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In The News!



On October 14, 2007, **Bobby Perez, Knights of Columbus International Free Throw Champion, and Knights of Columbus State Deputy, Dan Baker** were named **Honorary Team Captains** for the NBA's Atlanta Hawks. Bobby earned the privilege of being named Honorary Team Captain by winning the Council 6532 competition in Alpharetta, District 13 championship in Dun-

woody, and by making 25 out of 25 free-throws in the Georgia State Free Throw Championship in March 2007. Upon shooting a perfect score and winning the State 11-year old competition, Bobby was named an International champion by the Knights of Columbus.

State Deputy Dan Baker presented Bobby his trophy during pre-game activities at Philips Arena. Bobby's family was present and all enjoyed the court-side seats provided by the Hawks as they took on the Portland Trailblazers.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C international headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. All boys and girls 10 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and compete in their respective age divisions.

Last year more than 179,000 sharpshooters participated in over 3,000 local competitions. The Atlanta Hawks and the Georgia State council of the Knights of Columbus are joining efforts to continue and reinforce support of youth development. **State Free Throw Chairman Thom Mead** of Macon is working closely with the Hawks to develop that relationship and was responsible for making the presentation at Philips Arena happen.

From The State Deputy

By Daniel Baker - State Deputy



GOALS:

We set goals every day.

- Sometimes, it might be as simple as getting to work on time.
- Or it might be to get a 10% raise in pay.
- Or it might be to say the Rosary before we go to sleep at night.

Every successful organization sets goals to ensure it stays on track and accomplishes its purpose. So it is with the Knights of Columbus and the Georgia State Council.

Each local council has membership and insurance goals set by Supreme. These exist so that we grow. Any organization which is not growing is dying!

Supreme even gives the State goals. This Fraternal Year, the Georgia State Council goals set by Supreme are:

- Increase membership by a net of 475 members
- Add 3 new councils
- Activate 50 roundtables

As of mid-October, we are 1/3 the way on membership, have several new councils in development, and have reported 27 roundtables.

Our founding principle is Charity. So we set goals for charitable giving in Georgia.

We have established the Knights of Columbus Scholarship at Southern Catholic College, and our goal is to endow that scholarship with \$25,000 this year. That will get us going.

We raise money for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities every year. Last year, the "Tootsie Roll Drive" raised about \$100,000 state-wide. This year we want to give \$150,000 to those causes which include ARC-Georgia, Special Olympics and other programs benefitting persons with disabilities.

And the Wheelchair fund. This newest project of the Order provides wheelchairs around the world at no cost to the recipients. Our State goal of \$46,000 will provide 2 shipping containers of wheelchairs. That's 560 wheelchairs to people who lack mobility!

Our Charity Drive each Spring has traditionally benefitted pro-life programs. Last year, this raffle raised about \$30,000. Do you know any reason we can't reach the Georgia goal of \$50,000 this year?

My personal goals include growing the Georgia membership, ensuring that every council and Grand Knight have the support they need to do the good works of the Order, and providing support for our men and women in uniform, wherever they may serve. Won't you join me?

St Michael the Archangel, Pray for Those Who Serve!



State By-Law Changes

By Jim St John - State Secretary



At the 106th annual meeting of the Georgia State Council a resolution was passed to change our By-Laws to increase the mileage and per diem for delegates to the Annual Meeting to \$100.00 per day and \$0.25 per mile, round trip. In order to fund this increase, in the budget for Fraternal Year 2007-2008, Per Capita Taxes were increased to \$8.50 per member, and the budget was passed.

Your council's per capita tax will be determined by your membership as determined by the Supreme Council on January 1, 2008. less your Honorary and Honorary Life members. In order to ensure that you do not pay more tax than is required, I would urge Financial Secretaries to go over their membership rosters and apply for honorary and honorary life membership for all members who qualify.

You should also ensure that Forms 100 are submitted for any deceased members. You may also want to start separation action on members who are delinquent in dues, however I would give a word of caution: It is more cost effective to the council, to get delinquent members to pay dues and then pay "per capita tax" on them, than to separate them. You must strictly follow the procedures outlined in the Supreme By-Laws for suspension, including the Knight Alert Letter, contact by the retention committee and contact by the District Deputy, or the suspension will not be processed.

Also there will be some changes for the payment of funds this year: Money for the Drive for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (formerly the Tootsie Roll Drive) and the Wheel Chair Campaign will be sent directly to Columbian Charities of Georgia. Money for the registration at our annual state meeting and convention will be sent to the convention committee rather than the State Secretary. Directions will be included in your convention packages.

November 2007



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **3rd** - 2/3 Degree Exemplification at Conyers Council #10004
- **11th** - Soccer Challenge finals in Griffin - See Page 4
- **22nd** - Thanksgiving Day
- **29th** - 2nd Degree Exemplification at St Thomas the Apostle in Smyrna

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 2/3 Degree in Conyers
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Soccer Challenge Finals	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 2nd Degree Exemplification	30	



The Good Works of Our Order Are Done in Our Local Councils

By David Canale - State Pro-Life Chairman



We have heard this statement many times this Fraternal Year from our State Deputy. We might add that these good works are done by ordinary Knights, men who give their time to organize projects and events that help their local communities and spread our Catholic faith. Our Order's founding principle, Charity, finds its best voice when Knights defend the defenseless, especially through our actions in support of the Pro-Life cause.

As Catholic citizens, we have a responsibility to educate ourselves on political issues and candidates, especially with regard to Catholic doctrine on issues of human life. Not surprisingly, Georgia Knights are leading the way in helping to inform their fellow Catholics on these important issues. On October 27th, John Virag, a member of Holy Trinity Council No. 7601 at St. James the Apostle Church in McDonough, organized a forum for parish Pro-Life leaders of the Atlanta Archdiocese. As his council's Pro-Life director, John was especially concerned about the need to educate his fellow Knights and Catholics about the Church's position on such issues as abortion, embryonic stem cell research and euthanasia. The program that he helped organize featured a presentation by Fr. Peter West of Priests for Life, an organization of Catholic Priests devoted to spreading the Gospel of Life. Fr. West spoke about the need for us as Catholics to inform ourselves on political candidates and their positions on life issues, so that we can make proper decisions as to which candidates we will support. Remember, the Knights of Columbus does not endorse political candidates, but as Knights, we are obligated to use our Catholic faith to enlighten and inform our vote at the polls.

John's efforts are a fine example of how "ordinary Knights" in Georgia are doing "extraordinary good works" at the local council level. I strongly encourage all Grand Knights to have a Pro-Life Chair in their local council and to work with their parish's Pro-Life group (or maybe help start one if needed!). By standing ready to assist with Pro-Life activities in our local councils and parishes, we will insure that our Order's "good works" will flourish in our local councils and that the Gospel of Life will be spread to our fellow Catholics.

Soccer Challenge

By David Oatman - Soccer Challenge Chairman



The second annual Soccer Challenge was held Sunday November 11, 2007 at Wyomia Tyus Park in Griffin, Ga. At 2:00 P.M. registration will be at 1:30 P.M.

District Deputies please forward all the district winner forms to the State Chair.

They can be faxed to 770-467-0859 or mailed to 115 Rollinghill Dr., Williamson, Ga. 30292. Trophies were awarded for first, second and third place. First place winners also received a Knights of Columbus logo soccer ball. Any further questions can be sent to my email (doatman@hotmail.com) or call 770-227-5137.

December 2007



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 1st - 2/3 Degree in Richmond Hill
- 7th - Archbishop Gregory's Birthday. Continue to pray for his recovery from recent surgery.
- 7th thru 9th - State Mid-Year DD Meetings in Athens
- 8th - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 25th - Christmas Day

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 2/3 Degree in Richmond Hill
2	3	4	5	6	7 DD Mtgs Archbishop's B'day	8 DD Mtgs in Athens Continue
9 DD Mtgs in Athens Conclude	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Christ- mas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Want to Raise Money for State Council Programs This Year?

By Harry McDole, Jr - "Keep Christ in Christmas" Chairman

... Then your Council should be participating in the **Keep Christ In Christmas (KCIC)** drive if you have not already done so.

We have all heard that without seminarians, we have no Priest and without Priests we have no Church. I take this one step further by saying that without Christ there is no salvation. Spread true meaning of Christmas with religious Christmas cards, car magnets, bumper stickers, posters, and billboards. You will raise money for one or more wheelchairs, Southern Catholic College Fund, and even raise money for the Intellectual Disabilities Fund!

Yes, these are just a few of the wonderful things you can accomplish by participating. Last year, 45 Councils participated. At present, 30 councils have planned to participate. Our goal is to have 50-55 councils participating.

The Challenge proposed at the Grand Knight's meeting was that every State and Council Officer buy at least two boxes of cards. This would then set the example for our 12,000 plus members.

With KCIC you can order the assortment box of 36 cards or order individual cards separately. Just send me an email at:

McDoleHF@Bellsouth.net with your order, name, council, shipping address, and phone number - then send a check to me made out to K of C Georgia State Council!

Dateline Atlanta, Georgia - While some of the other state initiatives across the country helping the pro-life cause failed, Georgia residents approved a constitutional amendment that will allow state residents to purchase Choose Life license plates for their vehicles.

By a lopsided 67-33 margin, Georgia voters backed Amendment 3 which would authorize specialty plates. It is the only state in the nation that requires a constitutional amendment to share revenue from specialty plates with non-profit groups.

Thanks to the vote, we will now be allowed to purchase a Choose Life specialty tag similar to the ones already sold in 15 other states.

Revenues will go to Georgia Right to Life and Choose Life, Inc. Simply buy your tag at renewal time by asking for the special plate. Over 1,000 tags have been sold so far. See: www.gachoose-life.org for more information.

Art Hargrove - GK - Council #13808 - Greensboro

January 2008



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **1st** - New Year's Day
- **5th** - 3rd Degree Exemplification in Alpharetta - Council 13204
- **5th** - "Knights of Columbus Night" at the Gwinnett Center Arena for the Gwinnett Gladiator hockey game. Proceeds to go to the Special Olympics Fund.
- **12th** - Grand Knights' Meeting at Holy Spirit in Macon
- **18th** - The Winter Special Olympics in Cobb County
- **26th** - Grand Knights' Meeting at Notre Dame Academy in Duluth

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5 3rd Degree Exemplification
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 GK Meetings Macon
13	14	15	16	17	18 Winter Special Olympics	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 GK Meetings in Duluth
27	28	29	30	31		



What Was Jesus' Strategic Plan?



Let me approach the topic of the Church's teaching authority from my experience as a bishop. Sometimes I am asked what my priorities are. Business leaders, for example, will want to know if I have a strategic plan for leading the diocese. I do, but it means nothing unless it is rooted in God's strategic plan for the salvation of the world. The Father sent his only Son into the world to do three things: (1) to assume our humanity; (2) to bear witness to the truth, and to suffer, die and rise for us and for our salvation; and (3) to carry on his mission until the end of time in and through his Church.

Jesus strategically went about fulfilling his Father's plan by calling and forming co-workers, the Apostles. Time and again we see Jesus preaching to the crowds. Crowds, then as now, can be fickle. One day they would be amazed at Jesus' teaching and the accompanying signs; another day, they would be ready to walk away because they could not accept his teaching. Think, for example, of Chapter 6 of St. John's Gospel, where Jesus spoke of eating his flesh and drinking his blood. Furthermore, many of the same people who cheered Jesus when he entered Jerusalem in triumph were demanding his execution only a short time later. Clearly, the Lord knew he couldn't depend on "the crowds" to carry his message and his mission forward.

Jesus intended to continue spreading the good news of salvation through the ministry of his Apostles and his first disciples. Jesus, the one teacher, provided other teachers who were one in mind and heart with him. Jesus, the one shepherd, provided other shepherds who would lead his flock in his name and in his power. Under the influence of the Holy Spirit, the Apostles elected a successor after Judas had betrayed Jesus. St. Paul, too, was considered an Apostle, after Christ was revealed to him and he had undergone a thorough conversion and instruction (cf. Acts 9); indeed, he is sometimes referred to simply as "the Apostle" or "the Apostle to the Gentiles."

As we read the New Testament, we find the Apostles appointing teachers and pastors to assist them and to eventually succeed them. Gradually it became clear that bishops are the Apostles' successors, teachers of one mind and heart with Christ, and shepherds who must seek to serve the flock of God after the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

In a nutshell, this is how Jesus strategically carried out his Father's plan. Before he poured out his redeeming love or entrusted the governance of his people to the Apostles, he first taught and formed them. He called Peter in a special way to feed and tend his sheep and to confirm the faith of his brothers. Teaching came first in Jesus' ministry. Thus, teaching has to come first in the ministry of every bishop, who does so in union with the Holy Father and his brother bishops through the world who are also in communion with the pope.

Excerpted - November, 2007 Issue of *Columbia Magazine* - By Bishop Lori - Supreme Chaplain

District Happenings - "Didjano That. . ."

DISTRICT 8 (DD - Jeff Stampfli)

The Knights of Columbus Council 13457 in Flowery Branch is pleased to announce their sponsorship of the Healing Hands Health-care Ministry. This ministry is dedicated to providing health care information and seminars to Prince of Peace parishioners. This information includes but is not limited to Diabetes, Cancer, AIDS, nutrition, Medicare changes, and many other health-related items. Their first seminar was Sunday, November 4th covering Diabetes.

DISTRICT 10 (DD - Tom Frizzi)

. . . That on Saturday September 8, 2007 from 10 am until 3 pm the Knights of Columbus Council 13440 from Saint Oliver's in Snellville hosted their first annual Kids Identifest at St. Oliver's Catholic Church and it was clearly a tremendous success. Several hundred families from the parish and surrounding communities of Snellville, Loganville and Grayson participated and local TV networks provided excellent coverage of the event.

. . . That over 700 volunteer hours with participation from the FBI, DEA, Gwinnett County Police, Norcross City Police, Loganville Fire Department, Safe Child Organization, Boy Scout troop 582 and Girl Scout Troop 21162 were contributed. Law enforcement services provided 53 complimentary car seat inspections, provided tours of Gwinnett County's remote command center and answered questions about child safety and drug awareness. Loganville Fire services brought a fire truck, answered questions, and even let some of the youngsters "drive" the fire truck.

. . . That the purpose of the free event was to provide parents with a complete identity kit for their children which consisted of a current picture, finger prints, DNA sample and personal information card; all of which was given to their parents. In addition, law enforcement officials from federal and local agencies hosted informational seminars on child safety, drug awareness and how to protect children from child predators.. Local businesses donated food and drinks for all attending. . . . That child abduction is a growing concern for all parents nationwide and keeping children safe is a primary concern to everyone. This continuing program will provide families with an additional safe guard in protecting our children through parental and child education.

Facts about missing children:

- Nearly 80% of all abducted children in the U.S. are kidnapped by a family member...
- 797,500 children (younger than 18) were reported missing in a one-year period of time studied.
- 2,185 children are reported missing each day.
- Law enforcement officials identified *pictures* as the single most important tool in the search for a missing child.
- One out of six children featured in photo campaigns is found as a direct result of the photo.

. . . That the next scheduled phase of this program will be a series of monthly seminars for parents commencing in January, 2008 at Saint Oliver's Family Center in Snellville. The seminars will be presented by representatives from the FBI, DEA, Loganville Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies.

. . . That these events will be open to the public and you can contact Saint Oliver's Council 13440 for further information.

. . . That it will be an official "**Knights of Columbus Night**" on both January 5th (Proceeds to go to the **Special Olympics**) and March 8th at the Gwinnett Center Arena for a Gwinnet Gladiator hockey game. For more information call 770-497-5113. For the March 8 game, money raised will be used to support the **Wheelchair Foundation of Georgia** - and in fact, every ticket identified as being bought in the name of the KofC goes to us to support our other charities as well. Go to our State Web Site (www.gakofc.org/index.html) to download the ticket ordering forms.

DISTRICT 14 (DD - Lou Bonadies)

. . . That recently, St Paul the Apostle Council 11676, Cleveland, the Fall Festival was a huge success and the Knights' volunteer hours well surpassed 100.

. . . That the attendance of Council 11676 is in the average of 31%. This % is definitely among the best when compared to other Councils in the State of Georgia. Usually the average attendance of the Councils in this State is less that 25%. We thank our devoted members in making the Council one with the best in attendance.

. . . That Blue Ridge Council 12126 in one day on October 27th had a Sock Hop, a Degree and a Health Fair. Wow!

. . . That St Mark's Council 13491 conducted "Make a Difference Day," a nationally observed charitable donation of time and services to persons in the community that have an unfulfilled need -- which they are unable to attend to themselves. Some 10 or 11 Brother Knights vol-

**THIS IS A NEW FEATURE
OF THE NEWSLETTER -
"DISTRICT HAPPENINGS"
CALLED "DIDJANO" (DID
YOU KNOW).**

(See "Didjano" Continued on page 7)

("Didjano "Continued from page 6)

unteered this year, and met at the St. Mark Church parking lot at 7:45 AM before proceeding to the free breakfast sponsored by United Community Bank. Phil O'Leary gave out a list of "chores" that needed to be done for a half dozen or so St. Mark parishioners.

... That furthermore, St Mark's Council netted over \$5,000 at a charity golf tournament that they sponsored at Orchard Golf and Country Club.

... That Good Samaritan Council 14181 in Ellijay, GA was selected as the winner of the *K of C, 2nd Place International Church Award, 2006-2007* for their submission of the Church Kneelers Project. The presentation of the Award Plaque was presented by the GA State Deputy, Dan Baker, at the close of 9:00 AM Sunday Mass, September 9, 2007 at Good Samaritan Church in Ellijay. The Good Samaritan Council sponsored breakfast was scheduled following the Mass.

... That District 14 has completed their "Soccer Challenge" as of early October and have District Winners in seven categories.

DISTRICTS - SEVERAL

... That the Georgia Knights of Columbus held their 4th Annual Silent Retreat in Atlanta.

On the beautiful sunny weekend of 2-4 November 2007, 40 Knights of Columbus participated in the Georgia Knights of Columbus 4th annual 2 day Silent Retreat at the Ignatius House Jesuit Retreat Center located on the gracious, secluded and prayerful riverside setting off Riverside Drive in Atlanta.

The retreat began on Friday night at 8:00pm after a reception and dinner for Knights participating and ended at noon Sunday. The retreat director, Father Hernando Ramirez, S.J., presented 7 individual brief orientations, based on scripture and the spiritual exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola. These presentations provided an opportunity for personal renewal in faith and an awareness of the love and peace initiated by God. Silence and solitude at the retreat created an environment conducive to restful, spiritual reflection. Confessions and Spiritual Guidance was available Saturday and Sunday from Father Hernando, Father Neil Jarreau S.J. and Father Al Louarpre S.J. Stations of the Cross were conducted by the Knights on Saturday afternoon. Mass was held Saturday evening and then Sunday to conclude the retreat.

Knights who participated were from 10 different churches:

- District #5 - St Anne's, Council #1019
- District #10 - St John Neumann, Council #12905
- District #12 - Transfiguration, Council #10362, Holy Family Council #9792.
- District #13 - St Thomas More, Council #4358
- District #17 - St Thomas the Apostle, Council #12386
- District # 19 - St George's, Council #6622, St Gabriel's - Council #11458, Holy Trinity, Council #8081..
- District of South Carolina - St Joseph's, Council #3590

The 5th KOC Annual Retreat will be held again at the Ignatius Retreat Center on October 31 through November 2, 2008

Congratulations to all District Deputies on your Activities Above



Special Olympics

The Knights of Columbus in Georgia have been selected to be the host sponsor for the Winter and Summer Games in 2008. In addition to the 4th degree being the presenter of the colors Knights will escort the Special Olympic team representatives of each organization present in to the ceremonies.

This special recognition of the Knights by Special Olympics Georgia is a direct result of the work and effort of every council from across our great state on behalf of the Special Olympics. I hope to see you at the Winter games in Cobb County on January 18, 2008 and at Emory University on May 30, 2008.

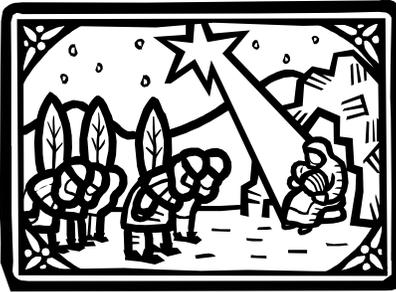
Tom Gissy - Past State Deputy & Special Olympics Liaison

The Knights of Columbus
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Georgia State
Knights of Columbus Newsletter
November, December, January
2007/2008



Have a Happy Thanksgiving
and a Blessed Christmas



The Fourth Degree is Off to a Great Start

By Herb Broughton - PSD - District Master of Georgia



The Fourth Degree is off to a great start for the 2007-08 Fraternal Year. Two new assemblies have already started - the St. Maximilian Kolbe Assembly 3085 in the Conyers, Covington, Greensboro area, Rick Humburg, Faithful Navigator, and the Fr. Mychal Judge Assembly (no number yet) in the Cumming, Duluth area, Vincent O'Reilly, Faithful Navigator. Congratulations to both of these new Assemblies.

There have also been two Fourth Degree Exemplifications held in the District so far this Fraternal Year. In Savannah on September 22, 2007, 61 new Sir Knights for Georgia and 6 new Sir Knights for Hilton Head Island, South Carolina were exemplified. The Honoree was SK Theodore Haviland of Immaculate Conception Assembly 173 Savannah. In Atlanta on October 13, 2007, 122 new Sir Knights were exemplified. The Honoree was SK Arnold Phillips of Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly 2161 Marietta.

An Exemplification is now in the planning stages for the Spring in the Atlanta area. Once all details are settled an announcement will be made.

Please consult the Fourth Degree web-site frequently for news updates at gakofc4th.org, then click on "Resources."



The Wheelchair Program is progressing here in Georgia. To date we have forwarded \$5,000 to the Foundation headquarters in Danville, California, and we will be sending another check soon.

Councils in Georgia have really taken this program to a new level. Just to highlight a few: Council # 4599 has already collected over \$1,500. Council 14122 has pledged to donate \$900 (one chair per month for 12 months). Council 9923 collected \$1,100 by taking donations after mass on Sunday. As you can see we are doing extremely well, but there is still room to improve. Funds do not have to come directly from your membership. Hold a spaghetti dinner. Use the proceeds from a pancake breakfast. The possibilities are limited only to your imagination.

This is a very worthy cause, and we as Knights have an obligation to care for those who cannot care for themselves. Our goal for this year is \$46,000 and as you can see we have a long way to go but it can be done. If you have any questions or need help, call me.

Greg Howe - Wheelchair Foundation Chairman - 770 977-1878