



May 2016



Congratulations to the Following Honorees

**March Knight of the Month
David Klutz**

**March Family of the Month
John and Nelda Bennett**

**Knight of the Quarter
January, February, March
Taupule' (Tau) Iosia**

**Council 802 Knight of the Year 2016
Howard McCarty**

**Council 802 Family of the Year 2016
Liberty and Salvador (Sal) Moreno**

Assembly 1251

**Sir Knight of the Year 2016
Salvador Moreno**





Knights Of Columbus The Meridian Knight Council Officers



Grand Knight
David Viger

Chaplain
Father Matthew Simmons

Deputy Grand Knight
David Klutz

Financial Secretary
George Walston

Chancellor
Robert J. Leo PGK

Treasurer
John D. Harwell

Advocate
Roland Stewart

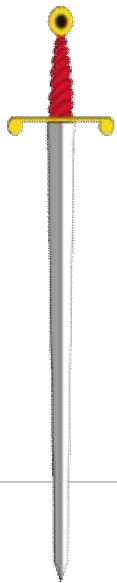
Recorder
Frank Polizzi, PGK

Lecturer
John Bennett, PGK

Warden
Howard McCarty

Inside Guard
Frank Sharp

Outside Guard
David Stephens



Trustees

Patrick J Carter PGK
John Maloney Sr PGK
Mouise Richards PGK



Newsletter Editor
George Walston

The Main Principles of Our Order

Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism

THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS



PROTECTING FAMILIES
FOR GENERATIONS



*We Thank You Lord for all that
you give us freely*

[Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage](http://www.kofc802.org)
<http://www.kofc802.org>



Grand Knight Dave Viger



Brother Knights,

I want to again extend a sincere “Welcome!” to our Brother Knights who joined our Order last month, Brothers Frank Washington, John Killen, Trey Grissett, Chad Lint, Tyler Oakes and Noel Vicencio! I pray each of you find the Knights to be as rewarding of a fraternal organization as I do!

I also want to thank all of the Brother Knights who came out to show their support at the degree. There were 37 Brother Knights at the meeting and for me, that was by far the best representation I’ve witnessed at any 1st Degree! Thank you again for your support!

As most of you know, the 112th State Convention was held in Natchez on April 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. Our Council was recognized during the convention with the Youth Program Award, Newsletter Award and Keep Christ in Christmas, Christmas Card sales, each of which are notable accomplishments. While there is a cadre of Brothers who work hard to help in those areas, I want to extend my thank you to Brother Dave Klutz, George Walston, and Bob Leo (PGK) for their leadership in each of the areas, respectively. Also of note, Brother Bob Leo was elected as an Alternate State Delegate to the Supreme Convention.

May is a BUSY month, please look closely at the calendar of events attached to the newsletter and at the one pinned to the top of our Facebook page. As most of you know, my wedding is fast approaching. I ask each of you to pray for Adrian and me and our life together as we are Blessed in the Sacrament of Marriage!

Last but certainly not least, this Memorial Day weekend, please pause to remember and honor America’s fallen service members who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. Pray for them, the family members left behind and for our nation’s leaders as they consider decisions that will put our service members in harm’s way!

Thank you and may God Bless you, your families and our country!

Vivat Jesus!

Dave Viger, GK



Church Sal Moreno



Our Church program is in full swing and the month of May is no exception. We are leaving April with the 5th Saturday family dinner on April 30th after the 5:00pm Mass at St. Patrick Family Life Center. We will welcome May by hosting and or sponsoring the following:

May 1 (Sun.) through May 29 (Sun.) - - - We will lead the rosary starting 30 minutes before each Mass every weekend in all three churches.

May 7 (Saturday at 10:00am) - - - First Communion Cake & Punch (Family Life Center)

May 12 (Thursday at 6:00pm) - - - Confirmation Cake & Punch (Family Life Center)

I noticed that the same Brother Knights are leading the Rosary month after month, we need more participants, please sign in and be counted. Help is needed in setting up for the First Communion and the Confirmation receptions.

Sal Moreno, Chairman

Please continue to pray for vocations.

We need more priests



Chaplain
Fr. Matthew Simmons



“The Joy of Love” (*Amoris Laetitia*) is the title of Pope Francis’ new apostolic exhortation. An apostolic exhortation does not make any new developments to the teachings of the Church. Rather it exhorts the Church to undertake a work in response to a meeting of bishops. Pope Francis began “The Joy of Love” by speaking of young peoples’ enduring desire to marry. During the years that I have been a priest, I have seen a decline in the number of weddings celebrated in the Church.

Most of you in the Council are both husbands and fathers. The instruction that you give to your children and grandchildren regarding the importance of marriage is invaluable. The documents of Vatican II referred to the family as the domestic church. Catholic education is important, and I appreciate your ongoing support of the parish school. However, religious instruction in the school and in the parish school of religion is no substitute for the formation that families give to children in the faith. Faith is primarily a relationship with Jesus Christ, and it is important to personally share that relationship of yours with your family. It is your privilege and responsibility as fathers to give good instruction regarding what the Bible and tradition teach about marriage.

I encourage you to read “The Joy of Love” as well as other Church documents regarding family life. The example that you set as husbands and fathers is of the greatest importance. It will inspire other men to want to enter into the sacrament of marriage and into family life in the Church. Please pray for families and pray as families.

Fr. Matthew



Special from
John Maloney, PGK



This is my last addition to the Newsletter. The main object that I have tried to do is to keep alive the memories of those who made our Council what it is today. Those who are now in Heaven: Leo Carr, Maurice LaBiche, Andy Stockton, Harry Routt, Dr. John Berney, Drennen Smith, Father Patrick Smith, David Gleason, Nelson Walker, Martin Stroble, Louis (Joe) Bailey, David Duncan, Mack White, Walter McHugh, Leo Wright, Andy Thomas, Jack Schons, Percy Nause, Martin Rushing, David Koch, Bill Kalinowski, Dr Richard Flemming, Leo Donnelly, Joe Dicks, Paul Carpenter, David Newell, Sr., Eddie Nobles, Paul Durapau, Jim Hagen, Al Wooley, Joe Gomez, and others all of whom I can’t remember.

It is my hope that those who have taken up the job of keeping our Council functioning will be remembered in years to come. It was my pleasure to have known and worked with all those listed in the above paragraph and those who are doing the job or have done it in the past. We owe a great deal of thanks to the following men: John Bennett, John Kasper, George Walston, John Harwell, Bob Leo, Mouise Richards, Frank Polizzi, Tom Zettler, Tom Beeman, Bob Connor, Dr. Luis Borrell, Pete Nause, Dennis Deviney, Richard Gough, P. J. Carter, Joe Semmes, David Viger, Roland Stewart, Howard McCarty, Frank Sharp, David Stephens, David Klutz, Pete Vining, Richard Semmes, Larry Birzer, John Johnson, Jr., Richard Moody, Sal Moreno, and Dewayne Klutz.

I apologize to those who I forgot to mention. Please forgive me. Please thank those men who have done so much to keep our K of C Council 802 best in the state

John Maloney, Sr., PGK

*Please continue to pray for vocations.
We need more priests*



Family Bob Leo



Congratulations to the John and Nelda Bennett Family for being chosen as the "Family of the Month" for the Month of March. As you all know of the work that John does to keep our K.C. hall in good shape , but what some of you don't know is how much his lovely wife Nelda has been at his side, helping John with various projects. If you look for Nelda at any of our functions you will probably find her in the kitchen helping whoever the chef happens to be that day. Again congratulations to John and Nelda Bennett.

Some of you may have noticed a gap in our Family Activities, this is due to the scheduling of other functions that take precedence over the Family Activity at the time. The summer months are upon us , and barring any major disasters, we will be having our outdoor picnics, starting with the month of June. In June we will have our 1st outdoor get together picnic on the 24th at 6: 30 P.M. As always, the Knights will provide the meat and soft drinks , Please feel free to bring your favorite side dish or dessert. This is open to all the Knights their families and guests, and any potential new members should feel free to come. Hoping to see you there.

Bob Leo
Family Director



Bingo Bob Leo



The Bingo program is just plodding right along, some weeks we have a very large crowd and some weeks we have a medium crowd, so our attendance seems to be getting into somewhat of a bell curve. But we are still going strong, even after the tax returns are gone.

We are still experiencing some minor problems with installing the program for the "Bonus Line" sheet call back. You still have to call back all of the numbers, and please lay the Bingo on another table for verification. We are working on where you will only have to call back the middle numbers, just to make it a little easier.

I need to keep this newsletter short in the interest of time. George needs to get the Newsletter out and I'm late already.
(Ed Note: he isn't really late, folks)

Bob Leo
Bingo Manager



Lecturer John Bennett



We will have a program at the KC Hall on the 5th Tuesday of May at 6:30 pm. This program will be for any member in good standing. Light refreshments will be provided. This is a short program for the entertainment and edification of our members. Card players, old men, young men, new members, old members, bingo workers, and old Financial Secretaries are invited. This will be a members only get together. We need to give the Lady's a night off .

John Bennett
Lecturer



Special on Youth from Dave Klutz, DGK



I am so proud to announce that our Christmas Eve visit to the hospitals won the state Youth Service Award. That's right, our youth project won! I am so proud. A special thanks to all those that helped not only at this project, but at all our youth events. I have included a picture of "Santa" and me with our newest award.

Speaking of projects throughout the year. Until we get another Youth Director I was talking with some Knights about how to continue to run the Youth without a current chairman and someone gave me a great idea. Break up all the youth events and ask volunteers to take just one. So, that being said these are the major events we have on the books for our 2016-2017 budgeted year: Creative Contraption Contest, Columbus Day Poster contest, Free Throw Contest, Soccer Contest, Christmas Hospital visit, Substance Abuse Poster Contest, Essay Contest, St. Patrick Basketball challenge, and the Easter Egg Hunt.

If you are interested in taking just one of these projects on please let me know. I will give you all the guidance and help you need. This is a great way of giving back to our youth and taking part of our council without taking on too much. Like they say....you can only eat an elephant one bite at a time.

Once again, thanks for all your help throughout the year and please think about taking on one of these projects. *(Ed Note: You could just volunteer to be the Youth Chairman for next year.)*

David Klutz
Acting Youth Chairman



Deputy Grand Knight Dave Klutz



Congrats everyone! Council 802 won the Superior Service Council Award at the state convention. We got this for one reason only --- all the hard work this council does throughout the year. This award is for all in our council. I was so proud to be there that night as our council was celebrated for its work. We also won the Youth Service Award and received a "Thank You" plaque for our donations to the "Fit for Priesthood" project.

For me the highlight of the weekend was when Nick Adam presented the council's that supported the Fit for Priesthood project with the "thank you" plaques. As he presented the thank you plaques he explained to everyone that the Knights of Council 802 played a major role in his decision to become a priest. He told everyone that our examples of religious belief and works inspired his decision to become a priest. WOW!!! What a tribute to our council.

All chairmen please get with me to get the new program sheets. Remember for us to get credit for all our hard work it needs to be documented on our program sheets.

David Klutz, DGK

Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage
<http://www.kofc802.org>



Fourth Degree John Harwell, JN



I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the Assembly for allowing Bridget and me to attend the 2016 Convention this past weekend in Natchez. It was a very enjoyable weekend. Council 802 and Assembly 1251 were well represented, as usual. We did receive a certificate that recognized us as being one of the top donors to the MS Pro Life Fund. The highlight of this weekend for me was attending Mass at St. Mary's Basilica both Saturday and Sunday. I know we had some discussion about what constitutes a Basilica as compared to a Cathedral. Well hands down, St. Mary's is the most beautiful church in the state of MS. I know they have designated another church as the Cathedral for the Diocese but St. Mary's is the bell cow of all places of worship in this state and I am including all faiths in that statement. Absolutely very, very beautiful.

Upcoming in May, our Honor Guard will have three celebrations to be a part of. The first being the Confirmation Mass at 6PM on Thursday, May 12th at St. Patrick Church. Also, later in the month, our GK David Viger has requested the Honor Guard to be a part of his and Adrian's wedding at 11AM on Saturday, May 28th. Please contact Corp Commander Bob Leo if you want to participate in either of those celebrations. In between those two events, is the ordination of Jason Johnston at St. Peter's in Jackson on May 14th at 10AM. Some discussion about this transpired in Natchez with the District Master and Marshall. In the next few days, they are supposed to be providing information about the Honor Guard's participation and how many of our men will be able to participate. As Bob and I learn more, we will be in touch with you. For now, you can express your interest to Bob if you want to go and be a part of this special day. I hope to have information to share at our council meeting on Tuesday May 3rd, if not sooner.

Finally, on Memorial Day, Monday May 30th, we will have our annual Flag ceremony at St. Patrick Cemetery. This will commence at 8AM (0800) where we will raise the flag and then lower it to half-staff in recognition of our military personnel who gave their all for the freedoms we enjoy today. At Twelve Noon (1200), the flag will be brought back up to full staff. Then at 5pm (1700) it will be retired. Please join us if you are able.

I hope you all have a great month. Happy Mothers' Day to all our Wives that have had children, Mothers and Grandmothers of all our members and to those Ladies who may not have had biological children of their own but that have had a maternal influence to people in need during their lifetime.

Faithful Navigator
John Harwell
1 COR 12 4-7



May Birthdays



1st Daniel Pittman **2nd** Richard (Rick) Norman **3rd** Steve Duncan & Phillip Jenkins **6th** Chris Aria
7th Scott Albaugh & David Rauenhorst **13th** Otto Storr **14th** John Malomeh III **16th** Al Wood
17th Robert (Bob) Degitz **21st** Randy Routt **25th** James Purdy, MD **29th** Tim Holder & Chad Lint



Membership David Stephens



Brother Knights:

I can truly say that April was a GREAT month! Along with the joy of the Easter Celebration (Holy Thursday thru Easter Sunday), we welcomed six (6), yes, SIX new brothers into the Order and we have at least one applicant approved for the next Exemplification. I have one more application out that I expect to have approved by the next Exemplification.

Of course, it's in order to say, a Special "Thank You!" to Our 1st Degree Team Members: **Brothers Dave Viger, Tom Zetler, Joshua Maeda, Bob Leo, John Kasper, Roland Stewart, John Maloney Sr., and David Stephens. Certainly, a Big Thank you to the other brothers of 802, Ken North, our Field Agent, and Danny Setaro, our District Deputy, who came out to support the Exemplification.**

Brothers, we had 37 members in attendance for the April 19th Degree/meeting. This is the largest number I've seen in attendance since I started attending the meetings on a regular basis. Thank you!

One more time, Thank You! Brothers, for all your continued help with recruiting. "Membership is truly a team effort!" Keep up the good work!

Exemplifications in May:

There were only Admissions (1st) Degree Exemplifications scheduled during the month of May.

Thanking you in advance for your support!

Vivat Jesus!

David T. Stephens,
Membership Director



Seminarians Corner Nick Adam



Brother Knights,

Wow! I was blown away by the State Convention. I was so inspired seeing all the KC's from around the state and so impressed (but not surprised) by the great turnout from our council. Thank you guys for being so welcoming to Aaron and I, it was a real honor to be there and to be able to represent the seminary and Council 802.

Well, the year is almost up, and I am really hitting the homestretch of my formation. I had my annual evaluation and have been recommended to continue on the road to priesthood. This summer I will be working at St. Dominic's in Jackson in the chaplain's department. This is the typical assignment for a seminarian entering his last two years of formation. It is extremely important that we receive adequate training in the hospital environment. In fact, this semester I have been taking a class in Bioethics to prepare for my summer.

Often, we think of the abortion issue as the only pro-life issue out there, but of course we know that there are so many threats to the culture of life out there. Bioethics is about being able to properly discern the good use of medical technology in the face of many practices that we believe go against the culture of life. It is so important to know what is happening in this arena because often people have questions about beginning of life, reproductive, and end of life issues, and they need to be able to find those answers in the Church!

I'm sure this summer will provide a wealth of good experience for me as I continue my formation. I hope to see you all over the summer!!!

- Nick

[Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage](http://www.kofc802.org)
<http://www.kofc802.org>



Pro Life Darrell Hober



Brother Knights

“THANK YOU” Bob and Rosalie Leo for attending the Pro-Life Mississippi Spring banquet on April 21st. Bob and Rosalie presented a \$500 check from Knights of Columbus Council 802. From what Bob has told me, he was the only Knight that was in attendance. Council 802 was well represented. Here are the highlights from the banquet...

Silent Auction: 5:00 PM

Banquet: 6:30 PM

Rebecca Kiessling was the Keynote Speaker. Below is her testimony...

Rebecca Kiessling always knew she was adopted, but at 18 she learned that she was conceived out of a brutal rape at knife-point by a serial rapist. Although her birthmother was thrilled to meet her, she did tell her she actually went to two back-alley abortionists and almost aborted her. She backed out of the abortion twice because of fears for her own safety at both illegal “clinics”. Rebecca recalls that, "Like most people, I'd never considered that abortion applied to my life, but once I received this information, all of a sudden I realized that, not only does it apply to my life, but it has to do with my very existence. It was as if I could hear the echoes of all those people who, with the most sympathetic of tones, would say, 'I'm pro-life - well, except in cases of rape.

Rebecca Kiessling: "I felt like I was now going to have to justify my own existence, that I would have to prove myself to the world that I shouldn't have been aborted and that I was worthy of living."

Today Ms. Kiessling is a family law attorney, blogger, and nationally and internationally recognized pro-life speaker. For obvious reasons, Ms. Kiessling staunchly opposes the rape exception that directly impugns her life and the lives of 32,000 babies conceived from rape every year. She actively speaks out against the rape exception in Obama care (as well as other legislation, including some “pro-life” measures that grant a rape exception). She has helped change the hearts of many legislators and politicians, including Gov. Rick Perry during his presidential campaign, and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. Rebecca has been interviewed by one of her personal heroes, Dr. James Dobson, on his Family Talk radio program along with four other members of the pro-life group Save The 1.

"One of the greatest things I've learned is that the rapist is NOT my creator, as some people would have me believe," declares Ms. Kiessling. "My value and identity are not established as a 'product of rape', but as a child of God".

The truth is that you don't have to prove your worth to anyone, and if you really want to know what your value is, all you have to do is look to the Cross — because that's the price that was paid for your life! That's the infinite value that God placed on your life!"

God bless each of you. Have a great day every day. LIFE IS PRECIOUS.

Darrell, Pro-Life



Community Roland Stewart



As you know, this year's Burns Award Banquet is set for May 7th at 6:30pm. We will need help to set up the tables that Saturday morning around 9:00 am. Eight to ten 10 people would be great. Tau will also need about 6 people to help with the food preparation around 3:00 pm. If you can help, please contact me and/or Tau Iosia.

Roland Stewart, Chairman



*Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion
in our lifetime*

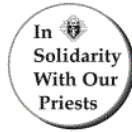




May 2016



*Please continue to pray for vocations.
We need more priests*



Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage
<http://www.kofc802.org>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	 3 <i>Business Meeting 7:30pm</i>	 4 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 5 <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</i>	6	7 <u><i>1st Communion Cake & punch</i></u> <u><i>Burns Award Banquet</i></u> <u><i>6:30 pm</i></u>
8	9	 10	 11 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 12 <u><i>Confirmation Cake & punch after Mass</i></u> <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM KC Responsibility</i>	13	14 <i>Deacon Jason Johnston Ordination St Peters Cathedral Jackson 10:00 am</i>
15	16	 17 <i>1st Degree Exemplification 6:30pm if applicant Business Meeting Follows at 7:30</i>	 18 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 19 <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</i>	20	21
22	23	 24 <i>4th Degree Meeting 7:30pm</i>	 25 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 26 <i>EMSH Visitation 6:00pm</i> <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</i>	27 Newsletter Deadline	28
29	30 Memorial Day  Flag Ceremony 0800 (8am)	31 <i>5th Tuesday Lecturer Program 6:30 PM</i>	 <i>Please wish a Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 8</i>	 <i>Abortion Kills the Innocent</i>	 <i>Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion in our lifetime</i>	