

# Badger Bulletin



WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL

"PUT OUT INTO THE DEEP"



JANUARY 2024



Hotel Pfister, Milwaukee  
Site of the first Wisconsin Knights of Columbus  
State Convention  
January 15, 1902





# Penny-a-Knight-a-Day (PKD)



The Wisconsin State Council initiated the Penny-a-Knight-a-Day (PKD) program in 1970. The program was designed to highlight the Wisconsin Knights' contribution to Catholic education and to aid our Bishop's mission of providing high-quality educational opportunities to Catholic families in their respective dioceses.

Annually, the daily contribution totaled \$3.65, which was about the cost of one carton of cigarettes in 1970. Symbolically, the Knights who smoked were asked to forego a carton of cigarettes over the course of a year - less than one cigarette per day. The 'penance' seemed inconsequential for the good that could be done to support a value to which all Catholics can ascribe.

Since its inception, the PKD program has been focused on soliciting voluntary contributions from our membership to promote its efforts. Recognizing that Knights of Columbus members and their families have significant financial obligations, the program's founders wanted to make participation both affordable and symbolic. In 1970, a penny - one cent - was an amount any member could set aside daily without burdening his family.

The program's unwavering commitment to benefit its originating diocese has resulted in remarkable achievements. Today, the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus have contributed over \$2.5 million to the PKD program, inspiring others to follow in their footsteps and make a positive impact in their communities.



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## Rosary offered for Ukraine and the Middle East.

Msgr. Conrad Sallie Council 1002, Antigo twice a month, council members gather to lead a powerful Rosary at Saint John in Antigo. Their intention is to send hope and healing to the people of the Ukraine and the Middle East. Join us in prayer and let us create a ripple of positivity that spreads far and wide.



## Breakfast with Santa

The annual Breakfast with Santa hosted by Fort Howard Council 5382, Green Bay was a magnificent success thanks to the tireless efforts of the Knights and Ladies.



## Coats for Kids

Abbot Pennings Council #3955 donated 53 coats and 24 snow pants to the annual Christmas Store program at First United Presbyterian Church in De Pere, WI.



## Green Bay Family of the Year

SK Edward and Lady Noreen Vander Bloomen have been named Green Bay Diocese Family of the Year by the Mother of Good Hope Council 1957, Two Rivers. Their hard work, dedication, and commitment to family sets an inspiring example.



## New Vestments

The generosity of Fr. Platta Council 4735 in Denmark has brought new life to St. James Parish in Cooperstown with their recent purchase of beautiful new vestments. Their selfless act will undoubtedly inspire others to follow in their footsteps and spread kindness throughout the community.





## La Crosse Honor Guard

On the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Shrine in La Crosse, WI, His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke celebrated Mass with the participation of 21 Knights of Columbus Honor Guard members. The day was a beautiful reminder of the power of faith and devotion in bringing people together in celebration of what matters most.



## Solomon Juneau Council 2770, Mauston, WI

Grand Knight Steve Hesprich (left photo) recently made a CPID check presentation to the Mauston School District's special needs program at Mauston High School with some of the students. 3rd from the left holding the council check of \$2,300 is Tracy Longhenry who runs the program. Second from the right is Donna Miller who works in the classroom.



## Coats for Kids

Wausau Council 1069 members participated in the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program, providing coats to families in need. The initiative ensured every child in the area had a warm coat for the winter season, bringing immense joy to all involved. The event was a huge success, thanks to the leadership of Grand Knight Ken Teeters.



## "Catholic Citizenship"

The spirit of Catholic citizenship and the true meaning of Christmas were celebrated through the remarkable efforts of the Knights of Columbus, Queen of the Apostles Council 16280. Their inspiring "Catholic Citizenship" Essay and "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster contests at St. Mary's Catholic School in Marathon inspired many talented young minds to showcase their creativity and passion. The winners of these contests stand as a testament to the enduring power of faith and the importance of upholding noble values in our society.





## MILTON FOOD PANTRY GETS HOLIDAY BOOST

The Milton Food Pantry established 55 years ago, provides food and school supplies to needy families in the Milton School District year-round. During the holidays, the pantry serves over 100 families, up 42% from last year. The pantry is giving Piggly Wiggly gift cards for Thanksgiving and Christmas due to limited inventory and rising costs, which is covered by a \$6,800 donation from the Saint Mary's Council 6547 Knights of Columbus. The pantry relies on local support and donations from schools, churches, farmers, and businesses to keep its shelves stocked.



## Special Olympics State Bowling Tourney

Sun Prairie Council 4879 is proudly providing support and encouragement to the courageous Wisconsin Special Olympians who participated in the SOW State Bowling Tournament. Their efforts are making a remarkable difference by uplifting and empowering these talented athletes, and contributing to a positive and inclusive community spirit.

**Special Olympics**  
Wisconsin



## Act of Charity

Watertown Council 1478 members displayed their generosity and compassion by donating a check of \$1,832.55 to Saint Coletta's of Jefferson. The act of kindness was received by Betsy Bright and Dona Campos, together with Council #1478 members SK John Gerloff and GK Dr Jim Froh.





## Sprit of Christmas

The St. Maria Goretti Council 17889 in Madison showed their true spirit by answering the call for last-minute manpower! With the help of over twenty Knights, the parish was beautifully adorned with several Christmas trees, radiating the joy and warmth of the holiday season.



## Sentiments for Seminarians Presentation

People showed their generosity during the Christmas season. The Pastorate 24 parishioners and Edgerton Faith Formation students donated \$480 worth of gift cards and cash, along with handmade Christmas cards, to support Diocesan Seminarians. Bishop Hying was deeply touched and appreciated the gifts. The Edgerton Knights of Columbus also expressed their gratitude to the community.



## Keep Christ in Christmas

The generosity of Saint Mary's Menomonee Falls Council 4240 is truly inspiring. Through their donation of over 60 signs to parishioners of Saint Mary and their sister parish, Saint Anthony, in Menomonee Falls, they have brought hope and encouragement to the hearts of many.



## Breakfast with Santa

The Knights of Columbus Council 1709 in South Milwaukee once again brought joy to the hearts of many children with their annual Breakfast with Santa. Thanks to Santa (Bill Madden) and the numerous volunteers who selflessly worked to make this event a success, the kids had an unforgettable time.



## Gaudete Sunday

With great privilege and honor, the members of Fr. John H. Endejan Council 16171, Milwaukee, took part in the beautifully inspiring candle procession on Gaudete Sunday.

## Spirit of Giving

SK Anthony and Lady Susie Setter Sheard of Council 973, Knights of Columbus, are spreading the spirit of giving this holiday season at Legacy at St. Joseph.



## Acts of Faith, Hope, and Charity

For 12 years and counting, the members of South Milwaukee Council 1709 have been bringing joy to those who need it most. Their visits to Brother Knights and Lady's Axillary Members in assisted living or recovering from illness or surgery are a testament to their kindness and compassion. The trays of cookies, baked by Ladies Axillary volunteers, serve as a sweet reminder that they are not alone during the holiday season.

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## First in Charity

Council 4902 of River Falls has once again shown its unwavering support for charitable causes by presenting a check to St. Bridget's School for tuition assistance. Brother Scott Conway exemplified the true spirit of giving by presenting the check to Danielle Nordstrom and Mike Leary. This act of kindness serves as a reminder of the positive impact we can have on our community when we work together. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all KC members who generously contributed their efforts to this noble cause.



## Light up a Light for A Life"

Council 1762 Hudson's 22nd annual "Light up a Light for A Life" Prayer Program was a momentous occasion for the Brother Knights. Through their prayers at the Memorial for the Unborn and the lighting of the trees for life, they hoped to bring light to those who were lost and hope to those who needed it the most. With Father Dan's guidance, they sought to spread the message of love and compassion to all those around them.



## Knights for Dad's Rally

Brother Doug Weiss, a member of the Knights for Dad's Rally, was delighted to receive a generous check from the Hudson Council during their annual Christmas party at the Hudson Council 1702. The council's financial support will undoubtedly help the rally achieve its mission of promoting responsible fatherhood and family values. Brother Doug Weiss expressed his gratitude towards the Hudson Council for their unwavering support.

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# 2023 Winter DD Meeting



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# Aid and Support After Pregnancy ASAP Knights of Columbus



According to the latest report, the Wisconsin Council ASAP initiative has seen a slight decrease in donations as compared to the previous year. Wisconsin ranks sixth in council applications and second in total donations, with a total of \$61K in donations, trailing behind Michigan by \$15K. Last year, Wisconsin Councils received the second-highest number of applications and donated over \$273K to various PRC organizations throughout the state.

Our State Life Director recently had an inspiring conversation while delivering a donation to a Pregnancy Resource Center. We hope this story inspires you as much as it inspired us.

In talking with the Executive Director about their shared experiences, he noticed her eyes starting to well up with tears as they talked about the moment they realized they couldn't support exceptions for abortion in our laws.

Dan recalled how, years ago, as a young sidewalk counselor in front of the now-closed, infamous abortion center on Farrell Avenue in Milwaukee, a young woman had presented herself to him on the sidewalks back then and

told him she was there because she had been raped. With that, he gave her information about a PRC in her hometown. She promised she would go there. Then, she went inside the abortion center, and he lost contact with her.

Fast forward thirteen years, and the Executive Director of the PRC he was talking with related to him, *"That baby, is twelve years old now. I remember that story because the woman told me this tall, big guy in front of the abortion 'clinic' told her to come to our center. I knew it was you that she was talking about. She DID come to see us. Back then, we didn't have an ultrasound machine, so I had to take her to another PRC. She chose life the instant she saw her baby on that ultrasound. By the way, it was an ultrasound machine that the Knights of Columbus had purchased!"*

As Paul Harvey famously said, now you know the rest of the story. That encounter with a young woman on Farrell Avenue led to a remarkable outcome. Nearly thirteen years later, we have discovered that our hard work, along with the efforts of Wisconsin's compassionate PRC workers, is never in vain.



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# Badger Bulletin Submission Guidelines

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◆ Newsworthy ◆ Board Appeal

◆ Concise ◆ Complete ◆ Factual ◆ Accurate

**Answers the Questions: Who, What, When, Where, Why, How**

**Badger Bulletin reports on local and state council activities throughout the entire State of Wisconsin**

- Pictures need to be sent separately **as an attachment** in their original form. Please do not format or edit them in any way. In addition, please provide clearly labeled captions for each picture.
- Article size: 300 words ideal to 600 words max (half-full page)
- Articles need to be submitted a Word document attachment
- PDF submissions are for ads or promotions - not articles
- Articles need to be brief, highly relevant, and actionable.
- At a minimum, Who, What, When and Where needs to be in the first paragraph.
- Articles need to be brief, to-the-point and of interest to the entire State Council
  - What is the event/activity about?
  - Whom did it benefit?
  - What was the result?
  - Who are the key players/Knights?
- Similar story submissions will be consolidated/batched into one article by the Editors.
- Authors must submit on time per the Editor production calendar- **Deadline 1st of each month.**
- Late submissions will be placed farther down the newsletter or not published.
- Proof your article carefully for spelling and grammar before sending (use spellcheck).
- Document filename should reflect the Council/Assembly Number/office/title, i.e. *Cover Story Submission\_Council2055\_MsgrBlecha.*
- Every Dioceses needs to participate – minimum of one page of the Badger Bulletin will be dedicated to each Diocese respectively.
- If a Diocese does not submit content their page will be eliminated from that issue.
- Cover story submissions need to be submitted ahead of the deadline due to special photo editing.
- Cover story photos – in portrait style at least 1mb in size - not formatted or resized.
- **All articles and photos should be sent to [pr@wikofc.com](mailto:pr@wikofc.com) by the first of the month**

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# Fraternal Benefit Event

Learn more about how you can align  
your finances with your faith.

## Nowak Agency



**Date:** Wednesday, January 31, 2024 **Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Zoom Webinar

**Sponsor:** Timothy Nowak Agency **Contact:** [timothy.nowak@kofc.org](mailto:timothy.nowak@kofc.org)

**RSVP:** [www.kofcwi.org/Live-Events](http://www.kofcwi.org/Live-Events) **RSVP by:** January 31, 2024



**Open to members & non-members.**



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