



# The Magnolia Knight



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Mississippi Knights of Columbus  
Editor- Noel Aucoin



State Deputy Larry Tabor

## A WORD FROM OUR STATE DEPUTY

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

As we near the Christmas Holidays and the New Year, Denise and I want to thank everyone for their support during the past year and wish you and yours a very peaceful and prayerful Christmas. During the Homily at Mass this past weekend, our Pastor, Father Dennis Harlow, reminded us that this is the season to give thanks for all the blessings God has bestowed on us and for us to remember as we go about our busy ways that Christ Jesus loves us always. He also said this is the season of giving, especially to the less fortunate, the aged, and the infirmed. Each of us should take time to reflect upon this season as the birth of Christ was indeed a miracle, one that would be remembered through time and eternity.

We have much to look forward to in 2007 as we have lots of important activities planned in the first 4 months. For us to be successful a successful organization, we must be prepared to effectively lead our membership to participate in each scheduled event or activity, accomplish the necessary reports and forms, and continue to actively recruitment eligible Catholic men to join our Order.

During our State mid-year meeting held 1-2 December in Ocean Springs, the State Officers and I emphasized many important issues such as membership, retention, and paperwork requirements. We stressed once again how important it is for Grand Knights to take advantage of the free or low cost recruitment materials available at Supreme. I urged the District Deputies to ensure adequate supplies of Knights of Columbus literature and recruitment materials are on hand at their local councils.

We also discussed the next membership BLITZ which is planned for February. We have 2 Major Exemplifications scheduled plus some districts have regularly scheduled First Degrees to ensure their new candidates are brought into the Order in a timely manner. You should plan now for your council's new member recruitment drive. You should ensure your council has ordered their recruitment material. If you need outside help, contact your District Deputy, or Martin Bisek, our State Membership Director for assistance.

Grand Knights: Please make sure you and your council complete and submits two important forms. The first being the Annual Fraternal Activities Report due by 31 Jan 07 and the Semi-Annual Audit Report due by 15 Feb 07. I will be asking our District Deputies to monitor the submissions of these forms. Do your part and make sure they are accomplished as required—it is your duty as the Grand Knight.

District Deputies: Most of you have completed your Semi-annual Council Evaluations and I thank you. If you haven't yet completed them, please ensure they are accomplished by 31 December. Please remind your Grand Knights about the upcoming mid-year regional meetings. In case you forgot the information, here it is again:

Date(s)	Activity	Location
January 6th	Southern Regional Meeting	Council 5654, Ocean Springs
January 13th	Northern Regional Meeting	Council 10901, Oxford
*January 14th	Central Regional Meeting	Council 10216, Brandon

Regional meetings in Oxford and Ocean Springs will begin promptly at 12 noon each day and should be completed by 4 PM. Please note the meeting in Brandon will begin at 1PM due to a previously planned activity at the Church Parish.

Please 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.

I pray that everyone has a safe and joyous Christmas and a successful 2007.

**VIVAT JESUS!**  
**Larry J. Tabor**  
**State Deputy**

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### Upcoming Events

#### ◆ Exemplifications

Wednesday 24 Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> Degree  
Council 9124 Gautier

Saturday, 27 Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Degree Council 9094 D'Iberville

Saturday, 10 Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> Degree  
Assembly 558 Vicksburg

Saturday, 24 Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Degree Council 6765 Starkville

#### ◆ Noteworthy Dates

CHRISTMAS DAY 25 December

Feast of Mary the Mother of God  
1 January

2008 Convention Meeting 11  
January Sacred Heart,  
D'Iberville 7:00 pm

Mid-Year Meetings 6,14 & 16  
January, Ocean Springs, Oxford,  
Brandon

Survey of Fraternal Activity  
Due, 31 January

Dennis & Muna Riecke  
Prolife Couple - Diocese of Jackson



Brother Knights,

You may not be aware of it but Tupelo, Mississippi is home to the largest, most effective Christian family organization in the nation ----The American Family Association. I encourage each Council to have at least one contact with this organization to receive their Action Alerts by E-mail which can be subscribed to on their website [http: www.afa.net](http://www.afa.net) . I have found that these Action Alerts are an excellent way to learn what companies are sponsoring and donating to anti-Christian causes and principals. Usually, there is a sign-on petition so you can easily send a message to these companies that you oppose their specific practices. It only takes a few minutes and sometimes it causes them to change their sponsorship and donations. No company likes to be criticized. All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.

Below is an E-mail from their founder. Click on the link to see what successes they have had this year.

----- Original Message -----

From: AFA ActionAlert  
To: Dennis Riecke  
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2006 4:00 AM  
Subject: A personal message from Don Wildmon

Donald E. Wildmon  
Founder and Chairman



A personal message from Don Wildmon

Dear Dennis,

As we move closer to Christmas and the end of the year, I want to thank you for caring enough to get involved in the battle for the family.

This Christmas season will be the 30-year mark for AFA. We began AFA during the Christmas season in 1976. We have fought many battles. To all who have helped us during these 30 years, we say thanks.

Take a moment to view a few of the battles we have recently won.

We have a great need to upgrade our technology infrastructure to handle the increased traffic. Would you consider making a tax-deductible donation to help AFA Online continue our efforts? We depend heavily on year-end donations to help us cover expenses.

In 30 years, I have made only one promise to those who support us financially. I renew that promise again: We will be the best stewards possible with the gifts given us. It is a promise we have kept for 30 years.

Thanks for being a friend of the family. Working together, we can win many battles for those who come after us.

Sincerely,  
Donald E. Wildmon,  
Founder and Chairman  
American Family Association

P.S. Please forward this e-mail message to your family and friends!

## THOUGHTS FROM OUR STATE CHAPLAIN

### My Dear Brother Knights,

I sincerely hope you all are at peace in God's love. We are deep in Advent now, and as many of you already know Advent is a word that essential means "to come." The Church season of Advent has two purposes. The first is related to Christ's coming 2000 years ago, His being born at Bethlehem in a stable and laid in a manger. We are preparing ourselves to celebrate our Savior's, first coming. The first arrival of Jesus was initially unnoticed by the world around Him. Then the angels sang the song of glory and told the shepherds in the field of the Messiah. The shepherds then went and did homage to the baby Jesus. (you know this story!)

Secondly we are preparing to celebrate Jesus' coming at the end of time, the Second Coming. In the Second Coming Jesus will be anything but unnoticed. He will come in glory and power. It is with both joy and a certain awareness that we must prepare ourselves to meet Jesus that we get ready for this Second

Coming. Believe it or not – in the midst of an overly commercialized and material extravaganza that "the holiday season" has become, Advent in the Church is a season of repentance, reflection and preparation for the end – the BIG END, not just the end of one year. It is no coincidence that the liturgical colors for Advent and Lent are the same. Yet Advent is ultimately to be a time of Joy. The third Sunday of Advent is in fact named Gaudete Sunday which is Latin for "rejoice." The Joy is not in gifts or parties or a playoff berth for the New Orleans Saints rather the Joy is in our Salvation. So you Rejoice in the birth of Christ and Rejoice that He is coming again. Rejoice and do good works in thanksgiving to God. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Very truly yours in Christ

*Fr. Michael O'Connor*  
State Chaplain

### *First Corinthians 13* "Christmas Version"

*Author Unknown*

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows,  
strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls,  
but do not show love to my family,

I'm just another decorator

If I slave away in the kitchen,  
baking dozens of Christmas cookies,  
preparing gourmet meals  
and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime,  
but do not show love to my family

I'm just another cook.

If I can work at a soup kitchen,  
carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity,  
but do not show love to my family,  
it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels  
and crocheted snowflakes,  
attend a myriad of holiday parties  
and sing in the choir's cantata,  
but do not focus on Christ,  
I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love does not envy another's home

that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love does not yell at the kids to get out of the way,

but is thankful that they are there to be in the way.

Love does not give only to those who are able to give in return,  
but rejoices in giving to those who cannot.

Love bears all things,

believes all things,

hopes all things and

endures all things.

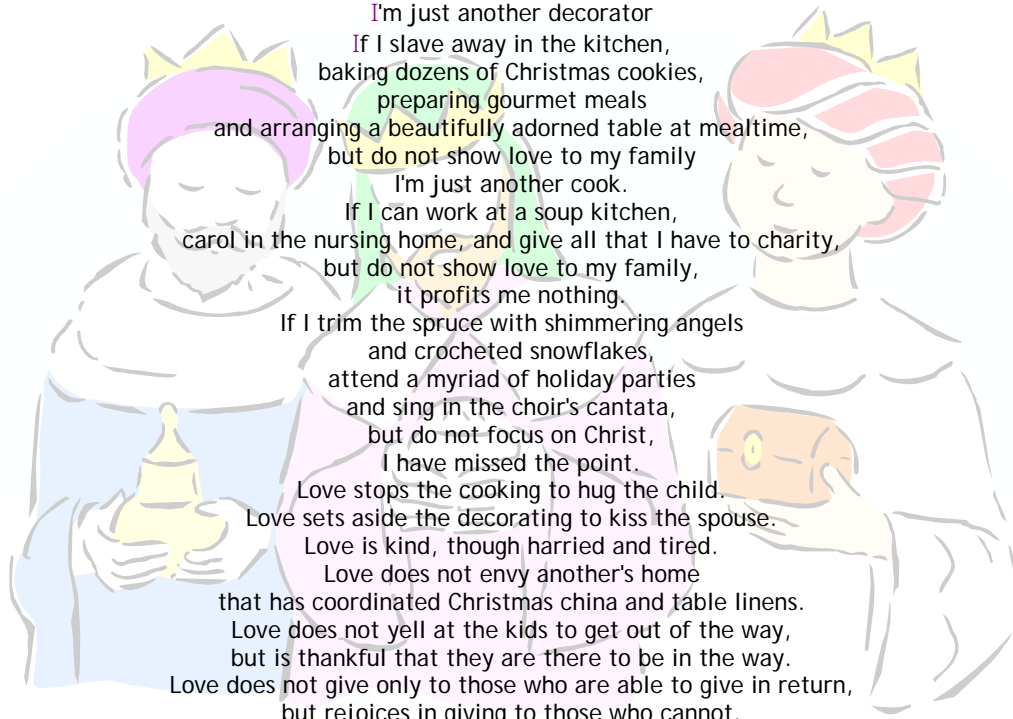
Love never fails.

Video games will break,

pearl necklaces will be lost,

golf clubs will rust.

but giving the gift of love will endure forever



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE MASTER

Dear Friends: Two years after Katrina you would think that we would be finished with all of these requests.

Last weekend (12/1/06), Cathy and I had the privilege of helping the Maryland Knight of Columbus deliver an 28 wheeler of building supplies and toys for our beloved friends in the Bay St. Louis/Pearlington area of our state, the most heavily devastated area of that storm called Katrina. They are still in need of desperate items. Especially canned goods, to feed hundreds of volunteers and local families a hot meal every day.

You would think that it was all over, but it is not. That is the sad thing. Christmas is meant to be a time of joy, family, blessings and peace. When we hear that so many people are still hurting, you can only think that this is a message that requires your prayers. Please pray for them. If you can help with any donations, please let me know.

My State Deputy has given me permission to rent a truck to deliver food and toys for these families and friends of our. We plan to make a trip in two weeks. Whatever you can do to help would be greatly appreciated.

*God bless you all. Paul and Cathy*

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FOR OUR TROOPS

We received this notice from Tom Chady, PSD. Wouldn't it be just great for all of us to use this service to send greetings to the men and women of the military who are serving all of us? Tom also told us that you can use the service repeatedly. Please join all of us in sending greetings to our military.

If you go to this web site, [www.letssaythanks.com](http://www.letssaythanks.com) you can:

- Pick out a thank you card and Xerox will print it and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq.
- You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to some member of the armed services.

How AMAZING it would be if we could get everyone we know to send one!!!

- This is a great site.
- Please send a card.
- It is FREE and it only takes a second.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the soldiers received a bunch of these? Whether you are for or against the war, our guys and gals over there need to know we are behind them...

*Merry Christmas  
Tom Chady, PSD*



### COULD WE EACH BUY AT LEAST ONE THING AT SEARS THIS YEAR?

How does Sears treat its employees who are called up for military duty? By law, they are required to hold their jobs open and available, but nothing more. Usually, people take a big pay cut and lose benefits as a result of being called up...

*Sears is voluntarily paying the difference in salaries and maintaining all benefits, including medical insurance and bonus programs, for all called up reservist employees for up to two years.*

I submit that Sears is an exemplary corporate citizen and should be recognized for its contribution.

Sears deserves our business and when we all shop at Sears, be sure to find a manager to tell them why we are there so the company gets the positive reinforcement it well deserves.

*MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!  
Thanks for all your contributions  
Throughout the year*

*NOEL Aucoin  
Editor  
Magnolia Knight*

