



Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

January 2020

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editors: SK Mike Tomsyck & SK Rob Christianson



Game-Changer



Brothers,

Over the past 135+ years the Knights of Columbus has enjoyed many successes. These are a credit to the unique structure under which our order operates, and the caliber of men attracted to our ranks. Our time-proven structure is the basis of a strong and effective organization at all levels of operations (council, district, state and supreme). It encourages member

involvement in a wide range of activities and is the mechanism by which we promote growth in membership recruitment, new council development, and charitable outreach.

Founded by the Venerable Michael McGivney, in the basement of St. Mary's church in New Haven, Connecticut, our Order was chartered as a fraternal benefit society on March 29, 1882. As such, it provided for the life insurance needs of its members and their families and promoted fraternity and brotherhood through many charitable, educational and religious involvements. It continues to do so today by operating in accordance with the laws relating to fraternal benefit societies. These regulations require a representative form of government comprised of a supreme or legislative body and subordinate branches. Members are elected, initiated and admitted into the Knights of Columbus in keeping with the provisions of its charter, constitution and laws.

Charters establishing local councils are granted upon submission of a roster of at least 20 members or applicants for membership. The presiding officer is the Grand Knight. As the chief officer of the council, he is charged with the responsibility of observing the laws of the order in his council. In addition, the Grand Knight is the chosen leader of his council and, as such, is expected to provide the leadership needed.

Every new knight is encouraged to become active in his council by serving on one or more of these committees. "Faith in Action" is a program through which local and state councils can put into operation many needed programs by utilizing the talents and abilities of the membership. Flexibility allows local and state selection of activities of interest to the members. Manuals and handbooks are provided by Supreme and State council. An informed and active membership is the goal of every council. An active service program is a means to that end.

To make administration easier and to promote increased activity, subordinate councils – generally four to five within a given geographic area – are formed into districts, the second step of our fraternal structure. A district is supervised by a District Deputy.

His responsibility is to oversee all aspects of the district operation, particularly as it pertains to council administration, charitable outreach and membership recruitment. The District Deputy serves a very important role as the representative of the Supreme Knight, the Board of Directors and the State Deputy to the local councils.

The third step in the pyramid are the jurisdictions known as state councils. In Wisconsin this encompasses more than 300 subordinate councils to which over 35,500 members belong. The state councils are made up of the State Deputy and the other state officers (Chaplain, Secretary, Treasurer, Advocate and Warden), the last living Past State Deputy, the Grand Knight and a Past Grand Knight from each local council in the jurisdiction. The state council meets annually to elect a slate of officers headed by the State Deputy, elect Delegates to the Supreme Council meeting, and conduct the business of the order within the jurisdiction.

The Knights of Columbus has a proud history of achievement due in no small part to its structure a structure that invites and motivates members on all levels of operation. The results of the annual fraternal survey attest to this. The extent to which our order and its members involve themselves both in dollar contributions and in hours of labor volunteered reflects positively on our structure. The order continues to grow and will do so in the future - thanks to our structure and the men who are a part of it all!

It's these four entities (Council, District, State and Supreme) working in concert with each other that will ensure the continued growth of our order. As I write this article Wisconsin State Council is on the cusp of to have a banner year in recruitment and retention. We started strong, now it's time to finish strong! Take every opportunity to recruit new members, we have several men's conferences coming up; the new combined degree, Bishop's letter and much more – LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR THE BEST Wisconsin has ever seen, it's in our power and in our grasp to do so – "DO YOU BELIEVE?" If we do, then we can make this the best year ever! Thank you for all your doing.

Finally, I would like to share with you a Facebook post from Father Bacik, a priest in Michigan talking about the new combined degree ceremony.

"Being a member of the Knights of Columbus has made me a better man, Catholic, and priest. Yesterday I learned that the national organization has transformed the initiation process for the first 3 degrees into a 30-minute public ceremony. It is beautiful and Christ-centered.

I am even more convinced that every practical Catholic male should be a Knight of Columbus. What does our Church most need? Without undermining the role of faithful women-- we need faithful men and fathers! We need Knights.

Don't have the time? We're not asking for time. We're asking for faithful Catholic men. Maybe you can't make the meetings, but can you put a coat on a kid? Could you give an hour to support people with disabilities or seminarians or women in unexpected pregnancies?

I'm asking for Knights because you will have a huge effect on our parish, community, Church, and world. Learn more and join online at www.kofc.org

Pray about it. I'm setting a goal of 5 parish men to join through e-membership this month, and we'll schedule the public initiation ceremony at a later date." This new combined ceremony has the potential of being a game changer for your council, district and state council!

Vivat Jesus!

Jack Wrbanich
State Deputy

Election of State Officers

The election of State Officers is one of the most important jobs of the delegates to the Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin State Council, and council members should be given the opportunity to direct their delegates as to whom they believe are the best-qualified candidates.

In order to ensure both council members and delegates are well informed of the qualifications of each candidate for the State Officer positions and in order to minimize the cost of printing and mailing resumes in a timely manner a candidate who are proposed by their respective council may submit a one-page resume with council proposal to the State Office of the Wisconsin State Council by February 15th, 2020 for dissemination.

All resumes will be included in a booklet arranged according to the office in the following order: State Deputy, State Secretary, State Treasurer, State Advocate, and State Warden. Booklets will be mailed to the Former State Chaplains, Past State Deputies, current State and Diocesan Coordinators, District Deputies, and the Grand Knights of each subordinate council. The cost of printing and mailing this booklet shall be shared equally among all of the candidates who submit a resume.

If you are interested to learn more about any of the State officer positions, program or committee jobs please call or email me.

Vivat Jesus!

Jack Wrbanich
State Deputy
Wisconsin
(920) 246-4281
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Odds and Ends

As a friendly reminder, when sending Form 100s via email to the Supreme Council, please be sure to send them to: Membership@kofc.org

Many of you may have previously used a different email address

("MembershipRecords" @kofc.org). That address no longer works and has been out of service for two years. Please check your email address books to be sure that you are sending to the correct address.

As always, when submitting Form 100s via email, please check that all the requested information is completed, and the forms are legible and signed by both the council officers and the new member.

Include your District Deputy, Field Agent or General Agent and copy forms@wikofc.com

Council Officers: [The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity \(#1728\)](#) is now available online. Start preparing data collection efforts and council records so that you can complete the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form 1728). Jan. 31 is the due date for submitting the 2019 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728). The best method for submitting this very important form is by using the ONLINE submission which can be done in Officers Online.

Thank you for the wonderful service you provide to your councils and the Order.

Message from State Chaplain

Brothers,

The Christmas season is a time to reflect on the Holy Family in Bethlehem. How they got there and how it all fits into God's plan is a deep and beautiful mystery. Mary and Joseph may have been forced by the laws of the land to go to Bethlehem but by God's loving plan it became the greatest of pilgrimages. The word Bethlehem is the Hebrew word for House of Bread. With this in mind, we as Catholic Christians, can join our pilgrimages to their original journey when we complete a day's journey by coming into a church and participating in the Bread of Life.

I am hopeful that the leadership that has been shown by the Wisconsin State Council will be an inspiration that will encourage all our councils to Journey with Jesus. If you have not yet seen the production that the archdiocese of Milwaukee has helped the State Council put together, please check out the videos on You Tube. <https://youtu.be/6YdE8tEhiEQ> & <https://youtu.be/ULPIN6SI1Jk>

I believe we are being given a vision for pilgrimage here in Wisconsin. I would ask all our Knights of Columbus to please pray, asking God if He wants their local council to be involved in pilgrimage. If they discern God does want them to be active in pilgrimage they need to pray further in how He wants them to be involved.

I have discerned that He is calling me to be involved and I have been discovering what we like to call the Wisconsin Way Pilgrimage. I live in the hope that He has big plans for this pilgrimage and with the hope I have I know that He must be calling others to get involved, so I send this out with a prayer that the Holy Spirit will inspire many Knights to get involved. Maybe a council will participate in getting the word out, or even go so far as to organizing a walking pilgrimage. Whatever our councils do, may the Holy Spirit guide them.

God Bless you all in this Christmas Season and give you strength for this New Year.

Sincerely,

Fr. Andrew Kurz
State Chaplain

Along the Way
Learn about the **Rich Spiritual Heritage** of Wisconsin, with opportunities for **Communal Prayer, Silent Reflection, Confession and Adoration.**


Have More Time?
Extend the Adventure!
Visit **St. Matthias** in the woods, with camping and longer hikes along the **Ice Age Trail**


Pray with Mary.

Walk with Jesus.

The Wisconsin Way

To make reservations or for more information, **Contact:**
Fr. Andrew Kurz
info@wisconsinway.com


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PROGRAMS

Brothers,

As I write this message the day after Christmas, I'm still overwhelmed by the warm glow of the experience of our family gathering, Midnight Mass, and the wonderful gift of salvation we all received from our Lord's birth, life, death and resurrection here some 2000 years ago. I hope that as we begin 2020 that you have experienced the same feelings which will renew your dedication and efforts in the year ahead to grow your Council, invigorate your members and increase your visibility and footprint in the parish and community. With the new Degree ceremonies, we can and will, in Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, make a difference in 2020! In that spirit, do see the following as your New Year's resolutions:

- 1) Get started now on your Columbian Award and Wisconsin Outstanding Council Award forms, working on them each week/month, so they're ready to go by June 1.
- 2) Be sure to have your Fraternal Survey and Special Olympics participation forms in by **January 31**; History Book (those for the regular judging and State Deputy Trophy competition) in to your DD by **February 1**; your Medallion Award and Family of the Year Award nomination forms in to their respective coordinators by **February 15**, and your State Service Program Award applications in to State Office or to me by **March 1**!
- 3) Continue your efforts over the next 6 months to reach your Star Council goal with strong recruiting efforts and new Degrees, working with your FAs and GAs and ensuring that your Council is Child Safety compliant.
- 4) Resolve to, over the next 6 months, initiate 1 (each) new parish-based State or Supreme Program, **or** initiate 1 (each) new Faith, Family, Community and Culture of Life program (parish, State or Supreme) **and** try also to initiate at least 1 new program designed/run by young Council members that is their idea.

If you need any assistance with any of these items, please call upon your Diocesan Program Coordinators or me at any time.

In conclusion, I wish you a Blessed, Happy, Healthy and Peace-filled New Year! Vivat Jesus!
Vivat Cristo Rey!

Fraternally,
Bill Frayer
State Program Director

MEMBERSHIP

As we enter a new calendar year, Supreme has made a huge change to the Ceremonials. The First, Second and Third Degrees can all be done together in 30 minutes and the family of the candidate can be there to support him. How amazing that men can now share their commitment with their wives, children, and fellow parishioners!

We ran a test on a candidate in my home Council in Richland Center. We had a 19 year-old man, Brooks, home on Christmas break from the Air Force Academy. His father Bryan is a 4th Degree Knight and is a member of the Honor Guard in Richland Center Assembly 3393. Brooks didn't have lots of time while he was home spending time with his parents Bryan and Toni and his younger brother Mitchell, but he has seen the works of the Knights of Columbus through the actions of his father. He even signed up to help usher with his dad and the 4th Degree Assembly at Christmas Eve Mass. This is a good kid and his family is a huge part of who he is and what got him to be selected into the Air Force Academy.

How amazing that Brooks was able to become the first man in Wisconsin to take this degree with his mother and 16 year old brother there to witness it. It is also a very easy degree to pull off. RMC and Past DD Ryan Cairns with the assistance of Brooks dad, Bryan where able to do this by themselves. Bryan stated, 'Brooks enjoyed the program. It was easy, concise, and it did a great job describing and representing the KCs.' Bryan would know, I sponsored him into our Council in Richland Center, drove him to Green Bay for his 2nd and 3rd Degree (150 miles away) and he took his 4th Degree back in Richland Center. All of this took a lot of effort and several months and we were hurrying.



Not only is this degree great for new members but current 1st Degree members can become 3rd Degree members by taking it.

RMC Ryan Cairns says, 'Sometimes we make it to hard on ourselves. Sometimes we just have to read them, 'I Am A Knight.' (Supreme Item #10919)

'We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith. There is much work to be done in this world. Good work. Necessary work. And that's what the Knights do. Everyday. Assisting the sick and disabled. Protecting those who can't protect themselves. Whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on. Our path. We do it to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics. We invest our time, our efforts, and our resources into our values: Charity. Unity. Fraternity. Patriotism. We come from many places. And backgrounds. And stages in our lives. But we are all of one faith. A fraternity of men

striving to better ourselves and our world. It's one thing to say who you are. It's another to live it. To put your values into action. That's what we do at the Knights of Columbus. That's who we are.'

How simple is that?

Another RMC Paul Zimmerman is establishing a new Council in Spring Valley and he is planning on using this new degree to really kick the new Council off to a great start with the men, their families and the church.

What is your plan? Have you even heard of the change? How are you going to make the change and take your Council to a new level of assistance to those in need?

I have told you since I took over as Membership Director I would never ask you to do anything hard. This is not hard. This is easy. Find men who want to be better and make them better! Make them members of the Knights of Columbus!

Together we will be successful.

Mark Jelinek

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Membership Director

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

IMPORTANT; Form 4584 Report on partnership with Special Olympics, DUE **JAN 31st**. All Councils should file this report, with Supreme, even if they have not been active with Special Olympics. This form is used to determine how big of a grant we get from Supreme to give to Wisconsin Special Olympics at convention. If you need to find out how much your Council has given in monies for the year, contact me. I have a listing of what has been recorded for the year.

IMPORTANT; The Team Wisconsin drive has received \$52,321.60 to date. The goal is \$125,000.00, due by May 1, 2022. This is different than what I announced at the DDs meeting. The reason being that some ID (tootsie roll) checks that were made payable to Wisconsin Special Olympics were given to local Special Olympics group. If check is made payable to Wisconsin Special Olympics, it has to go to their state office and will be recorded for the Team drive. The local group will not get these funds, without my knowing and trying to get funds transferred to that local group. If councils want to give it to local group, I would suggest having check payable to that group.

POLAR PLUNGE; Signup has been going on for a while. Check on Wisconsin Special Olympics under Polar Plunge, then check on group Knights of Columbus, to see who has signed up and donate to that person's account. These funds will be credited to the council for the Team Wisconsin drive.

John Benisch

Wisconsin Special Olympics Coordinator.

H.P.I.D.

Brother Knights,

On behalf of the many organizations who benefit from your efforts we want to thank you for your dedication and hard work to this fundraiser. One of the most visible beneficiaries is Special Olympics. The upcoming Polar Plunge is an opportunity for your councils to raise more money outside of the Tootsie Roll Drive. Please promote this to your councils.



You have about a month to get your Tootsie Roll orders submitted. Hopefully you have started your planning for this event now that the holidays are behind us. All of you should have found all of the necessary forms in your packets that your DD has presented to you.

Please keep in mind that we recommend running this fundraiser by mid-May but if there is a better time, you can do so. Two things to remember, your order must be in by February 1st; second your collected funds must be submitted by July 1st or you will not be receiving checks in September. All proceeds received after July 1st will be distributed the following year.

Each year we have councils asking where their checks are only to discover the money was never sent to me. The organizations that you select for your fundraising want and need the money as soon as possible so please be prompt and include the EINs of your organizations. If we did not receive money from you prior to the deadline last year, your order cost for 2019 is transferred to this year.

The state keeps 25% of the money you collect after expenses are covered. The remaining 75% is returned to the councils for distribution to their selected recipients. On Jan 11 the ID committee will be meeting to distribute the state's portion to organizations that have submitted grant requests. We have nearly \$175,000 to award and roughly \$247,000 in requests.

Once again thank you for your efforts and we hope you had a Merry Christmas, we wish you a prosperous New Year.

Don Schoenherr

State Intellectual Disabilities Director

LETTER TO OUR BISHOPS

Brother Knights,

I want to make you aware of a letter our State Deputy sent to our five Bishops. You will notice that in the letter he asked their excellencies to share the letter with their parish priests to “help us hold each other accountable.” Please share this with your entire council membership so they are aware in the event their parish priest mentions it to them.

The “I AM A KNIGHT” cards referenced in the letter are available free from Supreme as item number 10919. They are free. Get one for each of your members! They are item 10919. Did I mention that they are free? Hint: this is an excellent way to make contact with men you have not heard from for a while and thank them for being a brother knight!

Also, as you read the letter, please consider the following line in light of our new, “public witness” combined ceremonial! Talk about timely!

“In an age when many stop practicing our faith, or are simply going through the motions, we Knights are dedicated to answering the call to give public witness of our discipleship of Jesus Christ.”

OK, more than enough preamble. Here is the letter.

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus throughout the State of Wisconsin, and especially throughout the Diocese of La Crosse, I am writing to first thank for your Apostolic service, and then once again pledge the support of your Brother Knights in that service. To that end we are rededicating ourselves to Fr. McGivney’s vision to live out what it means to be a Knight. We are equipping our members with cards that read:

I AM A KNIGHT

We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith.

There is much work to be done in this world.

Assisting the sick and disabled. Protecting those who can’t protect themselves. Whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on. Our path.

We do it, to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics.

We invest our time, our effort, and our resources into our values.

Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism.

We come from many places. And backgrounds. And stages in our lives. But we are all of one faith. A fraternity of men striving to better ourselves and our world.

It’s one thing to say who you are.

It’s another to live it. To put your values into action.

That’s what we do at the Knights of Columbus.

For many of us, the first line is the most important. In an age when many stop practicing our faith, or are simply going through the motions, we Knights are dedicated to answering the call to give public witness of our discipleship of Jesus Christ. We do this in a concrete way, by making the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy really present, in the lives of our members and their families, and in the world around us.

Dear Bishop, we thank you for your prayers and for your Apostolic leadership. We hope our rededication meets with your approval and that it buoys you for the task ever at hand; proclaiming the Gospel of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please share this message with your parish priests and invite them to help us hold each other accountable. If there is no council in the parish, and Father would like one, please let him know that we will do whatever it takes to make that a reality for him and for his parish.

*Vivat Jesus, Viva Christo Rey!
Nunc Coepi*



*Jack V. Wrbanich
State Deputy
Wisconsin State Council
Knights of Columbus*

PS: This letter is being shared with our Knights as one more encouragement of them. Please feel free to share it with your parish priests, especially those who do not have the benefit of a parish-based Knights of Columbus council.

Posada



Picture: Children performed the Posada at St. John the Evangelist Church in Gillett WI. The Parish now has a Spanish Mass on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

FAITH IN ACTION – FAMILY OF THE MONTH



Hello Brother Knights! Thank you again for a **great** November! Below is a quick summary of our progress to date. All the details can be found in the Family Director Flocknote post <https://knightswisc.flocknote.com/FamilyDirector/note/5485211>. Check it out!

Family of the Year

It is time to start preparing to choose your council family of the year so they can be submitted for consideration for the Diocesan Family of the Year awards. **Only families that are council members can be submitted** as non-council members cannot be chosen for the Diocesan, State and International Family of the Year awards.

The deadline for council family of the year submissions is **February 15th**.

Since Supreme will only accept digital submissions from each jurisdiction for the International family of the year, I would greatly appreciate it if all submissions to me will be in **PDF format**. If families are submitted in a printed format, it will force me to need to scan every page before we choose the winning families.

Please save yourself time and money printing and mailing your submission. It will also save me time ***I don't have***. **Thank you!**

Supreme

Supreme is no longer publishing the list of councils that participate in the program so there is no way to know how well we are doing regarding getting our forms sent to Supreme nor how Wisconsin stands compared to the other jurisdictions.

Although this removes a motivationally fun sense of jurisdictional competition, it does help us focus on our primary goal of having **each district submits one family each month**.

Here is the Supreme Family of the Month that will be receiving a nice certificate and letter.

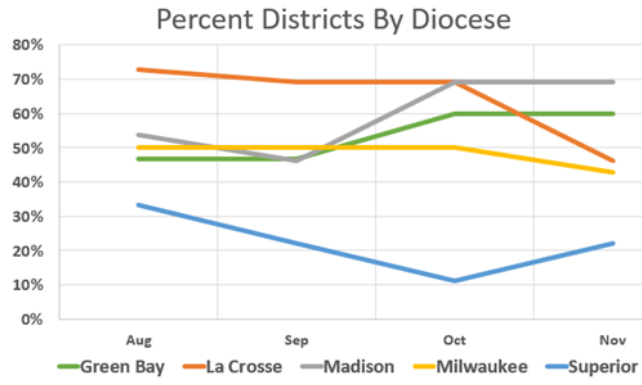
Bruce and Krissy Timmerman family, Council 765, District 41, Madison Diocese

Diocese

Here are the Diocesan families of the month that will be receiving a certificate and letter from the state. Please click on the link above to download the PDF that contains the amazing story of each of these families!

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Green Bay | Ryan and Leah Jaecks | La Crosse | Paul and Trish Skofronick |
| Madison | Patrick and Bridget Garczynski | Milwaukee | Alan and Lynda Kraus |
| Superior | John and Bridget Rongner | | |

In support of the goal of having 100% districts submitting ONE FOM each month, here are the



percentages by diocese.

Madison is in 1st place by staying at 69% with Green Bay in 2nd place with 60%.

La Crosse dropped to 3rd place with 46%, Milwaukee dropping slightly to 43%.

Superior rose to 22%!

District

DDs on fire have at least two councils submitting a FOM in their district. With an average of 12 parishes per district, it is **AWESOME** to see some districts honoring more than one family each

| Nov-19 | District | Diocese |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 3 | 2 - Open | Green Bay |
| 3 | 12 - Tre Waldren | Green Bay |
| 3 | 49 - Paul Romanelli | Madison |
| 2 | 21 - Paul Zimmerman | La Crosse |
| 2 | 24 - Kevin Van Den Heuvel | La Crosse |
| 2 | 32 - Dan Wieser | La Crosse |
| 2 | 44 - Robert Kurczek | Madison |
| 2 | 81 - Paul Krenik | Superior |

month.

This month's leading district deputies are Tre Waldren, Paul Romanelli and District 2 with each district submitting three FOMs!

Thank-you Paul, Kevin, Dan, Robert and Paul for your districts having two FOMs last month.

We had **EIGHT** districts with two or more FOMs!

Thank you, worthy District Deputies! Your leadership is greatly appreciated!

Worthy Brothers. *Can we continue to find at least ONE family in the 12 parishes in each district that deserves to be honored for all they do for our parishes, community and councils? I believe we can!* Let's set our goal to having **55% district participation next month and 100% by the end of the June 2020!**

Council

We had **three** new council that submitted a Family of the Month. Welcome to the program!

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| All Saints Council 6690 | New Holstein Council 12393 | Fr. Francis Jordan Council 16729 |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|

We had 44 fantastic families submitted to the state! To learn who they were, check out the link at the top of this article.

Every council should be striving to submit **at least one** family of the month before the end of 2019, so they can choose them as the council Family of the Year. The family can then be considered for the Diocesan family of the year, State family of the Year and International Family of the Year.

Please click on the link above and download the PDF containing the list of all these amazing families!

Closing

Through this awesome Family of the Month program, the Knights of Columbus has the privilege to bring joy to families for thanking them for all they do on behalf of everyone. The benefits are:

- The family is grateful for the recognition
- Everyone else is grateful to the Knights for stepping forward to honor the family
- The perception of the council increases for taking time to serve the parish in a very visible way

It is a win-win-win situation!

I am grateful that your councils are willing to take the time to choose a family, give them the recognition they deserve and submitting them for the Family of the Month.

Gentlemen, it is a **privilege and honor** to serve you and your councils! **Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.**

Vivat Jesus!



SK Joe Uchtyl
Wisconsin Family Coordinator





Knights of Columbus®
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE®

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Essay Contest Winners



Knights of Columbus Council 3396 announced three eighth grade winners in its annual 2019 Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. They are, from left, Aiden Wirth (third place), Sofia Unate (first place) and Hilde Rue (second place). Thank you to El Patron Mexican Restaurant and Salamone's Italian Pizzeria in Fort Atkinson for donating contest prizes.

Green Bay Council 10243 Incentivizes Member Involvement!

Members of 10243 can earn a free council polo shirt if they:

- 1.Attend 3 Council meetings in 2020
- 2.Participate in 3 Council events in 2020
- 3.Become a 3rd Degree Knight
- 4.Recrut 1 new member into the Council
- 5.Meet with Field Agent Jim Patz

Or another way to ear a FREE polo shirt:

- 1.Be the top seller of State Charity Raffle tickets. This contest will end on April 28, 2020
- 2.Sell at least 10 State Charity Raffle tickets and you name will go into a drawing for a Free polo shirt.



Members of San Francisco Xavier Council 17348, with their new council flags!



Knights Funding for Charity



Council 3955 sell trees each year to raise funds for charity. This December they sold 802 trees, raising over \$19,000 that was donated to worthy causes!!

Complete Council Award Presentation



Dennis Koranda, Knights of Columbus District Deputy, presents the Complete Council Award to Grand Knight Larry Scheckel (left) and former Grand Knight David Dechant (right). The award recognizes Tomah Council 4215 for its projects and efforts involving Church, Community, Family, Youth, Membership, Council, and Culture of Life.



Knights of Columbus

INSURANCE

YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

General Agents Message – January 2020

Happy New Year! As we begin the new year it's common to review the past year and look at what we'd like to accomplish in the new one. Already there's been much advertising and talk about 2020 and the relation to our eyesight...how we'll be able to see more clearly, look at the year with new vision, not be shortsighted.

Of course, all this talk about the future brings us to the usual thinking about the new year...making resolutions. That is a good thing! All of us want to resolve to do those things that will lead to happier, healthier lives.

Some of the most common resolutions are to lose weight, get in shape and exercise more. Others resolve to stop smoking.

If you think about the spiritual, many new year's resolutions concern having a more centered prayer life or receiving the sacraments more often.

Many of my friends think more about quality time...quality time spent with their family and friends; those that are most important in their lives.

As you think about family, one resolution I can help you keep is to update your Family Service Record and take stock of your financial goals. Are you where you want to be? Do you have a plan? With our professional approach using the Profiles+ Forecaster financial needs analysis you can see if there are any gaps in your coverage and how close you are to achieving your goals and aspirations.

Some members are not aware of all the products we have to offer: Life insurance, long term care insurance, disability income insurance and retirement annuities. These products can help protect your family in all the financial situations where you might find yourself. Life insurance protects your loved ones financially if you are not here to help provide. The need for life insurance changes at different stages of a person's life: Young and unmarried members and the man retiring next month each have life insurance needs, but the type and amount may vary widely. We can give you some advice on that. Disability income insurance provides a paycheck if you are sick or hurt and can't work. If your company offers some, do you know how much, for how long and is it taxable? We can help sort that out. Long term care insurance protects those assets you've worked so hard all your life to accumulate. Don't deplete all the family's savings for a care event when the Knights can take on that risk. With all the concern about market volatility and the health of Social Security, our fixed rate annuities guarantee a minimum interest rate for life, the safety of conservative investment strategy and an income stream you cannot outlive.

What's most important to you and your family? There is no cookie cutter answer. That's why we meet with members and their spouses and first determine what issues are of most concern to you. From there we can help analyze where you are in relation to your goals and construct a plan to get you where you want to go. All done in the comfort of your home and at your convenience.

As a brother Knight and your field agent we have so much more responsibility than a simple financial advisor or stock broker. We'll take a look at your dreams, goals and aspirations for 2020 and beyond. Resolve today to meet with your agent and ensure that at the end of this new year, your financial picture will be seen with 2020 vision.

Vivat Jesus!

Tim Nowak

Joe Molosky

Introducing New General Agent in Wisconsin – Tim Nowak



Tim and his wife Judy are from western Nebraska, and Tim is the new General Agent for Wisconsin and the Upper Michigan. He has been a Knights since 1999 and with the Insurance division since 2010. Tim has been a Supreme Knight club qualifier 7 years and MDRT (Million Dollar Round Table) 9 years in a row.

Tim has served on the Diocese Pastoral council for the Grand Island diocese for the Bishop the past four years, and has taught confirmation the past 16 years. Tim help write the confirmation program Decision point by being on the advisory board with Dynamic Catholic. Tim and Judy both have taught religious education programs and have been lectors and EM (Eucharistic Ministers) at their parish St. Luke's for the past 22 years.

Tim loves to hunt and fish and looks forward to serving the Knights and their families in Wisconsin and Michigan.

St. Lucy's Council # 15659 – Racine / Pro-Life Initiative

Knights of Columbus Council 15659
Presentation of a \$12,000 donation to Care Net

At the December 10, 2019 Knights of Columbus Council 15659 meeting, a check for \$12,000 was presented to Care Net to support their Pro-life mission of saving babies from abortion.

This was made possible by the generous parishioners of St. Lucy and St. Sebastian parishes and a very special anonymous donor. Through our Change for Life Baby Bottle Campaign, we were able to exceed our goal of \$10,000 of contributions, all of which will go towards Pro-Life programs, such as Care Net.

Care Net Executive Director, Jacqueline Niccolai, and Development Specialist, Karyn Hall, spoke to the members briefly discussing Care Net's current financial needs as well as future opportunities, because just like most of us, the Care Net organization is concerned with the new abortion laws and the disregard for life witnessed in recent times. This has been the motivation for organizations like Care Net to provide important life-affirming opportunities for Pro-life people to unite against these laws and stand for the respect to life from the moment of conception to natural to natural death.

More than 5,000 women and men are considering abortion every day. To save their babies, these moms and dads must be reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and empower them to choose life. This commitment of saving babies from abortion and helping people in their spiritual journey will help them draw closer to God and share the things that are close to His heart.

Care Net pregnancy centers provide accurate & helpful information in a compassionate environment, to empower life-affirming choices that change lives by offering free pregnancy tests, free limited obstetrical ultrasounds, pro-life options counseling, hope, support and assistance for women faced with an unplanned pregnancy.

The Knights of Columbus was founded on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity, in 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., and a group of parishioners. For over 130 years, members of the Knights of Columbus have provided support to community organizations that help promote family and life.

www.carenetfamilyresources.org (Care Net Family Resource Center of Racine & Kenosha, WI)

State Secretary visiting and supporting Councils raising funds for Charity



Baraboo Council #746 raising funds for Women's Care Center



Left to Right: State Secretary Tomsyck with Former District Deputy Jerry Bastian raising funds for Heat for Heroes by Council #7775 Cottage Grove