



The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

Volume 17 Issue 11

May 2006

State Convention elects Ficco

By Paul A. Barra

NORTH CHARLESTON – The election of Robert W. Ficco as the new state deputy for the jurisdiction of South Carolina highlighted the 85th annual state convention of the Knights of Columbus on May 5 -7. Convention delegates voted for Ficco to succeed Raymond W. Hock, who served as the top Knight for the past two years. The change of leadership officially occurs on July 1.

Ronnie Ficco, Ficco's wife of 47 years, said that she was "thrilled" with the election but nervous over the amount of time it will take to perform the duties of the office. The SD-elect agreed it will be a lot of work.



"And a lot of anguish," Bob Ficco said. "But I'm going to surround myself with good people to help me make the right decisions. There will be no shooting from the hip."

Ficco alluded to the most popular part of the convention, the disbursing of funds, when he said that the impact of the state K of C councils is all out of proportion to the percentage of Catholics in SC. Operation HOPE alone has given away more than \$1.8 million in its eight years of existence.

Hock presented \$10,000 to Bishop Robert J. Baker to spend at his discretion and gave another \$5,000 raised in the Pennies For Heaven project for diocesan seminarians. Richard Koehler gave the bishop \$5,300 raised by the fourth degree assembly.



The Knights of South Carolina also contributed \$36,000 for Katrina Relief efforts and raised \$291,000 for Operation HOPE, a new record. All the HOPE



SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

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

Worthy Brother Knights and Families,

The 85TH Convention is now history and you and your families made it the "BEST" Convention ever. The Friday hospitality with the live music provided an enjoyable time for all.

Thanks, goes to all the conventioners for the generous way of handling the banquet table problems and your understanding made this event the success it turned out to be. You have been the catalyst for changes. New innovations were tried and used to change the complexion of the event and Resolutions were passed to recognize special events and those who serve our Order and our church. The State Officers, all took an equal share of making the convention run smoothly. Thank you to all for a "Job well done!"

Please, remember in your prayers Mary, the wife of Charlie Spainhour, Dist. Deputy number 4. She was taken to St. Frances Hospital late Friday evening of May 5th. She has been diagnosed with a stroke and is in need of our prayers.

The Bishop came to our convention, as he continues his exhausting pace of traveling the state confirming. He honors us with his presence and I am proud of his dedication to our Order and the consistent praise he gives us. .

Retention has been a focus for many of the councils in our Jurisdiction. Managing your numbers should be everyone's responsibility in the Council. It is easy to say that the responsibility belongs to the Grand Knight and the Trustees but, when a member drops out it affects all of the council. Maybe if we felt the pang of lose, like we do when a brother dies, we might work a little harder to keep him in the council. Councils should develop telephone trees to stay in contact with members so no one feels loosed. Let's try and open our hearts to those brothers we don't see anymore at meetings and find out or, at least try and discover why they are not attending council events. Your council may experience a re-birth.

The other side is still New Members! You and your council are still in the driver's seat to be a STAR Council. Only you can make it happen and if you do the winner will be you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED STATE OFFICERS FOR 2006 – 2007.

State Deputy- Robert Ficco

State Deputy continued on page 7



From The State Chaplain

Our 2006 State Convention of the Knights of Columbus here in South Carolina was held this month at the Sheraton Hotel in North Charleston. Most of you are aware of this and many of you were in attendance. It was a splendid affair. The business was smooth and well handled by our State Deputy, Ray Hock, and all the delegates. Presentations of various issues were clear and comprehensive and the voting and discussing responses were well done. Personally, I found this meeting to have been efficient and pleasant. As always, our Worthy Brother, Bishop Robert J. Baker was with us and also was principal celebrant at the Vigil Mass Saturday evening. His interest in and devotion to the Knights of Columbus are clear. I cannot restrain myself from mentioning that the Bishop is a member of my own P.N. Lynch Council # 704 in Charleston. Writing about our State Convention urges me to mention the Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention which, this year, will be in Orlando, Florida during the first week of August (begins July 31). I attend this event each year with our state representatives and I cannot find words to tell you how much experience of Columbianism is there to appreciate and enjoy. You would never regret the cost if you were to attend. You need not be any kind of official or delegate to enjoy fully this gathering of a couple of thousand knights and families. Yes, of course there are business sessions, but the various other programs and activities are wonderful experiences. It's worth every penny you invest in attending. That's a promise.

We are now in the Month of Mary - the Month of May. The tradition of the Church actually denotes each month as a particular devotion, but certainly May for Mary is the most well known. She is our heavenly Mother. After the Resurrection, Jesus extended his Incarnate being into His Mystical Body, the Church. We benefit from His gift of Redemption if we become what He is by membership in the Mystical Body, to be engrafted into Him - part of Him - by the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is not just a symbol, it is real, it actually changes us and makes us members of the Body, the Church. And so, as members of Him we become children of Mary our Heavenly Mother. She was present at Pentecost, the Birthday of the Church. Let us gather as faithful brothers of Christ in the Church and as loving children of Mary who is our inter-

Chaplain continued on page 7

From the Membership Director

Jack Cavagnaro, PGK State Membership and Retention Director

During April we had a good recruiting month carrying over from the Spring blitz. We brought in 37 new brothers. Unfortunately, we lost 25, with one council dropping 10 and another 8. Our net gain of 12 puts us at 229 net additions year to date, which is 68% of our quota. We can still make 100%, but it will take a couple of months like last November, when we brought in 63 and lost only 2. Let's make a strong final push to make it happen!

We have 15 councils which have already qualified for the 100 Club and the green golf shirts that will go with it. There are 3 more that are "on target" and at least another 5 that have a real chance with a strong finish.

The current Top 10 are as follows: #12263-Bluffton-257.1%, #2207-Sumter-250%, #6900 Charleston- 220%, #9575-Spartanburg and #11991-Goose Creek(tie)-212.5%, #13713-Blythewood-180%, #5194-Florence and #7531-Conway(tie)-166.6%, #11910-Summerville-150%, and #10819 Simpsonville-141.6%. Thanks especially to you leaders for

carrying us along.

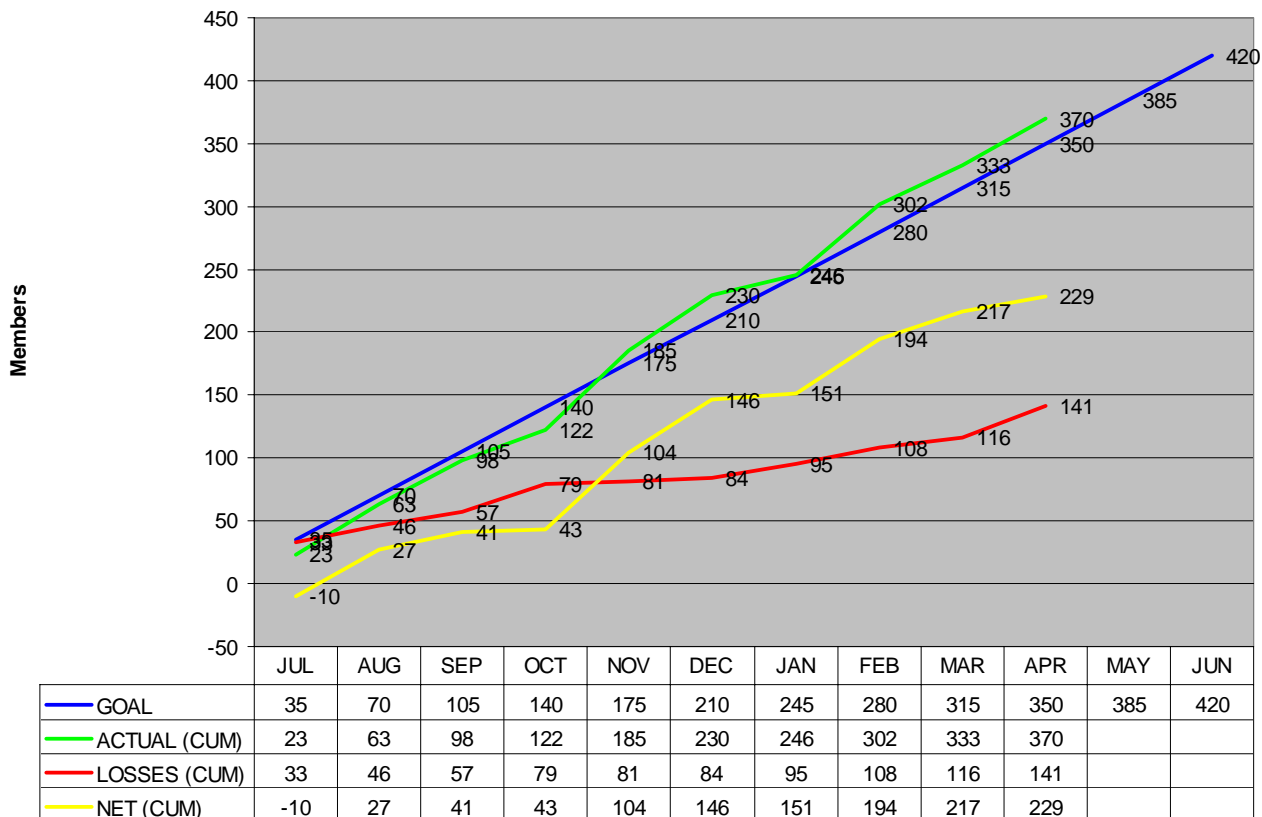
We still have many prospect cards from our recent blitz. I ask you to make it Priority #1 to get all of these possible to their 1st degrees before year-end. Bear in mind that it is never too late to have a 1st degree, but you need to follow-up on new Form 100s and insurance applications at this time of year to make sure they are registered with Supreme by June 30th.

Remember also, that how we bring new brothers in is directly related to our Retention long term. Each recruit should be motivated to "hit the ground running" from Day 1. His attendance at the first few meetings should be monitored and he should be given an immediate task on a committee planning an upcoming event. He should be encouraged to go for the Shining Armor Award and his progress toward that goal checked regularly during his first year.

The legacy you give your council by getting the Star Council Award is priceless. One leads to another and it becomes a matter of pride not to break the string. So, let all outgoing leaders give it their all now, so that there can be no regrets and you can celebrate with your brothers this summer.

Vivat Jesus! Jack Cavagnaro, PGK, Membership Chairman

Membership



From the State Ceremonials Chairman

Michael W. Telesco, PSD

1. CONGRATULATIONS to the following Councils who have achieved or exceeded their Goals in the conduct of First Degrees from July 1, 2005 through May 9, 2006. And have qualified for the DEGREE CEREMONIAL AWARD.

COUNCIL LEADERS:

Division I:

Greer Council 12274—100%

Division II:

Conway Council 7531—140%

Camden council 9672—100%

Division III:

Simpsonville Council 10819—133%

Goose Creek Council 11991—133%

North Myrtle Beach Council 7122—100%

Mt Pleasant Council 9475—100%

Hilton Head Council 10668—100%

DISTRICT LEADERS:

DD 2 NIX—81%

DD 11 McMahon—75%

DD 14 Stanley—64%

DD 9 Urbanic—59%

DD 8 Robertson—58%

THE DOWNSIDE: 8 COUNCILS HAVE NOT CONDUCTED A FIRST DEGREE THIS FRATERNAL YEAR, LETS HAVE THAT DEGREE.

PROTOCOL NOTES:

Next month councils will schedule their Installation of Officers, if you schedule your installation before Jun 30th consult with your current District Deputy, if after JULY 1st you must consult with the newly appointed DD.

A reminder, at the Installation of Officers of your Council insure that State Officers, Past State Deputies, PGK's, and priests should be accorded due recognition for the office or position they hold. They should always be seated in a place of honor during the Installation ceremony.

FIRST DEGREE STANDINGS AS OF MAY 9, AS REPORTED BY YOUR DISTRICT DEPUTY ARE PUBLISHED IN THIS BULLETIN.

42% OF COUNCILS HAVE RE-CERTIFIED THEIR TEAMS, LET TRY TO MAKE IT 100% BY JUNE 15, 2006

There will two more Third Degrees this FY as follows:

21 May at Sumter Council 2207, contact DD Nix for info.

3 June at Goose Creek Council 11991, contact SW Gabriel for info.

First Degree Standings

Michael W. Telesco, PSD, State Ceremonials Chairman

DISTRICT	COUNCIL	CITY	GOAL	ACTUAL	% of GOAL	
1	5026	BEAUFORT	6	1	16.67%	
	7289	HILTON HEAD	5	1	20.00%	
	10668	HILTON HEAD	6	6	100.00%	
	12263	BLUFTON	6	5	83.33%	
MIKA	DD #1		23	13	56.52%	
	2207	SUMTER	6	5	83.33%	
	6847	E. COLUMBIA	6	5	83.33%	
	9672	CAMDEN	4	4	100.00%	
2	12554	COLUMBIA	5	3	60.00%	
	13713	BLYTHEWOOD	0		0.00%	
	Nix	DD #2	21	17	80.95%	
	4	3684	AIKEN	6	3	33.33%
4	7062	N. AUGUSTA	5	3	40.00%	
	9161	BARWNELL	4	1	25.00%	
	11645	EDGEFIELD	4	1	25.00%	
	SPAINHOUR	DD #4	19	8	42.11%	
5	6629	SUMMERVILLE	6		0.00%	
	8502	WALTERBORO	4	1	25.00%	
	8900	N. CHARLESTON	5	2	40.00%	
	10334	CHARLESTON	5	2	40.00%	
KRAMP	DD #5		25	9	36.00%	
	6	6684	SENECA	6	3	50.00%
	7129	GREENWOOD	5	1	20.00%	
	8295	ANDERSON	5		0.00%	
PATTEN	9576	PICKENS	5	1	20.00%	
	DD #6		21	5	23.81%	
	7	724	COLUMBIA	6	1	16.67%
	6891	ORANGEBURG	4		0.00%	
8	6892	IRMO	5	2	40.00%	
	11325	LEXINGTON	5	1	20.00%	
	SANSONETTI	DD #7	20	4	20.00%	
	8	1668	GREENVILLE	6		0.00%
9	8182	MAULDIN	5	4	80.00%	
	9745	GREENVILLE	4		0.00%	
	10819	SIMPSONVILLE	6	8	133.33%	
	13112	GREENVILLE	4	2	50.00%	
ROBERTSON	DD #8		25	14	56.00%	
	9	704	CHARLESTON	6	3	50.00%
	6250	JAMES ISLAND	5	2	40.00%	
	9475	MT. PLEASANT	6	6	100.00%	
URBANIC	12472	CHARLESTON	5	2	40.00%	
	DD #9		22	13	59.09%	
	10	6756	ROCK HILL	6	1	16.67%
	10066	LANCASTER	4		0.00%	
Pfenmayer	12268	YORK	4	1	25.00%	
	12366	FORT MILL	5		0.00%	
	DD #10		19	2	10.53%	
	11	3067	GEORGETOWN	5		0.00%
McMahon	5086	MYR. BEACH	6	5	83.33%	
	7531	CONWAY	5	7	140.00%	
	8980	GARDEN CITY	6	4	66.67%	
	11028	PAWLEYS ISL	6	5	83.33%	
12	DD #11		28	21	75.00%	
	5194	FLORENCE	5	4	80.00%	
	7122	N.M. BEACH	6	6	100.00%	
	8123	HARTSVILLE	4		0.00%	
Barcomb	8790	MARION DILLON	4		0.00%	
	10867	CHERAW	4	1	25.00%	
	DD #12		23	11	47.83%	
	13	6726	HANAHANGC	6	3	50.00%
Sordelet	6900	CITADEL	4	1	25.00%	
	11471	MONCK'S COR.	4	2	50.00%	
	11991	GOOSE CREEK	6	8	133.33%	
	DD #13		20	14	70.00%	
14	6076	SPARTANBURG	5	4	80.00%	
	9184	TAYLORS	6	3	50.00%	
	9575	SPARTANBURG	6	4	66.67%	
	12274	GREER	4	4	100.00%	
Stanley	12995	GAFFNEY	4	1	25.00%	
	DD #14		25	16	64.00%	
TOTAL			291	147	50.52%	

First Degree Recertification Standings

DISTRICT	DEPUTY	DISTRICT	GOAL	ACTUAL	% GOAL
Mika		1	4	2	50
Nix		2	4	4	100
Spainhour		4	4	1	25
Kramp		5	4	4	100
Patten		6	4		
Sansantt		7	4		
Robertson		8	4	1	
Urbanic		9	4	2	25
Pfzenmayer		10	4		
McMahon		11	4	4	100
Barcomb		12	4		
Gabriel (acting)		13	4	1	25
Stanley		14	4	3	75
TOTAL			52	22	42

Knights Work with Bishops to Defend Marriage

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Knights are joining forces in a campaign to encourage U.S. Catholics to write their senators urging a vote in favor of the Marriage Protection Amendment. The Order is printing 10 million post cards urging senators to support the amendment. Grand knights and pastors can order additional post cards by filling out and faxing this order form.



Knights of Columbus

Marriage Protection Amendment Postcard Order Form

Make and complete a form similar to the one below to obtain postcards in support of the campaign to approve Senate Joint Resolution 1 (S.J. Res. 1) defining marriage as the union between one man and one woman.

Please send (check quantity):
 500 1,000 1,500 2,000

To: _____
 Name _____

Church or Council _____

Street (not Post Office Box) address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Daytime telephone number _____
 Fax completed form to Knights of Columbus supply department: 1-800-266-6340.

Health Services Byline



Submitted by Louis Umile Pulicicchio, MD, MHSA

“Medical Health Insurance - Fact or Fiction Part I (The Issue)”

This is the first of three or four monthly articles that will cover the above stated issue. Millions of Americans think that they have insurance coverage and that they don't fall into the category of the underinsured or frankly no insurance.

Health insurance in the United States is caught in an ever changing triangle with the insurance companies progressively increasing costs and decreasing specific coverages; doctors who cannot keep up with personal malpractice insurance premiums and the paperwork demanded by the insurance companies to make sure that their patients qualify for specific needed tests and modern expensive treatments; and employers who are increasingly shifting health costs to their employees.

We, obviously have now reached or rather have backed ourselves into a fiscal corner and many middle class Americans patients face either financial ruin or do without the more complex modern care they might need.

Truly, the very poor patients are usually fiscally covered and the very rich are covered by definition but the average patient could be hit very hard by a catastrophic medical bill etc.

Next month we'll examine the dilemma from the perspective of the insurer, the employer, and the physician.

REMEMBER: Review your own current status before next month!

LUPO





Patriot's Corner

*Submitted by Richard E. Koehler, PSD
District Master*

Civic Award

Last year only 369 assemblies received the Civic Award, with 2, 631 assemblies in the order, this represent only 14% of our assemblies participating over all. South Carolina represents 3.8% of that figure. This was far below the order wide average.

June 30, 2006 is almost upon us and each assembly must conduct and report at least four varied patriotic programs held within the fraternal year to the department of Fraternal Services using the Civic Award application found in the Fourth Degree Forms Booklet. There is no reason why every assembly should not be able to qualify for this award.

To Be a Patriot

What was your assembly's best patriotic program conducted this fraternal year? Each assembly should submit a report on their single best patriotic activity to the Master on #TBP-2 entry form found in the forms booklet no later than June 30, 2006. From all entry forms the best entry shall be selected by a committee (judges) appointed by the Master. That winner (South Carolina District Winner) will be submitted to the Vice Supreme Master who will pick a winner for the Province and submit it to Supreme. Every assembly has a winning patriotic event, so submit you entry by the deadline on June 30, 2006.

Essay and Catholicity Award

Award nominations are due now; please submit your assemblies' nomination and write up to Ron Snyder now if you haven't done so yet.

Bi-annual Meeting

At the April 1, 2006 bi-annual meeting, held in Columbia, SC, the below names were submitted to the Vice Supreme Master, by a unanimous vote of the selection committee in order of preference as to their recommendation for the next Master for the South Carolina District, DeSoto Province.

Roosevelt Cummings, PSD, Columbia

Cornelius "Nick" Dorsey, District Marshal, Burton

John N. Giardino, Regional Marshal, Garden City.

These nominations will in turn be submitted to Supreme for his review and recommendation.

Remember Sir Knights to file all your reports and nominations now so that we may finish up this fraternal year as the best District in the DeSoto Province.

Fraternally Yours,

Richard E. Koehler, Master

SC District DeSoto Province

Convention continued from page 1

monies go to benefit mentally retarded citizens and chair Michael Telesco gave away the state council's 20 percent of that fund at the convention. Many councils were recognized for raising more than their allotment for HOPE, topped by Seneca (#6884), whose members raised 414% (\$30,540).

Besides money, people were the big attraction at the convention. The convention honoree was William R. Zimmerman, a military veteran and 4th degree Knight whose Columbian accomplishments fill an entire page. Zimmerman is a member of St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Simpsonville and has been a Knight for more than 40 years. He chaired Operation Hope for four record-setting years.

Zimmerman's council (#10819) won the Family Service Program Award. The Mauldin council (#8182) won three awards, including Church Service program and State Charity; their nominee, Jim Schwecke, was elected Knight of the Year.

The State Family of the Year is the Thomas and Fran Franzoni family of Christ Our King in Mt. Pleasant (council #9475), and the Golden Knight of the Year Award went to Joe Branton of Summerville (#6629). Spartanburg's Elizabeth Berg, a Special Olympian from council 9575 and the daughter of Glenn and Robin, was selected as the Youth of the Year.

Pawley's Island (#11028) won the Community Service Program Award and Charleston's 704 won the Council Service Program Award. Greenville (#13112) won both the Youth Service Program and the Catholicity Awards. Councils 5194 and 6629 had the best scrapbooks; 12554 and 6629 won Pulliam Awards in their respective divisions. The Gaffney council (#12995) won the Convention Attendance Award.

Best Councils were Greenville (#13112) in Division I and Spartanburg (#9575) in Division III.

Charles Maurer, a director of the Supreme Council, was the keynote speaker at the convention. He called the Knights "the greatest and most effective Catholic lay organization in the world." Maurer said that K of C membership worldwide is approaching 1.7 million; there are \$60 billion worth of Knights insurance policies in effect.

"Our principles have universal and timeless appeal," Maurer said.

He told the full house at the Sheraton Hotel for the Saturday evening banquet that the first six K of C councils were established in Poland this year and that American Knights contributed \$10 million for Katrina Relief.

Bishop Baker, who concelebrated the convention mass with the state chaplain, Fr. James Parker, spoke about the characteristic of connectedness that binds the Church and the K of C together.

"The Knights of Columbus family is a perfect model of Catholicism," the Bishop of Charleston said. "With members like Bill Zimmerman as an example of true stewardship, we can say that nobody does it better than us."

United in Charity

At the annual Supreme Council meeting in Texas in 2004, Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson introduced United in Charity, a general, unrestricted endowment to support and ensure the overall long-term charitable and philanthropic goals of the Order.

Every year, the Order receives special requests from the Catholic Church and organizations closely aligned with our mission of support for the Church.

Now, such requests must be met from the general funds of the Order or in combination with specific appeals, as for example the Gulf States Disaster Relief fund – and the demand at times far exceeds the supply. The funds from United in Charity would help support these vital endeavors in the future.

The initial response to United in Charity has been very positive. Since its inception the endowment has received almost \$2 million in donations. (Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc., has accomplished much in the last eight months, and approximately another \$5 million in contributions have already been directed to the Gulf States.) Nonetheless, it will take several years before it fulfills the Supreme Knight's vision of attaining a level capable of generating earnings to fund the Order's critical charitable objectives.

Your donation of an unrestricted gift to United in Charity will help the Order reach this goal. You may give a donation now by mail or online, which is tax deductible (or in Canada tax creditable) to the extent permitted by law.

You may also choose to donate by giving Knights of Columbus life insurance for the benefit of United in Charity after your family insurance needs are met.

Your local Knights of Columbus insurance agent can provide you a brochure and inform you of several options in this regard.

Thank you for your support of the charitable and philanthropic goals of the Order.

If you would like more information about United in Charity, an endowment fund wholly managed, maintained and operated by Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and Knights of Columbus Canada Charities, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, please contact us:

By E-mail:

info@kofccharities.org

By Toll-Free Phone:

1-800-694-5713

By Postal Service:

Office of the Supreme Treasurer
Knights of Columbus Charities Inc.
One Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510

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State Secretary – Joseph Gubeli
State Treasurer – Thomas Monahan
State Advocate – Richard Gabriel
State Warden – Richard Stackelek

NOTE:

**Please, do not forget to apply for the Columbian Award!
Your Council earned it!**

Fraternally Yours,
Ray Hock

Chaplain continued from page 2

cessor, our co-redemtrix. She gave herself to become the Mother of God and she intercedes for us. "Hail Mary, full of grace!"

Fraternally in Christ and His Mother,
The 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 Pro Life Chair Couple

Jim & Bobbie St. Clair

Dear Fellow Knights,

Living Wills Can Be Deadly

Please re-think your "living will"!! Living wills are **deceptive** because they utilize vague terms without defining them. For example, many assume an attending physician is the family doctor. In reality, it is the doctor assigned to your case and can be a total stranger. They are **dishonest** because they use terms everyday people may not understand. When someone reads "medically and surgically implanted tubes," they may not understand this can be as simple as an IV in the arm. Did you know that food and water are considered "extra-ordinary" means? You can be starved to death and it is all legal. A living will is **dangerous** because it can kill you against your will.

We strongly urge you to discard your Living Will and replace it with a Will to Live. **The Will to Live** is the legal alternative to the South Carolina Living Will and is available from South Carolina Citizens for Life or can be easily downloaded at <http://www.nrlc.org>. Call us or email us. We will be happy to send you a brochure on a Will to Live vs. the Living Will. (803) 425-0340 or stclair33@bellsouth.net.

Pro-Life Makes Headways.

A May 4 Harris poll found that support for abortion has dropped below 50% for the first time in 30 years. It also showed that 44% of Americans said they would support a law in their own state like South Dakota's, banning all abortions except to save the mother's life. An earlier survey found that 54% support limiting legal abortion to the extreme circumstances of rape, incest, and to save the life of the mother. This is encouraging and definitely shows that we are making an impact. Stay the course, Brothers! (Incidentally, we disagree with the rape, incest, etc. exception; **ALL** abortions are wrong. Pregnancy under these circumstances are a tragedy, but to abort/kill the innocent baby would be murder.)

Unborn Victims of Violence Act

Please ask every Council member to contact their state representative by phone or e-mail and urge [him to pass the Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2006 \(S1084\) with no amendments](#). We are closer than we ever have been since 1998 to passing the unborn victims bill, but time is quickly running out. The legislative session ends June 1. Opposition to the Unborn Victims of Violence bill is intense and well organized. Our House members are being flooded with calls and e-mails from opponents of the bill. It is urgent that our House members **hear from us**. To find your House member's e-mail address, go to www.scstatehouse.gov and click on "Bio" under House of Representatives. Write them today!!! May God bless you.

From the Vocations Chairman

Richard A. Gabriel, SW

Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)

I want to thank all the councils and assemblies that have supported seminarians this year and to remind you to send in form (#2863) along with a copy of the front and back of your canceled check to Supreme before 30 June. An updated list of seminarians will be provided at the Grand Knight's workshop in July. If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at r_gabriel@bellsouth.net or by phone at 843-797-6804.

Keep Christ in Christmas

The new brochures and ordering information for "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" religious Christmas cards is now available. Any council interested in selling cards this year please contact me either by e-mail at r_gabriel@bellsouth.net or by phone at 843-797-6804.

Vivat Jesus!

From the Church Director

As I am sure you know, with the State Convention this month, the Fraternal Year is quickly coming to a close. But there is still two months left to put together another Church Program. What do we have coming up? How about the Feast of the Ascension on May 25th or Pentecost on June 4th or the Feast of Corpus Christi on June 18th. All are good dates to get Knights, family members, and church parishioners together to remember and honor the Trinity, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The schedule for the ICON Madonna of South Carolina for May and June includes the following Councils for periods of six days or more in the order and beginning date listed. Hilton Head Council 10668 (4/28); State Convention (5/5); Bluffton Council 12263 (5/8); Barwell Council 9161 (5/14); Aiken Council 3684 (5/20); North Augusta Council 7062 (5/26); Edgefield Council 11645 (6/1); Lexington Council 11325 (6/7); Irmo Council 6892 (6/13); Columbia Council 724 (6/19); Orangeburg Council 6891 (6/25). For a complete listing including the prayer service that accompanies the ICON, please contact me at PGK6726PFN1900@comcast.net.

Congratulations to the many Council's who received various awards at the State Convention in Charleston and also to our new State Officers. Please keep our Servicemen and Women overseas in your thoughts and prayers and pray especially for their safety and speedy return.

Vivat Jesu,

Jim Martin

From the State Retention Chairman

Mike Mika, DD #1 & State Retention Chairman

As we draw near the end of this fraternal year we each need to ask ourselves how well did we do with our council retention efforts. Have we made any improvement or are we in the same position we have always been where we are now confronted with dropping members because we haven't either heard from them or received their dues as yet?

How pro-active have we been this year in trying to implement the State Retention Program? How well do we understand it? Apparently there seems to have been some confusion in the process that was directed by Supreme in August 2003. And now we have further clarification of these guidelines. The following Memorandum from Supreme Secretary Robert J. Lane was sent to all Financial Secretaries on April 20, 2006. It is included herewith so each of you, whether in leadership positions or member within your councils will have this information on a first hand basis.

It is of particular importance to pay attention to paragraph 4 of the memorandum.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 20, 2006

TO: FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

FROM: SUPREME SECRETARY

RE: MEMBER WITHDRAWAL REQUEST PROCEDURES

At the August 2003 meeting of the Board of Directors, approval was granted to modify the member withdrawal process. The new process requires a member to write to the Supreme Office requesting withdrawal. The revised procedures were announced in a memo from the Supreme Secretary dated September 16, 2003.

In the more than 30 months since this change has been in effect, the Supreme Office has experienced a variety of methods in which withdrawal requests have been received....form letters on council letterheads...check box options on billing notices...or generically-produced messages urging members to submit a withdrawal request. *These examples have not conformed with the intent of the revision and clearly appear to circumvent the published form #1845 retention procedures.* The intent of the 2003 revision was to obtain a letter signed by the member setting forth his intentions, in a communication to the Supreme Council Membership Records Department.

Effective immediately, the Supreme Office will no longer accept any form of withdrawal request other than a personal communication (not a form letter) signed by the member himself, not the council or his assembly. Your State Deputy continues to distribute reports of withdrawal transactions received in this office **for use by the state council retention committee and district deputies to implement**

and promote effective member retention.

Any questions regarding the proper procedures may be directed to the Membership Records Department at 203-752-4210 or by e-mail to: harold.kennedyjr@kofc.org.

HELP JOSHUA GET A NEW LIVER

JOSHUA STEVEN WEST, SON OF BROTHER KNIGHT DAN & CHEREE WEST, PAST FINANCIAL SECRETARY OUR LADY OF THE LAKE COUNCIL 11471, MONCK'S CORNER AND GRANDSON OF SIR KNIGHT STEVE & JUDY ANDERSON, FR. RONALD P. ANDERSON COUNCIL 8900, NORTH CHARLESTON AND REV P.N. LYNCH ASSEMBLY 1071, CHARLESTON, IS AWAITING A LIVER TRANSPLANT. THE MEDICAL BILLS ALREADY EXCEED \$1,000,000 AND EVEN WITH GOOD MEDICAL INSURANCE THE FAMILY'S PORTION WILL BE IN THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS. A FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO HELP WITH THE MEDICAL BILLS. PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A PERSONAL AND/OR A COUNCIL/ASSEMBLY DONATION TO HELP. DONATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE JOSHUA STEVEN WEST MEDICAL FUND FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK P.O. BOX 578 MONCK'S CORNER, SC 29461



Agency Directory



YOUR SOUTH CAROLINA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FIELD AGENTS

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