



Arkansas State Council Newsletter
Knights of Columbus
 AUGUST 2008
 State Council Website: www.arkofc.net



STATE DEPUTY
JIM NEFF

Dear Brother Knights

It's a great time to be **Catholic and a Knight of Columbus in the State of Arkansas!**

State Officers Dudley Wells, Michael Kieffer, Gerald Krawczynski and I met with Bishop Anthony Taylor on July 3rd. He is very supportive of the Knights and is himself a Fourth Degree. He will be the celebrant at our 4:00 PM Mass and will be our special guest at our Awards Banquet in Hot Springs on April 18. He stated in his letter...."look forward to celebrating the Knights' second century of service and commitment to the church".

I committed to Bishop Taylor that we would support each of our 31 new seminarians at least once via the RSVP program. RSVP is available to both our councils and assemblies. Please see our Worthy Diocesan Vocations Director Peter McNulty's report later in this issue of the newsletter. Brother Peter works directly with Msgr. Scott Friend, Director of Vocations and Seminarians for the diocese. I ask each council and assembly's support for the RSVP, and to coordinate through Peter to ensure each seminarian is supported at least one time. Please continue to pray for Msgr. Friend: he started with 15 seminarians, is going from 22 to 31 this academic year, and hopes to have 40 next year. What a great time to be **Catholic and a Knight of Columbus in the State of Arkansas!**

The other commitment I made to Bishop Taylor is that we will do everything we can to ensure the Knights coordinate through and communicate to our local pastors, and that all activities and planned events are first discussed with our pastor for his concurrence before we begin. We often forget to communicate

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with our pastor whose support we need for success of an endeavor.

Congratulations to all our new council and assembly officers. Your sacrifice of time and energy along with the members getting good things accomplished at the grass roots level are the reasons for the success of the Knights of Columbus. We owe an equal debt of gratitude to our families for supporting this time you give to the Knights. The satisfaction we receive in giving is but another reason to offer the benefits of Knighthood to every eligible catholic man. Our new Knights of Columbus leadership makes it a great time to be **Catholic and a Knight of Columbus in the State of Arkansas!**

We have just finalized the **Second/Third Degree** schedules for September. The **Charleston/Ft. Smith** area will host the first one on **September 7** and **Mountain Home** will host the second on **September 21**. This provides a lot of time to schedule local First Degree Exemplifications in August and get your membership campaign off to a great start. Has your council ever been 100% of membership by October? Is it time for your council to consider becoming a Star Council? Double Star Council? Need help with a membership blitz? Need a First Degree Team? Ready to challenge your State Officers to be the best we can be? Ready to be the best you can be?

Your District Deputy is ready, willing and anxious to respond to membership requests. In addition to himself, he has access to me, the other State Officers, our Past State Deputies, our Membership Director, all the other State Directors or Chairmen and coordinators from Supreme. And don't forget to request the presence of your Field Agent or General Agent. New members are our life blood, they are our future leadership and we have the responsibility to ensure our Order's future. **Wow**, what a great time to be **Catholic and a Knight of Columbus in the State of Arkansas!**

Your District Deputies will be scheduling district training sessions with each of his councils in the very near future. These are geared for the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, Program Director and Membership Director of each council. We will attempt to have these conveniently located within each district, but sometimes a training session might cross district boundaries for logistics reasons.

They are meant to help us all be better leaders. Our State Officers and Past State Deputies will be available to assist the District Deputy's in this effort. I ask that each council make every effort to attend at their earliest opportunity and that a minimum of the four positions mentioned above be in attendance. Come with an open mind and a willingness to learn some fresh ideas to take back to your councils.

Albert Einstein said: "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them". Our continuing problem of grouping many years' worth of suspensions into one year will be discussed in detail with limits, guidelines and assistance. Thanks in advance for your support.

Please remember all our Brother Knights and their families on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15.

What a great time to be **Catholic, a Knight of Columbus in the State of Arkansas and the BEST we can be!**

VIVAT JESU

Jim Neff

SUPREME WEBSITE ACCESS

JIM NEFF

STATE DEPUTY

For those not familiar, the Supreme Website access requires an Invitation Code. You can acquire this code by calling 800-380-9995 from 8:00 AM to 7:30 PM Eastern Time. It requires you to have your membership number so have it handy. Unfortunately for dummies like me, it requires you to change your user name and password every quarter.

Worthy District Deputies, please ensure that your council officers have this information.

Have a great day, Jim

DIRECTIONS FOR PENNIES FROM HEAVEN FUND

OZRO BARCLAY

STATE DIRECTOR

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

It has become apparent that your help is needed to assist me in advising the Grand Knights of the Councils within your district of the rules under which the State Pennies From Heaven Fund was established and is operated. Recently, there have been some requests submitted that do not qualify for a grant from this fund.

The Fund was established to provide immediate monetary relief to a Brother Knight in distress within our councils. It also provided for monetary assistance to individuals or a family in distress within the local communities served by each council. They must be in need of this monetary assistance due to a sudden and disastrous event happening to the individual or family. These events causing such hardship could be weather-related as a tornado, floods, or a prolonged illness to an individual or family member that results in huge medical bills not covered by insurance to the extent that families unable to provide for their immediate upkeep. The key words are individual or a family in dire need of assistance.

The process for requesting a grant From the PFH Fund is very simple. The Grand Knight sends the director of the Fund (Ozro Barclay) an E-mail (ob524@suddenlink.net) requesting the grant for up to \$300.00. The e-mail should contain the name of the person/family, as much detail as necessary to support the request, the name of the person to whom the check should be made payable, and finally, the correct home address of the Grand Knight. The check, when the request is approved, will be sent to the Grand Knight for presentation. He then reports to the Director of the Fund the dates the check was received and presented. In the case of councils encompassing a large area, the Grand Knight may delegate in writing a brother knight to receive and present the check. The approval of each request will be made by the Director

and the State Deputy prior to the issuing of the check. We endeavor to have a rapid turnover of each request so that the check will be placed in the mail within two days.

If the Grand Knight has any question, he may call Ozro Barclay at 479-696-7950 or cell 870-736-2767.

Vivat Jesu
Ozro Barclay
State Director, PFH

ADOPT A SEMINARIAN
JAMES W. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Worthy Knights,

I had an idea that I would like to throw out to you. In order to get greater support for the seminarians could we initiate an “***Adopt a Seminarian***” in every District and have the Councils in each district chip in to a line item District RSVP and then share the return from Supreme with each of the Councils. Supreme would have to approve but, it would get the smaller and newer Councils in the RSVP program as a ***District Council Unit*** rather than have small Councils left out. They may not have the size or budget to handle a single seminarian themselves but if four or five Councils in a District worked together it would definitely be affordable. The Council RSVP would always be ideal. The District RSVP would be an added program.

Vivat Jesus
James W. Cunningham, Jr.
AR State Program Director

Vote Pro-Life

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR
JAMES W. CUNNINGHAM, JR.

You are a winner and you should be. All the wonderful things you and your Council do are entitled to be rewarded. I will make sure your Five Service Programs State Entries and your Honors “Knight and Family of the Year” entries get the recognition they deserve. That, after all, is my job.

All you have to do is follow the plan laid out in the “Surge With Service” booklet and send in the proper forms found in the “Forms Booklet” on time. The Columbian Award is the easiest of all the awards to win. What you have to do is make sure your Service Program Personnel Report Form (#365) is filled out and sent in to Supreme, State Deputy and District Deputy by August 1st. I hope all of you have done that.

Next, you need to fill out and send in your Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Report Form (#1728) by January 31st.

Finally, you must fill out and send in your (# SP-7 Form) by the following June 30th. And enter the four service programs you did during the Fraternal Year. If your Council has a Round Table program you only need to enter that one under "Church Activities" and it will count for all four Church activities. If your Council has a Squires Circle you only need to enter that one and it will count for all four Youth Activities.

Now is the time to plan for your Fraternal Year's Service Program Activities. Your District Deputy will be calling on your Council Officers to meet with him for an Organizational Meeting. Please make sure your Grand Knight, Program Director, Membership Director and Financial Secretary all attend this most important meeting.

I will be sending you, when I have the information together, a packet of instructions concerning State Entries for the Five Service Program and Honors Program Awards. Please be on the look out.

I hope to see all the Councils in the Arkansas State Winner's Circle come next April.

Vivat Jesus
James W. Cunningham, Jr.
AR State Program Director

Vote Pro-Life

STATE RETENTION DIRECTOR
PHIL HAHN PSD, DM

Brother Knights,

It is with great honor I have been entrusted with the job to help you and your councils achieve Star Council Award.

To the District Deputies, I am putting together a packet of information which should help you when you hold your District Meeting. There will be an information, guides, and topics for you to talk about with the Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and hopefully with the Membership, Retention and Program Directors. I will pass this before the State Deputy first for his approval. I will also send this packet to the State Officers and Past State Deputies who may attend your District Meeting if you ask them to assist you. There is a lot for you to do and talk about and their experience may be of help.

To Grand Knights, let me reassure you that I am not out to make you retain members. I know some councils have held on to members who should have been released long ago. Does it not seem unfair to your current Grand Knight, to expunge the rolls of past administrations on a Grand Knight who was not involved in retaining these men? The same is true in regard to the State Deputy and the State of Arkansas. I want to work "with you" to resolve the problem of a possible serious drop in members. I am already working with the State Deputy to resolve membership problems in two councils. Each situation will be different and the answer for one council may not apply to another.

To attend the District Meeting can only help a council, whether it helps yours or your presence helps another. Sharing of ideas can be of great benefit to all attending. Help your District Deputy to help you. Together you can become a Star Council and he can earn Star District.

2ND AND 3RD DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE

**GREG BALTZ, PSD
CEREMONIAL DIRECTOR**

**2ND AND 3RD DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION
SEPTEMBER 7, 2008**

Fort Smith - Charleston Area
To be announced

Sponsored by:
District 9
Charles Ketter, District Deputy
479-965-7855 H
479-965-5150 C
Email: cketter@centurytel.net

12:00 Noon Registration – Fort Smith - Charleston Area
1:00 PM Degree Work – Fort Smith - Charleston Area

Candidates and members from throughout Arkansas are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please contact the District Deputy or Grand Knight to confirm attendance.

After the degree, a light meal will be served by the host council. A nominal fee will be charged for non-candidates.

**2ND AND 3RD DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION
SEPTEMBER 21, 2008**

St. Peter the Fisherman Parish Hall
249 Dyer St
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Sponsored by:
District 5
Ed Zacher, Host District Deputy
870-445-3719
Email: ortho@ozarkmountains.com

Host Council:
Mountain Home Council 7253
Ozro Barclay, Grand Knight
479-696-7950 H
866-836-4098 C
Email: ob524@suddenlink.net

12:00 Noon Registration – St Peter Parish Hall
1:00 PM Degree Work – St Peter Parish Hall

Candidates and members from throughout Arkansas are welcome and encouraged to participate. Please contact the District Deputy or Grand Knight to confirm attendance.

After the degree, a light meal will be served by the host council. A nominal fee will be charged for non-candidates.

VOCATION CHAIRMAN
PETER McNULTY

Worthy Grand Knights, Faithful Navigators, Council Vocation Chairmen, Brother Knights:

The State organizational meeting is in the past and our goals are set. The District Deputies have their marching orders, so to speak, and we look forward to a most productive fraternal year.

We had the pleasure of listening to Msgr. Scott Friend, our Diocesan Vocations Director; speak to the assemblage of the needs of our seminarians and what we Knights have done to assist in helping to satisfy those needs. He was most positive about our RSVP awards to these men who sacrifice to study for the priesthood. Msgr. Friend pointed out to us that the Diocese expends approximately \$26,000.00 per year to educate each seminarian. Much of this money comes from The “Seminarian Education Fund”, which is a burse supported by gifts. Many councils and assemblies donate to this fund in memory of deceased members. However, he pointed out that there is still a need for personal items that are not covered and this is where the RSVP fills a void. We have a total of 30 seminarians studying this year. There will be nine (9) just beginning their journey and 21 in various stages of their journeys

Two (2) of our seminarians will be Ordained in 2009. One of these will return to Rome for further studies. In 2010 there are three (3) to be Ordained and three (3) more in 2011; some are looking forward to 2016. With the time span as such, everyone can understand the need for prayers to The Holy Spirit for continued encouragement and commitment to fulfill their **Call to Serve**. Msgr. Friend related to us that the short notes, long letters, and e-mails that are sent to these men are most appreciated and often times shared with their fellow classmates.

I want to help each Council and Assembly to the best of my ability to help with the success of the stated goal of our State Council as announced by our State Deputy, Jim Neff: “**Every seminarian to receive at least one (1) RSVP award**”. In that regard, I have data to provide and share with councils and assemblies who do not at present sponsor a **seminarian or novice**, and are desirous to do so.

I ask that each council and assembly, that will be sponsoring one (1) or more candidates, to **PLEASE** advise me as soon as you decide who he will be. I ask you to do so as to help me advise other councils and assemblies, who need assistance with obtaining an RSVP award. Looking forward to having all seminarians covered is a much better goal than, as has happened in the past, one man getting 4 Awards and some men getting none. Please help me to help you accomplish our goal with timely communication.

Please contact:

Peter McNulty

479-331-2341

Cell 479-567-2917

e-mail: pmcnulty@centurytel.net

REPORT OF THE STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

JAMES CUNNINGHAM

STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

Congratulations to all the newly elected Council and Assembly Officers. Your efforts and enthusiasm will not go unrewarded or unnoticed. I only ask that you give special attention to the directors you will appoint. They should be members that you can count on to actively participate in their assigned programs.

The Community Directors have some very important items on their plate. The “Surge With Service” organizational chart lists eight different subjects: Pro-Life, Volunteerism, Human Needs, Civic Involvement, Environment, Public Safety, Health Services and Decency.

I would now, on the subject of “**Community**”, like to bring your attention to something that our Holy Father stated in his recent visit to the USA. When he addressed the youth and seminarians in Yonkers, N.Y. he gave a somber warning concerning a serious social danger. I don’t generally give much credence to alarmists but, consider the source. What Pope Benedict XVI said, was that “**relativism**” is to our generation of youth the same clear, present and insidious danger as was “**Nazism**” to the generation of his youth in Germany. I’m no expert on the dangers of relativism but, it is my understanding that it is an attack on the Christian conscience. Instead of acting on absolute moral principles based on doctrine and the Commandments the concept of relativism allows for alternative amoral behavior based on sensuality and feelings in any given situation. In other words, “If it feels good do it”. I guess you can see how this attitude could affect our Catholic Community. I think the Holy Father should be taken seriously and ask that you talk about “**relativism**” with your Chaplains and Pastors.

On the subject of “**Decency**”: There is a new TV Prime Time program being presented by CBS that is called “**Swingtown**”. Its focus will be on wife swapping in the 1970’s. You don’t need much imagination to figure out what our teenagers will think about their parent’s generation. Maybe this is another example of the dangers of “**relativism**”? There seems to be no end to the attack on the traditional Christian family which is the foundation of the community. One might begin to think that misogamy has become the accepted cultural praxis. You may want to initiate a letter of concern to CBS and ask that your Council sign and send it to their president. I recommend checking with your Chaplain to insure that it is done appropriately.

Please let me know what’s happening in your community. I want to hear from you.

Vivat Jesus
James W. Cunningham, Jr.
State Community Director
870-258-3146

HISTORY OF TAPS

SUBMITTED BY ART BRENNEN

Any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which taps were played; this brings out a new meaning of it.

Here is something Every North American should know... Until I read this:

We in the North America have all heard the haunting song, ‘Taps’. It’s the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes.

But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison’s Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted.

The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted.

The haunting melody, we now know as 'Taps' used at military funerals was born.

The words are:

DAY IS DONE...
GONE THE SUN FROM THE LAKES...
FROM THE HILLS ...
FROM THE SKY.
ALL IS WELL.
SAFELY REST...
GOD IS NIGH.
FADING LIGHT...
DIMS THE SIGHT...
AND A STAR...
GEMS THE SKY GLEAMING BRIGHT FROM AFAR...

DRAWING NIGH. FALLS THE NIGHT.
THANKS AND PRAISE...
FOR OUR DAYS.
NEATH THE SUN...
NEATH THE STARS...
NEATH THE SKY.
AS WE GO THIS WE KNOW.
GOD IS NIGH

I, too, have felt the chills while listening to 'Taps' but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along.

I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before.

Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country And also those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

**HORSESHOE BEND
GOLF TOURNAMENT
AUGUST 16, 2008**

Horseshoe Bend - Knights of Columbus Council 10493 will host its 5th annual Chuck Dennis Memorial Golf Tournament at Turkey Mountain Golf Course in Horseshoe Bend, Arkansas.

There will be a maximum of 36 teams, four person men and/or women's scramble, with \$180.00 fee per team. Proceeds help the Knights support charities in this area and the state of Arkansas.

Registration begins at 7:00 AM with a shotgun start at 8:00 AM. The number of entries determines the number of flights. Each flight will pay \$500.00 for first, \$350.00 for second and \$250.00 for third.

There will be additional 6 prizes for longest putts of \$50.00 each.

Rental golf carts will be available for \$12.00 per person.

Grilled burgers and brats will be available.

For information and entry blank call Dan Bye 870-670-5498 or Sonny Odom 870-670-5281 or Turkey Mountain Pro Shop 870-670-5252.

*Here SHE is
the USS New York
made from the World Trade Center!*



USS New York

It was built with 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Center.

It is the fifth in a new class of warships - designed for missions that include special operations against terrorists. It will carry a crew of 360 sailors and 700 combat-ready Marines to be delivered ashore by helicopters and assault craft.

Steel from the World Trade Center was melted down in a foundry in Amite , LA to cast the ship's bow section. When it was poured into the molds on September 9, 2003, 'those big rough steelworkers treated it with total reverence,' recalled Navy Capt. Kevin Wensing, who was there. 'It was a spiritual moment for everybody there.'

Junior Chavers, foundry operations manager, said that when the trade center steel first arrived, he touched it with his hand and the 'hair on my neck stood up.' 'It had a big meaning to it for all of us,' he said. 'They knocked us down. They can't keep us down. We're going to be back.'

The ship's motto? 'Never Forget'



Office of the Bishop

DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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July 8, 2008

Mr. Jim Neff, State Deputy
Arkansas State Council
Knights of Columbus
329 South Kingswood Drive
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Dear State Deputy Neff,

Thank you for your visit on July 3. I appreciate the opportunity to become acquainted with the Knights of Columbus in Arkansas, and I look forward to working together for the good of the Catholic Church in our diocese.

I am also deeply grateful for the generous support of the Knights for so many of our vital ministries that serve our sisters and brothers in Christ. Please pass along my personal thanks to your membership for their most recent donations that you presented to me on their behalf:


Arkansas Catholic - \$ 2,000 (check # 1268, dated 7-3-08)
Diocesan Council of Women Religious - \$ 1,000 (check #1269, dated 7-3-08)
Vocation Ministry - \$ 500 (check # 1270, dated 7-3-08)
Radio & Press Ministry - \$ 1,000 (check # 1271, dated 7-3-08)
Bishop McDonald Charity Golf Classic - \$ 1,500 (check # 1272, dated 7-3-08)

No goods or services were provided in exchange for your charitable gifts, and each donation will be used as designated.

As I become better acquainted with the good people in our diocese and how we can be of service to them in the name of the Lord, I will welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Knights of Columbus, particularly with fostering vocations and in serving the needs of people who are poor.

Again, thank you for your generous offer of support and warm welcome. I ask for your continued prayers that I may be a good Bishop, receptive to God's will and faithful to the teachings of Jesus in the Gospel. Please be assured that you and all your fellow Knights and their families will be lifted up in my prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,


+Anthony B. Taylor
Bishop of Little Rock

NOTICE:

Please try to send your newsletter reports and messages to John Hollender, Newsletter Editor, by August 18, 2008, for the September 2008 Newsletter. Please e-mail to johnh911@conwaycorp.net.

REPORTS DUE

185	.....	Report of Officers Chosen for Term	.....	July 1 - June 30	Jul 01
365	.....	Service program Personnel Report for Term	.....	July 1 through June 30	Aug 01
TP-1	.....	Select your Council's "Top Proposer"	.....		Aug 15
1295	.....	Semi-annual Council Audit Report	.....		Aug 15
2629	.....	Notice of Appointment of Round Table Coordinator	.....		Sep 01
CR	.....	Official Order Form for Recorded Columbus Day Program	.....		Sep 15
FT-KIT	.....	Free Throw Council Competition Order Kit	.....		Nov 01
FT-1	.....	Free Throw Championship Participation Report	.....		Jan 31
4584	.....	Partnership Profile Report	.....		Jan 31
1728A	.....	Survey of Fraternal Activity Individual Member Report	.....		As needed
1728	.....	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Report	.....		Jan 31
1295	.....	Semi-annual Council Audit Report	.....		Feb 15
2630	.....	Annual Report Knights d Columbus Round Table	.....		Jun 30
ABC/XXX	RSVP Refund/Plaque Application		Jun 30
SP7	Columbian Award Application		Jun 30

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