



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**IOWA  
STATE COUNCIL  
KNIGHT OF THE YEAR  
NOMINATION**



**THIS REPORTING FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH COUNCIL AND FORWARDED TO THE STATE COUNCIL.**

The members of council # 15813 in the city of Dubuque have nominated

Name Steven Hesprich

City: Dubuque State IA Zip Code

as a candidate for Iowa Knight of the Year.

Area Code and Telephone

Highest Degree of the Order (please circle one) 1st 2nd 3rd **4th**

Please circle Yes or No to the following Statements:

Member of Degree Staff	Yes	No
Attends District Meetings	Yes	No
Attends Regular Business Meetings	Yes	No
Attends Council activities	Yes	No
Honorary Member	Yes	No
Honorary Life Member	Yes	No
Committee Chairman	Yes	No
Plans on attending convention	Yes	No
Active in his Church	Yes	No
Participate in recruiting new members	Yes	No

Other

15813 Council Positions:

- Financial Secretary (Current)
- Membership Director (Current) – goal of Triple Star Council – currently at Star Council level
- Main organizer of council 15813
- Initially Program Director (Sep 2013 to Jan 2014) to get programs organized and directors identified
- Council Director (newsletter and communications chairman)
- Captain of the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree team – we have conducted 5 First Degrees since Sep 2013, three of which our degree team has conducted
- Chaired Major Degrees (1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees) hosted 11/24/2013

- Member of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Honor Guard (member Assembly 2617 in Foxfield Colorado)

Parish/Faith Involvements:

- Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
- Lecturer
- Member of Faith Formation Commission
- Member of Parish Life Committee
- Facilitate a 2-year program of the Catechism entitled “Journey Through the Catechism” currently in the 2<sup>nd</sup> 12-week segment of 4.
- Frequent volunteer and/or participant in parish activities
- Have two scheduled hours of Adoration at local 24x7 Adoration chapel plus one

hour monthly for council scheduled Adoration hour. Also do Adoration substitution.

- Active in pro-life movement in Dubuque

#### Council 510 (2012-current)

- Trustee Year 1 (to Sep 2013)
- Monthly article contribution to "The Crusader (August 2011 to current time)
- Send daily readings to Council 510 members who have Email (current)
- Provide volunteer computer support for council 510's hall

#### KC activities outside of council:

- Contribute weekly radio segment on "Knights to Christ to" daily readings, with personal reflections to "Knight Life" (Feb 2014 - current)
- Currently promote the book "Knights to Christ" on behalf of Colorado State Council Charities in the upper mid-west

#### Other Special Interests

Steve has a very active faith life with his wife Kim, including Catholic education. They enjoy visiting pilgrimage sites and day trips into the countryside of Iowa and Wisconsin. Steve's wife Kim and he are graduates of the 4-year Biblical School in Denver and very keen on Catholic education and catechesis.

**DO NOT SUBMIT THIS REPORT FORM TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL**

**Deadline: March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Mail form to State Program Director**

**Antonio Banelos  
1715 Pease Dr  
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327-0928  
[programs@iowakofc.org](mailto:programs@iowakofc.org)**

**Additional Comments:**

**Steve Hesprich is the number one reason** we have Council 15813 at St. Columbkille Catholic Church in Dubuque. Steve actively sought out seven St. Columbkille Knights who were Council 510 members and he coordinated with those seven men to start the council at our Parish. He set out council in motion and provided guidance to us when we started out.

**Without a doubt, if it had not been for Steve, we would not have a Council at St. Columbkille's.** Steve actively supports all the teachings of the Catholic Church, no exceptions. He has a daily prayer life that includes the Liturgy of the Hours and one or more Rosaries.

An example of why Steve should win this award is his extreme care and consideration for deceased Knights and their families. We recently had a long term Knight pass away. Steve was instrumental in proposing, and then setting up, a process to recognize deceased Knights. The process he developed involves asking our members to express a sentiment to the surviving spouse/family with prayer intentions. We then place those on a card and send/present the card to the surviving spouse or family. And then we take an initiative to continue to involve the widow of the deceased knight by inviting her to council activities.

Though perhaps not relevant to the current year's consideration, Steve has a rich and active history with the Knights showing a long time active involvement, including several state level positions with the Knights in Colorado:

- Executive Secretary (1999-2001),
- State Web Master 2000-2001
- State Public Relations Director (2001-2003),
- State Newsletter Editor 2001
- State Multi-Media Chairman 2005-2007
- 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Multi-Media Chairman 2008-2010
- Project Manager of the book "Knights to Christ" and chairman for the book's promotion and administration for 4 years, National Sales director including presentations to many state councils (California, New Jersey, Wyoming, Colorado, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Maine, Pennsylvania; as well as presentations at a council or district level in Illinois and Michigan). Instituted State Level or local Knights to Christ programs in Alaska, Montana, British Columbia, Manitoba, and New Brunswick; Attended 5 Supreme Conventions between 2003 – 2009 to promote the book to state deputies including Washington DC, Dallas, Orlando, Nashville, and Orange County California. Designed and implemented a consignment program for state, district, council and assembly that was largely responsible for over 40,000 book sales.
- Membership Director council 7880 in Parker Colorado - 1997-1998 (grew council from 129 to 205 members in 11 months)
- Newsletter Editor for Council 7880 – won top newsletter award in State of Colorado 1998-1999.
- Charter Grand Knight Council 12336, Foxfield Colorado 1999
- Charter Faithful Navigator, Assembly 2617, Foxfield Colorado 2000-2002
- Have sponsored (Form 100 Proposer) life time (1997-current) of 78 men into the Knights of Columbus (5 men to date in the current fraternal year).
- Vocations coordinator for Council 12336 from its inception in 1999 until he moved to Iowa July 2011.
- Very active in parish life at Our Lady of Loreto parish, a newly formed parish at Easter of 1998. A member of the Parish council for 5 years; part-time Manager of Communications for the parish professionally for 6 years. In that capacity was

responsible for the parish web site and published a monthly newsletter. Responsible for audio/video technologies.

- One of two men who conceived a grass-roots ministry called the “Father’s Challenge Weekend” a weekend retreat established in 2003 for fathers. The ministry conducted two retreats a year. The pastor attributed a number of saved marriages because of this ministry to say nothing of how men became involved in the faith lives of their families, became involved in parish life – and many joined the Knights of Columbus over the years. Over 20 weekends had been conducted before Steve came to Iowa. Steve oversaw the ministry from its inception.
- He has sent the daily readings to a large distribution list of Knights and to others from December 1999 to the present time.
- Steve organized a weekly morning prayer group in December 1999 that continues to the present day. Many men who came to that prayer group became Knights. In fact almost all now are Knights.