



State Deputy

Daniel 'Danny' Lechner, Biloxi

State Secretary

Dr. Peter Sukanek, Oxford

State Treasurer

Gerald 'Jerry' Schmuck, Gulfport

State Advocate

David Scott, Madison

State Warden

Jim McCraw, Jackson

Immediate Past State Deputy

Larry Tabor, Biloxi

State Chaplain

Father Charles Nutter, Gautier

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

Fred Middleton
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662-449-0053

On the Web
www.ms-kofc.org

Coming Events

Exemplifications

Saturday, Feb. 14

1st, 2nd and 3rd Degrees, Clinton Holy Savior Council 7854, Parish Hall. Registration at 10 a.m.; 1st Degree at 10:30; 2nd Degree at 1 p.m., followed immediately by the 3rd Degree.

Monday, Feb. 16

1st Degree, Woolmarket James D. Hart Council 9673, Murray Hall. Registration at 6:30 p.m.; Exemplification at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 18

1st Degree, Ocean Springs Fred S. Westbrook Sr., Council 5654. Registration at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 19

1st Degree, Starkville Fr. John P. Egan Council 6765. Registration at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 28

2nd and 3rd Degrees, Starkville Fr. John P. Egan Council 6765. Registration at 9:30 a.m. The 2nd Degree exemplification begins at 10:30, with the 3rd Degree immediately following.

Noteworthy Dates

Audit Report to Supreme by Feb. 15.

The Magnolia Knight

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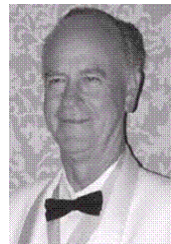
The Knights of Columbus Foundation of Mississippi approved the distribution of \$11,000 collected in the People with Intellectual Disabilities fund-raising campaign to seven Mississippi institutions last month (see article on Page 2). Members of the Foundation are (from left) Executive Director Jim Farris, Larry Tabor, Peter Sukanek, Danny Lechner, Rich Lieding, Tom Chady, David Scott and Gerald Schmuck. The Foundation returns 75 percent of the funds collected to local Councils and distributes the remainder on a statewide basis to organizations involved in assisting individuals challenged by their disabilities.

A Word from the State Deputy

Lent: A Time for Fasting, Sacrifice . . . and Forgiving

By Danny Lechner

We are now approaching the season of Lent, the time for fasting, sacrifice, and forgiving. I would ask you to forgive someone in your life that you may hold a grudge against. If there is no one, you are truly blessed. If there is, remember that Jesus forgave those who persecuted Him.



In "The Lord's Prayer," we ask God to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. If we expect God to forgive us, we must forgive them.

At the Regional Mid-Winter meetings, State Convention packets were passed-out. These included the registration and ad forms. If you did not receive them, they are available on the State Web site.

The Convention Committee needs you to get them in ASAP in order to plan a successful convention.

Also, the delegate slips and Per Capita statements were distributed. Please submit them as soon as possible.

This year, we decided not to have a State raffle. It will be up to the individual Councils, Assemblies, Ladies Auxiliaries and Squires to make the Bishop R. O. Gerow memorial fund successful.

Our seminarians are depending on you. Don't let them down.

Membership

March is the time for the March Blitz campaign. Please get your membership materials from Supreme now. They can be ordered from Supreme using the supply catalog.

May Jesus' blessing be with you and your family during this Lenten season.

God bless.

Tupelo Council Supports Parkgate Pregnancy Clinic

Tupelo Fr. Robert Reitmeier Council 8848's Memorial to the Unborn on the campus of St. James Catholic Church was the backdrop for a presentation of a \$2,309 check to Melissa Gunner, Client Services Director for Parkgate Pregnancy Clinic of Tupelo.

The memorial was commissioned by Br. Knight Scott Luken of Luken Memorial Company, located in Yankton, SD. Funds from the Council's Draw Down for Life dances enabled the purchase of the memorial and continued support of Pro-Life issues.

Grand Knight Mark Dye presents the check as Fr. Tom Lalor and Council Knights look on. Any Council or individual wishing to make a donation to Parkgate can find information at www.parkgatedonors.com.



7 Organizations Receive \$11,000 Collected in PID Drive

The Knights of Columbus Foundation of Mississippi, meeting at St. Francis Parish in Madison, distributed \$11,000 collected during the 2008 fund drive for People with Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll drive) to seven organizations throughout the state.

The Foundation is the 501(c)3 organization that distributes funds raised by Mississippi Councils in the annual fund raiser, with 75 percent of the funds returned for local distribution and 25 percent distributed on a statewide basis.

Mississippi Special Olympics received \$5,000, with \$1,000 each going to Ellisville State School, Boswell Retardation Center, North Mississippi Regional Center, South Mississippi Regional Center, Midwest Industries and the Brain Injury Association of Mississippi.

PID Chairman and Foundation Executive Director Jim Farris of Southaven Hernando DeSoto Council 7120 reports that several Councils submitted fund drive checks, noting that additional funds will follow. Several others have not submitted disbursement forms that direct the Foundation in the distribution of funds to the local program or facility.

"We are holding funds for Councils that have indicated more money will be submitted or that have not submitted a disbursement form," Farris said. "The Foundation's fiscal year ends April 30, and we would like to have all funds distributed by that date."

Councils that have submitted PID funds but have not received a return check for 75 percent of those funds should contact Br. Farris and submit a disbursement form.

Farris also noted that a few checks returned to Councils for distribution have not cleared the bank. He requests that Councils holding a check for some reason expedite its processing to meet the fiscal year-end date.

"Finally, thanks to all Councils for what they do for these 'special persons'," Farris said.

He also announced the 2009 PID drive dates are May 17-23.

Families of the Month

By Carl Brochard

I would like to congratulate all of the Councils that nominated a Family of the Month for November. I also want to say this is

The memorial is dedicated to the unborn and depicts the Blessed Virgin Mary lifting up a child toward heaven. The my fourth year as Family Director and it is the first time I have seen four families selected by Supreme.

The families were John and Janice Kasper, Meridian Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802; Charles and Jackie Williamson, Cleveland Fr. Rotondo Council 5556; Frank and Ann Hilt, Ocean Springs Msgr. Gregory Kennedy Council 10499; and Julio and Estrella Galang, Gulfport St. Joseph the Worker Council 12271.

The 25 families submitted to Supreme in November were the most in a long time.

Other Councils submitting nominations in November were 898, 1244, 1908, 2134, 4898, 5654, 6765, 6872, 7211, 8034, 9124, 9543, 9673, 10216, 10443, 10901, 11934, 11956, 12271, 13936 and 14051.

Ronnie and Lucy Sperier of Pica-yune St. Charles Borromeo Council 6872 were Supreme's December selection for Family of the Month.

Other Councils nominating families were 802, 898, 1908, 2134, 2180, 4898, 5556, 5654, 7120, 7211, 8038, 9094, 9124, 9543, 10216, 10443, 10499, 10901, 11934, 11956, 12271,

Pro-Life Action

40 Days for Life

The 40 Days for Life Program, a time of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, is scheduled Feb. 15-April 5. Visit www.40daysforlife.com or sign up to receive articles and notices via email about this prayer opportunity. To sign up, contact Terri Herring at (601) 316-3001 or terriherring@comcast.net. The articles are very moving and the need for constant prayer is great.

Laurel Council Honors 'Pat' Myers' on 70 Years as a Knight

A large delegation of past and present state officers, friends, colleagues and family turned John P. 'Pat' Myers' 88th birthday and celebration of 70 years as a Knight into a night to remember with a Mass and dinner hosted by Laurel Council 2180 and Arthur F. Axton Assembly 563.

The longest living member of the Past State Deputies Association in Mississippi was initiated into the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degrees of the Knights of Columbus on Jan. 11, 1939, at Bay St. Louis and into the 4th Degree on July 21, 1946, at Jackson. He is a lifelong member of Immaculate Conception Parish in Laurel, where he has served as an altar boy, lector, Eucharistic Minister and member of the Parish Council and Finance Committee for many years. He also served as president of the Immaculate Conception School Board.

On the state level, Pat was elected State Secretary in 1948, and in 1950 was elected to a two-year term as the youngest State Deputy ever in Mississippi. He also was elected to a term as State Treasurer; received the Knight of the Year Award from the State Council, served as chairman of the Audit Committee for several years, edited *The Magnolia Knight* and served as Executive Secretary for six years. He has worked on the Tootsie Roll fund-raising drive (now the People with Intellectual Disabilities drive) since it was adopted in Mississippi.

At the 4th Degree level, Pat served seven years as State Master; received the Charles C. Jaubert Memorial Award from the Msgr. Cramer Assembly in Lake Charles, LA, in 1991; was awarded the Distinguished Service Membership Award as Master with star in 1988-90; and was awarded the Knight of the Year award in 1985-86 by the Bienville Province of the 4th Degree. He also received the Fred L. Westbrook, Sr., Knight of the Year Award in 1988.

Pat has served on the Diocese of Biloxi Finance Council since its in-



John P. 'Pat' Myers addresses well-wishers at a gala event celebrating his birthday and his achievements during a 70-year career as a Knight. Joining him for the event were (from left in right photo) Deacon Rich Hollingsworth of Laurel, who served as the event's master of ceremonies ; Bishop Ron Herzog of Alexandria, LA; and wife Mary Anne.

ception in 1977, making a monthly trip to Biloxi the past 31 years. He has attended six Supreme Conventions as a delegate and attended the 100th anniversary convention in 1982; and he has attended 60 an-

nual Mississippi State Conventions.

In 1975, he retired from the Internal Revenue Service after 34 years of service and continues to stay busy as a tax return preparer even though he has been legally blind since 1999

Career Opportunities With the Knights of Columbus

The World's Largest Catholic Fraternal Organization
Has 3 Insurance Sales Positions Available
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- **Performance Incentives**
- **Professional Training**
- **Group Medical/Life, Disability Insurance**
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The Ideal Candidate

- **Enterprising Skills**
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- **Financially Secure**
- **Ambitious, Ethical, Honest, Trustworthy**
- **Self-Starter with Initiative to Start Own Business**
- **Professional-Level Income Potential**
- **Leadership and Sales Skills**

Contact

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Paul Johnson, Geoff O'Neil, Grand Knight Daryl Ladner and Fr. Charles Nutter take in all the Seminarian Care Package items collected at St. Mary's Gautier to be sent to the Seminararians of the Biloxi Diocese. St. Mary's Council 9124 mailed 22 packages as a result of the outpouring of support from parishioners.

Free Throw Time

Participants in Ocean Springs Councils 5654 and 10499 free throw competition included (kneeling from left) Kyle Anderson, Russell Moran, Kathleen McMackin, Hannah Horn, Christian Lesso, Emily Rapp and Anna Wright (and standing) Lelia Camerino, Sheldon Compton, Chet Rodrigue, Jared Sliman, John Thomas McCarthy and Cooper Brune. Sheldon, Hannah, Chet, Christian, Emily and Anna were the champions.



Gautier Council 9124 hosted the District 12 free throw competition. Winners were Hannah Horn, girls age 10; Kathleen McMackin, age 11; Solicia Tran, age 12; Will Garriga, boys age 10; Taylor Kendrick, age 11; Christian Lesso, age 12; Jack Garriga, age 13; and Keyshawn Slade, age 14. District Deputy George 'Flitter' Roberts and Gautier Grand Knight Daryl Ladner hosted competitors from Biloxi, Ocean Springs, Gautier and Lucedale.

All age groups were represented in Southaven Hernando DeSoto Council 7120's 2009 competition, with winners receiving min-basketballs and all participants receiving certificates of participation. Winners were (front, from left) Wyatt Young, age 11, and Troy Reyes, age 10; and (back,) Brant Leggett, age 14; Nick Shelton, age 13; Keith Stepter, age 12; and Breana Reyes, age 12 girls winner.



Gautier St. Mary's Mails 22 Care Packages

By Richard O'Neil

Hoping to kick off the New Year with a bang, the members of Gautier St. Mary's Council 9124 put the finishing touches on their collection of Seminarian gift boxes.

Originally, the Seminarian Care Package Program entailed assignment of a Seminarian to St. Mary's, (Mr. Michael Marascalco is the assigned Seminarian), and each church was to send a package to its particular Seminarian.

In typical St. Mary's fashion, the call went out and the gifts began pouring in. The Council received so much that the decision was made to send items to all the Seminararians.

As a result, the Council had the privilege of mailing 22 boxes of gifts to our Seminararians.

It was gratifying to see that our Council and our church was so involved and gave so much. Our Council was so humbled by the church's offerings that we decided to send a check for \$500 to our Seminarian.

Several Knights gave up their free time to make this all happen. Among them were Paul Johnson and his father-in-law, who made a Christmas tree to help get people involved. Also Grand Knight Daryl Ladner really worked hard helping to organize, sort and pack the gifts and donations. The CYO carefully labeled all the boxes and taped them securely for shipping, in addition to moving them around about three times.

Many people from St. Mary's worked together to make this happen. As the chairman for the Care Package program for the Diocese, I must tell you, the response is incredible and is a blueprint for other Councils and churches on how to "get it done."

Council 1244 Honors Knight of the Quarter, Families

Biloxi Council 1244 Knights who participated in a membership drive at Latimer Christ the King Parish included (standing from left) Pete Ebert, Membership Chair Jim Rigby, Past Grand Knight Chester Trahan, Jim Higginbotham and Past Grand Knight Billy Davis and (kneeling) John Higginbotham.

Biloxi Council 1244 Stages Membership Drive

Members of Council 1244 in Biloxi held a membership drive the weekend of Feb. 7-8 at Christ the King Mission Church in Latimer.

Membership Chair Jim Rigby coordinated the drive with Christ The King's pastor, the Very Rev. John R. McGrath, who spoke at all of the Masses and invited anyone interested in knowing more about the Knights to contact the Biloxi KCs. Fr. McGrath also spoke favorably on the good work being carried out by the Knights.

Br. John Higginbotham arranged for coffee and donuts and other refreshments to be served to the Christ the King parishioners and attending Council 1244 members after Mass.

Members of 1244 who assisted with the drive were Past Grand Knight Chester Trahan, Financial Secretary Harry Steinwinder, Family Director "Pete" Hebert, Council Church Activity Chair and Publicity Chair Joe Ravita, Past Grand Knight Billy Davis, and Jim Higginbotham.

Biloxi Council 1244's recipient of the Knight of the Quarter Award is Br. Jim Rigby, with wife Carol and Council Grand Knight Mike Arguelles (top left photo). Br. Jim serves as both a Field Agent for the Knights in Mississippi and Council 1244's Membership Chairman. He has been a Knight 40 Years and has been a member of many Council's over that period. Br. Jim was very active during the past quarter in programs and projects undertaken by the Council. He is always ready to volunteer his time and services and share his knowledge and has served in various elected offices over the years. As a member of Alhambra, a fraternal organization of selected Catholic men, Jim works conscientiously in the interest of the mentally challenged. He also serves in various church functions in his parish, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church.

The Council's families of the month for the last three months of 2008 also were recognized at the awards function. Br. Mike presented certificates to the Randall Cox family (top right) for November the Una Broussard Family (bottom) for October. December's Family of the Month recipient, the Ronald Rose family, could not be present for the presentation.

Natchez Hosts 47th Bowling Tournament, Feb. 28 - March 1

Rivergate Bowl in Natchez hosts the Mississippi Jurisdiction's 47th Annual State Bowling Tournament Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 28-March 1.

Entries close Feb. 23 for singles, doubles and team competition. Singles competition is scheduled for 11 a.m. Feb. 28, with doubles events scheduled for 3 p.m. the same day. Teams compete at 10 a.m. March 1.

The tournament is open to all members of the K of C, the Ladies Auxiliary and Columbian Squires in good standing.

Trophies and cash prizes will be awarded.

Entries should be returned to Darren Cowart, 4 Oakhurst Dr., Natchez, MS 39120. See Page 6 for full information and rules on the tournament.

**MISSISSIPPI KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
47th ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT**
Rivergate Bowl, Bridge By-Pass, Natchez
601-442-8436

Tournament Co-Chair: Darren Cowart, 601-446-7876, darrenowart@yahoo.com

Singles and Doubles Event: Saturday, Feb. 28, 11 a.m., 3 p.m.

Team Event: Sunday, March 1, 10 a.m.

Entries Close Monday, Feb. 23

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. American Bowling rules and the following shall govern this tournament.
2. Open to all members of the Knights of Columbus, Ladies Auxiliary and Columbian Squires in good standing.
3. There will be one cash prize awarded for each five entries as prize funds allow, including all events. Suitable trophies will be awarded to the winners in each event.
4. Individual handicaps will be computed on the basis of 90 percent of the differences between each average and 200.
5. League bowlers use highest sanctioned average for 21 games or more for 2005-06 season. Where no average last season, use highest average for 21 games or more as of Jan. 1, 2007. Where current average of 21 games or more is 10 pins higher than last season's average, then the current average must be used. No summer league averages allowed.
6. It is the responsibility of each entrant to provide the tournament chairman with his correct average whether submitted by the bowler, his team captain or others. Failure to do so shall disqualify the score if the average submitted is lower than the actual average thereby resulting in more handicap. Prize-list winnings will be based on the average submitted if higher. All bowlers participating in the tournament who may be subject to re-rating in accordance with the ABC rules 363-b and 363-c apply and ABC rule 363-d is waived for this tournament.
7. Substitutions in each event are allowed, provided the tournament chairman is notified at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled time to bowl and the average of the substitute is certified.
8. A bowler may, if necessary, bowl in the team event twice, and the team may bowl later after the first round with one bowler bowling twice. The first team event score shall count toward all events score. Bowl one time only in singles and doubles. An entry in singles must include doubles entry and vice versa. Entry forms must be complete showing all data requested.
9. Telescores will be official records of scores, and any errors in scoring must be reported before transferring to recap sheet.

Please return entries to: Darren Cowart, 4 Oakhurst Dr., Natchez, MS 39120