

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

September 2021

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editor: SK John Huttenhoff



Principles

Unity and Patriotism—2 of our founding Principles of the Order are very timely for the current state of affairs. This month marks the 20th Anniversary of the September 11th attacks on our Nation. It's hard to fathom that this was already 20 years ago, but in the last few weeks we have been reminded of how quickly time has passed as well as HOW LONG 20 years is as we also had the official end of the war in Afghanistan. 20 years—some of our new members into our Order weren't even born in 2001! 20 years ago—as a Nation we stood united. Though

at times prior to this we were divided, immediately following the September 11th attacks as a nation we put differences aside as we all felt the pain of that day.

Fast forward to today where over the last year we once again faced a challenging time in our Nation's history with the pandemic. During this last year and a half though, instead of again being 'united' we are seeing growing times of division. 20 years ago Social Media had yet to come into the fold, so people relied on newspapers and nightly news to gain access to the information of the day around the globe. The internet wasn't common in all homes at that time, so many had to rely on these 2 mediums for receiving information and news. Nowadays we have wide-spread 'truths' and 'fake news' that bombard us on a daily basis. Where do we turn to find what is 'truth' and what is fake?

Maybe it's time we focus back on the 'truths' of what binds us together, united, as a Catholic family.

Truths: 1. Jesus was born 2. Jesus died for our sins 3. Jesus was resurrected and ascended into Heaven 4. Jesus will come again

As Catholics—we all share in our belief of these truths! No political division. No statements of who rightfully can receive the eucharist. This is the belief of our Church—and if we put aside our differences and stand in **UNITY** in the 'Eucharist' and the belief of what it represents we will once again witness the revival that is a focal point of our Bishops.

I have heard recently complaints that some Council meetings within our state have at times turned into political platforms for leaders to expound their opinions. Troubling when this happens from a pulpit, it's further troubling when it happens in our Council chambers! At times over the last year when our focus should be on helping others that are suffering—to focus on **CHARITY**—we have had some pursue selfish ideals.

It's time for us all to seek a similar revival back to the principles of our order—that of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism as our focal point of what we stand by as Knights of Columbus. We are all brothers—A **FRATERNITY**—and we all took the same oaths, so our differences need to be cast aside so that we can continue the good works of fulfilling our founder Blessed Michael J. McGivney's vision.

At this same time, in reviewing the responses from our recent COVID Recovery Plan survey, I found some councils frustrated and angered by their Priests and Bishops response to the pandemic of the past

2 years. Instead of growing frustrated, why would we not try to 'UNITE' with our Parish and Diocesan leaders to try and ease the burden and 'WELCOME' people back to the Parish?

It's been 20 years since the attacks on September 11th, 2001, but so quickly it seems that we have once again grown divided as a Country. Imagine what our Parishes and our Catholic Church will look like in 20 years from now if we further sow seeds of Division?

We have already experienced troubling times of declining mass attendance and having our young Catholics move away from the Church. Instead of continuing to worry of the past or further push people away with 'opinions' or 'political viewpoints'—why would we not 'invite' back all to share in the wonder of the Eucharist?

My hopes for councils in this new fraternal year is that we work to put a stop to division within our Parishes and our Councils—to truly live out one of the original messages from the Knights of Columbus during the World War II era—'EVERYBODY WELCOME, EVERYTHING FREE.' This includes the freedom to have different opinions but at the end of the day to not allow those differences to interfere in our UNITY AS A CHARITABLE FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION!

Corey Christopher Coonen
State Deputy



Octoberblest

Every September there is a German tradition of entering into the month of October with a days long celebration called Oktoberfest. and this September I am hoping to establish a tradition with the Knights of Columbus that piggybacks off that German tradition called Octoberblest. This will be a days long pilgrimage along the Wisconsin Way (a pilgrimage covering the three main shrines in WI.). The idea is to celebrate what we have here in Wisconsin and promote the Rosary. As we should know, the month of the Rosary is October and Blessings will flow from its prayerful recitation as we make pilgrimage.

Starting from the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion WI. on the evening of Sept. 29th myself and a core group of Knights will begin our Octoberblest Pilgrimage. The next day, Sept. 30th, we will make our way to Holy Hill, the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians. On the third day, Oct. 1st, we will make our way to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse WI. Each day will have stops along the way and each evening we will have a Rosary and Mass. I want to encourage Knights who will be close to our stops along the way to join us. This will be an opportunity to pray together for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Her Son so He will open us up to His graces to bring healing and transformation to our culture. More information will be presented to councils as we establish the stops along the way. If you are interested in joining in you can contact me by email with any questions. (andrewpakurz@yahoo.com).

Pray with Mary, walk with Jesus!

Sincerely,

Fr. Andrew J. Kurz

Knights of Columbus, Wisconsin State Chaplain



Brother Knights,

First off, wanted to thank you for paying your most recent Per Capita assessment. There are a still a few council assessments hanging out there. If you still owe or think you do, please resolve this immediately. Any questions, feel free to reach out to me.

While on the subject of Per Capita, the October assessment will be coming in October. The state **Will BE EMAILING** the October assessment. It will be coming from the email address from our QuickBooks Account which is:

quickbooks@notification.intuit.com. If you are the Financial Secretary of your council, please watch for this email. Lastly, be advised, per council bylaws

approval is not needed by the council to pay Per Capita.

With regards to the Charity Raffle Rebate distribution, District Deputies will be receiving these checks at the September Diocesan Huddle. District deputies will be asked to distribute these checks along with other important items from this meeting.

Tootsie Roll drives are just ending, and the money is due on 31 August. Once the totals compiled, we will determine when check distribution will happen.

Vivat Jesus!

Miles Casey

State Treasurer

District Deputies Needed

We still have a few Districts in Need of a District Deputy. This truly is one of the most rewarding positions within the Knights of Columbus. District Deputies visit each of the Councils within their District Quarterly, Attend District Deputy Meetings in June and December, attend the State Convention, and Diocesan Huddle, and host District Meetings in July and December. Training and support are provided. If you are interested in being a District Deputy, please reach out to State Deputy Corey Coonen or any of the State Officers for more information.

Districts currently in need of a District Deputy are: 1, 6, 13, 15, 20, 22, 29, 31, 40, 42, 44, 51, 85.

Reminder of Forms Due

- Form 185 – Report of Officers Chosen was due July 1 – Submit using Member Management – Send a copy to forms@wikofc.com
 - Form 365 – Service Program Personnel Report was Due August 1 – Submit using Member Management – Send a copy to forms@wikofc.com
 - Council Charity Grant was due May 1 – Blank forms on State Website – Submit to forms@wikofc.com
 - Form 1295-1 – Semiannual Council Audit is Due August 15 – Submit to council.accounts@kofc.org and send a copy to forms@wikofc.com
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Official Notice

District Deputy Huddles

District Deputy Huddles will be held in September to provide updates to the District Deputies on Programs and for the District Deputies to provide updates to the State Officers on the Status of Councils in their Districts. Discussions on progress towards Covid Recovery Plans and Membership Plans will also occur. State Directories, Lifesavers for Life, and Charity Raffle Tickets will also be Distributed to the District Deputies for the Councils in their Districts. Councils should work with the District Deputies to arrange for pickup/delivery of these materials following these meetings.

District Deputy Huddles will be held at the following Dates, Times, and Locations:

Saturday, September 11th: Rice Lake Clubhouse (Superior Diocese)

Saturday, September 11th: Tomah Clubhouse (LaCrosse Diocese)

Saturday, September 11th: St. John, Little Chute (Green Bay Diocese)

Saturday, September 18th: Menomonee Falls Clubhouse (Milwaukee ArchDiocese)

Saturday, September 18th: State Office (Madison)

Winter District Meetings/Diocesan Meetings

In December, we will be holding Diocesan Meetings in place of the traditional Winter District Meetings. These meetings are being scheduled early in December to avoid Holiday conflicts. All Councils should make plans now to have their Grand Knight, Membership Director, Program Director, and Financial Secretary attend the meeting for their Diocese. More details will follow at a later date, but for now, please put these dates on your Calendar. Meetings are scheduled as follows:

La Crosse/Madison – Sunday, December 5, 2021, 1:00-5:00 PM – Chula Vista Resort – Wisconsin Dells

Milwaukee/Green Bay – Saturday, December 11, 2021 – Fond du Lac

9:30-10:30: Adoration and confessions with State Chaplain

10:30-11:30: registration and cold brunch(ish)

11:30- 3:30 Diocesan/District Meeting-Membership, Programs, Training

4:00: Optional Parish Mass with Archbishop presiding

Superior – Sunday, December 12, 2021 – 10:00 Rice Lake

Membership

Council Membership Director



So, you have volunteered as your Council's Membership Director! Congratulations! You may be asking, 'Now what?' Working closely with your Grand Knight to grow your council, start by developing a team of recruiters to increase your council's membership.

The first thing would be to download Supreme Council' Membership Recruitment & Retention Manual'

https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/membership/membership_recruitment_6.pdf.

Next subscribe to our State Flocknote' Membership Corner' Group! It's easy for you to sign up – simply text **BROTHER** to 84576 or visit knightswisc.flocknote.com look for our 'State Membership Corner' Group. Doing both will get you off to a successful year!

Delta Church Drive

One of the simplest ways to recruit new members is using Supreme 'Delta Church Drive'. Learn how to do the Delta Church drive method. This highly effective growth process through communication will help you go from prospects to members and answer the why of growth. We talk about the difference between online membership and the online prospect form

Tuesday 9/7/21 at 6PM CDT (7PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/147341572446017808>

Diocesan Membership Coordinators

Holding councils accountable for recruitment and scheduling of exemplification is one of our primary goals this Fraternal year; your DMC is there to help and assist you; please give them your attention when they call. One of our goals is to have every council active (ECA) this year. ECA equates to recruiting at least one new member.

Would you please let your DMC know what actions you are taking to grow the Order. Thank you.

FY 2021-2022 DMC's

Green Bay Diocese

Chuck Rohr

La Crosse Diocese

Scott Frome

Madison Diocese

Doc Casey

Milwaukee ArchDiocese

Les Kostera

Superior Diocese

Mark Rasmussen

WISCAPITA

How are you doing?

Time is Running out!



This year's State Membership Incentive programs titled "WISCAPITA" give councils a chance to reduce or eliminate per-capita billing from the State Council. Here is how it works:

- **First Quarter** – if a council reaches and maintains their Supreme Membership Intake Quota by September 30, the State Council will waive 75% of the Council's October 1st billing and will have their April 1 per capita (4.25 a member) waived.
- **Second Quarter** – if a Council reaches and maintains their Supreme Membership Intake Quota by December 31, their April 1 per capita will be waived.

*Jack Wrbanich, IPSD
State Membership Director
wrbanich@att.net
(920) 246-4281*

4th Degree Eastern District Exemplification

Dear Brother Knights;

A most cordial invitation is extended to every third-degree member of our order to advance to the Fourth Degree in the Knights of Columbus.

The Fourth Degree is very proud of it's many accomplishments since it's founding in 1900. The ceremonials of the Fourth Degree were orchestrated on the theme of Patriotism and Catholic Citizenship and remain so today.

The Honor Guard, the most visible part of our Order, is extremely proud of it's contribution to Patriotism and support of the Church.

To qualify; a candidate must be a Third-Degree member of the Knights of Columbus in good standing.

The Eastern Wisconsin District Exemplification will be **Saturday October 9, 2021** at St. Dominic Catholic Church, 2133 N. 22nd Street, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

Enclosed is the Registration Form, information on the Ladies Program and Banquet.

The Honoree's for the Exemplification are Fr. Mark Brandl and Fr. Norberto Sandoval of the Sheboygan Northside Tri-Parish.

Please encourage your Council brothers to become Fourth Degree Knights and help us continue our efforts to support our Church, Bishops, Clergy and our current and past military members.

Fraternally,

James L. TenPas
Wisconsin Eastern District Master
1004 N 49th Street
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-207-6007
jamestenpas53@gmail.com

Masks are optional, but may change depending on any restrictions within the Archdiocese



Ladies Program Saturday October 9, 2021

The ladies are invited to attend the Ladies Program, while the men are participating in the Exemplification. Ladies, please join us in getting together with Lady Beth and our Knights in a relaxing, fun filled couple of hours.

The program will be held in the Thomas Aquinas room, immediately following a joint luncheon and short program. The Luncheon will be at 12:30 PM. The cost is \$20. A great lady's program is being planned. A gift basket raffle will be held with the proceeds going to the Knights to help support our ladies and the cost of the day. We plan to have many nice gift baskets and raffles. We also ask anyone who wishes to donate a gift basket for the raffle to notify Beth TenPas by October 1 (see below). The gift should be in the range of \$20 - 25, and should be something that you would like to receive. It can be for a man or woman.

The attire for the luncheon will be Business Casual, or dressier, if you prefer. Please do not come dressed in blue jeans, shorts, or inappropriate clothing.

Registration for the Ladies Luncheon should be included with the Degree Registration forms, that are then turned into the Assembly Comptroller. Registration deadline is September 27th, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Beth TenPas at 920 207-0907 or email sapnet56@gmail.com or James TenPas at 920 207-6007 or email jamestenpas53@gmail.com

Exemplification

Saturday October 9, 2021
St Dominic Catholic Church
2133 N. 22nd Street

Registration:

Candidate - \$70.00
Priest - \$35.00
Lunch - \$20.00

Sheboygan, WI 53081

Exemplification Honorees:

Sir Knight Fr. Mark Brandl
Sir Knight Fr. Norberto Sandoval
From the Northside Sheboygan Tri-Parish

Schedule

9:00 AM	Degree Team and Color Guard Practice	Location
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Registration	Gathering Space
11:30 AM	Luncheon	P.A.C.
1:00 PM	Dressing Room – Candidates	P.A.C.
1:00 PM	Ladies Program	Thomas Aquinas
1:15 PM	Master Meets with Candidates	Gathering Space
1:15 PM	Honor Guard Inspection	Gathering Space
1:30 PM	Exemplification	Church
4:00 PM	Priest’s Preparation for Mass	Sacristy
5:00 PM	Holy Sacrament of the Mass	Church

Exemplification Dress – Black or dark (Blue or Grey) Business Suit with black socks, black shoes, tie or if preferred a black tux with black bow tie, black cummerbund (NO VEST), black footwear, or Fourth Degree Uniform.

See the State Website for Updates and Registration Forms

4th Degree Western District Exemplification

The next Wisconsin Western District Exemplification will be on October 23, 2021 in Wisconsin Rapids. This will be an in-person Exemplification.

St. Vincent DePaul – Wisconsin Rapids
Registration 10:00
Banquet 11:15
Degree 1:30
Candidates \$75
Priests \$50

Packets with additional information will be sent to Western District Assemblies in the next few weeks. Thank you and God Bless.

If you have any question, please contact me.

Dan Hull, PSD

Western District Master

Yellowbear1117@gmail.com

Safe Environment



Brother Knights,

As your State Advocate one of my duties is to ensure that the Safe Environment training is completed. My first step was to note that about 5 dozen knights had not completed the training. I sent reminders out to all of those that were due by mid-September. Fortunately, I have heard back from many knights that they will complete the training by the due date.

In addition to that there are over 60 councils who have not submitted their forms 185 and/or form 365. Needless to say, that means we have probably 150 or more knights who need to get the training completed. I have started sending reminders to those councils and will have that completed in the next few days.

In our upcoming DD huddle, we need to stress the importance to our District Deputies of getting these forms submitted. If we do not know who needs the training it is certainly difficult to ensure that they complete it.

The Safe Environment training is critical in our mission to ensure that those we serve are not put into jeopardy. Not only that but we also need to protect ourselves to ensure that we do not create an environment where issues might occur.

Please take the time to ensure that your councils complete their forms and complete the training that is required.

Vivat Jesus!

Don Schoenherr

Worthy State Advocate



Online Membership

There is a new membership class within the Knights of Columbus. It only exists within the ranks of the jurisdictional at-large online membership. It is called an Affiliate Member. Supreme has implemented this program over the last year and a half beginning with a trial program similar to online membership a few years ago. It is now under full implementation. 'On-boarding' of these members is underway.

What does this mean? To put it rather succinctly, when a member is suspended from a council for, let's say, 'non-payment', he no longer is removed from the membership rolls but is transferred into the state's at-large membership. This was fully implemented in February, but we are now seeing its effects. Just this last week we had an increase of 27 Affiliate members, all from one council.

While Supreme is forgiving council per capita payments and the state is offering incentives to reduce or eliminate per capita, councils are continuing to suspend their members for non-payment of dues. WHY? The at-large membership in Wisconsin grew from 214 to 291 just this last month primarily with Affiliate members.

Current e-membership in the state stands at:

CLASS	08-24-2021	08-01-2021
ASSOCIATE	225	164
INSURANCE	55	39
INACTIVE	11	11
HONORARY	6	2
HONORARY LIFE	1	2
AFFILIATE	105	27
EXEMPT	2	2
ASSIGNED	113	111
UNASSIGNED	2	1
TOTAL	291	214

State Online Membership Coordinator

William G. Hitt

www.kofc.org/joinus



Programs

Brothers,

As we head into September, a quarter of the way into our Fraternal Year, there's much to be done with school beginning, fall programming to be done, planning for winter activities, all the while battling the Delta COVID variant! Be sure that you are connecting with your Diocesan Program Coordinator, as well as your Diocesan Membership Coordinator every month. The DPCs are: James Vosters (Green Bay), Gary Wolf (La Crosse), Bill Paar (Madison), Dave Sytkowski (Milwaukee) and Mike Frase (Superior). You should also be paying close attention to the Fraternal Leaders Advisory that comes out from Supreme on a bi-weekly basis. It should be coming to all Council leaders on the 185 and 365 forms – a tremendously valuable tool! In addition, you should be signing up for the virtual training sessions (Delta Drive, Enhancing Membership Experience, Council Growth, Council Recovery Project, Council Meetings, and You Are Your Programs) in September hosted by our Regional Training Director

Jon Olson. If you're not receiving the Flocknote with the links to sign up for those sessions, contact jon or State Training Coordinators Chuck Rohr or Rick Raulin for more information.

Continue to plan and operate programs that both meet the priorities and needs of your pastor and parish as well as those Faith in Action, Leave No Neighbor Behind and State programs that you can manage. No matter what you do, use every program as a recruiting opportunity, whether it's a Church Drive, Information or Fraternal Benefits Night, a breakfast or dinner, or a Holy Hour or PPK contest. Have literature and handouts there; informed Brothers who can answer questions or invite guys to consider joining involving parents and parishioners in the cooking, serving or praying, etc. Reminder that the Diocesan PPK and fall Soccer Contests will be held from October 9-23 if sufficient numbers in a Diocese warrant holding the contest. Otherwise, DPCs will send council winners on to the State Contest. Check with your DPC for details. Forward all Council winners, alternates, their scores and contact information to your DPC. Travel cards can be obtained from DDs, DPCs, State Office or me. The State PPK and fall Soccer Finals are slated for Regis High School in Eau Claire on October 30.

I would recommend that every Council plan to do at least 1 major program in September and October (larger Councils do 2) that are Faith in Action- or Leave No Neighbor Behind-based. I'd suggest RSVP or Holy Hour/Rosary Program (Faith), Family of the Month or Family Prayer Night (Family), Catholic Citizenship or Culture of Life Essay Contest or PPK/Soccer Challenge (Community), Pregnancy Center Support or LifeSavers for Life/Baby Bottles program (Life). You can also do a Blood Drive or Get Catholics Back to Mass/Support the Pastor program (LNNB). You also have the usual October Church Drives or other membership programs, with the Information Nights and Knighthood Exemplifications. Strive for a parish or District Drive (in-person Exemp). You can also register candidates for the State Virtual Knighthood Exemp or September 8, September 29, October 11. Check the State website or with PSD Jack Wrbanich for details as well as for information on present incentives for Councils. The Supreme Virtual Knighthood Exemp continues to be available on demand. See the Supreme website for details.

Finally on the larger range, it's time to be planning your November-January programming, ordering supplies needed, securing dates and sites. You should be arranging for Sentiments for Seminarians, Keep Christ in Christmas signs, poster contest information, Consecration to the Holy Family (December 26), March for Life, Special Olympics, Free Throw Contest supplies, etc. Coats for Kids needs to be arranged. We are especially looking for sites in need of Coats for Kids in need (esp. minorities); Councils/Districts can work together and also share in the coats supplied by State/Supreme. If you have ideas for where or how those can be distributed, contact your State Officer in Charge of your Diocese (Jack Wrbanich –

Green Bay, Miles Casey – La Crosse, John Huttenhoff – Madison, Mike Tennies – Milwaukee, Don Schoenherr – Superior) or your DPC. Many other programs, relevant to your parish, Council, community can also be done in the November-January time frame. You'll receive more information from the September DD Huddles and December Diocesan Tour.

Have a great September and Keep the Faith! Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally,
Bill Frayer
State Program Director

Charity Raffle Committee

The financial results are in for last years raffle sales here are some highlights:

- ***16,826 more tickets sold this year.
- *** with donations, net income \$84,132 higher than last year
- ***Local councils getting back over \$2.58 per ticket sold
- ***Over \$300,000 going to local councils charity funds
- ***\$30,000 available for immediate payouts to fire victims
- ***More than \$175,000 available for state grant applications
- ***Grand prize winner was a retired Priest

Proof once again of the saying “He will provide”. We can all be grateful for the rewards provided for our efforts. Now we have to get those funds into the hands of the families in need. Know of a family with a sudden life crisis? First, bring it to your local council for consideration, then print off a copy of the “State Charity Grant Application” from the state website, use that form to interview the family to hear their story. Based on the reports I have heard, no matter how large the payout of the grant to the family, you will receive the greatest satisfaction.

Your raffle charity committee members have already started on this years raffle. All the tickets and posters have been printed and divided into packets for each councils. These packets will be delivered to the district deputies in September ready for your members. Meet your Committee members:

From the Superior Diocese - Dennis & Doris Berends
From the La Crosse Diocese - Dan & Joan Spencer
From the Green Bay Diocese - Jeff & Lily Janssen
From the Madison Diocese - Robert & Colleen Pizur
From the Milwaukee Diocese - Jim & Beth Ten Pas

God Bless
Bernie Heit
Charity Director

Communications the Key to Accountability

I recently attended our Associate Regional Growth & Training Director (ARGTD) Jon Olson webinars, where he told a story about four Knights named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

The story goes: "There was an important job to be done, and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. So it ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.

The story may be confusing, but the message is clear: no one took responsibility, so nothing got accomplished.

It's a story that plays out often in our councils, parishes, and on our teams - anywhere there is a culture that lacks accountability.

Biblical accountability begins with taking responsibility for one's actions and making a conscious choice to allow God and others to help accomplish what is right. Accountable to God Asking God for protection was a sign of dependence on God and accountability to him.

One aspect of organizational accountability begins with communications. Council leaders and members who don't know what is going on will have difficulty attending programs and events and participating in your council's good works. It's important to note there are many ways to communicate – phone, email, social media, text. I will leave that for another article.

Suffice to say, receiving and disseminating information from our State and Supreme Council will ensure Council Leaders and members receive up-to-date information. So, whether it's signing up for State Council Flocknote messages or receiving Knightline from Supreme, how can you be accountable to your member??

To sign up for State Council Flocknote messages, you can text **BROTHER** to **84576** on your cell phone. On your computer or pad, type <http://flocknote.com/knightswisc>. There is no charge, and you can discontinue at any time. Procedures have been added to prevent spying and "hacking" information.

Supreme sends out 'The Fraternal Leader Advisory' monthly it is sent to all state deputies, state and council membership directors, state and council program directors, state and council faith, family, community and life directors, executive secretaries, district deputies, grand knights and financial secretaries to help them keep current on the Order's objectives. If you are not already receiving this valuable information, [Subscribe to the Fraternal Leader Advisory](#).

Other highly suggested communication resources include Chaplains report, **Knightline** and of course Columbia Magazine, check them out today at <https://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/fraternal-leader-advisory/index.html>

If you have any questions about Public Relations, communications, social media, please send me an email, I would be happy to help you out.

Jack Wrbanich, IPSD

Proverbs 27:17

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.



General Agent Message

Worthy State Family and
Members of the Knights of
Columbus, Wisconsin, and
Upper Michigan,



This month's newsletter hits right at the beginning of the 22nd week in Ordinary Time, The second reading on Sunday from the Letter of Saint James always reminds me why I am a Knight with the Knights of Columbus. First St. James invites of to be Doers of the word, not just hearers. He defines our Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father as this: *to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.* Wow did Blessed Father McGivney's vision come out loud and clear to us this week. With only 12 weeks left in Ordinary time, what charities can we do to help the orphans and widows in your neighborhood and mine? What activities can we participate in these few weeks we have left to make the most of this call from St. James? We must invite more men to join the Knights so that our work will have a greater impact on those in need. We will also have a better chance to protect those new families as well.

We will be having a statewide Fraternal Event on October 5th. We will have a Nationally Known guest speaker at that time to discuss all the ways the benefits with the Knights can help our mission and the protection of our families. I am working to have four live events this year that are statewide live events. I am in discussion with one of our Bishops to be our guest to talk about where he sees the value of the Knights and our benefits today and in the future. I will have two other events but encourage our councils to engage the Field Agents and have them do parish wide events with you as well. We continue to look for new ways to invite all parishioners to the event and recruit even more to the order.

We are continuing to need more Field Agents to join in this mission. Right now would be a great time for you to mention to someone you know who may be looking at wanting to have a career that allows them to live their faith more fully and protect our Knights families across the great state of Wisconsin and the UP of Michigan. We have been, and still are, a great place to combine your faith and action in serving your brother Knights. The Knights of Columbus Insurance one of the Highest rated insurers in North American and contributes to the greater good in these United States. Please tell others about this wonderful opportunity and pray that we find good and holy men to serve along side your council for the success of protection and service. We believe that the Knights can help, protect, grow, and give more to your families today and with your legacy for many tomorrows to come.

Vivat Jesus!

Tim Nowak, GA

PS, Make the next 12 weeks anything but Ordinary!!!

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

Culture of Life Happenings

- **March for Life Wisconsin!**
 - Saturday, October 2, 2021
 - State Capitol – State Street steps
 - Noon start. End at Planned Parenthood by 3pm
 - KofC signs available at State Office
 - <https://www.prolifewi.org/marchforlife>

Saints Peter & Paul Council #10552's ultrasound is going to St. Gianna Clinic in Green Bay. Council #10552 has asked that you write the check out to Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. in Madison – BUT PLEASE EARMARK IT FOR COUNCIL #10552 ON THE MEMO LINE!

Saints Peter & Paul Council #10552
FS Michael Bors
c/o Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc.
42697 W Beltline Hwy
Madison, WI 53711-3859
mikebors@icloud.com
920-639-2636 (C)

If you have an **INDIVIDUAL DONOR** who wants a tax deduction, 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: (**#10552 ultrasound**)
4297 W Beltline Highway
Madison, WI 53711-3859

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

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

As we are going into our final 8 months of our drive to fund the travel expenses of Team Wisconsin athletes to the National games in Orlando, FL in June 2022, I ask that all Councils make an effort to help financially. The goal of this drive is \$125,000.00 which needs to be collected before the Wis K of C Convention in 2022. At the time of this writing, we have received \$94,771.28, leaving us to raise another \$30,228.72.

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. I hope that many Councils have remembered this drive in their Tootsie Roll Drive. When you receive your check, please send any checks made out to Wis K of C Charities, Wis state council, or Special Olympics to me for recording. I will process and get to the appropriate places for deposit.

John Benisch
Wis KC Special Olympics Coordinator
4645 State Hwy 80
Pittsville, WI 54466

A thank You to Prescott Council #7342 for donation of \$275.00, and to Reedsburg Council for Brat stand profits of \$1289.59.

Please keep our Special Olympics athletes in your prayers.

John Benisch
Special Olympics Coordinator

Here are a few ideas for helping Special Olympics. There are a number of events where they are in need of volunteers to help run the programs. Council members can help out at these events.

Sept 12th, Southern State Golf, Columbus, Contact Nicole 608-442-5670

Oct 23rd, Unified Bowling, Bowl-A-Vard Madison, Contact Nicole 608-442-5670

Nov 6th, State Volleyball, Menomonee Falls, Contact Amber 262-518-2314

Dec 5th, Northern State Bowling, Weston Dales Lanes, Contact Michaela 715-207-9696

Dec 5th Southern State Bowling, Wauwatosa, Contact Hailey hfischer@specialolympicswisconsin.org

God Bless
John Benisch
Wis KC Special Olympics Coordinator

ID Update

I am happy to be renamed the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities Program. It was a position I held from 2013-2019, and as I told State Deputy Corey it is the job which makes me most proud to be a Knight.

September brings opportunities to the Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities Program. We have closed the books on the 2021 Drive which allows Councils who turned in checks and forms to be able to return funds to organizations in their community who assist those with intellectual disabilities. Closing the books also allows Councils who didn't participate the last two years to begin fresh with this awesome program. We are hoping to begin building the ID Program back to the most recognizable Knights of Columbus Program in the State of Wisconsin and we will do it! 2021 collection was a 42% increase over 2020 and if we can make another step of 40-50% increase we will be back!

How do we come together to bring this program back to the record setting collection amounts we were able to obtain each year?

Run the program in your community!

Sound too simple but it really is that simple. People in all towns of all religions, races, sexes, and political affiliations, believe in assisting people with intellectual disabilities.

An easy benchmark to see if your council is doing as well as other councils is to aim for \$20 per member which has been the state average in the 2010s. If your council hasn't run the program for years and have struggled? Aim for \$10.

Still have Tootsie Rolls in your possession? Sell a box or an entire case to local business or council members. The candy is easy to get rid of for Trick or Treating. Try to conduct your 2022 ID Drive with new softer candy. Plus, if you sell your candy for a bit more than you have in it you have a jump on next year's collection.

Thank you for all you all do for the Order

Mark Jelinek
WI KC ID Director

Supreme Training Update

Below are the trainings being offered in September along with the Registration links.

Delta Drive

Come learn how to do the Delta Church drive method. This highly effective process of growth through communication will help you go from prospects to members and answer the why of growth. We talk about the difference between online membership and the online prospect form

Tuesday 9/7/21 at 6PM CDT (7PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/147341572446017808>

Enhancing Member Experience

We will cover in this training

Understand what's meant by the terms membership experience and membership engagement and how the two terms are related.

Complete the Council Engagement Assessment to assess their council's strengths and weaknesses with regards to member engagement.

Understand that member engagement is the council's responsibility. 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.

Understand that retention issues result when a council has failed to engage a member and show the value of his membership. These issues can be overcome by discovering where this breakdown occurred.



Wednesday 9/1/21 at 6PM CDT (7PM EDT)

Monday 9/13/21 at 8PM CDT (9PM EDT)

Tuesday 9/28/21 at 6PM (7PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/1658658787731500814>

Council Growth

The presentation will help Fraternal leaders resolve to leave councils, parish, and community better than how they found it. Leader 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. Attendees should commit to work with their pastor(s), field agent, and DD to accomplish their goals. Leaders should understand the importance of hosting regular ceremonials, incorporating recruitment into every event, and running membership drives



Wednesday 9/8/21 at 6PM (7PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/5080526989858920974>

Council Recovery Project

We all know that this past year has been very different and also very challenging. As Catholics, many of us have had our churches shut down for a prolonged period of time with limited opportunities to receive the sacraments. And as Knights, it's been tough to keep up the fraternity and friendships. Also, our fundraisers and events have been affected in great ways too. Some of our councils have found ways to adapt and adjust but that hasn't always been the case everywhere. This training will help organize and direct councils on what steps can help be more effective in you parish and community as we continue to have restrictions eased in our areas

Tuesday 9/14/21 at 6PM CDT (7PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/371342877351698447>

Council Meetings

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.

Wednesday 9/15/21 at 6PM (7 PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/1976379165253693711>

You are Your Programs

We will cover in this training

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. u 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.

Understand the Program Director's role in leading the council's programming efforts.

Monday 9/27/21 at 6PM (7PM EDT)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/3326093460024725008>

Faith in Action – Family Programs

Hello Brother Knights!

June 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.



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/13226623>. Check it out!

Supreme

Supreme is having issues as there were 40 FOM created on the Supreme website but Supreme is only reporting 21. Total FOMs order-wide are down 52%. Due to this, Wisconsin is in 2nd place in the order. Wisconsin represents **12.1%** of all FOMs received by Supreme. The Supreme family of the month is the **Deacon Gib and Sis Schmidt Family** (St. Bernadette Council 12269, District 15, Green Bay Diocese).

Diocese

Green Bay Diocese led with **67%** district participation with Green Bay Diocese having the most FOMs by submitting **14** families.

Here are the Diocesan Families of the Month.

Green Bay	Deacon Gig and Sis Schmidt	La Crosse	Michael and Wendy Buchman
Madison	Steve Ottelien and Cheryl McCollum	Milwaukee	Robert and Roxanne Baumann
Superior	Chris and Annie Rudd		

District

59% of the districts submitted at least one family. **Districts on Fire:** Two districts submitted three or four families and seven districts submitted two families.

Council

There was one new council submitting a family of the Month.

- **South Milwaukee Council 1709, District 65, Milwaukee Diocese**

August Family of the Month deadline is September 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 44 Golden Family Councils that submitted families for the fraternal year so far. Thank you, councils, as you are demonstrating true leadership in this program.

Supreme News

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://site-842560.bcvp0rtal.com/detail/videos/forms_/video/6222163148001/fraternal-programs-report-form-10784-training-video?autoStart=true

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.

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
