Office of the

Vice Supreme Master

October 18, 2018

Worthy State Deputies, District Masters and Brothers all,

As of my last newsletter we had the opportunity to meet in Denver Colorado for the Provincial meeting on September 8, 2018. I am glad to report that all the District Masters were in attendance and State Deputy Tom Kalisz from Arizona and State Secretary Chis Foley representing State Deputy Jay Doherty from Colorado. Much was discussed on the topics of membership, programs and reports and how to better engage the membership to recruit new members and to ensure that once a new member joins, there are programs to keep the member interested.

Programs are an important aspect of keeping members interested and engaged in the Patriotic Degree and without programs why would a member want to continue being a member of the Patriotic Degree.

At the Provincial Meeting I asked each District Master to put in place 4 programs, one per quarter that all assemblies could get involved in thus if every assembly did one program per quarter all assemblies could have met the required needed to earn the Civic Award. Imagine 146 assemblies receiving the Civic Award instead of just 28.

The following are just some of the ideas we came up with, for programs

**Donate funds to the Military Scholarship Fund**

Once again, we are called upon by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson to take charge of this worthy program. During the next two years we are being asked to raise $200,000.00 per year. The reason for the request is that a major supporter of the program had to back out, so we are being asked to bridge the gap. Supreme Knight has also asked for State Councils and Councils to participate as well. To date, 45 seminarians have taken advantage of the program with 15 being ordained and 3 that are currently transitional deacons.

If every assembly donated just $100.00 we could raise $14,600 per year of course if an assembly can donate more that would also be appreciated as well.

**Support the Warriors to Lourdes Program**

Raise funds to send an active duty or recently retired or separated military personnel to Lourdes. These military personnel are reviewed by the KofC Pilgrimage leadership team and medical director. Cost to send someone to Lourdes is $2600.00. I am asking each district to sponsor someone to Lourdes if possible.

**Honor 1st Responders**

 Hold a dinner and encourage the local parish members to support the dinner. If funds are raised, support a program supported for 1st responders who are hurt or killed while in the line of duty.

**Veterans Day**

Conduct a parish drive to collect toiletries for veterans at the VA hospitals or homeless veterans or hold a dinner and encourage the local parish members to support the dinner. If funds are raised support a program supported by the VA.

Marching in the Veterans Day parade is also a good one.

**Adopt a Vet and or family**

During the holidays we can adopt a veteran from the VA or a family of a deployed member of the Armed Forces, if you have a military base near buy. You can do this for Thanksgiving and or Christmas or any other time of the year.

How about sending Christmas Cards to veterans at the local VA Hospital or better yet visit a vet at the VA hospital. If each assembly sent 10 Christmas Cards to a Veteran at the VA we would have sent 1,460 cards that could be enjoyed by a veteran.

**Coats for Homeless Veterans**

Why not expand the Coats for Kids program to include homeless veterans?

There are many other programs that an assembly can do, and these are just a few of the programs I would recommend.

**Membership**

We are well into the second quarter of this fraternal year and based on the membership reports that we have received we are well on our way to meeting our membership goal of 856 new and or reinstated Sir Knights.

As of today, we have added 141 Sir Knights to the John H. Reddin Province or 16.47% of our membership goal. I would like to thank District Masters Bryant Sayers and Roger Muller for conducting at least one exemplification each thus far.

For the month of November, we have Exemplifications scheduled in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah which will help to increase our numbers even more. I am looking forward to visiting with Utah and Arizona at their exemplifications.

**Incentive Program**

I also established an incentive program for the District Masters if they meet all the goals for each category they will receive a $100.00 gift card

$25.00 for 100% attainment of the following forms submitted to Supreme on time.

Report of Officers Form 186

Annual Audit Report Form 1315

Annual Survey of Fraternal Services Form 1728

$25.00 Meet goal of one New Assembly

$50.00 Meet or exceed membership goal

**John H. Reddin Website**

Thanks to the help of District Master Frank Carmona we created the John H. Reddin website that could be used by District Masters to add information about what is going on in their districts. So if any assembly has information and or pictures they would like to share please send it to your District Master and they in turn can submit to be included in the website. The link is as follows:

[www.jhrp.org](http://www.jhrp.org)

**Exemplification Ceremonial Dress**

There have been many questions about when the robes are retired and what the official dress will be for team members. If a team is presently not wearing the robes the expectation is that they will be wearing the official uniform that was approved back in June 10, 2017. The expectation is that all team members and those considering joining an Exemplification Ceremonial Team should be wearing the official uniform.

**New Uniform Issues**

If any Sir Knight that ordered a new uniform back in August, September and or October of last year and have not heard back from Knights Gear please get with your District Master so we can get to the bottom of this issue.

There was another issue that was supposedly resolved that had to do with waist sizes for the trousers. It appears that the trousers were mis-sized by two sizes. For instance, if you ordered a size 32 you probably received a size 34. I need to know if anyone is still experiencing this issue. Please get with your District Master so we can resolve if need be.

**Extended use of Old Regalia**

Just a reminder that there will not be an extension in the usage of the Color Corps regalia (tuxedo, cape and chapeau). Effective July 1, 2019 only the new uniform will be allowed for Color Corps events such as Exemplifications, parades, Corporate Communions and viewing and funeral services.

As always, I would like to thank each one of you for your hard work and making the John H. Reddin Province the best it can be. I am honored to serve as your Vice Supreme Master.

Yours in Christ

Michael H. Kingman

Michael H. Kingman, PSD

Vice Supreme Master

John H. Reddin Province