

# THE KNIGHT TODAY

Jon C. Aldrich, State Deputy  
725 22nd Ave SW  
Altoona, IA 50009-1521  
Phone: 515-971-9127  
E-mail: jon725@msn.com

Web Site: [www.iowakofc.org](http://www.iowakofc.org)

September 2016

Volume 54, Issue No. 2

Francis E. Schlueter, Editor  
452 NW 70th Place  
Ankeny, IA 50023-9536  
Phone: 515-289-1877  
E-mail: fesclueter@msn.com

## Iowa's 2016-2017 K of C State Officers



Jon C. Aldrich of Altoona Co. 13109 was re-elected as state deputy for the Iowa jurisdiction and Rev. William E. Reynolds of Newton Council 2663 continues to serve as state chaplain. Antonio Banuelos of Pleasant Hill and a member of Fr. Tom Pfeffer Council 14267 of Des Moines was re-elected as state secretary.

Re-elected as state treasurer was Francis E. Schlueter of Ankeny Council 5038. Robert J. Douglas, Jr. of Clive and a member of West Des Moines Council 9632 was re-elected state advocate and Paul R. Lee of Cedar Falls Council 14987 was re-elected as state warden.

The re-elected Third Degree members for the executive committee are Kevin McKinney of Storm Lake Council 2326 and Steven Hesprich of Dubuque Council 15813.

## Danbury Knights open school year



Fourth Degree members of Holy Rosary Council 2839 in Danbury, Iowa were present with an Honor Guard for flag raising on the first day of school.

## Council Bluffs Knights donate \$30,000 to Local Organizations



The Council Bluffs Knights of Columbus Councils from Queen of Apostles (Co. 10805) and Holy Family (Co. 10722) donated \$30,000 to Council Bluffs, Iowa organizations. Donations were made possible through funds raised at the Knight's Annual Wild Game Feed hosted on February 6, 2016 by the councils.

The annual dinner, auction and raffle has raised more than \$335,000 for area organizations over the past 15 years. Recipients this year are: Mohm's Kitchen, Catholic Charities, Wings of Hope, Micah House, Shop with a Cop, Shop with a Sheriff, Children's Square, Fire Fighter Honor Guard, VODEC, Saint Albert's Mission Group, Buddy Baseball, Phillips Cupboard, Interfaith Response, Gabriel's Corner, Spirit Catholic Radio, Ted Nugent Camp, Down Syndrome of the Midlands, DEA Fallen Heroes Run, and Care and Share Food Pantry.

## Coats for Kids

*"For I needed clothes and you clothed me..." (Matthew 25:36a)*

In this Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis calls on us to "Be Merciful Like the Father". Knights of Columbus charitable programs and initiatives are expressions of the works of mercy. Through the Coats for Kids program, Knights bring warmth to those in need and warmth to the hearts of those who help us in this effort. Grow in your faith as you change the life of a little kid and the kid's family. Join us in Building the Domestic Church in Iowa.

Visit [www.iowakofc.org/coats](http://www.iowakofc.org/coats) to get involved.

*Be Courageous! Do everything with Love.* Join the Knights of Columbus — visit [www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join)  
To Learn More [www.iowakofc.org](http://www.iowakofc.org) | Follow us on Facebook [IowaKnightsOfColumbus](https://www.facebook.com/IowaKnightsOfColumbus) and Facebook [ColumbusIowa](https://www.facebook.com/ColumbusIowa) | on Twitter [IAMKnights](https://twitter.com/IAMKnights)



**STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT**

**Jon Aldrich**



**STATE CHAPLAIN'S REFLECTIONS**

**Fr. William Reynolds**



**ADMIN. ASSISTANT'S REPORT**

**Ed Pancrazio**

Brother Knights,

A new fraternal year has begun. Many new Grand Knights have taken over control of their councils. Plans for new activities are under way. A real season of excitement. We are also now in full swing with the new initiative, Building the Domestic Church while Strengthening our Parishes. You should have heard about this through the district meetings that were held all over the state. State Secretary Banuelos and State Warden Lee have also covered aspects of this in their articles so I am going to discuss another side of the initiative.

I'm going to start with a simple question. Have you held a meeting with your parish priest yet? Have you talked to him about his goals and desires for the parish? His wishes and needs to improve the buildings, grounds or overall parish life? If you haven't, then let's get started.

Besides conducting activities in the parish to improve the spirituality of the council members, their families and the entire parish, the council should be working side by side with the parish priest on the activities and needs he has for the parish. At a minimum the Grand Knight should have a meeting to discuss these things with the priest. The discussion should focus on what the council can do to help the parish and the priest. Those items should then be taken back to the council for implementation. The Knights of Columbus is the strong right arm of the church and your council should be the strong right arm of your local priest.

Better yet, have a small group of officers take him out for dinner to have an open discussion about what he would like to see the council doing. This will lead to finding ways he can help the council achieve its goal of Building the Domestic Church and conducting council activities at the parish. Hopefully it will foster a true relationship between the council and the parish priest. Once that is accomplished, you may find it's easier to get permission to hold a church drive or other activity at the church you may not have been able to do in the past. In many meetings I was at this summer there were councils who expressed the lack of cooperation from the parish priest. In nearly every case, the councils had not initiated a meeting with their priest to find out what he wanted. What things he would like to see the council do and how they could help him and the parish.

Your goal should be to become that group that the parish priest thinks of whenever he has a need at the parish. Brothers, I thank you for all you do for your families, parish, priests and communities.

School has recently started. Summer is over. Book bags and backpacks are again in use. What do you want to learn this year?

The life of many households is dictated by the school year. The lives of many others who do not have children in school are also dictated by the activities of their grandchildren who are in school. What do we want to make of this school year?

As Knights of Columbus, we often rightly look to the family as the fundamental unit of society. Young families in particular who are raising children must be a particular concern for Knights.

Building the Domestic Church is a priority for us as knights, understanding that each individual family is an individual expression of Church. Each family is to be a happy and holy place, a place where Christ is present in the valid marriage of a man and woman, with—for us as Knights—the man being a practicing Catholic and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

The Knights of Columbus is a huge supporter of Catholic family life. Knights are themselves looked upon to be a spiritual leader in their home, and to be the person of Christ for their wife and children. Wives and mothers also are to be that person of Christ for the others in their household.

Being a good Catholic father is preceded by being a good Catholic husband. Being a good Catholic husband is preceded by being a Good Catholic man. These are the enterprises of our Knights of Columbus councils—aiding, assisting, and encouraging our members—Catholic men—to be good Catholic men.

One of the great things a Catholic man can be is to be a man of prayer. Certainly this includes prayer by himself, but I want to concentrate my remarks on prayer within the marriage and within the family. If you as a Catholic man and if you as a Catholic family take time for prayer—witnessed by and including your children—think of the benefit this is to your children. What a wonderful thing it is for children to be raised in a home where Mom and Dad take time to pray together, to read scripture, to read the diocesan newspaper, and to discuss topics of Catholic interest.

For husbands and wives shared prayer is a wonderful experience which can enhance the marriage bond and bring the couple closer. If you are not doing this start it with that which is familiar—the Our Father and a Hail Mary; mention the prayer concerns you have in your

Greetings Brothers,

The business and activities of the State Council continues to move forward. We are always moving in order to support our main principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

It is the time to begin to work on submitting Forms 1728, 4584, 1295 and SP-7. It is never too early to submit a form. Form 4528 Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics is needed for us to receive funds for Iowa Special Olympics. The form is easy to submit, the benefits are well worth the effort to complete.

Thanks to all Financial Secretaries and Grand Knights for staying on top of submitting forms. Remember to follow the Forms Reporting Guide to assist in recording forms. If you have not seen the guide or have questions contact me. We have worked hard to ensure all forms are accounted for. Again this year, I was able to help one of our councils gain the Columbian Award. The council submitted to Supreme and copied me. Supreme did not have the form recorded; however, I was able to show the date of Supreme's acknowledgement. So, make sure I am copied on all forms submitted.

The State Council needs your help. We need District Wardens, District Deputies, Program Chairmen and State Officers. If we are to continue to grow, new ideas and fresh faces are needed. If you have an urge or inkling to move up, contact one of the State Officers or your District Deputy. It's a rewarding experience.

Please contact me if you have questions, need information or help; by email at [kcedp915@gmail.com](mailto:kcedp915@gmail.com), or call 641-895-1364. Vivat Jesus!

heart; share these with your spouse and your God in prayer. Find a prayer book for married couples and read aloud some prayers before you fall asleep. Allow a time of common and shared prayer to be a prelude to intercourse.

By your strengthening your marriage bond you will become a better Catholic man, a better Catholic husband, and a better Catholic father if you have children. And in all this, you will become a better Knight of Columbus.

The beginning of a new year is often a time for making a new year's resolution. You can also make the beginning of the school year a time for making a resolution—for you to be a better Catholic man, a better Catholic husband, a better Catholic father, and a better Catholic Knight of Columbus. Vivat Jesus!



**STATE  
SECRETARY**

**Antonio Bañuelos**



**EDITOR &  
STATE  
TREASURER'S  
REMARKS**

**Francis Schlueter**



**PATRIOT'S  
C  
O  
R  
N  
E  
R**



**Dave Bellendier**



**Building the Domestic Church  
and the New Evangelization**

My dear brother Knights. As we start a new fraternal year we will hear the phrase “Building the Domestic Church” both at the State and at the Supreme level. This initiative from the Supreme Council should not be seen as something new or innovative to our Order.

Looking back to 1882, when the Knights of Columbus were born at the basement of St. Mary’s Church in New Haven, CT, we see that Father McGivney turned to the men seen as leaders of the parish and the Irish Catholic community. He saw a problem in the families and turn to good Catholic committed men to solve this problem. The families were struggling and the Knights of Columbus were founded to protect them.

The Dogmatic Constitution of the Church established after the Second Vatican Council: “The family, is so to speak, the domestic church.” (Lumen Gentium #11). Based on this definition, the Knights of Columbus were founded to protect and preserve what 82 years later would be called the Domestic Church.

On the New Evangelization, Saint John Paul II called to “re-propose the Gospel to those who have experienced a crisis of faith.” If you look around our society we can see a deep crisis of faith, a redefinition of our most basic institutions and principles such as the right to life, the religious freedom, and the identity of the family and the individual. We are also flooded by what Pope Francis calls “the globalization of indifference.”

So once again, we see the families struggling in looking for answers for their crisis of faith and identity. Once again, the Knights of Columbus will stand up to protect and preserve our families, the Domestic Churches that make up the foundations and pillars of our parishes, towns, cities, states, and countries. It is us, the men who are seen as leaders of the parishes and the Catholic communities who need to re-propose the faith to families that look for a true hope for a better future and the restoration of our moral values and principles. That is what “Building the Domestic Church” is about. As the strong right arm of the Church, we need to flex the muscles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism that have made us the greatest

I would like to share with you some of the funding that your Iowa State Council has provided over the past fiscal year. We can be truly proud of numbers below and your efforts in fund raising really does make a difference.

The Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities Fund reached a new record total of \$674,926.13 that was collected by our councils this past year. Your councils donated \$57,962.77 to Special Olympics and \$508,675.52 to other CPID Charities. The Iowa State Council was able to provide \$29,050 to Special Olympics Iowa and \$49,000 to other charities from the state’s 10% of the funds collected.

Our Catholic Education Fund provided \$33,000 (or \$8,250 each) to our four Catholic Student Centers. The Pennies for Heaven and Vocation Fund provided \$22,661.04 in funding for vocations in our four dioceses.

The Perpetual Memorial Society Fund provided our bishops with \$11,200.00 for their vocation needs in addition to the \$29,551.98 received from the Christopher Fund interest that was earned the past year.

In addition to the above funding, we have provided another \$8,325.00 for various requests received from our General Fund. If you add up all of the above donations it totals \$749,426.31 and is a record high for the state of Iowa and doesn’t include the Foundation donations.

The Football Frenzy Sweepstakes program provided \$14,000 for our General Fund this past year and proves to a big help in our budgeting process and allows for making donations. Be sure you obtain your coupons and become a part of adding funds to our coffers so we can continue to make donations when requested.

With the change made at the last convention for the Perpetual Memorial Society which permits all donations less expenses go to our bishops on an annual basis for their vocations, I would urge all councils and assemblies to enroll their deceased members. That is the least we can do to support our departed brothers while supporting vocations in our dioceses.

organization of Catholic men. If not us, then who? If our councils are not about Building the Domestic Church, then what are we about? Stay alert to this program which is simply the reaffirmation of our founding purpose: protecting the well being of Catholic families. With Christ on our side, victory is guaranteed: by his blood, by his passion, and by his promise of eternal life. It is time to Be Courageous, and assume our role as a bold Catholic men.

Short article as Julie and I are in Alaska and will be boarding a bus to head out for the cruise ship. I received word last week from Supreme that I have been reappointed as Iowa District Master for two more years. I look forward to working with everyone to promote the Fourth Degree in Iowa.

At this time, we have three confirmed exemptions: October 8 in Marion, November 12 in Burlington and April 7 in Dubuque. Information on these degrees can be found on the Iowa K of C website. I encourage assemblies that have not recently hosted an exemplification in their area to contact me about scheduling one for the upcoming spring. I would also appreciate hearing from one or two assemblies that could benefit from splitting into smaller assemblies, to lessen the distance traveled by members, and increase participation at meetings and Fourth Degree functions.

Special thanks to those Sir Knights who have helped with the installation of Assembly Officers.

The average age of Fourth Degree members is 63, with over 62% of the members age 60 or older. None of us are getting any younger and we need to continue to work on recruiting new members into the Fourth Degree.

I am grateful to all of the Sir Knights, who have served this year as officers in their assemblies, and to all those that have promoted the Fourth Degree. It is only through your efforts that we can continue to be successful.

**Granger Co. 12130 funds a  
memorial to the unborn at  
Assumption Catholic Church**



## Membership Report

To answer a man's question: Why become a Knight? We need to answer that question for ourselves. Among the many answers we might give:

- To change lives and to save lives
- To give back to my community
- To leave a legacy
- To protect my family
- To be a better Catholic man, husband and father

In his day Fr. McGivney was among people in desperate need of charity, unit and brotherly fraternity. His response the Knights of Columbus gave Catholic men an opportunity to act on their principles bringing hope.

Our Supreme Knight in his annual report to the 134th Supreme Convention stated:

“My brother Knights, look around you. Do you see a world less in need of charity, less in need of unity, less in need of fraternity than in Fr. McGivney's day?”

“Father McGivney reached out to the Catholic men of his day to make that day better.

“And we must do the same.

”Every Catholic man who joins us can become stronger in his faith through our spiritual and charitable programs.

“We can build a better world together...But to do that we must reach out to more men and grow our ranks.”

### Recruitment

And to reach out requires all of us, not just your council's membership chairman. Sure he might be better at the task – but it must start with each of us, the Power of One to invite into our fraternity a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Tell them why you are a Knight. Give their names to your council's membership team so they can follow up.

The most common response is often “I'm too busy,” and aren't we all. Let's remind ourselves that our Knights of Columbus is a family centered Catholic men's organization which offers men and their families opportunities to spend quality time together performing good works.

To encourage all of us to be active in recruiting, the Iowa State Council will recognize the five top recruiters in the state for both the first and second quarters of our fraternal year. See your Grand Knight for details and ask someone you care about to be a Knight with you.

Don't forget about our young men going off to college. Knights of Columbus at our colleges are a great way to blend faith with fraternity and service keeping our sons and grandsons connected to their Catholic Faith while building healthy relationships for life. Email [collegecouncils@iowakofc.org](mailto:collegecouncils@iowakofc.org) for more information or to refer a loved one to a college council.

### Church Drives

Council leadership should be working to set up Fall membership Church Drives. In most parishes when done well these are a very successful method to get the word out about your council and invite men to consider membership.

Don't forget about the *Give Me 5 Guys* process of monthly recruiting along with your *Church Drive* and *Father Wants You* campaigns. Remember if we are not growing our ability to protect Catholic families and provide charity to our parishes we are going backwards.

See [www.iowakofc.org/membership](http://www.iowakofc.org/membership) for resources and ideas or email [membership@iowakofc.org](mailto:membership@iowakofc.org)

### Retention

Keeping members engaged in programs is the best way to keep them engaged in your council and the Knights of Columbus. Having a variety of appealing and relevant programs is important but more important I think is keeping in touch with all members through-out the year assisting them when in need and asking their help when they can give it.

Each of us should be responsible to treat brother Knights like family especially in our care and concern for their well-being. When a man doesn't experience this he may drift away. This is when we need to actively seek to re-engage him.

I ask each brother Knight reading this to approach his Grand Knight and offer to re-connect men in his council with the brotherly fraternity of true Knights of Columbus.

To our council leadership I ask that you are diligent in efforts to engage and keep brother Knights. Don't rely only on your Financial Secretary to do this. Make it a point to have someone – yourself or a team – contact every brother Knight and invite him to stay with us as together we make a difference.

### Two questions

*What am I supposed to do?* Probably many things but I propose to love God, my Family and to give back my time and talent to parish and community.

*What should I be doing right now?* Some act large or small for each of these in due season for a healthy balance. Let the Knights be a vehicle for your family to balance these.

*Lastly:* Why am I a Knight? First and most importantly because someone asked me – a stranger in a new place to become a Knight and participate in making the world a better place.



## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Mike Gaspers



## STATE WARDEN & PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Paul Lee

My Brother Knights and supporters of the Knights of Columbus:

I am most delighted to share with you our collective new initiative: Building the Domestic Church while strengthening our Parish. As a young, married, father of three, I welcome all of us to discover how our beloved Order can provide more support to families “the Domestic Church”, and building up our parishes.

St. John Paul II stated, “Families, become what you are.” Our new initiative will foster a positive environment for families to truly live out their calling to be the “Domestic Church.”

As we travel this journey together, being courageous in living our call to mission and service, I challenge you to consider what can you do to build up healthy families and support your parish. Could you do more? Is your council doing enough? We are all on this journey of Catholic discipleship. Our families and parishes are the foundation. We, as Knights of Columbus, need to be that strong right arm- we need to be in full support, asking what can we do to share the good news of Jesus Christ to all those we meet. Vivat Jesus!



Family Friendly, Serving God's people to build up a Culture of Life and of Love. We are the Knights of Columbus of Iowa. This is about our story. The story we can tell best; no one knows it better than we do. Men of Catholic faith, performing good works informed by faith. The story of Iowa Knights reaching out to each other as brothers. We invite you to visit <http://www.iowaknightlife.org/>

**Corinthians 16:13-14** *Be men of courage. Do everything with love.*

And be willing to step into the Breach with your Brother Knights for Faith and for Family.

**Remember the 4-Mores:** *More* Knights bring *More* Hands (and Hearts) to do *More* Charity (and to Evangelize) for *More* People in need.

## Spirit Lake Co. 5043 Presents Gifts to Deacon Mauro Sanchez



Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 of the Knights of Columbus presented some meaningful, traditional and useful gifts to Deacon Mauro Sanchez. Deacon Mauro Sanchez is scheduled to be ordained at Asuncion Church in Querendaro, Mexico, on July 9. He has often been assisting Father Brian Hughes with Mass and other duties at St. Mary's Parish in Spirit Lake on his journey to the priesthood. After his ordination, he will serve as a priest for the Diocese of Sioux City.

At Spirit Lake Council 5043's monthly meeting, Deacon Sanchez received vestments that were hand woven by nuns in the Catholic tradition and he was also presented with a gold chalice that he is holding in the photo above that was provided by the late Fourth Degree Knight Bill Sackett and his wife Rosemary.

The Catholic Globe and Canterbury Pilgrimages & Tours arranged a trip to Mexico, that included the ordination. Bishop Walker Nickless, Diocese of Sioux City, has stated that it was also be a pilgrimage of solidarity with Pope Francis, as part of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

## Gilbert Co. 15060 Men's Choir



Gilbert Council 15060 Men's Choir were graciously joined by Brian & Dan Werner at a recent Mass. Dan would like to promote the music ministry so more councils become involved in this part of our Mass. If you would like more information, please contact Dan for details on one of his favorite projects.

## YOUTH DIRECTOR



Richard Jacoby

We have started our new fraternal year, and that means that there are new dates for the youth programs. The dates will be on the state website soon. In the meantime, there are some things that each council should be looking to get done right away. Order your kits for ALL of your youth programs. It's not too early to get them, and have them ready for the year.

Talk with your council about adding a youth program. Youth programs involve the youth of your community, and their parents. It's a great way to give the kids a positive activity to do, and it can be a reason for their father to see what the Knights do, and become a new member.

The football frenzy program helps to raise the funds for the state programs, including of course, the youth programs. Please help the kids of Iowa, and donate towards the football frenzy. Programs like youth activities are also a way to keep, or get, your current members active.

Active Knights don't tend to be a retention problem. Active Knights can also grow into leadership roles. Should you have any questions about any of the youth programs, please feel free to contact the state chairman, or myself.



## DISTRICT DEPUTY 37

Johnathan Langenberg

The college councils are off to a fantastic start for the year! We held a teleconference district meeting and all of the Grand Knights have been working on their council goals for the year. Recruitment activities are currently in full swing and there is great excitement to bring new Knights into the Order!

Most of you have probably noticed the recruitment flyer highlighting the college councils within the state. College councils are an excellent way for college guys to join a group to connect a man's charity, fraternity, and faith. PLEASE encourage college age students to seek out a college council, even if attending outside of Iowa. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at: [collegecouncils@iowakofc.org](mailto:collegecouncils@iowakofc.org).

One upcoming activity is the 5th Annual Dinner Dance held at St. Boniface in Waukee on September 17. This event is a steak fry and auction to support InnerVisions HealthCare. A number of college Knights will be present to help with the event and may even break out our dancing shoes at some point. We are excited to once again have a district service event to cement the bonds of our college program and continue to expand our reach within the community. Vivat Jesus!

## Bishops release "Faithful Citizenship for Iowa Catholics" statement

The Iowa bishops have released their "Faithful Citizenship for Iowa Catholics" statement for the 2016 general election. The Catholic Church does not endorse or oppose candidates or political parties. However, it contributes to the political process by encouraging Catholics to take action in the political arena with a properly formed conscience.

"The defense of human life and dignity must begin with the fundamental right to life from natural conception to natural death. From there it extends to fair access to productive work and fair wages, food and shelter, education and health care, protection from harm and freedom to emigrate," the bishops wrote. "All people have a right to these, and therefore we have a duty to help protect life and to provide for the common good."

While most attention is being paid to the presidential race, laws passed by the state legislature probably have a bigger day-to-day effect on most Iowans. That's why the bishops have included a set of questions that could be asked of each candidate. Together we can have a big impact on candidates if we let them know about our priorities.

The bishops also address voting, the formation of conscience and qualities we need to see in leaders. Please visit [www.iowacatholicconference.org](http://www.iowacatholicconference.org) to view the flier and videos by the bishops. Please read the flier and distribute it as widely as possible.



**GENERAL FUND**

**HELPING HANDS FUND**

**CULTURAL for LIFE FUND**

**PERSONS with INTELLECTUAL  
DISABILITIES FUND**

**VOCATIONS and CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION FUND**

**FUNDING THE FOUNDATION**

The Iowa Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation functions on donations received and asks your consideration when considering a donation to a charity. The Foundation Board also encourages each council in Iowa to offer support to the foundation on an annual basis. Support will enable the foundation to serve Persons with Intellectual Disabilities, support Vocations, Catholic Education, Culture for Life and those less fortunate. When making a donation, please designate which fund you wish to support.

### **WHY SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION?**

- We assist those less fortunate.
- We support Catholic Education.
- We grow Vocations.
- We support the Culture for Life.
- We help Persons with Intellectual Disabilities live better lives.

The Iowa Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation is certified by the IRS as a 501(c)3 organization. All donations are tax deductible.

### **QUESTIONS**

To ask questions or make donations to the Iowa Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation please contact:

Tom Wittrock

Foundation Treasurer & Past State Deputy  
at: 641-427-5741 C:515-370-1820  
or his office 712-652-3916

Please send donations to: Thomas Wittrock  
770 310th St, Bagley, IA 50026-8014

For a Foundation Application go to:  
[www.iowakofc.org](http://www.iowakofc.org) and click on Foundation



### **DISTRICT WARDEN & WEBSITE PROMOTION**

**Claude Mertzenich**

Having a Council website on IowaKofC.org is the greatest thing since sliced bread. Well, maybe that's an exaggeration, but it may not be far off. Until January of 2015, I had only occasionally visited IowaKofC.org, but that changed when the webhost for our Council's old website indicated in the fall of 2014 that they would be ending their

webhosting service. As Council 4208 webmaster, when I first got the news that we were going to have to get a new website, I gave a frustrated sigh and decided to procrastinate and MAYBE look into the situation in 2015. Well, 2015 came, and I knew that the old website was going to die at the end of February 2015, so I decided to check out IowaKofC.org, which I knew had the capability of hosting personal and Council Profile Pages (websites) for FREE. So, I went to IowaKofC.org in January of 2015 and started to play with it, and the more I played, the more I realized how good, wonderful, and powerful IowaKofC.org was, and more and more I began to wish I had moved our website to IowaKofC.org years earlier—especially since the old web host was somewhat clunky for a variety of reasons.

Our Council profile is at <http://www.iowakofc.org/profile/DecorahKnights>, and all you have to do is go to that web address and you're on our Council website, but there's an even easier way for members to access our site. Long story short, there's a service on the web (freenom.com) that allows one to convert a long, somewhat cumbersome web address to a shorter one, and I used that service to create DecorahKnights.tk. [Sometimes we joke that the "tk" means "The Knights", but that's not really true.] All a member has to do is type in DecorahKnights.tk in the url bar, and he gets to the Council Profile Page (website), and then all he has to do is scroll up and down to see ALL of the Council information mentioned above. It's that easy.

There are many reasons why every Council should have a profile (aka website) on the IowaKofC.org. Younger folks communicate via the web; they expect a web presence. Without it, a Knights of Columbus Council really looks old fashioned. It's also important for all members to be able to know what activities are coming up for the Council, and that's easily done via IowaKofC.org. And this is all FREE! [Well, not really free, but included in our membership dues, but there's no extra expense to the Council.] It's also cool that everything the Council posts to the IowaKofC.org website instantly becomes known to other members and Councils across the State and to the State Knights of Columbus leadership and publicity people, so when your Council does something great and you put it up on the website, it becomes known to a wide audience right away.

Although it's not necessary, it's a very good idea for every member of the Iowa Knights of Columbus to sign up for an account on the IowaKofC.org website. This is easily done by clicking on the "Sign Up for access to the IowaKofC web site" link at the top of the IowaKofC.org website. Being signed up on the website allows a member to get emails when new things are posted on the site, and much, much more, including expanded networking opportunities and access to private areas (called Groups). And when you Sign Up and become a "friend" of your Council, you'll be instantly connected with other Knights members who are friends of the Council. Again, it's not absolutely necessary that a member Sign Up, but it's a bonus for the member and for the Council and other Knights across Iowa.

If you want to get a Profile Page (website) operating for your Council, Assembly, and/or District, click here for an instructional video. For more information and discussion on this issue, click here. If you are a member or friend of the Iowa Knights of Columbus and want to sign up for your own personal Profile Page (website) on the IowaKofC.org platform, click here. Once you have been approved, click here for information on how to modify your Profile Page (website).

OK, although you can certainly "break bread," you can't break the IowaKofC.org website, so play with the site, have some fun, and get the satisfaction that you are bringing an enhanced level of communication to your brother Knights and to all people. Please feel free to contact me (563 277 0043 or [mertzfam@yahoo.com](mailto:mertzfam@yahoo.com)) if you have questions. And don't forget to make me (and the Decorah Knights) your friends on [IowaKofC.org](http://IowaKofC.org).

**Des Moines Co. 10558 receives Star Council Award**



For the fourth year in a row, St. Augustin Knights of Columbus Council 10558 of Des Moines, IA received the prestigious Star Council or Double Star Council Award. Presenting the award to the Council and the Grand Knight was District 43 Warden, Denny Hagedorn. Star or Double Star Council is awarded to a select group of K of C Councils across the World for excellence in programing, service to church, community and the needy, and meeting or exceeding quotas in membership development and retention along with meeting or exceeding assigned insurance program quotas. Shown in the photograph holding the Award is Grand Knight, Paul M. Martin and from the left, Greg Annexstad, Dane Shelton, Al Reynolds, (Hagedorn, Martin) Bryan Heilman, Tom Peterson, Mike Klapp and Mike Otis.

**IOWA KC MERCHANDISE PRICES**

		<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Totals</u>
KC ROSARIES – BLACK & WHITE	\$3.50	_____	\$ _____ . ____
DELUXE BLACK ROSARY POUCH	\$3.75	_____	\$ _____ . ____
ROSARY POUCH W/DRAWSTRING	\$1.25	_____	\$ _____ . ____
RESPECT LIFE LAPEL PIN	\$2.00	_____	\$ _____ . ____
KC MAGNETS: 3 <sup>RD</sup> or 4 <sup>TH</sup> DEGREE	\$4.25	_____	\$ _____ . ____
KC LICENSE PLATE HOLDER	\$5.00	_____	\$ _____ . ____
4 <sup>TH</sup> DEGREE LAPEL PIN	\$5.00	_____	\$ _____ . ____
Postage for all orders			<u>\$4.50</u>
		Total =	_____

**Mail this form and check to:** Iowa State Council  
 915 S 17th Street  
 Centerville IA 52544-2701

**Councils and Assemblies are authorized to fax or email orders, billing will be included with shipment. Fax: 641-856-2349 Email: kcedp915@gmail.com**

**---COMING EVENTS---**

- December 2-4, 2016----- State Family Meeting, Holiday Inn Des Moines - Airport/Conference Center
- Apr. 7-9, 2017----- 2017 Iowa State Convention, Dubuque
- July 2017----- State Family Meeting, Holiday Inn Des Moines - Airport/Conference Center
- August 1-3, 2017 ----- 2017 Supreme Convention, St. Louis, Missouri

**All councils and assemblies are encouraged to enroll their deceased members so their names are included in the Iowa K of C Perpetual Memorial Society. Is there a better way to remember our fallen members while supporting vocations at the same time? Remember all donations less expenses now go directly to our bishops to support vocations in their dioceses on an anual basis along with the interest earned from our investment in the Supreme Christopher Fund.**

**IOWA K of C PERPETUAL MEMORIAL SOCIETY**

**Please Print**

**Registration Form**

**Please Print**

Please enroll: Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Gender) Male or Female

Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Death \_\_\_\_\_ Enrollee was member of Council (No.) \_\_\_\_\_ Assembly (No.) \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's thank you letter requested (Check one): E-mail \_\_\_ Mail \_\_\_ None \_\_\_

E-mail Address (If checked above) \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send Letter of Condolence to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the (Father, Mother, Husband, Wife, Son, Daughter, Other \_\_\_\_\_) of the deceased. Circle one.

Please make your check payable to: **Iowa K of C Perpetual Memorial Society**  
 Mail to: **Francis E. Schlueter, 452 NW 70th Place, Ankeny, IA 50023-9536**

# THE KNIGHT TODAY

Iowa State Council, Knights of Columbus, 915 S 17th St, Centerville, IA 52544-2701

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Des Moines, IA

Permit No. 50

## Christ Our Life Conference

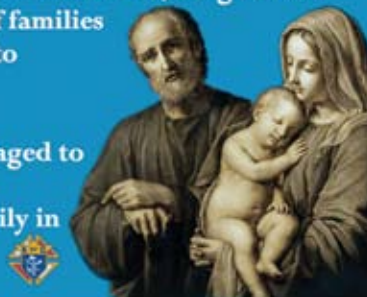
September 24-25, 2016 - Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines

### Consecrate YOUR Family to the Holy Family

Place the well-being of your family in the loving arms of the Holy Family. The Knights of Columbus encourages all families to unite themselves more closely to God and to one another under the protection of the Holy Family.

At the closing Mass of the 2016 Christ Our Life Conference, Knights will lead all present in a prayer of consecration of families to the Holy Family. All families are welcome to participate.

Knights and parishes across Iowa are encouraged to use this consecration prayer in your parish. Experience the light and joy of the Holy Family in your family.



On September 25th every person entering the Christ our Life Conference will receive this postcard from us and a Consecration to the Holy Family Prayer Card. Our generous General Agents have helped cover the cost of making our postcard.

At the end of the Mass that Sunday everyone in attendance will be invited to use the prayer of consecration to CONSECRATE their family to the protection of the Holy Family. We expect this to be a moving experience and one that participants will bring back with them for your parishes.

This month will be a good time to talk to your Chaplains and Pastors about using this prayer of consecration on the weekend of The Feast of the Holy Family December 30th. The prayer cards are available for free from Supply Division (or from [knightgear.com](http://knightgear.com)) and will make a great Christmas gift to your parishes.