



A Knight's View

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council
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August 2020

Volume 4, issue 2

State Council News

The RI State Organizational Meeting was held on July 18th via a combination in-person/streaming event. The many changes & challenges due to COVID19 were addressed. And, in a first (at least in recent times), the Installation of State Officers and District Deputies was held at the same event. Congratulations and thank you to all who were installed for your willingness to serve. Contact information for these Brothers and Directors, staff and Patriotic Degree personnel can be found at the end of this newsletter.

N.B. – there are numerous subcommittee chairmen who also serve to strengthen the order. Their contact information can be found on the State Website (kofcri.org) under the *Faith-In Action* Directors (Service Program personnel).

We also thank those who have served in the past and chose to move on to other roles.

Supreme Awards

Congratulations to the following Councils from the Jurisdiction of RI for earning Supreme Awards:

Overview

- 14 Councils Reached their reduced Membership Quota
- 7 reached their original Membership Growth Quota
- 24 Councils Achieved the Insurance Requirements
- 4 Councils achieved their Insurance Growth Quota
- 4 Districts Achieved Star District



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McGivney Award (membership growth)

St. Augustine Council #10557 – 350%
Lincoln Council #4005 – 300%
St. Thomas (Prov) Council #11684 – 300%
Woonsocket Council #113 – 229%
Narragansett Council #21 – 188%
Dillon Council #3563 – 183%
Pope Pius Council #5295 – 180%
Delaney-St. Teresa Council #57 – 129%
St. Anthony Council #181 – 100%
Sullivan Council #2700 – 100%
PC/Friar Council #5787 – 100%
St. John Vianney Council #12312 - 100%
St. Gregory the Great Council #12821 – 100%
St. Luke Council #16053 – 100%

Founders Award (Fraternal Benefits)

Councils Participating in Fraternal Benefit Nights

57, 113, 181, 322, 383, 1472, 1528, 3547, 3563, 3623, 4005, 5273, 5702, 5787, 7238, 10557, 11087, 11684, 12312, 12613, 14417

Councils Achieving Insurance Growth

Pope Pius Council 5295 – 150%
(Achieved Original Quota)

Bristol Council 379 – 100%

St. Francis Council 2011 – 100%

St. Augustine Council 10557 – 100%

Star Council Status

Delaney-St. Teresa Council #57

Woonsocket Council #113

Dillon Council #3563



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Lincoln Council #4005

Pope Pius Council #5295

PC/Friar Council #5787

St. Augustine Council #10557

St. Thomas (Prov) Council #11684

St. John Vianney Council #12312

Star District Status

D1 – Al Nunes

100% Membership

Full Fraternal Benefit Compliance

D2 – Peter Lentini, PSD

153% Membership

Fraternal Benefit Compliance

D3 – Bob Moniz

130% Membership

100% Insurance

D10 – Jack Tracy

146% Membership

Full Fraternal Benefit Compliance

News from Supreme

A message from the Supreme Knight

Brother Knights:

We are all aware of the troubling events that are occurring today, including attacks on statues of historical figures such as Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and our Order's namesake, Christopher Columbus. Statues of saints have also been vandalized, including those honoring St. Junípero Serra, St. Louis and even the Blessed Virgin Mary, and houses of worship and other religious symbols have been attacked. These are not merely attacks on statues and history. They are increasingly attacks on Catholics and people of faith.



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In the late 19th century, the Knights of Columbus took its name at a time of intense anti-Catholicism. Our founding members wanted to show that Catholics played an essential role in the exploration and development of America since its earliest days, and that a Catholic could be both a good citizen and a good Catholic.

However, anti-Catholicism persisted. In the 1920s, the Ku Klux Klan tried to stop Columbus Day celebrations and opposed Columbus statues simply because Columbus was a Catholic. We opposed the KKK then and have continued to stand up against bigotry directed at Catholics and others.

We stood up against the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s, spoke out for the Jews of Germany in the 1930s and worked for religious freedom behind the Iron Curtain during the

Cold War. Today, we are rebuilding Christian communities in the Middle East that were targeted for genocide. Each of us can be proud of our history of standing up for the most vulnerable among us.

While our faith calls us to be respectful of different perspectives, acts of vandalism are crimes against all who cherish democracy and mutual respect. The Knights of Columbus remains firm in its condemnation of all forms of racism and violence, including political violence. With churches, statues, and religious symbols subject to vandalism and attack, we call upon elected officials and leaders at every level to defend the religious freedom of all.

Vivat Jesus!

Carl A. Anderson

Supreme Knight



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Installations

As our Councils contemplate their Installation of Officers, two things need to be considered: 1] We need to account for governmentally imposed gathering restrictions and 2] we need to consider the comfort level of our members vis-à-vis social gatherings. Live Installations are always more festive and meaningful, but for those who would prefer a virtual Installation, Supreme has issued guidelines for remote installations. Check with your DD.

Awards Criteria

Supreme has adjusted the criteria for the Annual Awards (M^cGivney, Founder's, Columbian) for this Fraternal Year (& going forward if it is successful). The formula for determining the Membership Goal (M^cGivney) has been adjusted to lower the goal for

each Council [to 5% of membership, new minimum is 3, new maximum is 20]. The Fraternal Benefits (Founder's) goal has been changed to allow for attendance at 2 Fraternal Benefits nights. And, Programs (Columbian) have been tweaked. The concept of "Required" programs has been dismissed and the number of "Featured" Programs has been expanded to 4 in each of the 4 *Faith-In-Action* categories. Completing a Featured program in the way Supreme outlines will earn your Council 2 credits on your SP-7 (Columbian Award) application. The Council may still earn 1 credit for the program even if you do not meet Supreme's delineated minimums. Your District Deputy can provide further guidance on these items.



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From the Membership Director

Brothers,

Welcome to another Fraternal Year!! As we work through these challenging times it is clear that our councils and our Brothers are needed more and more to help those in need.

It is even more clear that new Brothers are needed to help expand and run the programs that our councils currently have to assist those in need. Toward that end, Supreme is offering a

SPECIAL LIMITED TIME MEMBERSHIP PROMOTIONAL OFFER!:

New members are being offered FREE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP for their first year. The Supreme Council will pay the first-year dues for every man who joins online between now and August 5. Prospects simply need to

visit kofc.org/joinus and enter the code **MCGIVNEY2020** to take advantage of this special offer.

I am happy to report that we have had 4 new brothers join via this process. Let's keep the momentum going and help to grow our order. You have the ability to leverage the online exemplification to bring them in with the scheduled dates, all you need to do is have them register and attend.

Upcoming Dates

Week of 8/2

English

[Monday, August 3,
7:00 PM EDT](#)

[Monday, August 3,
10:00 PM EDT](#)

[Thursday, August
6, 7:00 PM EDT](#)

[Thursday, August
6, 10:00 PM EDT](#)

Spanish

[Wednesday,
August 5, 9:00 PM
EDT](#)

French

[Tuesday, August 4,
8:00 PM EDT](#)



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Week of 8/9

English

[Thursday, August 13, 7:00 PM EDT](#)

[Thursday, August 13, 10:00 PM EDT](#)

Spanish

[Wednesday, August 12, 9:00 PM EDT](#)

French

[Tuesday, August 11, 8:00 PM EDT](#)

Brothers, the membership team is here to help in anyway, let me know and we will guide you through. **Remember Kofc.org/joinus The easiest way to get them in!!!**

Vivat Jesus!!

Jeff Gaubin

State Membership Director

Week of 8/16

English

[Thursday, August 20, 7:00 PM EDT](#)

[Thursday, August 20, 10:00 PM EDT](#)

Spanish

[Wednesday, August 19, 9:00 PM EDT](#)

French

[Tuesday, August 18, 8:00 PM EDT](#)

Message from the State

Deputy

Keeping it Simple and Good

Like all of you, I'm deeply disappointed with what was reported in the Valley Breeze recently, regarding Lincoln Council's ongoing food drive and blood drives. Food donors and others who were always ready to

If those dates do not work, then register for the on demand exemplification!!! [Event Registration](#)



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assist Lincoln Council in providing food and other necessities to local people in need are now compelled to stop helping us... stop helping to feed hungry people just because the Knights of *COLUMBUS* is organizing it...because now, we can't have anything to do with organizations that have 'COLUMBUS' in their name.

So now after all the years that Lincoln and the other councils who make the effort to help our neighbors by having these drives... and please know that we are truly thankful to all those who contributed to them...after all this work, we now are turned away because of our Order's namesake, a decision that was made over 130 years ago...that IS the reason for organizations that gladly helped us in the past...shut the door on us now? And let us not forget the media outlets that refused to help

promote Lincoln's food drive... and for the same reason.

WHAT CAN WE DO? I'm positive the best way to maintain the support we already have, and to increase it... is to continue our work so we can keep making the difference that is so needed in our community... Our neighbors know who we are, and appreciate what we do... and don't need us to justify why Columbus is our namesake; they just know that the Knights of Columbus are always there and ready to help ... our mission is simple and it's good. And believe me, the families we help would never turn their backs on us.

So, let's continue to focus on our mission; our simple and good mission, Father McGivney's mission and push on to ***Leave No Neighbor Behind***. Don't let others who would want to discredit us by questioning and arguing about



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things we can't control get in the way of our work. People are depending on us.

Asking the Lord for better days,
I remain

Proud to be a Knight of Columbus
and your State Deputy.



Dave Quinn

Patriotic Degree

District Master Bob Gallant has scheduled an Exemplification of the Patriotic Degree for August 23rd at St. Theresa in Nasonville (that would be Burrillville) (35 Dion Drive) at 2 pm. He is planning for a full program but may have to adapt pending Social Gathering Restrictions. Candidate cost is \$70

and Banquet Guest cost is \$30.
Please spread the word.

General Agent

General Agent John Ruffo is available for all your Fraternal Benefits questions. He can be reached at john.ruffo@kofc.org or by phone at 860-807-3234 (office) or 860-866-8712 (cell)



Editor's reminder – Fraternal Benefits include much more than Life Insurance



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Programming Activities

All our State sponsored and promoted activities can be used to satisfy requirements of the Columbian Award. Note also that some of our biggest State initiatives began as a local Council activity (e.g. – Operation R.O.V.A.C.). Supporting the causes of other Councils will also get them to reciprocate and support your causes.

- Fraternity begets Unity and together lead to an increase of Charity.

Events of Note

- **August 3rd** – Lincoln Council Blood Drive 4-7 pm
- **August 9th** – St. John Paul II Council Blood Drive 8:30am-12:30pm
- **August 15th** – Semi-Annual Audits are due to Supreme
- **August 23rd**- Patriotic Degree Exemplification
- **August 28th** – State Meeting at Dillon Council

Check the State Website regularly for details and new listings.

Milestone Celebration



Woonsocket Council #113, whose 125th Charter Anniversary date was January 27th, has scheduled October 3rd for their Anniversary Gala. It will still begin with the 4 pm Mass but it will be at location to be determined pending gathering and distancing requirements before proceeding to *St. Ann's Arts & Cultural Center* on Cumberland Street in Woonsocket (just down the road from the Council home @ All Saints Church). With questions, or to participate, contact State Membership Director Jeff Gaulin (event chair) at jagaulin@verizon.net or District Deputy Jack Tracy at jkllmc.tracy@gmail.com.



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State & Local Happenings

As we begin to re-launch and re-tool programs, it is important that we account for Gathering & Distancing needs. We should also be mindful of the comfort level of our members and guests vis-à-vis in regard to public gathering during these times.

On July 25th at the 5 pm Mass at St. Joseph's Church (No. Scituate) Feeney Council #7110 announced their Knight of the Year, or rather their **Knights** of the Year. That's correct, there are Co-Knights of the Year for Feeney Council. Ron Cazeault and Steve Pertuso share in the honors. Congratulations to each of you and thank you for all you do.

Below are just a few of the many activities held by Councils around the State. Many of our functions build a spirit of Fraternity.....

State Charity Raffle



Raffle Tickets have been ordered (didn't we just wrap up this annual function? 😊) and should be ready for distribution at the August State Meeting. Contact DD Jack Tracy (ijklmc.tracy@gmail.com) to pre-order.

.....while doing good works.



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What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? (Jas 2:14)

So also, Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (Jas 2:17)

Community Activities



Kudos to **Lincoln Council** for its recent mention in the *Knights in Action* bulletin (online) from Supreme. Along with **Pius XII Council** in Narragansett, Lincoln Council provides us all with great examples of Public Relations savvy. Both Councils have excellent programs to promote what they do as Knights. Each has been accorded recognition in multiple media outlets including Supreme publications and Webinars and other National

media. Most recently, Lincoln Council GK Ray Hedenskog was interviewed for an article in the Valley Breeze and subsequently by Gene Valicenti for his Radio program on WPRO. Here is the address for the Breeze article (you may need to right click and choose open hyperlink)

<https://www.valleybreeze.com/2020-07-29/cumberland-lincoln-area/lincoln-knights-columbus-we-ve-been-denied-help-due-name#.XyYSHShKjIV>

While I recognize that most of us are reticent to “toot our own horn”, it is important that we make the community aware of our efforts so that they know where to turn for help, much as Woonsocket City Hall reached out to Woonsocket Council for help in acquiring a motorized wheelchair for a city resident. [regarding which I reiterate the thanks expressed in last month's newsletter for the overwhelming response from our Brother Councils]. (see also the **Public Relations** item below)



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Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

The topic for this year's Essay Contest has been released. The requirements: In an essay of 500-750 words, discuss how trusting in God during a difficult time has helped you or someone you know find the strength and hope to endure it. Consider especially those times when it was a challenge to understand why something was happening. Consider also sharing any lessons about faith and hope you or someone you know may have learned from this experience.

“Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy” (1 Peter 1:8).

This contest encourages today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith.

Editor's reminder: while this is a Community Program, it may also be used as a Family (Youth) Program for the Columbian Award

Life Activities



We must always be vigilant when it comes to Life issues. Never be afraid to engage your local, State and National officials in a dialog of truth. While we should always be respectful and civil in this dialog, we need not fear the truth regarding the sanctity of life.

Preparations are underway for the Fall **Forty Days for Life** Campaign (the peaceful informational protest outside Planned Parenthood). The Dates for this year's campaign are September 23-November 1st . Though the struggle takes no time off (Servants of Christ for Life reports a potential change of heart happened recently), these more intensive efforts do bear more fruit.



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Blood Drives have long been a staple of Knights Life programming and continue to be important events during this time. Some tweaking of the logistics has been required due to COVID19, but the need is still there. It is strongly recommended that appointments for donations be made, though the RI Blood Center will allow walk-ins **IF** spacing permits. As noted in the Dates section above, Lincoln Council is sponsoring a Drive on August 3rd – sponsor code 3225. And, St. John Paul II is sponsoring a Drive on August 9th – sponsor code 0462. You will likely need the code to schedule an appointment.

The **Silver Rose** program is in effect and Rhode Island's time period will be August 16th - September 12th. More details to follow soon. Supreme currently encourages virtual ceremonies. However, if Gathering & Distancing guidelines can be maintained, in-person sessions may be held. Stay tuned.

Save the Date items: Rose Gala benefiting the Mother of Life Center is scheduled for October 1st. And, the

March for Life in DC via Diocesan Bus Trip is scheduled for January 29, 2021. More details on each of these as we get closer to the date.

Always remember that the fight to protect life never ends. Whether it is end of life causes, treatment of the living in this world (social justice issues) or treatment of the not yet born.

Faith Activities



Trust in the Lord with all your heart, on your own intelligence rely not; In all your ways be mindful of him and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

With Masses continuing and adjustments to attendance



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allowances many of our Councils are continuing to assist our Pastors with logistics, cleaning and other needs. In addition to being the right thing to do this fits in to the **Leave No Neighbor Behind** concept and the general mission of the Order. As our parishes attempt to hold events within the ever-present gathering and distancing guidelines it will be important that we expand our assistance, e.g.- one parish (of which I am aware) is planning their annual *Yard Sale* and may need assistance with “traffic” control if allowed to go forward. This blends perfectly with our mission. Let’s make sure we are there.

Seminarian/Priest Support News

I hope to begin introducing our new seminarians in next month’s newsletter. Stay tuned.

St. Thomas the Apostle Council (Prov) has been supporting a

Seminarian abroad for several years now. Deacon Kingsley Ebong is scheduled to be ordained to the Priesthood in September and will be in need of further assistance while reaching that goal. St. Thomas is reaching out to the rest of the State to assist. Contact Simeon Okun at 401-692-7450 if you are able to help. (Flyer below)





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Family Activities

Youth Scholarship & Book Awards

Deadline for Scholarship & Book Awards was July 15, 2020. The winners will be shared here when they are released.

Thank you to Adam Scott and his team for their hard work.

Public Relations

As noted above (Community Activities news), public relations can do a lot for a Council. Toward that end I am highlighting a “hidden” position amongst the State Leadership Team, that of State Public Relations Director. Now this is not a new position, but it is time to spotlight it. Our State Public Relations Director is our Former Community Activities Director Steve Perry. Steve has actually held the position for a little

while now. And, while he had to step away from the Community Director position to hold the “small” 😊 position of East Providence Grand Knight, he has agreed to continue as Public Relations Director.

In these times when we are seeing an increase of anti-Catholic bigotry, it is more important than ever to make our communities aware of the good that we do. If you need some guidance, Steve will be happy to assist. You can contact him at brady12qb@verizon.net (this will also be added to the contact list below).

Fraternal Training and Communication

With the many changes that have occurred during this Fraternal Year, some permanent while some are temporary, it would be wise to re-invest in your training. There are numerous webinars available and we have a



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superb advisor in State Training Director Steve Ciolfi. Please avail yourselves of both. (see also the next article).

Training

A reprinted notice regarding Supreme Website Training platform

As of May 26, 2020, you will no longer be able to access our online training courses hosted on SABA. As we look to improve the resources available to our fraternal leaders, the Supreme Council will now be hosting our training materials directly on the For Members section of KofC.org. The fraternal training portal link found through Officers Online will now redirect there. Updates to the For Members pages will provide you with the most current resources for your officer role. Content will continue to be added through the start of the new fraternal year. Should you have any questions, please reach out to us at fraternaltraining@kofc.org. Your feedback on future training and video topics will be essential as we move forward.

There are many training opportunities throughout the year (see the Supreme Website – www.kofc.org), they are open to any Brother Knight who may be interested. You can register from the Home Page of the supreme website: go to Members, Resources & then the Fraternal Training tab. You must register to participate, but once registered, you do not have to view it live. Rather, you can view it later at a time of your convenience.

Additionally, the State Council has a Training Officer available to assist with any topic. PSD FM Steve Ciolfi is here to help. You can reach him at stevec618@aol.com.

State Website

Check out the State Website at www.kofcri.org. It is connected to UKnight Interactive (kofcknights.org) and allows connection to any local Council website that is also a part of the UKnight family. There are also links to other sites of interest such as Fathers for Good, the Supreme Council et alia.

State Newsletter

This month I will direct you to check out the newsletter for Woonsocket Council, *Knights and*



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Days. You can find it online at the Council website kofc113.org (UKnight.org) which can be accessed directly or through the State Council site at kofcri.org while you are there you can also check out some issues of Moylan Assembly's newsletter.

Reminder: I include as much as possible in this newsletter. But I need your help by sending me information & photos from your events.

News items for the newsletter can be sent to me at rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com, through your DD, who will forward it to me, or the various program Directors.

A Note of Fraternal Concern

Brothers, as noted previously, our membership is older, with an average age of 62. Implicit in that average is the fact that we have many older Brothers. These Brothers often are unable to regularly attend meetings and functions. This can lead to Councils losing track of them and, unfortunately, should they

pass away we fail to recognize their significance and membership in our Order. I am asking that the word be spread among your membership and families to be vigilant to the passing of a Council member or Council family member and relay the information to the Grand Knight

*Regardless, we must be informed to properly **Honor the Dead.***

Prayers Requested



Many of us know people who have contracted the Corona Virus (COVID-19). Please pray for them, their caregivers, and families. Below find a prayer for protection distributed by Supreme:

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee.



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Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen. Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Please pray for the repose of:

Fr. Robert Perron

Tony Andrade (father of Ron Andrade of East Providence Council)

And God's comfort to their families

Prayers are requested for FDD Bob Moniz, Phoebe Andrade (mother of Ron -

E.P. Council), Pauline Neri, Moses Segbe, and Mike DeAngelis (Former Faith Director). FDD Ray Riel has undergone a decline, please intensify your prayers for him. Roland Falcioni (a cousin of DD Jack Tracy), Armand Dufresne (Woonsocket Council). Ongoing prayers are also requested for Bishop Louis Gelineau, Fr. Dennis Reardon, Fr. Robert Bailey, PGK Daniel Danis (Blessing Council), Kristen Jarret, FVSM Michael Donnelly, GK Joseph Bedard (Pascoag Council), Becca and Brianna Arel (granddaughters of Woonsocket Council Chancellor OJ Auger), Phil Shea Jr., Patricia Moran (grandmother of State Warden PJ Shea), Orlando Giasanti Gerry and Pat Desmarais (St. Eugene Council), Barry Chevrette (Pascoag Council), Matt Parent, Nancy Forest (wife of PGK Richard Forest), Pat Logan (wife of PGK Greg Logan), Cheryl Tedeschi (wife of FDD Anthony Tedeschi), PSD/FVSM Sav Giusti, PFN Rick Regan, Roger Depot, Executive Secretary Mike Krzywonos, PGK/PFN Ernie Pennine, PGK/PFN Walter Jalbert, PGK/PFN Stanley Eason (Woon. Council/ Moylan Assembly), GK Jerry Marra, Ellen and PSD Normand Charpentier, Bob Jackson (St. Francis Council), Mike Magill, DD Alan Lamake, David Riendeau (John Paul II Council), FDD Dave Lucas, and FDD



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George Plante as they each deal with various health concerns.

I am sure I am missing others, and for that I apologize. Please feel free to add them to this list of those we pray for and remember.

And I (selfishly) ask for prayers of thanksgiving and health for the pregnancy of Kara (Tracy) & SK Jonathan Taft.

(to have someone mentioned, contact me at rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com or ask the state to add to them to the prayer list on the website)

Contact Information

State Website – kofcri.org

Supreme Website – kofc.org

Officers

State Deputy Dave Quinn
davequinn.rikofc@aol.com

State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette
JoePaquette1@gmail.com

State Secretary Dave Bebyn
dbebyn@beconsulting.biz

State Treasurer Joe Carrigan
joe.carrigan@outlook.com

State Advocate Eric Batista
ebkofc@gmail.com

State Warden PJ Shea – sheapi@yahoo.com

Immediate Past State Deputy Michael Dziok
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Patriotic Degree

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A Knight's View

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council Knights of Columbus

formed in 1893 as the first State Council

**Serving the Church and Community through Charity, Unity, Fraternity and
Patriotism since 1893**

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Remember, these men are here to help you and your Council. Do not be afraid to contact them for help or with any questions you may have.



Vivat Jesus!