



The Christopher Columbus Navigator



VIVAT JESUS

Volume 8, Issue 4

- EDITION THEME -
"WE WILL GROW AND WE WILL SERVE"

**Georgia State Council
Knights of Columbus Newsletter
July-August, 2009**

Please pass this newsletter on to you successor. Our data base has not been updated. Thanks for your understanding.

Page One News...!

By Mark Corrigan, Sr. - State Program Director

Every year the Service Program Awards recognizes those councils that sponsor the most outstanding projects in each of the five program areas of the order: Church, Community, Council, Family, and Youth activities. The following awards were presented at the State Convention at Jekyll Island on May 16, 2009.

To echo our Worthy State Deputy; "The Good works of the Order are accomplished at the Council level." This concept is never more evident than with the exceptional entries submitted by the councils throughout our State. It is clear that the councils who submitted entries in each of the program areas understand what it means to be a Knight of Columbus. The charitable works illustrated in these program submissions are a tribute to the councils, and their members.

Our Worthy State Deputy along with a committee of fellow knights were charged with the responsibility of selecting the councils that best exemplified the spirit of the five service programs in the state of Georgia.

Today's Youth are the leaders of tomorrow. As Knights of Columbus, we are charged with the task to provide youth with the means and the opportunities to become personally committed and involved in meeting the challenges of our times.

• And the Winner of the 2009 Georgia Youth Program Award is:

- Good Samaritan Council 14181 - Ellijay, GA
- Reaching out to Hispanic Teens
- Luis Davila, Chairman Harrell Newbury, Grand Knight
- Good Samaritan Council reached out to the Hispanic community by conducting a bilingual workshop on "Teenage Behavior". More than 20 families attended with their children who ranged from 9 to 18 years old. The council's mission was to engage the families in dialogues to identify the existing problems unique to Hispanic teens in today's society. They equipped parents with the tools to help identify the different signals when their child is about to be derailed by peer pressure or bad friends.

Wherever we live, we all have our own perception of Community. In this place we call home, we as knights must make our voices heard, whether it be a bustling metropolis, a small town or a rural farming community.

• And the winner of the 2009 Georgia Community Award is:

- St. Mark Council 13491 - Clarksville, GA
- Community Picnic Pavilion
- Dr. Richard L. Nutt, Chairman Edwin T Dibble, Grand Knight
- Saint Mark's Council solicited their parish council to construct a multi use recreation center on the newly acquired parish property. The pavilion would be used in part as a council meeting hall and the Knights would be responsible for the upkeep. They approached the Parish council with a clear plan including schematics, architectural sketches & financing. Parishioners participated in the financing with Bake sales & assorted fund raisers. They were kept informed with detailed updates in the parish bulletins. Further improvements include landscaping, parking, and lighting for a dedication in April.

Today's Society creates an environment that makes it hard to be a family. The family unit is under attack.

(See "State Program Awards" - Continued on page 3)

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From The State Deputy

By Jim St. John - State Deputy



Let me repeat how deeply honored I am that you have chosen me to lead the Georgia State Council for the next fraternal year. In my Acceptance Address at the 107th Annual Meeting I outlined my vision for the next fraternal year. You may see the text of this speech at www.gakofc.org.

In this my first article of the Georgia Newsletter, I would like to address three important issues:

- The Order is committed to the Culture of Life Fund. This fund enables the Order to fight in the courts and in the public forum to uphold the values of our faith. You may not know it, but our brothers in the California State Council led the fight to pass Proposition 8 to uphold the sanctity of Marriage. Our order uses these funds to fight for life, to defend Catholics in health care from sanctions for not performing abortions or prescribing or dispensing medications such as the so-called “morning after” pill. These funds also go toward defending the faith, in instances such as in Connecticut, where pro-gay rights legislators tried to strip Bishops of their authority. (This fight continues as they are now trying to force the Dioceses in Connecticut to register as Lobbying Organizations which would strip the church of 501c(3) status). This year there will be a \$2.00 per member assessment to continue this work. It saddens me deeply that some Brother Knights believe that defending our Faith, fighting the evils of abortion, or defending the sanctity of the Sacrament of Marriage is not worth the price of cup of coffee. We need to support this outstanding program.
- This is the Year of the Priest. We will support our priests. Remember our priests are human. Remember that they are not here to make us happy. They are here to make us saints! Consider what a responsibility that is. It is the duty of every Knight of Columbus to support the priests in his parish. If you hear others complain about your priest, stand up and defend him. Remember that Rule 1 is the pastor is always right. Rule 2 is that if it seems your pastor is wrong, refer to rule 1! If your priest does something that you do not agree with, talk to him about it respectfully. Then live with his answer. Under no circumstances will we tolerate a member of our order showing disrespect toward a priest. You can always have the last word as long as the words are: “Yes, Father.”
- There are substantial changes to the Star Council Program this year. They will be covered at the Grand Knights Meetings to be held at Holy Spirit in Macon on July 18 and at St. Brigid’s in John’s Creek on July 25. Many times Brother Knights have asked me why we put so much emphasis on recruiting. There are two answers:
 - I think we can all agree that being a Knight has made each of us a better Catholic and that being a better Catholic increases our chances of going to Heaven. So when we ask and eligible man to join our order we are fulfilling our Lord’s Command to Evangelize, we are literally offering Salvation.
 - If your council is not growing, it is dying. If your council is not growing it’s most likely because you are not asking men to join. I know it’s not easy to recruit. It wasn’t easy for a bunch of fisherman from Galilee to change the world. But with the gifts of the Holy Spirit we can do it! Look at what we have accomplished with 14,000 Knights in Georgia! Now think what we could do with 28,000 or 56,000. You may think I’m crazy throwing these numbers around. But there are about 290,000 Catholic men in Georgia, only 4.47% of them are Knights. The only reason we aren’t at 28,000 is we haven’t asked enough men to join.



“Georgia - Living the Vision of the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney”

Concurrently with the GK Meetings we will hold Financial Secretary workshops. This was a big hit at the State Convention; so we are trying to reach every FS in the State at the GK meetings.

We can make this the best Fraternal Year Georgia has ever seen! All we need to do is roll up our sleeves and get to work. As we have dedicated this year to living the vision of the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, I ask that in all Council and Assembly Meetings when we pray for those sick and in distress, we pray the prayer for the Canonization of Father McGivney. Also, to remind ourselves of who we are working for, I ask that when we give our Order’s greeting “Vivat Jesus” (which means “Let Jesus Live”) to silently add “through Me!”

Newly Appointed Disabilities Chairman. . .

By Mike Frost - State Disabilities Chairman

Brothers - as newly appointed Disabilities Chairman - I’m looking forward to communicating with our State Officers and GK’s in the area of Disabilities. As I begin to understand the roles and responsibilities, I will distribute helpful information to you. Please feel free to reach out to me at frostm@bellsouth.net or 770.924.8553 if I can be of service.

“State Program Awards” (Continued from page 1)

Its primary source of strength is most often found in a growing religious and parish life. The Knights of Columbus are an integral part of that life.

• **And the winner of the 2009 Georgia Family Award is:**

- Msgr. Daniel J. Bourke Council 3607 - Albany, GA
- Family Rosary
- John Shalack, Chairman Harry F. McDole Jr., Grand Knight
- Msgr Daniel J. Burke Council provided an environment for families and friends to come together to say the Rosary and ask the Blessed Mother to intercede for us. As Knights we promised ourselves to, not only carry the rosary, but pray it as often as we can. 30 minutes before their regular business meetings, Msgr Burke council gathered with their wives to say the rosary.

Many of the Activities of the Knights of Columbus are demanding. Many of them are just plain fun. Managing the image of our councils is a key measurement of these activities.

• **And the winner of the 2009 Georgia Council Award is:**

- St Thomas the Apostle Council 12386 - Smyrna, GA
- A Decade of Service: 10th Anniversary Mass and Celebration
- Chris King and Keith Grone, Chairmen Anthony J. Riviere, Grand Knight
- Saint Thomas the Apostle Council was chartered in March, 1999 with 43 members. Ten years later it has grown to over 150 active members who dedicate their time, talent and treasure improving lives in the Smyrna area. This event was an opportunity to honor their service, thank them for their efforts and celebrate their many accomplishments through a Mass, Meal and Celebration. This event showcased the significant progress that can be made when a few good men dedicate themselves to the betterment of others. 16 new members were inducted into the council as a direct result of this event.

Catholics around the world are searching for ways to further develop our church. As Knights, it is our responsibility to encourage and promote that ministry.

• **And the winner of the 2009 Georgia Church Award is:**

- All Saints Council 11402 - Dunwoody, GA
- Acolyte Team Ministry
- David Moeller, Chairman Louis Hlad, Grand Knight
- All Saints Council sponsors and provides Acolyte teams at all parish funerals and many special events that bring an enhanced sense of reverence and dignity to the ceremonies by virtue of the mature professionalism of uniformed and trained men. There are five teams of 12 members each led by a team captain. A group of six selected event acolytes consists of a cross bearer, two torch bearers, two servers for water and wine, and a bell ringer or incense bearer when necessary. Each month the council sponsors a “Council Recognition Sunday” to display its presence to the congregation.

Call to Holiness Award

District 10: Council 13440, St. Oliver Plunkett in Snellville GA, awarded their newly established “Call to Holiness” award to a member of the parish community on Sunday May 3rd. Parishioner Ursula Marty was called up to the lectern at the end of Mass to receive the plaque. This award was created under the direction of our Church Director and Past Grand Knight, Ken Kennedy.

Giving this award is an effort to say thank you to a person that gives selflessly to our Church and parishioners and epitomizes the ideal Catholic that we should all try to emulate. Ursula Marty, has been a member of St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church since 2002. Ursula came to St Oliver Plunkett from Alabama in order to be near her daughter. She rapidly became caught up in the life of the church in her involvement in many ministries. Among other ministries Ursula became a sacristan.

This essential role, little known by the average Catholic, involves preparing the church for a funeral mass. All the unseen preparations for receiving the remains, assisting the celebrant as the altar server and many times filling the roll as lecturer are but a few of her obligations.

If you look up the word Stewardship you would find a picture of Ursula. An average week in her life will find her counting the weekly collection, serving on the AIDS Ministry, being a facilitator for the ESOL (English Speakers Of a Second Language) program singing in the choir. Ursula also keeps the church stocked with liturgical supplies necessary for funerals such as candles, incense, etc; food preparation for funeral receptions and potluck dinners are all in a days work for Ursula. In between working in her garden at home and creating miracles in her kitchen she always finds time to pray the rosary.

(See “Award” Continued on page 5)

RESERVED FOR PLANNING CALENDAR

News & Notes On YOUR Insurance Program

By John Jedlicka - General Agent



New fraternal year...new Council officers...new state officers...and a new General Agency, well, sort of. I started on March 1st and all of us in The Jedlicka Agency are looking forward to our first, full fraternal year as an Agency. As your new GA I am working closely with our State Officers and District Deputies to ensure that all of my Brother Knights have access to the best insurance program in the world - bar none. And the response has been heartwarming.

Here's an update. For the three months ended May 31st, your agency went from "worst to first" among the 16 agencies in the Southeast region. And I expect the improvement to continue. Your agency jumped 50 places higher in month-to-month rankings (April to May), the fastest rise for any agency - ever. Think about it. There are now 35 general agencies in my rearview mirror! Two new Field Agents joined the agency - John Knight and Michael Sorsdahl and a new Field Agent came on board July 1, Dave Rolston. On tap are new agents for the Northeast (Athens east and north) - the Savannah area; and the Airport South.

Brothers, I ask your patience. Supreme hiring guidelines only permit me to bring a new Field Agent on board every two months. So, no matter how great the need, no matter how great the cooperation from our Councils, I can only hire every two months - but I am hiring.

I am booked with new hires through December, 2009 and talking to Brother Knights about a career as a Field Agent in 2010. Your response is great. Your cooperation is great.

I have been a member long enough so that most of my Brother Knights don't care to admit how long we've known each other (and you know who you are!). Now, as your General Agent, I can easily say I have never been prouder to be a Brother Knight in the Jurisdiction of Georgia. Thank you for all your support, help and good wishes. God speed and God bless.

Beat the Heat. . . Before it Beats You. . .

Excerpted from Columbia Magazine by Dr Michael Conforti

August is almost here and school will soon be starting in many parts of the country. This month also signals the start of sports training programs. These school-related sport activities place a young adult or child at a high risk for heat-related illnesses. Of course, all of us are at a risk for a heat-related illness if we overdo it on a hot and humid day.

Heat-related illnesses include:

- Heat cramps often occur in muscles during strenuous activity due to loss of fluids and salt, resulting in intense pain and persistent muscle contractions that continue during and after exercise. When they occur, stop the strenuous activity, eat salty food, consume a sports drink and stretch the affected muscle.
- Heat exhaustion is moderately serious, usually resulting from fluid or salt loss in the heat. Dizziness or fainting, a headache or nausea are the usual signs. Usually one needs to move to a cool, shaded place, with feet elevated, and be given fluids. If someone's condition does not improve or worsens, then take that person to the nearest emergency room.
- Heat stroke (sunstroke) which occurs when the body fails to regulate its own temperature and body temperature continues to rise above 104 degrees Fahrenheit (40 degrees Celsius) or higher. Symptoms and signs include headache, altered consciousness, seizures, confusion, combative behavior, nausea, vomiting, weakness, rapid heart rate, decreased blood pressure and rapid breathing. If waiting for medical assistance, if available, try to cool the body down with ice or cold water. Heat stroke is a medical emergency. Even with immediate treatment, it can be life-threatening or cause serious long-term problems.

The following strategies will help you protect yourself from the onset of heat illness:

- Hydration. Fluid replenishment before, during and after exercise is essential to avoid progressive dehydration that can lead to heat exhaustion, or worse, heat stroke. Always strive to drink the equivalent of a glass of water (6 to 8 ounces) or an energy drink every 20 minutes during exercise.
- Exercise Intensity. You should always reduce the intensity of your workout when exposed to higher temperature. Also, gradually increase the intensity of your workout rather than starting at full tilt, and if you begin to feel nauseous, fatigue or light-headedness then stop your workout and rest.
- Timing your workout can be helpful in reducing your exposure on a hot and humid day. If possible, exercise during the cooler portions of the day - early morning or late evening.

("Award" Continued from page 3)

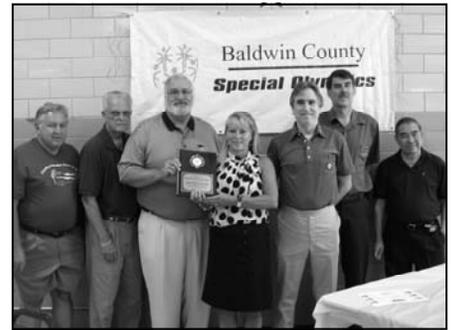
Ursula has been described by those close to her as a compassionate, humble, structured person and an excellent judge of character. The structured asset is most likely a result of her German heritage. Ursula accepts and loves people for who they are and stays near to those who touch her life.

Giving this award is a small effort to say thank you to a person that gives selflessly to our Church and parishioners and epitomizes the ideal Catholic that we should all try to emulate.

District Happenings - "Didjano That. . ."

DISTRICT 6 - (DD Tom O'Neill)

. . . **Fr. Robert Kennedy Council, 9458 Milledgeville** was recognized by Area 7, Georgia Special Olympics. They received the Bruce Prosser Award Plaque for outstanding service and contribution to Baldwin County Special Olympics. The Plaque was presented by Shanon New-Diaz, Coordinator Baldwin County Special Olympics at their annual Special Olympics Sports Banquet held at Central State Hospital, Milledgeville on June 24th. See picture at right with members of the council and Shanon New-Diaz.



District 8 - (DD Michael Formato)

. . . For the second year in a row, **Vatican Squires Circle 5092** of Flowery Branch has earned the prestigious "Corps d'Elite Award" - and their second anniversary is in October. It approximates the Star Council award. It is the top award a Circle can earn for meeting certain objectives.

The Requirements are:

1. Submit "Officers, Chairmen, and Counselors Report" by August 1.
2. Conduct and report at least four major activities in each program area (spiritual, service, circle, and membership). Only activities requiring planning and action by a standing committee are acceptable.
3. Pay July Per Capita tax by October 20; January tax by April 10.
4. Compete and submit "Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity" to the Supreme Council by January 31.
5. Record a net gain of at least two new members/reinstatements by program year end June 30.

District 10 - (DD Ken Lucier)

. . . **Council 13440, St. Oliver Plunkett in Snellville GA**, awarded their newly established "Call to Holiness" award to a member of the parish community on Sunday May 3rd. Parishioner Ursula Marty was called up to the lectern at the end of Mass to receive the plaque. This award was created under the direction of our Church Director and past Grand Knight, Ken Kennedy.

Giving this award is an effort to say thank you to a person that gives selflessly to our Church and parishioners and epitomizes the ideal Catholic that we should all try to emulate. The Council believes that it is important to recognize these Catholics that practice their faith. Hopefully it will inspire others to also serve their church and community. Refer to Page 3 for her more in-depth testimonial

District 12 - (DD John Zarzycki)



. . . **The Charles P Greco 4th Degree Assembly #2161** was in attendance for the Memorial Mass at the Marietta National Cemetery. His Grace, Archbishop Emeritus John Donoghue, was the celebrant for the Mass. Many Knights were in attendance. It was a beautiful event capped off by a live bugle performance of TAPS that brought tears to many attending this Mass and ceremony.

District 16 - (DD Vin O'Reilly)

. . . District 16 welcomes new Grand Knights SK Michael Clark of the St Brendan Council in Cumming, SK Steve Machek of the Good Shepherd Council in Cumming and SK Angelo Sampona of the St Benedict Council in Duluth.

They join returning Grand Knights SK Larry Koslowski of the St Monica Council in Duluth and John Power of the Southern Catholic College Council in Dawsonville.

These Grand Knights are busy organizing their Councils for the 2009-2010 Fraternal Year and they are looking forward to the Georgia State Council Grand Knights meeting on July 25.

Recruiting and retaining new and insurance members is their number one priority followed closely by a broad array of Service Programs and, of course, timely and accurate submission of all payments and reports to the State Council and Supreme.

"If every Brother does a little, then we can accomplish a lot."

We Will Grow and We Will Serve!

District 18 - (DD Jerome Mock)

The Tootsie Roll Drive occurred on June 13 /14 - \$525.00 was raised. Also, on June 13 **Council 12287 in Dallas** had a food drive at Krogers on 278 in Hiram GA and collected 432lbs of food to date 8,609lbs collected at three area Krogers have been a great help.



4th Degree News

By Herb Broughton - State Master

Once again the Fourth Degree in the District of Georgia has had a great year. membership is up about 8%. We have two new Assemblies, **Good Shepherd Assembly 3164 in Cumming**, and **Santa Maria Assembly 3185 in Ellijay**.

There are three Exemplifications scheduled for this Fraternal Year, October 10, 2009 in Savannah-T. Frank Baker Honoree, November 7, 2009 in Atlanta-Most Rev. John F. Donoghue Honoree, and February 27, 2010 in Albany-Honoree not yet decided.

I want to thank everyone for once again making this a great year for the Fourth Degree.

Photo Op. . . State Convention - 2009

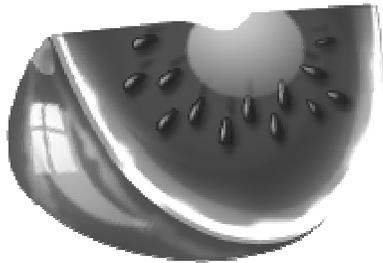


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**Georgia State Council
Knights of Columbus Newsletter
July-August, 2009**



**“Georgia - Living the Vision
of the Venerable Father
Michael J. McGivney”**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

July

10 - DD Meeting in Woodstock thru the 11th

11 - Installation of State Officers

18 - GK Meeting in Macon

25 - GK Meeting in Johns Creek

August

10 - Newsletter Input Date

September

12 - 3rd Degree Exemplification in Dunwoody - 11402

20 - 3rd Degree Exemplification in Savannah - 631

27 - 3rd Degree Exemplification in Macon - 925

October

4 - 3rd Degree Exemplification in Albany - 3607

10 - 4th Degree Exemplification - Savannah

10 - Newsletter Input Date

25 - 3rd Degree Exemplification in Conyers - 10004

Communication is the Key!

By Stewart Key III - State Secretary



As we begin the 2009-2010 fraternal year each council will have many new faces leading the way. To better help the new leaders in performing their duties and accessing the many recruitment, membership and program resources available to them from across the state we need input from each council for the 2009-2010 State Directory. The contact information for Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and Chaplain are: Wife's name (except for the chaplain), Address, City, Zip Code, Phone, and E-mail address. The same applies to 4th Degree Assemblies and Squires Circles.

Please submit the above mentioned data to the State Secretary NO LATER THAN JULY 20TH 2009. Also, this information is needed to update the State Website. Don't be left out!