

# Baystate Knightline

The Massachusetts State Council Knights of Columbus Newsletter – 470 WASHINGTON STREET, NORWOOD, MA 02062

## From the State Deputy

My Brother Knights,

The year is progressing very quickly. Its time to take a good look at where we stand with membership. As of the middle of March unfortunately we are falling behind our quotas, a fact of life. Suspensions are "suffocating us." When my cell phone rings and the caller ID says Supreme, there is a knot in my stomach, believe me this happens more times than I like.

So far this year we have lost 763 members for one reason or another. Now to add to the mix there are 99 councils out of 256 that have not brought in a single member this year. We need to ask ourselves seriously what's going on?

Let's take a step backwards and remember why we joined the knights. Remember how proud you felt after going through each degree? Maybe its time we let other catholic men know what we are all about. Father McGivney's vision 126 years ago was that every eligible Catholic family be given the benefits of member-



ship in the knights of Columbus. Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said that as knights we have a "moral responsibility" to do no less.

Councils need to develop an action plan to increase membership for the rest of the fraternal year ending June 30th. What can we do to help our councils increase membership? A few suggestions include developing a relationship and gaining the support of your parish priest, helping with membership blitzes, communicating the activities of the knights of Columbus through the media, church bulletins and by displaying the Knights of Columbus emblem by being visible in the community.

Let people know who the Knights of Columbus are and what they are all about. Keep your council active, keep your membership involved, and keep up the communication.

Together we can turn around our deficit and help Massachusetts start an upward journey that will make us all proud.

Billy

## CANDIDATE CLASSES – WHERE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION GO HAND IN HAND

*Paul O'Sullivan, FDD, State Membership Director*

Have you recruited a new member, yet this year? As we approach the end of the Fraternal Year, each of us should make recruiting a new member our first priority. Sadly, nearly 100 of our Massachusetts Councils have yet to recruit a single member. Our District Deputies are trying hard to be sure that at the end of the year no council in their District remains on that list. Our ceremonial teams throughout the State and especially Elder, Spencer, Leicester, Alhambra, Valencia, Tewksbury, Abington and Middleboro/Lakeville are holding regular first and second degrees to be sure that all candidates before the end of the fraternal year. Check our State Website for dates and times.

But as important as it is to recruit new members, it is even more important to retain the new members after they join. Retention begins at the day of the First Degree. The proper orientation of candidates for Knighthood is an important process to make each

new member feel welcome and needed by the Council. Other than the candidate's sponsor, no council member can assure a new candidate will become a long-term involved member than the Council Chancellor. It is the Chancellor, after all, whose duty it is to see that all new members complete their degrees. But a proper orientation program must extend beyond scheduling and accompanying the new members to their degrees. The Chancellor must organize the class of candidates for projects and socials.

Whether the class of candidates is two or twenty, they should be organized to work together through their degrees. Our **Shining Knight Award Program** offers a perfect structure to develop class activities with the candidates and their families. To achieve Shining Knight each candidate must in his first year, complete all his degrees, work on three council projects, meet with the Council's Field Agent and recruit one new member. The candidates as a Class can attain most

if not all these objectives together. It should be the goal of each Council Chancellor to have a class with multiple Shining Knight recipients on the day of the Third Degree.

Candidates in classes are recruiting machine, helping the council grow its membership. As they and their families make and develop new friendships in the Council activities, they naturally want to encourage others to join. Often they end up recruiting the next class. Following its Third Degree the Class will preserve its own identity within the Council and continue to be productive.

A Chancellor, who uses the Class system for his orientation program is preparing for the future. He knows that the classes, which he leads through their degrees, as Chancellor will be his activity committees when he is Deputy Grand Knight and will produce his Officers and Chairmen when he is Grand Knight. If we get our Knights active and associated early, retention will take care of itself.

## Message from the State Chaplain

**Bishop Daniel P. Reilly**

My dear brother Knights,

The holy season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 25. It is a very special time of the year for us as followers of Christ and members of the Church. It is a call to conversion for each one of us. Conversion is the ever deeper movement of our heart, drawn by grace to the merciful love of God. One way for us to express this 'conversion' is to receive the Sacrament of Penance during this holy time. We need this sacrament, each one of us, so that the power of sin will not dominate our lives and draw us away from the love of God, His love, His peace and abundant mercy.

Sin disrupts our relationship with God and with our neighbor, drawing us away from them and into ourselves - depriving us of an objective moral standard for our life here on earth.

Secular society presents sin as attractive and seeks to push sin into our lives. But, really, sin is a choice of some-one or something other than God. It can become a habit and lead us away from who we really are and who we really want to be.

The worst thing we can do is to break our relationship with God



and to expose ourselves to losing our relationship with God for all eternity. The best way to eliminate sin from our lives is to go to Confession regularly and for those who are not doing so this Lent is a good time to begin. What a difference

that will make for us. What peace of mind it will bring us. What a great sense of freedom it will give us. It will spur us on to love God and neighbor, family and friends more fully and more happily.

We must always remember that God loves us; that the Father sent Jesus to die for our sins. Once we confess our sins in the Sacrament of Penance they are gone. For God's love is greater than sin. All He asks from us, in return, is a loving, contrite heart and to never forget that He loves us.

Do not let Lent pass by without making a good confession. God is there in the Sacrament of Penance for you. How wonderful to hear through His priest the powerful and renewing words, "I absolve you from your sins." Then, you can go in peace with God's love in your heart.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Daniel P. Reilly  
State Chaplain

## Seasons and Rhythms

*Reverend Thomas Rafferty  
Associate State Chaplain*

Other than those economically dependent upon snow such a plow operators and skiers, who can complain about the increasing amounts of daylight and moderating temperatures we're now experiencing? As our focus shifts from icy sidewalks to Fenway Park, especially in this part of the nation, we are reminded of what seasonal beings we are. The older we get, the more accustomed we are to associating certain activities and events with a particular season or date. Ideally, we experience the richness and fullness of our Catholic faith in a not dissimilar way.

*(Continued on page 2)*

# Message from the State Treasurer

Peter K. Healy

Worthy Grand Knights and friends, it sure has been a long winter. We are coming out of with a sure sign of Spring with day light savings time having recently kicked in. I can see the sun again on the ride home from work!

I trust everyone and every Council have come out of their winter slumps. It is time to take a quick appraisal of the status of your Council.

Have we paid our state per capita? How about our Supreme per capita and that special Culture of Life Fund Assessment? Some of you have not. This is not good. Your Council may be suspended because of nonpayment. A suspended Council cannot take a seat at the State Convention in May. Your Council will not have a voice nor will it have a vote at this important event. Credentials are only sent to Councils in good standing, as well as those who have sent in their SF-1 form to the State Office. I ask you to check with your District Deputies and I ask the District Deputies to also check with their assigned Councils. Let's be sure this is all set.

Also, as a consequence of not paying your per capita, your members can not be advanced to the Second or Third Degrees of our Order. This is never a good thing, as you have to be a Third Degree member to be an officer.

I still am collecting money from the Tootsie Roll Drive believe it or not. This money needs to be in the state office so that we can use it

for the charitable grants we are all so proud of. Check with your Treasurer to make sure the check has been mailed. Please do not hold onto this money any longer.

And that brings me to the Frank Fougere State Raffle. All tickets have been given to your District Deputies. All District Deputies were instructed to deliver the tickets to their Councils. If you do not have your tickets, please contact your District Deputy or the State Office to make arrangements to get them to you. First, it is an easy fund raiser. Our membership loves a good raffle and this is something that the out of state members participate in readily. Each Council keeps \$5.00 per 15 tickets sold. Not a bad deal at all! Secondly, it keeps State per capita cost down, always a good thing. That means more dues money stays with the local Council.

Per resolution at the State Convention in 2008, all Councils not participating in the raffle are subject to an assessment:

**RESOLVED:** That an assessment assessed amount will be one dollar ( \$1.00 ) per defined member will be assessed on each Council that makes a decision not to participate in the annual Frank Fougere Raffle.

Please, please participate. You really have nothing to lose and money to gain. In this economy we need to raise money in every way possible to allow our Councils to



continue to support the charitable causes so near and dear to our hearts.

On the matter of the Frank Fougere State Raffle Tickets, please make 1 or 2 partial filings of the raffle tickets and then bring the balance of the raffle tickets to the State Convention. Too often Councils wait to deliver the final filing of tickets at the State Convention and then the committee has to churn through a large burden of work to get every ticket turned into the raffle drum. Help out your fellow brothers by making early returns. And don't forget to include a check with your filings.

Lastly, don't forget membership.

I was at a recent membership drive where the Council had been working on several men to join for several years. They finally joined. The Council members were thrilled that their persistence paid off. They had kept asking these men and others to join their Council. Don't be afraid to keep asking men to join. This Council is active in the parish and because of this is seen as part of the parish community. Be proud of your accomplishments and do great things. Maybe you don't think it is great, but someone you touch through your charity will.

Keep up the good work. Margaret and I wish each and every Grand Knight and Council a Star Council year.

## Resolutions

Thomas McGinn, State Advocate

Dear Brother Knights,

It's almost spring, and that means the State Convention (May, 1-2-3, 2009 Burlington Marriott) is just around the corner. As the State Advocate that means resolutions.

If your council has an idea and is thinking about a resolution, and don't know just how to go about it, maybe we can give you a few hints or a few steps to getting it started and done in time for this years convention.

What can be a resolution? An idea that can improve the status of a council, the state, the order, unity with our Churches, our Priests and betterment for our State.

Get a committee together to work on your idea.

Submit the idea to the State Advocate, thirty five (35) before the

start of the State Convention.

This will give the State Advocate and his committee the time to prepare the document so that it can be read and voted on at the convention.

It's a privilege to be part of the law and rule making procedure that goes on in the Knights of Columbus in Massachusetts, its one that every member can be part of in the state. One great idea could change the way a certain procedure may be done in the future.

I truly feel that it is what makes the Knights of Columbus organization a part of all of us. Keeps the good work going and we will see that our state will remain strong and healthy.

Fraternally,  
Thomas McGinn

## Seasons and Rhythms

Continued from Page 1

We are all familiar with the First Precept our Catholic Church, *You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.* From a practical as well as a spiritual sense, through our regular participation in the Holy Mass on Sundays, we come to more intimately experience the fullness of the salvation Christ has won for us. At the outset of the Liturgical Year, Advent reminds us that Jesus will return in glory and prepares to celebrate his Incarnation at Christmas. After a period of Ordinary Time that Jesus' public ministry, Lent prepares us for Holy Week and Easter. We commemorate so much of our faith during the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Our "Easter Season" continues for fifty days during which we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. The cycle of Readings, the preaching, the color of vestments and the music all keep us attuned to the Church's calendar.

When Mass attendance is sporadic, it can all too easily lead one to become removed from the events in Jesus' life which give us the sacraments, the Church, forgiveness of sin and the promise of everlasting life. Perhaps you've grown tired encouraging a friend or loved one to participate more fully in the life of the Church. Don't give up. Keep them in your prayers. As a Knight of Columbus never hesitate to encourage others to experience the fullness of faith. What better gift can one share?

## State Officers

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**Most Rev. Daniel P. Reilly**

Council 88 Alhambra  
St. Paul's Cathedral  
39 High Street  
Worcester, MA 01609  
(508) 799-4193

Associate Chaplain

**Rev. Thomas S. Rafferty**

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174 Humphrey Street  
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(781) 593-2544

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Hyde Park, MA 02136  
(617) 364-2522

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### Plan to Join Us at Our Next Exemplification

In Honor Of

**Rev. Joseph Baggetta**

Former Chaplain Knights of Columbus – Chaplain Metro Youth Services

**Saturday, May 30, 2009**

Crowne Plaza, Worcester

Ladies Luncheon & Banquet Tickets Available

Contact Secretary to the Master

FDD Robert Morrison [bobmorr@comcast.net](mailto:bobmorr@comcast.net) or (508) 478-3991

John E. Amico, FDD

Master, Bishop James A. Healy Province, Massachusetts District

## The Massachusetts State Newsletter

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## Veterans Affairs

### Massachusetts Knights of Columbus

#### September 2008

Councils and Assemblies are requested to adopt and conduct activities, which support our active duty military personnel along with their family members as well as assisting our veterans who may be in a federal or state care facility.

The involvement starts with one or more individuals being interested in focusing their energy on something they conclude can be done and then gathering others to join in so that the task can be fulfilled. Based on the interest, availability and resources, one or more activities can be done once or recurringly.

Handouts for veteran affairs were offered at the Grand Knight training conference held June 2008. They provided some suggestions that could be used by the Grand Knight, Faithful Navigator or their appointed Veteran Affairs Chairman.

Copies of the handouts or responses to inquires can be obtained by contacting the State Council Veteran Affairs Chairman Paul Bergeron at 781-784-6583.

Individuals or local chairmen interested in assisting at a Federal or State care facility can contact the applicable point of contact identified below.

Please note we are still in need of a point of contact for a few locations listed. Available members, need not be a veteran, should call the State Chairman Veterans Affairs.

The Veterans Affairs program is a Community Program. Grand Knights are reminded that this program could be considered along with other programs conducted by the council for recognition. In order to have a meaningful submission, someone

needs to be collecting data such as man-hours, cost and other related information by task so that when the Grand Knight submits the form for recognition to the State Council, the facts will be available.

Some Parishes have adopted a "Support Our Troops" program. The council should consider helping the Pastor or adopting their own for the Parish, if none presently exists. Remember the Pastor must approve all activities done in the name or within the Parish.

The Fourth Degree in Massachusetts will be conducting their second annual "Wreaths Across America" program. Donations are presently being collected. Peter Giordano, Former Master, Massachusetts is the chairman for this project. Wreaths will be placed on the gravesites in the Bourne National Cemetery, Bourne, MA this December. Color guards both Knights of Columbus and non-Knights of Columbus along with honor guards are asked to participate in the ceremony. The Master or Peter Giordano will provide further information. Volunteers are also needed on that day at the cemetery.

Volunteers are not restricted to veterans or members of the Knights of Columbus. Non-veterans and non-members of the Knights of Columbus can assist at the veteran facilities or a local activity sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Children with children 12 years or older, should consider becoming involved thereby having a family activity. The age is applicable to activities conducted at a veteran facility. Parents and local chairmen when conducting something locally should establish their own age guidelines.

#### *Points of contact are:*

#### *Knights of Columbus volunteer services committee member*

Bedford V.A. Hospital, 200 Spring Road, Bedford, MA  
K of C point of contact— Paul Harrington, Primary (508) 485-6945  
John Harrington, Secondary (508) 485-1034

Brockton V.A. Hospital, 940 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA  
K of C point of contact— Ed Putkonen (781) 982-5206

Jamaica Plain Clinics, 150 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA  
K of C point of contact— Ted Jacobs, Primary (617) 282-6107

Northampton V.A. Hospital, 421 North Main Street, Leeds, MA  
K of C point of contact— Need a volunteer

West Roxbury V.A. Hospital, 1400 V.F.W. Parkway, West Roxbury, MA  
K of C point of contact— Need a volunteer

Worcester and Springfield V.A. Clinics  
K of C point of contact— Need a volunteer for each

#### **State Soldier Home**

Chelsea  
K of C point of contact— Need a volunteer

Holyoke  
K of C point of contact— Thomas Berry, Primary (413) 323-4132

*Paul Bergeron*  
*Veterans Affairs, Chairman*  
*Massachusetts State Council*

## Knights of Columbus

### Massachusetts State Convention

May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

Burlington Marriott, Burlington, Massachusetts

For Package Reservation Form

Please Contact:

State Office - 781-551-0628

or

[www.massachusettsstatekofc.org](http://www.massachusettsstatekofc.org)

### MASSACHUSETTS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DAY

#### WITH THE PAWTUCKET RED SOX

#### SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2009 1:00 P.M.

PawSox vs. Columbus Clippers



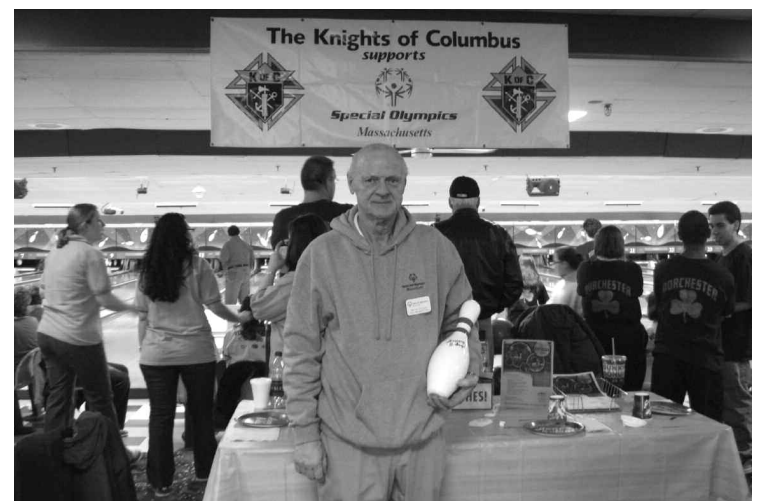
Regular Price \$10.00 - K of C Price Per Person \$8.50

*Local Councils can buy tickets in quantity and use them for:*

- *Member rewards – Bingo Workers*
- *Family Day at PAWSOX*
- *Council fundraiser*
- *Recruitment Incentives*

Order your tickets through the State Office (781)551-0628

## Special Olympics



Special Olympics Chairman FDD Warren Kennedy at the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament held in Auburn, Massachusetts. There were over 300 volunteers including 150 students of St Peter-Marian High School to assist in this wonderful activity.

*State Deputy William F. Donovan  
Announces  
Lantern Award Recipients*

*The Knights of Columbus for the Jurisdiction of Massachusetts proudly bestows its highest honor, the Lantern Award, upon  
John and Magdalen Bish*



*John Bish Sr. is a native of West Warren, Ma. He went to St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, Mi. He continued two years of his pastoral studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland. There he initiated the first "Breakfast Program" in the country for the hungry children of Baltimore.*

*He then left and worked with the Baltimore Federal Government. John moved back to Michigan to marry Magi. Together they graduated from Wayne State University, Magi receiving her B.S. in Special Education while John pursued his M.A. in Counseling. John worked as the Director of Boniface Community Action Center in Detroit.*

*They returned to Massachusetts in 1979 to raise their family where John became a Probation Officer and Magi continues to teach first grade in Palmer. John taught at Anna Maria College as well as Quinsigamond Community College. He also worked as a Psychiatric Counselor at Harrington Hospital.*

*On June 27, 2000, their lives changed forever. 16 year old Molly was abducted from her lifeguard post. Three years later, only 26 of Molly's bones came home. Out of this deep darkness came a great light, the **Molly Bish Foundation**. It has provided education and awareness for families across the Commonwealth, New England and the Country. They have spoke to over 400 government, law enforcement, civic, parents and school groups. They have provided 120,000 free Child Identifications kits, tirelessly going out every weekend to who ever called.*

*They began the First "Missing Children's Day in Massachusetts, honoring those missing and the families missing them for the past eight years. They were instrumental in passing the National "Amber Alert" along with bringing the "Amber Alert" to Ma, They were instrumental with the passage of "Jessica's Law." They serve on the National Amber Alert Committee in Washington DC, and work for the Dept. of Justice speaking on behalf of CART Teams.*

*They are founding members of the Surviving Parents Coalition. Passing the National Bill S1638 this past fall to fight Internet Crimes against Children.*

*They have been recipients of many Awards: The Commonwealth of Ma. and Commission for Woman's: **Unsung Heroine of Massachusetts**, Notre Dame Academy, **St. Julia Award**, Worcester Passionist; **"Witness Award"**, Red Cross **"Hero of Greater Springfield"**; Worcester Sheriff Glodis, **"Community Service Award"**, Connecticut **"Crime Victims Assistant Award**, People Magazine **"Hero's Among Us."** and **"Honorary Doctorates"** from Anna Marie College, Paxton.*

*John and Magi have partnered with Anna Maria College in the development of **"The Molly Bish Center for Children & Elderly"** and also with Mount Wachusett Community College's **"Molly Bish Institute"**.*

*John and Magi continue to work on Legislation, Missing Children's Day and the Molly Bish Foundation.*

*We feel that John and Magdalen Bish epitomize the principles of our beloved order. So tonight in gratitude for their dedicated service, we add the names of*

*John and Magdalen Bish*

*to the illustrious list of Lantern Award Recipients.*

## Knights in Action

### SECOND ANNUAL WINE & BEER TASTING FUNDRAISER

Gerry Lacase, Grand Knight, Council 4044, Fairview

Thanks to the many vendors & sponsors, dedicated volunteers and enthusiastic patrons, the Second Annual Wine & Beer Fundraising event for the Chicopee Catholic schools was another success. Fairview Council 4044 was able to present a two thousand dollar check to our three catholic elementary schools, and also to Holyoke Catholic High School, which has relocated in Chicopee. A special thanks to Past Grand Knight and former District Deputy, Greg Komer, who chaired the event for the second year in a row.

### LEO COUNCIL

#### Keep Christ in Christmas:



Once again, Leo Council placed a Nativity Scene on the lawn at Peabody City Hall. For the past two years, Leo Council has celebrated "Keep Christ in Christmas" by placing the Creche on Peabody City Hall



In addition, the Council furnished the Catholic Churches with Banners proclaiming Keep Christ in Christmas. In addition to the Churches, the council gave a banner to Bishop Fenwick High School. The banners were displayed throughout the Christmas season.

#### Our crack building Team

Bro Tim Barry, Bro Stan Tusinski Jr. Bro Bob Windsor and Bro Steve Monaco In addition to the building team shown above, thanks also goes to GK Bob and Brian Dunne , PGK Tom Weiser , and members of scout troop 88,

#### Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest

Leo Council sent out entry forms to all the elementary schools in Peabody and the Middle school to participate . The contest is open to boys and girls 8-14. See article in Jan Mariner. We received over 100 posters back. We will have these posters available for viewing before the council meeting on 2/24/09. We have selected three judges from the community to pick a winner in each division. Age 8-11 and age 12-14. We are inviting local newspaper reporters to get this event published.

### SPENCER K OF C SERVE GIVES BACK

The Spencer K of C Chapter #2850, Spencer, MA, heard about raffles being run by other chapters at an information sharing gathering at the Avon Headquarters a few years ago. They decided to give it a try.

The sale of tickets for the choice of any one of the 5 packages offered by Serve was priced at 3 tickets for \$2.00. This quickly became profitable. The original purpose was to raise enough money to help cover some of the chapter's expenses. These included coffee and donuts for the volunteers and customers on delivery day, filling in for shortages at the local grocery store, and getting "a little something" for the volunteers at the holidays, etc.

Realizing that it was much more successful than originally thought, the chapter was able to expand the use of the profits. Chapter coordinators, Linda Dagley-Duval and Danielle Gebo found that they could not only "Give Back" to its loyal and dependable volunteers, but could provide food packages to the local food pantries, homeless shelters and others in need.

Each month a volunteer is chosen to receive a meat only package. The names are drawn until every volunteer has received a package and then the process starts all over again.

In addition throughout the year and especially at the holidays, food items from the program including steak, chicken and of course the Holiday Package have all been donated in gesture of "giving back" to the community.

In recognition of a "job well done" the Knights of Columbus, the chapter's host provided an Appreciation Breakfast at the December delivery day. Special thanks to the Knights for donating the breakfast and to its members, Frank White and his wife, Barbara for cooking a great meal!

In 2008, the chapter not only covered its expenses, they gave out 12 meat only packages to the volunteers and was able to provide 57 meals to individual and families in need. What an accomplishment!

### WESTFIELD COUNCIL #100

Westfield Council #100 is holding a Golf Tournament to benefit the Scholarship Fund at Tekoa Country Club on April 25th at 1pm. There is a \$25,000 Hole-in-One Contest. Lunch is provided before golf and a buffet dinner following golf. In addition, there will be raffles and auctions. The cost is only \$80 per person. If you wish to only attend the dinner and auction/raffles, the cost is \$20. Sponsorship and donations are also needed. Contact Chris White at 413-568-0012 to register or donate.

### DRACUT COUNCIL #4225



Presentation was made by COA Director Joyce Shaden, MA. State Senator Susan Tucker and MA. State Rep. Colleen Geary w/citation from MA State legislature to Dracut Council #4225 for many years of time and money in support of the Elderly of Dracut.



Presentation was made by COA Director to Dracut Council #4225 for Donation of New Stove for the COA Kitchen, they were awesome, says Director Shaden.

### VALENTINES DAY ROSES



In what has become a yearly tradition, Woburn Knights of Columbus Council #77 and Winchester Council #210 presented Valentine's Day roses to residents and staff of several local nursing homes.

In addition to brightening the day of the residents and staff, we also get great satisfaction ourselves from seeing their reactions. We also received a touching note of thanks this year from the daughter of one of the residents thanking us for our kindness to her mother.

Pictured are the Brothers who distributed roses, and some of the appreciative staff and residents.

### GARDNER COUNCIL NO 396



The Knights of Columbus Gardner Council No 396 donated the necessary funds for the construction of a handicapped access ramp to the home of Thomas and Jean Penniman for their son Michael. Michael suffers from cerebral palsy and is also mentally handicapped. The funds for the construction of the ramp were made possible from the Knights of Columbus Massachusetts State Charity Fund Grant Program which in turn is funded by the local KofC councils' Tootsie roll can and toll booth drives.

Michael has not been able to spend much time outside the house due to being inflicted which spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy. His parents have had to carry him outside whenever they had places to go. This has made it nearly impossible for him to spend leisure time outside by himself.

Michael's father Thomas made the statement to the KofC representatives present to deliver the check to the contractor that, "Now that there is a ramp for Michael to go outside on his own, he will be able to come and go as he pleases to get some much needed exercise" "Michael will be able to change his daily routine, and find another source of enjoyment in his life". Thomas and Jean Penniman are so pleased that the Knights of Columbus have come to their aid and the aid of Michael. They had difficulty to put their gratitude into words.

The Knights of Columbus from Gardner feel that there was no better Christmas gift that Michael could have received at this juncture of his life, then to be able to come and go from his own home, on his own. Michael was and is very excited at the new gift of freedom that he has received from the Knights of Columbus through Gardner Council's assistance. The Grand Knight (Roger Guitare) and the Gardner Knights of Columbus Council send a special blessing to all of the people that stop and give to the Knights of Columbus when they are out on their toll booth drives. It is the generosity of the Greater Gardner Community who support the Knights of Columbus as we work to fund this program for the children.

**If you would like to see your Council or Assembly  
in this section of the Knightline,  
please email us at donmaryellen@gmail.com**

## Programs, Church, Community, Council Family and Youth

Kent Shorette, State Program Director

I would like to begin by thanking my wife Roseann for all her help with running the hospitality room starting with the Supreme Convention and all the State functions along with the wives who made the appetizers and baked all the delicious pastry and those wives who helped with the hospitality room. This shows how special our wives are and how their support helps us in all we do for the Knights of Columbus throughout the Order. Also a thank you to Bob Richard, my co-bartender who has worked the bar with me at all the State functions.

Two more special thanks came from our State Chaplain his Excellency Bishop Daniel P. Reilly and Associate Chaplain Fr. Thomas Rafferty for the wonderful time they had with all of us beginning at the Supreme Convention in Quebec and all the State Events. The Massachusetts Knights of Columbus hit a couple of home runs when these two wonderful men of the cloth agreed to lead us spiritual

Programs are very important activities for our Councils to run. If the Councils are doing the activities in the five Programs under Church, Community, Council, Family and Youth, the Councils will have a greater opportunity to get the members involved. Along with getting the members involved in the activities also the Councils have an opportunity to be recognized by the State and Supreme for their hard work. More important, if the Councils are encouraging their members to get involved with the Programs the Knights of Columbus name will get out to the churches and communities and give us the publicity we need for our charitable work and then this will increase our membership.

The District Deputies should push Programs in all their Councils and get the message across to all the members to run these Programs.

As always, I look forward to working with the State Officers, Directors and Chairman and my entire brother Knights to put Massachusetts on the road to a successful fraternal year in Programs.

Vivat Jesus  
Kent Shorette  
State Program Director



**VALID PASSPORT REQUIRED!**



Beautiful Sorrento Harbor

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## Massachusetts State Council Knights of Columbus

presents...

# SORRENTO & ROME

featuring: *Sorrento, Naples/Pompeii, the Isle of Capri, the Amalfi Drive, Vatican City, and Rome!*

9-Days/7-Nights

**November 11 – 19, 2009**

**\$1989** for payment by credit card

**\$1949** discount rate for payment by cash or check

### OUR SORRENTO & ROME TOUR ITINERARY

**DAY 1 - BOSTON-ITALY:** Depart Boston's Logan International Airport on our overnight flight to Italy (via an intermediate city) with full meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, while aloft.

**DAY 2 – ROME-SORRENTO:** *Benvenuti in Italia!* Arrival at the airport in Rome where we will be met by our Tour Escort who will assist with our transfer. Board our private motorcoach for the drive to Sorrento and check-in at the 4-star *Hotel Michelangelo* (or similar). The remainder of the day is at leisure to get acquainted with the hotel and our surroundings. An orientation meeting, with "Welcome Drink", will be held at the hotel prior to dinner. Overnight. (D)

**DAY 3 – SORRENTO:** After breakfast at the hotel, we will be hosted on a morning walk through the historical center of Sorrento, including a visit to the Museum of Correale which is situated in the 18<sup>th</sup> century palazzo at the east end of town, then we will be taken on a morning tour through the hillsides of Sorrento, where wild roses and camellias surround us. We will visit *La Sorgente*, a picturesque agricultural farm, belonging to the family *Marciano* which is nestled in the Sorrentine hills with a fabulous view of the city of Naples. It is a natural area dotted with orange, lemon, and olive groves and vineyards which have been worked with equipment and methods dating back to the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> century. Sip on homemade wine, snack on crisp, tender Italian bread (topped with fresh tomato and a drizzle of olive oil), and sample the best homemade mozzarella one could imagine! We will experience a demonstration of making mozzarella the old fashioned way. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure to shop-and-browse in Sorrento. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (BB, L, D)

**DAY 4 – ISLE OF CAPRI:** Today we will visit the beautiful Isle of Capri! Our full-day excursion includes a round trip ferry ride, lunch on Capri, and a guided tour of many of the island's most famous and important landmarks. There will also be some free time to shop and browse. Return to our hotel for dinner this evening. (BB, L, D)

**DAY 5 - AMALFI DRIVE:** After breakfast at the hotel, we will be taken on an excursion along one of the most scenic roads in the world – *The Amalfi Drive!* Our first stop will be above Positano, one of Italy's most famous and elegant resorts. We will then continue our drive through the ancient marine republic of Amalfi. There will be some free time to visit the beautiful Cathedral of St. Andrew, explore the town or browse and shop. Lunch in Scala. Return to Sorrento for dinner and overnight. (BB, L, D)

**DAY 6 – POMPEII & NAPLES:** Following breakfast, we will visit the "lost city" of Pompeii and its excavations. Lunch is in Pompeii. Afterwards, we will tour the city of Naples, visiting the commercial and military port, and the medieval castle, Castel dell'Ovo. Dinner and overnight at the hotel this evening. (BB, L, D)

**DAY 7 – ROME:** After an early breakfast and check-out at our hotel, we are off to Rome! Stop for our box lunch. Arriving in Rome, we have a panoramic tour of the "Eternal City" including stops at the Colosseum, Trevi Fountain, Piazza Navona and the Pantheon. Late-afternoon check-in at the 4-star *Clarhotel* (or similar). Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome. (BB, BL, D)

**DAY 8 – VATICAN CITY:** Breakfast at our hotel. In the morning, we will visit Vatican City to attend the weekly Papal Blessing with His Holiness, followed by a tour of St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museums, and the Sistine Chapel. Lunch on our own. The afternoon is at leisure! Dinner with operatic music at a local restaurant this evening. Overnight at our hotel. (BB, D)

**DAY 9 – ROME-BOSTON:** After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will transfer to the Rome Airport to board our return flight to Boston (via an intermediate city) with full meal and beverage service en route. We will arrive back in Boston the same day. (BB)

# Message from the State Warden

Russell Steinbach

Welcome my Brother Knights to another new calendar year seems to me that the time is just flying by and before we know it my first year as your State Warden will have come to a close. Donna and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the brothers and their wives who have been so nice and receptive to us. I would like to specially thank the members of the South Region where I have had the pleasure to assist this year, but brothers we still have time to improve our order. Once again membership growth is down; we can not continue to standby and let this trend happen. We as knights must come up with some way to resolve are recruiting woes. Each and every one of us must make the effort to bring at least one new member before the end of the fraternal year.

Now this cannot be just hollow words on the paper. We must take immediate action. Every council I have visited over the past months could use new blood in the councils. To say this is the Grand Knights sole responsibility is crazy. Every member should be on the look out for possible new members. Each year our councils membership get a little older, a little tired. I applaud our older members for making this Jurisdiction of Massachusetts as great as it is, but if we are to continue on with future success, new members are a must. New ideas are need-



ed and with that a new energy to help continue our mission of making Massachusetts great.

You may ask how I, just one member from my council can start a change. Well next time at church get there a little early, strike up a conversation with the Gentleman seated by himself or with his family. Ask if he is a Knight or knows about the Knights of Columbus. Offer some information about our great order. Try recruiting down at the sub shop or local store, maybe at a local sporting event like a CYO basketball game. Introduce yourself as a proud Knight; do not stay silent when in fact we need all brothers to help put forth the good works of our order. I would like to commend the Membership Team and Director Paul O'Sullivan for all their efforts thus far. I know they will not stop till the end of the year.

At this Holy season of lent leading up to Easter, what better time to bring in a new member. Knights have always been strong supporters of our faith and religious leaders. Brothers there still is time left in this fraternal year for each us to help. I would challenge all to bring in one member before the end of June. God bless all and thank you for your friendships.

Vivat Jesus,  
State Warden Russell Steinbach.

# State Secretary Message

Michael Baldner

Worthy Brothers:

We are in the last stretch of the State Deputy's first year. Have you asked yourself and if you have not please take a few minutes and ask yourself now: What have I recently done for the K of C? What have I recently done for my council? What have I recently done for the church or what have I recently done for the community? Have I recently brought in a new member to share the K of C experience?

The questions should provoke a multitude of answers and generate a whole bunch of other questions. The question that ties everything together is the original question as to why you joined the Knights of Columbus. If you're a relatively new member then the original answer as to why you became a knight is probably still the same. If you have been a knight for a few years or a member for a long time the reason you remain a knight has probably changed more than once.

The current answer probably has more to do with where you are today in your marriage, family life, job or still a combination of all these things.

Whatever the reason was, is or will be the needs of your church are much more pressing, the current needs of your community are much more pressing and we all know the current need of your council to provide programs and services to meet other people's needs are now that much more a necessity for us as members to respond to these needs. In one manner or in many we joined the Knights of Columbus to help. Current circumstances clearly point out that help is needed.

I would be remiss in denying that the need in your household are also that much more pressing but we are told that those who are in need who help others in need receive additional blessings.

I urge you to support your council. I urge you to push your council to re-invigorate programs that support the church and community and if necessary urge the council to start programs to assist others in need. As you sit there reading this and say where is the time I ask you to think back to the time when you were asked to collect points. Time was spend in this endeavor. Your assistance in some way can be as short as a few minutes or up to a number of hours per month. This burden is not overwhelming. I suggest you start small and increase your hour or hours over a period of time. You will get more out of the time spend helping than what you volunteered.

And if you have an additional minute ask the guy in Mass, in work or while you are walking to become a knight. For we all know that extra hands make the load lighter or at a minimum Misery Loves Company.

Vivat Jesus  
Michael Baldner  
State Secretary



## Massachusetts State Council 2009 Knights of Columbus Golf Classic

Sunday, May 17, 2009  
Chicopee Country Club, Chicopee, MA

11:00 – 11:45  
12:00 Noon  
6:00 PM

Registration  
Shotgun Start – Scramble  
Dinner/Awards  
Fairview Council #4044

Entry Fee \$100 Per Player

Contact  
State Executive Secretary Richard Guerriero  
(781) 551-0628

## Save the Date

**Annual Charity Ball**  
**Saturday, October 24, 2009**  
**Crowne Plaza**  
**Worcester, Massachusetts**

**More details to come!**  
**Al Fuller, FDD**  
**Charity Ball Chairman**

# K of C Surprise 10-year-old

By Debbie LaPlaca, Correspondent

DUDLEY — A two-hour snow delay made for a quiet January morning at Dudley Elementary School. Empty hallways led to a brightly lit library, where a small group of adults gathered in anticipation of one child enroute with her parents. Sleeping in wasn't an option for Grade 4 student Audrey LaBonne; a surprise awaited her in the library – a motorized scooter, compliments of the Knights of Columbus.

Audrey, 10, has congenital myotonic dystrophy fiber-type disproportion – a rare genetic disorder characterized by muscle weakness, slow reflexes and low endurance.

"The taller she gets, the harder walking is for her. We're wurrTW afloat Tier startng to break bones because she falls very easily," Audrey's mother, Robin E. LaBonne, said in a recent interview.

In October, school physical therapist Lynn Budzynkiewicz described Audrey's condition in a letter to the Knights of Columbus Local 228 of Webster-Dudley.

"Challenges for Audrey are falling unexpectedly to the floor when walking or standing," she wrote. "Due to her muscle weakness ... she is unable to stand up independently and injury has become a great concern."

There is no cure or effective treatment for Audrey's condition, which causes her to walk with a slow, labored gait. She sits and stands from a chair with effort and requires assistance when climbing stairs. School hallways can be a hazard.

"When standing or walking in a congested area, Audrey's balance is always compromised and she becomes apprehensive, knowing she could unintentionally be bumped and lose her balance," Ms. Budzynkiewicz wrote.

The Knights of Columbus answered the call, and on that wintry morning, Jan. 8, surprised Audrey with a three-wheeled, motorized travel scooter.

"They told us her favorite color is red, so we ordered it in red," Grand Knight Paul Perry said during the presentation.

Surrounded by her mother, father, David LaBonne, and brother, Peter, a soft-spoken and shy Audrey accepted the gift.

"I won't fall down as much. It's great," she said.

Mrs. LaBonne said the family's health insurance barely covers the new braces each year to support Audrey's ankles. The Knights of Columbus gift, she said, is a life-changing dream come true at a critical time in her daughter's development.

Audrey will begin fifth grade this fall at Dudley Middle School, which is considerably larger, with three floors versus the one-floor building she currently navigates.

Mrs. LaBonne credited Ms.



**Audrey LaBonne shows here new motorized scooter to fellow fourth-graders at Dudley Elementary School. Audrey, 10, has a rare genetic disorder that affects her muscles, balance and endurance.**

Budzynkiewicz as the "resounding force" behind soliciting a grant from the Knights.

"Lynn felt it was necessary to help her in the middle school because we were all concerned about how she was going to walk all the extra distances, she said, adding, Audrey wants to help herself more and this is going to help her do that."

What began with a Tootsie Roll fundraiser ended with the \$1,100 scooter, through a grant by the Massachusetts State Council Knights of Columbus Charity Fund.

The Webster-Dudley Knights of Columbus, established in 1897, has 144 members and covers a round table of three parishes: St. Anthony's of Padua Church in Dudley; St. Louis Church in Webster and Sacred Heart Church in Webster.

"We are a strictly Catholic men's organization. We are the largest religious lay group in the world at this point," Mr. Perry said of the Knights' 1.7 million members.

Proceeds from the group's annual Columbus Day Tootsie Roll Charity Drive finances grants for physically handicapped children.

The Webster-Dudley council, Mr. Perry said, distributes Tootsie Rolls while soliciting donations at local establishments, and typically raises \$1,000 to \$2,000 each year. Although the Knights is a Catholic organization, the awarding of grants is nondenominational and could go anywhere in the state. Therefore, he said, the Dudley-Webster council was particularly proud that this grant was awarded to a child in Dudley.

Dudley Elementary School Principal Terri A. Caffelle reported recently that Audrey quickly mastered the scooter and it has proven beneficial for navigating crowded hallways.

Commending the Knights of Columbus members for their generosity. Mrs. Caffelle said, "It was such a wonderful partnership with the community.

When you see them selling Tootsie Rolls, buy one!"

## Massachusetts Knights of Columbus

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## STATE DEPUTY PRESENTS 2008 SUPREME BASKETBALL FREE THROW TROPHY



On February 7th, 2009, State Deputy William Donovan presented the 2008 Supreme

Basketball Free Throw Trophy to 14 year-old Danielle Candelieri. Danielle is from Chelmsford, Massachusetts and was representing the Bishop Ruocco Council # 9275.

Danielle has been competing at the free throw competitions for a number of years. In 2008, Danielle competed at the council level and won the girls 14 year-old age group against over 20 girls her age. She then moved on to the district level where she again was successful in winning against five other council winners. Then she moved on to the regional competition and beat out 13 other girls to proceed to the State Finals.

At the State Finals, Danielle competed against girls from all over the state of Massachusetts and won her age group and her name was submitted to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council to be considered for the trophy she was presented with today.

Danielle is also a very talented basketball player and is currently on the Chelmsford High school basketball team. Congratulations to Danielle!!

## ANNUAL LADIES BRUNCH

The Annual Ladies Brunch at the State Convention will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Burlington Marriott Hotel in Burlington, MA at 10:00 A.M.

In addition to a delicious brunch, each lady attending will receive a lovely gift from the wives of the State Board. They also will have the opportunity to win one of the many door prize giveaways donated by the wives of the present and former members of the State Board, wives of the present District Deputies, wives of various committee members, Fourth Degree wives as well as various Councils and Assemblies throughout the state. One lady at each table will also take home one of our beautiful centerpieces.

If you are planning on bringing a gift to the Ladies Brunch, please notify the State Office (781) 551-0628 ASAP so that we will be able to include your name and gift in the program booklet.

Tickets for the brunch are \$25.00 (non-refundable) and may be purchased by completing the enclosed order form and forwarding it along with your check (made payable to the Mass State Council K of C). Mail to the Massachusetts State Council, Knights of Columbus, 470 Washington Street, Suite #6, Norwood, MA 02062. Kindly respond as soon as possible, as tickets will undoubtedly go fast for this favorite event.

Thank You  
Annmarie Donovan  
Wife of the State Deputy

