

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



ARKANSAS STATE COUNCIL

May 2015 Newsletter

Father Bill Elser, State Chaplin

All of us, whether we ever think about it or not, have "first inclinations" in many areas of our life. I have a first inclination to play spades if anyone indicates a desire to play cards. My first inclination when I turn on the television is to go to a sports channel to see what sport is being highlighted or is being played. I'm sure if we reflected on the life of Jesus (as we have come to know it through scripture) we would discover that he had first inclinations that showed in his words and actions.

One of the most important of these was his first inclination of mercy in all the stories of his ministry AND in his risen life as he showed himself to the apostles on the evening of his Resurrection. (Jn 20:19-31) which we heard proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter. His first inclination as risen Lord was to forgive the apostles for abandoning him after his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemene. His first inclination the following week was to forgive Thomas who had doubted the testimony of the apostles that he had risen and appeared to them when Thomas was missing from their company.

Finally, the risen Lord indicated his desire that their first inclination when dealing with sinners was to be merciful and forgiving. That desire and challenge is there for us as disciples of the Lord and brother Knights. We are called to develop through prayer and experience a "first inclination" to mercy in dealing with our brother knights and in fact everyone we meet. We can pray that the same will be the case for all who profess to follow Jesus Christ in all ways. Such an inclination will lead to other blessings such as charitable words and actions and peace where there might otherwise be contentiousness or a door closed on relationships when others have offended us.

Let's let the example of Christ in this and in all things inspire us and keep us in the Lord's peace throughout the Easter season and for the rest of our lives. Vivat Jesus.

Father Bill Elser
State Chaplin



Adrian Dominguez, State Deputy

Brother Knights and families:

This is the month of May, the month of our Mother Mary, the month of our own grandmothers, mothers and wives who have given life to a special person in our lives. Celebrate this month by praying the rosary to our Mother Mary to intercede for us in all we do for her son, Jesus Christ, through our order here in Arkansas, to intercede for our families, our church, our Bishop/priests and our seminarians.

We had a great convention in Little Rock, thanks to the District 1 Councils 812, 6615, 10167, John Lett and all the other individuals who worked so hard in making our convention special. Thanks to all who planned and worked each business meeting, masses, ladies event, kid's events and banquet. We truly all had a great weekend, even with the POE ladies next door calling the hogs. Thank you all for job well done!

As we discussed at the convention, we have two more months in this fraternal year, ending June 30, and need to ensure we get all our paperwork in as requested by Supreme. The paperwork will not go away just by ignoring them. Please get those documents in as soon as possible. Also, if you have not grown the Kingdom of God in Arkansas by asking a Brother Catholic to join our order, please do so. Please remember: "We have the moral obligation to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus". Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight. Every council in our jurisdiction should have someone join our order; all we need to do is ask, "Be Not Afraid", Saint John Paul II.

So many times I hear throughout the state that I don't understand my priest, why don't we get an American priest, we did not have mass because our priest did not show up today; thank God we have priests here in Arkansas that are celebrating the Holy Eucharist with us, thank God we have priests that are leaving their countries and families to be mission priests here in Arkansas, thank God we have a Bishop who looks for solutions to continue to have the Holy Eucharist celebrated in our churches in Arkansas. Without our priests, we would only have the Word of God celebrated and not the Holy Mass with the Holy Eucharist, the center of our faith. We, as Knights of Columbus, will and must support our Bishop and priests in every parish throughout our DOLR, our Arkansas Jurisdiction. There is no exception.

Our seminarians are our future of our church in Arkansas. At this convention, we passed a mission to support our seminarians by raising \$1,000,000 this coming year. Thank you for saying yes and ensuring our seminarians are taken care of. Thank you for letting your hearts be opened to the cry of the poor who will serve you in the future. Thank you for living the true meaning of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, the fundamentals of our order. More details will be coming soon on the state wide fundraiser we will be having. Thank you! Brother Knights, prayer is very important in our lives, at home and in our chambers. Remember the charge given to pray the rosary half an hour prior to your council meetings; start the council meeting with a prayer; have your Council Chaplain give a 10/15 minute reflection or a Deacon, or have your lector read the days readings or the following Sundays readings; and end with a prayer. The power of prayer is more powerful than we truly think. Pray!

Thank you for allowing me to serve you again this coming year. We have an awesome group of men serving you as state officers, district deputies, directors and chairmen. We are here to help and serve you in anything throughout the jurisdiction. Thank you for supporting us as we serve you.

Adrian Dominguez
State Deputy

Vivat Jesu



Conrad DeLaPaz, Program Director

Worthy Supreme Representative, Vice Supreme Master, 4th Degree State Master, State Chaplain, State Deputy, State Officers, and Brother Knights,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve our Order. I am glad to report that all councils contacted appear to be doing excellent work in serving their parishes, community and our Order. I am confident that most, if not all, councils in our state support the Supreme Programs; however, as communicated in the mid-year report, the documentation of their efforts could use improvement.

This year's State Free Throw Contest was a good example of a successfully run program. From the Council-level contests and their documentation of results to the State level event and reporting to Supreme, this program followed the cycle of planning, conducting, and reporting the event. This program was highly supported by our councils this year, which was evident by the large number of participants at the State Championship.

In my discussions with the leadership of some councils, it appears that lack of communication, guidance, and awareness may have been the primary reasons for not documenting and up-channeling their information. Therefore, in an effort to clarify instruction, provide guidance and streamline the communication process, I began providing information directly to council officers via email; a slight improvement has been noted; however more work is needed, which I am confident will happen in the coming months.

My goal is to team with the District Deputies to better communicate with our councils and ensure council efforts are documented and reported as required. These program events give visibility to our Order and recognize the efforts and accomplishments of our members--both of which help our order grow. Timely documentation of events will also help councils complete their annual Fraternal Survey in January.

Fraternally Yours,
Conrado De La Paz
State Program Director



Calvin Webb, Community Director

Each one of us has a voice in shaping the world around us; as members of the Knights of Columbus we must make our voices heard. We need to do more than give up in despair over what is wrong, instead; we need to make a difference, One Person, One council at a time. Our communities offer limitless opportunity for action that can be seen, felt and judged for its true worth. Look for something that's needed and workable in your community and get involved.

A good resource for ideas to assist your council is the "Knighline," it is available the Knights of Columbus website at <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/publications/lc/knightline/index.html>. You can read about ongoing Charity events and news from the Church and Knights of Columbus.

If you have a community related activity you would like to see in this newsletter please email with the information.

God Bless
Calvin Webb
Community Activities Director
calvin_webb@att.net



Fourth Degree Exemplification, Hot Springs AR

We were just notified by Vice Supreme Master Russell Ruh that Hot Springs has been approved to host a Fourth Degree Exemplification at St. Mary of the Springs Catholic Church on Saturday, July 11, 2015.

We have had several recent 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications in Arkansas in the last few months, and should have a large pool from which to obtain candidates for this Fourth Degree Exemplification.

Attached is the announcement flyer, tuxedo sources, and a form 4. We will need an original quadruplicate form 4 at the time of the registration, but the attached computer generated form 4 will work for now. Be sure to include your e-mail address. Please send your registration check for \$70 and \$20 for any guests you will have to Newton White, Arkansas District Master, PO Box 1679, Hot Springs, Arkansas, 71902. Checks can be made out to the Knights of Columbus.

We had a very successful Fourth Degree Exemplification in Jonesboro on April 18, 2015 in which 21 candidates including Fr. Jack Vu were Exemplified. Many thanks for the Assemblies in Pine Bluff, Mountain Home, Pocahontas, Horseshoe Bend/Cherokee Village, North Little Rock, and Jonesboro for presenting candidates. Also great thanks to the Degree Team Members from Hot Springs, Hot Springs Village, Maumelle, Cabot, and Little Rock for their service.

Please contact me if you have any questions. (See attached forms)

Newton White
Arkansas District Master
501 622 0191 cell

Verso l' alto
"To the Highest"



4th Degree Exemplification

Honoring: Fr. William "Bill" Thomas

Saturday, July 11, 2015

Host: Hot Springs Centennial Assembly #1892

St. Mary of the Springs Parish Hall

101 Whittington Avenue

Hot Springs, Arkansas

Registration & Light Lunch: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Ladies Included)

Candidates

Lineup & Preparation: 12:30 p.m.

Exemplification: 1:00 p.m. ~ Group Photo: 3:00 p.m.

Ladies Activity

1:00 p.m. ~ 3:00 p.m.

Mass: 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary of the Springs Catholic Church – 100 Central Avenue – Hot Springs, AR

Social Hour: 5:15 p.m. at St. Mary of the Springs Parish Hall – 101 Whittington Place – Hot Springs, AR

Banquet with Presentation of Certificates after dinner:

6:00 p.m. at St. Mary of the Springs Parish Hall

CANDIDATE REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDING DEACONS:

\$70.00 – Fee includes suspender type Social Baldric (Sash), a 4th Degree pin, certificate, group photo, individual photo, and one banquet ticket.

ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKETS:

\$20.00 each – Adults only (18 and older) at all activities

UNIFORM:

Candidates (including Deacons) Complete Black Tuxedo with lay-down collar (no wing-tip collar allowed); White, front pleated shirt; Black bow tie; black cummerbund; black circular studs and cufflinks; black socks, and black shoes. **White gloves are not required.**

Military – Dress Uniform (Optional)

Police and Firemen-Formal Dress (Optional)

Clergy – Regular Clerical Dress

Current 4th Degree Members - Complete Black Tuxedo with lay-down collar (no wing-tip collar allowed) during ceremony (required). Dark suit with Tie is acceptable for banquet, otherwise, please wear the tuxedo.

Honor Guard - Regalia for ceremony, Complete Black Tuxedo with lay-down collar (no wing-tip collar allowed) and white gloves.

For Additional Information Contact: Newton White, District Master

Home Phone: 501-262-3347 Cell Phone: 501-622-0191 E-Mail: nwhite@isiequip.com

Make Checks payable to: Newton White, District Master

Mail Form 4 (application) and check to: Newton White, PO Box 1679, Hot Springs, AR 71902

**Tuxedos Locations
Sources for Tuxedos**

Belk Department Store
Conway – 601 El Singer Blvd – Conway, AR 72032
501-328-5396
Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Belk Department Store
Hot Springs – 500 Cornerstone Blvd – Hot Springs, AR 71913
501-525-07
Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Belk Department Store
Little Rock – 11525 Cantrell Road – Little Rock, AR 72212
501-907-6200
Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Belk Department Store
Paragould – 2415 West Kings Hwy – Paragould, AR 72450
870-236-2126
Open – Monday thru Thursday 10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Belk Department Store
Rogers – 503 North 46th Street – Rogers, AR 72756
479-621-0700
Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Belk Department Store
Russellville – 3093 East Main Street – Suite B – Russellville, AR 72802
479-967-9082
Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Belk Department Store
Stuttgart – 2110 S. Buerkle Street – Stuttgart, AR 72160
870-673-2544
Open – Monday thru Thursday 10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Note: Belk does not have cummerbunds but they can be ordered on-line.

Paul Morrell Formal Wear

Little Rock - 120 South Victory Street -Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
501 374 8899

Open – Tuesday thru Friday 10:00am – 5:30pm
Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Joseph A. Bank

Rogers - 2203 S. 45th Street - Suite 9150 Pinnacle Hills Promenade - Rogers, AR 72758
479-986-8386

Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Email – service@jos-a-bank.com

Men's Warehouse

Rogers - 4407 West Walnut Street – Rogers, AR 72756
479-636-0623

Open – Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

On-Line Deals

www.facebook.com/monkeysuites

www.tuxedosonline.com

www.menswearhouse.com/online

www.macys.com/men-tuxedos-online

www.finetuxedos.com

www.buy4lesstuxedo.com

Finally, if all else fails, EBAY has a huge source of tuxedos – just do a search on the main page.

www.ebay.com



FOURTH DEGREE MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENT
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
A SOCIETY OF CATHOLIC MEN

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

- NEW MEMBER
- RESTORATION
- TRANSFER
- HONORARY MEMBERSHIP
- HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP
- DATA CHANGE
- SUSPENSION _____ reason _____
- DEATH _____ mo day yr _____

1	LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		MIDDLE INITIAL		TITLE				
	STREET			CITY		ST / PROV		POSTAL CODE / COUNTRY			
	HOME PHONE		DATE OF BIRTH		MARITAL STATUS		1st DEGREE DATE		COUNCIL NO.		
2	CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY?			BY BIRTH OR NATURALIZATION?		IF NATURALIZATION HAVE FINAL PAPERS BEEN RECEIVED?		YES	NO		
	IF YOU WERE PREVIOUSLY INITIATED IN THE FOURTH DEGREE, GIVE:		INITIATION		TERMINATION		ASSEMBLY NUMBER		CITY	ST/PROV.	
3	DATE OF		REASON FOR TERMINATION		ASSEMBLY		NUMBER		CITY		ST/PROV
	PARISH		NEW OR PRESENT		FORMER						
4	I HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I AM A PRACTICAL CATHOLIC IN COMMUNION WITH THE HOLY SEE.										
	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT				DATE		I CERTIFY THAT THE APPLICANT IS A THIRD DEGREE MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING				
	SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER				ASSEMBLY		IN _____				
	PROPOSER MEMBER NUMBER (REQUIRED)						COUNCIL NO. _____				LOCATION _____
5	FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR _____				DATE _____		RECEIVED FEES OF \$ _____				DATE _____
	FAITHFUL COMPTROLLER _____				DATE _____		APPLICANT INITIATED AT _____				DATE _____
						Signature of Master (required for new members only)					

Supreme Secretary Copy



**DOCUMENTO DE MEMBRESIA DEL CUARTO GRADO
CABALLEROS DE COLON**
UNA SOCIEDAD DE CABALLEROS CATOLICOS

NÚMERO DE MEMBRESIA

1	APELLIDO		NOMBRE		INICIAL		TÍTULO		
	DIRECCIÓN			CIUDAD		ESTADO/PROV.		PAÍS O ZIP	
	TELÉFONO		FECHA NACIMIENTO		ESTADO CIVIL		FECHA 1er. GRADO		CONSEJO NÚMERO
2	CIUDADANO DE:		POR NACIMIENTO O NATURALIZACIÓN		SI ES NATURALIZADO & TIENE SUS DOCUMENTOS DE NATURALIZACIÓN?		SÍ	NO	
3	SI FUE YA MIEMBRO DEL 4o GRADO DECIR: INICIACIÓN		RETIRO		NÚMERO DE LA ASAMBLEA		CIUDAD		ESTADO/PROV.
	DATE								
4	RAZÓN DE RETIRO		ASAMBLEA		NÚMERO		CIUDAD		ESTADO/PROV.
	PARROQUIA		NUEVA O ACTUAL						
5	DECLARO QUE LOS DATOS ANTERIORES SON EXACTOS, Y QUE SOY CATÓLICO PRÁCTICO EN COMUNIÓN CON LA SANTA SEDE		ANTERIOR						
	FIRMA DEL SOLICITANTE		FECHA						
6	FIRMA DEL PROPONENTE		ASAMBLEA						
	FIEL NAVEGANTE		FECHA						
7	FIEL CONTRALOR		FECHA						
8									

- NUEVO MIEMBRO
- RESTAURACIÓN
- TRASLADO
- MEMBRESÍA HONORARIA
- MEMBRESÍA HONORARIA VITALICIA
- CAMBIOS DE DATOS
- SUSPENSIÓN _____ Causa _____
- MUERTE _____ mes _____ día _____ año

CERTIFICO QUE EL SOLICITANTE ES MIEMBRO DEL 3er. GRADO CON SUS DERECHOS EN VIGOR EN

NÚM. DEL CONSEJO

POBLACIÓN

FECHA

FIRMA DEL SECRETARIO FINANCIERO

RECIBIDA LAS CUOTAS DE \$ _____ FECHA _____

EL SOLICITANTE FUE INICIADO EN _____ FECHA _____

FIRMA DEL MAESTRE (SE REQUIERE SÓLO PARA NUEVOS MIEMBROS)

Copia para la Oficina Suprema

Knights of Columbus

Council 6419 and Assembly 1892



Hot Springs, Arkansas
www.hotspringsknights.org

Contact: Charles Cook
501-262-5413
ozark5413@gmail.com

Hot Springs Arkansas' K of C **Council 6419 Honored** as Arkansas' State Large Council of the Year 2014 -2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6419 IN HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS WINS TOP HONORS AS THE STATE OF ARKANSAS' 2015 LARGE K OF C COUNCIL OF THE YEAR

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas – April 25, 2015 - Hot Springs, Arkansas is the home of the Knights of Columbus (K of C) Council 6419 and Assembly 1892. In Fraternal Year 2014 - 2015 Council 6419 *surged with service* winning Top Honors as the State of Arkansas 2015 Large Council of the Year.

The Hot Springs, Arkansas' Council 6419 Knights and its youth's Circle 5700 Squires and their families are keenly aware that each of their service programs, *Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism*, embody the mission of their global Order. Each of Council 6419's seventy-nine (79) Fraternal Year 2014 – 2015 service programs presented a unique opportunity to contribute locally to the global efforts of millions of Catholic Knights, each focused on the same mission, to help those in need.

As a direct result of their past year's service programs, Council 6419 significantly increased its services to the needy in Garland County Arkansas, such as the following:

- The Council's semi-annual Rummage Sales resulted in over **\$50,000** raised for Council 6419's monthly charitable cash donations, totaling \$3,500 per month, donated to *Change Point* (a Pro-Life Pregnancy Resource Center); *Jackson House for Crisis Intervention Services*; *The Caring Place* (Adult Day Care); *Safe Haven*; *The Branch at Snow Springs*; *Charitable Christian Medical Clinic*; *Project Hope Food Bank*; *Hot Springs Housing Authority*; and *St. Vincent de Paul*.
- The annual Charity Golf Tournament for St. John's Catholic School (provided another **\$9,100**); plus a donation to Garland County's Suicide Prevention (**\$800**);
- The annual *Drive for People with Intellectual Disabilities / First Step / "I Can Dance" / Arkansas Special Olympics*. (*Tootsie Roll Drive* raised another **\$8,300**);
- A second pro-life donation of an ultra-sound machine in 2012, plus **\$7,800** cash in 2015 from the annual baby bottle campaign to support the local *Change Point Pregnancy Care Center*,
- Relief donations to the families who were the victims of Super Storm Sandy in both New York and New Jersey;
- Church and Religious Education activities, highlighted by hosting a local Religious Vocation Celebration Dinner with Arkansas' Bishop Anthony Taylor, and conducting a very successful fund raising event to help seminarians with their financial needs;
- Council 6419 also makes donations at the State level by contributing to the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign and to the "Pennies from Heaven Campaign," which provide(s) a statewide Knights of Columbus reserve of cash to provide assistance to families who are suddenly faced with one kind of hardship or another;
- Lastly, but perhaps most commendable, Council 6419 has received the Star Council Award from the Supreme Council for nine consecutive years. The Star Council Award recognizes Council 6419's outstanding achievement in membership, insurance and service program activities. To be eligible to earn the Star Council Award, a council must also qualify for the Father McGivney, Founder's, and Columbian awards.
- Hot Springs' K of C Council 6419's contributions totaled over **\$79,000** and they volunteered **12,874 hours** as they provided their 2014-2015 charitable donations to Garland County Arkansas.

On March 29, 1882 in New Haven, Connecticut the *Knights of Columbus* were initially chartered as a fraternal benefit society. The Order is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity. The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and 1.8 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam and Saipan. The *Knights of Columbus* has no affiliation with the manufacturers, distributors, or sale companies of ultrasound machines or technical training. The Knights of Columbus is one of the most active charitable organizations in North America. Knights last year also set charitable records by providing more than **70 million hours of charitable service** and over **\$158 million in donations** to charitable causes. Cumulative figures

show that during the past decade the Order has donated **\$1.436 billion** to charity and provided more than **664 million hours** of volunteer service in support of charitable initiatives. <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/about/history/index.html>

**Charity
Unity
Fraternity
Patriotism**

Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council



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Russellville, AR 72802
Ph: 479-964-0063

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy Supreme Representative, Faithful Vice-Supreme Master, Worthy State Officers, Faithful Master, Brother Knights.

It is a blessing and honor to serve you as your State Deputy. During my short 10 months, I have traveled to several parishes and have had the privilege to participate in the Holy Eucharist with many fellow Knights and their families. Not only have I been able to meet so many Worthy Knights, I have also had the honor to meet so many priests throughout our jurisdiction. We are truly blessed to have so many priests from different nationalities and countries throughout our jurisdiction, celebrating the Holy Eucharist in our parishes. As without these priests, we would be celebrating only the Word of God and not the Holy Mass with the Eucharist. Thank God for all our priests.

We have accomplished many things in a very short period of time, as you will hear by our Worthy Officers, Directors and Chairmen. One so close to everyone's heart was the separation of the jurisdictions of Oklahoma and Arkansas of our General Agent. Supreme heard our prayers, or you may say the squeaky wheel finally got the grease, and we now have our own General Agent, Anthony Philps. Not only is he dedicated to our Arkansas Jurisdiction, he is dedicated in ensuring we have enough coverage throughout all councils. Our agents are our voice in the community by being excellent in ensuring our orders history and progress is heard by new and upcoming Brother Knights. Please support them and ensure they are participating in our council meetings.

Thank you for supporting all our efforts of fundraising this past few months. We have surpassed our efforts in Just Ask Campaign, Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities/tootsie Roll program, and Special Olympics. Please thank your councils and Brother Knights for the great efforts throughout the jurisdiction. Great job to those chairmen of these programs, John Hertzog, Paul Leonard and Dub Green.

Our jurisdiction has been blessed with several 2nd/3rd and 4th degree exemplifications through these 10 months. Our Brother Knights are now more engaged with our new 3rd degree, where the focus is, and should be, on the Holy Eucharist. If you have not gone through a new 3rd degree exemplification, I strongly suggest attending as an observer. You will truly appreciate a different experience. Thank you to our Worthy Ceremonials Director Max Nutt, our CO Benjamin Frizzell and our Faithful Master Newton White.

Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council

Brother Knights, we have been blessed with a great group of men as your State Officers, Directors and Chairmen. These men have spent tired less nights working for you, the Arkansas jurisdiction, during these short 10 months. Their efforts have made our jurisdiction stand out and be recognized by Supreme. Our District Deputies have been very instrumental in ensuring our councils are living Father McGivney's dream. I would like to thank each and every one of them for their hard work and specially putting up with me!

Being State Deputy in the Arkansas Jurisdiction is a blessing that I cannot even express. I have been able to meet, visit and talk to so many of you Brother Knights throughout the many winding miles traveled. I truly enjoy participating in the Holy Eucharist with you and look forward to visiting more parishes.

Our fraternal year is coming to an end in two months. This is the time to elect new or ongoing officers, finalize your reports, and continue Building the Kingdom of God by doing everything you do for our Lord Jesus Christ, His church, our Bishop and Priests, and seminarians. I pray for each and every one of you, that your attendance to this convention be one of fun, prayer and enthusiasm to continue growing our priests, religious and seminarians. That you leave this weekend charged with enthusiasm of executing the new programs you will learn about. May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless each and every one of you, your families and the Arkansas Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesu

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April 25, 2015

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Worthy State Chaplain, Faithful Vice-Supreme Master, Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy State Deputy, Faithful Arkansas District Master, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Past State Deputies, Worthy Directors and Chairmen, District Deputies, Insurance Agents and my brother Knights:

It has been my honor to serve you as your State Secretary this year. Together we have done many great things. Brothers, I know as long as we stand together we can accomplish anything. Here are the specific items included in my report:

First, our spent percentage for this year in our Special Budget is 91% and our spent percentage in the General Budget is 72%, which are well within the budget you approved.

Second, Campaign for Person's with Intellectual Disabilities was an eye-opener for me in two ways. First on the council level, with the words of encouragement, praise and the stories people shared with us when they were donating to such a wonderful cause and secondly, the amount of money that can be raised when people join together for a common good! This year we collected over \$70,000.00. Well done brothers!! Thank you to brother Barnabas, most of you know him as Paul Leonard, Chairman CPID.

Third, thank you for the continued support of the unborn through the Baby Bottle Campaign with donations from 10208 Hot Springs Village, 12458 Bentonville and 14619 Scranton. We are the voice of the unborn who cannot speak for themselves.

Fourth, it appears the Just Ask Campaign has mirrored it's director, John Hertzog; energetic, motivating, and always moving. Creating this kind of momentum, Just Ask has once again surpassed this year's budget expectations.

Thank you brothers for your support and all you have done this year. Let us continue with the task at hand of loving our families, defending our faith through the order, supporting our religious and Building the Kingdom of God.

Thank you and God bless us all,

**Philip A. Savage
Arkansas State Secretary**



**Charity
Unity
Fraternity
Patriotism**

Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council



Arkansas State Convention April 24-26, 2015

STATE CHAPLAIN
Rev William A. Elser
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Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
Ph: 501-922-2062

STATE DEPUTY
Adrian E. Dominguez
613 SE Jamaica Dr.
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**IMMEDIATE PAST
STATE DEPUTY**
Michael L. Kieffer
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STATE SECRETARY
Philip A. Savage
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Ph: 479-965-3561

STATE TREASURER
Roy J. Anderle
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Mena, AR 71953
Ph: 479-243-3643

STATE ADVOCATE
Alan L. Halman
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Ph: 501-354-3826

STATE WARDEN
Craig B. Vrabel
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Ph: 479-964-0063

Worthy State Chaplain, Worth Supreme Representative, Worthy State Officers and Brother Knights:

The Audit Committee has reviewed the Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements of the State Council's finances and bookkeeping for the fiscal year 2013-2014 and have agreed and concurred with the audit. In the Auditor's opinion, our financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets of the Arkansas State Council Knights of Columbus as of June 30, 2014.

Charity, the basic principle of our Order. Brother Knights, thru your efforts we continue to see a growth in our ability to practice this virtue. This past year we have seen top numbers in our Just Ask Campaign and The Persons with Disabilities Drive. Donations to the Special Olympics, Squires, Respect Life and Pennies from Heaven funds are very good. Thank you for your time and effort to make sure that we all carry on the dream of our Founder, The Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney.

Thank you for the privilege of being your State Treasurer the past year.
God Bless You All.

Submitted By:

Roy Anderle
State Treasurer
Arkansas State Council

Audit Committee Members:

Guadalupe Guzman
John Eckert
William "Andy" Anderson
Robert Laszacs
Dale Thelen
Mike Hart
David Wewers

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STATE CHAPLAIN
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Worthy State Chaplin Father Elser. Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy Supreme Master, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Past State Deputies and Worthy Brother Knights.

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Worthy Brother Knights I would like to start off that's it's a pleasure to serve you as State Advocate. It's been a most challenging year. We have had two major issues to implement. First the new guide lines for home corporations, which we are still in the process of completing and has been going very well, and the Knights of Columbus Safe Environment program for our youth. In which our youth leaders have taken the Praesidium –Armatus online training and background checks.

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As State Advocate I am entrusted with all legal decisions that are made by the State Council or if a local council has an internal problem it is my responsibility to rule on the matter. Any state resolutions or changes to by-laws have to be presented to the Resolutions Committee for approval.

STATE TREASURER
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Please know I am here to assist you and your councils with any legal issues you may here concerning Knights of Columbus procedures and legality of said issues.

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Respectfully submitted:

Alan Halman
State Advocate

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Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council

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Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy State Officers and Brother Knights.



It has been an honor to serve my Brother Knights this year as your State Warden.

STATE CHAPLAIN
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The running of the Silver Rose for the State of Arkansas begins October 15, 2015 through November 1, 2015.

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Bentonville AR 72712
Ph: 479-381-0688

There is a packet that includes the History of the Silver Rose and a Registration Form which will be distributed to each council. Please read the information in this packet carefully and if your council wants to participate in the program fill out the Registration Form and e-mail or mail to me by the due date.

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Due to time restrictions your council may have to share a date with another council.

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Keep up the good work as we do the Lord's work.

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God Bless,

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Craig B. Vrabel
State Warden

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Knights of Columbus Arkansas State Council



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2014-15 State Membership Report

Brother Knights,

It is an honor, to have the opportunity to speak at this, the 107th Arkansas Knights of Columbus State Convention, hosted by District 1, and it's DD John Lett. Welcome to our worthy State Chaplain, State Officers, District Deputies, Program Directors, Council Delegates, and all members of the Order. A special welcome to Arkansas, for our Supreme Delegate Jose Jimenez.

Before I move into the discussion of our membership growth around our state, I would like to discuss our current demographics in Arkansas. Let me begin by stating that I am a firm believer that we have a great opportunity that many of our councils are choosing to ignore. We are one of four states that have the lowest percentage of Catholics in the entire USA. Our Catholic population in Arkansas is currently at 8%, along with Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi, compared to Rhode Island with 54%. To make matters worse we have the lowest percentage of people practicing traditional Catholicism, at 4%.

Out of the 75 counties in Arkansas, 30 have less than one percent of their population are Catholic, and a handful of counties do not even have a Catholic Church. On top of that, we have many counties that have a negative population growth, with Monroe County having a more than 20% negative population growth ratio. The demographics of our state are changing and the money and population growth is shifting. It makes no sense to me that Supreme places a quota on councils that are located in counties and cities with that are slowly dying. The quota system is unattainable in certain councils throughout our state, as my presentation will attest.

Even though I have stated all of the negatives that we are facing. Again I want you to know of the great opportunity that our Order has in Arkansas. Our state, yes Arkansas, has the highest percentage growth rate among Catholics in the USA. Yes, you heard correctly, our state has the highest Catholic growth rate in the country. Now, who are these Catholic brothers and sisters that are moving into Arkansas? They are mainly move-ins from other states and immigrants from other countries. My home parish in Bentonville is probably one of most diversified in the state. It almost looks like a United Nations session, with majority Anglo population, but with Asians (mainly Vietnamese and Filipinos), Indians from the subcontinent, Europeans, and Hispanics representing just about all of the Spanish-speaking countries. Every parish in Arkansas has that ability to have that diversity; and I believe it's the Knights of Columbus that can help make that happen.

The next portion of my report is the presentation of the membership growth from all 16 districts in the Arkansas Jurisdiction. It congratulates all the districts and councils that have attained their membership goals, as prescribed by Supreme. One thing I would like you to notice is the location and the year of chartering of each of the councils and think about how our demographics have affected, both positively or negatively our growth throughout the different areas of Arkansas.

Your state officers have done a fantastic job this year. Last fraternal year, our growth was -1. Currently our growth is over +100. We have about two months before this fraternal year ends. How many lives can you help change? As many as you want! Open your council doors to as many Catholic families as possible. Let's live Father McGivney's legacy now, while we have the opportunity.

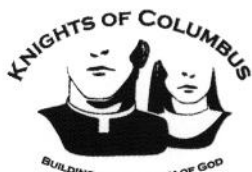
Vivat Jesu,

Faithfully submitted on this 25th day of April, 2015

Godwal "Ed" Viera

Arkansas State Membership Director

**"We have the moral obligation to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus".
Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight**



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24 April 2015

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Worthy Supreme Representative, Vice Supreme Master, 4th Degree State Master, State Chaplain, State Deputy, State Officers, and Brother Knights,

**IMMEDIATE PAST
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Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve our Order. I am glad to report that all councils contacted appear to be doing excellent work in serving their parishes, community and our Order. I am confident that most, if not all, councils in our state support the Supreme Programs; however, as communicated in the mid-year report, the documentation of their efforts could use improvement.

STATE SECRETARY
Philip A. Savage
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This year's State Free Throw Contest was a good example of a successfully run program. From the Council-level contests and their documentation of results to the State level event and reporting to Supreme, this program followed the cycle of planning, conducting, and reporting the event. This program was highly supported by our councils this year, which was evident by the large number of participants at the State Championship.

STATE TREASURER
Roy J. Anderle
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In my discussions with the leadership of some councils, it appears that lack of communication, guidance, and awareness may have been the primary reasons for not documenting and up-channeling their information. Therefore, in an effort to clarify instruction, provide guidance and streamline the communication process, I began providing information directly to council officers via email; a slight improvement has been noted; however more work is needed, which I am confident will happen in the coming months.

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My goal is to team with the District Deputies to better communicate with our councils and ensure council efforts are documented and reported as required. These program events give visibility to our Order and recognize the efforts and accomplishments of our members--both of which help our order grow. Timely documentation of events will also help councils complete their annual Fraternal Survey in January.

Fraternally Yours,
Conrado De La Paz
State Program Director

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State Church Director Report Arkansas State Convention April 24-26, 2015

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Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy State Officers and Brother Knights:

The Knights of Columbus State Sponsored Fall Retreat was held the weekend of September 5-7, 2014 at the Subiaco Coury House. The retreat director was Fr. Mauricio Carrasco and was attended by fifty-three brother knights and ladies.

The second retreat was held the weekend of February 6-8, 2015. Fifty-two brother knights and ladies attended this retreat given by George Hoelzeman.

These retreats are a time for Spiritual Growth, Prayer and Reflection and were enjoyed by all in attendance.

The next scheduled retreats at Subiaco Coury House are the weekend of September 11-13, 2015 and February 5-7, 2016. All reservations to attend the Knights of Columbus Retreats need to be made thru the State Church Director.

Thank you to all brother knights for your dedication to your Church, Community, Council and Country. God Bless you all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Anderle
State Church Director

Worth State Deputy

Please be advised we have had 13 requests for Pennies from Heaven Funds thus far in the fraternal year. All requests have been satisfied with a total distribution of \$3700.00 to families of brother Knights and or community recipients.

This report summarizes the funds distributed since January 10, 2015. Attached is a copy of the mid-year report summarizing the distribution prior to the aforementioned date.

1. January 22nd Council 10208 of Hot Springs Village requested funds for a family in the community which had experienced a total loss house fire. The mother of this family is the sister of Diocese of Little Rock Seminarian Kieth Higginbotham. What a coincidence!
2. January 18th the officers of Council 9514 of Bella Vista requested funds for a young pregnant woman to go toward baby food and sustenance for her and baby post-delivery.
3. February 22 the DD of district 7 requested funds to help the F S of Council 8815 of Fairfield Bay whose home burned to the ground.
4. March 24 the F S of Council 14458 of Bentonville requested fund to help a council member's family which has a new born in Children's Hospital at Little Rock with travel and lodging expenses.
5. The officers of Council 13829 of Council 13829 requested fund to help with transportation expenses for the council chaplin to attend the funeral of his mother which was held in Mexico.
6. April 15th the officers of Council requested funds for the son of a member. The son is an unemployed father of five children, two of which are disabled.

Submitted by,



Gerald E Krawczynski, Pennies From Heave Chairman

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES REPORT CALVIN WEBB

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples -
Mother Teresa

A Knights of Columbus council can work wonders; with its many programs, it can help change the community, town, city or neighborhood in which you live.

A successful program depends on people taking the initial idea, modifying it to suit specific situations and local needs, then implementing the program in the way it works.

Each local council evaluates the needs of their community and implements those programs and activities that are most needed.

Good resource for ideas to assist your council:

Knights of Columbus website

Knightline

Columbian

Local Resources

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April 25, 2015

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Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers and Program Directors, Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy Supreme Representative, and Worthy Brothers all,

The family is the first and most important institution of our society – and the foundation of our very existence.

Regardless of what people think the ideal family structure is – or whether people think there *is* an ideal family structure – our family is where we learn the first and deepest lessons that inform our behavior and beliefs, and shape our personalities as adults.

As one author put it, the family is “the nursery of the next generation.”

More than just the *provider* of material protections, the family is the *shaper* of human character and religious beliefs; and born of family is Marriage.

Today, however, marriage is often the *last* step that parents take when forming a family – and it’s increasingly a step that is being forgone altogether.

Today, too few families are forming – with or without children – and too few families are remaining intact.

While marriage rates fall and divorce and cohabitation rates remain high, the number of children raised by a single parent has nearly quadrupled in the past 50 years.

As I work for the State of Arkansas, Office of Child Support Enforcement, I see this *brokenness, fear, and misery* that is caused by the lack of family.

Our Holy Father, recently eluded to this societal pandemic at his general audience on April 22 of this year.

He is continuing his catechesis on the family, by stating” If we cannot generate sympathy for the covenant between men and women, children will be increasingly uprooted. The social devaluation of the stable and generative covenant of the man and woman is certainly a loss for everyone.”

Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council

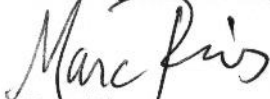
Pope Francis continued saying, "We must recover the honor of marriage and the family. The safekeeping of this covenant between man and woman, is therefore for us believers a challenging and exciting vocation."

Clearly, Our Holy Father is stating this...*Our vocation is to care for the covenant of marriage!*

By doing so, we can sway societal values and keep our families intact.

Vivat Jesus!

Faithfully submitted,



Marc Rios

Arkansas State Council, Family Director

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April 25, 2015

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Worthy State Chaplain, State Deputy, Supreme Representative and Brother Knights all:

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I appreciate the opportunity to serve on the state team as ceremonial chairman in this 2014-15 fraternal year.

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We have had a 2nd and 3rd degree ceremony at Ft. Smith on Sept 14 with 31 candidates, one at Morrilton on Sept 28 with 32 candidates, at Searcy on Jan 25 with 26 candidates, at Fayetteville on Feb 15 with 19 candidates, at Hot Springs on March 1 with 52 candidates and a somewhat private one at Heber Springs for 2 blind members on March 15.

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The next scheduled 2nd and 3rd degree ceremony is for Charleston on Sept 20, at Conway on Oct 4th and Nov 8 questionable for Jonesboro.

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We try to schedule ceremonies in different areas of the state in order that candidates will not have to travel too far and the potential is there for a good number of candidates. This schedule has to be coordinated with a date the degree team members can be available as well as the state deputy. The degree team has found that the months of May through August has been too many other events going on to have a good number of candidates. Of course we all know that in Arkansas not to schedule anything during deer hunting season.

STATE ADVOCATE

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Until we get more degree team members and another CO to do parts, it is limited to the team we have to make a schedule.

STATE WARDEN

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I especially want to express my appreciation to our CO, Ben Frizzell and all the team members for their excellent presentation they do. I know they put a lot of time in preparing and presenting the degrees in order that candidates are impressed with the ceremony and get fully knighted.

If any council would like to host a ceremony and feel you have the potential for a good number of candidates in your area, let me know and we will try to work with the degree team and get a schedule. Host council must provide two hundred dollars to the degree team on the day of the event.

Wishing you all the very best,

Max W. Nutt, Ceremonial Director

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21th Annual "Just Ask" Fund Raising Campaign

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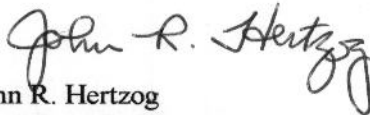
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The Knights of Columbus membership in Arkansas gave generously to the 2014-2015 "Just Ask" Fund. This year 926 Brother Knights, donated **\$37,169.00**, 95 giving \$100 or more for an average gift of \$41.54. Additionally, 18 Councils and 5 Assemblies gave \$1,300.00 to help with the administrative costs. In all, **\$38,469.00** was donated statewide. The Fund is set up to pay for the donations voted upon from resolutions submitted each year at the State Convention for CHARITABLE giving. The Arkansas State Council distributes this money to the following Diocesan Ministries: Catholic Charities, The Arkansas Catholic, Council of Women Religious, the Vocations Ministry, and the Respect Life Office. Other beneficiaries of your generosity are: the Director of the Cory House at Subiaco, Hispanic Community Encounter, and the Seminarian Fund ("A Taste of Faith").

The Bishop of Little Rock, the Most Reverend Anthony B. Taylor is very appreciative of this financial support from the Arkansas State Council of the Knights of Columbus, especially our support for financing the Chapel in the Discernment House on the site of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Little Rock. Our financial help is needed by the Bishop, the Diocesan Staff, Priests, Seminarians, Deacons, and Lay Ministers who serve the people of God and the many needs of our Catholic Community. The Knights of Columbus HAVE and DO make a difference to the Church in Arkansas.

As a Catholic layman you may contribute to the Diocesan Ministry CASA and the "Taste of Faith" events for Seminarians, but, your donation for the "Just Ask" campaign as a Knight of Columbus reinforces the Knights of Columbus in Arkansas as very active and physical supporters of the Bishop's many Charitable programs. YOU make a huge difference! THANKS and God Bless.


John R. Hertzog
State Fund Raising Director

Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council



Worthy Chaplain, Supreme Representative, State Deputy, State Officers and Knights All,

Round Table Report.

Supreme has set our Round table goal at 25. We currently have 11 round tables in 4 councils.

If your council supports more than one parish or more than one ethnic group you need a round table. Rather you need at minimum a Round Table Coordinator for each round table. This person is the Grand Knight's and the council's point of contact with the parish or ethnic group.

Two forms are required annually: Form 2629, Appointment of Round Table Coordinator and Form 2630 Annual Report of K of C Round Table.

Having a Coordinator ensures your council is supporting the needs of your parishes especially if you don't have parish centered council.

Vivat Jesu

Mike Kieffer, Round Table Chairman, Immediate Past State Deputy

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REPORT FOR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE CONVENTION *By: Dub Green, State Chairman-Special Olympics Arkansas*

Preparations for the 2015 Special Olympics state summer games are off to a great start. The games will again be held on the Harding University campus, at Searcy, Arkansas May 21-~~23~~, beginning with the awesome Opening Ceremonies on Thursday, continuing with working Olympic Town Friday (all day) and Saturday morning.

I've been notified that the number of athletes seems to be increasing, therefore, we expect upwards of 3,000 special athletes competing in the event.

Arkansas Knights of Columbus Olympic Town is ready to host these athletes, giving them activities to occupy them in between their athletic events. Factoring in the athletes, their siblings, chaperones, etc., we expect to host 1500-1600 athletes and supporters in our area "the Happenin' Place". We will have basketball goals, 2 bean bag toss games, ring toss board, bowling pin ring toss, hand-painted beads & plastic beads to make necklaces & bracelets, the ladies will polish fingernails and put on removable tattoos.

Currently, our volunteer base has reached an all time high, with 43 signed and verbal commitment from about 6 others. We are fortunate to have volunteers from several councils. Thanks to those who have come forth to help in this wonderful and rewarding opportunity.

Our Fourth Degree Honor Guard will number 12 or more and they will lead the athletes into the stadium for opening ceremonies on Thursday night.

Knights of Columbus

Arkansas State Council



Knights of Columbus
2014 Arkansas State Campaign For Persons With Intellectual
Disabilities
Paul M. Leonard, Chairman
Report as of April 23, 2015

Fellow Brothers **KNIGHTS** ☪

The results of the 2014 Campaign For Persons With Intellectual Disabilities are in. The good news is that this year we were able to raise even more money for charity than last year. We exceeded 2013's total by more than \$2,000. This undoubtedly is because of all of the hard work of those councils participating in this year's state campaign.

Last year, in 2013, raised a total of \$70,722.31. It was the first time we had raised over \$70,000 in many years. However, that amount was exceeded in 2014 with a grand total of \$73,153.98. Of

that amount, over \$62,000 went to the local charities of each council's choice. In ~~the~~ March 2015, the former grand deputy, Mike Kieffer, and I presented a check in the amount of \$11,089.79 to this year's State charity of choice which is The ARC of Arkansas. The recipients told us it was the largest check that they had ever received from a charitable organization. This money will be used to help fund their summer camp which is ^a ~~a~~ vocational camp as well as a one-week opportunity for persons with intellectual disabilities to be able to enjoy nature and the outdoors.

I was particularly pleased that many councils participating in both the 2013 and 2014 fund raisers showed increased amounts from last year. Some of these increases were substantial in nature. In addition, we had four councils which had fund raisers this year which had not participated in 2013. Those councils were Charleston, Altus, Arkadelphia, and Siloam Springs. I want to personally thank each of those councils for their efforts.

I would also like to take the time to congratulate the Hot Springs Council, the Hot Springs Village Council, and the Bella Vista Council all of whom showed significant increases from what they had raised in 2013. Leading the pack was the Hot Springs Council with an 89% increase in moneys raised with the Hot Springs Village and Bella Vista councils each raising over 20% more than last year.

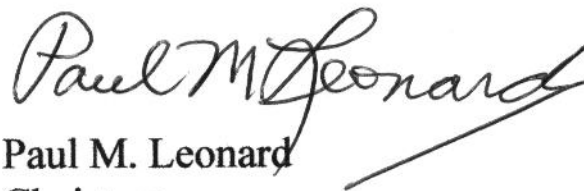
When the campaign began, I tried to stress to each council in my e-mails that it was not so much about how much money each council could raise but that an effort was made by all to participate. On that goal, I fell a bit short of what I had hoped for.

During this past summer and fall, I was able to visit some of the councils in the state and participate in their fund raisers. The Knights' themes of charity, unity, and fraternity were certainly in evidence to me by those councils I visited. I had a good time

meeting my fellow brothers and in getting to know them. It proved to be a learning experience for me.

We've got a great group here in Arkansas. Brothers, keep up the good work!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul M. Leonard". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Paul M. Leonard
Chairman
Campaign For Persons With Intellectual

Disabilities



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR LIFE

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Deputies

FROM: Charles E. Maurer Jr. *Charles E Maurer Jr*
Supreme Secretary

DATE: March 17, 2015

SUBJECT: Supreme Council Policies re: Knights of Columbus Events & Public Officials

In light of recent events, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council takes this opportunity to reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind, or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus.

This clear position is based on the policy of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) that "The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions" (*Catholics in Political Life*, 2004).

Violations of these policies by local councils result in public confusion about our positions, and damage to the good name of both the local council and the Order as a whole.

We therefore encourage you to take steps within your jurisdiction to ensure that these important policies are respected and followed by every local council.