



# Tennessee Knights of Columbus

REPORT FROM STATE DEPUTY ROBERT H. ROUNSEFELL    October 2010

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*Responsibility – If it is to be – It is up to me*  
*What Works – Team Work!*

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**One half the Christian world is the result of the decision of one Catholic Layman – Christopher Columbus. –Carl Anderson**

## Tennessee's 11,000th Member is from the Clarksville Council

When Emanuel L. (Manny) Garcia left the church on Valentine's day in 1991 with his new bride, Marian, he had no idea that one day he would be honored as the 11000<sup>th</sup> Tennessee member of our Order! However, that's what happened recently at the Hananoki Japanese restaurant in Clarksville, together with IPSD Mike Porter, his wife Sandra, PGK Tony Amadeo, his wife Gerry and FS Ed Wilson and his wife Bobbie. Manny was selected in a drawing which was announced at the recent state convention. All new members recruited between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> from all councils in the state were eligible to be chosen in the drawing.

Manny and Marian reside in Clarksville where they attend Immaculate Conception. They have three children, Jared, Jaden and Jayna. Manny is a CWO4 in the US Army stationed at Fort Campbell where he is a helicopter maintenance test pilot for the OH-58 Reconnaissance helicopter. He was recruited into Father John A. Nolan Council by FS Ed Wilson shortly after he and Jared transferred into Boy Scout Troop 536 sponsored by the council. Manny had just made his third degree in late August.

Michael R. Porter, aka, the idea man, came up with this idea prior to the convention and it was a great one! It served as an extra incentive to achieve the 11,000 member mark. We actually finished at 11,043. As a result, we will have the same one this year for the 12,000<sup>th</sup> member. I know that many of you out there scoff at the idea of our making one thousand members in a years time- but then again when I came to Tennessee we had just over three thousand and many said we would never get to five thousand. And then it was seven thousand...and then ten thousand and look where we are now? So which council will have the twelve thousandth member?

## Squires Notes

The Squires of today are the leaders of tomorrow. The program is a lot of fun and it is great to work with young men who one day will become Knights themselves. There is a particular satisfaction in having an impact on young people's future and even greater satisfaction in later years to know that you had something to do with their evolvment. My first involvement with the Order was the result of a Squire Circle formed at my parish by then St. Lawrence Council 2458 on Long Island. As a result, I went to my first Supreme Convention in Boston in 1947. It was there that I decided that I wanted to have a lifelong involvement with the Knights. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Grand Knight David Morrissey at Hermitage (9282) tells us that his council is forming a new Columbian Squires Circle. They have already lined up several boys who are interested and they hope to have the circle in action by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

## From the State Advocate - Use of the Order's Name or Emblem on Items for Sale

If councils wish to sell branded products to raise funds they may request permission from the Supreme Board of Directors to use the Order's name and emblems on those items to be branded. Such requests shall be made to the Supreme Board through the State Deputy.

In order to preserve the integrity of the identifying marks of the Knights of Columbus as a Catholic organization, and consistent with Section 162.11 of the Laws of the Order, the Supreme Board of Directors will strictly scrutinize such requests to use them on branded objects for sale to the public. Furthermore, in order to minimize the risk of liability to the Knights of Columbus, the Supreme Board of Directors generally disfavors using the Order's name and emblems for branding food and beverages that will be sold or distributed. For example, councils frequently request permission to sell bottled water with labels bearing the Order's name and Third Degree emblem. These requests are denied.

When selling or distributing any product, regardless of whether that product bears the Order's name and emblem, the councils should understand that there is a risk of legal liability if the product causes damage or injury or does not meet a customer's expectation. In order to minimize the risk of liability, the council should carefully consider what products it sells. In addition, every council must always maintain general liability insurance for the fund raising events and initiatives.

## August Family of the Month

We held our own at fourteen councils submitting families for eligibility in the Supreme Council monthly drawing with nobody submitting late. We had two winners this month; the family of Paul & Nancy Moran of council 3537 in Clarksville and the family of Emilio & Mary Vigil of council 5062 in Memphis. Congratulations to these winners and let's see what we can

do about increasing participation. We have a lot of deserving families out there – let's show our appreciation.

## Circle of Honor

For the sixth year in a row, Tennessee has achieved Circle of Honor – the highest honor that can be bestowed on a State Council. This was the result of dedication and hard work by everyone throughout the state. We take pride in this honor...as we should. Several councils not only achieved star council but went one better and achieved double star council – one nearly triple!!

I set a goal of one thousand members. I realize that is a lot, 32% above the goal Supreme assigns us, but I feel that we can do it. If we keep one thousand in our mind- it is like the sprinter who mentally puts the finish tape twenty or thirty yards past where it actually is- then we can breeze through Supreme's goal with ease and that won't be bad.

I do not want to be the first State Deputy to miss the Circle of Honor. More importantly, I don't want Tennessee to lose out on what it so richly deserves.

Let's do it.

## Membership-Dennis Preston

Hello Brother Knights,

Summer is gone and fall is here and here we are in the beginning of our 4<sup>th</sup> month of the fraternal year. I hope all of you are well and working with your councils in all areas of our programs. I received only a few letters telling me about working on membership. A reminder, there are publications like the 5 which is I think an excellent tool or guide for any council to use. Remember though that membership grows from programs. Bringing new members into our organization is wonderful but many who have dropped out say that they did so because no one from their council had asked for his help. This is such a shame . . . I know members fall through the cracks because they volunteer or are willing to volunteer but need to be called to assist in any program. With your new members find their interest and assign them to that area. October is membership Blitz month. Place a notice in your church bulletin, have a social to offer info to men who do not know what the Knights are all about. Don't take for granted that everyone knows about the Knights. Wear your KC shirts and name tags, not just to meetings but to church as well. Well, at least the name badge. It's free advertisement. Give me a call if there is anything I can do. I am there for you. Our numbers were looking pretty good but then I read the drop column and felt sad. We work so hard to get out new members and then we seemingly hardly work at all to try and keep them.

What better way of serving God than to be a Knight of Columbus.

God Bless all of you.

Vivat Jesus

## News You Can Use

If someone has sent you a Microsoft Office file which has an x on the end of the normal extension (i.e. docx instead of doc or xlsx instead of xls) and it will not open in Word or Excel, odds are you are using an older version of Office.

The docx and xlsx files are Microsoft Office 2007 files. If you have Office 2003, Microsoft made a compatibility pack that will allow you to open Office 2007 + files in Office 2003. (See links below). If you have Office XP or earlier, your only option is to ask the person who sent you the file to save it as an Office 2000-2003 format file.

Download and install this file first:

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=941b3470-3ae9-4aee-8f43-c6bb7cd14668displaylang=en>

Download and install this file second:

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=9A1822C5-49C6-47BD-8BEC-DD68693CA564&displaylang=en>

*Cell phones* – we all use them, right? But do we realize how much trouble they can cause you if they get away from you? Consider what happened to a friend of mine's wife the other day. Her purse was stolen which contained her wallet, credit cards, driver's license, etc. and her cell phone.

She called her husband to tell him what had happened and he said he had gotten her text message in which she had said she had misplaced their account number at the bank. He had just sent to her cell phone. They raced to the bank but were too late. The thief had emptied their account.

When you are putting numbers in to your cell phone don't use names like; Honey, Hubby, home, etc. Use initials or middle names. Some people keep their account numbers on their phone, I do- but I list a phony name for them and add zeroes at back or front if necessary to fill in the number of digits.

They're getting smart out there, we have to be smarter.

*A suggestion for your fifty-fifty drawings* Thanks to Marv Gabalski and some of his councils. If you have a smaller council the fifty-fifty program sometimes is a little wanting in terms of a decent win for both the individual and the council. Try this. Hold your drawing quarterly instead of monthly – makes for a bigger pot for everybody.

*Postage* – While it was nice to see that the Post Office did not get its most recent request for yet another price increase on first class mail it still is pretty costly to send mail nowadays. (And they wonder why people use email and direct deposit.) Here is a way to save some money.

I recently received an envelope from a financial secretary (that should have gone to the state treasurer) which had seven first class stamps on it. Steel trap minds out there will quickly come up with a total cost of \$3.08. Now, here's the trick. The Post Office only requires first class on the first stamp. Subsequent stamps are only .17 each. Okay, do the math again, that comes to a total of \$1.46 or a savings of \$1.62. Maybe many of you out there are independently

wealthy or just love the Post Office and want to help them out. But, if you don't, then try using the seventeen cent stamp for number two and after.

## From the State Deputy

We have embarked yet again on a new year with new goals, fresh enthusiasm and a determination to succeed. As we examine the wealth of material disseminated from the Supreme Office, it becomes increasingly evident that our District Deputy's and Grand Knights must use effective measures to translate all of these ideas and suggestions . . . into ACTION!!

None of these programs are really new. They have all been tried before and have all proved successful. It's going to be a question of whether or not you can sell an idea to a member and convince him that it is right for his council. All too often a proper selling job is not done. If you are not enthused yourself, you are never going to transmit enthusiasm to anyone else.

Sometimes this apparent lack of enthusiasm is due to the fact the subject is not fully understood. Take our insurance program for example. Some acknowledge its existence but refuse to promote it to any degree what so ever. In fact, believe it or not, there are still some out there who utter that tired, old and ridiculous refrain "The Knights of Columbus is nothing but an insurance company." Nothing could be farther from the truth! It is not an insurance company. It is a fraternal benefit society and believe me there is a difference! Fraternalism and Fraternal Life Insurance are founded upon the principle that man is in truth his brother's keeper just as our Supreme Knight has proposed as the watch word for the Order this year. Each of us has the responsibility of his fellow man. It was this spirit of the brotherhood of man, first founded in the medieval trade guilds, that inspired the inception and stimulated the development of Fraternal Life Insurance.

We have seen this spirit of brotherhood expressed in those loosely organized and semi-religious societies of ancient Greece which rendered financial aid to their members in time of sickness and death. Spartans were known for this. We have seen it in the early days of the Roman Empire, where similar societies flourished collecting funds from their members which were held in trust and used to pay for funerals and for fraternal gatherings of their membership. It wasn't until the beginnings of the 1900's that this collect and hold system began to falter for younger members were being assessed repeatedly and were leaving in droves. The answer was obvious and the Order went to the legal reserve system in use by all companies today.

In my lifetime I have watched (and participated in a small way) the growth of the Order's insurance program from a few hundred million in force to seventy six billion!

We should be proud to recommend our insurance products to our brothers. No company has the laurels to stand upon like we do. Next time you hear somebody say we are nothing but an insurance company, set him straight.

## New Council on the Horizon

District Deputy Tony DiMaiolo, District 2, reports that Germantown council's roundtable at Holy Spirit parish is paying off! They are in the middle of organizing for a January 1<sup>st</sup> start

of the new council in the parish. With six new Knights taking the first degree this month and seven last month, they now have seventy five men ready to become charter members.

The roundtable has been active for some time. One of their big projects that has drawn a lot of prospective members is the pancake breakfasts. These have gone very well. As a result they have been able to contribute \$2,000 towards a new commercial dishwasher for the kitchen. Subsequently, Monsignor Kirk, the pastor, has asked for a committee to be formed to plan a renewal and expansion of the entire kitchen. The BEST part of these activities is that it has been and is being performed by the new knights.

As though this was not enough, on September 26<sup>th</sup> they presented a \$500 Scholarship check to Brother Knight Deacon Werner Rose. He will be pursuing a doctorate in preaching in St. Louis, MO. The check was presented by Stan Schulz with Chaplain Fr. Matthew Panachachira in attendance.

Tennessee councils better keep their eyes open, there's a new sheriff in town. These guys are on the move.

### **A Vocations Prayer**

**God of all nations, we are grateful for Catholic missionaries who bring the treasure of faith to many lands. May the gospel, which shaped their lives, continue to shape our lives today. Bless every diocese with others to follow in their footsteps. Amen**

*I am my brother's keeper*

*Bob*

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