



Knights of Columbus

Idaho State Council

www.idahoKofC.org

January 2017



Idaho State Deputy
Mike Townsend

2016-17 State Officers

| | | | |
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First Things First on the First

The season of Advent is over, we have celebrated Christmas and the New Year is upon us. I believe that it is a great time to consider the good that we do as Knights of Columbus and to strive to increase our charitable footprint and make our councils more successful. With that thought in mind, I would like you each to consider the following:

- **INVITE EVERY CATHOLIC MAN YOU KNOW TO BECOME A KNIGHT** - Becoming a Knight will help men become better Christians, husbands, fathers and citizens. Ask your friends and those men you see at Mass if they are Knights, be prepared to answer their questions and help them fill out that Form 100. These men will strengthen your councils as well as increase the charitable activity of each council.
- **MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER ACCESSABLE TO EVERYONE IN EVERY COUNCIL** - Distribute it to all council members and print off a few copies for those members of your councils who may not have email. The newsletter editor Dave Molitor spends a great deal of time and effort to make this one of the greatest newsletter in the Knights of Columbus. It should be shared with every Knight in Idaho. Remember that we are not a "secret organization", only our ceremonials are secret.
- **REMIND YOUR COUNCIL MEMEBERS TO VISIT OUR STATE WEBSITE** - The State Web Master Colin Groves has put together a first rate website that should be visited frequently. See what is going on with the other councils of the state and possibly get some ideas for your council. The address is www.idahokofc.org
- **VISIT THE SUPREME WEBSITE** - The Supreme website contains the most current information about programs and activities that are happening worldwide. You should visit it as often as possible. It also contains an exciting new "Training Portal" which is designed to help train council officers. The address is www.kofc.org.

Vivat Jesus. Mike Townsend
Idaho State Deputy



Christmas Caroling - Pocatello & Chubbuck

Past State Deputy and Past District Master Sir Knight Dan Anthony reprised his role of Santa Claus for the 37th year as KC's of Pocatello and Chubbuck, along with Boy and Cub Scouts #315, gathered to spread some Christmas cheer at some local assisted living, nursing homes, and especially the Idaho State Veteran's Home on December 17th. A festive post-caroling meal followed in the KC Chambers enjoyed by all.



Santa conducting as Brother Clinton Lenker (far left) voices a Christmas favorite with his mom (Sandy) on the far right keeping time and an eye on granddaughter Arya.

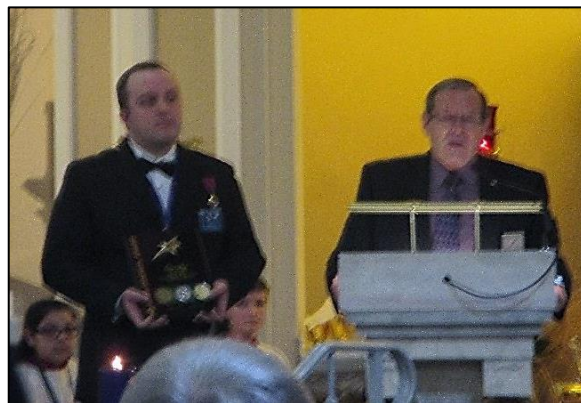


It's a family affair for the Lenker's as Brother and Sir Knight Jay was the principal guitarist with daughter-in-law and Clinton's wife Julie and their 3-year old Arya enjoying the goodies from Santa (Dan Anthony) after the singing.



Coeur d'Alene Council 1363

Star Council Award 2015-2016 was awarded to Grand Knight Nick Theisen at Sunday Mass December 11th by State Deputy Mike Townsend. The Mass was at St. Thomas the Apostle in Coeur d'Alene.



**THIS IS VERY
IMPORTANT**

Fraternal Activity Survey

From: Paul Petro, DD#5

The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) measures each council's success throughout the calendar year. The combined result of each council's good works is a powerful testament of the charity that the Order as a whole provides to our parishes and communities. The report is due to the Supreme Council by **January 31st**.

General Agent - Dermot McCaughan

Brother Knights,

By now some of you will have heard that I have been appointed as the General Agent for the State of Montana. Sadly this means that I will no longer be serving as the field agent for Eastern Idaho. In my two years in this position I have come to know many of you as friends and it has been an honor serving your families.



The role of the field agent is the most important in our order. It is the field agents who most closely fulfill the vision of Fr. McGivney. It is the field agent who helps our members put plans in place to protect their families. It is the field agent that visits the widows and orphans after a tragedy. We have a need of strong Catholic leaders prepared to step up and serve our members in Idaho now.

If you are interested or would like to learn more please contact General Agent Kevin Tuuri at (844) 370-1856.

I would ask that you keep me and my family in your prayers as we begin this new chapter. I will keep you in mine.

Vivat Jesus! Dermot McCaughan General Agent Montana
(406) 438 1113



Assembly Actions

John Pettinger, PSD - District Master

Brother Knights and Sir Knights,

As we near the end of the calendar year I wish each of you a most holy and blessed Christmas. On this annual celebration of our Savior's birth it is a time for reflection on our successes and taking stock of how we go forward.

Last month, I provided a brief summary of what the Military Chaplain Scholarship Fund is, and how it works for the benefit of a local diocese. As I stated then, we are asking councils and assemblies to consider another donation in any amount to this wonderful program. Donations can be sent to Executive Secretary Chuck Davlin.

Since the start of the fraternal year, Idaho has added 9 new Sir Knights to the ranks of the Fourth Degree. This brings us to 9% of our goal for the Idaho district. I believe we can still show a strong ending to the year, but to do so, I really need Grand Knights to encourage their third degree members to take the fourth lesson in knighthood. Our next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be in Nampa on January 14th. Contact me with any questions and potential candidates you have. I need to know who the candidates are no later than January 7th.

Remember that results of the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest are due AT SUPREME on January 15th. Volunteer hours for calendar year 2016 are due AT SUPREME on January 31st. Your volunteer hours are important; they help the Knights of Columbus keep tax-exempt status intact so we will not be taxed on our receipts and can use these funds instead for charitable works.

John Pettinger

Knights of Columbus
Idaho District Master
Home: 208-994-6424

BUHL Council 2685

From: Larry Elford, FS

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Buhl Council 2685 prepared and served the annual Christmas Brunch for the Buhl Council of Catholic Women (BCCW). The brunch was held in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church hall on the morning of December 3rd. The ladies organized entertainment and a door prize raffle. Individual members of the BCCW host and decorate one or more tables, including the table settings for eights. Each table hostess invites friends and members of the surrounding communities to join them on this festive occasion.



The menu included an egg bake casserole, pumpkin muffins, seasonal fruit salad and a multiberry crisp. There were over 90 women in attendance; many of whom, after the festivities, were standing in line to take home leftovers.

Since this was a community event, it was an opportunity for some women to see and experience what the Knights of Columbus does. Seven Knights spent 28 man hours in preparation and clean up. We were requested to cook and serve next year's event and again provide an opportunity to expose the Knights of Columbus to our community.

Cathedral Council 8310 - Boise

From: Bill Maddock

Our big activity for December is the Guadalupe Festival at St. John's the Evangelist Cathedral. Also the ongoing sales of our potato and onions.



Fallen Brothers



Brothers;

I just received word that Brother Roberto Fuentes, past Financial Secretary of Burley Council 12881 passed away due to diabetes complications. Please keep him in your prayers and pray for his family that our Lord may help them cope with their loss. Fraternally.
Robert Vasquez, DD-3

Brother Knights;

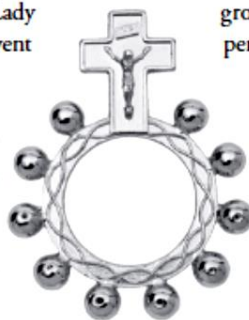
Roy F. Reisenauer from Council 1397 died Dec 16, 2016.
Thank You for your prayers. Ken Ellis, FS #1397 - Moscow

Pray the Rosary; Witness to Faith

Place your council and parish under the protection of Our Lady during the next Orderwide 5th Sunday Rosary Program event on Jan. 29.

Invite brother Knights, their families and local parishes to join you on that day, as well as the fifth Sunday of future months, to together pray through the intercession of the Blessed Mother.

This event is the perfect opportunity for you to witness to Knights of Columbus fellowship and illustrate what it means to be practicing Catholics. Do this by attending Mass as a



group before the rosary service begins, or ask your pastor's permission to have Knights serve as readers, lectors, ushers, choir members or an honor guard during the Mass.

Councils in need of rosaries and prayer cards for the event can order the *5th Sunday Rosary Kit* (#SR-KIT) by visiting kofc.org/5thsunday. Remember, participation in the 5th Sunday Rosary Program may help your council qualify for the Columbian Award. To qualify, you must report your events on the *5th Sunday Rosary Program Report Form* (#10243) and the *Columbian Award Application* (#SP-7).

Seminarian Station

Joe Lustig

joseph.lustig1@gmail.com

I would like to share some of the most recent joys from my path to answering my vocation to the priesthood. With joy & anticipation, I am approaching the end of my time in priestly studies and formation and God-willing and with confirmation of Holy Mother Church, I will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate within the next year.



The Order of Deacon is the first level in the Sacrament of Holy Orders before being ordained a Priest. I will be ordained to "transitional" diaconate, because a year after I will continue to the Holy Priesthood. In this sacrament, I will be making promises of chaste celibacy, obedience to our diocesan bishop, a promise to live a life of Gospel simplicity, and to pray daily the office of the Liturgy of the Hours with the Church & for the Church. In addition, I will become a minister of Baptism and Holy Matrimony and be able to preach the Word of God within the Holy Mass.

Here is a picture of Seminarian Nathan Dail (far left), Bishop Christensen and myself from a ceremony that we had at the seminary in October called the Rite of Candidacy for Holy Orders. In this rite, the Church recalls the process of *vocation*, wherein it is said that *God Calls*, the *Man Answers*, & the *Church confirms* one's vocation to the Priesthood. This ceremony began, in a serious way, the process for the solidification of my becoming a Priest. You can now see my reason for excitement and anticipation!

Knights to Christ

From: David Palumbo, State Church Director

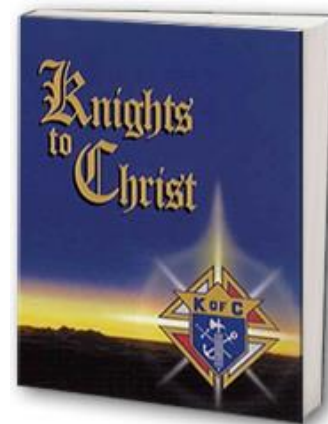
Knights to Christ is a book envisioned by Past State Deputy Jerry O'Connor over 10 years ago. Jerry's inspiration came from Fr. Mark Link's Vision 2000 series of daily reflection books.

Jerry thought if there was a book of reflections specifically designed for Knights based upon Scripture and the four principles of the Knights, it could become a powerful tool for deepening the spirituality of Knights. This resource is perfect for: small group faith sharing; daily meditations; retreats; adorations; and Council/Assembly meetings.

In January 2001, that vision has become a reality in **Knights to Christ**! Online links are:

<http://www.knightstochrist.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/ktc.jpg>

http://www.knightstochrist.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/K2CFF_Revised-768x909.png



Santa Maria Council 4013 - Boise

From: Charlie Ruiz

It's with great pride that Santa Maria Council 4013, and Grand Knight Ruben Iniqoyen, received the **Triple Star Award!** But part of this award goes to State Secretary Shane Gehring and Kevin for their efforts to make it happen. And of course to Paul Ford, who sent the insurance paper work into Supreme at the very last minute to make it possible. Also for the State as well for the opportunity to show what Idaho can get accomplished when everyone in the Council pulls together as Brothers to achieve one common goal.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - *Champions for SPECIAL OLYMPICS IDAHO*

By Laurie La Follette, CEO Special Olympics Idaho

Since Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her husband, Brother Knight Sargent Shriver, created the first Special Olympics games in 1968 Knights of Columbus members have been active and devoted supporters of Special Olympics programs across the United States, including our great state of Idaho!



Special Olympics Idaho has been providing sports training and competition for Idaho children and adults with intellectual disabilities since 1971, and currently serve close to 3000 athletes statewide. Along the way, the Knight of Columbus has been a stalwart partner of our mission and athletes. Over the last couple of years, the Knights of Columbus have increased their support of Special Olympics Idaho. Knights of Columbus members from around the state have volunteered at regional and state games, raised much-needed funds, and have participated in Opening Ceremonies for state competitions. This year, the Knights of Columbus also helped Special Olympics Idaho sell

raffle tickets for the organization's annual car raffle in addition to assisting with other fundraising events, like the Fire Truck Pull and the annual Turkey Day 5K in downtown Boise.



The Knights of Columbus support exemplifies our shared commitment to the dignity of every person, and to the belief that there is a champion inside all of us, waiting to be revealed if given an opportunity.

Special Olympics Idaho is incredibly grateful and blessed by the generous support of the Knights of Columbus and hopes to continue to build on our partnership in 2017 and beyond.

This January 27, Tell the World #WhyWeMarch



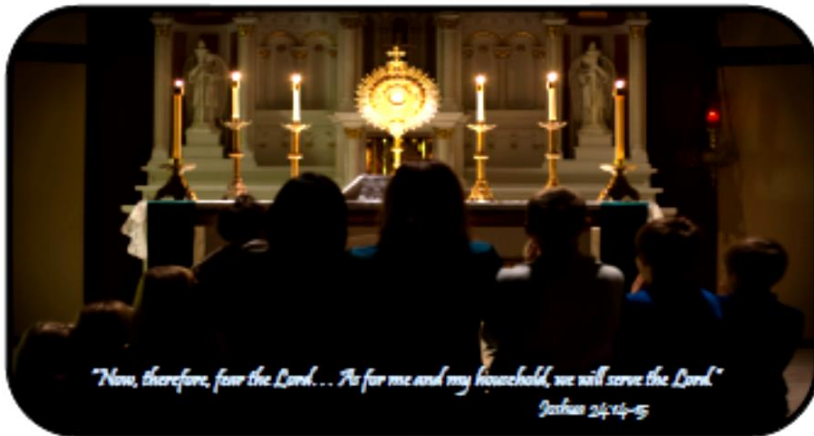
Help make the pro-life message be heard throughout the world by joining in the #WhyWeMarch social media campaign. Upload a photo to Instagram, Facebook or Twitter with the hashtag #WhyWeMarch. You can also follow the pro-life activities of your fellow Knights by tracking the official Knights of Columbus hashtag, #KofC.

No matter which pro-life event you and your brother Knights participate in, don't forget to display your council banners. Also, wear apparel with the K of C emblem and march together as a council.

For more information on the annual March for Life, visit marchforlife.org.

Northwest Catholic Men's Conference

February 24-25, 2017



"Now, therefore, for the Lord... As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord"
Joshua 24:14-15

Speakers:



Most Rev. Thomas Daly
Bishop of Spokane



Most Rev. Darin Gany
Bishop of Baker



Fr. David Mapson, Pastor
Our Lady of Angels,
Hermiston



Fr. Kansas Velazquez,
Pastor St. Mary,
Pendleton



Dave O'Neill, Director
Catholic Center,
University of Idaho

The conference begins Friday at 4:00 pm with registrations and ends Saturday at 5:00 pm with a final blessing. Cost is \$40 and includes 3 meals. Fathers and sons ages 15 and up are welcome.

Registration forms and additional information is available on our website: nwcmtg.com or call St. Mary's Parish (541) 276-3615

Talks

Breakout Sessions

Fraternity

Adoration

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Confessions

La Conferencia comenzará el Viernes a las 4 de la tarde con las inscripciones y terminará el Sábado a las 5 de la tarde con una bendición. El costo es de \$40.00 e incluye 3 comidas. Padres e hijos mayores de 15 años son bienvenidos.

El formulario de registro e información adicional están disponibles en nuestro sitio web: nwcmtg.com o llamando a la Parroquia Santa María al (541) 276-3615.

Pendleton Convention Center — Pendleton, Oregon

SUPPORT YOUR STATE COUNCIL BY PURCHASING WHEELCHAIRS FOR THE NEEDY IN IDAHO'S SISTER STATE

The State Council asks that each Council and Assembly make a donation to help purchase wheelchairs for children in need in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. For those of you who may not know, Jalisco is a "Sister State" of Idaho. These needy children are among the poorest of the poor and come to the clinics to receive some help with their neuromuscular disorders. Although they may receive treatment, they leave the clinics with what they came with, **NOTHING**. We would like to give each child in Guadalajara that needs a wheelchair the gift of mobility. These wheelchairs will change their lives forever.

Last year Idaho Knights provided wheelchairs for veterans and for the Honor Flight program. This year, please consider making a generous contribution toward the purchase of wheelchairs for the needy children in Guadalajara. Consider conducting a "Wheelchair Sunday" program at your local Parish. Every dollar that your council gives will change the life of a child in need.

Contributions can be made to Idaho Knights of Columbus and mailed to State Secretary Shane Gehring. For information on how to conduct a "Wheelchair Sunday" please contact Dan Moberg at (208) 777-1202.



In 2017,
give your family
peace of mind.



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or call 1-800-345-5632

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St. Pius X Council 11623

From: John Webb, FS

St. Pius X was awarded the Star Council 2015-2016 and was presented from State Deputy Mike Townsend to Grand Knight Craig Frei at St. Thomas the Apostle church in Coeur d'Alene on December 11th.



Our knights and their families prepared and served food at our parish's biggest fund raiser, Turkey Bingo, and had a good time! Our parish raised over \$20,000.



Knights from several North Idaho-area councils presented checks totaling over \$7000 to Tesh (<http://teshinc.com/>) and Idaho Special Olympics. Some of the money was raised from our annual Tootsie Roll Drive to help people with intellectual disabilities. Post Falls Council 12560 also raised money by having a very successful golf tournament.



The first picture shows John Webb of Coeur d'Alene Council 11623 presenting checks to Tesh CEO, Frances Huffman. In the back row, left to right are the following knights: Brian Roccapalumbo and Michael Flynn of Rathdrum/Spirit Lake Council 15304, Jim Miller of Kellogg Council 3762, Gordon Ramsden of Coeur d'Alene Council 1363, Jack Thompson of Rathdrum/Spirit Lake Council 15304 and John Webber of Post Falls Council 12560. The second picture is taken with the Idaho Special Olympics representative, Jennifer Ford, and two Special Olympic athletes.

Words of Wisdom

Immediate Past State Deputy - Kerry Hennessy

The Old Year has gone. Let the dead past bury its own dead. The New Year has taken possession of the clock of time. All hail the duties and possibilities of the coming twelve months! Author: Edward Payson Powell

My Brother Knights,

The New Year is upon us and with this new calendar year comes the sense of reinvigoration, renewal, recharge and any other 're' word you can use to recalibrate your Council goals.

The goal that I am referring is your goal of Star Council. The goal is quietly waiting for you to seize. We are half way through the Fraternal year as a Knight and I know that only one Council has attained Star Council status, congratulations BUHL Council!

This past year we have proven that Idaho can achieve Circle of Honor. It is attainable every year, if you are willing to **'..hail the duties and possibilities of the coming six months'**.

Renew your pledge of diligence as a Knight of Columbus and achieve your goal for the New Year. Vivat Jesus!

Pocatello 4th Degree - Christmas Eve

Bishop Gorman Assembly of Pocatello & Chubbuck gathered for the 10:00pm Christmas Eve Mass celebration at St. Anthony's Chapel. L to R: Dave Molitor; Fred Davis; Oliver Samora, Sr.; Arnold Ortiz; Jerry Stroschein; Chris Lochridge; PSD, PDM Dan Anthony; and Commander and IPSD Kerry Hennessy.



Membership Incentives

By: Mike Townsend, Idaho State Deputy

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced at the State Deputy Mid-Year Membership meeting that the Supreme membership incentive program would be renewed for the fraternal year 2016-2017. This program credits each council who achieves the Star Council Award \$4.50 per member. Councils who do not have to pay this per capita charge to Supreme will have that much more money available for council donations to charitable causes. This is another gift of money from Supreme that every council should take advantage of.

The State Council is also offering a membership incentive program for councils. Any council who recruits a new member during the months of January and February will receive a rebate on their state per capita charges. Councils who recruit new members will receive a rebate of \$9.50 for every new member that the council recruits. Winning councils must be current in all their financial responsibilities to the State Council (Ceremonials, Insurance and Per Capita). Those councils who recruit new members in January and February will be issued a check in March for \$9.50 for each new member they recruit.

The previously announced incentive awards for individual Knights remain in force throughout the remainder of this fraternal year. All members recruiting a new member will receive a copy of "Into the Breach" by Bishop Thomas Olmstead of the Diocese of Phoenix. Those who recruit a total of 3 new members will receive a padded deluxe zipper folio containing a solar calculator and the Knights of Columbus logo embossed on it. Those Knights who recruit a total of 6 new members will receive a lightweight jacket with the Knights of Columbus embroidered logo on it. The Knight who recruits the most new members, with a minimum of 10, by April 1, 2017 will receive an all-expense paid trip to the 2017 State Convention which will be held in Lewiston on April 21-23.

As of December 18, 53 Knights have earned a copy of "Into the Breach" and 5 Knights have earned the padded folio. Get yours today!!!! All of these incentives are available to all the Knights and councils of Idaho. Why not take advantage of them and invite a Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus today!!!



Claire Chretien

NEWS ABORTION, CULTURE OF LIFE, FREEDOM Wed Dec 7, 2016 - 2:37 pm EST

BREAKING: 'Nuisance'? Planned Parenthood sues pro-life medical center for using its own property

Planned Parenthood is suing Stanton Healthcare, a life-affirming women's medical clinic, for parking its mobile unit on Stanton's own property next to the abortion center. In an exclusive interview with LifeSiteNews, Stanton Founder and CEO Brandi Swindell explained how this reveals Planned Parenthood's true agenda of restricting women's choices and promoting abortion.

"It's one thing for us to watch Planned Parenthood participate in abortion," said Swindell, a warm, energetic woman. "And then it's one thing for it to go to the next level where they then force us to participate in it by taking our tax dollars to underwrite Planned Parenthood's work. ... That's horrible."

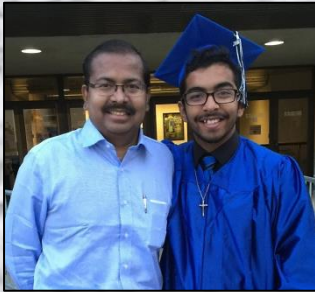
... "it goes to a whole other level, when they are now trying to prevent us from doing good," said Swindell.

State Deputy Notes: This is the RV that the Idaho Knights purchased for Stanton. More reasons to continually pray for legislators to vote to protect religious freedom.

St. Mark's Council 12172 - Boise

From: Bill Kibble

Recently, St. Marks Boise Council 12172, hosted Pancake Breakfast fundraisers for Parish Seminarian-Knight Paul Punnoose and the Coats for Kids program. Knights volunteered countless hours setting up and putting away the table and chairs; buying, cooking and serving the food; washing dishes and clean up.



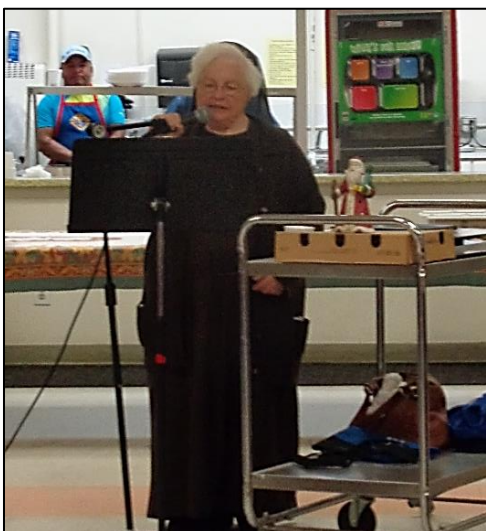
Left to right: Jose Alcantar, Pat Wohlberd and Vincente Hernandez serve a pancake, breakfast fundraiser for the Coats for Kids program.

St. Nicholas Brunch



Members of Pocatello Council 892 with GK Pat Taney spearheading the effort gathered the Holy Spirit youth group December 10th at St. Anthony's parish hall to learn more about the real St. Nicholas and the impact he had on the present day Christmas. Additional thanks to Jose Iniguez, Arnold Ortiz and Bill Haight for their invaluable help.

Sir Knight Ramon Gutierrez reenacting St. Nicholas



Mother Janice of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist with her presentation about St. Nicholas. Sir Knight Pedro Gallegos helping in the kitchen.

GROWTH IS OUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY AND BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH IS ONE TOOL TO ACCOMPLISH THAT TASK

By: John Krsul - State Council Director



Brother Knights, following are some very sobering numbers: 1) in the United States, 1 in 3 knights or 490,000 are over the age of 70 and 14% of these are over the age of 80, 2) in all 54% are over the age of 60, 3) 360,000 knights are under the age of 60 and 24% of these are under the age of 50. In Idaho the mean age of a knight is 58.5 years. Brothers we are an aging order!

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson told the gathered state deputies at the Mid-Year Meeting held in Orlando "Our responsibility as the leaders of the Knights of Columbus is to assure the continued growth and sustainability of our Order. This is our first and primary responsibility". He continued on saying effectively this is a challenge that must be met by recruiting younger men and fathers of young families. Further he explained that our councils need to emphasize programs more relevant of families with young children and we need to use recruitment tools that rely upon enhanced internet and web-based connectivity.

This is a challenge. We surely schedule council activities as we have years of experience at doing this. But can we first identify council activities that respect the more limited time young fathers have to dedicate to volunteer activities and can we schedule council activities in ways that respond to the more limited time young fathers have to participate in activities outside the home?

Furthermore, what enhanced internet and web-based connectivity tools could be used for recruitment?

I am over 70 so I am not much help here. As I ponder these questions I realize these are \$64,000 questions. Given the demographics above most of you will know about \$64,000 questions. Unfortunately that is an excellent example of the situation. As the state council director I challenge all councils to ask members to ponder these challenges, 1) identify programs more relevant of families with young children, 2) use recruitment tools that rely upon enhanced internet and web-based connectivity, and then suggest ideas. I will collect the ideas, compile them, and submit them in the following monthly state newsletters. Please e-mail all ideas/suggestions to me at jbkrsul@cablone.net.

George Keller 187 - Idaho Falls

From: George Mesina

STAR ASSEMBLY

It was announced at its annual 2016 Winter banquet on December 1st that George Keller Assembly 187 qualified for the Star Assembly award in the first year that Supreme made this distinction possible.



Banquet Picture

Back row L-to-R: SK Richard Bingham, Dermot McCaughan, CCC Brian Harris, FP Ron Fernandez, FN George Mesina, State Treasurer Roy Bartholomay, Mark Bybee, SK BJ Berlin.

Second row: Chancellor Mike Farnsworth, Jill Fernandez, Janet Mesina, Darcy Bartholomay, PSD & PDM Dan Anthony, Betsy Krsul, PFN & PDD John Krsul.

Third Row: Juliette Bybee, Nancy Anthony

We also raised \$74.00 for the Chris Johnson Memorial Fund. Chris, the son of Brother Knight Ed Johnson, suffered from PTSD which resulted in his taking of his life. He served in the Special Forces seeing action in Kosovo, and Iraq. At the request of his family, the funds will be donated to Montana Veterans Program. They are building an obstacle course designed to assist veterans suffering from PTSD. A portion of their new obstacle course will be dedicated to Chris's memory.



Knight Blood Drive Volunteers

L to R:
FN George Mesina (coordinator),
SK John Garnier,
John Dunker,
SK Richard Craft (not visible)



Cottonwood Council 1389

A photo of District Deputy #9 Max Nuxoll presenting the Star Award to GK Dan Karel of Cottonwood Council 1389 at Sunday Mass on December 11th in Greencreek, Idaho.



Magic Valley KC's

Gooding #5444 & Jerome #8780

As part of their Keep Christ in Christmas activities, Councils 5444 - Gooding, and 8780 - Jerome purchased 5 billboards in Gooding and Jerome counties. These billboards remained up through the Christmas season. One of these is right in front of the store I manage and it makes me smile every morning. Great job to these councils for reminding us of the "Reason for the Season".

Spencer Uhl - District Deputy #4

On behalf of the Jerome & Gooding councils, Troy and I would like to submit a KC article to the State Council newsletter which demonstrates Christian brotherhood and unity while working to remind our citizens to "Keep Christ in Christmas".

continued on next page

Panhandle Councils

From: Chris Inama and Joseph Zahnle



Bob Ackorman, John Wagner, Gary Seloske, Alan Duff, Eric Forsmann and Rob Groom of Council 4058 in the kitchen preparing to serve the Walk for Life Crowd after the parade in Grangeville, Idaho.



Benito Garcia of Council 4085 walking in the Walk for Life Event in Grangeville, Idaho.



Jim White of Council 4085 serving mashed potatoes at a fundraiser meal in Orofino, Idaho.



Boyde Eberhardt, Tom Pung, Monte Schmidt, Greg Harp, John Morbeck Jr., George Ivory and Paul Frei of Assemblies 1290, Lewiston Idaho; 0182 Moscow Idaho; and 1177 Clarkston, Washington at the 44th annual N/W Regional Special Olympics held in Lewiston, Idaho.

**North
Idaho
Knights in Action**

We also enjoyed support from the statewide KofC and so it is a good example of the power of **UNITY!**

☺ Special thanks to Worthy Financial Secretary, Bob Wunderle who led and drove this effort into reality.

Sincerely,

Mike Mers-Kelly, Gooding Council #5444
Troy Charles, Jerome Council #8780



Two Critical Improvement Areas for America → Keep Christ in Christmas AND UNITY!

True to the spirit of Christmas, two neighboring KofC Councils have worked together in collaboration with the statewide KofC organization to get the message out → **Keep Christ in Christmas!**

The billboard company, Lamar is supportive of our Christian Christmas message and offered a price reduction if we would sponsor 4 or 5 billboards in the surrounding (4) cities in our area. This was a great opportunity, but coming with a challenging price tag.

"United we Stand"! The Jerome & Gooding councils with additional support from the statewide Idaho Knights of Columbus have been able to afford this large scale project. As a result, we now have the following billboards reminding our citizens of the TRUE Reason for the Season: Two billboards in Jerome, One billboard in Gooding, One in Wendell and One in Shoshone.

Unity is sorely needed in our country. It feels great to demonstrate the power of Unity as we work with our brother Knights from the State and with our neighboring KofC council to get this important Christmas message out in FOUR cities with FIVE billboards → "Keep Christ in Christmas!"

Pocatello Council 892 - Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

Grand Knight Pat Taney with the winners.



8-10 winners: Mila Gabiola (far right - 1st);
Nicholas Weick (far left - second place);
Saffron French (in middle - 3rd place).



11-14 winners: Grace Mickelson (far left - 1st);
Amaia Gabiola (in middle - second place);
Cierra Anderson (far right - 3rd place).



The Last Word

Mike Townsend - Idaho State Deputy

Brothers,

Christmas has come and passed. We celebrated the birth of our Savior and have begun a new year. This is a time for new beginnings and we all want to get the year off to a good start. We often make resolutions which we believe will help us in some way. I would like to suggest three resolutions that will help each of us with our daily walk with God.

Spend some time each day talking to God. This is essential to our spiritual well-being. Daily communication with the Almighty ensures that we are aware of the One who protects and keeps us. We should not be ashamed to thank Him for everything that we have and to ask for those things which will bring glory to His name. Please pray for your State leaders of the Knights of Columbus, may everything that we do be for His honor.

Take time to read the Bible. Studying the Sacred Scripture will open our minds to the great lessons that we find contained within. The Bible should serve as a blueprint for the way that we lead our lives. Imagine trying to build a house without looking at the plans. Many "Christians" live their lives without taking the time to study God's plan for them. Remember that God does have a beautiful and perfect plan for each of us.

Increase your charitable footprint. The first lesson of the Knights of Columbus is Charity. Charity comes not only from giving of our financial resources to those in need but also from our actions. Saint James tells us that "faith, if it has no works, is dead." Membership in the Knights of Columbus allows us to live our faith, through works of charity. It should be our desire that all Catholic men join us in our charitable works so that we can do even more good things for our families, Parishes and communities. Take a moment to ask the question, "Are you in the Knights of Columbus?" May God bless us and our families in every way during this New Year. May He hold us close to His heart. May He shine His face upon us and give us peace. I pray that each of us will find joy in our lives in the upcoming year.

Mercy and Peace.

