

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

April 2021

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editor: SK John Huttenhoff



A TRIP AROUND THE SUN THAT SEEMS LIKE AN ETERNITY

It's hard to imagine that over a year has now passed since the COVID-19 Pandemic forced many of us to change our daily lives.

The routine of Sunday mass may have yet to return for some of us.

Easter 2020 seems like a distant memory—watching the services 'ONLINE' as some of our Parishes were 'shut down.'

Holy Week is one of my favorite weeks of the year as it forces me to 'slow down' and take a break. Given my 'active' nature of work, volunteering on various committees for our Parish and School along with the commitments to the Knights—it's hard for me to take time and relax as my mind is always 'racing' on something. From Thursday-Sunday, I'm forced to at least for a few hours each day to take some time away from it all and have moments of reflection.

As I sit here now to 'reflect' on this past year, as Knights there have been so many amazing things we have witnessed! Who would've thought that last May we would conduct a State Convention from the comfort of your home and your phone! In August, delegates from across the State and myself sat in a hotel conference room in Green Bay to watch the 'virtual' Supreme Convention—a very distanced experience that all those involved will remember! On Halloween 2020, October 31st, we witnessed the Beatification of Blessed McGivney at a small parish church in Plainfield, WI.—the parish served by our State Chaplain Father Kurz. Sitting in the pew that day—distanced from the others in attendance to keep all safe and healthy—the thought came across my mind that how similar our surrounding that day was to the day our Knights of Columbus organization was founded! A Parish Priest, similar in age to Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney—leading a group of men that day in prayer and witness of faith. The only glaring difference was the amount of hair on each man's head!

Then this past month, on March 1st, we were able to witness a changing of the guard, with a new Supreme Knight, Brother Patrick Kelly taking the helm. Only the 14th Supreme Knight since our existence, we all should be proud to know that his 'wings' as a leader of the Knights of Columbus started in Wisconsin at Marquette University. I encourage each of you to read the March 2021 *Columbia* magazine to learn more about our Supreme Knight. Truly a remarkable Catholic gentleman that will lead us to stronger and more fruitful years to come as an order! His closing comments in his article '**The World Needs Knights**' further exemplifies a vision we can bring to all by INVITING MORE MEN to join our ranks:

"It is often said the Knights have what men need. I believe it's also true that the Knights are what men want. We are a community of purpose—a brotherhood of faith—and a force for good for the things that matter most. The Order was made for the moment we are in, as a Church, as a country, as families and as men." (Patrick Kelly, Columbia Magazine-March 2021)

Corey Christopher Coonen
State Deputy



Christian Passover brings JOY!

We are celebrating the height of all our celebrations in our year and we praise God for the Passover that leads us out of sin and death, so that we can enter into eternal life with the Lord. What we now celebrate is often referred to as the Easter season but that never makes a very good reference to what we are truly celebrating. It is really more proper for us to call it the Christian Passover.

During the Easter seasons when I was young, and watched a lot of television, I remember seeing the movies about Jesus, and the movie about Moses leading the Jewish people through the Passover, out of Egypt, and toward the promised land. I always wondered why the stories of Jesus and Moses were being shown around the same time. Well, it took me a while to put it all together and see how the two were connected. Eventually the light bulb went off and I saw how we celebrate the fulfillment of the first Passover in our Lord Jesus Christ, and how Moses foreshadowed Jesus.

I know those old movies may be challenging to find these days but they can help us share this understanding with our families. Happy Christian Passover because the victory we celebrate is the victory we all strive to live as Knights of Columbus.

Sincerely, Fr. Andrew Kurz
Knights of Columbus, Wisconsin State Chaplin

Worthy District Deputies, Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries,
Worthy Delegates and Brothers,

As we approach our State Convention the end of this month, please take a few minutes to check that everything has been submitted.

- Delegate Certification – This is the Blue sheet in the Convention Announcement Packet. It was due March 15. If you have not yet submitted, please send it now (scan and email is fine). We use this in preparing the credentials list.
- Register all Delegates online (State Website) – This is important so that we have up to date contact information for your delegates. Given the Hybrid convention, it is important that we have current information. Any other brother attending the convention in person need to Register online so that we will have a name badge for you when you arrive.
- Fill out Memorial Mass cards and address the envelopes to the families. Bring them to Convention. If attending virtually, then send with DD or State Officer.
- Turn in Checks and Raffle Ticket stubs to the Diocesan Charity Coordinator or bring to Convention.
- Bring Resolutions Book with you to the Convention. These will be mailed to you prior to the convention to review.

Vivat Jesus,
John Huttenhoff
State Secretary



Online Membership

What a month! Many of you took advantage of the per-capita incentive to grow membership by utilizing online membership. 75 men joined online in the 30-days since Feb. 20. 77 men participated in an online degree ceremony. A lot of this activity took place in the eleventh hour, keeping myself and the state officers very busy with reminders and notifications. 86 online members were transferred into councils. It would be wonderful if more councils took advantage of this great useful tool.

The following councils have not had any new members yet this year, but they have an advantage of having an online member assigned to them. All that is needed is to contact the online member and get him through a degree. He already WANTS to be included by becoming an online member. The yellow highlights indicate **two** online members assigned to the council. **Green** indicates the member has already taken his degree and only needs to be transferred into the council. **Red** is actually a 4th degree member, so he only needs to be transferred.

1471 1647 1797 1825 1840 2820 2854 3095 3492 3924 4439 4634 4869
 4932 5193 5415 5456 6690 7370 7732 10552 10920 12596 12673 15739 17348

Let's get these men into your councils and you are on your way towards achieving your goal for per-capita forgiveness. 10 of these e-members have been assigned members for over a year, so I need to ask WHY? I urge all Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries and District Deputies to regularly (at least once a week) log in to Officers Online and check your Prospect tab for potential new council members.

As of this writing, there are 154 online members with 75 assigned to councils. 10 of these assigned members are insurance members.

Here are the upcoming online degrees by the state officers:

3/30/2021	Tuesday	7:00 PM	State March 30, 2021 7:00 PM
4/6/2021	Tuesday	7:00 PM	State April 6, 2021 7:00 PM
4/12/2021	Monday	7:00 PM	State April 12, 2021 7:00 PM
4/22/2021	Thursday	7:00 PM	State April 22, 2021 7:00 PM
5/13/2021	Thursday	7:00 PM	State May 13, 2021 7:00 PM
5/25/2021	Tuesday	7:00 PM	State May 25, 2021 7:00 PM
6/14/2021	Monday	7:00 PM	State June 14, 2021 7:00 PM
6/29/2021	Tuesday	7:00 PM	State June 29, 2021 7:00 PM

All these State offered degree links are also available on the state website degree schedule page. Register ahead with the above links, then sign in at the appropriate time with the link provided in a notification email.

Anyone may go to [Online degree info](#) at **any** time to access links to the Supreme [On Demand](#) degree and invitation letters. Please share these links with your new member candidates and existing members wanting to advance to 3rd degree. Then do not forget to follow up by transferring them into your council and updating their degree status.

State Online Membership Coordinator
William G. Hitt

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus State Charity Raffle

One month before the drawing of:

\$50,000

Could it be you? No limit to how many tickets **you** can purchase.

Could it be a family member, a close friend, or someone you know? Not if **you** don't sell them a ticket.

Deadline is fast approaching to get the Council Charity Grant Fund Request Forms sent to the state office **May 1**. Missing the deadline could cause delays in receiving council payments.

Council chairman please get as many tickets turned into your diocese chairman prior to state convention for safety and security reasons. Cash for raffle tickets should not be brought to the state convention, have the financial secretary send a check for all tickets you are bringing to the convention.

Get some of that stimulus money to the families that need it "Buy Raffle Tickets"

God Bless,
Bernie Heit
Charity Director

DELEGATES TO THE 139th SUPREME CONVENTION

Denver, Colorado AUGUST 2-5, 2021

Wisconsin is allowed ten delegates to the Supreme Convention. The State Deputy and the Immediate Past State Deputy automatically serve as the first two delegates. The remaining eight delegates are selected by the vote of those delegates attending the State Convention. Delegates to the Supreme Convention must be 3rd Degree Knights, and at least half of our Delegates must be Insurance Members.

Supreme Council reimburses delegates per diem at \$400 per day for 3 days and mileage at \$.30 per mile one way.

In 2020, the Wisconsin State Council offered the opportunity for Candidates for State Office and those seeking election to be Delegates to the Supreme Convention to submit a Resume and Nomination Statement to be posted on the State Website. This information was well received by the membership as it allowed the delegates to get to know who they were voting for prior to the State Convention.

Since the Wisconsin State Council State Convention in 2021 is currently planned to be a Hybrid Convention, we are again offering the opportunity for those members wishing to be Candidates for either State Office or a Delegate to the Supreme Convention to submit a Resume, Picture, and Nomination Statement to be posted on the State Website.

The Delegates to the State Convention will meet during the Saturday afternoon session to nominate and elect deserving members who may represent them at the Supreme Convention. Per the State Council Bylaws, only seated Delegates can make nominations and have the privilege of a vote; although non-delegates can be nominated. Previous delegates to the Supreme Convention should not seek a nomination in order that other members be given a similar opportunity to serve as a Supreme Delegate.

It is very desirable that Delegates to the Supreme Convention be Knights who have been extraordinary in promoting Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism in the Knights of Columbus. The Delegates to this State Convention should be made aware of this Knight's accomplishments by the nomination speech given on his behalf.

Those seeking to be nominated as a Delegate to the Supreme Convention are encouraged to submit one or more of the following:

- One Page Resume
- Picture
- One Page Nomination Speech or Statement
- 3 Minute Video Nomination

It is requested that information be submitted prior to April 10 so that Councils can review the information and provide voting instructions to their delegates. Materials can be emailed to State Secretary John Huttenhoff at jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com.

Public Relations Corner

Columbia Magazine and Knights in Action Submissions

The Columbia online edition, available at kofc.org/columbia, contains many of the features and columns found in the print magazine. A Knights in Action webpage is also updated monthly at kofc.org/knightsinaction with an expansive selection of reports and photos of qualifying projects.

The Knights in Action webpage includes frequently asked questions on sending in reports and tips for taking quality photos. Guidelines can also be found in the flyer, "Your Story in Columbia." Copies of the flyer are available from the Columbia office and are provided to each council in the annual Surge with Service mailing. If your council did not receive the flyer, please contact Columbia by using the contact information listed below. The Officers' Desk Reference also contains guidelines for photographs (see the two entries above). In all cases, photo submissions should be in color.

Materials to be considered for Knights in Action should be sent via the online submission form at kofc.org/knightsinaction. Alternatively, you may email submissions to knightsinaction@kofc.org or, in the case of hard copies, send them to:

**Columbia Magazine
One Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510-3326.**

Photos via email should be sent as separate attached image files and not as part of a Word, PDF, PowerPoint document or a collage. Images should be sent at their largest size and resolution. Be sure to include caption information.

About 50 percent of news items submitted by local and state councils eventually appear in Columbia. Due to the magazine's production schedule, though, material for Knights in Action is prepared up to two months in advance of its publication online. Because of space limitations and the large number of submissions, it takes several months for an item to appear in the magazine.

When emailing submissions include pr@wikofc.com

*Jack Wrbanich, IPSD
State Council Public Relations*

REGISTER TO JOIN THE GUILD

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild publishes a quarterly newsletter and offers a weekly Mass for the intentions of members.

At this final stage of the long process to sainthood, the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild has been the bulwark for the cause of Sainthood of Blessed Michael J. McGivney, and at this final stage of this long process that was begun with the opening of the cause in December 1997, we need to focus even more on the Guild's simple formula:

1. **Join** the Father McGivney Guild. You will receive a quarterly newsletter, and your intentions will be remembered in a weekly Mass offered for Guild Members.
2. **Pray** for Father McGivney's intercession, especially in times of great need.
3. **Report** all favors to the Father McGivney Guild.

Please consider joining today – visit FAHTERMCGIVNEY.ORG and belong to something great! IT'S FREE!



Safe Environment status for WI.

Safe Environment Update



We hope that you and your family are well. Here is safe environment program compliance in for WI as of 3/22/2021. As Fraternal Year End 2020-21 is fast approaching please review this email and work with your state officers and district deputies to help your councils appoint members to required roles and get them fully compliant. The deadline for getting your appointments and forms submitted is May 1 and to get the appointment compliant by June 1.

-The following information does not include the 14 suspended/non-active councils in WI-

Required Safe Environment Program Roles:

Role	Councils	Filled	Compliant
Grand Knights	300	274	245
Program Directors	300	192	184
Community Directors	300	173	164
Family Directors	300	180	175

ACTIVE COUNCILS with ALL Required Safe Environment Program roles filled and compliant:

Councils	Filled	Compliant
300	147	133

DISTRICTS with ALL Councils having ALL Required Safe Environment Program roles filled and compliant:

Districts	Filled	Compliant
66	5	5

If your district/council/GKs and directors are not yet compliant please see to this ASAP and get the reports filed by May 1st and your required personnel completely compliant by June 1.

Reminder moving forward that The GK can no longer hold multiple roles and attempt to be safe environment compliant for those roles, to obtain your Safe Environment certification, you can no longer use generic emails such as GK@ council ...you need personal emails such as pelang60@hotmail.com

State Advocate, Paul Lang



**Call all MEN of your parish(es) to a short, 4-hour:
“Bishop’s Retreat on Charity!”
April 10, 2021**

Is there any greater Charity than Divine Mercy?

Invite them to join with other men to:

- Experience the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ thru His Sacraments!
- Spend quality time with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
- Learn the Power of Charity in Action in:
 - Your Life
 - The Lives of Your Brothers in Christ
 - The Life of Your Family
 - The Life of Your Parish
 - The Life of Your Community

How do we pack all that into only 4 hours?

Easy! Our Bishops deliver their Apostolic Teaching directly to busy men, getting right to the point, no wasting time. As busy men themselves, they totally relate to us!

How can our Bishop’s be in all those parishes at the same time?

LOL!! Via pre-recorded video, of course! **REGISTER TODAY!!** Please have the GOTO person for your council enter their contact information at this link and we will make sure they can download the videos in advance.

[Parish Men's Retreat Videos](#)

Suggested Schedule:

8:00 AM	Mass
8:45 AM	Adoration with Confession
9:45 AM	Break with Light Refreshments

10:00 AM Presentations
NOON Prayer and Dismissal

COST: Free will offering. With many parishes hurting financially these days, we suggest 80% stay with the parish and 20% be used to thank your Bishop! You can make the Bishop's donation online at:

[Donate to Wisconsin State Council Knights of Columbus](#)

At "Write a note (Optional)" please enter the name of your diocese.

Or you can mail a check to your State Council at:

Knights of Columbus
Wisconsin State Council
4297 West Beltline Highway
Madison, WI 53711

Please put "Bishop's Retreat" and the name of your diocese in the memo line.

Suggested Donation: For those who might appreciate a little guidance, feel free to suggest a donation of \$20.

Light Refreshments: To maximize the benefit to the parish, we humbly ask your council to absorb the cost of the light refreshments.

DATE OPTION!

April 10 does not work for you? Or you need to start earlier? Or later? **NO PROBLEM!** Because the presentations are all pre-recorded, you can do this at a date and time which fits for your parish. The theme of Charity is not limited to any particular date or time. Our goal is to amplify the Apostolic Teaching of our Bishops to the maximum extent possible.

For more info, contact: Ron Faust

ronaldfaust@reagan.com

Cell: 608.225.7281

Online Ceremonial Team

Brother Knights!

Greetings! I hope this finds you, your families and councils well. As most of you know, the State Office team has extended the opportunity to have your April per capita waived. Several councils took advantage of the first one, and several more now have the opportunity to STILL take advantage of this. With this incentive in mind, your State Officer team is offering 3 live online exemplifications via ZOOM. Those dates are April 6th, April 12th, and April 22nd. All of them happening at 7:00 PM. Hopefully your council will take advantage of these and help you qualify for the latest incentive.

The State Team is also actively looking for additional Knights from across the State to join our team. Our goal is to eventually have a team in every diocese. If you would like to assist in this, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at mcasey@wikofc.com and we can have you work with our current team. We could really use the help!

Vivat Jesus

Miles Casey
State Treasurer

Membership

Report on the “Per Capita Forgiveness” Incentive:

Round ONE of this incentive exceeded all expectations, with **116 Councils** bringing in AT LEAST ONE new member between January 1st and March 15th. A total of **101 Councils** qualified for forgiveness of their “Per Capita” payment for spring. In 74 days of the Incentive, we brought in **294 New Members**, or **3.97 New Members** per day.



Round TWO is underway right now (March 15th thru April 30th). For those councils who did not yet meet their target number, they have a second chance to do so. However, their target is increased by One New Member.

“What Did You Do with Your “Per Capita” Savings, Daddy?”

One of our councils told me they were applying their “Per Capita” savings to support two Seminarians in the RSVP Program. That got me thinking... ***What is Your Council’s Plans for the Money You Have Saved?*** Please send me details of what you did with the savings, so I can share them with our Brother Knights in this venue, as well as in the emails I send out periodically.

Thanks for your help!

Rick Raulin

ONBOARDING



“It’s ONBOARDING, Not Waterboarding!”

Our New Council Development Director Ron Faust is one of my best friends, as well as a Godsend for wise counsel. Recently, he reminded me that it would be a shame and a waste if we brought in all these new members but failed to get them working in a program that we sponsor, one that gets them excited and passionate about BEING a KNIGHT! It is painful to watch good men come into a Council, fired up about the good they can do, only to watch that passion fade and die because **we did not serve their needs and help them become the Knight they longed to become.**

It’s called ONBOARDING! Your council needs to have a process that asks New (and existing) Members:

- ✓ What programs does our Council have NOW that **you would be excited to participate in?**
- ✓ Are their programs we do not have that **you would like to see our Council pursue?**
- ✓ **How can we help you succeed as a Knight and have an outlet for what you are passionate about?**



We DO NOT want to waste this amazing growth – Let’s get these New Members Involved Right Away!



Top Recruiter (Inviter) in Wisconsin (Jan 1st – Feb 28th): **Raymond Berres – Council 5798**

Top Three Councils (July 1st – March 15th) for Number of NEW MEMBERS:

1. Madison - UW COUNCIL 6568, with 23 New Members
2. Fond du Lac – Fr Mathias Zerfas Council 664, with 16 New Members
3. Kenosha Council 973, Medford Council 1744 and Reedsville Council 5798 TIED with 13 Each

Top Three Councils (July 1st – March 15th) for Percentage Growth OVER QUOTA:

1. Madison – UW Council 6568, with 328.57% of their original quota
2. Oak Creek – St Stephen the Martyr Council 16821, with 266.67% of their original quota
3. Greenville – Immaculate Mary Council 16244, with 175% of their original quota

STAR Council UPDATE:

Supreme has very recently changed the quota for Councils to achieve the **McGivney Award** for

2020-2021 FRATERNAL YEAR ADJUSTED COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP QUOTAS FOR STAR COUNCIL

If your Membership Quota was...	Your Membership Quota is now...
3	2
4	3
5	4
6	5
7	6
8	6
9	7
10	8
11	9
12	10
13	10
14	11
15	12
16	13
17	14
18	14
19	15
20+	16

Membership Growth. **Our new quota is 80% of our old quota.** Here is a chart to give you the new numbers to pursue.

The **Founder’s Award** for Insurance is now based on our Councils doing something we can control... encouraging our own members to check out the Knights insurance and financial products. If you haven’t talked to a **Field Agent** recently, you have no idea what you’re missing. To achieve the **Founder’s Award**, we need to contact our **General/Field Agents** to conduct a Benefits Seminar they we promote to our

members.

Furthermore, we are great at INVITING prospects and others in our parishes to also attend sponsored Benefits Seminars. **From now until June 30th**, each sponsored seminar counts for TWO seminars, which fulfills our requirement for the **Founder’s Award**.

With the reduced membership quota and double credit for **Benefits Seminars**, all councils are more readily able to achieve **STAR Council**. The criteria to become a **STAR Council** includes:

- ✓ **Columbian Award** for Council Programs (a total of 10 Programs, reduced from 16)
 - TWO programs EACH from **Faith, Family, Community & Life**
 - **Featured Programs and Leave No Neighbor Behind Programs** count DOUBLE
 - Two additional programs from any category
 - Submit a Form 10784 for each program and a Form SP-7 by June 30th
- ✓ **McGivney Award** for Membership Growth – meet or achieve your Council’s membership quota
- ✓ **Founder’s Award** for Insurance Participation – **Sponsor a Benefits Seminar** with **at least three types** of promotion
 - Council Email Blast
 - Council Social Media Campaign
 - Parish Bulletin/Insert or Parish Event Poster
 - Parish Email Blast or Parish Social Media Campaign

- Parish Pulpit Announcement
- Prospect-specific Email Blast or Outreach
- **Coordinate with your General Agent and Submit a Form 11077** to him after the seminar
- ✓ Be current on **REPORTS:** Form 1728 (Fraternal Activity) and Form 365 (Program Personnel)
- ✓ Be in Good Standing with Supreme... Bills Paid and In Compliance with Safe Environment rules



Programs

Brothers,

As we head into the final quarter of this Fraternal Year, let me remind all Councils and District Deputies that you have until April 15 to run your local Knowledge Contests and local/District Free Throw Contests. Then, by April 30, please report to your Diocesan Program Coordinator your 1st and 2nd place winners (and 3rd place alternates) names, contact information and scores. We will then determine Diocesan and State winners based on that information. Awards will be sent to Councils or District Deputies to get to the students in May.

I also remind that Soccer Challenge contests can be held locally (indoors or outside) through May 31. Report your local results to your Diocesan Program Coordinator. We will hold Diocesan (Regional) Contests in June if possible based on those results and a State Contest at the end of June.

****NOTE** – Jim Otto has recently resigned as Superior DPC so Councils and DDs in the Superior Diocese will need to forward their knowledge, Free Throw and Soccer information and reports directly to me. I will be working with our State Youth Academics Coordinator (Alex Osterkamp) and State Youth Athletics Coordinator (Ernie Reinhart) to arrange awards and details for these programs.

I hope to be seeing many of you at the upcoming State Convention. In addition to the elections, reports, honors displays and many other important activities there, my DPCs and I will be giving out awards for Essay and Poster Contest winners at the Diocesan and State levels, returning True Meaning

of Christmas posters to winners and other contestants as well as History Books to Councils who created them. We hope that we can get as many of these out as possible in Lake Geneva so that as few as possible will need to be delivered, mailed out or need to be picked up by Councils or DDs at some other locations.

Also, in April, continue to do all you can to meet or exceed your membership goals with the Fr. McGivney 2020 Program incentives! Strive to support your pastor and parish in all ways you can. Work together to help open up your parishes, get Catholics back to Mass and school. All of the 32 Faith in Action programs along with the Leave No Neighbor Behind initiatives, as well as most of our State programs, can be done virtually, hybrid, no contact/drive by, etc. so that Councils can be active again. Spring is here and we need to lead in active Councils, parishes, families and communities!

That said, remember to get to work now and strive to get your PKD and Culture of Life Fund contributions in if not already done (or send in more)! Work hard to get your Charity Raffle tickets in (more than last year)! Try to do the ID Drive this spring. Start now to finish up your SP7 Columbian Award application and Wisconsin Outstanding Council Award application so they can be turned in well before the end of the Fraternal Year. They can be downloaded from the Supreme and State websites. The requirements are much easier to reach this year (like last year) so every Council should be able to do so with just a little effort.

It's also time to check your Star Council requirement list and finish up the last of those duties. Most notably, perhaps, for many Councils is completing those Child Safety Training requirements. These need to be done by May 1. If you need help, contact your DPC, State Officer in Charge of your Diocese, me or Superior Department of Fraternal Mission. Remember, we all care about Child Safety and every Council does programs where children are present, not just the youth contests!

Have a joyous, happy, blessed Easter and enjoy the warming spring weather in April. Vivat Jesus! Vivat Cristo Rey!

Fraternally,

Bill Frayer
State Program Director

4th Degree Eastern District Exemplification

The Eastern District Fourth Degree is scheduled as a Virtual Degree on May 15, 2021 at 1:00 PM.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Z-Gdhv5XTogh3HJE0s6oPQ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

For mor information, Contact Worthy Eastern District Master James TenPas

jamestenpas53@gmail.com

920 207-6007

4th Degree Western District Exemplification

The Western District Fourth Degree will hold a live face to face Degree on May 15, 2021. The Degree will be held at St Patrick's Catholic School Gym in Onalaska, Wisconsin starting at 1 pm. There will be no banquet at this Degree, just the exemplification. If Covid 19 takes a turn for the worse we will do this Degree virtually. The Honoree for this Degree is Curtis Noll. Let's make this Degree a huge success. More information will follow.

Dan Hull
Master of the Western District



General Agent Message

Dear State Family and Brother Knights,

Hoping against hope, that your Easter season has found you looking toward spring with fresh eyes. I also love this time of year when leaves are coming on and the Lord has Risen. From Judy and I, Happy Easter.

Time has now begun to look to the last quarter of the fraternal year and as we continue to look for ways to serve the church and our fellow members of the Knights of Columbus, we plan to grow the order with each of you as partners in this effort. The insurance division of the Knights in Wisconsin and the UP are still looking to add more quality Men to our team. The opportunity to serve and provide protection is still our priority to every family in our jurisdiction. It is in the last quarter that doing more Fraternal Benefits Nights will allow for councils to engage all their parish families and get them to sign up to learn about the products and services we provide to members. In addition, it will help to add more Families to our ranks to put more manhours into all the charity and unity projects that went undone during 2020. I wish you all great success is getting good turnouts of people needing to hear our message.

Speaking of messages during lent, the second reading on the 5th Friday in Lent spoke to something that most of us have heard at least once or twice. That Abraham was not given the Father of Nations due to the law but due to the faith he had in God our Father. It is said that Faith is what gives him the hope against hope in the promise of God. I would ask you all to know that our Heavenly Father has just as much promise for each of us that he had for Abraham. The plan he has for us, is just a faith promised as it was for Abraham and knowing that will make all the difference going forward in how we change our communities and revive the church in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Each month we track how we're doing in bringing in new members to the Knights of Columbus. But we should also track how many new activities we do that focuses on the young Fathers and Mothers in our parishes. Family is the base to our communities and parishes and with the right focus we can make the

charitable actives and the fraternal activities during this time so focused that we grow who we are and what is most important. Family was most important to Abraham and is should be for us as well.

Looking for projects that support our Priest during times of low attendance such as healing masses and month rosaries can make all the difference. Bring food to your Priest or sending a card of 'Thank You' can give them the boost that is always welcome. I received a couple of thank you cards in the last month from someone who lost the patriarch of their family and who was feeling blessed that the process of handling the paperwork went smoothly and, with our help, seamlessly. It really helps to hear good words of encouragement. So please know that I, thank both the young and old Brothers of Membership for the good works you do each week in your councils and parishes.

Vivat Jesus,

Tim Nowak, GA

Tim J. Nowak, FICF

General Agent

429 S. Commercial Street

Neenah, WI 54956

Office:1-920-462-4100

Mobile: 1-920-810-6188

FOR A CAREER OPPORTUNITY PLEASE VIEW;

<http://www.kofc.org/careers>



www.kofcwi.org

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

As we are closing in on the end of another fraternal year, it is time for all Councils to look at what if anything they have done to help Special Olympics. With the Covid pandemic it has been a very trying year for Local Special Olympics groups as well as our drive for Team Wisconsin 2022. Councils need to step up and help in anyway they can.

Our drive to raise \$125,000.00 to fund travel expenses for the Team Wis athletes to Orlando, Fl in 2022, is at about 75% of goal. I am trying to get total figures together and will have an accurate amount at convention. As of this writing on 3-24-2021, we have received \$93,987.04. We will also be getting another check from Supreme to add to this. It looks like we will need to raise another \$31,000.00 by convention 2022.

Hopefully the pandemic will lessen enough with people getting vaccinated, that we can resume a type of normalcy and get back to having fund raising activities. Please keep in your prayers our Special Athletes, that they may be able to have events again.

Happy Easter to all.

John Benisch

Special Olympics Coordinator

Training Opportunities

I want to wish all of you a Blessed Easter. He has Risen to Save All of Us. There are upcoming training sessions for the month of April with our Regional Training Director, Wisconsin's own Jon Olson. Please register for them, even if you can't make the initial webinar. They should be available afterwards for your viewing and education.

Council Growth

Dates: 4/6/21 at 7PM CDT

The presentation will help Fraternal leaders resolve to leave councils, parish, and community better than how they found it. Leaders should also learn how to develop a simple, specific, year-round plan in place for growing council membership, that involves participation from the whole council.

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4566055600013597198>

You are your programs

Dates: 4/12/21 at 7PM CDT

We will cover in this training how to understand the council's perception by fellow parishioners, particularly that of inactive members and future potential members.

Construct a council mission statement that reflects the council's vision and goals. Understand the Faith in Action program model and its four categories – Faith, Family, Community and Life. Identify the council's flagship program(s). Access the council's current program regimen and identify the current strengths and weaknesses among its program calendar. Develop a

calendar for the next 6-12 months that responds to the council's mission statement and addresses some of the council's strengths and weaknesses identified above.

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4787012357219847694>

Council Meetings

Date: 4/14/21 at 7PM CDT

Strong councils hold good meetings that members enjoy. This training shares the best practices for hosting such meetings. In addition to guidance on how to run a good meeting, this training also provides guidance and discussion on virtual meetings and the conduct of business by virtual means.

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/6409573760956835342>

Enhancing Member Experience

Dates: 4/19/21 at 7PM CDT

Understand what's meant by the terms membership experience and membership engagement and how the two terms are related. Successful council engagement leads to members having positive opinions about their membership. Learn the five steps in the engagement cycle and how they relate to one another, ultimately leading a member to go through them again. Discover tools that will help address deficiencies in your council's current member engagement as based on your council's engagement score.

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/5477537545300393998>

Delta Drive

Dates: 4/20/21 at 7PM CDT

Presentation will cover The Prospect landing page and interaction with the prospect. Come learn how to adapt the Delta drive Method to your council's next event

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/6265278252973960718>

There are many webinars and How to videos on the Supreme website. They are available for all members to view without logging in.

FRATERNAL WEBINARS & VIDEO RESOURCES

<http://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/our-webinars.html>

Join the staff of the Fraternal Mission Department as they discuss relevant topics for effective council operation, membership recruitment and conducting charitable outreach programs that engage council members.

FRATERNAL "How To" VIDEO LIBRARY

<https://www.kofc.org/en/videos/fraternal-training-library.html>

Most of these "How to" videos are 2- 8 minutes each, but are loaded with information. If you have not completed your Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity, please watch the "Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form# 1728) Training Video "and then submit the form.

- **Member Management / Member Billing**
 - Data Extract tool training

- Email Tool Training
- Setting up New Members During Billing Period
- Completing the Account adjustment for Transfer Form
- Entering Receipts
- Entering a Check number on the Vouchers
- First time Users – Setting Up
- Generating a Dues Assessment
- **Communications**
 - Navigating the “For Members” Webpages
 - Fraternal Leader Advisory
 - Email Tool Training
 - How to successfully Communicate with your Pastor
- **Council Operations**
 - Officers’ Planning Meeting
 - Council Meeting
 - Navigating the “For Members” Webpages
 - Fraternal Leader Advisory
 - Candidate Tab Training
 - Data Extract tool training
 - Email Tool Training

There are more videos on the Supreme website, and they are there to help you become a better Knight and Council. If there is anything I can assist you with, please email me with your request. Please include the words "Training" in your subject line. You can also call and LEAVE A MESSAGE or text me. Disregard my outgoing voice mail greeting.

I hope this helps in preparing you for the final stretch of our fraternal year. Please remember The Knights of Columbus is not just another service organization....It's our way of life. We help others and ourselves become better Catholics, Husbands, Fathers, and Community Members, while building friendships for a lifetime through acts of Charity Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Thank you and God bless,
 Chuck Rohr, Jr.
 Council Officer Training Coordinator: Wisconsin Jurisdiction

Ultrasound Project Update

- Did you know that Wisconsin KofCs have funded 45 ultrasound machines since the program started in 2010?
- Did you know that over 97% of abortion-oriented women who get an ultrasound at one of the more than 62 pregnancy resource centers located throughout Wisconsin CHOOSE LIFE?!
- As you know, raising funds in these times is extremely difficult, so we are casting the net into the deep and could really use your help! If your council has funds set aside for ultrasound projects, here is your chance to save hundreds, if not thousands of babies, from abortion in Wisconsin.

I know there are some councils out there who are positioned to donate big for a fundraiser like this. Pray about it. Lives depend on it. I believe that the future of our nation actually depends on it. We are in a negative fertility rate in the US at 1.78 births per woman of childbearing age.

Msgr Heim Council #15665
FS Mark Mandry
513 Lewis St
Burlington, WI 53105-1021
(262) 767-9288 (R)
(262) 492-3155 (C)
msmandry1127@gmail.com

If you have an **INDIVIDUAL DONOR** who wants a tax credit, they can send their donation through the WI KofC 501(C)(3). To ensure it goes to a specific ultrasound project, they **MUST** include the council number in the memo portion of the check (eg: #15665 ultrasound), otherwise it will go into the general ultrasound fund.

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc
Memo: (**#15665 Msgr Heim** Ultrasound)
4297 W Beltline Highway
Madison, WI 53711-3859

Once this ultrasound campaigns are funded, Wisconsin Knights of Columbus local councils and Supreme Council will have purchased 46 ultrasound machines for our precious Wisconsin babies! Vivat Jesus!

Through Christ,



Dan Miller
State Director
Culture of Life Committee
State Council – Knights of Columbus
Oconomowoc Council #2487
4th Degree Assembly #1304
Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org – 262-993-6262

Faith in Action – Family Programs

Hello Brother Knights!

February continues the great progress for the Family of the Month program. A quick summary is below but click on the Flocknote link below for all the details.

This is followed by information on the **Good Friday Family Promotion** program and an opportunity to go camping!



Family of the Month

Thank you again for an **amazing** month! All the details can be found in the Family Director Flocknote post <https://knightswisc.flocknote.com/FamilyDirector/note/11507159>. Check it out!

Supreme

Wisconsin is in 1st place in the order with 60 FOMs representing **12.3%** of all FOMs received by Supreme. The Supreme family of the month is the **Charles and Sylvia Lepinski Family** (Father Fiss Council 1547, District 44, Madison Diocese).

Diocese

Madison Diocese led with **85%** district participation and was the diocese with the most FOMs by submitting **20** families.

Here are the Diocesan Families of the Month. Read about them in Flocknote link above.

Green Bay	Dave and Gertrude Gritton	La Crosse	Jon and Shirley Daniels
Madison	Ashlee McGree	Milwaukee	Derek and Sarah Kalscheur
Superior	Jesus and Collette Caballero		

District

64% of the districts submitted at least one family. **Districts on Fire:** Five districts submitted three or four families and eleven districts submitted two families.

Council

There was **one** new council submitting a family of the month. Welcome **St. Mary Help of Christians Council 12709** from Sullivan.

March Family of the Month deadline is April 15.

Golden Family Councils

Golden Family Councils are those that submit a family of the month each month of the fraternal year starting in July and ending in the following June. There are **41** Golden Family Councils that submitted for the months of July through February. Thank you, councils, as you are demonstrating true leadership in this program.

Supreme News

41% of the family of the months were submitted using the new Online 10784 form! **Thank you!** Remember that **Supreme will stop accepting the 10668 FOM in July 2021.**

There is a problem with the online 10784 where the family summary is restricted to 250 characters. Supreme is aware of the problem and are in the process of fixing it but it may take until the end of the fraternal year.

Here is a link to the video on how to fill out the new **online** version of the 10784 form.

https://players.brightcove.net/802593642001/y6FLila0f_default/index.html?videoid=6196175376001.

After you fill out the online 10784, you will receive a PDF file that you can include in your council history books. **Please forward this PDF to forms@wikofc.com** so that your family can be considered for the Diocesan Family of the Month award.

Family Programs

Good Friday Family Promotion

This is a Supreme Family program that encourages families to attend the Good Friday mass on April 2nd. It is also an opportunity to educate parishes about the plight of Christians in the Holy Land.



- **Website** <https://www.kofc.org/goodfriday>
- **Guide Sheet** <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/good-friday-family-promotion/10611-good-friday-family-guidesheet.pdf>

Camping

Our Worthy District 46 Deputy **Paul Quigley** is inviting everyone to the 31st Annual Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Campout being held from June 25 – 27 in Wonewoc Wisconsin. **Reservations can be made by calling 608-464-3200.**



Please fill out the form by May 1st. To get the form, contact Paul at

- 608-393-1623
- 608-524-6711

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
State Family Coordinator

Tax Compliance for All Councils in The United States

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires the Supreme Council and each of its subordinate councils, assemblies, and chapters in the United States (referred to collectively as councils) to file an annual informational tax return (IRS Form 990, 990EZ, or 990N). For purposes of tax compliance, the Knights of Columbus encompasses not only the Supreme Council, but also its subordinate units. Accordingly, all councils in the United States may be recognized by the IRS as “fraternal lodges” for purposes of the tax exemption granted to fraternal benefit societies under Section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code. This means that revenues received by a council for fraternal, recreational, or charitable purposes are not subject to federal income tax. Although the filing requirement is relatively simple, many tax-exempt organizations in the United States have neglected to comply with it, resulting in the revocation of their tax-exempt status.

In order to be recognized as a tax-exempt entity under Section 501(c)(8), each council must provide its Employer Identification Number (EIN) to the Home Office Legal Department, which in turn will report the EIN to the IRS for inclusion in the Order’s group exemption listing. Thus, a council must do three things to comply with the IRS filing requirement: 1) obtain an EIN from the IRS; 2) register its EIN with the Home Office Legal Department; and, 3) file an annual return with the IRS.

Each council must meet all of these requirements. The IRS will accept a council’s annual return only if the council has a valid EIN that has been registered with Supreme.

Every year, the IRS sends Supreme a list of councils that are currently registered under our Group Exemption (the Master List). The Home Office Legal Department, working cooperatively with the IRS, manually maintains and updates the Master List by adding councils that have registered their EINs with Supreme. If a council complies with IRS rules by filing a return every year, it will remain on the Master List. If a council fails to file a return for three consecutive years, the IRS will remove that council from the Master List, which has the effect of revoking the tax-exempt status of that council.

In recent years, the IRS has been enforcing the group exemption rules more aggressively. Over the past few years, the Home Office Legal Department has worked closely with councils to help them fulfill their obligation to file timely and accurate tax returns with the IRS.

It is very important that all councils comply with the annual IRS filing requirements. Failure to comply with the IRS filing requirement will ultimately lead to the revocation of a council’s tax-exempt status. Those councils that have had their tax-exempt status revoked should apply for reinstatement as quickly as possible to avoid potential tax liabilities. From the date of the IRS revocation notice to the date of IRS reinstating the council’s tax-exempt status, the council will be considered a taxable entity and therefore liable for any taxes accrued during that period of time.

State officers, Grand Knights, and Financial Secretaries should carefully review the other entries in the Tax section of the Officers’ Desk Reference for more detailed information and instructions on council tax compliance. If you have additional questions or would like to obtain a reinstatement package, please contact the Home Office Legal Department via email at tax.ein@kofc.org.

*Unless otherwise expressly stated, the guidance set forth in the Officers’ Desk Reference does not constitute tax advice on which any individual member of the Knights of Columbus or any subordinate unit may rely in determining his or its obligations and liabilities under the revenue laws of any jurisdiction. Council and assembly officers are responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable tax laws and regulations and the accuracy of all returns filed with any taxing authority. To this end, we encourage all subordinate units to consult with a competent tax advisor if they have any questions or concerns about their obligations and liabilities under the revenue laws.



State Advocate, Paul Lang