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Daniel 'Danny' Lechner, Biloxi

State Chaplain

Father Al Camp, Madison

Send Council, Assembly and Circle news and announcements by the 10th of each month to:

Fred Middleton
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Southaven, MS 38672
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Tom Chady Honored as First Knight of the Round Table

By Philip Jabour

State Membership Director

Last summer the state officers voted to start a new program for Mississippi Knights that have been a member for more than one year. Those who qualified would be designated a Knight of the Round Table.

I asked Elvis Gates to design a certificate and a lapel pin. He went to work and came up with a design for both. I submitted them to Peter Sukanek, our State Deputy and he approved the designs and authorized me to have them made. We got them in recently and I gave them to the District Deputies to present at Council meetings.

Our first member of the Knights of the Round Table is Tom Chady. Unfortunately, we lost Tom a few months ago, but he had already qualified for this honor when he passed away. Tom will be honored at the State Convention in Tupelo and the certificate and pin will be presented to his daughter at the convention.

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The Magnolia Knight

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MERRY CHRISTMAS



From the State Deputy

The Invitation to Scrooge Is Extended to Us Year 'Round

By Peter C. Sukanek

My favorite Christmas film is "A Christmas Carol" based on the story by Charles Dickens. Each year, it is a "must watch" for me, something that drives my family crazy. I have seen almost all of the ones that have been made (excluding the cartoons and the take-offs): the older ones with Reginald Owen and later Alastair Sim, and the newer ones with George C. Scott and then Patrick Stewart. I think it is a great story, a story of unexpected and unasked-for gifts, a story of redemption and rebirth, a story of salvation.

It is a familiar story. The mean-spirited, miserly Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his long-time business partner, Jacob Marley. Scrooge has no friend; he's an odious, miserable, wretched, stingy human being. Responding to Scrooge's statement that he was "a good man of business," Marley says, "Mankind was my business. The human welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance and benevolence were my business."

Marley apparently saw something in Scrooge that others did not: the *potential* for charity and benevolence. This is the real gift, perhaps, to acknowledge that potential goodness in others. It is not always an easy gift to give, especially to people like Scrooge, people who are always cold and unfriendly. Christ's gift to all of us is just that gift, the invitation to lead a life as his follower, making charity, mercy, forbearance and benevolence *our* business. And it is our

duty to share that gift with others, seeing in everyone the potential for goodness.

Of course, Scrooge accepts that invitation, and his transformation is not only helped by direct supernatural intervention, but it is also instantaneous and irreversible. No such luck for us. No visitors to our quarters at 1 a.m. to remind us of what we're supposed to do, and what will happen to us if we don't. Our invitation does not show up magically on Christmas morning, but is extended to us all year round, although we do not often recognize it. Many times, we choose not to accept it. For me, at least, the commitment to acknowledge the potential in others and to accept the gift personally waxes during the Christmas season, then wanes soon after.

As Knights of Columbus, we have acknowledged, officially at least, that charity, mercy, forbearance and benevolence are our business. May we be able to recognize and accept Christ's gift to us every day, not just on Christmas day, and share that gift with others. Ask another man to become a Knight. Live with charity every day.

At the end of the story, referring to Ebenezer Scrooge, Dickens writes

"... and it was always said of him, that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge." May that be truly said of all of us!

God bless us, every one. Have a Merry and a Blessed Christmas.



About 138 hospitalized veterans, including staff members; 56 members of Keesler Air Force Base's Chaplain Services; 70 members from the 177th Regiment, 346th Brigade, 3rd Battalion, Camp Shelby, MS; and members of the Red Cross and Disabled Veterans representatives, including the Director of the VA Health Care System, gathered on Veterans Day Nov. 11 for a Fish Fry presented by D'Iberville's Mark Landry Assembly 3007 and Fr. McAlpine Council 9094. The celebration was planned and coordinated by a committee composed of Larry Tabor, Ken Guardanapo and Ed Guardanapo, members of D'Iberville's Mark Landry Assembly 3007 and Fr. McAlpine Council 9094; Leslie Pitre, Director, Red Cross Service Liaison to Armed Services; Don Cross, Recreation Director, VA Health Care Systems; and Lt. Tina Penick, Information Officer, 3rd BTN, 346th Brigade, Camp Shelby, MS.

Corinth Knights Announce the Reason for the Season



Members of St. James the Less Council 8912 and Pope John Paul II Assembly 2913 of Corinth combined resources to erect a Keep Christ in Christmas billboard. Located on heavily traveled Highway 72 in Corinth, the message had heavy viewer-ship in the weeks leading up to Christmas.



Fr. Tommy Conway shows off an enlarged version of the \$60,000 check presented by Bishop Fahey Council 1908 in Hattiesburg for the St. Thomas building fund. Council members with Fr. Conway include (in no order) Lee Fink, Drew Poirrer, Joe Gauck, Paul Donnell, Young Yu, Sean Fink, Wilbur Moreland, Mike Villarreal, Chuck Gudnek, Roger Smith and O.D. Landrum.

Round Table, From Page 1

As reported when the program was presented at the Schools of Columbianism, it is up to the Councils to submit the qualified members to the State Membership Director so they can be recognized.

The following members have been submitted by their Councils as members for 2010-11: **898** - Tom Chady. **848** - Jim McCraw, Hollis Felts and Kenneth Frey. **9543** - Larry Roberts, Greg Lovelady, Charles Wilkerson, Louis Pellegrine, Michael Barrett, Jerry Rabalais and Johnny Biggert. **10216** - Philip Jabour and Dennis Antici.

Councils may want to appoint a Knight to send names of qualified members.

FS Quick Tips, By Mike Kassouf

We have sent reminders and tips on using Member Management and Member Billing for the Financial Secretary, and all information is usable by the Faithful Comptroller also. Email kassouf@bellsouth.net If you have not been receiving these emails.

Major Exemplification

Fr. Patrick McAlpine Council 9094 in D'Iberville hosts a Major Exemplification Saturday, Jan. 29, at Sacred Heart Parish, located at 10482 LeMoyné Blvd. Please notify Grand Knight Lee Landry (228-396-2811 or lee-pluto@bellsouth.net) or District Deputy 11 Roger Fettes (228-392-6646 or rdf57@msm.com) with number of candidates and members.

Registration for the 1st Degree begins at 8 a.m., with the program beginning at 9. Registration for 2nd and 3rd Degrees is at 9:30, with the 2nd Degree program at 10:30 followed by the 3rd Degree. Lunch will be served immediately after the program.

A 4 p.m. Vigil Mass also is scheduled.

Knights of Columbus

Mississippi Jurisdiction

Be It Known That Fellow Knight

Tom Chady

Has Met All Qualifications For And Is
Therefore Affirmed As A

Knight of the Roundtable

2010-2011

And Henceforth Should Be Afforded All
Honors And Respect Therefrom



Signed: *Steve Schenck*
State Secretary

Signed: *Mike Kassouf*
State Membership Director