

Rhode Island State Council Knights of Columbus



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Celebrating 125 Years of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism

February 2018

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Council's news

Countdown to the Convention

Important Deadline! Convention Program Book Ads are due March 1st. This is a HARD deadline to ensure printing and proofing are done right. Also, note: each Council that sells 5 ads will get their own full-page ad free.

The State Convention is fast approaching, it is only **2 ½** months away. There are several things each Council needs to do to be ready. Can you answer yes to the following questions?

1. Is your Council Banner ready?
2. Do you have relics and mementos chosen for display?
3. Are you talking up attendance for the events, especially the open ones? (opening Mass, Memorial Mass, Hospitality Suites, State Banquet)

It is none too soon to prepare these items. Remember, this is a big year for us. Our State Council is First in the Order, but it only exists to serve the local Councils. Your participation is vital.

And speaking of the Convention, it is time to plan for the following:

1. Hospitality Suites – are you hosting? Start planning your offerings and décor
2. Delegates – who will be your Council's delegates and alternates?

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3. Memorial Mass – do you have your list of deceased Brothers prepared to turn in?
4. Program Book – are you placing an ad? They need to be in by March 1, 2018

2017 and June 30th, 2018, your name will be entered in a drawing. 10 names will be drawn at random on July 1st, 2018.

Remember! *One member per Council per month!*

Membership News



Supreme is once again offering a \$4.50 rebate (per active member) for attaining Star Council.

Additionally, Supreme is offering a lottery incentive for 10 couples to attend the World Day of Families in Dublin, Ireland – **all expenses paid**. Every time you recruit a new member between December 1st,

Following are the degrees scheduled for February (so far):

5th – 1st/2nd at Feeney Council, candidates @ 6:30pm

12th – 1st at Woonsocket Council, candidates @ 6:30 pm

13th – 1st/2nd at Cranston Council, candidates @ 6:30 pm

22nd – 3rd at Delaney Council, candidates @ 7:00 pm

26th – 1st/2nd at Delaney Council, Candidates @ 6:30 pm

28th – at Warwick Council, candidates @ 6:30 pm

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State Deputy Message

Mass at Jesus Savior Parish,
Dinner and fellowship.

The Worthy State Deputy notes all the good work we have been doing, especially in the area of Pro-Life in the previous month (see below under Culture of Life).

State Secretary exemplified the spirit of fellowship by pretending to be in Hawaii instead of frigid Newport (see picture below)

He also reports that RI K of C Leadership Team Mid-Year Meeting, held Friday, January 5 thru Sunday, January 7 at Howard Johnson Hotel, Middletown, RI was a productive one.

State Officers, Directors and District Deputies welcomed Christopher Micik from Supreme to discuss strategic membership and programs efforts to assist councils in realizing their goals for success.

Saturday's session included program highlights for the remainder of the Fraternal Year,



Vivat Jesus!

- SD Mike Benson

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Thoughts from the General Agent



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- *Mike Lehman*

- *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.
- It is time to prepare your applications for the Annual State Service Program Awards. Awards are given for each of the six program service categories. Entries must be submitted by March 30, 2018. See the state website for details.
- ***Fraternity begets Unity and together lead to an increase of Charity.***

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Upcoming Events

“Prayer in action is love, and love in action is service,” – Mother Teresa

Service (love in action) is the difference between the Knights of Columbus and other Catholic men's groups – State Deputy Mike Benson

The Annual 40 Days for Life Campaign is approaching fast. It begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th and runs through Palm Sunday, March 25th. Beginning with the reception of ashes at the Cathedral, participants will then proceed to the area of Planned Parenthood for a short rally and meditation on the Rosary (Glorious Mysteries). Volunteers are being sought for the daily vigil (7 am to 7 pm). You can sign up at <http://www.40daysforlife.com/providence> or contact the Culture of Life Director Mike Krzywonos at 401-474-2285 or mikrzywonos@gmail.com.

Pascoag Council, in conjunction with the Lions Club, is sponsoring a St.

Valentine Dinner Dance @ Bella's Restaurant on February 11th from 1-5 pm.

Delaney Assembly is holding a Pizza and Pasta night at Uncle Tony's on Newport Ave., Rumford from 11:30am to 10 pm on February 20th.

The KANDI Drive Kickoff Dinner is February 20th at 7:30pm at St. Cecilia (John Paul II Council).

Warwick Council is hosting a Lenten Dinner on February 23rd from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

Woonsocket Council is holding its 2nd Annual COPS Walk Fundraiser on February 24th from 4:30 to 7 pm.

Knights with the P-Bruins will be March 4th.

Lenten Day of Recollection sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will be March 10th at All Saints Church (Woonsocket Council) in Woonsocket from 9am to 3pm.

Check the State Website regularly for details and new listings.

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State & Local Happenings

Culture of Life Activities

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

The Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass was held on Saturday, January 13th at St. Paul Church in Cranston.

St. John Paul II & Delaney Councils Joint Kornhole Tourney to benefit K of C Charities



State Convention Co-Chair DD PJ Shea

.....while doing good works.



Entry Procession for Respect Life Mass at St. Paul

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The Annual March for Life was held January 19th. There were messages of encouragement from both the President (a first-time event) and Vice-President. Below are some thoughts regarding the event from DD Bob Lynch who was in Washington for the March:

On Friday, January 19 State Deputy Mike Benson, State Treasurer Dave Quinn, Past State Deputy Jim Gilcreast, District Deputy Bob Lynch and Past Faithful Navigator Bill O'Connell were in Washington, D.C. for the annual Pro-Life March. The Knights of Columbus were well represented at this event. State Councils from all over the country participated in the march. Overall, hundreds of thousands of people were in attendance. It was wonderful to see so many young people in all different ages come to support something that they truly believe in. The pro- abortion supporters who were in attendance were well out numbered.

It was such a wonderful event. All Brother Knights are encouraged to participate at some point. A visit to the John Paul II Museum ensued. This visit was another highlight. A number of impressive artifacts fill the museum. It is such a great tribute to a great man. Another big bonus of the day was the weather. Temperatures reached close to 60 degrees with plenty of sunshine. I am truly looking forward to participating in this event again with my Brother Knights and all pro-life supporters.

- Bob Lynch



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RI Delegation to Washington: left to right, PSD Jim Gilcreast, DD Bob Lynch, SD Mike Benson, PFN Bill O'Connell, ST Dave Quinn

was provided by the great chefs of Kennedy Council. The event was chaired by PSD Jim Gilcreast and his wife Mary.

The RI Right to Life State House Rally was held on January 24th in the State House Rotunda.



Note the heartening presence of young people from LaSalle Academy



PSD Jim Gilcreast and PSD John Marcello surrounded by posters from each of the efforts supported by the Pro-Life Dinner

The 2018 Pro-Life Dinner was held on January 27th. St. John Paul II Council and Chaplain of the Year Fr. Mike Sisco hosted at St. Cecilia Church, Central Ave., Pawtucket. The evening began with Mass at 4:30 pm. The dinner

Reminder: while January is a busy time for Culture of Life Activities, it should not be the only time. It is an everyday, yearlong effort.

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Community Activities

The annual Kandi Drive Kickoff Dinner is Schedule for February 20th at 7:30 pm at St. Cecilia's Church (St. John Paul II Council). Contact GK Bruce Guindon at bruceguindon@yahoo.com or 401-474-0371 to register (there is no cost for this dinner). Each Council is encouraged to participate in this effort to raise funds for those with intellectual disabilities.

pictured below:



The winners from left to right;

Sophia Wooley, Sarah Coutu and Caroline Mulak with Fr. Mike Sisko and GK Bruce Guindon

Church Activities

Youth from John Paul II Parish and Council participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, the local winners are

All were submitted to the State level, those winning posters are below:

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Lenten Day of Recollection

Lent is Fast (pun intended) upon us. Please begin promoting the State K of C sponsored Day of Recollection. It will be hosted by State Chaplain Fr. Joseph Paquette with Brother SK Ryan Tremblay the featured speaker. It will take place at All Saints Church, 323 Rathbun St., Woonsocket on Saturday, March 10th from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Please promote this to your Pastors, parishes and Councils.



by Sarah Coutu



by Isaac Southworth



By Sophia Wooley

Youth Activities

Scholarship Awards time is here. Application Deadline is March 31, 2018. There are awards in 3 age groups; Elementary Catholic School, Secondary Catholic School, and College/University (Book Award). You can download the application from the State Website. Don't miss out.

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Mike is also encouraging promotion of the newly created Youth of the Year award. Circulate flyers to your local schools, Scout Troops and youth organizations. There are some fantastic youth serving their communities, let's help recognize them.

Information is available on the State Website.

any of these, please direct me to them by emailing me at jkimc.tracy@att.net. The form of the recognition is still being developed and I have already accessed some Council's communications but can use all the help I can get. Thank you.

- *Jack Tracy*

Council Activities

New Initiative!

In order to encourage a best practices effort in the area of communication, the State is beginning an effort to recognize Councils and Assemblies who publish their own newsletter and separately those who develop their own website and/or Facebook page. Should your Council have

The State Convention

The major event of the Fraternal Year. See the lead article for important information, but **remember that the Convention belongs to the local Councils**. It is our best opportunity to exchange information and socialize with each other on a grand scale.

Training

There are many training opportunities throughout the year (see

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the Supreme Website – www.kofc.org). they are open to any Brother Knight who may be interested. Additionally, the State Council has a Training Officer available to assist with any topic. PSD FM Steve Ciolfi is here to help.

UKnight family. There are also links to other sites of interest such as Fathers for Good, the Supreme Council et alia. *The Links of Interest* tab will connect you to Council event flyers. This can be an invaluable resource, but you must use it for it to help you.

State Charity Raffle

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 or 401-749-0987 with the number of books you want and he will work with you to get them delivered. 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 forward to me. I will draw event items for the Local Council section from your input. I also welcome photos from the event itself: ijklmc.tracy@att.net

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

State Meeting

The next State Meeting will be held on March 23rd at 7:30 at Woonsocket Council #113.

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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 ensure that it is represented at these meetings.

Irene Lamake, wife of DD Alan Lamake

PGK Edward Gagne Jr. of Hickey Council

Prayers are also requested for Bishop Louis Gelineau, PGK PFN Ernie Pennine, PGK PFN Earl Mahar, Pam DePaolo, Barry Chevette of Pascoag Council, PGK Gilbert Oliver, Jamie Lynn Benson Bauman, DD Bud Garceau, and PFN Gerry L'Esperance of Woonsocket Council/Moylan Assembly as they each deal with various health concerns.

Prayers Requested



Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

PGK Joe Digulio of Federal Hill Council

PGK PFN Tom Medford of St. Thomas Council and Delaney Assembly

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.

(to have someone mentioned, contact me @ ijklmc.tracy@att.net)

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Contact Information

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Youth Director Mike Guerra
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Council Director Jack Tracy, 3rd
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Contact information of subcommittee chairmen and other State Staff can be found on the State website www.kofcri.org

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 help or with any questions you may have.

Also, (and I know I said this above) please send me content to promote your Council and its good works. Photos are good, too. I will include as much as possible and run as many pages as it takes (it is an online newsletter, after all, I don't need to print it. – said laughingly)

- *Jack Tracy*

Vivat Jesus!

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 jklmc.tracy@att.net.



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