



**State Deputy
Let's be the
'Light of Ohio'
for all to see**

By Ken Girt
State Deputy

A few years ago, I heard Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 5, verses 14-16, at a Sunday Morning Mass. Christ charged us to be "the *Light of World* and to let our good works of charity shine for all to see so that they know that we glorify our Father in Heaven."

I thought this would make a great theme for my tenure as State Deputy. Being the *Light of the World* here in Ohio, so others can see our works of charity, as Fr. Michael McGivney had so instructed the members of the new fraternal order of Catholic men. This is the theme that I have chosen and I would like to see all the Knights of Columbus in our state to be the *Light of Ohio* and the world.

And, as State Deputy, I would like to propose one goal here in Ohio: to increase the number of Star Councils. After all, achieving Star Council is the one Supreme Council award that recognizes a council's achievement in service program activities (Columbian Award), membership growth (McGivney Award) and insurance sales (Founders' Award). I can't think of any other Knights of Columbus award that is more important. Our *Light of Ohio* State Program Contest will be fashioned after the Star Council Award criteria.

Our service program activities will request a minimum of four activities in each of the six service program areas;

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It's all about Star Councils

State Deputy Girt introduces new programs, sets goal of 57 Star Councils



State Deputy Ken Girt and his wife, Linda, with State Chaplain Fr. William Kraynak, following the Sunday Mass of the June District Deputies Meeting.

"I knew what I wanted to do, and now we're going to try it."

With that statement, Ohio's new State Deputy, Ken Girt, introduced his administration and programs at the District Deputies Meeting held in Columbus on the weekend of June 22-23, and he took those ideas to Grand Knights and other council representatives at the Diocesan Summer Tour Programs in July.

He emphasized that "It's all about being Star Councils", explaining that the way his programs have been established, Ohio councils will find it easier to achieve that Supreme Council honor. His goal for Star Councils this fraternal year is 57.

And he has made some changes. Such as:

- There will be no Top 10 Councils honored during his administration. Rather, five councils in each of the five divisions – a total of 25 – will be honored.
- It's no longer NEW Council Development; rather, simply Council Development – stressing the formation of new councils as well as rejuvenation of existing councils that are in trouble.
- Online reporting of general program activities will be highly encouraged, but written reports will not be re-fused.

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Ohio Jones is again leading Ohio's membership endeavors, and he has brought us some new ideas

By Ken (Ohio Jones) Gardner, State Membership Director

Ohio Jones is back!

I am continuing to serve the State of Ohio as the State Membership Director for our new State Deputy, Ken Girt, after having held that title during the two-year administration of State Deputy Dave Helmstetter.

It was a tough decision to take on this responsibly for two more years. But I do not like leaving a job unfinished, and I think Ohio is moving in the right direction with Membership Recruitment, even though we did not quite meet our goals during the past two years. This past fraternal year showed an increase in new and reactivated members of 139, as we finished 2012-2013 with an intake of 2,015.

Yes, Ohio councils are finding the treasure of a new member by searching their parishes and communities for eligible Catholic men.

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11th Annual Football Sweepstakes is under way

By PSD Gary Eckstein, 2013 Football Sweepstakes chairman

The 2013 Football Frenzy begins its 11th season among the Ohio Knights of Columbus councils this summer. Over the past decade, this Sweepstakes has provided more than \$100,000 in cash prizes to our weekly winners, and councils have been able to earn their share of nearly \$375,000 in rebates that these tickets have generated.

Grand Knights do not miss out on this season of exciting "PRO" football frenzy while earning rebates for your councils' treasury. Join in the fun, reach for that "END ZONE" of rebates, by selling the "2013 "PRO" Football Sweepstakes" tickets.

Each year participating councils have used this opportunity to help offset council expenses with Sweepstake ticket sales that provide the rebates, which have grown over the past five years. The same incentives will be offered, and with your participation, rebates may reach \$ 125,000.00.

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State Chaplain

We are the Light of Ohio

By Fr. William Kraynak
State Chaplain

Where do priests come from?

Families of prayer are one of the best places to find a vocation to the priesthood and religious life. In my case it was because of my father and mother, who both being good Catholics always made sure that we went to church on Sunday and confession once a month along with CCD classes every week during the school year.

But what made the biggest impression on my young life was the day after my father attended one of his first Knights of Columbus meetings. He insisted that we as a Catholic family must pray grace before every meal, breakfast included. A family of five children all gathered, hungry and ready to devour whatever was placed before them, was stopped in their tracks by a prayer.

This need to pray must be very important because it held up one of the most important activities of my day: eating. It was and is important. It was this prayer which has led me to follow God's call to the priesthood some 30 years ago. My dad had heard the word of God from the Knights of Columbus and was going to follow it in his family. I have observed it in my life and in my priesthood. I was ordained by Bishop James Malone on June 6, 1981. During my priesthood I believe that I have observed the word of God as best I could and as State Chaplain I hope to help all my Brother Knights come to be better observers of the Word of God in their own vocations as men of faith.

* * *

"While Jesus was speaking a woman in the crowd called out and said to him, 'Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breast at which you nursed.'" He replied, "Rather, blessed are those who

hear the word of God and observe it." (Luke 11:27-28)

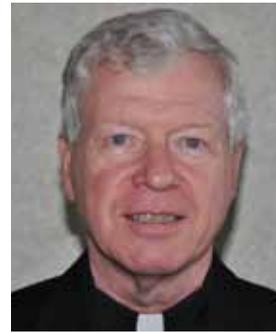
This is the gospel for the vigil of the Feast of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Aug 15. This gospel is our challenge given by Jesus himself. We may hear the word but do we observe it?

Our organization of the Knights of Columbus invites us this year to let our light of faith shine as we observe our Catholic faith in the State of Ohio. We can be a light in many ways for our parish, community and families. Ohio Knights of Columbus have provided assistance with Special Olympics, food cupboards, with Catholic Charities and activities with Respect Life of Ohio. In these -- and many more -- activities, Knights share the light of Christ throughout our state and our nation.

Some without standing out as good members of the Knights are coaches, teachers and mentors to many young people of our communities. They have heard the word of God and have observed it. I would ask all good Knights to do the same in whatever activities they are involved in no matter if it is related to the church or not. They all have a wonderful opportunity to share the light of faith no matter what they say or do by showing that they are proud members of the Knights of Columbus.

Wearing a hat, shirt, jacket or pin that says you are a member of the Knights of Columbus says more to the community you serve than you may know. You don't need to say much more because your actions and words of love and concern will speak loudly for the Knights of Columbus.

I once knew a priest who always wore his clerical cloths everywhere he went. It didn't matter if it was at church or going



Supreme consultant: 'District Deputies have the best job in the Order'

"Communicate effectively. Be enthusiastic. Positive attitude is so important to be successful."

J.P. McCusker, Ohio's new membership and program consultant from Supreme Council, conveyed that message as he introduced himself at the District Deputies Meeting in June.

"Being a District Deputy is the best job in the Order," he asserted. "Yes, it is hard work. Know your role and your responsibilities.

"It's your responsibility to see that your councils are successful," he told the District Deputies. "If it doesn't happen with the councils, it doesn't happen."

McCusker, a Past State Deputy of Virginia, said, "The Supreme Knight says your job is to grow the Order. The only way we're going to grow is one new member per council per month.

"We're going to concentrate on making Ohio have an outstanding year."

* * *

Nine Past State Deputies were at the weekend District Deputies Meeting, having attended a session of the Knights' Ohio Charity Foundation on Friday. They included: Dennis Shonebarger, Baci Carpico, Leonard Krawczyk, Al Hickey III, John Welch, Gary Eckstein, Roland Bator, Larry Moegling, Paul Upman.

* * *

The Ohio State Council has given the Ohio Special Olympics \$13,500 to serve the 2,300 persons in the state with developmental disabilities.

New State Chaplain strongly supports the K of C

Fr. William Kraynak, Ohio's new State Chaplain, has been a priest in the Youngstown Diocese since 1981, and he strongly supports the Knights of Columbus. He joined Poland Council 4471, where his father was a member.

"The Knights of Columbus has been an important part of my priesthood from the beginning when I was assigned to St. Paul Parish in Salem," he said.

Fr. Kraynak received his religious education at St. Gregory and Mt. St. Mary seminaries of the Athenaeum of Ohio in Cincinnati. His last assignment, which ended June 1, was as pastor of Joan of Arc Parish, Canton.

out to a baseball game. He always wore his blacks. I asked him one on occasion, "Why?" Was it so he would be noticed as a witness to the Catholic faith? Was it so that being recognized by others as a priest he might get special favors? Or was it so that when he was seen he might be a reminder to everyone of God's presence in the world and that we should never forget that all we have comes from God?

He said it was none of these -- but that the reason he only wore his clerical dress was to remind himself of the vocation to which he had been called by God and how he must live that call all the time and every day.

Our vocation as members of the Knights of Columbus is to show others how we respond to the word of God by being a light to the State of Ohio and to the world. Everyone is watching and waiting for you to let them know what you believe.

"Be doers of the Word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like. But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets, but a doer who acts. Such a one shall be blessed in what he does." (James 1:22-25).

The Buckeye Bulletin

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Ken Girt: A Knight of Columbus for 32 years

Kenneth J. Girt has been a Knight of Columbus for more than 32 years, all of them with Massillon Council 554 (Youngstown Diocese). He was the council's Grand Knight twice – in 1987-1989 and again in 1997-1998.

Girt, 63, was born and raised in Massillon, receiving his elementary education at St. Barbara's Catholic School. He was graduated from high school at Brunnerdale Seminary, Canton, in 1968, and went on to earn an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering Technology at the Stark County Technical College in 1977. He served two years in the Signal Corps of the U.S. Army.

He and his wife, Linda, were married in 1977. They have three children.

At Massillon Council he was honored as Knight of the Year in 1986, and in 1994 he and Linda were honored as Family of the Year, and they were fourth runner-up in Supreme Council's International Family of the Year.

Girt served as a District Deputy in 1993-1995, then became involved with the Ohio State Council, serving as a State Director of Church, Youth, Membership, Family and General Program before being elected State Warden in 1994.

State Deputy introduces new programs

Continued from Page 1

Girt was installed as State Deputy by Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson when he attended a State Deputies' Meeting in New Haven in early June, succeeding Dave Helmstetter, who takes the title of Immediate Past State Deputy for the next two years.

Theme of Girt's administration is *"We are the Light of Ohio"*.

"As members of the Knights of Columbus, we take pride in the charity that all Knights around the world provide," Girt told the District Deputies. "We truly are the *Light of the World*. And here in Ohio, our charitable giving and our service to others continue to be the shining example of that *Light of the World*. We are the *Light of Ohio*."

Special guest at the District Deputies Meeting was J.P. McCusker, a Supreme Council Membership and Program Consultant. He is a Past State Deputy of Virginia.

The new State Deputy has set some other goals for the 2013-2014 fraternal year, including:

- A total of 4,500 new members (Ohio's quota is 2,500 members).
- A net of 250 new members, after considering suspensions and withdrawals.
- Reactivation of eight existing councils.
- One hundred Round Tables.

Girt selected Fr. William Kraynak as his State Chaplain, whom he installed during the Sunday Mass of the District Deputies weekend.

"I'm very proud to be serving you this year. The Knights of Columbus has helped me immensely in all my ministries," he said in introducing himself to the District Deputies. "Get to know your priests. We often get a bad rap because they don't know the work that we do."

Fr. Kraynak, who remembered that his father was a Knight of Columbus, emphasized that "we must strive to work together with our clergy and our bishops. Together, we try to do what we are able to do as a family. It is important that our chaplains take part in the council meetings. We must be a help to the education of our young and support of our families."

Regarding membership, Girt said he will emphasize the Power of One: One new member per council per month; one Star Council per each district; one first degree per district per month.

"Everybody is afraid to ask a Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus for fear that he will say no," said Girt. "So what. At least you've tried, and you can continue to try."

He has selected Ken (Ohio Jones) Gardner to return as State Membership Director during his term of office. Gardner had been State Membership Director for State Deputy Dave Helmstetter this past two fraternal years.

Among others in leadership roles for Girt are Jeff Kilianny, State General Program Director; Joe Mackos, State District Deputy Director; Bill Wirtz, State Council Development Director.

Before the District Deputies Meeting was concluded, Girt had a parting statement: "I can't thank you enough for what you are going to do for our Knights of Columbus in Ohio."

* * *

Toledo Diocese Bishop Leonard Blair was the main celebrant at the Sunday Mass of the District Deputies weekend. "We would be much poorer as a church without you," he told the Knights.



State Deputy Ken Girt, with Supreme Program and Membership Consultant T.J. McCuskey.

Ken Girt: Let's be 'The Light of Ohio'

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Church, Community, Council, Family, Youth and Culture of Life. The Columbian Award application only asks for four, and so will our state program contest.

To "max" our State Membership program, we will use a special division quota number and we will ask that four membership activities be submitted for program credit. And since the Star Council Award criteria mandates a minimum of four 1st degree participation or sponsorship, so too will our state program contest.

Our general agents and field agents will be concentrating on achieving the insurance quotas established for each council. We must lend them our support.

There are two Supreme Council forms that are required for Star Council and these will be listed in our Administrative Report requirements, along with several other required forms. We also included our State Council fundraisers in the Administrative Report section, with minimum requirements to achieve program points.

The purpose of the *Light of Ohio* State Program is to encourage all councils to participate and achieve maximum points to complete the requirements. This is our goal and it is attainable for your council.

As Pope John Paul II remarked in a message to the delegates at the 105th Supreme Convention in 1987: *"The Knights of Columbus are an excellent example of the contribution which the laity can make by working together. In this way you are being faithful to a serious command "Your light must shine before men so that they may see goodness in your acts and give praise to your heavenly Father" (Mt 5:16).*

Vivat Jesus!

A new Pennies for Heaven Campaign is under way with a goal of \$125,000

Can we set another record for Ohio's Pennies for Heaven Campaign?

Ohio Knights have generously supported the annual campaign, which raises funds to support vocations in the six dioceses of the state. It has been setting new records in each of the past four fraternal years:

- The 2012-2013 campaign raised \$115,029.
- The 2011-2012 campaign raised \$101,214.
- The 2010-2011 campaign raised \$96,339.
- The 2009-2010 campaign raised \$91,366.

A new Pennies for Heaven Campaign is now under way under the direction of Immediate Past State Deputy Dave Helmstetter, who has set an ambitious goal of \$125,000. The first turn-in date is Dec. 15, and the campaign will continue through April 30, 2014.

Helmstetter said awards will be given for two Pennies for Heaven categories at the 2014 State Convention – an award for councils collecting \$5,000 or more, and councils that collect \$1,000 or more.

Funds collected annually are given to the vocations director in each Ohio diocese, to be used to assist and support men studying for the priesthood as well as for other religious vocations. All monies collected in a particular diocese goes to the vocations department in that diocese.



Prall



Kiliany



Droesch



Wirtz



Gardiner



Ponder



Walsh



Nau



Anderson



Saine



Klatte



Gresko



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Bender



Tully

Knights of Columbus Insurance

There's good news For the uninsured

By Paul Goldsmith
State Insurance Liaison



There are many of us who have tried to seek out Life Insurance protection, but have been unable to do so. For one reason or another, health issues have prevented us from purchasing more Life Insurance, or perhaps even our first policy.

Fr. Michael J McGivney's mission was helping provide financial aid to its members and the beneficiaries of its members. The Knights of Columbus has answered those prayers with a Guarantee Issue Policy. The plan is not a term policy so the premium doesn't increase like other plans you see advertised. It is, however a Whole Life Plan. As you know the premium in a Whole Life Insurance Policy the premium **Does Not Change** and it **Does** build Cash Values.

The 803 plan for members is set up similar to many other guaranteed plans. You pay premiums for two years and then the policy is totally in force. If something should happen before that time, the paid premium would be paid to the beneficiary.

To qualify you must be under the age of 65. Depending upon your age you can be eligible for \$5,000 or \$7,500 of coverage. The member's spouse is also eligible for coverage under the guidelines.

Some may say this isn't much, but in a time when your family needs every possible amount of financial help they can get it is a welcome benefit! If you are a member that finds themselves in this situation, I urge you to call.

Our General Agents in Ohio are: Paul Goldsmith (330) 232-6533; James Valent (740) 280-0280; Ed Ponder (513) 654-3647; Jeff Hearty (440) 342-0998, and Deacon Andrew McMann (419) 238-2985.

Culture of Life

Attacks on religious freedom continue; pro-life legislation approved in Ohio

By Gary Anderson
State Culture of Life Director

As we kick off the new *Light of Ohio* program, we find that the attacks on religious freedom, the family, and the pro-life movement in general continue to ramp up.

On June 26, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, ruled the Defense of Marriage Act (D.O.M.A.) unconstitutional, setting the stage for the eventual legalization of same sex "marriage" in all 50 states, and further endangering marriage and children.

Meanwhile, the Obama administration announced on June 28 that it has finalized its regulations on the federal contraception mandate as it applies to religious employers. A statement by the Department of Health and Human Services said that the final rule regarding the mandate's application to many religious groups "is similar to, but simpler than" a previous proposal in February. Issued under the Affordable Care Act, the mandate requires employers -- including the Knights of Columbus -- to offer health insurance plans covering contraception, including some drugs that can cause early abortion, as well as sterilizations. And it is all set to kick in this August.

Although there have been some pro-life victories across the U.S. in defense of the unborn, including a major victory right here in Ohio where the newly-approved two-year state budget reprioritizes family planning funding away from Planned Parenthood, establishes new funding for pregnancy centers, bans public hospitals from entering into transfer agreements with abortion clinics, and strengthens abortion clinic regulations, there have been many defeats as well.

With that in mind, it is all the more imperative that the Ohio Knights of Columbus -- "the strong right arm of the Church" -- continue to be on the front lines waving the banner of life and liberty. The new State Culture of Life Activities Program provides councils and individuals with a platform of tools to help them engage in the battle.

The first of many important upcoming Culture of Life activities is the fall 40 Days for Life campaign, that has now saved over 7,500 babies. The campaign runs from Sept. 25 through Nov. Now is the time to get started with the planning. See the General Program Handbook for all the details.

Annual Football Sweepstakes under way

Continued from Page 1

The bottom line is simple: the more tickets sold statewide, the more rebates earned.

Just in case you're new to the "PRO" Football Sweepstakes program, here is a review and a "refresher" for all our football veterans. This is how all the councils that participate can make up to \$3.90 on every ticket sold, regardless if you sell one ticket, 10 tickets, 100 tickets or even 1,000 tickets.

The "2013 'PRO' FOOTBALL SWEEPSTAKES" ticket sells for \$10 each. Please keep in mind that \$3.50 of the ticket sold goes directly to the organization that does the printing, calculating of weekly winners and the promotional materials. The Ohio State Council does not get a share of the \$3.50. However, we do get to keep the \$6.50 that remains.

Before we explain the rebate structure, remember, When you submit your tickets to the Ohio State Council, each ticket MUST have the full \$10 remitted with the turn-in form (100 tickets = \$1,000.00; 58 tickets = \$580.00, etc.).

The rebates are based on the \$6.50 the Ohio State Council is allowed to keep. The rebates will be distributed in the following manner:

- If the total sale of tickets is less than 15,000 statewide, each council will receive \$2.50 for every ticket sold.
- If the total sale of tickets is more than 15,000 but less than 20,000 statewide, each council will receive \$3.00 for every ticket sold.
- If the total sale of tickets is more than 20,000 but less than 25,000 statewide, each council will receive \$3.25 for every ticket sold.
- If the total sale of tickets is more than 25,000 but less than 30,000 statewide, each council will receive \$3.50 for every ticket sold.
- If the total sale of tickets is more than 30,000 but less than 35,000 statewide, each council will receive \$3.90 for every ticket sold.

The "2013 'PRO' FOOTBALL SWEEPSTAKES" tickets were distributed at the Diocesan Summer Tour Programs, or they can be obtained by contacting the Sweepstakes Chairman Gary Eckstein at (614) 679-4238.

Information about the "2013 'PRO' Football Sweepstakes" also is available on the Ohio State Council website (kofcoho.org). It includes the guidelines, turn-in sheets, and other materials.

Here's a quick review of some of the "2013 'PRO' FOOTBALLSWEEPSTAKES" guidelines:

- Donations are \$10.00 per ticket. Each ticket is valid for the last 10 weeks of the NFL Football season, starting Oct. 27, 2013 and ending Dec. 29, 2013.
- There are 32 NFL teams. Each week each player has four teams. Each player has new teams each week. No other ticket has the same teams in any given week. Week No. 1 is Oct. 27, Week No. 2 is Nov. 3, Week No. 3 is Nov. 10, etc.
- A total of \$1,000.00 in prizes are awarded weekly to the ticket holders with the four teams that score the most -- or the least -- number of points in that given week of games. The scores from the previous week's games will be used for teams that are not scheduled to play on any given week. It makes no difference whether teams win or lose. Total prizes will be \$10,000.
- Turn-ins may be made anytime; ending Oct. 26, 2013. All tickets must be sent in by Oct. 26. Sold tickets and money are to be sent to: Gary A. Eckstein, PSD, 1498 River Trail Dr., Grove City, OH 43123.
- Winners are notified and paid automatically each week by the Ohio State Council.
- Participants must print legibly their name, address, telephone number, and name and number of the selling council on the stub. The stub, and \$10.00, is turned into the council. The buyer keeps the remainder of the ticket.
- "OHIO KNIGHTS" is a registered and recorded name under the Ohio State Council -- Knights of Columbus with Ohio's Attorney General Office.
- Councils can earn rebates only on tickets sold, which is based on total tickets sold statewide during the 2013 Football Sweepstakes ticket sales.
- Rebate checks will be mailed during January, 2014.
- There will be winners list posted on www.footballsweeps.com. The password is **ohiofb13**.

Ohio girl is International runner-up

An Ohio girl was International runner-up in the Supreme Council's Substance Abuse Contest for the 2012-1013 fraternal year. She is Carly Klein, from the Youngstown Diocese.

Carly was runner-up in the 8-11-year-old drugs category. She was sponsored by Lisbon Council 4049.

Support religious education by participating in the Matching Funds Campaign

The Ohio State Council's Matching Funds Campaign, which provides funds that benefit Catholic religious education, is under way and will continue until Nov. 15. The Ohio Charity Foundation, an arm of the State Council, will "match" contributions from individuals, councils, assemblies, chapters and Squires circles up to the first \$25,000 received before Nov. 15.

Those funds will be presented to the religious education directors in Ohio's six

dioceses at the District Deputies Meeting in January, for use to purchase such items as DVSSs, manuals and videos that are used in parochial schools, PSR and RCIA programs. All funds raised in a particular diocese are used for religious education in that diocese.

The 2012-2013 Matching Funds Campaign raised more than \$62,234 for religious education. It included \$37,234 raised by Knights of Columbus sources and \$25,000 matching funds contributed by the Ohio Charity Foundation.

Hold an August Degree and compete for special incentives

Let's honor the 161st birthday on Aug. 12 of our founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, by holding special First Degrees in his honor to bring eligible Catholic men into the Order. All councils should plan on holding a First Degree ceremony during the month of August.

Any member who signs up a new Knight who takes his First Degree during a Fr. McGivney Degree held in August will be placed in a drawing for \$100.

Any Council that holds a First Degree during the month of August **AND** brings in at least three new members will be placed in a drawing for \$300.

All District Deputies who have at least one council in their district hold a First Degree during the month of August and have at least two councils in his district bring in new members will be placed in a drawing for all hotel expenses paid at the 2013 Mid-Year District Deputy Meeting plus \$100.

All drawings will be based on the Supreme Council Membership Report of Sept. 1, 2013, which indicates the August Form 100's submitted to the home office and submittal of Form 450C indicating the council held a first degree in August.

Ohio Jones has new membership ideas

Continued from Page 1

How can we continue to move in the right direction?

I can learn from past experiences, so we are tweaking the Membership program in several areas to make it easier for councils to hold membership programs and be rewarded for bringing members into the Order. Some of the changes we are making include:

The Membership Program is easier than ever -- Points for membership programs will be easier to get and will not be taken away based on May 1 numbers. Only **FOUR** membership programs required! Councils are **NOT** required to bring in a member for points! Points will be given when reported, not taken away! And there are no May 1 Membership Report requirements!

Incentives vs. Rewards -- We are changing our mindset when it comes to showing our appreciation for councils that recruit. Our new program will be based on dates in the Fraternal Leader Success Planner and will be called Rewards instead of Incentives (**Incentive:** We want you to recruit, so we will give you something for doing that; vs. **Reward:** YOU want to recruit, so when you do, we will give you something for doing that).

Another area that confused councils last year was the difference between our GOAL of ONE MEMBER PER COUNCIL PER MONTH and the quotas Supreme sets for Star Council. It is really this simple: The **goal** for every council in the Order is ONE MEMBER...PER COUNCIL...PER MONTH. The **quota** for Star Council is based on current membership. Quota for all councils is 7% growth, minimum of 4, maximum of 35.

Why is membership so important to our Order?

Current events show that the nation needs good Catholic men living their faith more now than ever. We need men to stand strong for our families, defend our Church, and be leaders in the community. When Carl Anderson became Supreme Knight in 2000, he said "*We have a moral obligation to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus*".

Pretty powerful words! Even if you don't feel that strongly about our commitment to bring men into the Knights of Columbus, I would hope your positive experience with the K of C would be enough to persuade you to ask your friends, relatives, and neighbors to join us.

When I think about all the things that the Knights have given me, why wouldn't I want to offer that gift to everyone I come in contact with?

We have much work to do in our Order. Let's continue to grow our Order in Ohio so we can continue and even expand our good works.



The champion Columbus Grove Council basketball team was (front row, from left) Connor Kohls, Landon Kohls, Adam Osterage and Eric Maag; (top row, from left) Cory Meyer, Todd Meyer, Luke Kohls and Kyle Meyer.

Columbus Grove Council wins State Basketball title

The 2013 Knights of Columbus State Basketball Tournament was held last April 6-7 at the Worthington Community Center in the Columbus Diocese. Nine teams from eight councils participated. The councils were Akron 14054; Lima 2661; Sidney 659; Columbus Grove 9788; St. Michael 11445; Delphos 1362; Kalida 4669, and two teams from Ottawa 1757, according to Richars Siefker, State K of C Basketball Chairman.

Columbus Grove Council defeated Lima, 57-53, in the championship game to claim its first state title. Kyle Meyer scored 22 points for Columbus Grove and was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament. He averaged 24 points per game.

Sidney Council defeated Delphos, 73-71, in overtime to win the consolation bracket. Dan Westerheide was the leading scorer for Sidney with 26 points.

"Because of this activity, eight new members were recruited to our Order," Siefker said. "Councils should use this activity to recruit younger members."

One Member Per Council Per Month Awards

Thirty-four councils in Ohio recruited at least one member per month and maintained a net intake of plus five during the 2012-13 fraternal year. They were awarded plaques at the State Tour Meetings. These councils were (with gross intake):

Cincinnati Archdiocese: Coldwater 1991- (13), Fairborn 3724- (18), St. Joseph of the Three Rivers 11550- (12), St. Margaret of York 13429- (20), St. Columban 13813- (14) and Our Lady of Light 14891-(12).

Cleveland Diocese: Elyria 774- (13), Geauga 3304- (27), Garfield Heights 4130- (15), Brunswick 4847- (12), St. Sebastian 14255- (13), and St. Hilary 14551- (17).

Columbus Diocese: Rev. Wm. Spikerman 671- (14), Delaware 1056- (12), Fr. Andrew Hohman 5253- (16), Westerville 5776- (12), St. Andrew 11275- (22), and St. Michael 11445- (19).

Steubenville Diocese: Cambridge 1641- (12), St. Joseph of Monroe County 5009- (30), Bishop John K. Mussio 9804- (14), and St. John Newmann 11828- (13).

Toledo Diocese: Tiffin 608- (34), Leo 957- (13), Fostoria 1197- (17), Ray McKowen 1362- (13), Ottawa 1757- (22), St. Anthony of Padua 9788- (15), St. Joseph 11370- (20), St. Patrick of Heatherdowns 14155- (14), River East Mother Teresa 14344- (17), and Blessed John XXIII 14502- (16).

Youngstown Diocese: Poland 4471- (16) and St. Michael the Archangel 15458- (14).

State General Program Director

Ohio general program is intended to aid councils' Star Council quest

By Jeff Kiliany

State General Program Director

The *Light of Ohio* State General Program is intended to help local council officers, directors and chairmen to not only develop an exciting environment where your members can be proud to be a part of, but to also aid in the quest to achieve the Supreme "Star Council" award as well. The *Light of Ohio* programs are based on councils doing four Service Activities in each of the six program Areas, completing administrative requirements and achieving membership quotas -- just as in the Supreme Star Council Award criteria.

Reporting guidelines are basically the same as in previous State General Programs. The program will run from July 1 through April 15, with five reporting periods: July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, and March-April 15.

Councils are asked to submit a maximum of two reports in each program area per reporting period. Reports should be submitted **online** through the State Website at www.kofcoho.org. Reports should be submitted in the reporting period in which they occurred, but will be accepted one period after.

We encourage councils to do activities all year long, not just during the program year (July 1 through April 15). Any activity done by a council after April 15 may be submitted during the March-April 15 reporting period. Just give the appropriate Program Director your council's plans for doing this activity.

Councils that do any of the eight Supreme "Featured" programs and meet the minimum requirements for that program will get 100 points towards that program area and will "Max" that program area by doing only that one activity (instead of doing four activities in that program area). The eight Supreme "Featured" programs are: RSVP, Habitat for Humanity, Wheel Chair Initiative, Special Olympics, March for Life, Ultrasound Initiative, Food for Families, and Coats for Kids.

Councils are not required to meet the Supreme minimum requirements to do any of these activities and claim it in the *Light of Ohio* State Program. If the Supreme minimum requirements are not met, only 25 points will be awarded for the activity, and three additional activities will be required for a council to "Max" the program area. Your state reporting directors in any of the six program areas will be glad to give your council additional assistance with these featured programs.

You will notice that *Nominees of the Year* are not part of the Council Activities portion of the State Program. Councils are asked to continue selecting and submitting the *Nominees of the Year* in all of the regular categories to the appropriate Service Program Directors. However, the *Nominee of the Year* submission will be part of the Administrative Program (Part 2). Also included in the Administrative Program are the various state fundraisers and council contributions to state sponsored charities such as the State Charity Campaign & Matching Funds.

Councils will be recognized for their efforts and contributions at the State Convention in May. Instead of a "Top Ten", we will recognize the "Top Twenty-Five" councils in the State -- the Top Five councils in each of the five membership divisions of the state will be given awards. In order to be considered for a top division winner, councils must "Max" parts 1, 2, & 3, and then be ranked by percentage above the Supreme Membership Quota as of May 1. Additional tiebreakers will include the number of late reports and the number of "Optional" Administrative Reports submitted in part 2.

All councils that max the three program areas of the *Light of Ohio* State General Program will receive the "1000 Points of Light Award". Councils that "Max" Part 1, but do not gain enough points in the other two Program Parts, will receive the "Candle Light" Award. We will again recognize all of the "Honorees of the Year" for each diocese, the "Best Activities in each Program Area in each of the five divisions, and three different membership category awards in each of the five divisions.

A new award will be for "Best Program Reports". They will be given to councils based on the overall quality of all activities reported in each program reporting area as well as the overall quality of the details and information given by the Grand Knight and/or Program Activity Director.

It is our desire that your participation in this State Program will bring to all Brother Knights in the State of Ohio that *Light of Christ* which will shine out visibly from all of us.



In memory of deceased veterans

Knights of Fr. Sourd Council 2423, Fayetteville (Cincinnati Diocese) joined members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to erect a cemetery flagpole, plus placement of a memorial plaque, to honor the memory of deceased veterans. Setting the pole are (from left) Joe Huber, VFW post commander and Council 2423 member; Erick Brown, and Jay Holden, both members of Fr. Sourd Council.

State Youth Activities

Changes have been made in eligibility rules for the 2013 Soccer Challenge competition

By Bob Walsh

State Youth Activities Director

There has been a change in the Soccer Challenge this year, as the Ohio State Council has changed the ages of participation.

This year, boys and girls aged 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 will be able to participate, with the age groups of 13 and 14-year-olds eliminated from the competition. The reasoning for this change is because a sharp decrease in participation has been seen among the 13 and 14-year-olds.

The Ohio State Council also has made another change: The 8 and 9-year-olds will compete only at the council, district, regional and state levels, while the 10, 11 and 12-year-old state winners will continue on to the Supreme competition.

We are hoping this change will encourage the younger children to get involved and STAY involved throughout their years of eligibility.

Councils planning to conduct Soccer Challenge competitions this year should order their soccer kits in August. The council competitions should be scheduled anytime in September. District Deputies will schedule district competitions during the first two weeks of October, with regional competitions being held during the last two weeks of October. Contact Bob Walsh at (216) 533-1134., for further information.

4 Ohio Free Throw champs gain International honors

Four participants who won titles in their age groups at the Ohio State Council Free Throw Championships last March have been honored as Supreme Council International Champions. It may be a record of the number of Ohio youngsters winning international honors in a single year. They are:

- Ally St. Clair, of West Salem (Cleveland Diocese), who won the Ohio girls' 11-year-old division by making 24-of-25 free throw attempts. She was sponsored by Fr. Carl Anthony Council 3213, Wadsworth.
- Amber Miller, of Ottoville (Toledo Diocese), who won the Ohio girls' 13-year-old division by making a perfect 25-of-25 free throw attempts. She was sponsored by Council 2238, Ottoville.
- Bryce Williams, of Archbold (Toledo Diocese), who won the Ohio boys' 13-year-old division by making 24-of-25 free throw attempts. He was sponsored by Council 7552, Archbold.
- Nick Colopy, of Marysville (Columbus Diocese), who won the Ohio boys' 14-year-old division by making a perfect 25-of-25 free throw attempts. He was sponsored by Council 5534, Marysville.