 18 February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Council 2969 Clarksdale  
Wednesday, 22 February 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Only Council 1605 Pascagoula  
Saturday, 25 February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Council 6765 Starkville  
Saturday, 11 March 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, Assembly 1252, Meridian
- ◆ **State Free Throw Contest**  
Northern March 4 Location TBD  
Southern March 11 Location St. Alphonsus, Ocean Springs

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

As we prepare for this year's annual State Convention, I would hope everyone is working diligently to meet the goals we have established at the beginning of the fraternal year. There is still much to be accomplished.

A few councils have qualified as TOP GUN Council by doubling their State Membership goal. Several councils have met their membership goal; others have recruited at least one new member. However, there are a handful of councils that have not recruited any new members. Let's shoot to have every council new membership active.

**PAPERWORK!!** Is this a scary word? Does it send chills down your back? It should not be difficult to take a little time and work with your Program Chairman to complete the State's Program Awards package and send it in by the March 31st deadline. Don't forget to also send in your Best Activity submission for each program (Church, Community, Family, Council, and Youth), as well as your best Vocations activity. While you are at it, submit your council's nomination for Knight and Family of the Year.

While foot stomping paperwork needed before the convention, I must remind everyone to submit their respective reports (District Deputies, Grand Knights, Program Chairmen, etc) before the convention if possible to the State Secretary. Reports will be accepted at the convention. Deadline for submission of these reports is May 15, 2006. Help the State Secretary Danny Lechner by providing both a paper and electronic copy of your report.

Each Grand Knight will soon be receiving their copy of this year's State Directory. A lot of time was spent putting it together

before Katrina only to have it destroyed. We had to start from scratch to gather the needed information. If councils or assemblies did not send in their Form 185, Report of Elected Officers, or the Directory Data Collection Sheet, their contact information is not contained in this edition.

**Scheduled Degrees:** Here are the dates for upcoming degrees: 2nd/3rd - Clarksdale, Feb 18th; 2nd/3rd - Starkville, Feb 25th; 4th Degree - Meridian, March 11th. Grand Knights should notify the respective District Deputies or Host Grand Knight to let them know how many candidates to expect.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** The location of the 2006 State Convention has been changed to the Ramada Inn in Tupelo, MS. Convention packets will be distributed at the regional mid-year meetings in January 2006. You can also find them on the State's web page at [www.ms-kofc.org](http://www.ms-kofc.org). If you care to make reservations now, you may do so by calling the hotel directly at 662-844-4111 and mention the Knights of Columbus. Convention dates are Friday, April 28 thru Sunday April 30.

Keep up the great work all of you do and as always, contact me or any of the other State Officers or your District Deputy if you have any questions or in need of assistance. My home phone number is 228-392-6379, work 228-377-2222, and cell number is 228-365-6515. My email address is: [Statedep@datasync.com](mailto:Statedep@datasync.com).

Denise and I look forward to seeing all of you at the State Convention.

*Larry J. Tabor*  
State Deputy

### Special Message from Br. Tabor

As Catholic gentlemen, we all know the importance of supporting our Priests and our seminarians. Now more than ever must we take action to show our support. It is important to pray for vocations; it is just as important to provide financial support to our seminarians to ensure the Catholic Church has enough priests to meet the needs of its people.

Deacon Larry Campbell has graciously offered his assistance to Dr Paul Gospodarski and the State's Priest Education Fund. Therefore, effective 15 Feb, Deacon Larry Campbell is appointed as the Co-chair of the Jackson Diocese Priest Education Fund. More details will follow from Dr. Paul and Deacon Campbell.

Larry J. Tabor MS State Deputy

## 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification a Huge Success

The last 4th degree exemplification held in Picayune was a great success. We had a very large class of candidates and I am so very proud of all the Sir Knights of Picayune who worked so hard to have this wonderful first class since Katrina.

Now we are all gearing up for the next class. The details are as follows:

Date: Saturday, March 11, 2006

Hosted by Assembly 1252, Msgr. John J. Burns

Host Bob Leo, FN Email hatchettman2@aol.com

Phone 601 737 5253

Place: St. Patrick Catholic Church, Meridian MS  
2600 Davis Street Meridian, MS

Registration 1100 am

Lunch 12 noon

Exemplification 1 pm

Mass 5 pm

Reception 6 pm

Banquet 6:30 pm



Candidate Fees \$65.00 includes banquet fee

Banquet Fee \$20.00/ person

Honoree Sir Knight John J. Maloney Sr.

Dress: Candidates and Sir Knights Tux, white shirt, bow tie, black shoes, etc.

Make all checks payable to Paul N. Gospodarski, Master's Fund

I encourage all Grand Knights and Sir Knights to invite and encourage any third degree knight to join the Fourth Degree. Please remember that the six month waiver is still in effect for any 3rd degree knight who has six months as a first degree but not a year. I need seven working days to process these requests. If you know of any active military who would like to join, please encourage them as well. We salute all of our military, past and present who serve our country.

Please do all that you can to make this class a wonderful success. Feel free to call or email me if you have any questions. Thank you for helping with this project.

Paul N. Gospodarski

District Master



## The Dr. Paul & Cathy Train Just Keeps Rolling

*The following is a report from Dr. Paul's latest trip*

This Saturday, February 11, another trip to the Coast. Brought lots of canned goods that the children of St. Therese Catholic School collected during Catholic School Week. More than 900 cans of food for the victims of Katrina. Also brought down much needed tools for the knights who have started reconstruction work.

Our Worthy State Deputy Larry Tabor presented the Star Award to Council 8285 St. Therese to our Grand Knight Ben Mokry and our Council Chaplain Father Anthony Quyet. Present also was our State Secretary, Danny Lechner, District Deputy Jim McCraw and our Immediate Past State Deputy Rich Lieding. The Master was also present. He is in the Red Sweat Shirt marked St. Paul's Catholic School.

Sister Donna, we didn't get the pictures today, but they will be sent to us later next week. As soon as I get them, I will send them to you.

We had a rainy day loading everything on Friday, Cathy and I got drenched, but everything was kept dry with ponchos. Had a safe trip.

Thank you Sister Brenda for all the canned food, they really needed it down there. We were told that whenever canned goods arrive, they are gone the same day. Let me know when you can do another food drive for us.

Warmest wishes to everyone. Paul & Cathy



## Financial Aid Plan Set for Jackson Diocese Deacons

There are three deacons from Mexico who will be ordained this June for service in the Catholic Diocese of Jackson. These deacons are Deacon Lenin Vargas, Deacon Mario Solorzano Cruz and Deacon Benjamin Martinez. Deacon Vargas will be ordained at St. Peter Cathedral in Jackson on June 3, 2006. Deacon Solorzano Cruz will be ordained in his home town in Mexico on June 13, 2006, and Deacon Martinez will be ordained in his home town in Mexico on June 14, 2006. Discussions were held between Fr. Kent Bowlds, Diocese of Jackson Vocation Director, and Larry Tabor, Mississippi State Deputy, and Deacon Larry Campbell, Vocation Director for the Diocese of Jackson for the Knights of Columbus. It was decided to ask the councils and assemblies in the Diocese of Jackson to set as a goal raising a total of \$6,000 to assist these men in meeting their initial priestly ministry expenses. These expenses are: purchasing and paying for an automobile, purchase of their own chalice, their vestments, and clerical clothing. Another expense might be for transportation to and from their homes prior to assuming their first assignment. We realize that this is a large sum of money; however, knowing the generosity of our Knights in the diocese and their support for our Bishop, Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians, it is felt that this goal is achievable. What is being asked is that each council and assembly promote this fundraising endeavor. It is the hope of Deacon Campbell that this \$6,000 sum can be raised by this year's convention. In this way all monies raised in this program will count toward totals raised by councils and assemblies for the Priest Education Fund.

Fr. Kent Bowlds, Br. Larry Tabor and Deacon Campbell feel that Fr. Kent should have administrative oversight of these funds. With this in mind, they are asking that all checks be made payable to the Catholic Diocese of Jackson and mailed to Fr. Kent Bowlds at St. Richard Catholic Church, 1242 Lynnwood Drive, Jackson, MS 39206. Once received, these checks will be deposited with the Catholic Diocese of Jackson and disbursed to these three deacons in an equitable manner. District Deputies are encouraged to communicate the specifics of this program to each of the councils in their district and please encourage 100% participation from each council. If anyone has any questions and/or comments, contact Deacon Larry Campbell by telephone, E-mail, or in writing.

Deacon Campbell's contact information is as follows:

662-349-8613 (home)

901-606-5810 (cell)

[deaconlcampbell@bellsouth.net](mailto:deaconlcampbell@bellsouth.net)

7415 Fox Trace, Southaven, MS 38671



***Let's  
Support  
Our  
Clergy***

## Pro-Life Suggestions

State Officers, State Program Chairman, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Faithful Navigators, Ladies Auxiliary Presidents

I believe that our Pro-life Activities in the past -- though worthwhile and admirable -- have been too narrowly focused on one aspect of the pro-life movement, combating abortion. The pro-life movement encompasses many things---- prayer, abortion, the death penalty, assisted suicide, euthanasia, human rights, access to medical care, and poverty.

The issues seem complicated and sometime we feel we cannot do anything to support a Culture of Life and work against the Culture of Death. Here are some simple things we all can do to support a Culture of Life:

1. Pray for a growing Respect For Life. Pray to end Abortion and the Death Penalty.

Start every Rosary you and your council says with those intentions.

2. Educate your council, assembly and ladies auxiliary members on the Catholic teachings and beliefs on these subjects by asking your pastor to talk at one of your meetings or in your adult education program.

3. Express to other that you are pro-life by wearing a precious feet lapel pin, or by putting a Pro-life Bumper Sticker on your vehicles.

4. Hold a fundraiser and donate the money to a local pro-life group or the Mississippi Memorial Pro-life Fund. Since 2001 only 32 councils (58%), 3 assemblies (12%) and 1 ladies auxiliary (5%) have donated to this statewide Knights of Columbus fund. Our goal should be 100% participation. Try to donate at least \$25.00 to this fund annually. (see attached report for a listing of donations.)

5. Use pro-life checks. Copy the order sheet from Life Checks and provide to your members your meetings

6. Switch to a phone company that donates a portion of your bill to Pro-life organizations.

Attached are sheets from Sienna Communications, Pro Life Communications and Vitae.

Make your church office aware that Verizon, Bell South, SBC, AT& T and Sprint match employee contributions to Planned Parenthood - the largest abortion provider in the US. These companies also sponsor gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employee groups. In 2003 AT & T and MCI reported over 1 billion dollars in dial-a-porn revenue. Did you know that by doing business with these companies you are helping them support these causes. Viable, alternative phone service providers do exist.

7. Sponsor a child in a developing nation for \$30.00/month or make a donation. See the sheet from the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging whose program is grounded in Catholic Social Teaching.

8. Consider applying for a pro-life credit card that donates a portion of it's profits to Pro-life organizations. See the sheet from Vitae.

9. Invest your money in mutual funds that only buy stock in companies that support Catholic values and teachings. See the sheets on Ave Maria Mutual Funds and The Aquinas Funds.

10. Become a blood or platelet donor or organ donor. Hold a blood drive at your church.

11. Do volunteer work at a hospital or nursing home. Visit nursing home patients. Ask your local nursing home how you can hold an activity at their location.

12. Vote for Pro-life candidates. Support Pro-life and Pro-family legislation.

13. Order and sell or have your youth group sell "Life is Precious" rubber bracelets to show others that you are Pro-life. Donate the money to a Pro-life organization. See the order sheet from Heritage House 76. The cost is 89 cents each for 50 and 79 cents each for 100.

14. Go to the Supreme website and learn about the KC pro-life activities and check out the links provided there.

**Respectfully Submitted, Dennis & Muna Riecke, State Pro-life Chair Couple**



### *Golf Tournament Held*

On February 11th, 2006, the council finally got to host the (2005 KC State Golf Tournament), this tournament was to be held on September 17th, 2005 but was pre-empted by hurricane Katrina.

Nine teams participated this year at Pine Burr Golf Course in Wiggins and though it did get a little cool with the wind, everyone had a good time.

Team winners were:

1st	Long Beach
2nd	Madison
3rd	Madison

Long Beach will host the 2006 tournament.

Tournament Co-Directors Council 11541

Bob Pyle==Grand Knight

Ed Croal==Financial Secretary



Bishop Joseph Latino drawing the winning ticket in of TV raffle. The John T. Savage Council 848 raised \$5,000.00 to purchase building supplies to rebuild St. Anne's Church. They will be shipping the supplies to Tony Dixon DGK of council 1522, in Bay St. Louis, and will include 2,500 square feet of insulation and 450 panels of sheetrock.

## Ceremonial Baldric Available

The Knights of Columbus Ceremonial Baldric is now available for optional use by a council First Degree Team. The baldric shall be worn with a dark suit and the jewel of office by the ceremonial presenter. It should appear over the right shoulder, extending to the left hip and the Knights of Columbus emblem should be centered upon the chest of the presenter. The presenter should remove his name badge during the ceremonial. Only the Emblem of the Order should be worn on the left lapel.

Three sizes are offered. The medium-large baldric will fit most brother knights, as its length is similar to the Fourth Degree Service Baldric. To determine a size, measure from the right shoulder of your suit jacket to your left hip.

\* Item #30126 – Size - (M-L) (28" - 33")

\* Item #30127 – Size - (XL-XXL) (34" – 39")

\* Item #30128 – Size - (XXXL) (40" - + )

When ordering the baldric, English (E) or French (F) version of the Emblem of the Order must be specified. The cost of the baldric for all sizes is \$25.00 (US), \$30.00 (CAN) plus shipping.

Ceremonial Baldrics may be ordered using a Form #1, from the Supply Department. The baldrics will be listed in the next printing of the Supply Catalog, under "Ceremonial Supplies."

## New FAX Number for Fraternal Reports

The number for faxing Fraternal Reports has changed. When faxing reports to Supreme, the correct number is **203-752-4108.**

*This update is courtesy of our State Secretary Danny Lechner*

## What Is RSVP?

RSVP stands for Refund Support Vocations Program. The Knights of Columbus launched this program in 1981. Under the RSVP program, local Knights of Columbus councils or assemblies agreed to make an annual contribution of \$500 or more to an individual seminarian to help with his expenses. Councils and assemblies can sponsor more than one seminarian if their resources permit. In each case, the minimum annual contribution is \$500 per seminarian. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported. Presently 3 councils/assemblies in the Jackson Diocese have raised \$7,850, with total refunds of \$1400. These amounts are for the calendar year December 31, 2005.

On behalf of these seminarians, let me say thank you for your support. We hope you will continue participating in RSVP during the calendar year 2006.

On the Supreme level cumulative total donations since 1981 have totaled \$34,762,173. Cumulative total refunds since 1981 have totaled \$6,280,484. Cumulative total seminarians/postulants/novices assisted since 1981 have totaled 56,683. We as an Order certainly have much to be proud of in supporting these young men and women as they prepare to dedicate their lives to the service of our church.

For more specifics on RSVP please refer to the application for refund contained in the report form booklet or by contacting me directly.

*Deacon Larry Campbell*

## Tentative Date for the State Bowling Tourney

The tentative date for this year's State bowling tournament is April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Meridian, at Dixie Lanes. Stay tuned to the Magnolia Knight and Good of the Order for further developments.