



The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

Volume 17 Issue 8

February 2006

State Council Nominating Committee Report

The following have been nominated for State Office:

State Deputy Robert Ficco (Rock Hill)
 State Secretary Joseph Gubeli (Summerville)
 State Treasurer Thomas Monahon (Aiken)
 State Advocate Richard Gabriel (Goose Creek)
 State Warden: Richard Stachelek, FDD (Columbia)
 Delegates to Supreme Convention (Automatic)

State Deputy Elect

Ray Hock, IPSD

The following have been nominated for Delegate to Supreme Convention:

Ronald Povero, PSD, FM (Insurance Delegate)
 Joseph Gubeli, State Treasurer (Insurance Delegate)
 Thomas Monahon, State Advocate (Associate Delegate)
 Richard Gabriel, State Warden (Associate Delegate)
 Richard Koehler, PSD, Master (First Alternate)
 Charles Richitelli, PSD (Second Alternate)

Nominating Committee:

Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM, Chairman (Summerville)
 Roosevelt Cummings, PSD (Columbia)
 Johnny Nix, DD #2 (Columbia)
 Larry Patten, DD #6 (Seneca)
 Richard Pfizenmayer, DD #10 (York)
 James McMahon, DD #11 (Murrells Inlet)
 Michael Sordelet, DD #13 (Goose Creek)

Charity Drive Results

Submitted by Robert W. Ficco, State Secretary, Charity Drive Chairman.

We had a very successful Charity Drive, thanks to all the responding Councils. We don't discount even the smallest amount of returns.

The total amount of receipts from this years drive came to \$46,533.00. If I am not mistaken, this is the highest amount ever collected. The State Council would like to thank everyone for their support.

The Winners are Tom O'Brien of Council 12263, \$5,000.00, 1st prize; Mary Fite of the Conway area, Council 7531, \$3,000.00, 2nd prize; and George Beckett of Council 6629, \$2,000.00, 3rd prize. We congratulate all the winners, and thank everyone for their participation.

Thank you all

SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

February 2006

District Free Throw Contests
 15 Form 1295 Due
 24-26 4th Degree Exemplification - Columbia

March 2006

15 State Individual and Service Program Award Nominations Deadline
 18 State Basketball Free throw Contest - TBA
 25 Day of the Unborn Child
 25 3rd Degree, Council 8182, Mauldin

April 2006

1 Convention Delegate/Registration/Ads Deadline
 1 ICC Final Report Deadline

May 2006

5-7 State Convention at Sheraton Hotel in North Charleston
 21 3rd Degree, Council 2207, Sumter

June 2006

3 3rd Degree, Council 11991, Goose Creek
 15 Form 185 Due
 24-26 DD Workshop - TBA
 30 Forms 2630 & SP 7 Deadline

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From The State Deputy

My Brothers,

The Pro-Life Rally held a few weeks ago, in Columbia was a success due to Our Respect Life Chair-couple, **Jim and Bobbie St. Claire**, who established the **"SILVER ROSE"** contest for you and your council.

What a feeling of great pride I had in watching our Master, Richard Koehler, lead row after row, after row of Fourth Degree Knights, to the State Capitol entrance. The Regional Marshals, kept the guardsmen in step and within their ranks included, our Immediate Past State Deputy, Roosevelt Cummings and Past State Deputy, Charles Richitelli. Bishop Robert Baker, opened the days speeches with an invocation remembering all those aborted, their mothers and fathers and grandparents.

Thanks again, to Jim and Bobbie St. Clair and you my Brothers, for bringing your Council banners and proclaiming your stand. It certainly made the Steps to the Capital visible with our presence.

Congratulations to the winners of the Charity drive. The Charity Drive Chairman, our very own State Secretary, Robert W. (Bob) Ficco, lead the Campaign to provide our charities with renewed funds. The final amount is still being finalized, but the rough figures show through your efforts, an increase of over 13% from last year totaling over \$46,650.00, **Congratulations, South Carolina!**

The Mid-Year Membership meeting held at my home parish and council number 9184 was a success in many aspects, which included the councils who made up the quorum for the State Council voted on the new Liability Insurance, which will be levied on all the councils in the next few weeks at a rate of \$2.25 per member. The carrier cancelled our policy after we claimed two incidents. One Beacon America Insurance Company is our new liability insurance company. We will be sending to all the councils all the pertinent information as soon as it becomes available.

Now is the time for your council to plan on submitting your entries for the service program awards, the Golden Knight of the year, Knight of the year, Family of the year and Youth of the year.

This is the month your councils should be planning for the State Convention. The convention packages were passed out

State Deputy continued on page 6



From The State Chaplain

In this February column I offer you two reflections which are of some significance. Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest what I am telling you this month.

First, you have received your current issue of "Columbia" and in it there is a good description and strong recommendation of the very new book called "Parish Priest' Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism" by Douglas Brinkley and Julie M. Fenster. What a book! I bought it in January in a local Charleston book store and I am well into reading it. The coverage in "Columbia" recommends this volume to you. That's good and I agree. But, I am strongly recommending it to you personally because I know what it is like and I guarantee to you that it is marvelous and well worth your time and effort. In the preface the two authors say that they wrote this book because Father McGivney was "just a parish priest." too often writers tell us of important bishops and leaders of the Church's history. Here we have the record of "just a parish priest" because he was such an exemplary parish priest. The book includes so much about him and all he did as well as what he was like spiritually and personally. And, of course, you will read a great deal about all he did and went through in founding our Knights of Columbus.

Look into your local book store. Buy it! Read it! You have my word that you will learn and enjoy beyond your imagination.

Second, in the month of February we celebrate a kind of holiday about which so many people don't really know the origin. Christmas is Birth of Christ, Easter celebrates His Resurrection, George Washington's Birthday celebrates the importance of our first president, Saint Patrick's Day - everybody knows about Saint Patrick and Ireland. Well on the 14th of February we call the celebration Valentine's Day. What do we know about it? We even forget that he is SAINT Valentine and was a real person.

The story of Saint Valentine's Day began in the third century with a young priest named Valentine, who lived in Rome during a time when the Church was undergoing a great persecution by the pagan Roman government. The Roman Emperor Claudius ordered all Romans and others in Rome to worship twelve pagan gods, but Saint Valentine was a Christian fully

Chaplain continued on page 6

From the Membership Director

Jack Cavagnaro, PGK State Membership and Retention Director

Membership gain slowed down in January with only 16 new members and loss of 11. Hopefully, this was only an adjustment after 2 outstanding months in November and December following the fall blitzes. This puts us at 47% of quota YTD. We should be at 58%. So we are still somewhat behind due to our very poor start July- October

As you know, State Deputy Ray has offered to repeat last year's incentive of a beautiful monogrammed golf shirt(green colored this year) for all Grand Knights and Membership Chairmen who achieve their net membership gain quota by June 1st. The following 10 councils have already qualified: 6900,Charleston, 11991 Goose Creek, 9575 Spartanburg, 2207 Sumter, 13713 Blythewood, 7531 Conway, 10819 Simpsonville, 12263 Bluffton, 11028 Pawleys Island, and 11910 Summerville. Congratulations to you "go-getters"! In addition, there are 10 councils, which are tracking, with 58% or more. Keep on keepin' on! Sadly, there are 6 councils that are running losses greater than gains and 11 councils that have yet to sponsor one new brother this year. For you 11, 724 Columbia, 1668 Greenville, 6629 Summerville, 6891

Orangeburg, 9576 Pickens, 9745 Greenville, 10066 Lancaster, 11325 Lexington, 11471 Moncks Corner, 12268 York, and 12366 Fort Mill, I ask, what can we do to make you more membership conscious?

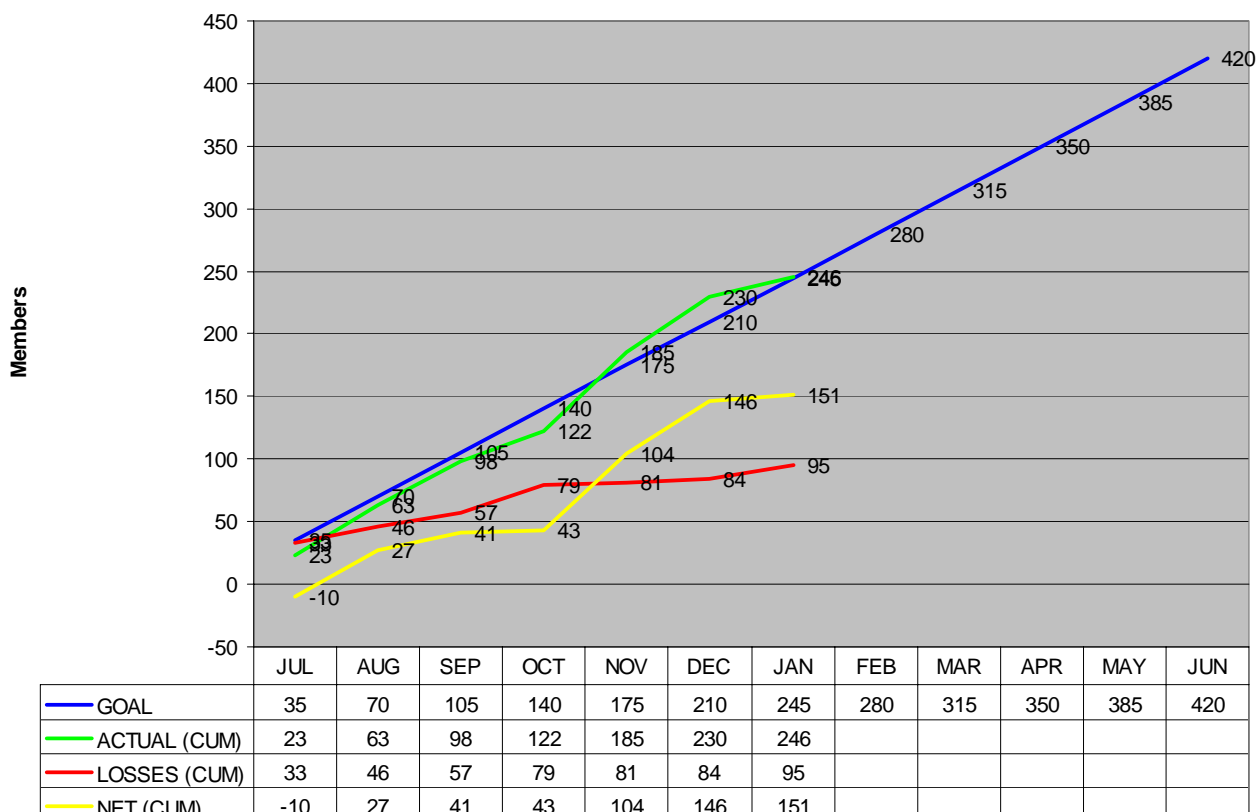
Worthy fellow leaders, the results of the fall blitz were so overwhelmingly positive that every council should have one on their agenda for late March or early April. With only 32 out of 58 councils participating, we added 105 new members and have over 60 prospect cards that we are still working. This accounts for nearly half of our gains year-to-date. Think where we would be if we had 100% participation!

We are still only a little past halfway, so we have some good recruiting time immediately ahead. I know that many more of you can qualify with increased effort during the next 5 months. Let us send our esteemed State Deputy Ray out with 100% or more statewide. I have no doubt we can do it. But, don't be afraid to ask for help from your District Deputy or myself. It just might be what you need to put you over the top.

My prayers and best wishes for good recruiting for the rest of the year for all councils!

Jack Cavagnaro, PGK,
State Membership Chairman

Membership



From the State Ceremonials Chairman

Michael W. Telesco, PSD

HATS OFF TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL LEADERS!!
The following Councils FIRST DEGREE TEAMS have achieved 50% or more of their goals through Feb 4, 2006. Those councils achieving 100% of their goal will receive the CEREMONIAL DEGREE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. This contest will close on June 25, 2006.

DIVISION I:

Moncks Corner Council 11471 50% of goal
Greer Council 12274 50% of goal

DISVION II:

Conway Council 7531 100% of Goal****
Summerville Council 11910 60% of goal
Mauldin Council 8182 60% of goal

DIVISION III:

N. Myrtle Beach Council 7122 83% of goal
Simpsonville Council 10819 83% of goal
Goose Creek Council 11991 83% of goal
The following councils 50% of goal

Sumter 2207

Myrtle Beach 5086

Senaca 6884

Mt Pleasant 9475

Spartanburg 9575

Hilton Hd 10668

Pawley Is. 11028

Bluffton 12263

HATS OFF !!! TO DISTRICT LDERS.

Dist 13, Mike Sordelet 50% of goal
Dist 2..Johnny Nix 48% of goal
Dist 11...Jim McMahan 48% of goal

The following Districts have had all their councils conduct a First Degree

District..2, 4, 9, 13, 14

THE DOWNSIDE:

The following Councils have not had a First Degree this Fraternal Year????

Dist 1—7289 Dist 7—724, 6891, 11325

Dist 5—6629, 8502 Dist 8—1668, 9745

Dist 6—7129, 8295, 9576 Dist 11—3067

Dist 10—6756, 10066, 12366 Dist 12—8123, 8790

If your council had a First Degree, please contact your District Deputy to submit the report.

REMINDER TO ALL GK, DD, ALL COUNCILS ARE REQUIRED TO BE RE-CERTIFIED UNDER THE REVISED FIRST DEGREE BY MAY 1, 2006. DISTRICT DEPUTIES WILL FORWARD INFO COPY TO ME WHEN THIS IS COMPLETED. THANKS

First Degree Recertification Standings

DISTRICT	DEPUTY	DISTRICT	GOAL	ACTUAL	% GOAL
Mika		1	4		
Nix		2	4		
Spainhour		4	4		
Kramp		5	4		
Patten		6	4		
Sansantt		7	4		
Robertson		8	4		
Urbanic		9	4		
Pfzenmayer		10	4		
McMahon		11	4		
Barcomb		12	4		
Sordelet		13	4		
Stanley		14	4		
TOTAL			52	0	0%

POC MICHAEL W. TELESKO, PSD,

State Ceremonials Chairman

DD ACHIEVING GOAL BY MAY 1, 2006 WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL GIFT FROM THE STATE DEPUTY.

Greetings from the Family Activities Director.

January has come and gone and we missed the snow storms (thank goodness) The ice storms were bad enough. I didn't send a report for January as my computer was seriously ill. After some new medication the virus was caught, cleaned and deleted. With the newly installed program it gets a check up every day. A lot of activities happened during the month of December and I am happy to report that a holiday social took place at St Mary Magdalene Church, sponsored by council 10819. Even with the heavy holiday traffic Santa was able to stop by and listen to the children express their desires for Christmas. Even the ladies gathered around Santa to ask for their special Christmas gift.

Also at the social meeting Kevin Thomas, the Youth director awarded trophies to some of the winners in the soccer shoot out. See the pictures of Santa and Kevin below. Again I solicit news about family activities from any and all councils.

Jim Alford

Family Activities Director



Spartanburg Assembly Presents Freedom Documents

Members of the Knights of Columbus Assembly 1655 recently presented a set of framed U.S. Foundation Documents to Chesnee Elementary School, Chesnee, SC. Copies of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights were given at a special session attended by the students, Dr. Robert Ledford, Principal, members of the Faculty and invited members of School District 2. Bill Drake, noted radio personality, delivered the Keynote Address. State Representative Bob Walker presented a South Carolina State Flag to the school. Senator Jim DeMint donated a United States Flag. Since the Senator was unable to attend the event, the presentation was made by Sir Knight Paul Kountz, as his representative. Faithful Navigator Frank Tenberge read the proclamation that accompanies the Freedom Documents as each was presented. Twelve honor students were chosen to retire the documents.



LAUS DEO: A little history lesson you may enjoy.

Submitted by Steve Dunlap who is not sure where it originated or if it is maybe an urban legend. It's a good story.

One detail that is not mentioned, in DC, is that there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument.

With all the uproar about removing the ten commandments, etc... This is worth a moment or two of your time. I was not aware of this historical information.

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington, DC, are displayed two words: Laus Deo. No one can see these words. In fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even there and for that matter, probably couldn't care less.

Once you know Laus Deo's history, you will want to share this with everyone you know. But these words have been

LAUS DEO continued on page



Health Services Byline

*Submitted by Louis Umile Pulicicchio,
MD, MHSA*

"New Approaches for Patients With Chronic Congestive Heart Failure"

In the last dozen or so years, advances in the treatment of patients with chronic congestive heart failure has been revolutionized with the use of the right combinations of new drugs, patient education and management and new surgical techniques. This more modern approach can frequently improve cardiac function and improve the clinical manifestations of heart failure.

Chronic heart failure (pump failure) may be either right or left sided showing up as either peripheral leg swelling or lung congestion or both and for years the mainstay of treatment was avoidance of salt intake, the use of a diuretic, and with the use of a digitalis compound improve heart pumping.

Currently the choice of drugs to be used is frequently guided by the well established New York Heart Association functional classification for heart failure which starts progressively from Stage I to Stage IV.

There are at least five classes of drugs which may be progressively added to treatment regimes. Traditionally, a digitalis compound plus a diuretic have been the baseline approach and more recently a so called ACE Inhibitor and a so called Beta Blocker can relax the peripheral blood vessels thus making the heart's job easier. When despite all of the above a patient remains symptomatic a spiro lactone agent may be added.

With all of the above manipulations and with the guidance of an experienced physician morbidity and mortality has been lowered by at least a third (30%) and patient functionality improved.

Additionally, there are other IV drug and surgical and mechanical interventions possible depending on the underlying cardiac dynamics present. This latter will be a topic in a future article.

REMEMBER:

The right physician manipulating all of the above variables can do wonders.

LUPO





Patriot's Corner

Submitted by Richard E. Koehler, PSD District Master

53rd K of C Exemplification

On February 25th, 2006 the South Carolina District of the DeSoto Province will hold its

Fifty-third Exemplification in Columbia at the Columbiana Hotel and Conference Center. As of this writing this year's event will most likely be the largest turnout in the history of the Fourth Degree in the State of South Carolina. The Patriotic Degree ceremony is by far the most impressive lesson taught. Our class honoree for this year is SK Michael W. Telesco, PSD, FM. Mike is a member of the Rev. P.N. Lynch Assembly, Charleston, SC and has been a Knight of Columbus member for over 53 years. Mike has received many honors but the one he is most proud of is the Joint Resolution of the House of Representative and the Senate of South Carolina, General Assembly, who declared him "the Godfather of the Knights of Columbus in South Carolina" the first member to be so recognized by the General Assembly.

Due to the large number of Sir Knights and their ladies as well as over 170 candidates and their guests, this year's exemplification can not accept any more candidates or Sir Knights.

Annual Survey and Fraternal Activities Report

January 31st has passed and there are still a few Assemblies who have not sent in their Annual Survey form. It is very important for us to complete this form 1728 since it is the tools Supreme uses to comply with federal tax rules. PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST NOW.

Other Awards

Although not due until June 30, 2006 the Civic Award application found in the Assembly Report Forms Booklet should be reviewed now so that when June comes your Assembly will be able to submit the form. During any given year the assembly has to do is sponsor four patriotic programs.

The other award your assembly should be preparing for is To Be A Patriot. All guide lines for this award can be found in the Assembly Reports Forms Booklet. Let's not forget the Monsignor John L. Manning Catholicity Award and the District Essay Award. The Catholicity Award is for high school seniors and the Essay Award is for 8th graders only.

Right to Life March in January

As usual our Sir Knights and their families turned out in full force for this great event. I would like to THANK YOU all for the great participation showed. South Carolina has some of the BEST Sir Knights.



State Deputy continued from page 2

at the Mid-Year meeting and should be filled out before April 1st, and submitted to Bob Ficco.

You still have time to obtain your Star Council award by making sure all your new members have gained insurance in our Order. There are many ethnic groups within South Carolina, who could/should be members of our councils, in charity we should be reaching out to these men to ask them to join our ranks.

May you continue to experience our Brother Jesus, in your life.

Ray Hock, State Deputy

Chaplain continued from page 2

dedicated to the ideals of Jesus Christ. Not even a threat of death could keep him from the practice of his true Faith.

One story about him tells us that Saint Valentine secretly left food and clothing for poor Christian families with a note reading, "From Your Valentine." He didn't want to underline who the Christians were by public giving. But, after he was caught and executed as a martyr by the Roman authorities people remembered his good deeds by sharing with the needy on Saint Valentine's feast day, February 14.

Another tale about him concerns young Christian couples wanting to get married. The Emperor Claudius had issued an edict forbidding any kind of sacramental services by Christians. Saint Valentine married them anyway because he believed that they needed the grace and love of God to sustain their love in marriage. For this in particular he was caught and put in prison to await execution. In this way he became the patron saint of true love and lovers.

We have made the day into candy and greeting cards, but we need to remember good Saint Valentine and the importance of his prayers for us all.

Fraternally in Christ,

Rev. James Parker State Chaplain

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

with the

Knights of Columbus

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AGENCY DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IN YOUR AREA. IF A CAREER SERVING YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS AND THEIR FAMILIES APPEALS TO YOU THIS COULD BE THE CHANCE OF A LIFE TIME.

*EXCELLENT PAY

*GENEROUS BENEFITS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
ROBERT BONI AT: 843-824-5632

From The Youth Activities

Director

Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Poster Contest

Participation improved in this second year of the program, and the quality of the entries was excellent. It was evident that a lot of youths really have a grasp of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and the creative skills needed to send the message to their peers.

Thanks to councils 6076 Spartanburg, 7062 North Augusta, 7531 Conway, 8182 Mauldin, 10668 Hilton Head Island, and 12263 Bluffton for your participation.

And the \$50.00 checks and Winners Certificates went to:

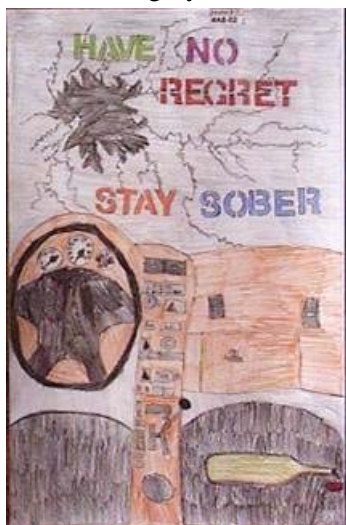
Drug Category:



Sarah Cetone, 8-11, Spartanburg 6076



Shelby Herbkersman, 12-14, Hilton Head Island 10668
Alcohol category



Krysten Bray, 8-11, Mauldin 8182.



Samantha O'Donnell, 12-14, Hilton Head Island 10668

These posters will be submitted to Supreme for international competition.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship

Very important note! **The properly completed entry form of each District winner, showing both council and district scores must be in my hands by March 15, 2006.** These forms must be sent to me at the address below. **Only alternates, sent in the event a winner cannot compete, may bring their entry forms the morning of the championships.** Columbia Council 12554 will host the State Council Free Throw Championships at St. Joseph's Catholic School. Registration begins at 10:00 AM Saturday March 18. The opening ceremony will begin at approximately 10:30 and competition will follow immediately.

St. Joseph's School, 3700 Devine St., Columbia

From the West: I-26E to I-126E to Columbia. Take Huger St. exit and bear right at Huger St. for 0.8 miles. Turn left at Gervais St. and go 1.9 miles. Turn right at US-378/US-76. Go 1.6 miles.

From the North and Northeast: I-77S to SC-760 exit #10 to Fort Jackson. Bear right onto Fort Jackson Blvd. Go 0.9 miles. Bear right at US-378/US-76. Go 0.8 miles.

From the South and Southeast: I-26W to I-77N exit #116 to Charlotte. I-77 to exit #9 – Garner Ferry Road. Turn left on to Garner Ferry Road, go under I-77. Garner Ferry becomes Devine at Fort Jackson and Cross Hill. Bear left on Devine St. St. Joseph's is 0.6 mile past Beltline Blvd.

From the Southwest: I-20E to US-378 exit #61 to West Columbia. US-378E goes all the way to St. Joseph's. Sunset Blvd becomes Gervais St. Turn right at US-378/US-76. Go 1.6 miles.

Fraternally,

Don Vennergrund, 128 Brian Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29307.



From the Pro Life Chair Couple

Dear Fellow Knights,

The South Carolina Knights' effort this year to support the Pro-life Marches in Columbia and Washington DC was outstanding! Thanks to all the Councils and to each Knight and his family who attended...the Blessed Mother is pleased with our effort.

Congratulations to Blythewood Council 13713 for winning the Silver Rose Award for 2006 with 78 points. Tied for Second place with 38 points each were Sumter Council 2207 and Greenwood Council 7129. The winner of the High School Silver Rose Award for 2006 is St. Francis Xavier High School.



Fifty-seven percent of their student body traveled to Columbia to attend this year's event. A beautiful plaque was presented to Grand Knight Joseph Gawronski, Blythewood Council 13713 during the Mid-year meeting and to Mrs. Dianne Trapini, Principal of St. Francis Xavier High School at the Charity Ball in Taylors on February 4th. Pictured above (left to right) are Dianne Trapini, Ray Hock, State Deputy and Jim & Bobbie St. Clair, State Respect-Life Couple. A total of 185 students from Bishop England, Cardinal Neumann, St. Joseph's, and St. Francis Xavier High Schools attended the marches in Columbia and Washington, DC. Great showing!!!

Congratulations to each Knight and his spouse who went to Washington DC to protest all the way to the Supreme Court building their ruling of Roe v. Wade, euthanasia, assisted suicide, and all other attacks on all American's right to life. Eighteen Knights and spouses made the effort and financial sacrifice to travel to Washington: Bishop Robert Baker; Tim & Linda Kenefick, Council 11991; Bill Hudson and his son, Sam, Council 8182; Arnie & Betty Konsul, Council 8182; Barry & Jacquie Sturmer, Council 9475; Bob & Agnes Lyncheski and Bob Conley, Council 7122; Mary Groce (wife of Harold Groce), Council 6726; Chuck Cendrowski, Council 8182; Bill & Joan Mullane, Council 10668; Jim & Bobbie St. Clair, Council 2207.



On March 25th, we commemorate The Day of the Unborn Child. Forty million children have been denied the right to live and give glory to God simply because they were not wanted. We must reverse this sad mentality. The safeguard for the "I" generation is abortion. I don't want this....I didn't plan of this....I have a career to build....I have to work....it goes on and on. The simple response is: What did the Blessed Mother say when her child was a threat to her well-being? Instead of responding to the Angel Gabriel, "They will stone me!" she said, "Let it be done to me according to your word". In other words, Your Will God, not my will.



There are so many things that each Council can do to make this day meaningful and memorable. Here are some suggestions: Dedicate a small statue (low cost) in an appropriate location where it will receive high visibility. Add a small monument with the date, K of C emblem, and a short sentiment. Have a rosary service. Have a Mass for all Knights, their families, the local school children and other parishioners.

We have sold 1,200 Choose Life magnetic ribbons so far. More are available for \$1.06 each plus shipping. Over \$2,400 has been raised for support to mothers who have chosen to have their baby rather than have an abortion!! God bless the Councils who have taken advantage of this most important project. The ribbons sell very easily for \$3 and can be offered to your parishioners after Mass on Sunday with very little effort. Call Jim & Bobbie to place your order at (803) 425-0340 or stclair33@bellsouth.net.

Fraternally,

Jim & Bobbie St. Clair



From the Vocations Chairman

Richard A. Gabriel, SW

Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)

Brothers,

I would like to share with you the results of the 2004-2005 Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP). The following assemblies and councils donated \$21,500 and received \$4,300 in refunds.

Assemblies: Aiken 1074, Florence 1574, Summerville 1900, Garden City 2107 and Hilton Head 2280.

Councils: Sumter 2207, Myrtle Beach 5086, Florence 5194, Spartanburg 6076, Hanahan/Goose Creek 6726, Rock Hill 6756, East Columbia 6847, Seneca 6884, Irmo 6892, N. Myrtle Beach 7122, Greenwood 7129, Conway 7531, Walterboro/Catholic Hill 8502, Marion/Dillon 8790, Garden City 8980, Barnwell 9161, Taylors 9184, Spartanburg 9575, Pickens 9576, Simpsonville 10819, Pawleys Island 11028, Lexington 11325, Moncks Corner 11471, Greer 12274, Charleston 12472, Columbia 12554 and Greenville 13112. Thank you for your most generous support of this program.

Pennies From Heaven

Brothers,

It is time for the councils to send their Pennies from Heaven money to the State Secretary Bob Ficco. Please send in your money by April 15. With your help, we will be able to give the Bishop's Vocation Program \$5000.00 again this year.

Vivat Jesus!

LAUS DEO continued from page 5

there for many years; they are 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched top the monument, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

Laus Deo! Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words. Out of sight and, one might think, out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world.

So, what do those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say "Praise be to God!"

Though construction of this giant obelisk began in 1848, when James Polk was President of the United States, it was not until 1888 that the monument was inaugurated and opened to the public. It took twenty five years to finally cap the memorial with a tribute to the Father of our nation, Laus Deo .Praise be to God!"

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful panoramic view of the city with its division into four major segments. From that vantage point, one can also easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles l'Enfant...a perfect cross imposed upon the landscape,

with the White House to the north. The Jefferson Memorial is to the south, the Capitol to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west.

A cross you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of church and state? Yes, a cross; separation of church and state was not, is not, in the Constitution. So, read on. How interesting and, no doubt, intended to carry a profound meaning for those who bother to notice.

Praise be to God! Within the monument itself are 898 steps and 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings the memorial stones share a message. On the 12th Landing is a prayer offered by the City of Baltimore; on the 20th is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24th a presentation made by Sunday School children from New York and Philadelphia quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16 and Proverbs 22:6. Praise be to God!

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848 deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Praise be to God! Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy.."One Nation, Under God."!

I am awed by Washington's prayer for America. Have you never read it? Well, now is your unique opportunity, so read on!

"Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Laus Deo!

When one stops to observe the inscriptions found in public places all over our nation's capitol, he or she will easily find the signature of God, as it is unmistakably inscribed everywhere you look. You may forget the width and height of "Laus Deo", its location, or the architects but no one who reads this will be able to forget its meaning, or these words: "Unless the Lord builds the house its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain." (Psalm 127: 1)

It is hoped you will send this to every child you know; to every sister, brother, father, mother or friend. They will not find offense, because you have given them a lesson in history that they probably never learned in school.

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