



The Crusader



Official Publication of the New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus



Bruce DeMolli
State Deputy



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State Deputy's Message

My Brother Knights,

The 133rd Supreme Convention that was held in Philadelphia was a tremendous success both by the host Pennsylvania Council and by our own New Jersey State Hospitality committee led by Bill and Lisa Roberts and John Gazis. The NJ State dinner at Maggiano's Restaurant was well attended and the service and dinner were excellent. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Bill and Lisa Roberts for also chairing this event. The NJ State shirts were very popular at the convention.

The Supreme delegates were advised by the Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, that the Supreme Council is embarking on a new initiative to support and help our fellow Christians who are being persecuted in the Middle East. A council project in support of persecuted Christians in the Middle East through purchase of Solidarity Cross made in Bethlehem from rose wood was introduced.

The Knights have never been stronger and more relevant. We have set new records in charity, membership and insurance. The order is now close to the 1.9 million member mark. We are building a better world one council at a time. Our charitable contributions increased by more than \$3.4 million to a record \$173,550,680. New Jersey was 8th in charitable giving among all the states. We also set a new record in charitable service, volunteering 71,560,617 hours. Membership growth reached an all-time high of 1,888,598 brother knights adding 256 new councils, 135 in the United States. We now have 15,117 councils in our order with the approaching of the 16,000 council not too far in the distant future.

As you can see our order is strong and growing and we count on each council to continue that growth. Our objective this year is to grow the order in New Jersey by 2400 new members (net), begin 10 new councils and reactive 10 councils.

Working collectively through our incentive and awards programs, we hope to accomplish our goals.

Vivat Jesus

Bruce De Molli
State Deputy



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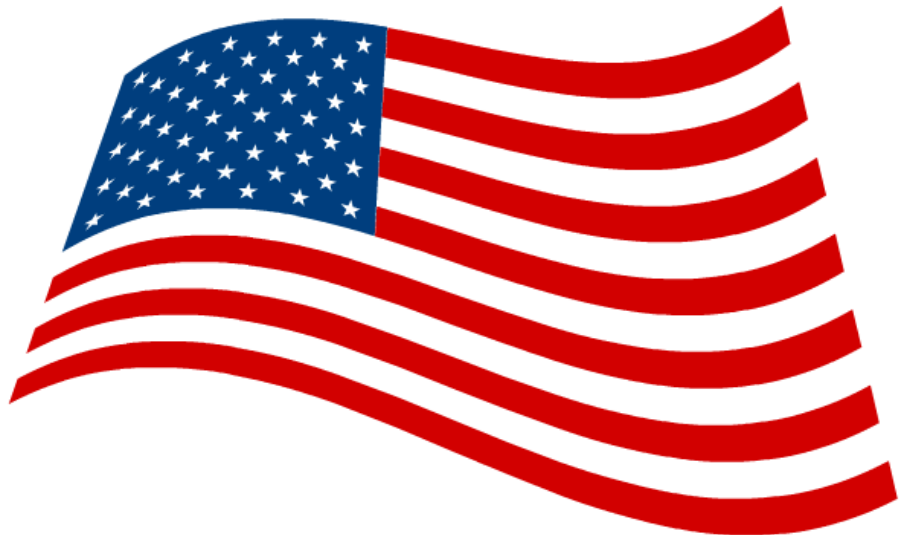
FLY YOUR FLAG

My Brother Knights,
How many of you have our Country's Flag flying outside your home? This symbol of pride in our Country is something I would hope most of us have.

There are certain days of the year that are considered "Fly your Flag" days, but really, everyday should be a day your Flag is proudly flying outside your home, in your windows, anywhere it would be seen by you, your family, friends, even people just walking by your home. Show them how proud you are to be a citizen of the greatest country in the world, the United States of America.

Under the National Colors, you could add a pennant letting everyone know we are "One Nation Under God", as we say loud and proud when we recite the National Anthem. Pennants are available through the State Council's One Nation Under God Program. Contact John A Gazis, FDD at skjgazis@aol.com

If you don't have a Flag or a pennant, now would be a great time to get one of each and display them proudly.



Program Corner

Hi Brothers. I hope you had an enjoyable summer in the sun, with friends and family. Now that the summer has come to an end, we need to dust off the beach sand and get back to work on our Knights of Columbus programs.

For a large majority of Councils, September breaths life back into the council. Supreme asks us to share a Corporate Communion in September. This gives members the ability to renew acquaintances and friendships with their brother Knights and the parish community. There is no better way than celebrating the Eucharist and sharing time and a meal. Make it part of your calendar.

Have you considered including a “Featured Program” offered by Supreme as one of your service programs?

Our September considerations should be:

- An organizational meeting with your chairmen.
- a “District Featured Program” e.g. [Coats for Kids](#),
- [Seminarian Letter Writing Program](#) – encouragement for their ministry and studies
- [Soccer Challenge Council Event](#)
- [Keep Christ in Christmas Program](#), order now for deliveries in late November.
- Supreme Essay Contest Kit order due 9/1
- Supreme Christmas Poster Contest Kit order due 9/5

One way to get you and your Council charged up in your Faith is to join our State officers and brother knights at the [NJ State Knights of Columbus annual Retreat](#) on October 23-25 at St. Alfonso Retreat house in Long Branch. This is an ideal way to invigorate your faith.

The information on these and any other program can be found in the Grand Knights Manual.

Let us, together, do our best and develop a calendar of programs, with the tools supplied by our State Council and Supreme, to have fun in doing God’s work and bringing other like minded Catholic men into our Order. Vivat Jesus!

Keep the Faith,
Jim Sweeney, FDD
[NJ State Council General Program Director](#)
“Protecting God’s Kingdom”



HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAM OF THE MONTH

Brothers

We received a pin with the logo of the order at our First Degree and we wear it proudly. Most of us have one or more shirts, hats and jackets where we proudly proclaim that we are members of the Knights of Columbus. Why not display that same pride on the front and back of your car? Everywhere you drive people know you are a Knight of Columbus.

I have been asked many times about my Knights of Columbus plates and I proudly boast about who we are and the many good works we perform. A couple years ago while on a family trip to the Cape May zoo a gentleman collecting donations at the gate saw my plates and asked where I was a member. I replied that I was a member of Council 2976 and it turned out he was a Past Grand Knight of my Council some 30 plus years ago. The wonderful experience of meeting him was all due to my having the Knights plates.

I'm calling on all brothers to order your K of C plates now! The cost of new plates is only a one time fee of \$25 personalized plates are also available for \$50 more! Contact Hank Keating FDD @ 856-627-3483



Knights of Columbus License Plates are available to all Brother Knights. If you wish to apply for K of C License Plates, please comply with the following instructions:

1. Call the State License Plate Contact and obtain New Jersey Organization Special Plate Application. Please complete the application fully including: 11.7 K of C License Plates
2. Answer all the questions under "Instructions"
3. Complete the mailing stub on the reverse side
4. DO NOT fill out the "Certification by Organization Special Plate Liaison". The State Chairman will fill out that section.

Items to be mailed:

- The application.
- A photocopy of your vehicle registration.
- A photo copy of your current Travel Card.
- A check for \$25.00 made payable to: "N. J. Motor Vehicle Dept."
- You should receive your plates about two weeks after your application is received.

Mail all of the above to the Regional State Chairman:

Henry J. Keating, FDD

76 Chelsea Circle

Clementon, NJ 08021

856-627-3483 keating76@comcast.net

General Agents Corner

THE FIFTH DENTIST

Did you ever wonder about that fifth dentist?

Most of us of a certain age remember the television ad that touted that 4 out of 5 dentists recommend chewing Dentine gum. Makes you wonder about the fifth dentist, doesn't it? What was he thinking? Didn't he like chewing gum?

Well, September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. I am sure that most of you, (including most of the insurance agents in the state), didn't know that. I guess 4 out of 5 of us were not aware of that, but here are some statistics that show what Americans are aware of.

92% of Americans want to discuss their goals with a trusted advisor

90% want the help of a live person, not just what they can learn on the internet

70% of Americans think they need more insurance. Here is the breakdown.

A recent study by AM Best showed that among those making a household income of \$40,000 to \$65,000 more than 50% needed more insurance, but because of income limitations only 36% could afford more. Of those making between \$65,000 and \$106,000 more than 65% needed more insurance and most, (over 85%), could afford the cost. Of those making more than \$106,000 the numbers were more severe, over 82% needed more insurance and again most, (91%), could afford the cost. When you add in those making more than \$250,000, (the next income break), where 75% needed more insurance, the national average works out to that 70% above.

85% of those who finally meet with an agent/advisor said it was "extremely" helpful

Those numbers actually go up when it comes to meeting with your Knights of Columbus Field Agent. Only 1 out of 10,000 doesn't feel good about meeting with their agent, (2014 statistics for positive and negative comments received in home office in writing or by phone).

That works out to be 99.999907% of our members think meeting with their Knights of Columbus Agent was helpful, very helpful or extremely helpful. For most of our members we are the trusted advisor that is there to help them. Don't be that fifth dentist, help us help you and your family. During Life Insurance Awareness month, meet with your agent, 99.999907% of you will be happy you did.

Our commitment to the families we serve is to do for them what we do for our own families in the same situation. We are tasked to do so with compassion, professionalism, and a Christ like spirit of kindness. That's the promise that we General Agents in New Jersey make to you.

It's who we are and what we do. Protecting Catholic families since 1882.

[Charles Miraglia](#),
General Agent



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Brothers,

September is here. It's time to put our July and August plans into action. We've met with our Pastors, we set up our Membership Drives (**BLITZ**) and we've started to line up our service programs for the upcoming year.

We should be putting our **RETENTION PROCESS** in motion. Not so much for back dues but finding out about the welfare of our brother knights. Even those members who are not in arrears need to be called just for the fact that we have not heard from them. A friendly voice checking in to see "**HOW ARE YOU DOING?**" goes a long way.

Let's check in on our **ROUND TABLES**. See if there is anything they need. We should be doing our Membership Drives at these parishes as well.

Our **INSURANCE AGENTS** are waiting for your calls and ready to help you make **STAR COUNCIL**.

Your degree teams, I hope, have practiced and are ready to bring in new members.

I hope everyone will be attending their diocesan **LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP TRAINING**. This is an invaluable asset to every council.

As always your Membership Team is there for you. Don't hesitate to call! You are not alone!

Your friend in Christ,

Mike Vaclavicek, FDD

[State Membership Director](#)

"Defending God's Kingdom"

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

“The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.”

USCCB – Catholic Social Teaching - the Life and Dignity of the Human Person

I hope that everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer. I also hope that you have taken or have set aside some time for family and friends. The preceding statement by our nation's bishops is an excellent reminder not only that we need to take care of each other but that we also need to prayer for our local and national leadership. Please also pray for those who are caring for someone who is ill or disabled, they may not get a trip to the shore or go camping in the mountains. For those who are caring for a loved one who has Alzheimer's it can be a 24/7 struggle, Our Alzheimer's Respite Care Program is there to help raise the funds needed to give care-givers the support and rest that they need to keep their lives on track. I'm not sure which is harder the physical work of having to care for someone that you love, or the emotional drain of having the love of your life not be able to remember that your married or maybe not remember your name. If you know someone in this situation see if there is a time that you can relieve them so they can have some alone time or just run errands.

November is National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and National Caregiver Month. With over 15 million Caregivers caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's or dementia this is the time to organize your council to help raise funds for this worthy cause. There are also walks for Alzheimer's throughout September and October; contact Neal McGarrity (mcgarritye@aol.com, 201-223-7967) for the Northern Counties and Jack Persia (jackpersia@comcast.net, 856-589-9055) in the Southern Counties

All of the Special Programs have to do with everyday life, caring for our neighbors, friends and family. Let us be Christ to those we meet, let them see the love of God shining through us.

May God bless and keep us,
Vivat Jesus,

Joe D. Wickham, OFS,
[Director of Special Programs](#)

CULTURE OF LIFE

Brothers:

It is now September, and Pro-Life Month is only 30 days away. Hopefully your council has already started planning some activities and is ready to launch them soon. Your State Culture of Life team has also been busy working on getting you the resources you need to be successful. Just go to www.ProLife.njkofo.org to find out what is available! Now here are some ideas for what you can do.

Save a Life. Have a Baby Bottle Boomerang Drive or Rose Sale to raise the money necessary to help your nearby pregnancy care center afford the ongoing costs of maintenance and operation of the ultrasound machine that we placed there. If you need further information, a list of care centers is available at the link above.

Turn Off Your TV. Turn off your TV (and other entertainment media) and spend some time with your family! With the virtual elimination of censorship of foul and obscene language from programming, the graphic sex and violence, and the “normalization” of alternative lifestyles through such reality shows as “I Am Cait” on the E! Network, we have our work cut out for us. I urge you to work through your parishes and promote this in your Catholic community.



We have also provided a template for a “Pledge Card.” Have your council and parish members sign it pledging to “turn it off” on October 21, then (with the pastor’s permission) display the cards in the church vestibule to show our solidarity and unity of action. Get the template from the State Council web site then get them inexpensively printed at VistaPrint using this [LINK](#).

Hold a Diaper Drop. Collect diapers, wipes, formula, clothing, and the like one weekend at all the Masses in your parish. This is one of the greatest things you can do to support the choice for life after it is made. You could also raise money to provide Homes for Mothers, another great program for “post-choice” support.

Letters for Life. Exercise your Catholic Voice and duties as a Catholic Citizen by participating in this program. Our longtime chairman for this, Adolf Schimpf, has this to say about the program:

Letters for Life, a program that was started by the Knights Of Columbus in the 1970’s, has expanded its outreach by partnering with the [Life Education Council](#). We know that our method of communication must be expanded in order to bring the pro-life message before the public on several levels. Through the Life Education Council, we will be able to inform and to educate millions of motorists through billboards on highways, but also to reach inner-city neighborhoods with banners on local bus lines. Our recent campaign with bus lines in Newark has resulted in preventing at least one known abortion. We believe that this is the kind of work that the Knights of Columbus will be willing to support

As far as “expanding our methods of communication” is concerned, consider adding the Our Catholic Voice in Social Media program to your arsenal. Let’s not let the Pro-Abortion, Anti-Life media be the only one that is heard!

Vivat Jesus

Steven J. Richardson, FM [Culture of Life Programs Director](#)

From Our Webmaster

From Behind The Keyboard – Degrees

Brothers,

For over 133 years we have been told, “The best way to get a Man to join the Knights is to ‘ASK HIM!’” – Well that is half the full challenge to grow our Order:

Step 1 – Ask him to be a *Candidate*...

Step 2 - Get him to a Degree as soon as possible!

Which brings me this month’s message: Councils must work in **Unity** to advance candidates into this First Degree, and beyond.

When I first proposed the State Website concept and design to, then State Deputy Jim White, and State Secretary Reggie Beckett, at the top of the list of my features and benefits was a statewide listing of Degrees **with maps!** This was in January, 2005 – before the era of GPS devices and Smart Phones.

For the most part, the posting of Degrees has been a cooperative effort...**nearly** universal. However, it is obvious when I look at the monthly membership reports showing growth in regions where a Degree was never posted by a Council or a District Deputy – in all likelihood leaving one or more viable, eager candidates waiting. We all know that a candidate is like a ripe grape, if it is not picked at its peak of ripeness, it will wither and dry up into a raisin.

Brothers, what do we want for our Council? For our Districts? For our Order? A full-bodied membership or a batch of raisins tossed in the draw of lost prospects, and missed opportunities? One can only surmise and speculate if that one Man, that Practical Catholic Gentleman, who was lost could have been – dare I say it, the once and future State Deputy!

Brothers, it is simple: Go to the State website; log-in with your membership number and password; click on Degrees; then select “Degree Reporting Form”. It is an easy, fill-in-the-blank form. When you complete it, just hit “Submit” and your Degree will generally be posted in 24-48 hours. I am working on returning to the means where Degrees will self-post immediately.

To paraphrase Mr. Spock, “May your Councils live long **and** Prosper!

Bernie Ernst, FDD - [Webmaster](#)





SCHEDULED DEGREES

[LINK](#) individual councils below for details.

DEGREE:	DATE:	LOCATION :
CAMDEN:		
1 st	Wed. 9 / 9	Council 1443 Haddon Twp
3 rd	Friday, 9/11	Council 7463 Waterford
1 st	Thurs. 9 /17	Council 9193 Blackwood
1 st	Thurs 9/17	Council 9193 Blackwood
1 st	Mon, 9/21	Council 3784 Cherry Hill
METUCHEN:		
1 st	Thurs, 9 / 24	Council 11873 East Brunswick
NEWARK:		
2 nd	Friday, 9/11	Council 14712 Nutley
2 nd	Wed 9/16	Council 12413 Garfield
1 st	Sunday,9 / 27	Council 3550 Ridgefield
PATERSON:		
1 st	Wed 9 / 9	Council 3835 Little Falls
TRENTON:		
1 st	Thurs 9 / 17	Council 8733 Tabernacle
2 nd	Tuesday, 9/22	Council 3756 Ewing
3 rd	Wed 9/30	Council 636 Princeton

[All Website Schedules](#)



<u>COUNCIL- TOWN</u>	<u>CHARTERED</u>	<u>YRS</u>
11213 – Elizabeth	Sept 1, 1993	22
5611 – Spring Lake Hts	Sept 8, 1964	61
3495 – Morris Plains	Sept 9, 1952	63
2396 – Lyndhurst	Sept 10, 1922	93
3560 – Sea Isle City	Sept 11, 1952	63
257 – New Brunswick	Sept 12, 1897	118
2188 – Westwood	Sept 12, 1920	95
5324 – Matawan	Sept 12, 1962	53
3352 – Williamstown	Sept 21, 1950	65
6306 – Highland Park	Sept 21, 1971	44
7647 – Cresskill	Sept 22, 1980	35
816 – Neptune City	Sept 30, 1903	112
3451 – Mays Landing	Sept 30, 1951	64

State Deputy Bruce DeMolli along with the entire NJ State Council and the Newsletter Staff would like to take this opportunity to wish **ALL** councils best wishes on their **Charter Anniversary**.

May your council continue to grow and do good deeds for many more years to come! Let's continue to grow our ranks, expand our programs and help the Knights of Columbus in "Protecting God's Kingdom".



[NOTE: Due to the large number of anniversaries some months, we may to have limit the publishing list to the names of councils celebrating their 25th, 50th, 75th and 100th Anniversary during those months.]

From the Editors Desk

Brothers,

With September upon us, we have a few items we should be aware of and prepared for. The first item I would like to remind you of is the children are heading back to school. This means there will be more vehicles on the road during the morning and evening commutes. The school buses will be back picking up and dropping off the children at their respective bus stops.

SCHOOLS OPEN, DRIVE CAREFULLY

Also happening this month, as if you didn't already know, will be the Papal visit on both sides of our state, one in Philadelphia and one in New York. If you don't already have clearance to attend the event in Philly or tickets to the Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, the television is the best



way to go. Unless you have access close to the front, Papal Events and Super Bowls are best viewed on television. No crowds, no outrageous parking and hotel room fees, not to mention the long lines at the restrooms. Enjoy Pope Francis from the comforts of your living room on your big screen. It's not the same as being in his presence, but for some of us, it's all we are going to get.

One more very important item to think about is your Council. With summer ending, and a new slate of Officers, Councils will start gearing up their programs for the coming Fraternal year. Soccer Challenge kits, blitz packages and other items should have been ordered in preparation for the coming months.

When you see a new member at a Council meeting, introduce yourself, welcome him to the Council. If you sponsored someone, pick him up and bring him to the meeting with you and introduce him to everyone, make him feel welcome. Remember, the new member you brought in could be a future Grand Knight of your Council.

As important as bringing in new members is to the welfare of a Council, keeping existing members interested is just as important. If there is someone you haven't seen in a while, give him a call. Ask how he has been feeling and invite him to join you at a meeting.

Enjoy the final days of summer with your family and friends.

Vivat Jesus

John A Gazis, FDD

Upcoming Events:

* PLEASE NOTE - **ALL MONTHLY REPORTS ARE DUE AT THE STATE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.**

Be sure to make a note of the activities that are scheduled for the next several months. Click the specific activity [\[hyperlink\]](#) to obtain more information, details and forms. Log-in required.

2015

- September 7 – Labor Day – Fly your Flag
- September 11 – Patriot Day – World Day of Prayer
Fly Flag Half-Staff
- September 15 – Reports due
- September 17 – Constitution Day – Fly your Flag
- September 18 - National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- September 30 - Healing Mass – Council 6342
- October 4 - Family Rosary Rallies
- October 12 – Columbus Day – Fly your Flag
- October 15 - Reports Due
- October 23 - 25 State Council Retreat
- October 31 - All Hallows Eve
- November 1 - All Saints Day
- November 2 – All Souls Day
- November 11 - Veteran’s Day - Fly your Flag
- November 15 - 4th Degree Exemplification – 2nd NJ District
- November 15 - Reports due
- November 22 - 4th Degree Exemplification – 1st NJ District
- November 26 - Thanksgiving - Fly your Flag

Please forward this Newsletter to all your council members.

WHEREVER YOU SEE PRINT [“LINK”] THE COLOR OF THIS BOX – OR  – YOU CAN HYPERLINK DIRECTLY TO THE WEBSITE

CHECK for “Summary of Forms & Deadlines” 



Quarterly Calendar



SEPTEMBER 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
OCTOBER 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
NOVEMBER 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30					