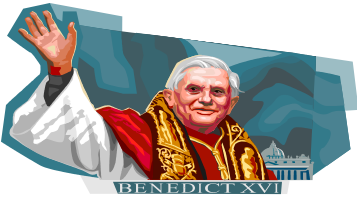


Welcome aboard our third new council of the year!
Holy Family Council 15234 in Brentwood, Tennessee
Welcome aboard, Brothers. It's good to have you on the
team



Tennessee Knights of Columbus

REPORT FROM STATE DEPUTY ROBERT H. ROUNSEFELL March 2011

www.kofc-tn.org

Responsibility – If it is to be – it is up to me

Our state goal is Circle of Honor, each council's goal should be Star Council. If councils achieve Star then State will be in the Circle of Honor. That's the winner circle – Tennessee belongs there!

Tennessee Continues to Move Forward with Another Council

Another step forward was made in late February with the addition of yet another new council. This one located at Holy Family Parish in Brentwood. We welcome council 15234 to our growing state and Michael G. Guyton, as it's Grand Knight. We are looking forward to welcoming them at the state convention where they will be seated down front with all the other new councils this year.

From the Membership Chairman – Denis Preston

How about this for a commitment?

Membership Recruitment Pledge

"I realize that membership is the Life Blood of the Knights of Columbus. Therefore, I promise upon my honor as a Catholic Gentleman, to be responsible for recruiting at least one new member per year so together we can further promote Charity, Unity, Fraternity & Patriotism."

What do you say, Brothers...Want to take the Pledge?

We are entering the dangerous portion of the year. By that I mean that we have been doing pretty well on membership so far. We came in number one in our division in the monthly race. We brought in 103 new members! And, we are number six in the Order. Problem is, we have one council suspending 28 members, another that has submitted suspension three times this year, and another dropping 14 . . . can't get ahead that way.

Why do I call it the dangerous part of the year? Simple, because we become complacent. Even though we know of the drops- even though we know the year is far from over- we start to lag. We think of the upcoming convention as the end of the year.

It's not. If anything it is the beginning all over again!! Now is the time we must put our shoulders to the wheel and drive even harder. We will never get anywhere if we don't continue to strive for the best.

There is an old saying you've probably heard, but it is worth repeating here: When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

So, are we tough enough to cut it? I think we are. Let's prove it.

State Convention - Almost Here – Mike Porter, IPSD and Convention Chair

Fifty eight days and a wakeup. That's how close it is. Question is: Are you ready for it? If your council has not submitted its registration form or has yet to make their hotel reservations - don't wait. Do it today! Reservations are filling up fast! If you keep dragging your feet, you'll be left out in the cold without a room at what promises to be one of the biggest -if not the biggest- and best conventions ever. You don't want to miss it.

The convention ad book is also filling up just as fast. If you have not submitted your ad (council, assembly, business or personal) please send it in no later than 15 March.

Finally, if you plan to play golf on April 29, please complete the golf attendance form and return it to General Agent Dan Schachle. All funds go to support the vocations program in all three Dioceses.

Excitement abounds with State Chaplains Meeting

On Tuesday, March 1, 2011, the first ever gathering of State Chaplains was held at Supreme Headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut. Included were all United States State Chaplains, as well as those from Poland, Mexico and Canada. The main purpose was to begin to explore how Council Chaplains can be in greater partnership in providing faith formation based on the four cardinal principles of the Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

On our first full day, Carl A. Anderson, Supreme Knight and Most Rev. William E. Lori our Supreme Chaplain each gave an introductory talk about the purpose of this gathering. Bishop Lori gave a very thoughtful presentation on the importance of the four principles. His talk emphasized the role of the chaplains to help fellow knights understand the principles and to see them as a way of embracing the whole of the faith and living it in a way that truly makes a difference.

Our time together as State Chaplains was remarkable in that we had an opportunity to share our own experience as Council Chaplains. These experiences covered a wide range

of both positive and negative experiences. However, our goal was to explore the possibilities of new life giving directions for the role of the Council Chaplain. Over the past several months, a small focus group of State Chaplains, under the direction of Fr. John Grace, OSA, developed a very helpful tool called *10 Keys to Success as a Chaplain*. This handy brochure will soon be available to all State Chaplains and will be a great help in their ministry.

Just as our great Order was born out of need and necessity, under the great inspiration of Fr. Michael J. McGivney, so to is this endeavor. The role of the Council Chaplain is vital to a vibrant council to live by the four principles. I am very grateful for having had this opportunity to have participated in the first gathering of State Chaplains. As the title of this article says...Excitement abounds for this State Chaplain!!

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Fr. Stephen K. Kenny
State Chaplain

State Secretary Scribbles – Michael L. Wills

I have been pondering some significant questions this week:

- What do Tootsie Rolls and wheelchairs have in common?
- How many years will pass before Indiana returns to the NCAA tournament?
- Does Tennessee deserve to make the NCAA tournament?

Tootsie Rolls and wheelchairs are powerful symbols for the Knights of Columbus in Tennessee. They evoke two of the Order's principles: Charity and Unity.

The Order has teamed with the Global Wheelchair Mission to help provide wheelchairs for those who need them. Wheelchairs purchased by the Knights of Columbus in Tennessee have been donated to Veterans hospitals, local parishes and to the poor in Mexico. We received a new shipment of wheelchairs in early March. These were delivered to us in Memphis. Past State Deputy Bill Wicke and Former District Deputy Richard Hughes rented a truck and spent the better part of a week delivering wheelchairs across the state.

This isn't a story about Bill and Richard. The story is how Knights of Columbus, across the state, raised money and pooled their funds so that the wheelchairs could be purchased. Bit by bit, through wheelchair Sundays and through special fund raising events, the money needed for the container of wheelchairs grew and finally there was enough to purchase them. We do not know how many people will be helped through the united effort of the Knights in Tennessee to buy them. We do know, however, that none would have been helped if we were not united.

Another example of our unity and charity is the MR Foundation. Knights in Tennessee have been helping people with mental disabilities for decades. Councils collect funds, often while wearing the distinctive yellow and red aprons and giving away Tootsie Rolls.

The money is sent to the Foundation. Half of it stays with the Foundation to fund state-wide projects and to fund special needs through grants requested by local councils. The other half of the money is available for the council to give to local 501(c) (3) charities that help those with mental disabilities. The local council only needs to tell the Foundation what 501(c) (3) charity it wants to receive the funds. There will be opportunities to learn more about the Foundation at this year's State Convention.

There is not much I can (or should) say about the other two questions that have been on my mind this week. They are mysteries and while they may not be as mysterious as the Trinity, their answers are beyond my grasp.

Vivat Jesus,

Michael L Wills
State Secretary

Family of the Month Winners for January

Congratulations this month to Doug & Amy Martinek from Council 3837 in Union City. They were selected by Supreme as one of winners in the drawing for family of the month. Doug is the son of Doug Martinek who served as our State Deputy from 1980-1982.

Our other family recognized for their contributions is that of Eugene & Dawn Fortson from council 8152 in Crossville.

Our congratulations and thanks to both of these families for their many hours of service to church and community.

From the State Council Consultant - John King

Here we are at the first of March. As the state council consultant, I urge you to submit your council's candidate for state knight of the year. There are so many worthy knights out there who have given countless hours of volunteer service to our fraternal organization. Selection of one from your council will be difficult, yet failing to do so will be very selfish. I ask that you keep your citation to five hundred words or less for there are no prizes for length and to exceed the five hundred word limit- even by a single word - will result in its disqualification. Remember, these are due in to me not later than March 15, 2011.

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 brothers keeper

Robert H. Rounsefell
State Deputy, Tennessee State Council

NOTE: Financial Secretary's- all membership information, form 100's and the ten dollar (\$10) new member fee goes to the State Treasurer. This includes semiannual audits.

All reports marked for the State Deputy go to the State Secretary. The only exception is the District Deputy semiannual reports and degree reports.

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