



State Deputy

Dr. Peter Sukanek, Oxford

State Secretary

Gerald 'Jerry' Schmuck, Gulfport

State Treasurer

David Scott, Madison

State Advocate

Jim McCraw, Jackson

State Warden

Bill Waggoner

Immediate Past State Deputy

Daniel 'Danny' Lechner, Biloxi

State Chaplain

Father Charles Nutter, Gautier

Send Council, assembly and circle news and announcements by the 10th of each month to:

Fred Middleton
4322 Bloombury St.
Southaven, MS 38672
fredmiddleton@comcast.net
662-449-0053

Coming Events

Exemplifications

Sunday, September 20

Major Degree Exemplification, Council 10443, Grenada St. Peter Parish Life Center. Registration at 11:30 a.m., 1st Degree at 12 noon.

Saturday, September 26

4th Degree Exemplification, Assembly 562, Hattiesburg. Registration at 11:30 a.m.; Exemplification at 1 p.m.; Mass at 4 p.m., followed by dinner.

Sunday, September 27

Major Degree Exemplification, Council 5654, K of C Hall, Ocean Springs. Registration at 8 a.m. 1st Degree at 9 a.m. (See Page 3 for full details.)

See Page 4 for Full Details on These Exemplifications.

Electronic forms coordinator submission due by Sept. 1.

Mid-Year submission due by March 31. Final submission due by March 31.

Email reports to State Program Director (programs1@bellsouth.net) and District Deputy on or before dates shown

The Magnolia Knight

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August 2009

A Word from the State Deputy

**Mississippi Knights Can Be Proud
of Again Attaining 'Circle of Honor' Designation**

By Dr. Peter Sukanek

Immediate Past State Deputy Danny Lechner and I, together with the OTHER delegates elected at our State Convention in April (Jim McCraw, Noel Aucoin and Pascual Cruz) attended the Supreme Convention in Phoenix Aug. 4-6. With over 90 bishops, archbishops and cardinals and more than 400 delegates from the US, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Poland, it was certainly a memorable event.

There was, of course, an Honor Guard at each of the morning Masses as the hierarchy processed. There were so many Sir Knights present, I was told 60 had to be turned away because there was just no room for them in the Honor Guard.

The theme of this year's convention was "*With Peter, in Solidarity with Our Bishops and Priests,*" a reminder that we stand behind, defend and proclaim the teachings of the Church as proclaimed by each of the Popes, Peter's successors. This theme is particularly relevant this year, the Year of the Priest. It should serve as a reminder of our dedication to and support of those men who devote their lives to serving our religious needs.

To achieve the Order's goal of having a Knights of Columbus presence in every Parish and provide support to every priest, membership is key. And it's not just membership for more numbers, but membership with the intent of making every member a better Catholic man, husband and father. There are currently close to 1.8 million members worldwide. Mississippi was, for the second year in a row, a member of the Order's Circle of Honor, meeting our State membership quota by over 125 percent. This is an achievement we can all be proud of, and thankful for the leadership of our Immediate Past State Deputy, Danny Lechner.

Charity is the first principle of our Order and, as the Supreme Knight reminded the delegates, is a central theme of the encyclicals of Pope Benedict XVI, including his most recent, *Charity in Truth*. Last year, the Knights gave over \$150 million and almost 69 million hours to charitable works. **Here in Mississippi, we gave over \$655,000 and 308,000 hours. That's roughly \$100 and 45 hours per Mississippi Knight.** These are certainly impressive figures, especially considering the current economic situation.

But more than money or hours, as Knights we are called upon to reflect this primary principle of Charity in our words and deeds at all times. Pope Benedict XVI, in his letter to the Supreme Convention, called the Knights "the respected and articulate voice of the Catholic faithful." In saying this, he was not just referring to the Supreme Officers or the Board of Directors, but to each of us. It is not just a compliment, but an admonition to "defend that teaching (of the Church) through ... responsible participation in civic and political life." This is certainly a clear reminder of the words of St. Francis of Assisi, "Preach the Gospel always. If necessary, use words."

Vivat Jesus!



'Thanks,' by Fr. Kent Bowlds, Vocation Director, Jackson Diocese

Once again I have to express much gratitude to my brother Knights for their generous support of vocations through the annual fund raiser which goes toward the seminarians' education, and through the Knights' Refund Support Vocations Program ("RSVP") in which individual Councils give financial and moral support to adopt individual seminarians.

Through the RSVP, Councils are reimbursed \$100 by the Supreme Council for every \$500 they donate. And while the Diocese takes care of the majority of the seminarians' expenses – room, board, tuition, books, etc., in addition to a monthly stipend – the seminarians greatly appreciate being adopted by Councils. The funds are a great help with simple yet necessary things like cell phone minutes, haircuts, gas money or just a simple meal at a restaurant (away from the usual cafeteria food).

If any Councils are interested in supporting a seminarian, I ask that they contact me first (see below), since I try to spread the support among the seminarians as evenly as possible, keeping it confidential, of course. And if a Council would like to provide support but feels it cannot meet the financial requirements of the RSVP, they can participate by giving any amount they feel is possible – the funds are simply a sign of prayerful moral support. And even a one-time letter, without a donation, from a Council expressing its thoughts and prayers for a seminarian, can be very effective.

Family of the Month

Harold and Camilia Adcock of Madison St. Francis Council 9543 received Supreme's Family of the Month award for the month of June.

Eighteen other Councils submitted families for June. They were 802, 1244, 1908, 2134, 2180, 4898, 5654, 6765, 7120, 7211, 7910, 9124, 10216, 10443, 10499, 10901, 11956 and 12271.

(Submitted by Carol Brochard, State Family Director.)

Occasionally seminarians leave the process of formation – some to go to other dioceses or religious communities, others to pursue marriage or other careers, and some to take time out for further discernment. Such decisions are never made lightly or easily; serious discernment happens not only before seminary, but all through the process of formation. A temptation for all of us is to think that any support or time spent for a for-

mer seminarian's formation has been wasted. But what we do for the Lord is never wasted; it will bear good fruit in one way or another. And if a man and the Diocese prayerfully decide that he is called in a direction other than the priesthood, better now than later. Besides, if this were an exact science, we wouldn't call it "Faith!"

For more information or to contact Fr. Kent, go to the website: www.jacksonvocations.com

Plan Early for Gerow Program Participation

By Don Cox, Chair, Bishop R.O. Gerow Program

The 2009 convention was outstanding. Donations to the Bishop R.O. Gerow Program exceeded expectations, with only a few Councils not making contributions to this worthwhile program.

Now is the time to be planning your programs and fundraisers for the 2010 fraternal year. The majority of Councils made their donations prior to the convention, which made the recordkeeping an easier task, resulting in only one mishap from almost 90 donations. My thanks to all of you who supported this concept.

Let's make 2010 one to remember – exceeding the past year's donations and reaching 100 percent participation from all Councils, Assemblies and Ladies Auxiliaries.

A Prayer for Our Priests

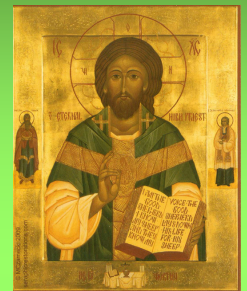
We thank you, God our Father, for those who have responded to your call to priestly ministry. Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf: Fill your priests with the sure knowledge of your love. Open their ears to the power and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Lead them to new depths of union with your Son. Increase in them profound faith in the Sacraments they celebrate as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests, may inspire us to strive for holiness by the power of their example, as men of prayer who ponder your word and follow your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother, guard with your maternal care these chosen ones, so dear to the Heart of your Son. Intercede for our priests that, offering the Sacrifice of your Son, they may be conformed more each day to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

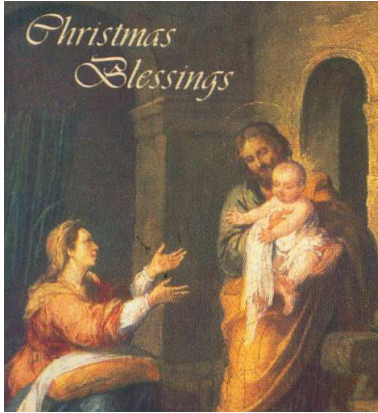
*St. John Vianney, universal patron of priests,
pray for us and our priests.*

The icon shows Christ in Mass vestments with a gold pelican over his heart, the ancient symbol of self-sacrifice. At the bottom is an altar prepared for Mass, and at the sides are Melchizedek, whose sacrifice of bread and wine prefigured the Eucharist, and St. John Vianney.

**Knights of Columbus**

In Solidarity with Our Priests

The Year for Priests • June 18, 2009 – June 19, 2010



Keep Christ In Christmas - KCIC

**The KCIC Program Is Underway
for 2009**

**Order Your Assortment Case
Today for \$130. After Sept. 25, the
Cost will be \$165.**

**The Jurisdiction Receives
50 Cents for Each Box Sold**

**SRCC - Send Religious
Christmas Cards**

**Contact State KCIC Chairman
Nat Zummo**

**35 Sunline Dr.
Brandon, MS 39042
601-825-0793**

zummonat@bellsouth.net



District Deputy Bill Sonnemann presided over the installation of new officers for Southaven Hernando DeSoto Council 7120's 2009-10 Fraternal Year. Led by Grand Knight Tom Cusker, the new leadership includes Deputy Grand Knight Fred Middleton, Chancellor Robert Purifoy, Financial Secretary Jim Farris, Treasurer Dan Bicknell, Recorder Dan Garrigan, Advocate Tim Hudson, Warden John Robinson, Inside Guard Ron Neal, Outside Guard Roger Smith, 1st Year Trustee Francis Miller, 2nd Year Trustee Bill Sonnemann and 3rd Year Trustee Jim Tarver. Fr. Tim Gray serves as Council Chaplain and offered prayers and blessings for the new year.

Pro-Life Added as Sixth Service Program Category

Supreme reinforced the Order's commitment to bring about a Culture of Life by adding a new Service Program category of Pro-Life for the 2009-10 Fraternal Year.

Activities previously reported under the Community category now will be reported under the Pro-Life category. In reporting a Council's best Pro-Life program for judging, enter "Pro-Life" in the area at the top of the form where the categories of Church, Community, Council, Family and Youth activities are listed.

Pro-Life Action

'Let's Give Our Children the Good News'

By Raymond Cole

As school starts again, it is time once more to start thinking about sponsoring an abstinence program for your teens. Unbelievably, there are Knights who are reluctant to provide this education service to their children – as if young people knowing the dangers of what they are getting into will make them more likely to start sexually experimenting. All this and more is already out there, on everything from the music videos they watch to the websites so easily accessed.

Let's give them the good information: the www.physiciansforlife.org website has a good PowerPoint program and comes complete with a script for program facilitators so that no one forgets to mention certain points. You also can contact local physicians, nurses and others in the healthcare industry in your community to see if they are willing to assist by presenting the program.

There is no such thing as too much information when it comes to keeping our children safe and protected. Education does that for these young adults. Go to this website and look at the hundreds of information sites that they have available on it, then make your own decisions. Even if your Council chooses not to go forward with promoting this program, Knights should look at what is provided because they may want to use it individually for their own children.

If this program, or the personal equivalent of it, is used, we would have no need for the pro-life anti-abortion demonstrations, because the teens would have made a personal choice (**not a pledge**; this has to be a **freely made decision** that comes from a **personal conviction!**) not to indulge in sex until marriage. Forewarned is forearmed. We fail in our duty to our children if we do not keep the lines of communication open in this area, too. They depend on us. If we provide for their physical needs, we should also provide moral and emotional support. It is part of being a good parent.

For those working with the youth of our Parishes: Even if they are not your own children, you are a parent substitute and should maybe confer with some of the parents and your pastor and see if this is the way you want to go. Once you have introduced this subject, you will certainly have opened a door to communication with your youth, so that they will feel

Grenada, Ocean Springs Host Major Exemplifications

Grenada Rev. Clifford Meador Council 10443 and Ocean Springs Fred L. Westbrook Sr. Council 5654 host major degree Exemplifications on Sept. 20 and 27, respectively.

Registration for the Grenada event begins at 11:30 a.m. in the new Parish Life Center at St. Peter Church, with the 1st Degree Exemplification beginning at 12 noon followed by 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications. The Parish Life Center is located next to St. Peter on College Blvd. From Interstate 55, take exit 206 east to the fifth stoplight; turn left to the second light; go right to College Blvd.; go right one block, and the church is on the left.

Notify Grand Knight Harvey Caldwell (bearcat43@bellsouth.net), 662-237-6757 [home], 662-392-1673 [cell] no later than Sept. 12 with the names of candidates and members who plan to attend so adequate planning for the meal can be made.

Registration for the Ocean Springs Exemplification begins at 8 a.m. in the K of C Hall, with the 1st Degree Exemplification at 9 a.m. followed by the 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications. A meal follows at a cost of \$5, with no charge for candidates, state officers and degree team members.

Notify Grand Knight Carl Brochard (Broch57@bellsouth.net), 228-327-0066 or District Deputy Robert Barr (bcbarr@cableone.net), 228-497-4879, 228-990-8023, no later than Sept. 19 with information on attendees so plans can be made accordingly.

The cost at each of the Exemplifications is \$4 for the 1st Degree kit and \$16 for the 2nd and 3rd Degree. A meal will be served at each Exemplification at a cost of \$5, with no charge for candidates, state officers and degree team members.

Everyone is encouraged to wear jacket and tie, although dress slacks and dress shirt are acceptable.

Brothers Lend a Hand to Long-Time Knight

Two Bro. Knights from Ocean Springs Fred L. Westbrook, Sr., Council 5654 and Msgr. Gregory Kennedy Council 10499 designed and built a portable scooter ramp for long-time Bro. Knight Frank Hilt, an active Knight for more than 60 years.

Frank and Bro. Knight Edwin O'Connor were Scoutmasters for a Boy Scout troop sponsored by St. Alphonsus for many years. Frank also chaired the bingo games for many years while a member of Council 5654. Some years back, he transferred to Council 10499 when it was formed at St. Elizabeth Seeton, his home Parish.

Frank has remained very active in both 3rd and 4th Degree functions, dressing out faithfully for Honor Guard duties as long as anyone can remember. He also served on the District 12 First Degree team until a few weeks ago. Frank turned 91 on July 21. He resides at home now

under hospice care because of congestive heart failure.

The Knights who designed and built the ramp are Past District Deputy Flitter Roberts of Council 10499 and Deputy Grand Knight Skip Murphy of Council 5654.

Please keep Bro. Frank in prayer.

2009

GRILLIN' FOR Life

BBQ COOK-OFF

\$7,500 in PRIZE MONEY

Friday, October 16th and Saturday, October 17th
Madison Cultural Arts Center
Madison, MS 39110
Main Street & Highway 51

Raising Money and Awareness
to help women, their unborn children & SIDS

BBQ judging starts 12 Noon Saturday - Awards announced at 4pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Food * Live Music * Family Fun * Arts & Crafts

SCARECROW CRUISE & CAR SHOW

Rain or Shine

Hosted by
Knights of Columbus Councils
of Central Mississippi

To enter a cooking team
call (601) 274-9463
or email open.cooks@yahoo.com

CHRISTMAS

Hattiesburg Assembly 562 Schedules 4th Degree

A 4th Degree Exemplification hosted by Hattiesburg Bishop Fahey Assembly 562 is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 26.

Registration opens at 11:30 a.m., with Exemplification starting at 1 p.m. Mass is at 4, with a social at 5:30 and banquet at 6.

Cost is \$70 per candidate, with an additional charge of \$20 for spouses and guests attending the banquet. Checks for fees and guest banquet tickets should be made payable to Larry Tabor, District Master, and mailed to him with the Form 4s at 9601 Blossman Dr., Biloxi, 39532. The deadline for receipt is Thursday, Sept. 17.

Contact Faithful Navigator Melvin Critchlow (melsfarm@yahoo.com); 985-839-9991) for more information

District Master Report By Larry Tabor

Now that the new Fraternal Year has begun, all Assemblies should submit their Form 186 - Report of Assembly Officers Chosen for 2009-10.

The Faithful Comptroller should complete the form and make distribution to Supreme, Vice Supreme Master Mike Horton and the District Master. As of Aug. 15, the following Assembly's have not submitted their Form 186 (according to Supreme): 556,560, 564, 2131, 2269, 2347, 2495, 2558 and 2913.

In addition, every Assembly should have completed its Annual Assembly Audit by July 30.

The next 4th Degree Exemplification will be held in Hattiesburg on Saturday, Sept. 26. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m.. An Exemplification announcement was made throughout the State.

Let's make this a large class; send completed Form 4s and candidates fees to the State Master. For more information contact me at: LNTabor@cableone.net.