



STATE UPDATE

UTAH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

State Deputy's Message

Brothers,

Working on the state convention is well underway. Seems a little strange, the convention being 3 months away and all, but without preparing now the convention would not flow as smoothly as it will unless the work had actually started a few months ago. The same thing is true with every project we run. The further in advance of the project we begin to prepare, the better our chances of having a successful project. It is rather brilliant the way the Knights run. As you move up the chairs in a council the further out you have to look. This is true for council officers as well as state officers.

There is a lot coming up soon. The deadline for your council audit is the 15th of February. The deadline for your council's submissions for the state awards is not long after, then the state convention. Then there is your Columbian award entry. If you find a little lull every now and then take a few minutes to catch up on your future tasks. Start writing your state award entries. This will improve your chances of winning an award for a project for which your Knights worked hard and deserve recognition.

Take a few minutes and update your Star Council poster and/or your fraternal planner with your recent projects. This will help you figure out where you need to fill some gaps in certain categories in time for you to do something about it. These category completion programs don't have to be complex ones, they could be as simple as a Rosary or council get-together, but planning now will prevent a hurried attempt later. It will also get you time to have someone like your DD or a state officer review your Columbia award form for those little things that might cause your entry a problem at Supreme.

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District Master's Note

Organize Your Membership Committee

Our Sir Knights, just like those around the world, are aging out of service. Recruiting new members is essential to our order.

The first and perhaps most important step in setting up a successful membership program in your assembly is organization.

- Appoint a Sir Knight to coordinate and oversee all membership programs and activities.
- Appoint additional Sir Knights to serve on a committee for promoting membership growth.
- Obtain dates for scheduled exemplifications from the Master, to set goals and plan specific recruitment promotions and activities.
- Identify and schedule recruitment methods that best suits your assembly's needs and goals – council drives, open houses, invitation programs, team recruiting, etc.
- Assign a Sir Knight to each council that the assembly represents, to serve as liaison, to promote the activities of the assembly and membership into the Patriotic Degree.
- Involve the entire assembly. Encourage assembly to assist by identifying prospective members.

Build a Prospect List

Before you consider HOW to recruit, you must address the question of WHO TO RECRUIT. There are many eligible members who would enjoy participating in the patriotic programs and activities of the Patriotic Degree. Identifying them is easier than you think.

- Acquire a roster of eligible members from the financial secretaries of the councils in your assembly.

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State Deputy's Message (Cont.)

Plan your convention work now too. Who is doing your ad? What will be the contents? Who is coming? Have meal reservations been made? Taking care of these details now will prevent hurrying later, making your convention experience richer and smoother. Your DD has some things to do for the convention too. One of them is to put together a district report that includes info on what your council has done this year. By putting together your list of programs you can help him do his job too.

I'm betting you have a number of potential entries for state awards. Start them now and reap the benefits of having won an award because you spent the time on the submission. A couple of pages and some pictures is a lot better than just entering on the standard form. We've streamlined the submission process so it is so much easier than it has been, but we've still been getting fewer entries every year. This improves your chances!

Planning now will also help your March church derive. Waiting until the end of the month will almost certainly result in some lose end that need tying up when you don't have the time.

As always, your brother Knights are here to help you. The state officers are here to help our councils grow and prosper; your district deputies are similarly tied to your council's success. But we don't know when you need help unless you ask.

Vivat Jesus!
Andy Airriess



Utah State Deputy

District Master's Note (Cont.)

- Target all priests who are members.
- Target veterans, policemen, and firemen who are members of the Order as prospects.
- Target fathers, sons, nephews, cousins, brothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, grandparents, grandsons who are members of the Order.
- Advertise regularly in council bulletins, inviting qualified prospects to contact the assembly membership committee about joining.
- Use your imagination, new Sir Knights are all around you.

Fourth Degree Exemplification

Please take the time during both Council and Assembly meetings to promote the Fourth Degree Exemplification and encourage Third Degree or lower members to attain the title of Sir Knight. If you are over 18 years of age; a practical Catholic; and you are a Third Degree member in good standing, to consider joining the ranks of the Fourth Degree.

The goal for all Knights should be to become a Sir Knight. It would be a major accomplishment if half the members of each Council were Sir Knights. The Fourth Degree is the Patriotic Degree. In these times, we must band together to preserve our freedoms as American citizens and as Catholics. The lessons taught in this degree are impressive and not forgotten. Please help new members from our Councils to become Fourth Degree Sir Knights.

“Sir Knight is more than a title... it's an honor!”

Yours in Christ,
VJ Simonelli
Utah District Master

State Convention

Date: Friday May 5th to Sunday morning May 7th **Location:** Park City Marriott Hotel – 1895 Sidewinder Drive
Contact: John Wainscott – wains@sisna.com More information, schedules, and registration forms on the State website: www.utahknights.org Council and business advertising forms also available on the State website.

State Secretary's Corner

I believe we all at one time or another have asked ourselves these momentous questions.

Why am I here? What am I doing? What is the purpose of life and where do I fit in?

These I believe are very good questions and I think we all have asked these very questions in one form or another.

Our niece married a nice young man and moved away to a rural farm in Illinois and we only get to see them rarely. Julie and I received a nice Christmas card from her with recent pictures of their children. As I was cleaning my office and sorting and throwing away things I noticed something else in the Christmas card envelope my niece sent to us. I would like to share this inserted card with you.

“Love your state in life and its duties, and love them tenderly, for the sake of the one who has willed it thus. But you see, this must not be a passing thought. It must be a consideration that remains in the very front of your heart. Over time, by continual recollection and attention this truth will become enjoyable to your spirit.” St. Francis Di Sales

Enjoy your fraternal family membership in the Knights of Columbus! Be dedicated to whatever role you have in our organization. If you happen to be a leader, engage yourself in encouraging and helping your peers be a better catholic, husband and father.

Our Worthy State Deputy in a recent plea to us and I quote: “Brothers, there is a war out there. If you don't think there is, then you have not been paying attention.” The best thing we can do is think positive. Times will get better. At this writing we have a new bishop in our diocese. Let's all work together as we build the domestic church and support its programs.

Recently the state of Utah was recognized by our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson at the Supreme Convention at ranking number 7 in our order for charitable giving thru our programs. We have always done very well with our programs thru out the state. Thank you gentleman for all you do!

Gentleman you have the heart and desire to move our family fraternal organization forward as we further the work of venerable Father Michael J McGivney. “The key to success is to focus our conscious mind on things we desire, not things we fear.” In- *How Successful People Think*

On a final note, please offer a prayer for our dear friend and brother knight and his family: WPSD Dan Higgins. He worked tirelessly to the end!

Reminders:

Verify that your council has submitted its Semiannual Audit Report #1295., Partner Profile Report with Special Olympics # 4583 and Survey of Fraternal Activity #1728. All these reports were due January 31st.

Plan your council's participation in our Orderwide Founders Day Church Recruitment Week in March. Make sure your council is on track to achieve the Star Council Award.

Vivat Jesus!

Rick Kump



Utah State Secretary

Upcoming Degrees (Please see State website calendar for degrees)

- 1-Admission Degrees: **2/14/2017**, 6:00 PM – St Francis Xavier Kearns; **2/17/2017**, 6:00 PM – St George
- 2&3- Formation and Knighthood Degrees: **2/18/2017**, 9:00 AM – St George
- 4th Degree – Patriotic Degree: **3/4/2017**, 1:00 PM – Holy Family Church in South Ogden

State Program Updates

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – 40 Cans for Lent. As part of the Order's Food for Families program, councils are encouraged to conduct a 40 Cans for Lent program. This simple-to-conduct program asks each member of the council, along with the parish community, to donate one can of food for each day of Lent which begins this year on Ash Wednesday, 1 March 2017. If the council collects and distributes a minimum of 1000 pounds of food and contributes 100 man-hours of service to the program, it will satisfy all four requirements for the Family Activities category of the Columbian Award. In addition, for participating councils or assemblies, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 for every \$500 donated, or for every 1,000 pounds of food that a council contributes to a parish food pantry, community food bank or soup kitchen (up to a maximum of \$500 per council/assembly per fraternal year). Reported contributions of food and/or monetary donations should be cumulative for the fraternal year and there is no need to send in a refund request every time a contribution is made.

As presented at the Mid-Year meeting, this program also satisfies one of the Domestic Church Activities category requirements for the Columbian Award. Also, participating councils and assemblies can qualify to receive an attractive plaque by reporting activity in this program on the **Food for Families Reimbursement Program Form (#10057)** to the Supreme Council.

Fraternal Leader Training Webinars It is our responsibility as officers to help your new Knights understand our mission and actively engage in it. Learn how to do so by participating in the next Supreme-sponsored webinar, "How WE are Seen is How WE are Known," on Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017, at 6 PM Mountain Standard Time. The one-hour webinar will provide a detailed look at: Keeping our Ceremonial promises, Attracting young members through service projects, Spreading our mission through charitable service outreach programs

All council and assembly officers, district deputies and state officers are encouraged to participate in this webinar. Register at

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&referrer=&eventid=1343803&sessionid=1&key=6BBF88883DEDC1541344C55BC00CDDFD>

- **New Requirement for Columbian Award:** To earn the Columbian Award, councils must now conduct at least four Surge with Service activities that are also designated as domestic church programs. Visit kofc.org/domesticchurch for the most up-to-date list of eligible programs and activities and to find resources that will help your council conduct them.
- **Supreme Program Kits** - All contest kits can be ordered by visiting kofc.org/forms or calling 203-752-4016

MS Walk Basket (over \$500 of Avon product) Raffle tickets being sold at several K of C events, proceeds will go toward fighting Multiple Sclerosis. Contact Jerry Angus for more info: j.angus@comcast.net

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