



**State Deputy
Ceremonials are
important to
delivering our
Order's principles**

By Dave Helmstetter
State Deputy

Ceremonials play an important part in the Knights of Columbus. When delivered efficiently, the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism are impressed upon the member and remain with him for a lifetime. That's the goal of every working degree team as they exemplify our Order's principles.

In Ohio, we need more degree teams at all levels. First, Second, Third and Fourth Degree ceremonialists are needed -- and necessary -- to continue to spread the principles of our Order.

My question to you: have you considered learning a part in one of the degrees? I realize that's a tough question to answer.

Many years ago, I was asked to learn a part in the Third Degree. I had a very natural reply: I didn't think I could memorize the part. The team captain who asked the question said when I was growing up I learned the basic prayers of the Catholic faith, like the *Our Father* and *Hail Mary*, and I would have no problem learning the degree part. He was right. After several months studying, I mastered the part. Later, when my local council formed a First Degree team, I learned yet another part.

My suggestion: try it, you'll like it! That's an old advertising slogan from the 1970s. I encourage district and council leaders to work on forming degree teams and learning

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Ohio State Council
Buckeye Bulletin
Dave Helmstetter - State Deputy
November-December, 2011 2011-2013

St. Clairsville Knights promote badge give-a-way

'It's OK to Say Merry Christmas to Me'

For the second year in a row, The Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Council 4243 in St. Clairsville (Steubenville Diocese) will conduct its Christmas Badge Program for the parishioners of St. Mary's Church. Designed to encourage all Christians to help *Keep Christ in Christmas*, the program was adapted from a national program first developed in 1985 at the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

According to John Swan, Grand Knight of Council 4243, the project consists of a colorful, Christmas season badge which reads, "*It's OK To Say Merry Christmas to Me*". These badges will be offered to St. Mary's parishioners after weekend Masses during December, just as they were last year.

The effort is aimed at countering the always active, pressure of recent decades to have God removed from Christmas, said council Advocate Dick Phillips, who is reinforcing the project with an "opinion"

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Ohio makes membership gains with October Blitz

The October Membership Blitz worked! "We had a great finish to membership recruiting in October," exclaimed State Membership Director Ken Gardner, alias *Ohio Jones*, leader of the *Great Ohio Membership Crusade*. "We finished the month with 165 additions and 77 losses for a net of 88 new members, our best month yet."

For the fraternal year, Ohio as of Nov. 1 stands at 538 additions and 364 losses for a net of 174 new members.

"We are at 21.9% of our Supreme intake quota of 2,500 new members and 10.9% of our net Supreme quota of 1,675," Gardner reported.

Losses – withdrawals, suspensions, deaths – have slowed down the recruitment efforts. So has the fact that 188 Ohio councils have not yet recruited one new member this fraternal year.

As of Nov. 1, the Steubenville Diocese leads Ohio with 52.7% of its Supreme membership quota.

More on Membership – Page 7

It's that time of year to give thanks to those who have done so much

During this time of year we traditionally pause to look back and give thanks to those who have served so well for so long. Many Knights across the State of Ohio richly deserve those thanks.

One of those is Patrick Iacovone, who has served his country, Church and Knights of Columbus for more than 60 years.

"I've enjoyed every year of it," he recently said of his K of C work. "It has kept me going. It has given me something to look forward to each year."

Pat grew up in New York City, graduating from high school in 1938. He applied for,

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State Chaplain

Celebrating the Feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception, the Patron Saint of the USA, with new words, music, and patriotism!

By Fr. Ron Williams

State Chaplain



By the time this article is published, the Church will already have begun its new liturgical year in the season of Advent.

For those of us in the English-speaking world, the Advent Season means a new beginning to something already familiar to us. We have to learn a new translation of the Mass. It will take some time for everyone to get used to these changes. The important thing for us is to speak positively about the new translation and give it our full attention.

Pope John Paul II referred to priests as stewards of the mysteries of God -- that is, stewards of the liturgy and the sacraments. Implementing the new translation of the Mass is a stewardship task that calls upon all Catholics -- regardless of their state in life -- for support in order to be successful.

Some dioceses already have implemented the new musical settings. For others, it means the new translation of the *Gloria* will be sung for the first time on the feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a familiar hymn to us, but, like the rest of the Mass, it will take time for us to get used to the new words and music.

And what a wonderful way for us to adapt to the new Mass translation -- by celebrating the feast day of Mary's Immaculate Conception! We Catholics have had a long-standing tradition of turning to Mary when we need her as a mother. In the city of Rome, Christians often turn to the icon of *Salus Populi Romani* inside the basilica of St. Mary Major when they need her prayers. For centuries, we have had the benefit of the Rosary to help us in difficult situations, especially when confronted with obstacles that seem insurmountable.

There is a wonderful story of Archbishop John-Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati in the mid-1800's. One time when he was returning from a European trip, his ship got caught in a storm in the Atlantic Ocean. As the ship was tossed by the waves, he turned to our Blessed Mother and implored her assistance. He made a promise that if she were to see him home safely, he would build a church in her honor on the highest hill in the city. The Archbishop was true to his promise. He dedicated a church to Mary in honor of the Immaculate Conception, which had recently been proclaimed an infallible dogma. The Church of the Immaculata still stands on Mt. Adams, overlooking downtown Cincinnati.

In time, the Catholic bishops of our country declared Mary, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, to be the patron saint of the United States of America. Each year, Dec. 8 is our country's patronal feast day to invoke our Blessed Mother for her prayers.

We Catholics have a moral obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. In the United States, the feast of the Immaculate Conception is one such Holy Day. But I believe it involves far more than fulfilling an obligation. Celebrating the patronal feast day of our country is the patriotic duty of every Knight of Columbus! We are reminded of the four principles of our Order: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. There is nothing more patriotic than for a Knight or Lady to put into practice his/her Catholic faith!

This year, make Dec. 8 a special day. Instead of complaining, "Oh, this is another day in my busy week I have to go to Mass," remember that our country needs prayers for people serving in the military, affected by the economy, suffering from illness, or just striving to practice their faith on a daily basis. We need to be good stewards of Marian devotion! Together we can be patriotic and ask Mary to pray for us so we can be the best Catholics we can be.

May you and your families have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Matching Funds Campaign ends Nov. 15

The 2011 Matching Funds Campaign officially ended on Nov. 15. Councils and assemblies still can make contributions to the campaign after that date, but they will not be matched by the Ohio State Council.

This year's theme has been *Taking Up His Cross Through Religious Education*, emphasizing the Knights of Columbus' support for strengthening Catholic education in each diocese. Through the program, the Ohio Charity Foundation matches contributions up to the first \$25,000 received before Nov. 15. All funds received go to the religious education office in the diocese that they were collected.

Helmstetter: ceremonials are important

Continued from Page 1

parts in one of our degrees. Degree team participation brings immense personal satisfaction and pride. Participating on one of our degree teams is one of the greatest honors you can achieve as a Knight.

With the First Degree, Supreme Council has provided an opportunity for you. Last year, Grand Knights received a First Degree ceremonial package that included an enlarged script so certain roles could be read, with a recording for the other parts. While you still need the paraphernalia associated with the degree, this makes a First Degree in your council possible. You still need to practice reading the roles and the timing of the recordings, but this is an historic opportunity to do frequent First Degrees in your council or district.

And, if you are considering starting a First Degree team, this is a great way to begin the process. It allows a council to begin to learn the degree and eventually become a certified team with team members memorizing their parts.

The First Degree is not the only ceremonial that has experienced revision. Changes also have taken place with our Third Degree ceremony. The new degree is considerably different than the previous one. Initial reaction has been positive, and I encourage all Third Degree Knights to view the new ceremonial. I especially think your chaplain or parish priest will be impressed with the ceremony.

Here are highlights of the Third Degree changes:

- Degree teams are smaller, consisting of only four team members.
- Class size does not matter. The degree can be done for one or 100.
- Ceremony length is approximately one hour, 20 minutes.
- The degree requires audio visual support.
- The principle remains fraternity, but now the ceremony focuses more on the Eucharist.
- Medallions, which are given to the new Third Degree Knights during the ceremony, must be ordered by local councils from the Supreme Council in advance of the Third Degree and brought to the ceremony.

The Third Degree changes have made scheduling difficult. Team members, especially Conferring Officers, were required to learn new parts.

We want you to think "out of the box" in your scheduling. Traditionally, Third Degrees have taken place on Sunday afternoons. The new Third Degree can be done on any day or evening. In fact, we recently scheduled our first Third Degree on a Monday evening in one district. This date allows us more flexibility in scheduling conferring officers and teams.

But Ohio needs more conferring officers and teams. If there is an interest in your area about forming a Third Degree team, contact State Ceremonial Director Ed Ponder, who will be happy to work with you in forming teams for any degree.

On behalf of the Ohio State Council, I want to also offer our thanks and appreciation for all of Ohio's degree teams, both past and present, and their dedication in conveying our Order's principles.

Supreme K of C website: www.kofc.org

The Buckeye Bulletin

State Chaplain

Fr. Ron Williams
177 Siebenthaler
Reading, OH 45215
Tel: (513) 733-4950
Email: fr.ron@fuse.net

State Treasurer

Robert Collins Jr.
10181 Tracy Trail
Parma, OH 44130-5210
Tel: (440) 888-8909
Email: cllnsbbb@aol.com

Immediate Past State Deputy

Paul Upman
4838 Skipper Ct.
Maumee, OH 43537
Tel: (419) 878-2477
Email: pupman@access Toledo.com

State Deputy

Dave Helmstetter
5421 County Rd. 33A
St. Marys, OH 45885-9658
Tel: (419) 394-1180
Email: dhelmstetter@woh.rr.com

State Advocate

Kevin Miller
1101 Arbor Oaks Lane
Galloway, OH 43119-8507
Tel: (614) 853-2642
Email: km8007@sbcglobal.net

Chief of Staff

James Deime
5734 Shadow Oaks P.
Kettering, OH 45440-2712
Tel: (937) 433-8595
Email: deimej@aol.com

State Secretary

Ken Girt
6433 Lutz Ave. N.W.
Massillon, OH 44646-9341
(330) 837-6670
Email: girtken@sssnet.com

State Warden

Robert Byers
565 Indian Run Rd.
Marietta, OH 45750-6693
Tel: (740) 373-7154
Email: robert_byers@hotmail.com

Buckeye Bulletin Editor

Harding Christ
32649 Surrey Lane
Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642
Tel: (440) 933-8986
Email: harding.c@oh.rr.com

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It's OK to Say Merry Christmas to Me

Following is an "opinion" article written by Our Lady of Peace Council 4243 Advocate Dick Phillips for publication in local newspapers.

Yes, it really is okay to say Merry Christmas to me!

But, how would you know it is really okay, if I didn't tell you?

Although Christians still account for about 86 percent of America's population, the other 14 percent has made significant progress in using the law and extensive lobbying to have God and His Son, Jesus removed from Christmas and other celebrations and events which our country has held dear for centuries.

During my research and writing about the history of Ohio and America's struggle from oppression, to its birth as a free and independent nation, one thing always has been clear: how much God has been a part of everything, and how many things were being done in His name. Unfortunately now, as we begin the 21st century, some people seem to be telling Him we don't need Him anymore. And, they're having far more impact than their 14 percent non-Christian minority deserves.

Nobody can make me believe that is good for America, especially when all one has to do is open their eyes to what is going on around them. Taking Christ out of Christmas is just one example of our deteriorating society.

Have you noticed that, as a Christian celebrating the Christmas season, it takes more energy in recent years? Remember the synergy of spirit which came from everyone wishing each other Merry Christmas? If we are to believe the lawyers and lobbyists of the ACLU, Christians enjoying the Christmas season are doing so at the expense of the 14% of Americans who are non-Christians.

We are a nation of laws, founded on a belief in God, as well as one's right to worship or not worship as one chooses. How is it that a minority can use our judicial process and officers of its court, not just to defend their civil liberty, but to remove God from everyone else's? This has nothing to do with the separation of church and state, but has morphed into some sort of political correctness run amuck. Even many of the nation's retailers and department stores have put their employees on notice that they may not wish customers *Merry Christmas*, only *Happy Holidays*. But yet in a world in which money is paramount, one might ask which part of the total Christmas sales take the retailers prefer to have ... that which comes from the 86%, or the 14%?

Are Christians unfairly treating the minority by forcing the non-Christians to become believers or suffer consequences? I think not. Unfortunately, the non-Christians have proven one thing ... that in America, the squeaky wheel does get the grease, especially when the majority of America remains silent.

Last year, the well-known actor and spokesperson, Ben Stein, had this to say about Christmas on CBS' *Sunday Morning* within a week of the White House's announcement that the annual Christmas Tree would now be known as the *Holiday Tree*:

"I am a Jew and every one of my ancestors was Jewish. It does not bother me one little bit when people call those beautifully lit up, bejeweled trees, "Christmas Trees". I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are: Christmas Trees.

"It doesn't bother me one bit when people say "Merry Christmas" to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu. If people want a crèche, it's just as fine as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away.

"I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from, that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it being shoved down my throat. A lot of us are wondering where the America we knew went to, and why we aren't allowed to worship God as we understand Him."

Last year our St. Clairsville Council 4243 found a simple way for any one of the Christian majority to silently prompt a Merry Christmas Greeting from another. We adapted an idea which was first developed in the 1980's at Knights of Columbus headquarters in Connecticut, the "*It's Okay to Say Merry Christmas to Me*." badge. These were handed out to parishioners after the Masses at St. Mary's Church last December. The response to the program was so positive that we ran out of badges and have decided to do the program again this year. Grand Knight John Swan coordinates the program. He can be reached at swansportshop@sbcglobal.net.

Ohio State Council website: www.kofcoho.org



Displaying the "It's OK to Say Merry Christmas to Me" badges are (from left) Council 4243 Trustee Marty Schumacher, St. Mary's Parish Pastor Fr. Thomas Chillog, and Council 4243 Grand Knight John Swan.

Knights helping to keep Christ in Christmas

Continued from Page 1

article in local newspapers.

"Today the fear of not being politically correct has become a tool through which some persist in trying to take Christ out of Christmas and God out of everything else," said Grand Knight Swan. "Department store clerks are afraid to say Merry Christmas for fear of getting reprimanded, if not fired. The world has been way out of balance for some time. Considering that about eighty-six percent of Americans are Christian, it's amazing how passive we've become."

For more information about the badge project, contact Swan at swansportshop@sbcglobal.net.

It's time to gear up for Measure-Up with 'Gimme Five' portion of campaign

By Bob Byers, State Warden

2012 State Measure-Up Chairman

It may only be 2011, but it's time to kick off the 2012 Measure-Up Campaign.

This is the time of year that council Financial Secretaries are preparing dues notices that will be sent to members. That dues notice will include a voluntary request for the member to donate to the Measure-Up "Gimme Five" program (which was established several years ago asking members to donate \$5.00 – or more – when paying their annual dues).

The \$5.00 that members donate will be added to Measure-Up collections that will be done next April and May – and which will help the special people of Ohio.

When members make a contribution, they will be given a "Gimme Five" sticker attached to the 2012 Knights of Columbus membership card.

During the collection phase of Measure-Up, each year rulers are given to those persons in the community who make a contribution. District Deputies already should have determined the number of rulers needed by councils in his district. If a council has not yet been approached for this count, the Grand Knight should contact his District Deputy and give him the information. Rulers and 2012 Measure-Up Campaign materials will be given to District Deputies in February.

Official 2012 Measure-Up collection dates are April 26-28 and May 3-5.

Ohio K of C scholarship program is under way

The 2011-2012 Ohio Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program is under way, and winners and their schools will be notified by mail no later than Dec. 20. Deadline for submitting applications was Nov. 15, according to Past State Deputy Dennis Shonebarger, Scholarship Chairman.

At least 30 scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded to Catholic students throughout Ohio to aid in paying their high school tuition assessments.

Youngstown Diocese bishop praises Knights, issues challenges

The following is an article reprinted from the Youngstown Diocese newspaper, the Catholic Exponent, written by Most Rev. George V. Murry, S.J., Bishop of the Youngstown Diocese.

One of the most active organizations in our diocese and across our country is the Knights of Columbus. The Knights were founded in 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney, who is presently being considered for sainthood. Because Christopher Columbus symbolized the Catholic of the New World, the Knights proudly proclaimed him as their patron and adopted his name.

The Knights of Columbus was established for three reasons.

First, it functioned as a Catholic fraternal organization for immigrant men. Fraternal organizations were very common during the 19th century, offering men and women an opportunity to socialize in a healthy atmosphere and focus attention on particular interests, such as social work. Fr. McGivney wanted to provide immigrant Catholic men with a parish-based organization where they could enjoy each other's company while at the same time deepen their faith.

Second, as a young priest ministering to an expanding immigrant community in New Haven, Connecticut, Fr. McGivney grew concerned about the financial plight of widows and their families. In order to reduce that financial burden, the Knights initiated a Catholic insurance company which provided all forms of insurance at a reasonable cost.

Third, the Knights desired to assist the bishops in protecting the faith of Catholic immigrants in the face of widespread anti-Catholic nativism. Between 1820 and 1920, nearly 17 million Catholics emigrated to the United States. In response to this Catholic influx, mainline Protestant denominations launched a series of home mission campaigns intended to convert Catholics. Financed through funds from national treasuries, home missionaries initiated contact with Catholics at the landing docks, where they provided them with emergency services. In immigrant neighborhoods themselves, missionaries offered the newcomers employment counseling, recreational materials and spiritual consolation, all with the hope that they would join the Protestant church. The Knights were a strong bulwark against these efforts, supplying their own social services while inviting Catholics to remain close to the Church.

During the last 100 years, the Knights of Columbus has been responsible for a number of projects that continue to contribute to the advancement of the faith. For example, the

Knights offer dioceses funds for the education of seminarians. They built a library for Vatican films at the University of St. Louis, and many of the programs from the Vatican that we see on EWTN are underwritten by the Knights. The Order's Vicarius Christi Foundation yields more than \$2 million annually for the pope's private charities. With over 1.5 million members and nearly \$20 billion in insurance, the Order contributes approximately \$100 million annually to charitable projects around the world, which is accompanied by almost 200 million hours of volunteer work by the Knights themselves.

In recent times, the Knights have turned their attention on two important areas: vocations to the priesthood and the protection of unborn human life. In light of the numerous legal threats to the life of the unborn and the need for more priests to serve the people of God, both of these focal points are crucial.

At the same time, however, I want to add one more challenge for the 21st century, one which harkens back to the reason why the Knights were founded.

A study conducted by *USA Today* found that only 49% of Catholics said that religion was "very important" in their lives. That number was higher than that for mainline Protestants, of whom only 16% said that religion was "very important" in their lives, but dramatically below African American Protestants at 85% and European American evangelicals at 79%.

Given those numbers, I first want to encourage young men in the Diocese of Youngstown to join the Knights of Columbus. As a strong Catholic organization, the Knights have made an outstanding contribution to the life of the Church in the United States. They need new, young members to carry on that mission. I hope that young men reading this column will give serious thought to the Knights and contact a local council about joining.

Second, I want to urge the Knights in our diocese to work with our priests, deacons and lay leaders to inspire a renaissance of faith among our Catholic people. By actively promoting the faith in what they say and do, the Knights can participate in the New Evangelization which is so needed and become living examples of a commitment to the Gospel as were the first Knights of the 19th Century.

The Lord has richly blessed our country and our diocese through the work of the Knights of Columbus. Much has been accomplished, but there is much to do. I pray that the Knights will continue to promote vocations and defend all human life from conception to natural death. I also hope that they will share their faith with those who either do not know the Lord or who have forgotten the sound of his voice.

In those ways the dream of Fr. McGivney will flourish and we will journey farther On the Road to Jerusalem.

Two turn-ins are available to send Pennies for Heaven contributions

By Ken Girt, State Secretary
State Pennies for Heaven Chairman

Our annual Pennies for Heaven campaign continues and we encourage all councils to take up the challenge of collecting funds to Support Our Seminarians and to help foster vocations in our diocese. There is an opportunity to send in your collections on two turn-in dates. The 1st phase turn-in is requested by Dec. 15, and the Final Phase contributions will be due by next April 1.

Please use the special forms that were recently sent to all Grand Knights. Simply cut-off the bottom section, complete and send with your check. Then use the second section of the form for the Final Turn-in. Send your form and your check to: *Ken Girt, State Secretary, 6433 Lutz Ave., NW, Massillon, OH 44646*. If you have misplaced the form, please email me at girtken@sssnet.com and I will send you one.

And we all can continue to support our seminarians in three other ways:

- One is by prayer. We encourage all councils to say a special prayer for vocations at council meetings.
- The second is to write Christmas cards to seminarians from your community. Contact your diocesan vocation office for the addresses of the seminarians you wish to send a card. Have council members sign the card after one of your meetings.
- The third is council participation in the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), whereby funds are donated for the support of seminarians. For a \$500 donation, Supreme Council will refund to the council/assembly \$100.

Remember that your vocation activity may be claimed under the Church Activities Program of the "Take Up His Cross" State Program.

Quote . . .

"Please help a future priest in your diocese."

. . . Unquote

Pennies for Heaven Chairman State Secretary Ken Girt

Fourth Degree

Ohio sweeps Hennepin Province awards

By George Dann, PSD, Michigan Jurisdiction
Vice Supreme Master

My Brother Knights and Sir Knights of the great Jurisdiction of Ohio:

It is my pleasure to bring greetings from the leadership of the Fr. Louis Hennepin Province, comprised of Sir Knights of Michigan and Ohio.

Every year the assemblies compete in District contests, and this year Ohio made it a clean sweep by winning all three categories. The best entries in each District are sent to me (the Vice Supreme Master). I then select a winner for the Province, and forward the entry to Supreme for International competition.

In the *To Be A Patriot* Award, I am proud to announce that the Provincial winner this fraternal year is Ohio's Most Holy Rosary Assembly 2170 (Faithful Navigator Gary Beal 2010-2011) in Ohio District 2 (PFN Richard Tabler, Master). The assembly is located in the Cincinnati Diocese.

While Most Holy Rosary Assembly did not win at the Supreme level, it is to be congratulated on a great theme and great enthusiasm in its efforts to make a difference in their community.

Likewise, we also conduct competitions in the categories of Sir Knight of the Year and Best Newsletter of the Year.

The Province Newsletter of the Year Award also was presented to Most Holy Rosary Assembly 2170 in Ohio's District 2. Congratulations to the editor and staff.

And I congratulate Sir Knight Cristino Damo, of Columbian Martyrs Assembly 2380 in Ohio's Columbus Diocese (District 3, PFN Charles Giametta, Master), who is our Hennepin Province Sir Knight of the Year. Congratulations to Cristino for earning the respect of his assembly, district and province. His efforts on behalf of his Church, community and the Knights of Columbus are appreciated by all.

Ohio State Council Training Program

Expert help is available to assist with technical computer questions

By Terry Cooney

State Training Coordinator

The training initiative in the *Take Up His Cross* program is designed to help councils to “be all that you can be”. As described in the September-October issue of the Buckeye Bulletin, information has been gathered from supreme, state and local resources as well as personal experiences in order to provide council officers, program directors, membership teams, financial secretaries, and Fourth Degree assembly comptrollers with the information and tools to enable them to efficiently and effectively execute the responsibilities of their office.

In the last issue, we described the state-developed training modules for council officers, program directors and membership teams. In this issue, we will focus on some of the additional resources of training for the membership team, financial secretaries, assembly comptrollers and program directors.

Since the last issue of the Buckeye Bulletin, two additional resources have become available to supplement the State Program. Our Supreme Consultant, former Kentucky State Deputy Dannie Harris, has offered to provide to all our councils his thoughts and experiences regarding membership growth. Initial sessions were scheduled for the Cincinnati Diocese in early November, with the goal being for PSD Harris to visit each of the diocesan areas.

The financial secretaries and comptrollers always have been key elements in the successful operation of a council or assembly. To reduce the workload of these positions, Supreme Council rolled out the computer-based Member Management Application. This is a powerful software program that facilitates many of the activities of the financial secretary and comptroller.

To ensure that council financial secretaries and assembly comptrollers are getting the maximum benefit from the program, Brother Craig Modrzynski, from Supreme, will hold a series of training programs throughout Ohio. Locations and times of these sessions already have been promulgated. In addition, at the state level, we have established a system trainer in each of the dioceses who is available to assist the financial secretaries and comptrollers in each diocese with any problems or additional training as required. These Brother Knights are: Dan Tebbe and Jim Klatte, Cincinnati Diocese; Nick Gresko, Cleveland Diocese; Chip Stalter, Columbus Diocese; Dave Schramm, Steubenville Diocese; Ray Darr, Toledo Diocese, and Sal Gentile, Youngstown Diocese. Please use their expertise!

Finally, the goal of the *Take Up His Cross* State program is to go paperless as much as possible. A great deal of work has gone into the Ohio State Council’s website in order to facilitate the submittal of state program reports online. If this emphasis on computer reporting is presenting a challenge to any council program director, don’t hesitate to ask for help. Brother Knights Jerry Lowry, Larry Droesch or I are available to assist you with your problems. While no formal training sessions are planned at this time, assistance is always there for the asking.

Please remember that all of these sessions are being made available in order to make your jobs easier and to enhance the success of your Council. Let me re-emphasize my commitment to travel anywhere in the State of Ohio to assist any council in need.

Leetonia Council celebrates centennial

Leetonia Council 1569 (Youngstown Diocese) celebrated its 100th Anniversary last June 4 with festivities that began with a “Grand Knights’ Reception” in the afternoon – hosted by Grand Knight Brian Beck – and culminated by a Grand Knights’ Banquet in the evening. In between, a Centennial Mass was celebrated by Leetonia Council Chaplain, Fr. Bernard Mlapah, at St. Patrick’s Church, assisted by Deacon Larry Pasko, a council member, with Fourth Degree Sir Knights in regalia participating. Following Mass, just as the new council members did 100 years ago, the Knights sang *Holy God We Praise Thy Name*.

A number of dignitaries were among the diners, including Past State Deputies Larry Moegling, Baci Carpico and John Welch, and their wives, Mary Lou, Bernadette and Lydia, respectively. The names of the 81 original charter members were read, as well as those who have served as Grand Knight of the council. Eight Past Grand Knights were present for the celebration. State Secretary Ken Girt presented Grand Knight Beck with a certificate from Supreme Council commemorating the centennial of Leetonia Council.

Ohio’s Top 10 Councils in Programming

Following are Ohio’s Top 10 Councils statewide as of Nov. 1, 2011. They reflect the number of reports completed by each council listed, but do not include tie-breakers.

	Council	Location	Dio.	Pts.
1	Fr. Sheldon Kelly 11224	W. Jefferson	Colb	1075
2	Mother Teresa 14344	Oregon	Tole	1025
3-5 (tie)	Leetonia 1569	Leetonia	Youn	975
3-5 (tie)	Garfield 4130	Garfield Heights	Clev	975
3-5 (tie)	St. Charles 14995	Kettering	Cinn	975
6	Lancaster 1016	Lancaster	Colb	950
7-8 (tie)	St. John of Beverly 4617	Waterford	Steu	925
7-8 (tie)	North Olmsted 4731	North Olmsted	Clev	925
9-10	Marian 3813	Campbell	Youn	900
9-10	Fr. Maruskin 10936	Stow	Clev	900

State General Program Director

Some reminders to reduce errors, oversights

By Larry Droesch

State General Program Director

We just closed out the second period of the Programming Year. We are getting good reports and more reports ... that are great! However, here are some reminders that I hope will help councils reduce some errors and oversights:

1. Please only report TWO program steps per reporting period. This will only help you spread out your activities throughout the entire year and keep your members active during the whole year, not just for the first half. Plus, this can cause you to have late reports in the second half of the Reporting Year!
2. Please make sure to report the correct description with the correct step number. Many councils, for example, are reporting a “Council” step number (activity) under “Church”. Or they are reporting the description of one step number under a step number that is totally different (i.e. reporting the description of Step 3 under Step 6).
3. Please provide details with your reports. Many councils lack any semblance of details and specificity. Don’t rush through them just to complete the chore. You sell your council short by just typing in a sentence or two.
4. Please remember that for the Membership Program this year, YOU MUST bring in at least ONE new member with each Step (activity) under Membership, except for “Zero Suspensions” or “1 for 1”.
5. Please re-read the program steps. Since this year’s program steps are mostly different from last year, you cannot assume that the step numbers and requirements are the same.

I have had several questions on the new requirements or guidelines for the Star Council. The Star Council and the Ohio State Dynamic General Program are two separate Programs! The only two similarities are that you can use some of the activities (by name) you did in each of the program areas for the State, and write them in on the Supreme’s Columbian Award Form, as an activity that you completed in that programming area. The second similarity is that you do the activities throughout the year to keep your council members active and to bring in new members ... you just have to report the State’s online and Supreme’s on the Columbian Award Form.

One of the new guidelines for the Star Council is that you can also report just ONE activity in a reporting area instead of reporting four. Therefore, if you want to do that activity IN ADDITION to the steps (activities) in the State Program, feel free to do so, but report it under one of your Council Choices if you want to get points for it. I know this can be confusing, so if you need more explanation, please call me 937-383-3680 and I will be happy to discuss it with you.

Finally, remember that the Top Ten and State Program rankings are without tie breakers calculated. The tie breakers will be calculated in at the end of the Program Year (April 15).

Divinity is a new Catechism game

Brunswick Council 4847 (Cleveland Diocese) has a game to sell. It’s called DIVINITY: The New Catechism Game, created by religious educators as a teaching tool for the home, parish and classroom, according to Jim Maslach, of Brunswick Council. Questions and answers contained in the game were composed by Catholic theologians. It has been made available to members of the Brunswick Council, and can be obtained by others. For more information, contact Maslach at (440) 785-9838, or email him at maslachj@frontier.com. Cost of the game is \$5.00.

Knights of Columbus Insurance

Different life stages, changing needs

By James Valent, General Agent

State Insurance Liaison

Paying for College for your children may be one of your family's current needs Or you may be concerned about a comfortable, worry-free retirement Or you may wonder if needing costly long-term care will deplete your hard-earned assets (you want to have something to leave for your wife, children or grandchildren).

At some point you may have had all of these needs on your mind. Over time, these thoughts make way for others as your needs evolve. Your finances change and you get older. What is important to you at your current age may not be important in 10, 20, or 30 years.

What is the best way to be prepared for these changes before they happen?

One of the easiest ways to be financially ready for changes that come with different life stages is to meet annually with your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, and address the needs that his professional analysis uncovers. This can help you be ready to face the financial challenges and issues on the road ahead.

During this annual visit, which every agent is required to make, he'll take the time to review your needs, goals and budget. He'll update all beneficiaries on your policies and be sure your coverage meets your needs. If appropriate, he'll recommend a program of life insurance, long-term care insurance, comprehensive disability insurance, and GUARANTEED interest and income annuities that will help you rest easy at night.

Whatever your needs, whatever your concerns, whatever your stage in life, you can TRUST the Knights of Columbus.

Pro-Life Activities

Knights' commitment has been gratifying; Annual March for Life in Washington coming up

By Gary Anderson, *State Pro-Life Activities Director*

Thanks to the many councils that have stepped up their Pro-Life commitment in light of the increasing attacks on sacred human life, especially during Respect Life month in October. It is gratifying to hear of the countless hours and tireless dedication of so many Brother Knights and their families and friends in standing up against the assault on our most defenseless brothers and sisters.

With the 39th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., fast approaching in January, I'd like to invite any councils or parishes that are sponsoring bus trips to pass the details on to me for posting to the Pro-Life page of the Ohio State Council website. Participation in the March, or a local rally, satisfies Step #43 of the state Pro-Life Activities program. Also, now is the time to begin planning for a January pro-life essay contest (see Step #47 of the state Pro-Life Activities program for more details).

Finally, you have probably heard by now of a so-called rift in the pro-life movement in Ohio over the pending legislation H.B. 125, also known as the Heartbeat Bill. If passed by the Ohio Senate and signed by Governor Kasich, it would outlaw all abortions in Ohio upon detection of a fetal heartbeat by an ultrasound machine. Some of the venerable right to life organizations have been actively opposing it since it takes a different tack from their strategy of incremental progress over the past 38 years and 50 million terminated lives.

However, upon close inspection of the details of the pending bill, most people find that the objections to it are groundless. You can decide for yourself by visiting the following webpage: <http://www.heartbeatbill.com/images/QandA.pdf>.

State Council Activities Program

Shining Armor: a prestigious award

By Joe Mackos, *State Council Activities Director*

How many of our councils are taking part in the Shining Armor Award program?

It's certainly not expensive. It costs the council \$3.00 for a lapel pin, 25 cents for a Certificate of Recognition, no charge for Qualification Cards, and no charge for a Shining Armor Flyer. A new member receiving this award will remember it for a lifetime.

Here are the qualifications that a new member needs to receive the award:

1. Be involved in at least (3) three council service programs.
2. Attend at least (3) three council business meetings.
3. Receive his Second and Third Degrees.
4. Meet with his council's insurance representative, or general agent.
5. Recruit at least (1) one new member.

Ohio Knights . . .

Taking Up His Cross

The goal of this Buckeye Bulletin feature is to incorporate activities that Ohio Knights and Ohio Councils do throughout the fraternal year. We invite councils to send information for inclusion in this feature. Send to: Harding Christ, Editor, Buckeye Bulletin, 32649 Surrey Lane, Avon Lake, OH 44012-1642. Email: harding.c@oh.rr.com. Councils that submit articles for the Buckeye Bulletin can claim credit for Public Relations Activities Program Step #30.

For a second straight year, Oktoberfest Wilmington (Cincinnati Archdiocese) set a fundraising record, thanks to the Fr. O'Donoghue Council 3369 Knights of Columbus in that city. The event was sponsored by the K of C council, raising \$11,376 which will go toward a new playground in Wilmington that will be fully accessible for wheelchairs and for children with low-muscle tone.

"A huge thank-you to the Knights of Columbus and to the amazing leadership of Bob Gomez and Dave Ruther (both Knights)," said Barry Wulf, this year's non-profit recipient, Little Hearts, Big Smiles of Southwestern Ohio. Gomez was committee chairman and Ruther is Grand Knight of the council.

This year's festival was the 12th Annual Ocktoberfest in Wilmington presented by the Knights council.

Knights in the Cleveland Diocese joined a Mass of Thanksgiving and Remembrance celebrated at Resurrection Cemetery, Valley City, on Oct. 29 for members of the K of C who have passed away, and then were treated to dinner at St. Ambrose Parish, Brunswick. Celebrant was St. Ambrose Pastor Fr. Robert Stec, chaplain of Brunswick Council 4847. The Mass was sponsored by the Cleveland Diocese Catholic Cemeteries Association Fr. Ed Littelmann, a former State Chaplain and current Chaplain of St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Council 14155, Toledo, has retired as pastor of St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Parish. Knights of the council honored him at a recent meeting Knights from Msgr. Dury Council 505, Zanesville, helped host a riverboat outing last August for a group of veterans from the Chillicothe VA Hospital Fr. Vincent Capodanno Assembly 3019, Lorain County, provided new service caps to veterans at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky Medina Council 4168 Knights have taken over the job of parking cars at Sunday Masses, saving the parish approximately \$5,000 a year. Council members also helped build a new cabin at Camp Paradise, a camp for adults and children with special needs Msgr. Lang Council 1039, Defiance, recently held its Annual Lay Ministers Appreciation Dinner to honor Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, Altar Attendants and Choir members.

Some members of St. Brendan Council 11208, Hilliard, planned a trip to Joplin, Mo., to help with tornado relief Another trip is planned for next February Urbana Council 1727 sponsored a Car Show, raising \$3,000 for charity.

Knights of St. Denis Council 1756, Versailles, honored one of their members, Fr. Joe Grilliot, upon his ordination in September. The council also was notified by Supreme that seminarian Eric Wood has received the Bishop Tomas Daily and Fr. Michael McGivney Vocational Scholarships Last July, Duane Barga stepped down as St. Denis financial secretary. Over the last 58 years he's held most all council leadership offices, and served as a District Deputy Knights of St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Council 14155, Toledo, volunteered with the University of Toledo concessions On Sunday, Sept. 11, Knights of William Ankney Council 13601, Loudonville, dedicated a new flagpole on the church grounds.

Port Clinton Council 1750 Knights held a Perch, Peach, Pierogi and Polka Festival to raise funds for charities Our Lady of the Light Council 14891, Kettering, participated in the Kettering Holiday at Home Parade on Sept. 5 Fr. Butler Council 968, Hamilton, staffed the pro-life booth at the Butler County Fair, participated in the July 4 Hamilton parade, and celebrated River Days in September, staffing the food tent serving Dam Dogs, Dam Burgers and Dam Fries. Proceeds went to the council's Education Foundation and for scholarships Charles Reymann Council 4664, Akron, held a PGK Corn and Sausage Roast last August. Twelve Past Grand Knights were in attendance.

Mantua is site for 2012 Ohio K of C Campout

The 2012 Ohio Knights of Columbus Campout will be at Roundup Lake RV Resort in Mantua (Youngstown Diocese), according to Chairman Lou Drouhard. It will be held during the weekend of July 26-29.

Drouhard said more information will be announced when it is finalized by the campout committee and the Portage County Chapter. Roundup Lake RV Resort is located at 3392 St. Rt. 82, Mantua, OH 44255. Interested campers can call at (330) 562-9101 (or cell phone 239-961-9101), asking for Lori or Charity. The office hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Ohio State Council Membership as of November 1, 2011

Diocese	Quota	Year to Date Gain	Year to Date Loss	Net	Percent of Quota	Needed
Cincinnati	435	116	90	+26	6%	409
Cleveland	301	117	31	+86	28.6%	215
Columbus	262	125	113	+12	1.6%	250
Steubenville	74	41	2	+39	52.7%	35
Toledo	401	81	95	-14	-3.5%	415
Youngstown	202	58	33	+25	12.4%	177
TOTALS	1,675	538	364	+174	10.4%	1,501

Membership Retention

Don't lose touch with your council members

By Jim Klätte

State Retention Director (South)

Onward we move ... Part of our closing song. How often do we go to get that man and his family to join our Order? At last we have convinced that son that it is his time to step in and help those less fortunate the soldier, sailor, marine or airman who eagerly joined our ranks just before shipping off from home with hopes that we pray for him in his hour of need the neighbor and parishioner who we told what a great organization we belong to, and we built his enthusiasm to join our Order and share at joy helping our fellow man and his family.

Then out of the blue something happened: a job loss, illness, death, or some other calamity. We lost touch with this Brother and he lost touch with us. He may have transferred or found himself in a situation uncomfortable to share with his brother Knights. Or he may have reached out to us, only to be shut out by a conceived slight. And he left us.

Many men leave and still consider themselves Brother Knights because they listen to the words of our ceremonials and take them seriously.

How do we reach out to them and how do they contact us? This is the essence of retention.

Too many times we find that the brother will get a pass on his annual dues and not a phone call to find out where he is or how can we help. Often there may be a disagreement with the council leadership or a lack of interesting activities that the Brother would attend.

Retention starts when the Brother becomes interested in joining our Order and your council. Do you have programs that he is willing and able to join in? The State Programs offer many opportunities to help fulfill any man's and family's needs. Do the activities include the family? Do they get the family involved? Younger men and families have precious little time to spend on things that do not enjoin the whole family. We need and must make sure that your council promotes the fact that the K of C is a family, fraternal organization and not just a men's society.

Just as we are mindful of our Brother's needs, we must be mindful of his spirit. How many times have we tried to call the Brother and talk with him about dues or any other issue, only to be shut out -- or worse, not even heard. Some councils seem to turn the phone off when they cannot connect with the Brother.

There are other methods. If a Brother has a situation that is clearly something he doesn't want to talk with Brother Knights, perhaps the Council Chaplain may step in and see if he can help. It is surprising how many Brothers talk with their pastors and never with their Brother Knights about issues that hold them back.

When it's known that a Brother is moving from the area, does the council provide him with some basic information, such as where can he transfer his membership? Perhaps a contact at his new address, and even a Form 100 to take with him to transfer. It's surprising to find out how many out-of-state Brothers are in one's parish and we haven't reached out to them. Your Field Agent has a list of all current insured members and can provide your council with helpful information on how to touch bases with the Brother.

If the Brother becomes disabled, there is definitely no reason to suspend his membership. Form 1831 from Supreme, and information from his doctor, will relieve the council of its obligation to pay per capita for the Brother.

But more than that, what are we as councils doing to encourage this Brother to stay as active in the council as possible?

Communication is the key to most issues when it comes to the question of retention. Have we effectively tried to contact the Brother? Has the Brother given the council a current phone number or e-mail address? It is extremely difficult to make a contact when the contacts are lost. We all owe ourselves that obligation to keep in touch.

How about our seniors who cannot make it to meetings? Can't we send a Christmas card to them? Retention Committees can do a lot to help in this area.

Ohio Jones is Looking for Success Stories

Each day our state membership director, Ohio Jones, looks at the Supreme Council Membership Report to see what councils in Ohio are helping to grow the Order. Several councils this fraternal year have gone on very successful *crusades* and have found the *treasures* of a new member. How do these councils do it? Where are they looking for the *treasure* of a new member? What programs are they holding to bring the *treasure* to them?

Ohio Jones wants to know, so he can inform other Ohio councils how they, too, can be an important part of the *Great Ohio Membership Crusade*.

If your council has had a successful membership recruitment effort, write a short story on how this was done and send it to Ohio Jones at kpgardner@fuse.net. This story may be featured in an upcoming article of the *Buckeye Bulletin*, or published in the next *Leader Line*. Don't be shy; let me know what you are doing to stand out with membership recruitment.

Use spiritual programs to aid recruiting

By Ken Gardner, State Membership Director

Our councils in Ohio use many types of programs to recruit men to join our Order. Some use sports programs, such as softball teams, golf leagues or bowling; many have excellent social programs such as dinners, dances, parties, and speakers' programs; others use the advantages of a K of C hall/clubroom to recruit.

While these are powerful recruiting tools, I often wonder if we offer enough spiritual programs to help men grow in their faith and want to be part of this Catholic organization.

When recently attending baptisms, I was surprised that at two of them, both godparents were female. Are we men not prepared enough in our faith to be trusted with the Christian growth of a young child?

The Church Drive often shows that we are active in the parish and are present at the celebration of the Eucharist. But is this enough?

Based on reports I have received, some councils really understand how important it is to help men grow in their faith with special programs. Here are a few ideas I have seen: retreats open to the parish; praying the rosary before masses; leading bible studies or prayer groups.

These programs, when led by the Knights of Columbus, can send a strong message to the parish that we are foremost Catholic and want to help others become better Disciples of Christ.

Drawings held for First Quarter recruitment

Drawings for First Quarter Incentive prizes were held at the Greater Cincinnati Chapter meeting on Nov. 2. The drawings were held for the recruitment efforts from July 1 to Sept. 30.

- There were 672 Recruiters and New Members in the drawing for a 2012 Four Pack of Season Passes to all Cedar Fair theme parks. The winner was new member David C. Hardgrove, of Rev. William Spikeman Council 671, Marion (Columbus Diocese). He was recruited by his father, Tim Hardgrove.
- There were 49 councils that brought in at least three members during July-September. They were in a drawing for \$100. Winner was Msgr. Kuenle Council 5239, in McCartyville-St. Patrick in the Cincinnati Archdiocese. The Grand Knight is Jerry McEldowney.
- There were 11 District Deputies who reached 25% of their District Membership Quota during July-September. They were in a drawing for \$200. The winning District Deputy was DD-42, Cristino Damo, from the Columbus Diocese.

Diocesan Top 3 Councils in Membership as of Nov. 1, 2011

Cincinnati Diocese			Cleveland Diocese		
Council	Location	Net	Council	Location	Net
Holy Name of Jesus 15330	Trenton	29	Gilmore 310	Mayfield Hts.	14
St. Michael's 3382	Cincinnati	6	North Olmsted 4731	North Olmsted	13
St. Joseph of 3 Rivers 11550	North Bend	5	Geauga 3304	Chardon	9
Columbus Diocese			Steubenville Diocese		
Council	Location	Net	Council	Location	Net
St. Brigid of Kildare 10863	Dublin	12	Bishop Watterson 1405	Ironton	14
Lancaster 1016	Lancaster	10	Bellaire 1246	Bellaire	7
Rev. Wm. Spikerman 671	Marion	9	Marietta 478	Marietta	5
			St. John of Beverly 4617	Beverly	5
Toledo Diocese			Youngstown Diocese		
Council	Location	Net	Council	Location	Net
Ray McKowen 1362	Delphos	8	Mantua 3766	Mantua	9
East Toledo 14344	Toledo	8	Leetonia 1569	Leetonia	7
Van Wert 6034	Van Wert	6	Geneva-Madison 5286	Geneva	6

'Mission Possible'

We're on the lookout for special agents to help achieve success in 2012 \$1 million Charity Campaign goal

By Bob Collins, State Treasurer
Chairman, 2012 State Charity Campaign

Be advised that I am on the lookout for some special Charity Agents at all the local councils throughout the State of Ohio to help with a mission of Charity.

The mission, if acceptable, will be to raise charitable dollars that will benefit the many worthy causes in the communities, councils and parishes across Ohio. The goal will be \$1,000,000 in the sale of Super Cash Bonanza Charity Raffle Tickets. The outlook is positive and it is a "Mission Possible".

Many who have chaired the Super Cash Bonanza campaign in the past have tried to obtain this lofty goal. I have called upon each and every one of them, and am asking them for their advice. Even with the knowledge of those who have gone before me, I will need the support of **everyone** in **all** councils throughout Ohio. If this mission is to be a success, we all need to **partner together** to make this a "Mission Possible" for charity in Ohio.

I have been in contact with my predecessors -- Junior Big Bucks, The Nutty Professor, Howdy Partner, and Mr. Ben Cartwright himself -- to help formulate the plan for the mission ahead. If everyone agrees and is willing to work together on this mission I will explain everything about the mission to you and all the other Top and Secret Agents during the weekend of Feb. 17, 18 and 19.

I will soon be contacting all of the Top Agents at the councils in Ohio with ways to help make our mission a success. Remember: the mission is to raise \$1,000,000 for charity in Ohio. And it is a "Mission Possible".

Oh yes, I almost forgot: The name's Cash -- *Super Cash*. Agent #1,000,000.

Thanking those who have served so well

Continued from Page 1

and was accepted for employment at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton as an aircraft technician. World War II interrupted, and in 1943 he became an infantryman in the United States Army. He served in the European Theater, including the Battle of the Bulge.

Pat returned to Dayton in 1945 and went back to work at the air force base. He met a girl -- Rhea Fitzgerald -- living across the street, and they were married on Nov. 23, 1946 -- celebrating their 65th Anniversary this year.

Pat joined Knights of Columbus Dayton Council 500 in 1959, and through the years he's served in such capacities as Grand Knight, District Deputy (five years), as a Supreme Convention delegate (1970), as a Cincinnati Convention Committee member. As a District Deputy he started Fr. Chaminade Council 5784 at the University of Dayton. He has served 13 State Deputies in one capacity or another, and served four years on the administrative staff of Hennepin Province Vice Supreme Master Al Hickey.

At the request of the University of Dayton in 1970, Pat organized an ushers' program for athletic and special events, with ushers being recruited from area K of C councils. Each year monies from the Ushers' Program Fund have been donated to Dayton area charities, financial aid for the University of Dayton and three Catholic high schools -- more than \$300,000 since its inception.



Patrick Iacovone

Pat has received many honors through the years -- among them the Honorary Order of Kentucky Colonels, Tennessee Squires, Indiana Hoosiers. And he has been presented the Antioch Shrine Green Fez for community involvement.

He and Rhea raised four children. They have 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Now at the age of 91, Pat continues to be part of State Deputy Dave Helmstetter's administrative team, and he'll be an important factor planning the 2012 State Convention as a part of the Cincinnati Convention Committee.

The Ohio State Council officers thank Pat for his dedication to the Knights of Columbus over the last 61-plus years and for his service to his Church, community and country -- as well as all those many other Knights throughout Ohio who also have served the K of C, their Church, their community and their country so well.



A flag is raised as ROTC cadets and a K of C Color Guard salute.

New flagpole is dedicated at Xavier University

The Cincinnati Chapter participated in the dedication of the new flagpole last September in front of the Armory at Cincinnati's Xavier University. Chapter President Larry Droesch spoke about the chapter's commitment to the military and its support for the Xavier ROTC program by donating a military saber for outstanding cadets. He also noted that the Cincinnati Chapter donated the original flag pole in 1966.

Colonel Ousley, commander of the ROTC program, presented the Chapter with a plaque and the ROTC honor guard presented the Chapter with the flag that flew on the first day of the investiture. Fr. Dale Peterka, a former State Chaplain, blessed the pole and prayed for safety of the cadets.

The majority of funds for the flagpole came from the family of Ursula Walters. It was the wish of her husband -- a 50-year Knight -- that \$1,500 be given to the chapter from their estate. The remaining funds came from local K of C assemblies and councils.

Reagan Council helps USAF squadron in Afghanistan with their spiritual needs

Reagan Council 1890, East Palestine (Youngstown Diocese) has come to the spiritual aid of a squadron of Catholic airmen stationed in Afghanistan.

Their project started when a letter was received praising Sgt. Matthew Worst, son of Reagan Council member Harold Worst, for his efforts in getting a chapel built on their Afghanistan base. The letter was from Lt. Col. Joseph Musacchia, a USAF squadron commander and also a Knight of Columbus -- and a Eucharistic Minister who provides communion services for the Catholic troops. Col. Musacchia wrote that when a wooden box serving as a Tabernacle was found on a closet floor at the base, he authorized Sgt. Worst to acquire materials and -- with the help of other Catholic airmen -- build a chapel. The mission was accomplished, with a chapel large enough to hold an altar, kneelers and enough room for six people. It is used by Col. Musacchia for his communion services, and for Mass when a Catholic chaplain flies to the base once a month.

Upon hearing about the situation, Council 1890 secured and shipped a Tabernacle and Holy Family Statue to the men in Afghanistan. Grand Knight Bob Shope enlisted the aid of St. Jude Council 10183, which sent rosaries, prayer cards and holy medals.

In appreciation for the generosity of the Knights, Col. Musacchia sent a flag that flew over their compound in Afghanistan on Sept. 11, 2011, to the members of Reagan Council 1890.

It's time to order basketball free throw kits

Most councils in Ohio participate in the Annual Basketball Free Throw Contest, a program that gives youngsters between the ages of 10-14 an opportunity to win council, district, regional, state, and even Supreme honors.

It's now that time of year for councils to order their Free Throw Kits from Supreme Council. This can be done by submitting the necessary form by mail, or it can be done online through the Supreme website (www.kofc.org). To order online, go to "Publications and Resources", then "Forms", "Council", and then scroll down to find "Free Throw Competition Kit".

All District Deputies will receive a set of Free Throw medals for their District winners at the January District Deputies' Meeting.

Jeff Kiliany, State Youth Activities Director