

# Rhode Island State Council Knights of Columbus



formed in 1893 as

the first State Council

## Celebrating 125 Years of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism

August 2017

Volume I, issue 2

### *Council news*

#### *Supreme Convention*

Brother Knights from the State of Rhode Island attended the recently held 135<sup>th</sup> Supreme Convention August 1-3 in St. Louis, Missouri. The delegation was led by Worthy State Deputy Mike and Lee Ann Benson.

The State Hospitality Suite served New England Clam Chowder and Glee gum (a RI product) among its offerings, which were enjoyed by all.

This year's State Pin was well received (it is a beautiful design), below is an image of it (Mary holding the Child Jesus):



The members of the RI Delegation, the Order's First State Council.



Rebecca Schulte donated a handmade quilt for the raffle, which evoked this same image (see below) and was won by the Kansas State Secretary.

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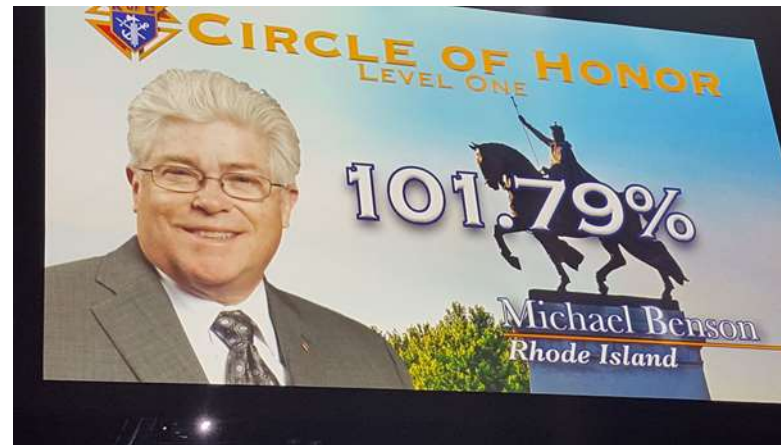
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message and the list of award winners follows:



Kansas State Secretary Dale Weber wins the drawing for the Rhode Island Quilt, "Blessed Mother, Mary," created by Rebecca Schulte, wife of Former Master Bill Schulte



### Celebrating our success!

The following Rhode Island Districts and Councils are recognized for their award-winning service during the 2016-17 Columbian Year. Congratulations to the District Deputies, Grand Knights and Council membership that worked so hard to make the vision of Fr. McGivney a reality in their parishes and communities! The cumulative effect of your

### *Annual Awards*

In conjunction with the Supreme Convention, Worthy State Deputy Mike Benson has announced the following awards earned by the Districts & Councils in the Jurisdiction of Rhode Island for Fraternal Year 2016 – 2017. His

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efforts resulted in the Jurisdiction of Rhode Island claiming the Circle of Honor Award for the third consecutive year.

### COUNCILS

#### Double Star Councils (4)

- o #05295 Pope Pius XII Council, Narragansett. GK Joe Robenhymer (District 4, DD Bob Moniz)
- o #07238 SS John & James Council, West Warwick. GK Michael Colvin (District 5, DD Lee Rossetti)
- o #10557 St. Augustine Council, Providence. GK John McGinn, Jr. (District 6, DD Ted Benz)
- o #14417 St. Eugene Council, Chepachet. GK Bob Catineault (District 2, DD Ray Riel)

### DISTRICTS

#### Star Districts (2)

##### o District 1, PJ Shea III, District Deputy

- #00057 Delaney-St. Teresa Council, Pawtucket
- #04005 Lincoln Council, Lincoln
- #05787 Friar/Providence College Council, Providence

- #12613 Pope St. John Paul II Council, Pawtucket

##### o District 6, Ted Benz, District Deputy

- #02385 St. Paul Council, Cranston
- #02700 Msgr. John F. Sullivan Council, Central Falls
- #05702 Rev. William J. Frehill Council, Slatersville
- #10557 St. Augustine Council, Providence
- #11087 St. Philip Council, Greenville

#### Star Councils

(Fr. McGivney, Founder and Columbian Awards) (8)

- o #00057 Delaney-St. Teresa Council, Pawtucket. GK Kevin Audette (District 1, DD PJ Shea III)
- o #00379 Bristol Council, Bristol. GK Warren Rensehausen (District 9, DD Paul Saunders)
- o #02295 Warwick Council, Warwick. GK Richard Swanson, Jr. (District 7, DD Mark Paul)
- o #02385 St. Paul Council, Cranston. GK Richard Mourninghan (District 6, DD Ted Benz)

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o #03563 Rev. Dillon Council, North Providence. GK Michael Del Signore (District 3, DD Bob Lynch)

o #00021 Narragansett Council, Westerly. GK Michael Panciera (District 4, DD Bob Moniz)

o #05702 Rev. Frehill Council, Slatersville. GK Gene Baillargeon (District 6, DD Ted Benz)

o #00095 St. Paul the Apostle Council, Foster. GK Robert Hallberg (District 7, DD Mark Paul)

o #05787 Friar Council/Providence College, GK Alexander Napoli (District 1, DD PJ Shea III)

o #00113 Woonsocket Council, Woonsocket. GK Gene Garceau (District 2, DD Ray Riel)

o #12613 St. John Paul II Council, Pawtucket. GK Al Nunes (District 1, DD PJ Shea III)

o #00181 St. Anthony Council, West Warwick. GK David Wilson (District 5, DD Lee Rossetti)

### **McGivney Award**

(Membership quota attainment) (3)

o #00322 Fr. Donnelly Council, Cranston. GK Kevin Reall (District 8, DD John Kay)

o #00256 Newport-Middletown Council, GK Tim Chapman (District 9, DD Paul Saunders)

o #09197 St. Mark Council, Jamestown. GK Michael Mikolay (District 4, DD Bob Moniz)

o #00322 Fr. Donnelly Council, GK Kevin Reall (District 8, DD John Kay)

o #16053 St. Luke Council, Barrington. GK Doug Johnson (District 10, DD Victor Silva)

o #00383 Pascoag Council, Pascoag. GK Robert Brunette, Jr. (District 2, DD Ray Riel)

### **Founder Award**

(Insurance quota attainment) (1)

o #05273 Msgr. Blessing Council, Coventry. GK Frank Laiter III (District 5, DD Lee Rossetti)

o #01472 St. Thomas Council, Cumberland. GK Thomas Boucher (District 10, DD Victor Silva)

o #01528 East Providence Council, East Providence. GK David O'Connell (District 10, DD Victor Silva)

### **Columbian Award**

(Service Programs attainment)

o #02011 St. Francis Council, North Kingstown. GK Tex Mohring (District 4, DD Bob Moniz)

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o #02700 Msgr. Sullivan Council, Central Falls. GK George Plante, Jr. (District 6, DD Ted Benz)

*Message from the*

o #03623 Bishop Hickey Council, Riverside. GK Gus Morelli (District 10, DD Victor Silva)

*State Deputy*

o #04005 Lincoln Council, Lincoln. GK Michael Guerra (District 1, DD PJ Shea III)

o #05273 Msgr. Blessing Council, Coventry. GK Frank Laiter III (District 5, DD Lee Rossetti)

o #06939 Bishop Neumann Council, Hope Valley. GK Ronald Dean (District 4, DD Bob Moniz)

o #08977 Mary Doran Council, West Warwick. GK Paul Salzer III (District 5, DD Lee Rossetti)

o #09197 St. Mark Council, Jamestown. GK Michael Mikolay (District 4, DD Bob Moniz)

o #11087 St. Philip Council, Greenville. GK Charles Brailsford III (District 6, DD Ted Benz)

o #12821 St. Gregory the Great Council, Warwick. GK Michael Walsh (District 3, DD Bob Lynch)

o #16053 St. Luke Council, Barrington. GK Doug Johnson (District 10, DD Victor Silva)

Worthy Brother Knights, I pray this message finds all 6,602 members and their families in the Jurisdiction of Rhode Island in good health and spirits. We have much to be proud of as we embark on our 125<sup>th</sup> year of service to our parishes, communities, and to one another. This milestone is significant as it also allows us the distinction to celebrate our status as the Order's oldest State Council, having been established on April 23, 1893, just ten years after Fr. McGivney established the Knights of Columbus at his parish, St. Mary's in New Haven. The Connecticut and Massachusetts State Councils were established in the following weeks, but we can all take great satisfaction in knowing that of the 76 jurisdictions world-wide, Rhode Island was first!

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, recently reported

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the Order grew to new record levels in both membership and charitable giving.

Membership now stands at 1,941,728 worldwide, and 15,589 councils, including 279 new councils added last year. This is the 80<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of council growth.

Charitable giving now stands at \$177,500,673 donated. This is \$2.4 million more than the prior year. We also set new records for time volunteered at 75,112,694 hours. This calculates to each Knight spending, on average, 39 hours volunteering order-wide.

Rhode Island councils are on a similar upward trajectory. We grew membership with 285 new men and their families last year. This follows the addition of more than 600 new members the prior two years. This effort resulted in Rhode Island being one of just sixteen jurisdictions to receive the prestigious Circle of Honor Award. Brothers, we did this for the third consecutive year! This honor could not be possible if it were

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not for the efforts of our District Deputies, Grand Knights and council members who dedicated themselves to our core principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, and made a real difference in the lives of our parishes and communities. As a result, Rhode Island councils are recognized for achieving 2 Star Districts, 4 Double Star Councils, 8 Star Councils, 3 more that earned the McGivney Award for membership achievement, 1 that earned the Founders Award for Insurance attainment, and 20 councils that earned the Columbian Award for service. All told, 32 of the 43 active councils, or more than 71%, have earned awards. One of my favorite achievements was the reactivation of St. John Vianney Council in Cumberland. I offer a special note of thanks and gratitude to the Grand Knights and Council Officers that

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reached their goals to realize Fr. McGivney's vision of service to our Church. Thank you!

Benz, District 7 DD Mark Paul, District 8 DD John Kay, District 9 DD Paul Saunders, District 10 DD Victor Silva, and District 12 DD Alan LaMake, and all are back. The only change to this group was the welcome addition of Woonsocket PGK Gene Garceau as DD of District 11. The aforementioned Brothers are assembled from our member councils, and along with State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette, the State Officers, and the Insurance Agency, have given a great amount of their time and talent to work toward the success of our councils. Please let them know their efforts are appreciated.

***"...but that was yesterday, and yesterday's gone!" – Chad & Jeremy, 1964***

The reset button was pushed July 1, and we begin anew. The expectations for 2017-18 are the same as last year for most metrics, including membership and service programs. The State Council has no more important task than to facilitate the success of each of the councils in Rhode Island. I am indebted to, and thankful for the State Council support team, including Membership Director FDD Eric Batista, Ceremonial Director FDD Bob Gallant, Retention Chairman SW Joe Carrigan, Program Director FDD Jeff Gaulin, as well as Executive Secretary Mike Krzywonos and State Webmaster Jerry Scannell. The District Deputies include District 1 DD PJ Shea, District 2 DD Ray Riel, District 3 DD Bob Lynch, District 4 DD Bob Moniz, District 5 DD Lee Rossetti, District 6 DD Ted

The good news is all are back again this year, and better than ever. Program Director Jeff Gaulin has assembled a stellar staff, consisting of Church Director and Round Table Coordinator PGK Michael De Angelis, Jr., Community Director Brother Steve Perry, Council Director and Newsletter Editor GK Jack Tracy III, Family Director FDD AL Hervieux, and Youth Director PGK Michael Guerra. Each of these Brothers has in turn assembled Brothers

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from throughout the state to assist us in programs such as The Annual Charity Ball, Teens Are Dynamite, Operation R.O.V.A.C., the Bishop's Keep The Heat On Concert, Coats for Kids, Food For Families, Family of the Month, Family Days with the PawSox and P-Bruins, Pro-Life support events, our Charity Golf Tournament, and so many more. Each of these are to help our councils succeed in their service to others. However, there is no more important, and indeed critical program, than Building the "Domestic Church, the Family Fully Alive" program. It is reported that for every new person joining the Catholic Church in the U.S. today, six leave. This is an alarming rate of decline. The Building the Domestic Church initiative is a program designed to bring each one of us closer to our faith, and to lead others to a closer relationship with our Lord and His Church through our example. Let's be that example! State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette and Church Director Michael De Angelis have a number of events planned that are family-focused and inspiring. All our programs are designed

to make us better Catholics, husbands, fathers and citizens. We look forward to your involvement.

Adopting the Supreme Council Knights of Columbus Convention theme for 2017-18, "*Convinced of God's Love and Power,*" the Rhode Island councils are poised to have another strong year in support of our Diocese, our parishes, and our communities. But as with every organization, member involvement is needed to sustain our efforts now, and into the future. This includes the continued addition of new members to our esteemed Order. Every District is required to conduct a minimum of one Admissions Degree each month. Councils are asked to hold a minimum of one Degree each quarter. Every member is challenged to a minimum annual Knighthood commitment, as follows: 1) be involved in a minimum of three council service programs, 2) attend a minimum of three council business meetings, 3) receive Formation and Knighthood Degrees if not done already, 4)



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meet with the Council's fraternal benefits agent, and 5) recruit a minimum of one new member. Do this, and you have done your part to help our Order support and protect our Catholic Church, and truly earned the title, Worthy Brother Knight!

Admission Degrees. District Formation Degrees were also held. And a State Knighthood Degree was held. Congratulations to all who joined or advanced! Remember, even a single new member adds to our growth.

Vivat Jesus!



*-Michael Benson*

*RI KofC State Deputy*

### *Membership News*

The Fraternal Year has begun well. Membership Director Eric Batista reports that, while below expectations, we have admitted new members during the first 2 months toward our goal of 280 for the Fraternal Year. Councils have held a number of

A combined 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree is to be held Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm @ Warwick Council.

A 1<sup>st</sup> Degree is scheduled for Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm @ Dillon Council.

A combined 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree will be held Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm @ Frehill Council

There are already Degrees scheduled for September, check the State Website for dates and locations.

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help or with any questions you may have.

### *News from the Districts*

Below is the Contact Information for the District Deputies:

District 1 PJ Shea – [sheapi@yahoo.com](mailto:sheapi@yahoo.com)

District 2 Ray Riel – [raymondrirel@verizon.net](mailto:raymondrirel@verizon.net)

District 3 Bob Lynch – [rlynch1@cox.net](mailto:rlynch1@cox.net)

District 4 Bob Moniz – [rjm51@cox.net](mailto:rjm51@cox.net)

District 5 Lee Rossetti – [lee.rossetti@cox.net](mailto:lee.rossetti@cox.net)

District 6 Ted Benz – [ted@benztesters.com](mailto:ted@benztesters.com)

District 7 Mark Paul – [mpaul@astromed.com](mailto:mpaul@astromed.com)

District 8 John Kay – [jkay4021@aol.com](mailto:jkay4021@aol.com)

District 9 Paul Saunders – [psaund1229@aol.com](mailto:psaund1229@aol.com)

District 10 Victor Silva – [vmsilva58@gmail.com](mailto:vmsilva58@gmail.com)

District 11 Bud Garceau –  
[gene.garceau@gmail.com](mailto:gene.garceau@gmail.com)

District 12 Alan Lamake – [allamake@aol.com](mailto:allamake@aol.com)

Remember, these men are here because they love the Knights and want to help you and your Council. Don't be afraid to contact them for

### *Upcoming Events*

Silver Rose October 7<sup>th</sup> –  
November 5<sup>th</sup> at various locations.

Columbus Day weekend parades: Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> Federal Hill & Westerly, Monday October 9<sup>th</sup> Newport & Woonsocket's Autumnfest.

Clergy Appreciation Night  
Monday October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

Fatima devotion led by Fr. Joseph Paquette at St. Martha's Church on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm.

Check the State Website for details.

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### *State & Local Happenings*

Images from recent functions around the State:



Past State Deputies James E. Gilcreast, Jr. and Dick Smith at the Past State Deputy's Luncheon, hosted by Immediate Past State Deputy Peter Lentini.



Past State Deputy James E. Gilcreast, Jr., and Immediate Past State Deputy Peter Lentini with Special Olympics Rhode Island President and Brother Knight Dennis DeJesus at the SORI Savor the Flavors fundraising event.

Many of our functions build a spirit of Fraternity.....

.....while doing good works.

Special Olympics is also celebrating a landmark anniversary this year, their 50<sup>th</sup>.



And, Domestic Church Activities can be fun...

.... Ask Woonsocket Council

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*Knights at the Pawsox*



Building Fraternity with our Massachusetts Brothers & families at the post game meal.



Who staffed a booth at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Carnival.

The Knights at the Pawsox after game Barbecue hosted by St. John Paul II Council....

## *Local Council Functions*

8/26 - St. Philip Council #11087 is holding a Pasta & Meatball Dinner to support its various charities

9/2 – E. Providence Council #1528 Family Rosary@ the Council home

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9/10 – St. John Paul II Council #12613 is holding a Blood Drive

ensure that it is represented at these meetings.

9/10 – Woonsocket Council #113 is sponsoring a bus trip to the KofC Museum and St. Mary's in New Haven

9/16 – E. Providence Council #1528 is holding an Italian Night.

Please see the State website for details.

### *Fraternal Benefits Corner*

General Agent Mike Lehman offers this brief insurance tutorial to help us understand our options.

#### “Life Insurance 101”

Whole life insurance is the most basic plan of permanent life insurance protection, and calls for premiums to be paid for your entire life, or to age 100. You may also consider another permanent life insurance product – one with guaranteed cash values – that offers a limited period of premium payments.

The Knights of Columbus offers three permanent life insurance products for which premiums do not have to be paid for all of life.

### *State Meeting*

The next State Meeting will be held on October 27th at 7:30 at Newport/Middletown Council #256.

Remember that these meetings allow interaction between local Councils, and allow information to be exchanged between the local and State Councils (in both directions). Each Council should

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“Twenty Pay Life” is exactly as the name suggests: a permanent plan with premiums payable for 20 years. After the premiums are paid for the 20 years, the plan is “paid up” and no more premiums are due. Unlike its term counterpart, however, the plan stays in force, the death benefit remains intact and the guaranteed cash value continues to grow.

Another such plan is our “Life Paid Up at 65.” With this permanent product you pay premiums until you reach age 65. Then, premiums stop (just in time for retirement), but the plan remains very much in force.

Finally, the ultimate in limited pay is our Single Premium Life product. Imagine buying life insurance – permanent life insurance – and only paying one single premium? It’s possible.

I have detailed information on all of these products. At your convenience, I’ll meet with you and your wife to perform a free, custom-tailored needs analysis, to help determine which of our many life insurance products is right for you and your family.

I can be reached by phone at 401-921-4834 or email

[Michael.Lehman@kofc.org](mailto:Michael.Lehman@kofc.org).

Call me – let’s talk.

## *Patriotic Degree News*

The hottest news for the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree comes out of the Supreme Convention. Supreme has announced a new uniform for the Patriotic Degree.

The change is somewhat controversial amongst the

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membership, which the District Master will address in due time.



VSM Michael Donnelly at the Supreme Convention in the new uniform



Fr. Donahue Assembly with Fr. Boehr Council Knights & Columbiettes at Tiverton Pride Day, honoring the town's First Responders

area. The Sir Knights of Donahue Assembly, along with the Knights & Columbiettes of Boehr Councils helped to honor Tiverton's First Responders. Thank you for your witness.

## *Programming Activities*

### *Community Activities*

By supporting our community activities and fundraisers, we raise awareness of our Order, promote goodwill and assist with charitable causes which then helps us with future efforts.

One recent example of this is the men and women of the Tiverton

### *Church Activities*

Church Director Mike DeAngelis reminds all that nominations for **Chaplain of the Year** are due *August 30<sup>th</sup>* (next Wednesday). All are worthy of the award, nominate your Chaplain and let him know you notice.

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### *Family Activities*

#### *Family of the Month*

Family of the Month honorees are Knights and their families who exhibit traditional Catholic values and make a significant contribution to the Church and witness to the community. Your local honoree is automatically entered to be named 1 of 100 to be named by Supreme each month. RI has just had 2 such honorees, the Walter Jalbert Family from Mary Doran Council #8977 for June and the Richard Riel Family from Woonsocket Council #113 for July. Congratulations! to you both.

### *Council Activities*

#### *State Charity Raffle*

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, Charity Raffle Tickets have been printed and are ready to distribute.

It is felt that their earlier availability may help increase sales. Increased sales will help the local Councils achieve greater funds for their Charitable causes, a win-win for all. Tickets will cost the Council \$1 per book (each book has 6 tickets) which you can then sell for \$5 per book, realizing a potential **400% profit**. This is an easy fundraiser for your Council. Contact Jack Tracy (ticket Chairman) at [ijklmc.tracy@att.net](mailto:ijklmc.tracy@att.net) or 401-749-0987 with the number of books you want and he will have them ready for you at the October State meeting. You can also bring your check at the same time. (Note: while they will be available throughout most of the Fraternal year, the earlier you get them, the more opportunity to sell them.)

### *State Newsletter*

News items for the newsletter can be sent through the various program Directors, including myself, or your DD, who will



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forward to me. I will draw event items for the Local Council section from the State website, so utilize that resource as well. Placing event flyers on the State Website will broaden your reach and bring in extra monies for your cause.

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

*Vivat Jesus!*

*Prayers Requested*



Please remember the following in your prayers:

For the repose of Sandra Hoppe, wife of FDD Joseph Hoppe of Pascoag Council and God's comfort for the Hoppe family

For the repose of Armindo Nunes, father of PGK Al Nunes of John Paul II Council and God's comfort for the Nunes family

For the repose of Flornell Williams, mother-in-law of PGK Al Hervieux (State Family Director) and God's comfort for her family

For Brother Knights, FVSM Sav Guisti, DD Bud Garceau, PGK Ernie Pennine, Bishop Louis Gelineau, DD Bob Moniz and all our Brothers and their families facing medical issues.

(to have someone mentioned, contact me @ [ijklmc.tracy@att.net](mailto:ijklmc.tracy@att.net))

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Family Dir. Al Hervieux [alhervieux@cox.net](mailto:alhervieux@cox.net)

Youth Director Mike Guerra  
[mikegonemad@gmail.com](mailto:mikegonemad@gmail.com)

Council Director Jack Tracy [jkfmc.tracy@att.net](mailto:jkfmc.tracy@att.net)

Exec. Secretary Mike Krzywonos  
[mikrzywonos@gmail.com](mailto:mikrzywonos@gmail.com)

General Agent Mike Lehman  
[Michael.Lehman@kofc.org](mailto:Michael.Lehman@kofc.org)

Contact information of subcommittee chairmen  
and other State Staff can be found on the State  
website [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)

### *Contact Information*

State Officers and Directors can be contacted  
as follows:

State Deputy Mike Benson  
[MBenson.rikofc@gmail.com](mailto:MBenson.rikofc@gmail.com)

State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette  
[JoePaquette1@gmail.com](mailto:JoePaquette1@gmail.com)

State Sec. Mike Dziok [mdziok1067@aol.com](mailto:mdziok1067@aol.com)

State Treas. Dave Quinn  
[davequinn.rikofc@aol.com](mailto:davequinn.rikofc@aol.com)

State Advocate Dave Bebyn  
[dbebyn@beconsulting.biz](mailto:dbebyn@beconsulting.biz)

State Warden Joe Carrigan  
[joe.carrigan@outlook.com](mailto:joe.carrigan@outlook.com)

IPSD Peter Lentini [Tireman966@hotmail.com](mailto:Tireman966@hotmail.com)

Membership Dir. Eric Batista [ebkofc@gmail.com](mailto:ebkofc@gmail.com)

D&C Director Bob Gallant [bobgal664@gmail.com](mailto:bobgal664@gmail.com)

Program Dir. Jeff Gaulin [jagaulin@verizon.net](mailto:jagaulin@verizon.net)

Church Dir. Mike DeAngelis  
[deangelis36@msn.com](mailto:deangelis36@msn.com)

Community Dir. Steve Perry  
[brady12qb@verizon.net](mailto:brady12qb@verizon.net)

### *Closing Note*

Remember, this is here for you, the  
membership, so please let me know  
what you want, find useful or even what  
you feel is not helpful. Contact me at  
[jkfmc.tracy@att.net](mailto:jkfmc.tracy@att.net).

- *Jack Tracy*

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