

# Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

January 2022

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editor: SK John Huttenhoff



## Resolutions

As the calendar turns from 2021 to 2022, many individuals will put together a list of 'Resolutions' for change. This yearly event that some undertake results in a renewed focus and energy on trying to improve something in one's life.

For me, these next 6 months my newsletter articles will share a similar 'outlook' of change and improvement. A little over 18 months ago when I ran for State Deputy, and even further back almost 4 years ago when I originally decided to run for a State Officer position, I did so out of a desire to improve our State

Council in areas where I felt I could make an impact.

Although no State Deputies in our Order will tell you that these past 2 years dealing with COVID wasn't a challenge. Instead of utilizing COVID as an 'excuse' as to not doing programs or growing membership, our State team took this challenge to the next level by introducing some 'unique' incentives to try and promote growth in our council

membership. If you polled all of the Jurisdictions, our incentives were one of the most aggressive in costs—the potential to 'waive' an entire year's worth of per-capita (after the October 1<sup>st</sup> per capita as waived in 2020) if councils could achieve a specific membership intake quota.

This year, we built on this and offered another similar incentive. As of this writing, with a few days to go in 2021, we have 24 councils that have already met their Membership Quota set by Supreme. To give you an idea as to how this compares—as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 only 4 councils had met their yearly goal (7 councils in 2019, 8 councils in 2018, 10 councils in 2017 and 18 councils in 2016). So we have found a way in this challenging time to motivate our councils to do something that they haven't done in the 5 years prior even close to what they have achieved these past 6 months!

Now, we have been able to offer these unique opportunities for councils to retain their per capita amounts, and encourage them to give to charity by also finding unique ways to cut our expenses at the State Council as well as utilize the resources available to us.

As we are in the midst of reviewing our anticipated budget for the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year, I have evaluated the past trends that we have had with respect to the spending of our State Council.

By identifying some costs that we were able to cut and by utilizing the technology available to us—as well as finding unique ways to deliver messages in person instead of via 'mail' we have seen a declining trend in our State Expenses over the past 4 years. This all started during Immediate Past State Deputy Jack Wrbanich's tenure as he was able to reduce the expenses from \$454,745 in 2017-2018 Fraternal Year to \$388,378 in 2018-2019 Fraternal Year. Expenses were cut even further the following year to \$260,863.

While expenses have increased in some areas of the Budget in areas that are 'fixed' and as a result to the impact of rising inflation in certain utility areas, etc., for the most part across the board there is a trend of reducing costs over the past 4 years that has allowed us to maintain a strong balance sheet.

In the 2020-2021 Fraternal Year, our expenses were even lower to the tune of \$250,296. Even though we did conduct a State Convention last year, because of COVID we didn't incur the costs of hosting in person meetings such as the Summer and Winter District Deputy meetings along with the Diocesan Tour. Continuing this trend of cost-savings measures into this Fraternal Year, as of this writing our Expenses are slightly under \$100,000 so far this Fraternal Year. Hopefully the future leads of the State can maintain this same level of fiscal responsibility while also finding ways to grow our Membership—which is a constant challenge!

Now, we were able to offer some 'unique' incentives this past year and the ability to 'waive' the October 1<sup>st</sup> per capita to our Councils due in large part to the fiscal responsibility of our Immediate Past State Deputy Jack, who allowed for 'carry over' of funds for spending purposes into my 1<sup>st</sup> year as State Deputy, as well as a resolution that allowed us to tap into our General Reserve Fund.

In 2020-2021, the State Council withdrew \$75,000 from the General Reserve Fund to help allow for our State Council to waive the October 1<sup>st</sup> per capita. Some may feel that by 'tapping' into this fund that we were depleting resources of our State and not acting in a responsible manner.

To be transparent for all—here are some facts to go along with that assertion. Our General Reserve Fund account balance as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was \$1,104,204.59. As of 12/28/2021, the General Reserve Fund account balance is \$1,183,034. So, even after withdrawing funds allowed by our State Council passing the resolution that it did in September 2020, we are still in an even stronger financial position with respect to our General Reserve account by over 7% from where we began our terms in 2020. Instead of growing an even stronger balance sheet for the State—wherein the State Officers make decisions on where to spend money—we were able to offer relief back to our Councils, some of which that were struggling to help others because of the inability to do their 'normal' fundraisers during COVID. This allowed councils to donate their per-capita amounts that would've been paid to the State Council—thus strengthening our Parishes and our Communities in a time of need. Honestly, I can't think of a better way for our State Officers to support our Councils in this time of need while showing fiscal responsibility at the same time!

As I spoke about in the beginning of this article, the 'RESOLUTION' I took when elected State Deputy was to continue a part of fiscal responsibility and trying to find unique ways to help navigate our State council past the challenges of COVID, stronger than prior!

We have been able to do this Fiscally—now the challenge continues to do this with growing our Membership!

Though we have found greater success for some councils as mentioned earlier with the 24 councils thus far that have reached their Membership Quotas (and on the path to becoming 'Star Councils'), we still have many councils that have yet to bring in a new member since July.

As a result of our strong financial position—we will be offering an UPDATED INCENTIVE to our WISCAPITA incentive to include another way for councils to achieve a reduction in their April 1st per capita bill. I will be reaching out in the coming days to all councils regarding this incentive! We hope that ALL our councils take advantage of this unique opportunity!

In closing, I hope that you all RESOLVE to find a way to achieve your GOALS for MEMBERSHIP GROWTH, PROGRAM GROWTH, and SPIRITUAL GROWTH over these first few months of 2022!

Corey Christopher Coonen  
State Deputy



## January the Epiphany Season

Yes, Christmas continues past the 25th of December and does not end until our Celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. That celebration is also called the Epiphany by our Catholic brothers and sisters in the Eastern Rites of the Church. Epiphany is not so much about the wise men bringing gifts as it is about God and His Love for us being revealed to the nations and the world.

The month of January is really a month of God and His power of Love being revealed to us, a season of Epiphany or illumination. This can also point to the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary with the Baptism of the Lord being followed the next Sunday by the Gospel account of the wedding feast in Cana. The next two Sundays Jesus teaches in the synagogues and reveals Himself as the fulfillment of the promise found in the Old Testament. In this "Season of Epiphany" we may want to focus on praying the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

Sometimes January is a difficult month to get through, especially in Wisconsin and other northern regions, but the light begins to increase even if the temperature does not. With a focus on our faith this January, we can dispel spiritual darkness with the light of Christ. Pray your Rosary and enter into the Liturgy on Sundays, and even other days, with an openness to God's light. The Hope that God gives us by revealing He is with us in the power of His Love gives us reason to celebrate this January as a Season of Epiphany.

Fr. Andrew Kurz



Brother Knights! I hope you had a very blessed Christmas with plenty of time with family and friends!

Just a couple of items to let you all know about!

Per Capita. As of Dec 1st, Per Capita is overdue. Please address with your councils immediately. If copies are needed for your invoice, please let me know as soon as possible so we can resolve the issue. My email is [mcasey@wikofc.com](mailto:mcasey@wikofc.com)

State Convention Portal is now open and active! I highly encourage you to take a moment and sign your delegates up for the 2022 State Convention at the Chula Vista Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. Your council should have just recently with all pertinent information for the upcoming convention. An added benefit for this year's convention, we will be hosting a lunch on Saturday afternoon for delegates. Highly suggestion you sign up and pre-pay for this event, as well as the State Deputies Dinner and the Ladies Luncheon. Early sign up could save you a few dollars and help the state plan to make your State Convention as enjoyable as possible.

Last Housekeeping note. Recently the ID checks were distributed at your Diocesan meetings. In some cases, District Deputies picked up checks for Councils not present at the meeting. Checks not picked up

by a GK, FS or DD were mailed. Checks have a shelf life of 90 days. We highly encourage that you get these checks to their destinations as soon as possible.

I hope and pray for a safe healthy and prosperous new year for all of you!

Vivat Jesus!

Miles Casey  
State Treasurer

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### **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, 27, 29, 31, 40, 42, 44, 51, 66, 85.

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### **State Convention Registration is Open**

Convention Announcement Packets were Distributed at the Diocesan Meetings. Packets are addressed to the Grand Knight.

All of the information in the Convention Announcement Packet is also available on the State Website.

<https://uknight.org/StateConventionSite/default.asp?CN=US&ST=WI>

**You must call the Hotel using the Number and Code on the Convention Announcement to get our State Council Negotiated Rate**

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### **Candidates for State Officers**

Since the Wisconsin State Council State Convention in 2022 is currently planned to be a Hybrid Convention, we are again offering the opportunity for those members wishing to be Candidates for either State Office to submit a Resume, Picture, and Nomination Statement to be posted on the State Website.

It is requested that information be submitted prior to April 1 so that Councils can review the information and provide voting instructions to their delegates. Materials can be emailed to State Secretary John Huttenhoff at [jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com](mailto:jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com).

## DELEGATES TO THE 140th SUPREME CONVENTION

Nashville, Tennessee AUGUST 1-4, 2022

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

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

In 2020 and 2021, the Wisconsin State Council offered the opportunity for Candidates for State Office and those seeking election to be Delegates to the Supreme Convention to submit a Resume and Nomination Statement to be posted on the State Website. This information was well received by the membership as it allowed the delegates to get to know who they were voting for prior to the State Convention.

Since the Wisconsin State Council State Convention in 2022 is currently planned to be a Hybrid Convention, we are again offering the opportunity for those members wishing to be Candidates for either State Office or a Delegate to the Supreme Convention to submit a Resume, Picture, and Nomination Statement to be posted on the State Website.

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

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

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

- One Page Resume
- Picture
- One Page Nomination Speech or Statement

It is requested that information be submitted prior to April 1 so that Councils can review the information and provide voting instructions to their delegates. Materials can be emailed to State Secretary John Huttenhoff at [jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com](mailto:jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com).

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## State Advocate Updates



Brother Knights,

There are still many councils who have yet to turn in a forms 185 & 365. Ask yourself, why do baseball teams have a roster? It lets the team know who is responsible for each task of the team. This is the true purpose of these forms. How can you function without it?

I will be sending out Safe Environment updates after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year to let you know where you stand. I hope all of you that have received the link from Supreme have had the opportunity to complete this Safe Environment training. Remember it is for the protection of those we serve as well as for us.

Does your council have liability insurance? Events that your council runs such as a pancake breakfast are not covered. If something should go wrong, you could be in for a major expense. This insurance is affordable, typically around \$200 per year. We recommend you get it ASAP.

Please keep in mind that if you do not complete the training, you will be removed from that position, it is not an option. We have had a few instances where the member failed to fill out the Background Check.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for the State Convention; registration is already open and early registration allows you to get a discount on meals. Keep in mind to send in a list of members in your council that are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or 70<sup>th</sup> year as members of our Knights of Columbus.

Remember Feb 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submitting resolutions.

We are continuing an analysis of councils who have their own club house. There are regulations from Supreme that must be followed. You will be receiving a query from your DD requesting a photo of your club house signage if you have one. This is something that was first brought up about a decade ago.

The Resolutions Committee will be meeting in February 26, 2022, more info to follow. Vivat Jesus!

Don Schoenherr  
Worthy State Advocate

## Membership Notes



### RECRUIT VS INVITE

By Kristin Schultz

*It is with great joy that we announce the marriage of our daughter. You are cordially recruited to attend.*

Have you ever received a wedding announcement that said that? Of course not! You are not recruited to a wedding; you are invited. Wedding invitations come on fancy paper and sometimes include ribbons and confetti. Someone puts a lot of thought and effort into making wedding invitations a vital part of the wedding event. When you receive one, you are invited to be a part of something.

What if we treated potential volunteers like that? That is, what if we invited people to volunteer instead of recruiting them?

Take a look at the list below. It lists events to which you may be invited and times when you may be recruited.

#### Invited

Wedding  
Baby shower  
Birthday party  
Dinner with friends

#### Recruited

Help someone move  
Compete as athletes in college  
Join a club or organization  
Apply for or accept a job

Do you see the difference? When you are *invited*, the host wants you to attend because you are valued. Your presence will make the occasion even more special. When you are *recruited*, the leader sees that you have a set of skills that will contribute to the organization or event. When you are invited, you are called *to* something. When you are *recruited*, you are called *for* something.

#### **Cogs in the Wheel**

As our churches grow and expand, we see the need for more volunteers. Paid staff simply cannot do it all. So we recruit.

*[Scene 1 - Announcement in church]*

Mary (children's ministry leader): We are gearing up for VBS, and as you know, it's a lot of work. We need volunteers to teach; lead the craft center; make snacks; decorate; remove decorations; donate juice and cheese; and lead music, as well as opening and closing. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of church after services today. I hope you all can lend us a hand and make this the best VBS ever! *[End scene]*

What did Mary do? Mary looked at what needed to be done and then asked that someone, anyone, joyfully volunteer to be a cog in her VBS wheel.

#### **Another Approach**

Did Mary get the help she needed? Probably. Could she have been more effective? Yes. Instead of asking people to fill voids on her checklist, what if Mary invited people to make a difference in the lives of children during VBS week?

When we invite people to service, we ask that they live their faith by using their gifts and abilities. We are calling them to discipleship! When Jesus called the first disciples, he called them to *follow him* (Matthew 4:18-22). He didn't recruit them for companionship or their fishing skills. He invited them to follow him.

Isn't that what Christians are? Followers of Christ. How do we help people follow Christ and his example? How can we help people live their faith? By inviting them to discipleship.

According to the 2015 Study of Volunteerism as conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the majority of people who volunteered did so at a faith-based organization. Faith is the primary motivator to service. Put another way, a person's faith in Jesus motivates him or her to volunteer. You just have to invite individuals to live the disciple life. Invite them to be disciples.

## Membership Notes

### Recruiting? Inviting?

To make the switch from recruiting to inviting, you must first change your attitude. Stop thinking of volunteers as recruits and start thinking of them as invitees to ministry.

People are more likely to use their gifts in discipleship if they are personally invited. Again, think of Jesus' example. He didn't carry a clipboard to the beach. He didn't post a sign-up sheet. He didn't make an announcement in the marketplace. He personally invited the disciples to follow him.

What would this look like for Mary, who is trying to invite volunteers to VBS ministry?

Paul (a member of Mary's congregation) works at a local hardware store and teaches classes on basic woodworking to families. Would Paul be willing to use his skills - both in teaching and handiwork - to help a group of high-school students construct the various sets and decorations for VBS? Quality decoration can make the Bible stories come alive for everyone who attends VBS - children and teachers alike.

Darla's famous deviled eggs are the star of the church picnic every year. Would Darla be willing to share her culinary gifts in the kitchen during VBS? When children are fed physically, they are better able to concentrate on the Word of God - spiritual food.

The Anderson family is involved in community theater. Would they be willing to play the parts of various Bible characters during VBS week? Think of the impact it would make if a child could actually speak to Saint Paul!

This kind of inviting takes time. It takes more time than making an announcement on Sunday morning and posting a notice for volunteers on Facebook. But the extra time and effort will make a much deeper impact. People want to matter. They want to make a difference. If we take into account individual giftedness and ongoing relationships in our churches, we can better understand where, when, and how to invite them

to serve. We are also likely to retain those volunteers when we connect a deeper meaning - discipleship - to their service. When people are called to service, they understand they are not just a cog in a wheel, but rather an essential piece in the bigger picture.

So think of your conversations with potential volunteers as verbal wedding invitations! You would be honored to work with them. Their presence will make the event much more special for you and everyone else who attends. You are giving them the opportunity to be a part of a community of gifted believers who are blessed to be able to share their faith with those they serve. *Invite* them to service.

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We can apply this same inviting strategy in recruiting new members as well as seeking volunteers for your next council project.

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### Diocesan Membership Coordinators

Holding councils accountable for recruitment and scheduling of exemplification is one of our primary goals this Fraternal year; your Diocesan Membership Coordinator (DMC) is there to help and assist you; please give them your attention when they call.

#### FY 2021-2022 DMC's

**Green Bay Diocese**

Chuck Rohr

**La Crosse Diocese**

Scott Frome

**Madison Diocese**

Doc Casey

**Milwaukee ArchDiocese**

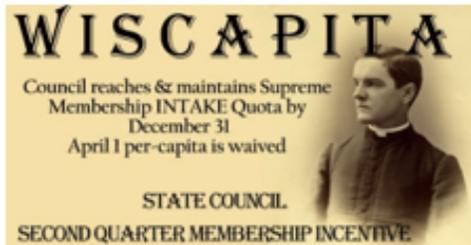
Les Kostera

**Superior Diocese**

Mark Rasmussen

## Membership Notes

### WISCAPITA LEADER BOARD (UNOFFICIAL RESULTS)



If a Council reaches and maintains their Supreme Membership INTAKE quota by December 31, their April 1 per-capita will be waived.

For this incentive, growth is considered a net increase over losses through suspension or withdrawal. Deaths do not count against your quota, and transfers in or out of your Council do not count for or against your quota. Your council quota can be found under the Membership tab in Officers Online, which is updated daily

*This year's State Membership Incentive programs titled "WISCAPITA" gives your Council a chance to reduce or eliminate per-capita billing from the State Council.*

#### WISCAPITA 100% CLUB

(Unofficial results)

(Council/District/Location/Percent)

4648	064	Brookfield	475%
6568	047	Madison	212.5%
1864	050	Jefferson	200%
17135	032	River Falls	200%
9546	087	Birchwood	166.67%
1133	090	Merrill	150%
2836	003	Shawano	133.33%
12596	015	Mackville	133.33%
17035	029	Abbotsford	133.33%
4869	002	Oconto Falls	125%
4706	069	Milwaukee	120%
710	012	Manitowoc	112.5%

973	067	Kenosha	111.11%
2770	020	Mauston	100%
5008	003	Tigerton	100%
5127	029	Colby	100%
6508	050	Edgerton	100%
6630	042	Belleville	100%
7319	083	Bruce	100%
10715	063	Germantown	100%
16298	082	Amery	100%
16765	067	Kenosha	100%
16863	047	Monona	100%

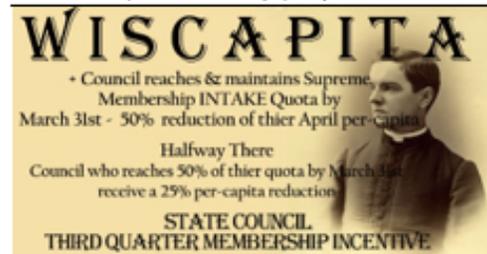
#### WISCAPITA +

Every Council Active Incentive

#### Cancelled

Every Council Active Leader Broad (12/28/21)

Green Bay (69 Councils) (32) Active	46%
La Crosse (61 Councils) (27) Active	44%
Madison (63 Councils) (31) Active	49%
Milwaukee (70 Councils) (31) Active	44%
Superior (41 Councils) (16) Active	39%
Wisconsin (304 Councils) (121) Active	40%



State Officers have elected to cancel the ECA incentive and in it's place revamp the WISCAPITA incentive for the third quarter to include a 'Halfway there' incentive!! So, here is how it's going to work:

If a Council reaches and maintain their Supreme Membership INTAKE quota by March 31<sup>st</sup> they will receive 50% off their April per-capita. Halfway their kicks in if councils can reach 50% or greater but less then 100% will receive a 25% reduction.

Jack Wrbanich, IPSD  
State Membership Director  
[wrbanich@att.net](mailto:wrbanich@att.net)  
(920) 246-4281



# Online Membership

Current e-membership in the state stands at:

CLASS / TYPE – as of date	11-23-2021	12-22-2021	Monthly Change
ASSOCIATE	159	169	+ 10
INSURANCE	36	36	No change
INACTIVE	11	11	No change
HONORARY	0	0	No change
HONORARY LIFE	1	1	No change
AFFILIATE	8	8	No change
EXEMPT	2	2	No change
ASSIGNED	121	126	+ 5
UNASSIGNED	1	1	No change
TOTAL	206	216	+ 10
New e-members YTD #	139	169	+ 30
New e-members YTD % of target (422)	33%	40%	+ 7%
Conversion into a council YTD #	86	105	+ 19
Conversion into a council YTD %	62%	62%	No change
All time intake #	824	853	+ 29
All time conversion into a council #	572	589	+ 17
All time conversion into a council %	69%	69%	No change

Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries, please check your Prospect lists in Officers Online at least once a week. If you have men showing there, CONTACT them. INVITE them to your Council meetings and activities. While you are together, invite them to attend an in-person or online DEGREE ceremony. After the degree, PROCESS them into your council. It is as simple as entering the degree date (or council approval date for a prior member or transfer in) in the field and clicking the TRANSFER button. If the member does not wish to join your council, please REJECT him and select the appropriate reason.

Don't forget to visit the Degree schedule page of the state council website to find an upcoming exemplification near you.

## **REMINDERS:**

When joining online, the requirement is that each new member must sign up **himself**. Online membership is a way for men interested in joining the Knights of Columbus to do so online, it is **not** to be used as a data entry system to enter new members from form 100s, prospect cards or parish lists, use the Candidate tab for that. Online membership requires a member to join with full knowledge, consent, and active participation in the process. As a reminder, if an individual does not truthfully answer all application declarations, his membership in the Knights of Columbus is void.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Every man who joins online needs to access [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus) from a compatible device, **personally** complete the online application testifying to all the attestations, and submit the online application **himself**.
- When possible, the member should use his own compatible device.
- The member must use their own valid email address when completing the online application.

### **NOT ALLOWABLE:**

- Completing the online application for a member even if they have asked you to do it for them.
- Collecting information from a proposed member on a form 100 or prospect card and using the information to sign the member up for online membership.
- Creating an email account for a member so they can complete the online membership process.

### **RESOURCES:**

Please watch the short videos on the Supreme website [Membership Training](#). Click on Membership in the left menu and you will see the available videos. Here are direct links to each.

- [An Introduction to Online Membership](#) 5:36
- [Online Join Process](#) 6:22
- [Prospect Tab](#) 3:55
- [Candidate tab](#) 4:00

### **PROCESS:**

Follow the standard procedures for a new e-member as with all new members:

- Completed form 100 or assigned e-member status in Prospect tab of Officers Online (OO).
- Admission committee vetting
- Council action (voting) – see [Guidelines for Online Voting - Motions](#) if holding virtual meetings
- Degree – Member must take the degree prior to being transferred into a council.
- Process new 3<sup>rd</sup> degree member into your council via
  - Form 100 submission or
  - Online form 100 (Candidate tab) entry and transfer or
  - e-member transfer (Prospect tab).
- Update degree status by entering degree dates for 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees in Member Management.

WI Online Membership Coordinator

William G. Hitt

[www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)

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## Programs

Brothers,

As we begin the new year 2022, we have many things on our plate. I was heartened by the dedication and enthusiasm I saw at the recent DD and Diocesan Meetings in the Dells and Rice Lake. Here are a few reminders to start off the New Year:

1. Your Council winning Culture of Life Essays need to be to your Diocesan Program Coordinator by January 15<sup>th</sup>. Your Council winning Catholic Citizenship Essays need to be to me by January 15<sup>th</sup>. Be sure proper entry forms are attached.
2. Your "True Meaning of Christmas" Council winning Posters (grades 1-4) are due to your Diocesan Program Coordinator NOW. Your "Keep Christ in Christmas" Council winning Posters (ages 5-7, 8-10, 11-14) are due to me NOW. Be sure they have proper entry forms attached.
3. Your very important Fraternal Survey (Form 1728) is due to Supreme and the State Forms address ([forms@wikofc.com](mailto:forms@wikofc.com)) by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to include the volunteer hours of not only Knights, but also ladies, family, parishioners, and prospects working on KC sponsored/operated programs. Also due January 31<sup>st</sup> is the Special Olympics Partnership Profile Report (formerly a separate form, now to be reported on the Faith in Action Program Report 10784). Fill in the information on your participation with Special Olympics this past year (volunteer numbers and hours, programs you participated in, monetary contributions made and send it in regardless of whether it's a lot or a little, or none at all. The more forms sent in, the more money Supreme share with the State Council for Team Wisconsin!
4. 2021 History Books are due to your District Deputy by February 1<sup>st</sup>. DDs are to send them on to your Diocesan Program Coordinators by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Pages for the 2022 Book should be on the State Website in early January. Remember that a History Book in some form is still a requirement for the Wisconsin Outstanding Council Award.
5. Every Council should have a Medallion Award Nomination and a Family of the Year Nomination. Medallion Award Nominations are due to PSD Tim Genthe by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Family of the Year Nominations are due to State Family Director Joe Uchtyl by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Nomination Forms for both awards can be downloaded from the State Website.
6. All Councils do quality programs every year in the 4 Faith in Action categories: Faith, Family, Community and Life. Take the best programs you've run in each area and fill out a State Service Program Award Application (Form STSP) for it. Be sure to include supporting evidence for it (letters, media articles, pictures, program details, etc.) Best to put in a binder/folder. Submit to State Office or to me no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>.
7. Be sure to check out Dan Miller, Mark Jelinek, Bernie Heit, John Benisch, Fr. Kurz, and Joe Uchtyl's articles among others for details on their January-February Programs.
8. Knowledge and Free Throw Contest should be ongoing at the Council level in January until March 20<sup>th</sup>. District Free Throw and Diocesan Knowledge/Free Throw Contests should be held from March 25<sup>th</sup>-April 24<sup>th</sup>. State Finals will be Saturday, April 30 in Wisconsin Rapids (Assumption High School). Updated Knowledge Contest materials will be on the State Website in

early January, but the time schedule is essentially the same as 2020 and the tests are also the same as 2020. So, materials from 2020 or even 2019 can still be used- just change the dates. If you have problems accessing the materials from the State Website, check with your State Officer in Charge or Steve Geishirt at State Office.

9. Remember that your Winter Audit is due February 15<sup>th</sup> to Supreme and the State Forms address. Be sure to get your registration materials for the State Convention in soon. Start now gathering the material for your 10-year History Book Supplement Form that will be due in the Fall. More on that next month.
10. The St. Joseph Icon Program should be under way here in January- schedules are out (check the State Website). Arrange now for Programs in your Parishes/Districts. Extra/Replacement materials can be ordered from Supreme. For more information, check with Coordinator Dennis Bednarek.

Have a great January-stay safe, warm, and in good health! Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally,  
Bill Frayer  
State Program Director

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## General Agent Message

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



Happy New Year, to the entire State Families and to our Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Brother Knights. What a shame that we didn't get to see you more in 2021, with restrictions and limitations the year certainly didn't turn out exactly as we had it planned.

I would first like to thank WSD, Corey and Lindsey and again say, Congratulations on your tying the Knot and starting a life together, and blessing for servicing us at the same time WOW! Then, to the rest of leadership what a great job you did this year in guiding the Order here in Wisconsin. Thank you so much, and I understand more now than ever the strain it takes at times to carry on in these historic times.

As I read something this month about Saint Joseph how his life changed once he met Mary, and how his quite life changed into just following the guidance of the Angels and trusting God's plan for his life. I am sure when he woke up and told Mary "we're going to Egypt" the trust in God had to be at the forefront on their minds. I have been talking with lots of members and members wives in the last four or five months with the loss of loved ones and Covid related deaths. I have seen more people tell me of an unexpected passing than ever before. I tell them to trust in God and accept the Lord's timing, which is

not easy and not what we expect. So, to turn to this upcoming year, what does the road ahead look like for you and your family, have you told them you loved them and have shown them the same, I hope so. As for New year resolutions plan on family time, and plan on doing things with your councils to make your community stronger and your parishes more cohesive. I read a lot of books and I know some parishes gave out "Life is Messy" by Matthew Kelly this year. Reading a book can help us grow in Holiness, but sitting in adoration can do more, saying our bedtime prayers may help us sleep but Praying the Rosary will help us more. Going to Sunday Mass will help us focus our week but going to daily mass and received the Eucharist every day, or as often as possible, can do more! My local Priest talks about one more thing going to confession every Month will allow you do more with the year ahead of us. It will make us a more charitable people, not just with those at home but those we seem to disagree with or like the least.

My hope for all of us this year is that we find the time to do all four, Read good books, Pray the Rosary more, Go to confessions and Receive the Eucharist as often as possible. I have asked the Men that work for the Knights of Columbus Insurance to center their lives around the Eucharist and become the change in the world they want to see. So that's the new year resolution for me to find more Men who need to bring their families into the Knights of Columbus and share our story, of Charity, Unity, and fraternity ultimately rooted in the heart of Christ. +

Vivat Jesus!

Tim Nowak

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](http://www.kofcwi.org)

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## Charity Raffle Update

### Wisconsin Knights of Columbus State Charity Raffle

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome a new member to our team:

**Michael Haight**, PO Box 32, Sparta, WI 54656-0032, 608-487-2138,  
[michael.a.haight@outlook.com](mailto:michael.a.haight@outlook.com)

Michael will be handling the La Crosse diocese this year. Dan Spencer has been on the committee for more years than I know and has been dedicated to serving the La Crosse Diocese. He has offered to help train Michael so the diocese should be in good hands. If you see either of these brother knights, be sure to thank them for all their service to the Knights of Columbus.

Grant applications have really started to pour in, the last couple months we have received more grant applications than the previous six months combined. This is good news as you knights are getting out there to help families who are struggling with life. Now we just need to sell those raffle tickets to continue to support Wisconsin Families.

God Bless,  
Bernie Heit  
Charity Director  
[bernieheit@gmail.com](mailto:bernieheit@gmail.com)

**DO YOUR PART** to help Wisconsin families, **SELL, PURCHASE, or TRADE**

## **Knight of Columbus Charity Raffle**

**Total Prize List - \$124,000**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - 2022 F150 XLT Super Cab or \$50,000**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Harley Davidson Motorcycle or \$25,000**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 100<sup>th</sup> - \$500**

**Tickets \$5.00 each**

Drawing Saturday May 7, 2022  
Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI

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### **ID Program Update**

The Assisting People with Intellectual Disabilities Program is in a time where your Council has two things which need to be completed if the program is to have a successful year.

1. Deliver the checks you received in December to the groups you selected to receive the funds. Try to get a picture of your Council and the groups and get it published somewhere: newspaper, social media account, church bulletin, anywhere. This will let your community know the Knights are truly helping people with intellectual disabilities.
2. Get your order together for your Tootsie Rolls for the 2022 Drive. The sooner all Councils and Districts get their orders in, the sooner everyone in the state gets their Tootsie Rolls.

If your Council gets these two things done you are setting your Council up to have a great year in assisting others.

Thank you for all you do for the Order.  
Mark Jelinek  
WI KC ID Director

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### **Culture of Life Happenings**

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

Any councils interested in sponsoring students to go to the March for Life DC trip, please send your contribution to: Pro-Life Wisconsin, 15850 W Bluemound Rd – Ste 311, Brookfield, WI 53005. We have three buses going to DC and HUGE student interest. Our cost is \$378, but in an effort to keep it somewhat affordable, we are only charging \$348. With over 150 people going, so right off the bat, we are under water by \$4,500. The three buses are SOLD OUT, praise God. We inquired into a 4<sup>th</sup> bus, but they could not accommodate due to a lack of drivers.

Through Christ,



Dan Miller  
State Director  
Culture of Life Committee  
State Council – Knights of Columbus  
Oconomowoc Council #2487  
4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly #1304  
[Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org](mailto:Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org) – 262-993-6262

SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**IMPORTANT CHANGES**

Councils need to report their participation in Special Olympics activities using the online #10784 **immediately after their Special Olympics event. Please note that the Special Olympics Partnership Profile Report Form #4584 is no longer being accepted.**

A how-to training video for the #10784 is available in the [Fraternal Training Video Library](#).

**TEAM WISCONSIN DRIVE**

A THANK YOU to ALL Councils, that have donated to this drive over the last 3 ½ years. As we are going into our final 6 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 \$102,277.99, leaving us to raise another \$22,722.01.

**PLEASE** mail 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

Please keep our Special Olympics athletes in your prayers.

John Benisch  
Special Olympics Coordinator

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## Supreme Training Update

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

### Delta Church 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.

**1/24/22 at 6PM CST (7PM EST)**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/7953586060181978896>

### 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.

**1/25/22 at 6PM CST (7PM EST)**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/3090474717831093515>

### 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 councils 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.

**1/26/22 at 7PM CST (8PM EST)**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/1983295095963044619>

### 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 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.



the

1/27/21 at 6PM CST (7PM EST)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4365548665749083659>

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## Faith in Action – Family Programs

Hello Brother Knights!

This month 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/14805106>. Check it out!

#### Supreme

Wisconsin is in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the order and have submitted **11.5%** of all FOMs received by Supreme. The Supreme family of the month is the **Tom and Mary Grunaid Family** (Emer-Quinn Council 3249, District 24, La Crosse Diocese).

#### Diocese

Madison Diocese led with **69%** district participation with Green Bay Diocese having the most FOMs by submitting **15** families.

Here are the Diocesan Families of the Month.

<b>Green Bay</b>	<b>Peter and Kathy Nordeen</b>	<b>La Crosse</b>	<b>Joseph and Kristen La Mere</b>
<b>Madison</b>	<b>Ed and Terri Svetich</b>	<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>Kenneth and Ginny Leitner</b>
<b>Superior</b>	<b>Tom and Susan Meyers</b>		

#### District

**62%** of the districts submitted at least one family. **Districts on Fire:** Three districts submitted three or more families and eleven districts submitted two families.

### Council

There were no new councils submitting a family of the Month.

### 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 36 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 there is not estimated time of repair.

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](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](mailto:forms@wikofc.com)** so that your family can be considered for the Diocesan Family of the Month award.

### Keep Christ in Christmas

Promote the true spirit of Christmas in homes, schools, parishes, and communities. Councils will evangelize society through their faithful acts, celebrations, and a variety of activities.

- Consider offering a monetary award for the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner for each age division. Your council may choose a different amount, but my council gives our winners \$25.
- The deadline for sending in your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners to our State Program Director **William Frayer** is December 31<sup>st</sup>. His address is 2339 Meachem Street, Racine, WI 53403-2463.

### Consecration to the Holy Family

Revitalize our parishes by urging our parish families to devote themselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Invite each family in your parish to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family. **The feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is December 25/26, 2021.**

**Guide Sheet:** <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/consecration-to-the-holy-family/10605-consecration-holy-family-guidesheet.pdf>

- Read through the guide sheet to prepare for the event
- Order prayer cards (and other supplies) from Officers Online (they will go quick)

### Our Marriage Prayer

The event is normally celebrated on World Marriage Sunday which will be on Sunday February 13, 2022. Check out the training video at <http://www.ourmarriageprayer.com/Knights-of-Columbus>

**I plan on being at the December district meetings to provide Our Marriage Prayer cards.** The price will be \$7 per pack of 125 cards which is about half the price I need to sell them on Amazon due to Amazon and shipping fees. If your council would like some cards, please bring cash/check.

Start planning seeds with gentlemen to see who can lead the Our Marriage Prayer during mass.

## Council Family of the Year

Every council should submit one knight family as their council family of the year! Due to Supreme requiring that all

State Family of the Year submissions be in a digital format, I would be extremely grateful if everyone would submit

their council family of the year in digital format as well. **PLEASE DO NOT MAIL ME A PHYSICAL BINDER**

- The council family of the year **MUST** be a knight family
- Use Form 10680 <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/family-of-the-month-year/10680-family-of-year-form.pdf>
- Save the form on your computer so it can be used for your council history book.
- Submit your council family of the year to the state by emailing the PDF files to [forms@wikofc.com](mailto:forms@wikofc.com)
- Additional supporting documentation such as letters of recommendations and pictures can also be submitted
- but they need to be in PDF format. It is extremely appreciated if all supporting pictures and documentation
- could be combined into a single PDF file.
- Deadline: **February 15th**

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

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## St. Joseph Icon Program – Tentative Schedule

This year's Icon Program is with the St. Joseph Icon. We have the Icons, Books, and Cards and they were distributed at the Diocesan Meetings to the first District on the Schedule. We are still waiting on the Cases to arrive. For more information, please see the Supreme Resources at:

<http://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/faith/pilgrim-icon.html>

Please contact State Coordinator Dennis Bednarek with any questions on this program.

Transfer date	Icon 1	Icon 2	Icon 3	Icon 4
Saturday, January 1, 2022	64	6	47	25
Saturday, February 5, 2022	65	7	45	23
Saturday, March 12, 2022	70	3	43	21
Saturday, April 16, 2022	68	4	51	31
Saturday, May 21, 2022	72	5	52	32
Saturday, June 25, 2022	67	8	42	22
Saturday, July 30, 2022	73	13	40	24
Saturday, September 3, 2022	49	2	41	30
Saturday, October 8, 2022	50	1	26	29
Saturday, November 12, 2022	48	80	46	27
Saturday, December 10, 2022	63	85	44	28
Saturday, January 21, 2023	62	91	14	90
Saturday, February 25, 2023	69	83	10	89
Saturday, April 1, 2023	60	81	25	87
Saturday, May 6, 2023	61	82	11	
Saturday, June 10, 2023	66		12	
Saturday, July 15, 2023	71		9	

Vivat Jesus

SK Dennis Bednarek PGK PFN FDD

Knights of Columbus

Wisconsin State Council Silver Rose Chairman

Waukesha Assembly 1304 Comptroller

Mukwonago Council 7048 Financial Secretary

Cell 262-470-4477

Home: no longer in service