



PSD Robert (Bob) Sears

Dies at age 79

PSD Sears: a K of C leader for 40+ years

Past State Deputy Robert (Bob) Sears could inspire Knights to work for the good of the Order. He was an advisor to State Deputies, state officers, Grand Knights and individual council members. Many referred to him as Ohio's "Mr. K of C".

PSD Sears, a leader in Ohio's K of C hierarchy for more than 40 years, passed away at his home in Brook Park (Cleveland Diocese) on March 15. He was 79.

"He cared deeply for the Knights of Columbus," said Fr. James Stenger, pastor of Mary Queen of the Apostles Church, where Sears and his wife, Dodie, worshipped for many years, at the Mass of Christian Burial on March 20. "He was a tremendous investment for the Knights of Columbus. His life was a gift. He lived out the principles of the Knights - charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism."

Fr. Stenger told how Sears did much for vocations, to the extent that he was on the committee of the Cleveland Diocese's Bishop's Brunch, a fund-raiser that annually realizes thousands of dollars for vocations. And he related how, in the Knights of Columbus, Sears several years ago took over Ohio's Pennies for Heaven campaign for two fraternal years, bringing needed attention to the vocations fund-raiser and elevating collections for the first time to the \$75,000 level.

"He was a good Catholic man," added Fr.

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Ohio State Council
Buckeye Bulletin

Dave Helmstetter - State Deputy

March - April, 2012

2011-2013



Take Up His Cross
For Charity • In Unity
• With Fraternity

State Convention to include seminar for chaplains

The 113th Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council will be held in Cincinnati, at the Millennium Hotel, on the weekend of May 25-27.

This year's convention will include a new initiative - a special Training Seminar for Council Chaplains and Assembly Friars - on Friday, May 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"This is an important addition to the convention," stated State Deputy Dave Helmstetter, general convention chairman. "The session will provide an overview into their duties and

responsibilities and how chaplains and friars can be more effective with local councils and assemblies. We encourage councils and assemblies to invite their spiritual leader to attend."

The main presenter will be Fr. John Grace, Supreme Council director of chaplain programs and development. In his role, Fr. Grace and Supreme Chaplain Bishop William Lori have developed materials such as the chaplain's newsletter and 10 Steps to be an Effective Chaplain. Fr. Grace, a former state chaplain from

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Ohio State Chaplain meets the Pope

State Chaplain Fr. Ron Williams currently is on a three-month sabbatical at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Cincinnati Archbishop Dennis Schnurr (background) also was in Rome, and invited Fr. Williams to join him for an audience with Pope Benedict XVI.
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Our State Chaplain's Message

A Sabbatical to Rome – and an audience with the Pope

By **Fr. Ron Williams**
State Chaplain



I'm writing this article from Rome. During the months of February, March, and April, I'm on a three-month sabbatical at the Institute for Continuing Theological Education at the Pontifical North American College. This is a wonderful opportunity to take some refresher courses in a wide variety of subjects, to travel around Italy and the Holy Land, and to see the sights of Rome.

The United States bishops also are taking turns for their *Ad Limina* visits. Every five to seven years, all the bishops are required to travel to Rome and have meetings with curial officials and the Pope himself.

The first week of my sabbatical also happened to be the week of the *Ad Limina* visits for the Ohio and Michigan bishops. Each bishop may take one priest to visit the Holy Father with him. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati graciously invited me along with him.

My participation was brief, but memorable nevertheless. I genuflected before the Holy Father, kissed his ring, exchanged pleasantries, posed for a group photo, the Pope gave me a rosary that he blessed, and then I left.

It is a great experience to be in Rome, the Mother Church of all Christians throughout the world. At the same time, it is disheartening to find such large numbers of people in the same country who don't practice their faith. Many churches are empty, and some churches remain closed except for one day out of the year for the Lenten station Mass.

On one particular weekend, five of us sabbatical priests spent the weekend in Venice. On the train ride back to Rome, we decided to stop in Padua. We celebrated Sunday Mass in a chapel at the Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua, who, as we know, is the patron saint of finding lost things. It was very refreshing to find crowds of people from all over the world packing the Basilica for Sunday Mass (every hour, on the hour) and streaming past St. Anthony's tomb. I said a prayer: "St. Anthony, please pray that more people will follow their example and find their faith!"

'Be good stewards of the principles of our Order! Follow the examples of SS Francis & Anthony and Fr. McGivney. Live out your faith!'

One of the interesting things in the Basilica is the reliquary. When St. Anthony's tomb was opened 30 years ago, they found his 800-year-old body in a remarkably well-preserved condition. Even more remarkable was his tongue, which was just as red as a living person's. His jaw and tongue were removed, and his organs were preserved in the reliquary.

This is a fitting tribute to a holy priest who was known for being a very popular preacher. When towns got word that he was heading their way, they closed up their shops and businesses and filled the town squares to hear him preach the word of God. And now, 800 years later, people pack his basilica for Mass and to stream past his tomb to ask him to pray for their loved ones.

At the end of Mass (in the new translation), the priest may proclaim, "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord!" And the people respond, "Thanks be to God!"

This doesn't mean we have to be orators like St. Anthony. Rather, we can follow the advice of his spiritual father, St. Francis of Assisi (which I have adopted) – go out to public places, wear your Catholic faith like a garment, let people see you live out the principles of the Knights of Columbus, and preach the Word of God, *using words if necessary*.

How can people find their faith? They find their faith through Catholics who lovingly put the faith into practice openly in their daily lives.

My Brother Knights and Ladies, be good stewards of the principles of our Order! Follow the examples of SS. Francis & Anthony and Fr. McGivney. Live out your faith! Then other people will find their faith – through each and every one of us.

Cleveland Diocese priest to become Military Chaplain

A Cleveland Diocese priest will soon become a Military Chaplain in the United States Army, the first such Catholic priest entering the U.S. Military thus far this year as an enlisted chaplain.

Fr. Joseph Brankatelli, a charter member and Chaplain of Holy Family Council 15056 in Parma, and Sir Knight of Bishop Hoban Fourth Degree Assembly, will celebrate his last Mass as Parochial Vicar of Holy Family Parish, Parma, on May 6, and then begin military basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., in preparation for his assignment as a Military Chaplain. Holy Family will continue to be his home parish during his tour of duty in the military.

Fr. Brankatelli was ordained in 2008. His tenure at Holy Family has been his first and only assignment as a parish priest.

2011-2012 Pennies for Heaven Campaign

Support Our Seminarians

Our Ohio State Council 2011-2012 Pennies for Heaven Campaign is drawing to its conclusion, and we ask all councils to submit their final turn-in by April 1. Please send one check, made payable to the *Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus*, along with the completed turn-in form, to me. A blank form is available for downloading from our kofcoho.org website. You can also email me at girtken@sssnet.com and I will reply with a turn-in form.

We will continue to award those contributing \$1,000 or more for this year's campaign. These councils will be recognized at our State Convention in May. That's why it is important to get your check submitted by April 1.

Our goal for the 2011-2012 Pennies for Heaven Campaign is \$100,000. As previously mentioned, we were very close last year in attaining this goal. And with your help, we can exceed that goal this year and continue to **Support Our Seminarians** here in Ohio.

Thank you for your continued support for vocations.

Knights help in wake of Chardon shootings

When tragedy struck the town of Chardon (Cleveland Diocese) last Feb. 27 with the shooting of five students, three of them killed, the Knights of Columbus were there to help in any way that they could. Members of Geauga Council 3304, Chardon, and Painesville Council 947 assisted with various tasks involving St. Mary Church, where prayer services and the three funerals were held.

One Knight of Geauga Council, Mike Marcotte – whose wife, Jane, is an aide at Chardon High School, confronted the shooter as he was surrendering. And Knights assisted Fr. Dan Redmond (a Fourth Degree Knight), pastor of St. Mary's Church by helping the Geauga County Sheriff's Department in directing traffic and parking for prayer services and the three funeral Masses at St. Mary's.

The Buckeye Bulletin

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Past State Deputies' thoughts of Bob Sears

Ohio's Past State Deputies were asked to comment on the thoughts of their association with the late Past State Deputy Bob Sears. The following responses were received:

Past State Deputy Dennis Shonebarger . . .

"Bob was my good golfing buddy for over 30 years. I learned from Bob how important it was to take care of the state Knights of Columbus family."



Past State Deputy Baci Carpico . . .

"We have lost an outstanding Brother Knight who was so committed and dedicated and worked untiringly for the Order in Ohio. As State Deputy, his theme was Soar Like an Eagle, and his administration certainly soared, with the results being many accomplishments."



Past State Deputy Leonard Krawczyk . . .

"Bob Sears was one of the most down to earth, level headed, unpretentious, genuine, reliable and earthly wisest men I have known and had the privilege to be associated with. When you asked him something, he would always respond with an unembellished response, opinion or advice. Status meant nothing to him."



Past State Deputy Al Hickey . . .

"Bob had a charisma about him that infected everyone he came into contact with: enthusiasm, confidence, positive attitude -- things that made you feel really good about being a Knights of Columbus. He was a great speaker and got you enthused whenever you heard him. He was the ultimate example of a Knight of Columbus, a true Catholic gentleman, an outstanding family man."



Past State Deputy John O. Welch . . .

"Bob Sears was the ultimate Knight of Columbus. His achievements set the standard. May he rest in peace."



Past State Deputy Roland Bator . . .

"Bob was always 'up-beat'!! A great personality. He always had time to respond to questions, and would be very open and frank with the answer. He was always very deliberate in his work and words, and certainly a leader among men. A servant to all, but never above or below you. A humble guy, a friendly guy."



Past State Deputy Gary Eckstein . . .

"Bob provided me with the insight and knowledge on what it took to be an outstanding Catholic and Brother Knight. He led by example, and was a 'people person' who made sure that others were appreciated for their work. Bob was about as close to 'Mr. K of C' as there will ever be."



Past State Deputy Larry Moegling . . .

"When I left the funeral home, someone asked me if I was all right. I smiled and said something like there have been so many great memories together and I have relived a lot of them in the last few days. They may fade a bit in time, but they will always be there. If he were here today, I would say to him, Thanks for always being there."



Past State Deputy Paul Upman . . .

"PSD Sears is to be admired for the energy he put into the betterment of the Knights of Columbus in Ohio. It has been nearly 30 years since he served as State Deputy, but his efforts at the local and state level continued strong and consistent."



Past State Deputy Bob Bob Sears

Continued from Page 1

Stenger, telling how Sears was a Lector, Eucharistic Minister; how he attended Mass daily and how he headed the parish's capital campaign several years ago.

"He reached out to other people. There were so many things that he did. He was a loving man. He shared so many of the riches of God with us," Fr. Stenger concluded. A Fourth Degree honor guard, composed of Sir Knights from Bishop O'Reilly Assembly and Joseph J. McGraw Assembly, escorted the casket to the altar.

PSD Sears joined the Knights of Columbus Brooklyn-Parma Council 2803 in 1964. He was that council's Grand Knight in 1966-68, a District Deputy in 1970-72, State General Program Director in 1972-74, and was elected State Warden in 1974. He also was a Fourth Degree Sir Knight of the Bishop O'Reilly Assembly.

Sears served as Ohio's State Deputy in 1982-84, following Charles P. Riesbeck Jr., who went on to become Supreme Secretary, into Ohio's highest K of C office. He followed that with 25 years of service as treasurer of the Knights' Ohio Charity Foundation. As State Deputy,

Sears conceived the idea for the Measure-Up Campaign to be conducted.

"It's hard to put into words what Bob meant in the Knights of Columbus," said State Deputy Dave Helmstetter. "He was a valuable part of our organization and his guiding presence will definitely be missed. A true leader, he was an outstanding Catholic man who believed and practiced the principles of our Order."

State Treasurer Bob Collins, residing in the Cleveland area with PSD Sears, learned much from his tutelage. "He always told me not to be afraid to go out and market an idea," Collins said. "You have to believe in your programs and be able to sell them to the councils . . . give them some way to remember them by, or associate with."

PSD Sears was born and raised in Lansing, Mich. He served in the United States Army, and married his wife, Dorothy (Dodie). They have resided in Brook Park, where he once was Recreation Commissioner, for many years. They raised sons Robert, James and the late William, and have 10 grandchildren, one deceased, and 13 great-grandchildren.

State Convention to include Chaplain's Seminar

Continued from Page 1

California, "will provide an educational and informative program on the changing role of the council chaplain as we approach the Age of New Evangelization," said Helmstetter.

Fr. Grace will be assisted by Ohio's State Chaplain, Fr. Ron Williams.

Besides the Saturday and Sunday business sessions, the 2012 State Convention will include the traditional social activities -- the Friday Night Party (including the Final Drawing of the Super Cash Bonanza Charity Campaign, which will take place at 7 p.m. this year rather than 9 p.m. as in previous years), Saturday Night State Deputy's Banquet, and Sunday men's and women's luncheons.

Helmstetter urges councils to elect their delegates and alternates, and plan to attend the convention. According to rules of the Order, the Grand Knight, by virtue of his office, should be one of the two council delegates. The other must be selected from among the Past Grand Knights of the council. If there is no Past Grand Knight available who can attend, any third degree Knight in good standing may be elected. Alternates to the two delegates also are to be elected. They need not be Past Grand Knights, but must be third degree members in good standing.

Another important issue that needs to be taken care of early are any resolutions (regarding matters other than any by-law amendments) that councils would like to submit. They must be presented to State Secretary Ken Girt at least 30 days prior to the convention (they must be postmarked by April 25). The resolution must be submitted on council letterhead paper (8½" by 11"), be typewritten, contain the date of the council approval, and be signed by the Grand Knight attesting to the council vote. The convention Resolutions Committee will review and make recommendations on each properly submitted resolution.

All attendees must make their own hotel reservations and register for the convention.

Hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible by either mailing the hotel reservation form contained in the Official First Call letter (which was mailed March 15), or by calling the hotel at (513) 352-2100 or (800) 876-2100. Deadline for hotel reservations is May 10.

Advance convention registration for everyone attending is \$75. A registration form is included in the Official First Call. Deadline for filing is May 15. Registration chairman is Frank Carchedi. He can be contacted at (937) 878-0275 or email at fpc40@yahoo.com.

Look for full advance coverage of the State Convention in the May issue of the Buckeye Bulletin.



Girls Champions (from left), Ally St. Clair, 10; Heather Heiby, 13; Julia Hoefling, 11; Kelly Meade, 14; Logan Boley, 12.



Boys Champions (from left), Mark Janowski, 12; Adam Rose, 14; Kaston Eichenauer, 11; Toby Walker, 13; Jack Murphy, 10.

State Free Throw Championships

Two shooters are nearly perfect; two others go 6 overtimes; and Celina Council 1800 sponsors three state champions

Two youngsters made 24 of 25 free throw attempts, another pair were locked in a shootout that lasted four overtimes, and one council – Celina 1800 – sponsored three champions at the 36th Annual Ohio Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championships held at Bishop Ready High School in Columbus on March 17.

The two making all but one of their free throws were Jack Murphy, a 10-year-old from Columbus (sponsored by Council 14962); and Adam Rose, 14 (sponsored by St. Jude Council 5801, Gahanna). Both were champions of their respective divisions.

In the Boys' 13-year-old division, Derek Jay, of St. Marys (sponsored by St. Marys Council 1592), and Toby Walker, of Archbold, sponsored by Archbold Council 7552, each made 20 of their 25 free throw attempts in regulation. Thus they competed in overtime sessions, in which each participant shoots five free throws. The two battled through six overtime periods before Walker was declared the champion.

Three of the 2012 champions also are prior state champions – Heather Heiby won as an 11-year-old; Kaston Eichenauer won as a 10-year-old, and Derek Jay won as a 12-year-old.

Chairman of the 2012 Ohio Free Throw Contest was State Youth Director Jeff Kiliany.

The complete list of winners follows:

Girls

- Age 10: Ally St. Clair, of West Salem, sponsored by Wooster Council 789, Cleveland Diocese.
- Age 11: Julia Hoefling, of Norwood, sponsored by Fr. Brotzge Council 14665, Cincinnati Diocese.
- Age 12: Logan Boley, of Celina, sponsored by Celina Council 1800, Cincinnati Diocese.
- Age 13: Heather Heiby, of Celina, sponsored by Celina Council 1800, Cincinnati Diocese.
- Age 14: Kelly Meade, of Lewis Center, sponsored by Delaware Council 1056, Columbus Diocese.

Boys

- Age 10: Jack Murphy, of Columbus, sponsored by Council 14962, Columbus Diocese.
- Age 11: Kaston Eichenauer, of Celina, sponsored by Celina Council 1800, Cincinnati Diocese.
- Age 12: Mark Janowski, of Lima, sponsored by Loyalty Council 2661, Toledo Diocese.
- Age 13: Toby Walker, of Archbold, sponsored by Archbold Council 7552, Toledo Diocese.
- Age 14: Adam Rose, of New Albany, sponsored by St. Jude Council 5801, Gahanna, Columbus Diocese.

State General Program Director

Some deadline tips for councils to follow

By Larry Droesch

State General Program Director

The first year of our *Take Up His Cross* Dynamic General Program is about to close. We have received many great reports, experienced some programming bumps in the road, and have been responsive to every council that has inquired about issues and questions. All in all, it has been a good year -- so far.

So how do we guarantee that it will end up a good year? Allow me to offer some points of interest and deadlines for your Council leaders to follow:

By now, the April 1st deadline has passed for submission of "Honorees of the Year" nomination forms to be sent for the respective reporting directors. However, if you chose an "Honoree of the Year" but did not send a binder or paper form to the director, you can still claim it online. So get that report in before April 20th so it can be counted.

If you reported your activities and maxed the Dynamic General Program, your council can come away with recognition for all the hard work your members did! A description of the recognition awards are on pages 22-24 of the General Program Book. Many Councils are participating, and they should review their stats because they may find that they are only ONE (1) Step activity online report from meeting the requirements of the program to be able to Max the program points!

In contrast, there are some councils that have not even reported one activity online. But we see them actively holding or participating in parish and council events! So to those Councils – I challenge you to get online (www.kofcoho.org) and submit at least one of those events under a Step number in each of the seven programming areas (church, council, community, family, prolife, youth, membership). Time is running out you have until April 15 to get the reports in!

Deadlines for reporting online Step numbers is April 15, 2012. Any report RECEIVED after April 20th will not count for program points.

Also, remember that if your council holds an annual event in the last part of April, in May or June, you may submit it for points under the *Take Up His Cross* General Program. Just make sure in your "activity description box" that you alert the director that this activity is an ANNUAL event.

If you miss one of the deadlines of the Mandatory Steps in any of the program areas, please still submit reports online to show that you did participate in the other activity areas. Your council may not be able to max the points for that area, but it doesn't mean you should not share your council's participation. We are Knights. We don't give up!

Finally, if you have ANY questions about a program or report, please email the proper director to get the issue resolved before April 20th. For all other general program questions, please email me, Larry "Dynamo" Droesch, General Program Director, at ldroesch@msn.com.

Knights of Columbus Insurance

Renew what's important to you

By James Valent, General Agent

State Insurance Liaison

Spring is a time for renewal. Trees and plants will soon be blooming, and many animals will shake off the cold and become active again. As the winter doldrums end, you'll be ready to get outside with your family too, and be part of this renewal.

It is also a perfect opportunity to take a few moments to consider your goals and what's important to you and your loved ones.

Are you planning to welcome a new child or sending one to college?

Are you looking forward to retirement?

Will you have enough money to accomplish these goals?

What would happen if something happened to you?

Whether or not you have life insurance with the Order, we're still happy to meet with you and examine how you can meet your needs and goals. If you've had any life changes since you last bought a policy (new home, new child, new job, etc.), chances are your life insurance needs to be updated. Maybe an Annuity, Comprehensive Disability coverage or a Long-Term Care plan appeals to your situation.

Whatever the case, we will work with you to make sure you have the coverage you need at a price you can afford.

When you visit with a Knights of Columbus agent, you'll discover that the time spent together will be a commitment to your future and your family's well-being. Meet soon to renew your financial goals with the trusted, stable backing of the Knights of Columbus.

Explaining the issue confronting our religious liberty

Over the last few weeks, many Knights and Catholic families have asked what can we, the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus, do about the recent attacks on our religious liberty. As State Deputy, I asked Gary Anderson, the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus Pro Life Director, to compile action items to better inform ourselves and what steps we can take as Knights and Catholics to protect these liberties pending the proposed legislation.

— State Deputy Dave Helmstetter

By Gary Anderson, State Pro-Life Director

Jan. 29, 2012, was a day of infamy for the Catholic Church in the United States with the announcement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that it would soon begin enforcement of regulations requiring mandatory coverage of contraceptives, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs with no conscience protection for Catholic institutions. Here is a recap of what the mandate means as provided by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in an article entitled “Six Things Everyone Should Know About the HHS Mandate”:

The mandate does not exempt Catholic charities, schools, universities or hospitals.

The mandate forces these institutions and others, against their conscience, to pay for things they consider immoral.

The mandate forces coverage of sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs and devices as well as contraception.

Catholics of all political persuasions are unified in their opposition to the mandate.

Many other religious and secular people and groups have spoken out strongly against the mandate.

The federal mandate is much stricter than existing state mandates.

Nine action steps to help defeat the government’s HHS mandate

1. Learn how the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has vowed to fight the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate. Visit the Conscience Protection page at: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/conscience-protection/index.cfm>. There, you will also be able to view a short video of USCCB President Cardinal Timothy Dolan, who responds to a misleading Feb. 1 blog post by the White House.
2. Hear a powerful homily given on Feb. 5 by Fr. Sammie L. Maletta Jr., pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in St. John, Ind. Fr. Sammie’s thoughts cut right to the heart of the current crisis of religious liberty. Hear it here: <http://youtu.be/lTtd81XpDnc>. Type it exactly as you see it.
3. Watch an insightful video of Fr. Robert Barron as he comments on how anti-Catholic and un-American the HHS tactics are: www.wordonfire.org/WOF-TV/Commentaries-New/Fr-Barron-comments-on-the-HHS-Mandate.aspx.
4. View a powerful video by Fr. John Hollowell in his response to a new campaign by Planned Parenthood to support the HHS mandate. See it here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptzi4ZrkiJE&feature=player_embedded.
5. Visit the Supreme Council website: www.kofc.org. You will find informative articles and videos (e.g., an article by Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori entitled, *Envisioning Religious Liberty*. In it, Bishop Lori outlines how our U.S. bishops, assisted by the faithful, will work to combat current and future threats to religious freedom). You’ll also find Supreme Knight Carl Anderson’s Feb. 15 article published in *National Review Magazine* entitled, *The HHS Mandate: One Battle in a Two-Front War*.
6. Obtain a PDF copy of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* from the USCCB at: www.faithfulcitizenship.org. It is full of ideas and suggestions, including how to contact your legislators in Washington in several different ways -- from writing letters to phone calls and even personal visits.
7. Support the *Respect for Rights of Conscience Act* via an Action Alert from the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment (NCHLA). You can send an email to Congress here: <http://www.nchla.org/actiondisplay.asp?ID=292>.
8. Sign up for future Action Alerts from the USCCB: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/take-action-now/capwiz/capwiz-signup.cfm>.
9. Pass on the above information to all Catholics and members of other Christian denominations.

We as Catholics and Knights of Columbus can take pride in the courageous stand in opposition to this mandate taken by the bishops – including our own Supreme Chaplain, Bishop William Lori – all across the United States and led by Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York and President of the USCCB. In a March 3 letter to his brother bishops, Cardinal Dolan said, “We have made it clear in no uncertain terms to the government that we are not at peace with the invasive attempt to curtail the *religious freedom* we cherish as Catholics and Americans. We did not ask for this fight, but we will not run from it.”

In discussing the support the bishops have received from many non-Catholic denominations and other religious leaders, he went on to say, “They know that this is not just about sterilization, abortifacients, and chemical contraception. It’s about *religious freedom*, the sacred right of any church to define its own teaching and ministry.”

The italics were Cardinal Dolan’s. And that -- religious freedom -- is the crux of the matter.

Those in Washington who concocted this abomination are very shrewd. By disingenuously framing the debate around contraception, rather than their real target -- religious freedom -- they are wagering that they can win the debate in the public arena. Why? Because in many surveys, more than 90% of Catholics claim to disagree with the Church’s teaching on contraception; hence, a Catholic majority is expected to side with the mandate.

But our bishops have sworn not to let that happen. So has the Knights of Columbus. **Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, in a Feb. 15 article published in *National Review Online* entitled, *The HHS Mandate: One Battle in a Two-Front War***, said, “The administration’s underlying philosophy of government intervention at the expense of freedom of conscience reflects a willingness toward further unconstitutional interference with internal Church matters. Such policies -- and their public defense -- seem to show a government intent on breaching religious protections and entangling government in religious decision-making.”

So how should we as Knights act?

Become informed, then take action. And the most effective weapon we can wield is prayer.



A Maria-Joseph Knight watches as a St. Albert parishioner fills out a postcard.

Kettering Knights urge support of religious liberty

When the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), made a decision that would force Catholic institutions to provide health insurance that includes all FDA-approved contraceptive methods and sterilization procedures, Brother Knights of Maria-Joseph Council 4022, Kettering, sprung into action.

On the weekend of Feb. 11-12, the Knights gathered signatures from parishioners of St. Albert the Great Parish on postcards, and sent them to their elected representatives, expressing opposition to the HHS decision and support for the “Respect for Rights of Conscience Act”. The Knights also made arrangements for pulpit announcements at the end of each Mass that weekend.

To make participation as easy as possible, the postcards were preprinted with spaces provided for the parishioners to address each card individually to one of our elected representatives, add their own personal note, include their signature and place their return address on the reverse side. Parishioners were encouraged to fill out a card addressed to their Congressman and Ohio’s two Senators. Through the efforts of the council, more than 600 postcards were mailed.

Ohio Catholic high school scholarships awarded; Columbus grants are given at Clergy Dinner

The following was submitted by Past State Deputy Dennis J. Shonebarger, chairman of the Ohio Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee.

Thirty-two Ohio Knights of Columbus scholarships have been awarded to Ohio Catholic high school students this fraternal year.

In the Columbus Diocese, the awards were presented at the 14th Annual Columbus Chapter K of C Clergy Appreciation Dinner attended by nearly 600 people.

Columbus Diocese Bishop Frederick Campbell, Bishop James Griffin, and more than 170 priests, deacons, seminarians and religious sisters of the Columbus Diocese joined 575 guests present for the annual dinner to honor all Columbus Diocese religious vocations. The Columbus Diocese scholarship winners and their parents were guests of the Knights.

The Ohio Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program traditionally awards thirty \$1,000 scholarships every year to outstanding Catholic high school students throughout Ohio to help cover their high school tuition. Since its inception in 1995, the Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$452,000 in financial aid. This year, 470 Catholic students submitted applications from 73 Ohio Catholic high schools.

While we are currently able to award 32 scholarships to students attending 73 schools, we would certainly like to provide every Catholic high school with a Knights of Columbus Scholarship. If any individual, council or assembly would like to make a donation to the Ohio K of C Scholarship program so a Catholic high school may be guaranteed an annual scholarship, we would like to discuss it with you. Contact Dennis Shonebarger for additional information at phsdjs@yahoo.com or at (614) 279-1623.

K of C Scholarships given throughout Ohio this year include:

Cincinnati Diocese

Shannon, Matthew	Archbishop Moeller	10	\$ 1000
Josefovski, Kerrie	Lehman Catholic	12	\$ 1000
Tucker, Madeline	Mother of Mercy	12	\$ 1000
Cengel, Emily	Mount Notre Dame	12	\$ 1000
Anderson, Amanda	Purcell Marian	10	\$ 1000
DeBurger, Ashley	Roger Bacon	9	\$ 500
DeBurger, Rebecca	Roger Bacon	9	\$ 500
Vollmer, Sydney	Seton	11	\$ 1000
DiCarlo, Dominic	St. Xavier	11	\$ 1000

Cleveland Diocese

Clark, Christina	Archbishop Hoban	10	\$ 1000
Turner, Shannon	Elyria Catholic	10	\$ 1000
Lazanich, Julie	Lake Catholic	12	\$ 1000
Barry, Madeleine	Magnificat	12	\$ 1000
Luckenbaugh, Victoria	Our Lady of the Elms	11	\$ 1000
Mayer, Laura	St. Joseph Academy	12	\$ 1000
Jones, Whsitney	St. Vincent-St. Mary	11	\$ 1000
Coundourides, Kyra**	Walsh Jesuit	10	\$ 1000

Columbus Diocese

Pina, Emily	Bishop Hartley	9	\$ 1000
Kunkler, Alicia	Bishop Rosecrans	10	\$ 500
Kunkler, Charlotte	Bishop Rosecrans	12	\$ 500
Britt, Olivia##	Bishop Watterson	9	\$ 1000
Adam, Devani	Newark Catholic	12	\$ 1000
Ortega, Olivia#	Newark Catholic	12	\$ 850
Zins, Jonathon	St. Charles	10	\$ 1000
Nguyen, Ha	St. Francis de Sales	10	\$ 1000

Steubenville Diocese

Kirk, Rebecca	St. Joseph Central Catholic	12	\$ 1000
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Toledo Diocese

Bowers, Margaret**	Calvert	10	\$ 1000
Rigg, Alex	Lima Central Catholic	9	\$ 500
Rigg, Tyler	Lima Central Catholic	11	\$ 500
Veluscek, Francesca	Notre Dame Academy	12	\$ 1000
Bodie, Andrew	St. Francis de Sales	12	\$ 1000
Dickman, Julia	St. John's, Delphos	12	\$ 1000
Romstadt, Emma**	St. Ursula Academy	12	\$ 1000

Youngstown Diocese

Nocera, Dana	John F. Kennedy	12	\$ 1000
Flynn, Leslie	St. Thomas Aquinas	10	\$ 1000

Total.....\$31850

= Dennis J. Shonebarger Scholarship

= Blessed John Paul II Scholarship

** = Repeat Winner



Pictured above are the Columbus Diocese K of C scholarship winners and the Ohio Charity Foundation Directors present that evening: Front Row (from left), Jonathan Zins, St. Charles; Ha Nguyen, St. Francis deSales; Olivia Britt, Bishop Watterson (Blessed John Paul II Scholarship winner from an anonymous donor); Bishop Frederick Campbell; Olivia Ortega, Newark Catholic (Dennis J. Shonebarger Scholarship winner); Emily Pina, Bishop Hartley; Devani Adam, Newark Catholi; State Squires Father Prior Fr. F. Richard Snoke; Charlotte Kunkler, Bishop Rosecrans; Alicia Kunkler, Bishop Rosecrans. Back row (from left), PSD Gary Eckstein; State Advocate Kevin Miller; State Deputy Dave Helmstetter; State Secretary Ken Girt; PSD and Chairman Denny Shonebarger; and State Warden Bob Byers.



Poster Contest winners are (front row, from left), Gabby Workman, of Salem (ages 12-14 drugs); Mackenzie Martin, of Salem (ages 12-14 alcohol); Zoe Bruderly, of Leetonia (ages 8-11 alcohol), and Sean Blake, of Salem (ages 8-11 drugs). With them are (back row, from left), program chairman Ray Morelli, of Leetonia Council 1569; Municipal Court Judge Carol Robb; Anna Marie Vaughn, superintendent of the Columbiana County schools at the Educational Service Center; and program co-chairman Paul Rance, of St. Jude Council 10183.

Poster contest promotes substance abuse awareness

A total of 1,541 students aged 8-14 from eight Columbiana County schools created posters to promote awareness about drug and alcohol abuse. It was part of the Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Poster Contest. The schools sent 28 winning posters for district judging.

An awards ceremony was held on Jan. 27 at the Columbiana County Career and Technical Center, with student winners, parents and family members invited to attend. Approximately 150 persons were in attendance, including two county commissioners and several other local officials as well as Grand Knights from area K of C councils and a Fourth Degree Honor Guard. The Program included an impactful presentation by Municipal Court Judge Carol Robb, members of the Columbiana County Drug Task Force, and Hancock County Sheriffs Canine Unit. Trophies and certificates were presented to the four student winners.

With this program, the Knights of Columbus, along with the Columbiana County Educational Service Center and area schools, have made an impact on drug and alcohol awareness. The artwork created has not only instilled pride in the artists, but also sends a message throughout our communities that drug and alcohol abuse is a dead end.

Here's how the contest works: School districts in the county in conjunction with local Knights of Columbus Councils host their own poster contests. The posters are judged by a cross-section of people, from law enforcement to area art teachers. Four winners are then chosen from each school district, and from those students, four are chosen to represent the county in the regional, state, and national competition.

PLAY BALL!

April-May Membership Incentive Program gives Councils, individuals chance to 'win' a ballgame

Since the beginning of the fraternal year, members of the Knights of Columbus throughout the State of Ohio have been on a Crusade searching for the treasure of a new member. Many members, councils, and District Deputies have been working hard to bring new members into our order and help Ohio make its membership goals.

While we are not exactly where we want to be with our recruitment and retention numbers, we still have a chance to finish strong and lead Ohio to Supreme Councils Circle of Honor. Ohio Jones (State Membership Director Ken Gardner) is proud of the councils that have found the treasure of a new member.

"We have been working hard since the beginning of the fraternal year; maybe it is time to recruit and have fun at the same time!" Ohio Jones says. "What better way to have some fun in the spring then to..."

"PLAY BALL!"

The membership program incentive for the months of April and May, 2012, will have a baseball theme. We want all councils in Ohio to be named an ALL STAR by Supreme Council by achieving the Star Council Award. We will be rewarding Brother Knights, councils, and District Deputies for their recruitment efforts. Every member, council, and District Deputy in Ohio can be in these incentive drawings with just a little work finding that treasure of a new member! Here is how this program's incentives will work.

- **Individual Incentive- All Star** -- Individual recruiters who bring a member into the order during April and May 2012 will be in the "Take Me Out to a Ballgame" drawing for tickets to a local baseball game. This can be one of the two professional teams in the state or one of your local minor league teams such as the Columbus Clippers, Toledo Mud Hens or Akron Aeros. Since it would be difficult for the Ohio State Council to determine which games the winner would want to attend and purchase the tickets, the winner will receive a check for \$100.00. There will be a total of TWO winners for this drawing.
- **Council Incentives** -- Councils are eligible for only one of the following incentives. If the council meets more than one of the requirements, they will be in the drawing for the highest award.
 - **Grand Slam** -- Councils that will have met their Supreme Membership Quota by April 1 have the bases loaded! If they can recruit a total of FOUR additional members in April and May they will hit a Grand Slam and be in a drawing for \$150.00. There will be ONE winner of this drawing.
 - **Triple** -- Councils that recruit at least THREE new members in April and May will hit a triple and be in a drawing for \$125.00. There will be ONE winner of this drawing.
 - **Get on Base** -- We want all councils to in Ohio to be in the game. We feel that even councils that have been sitting on the bench all year should have a chance to come in and pinch hit. So, councils with no gains for the year as of April 1 that bring in at least one new member in April and May will be in a drawing for \$100.00. There will be ONE winner of this drawing.
 - **Golden Glove** -- Time to show your defensive skills! No errors means you have a golden glove. Councils with ZERO suspensions in April and May will be in a drawing for \$50.00. There will be ONE winner of this drawing.
- **District Deputy Incentive: Manager of the Year** -- District Deputies who have at least 75% of councils in their district recruit a new member during April and May 2012 will be in a drawing for \$150.00. Councils that are considered Inactive by the State Council will not count towards the district total. There will be ONE winner of this drawing.

Ohio State Council Membership as of March 1, 2012

Diocese	Quota	Year to Date Gain	Year to Date Loss	Net	Percent of Quota	Needed
Cincinnati	435	267	137	+130	29.9%	305
Cleveland	301	242	92	+150	49.8%	151
Columbus	262	305	130	+175	66.8%	87
Steubenville	74	83	18	+65	87.8%	9
Toledo	401	188	138	+50	12.5%	351
Youngstown	202	110	53	+57	28.2%	145
TOTALS	1,675	1,195	568	+627	37.4%	1,048

Maxing the Membership Program

The 2011-2012 fraternal year State General Program Contest is about to end. Points will be totaled and winners of various awards will be determined. Plaques will be distributed at the State Convention in May, with the highlight being the awards presented at the State Deputy's Banquet, when the Top Ten Councils in the state will be announced.

Is your council going to be on this list? If so, you need to receive the maximum points allowed in the Membership Program -- a total of 400 points. In order to reach this goal, councils must complete the two mandatory programs, Step #61 -- October and March Blitz, and Step #62 -- Zero Suspensions, or 1 for 1. Details of these programs are in the state program book, but in a nutshell, the requirements are:

Step #61 -- October and March Blitz: Councils must recruit one member who takes his First Degree during the October Blitz, and one member who takes his First Degree during the March Blitz; OR, recruit a total of two members, who both take their First Degree during the October or March Blitz. If your council recruited a member during the October Blitz, you need only one more in March to claim this step. If your council did not bring in a new member in October, you will need to recruit TWO members in March.

Step #62 -- Zero Suspensions, or 1 for 1: There are two ways councils can earn points for this activity. The best way is to have zero suspensions throughout the year. If the May 1 membership report from Supreme Council shows zero suspensions, your council will automatically earn points for this program. The other way is to recruit a new member to replace each suspended member.

Another award is the "Best Of" awards. The Best membership program for each division is wide open. I have received plenty of reports, but none have gone into much detail as to how councils successfully recruited new members. If your council is having a successful membership recruitment year, be sure to let me know! Send your report on your best membership activity to me at kpgardner@fuse.net.

And finally, remember that in order for a council to max the Membership Program, it must show a NET GAIN of 5 on the May 1 Supreme Council Membership Report.

Diocesan Top 3 Councils in Membership as of March 1, 2012

Cincinnati Diocese			Cleveland Diocese		
Council	Location	Net	Council	Location	Net
Holy Name of Jesus 15330	Trenton	31	Geauga 3304	Chardon	18
Msgr. Von Kaenel 15424	Covington	19	St. Hilary 14551	Akron	17
St. John the Evangelist 13608	West Chester	11	Gilmore 310	Mayfield Hts.	15
Columbus Diocese			Steubenville Diocese		
Council	Location	Net	Council	Location	Net
St. Brigid of Kildare 10863	Dublin	16	Our Lady Carroll Co. 15401	Carrollton	26
St. Patrick 11207	Columbus	16	Bishop Watterson 1405	Ironton	16
Rev. William Spikerman 671	Marion	15	St. John of Beverly 4617	Beverly	9
Toledo Diocese			Youngstown Diocese		
Council	Location	Net	Council	Location	Net
Tiffin 608	Tiffin	14	St. Michael 15458	Canton	25
East Toledo 14344	Toledo	12	Mantua 3766	Mantua	12
Blessed John XXIII 14502	Perrysburg	12	Leetonia 1569	Leetonia	7

Winners of drawings for special Winter Membership Incentive are named

Drawings for winners of the Special Winter Membership Incentive were done at the Cincinnati Diocese Super Cash Bonanza Charity Campaign Ticket Distribution Meeting on Feb. 18.

For individual recruiters who signed up a new Knight and had him complete his First Degree between Dec. 1 and Jan. 31, four names were drawn (284 names were in drawing). Winners of \$50 each were: Bret Flechtner, of Tiffin Council 608; Anthony Massey, of Wickliffe Council 5405; James Valent, of St. Timothy Council 14345, Columbus, and Brad Thomas, of Blessed John XXIII Council 14502, Perrysburg.

Every Council Membership Director who promoted this program and helped

his council bring in at least FIVE new members in December and January was in a drawing for \$150.00. Twenty Membership Directors qualified, and the winner was Sean Fitzgerald, of St. Margaret of Cortona Council 12939, Columbus.

Every District Deputy who promoted this program and had his councils increase the District membership by 10% of the District quota during the months of December and January was in a drawing for \$150.00 (31 District Deputies qualified). The winner was District Deputy-36 Robert Clum.

Be sure to keep up to date on all current membership incentives and see how it pays to recruit!

State Deputy
**Charity is in the air
 as Super Cash Bonanza
 shoots for a million**

By **Dave Helmstetter**
State Deputy



As you read this article of the *Buckeye Bulletin*, your council will be busy with the annual Super Cash Bonanza Charity Campaign. The ticket campaign always adds a “buzz” at this time of the fraternal year for councils in our state.

It’s a time when we’re in contact with many of our members. This campaign brings us together like few events do and all for the first principle of our Order: charity! It’s the time when tickets are distributed and sold. And, it’s also a time when many councils gear up their membership activities, too. Members are working on Lenten projects and dinners. There’s certain energy among Knights in Ohio.

I know State Treasurer (and Secret Agent) Bob Collins personifies this energy. Super Cash is a busy man, organizing and promoting the annual ticket sales. He has his sights set on \$1 million in sales and all of us need to make sure he reaches his goal. The reason: charities across Ohio benefit from our efforts.

That’s why it’s a good time to recall what your council does with the proceeds from this campaign. Many councils develop a list of charities receiving these donations. This is a great idea that educates your members and the public on what your local council does with the charitable dollars raised. And, by thinking Membership 365, it’s also a great list to show prospective new members.

During the February ticket distribution, chairman and officers were provided with a summary of where the dollars go at the State Council level. This information is worth repeating so more members know that our charitable dollars are hard at work.

First of all, the entire cost of the Supreme Cash Bonanza program is paid by the Ohio Charity Foundation/Ohio State Council. This includes ticket printing and program support materials plus \$108,000-plus in prize money! This provides councils a great opportunity to raise charitable dollars for local causes.

Once expenses are determined, the remaining amount is invested by the Ohio Charity Foundation. This allows donations to be made for many causes on behalf of Knights throughout Ohio.

In a typical year, grants look like the following:

- A State Squires Grant of \$5,000 helps fund the State Circles’ activities held during the fraternal year.
- A Matching Funds Grant of \$25,000 supports the religious education departments in each Ohio diocese. An additional Religious Education Grant (\$1,500) is presented to the Byzantine Eparch of Parma.
- Diocesan-wide Foundation Director Grants (\$1,500 per diocese; \$9,000 overall) are provided for local and diocesan projects.
- State Veterans Grants (\$2,800) provide our State Veterans Chairs dollars to use for their annual Christmas programs in statewide VA hospitals.
- A State Vocations Grant (\$10,000) provides additional funding in support of diocese vocations.

Plus, additional grants also are possible by completing a written, formal application to the Ohio Charity Foundation. The grants need to be non-diocesan specific and focus on a statewide emphasis. These are normally reviewed by the Ohio Charity Foundation at its January meeting.

And also consider all of the rebates generated by our local councils. You certainly should be proud as Knights in Ohio, the many causes we support through our Charity Campaign. We support our youth through the Squires program and high school scholarships. We support important vocations programs. We support our veterans. We support our diocesan religious education programs. We support many diocesan and state charities. We support our priests and bishops.

We are definitely following the first principle of Order – Charity!

MISSION POSSIBLE:

Secrets to Super Cash Bonanza success: Partner and Sell, Sell, Sell, Sell

We’re in the middle of the Ohio Charity Foundation’s 2012 Super Cash Bonanza Charity Campaign, which provides the opportunity for councils to raise funds to use in their charitable endeavors.

It is a MISSION that is POSSIBLE, proclaims Special Agent 1,000,000 – State Treasurer Bob Collins, 2012 Super Cash Bonanza chairman, who has set an ambitious goal of \$1,000,000 in ticket sales. He believes Ohio councils can, if they want to raise money for their charities, collectively reach that goal.

“A successful campaign can allow all of us – our Ohio Charity Foundation and our local councils – to do more good for the charities they support,” Special Agent Collins emphasizes.

There are two secrets to success of the Super Cash Bonanza Campaign, he says.

The first is the cliché of a super salesman: “Sell, Sell, Sell”.

The second is one word: “Partnering”.

“Working together, we can do so much better than if we try to do it alone,” Collins attests. “Partnering is an approach that has been very successful at many local councils in previous years. Have another organization, or group – your local parish school, for instance -- sell tickets for your council. Give them a portion of the \$2.40 per ticket for their charitable causes.

“This approach will enable your council to sell more tickets, and thus earn additional rebates. Partnering will help make our Mission Possible.”

Simply put, tickets sell for \$5.00



/Special Agent #1,000,000 Bob Collins

each, with a basic rate of \$2.60 (before consideration of any rebates) returned to the Ohio Charity Foundation and \$2.40 retained by the local council.

Rules of the campaign have been spelled out in the special “Mission Possible” booklet that was distributed along with tickets at special diocesan meetings in February. By achieving all possible rebates, a council can increase its earning from the basic \$2.40 per ticket sold to a maximum of \$4.60.

The Super Cash Bonanza Campaign will run through May 18, when all tickets are to be returned. There is a First Phase Turn-in (which is important in the rebate structure), when tickets are to be turned in by April 13.

“It’s a great way, an easy way, for your council to raise funds for its charitable distributions,” summarizes Collins.

IT’S TIME

TO MEASURE UP

***Knights throughout Ohio will seek contributions
 to assist citizens with developmental disabilities***

The Activity: 2012 Ohio K of C Measure-Up Campaign.

The Dates: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 26, 27, 28.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, May 3, 4, 5.

Those are the facts of what all Knights in Ohio should know about the coming Measure-Up Campaign, a traditional activity held in Ohio and the Order for many, many years. It’s the signature activity of the Knights of Columbus, the time of year when Knights stand on street corners and in front of businesses attired in their special Measure-Up vests and holding the special canisters while seeking donations from passersby. And when a person drops money into the canister, the Knight offers him/her the traditional Knights of Columbus Measure-Up ruler.

Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit our citizens with developmental disabilities, stresses State Warden Bob Byers, chairman of the 2012 campaign. In fact, councils have the opportunity to choose where their collections will be distributed.

Byers’ goal for total collections in the state is \$600,000. Official dates for the Measure-Up Campaign are April 26-28 and May 3-5.

**Ohio State Council Website:
 kofcoho.org**