



MICHIGAN COLUMBIAN



July 2017 VOLUME 69 NO. 1

SENTINEL UNITY OF FAITH

FROM THE STATE DEPUTY

Kenneth B. Unterbrink



Your Excellency's:

Most Reverend Allen Vigneron, Arch Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend David Walkowiak, Bishop of Grand Rapids, Most Reverend Paul Bradley, Bishop of Kalamazoo, Most Reverend Earl Boyea, Bishop of Lansing, Most Reverend John Doerfler, Bishop of Marquette, Most Reverend Joseph Cistone, Bishop of Saginaw, Most Reverend Bishop Steven Raica, Bishop of Gaylord, Most Reverend Gerard Battersby, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Arturo Cepeda, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Robert Fisher, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Most Reverend Donald Hanchon, Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Worthy State Chaplain Very Reverend William J. Canon Turner, Worthy Diocesan Chaplains, Worthy Council Chaplains, Worthy State Father Prior, Reverend Monsignors, Reverend Fathers, Deacons and Religious, Worthy Supreme Director, Worthy Former Supreme Directors, Worthy Vice Supreme Master, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Immediate Past State Deputy and Past State Deputies, Worthy Former Vice Supreme Masters, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State and Diocesan Directors, Worthy Masters of the Patriotic Degree, Worthy Supreme Council General Insurance Agents, Worthy Delegates and Guests
Vivat Jesus

We are once again gathered here on beautiful and historic Mackinac Island for the 117th Annual Michigan State Council convention. We have joined together to acknowledge this past years achievements of the Michigan Jurisdiction, along with preparing us to return home to our

councils supplied with information to continue to grow the order here in Michigan. I thank each of you for accepting the position of service as a council delegate and I ask that you enjoy full participation in the work that lies before us.

Our annual meeting opened today as it has for the last 116 years with the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Arch Bishop Vigneron presided, joined by our Bishops, our State Chaplain, Diocesan Chaplains and many of our council Chaplains. We will begin each day of this convention with the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, I ask that you make it a point to join us each morning and fill the theater to capacity as you did this afternoon for the opening Mass.

As the 48th State Deputy of Michigan it is my duty as well as my pleasure to conduct the business of our Order at this annual business meeting and present to you the annual report on the State of Columbianism in the Michigan Jurisdiction.

I wish to thank the Bishop of Lansing, Bishop Earl Boyea, for allowing Very Reverend William J. Canon Turner to serve as our Spiritual leader. To assist our State Chaplain the Bishops of each Diocese gave their approval of the Diocesan Chaplains to continue their appointments. Those appointed are, Rev. Fr. Lam Le, Grand Rapids Diocese; Rev. Fr. Paul Ballien Diocese of Detroit; Rev. Fr. Matthew Wigton, Diocese of Gaylord; Rev. Fr. Robert Creagan, Diocese of Kalamazoo; Rev. Fr. Paul Erickson, Diocese of Lansing; Rev. Fr. James Bessert, Diocese of Saginaw; Rev. Fr. Cory Litzner, Diocese of Marquette and Rev. Fr. Kenneth Mazur, the State Columbian Squires Fr. Prior.

On behalf of the Michigan Knights of Columbus I thank all of the Bishops for their permission in allowing these priests to serve our Order, and to all the Bishops, our State and Diocesan Chaplains our thanks for your vocation to the priesthood.

The selection of thirty-seven (37) District Deputies was next on the agenda. I am very grateful to these men for their service. This list was presented to our Supreme Knight for his approval on their appointments as District Deputies in the Michigan Jurisdiction.

In addition to selecting the new District Deputies, reappointing seated District Deputies, State Directors and Diocesan Directors who were appointed and reappointed to serve this fraternal year.

Again, as in years past, the new District Deputy and Diocesan Director training was held at the Queen of Angels facility, in Saginaw in June. The State Membership and State Program Director also conducted training for all the Diocese membership and program directors. It was a fruitful day with information presented that helped the new District Deputies and Directors prepare for their upcoming services.

Thank you State Membership Director Kenneth Krause, State Program Director Dale Schaedig, with assistance Ed Nickel State Membership Assistant and Dave Bergeman State Program Assistant for your assistance.

July 1st started out in grand style. Supreme assigned our state quota of 2650 new members, a very achievable number, but we fell short of the expectation.

The weekend of July 1st to the 3rd saw the Summer Leadership Conference of District Deputies, State, Diocesan and
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FROM THE STATE CHAPLAIN
V. Rev. William J. Turner, PhD, KCHS



Brothers and Ladies:

The term of a State Chaplain is a short one. This month I am at the half way mark and the initiatives of the Order are constantly on my mind as we attempt to implement them. I am called to give to you encouragement as the Order strives to live out the faith in 2017. You have heard much about the Domestic Church and our responsibility to strongly support this direction by visibly becoming witnesses in the sacredness of our own family lives. We then become examples to our children and other youth of Christian fatherhood and family men in every endeavor. By offering ourselves to our pastors as men of service and men of the Church family, there is no doubt that we will become builders of our faith as we have been called to be

by our bishops in Michigan. I appeal to Grand knights to assure that Council Members are not only aware of this direction, but that they act upon it.

Secondly, as I announced at the Mackinac Island Convention, we will be responding to the Supreme Knight's call to support our suffering brothers and sisters in the Middle East, not only through the funds being sent by the State Council to Iraq, but also through the emergency funds I requested from each Council. These funds will be directed to Bethlehem St Joseph School, where there is no furnace for the early grade's building, and to the various summer programs of the Catholic schools in the Holy Land. Specifically, I asked each Council, at the very least, to approve funds at their next Council meeting, under the limit which is allowed without approval from the entire membership. You can then send your support immediately to the State Office marked for this purpose.

As I am writing for this article at the beginning of June and the funds need to arrive in the Holy Land in July, I am hoping that many Councils have already done so. If your Council has not, please inform the State Office as to your plan to participate. These funds can make a real effect of support that is directed to assist youth in the Holy Land. This initiative will bring honor to our Order as we show these Christians that we support them and that they are not alone as they struggle to remain in their homes through the violence and injustice that surrounds them

Let us together strive to be bridges of peace to those around us, lest we be caught up in political unrest and polarization. Facilitating such disunity is not a charism of our Order. However, standing strong for the faith, supporting Church teachings, and supporting those called to proclaim them, is our hallmark. We act upon the spirit of our Founder not only in our efforts to assure the stability of widows and orphans, but each time we arise in support of life, in support of marriage and in support of the family. Do not be afraid of attacks against us. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!" (Joshua 24:15)

V. Rev. William J. Turner, PhD, KCHS
 State Chaplain

Iron River (Mich.) Council 2300 hosted a Red, White, and Blue Mass in conjunction with their Corporate Communion At St. Agnes Parish in Iron River to honor the firefighters, EMS personal, police officers and all their family members for the unselfish service that they provide to the local communities. The Knights provided an honor guard for the emergency personal and a light brunch after Mass. The council also held its first "Black Cow" project at the Iron Mountain Veteran Hospital, serving approximately 75 patients, visitors and aids with cookies, root beer floats and ice cream sundaes.

St. Peter Council 6534 in Eaton Rapids, Mi., constructed a wheelchair ramp at the home of a Knight who had undergone an emergency leg amputation. The council held a Mexican dinner fundraiser to cover the \$1,500 cost of the ramp installation, but due to its success, an additional \$3,100 was raised to help pay medical bills following the Knight's long hospital stay.

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July 1 Begins a New Fraternal Year
 Thomas M. Wegener
 Supreme Director



At the end of May we completed a most successful convention. Our accomplishments were celebrated as each council was recognized in all the categories that help make us successful, both programming and membership. Only together, state council and local council, working as a team towards the goals set for us, can we be successful today and through the years to come.

July 1 now begins a new fraternal year for the Knights of Columbus with New Grand Knights, New District Deputies, New State and Diocesan Leadership. Congratulations all who have accepted a leadership role in our great jurisdiction. By now we have received our goals and quotas for the coming year. At first they may seem insurmountable. However, Michigan has achieved lofty goals before, and in the not too distant past. Working as a together as a team towards the goals set for us, state council and local council, we can be successful today and through the years to come.

Integral to that success is the continuity of leadership for each council. Yet each year some of our councils have trouble presenting a full slate of officers for election. Past state convention have had a spirited campaign for one officer's position. Ask yourself – when was the last time your council had more than one person compete for one officer's position? After you ask yourself that, ask others in your council - why is that?

Our councils are generally thought of in high regard by our priests, by our communities, and by our own members. However, do you have officers repeating in their office year after year? Are your meetings attended by only a few non-officers and non-directors? Is there a lack of communication from the officers to the council members? Are your members aware of the great things your council does? This disaffection towards participating in leadership probably took some time to develop and certainly it affects the successful operation of our councils.

There is an appeal to be an officer of a success council. There is an appeal to be part of an organization that touches so many lives with our charitable works. There is an appeal to be part of an organization that supports its Bishops and Priests, to be an integral part of the lay leadership for the New Evangelization. In order to increase and maintain that appeal, which will ensure the continued success of our councils, I offer the following ideas that I call the three "Ts" which may help you create that appeal and maintain that success.

Teach – The Order has provided for a corps of officers to lead the council. If, in 1882, the founding members thought councils could perform with one or two officers, then there would be only one or two officers. Wisely they knew that the successful operation of a council needed several elected and engaged officers. Each officer, with their specific duty, which when performed fully, assists with the successful operation of the council. We, as elected leaders, can teach the officers of the council their duties by first performing our duties well and then allow them to perform the duties of the office to which they were elected.

Worthy Grand Knights, broaden the duties and responsibilities of the officers of the council to at least the duties in the Supreme Council By-Laws. Yes, this can be messy at first, especially if they haven't been performing those duties in the past. But if you want more and better qualified men to attain the peak of the pyramid, the base of the pyramid must be broad, strong and experienced. It is time to let the younger men, younger in age and/or experience, to help you help the Order. They bring new ideas, they bring an excitement to the office, and they bring a commitment to the order. Together, not alone, will we grow the Order, for our council, our district, and our state; making it stronger in numbers to assist with our charitable works, stronger to join our Bishops and Priests to help in the challenges of today and the challenges of tomorrow that are as of yet un-named.

The Supreme Knight's promotion of the Building the Domestic Initiative is one way that we can make our councils stronger in presence at our parishes. Knights of Columbus councils have always responded to the most urgent needs of the Church, particularly through charitable and social outreach. In order to support the evangelization of family life today, our councils must be even more fully integrated into our parishes. As the world's largest Catholic fraternal and family organization, we have a responsibility to dedicate our time, talent and resources to ensuring that our parishes our beacons of the new evangelization.

Trust – As elected leaders we owe it to our officers and members to perform our duties as our Supreme Knight, State Deputy, District Deputy and their appointees have directed. Their guidance and direction is for the good of the order. When we as local, state, and supreme council work with one goal we can accomplish great things. This starts with you and your officers.

There are written and electronic communications from Supreme and State council that are meant to be transmitted from your council to your members. Often these contain messages of action for current issues of the day. They may contain new and important program offerings that a council officer or member may wish to undertake in the name of the council. They may contain progress reports for Supreme and State programs that would be of informational benefit to officers and members. It is important that these be relayed to your officers and members to fully inform them of the Order's actions.

Your Council Members have entrusted you and your officers to fulfill the requirements given to you and promised by you at your installation. No member should be surprised by a lack of performance on our officers' or directors' part. The Order and its good works' success rest on your complete and accurate performance of your duties.

Likewise, it is important that council members attend council business meetings to take an active part in the life of your council. Our officers deserve our attendance. Your council deserves your attendance. Your input, verbal or by attendance, is of great benefit to your council. You will learn of the activities of the council, thereby being a true participant of the council. While

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**From The State Warden
Christopher Kolomejc**



Brother Knights, Ladies and Families:

Wow what a great convention! The 117th Annual Convention Meeting held on the enchanted Mackinac Island in the Grand Hotel was a wonderful time to share information and present awards for many councils of the state.

This has been a very busy year working with the State Board and the Official Family throughout Michigan this year. There have been many events that Julie and I will never forget: Summer Meeting, Supreme Convention in Toronto, Lugnuts and Tiger Baseball, Winter Meeting, several Clergy Appreciation Nights, Right to Life events, Vocation Fund raisers and now the State Convention. The most memorable experience will have been going to Washington D.C. with my brother state officers and marching directly behind our Supreme Knight in the annual Right to Life March in January. We have seen many friends that we have not seen for some time and made many new friends along the way. It is a very humbling

experience each and every time we go to any of the events around the state meeting all of you, starting with the local councils to the State Events.

I would like to thank my family, my daughters Jacqueline and Madeline, my son Christopher Jr., and especially my wife Julie, for all of their support during my first year as State Warden. Thank you to all of the other State Officers and their wives for all their help and guidance helping Julie and I adjust to the busy schedule.

As the State Warden, I am here to help you with any protocol questions that you might have. I ask that you first refer to the Protocol handbook from Supreme. This may be ordered by your Financial Secretary. This book should answer most every question you might have. If not, or if you are not sure that you understand, please contact me and I am sure that we can work out the problem. The most frequent question that I receive is concerning the Litany, which can be found in the back of your State Directory. The proper seating for your event can be found in the Supreme Protocol book. How to address dignitaries is also asked very often. When a District Deputy, State Officer or Supreme Representative is introduced, all should rise in their place and properly welcome them. The answers to questions regarding the flag can be found on form #4686. Just remember that even if you encounter a rather difficult or even a unique situation, just use your best judgment and simply apply common

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**From The State Program Director
Dale Schaedig**

The new 2017-2018 year is beginning and we are already looking for a report listing your new and returning council officers. The form is #185 and should be completed by all councils, even if they have no new officers. This is the way we keep the Michigan State Council Directory current. The form is due July 1st so if Grand Knights have not sent it please do as soon as you can.

We are doing substantial training in June, July, August, and September. June found us training the New Council Officers and the New District Deputies. On the 29th of June we will meet with all the District Deputies, State & Diocesan Directors at Boyne Highland for Membership and Program training. At that time, we will also offer specialized training on a number of topics which allow the DDs & Directors to "brush up" on the subjects they may feel the need for additional preparation.

The first two weeks of July will find the State Officers, State Membership, State Program Director, Assistant Program & Membership Directors, State Training Director, State Website and State AV Director traveling to all seven Diocese to present the Membership and Program training to all the Council Offices that can attend. Please check your calendars for the dates & times as they start on July 7th.

When we have completed our training, the District Deputies will hold District meetings to aid their councils in planning their programs and membership recruitment. I would encourage all Grand Knights to have a plan for at least the first 6 months before the District meetings. The Supreme Fraternal Leader Success Planner has been sent to your Financial Secretary, he should have received them for your use from Supreme. There is also the MI-19 State form that you can use.

The last item I would like to address is the new changes for the Columbian Award that we were informed of part way through the 2016-2017 year. We have what we hope is a detailed and informative training section describing the changes. There will be information distributed at the Diocesan Meeting to help the councils complete the Domestic Church requirements.

We have omitted the Michigan Achievement Award so we can better concentrate on completing the requirements for the Columbian Award. We kept the MI-1 and renamed it the Columbian Award Activities Report. This is still due at the end of each quarter which will allow us to track your progress. The SP-7 (Columbian Award form) will still be electronically generated as it has in the past.

This is a new year with both old and new officers and directors. With all of us helping to do the work of the "Lord" we can make this a good and fruitful year. Grand Knights, please do not hesitate to contact your DDs, Diocesan Directors or your State Directors with any problems or concerns.

Your State Program Director,
Dale Schaedig

**State Membership Director
Ken Krause**

The Membership Conundrum

The life blood of any organization is gaining members who will share in the work of accomplishing its goals. This is certainly true of the Knights of Columbus. Our goals and activities are focused on charitable acts, positively affecting the lives of our members and their families, and the support of the Catholic Church. When we lose members, it makes it harder to accomplish what we want.

First some statistics that help to paint the picture of our membership decline. On July 1, 2009 at the start of that fraternal year, Michigan had 70978 members. Since that time, Michigan has lost an average of 610 per year due to suspensions, withdrawals, and deaths. At the start of this fraternal year in July we had 66703 members. As of this writing on May 31, Michigan's membership is 66189. Given our present 514-member loss and the Intent to Retain forms (looming suspensions) that councils have sent to the Supreme Council, we are in threat of dropping below 66000 members by July 1.

There have been parish closings and mergers, a fall in mass attendance, shifts in population and a host of other reasons that challenge member recruitment. On the positive side councils have recruited 1818 new or reactivated members this fraternal year. On the other hand, there are about 80 councils that haven't recruited one member. Obviously, some are trying while others aren't recruiting for whatever reason.

In addition to recruiting members, councils must examine the reasons they are suspending members. In many cases, members stop paying their dues when they don't see a reason to belong. If his council isn't telling the man what they're doing through newsletters and other communications and asking him to be involved in their activities, he figures they don't need him. Although it's a cliché it's true, men don't join the K of C to pay dues and attend meetings. They want to be wanted, to apply their talents and to accomplish things for others.

Last July the membership team established the formula of activating new members, developing leadership skills, using effective communication with all members, providing recruitment strategies and training, and making recruitment a part of all council programs. That formula should work if the members of all councils assume responsibility for growing their membership by asking more men and their families to join in our work.

Another number worth considering. Michigan has a Catholic population of 1,800,653 divided over the seven dioceses. With a membership of 66189 in 440 councils, that leaves 1,734,464 Catholics. Subtracting women and children, that still leaves about 433,616 eligible Catholic men that can be invited to join.

The Michigan State Council has provided the resources, training, and organization to turn this nine year decline around. At the State Convention in May, Past State Deputy and Supreme Director Thomas Wegener asked the delegates and District Deputies if they would commit to increasing recruitment and reversing the trend. The response was a resounding "Yes!" As these men and their families return to their councils, they must turn their words into action.

The Michigan State Council plan will roll out to District Deputies and directors at their Summer Leadership Conference June 30 – July 2. Information specifically will roll out to council leaders around the state at the diocesan meetings July 7-18 to be followed by the district meetings in July and August.

Our mission and plan to impact almost a decade of membership losses is in place. We must all do our part to make it happen. We aren't about gaining member for the sake of statistics, but we need more men and their families to serve our parishes, youth, and communities. If you're reading this article and you believe in the mission of the Knights of Columbus, you know we all have a stake in this.

Council 7011



The Knights of Columbus (Sterling Heights, MI - Council 7011) recently conducted a 4-Life Story Scavenger Hunt Contest, where students in grades 7/8 and in grades 9/10 performed an online search for a real pro-life story. Then the students described in their own words the pro-life inspiration in this story. Some students also tied this story in with some real pro-life experiences in their own family. First place winners in each Group received \$100 cash. Second place

winners in each Group received \$50 cash. Third place winners in each Group received a \$25 Gift Certificate from Faith@Work, a local Catholic book store. All runners up received a Participation Certificate.

An Awards Ceremony honoring all the winners was held on March 16, 2017 with more than thirty five students, family members and Knights attending. All winners and their families were thanked for their participation and support for this important contest and everyone concerned came away inspired to do even more for the pro-life cause.

Pope John Paul I Council 6865 in Sterling Heights presented a \$500 donation to Father Randy Phillips of St. Blase Parish to help pay for emergency repairs to the main water line supplying the parish. The ruptured water line occurred during the parish's hosting of the Macomb County Warming Center, a ministry rotating among parishes, which provides shelter for homeless people.

Ladies Corner

Hello ladies,

We are here to **SERVE!**

Summer is here and it I great. Life is Good!

Since we last communicated, in the spring, lots have happened. The State Deputy and I have gone to many places to celebrate K of C functions. It is so pleasant to meet all the ladies on a personal basis.

The Right To Life banquet was well attended with a great speaker. The Tootsie Roll Drive was very successful. The monies will be used for Intellectual Developmental Disabled (ID/D) persons-

State Convention on Mackinac Island at the Grand Hotel was so busy, but it was our pleasure to see so many ladies willing to assist the Ladies of the Board. Thank you so much and it was very rewarding and we had wonderful time assisting the new ladies on what to do and where to find interesting things to do at Mackinac Island.

The sale of K of C shirts went well. We trust that there were some father's day gifts being taken home.

The Raffle monies will go to the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund and Holy Cross Children Services. Because of your assistance the Raffle went very well. It was reported that there were 103 gifts and the raffle returned about \$15,089.00, with matching funds from Weingartz- Everything from Lawn to Snow, we will be able to donate over \$31,000.00 to the two organizations. Once again thank you all!! Thank you to the State Advocate's wife Karen Winkle and her assistants for a great job, well done.

By the way- Wasn't the Living rosary something special! The sight of the rosary in the sky was Chilling.

In a couple of weeks we will be going to The Summer Leadership Meeting at Boyne Highland. June 30, July 01, 02, 2017. While the men are in their training the ladies and families can enjoy the beautiful resort. The Ladies will have a Ladies Program on Friday night. Hope to see you all there.

The Supreme Convention this year will be held in St. Louis Missouri this August 1st to August 3rd.

The Winter Leadership meeting is scheduled to be held at DeCarlo's Banquet Hall on Saturday Dec. 2nd. This will be a one day meeting.

The Building the Domestic Church is at the forefront of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus is a family. We are called by the Supreme Knight and the Bishops of Michigan to build the "Domestic Church" with God at its center. We are called to pray with our spouses and family. We are also called to look to the needs of others though the Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy. While helping others we show our love, for the grace from God. With this showing of mercy, with helping, others, our own marriage strengthens one, as well as teaching the family. This is our Domestic Church!

We must not forget about our fellow Christians in the Middle East that are being targeted with Genocide because they are Christians.. Pope Francis and our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson have asked for prayers for these fellow Christians.

There is a support for the Holy Land from all Michigan Councils from the State Chaplain. At his request with the support of the State Council and following directions of the Supreme Knight who ask the Knights of Columbus Councils to support Christians of the Middle East: funds are asked for St. Joseph Patriarchal School in Bethlehem. The upper school has no furnace, cooling or proper fire protection. The Sisters of St Joseph are asking our help in funding replacement furnaces and safety devices. And second the Summer Programs for children, who in these months are caught between protest, the Israeli protection forces and retaliation for violence. Sort of like a Vacation Bible School Program.

God give me Faith and Hope for prayers are powerful tool! Ladies let us keep these persons and others suffering in our prayers. They are our family. "Jesus we Trust in You."

Sometimes we are stressed out. Remember that we can ask the Lord for help. Find a quiet spot; Put your hand in the hand of the Lord. "I need some help. Walk and talk to me."

Remember his Mother Mary is always there waiting for us to listen and ask for help.

Ladies thank you all for supporting you husbands in the mission of Knight of Columbus!!

Let the Summer begin. Enjoy this beautiful land we live in!!

Ellie Unterbrink, Sue Vittorini, Marybeth Chasse



(Photo courtesy of L'Osservatore Romano)

Pope Francis received in private audience a delegation from the Pro Football Hall of Fame on June 21 during which, following an introduction by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, the Holy Father urged them to be role models and examples. In his address, Pope Francis observed that "Teamwork, fair play and the pursuit of personal excellence are the values – in the religious sense, we can say virtues – that have guided your own commitment on the field. They are the values that help build a culture of encounter, in which we anticipate and meet the needs of our brothers and sisters, and combat the exaggerated individualism, indifference and injustice that hold us back from living as one human family."

July 1 Begins a New Fraternal Year
 Thomas M. Wegener
 Supreme Director

we each cannot be at every business meeting, certainly we can make a few throughout the year to lend our voice and our vote to the issues that face our council.

Council Officers must not use attendance at council business meetings as the only gauge of an engaged member. Whether due to employment schedule, family pressures, etc. not every member can attend business meetings. We have made that clear in our promotion of the 24 Hour Knight. Attendance at social, charitable, spiritual or fraternal events is also an important component in the life of a council and its members. Invite and welcome each member who can attend any gathering of members and their families.

Knights of Columbus has always been an organization dedicated to the well-being and support of Catholic family life. The family is the first and primary place where we experience and are formed in our Catholic faith. By building upon our current programs and activities, the Knights of Columbus continues to promote the family as a "domestic church" where husbands and wives, parent and children, grow in their knowledge and practice of the Catholic Faith. In order to perform its important mission of evangelization, each family needs to find support in the sacramental life of the parish.

Transparency – An adjunct to Trust is Transparency. As trustees of our council's welfare, each and every transaction, fraternal or financial, is a part of the life and history of our council. As elected leaders it is our duty to treat each action with the due diligence they deserve, to then carry out the wishes of the council, to record the wishes of the council for the true history of the council.

As council members we must be offered and we must expect this information in full, clear and accurate language. Given this information makes us better educated in the life of our council members. Minutes, program reports, budgets, audits, etc. are the milestones in the life of the council. They are the markers that list our achievements, our successes. They let us know of our condition and how we are doing. They also tell us if certain and/or immediate action needs to be taken.

It is with these three "Ts" that foundational strength can be achieved. A strong local council complements its parish and community. A strong state council is made up of its strong local councils, working together to advance the Order throughout the state. It is this teamwork that leads to a strong order. Again it starts with you in your local council. Let this be the last year we have an opening in our offices, let this be the last year we do not function as a real team of officers, let this be the last year we aren't in solidarity with our state and supreme council. Let this be the first year, of many to come, that our council's growth is complete with members, programs and leadership.

Electronic Michigan Columbian

Due to the fact that we are unable to get the names of members and widows from our web page provider who have signed up in the past for the Michigan Columbian because of privacy issues, we are asking everyone who has signed up in the past and those who wish to sign up to fill out the form below.

The form below is to be mailed or emailed to the address on the form. Members need to make sure that they fill out the two areas with the * next to them. You need to make sure that you put the correct membership number on the form. You can find your membership number on your membership card.

Widows who wish to receive the form only need to fill out the name, address, city, state and zip portion of the form and mail or email to the address on the form.

Just as a reminder once you sign up for the electronic copy of the Michigan Columbian you will no longer receive the printed copy.

If you have any question you can call the state office at 586-883-9456 or my home number after 5pm at 586-939-3886.

Thank You

Gary M. Kolbicz
 Editor Michigan Columbian
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Yes I wish to receive an electronic copy of the Michigan Columbian.

*Council No. _____ *Membership No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

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 Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Email form to: g.kolbicz@mikofc.org

Editors Note: Members must fill out *Council No. and *Membership No..
 Widows must fill out the Name, Address, City, State and Zip portion of the form.
 By filling out this form you will no longer receive the printed copy of the Michigan Columbian.

From The State Warden Christopher Kolomejc

courtesy.

Fr. Turner, our state chaplain who has added so much to the State Board both spiritually and in humor, has also spearheaded a statewide effort to bring awareness to the suffering our fellow Catholics have in the Holy Land. Please respond with your prayers and financial support! I ask that you remember in your prayers the Brother Knights and their families who have passed away in the last year. And in a special way you have all touched me and inspired me in your devotion to the Church and the Order. None was more inspirational than my dear friend and Deputy Grand Knight Dan Chambers, who despite his battle with cancer was working hard in my convention hospitality room teaching us all the true meaning of knighthood.

This should remind us all that we need to continually invite new and former members to join us in helping change the world, making it a better place, with all of our programs, one member at a time. If there is anything I can do to help you reach your goals, please contact me and I will do everything I can to help.

Vivat Jesus!

Christopher A. Kolomejc
State Warden



St. Mary's Catholic Church - Spring Lake MI, celebrated the 50th Anniversary of their church building, and also had a dedication of the Education Center on Pentecost Sunday June 4, 2017.

Celebrant for the Mass and Dedication Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak - Bishop of the Grand Rapids Diocese. Con-celebrants: Reverend Father David Gross Pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church also Chaplin for Council 2975, and former pastors and other priests of the Diocese of Grand Rapids.

Council 2975, Color Corp Members participated in both events. This was followed by luncheon in the Community Center, which also had several brother knights assisting. This is the first new school building build in West Michigan in over 20 years.

PROPOSER INCENTIVE AWARDEES MARCH AND APRIL 2017

In the March / April Proposer Incentive Contest 293 proposers recruited 392 new members into the Knights of Columbus. At the Michigan State Council Convention, the names of ten proposers were drawn, and will receive a check for \$50 for their work recruiting new members to their councils and growing the Order.

Proposer's Name

Scott D. Frank

David A. Micklash

Douglas A. Dewyse

Louis A. Mitlyng III

Anthony L. Kotecki

Tom F. Ouellette

John M. Drzik

Roy D. Meyer

Andrew Martin

Robert P. Kuhr

Council

Tawas Council # 2709

Holy Cross Council # 2739

St. Stephen's Council # 4102

Fr. H. Nouvel Council # 4232

St. Bartholomew Council # 14206

St. Fabian Council # 13362

Richard Council # 788

Paw Paw Council # 3798

Fr. Thomas R. Carey Council # 4764

St. Gerald Council # 13673

Pope John Paul I Council 6865 in Sterling Heights presented a \$500 donation to Father Randy Phillips of St. Blase Parish to help pay for emergency repairs to the main water line supplying the parish. The ruptured water line occurred during the parish's hosting of the Macomb County Warming Center, a ministry rotating among parishes, which provides shelter for homeless people.

The top ten jurisdictions in charitable giving for 2016 were: Texas with \$9.1 million, followed by California, Michigan, Illinois, Florida, Ontario, Missouri, New York, New Jersey and Wisconsin. **The top ten in volunteer hours** were Texas with 5.5 million hours, followed by Luzon North, Florida, California, Illinois, Luzon South, Ontario, Visayas, Pennsylvania and Quebec.

Anchor Bay Council

Anchor Bay Council held a public rosary June 11, 2017 before the 9 am Mass. Led by their Chaplain Fr. Charles White IV, over 70 members and parishioners prayed the Rosary together. After, Fr. Charles thanked the Knights of Columbus for taking the lead in this service. He also mentioned that this ties directly in with Archbishop Vigneron's Pastor Letter recently published.



St. Helen Council 8390 of St. Helen Michigan held a water drive to help the Flint water crisis. The water was delivered to St. Lukes N.E.W. Life Center in Flint Michigan and will be given out to those in need.

One member per council per month

2017 State Convention Awards

This year's Council Service Award winner is St Jane Francis de Chantal Council 13340 for The Coffee House.



The Coffee House is a dinner project held 6 times per year for adults with intellectual disabilities. It gives guests an opportunity to socialize and have fun. It is open to the Tri-county area around Sterling Heights.

Originally the Coffee House was created by an Alhamra Caravan who in 2004 approached council #13340, St Jane Frances de Chantal, to assist. In a short period of time the council ended up taking over the program.

The Coffee House is now in its 14th year. Over 75 group homes participate and over 1000 guests are invited. The social gatherings have all kinds of themes through the year. They have independence day, Halloween, Christmas, Valentines and more. It is rumored the guests have been visited by Santa Claus himself who did not have a single name on the naughty list!

Not all gatherings are just a dinner. Several events are accompanied with dancing. It is never a surprise to see a guest ask a volunteer to dance. Whether you are a guest or a volunteer, everybody is guaranteed to have fun!

This year's Youth Service Award winner is Fr. Leo McCann Council 7304 for College Night.



Many of us question why friends and family leave the Church. Fr. Leo J. McCann Council 7304 had the same question and set out to find an answer. Their journey for an answer lead them to discover many of us lack knowledge of what it really means to be Catholic.

Being Catholic is a lifestyle that follows the life and teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. Catholic High School graduates attend public universities and within a few short months they're swept up into a secular society where their Catholic values are challenged and lost due to peer pressure or their new educational environment.

College Fairs lack the spiritual aspect of campus living. Recognizing this, the answer was simple; Council 7304 developed a Catholic College Fair for high school students. 21 Catholic Universities presenting Catholic educational choices to over 400 interested students and parents from over 50 zip codes came.

Plans are well underway for the 2017 Catholic College Night to be hosted by Madonna University on Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

St. Martha Parish Knights of Columbus Council # 10006



The St. Martha Parish Knights of Columbus and American Red Cross are partnering to save lives! One of the core activities for Council # 10006 is working to organize blood drives at our church, up to quarterly. The drive receives enormous support with donations from members of the parish, knights of the council, and the surrounding community. Through the hard work of knights, parish volunteers, and the red cross, we have consistently met or exceeded donation expectations.

Most recently, on May 13, 2017 St. Martha Parish Knights of Columbus Council # 10006 held a blood drive where we collected blood from 25 donors. These donors of the gift of blood generously gave their time and treasure. As they have so many times, volunteers from Council #10006 and the parish worked together with red cross staff to help make this drive a success. The St. Martha Parish Knights of Columbus plan to build on the success of our past blood drives and work to save even more lives in the future. Vivat Jesus!



St. Francis KC Council #13958 of Traverse City, MI conducted a Golf-A-Thon on June 4th. Golfers sought sponsors and each played 100 holes to help raise funds for the Grand Traverse Area Right to Life & The Pregnancy Care Center of Traverse City. Over \$3,600 was collected for these worthy causes.

One member per council per month

PROUD TO BE A 3RD DEGREE KNIGHT

BY
GENE MURAWSKI STATE CEREMONIAL DIRECTOR

I am proud to be a 3rd Degree Member, because I love to work with my fellow Knights on church projects. Sure, you do not have to be a 3rd Degree Member to do this. However, now that I have gone through the Formation and Knighthood Degree's, I have a good knowledge of what is our function. We Knights are here to help the poor, sick, deaf, aged, disabled, and disadvantaged. The lessons of the 2nd and 3rd Degree give us a better understand of what these words really mean.

I would ask the DD's, GK's, FS's to go through your membership roster, and get the guys who are still 1st Degree Members to go through the 2nd and 3rd. Maybe the reason

they go out the back door is because they just do not feel comfortable with the group. Would you want to be part of a group if you do not feel like you are part of that group? Check the Web-Site for the schedule of Major Degrees, and get these Knights through the Formation and Knighthood Degree.

So far this fiscal year we have had 66 degrees and we put 973 through the Formation and Knighthood Degree. We have 6 more scheduled to do as of June 1, 2017. We need to increase the amount of candidates next year. Why do we not ask these gentlemen to get their full Knighthood? Let's work on this.

Date of the	Start Time of	Start Time of	Start Time of	Location of	Council	Host DD	Host DD	Host GK	Host GK	Degree	Conferring
Degree	Admission	"Formation"	"Knighthood"	Degree	Number		Phone No.		Phone No.	Staff	Officer
	Degree	Degree	Degree								
8/6/17	None	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	Carson City	2198	Ralph VanOcker	616-240-0273	Jerry Waldron	989-235-6424	GR #1	Jakobiak
8/19/17	Patriotic	Degree		Marquette		Mike Stanchina	989-848-5322	District #3			
9/16/17	Patriotic	Degree		Warren		John Hundiak	248-652-3433	District #1			
10/15/17	11:00 AM	12:30 PM	1:30 PM	Portland	2168	Lawrence Adam	616-374-8340	William Vallien	517-526-2956	GR #1	Murawski
11/4/17	None	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	Grand Rapids	16199	Douglas Graves	616-363-7904	Joseph Vig	616-633-4639	GR #1	Shelt
3/3/18	Patriotic	Degree		Warren		John Hundiak	248-652-3433	District #1			

May They Rest In Peace

West Branch Council 2022

Michael Buckel, Junior
Clemens
Alton Leduc

Livonia Council 2690

Lawrence Kenney

Standish Council 2724

Michael DeMura,
Henry Filipek

Lincoln Park council 3078

Robert Datini, Leroy Lavella

Joseph Petrowski,
William Martin
James O'Grady,
Thomas Witkowski

Mt. Pleasant Council 3651

Edward Green
Vernon Halfmann,

Robert Ginzinger
Gary Schumacher,
Donald Pung

Allen Park Council 3774

John Spaight, Stanley Bartnicki
Gary Chick, Arnold Priebe
John Scannell, Henry Bucon

Posen Council 6657

Jerry Leginza,
Leonard Otremba

Milford Council 7444

St. Helen Council 8390

Les Gravlin, Tony Canty
Lawrence Bigelow,

Pete Borrillo

Donald Jacobs,
Clarence Dupuis
Joseph Friday

Yale Council 8710

Patrick Kleitch

West Branch Council 8948

Leonard Dzierman

Southfield Council 14928

Vernon Rougeau, John Herod
Ron Pardon

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Ed Strach, State Council Family Life Director, 522 Berkshire, Saline, MI 48176

Families of the Month**Alpena Council 529**

Gordon & Cheryl Koester
Michael & Cindy Szydowski
Jim & Cathy Cathers
Dave & Dixie Hilla

Battle Creek Council 575

Michael O'Hare family
David Sprague

Mt. Clemens Council 744

Brian Hein family

Lansing Council 788

Dick & Terrie McCloy
John & Sherrie Drzik
Ray & Lori Drouin

Marine City Council 856

Bob & Joyce Thompson
Paul Berger family
Tom Cook family

Dale & Denny Vantiem**Kingsford Council 1585**

Todd & Nichole Phillips
Ogemaw Council 2022
Alton Leduc

St. Clair Council 2251

Robert McClaren family
Daniel Eves family
Patrick & Melanie Schindler

Standish Council 2724

Mitch & Elaine Pula

Utica Council 2950

Paul & Lisa Burmeister
Dale & Karen Niedzwiecki

Pinconning Council 2986

Thomas & Alice Rodak
John & Maureen Duley
Fred & Martha Ruppel

Lincoln Park Council 3078

Richard & Beverly Nicholson

James & Rosalinda Salliotte

Louis & Delphine Kish

Saginaw Council 4232

Bert & Mitsi Murphy

Sandusky Council 4693

Dick & Bev LeGault

James & Barb LaBelle

Taylor Council 4872

Ruben & Teresa Plascenci

Herbert & Joan Weiss

Thomas & Mary Goniea

Ken & Brendo Lavelly

New Baltimore Council 5981

Wayne & Judy Miller

Richard & Roz Hilla

Arvin & Pamela Stephenson

Posen Council 6657

Ernie & Terri Romel

Ray & Laurie Wozniak

Eric & Tammy Hincka

Art & Julie Konieczny

Gladstone Council 6667

Larry & Cindy Johnson

Gary & Diane Gobert

Michigan Center Council 6687

Steven & Joanne Arnold

Dale & Linda Fisher,*cfy

James & Virginia Healy

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Ken & Molly Lixey

Ralph & Mary Lou Palka

Greg Vaughn family

Jenison Council 7487

John & Luanne Wood

Armada Council 7561

Ralph & Nancy Roy

Tony & Lisa Seefried

Caseville Council 8042

Jerry & Kathy Wroblewski

Sanford Council 8043

Jeff & Debbie McGraw

Bill & Karen Carey

Ray & Sue Ellen DeWyse

Jeff & Shelley Weckesser

St. Helen Council 8390

David & Elaine Kaffenberger

Melvin & Judy Merleno

Gerald & Joann DePew

Robert & Vivian Fenton

John & Kathy Hodapp

Lake City Council 8556

Kristopher & Sharon Caverly

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Dough & Toni Rusch

Montrose Council 8669

Bryan & Becky Root

Gloria Zomorski family

Mark & Lisa Briggs

Yale Council 8710

William Radvansky

Cass City Council 8892

Bob & Barb Butucel

Kevin & Laura Kausch

Okemos Council 10006

Brian & Michael Rue

John & Karin Matuszak

David & Francie Herring

John & Ruthann Finn

Gordon & Judy Tuthill

Rochester Hills Council 10343

Valentine & Valentina Dushaj

Lansing Council 11099

Steve & Lisa Simonson

John & Beth Belfiglio

Eric & Bridget Cullimore

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

George & Kathy Sakorafos

Bruce & Claudia Arnold

Port Huron Council 11756

Chip & Diane Gerlach

Robert & Monica Weaver

Pinckney Council 11761

Earl & Jan Blackburn

Dan & Kate Leonard

Dan & Ann Langford

Novi Council 11811

Thomas & Catherine Herc

Michael & Margaret Meyer

Laingsburg Council 12044

Geraid & Barbara Gialanella

Gaines Council 12186

Ray & Bata Hanna

Al & Jan Prouix

Brighton Council 12295

Dave & Karen Alfanos

Vicksburg Council 13305

John & Michelle Klein

Hugh & Jennifer Swager

Adam & Arlea Swager

Nicholas Ostrosky & Barbra Pula

Grosse Ile Council 13475

Frank & Melanie Magda

Clio Council 13703

Jerome & Angela Waldron

Sterling Heights Council 13799

All 41 Brothers who helped

with the MI Drive

Winner Winner Fish Dinner

FDD John Rodgers of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council #7444

of Milford, Mich. is shown presenting Sr. Mary Dominic, Sr. Cora Rose, Sr. Lucy Fidelis and Sr. Mary Bethany tickets for this years Knights of Columbus State Raffle at their lenten fish fry. So if you see a couple of sister's running from a bear in Alaska or sitting at a pool side in Alantis Paradise



Island or relaxing in a deck chair in Cancun, you know how they got there, they had a winning raffle ticket. Good luck.

The Sisters are, Dominican Sisters of The order of Mary Mother of the Eucharist of Ann Arbor.

Their presence at our Fish Fry was greatly appreciated as Sr. Lucy Fidelis and Sr. Cora Rose help sell tickets for this years Michigan State Council Raffle.

Picture taken by Tony "Short Shot" Mazza.



Dear Brother Knights,

Now that June is here, I hope you have a great summer planned ahead and are enjoying the beautiful Michigan weather!

In April, I was named President/CEO of Holy Cross Services. I have been with Holy Cross for 26 years and look forward to continuing our ministry of serving disadvantaged kids and families in Michigan.

Thanks to your loyal commitment and support over the years, we continue to expand our programs across Michigan. **THANK YOU!**

You will see on the following page upcoming events we have planned, so please bring your family and come see us if you have a chance. We have a need for volunteers and would love to have the Knights join us and share our 70-year partnership with others.

May you and your families enjoy a safe, fun and relaxing summer.

With gratitude and humility,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon R. Berkobien".

Sharon Berkobien
CEO

If you would like to get a 2017 calendar, it's not too late! For more information and/or to purchase, please contact Karen Rupley at krupley@hccsnet.org or at 517-423-7556.

Calendar Fundraiser Winners

Below is a list of recent awardees

April: Harry Roggenbuck, Paul Janiszewski, St. Louis the King Council #6447, Eric Fisher, Thomas Scheller, Albert Post, Thomas Villarreal, Erich O'Brien, Dennis Fink, David Welch, Frederick Domine, Robert Gancarz, Dale Niedzwiecki, Bernard Lorenz, Michael Tobolic, Katherine Toyecas, Eric Emming, Brian Barkkari, James Mrenza, Robert Frasier, LaVerne Newman, Dallas Ostrander, Yvonne DeLorge, John Galindo, Jay & Roxanne Michalski, Ralph Pung, John Will, Paul & Tina Trosper, Scott Schneider, Agnes Petkus, **\$500 WINNER** – Scott Thelen

May: Mary Zacker, Mark Chandonnet, Kyle Thelen, David Pardon, Robert Zuker, Daniel Borkowicz, Katherine Sziisz, Robert Prusakiewicz, Norman Smith, Valerie Clark, Tim Miller, Steven Thelen, Dorian & Tom Fix, Blaine Douglas, Joseph Jaworski, Robert Walsh, Bryan Root, John Calianno, James Ault, James Mason, Judy King,

Richard or Margaret Tanghe, Celeste Heckman, Alice Becker, Theodore Monfette, Patrick & Lori Mattingly, Jr., John & Tammy Guth, Louis Rosenmund III, Albert Fleury, Albert Schaller, C. Thomas Hickey, **\$500 WINNER** – Ronald Foldenauer

June: Claude Feldpausch, Katie & Kyle Gilstad, Marie Filipski, Juan & Donna Hinojosa, Marlene Dahlin, Julie Witt Thelen, Joseph Pridgeon, Steven Renne, Marc Hoffman, Randal Wheelock, Timothy Steffes, Ernest Scheid, James Delhey, Roger Mawby, John Glennon, Jerold Stratton, Thomas Czubaj, Dale Fisher, Connie & Daryl Iwankovitsch, Richard Carl, Joan Foster, Gary & Janet Brown, Gregory McCarty, James Barbara, Daniel Shields, John Dunn, Walter Sierakowski, Jr., Barbara Gates, Sami Makhoul, David & Mary Jane Schafer, **\$500 WINNER** – Charles Bolda

Visit our website to see the new things we are doing, and to learn more about HCS!

www.HolyCrossServices.org





Wanted: Champions of Hope

Become a part of a special group of people who invest and believe in our cause and mission! As a **Champion of Hope**, you too could be helping provide care and support every month to children and adults served by HCS all across Michigan.

Give the gift of HOPE and help HCS provide positive change in the lives of hundreds!

- Hassle-free monthly donations
- Automatic donation payment from your credit card
- An acknowledgment letter for tax purposes
- Change or suspend your donation at any time
- Your donation, in ANY amount, will be put to work immediately to help children, adults and families

ANY AMOUNT MATTERS!! EVERY DOLLAR IS AN INVESTMENT IN A PERSON'S LIFE!

To sign up and for more information please email: info@hccsnet.org.



Upcoming Events & Activities

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Diamond Jack's River Tour

The Good Samaritans group is hosting their annual evening out benefitting Holy Cross and the Samaritan Center. This year's event – a fun-filled dinner cruise on the *Diamond Jack's River Tour* charter boat on the Detroit River.



The cruise will be from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Ticket are \$150.00 per person, which includes dinner, music and a relaxing river cruise. Boarding will be at the Detroit Dock by the Stroh River Place in Detroit.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Please call Karen Rupley at 517-423-7556 or email at krupley@hccsnet.org.

Saturday, September 16, 2017

Annual Grosse Pointe VillageFest Benefitting Holy Cross Services

Come join us for this year's VillageFest in Grosse Pointe, which will feature kids' activities, food trucks, music and more! Raffle tickets for prizes are available for \$10 each.

For more information, contact Kassie Kretschmar at 248-980-4830 or at kkretschmar@hccsnet.org.



Knights of the Month

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Lawrence Stopczynski, State Council Activities Director, 885 E. Dawson Rd., Milford, MI 48381

Alpena Council 529

Barry Nelson, Don Liptak
Roy Wekwert

Battle Creek Council 575

Michael O'Hare, David
Sprague

Thomas Hengesbach

Mt. Clemens Council 744

Dennis Kelley

Lansing Council 788

Ben Warner, Bill Schaner
John Drzik

Marine City Council 856

James LaLonde, Dan
Steinmetz

Lenny Schwartz, Mike Welsler

Monroe Council 1266

Richard Miller

Kingsford Council 1585

Francis Lafleur, James Karle

Portland Council 2168

Patrick Heckman, Richard
Leik

Michael Pugh

Hart Council 2199

Hector Rosalez

St. Clair Council 2251

Tom Meyers, John Brothers
Craig Mahn

Standish Council 2724

Ken Bottomley, Roger Hus
Randy Huovinen

Gaylord Council 2781

Anton Ackerman, Terry
Avenall

Utica Council 2950

Edward Campbell, George
Wiegand

Raymond Keller, Robert
Murawski

Pinconning Council 2986

Francis Sequin, Keven McKee
Vince LaFramboise

Lincoln Park Council 3078

Dennis Palm, Paul Ross
John Maclean

Caro Council 3224

Rick Terbush, David Kolacz

Plymouth Council 3292

Joe Bauer

Allen Park Council 3774

Terry Gerin, Mark Sitko
Ewight Behm, Harold
Dropeski

Ruth Council 3823

Wilfred Block, Alvin Peraski

Dearborn Council 3860

Tom Fedewa

Walled Lake Council 4064

Thomas Prosak

Saginaw Council 4232

Mike Ross,

Rev. Richard Jozwiak

Sandusky Council 4693

Richard LeGault, Jim LeBelle

Taylor Council 4872

Paul Pesta, Stan Silka

Mike Cleaver, William Kessler

Jorge Gonzalez

Oscoda Council 5083

Edward Howe

Rochester Council 5452

Jerry Grubba

New Baltimore Council

5981

Frank Hubbard, Paul Johnson

Dale valliere

Roscommon Council 6593

Glenn Stuart, David Reynolds

Jose Valdez

Posen Council 6657

Phil Lewandowski,

John Talaska

Gladstone Council 6667

Larry Johnson, Gary Gobert

Michigan Center Council

6687

Gerald Brown, Timothy

Dewaters

Swartz Creek Council 6694

Jim Drummond, Claude

Boucher

Grand Blanc Council 6742

Victor McElhose, Mark

McElhose

Andrew Randazzo, Ryan

Londrigan

Sterling Hgts. Council 7011

Rick Yamin, Thomas Langston

Michael DiGregorio

Brighton Council 7304

Michael Carrigan, Dan Rainko

Caledonia Council 7341

Clem Andrusiak, John Bursch

Jenison Council 7487

Adam Roberts

Armada Council 7561

Mike Seefried, John Devers

Hale Council 7623

John Kszywonos

Lowell Council 7719

James Francis

Remus Council 7869

Christopher White, Donald
Mayer

Durand Council 7955

Donald Mellott, Douglas

Thompson

Caseville Council 8042

Fred Busch

Sanford Council 8043

AAaron Skrok, Dennis Taylor

Joe Reinke, Fred Lyon

Howell Council 8169

Mark Grajek, Rodger Epp

Deacon Dave Piggot

St. Helen Council 8390

Alexander Galant

Lake City Council 8556

David Blaszak

Fowlerville Council 8605

Mike Rebarchik

Auburn Hills Council 8659

Matt Fuhrmann, Herb Stacer

Sam Crowl

Montrose Council 8669

Ronald Woodward

Fr. Gordon Reigle

Yale Council 8710

William Radvansky

Cass City Council 8892

Richard Pachia William

Klinkman

Ken Micklash

Okemos Council 10006

Doug Hunter, Thomas Kent

Richard Olson

Burton Council 10170

Fred Muzer

Rochester Hills council

10343

Valentino Dushaj

Ann Arbor Council 10963

Gary Perrydore, Thomas

Cook

Lansing Council 11099

Kenneth Corrigan, Jason

Mendiola

Patrice Quinn, Richard

Schaefer

Saranac Council 11113

Douglas Thelen

Battle Creek Council 11114

David Goff, Mike Byrne

Erick Stewart

Marne Council 11581

Tony Leale

Clinton Twp. Council 11689

Joseph Bono, Henry Leflere
Philip Bonnette

Port Huron Council 11756

Norm Noble, Robert Weaver

Pinckney Council 11761

Roy Czopk, Dan Kinter

Sterling Heights Council

12102

Gorodon Felczak

Gaines Council 12186

Timothy Stanis, Ray Hanna

Al Prouix

Brighton Council 12295

Patrick Pousset, Ronald

Duncan

Paul Schifko

Ubly Council 12850

Gary Krause, Charles Briolat

Vicksburg Council 13305

Michael Klein, Nghiem

Nguyen

Fred Janofski, Jr., David Curtis

Randy Ferrier

Sterling Heights Council

13340

David Wilgus

Midland Council 13452

Chuck Finney

Troy Council 13453

Fr. Greg Piatt

Grosse Ile Council 13475

Brian Kane, John conroy

Wyandotte Council 13607

Emmanuel Lughermo

Farmington Council 13673

Terry Grabinski, Frank

Geriepy

Clio Council 13703

Larry Allen, Michael

Godoshian

Phillip Scott

Sterling Heights Council

13799

Ed Biegas, Mark Tuscany

All 44 who worked Mi Drive

Baldwin Council 13865

John Miller

White Cloud Council 13939

Wayne Thompson

Rochester Hills Council

13950

Robert Jackson

AROUND THE STATE



Preparing pierogi, a member of St. Isidore Council 7200 in Macomb and a volunteer work to make the council' Polish Dinner fundraiser a success. More than 280 diners enjoyed the meal, which raised \$3,400 for organizations serving people with intellectual disabilities.

Alpena Council

529 worked with managers at local branches of three clothing retailers to take advantage of seasonal reductions and provide for those in need. Council 529 obtained 42 coats, worth a retail value of \$2,245, for \$500. The coats were given to the Children's Closet, a local charity.

Ten councils in southeast Michigan

united to host a dinner that drew more than 400 people and raised \$7,804 to support formation and pilgrimage for seminarians. Fourteen seminarians attended, and several shared testimony about their vocations and the impact of travel to the Holy Land

Bishop Joseph A. Albers Council

4090 in Davison held its annual fundraising dinner for seminarians. The event featured a dinner prepared by Most Blessed Sacrament Council 11532 in Burton, pie provided by the Daughters of Isabella, auctions, raffles, stores and more. Proceeds totaled more

than \$17,000, making this dinner the most successful in the event's 33-year history. Between the council's efforts and a donation from Ardon F. Dubie Assembly, also in Davison, \$1,030 was donated to each of the 19 seminarians in Lansing



Danielle Castellon of Gratiot County Pregnancy Services accepts the proceeds of a two-week diaper drive from Grand Knight John Raducha of **Ithaca Council 8785** and Josh Milkulka, project chairman.

St. Fabian Council 13362

in **Farmington Hills** runs an annual "Crosses for Confirmation" project, during which handmade crosses, made by the council, are presented to the confirmation class of St. Fabian Church. Since 2011, the expanded program has given more than 500 crosses to confirmands, the RCIA group and St. Fabian School teachers.

St. Paul of Tarsus Council

11689 in Clinton Township held a pancake breakfast to support the Detroit Archdiocese Vocations League (DAVL). The event's proceeds, along with funds raised through additional projects, enabled the council to offer \$7,000 of support for seminarians and postulants.



Father Solanus Casey Council #3797 has officially moved to their new location at St. Margaret of Scotland parish in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Council Chaplain Father Ron DeHondt blesses the council's shrine to Father Solanus as parishioners welcome our Brother Knights to their new home!



Knight Louis Wills presents a tootsie roll to patron Mary Ann Raymond during **Iron River Council 2300** 42nd annual Tootsie Roll Drive for the Iron County Mentally Impaired. The Council would like to thank the public for making this another very successful drive.



During the month of May in honor of our Blessed Mother Mary, the Knights of Columbus members of **Council 8902**, with the generous donations from members of the parish at Our Lady of Mount Carmel (OLMC) parish, 8330 Lewis Ave., Temperance Michigan and the community at large were blessed to be able to deliver a full truck load of baby diapers, toys, clothing, food, and various other baby care items to Heart Beat of Monroe.

Heart-Beat of Monroe is a pro-life, Christian

centered, non-profit center founded in 1973 two months after Roe vs. Wade decision was announced. They have been serving Monroe Michigan and surrounding communities ever since. The center is Dedicated to improving the bond between parent and child. Diapers, formula, food, clothing and other items are provided without charge to their clients.



West Huron Centennial Council 8042 in Caseville/Pigeon, completed a two-year project to install two new energy-efficient and handicapped-accessible doors, At St. Roch Church. The new entry replaced outdated and overworked doors. The Color Corps from Pope John XXIII Assembly 1536 led the 23rd annual Good Friday Stations of the Cross, hosted by Fr. Victor J. Renaud Council 3292, Plymouth Michigan

Color Corps members participating were: rear row (L-R) Mike Shesterfirn, Jim Pryce, Bill Arkesteyn, Richard Fullmerhouser, Dan Timmerman,. Front row (L-R) Ken Pietryga, Joe Lenze, Dennis Lipski

Council 3092 Fish Fry



State Deputy Kenneth Unterbrink working a Fish Fry at his home parish.

Knights of the Month

**Rochester Hills Council
13950**
Robert Jackson
Shelby Twp. Council 13983
John Jonas

Lake Odessa Council 14404
Mike Wrubel, Jerry Tomandl
Terry Kelly
Northville Council 14427
Jin Hunt

Kalamazoo Council 15439
Joe Block
Grand Rapids Council 15495
Keith Hillary, C.Ss.R. Patrick
Grile

Raymond Novakoski
**Comstock Park Council
15548**
Don Steffens

SCHOLARSHIPS

JOHN W. MCDEVITT (4TH DEGREE) SCHOLARSHIPS

The Knights of Columbus awards John W. McDevitt (Fourth Degree) Scholarships annually. The number of scholarships awarded is determined by the earnings of the scholarship trust.

The Trustees of the Knights of Columbus John W. McDevitt (Fourth Degree) Scholarships have selected Michael J. Bursch as a winner of one of these awards. From Bishop Allen J. Babcock Council 7341, Caledonia, Mi. Attending the University Notre Dame

PERCY J. JOHNSON ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

In 1990, a bequest was received from the estate of Percy J. Johnson of Seville Council 93 in Brockton, Mass. Mr. Johnson stipulated that scholarships be awarded to young men who demonstrate financial need.

The Trustees of the Knights of Columbus Percy J. Johnson Scholarships have selected Joshua P. Vaillancourt as a winner of one of these awards. From Holy Innocents-St. Barnabas Council 14213, Roseville, Mi. Attending La Salle University

FOURTH DEGREE PRO DEO AND PRO PATRIA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council awards Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships annually to U.S. students, who will be entering The **Catholic University of America** in Washington D.C., or other **Catholic colleges** or **Catholic universities** in the United States. The number of scholarships awarded is determined by the earnings of the scholarship trust.

The Trustees of the Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships have selected Teresa R. Pillifant as a winner of one of these awards. From Fr. Vincent L. Ouellette Council 1541 Ishpeming Attending Aquinas Collage

Supreme Knight announces that Knights set records in donations and volunteer hours to state deputies.

In 2016 the Knights of Columbus again set records in its charitable giving and hours volunteered, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson told Knights of Columbus jurisdiction leaders during the opening business session of the 2017 Organizational Meeting of State Deputies. "We reached new heights in 2016," the Supreme Knight said. According to the figures from the 2016 Fraternal Survey the Knights gave \$177,500,673 in charitable donations. This is up from \$175 million donated in 2015. In addition, the Knights volunteered 75,112,694 hours to charitable initiatives, up from the 2015 total of 73 million hours.

The Church That Pasty's Built



Pictured L-R- GK Clifford Trudell & Sister Margey Schmelzle

In 1959, the members of St. Augustine Church in Republic, Michigan, raised funds for the new St. Augustine Church. They made Pasty's and sold over 1200 a month. A pasty is made up of ingredients that you could use in a stew but is wrapped in a pastry crust and baked.

Sister Margey Schmelzle is the pastoral coordinator of St. Augustine, Republic and Sacred Heart Churches in Champion, Michigan.

She Says, that today they have continued to raise funds using the original recipe and it helps defray the cost for winter expenses- electric, heat and water bills.

The parish has a lot fewer members available due to such factors like aging, so now the friends, neighbors from non Catholic churches and the town at large assist. This is an example of what small towns in the UP do.

The Knights of Columbus Council 1541, representing 4 parishes, purchased for St. Augustine pastry makers, a dough roller machine that a person can create 200 crusts in one hour.

**One member per
council per month**

One member per council per month

LASTING REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEPARTED

Memories are the legacy of love. A beautiful and everlasting remembrance is to have your loved one enrolled on the Knights of Columbus Vocations Committee Memorial Plaque, which hangs in the Chapel of Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Those enrolled will be remembered at the daily Mass, in prayers and the good works of the Priests and Seminarians at the Seminary.

A nameplate will be placed on the plaque for tax deductible donation of \$100.00 (4 line nameplate) or \$25.00 (single line nameplate). Proceeds from your donation will go to aid seminarians, postulantes and novices in need of financial assistance.

Please complete the form below for a Memorial Plaque.

Memorial Plaque Application

In Memory of: _____
Date of Death: _____ Gift of: _____
Requested by: _____
Phone No. _____ Council/Assembly No. _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
E-Mail Address (if applicable): _____

Make should be made checks payable to: DAVL

Mail form to: John Beirne
DAVL Treasurer
30237 Taylor St.
St. Clair Shores, MI 48087

Dearborn K of C donates bicycles to veterans through "Wheels for Warriors" program

Warriors" program. The nonprofit organization enriches the lives of local veterans by providing a means of transportation, exercise and rehabilitation. More than 97 percent of donations are used to put bicycles in the hands of veterans for travel to work, grocery stores, doctor's appointments and other daily activities. Robert Mincel, navigator of Msgr. Schulte Assembly Knights of Columbus, and purser Don Brezovsky were instrumental in organizing the bicycle donation. About \$2,000 was raised by allocating portions of members' annual dues.

"We're the Knights of Columbus fourth degree, which is considered the patriotic degree, so we were trying to do something for our vets for a few years," Mincel said. "In December, we put wreaths on the veterans' graves at St. Hedwig Cemetery, and while we were talking about that, we decided to do something for the vets who are still living."

They came across the Wheels for Warriors program, which has its local headquarters in Livonia, and invited a representative to explain the organization's purpose at one of their meetings.

"With most of our vets, the main issue for them is transportation," Mincel said. "They have no way of getting around. The bicycles enable them to get to work, school, doctor's appointments and various things."

The bikes came from D&D Bicycles in Westland, which agreed to service them for the next three years. "Say if a veteran wants to bring their bicycle in and get it checked, they will fix flat tires and provide all those types of services," Mincel said.

YES I wish to enroll in the Guild and to receive the newsletter.
Name
Address
City/State/Country
Please list below the names and addresses of any family or friend who might be interested in the Guild's work.
Name
Address City/State/Country Country
Name
Address City/State/
MONTHLY MASS FOR GUILD MEMBERS
Please remember these specific intentions at the monthly Mass for Guild Member.
1.
If you wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the mission of the Guild, checks should be made payable to The Father McGivney Guild, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, Ct

Casey Teddy Bear Order Form

Council No. _____ Council Name
Order Qty. _____ Total Order (Number of Bears x \$10) _____
Ship To:
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Checks Payable to: Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus Memo: Casey Teddy Bears

Send to:
Lawrence Stopczynski State Council Activities
Director 885 E. Dawson Rd., Milford, MI 48381

State Deputy Report 2017

Regional Directors Leadership Conference meeting at Boyne Highlands.

Friday evening's program began with a prayer service by our State Chaplain with Meetings on Saturday, a banquet on Saturday night; mass on Sunday morning followed a breakfast and departure with the expectation of the District Deputies, State, Diocesan and Regional Directors to deliver the message to their councils around the state.

Joining us at the Summer Leadership Meeting was a family from Bethlehem, whose parish is St. Catherine – the Church of the Nativity. They shared their experience of living in Bethlehem with two sides against them for being Catholic Palestinians. Our brother knights shared with them and their school scholarship funds to take back.

The remaining days of July saw the State Officers, Membership and Program Team traveling to each of the seven Diocese for the Diocesan Membership meetings delivering the message and providing the Membership and Program Guides along with other materials needed by the local leadership and councils to assist them in reaching their goals and achieving a successful year. Also in the month of July the District Deputies conducted their district meetings. The single and double district meetings were well received as it afforded them an opportunity to establish a bond with their councils and explain the goals they expected to achieve.

Through the summer, the state started out with membership growth with less than expectation. The 2nd to the 4th of August saw the State Board along with eight Michigan Delegates and our wives traveling to Toronto, Canada for the 134th Supreme convention.

Michigan received the International Youth Service Award by Council #923 of Petoskey for the initiation of the new Catholic High School – St. Michael's Academy.

It was at this Supreme Convention that the State Deputy presented to the Supreme Knight a check for \$16,531.00 from the State Convention Bucket Raffle for the Knights of

Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund.

August 27th was the Installation of State Leadership at St. Mary of Chelsea, the parish of our State Chaplain and State Deputy. It was at this time that our State Officers, District Deputies, State, Diocesan and Regional Directors gave an oath to serve the Order to the best of their abilities. The evening banquet was held at Ypsilanti's Marriott Eagle Crest.

In the month of September the State Membership and Program team saw the start of the District Deputy Steering meetings. These meetings were an attempt to find out just what kind of help we could offer to the District Deputies to improve council programs and membership intake. The districts and councils were encouraged to pursue the STAR Council Award.

September was exciting for our State Special Olympics Director Thomas Turek, as he represent the State at the Special Olympic Fall Games in downstate Michigan. Thank you, Thomas for representing the State. It is of special note that our Patriotic Degree Honor Guard was present at this fall event along with many of our council members assisting.

The first three months for the fraternal year were devoted to training along with service events at Guest House, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Special Days Cancer Camp, St. Louis Center, Lansing Vocations, Saginaw Vocations, Gaylord Vocations, Livingston County Ultrasound Initiative, Holy Cross Children Services, Right to Life, just to name a few for our Board.

The fund-raising for Ultra Sounds throughout the state was of special interest as many council and districts continue to raise fund's to save the unborn so that they might have life outside the womb.

With the summer season ending and fall upon us our councils began in earnest to share the experience with other Catholic men the opportunity of becoming a Knight of Columbus. The Building the Domestic Church, While Strengthening Our Parishes was the main topic with our leadership throughout the summer and fall. The

task of bringing our knights back into service within our parish is key to the future of our children remaining as Catholic throughout their lives.

October was a growing month in membership as our council held more major degrees and our councils were encouraged to hold an Admission Degree each month in each district. The State Board was assigned to many Major Degrees.

October, Columbus Day Mentally Impaired (tootsie roll) Drive was again a success as our members continue to collect for the Intellectually/ Developmentally Disabled (I/DD) persons. Thanks to State MI Director George Stump who spent many months researching organizations to serve I/ DD persons so as to ensure that the funds collected for Intellectually/Developmentally Disabled (I/ DD) persons goes only to those persons.

October also brought the Order wide church drive for membership. The focus of conducting a proper church drive was once again stressed. Our State Membership and Program Directors began formulating directions to be placed in the membership and program guides.

The Prep Bowl was once again a great success. Many thanks to Mark Gaworecki, the State Special Projects Director, who chairs the event and continues to renew interest in our Detroit area youth. Thank you to the Patriotic Degree was at their finest in their service to our youth events.

During October the State Soccer Challenge was held at the Everest Academy in Clarkston with our district winners advancing to the state games. Our State Youth Director Kevin Rowley and his team devoted to our youth events traveled with him to make this a success.

An Ultrasound presentation was attended in Sturgis. This is another success for the Kalamazoo Diocese knights. The State Respect Life Director Tim Donovan works tirelessly in support of the Ultrasound Program.

There were many other events throughout the month that we, the State Board, could not attend but covered by State and Diocesan Directors. Thanks to all of you who covered these events for your State

Officers.

Our fall season was occupied with service to the Protection of Religious Freedoms for the future. In the spring of 2016, the State Council donated twenty (\$20,000.00) thousand dollars to the Right to Life of Michigan Education Fund. At that time, it was prayful that our contribution might bring hope for the Protection of Religious Freedom for the future.

The Memorial Mass for deceased members at Sacred Heart Seminary was next on the agenda. Always a solemn event, it is our way to honor our fallen Brothers. A reminder to all councils, be sure to let the State Office know if you want a deceased members name on the plaques.

Coats for Kids Program this year was a success. In September the Supreme Council continued a program for those councils which distributed coats by 'putting the coats on the children' that needed the coats. This program was one-half price for the coats. It was in September that the coats were in needed to be ordered. The State Deputy committed to one thousand coats for distribution. State Youth Director Kevin Rowley coordinated the councils and distribution. As always the councils in need were underfunded and other councils around the state provided the funds for those areas. The winners were the kids and the council members who shared the experience of putting the coats on the kids.

November ended with your State Deputy and Lady Eleanor traveling to Orlando for the mid-year State Deputies meeting. While attending I learned more of the new program being put out by Supreme, "Building the Domestic Church; A Family Fully Alive".

December 2nd to the 4th was the Winter Leadership Meeting. Friday evening started with a prayer service by our State Chaplain Very Reverend William J. Canon Turner, PHD, KCHS. The Winter Leadership Meeting was to stress, that if we, as an Order, do not recruit new members, with the emphasis being on our youth, in a generation will be on a severe downhill slide. The District Deputies, State, Diocesan and Regional Directors were again instructed on membership and program growth with our councils.

Education was provided to all in attendance for the betterment of the

Order. It was stressed that for each council to succeed, the STAR council avenue is the answer. It was disclosed that the Supreme Council was providing for each council that obtained STAR Council, there will be \$4.50 per billable member returned to the council. Throughout the three days, the State Membership Director Ken Krause and State Program Director with their team instructed for success.

The State Training Director Joe Munie had been assigned to study the councils in the state and provide training to the councils and their officers on how to be successful in the offices that they hold. Assisting the State Training Director are Regional Training Directors John Rademacher and George Walrath.

State Training Director Joe Munie will be a major force in training throughout the state as he has been directed by the Supreme Council to assure that council officers are trained in their office duties. A special thank you to Joe Munie State Training Director for undertaking the responsibility with setting up a state wide training system.

Following the Winter Meeting the District Deputies held their Winter District meetings. Several were held in December while the rest were during the month of January thru February. The meetings were split up into groups which allowed the State Board, State Membership and Program Directors and State Deputies Assistant to attend as many as they could. Again the meetings proved beneficial.

The Michigan Catholic Conference, the conference that represents all the bishops in Michigan asked for a meeting with the Knights of Columbus State Board. The just of the meeting was; "How will the Knights of Columbus Build the Domestic Church, While Strengthening Our Parishes" Attending were the Board, State Chaplain V. Rev. William J. Canon Turner, State Church Director Thomas Arehart and State Evangelization/Vocations Director Wayne Slomiany. The task of creating a state program is in the hands of our State Chaplain, State Church Director and State Evangelization/Vocations Director.

The bishops of Michigan express their cooperation of assisting the Knights of Columbus in the Build the Domestic Church in our parishes, with

the programs to be presented by our Knights leadership under the direction of our State Chaplain.

Statistics show that when the male half of the family is the leading force in faith development with 70% of the children remain in the faith after they leave home, while 30%, remain in the faith when the female is the leading force of faith in the household.

Let us, Catholic men, Knights of Columbus, be that guiding force in our families, for we are the face of the Catholic faith in our families and in the community.

The calendar year of 2016 was ending with a 36% of membership anticipation for the fraternal year.

The district meetings were continuing with the stress of membership recruitment of membership, especially younger members, men with young families, our college students. The District meeting stressed the Building the Domestic Church, as our knights were called forth to serve in their family as the leaders of the Catholic faith. Our knights were asked to serve in their parishes in teaching the Catholic faith to our youth, as the faith is taught by fathers, grandfathers, uncles, then the chances of our Catholic youth remaining in the faith more than doubles. The STAR Council for each council was stressed as success in the councils.

Council #16628 Student Council at Western Michigan University was formed, under District Deputy Robert Smith, Kalamazoo Diocesan Program Director Lou Scohy, and Kalamazoo Diocesan Membership Director Jeffry Cypher. The charter Grand Knight is Dennis Schneider, former State Chief Squire.

Council #16630 at SS. John & Paul in Washington Twp. was formed under the direction of Michael Mejia, NCD Regional Director Charles McCuen and Detroit Diocesan Membership Director Larry Pitruzzello.

Council #16630 at SS. John & Paul in Washington Twp. was formed under the direction of Michael Mejia, NCD Regional Director Charles McCuen and Detroit Diocesan Membership Director Larry Pitruzzello.

Council #16643 in Onokama was formed under District Deputy Horst Lehrer and Diocesan Membership Director Larry Herman. Thank you to everyone involved in starting the new

council.

In the fall of 2016, Brother Gary Francis Boylan retired from Holy Cross Children Services/ Boysville after fifty years of service to children and troubled youth. Brother Francis had served as President and CEO for many years. The State Council is still fully committed to the troubled youth served by Holy Cross Children/ Boysville.

January saw the ordination of two new Auxiliary Bishops for the Archdiocese of Detroit Bishop Robert Fisher and Bishop Gerald Battersby. Congratulation of all our shepherds of the faith.

In January, the State Board & Ellie along with several hundreds of thousand pro- life marchers in Washington D.C. for the Annual March for Life. Thanks to State Respect Life Director Tim & Cindy Donovan for organizing the trip and with special help from State Program Director Dale Schaedig as two week before the March for Life, Tim had his knee replaced and Dale Schaedig shepherded the group. Those attending the State bus to the march expressed interest in a two night stay in Washington D. C. in 2018.

The march was held as for a first time a Vice President of the United States attended and addressed the marchers. This is a sign of progress for life from conception to natural death laws.

The Special Olympics Director Thomas Turek traveled to Traverse City for the Winter Games of Special Olympics of Michigan. This is an annual event to present a check on behalf of the State Council. Because of your reporting on the Special Olympic form and your efforts on the MI drives Michigan is ranked in the top of the Order for support of Special Olympics with a \$10,000.00 check to be presented to Special Olympics at the State Convention.

February was filled with various meetings and dinners from Council Vocation Nights, Clergy Appreciation Dinners to Game Dinners at councils. To those councils holding such events we thank you for including us in your planning. It's always a great opportunity for your State Board to be able to meet the people we serve.

The Knights of Columbus State Bowling Association held the State

Bowling Tournament in Saginaw assisted by Council #414 of Bay City. This too, as a fraternal sporting event is waning.

Throughout the first part of the calendar year, there were many Major (Formation and Knighthood) Degrees and Admission degrees that were attended by the State Board. The brother knights were reminded that the Emblem of the Order is to be worn at all events with exception of Patriotic Degree events, where the 4th Degree pin should be worn.

February 26" was the 'Year of Mercy' Tribute Dinner at DeCarlo's Banquet Center in Warren, Michigan. The dinner and program saw the presentation of fast start and quick start awards as well as a slight roasting (the truth) of the State Chaplain V. Rev. William J. Canon Turner. Instead of the usual State Chaplain gift, funds were donated to the Holy Land for education in Bethlehem.

Membership recruitment improved through the first part of the calendar year with some month's well over the two hundred a month total. Diocesan Steering Committee Meeting were held across the state to bring to the District Deputies and State, Diocesan and Regional Directors the expectations for them and their councils.

State Youth Director Kevin Rowley shepherded the youth programs throughout the state. The State Free Throw, State Poster Contest, State Essay Contest and the State Spelling Bee were held with excellent participation. This success was preceded by our council, district and diocesan contest. A special 'thank you' to all the councils, districts and diocesan members who share their time and talent with our youth in our youth programs.

The Silver Rose of Our Lady of Guadalupe started in Michigan on April 2th and left Michigan on May 14th. Throughout the state the State Silver Rose Director Dr. Vincent Cabras arrange the tour from the Indiana border through Lower Michigan and Upper Michigan. With passion for Our Lady of Guadalupe his displays at the altar of churches and the prayer programs, sometime preceded with a mass has been well

attended. The Silver Rose was then delivered to the state of Ohio with ceremony.

The State Raffle drawing on April 22nd with sales of \$245,544.00. Our State Raffle Director Gary DeCarlo poured his heart and soul into this Knights of Columbus State Raffle. We love you Gary. While this was under expectations as the revenue was 9.3% less than last year. The dream is for each member to sell one ticket (2017 = \$331,000.00). Only one ticket, per member. The raffle is for council charity and provides funds for the state charity.

The Palm Sunday MI drive was a great success according to State Mentally Impaired Director George Stump. Our reporting and distribution of funds are for the Intellectually/ Developmentally Disabled (I/DD) persons. The State MI Director has spent months researching organizations that service I/DD persons and if funds are directed to organizations that partially service I/ DD persons, those funds are expected to be directed to the I/ DD persons over and above the regular funding. Documentation from those organizations is expected to be forwarded with the check request. Thank you George Stump for protecting the care and the support of I/DD persons for whom the funds are collected.

The "Take Five" program, first started in 1977, it should finish the year over \$90,000, thanks to Michigan Charities Director PSD William Walsh, Thank you Bill for your hard work. Proceeds from this program and the State Charities Raffle help fund the many charity requests we receive each year. The "Take Five" program was expected to generate five dollars per member each year. That would generate close to \$300,000.00 a year for charity. Recently the "Take Five" Program generate less than \$100,000.00 a year.

There is a resolution at this state convention to change the title of this program to "Ten for Charity" and ten dollars per member per year, with expectation of serving our charities with enthusiasm.

The State Board has had meetings with Sacred Heart Major Seminary

for another campaign of our brother knights to help fund seminarians. The Rector Msgr. Todd Lajiness has express an interest to State Board the education of our future priest. Archbishop Allen Vigneron has expressed an interest in meeting with the State Board in the near future.

The end of the year, June 30th is projected with a 75% of the expected membership growth in the Order in Michigan.

Pray on the responsibility and the oath we took as Knights of Columbus. Those brother knights that once served as leaders are still leaders in the Order. Let us finish the year strong and start with that strength on July 1, 2017.

There several major accomplishments we made this fraternal year. The first of which was converting from the DOS system of doing our finances.

The State Secretary and State Treasurer are being assisted by Eugene Murawski with the education of Quick Books as our financial program. Our State Auditor Donald

Chadwick praises the State Council from DOS to Quick Books. We continue to use bar coding as a more efficient way of taking roll call. This has proven to be successful with our delegates.

Thanks to Dane Jurkovich and Executive Secretary Lawrence Grabowski for developing this program.

To the State Officers, State and Diocesan Directors, Regional Directors, General Insurance Agents, and Field agents, Assistance to the State Deputy, Grand Knights, Council Officers and the general membership that also serve the Order, I congratulate you and thank you for all your achievements and support during the past year, and for your service to the Church and your commitment to the Order. The successes that were included in this report are the direct results of your actions. You are the leadership of the Order in Michigan and the team, the most important part in this Jurisdiction.

I thank you for your support and the friendship you have given me and the State Leadership this past year.

In conclusion, based on this report I have submitted, it is my opinion, as State Deputy, that in the Jurisdiction of Michigan the State of Columbianism is alive and well and a great future lies before us.

The 2017-2018 Leadership Team is in the process for the new District Deputy Training on June 10th, the Summer Leadership Meeting at Boyne Highland June 29-30 and July 1st. Then begins the two week of Diocesan Meetings with the District meeting in late July and August. Success only is obtained with a passion for the Order and the team within your council, within your parish, within your district, within your diocese and within the state. It is time for all knights to serve with a passion for Building the Domestic Church, While Strengthening our Parishes. We, my brother knights are the Domestic Church.

Venerable servant of God, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, Pray for Us
Vivat Jesus
Kenneth B. Unterbrink, Serving as
State Deputy

Michigan State Council Knights of Columbus
117th Annual State Convention, Mackinac Island
May 27, 2017

State Secretary Antonio G. Vittorini: We will now proceed with the Report on the Good of the Order. For that presentation, the chair recognizes the chairman of that committee, State Round Table Director Daniel P. Remeika.

State Round Table Director Daniel P. Remeika: Worthy State Chaplin, Reverend Clergy, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy Supreme Director, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Delegates, and My Brother Knights, Vivat Jesus.

For many years, local councils have been encouraged to become more closely integrated into the life of our parishes. By participating more fully in parish life, individual members may be better involved in the New Evangelization and Building the Domestic Church. Our State Deputy Kenneth B. Unterbrink, said in his report, "...serve with a passion for Building the Domestic Church, While

Strengthening our Parishes." Our State Chaplain Very Reverend William J. Turner recently wrote that this is critical in many ways, perhaps summarized in these questions: Have we prioritized family activities related to Building the Domestic Church? Have we integrated our church activities within the life of our parishes? Have we strengthened or supported parish-based youth ministry? Has our community and culture of life participation occurred in the wider parish community? Has council sustainability improved through relevant programs, family values, and, in the words of Saint John Paul II, "a charity that evangelizes"?

The convention here on Mackinac Island means this fraternal year is ending and the next is about to begin. While it's still a little too soon to predict just how successful a year it has been in new members, new

councils and volunteerism, use your answers to the above questions to plan for the next. Continue to make gains where they are needed. Continue to strengthen our Church, our communities, and our Order in the context of parish-life involvement. With the help of all who are assembled here today, talk to your councils on the need to finish the fraternal year on a strong and positive note and renew ourselves in the next.

Although parish-based councils are already best positioned for these priorities, non-parish based councils must position themselves in established and active Parish Round Tables. In both cases, having members serve on parish ministries, such as, the Christian Service Commission, will empower parishioners with access to council resources and help engage our members.

continued on page 22

Regarding Solidarity with Persecuted Christians, the Patriarch of the Syriac Catholic Church of Antioch spoke on the Survival of Christians in the Middle East. He warmly thanked us Knights for our Christian solidarity in supporting the suffering people in Syria and Iraq. While more Muslims were killed at the hands of ISIS, we Christians have been singled out because of our faith. He said, "This present Genocide is happening under the eyes of the whole world and the global indifference is stunning!" In response, we ask the State Council and individual brother Knights to continue to raise awareness about the horrible situation facing our Christian brethren in the Middle East. Continue your contributions to the Knights of Columbus Christian Refugee Relief Fund or Holy Land families in need, as our State Chaplain requested in his opening session remarks. But, we also ask you to develop additional ways to help relieve the suffering, which brings to mind the resolution from the 134th Supreme Convention on Saint Teresa of Calcutta.

Whether it be suffering or just frustration, she teaches us an answer. For example, the committee considered how to address differences across Michigan. While some areas draw younger heads of households and fill churches with young members, others are getting older and don't see growth or participation by our youth. Some areas have thriving parishes, others are consolidating churches and see fewer prospects because of fewer Catholics. While seventy-five percent of Michigan parishes are affiliated in some way with a council, twenty-five percent of our parishes are not. While some areas have relevant, fresh, and enthusiastic opportunities, others seem out of touch and not actively involved in the New Evangelization. If we wonder what to do, remember Saint Teresa of Calcutta. Paraphrasing what she heard from Jesus, as written in her letters, are we

afraid that we lost our vocation, became secular, and wanting in perseverance? Remember our vocation is to love, suffer, save souls, and fulfill the desires of Christ's heart, which is to feed His lambs and carry Christ to the poor. Whenever we, worthy delegates, seem impossibly challenged, put Christ first as she did, pray, listen, and follow His lead. Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron, Archbishop of Detroit, said at the convention opening Mass that Christ may seem absent but He is always present.

Speaking of new things, we have in the Michigan jurisdiction a strong effort to use popular social media to augment the communication technologies already in place, such as, our state website and e-mail system. Every council leader needs to evaluate whether he is even using this technology and doing whatever he can to step up to its benefits. If needed, become a student and invest time with both younger members and prospects to learn. Speaking directly to councils not fully using the state e-mail system, we ask "seasoned" members to increase your work with the younger members to make small changes and use new methods that will open doors to membership meeting.

Grand knights have a responsibility to relay information at every membership meeting.

But for members to stand up, take notice, and walk away enthusiastic about what they've heard you must do it in a relevant and entertaining way. This challenge is easier if your appointed council lecturer prepares material for the "Good of the Order" section of a meeting. If you have been skipping this, consider that a successful program of "Good of the Order" topics will help encourage your members to attend meetings and stay informed and involved in your council. The types of programs arranged by the lecturer are limited only by your imagination and creativity.

Realize the importance of the work of the Order amid the needs and cries of the world. Offer membership to every eligible Catholic gentleman because we need every member to better respond in acts of charity in response to these needs. Recall the second reading at last Sunday's Mass (May 21, 2017, 6th Sunday of Easter, 1 Peter 3:15-18) where St. Peter said, "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear...." So, let's renew our commitment. Let's renew our presence in every and proud of the accomplishments of the Knights of Columbus in Michigan.

Brothers, it has been a privilege to present this report on behalf of the Good of the Order Committee. Worthy State Deputy, thank you for the honor to address the 117th State Convention of the Knights of Columbus on Mackinac Island and to present this report to our distinguished brother Knights.

The Good of the Order Committee requests that this report be approved and incorporated into the proceedings of this meeting.

On motion duly seconded it was voted that the report of The Good of the Order be incorporated in the proceedings of this meeting.

Worthy State Deputy, I ask that the members of the Good of the Order Committee please stand and be recognized by this body for the excellent job that you have done – Daniel P Remeika, Round Table Director, Committee Chair; State Council Retention Director Cliff Wasmund; Gaylord Diocesan Program West Director Michael J. Czajkowski; DD Martin Babich; DD Richard LaMay; DD Gerald Leinberger; GK #649 Joel Krupa; GK #2569 Sean Dare; GK #4232 David Brezinski; GK #4872 Randy Baughman.

Memorial Mass

The 2017 Memorial Mass is scheduled for Sunday, November 12, 2017 at 10:00am, at Sacred Heart

St. Louis Center

At the State Convention this year I along with the State Deputy had the honor of presenting the second \$25,000.00 check to St Louis Center for our part of construction of the first residential home in the St. Louis Guanella Village. These monies are part of the 20% of the MI monies received by the State. Thanks to the membership for your hard efforts on the drive this year. Some updates on what is happening at St. Louis Center.

All four of the children's homes are under construction. The first home is well over 50% completed. The outside is completed, roof siding and windows in and up. The brick is to be laid on the lower section of the home soon. The fire suppression system is being installed and all of the electrical is completed. The plumbing is also well underway.

Foundations for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th homes are laid and slab on grade of the second home is completed.

The curb and gutter of the roads of the first phase are poured and the asphalt roads were laid last week.

St. Louis Center has a gift registry on the website; it's like a bridal registry, but it's a house warming for these homes. I have attached a link to it. It's intended for items that "make a house a home" for the residents. Please consider using it.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/1KH15QNPAADO?ref%5F=cm%5Fsw%5Ftw%5Fws%5F%5FcokdzbKD5&pldnSite=1>

It's a mouthful so if there any questions please call Peggy Cole at St. Louis.

One member per council per month

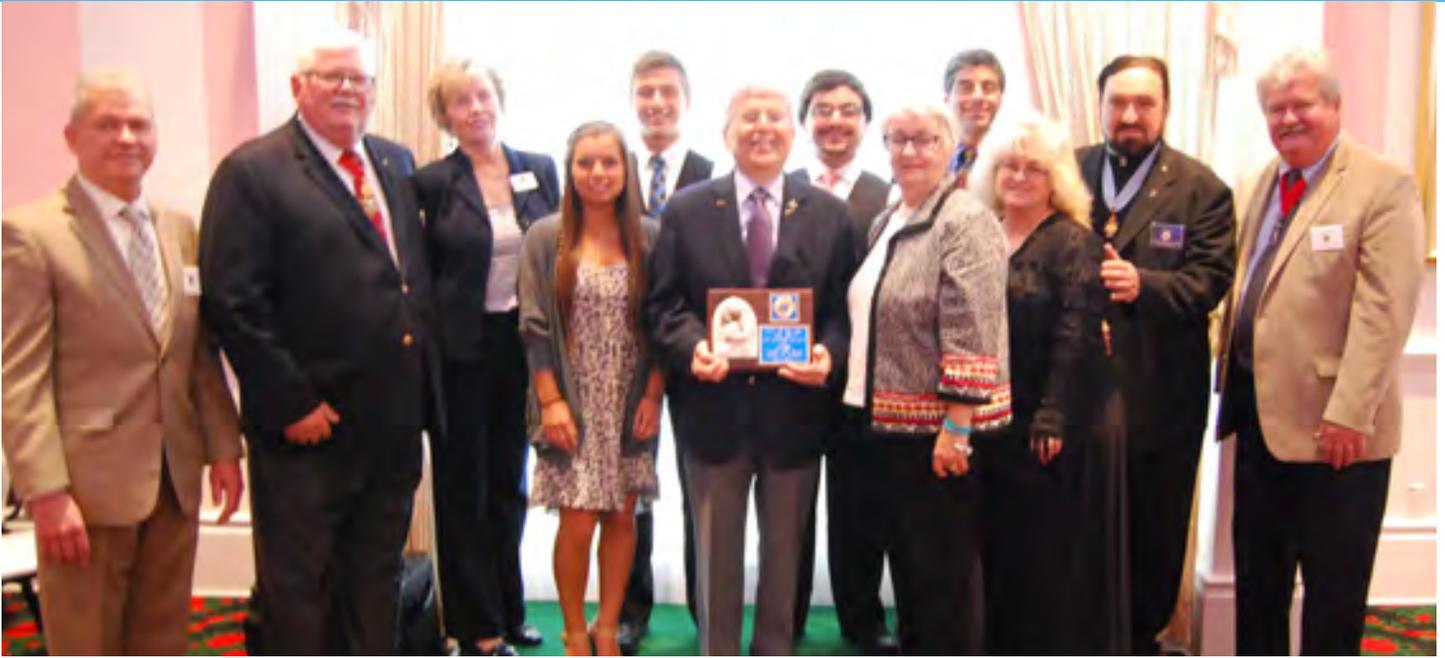
MICHIGAN STATE COUNCIL

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MICHIGAN CHARITIES RAFFLE NOVEMBER 1, 2016 TO APRIL 22, 2017 - PRIZE WINNERS

PRIZE NO	TICKET NO	PRIZE	COUNCIL	NAME	LOCATION
1	339145	ALASKAN CARNIVAL CRUISE FOR 2 + \$5,000 CASH	695	ED BRUFF	FRANKENMUTH
SELLER	339145	\$500.00	695	ED BRUFF	FRANKENMUTH
2	556110	ATLANTIS PARADISE ISLAND - BEACH TOWER FOR 2 + \$3,000 CASH	788	LOUIE POWELL	DEWITT
SELLER	556110	\$250.00	788	LOUIE POWELL	LANSING
3	304437	CANCUN DREAM PUERTO ADVENTURAS RESORT & SPA FOR 2 + 1,000 CASH	13793	ANNE KLIMA	BEVERLY HILLS
SELLER	304437	\$100	13793	MICHAEL KLIMA	BEVERLY HILLS
4	668310	WASHINGTON D.C. FOR 2 (3NIGHTS, GUIDED TOUR, \$525 FOR FLY OR DRIVE, PLUS \$500 CASH)	4404	JOSEPH FRITZ	CONCKLIN
SELLER	668310	\$50.00	4404	JOSEPH FRITZ	CONCKLIN
5	502899	\$1,000.00	11761	DAVE SMYCZYNSKI	CONCKLIN
6	68952	\$1,000.00	521	MARY G. SCHUCKER	PORT HURON
7	698670	\$1,000.00	13641	HAROLD JACOBUS	GRANDVILLE
8	798339	\$500.00	1120	BOB TAHANEY	WATERVLIT
9	438253	\$500.00	7413	RICHARD C. COUSINO	ERIE
10	558983	\$500.00	12044	STEPHEN THOMAS	LAINSBURG
11	608224	\$250.00	3027	RICK SCHAFFER	FOWLER
12	184680	\$250.00	1987	L. RENUSCH	LAPEER
13	181255	\$250.00	695	JOHN GUMBEL	DETROIT
14	40506	\$250.00	11658	JAMES BAWKS	HARRISON TWP.
15	265008	\$250.00	414	LARY BUKOESKI	BAY CITY
16	223501	\$250.00	8043	G. ONIFER	SANFORD
17	901877	\$250.00	8605	TIM DONOVAN	FOWERVILLE
18	144481	\$250.00	5436	BILL MOUNTAIN	CLARKSTON
19	473877	\$250.00	3615	ERIC TOWE	TRENTON
20	320463	\$250.00	1546	JOHN M. HUNT	BAD AXE
21	901519	\$250.00	7444	AMY O'CALLAGHAN	COMMERCE
22	742119	\$150.00	7100	BOB TUNNEY	GOETZZVILLE
23	478550	\$150.00	3021	DEACON JAMES HENSEL	WESTLAND
24	167023	\$150.00	4285	LOUIS BRYAN, SR.	CLIO
25	468288	\$150.00	3860	JOE VITALE	TAYLOR
26	916499	\$150.00	13673	BRUCE ROBERTS	LIVONIA
27	493220	\$150.00	1802	LOUIS JAGER	WYANDOTTE
28	129806	\$150.00	3869	SANDY KASSB	W. BLOOMFIELD
29	342458	\$150.00	5083	AL SITERLET	OSCODA
30	624388	\$150.00	2890	TRICIA KOENIGSKNECHT	LANSING

This year's Family of the year is the Frank and Sharon Pignanelli family.



Frank and Sharon met while they were students at the University of Michigan. Their courtship resulted in marriage in July 1961. After they married they settled in Ann Arbor where Sharon taught 2nd grade. As fate would have it, Frank was drafted into the US Army as a Pharmacist and was stationed at Ireland Hospital at Ft Knox, Kentucky. Frank's 2 year service was notable with many accomplishments including administration of the new oral polio vaccine to the civilians in the area.

In 1964 Frank, Sharon, and their first born child Lisa Marie returned to Ann Arbor and joined St Francis parish. Sharon immediately roll up her sleeves and got involved. Sharon was a St Francis school board member. She developed the child care services during mass, was a catechist, coordinated the summer camp for disadvantaged children, and was member of the Washtenaw County Pharmaceutical Society Auxiliary.

Frank, worked for several different drug store chains. He was a manager and sponsor of little league baseball, and was a member of the Washtenaw County pharmaceutical society.

Eventually they moved to Chelsea and immediately got involved there too. Frank has served on the Chelsea Senior Center Board. At St Mary he sat on the Parish Council and is currently a member of the Saturday morning men's group. He is an active member of the St Louis Guanella Knights council.

Frank's service to the Knights include: co-chair of the annual MI drive for 14 years. He was Instrumental in getting the Knights involved in the annual Chelsea Summerfest. He was the chairman for the bingo tent at the annual Chelsea Fair. You will also find him lending a hand at other events such as the Lenten Fish Fry's and the annual Chicken BBQ.

As active as Frank is, Sharon just might have the edge. While Frank was busy Sharon focused on raising their 2 children Lisa Marie and John Christopher. As their children grew older Sharon went back to school and completed course work in Computer Information Systems. She progressed through a series of positions at Pfizer Pharmaceutical and finally retired in 2004.

At St Mary, Sharon assembled the parish's sesquicentennial cookbook, 150 years of Recipes and Recollections and took a seat on the Parish council. Outside of the parish Sharon joined the Friends of Chelsea District Library and served as president of the board. She instituted the annual Chelsea Festival Tables fundraiser for the Chelsea Senior Center and along with Frank served on the Senior Center's Fundraising committee.

Frank and Sharon both received the Friendship Award from the St Lois Center. Yes, There are many more things that Frank Sharon have done and continue to do, but there is nothing they are more proud of than their two children.

Lisa Marie is married to Clark Ivey. They live in Perry Michigan. The example Frank and Sharon set of service was not ignored. Lisa and Clark are active members of St Mary in Williamston.

Lisa is a Special Education Resource teacher in the public schools of Lansing. She has been counselor at a special needs camp and a Special Olympics coach for several years. Lisa has been a catechist for 25 years.

Lisa's list of service goes on and on, but Clark her husband is pretty busy too. Clark too is a catechist. He is a lector, Eucharistic minister, and a Knight of Columbus member.

Lisa and Clark gave Frank and Sharon three grand children; Brett, Megan, and Trent. All three grandchildren continue the service tradition.

All three grandchildren have been alter servers. All have been involved in religious activities and organizations at their colleges and high schools. Brent and Trent where Columbian Squires as well. All three grandchildren continue the service tradition set by Frank and Sharon.

Frank and Sharon's son John lives in Chicago. John too has a service minded heart. John operates a non-profit venture called JCs Charity Events since 2012. JC Charity Events has donated over \$20,000 and provided hands on services to several Christ center causes. He has worked with Asian Youth services, Traffic Free a drop in center for victims of human trafficking, and the Central Detroit Christian CDC.