

THE MAGNOLIA KNIGHT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSISSIPPI JURISDICTION OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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FROM THE STATE DEPUTY

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO HELPED IN REACHING THE 45 PERCENT GOAL!

BY GERALD E. 'JERRY' SCHMUCK

Congratulations!! We made our 45 percent goal.

Because of your efforts, we will soon have \$2,000 deposited into our Christopher Fund. At this time last month, I had some concerns whether we would make it or not. On Dec. 1, we still needed 23 new Knights to make our goal. Things went fairly well, but as of Dec. 27, we were still one man short! We made several phone calls asking for a final push and it worked. I thank all of you who have brought in new Knights this fraternal year and especially to Council 4898 Long Beach and Council 7120 Southaven. When we were asking for "just one more", those two Councils kicked in and gave us three. As a result, we ended the year

at 182 new Knights; two more than we needed for the 45 percent goal. Thanks again to all who pitched in and helped us get this far.

We are now half way through our fraternal year, and six of our Councils have already reached or exceeded their Supreme membership quota. A job well done to Councils 7087

Kiln (150 percent), 8054 McComb (140 percent), 11934 Gluckstadt (157 percent), 12331 Dedeaux (125 percent), 15131

Jackson (133 percent) and 15382 Vancleave (300 percent). Keep up the good work. For the rest of you, we still have six months left in the fraternal year. Many of you are getting close and with just a little more effort, can be successful at the end as well. At this point we should all be looking at where we are and start revising our plans so we can be successful at the end of this year.

Paperwork! If you are like me, that is somewhat of a "dirty" word. However, it is something we all need to

get done. It is that time of year again when every Council (State too) must fill out several reports. It is very important that we complete the annual Fraternal Activities Report, due Jan. 31; the Special Olympics Report, also due Jan. 31; and the Semian-annual Audit due Feb. 15. While all three reports are important, the annual Fraternal Activities Report is especially important because that is the report we all use to keep our non-profit status. Thanks to those who have already completed the forms and sent them in. For the rest of you, please get them in soon. As we get closer, I'll be contacting the District Deputies asking him to give "a little push" to those Councils who haven't sent their reports in. Do your Council right and do us a favor by ensuring you get the reports in on time.

Brothers, we have accomplished a lot so far this fraternal year. Keep up the outstanding work all of you do for your Councils, the State and our Order. Together, as a team, let's show the Order that while Mississippi may be a small Jurisdiction compared with the others, we are large in heart and soul. Together we can and will make Mississippi shine!

Vivat Jesus!



Gerald Schmuck



State Deputy

Gerald E. 'Jerry' Schmuck, Gulfport

State Secretary

David Scott, Madison

State Treasurer

Jim McCraw, Jackson

State Advocate

Noel Aucoin, D'Iberville

State Warden

Philip Jabour, Flowood

Immediate Past State Deputy

Dr. Peter C. Sukanek, Oxford

State Chaplain

Father Bob Higginbotham, D'Iberville

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

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Southaven, MS 38672
fredmiddleton@comcast.net
901-218-2393

The Magnolia Knight

On the Web

www.kofc-ms.org

END OF YEAR 'STUFF'

BY ELVIS GATES, STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Getting closer by the minute: the end of the 2011-12 State Fraternal Year! What's left you might ask...and I might reply: PLENTY!!!

For the end of THIS MONTH, don't forget D-O-N-T F-O-R-G-E-T to send in two reports: Form 4584 Report of Participation with the Special Olympics and the ALL IMPORTANT Form 1728 Fraternal Activity Survey. If you went to one of the Mid-Winter meetings you heard me and the State Deputy "go off" about how important the 1728 is. This document is what Supreme uses to keep Uncle Sam's fingers out of our pockets! Please survey your members and get this form turned in as soon as you can. You don't have to wait until the 31st.

This month is also the month that we show our support for the Culture of Life .

**STATE ADDS 27 KNIGHTS
IN DECEMBER PUSH**

**By MICHAEL KASSOUF
STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

December ended in a 42 percent gain in membership over same period a year ago, with 27 new Knights joining the Order as compared to 19 in 2010.

People join organizations for many reasons: They want to get involved, meet people, make new friends, explore interests, develop leadership skills and **have fun**. Groups need new members because they bring new ideas and talents, in addition to replacing old members.

The numbers reflect a great job of recruiting across the Jurisdiction. Thanks for the hard work!

December 2011 Recruiting

Council	District	Location	Gain
1583	10	Gulfport	1
1908	8	Hattiesburg	4
4898	10	Long Beach	4
6765	4	Starkville	1
7120	2	Southaven	2
7854	5	Clinton	1
7974	4	Columbus	3
8038	6	Pearl	1
8054	7	McComb	1
8912	1	Corinth	1
9094	11	No. Biloxi	1
9543	6	Madison	1
11934	6	Gluckstadt	3
15155	11	Vancleave	2
15382	8	Hattiesburg	1

NOVEMBER FAMILIES

Mississippi families winning Supreme's Family of the Month drawings were John and Katherine Bucciardini, Hattiesburg Bishop Fahey Council 1908; Timothy and Jennie Moe, Ocean Springs Fred L. Westbrook Sr. Council 5654; and John and Suzanne Scanlan, Madison Gluckstadt Council 11934.

COATS FOR KIDS BENEFITS SACRED HEART SOUTHERN MISSIONS

Sacred Heart Southern Missions provided 127 winter coats to children in the Walls charity's service area thanks to the generosity of parishioners in Southaven, Hernando, Senatobia and Robinsonville and Hernando DeSoto Council 7120 of the Knights of Columbus.

The Council took up Supreme's Coats for Kids cause in November with a \$500 commitment then posted Knights at Masses over Thanksgiving weekend at Southaven Christ the King, Hernando Holy Spirit, Senatobia St. Gregory and Robinsonville Good Shepherd for donations from parishioners wanting to assist. They responded with an additional \$2,500.

The Council purchased the coats locally as ages, sizes and the sex of children to be outfitted were provided by SHSM.

Council leaders noted that support from the pastoral team, staff at the Parishes, Knights and others who volunteered to collect donations; the religious and staff at Sacred Heart Southern Missions; and the depart-



Sr. Janice Richards, SCN (from left), Sr. Betteann McDermott, SMS and Sacred Heart Southern Missions Volunteer Coordinator Lois Harrison unpack a shipment of coats provided by the Hernando DeSoto Knights of Columbus Council 7120 for distribution to children in the Walls charity's service area.

ment stores whose personnel provided pricing and sorted the coats all "adds up to a hugely successful ministry for the Council and the Parishes served by the Priests of the Sacred Heart."

END OF YEAR, (FROM PAGE 1)

and mark the anniversary of one America's darkest days: the Roe v Wade decision. Please remember to pray a rosary on the Jan. 22 to help our country reverse the terrible direction it went that day! If you are a pro-life committee chairperson or involved in other pro-life activities in your community, I would also ask you to email your contact information to Bro. Dennis Riecke at dennisr@mdwfp.state.ms.us. He is putting together a database of other pro-life individuals and organizations so together we can accomplish even more in the cause of life.

Convention News: Our State Convention this year is being held for the first time at the Hollywood Casino in Bay St Louis. This should be a really good time for one and all and I encourage you to turn in your registration and get your hotel rooms now.

There are only 200 rooms available on-site (RV spots are available at a great rate as well,) so the sooner you sign up, the better. All of the registration forms are on the state website at www.kofc-ms.org so you can get them today. Also, like all previous conventions, any advertising you can do will help keep the costs down and help the state. Please consider not only purchasing an ad for the Council or Assembly, but how about a personal one as well? All ads are of course tax deductible and highly appreciated. Ad forms are on the website as well.

Well, that's it from the Programs area. I am looking forward to reading all of your great submissions for activities awards this year and seeing you in Bay St Louis in April.

Vivat Jesus!



SACRED HEART DEDEAUX KNIGHTS DELIVER

Pass Christian Sacred Heart Dedeaux Council 12331 delivered 68 food baskets to the Parish and surrounding community in the week before Christmas. Twenty members of the Council spread over eight routes to make the deliveries. (Submitted by Bill Heath.)

McGIVNEY GUILD PASSES MEMBERSHIP MILESTONE

**BY TOM ZETTLER, PSD
McGIVNEY GUILD CHAIR**

My Brother Knights: We have reached a milestone – passing the 900-member mark in the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild in our Jurisdiction.

There were times when I never thought we would achieve that mark, but here we are. The thing is, however, 900 is nothing to grow complacent with! With the number of members in our Jurisdiction, we should have five times that number.

I have said over and over that it costs you nothing but a minute of your time to join, and it is a very simple process: there is no physical exam and you don't have to have a college degree; you simply have to be a member of the Order and have a desire to see our founder raised to the honors of the altar.

Please take just a moment and join the Guild. You have nothing to lose, but our Order has a great deal to gain. Let's see our Jurisdictional membership in the Guild continue to climb.



ALTAR SERVERS RECOGNIZED BY GAUTIER COUNCIL

Gautier St. Mary's Council 9124 and Fr. Charles Nutter presented Altar Server Certificates during the Church's Christmas party. (Submitted by Robert Barr.)

DIFFERENT LIFE STAGES, CHANGING NEEDS BY JERRY WOODS, GENERAL AGENT

You may have a long-range expense for which you are saving, such as college for your children. You may be concerned about a comfortable, worry-free retirement. You may want to protect your ability to earn a living. You may wonder if needing costly long-term care will deplete your hard-earned assets. You want to have something to leave for your wife, children or grandchildren.

At some point you may have had all of these needs on your mind. Over time, these thoughts make way for others as your needs evolve, your finances change and you get older. What is important to you at age 20, may not be at 30, or 45 or 65. What is the best way to be prepared for these changes before they happen?

One of the easiest ways to be financially ready for changes that come with different life stages is to meet annually with your professional Knights of Columbus agent, and address the needs that his analysis uncovers. This can help you be ready to face the financial challenges and issues on the road ahead.

During that annual visit, I'll take the time to review your needs, goals and budget. I'll update all beneficiaries on your policies and be sure your coverage meets your needs. I'll recommend a program of life insurance, long-term care, disability income in-

surance and guaranteed retirement products that will help you rest easy at night.

Whatever your needs, whatever your concerns, whatever your stage in life, I can help.

Contact me today to learn more:
Jerry Woods, 662-846-6308,
jerry.woods@kofc.org.

Your new Field Agent, Jody G. Knight, successfully completed a week of intensive training at the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council office in New Haven, CT.

Invitation to this special training session was based upon Jody's dedication to his role in fulfilling the vision of the Knights of Columbus founder and the success Jody has had in his career.

As an agent, Jody is required to keep up his training and product knowledge to better serve his fellow Knights and their families. Jody's dedication is to providing the highest level of service and the most secure, stable products and advice to the members of the Councils he serves.

Jody can be contacted at 12143 Knights Lane, Picayune, Ms 39466; 228-342-5943, knightemail2007@gmail.com