

# STATE UPDATE



## UTAH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

www.utahknights.org

June 2016

### State Deputy's Message

Brothers,

We just had the Relics of the Passion in Utah and if you participated or witnessed it, the energy is something not to be believed. This is a once in a lifetime event for most people and should be witnessed. Something this significant and so close to Easter brings out the reality in our beliefs. The Silver Rose is just starting and will be moving on to Colorado by June 19. This is also a powerful, prayerful program in support of the Culture of Life. Have your reserved time to have the Silver Rose at your parish? These programs are not something we can plan to the last detail because scheduling is not something we can control but we need to be ready to step up when the need is there. The charity of a family in need, a church project brought about by necessity, or a community in distress are things we cannot plan for but need to be ready because charity and support is what we do.

We are in our final month before we start a new year. Columbian Award applications are due so do not hesitate because if a mistake is made, you still have time to correct it before June 30. Every council in Utah is deserving of this award and you should be submitting for it. The Star Council award also hinges on this award in conjunction with membership and insurance. These awards are acknowledgment from the Supreme Council that you have fulfilled the goals of the Knights of Columbus and your members have earned a pat on the back for their efforts and dedication.

A lot of things will be changing. Council elections normally occur in June which could mean some new council officers. The council Trustees play an important role during the month of June. The Trustees are normally former Grand Knights so they know what it takes to be a council leader. They should be used as a resource and elections is no different. The Trustees should be looking for the men who stand out as leaders and have the energy and vision to lead the council in the upcoming year.

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### Master's Musings

The vision of the Patriotic Degree is: Standing firm in support of the order, proudly serving the country, unwavering support of the faith, and honoring the legacy of Knighthood. That is why we were tasked with spearheading the Military Chaplains Scholarship Fund. I want to thank all the councils, assemblies, and Sir Knights who have been so generous in assisting the Utah jurisdiction on meeting its commitment of \$20,000 for this worthwhile fund. Knights throughout the nation contributed over \$1,250,000.

In the next fraternal year, we need the help of all Knights to grow the order. A request for programs and for assistance to our parishes continues to grow. We need members to meet those requests. All Knights need to recruit to the 1st Degree. Council officers need to recruit new members to the 2nd Degree. Officers and District Deputies need to recruit to the 3rd Degree. Officers, District Deputies, District Marshalls, Faithful Navigators, and all Sir Knights need to recruit to the 4th Degree.

The Patriotic Degree is the visible arm of the Order. We need more Sir Knights and more Regalia Knights. We will have three exemplifications this fraternal year; in November, February and June. These exemplifications are formal each candidate and observer is required to be in uniform: a traditional black tuxedo without tails, no vests, and a lay down collar shirt with bow tie or military dress if active military.

In closing, remember that PATRIOTISM is a backbone. "Jesus saw a very poor widow dropping in [the Temple treasury] two little copper coins. He said 'I tell you that this poor widow put in more than all the others...She...gave all she had to live on.'" ~ Luke 2:4.

There were four kinds of "bones" in every organization. First, there are the Wishbones. They see the problem, talk about it, and hope someone will do something about it. Second, there are the Jawbones. They see the problem, talk about it, talk about it some more, but do little else. Third, there are the Knucklebones. They see the problem, talk about it, and criticize what's being done about it.

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## State Deputy's Message (cont.)

Programs are coming to a close and decisions about the upcoming year must be made. These decisions are up to the council officers so recruit men you can follow and who can energize the membership.

The State Council officer selection was completed last month and a new State Deputy was elected and the officer positions filled. This was a great responsibility which your council representatives performed at State Convention. I still have one month to serve and plan to do the best I can to serve you. Another thing I can do is help the transition of the State Council Officers into their new responsibilities. These men are there to serve you and keep the charity and support of our faith going.

These last two years have been busy and I built many new friendships and met a lot of people. I have been proud to serve you and I plan on being around for a while. I may be more in the background but I will still be there for you as a friend and resource. Finish out your year strong and show your members they have done well by getting them the awards they deserve. Share the feeling you get when you know you are doing good by recruiting men of like minds who want to give back and grow in their faith. You all deserve a pat on the back and this is my way of saying thank you for the last two years

Vivat Jesus!



Jerry Hanten  
Utah State Deputy

### McGivney Guild Membership

The Guild's goal, as stated by Dominican Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell, guild director and vice postulator of Father McGivney's cause for canonization, is to, "spread the good word about Father McGivney's holiness of life, to encourage devotion to his memory, and to seek his intercession before the throne of God."

Membership is free and every month you will get news of the progress toward canonization and other news

To join, go to  
<http://www.fathermcgivney.org/mcg/en/contact/register.html>

## Master's Musings (cont.)

Finally, there are the Backbones. They see the problem, study it prayerfully, roll up their sleeves, and do what needs to be done. ~Author Unknown

One of the persistent challenges facing the leadership of the Knights is the lack of widespread involvement on the part of council members. Are you a backbone of your Council or Assembly? If not, what kind of "bone" are you?

*Laziness is nothing more than the habit of resting before you get tired*  
~ Mortimer Caplan.

Vivat Jesus and God Bless America!

Bill McCauley

District Master - Utah.

## State Secretary's Corner

I have regrets being a Knight. Those regrets are almost never for the things I have done. The regrets I have are for things I have not done. If only I had bought my Insurance earlier. If only as Grand Knight I had planned more social activities with my council. As District Deputy, I wish I had pushed my councils a little harder and provided better leadership and knowledge. At each office, I wish I had talked more to those who had come before me in those offices and gotten more advice. Now, as I am about to go to New Haven and accept the State Deputy jewel, I think I could finally be successful as a Grand Knight and think that finally I'd make a good District Deputy.

Every Past State Deputy I've talked to has said essentially the same thing. You only really feel comfortable in the position in the second half of your second year. As you progress through the chairs of state office, you learn an incredible amount, but never really enough to completely prepare you for the next. That is not unique to state office; it is true for council offices as well. The thing is, there are others who have held the offices before you. We can all learn from those who have come before us.

Don't be shy about asking for help. People are willing and able to give you the help you need. All you need to do is ask. It's my turn. I need your help. I need you to help me and each member of the state office corps. We can't do our jobs without you and your assistance. Just as we ask you for information, reports, and updates, so too do we get such requests . . . from Supreme

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# Life Support



A Pro-Life Newsletter

Volume 23 Issue 6

Dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, The Immaculate Conception

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Web sites for Pro-life current events: <http://nrlactioncenter.com/>, [nchla.org/issues.asp](http://nchla.org/issues.asp), [uscgb.org/](http://uscgb.org/), [firstthings.com](http://firstthings.com), [frcblog.com](http://frcblog.com), <http://powellcenterformedicaethics.blogspot.com/>, <http://stoptheabortionagenda.com/>, [capwiz.com/nrlc/issues/](http://capwiz.com/nrlc/issues/) <http://pregnancyline.com/>

## Men will present themselves, Distorting the Truth (Acts 20:30)

### Fathers & Abortion

Abortion supporters insist abortion is an issue between the woman and her doctor.

Fathers are often forgotten or dismissed when it comes to an abortion decision. The primary exception to that statement concerns the father who actively and often strenuously demands the woman abort the child which he has no desire or intention to acknowledge or support.

Pro-lifers know both the mother and the father are essential parts of the baby's gestation and life.

Paul Stark, one of our favorite pro-life authors, [instructs us that there are three ways that fatherhood and abortion intersect](#).

1. The importance of supportive fathers. Often women fear single parenthood and are more inclined to seek abortion should the father abdicate his responsibility.

2. The effect of abortion on fathers. In this he speaks of grief, guilt, anger, and depression, giving several references which detail those issues.

3. Defending the unborn. Both men and women have great concerns about defending and protecting life. And both have particular strengths essential to their participation in the life issues.

Paul's article is short and educational.

### Persistence

How long can it be that anti-life supporters will hold tenaciously to their pre-drawn conclusions that abortion is "good for society", an expression recently given to me as if it were full justification?

Surely it is not good for the babies dying from abortion. And the grief which many parents experience cannot be considered a "good".

There are many legislative actions afoot, among them, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, the Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act, and the Born-Alive Abortion Survivor's Protection Act, and they identify serious errors in pro-

abortion thinking.

The pro-life position is truly the high-ground. Our persistence in prayer and love will turn the tables and save the children.

### 8 Weeks, 5 days

A sad [miscarriage](#) yields a magnificent pro-life confirmation.



Annabelle Danison, 8 weeks and 5 days  
Babies at this age are not just a blob of tissue.

### Extreme?

"What's relevant is that it's entirely irrelevant why a woman wants an abortion." So go [the words of Allison Benedikt](#), *Slate's* news director.

It is not alive, it is not a person, it is not relevant on its own, it has no rights, it is not a baby, it is, simply and solely, a woman's choice.

The "it" is, of course, a fetus. And a fetus is a blob of something which may become some other thing in the future, a thing which is of no importance. Certainly it is not a living, independent human in utero.

It takes an extreme denial to stand firmly in defense of gender selection abortion. The final two paragraphs of her article are an admission that any words or actions, however extreme or indefensible, are proper in their promotion of abortion.

When their goal is to defend "abortion rights", no matter what, and not let the biological and scientific facts lead to a conclusion, they have truly lost their direction and credibility.

### Choose life

How can we vote pro-life when no candidate has pledged to protect unborn babies?

We need to know which candidate promotes abortion. Maybe our vote will be for the one who is more pro-life than the other one. Ask if your political party has a pro-life plank in its platform.

Now choose life so that you and your children may live. (Deut 30:19)

### China Abortions

We have often reported on the China One-Child-Policy and its [13 million abortions](#) per year. This staggering number is aggravated by [its](#) including gendercide, specifically focused on female babies.

The US State department, in its recent [report to congress](#), includes information which shows these numbers to be only part of the real story. The report states that there are [23 million abortions](#) per year. "Therefore, with four times the population of the United States, China has 23 times the number of abortions."

Further, the report that China is ending its official One-Child- Policy, while probably true, has in no way changed the practices in many local communities or diminished the number of abortions, forced and elective.

### Did PP Profit?

The [evidence continues to mount](#), leading to the reasonable conclusion, that Planned Parenthood (PP) did make a profit in its practice of selecting, recovering, processing, and selling baby parts collected from the babies killed in their abortion business.

And such profiting is against federal laws. The head of PP, Cecile Richards has adamantly denied that any profits were obtained but the congressional investigation has shown differently.

## State Secretary's Corner (cont)

Supreme has our phone numbers and our email addresses and they know how to use them. Please realize that our requests come from above. They come from above for a good reason. Supreme has been in the charity business for over 130 years. Since the Knights of Columbus was founded there have been thousands of fraternal organizations that have folded up tent. There have been hundreds of Catholic fraternal organizations that have come and gone. Alone, the Knights of Columbus stand above the rest by a significant distance. Why? Because the Knights of Columbus has a system, a way of doing things that has a demonstrated record of success.

Just as each of us has a record of success that has led us to where we are, so it is with the Supreme Council. As an example, there is an officer at Supreme who came from a Midwestern state, and not a huge one either. In his 2-year term as State Deputy, this Knight averaged 2 new councils per month. Utah's goal is one per year. Can you imagine the level of skill and effort required to attain such a level of achievement? I can't. Do you think we can learn a thing or two from people like that? You be we can!

We all want Utah to grow in charity. The surest way to grow our charity is to grow our order. Yes, that means membership. But it is more than that too. One thing about being at the state level is being able to see what happens to councils that do not regularly recruit. As members age, they slow down and do less and less. Soon, certain programs stop at those councils. That means fewer and fewer opportunities for the council to reach out to prospective members. That also means that the same dedicated Knights start repeating offices and get burned out more quickly. This is a spiral that is hard to break out of, but must be broken to preserve the charity that defines us. It takes a lot less effort to maintain momentum than it takes to get something started.

I know that I have no intention of having regrets when my term as state deputy is over. But I know the best I can do is to limit the number of regrets I am sure to have. At the top of my list of things to do as State Deputy will be to leave the state in better shape than it was when I took over. So I want it to be with each of the officers in the State Council and of the assemblies and councils in Utah.

Strong councils are my primary goal. If our councils are strong we will not have to worry about how our districts are doing. If our districts are strong, the state will have succeeded. Above us, Supreme sees that if the states are strong, Supreme succeeds. Who benefits the most from the Knights succeeding? Those we help. With our councils strong and growing leading the way, we can and will achieve marvelous things.



Andy Airriess  
State Deputy-elect

### State Program Updates

**State Video Contest** The forms are under the last item in the "Programs" menu on the state web site. Thanks to Council 14399 at Holy Family parish in South Ogden, the awards have been doubled! We're getting lots of interest, make sure the high school students in your parish know about the contest.

[http://utahknights.org/programs/#video\\_psa](http://utahknights.org/programs/#video_psa)

**State Organizational Meeting** St Therese of the Child Jesus in Midvale. Saturday, June 25th. The agenda and reservation forms are on the state web site [utahknights.org](http://utahknights.org).

Fundraising for **Coats for Kids** will be beginning soon. The better we prepare, the better the results. Different areas of the state will be distributing the coats at different times.