

Knights of Columbus Arkansas State Council

Columbian Squires Chairman

The framework of our Order's Service Program is "***Surge With Service.***" When a Knight acts *selflessly*, he acts on behalf of the world. Our Order is a Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Organization. This theme permeates the entire Service Program: all Church, Community, Council, Family and Youth Activities. CATHOLIC – the common denominator for all of our members. Catholicism serves as the foundation for continued growth and performance. FAMILY – the very basis of society around which all our programs evolve. FRATERNAL – banded together for the purpose of providing for the spiritual welfare of our membership. SERVICE – our involvement with and commitment to Church, Community, Council, Family and Youth. (See page 2 of "***Surge with Service***" for complete text.)

One of your goals and objectives this fraternal year is to establish a minimum of one Columbian Squires Circle in each District. It is a lofty goal but how else are we to teach our teens to know right from wrong and keep their faith? It may even encourage them to enter into a religious vocation.

The Threat of Pornography is big business and is tearing at the heart and soul of our youth and society in general. As members of the Knights of Columbus we have a moral obligation to meet this threat head on and preserve the very essence of our nation's moral fiber. Today, more than ever, boys need the positive role model that our Brother Knights can, and should, provide.

In the June 18, 2005 issue of the Arkansas Catholic as an article "***Young Hispanics focus on national conference.***" Our program must include the Hispanic youths and not limit our focus to "White" Catholic youth. In the March 3, 2007 issue of the "***Arkansas Catholic***", it was reported that between 1995 and 2006 our Catholic population increased 19% and at the same time the general population only grew 13%. However, only 3 of 10 attend church regularly; forty -years ago 7 out of 10 attended church on a regular basis. In the June 2005 issue of the "***Arkansas Catholic***" it was reported that only 22% of our youth attend Sunday Mass. Other sources report that 45% of our College youths leave the church.

Today's youth are looking for challenges, for responsibility, for ***Faith***, and trust. Yet despite their commitment and dedication, youth of the world are often condemned because of uncontrolled actions of a minority of young people. As Knights of Columbus, it is our responsibility to provide our youth the means and the opportunities to become personally involved in meeting the challenges of our time.

It is crystal clear that youth groups are just youth groups, a Baseball Team is just a Baseball Team, and Church Teen Groups do not provide enough mentors or male role models. However, Squires eventually enter the Knights of Columbus and support our Church. The Columbian Squires Program is the entryway to an organization that supports our Faith and encourages religious vocations. What an opportunity we have as members of the Knights of Columbus to make this a Better World. The thought of the possibilities is exciting and at the same time overwhelming.

This program is so simple and effective we have a moral obligation to our Catholic Youth to provide them the opportunity to develop friendships and leadership roles with boys of their own faith. Where else can they find this support? The Squires Chairman has an awesome responsibility.

Keep in mind that your Brother Knights buy into a leader before they buy into a goal. Abraham Lincoln said, "An Organization will take on the personality of its Leader." During your tenure as our State Council Columbian Squires Director you have the opportunity to become a **Teacher** and **Motivator**.

The activities, goal and objectives provided herein will insure that every Brother Knight has an **"Experience of a Lifetime."** If you have any questions, concerns or challenges feel free to contact any State Officer, Past State Deputy or the services of Supreme. Our goal is to assure you have an **"Experience of a Lifetime."**

State Columbian Squires Director

The Columbian Squires are the official youth group of the Knights of Columbus for young men between the ages of 10 and 18. Under the guidance of Christian Brother Barnabas McDonald (1865-1929), the first Columbian Squires circle was instituted in 1925. Columbian Squires are located in the U.S., Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam.

Mission

The mission of the Squires is to provide opportunities for young men to work in the 4 principals of the Squires – ***Spiritual, Physical, Civic Cultural, and Intellectual***.

Objectives

The objective of the Columbian Squires in Arkansas is to have at least one Circle operating in every district.

Method

- Every year Squires across the State participate with their Councils in many Spiritual Activities, including Rosaries, Corporate Communion Masses, and Vocation awareness activities

- Basketball, softball, football, roller/floor hockey, and volleyball, are just a few of the physical activities going on at any Squires activity.
- The Squires of Arkansas each year participate in activities designed to build their intellectual awareness through activities like assisting with the essay contests and spelling bees sponsored by the councils and also trips to local libraries and historical sites.

To accomplish these objectives the Program Directors in Arkansas must instill in all District Deputies the need to take back to each council the means to conduct all programs as they are designed to operate.

Directors and District Deputies are the lifeline of success for the Order in Arkansas. They must work with all councils to understand that ***strong programs mean strong membership. Remind them that 88% of our members joined the Order to get involved in Church or other activities.***

Program Directors will be required to assist the State Program Director in voting for the Program of the Year for each of the five categories.

At the conclusion of your term furnish the incoming State Columbian Squires Chairman with an updated copy of your duties and responsibilities.

Take someone on a Journey of a lifetime Recruit him into the Knights of Columbus

The only way to recruit a member is to have a Form #100 in hand

Columbian Squires Director	Time allocation	
Function Performed	Minimum Commitment	
Attend State Organizational Meeting	14	Hrs Once
Attend District Leadership Conference	4	Hrs Once
Attend State Mid Year Meeting	14	Hrs Once
Attend State Convention	20	Hrs Once
Subtotal; State Functions	52	Hrs Once
Prepare Newsletter articles	1.5	Hrs/Mo
Interface w/Other Directors & Chairmen	2	Hrs/Mo
Schedule Squires Activities	2	Hrs/Mo
Council Interface	2	Hrs/Mo
Subtotal; Program Functions	90	Hrs/Yr
Total Time Commitment	142	Hrs/Yr

All functions listed exclude travel time and no reliable estimate may be made regarding incurred expenses.