

STATE UPDATE

UTAH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS



www.utahknights.org

December 2014

State Deputy's Message

November is a month of remembering our friends and family who have departed. It can be a sad time but we can also make it a joyful time by remembering the things that made them special to you. We can also remember they have paved the way for us to an eternal reward by leading faith filled lives which we can emulate. This season leads into Christmas when we get with family and friends to celebrate our path to salvation with the birth of Jesus Christ. Both these seasons are for remembering and appreciating what has gone before and what is to come.

I have good news for those who haven't heard, District Deputy Gene Trombetti is our newest Knights of Columbus Field Agent for Utah and Tom Whitworth of St. Mary's Council 1129 has stepped up to take over as the new District Deputy. The bad news is District Deputy Louis Amarosa has accepted a position in New York and has already left for his new job. I congratulate and thank these dedicated men for their service.

To Dave Matyjasik, our Special Olympics Chairman, I extend a heartfelt thank you. Dave has done an outstanding job as shown by the special presentation to the Knights of Columbus at the recent Utah Special Olympics gala. Dave, several members of the state council, and brother knights were there when he accepted the award for the Knights of Columbus. We can all thank Dave for his efforts over the years to build the Utah program and also the councils and men who stepped up to help Dave and Special Olympics.

The Mid-year meeting is scheduled for January 3rd with St. Ambrose Council 15418 as sponsors. We have a few things special this year including Financial Secretary/Faithful Comptroller training on Member Management and our Regional Membership Program Consultant, Levi Leyba, will be present to represent the Supreme Council. Please join us and fill out the attached sign-up form included with this State Update. The meeting is not limited to Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries so please extend the invitation to other officers and third degree members of your councils.

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Assistant State Chaplain's Summation

There is a statement from the time of the Fathers of the Church which says, "The law of prayer is the law of belief." (Lex orandi, lex credendi.) In other words, how we pray shows what we believe.

This year we have been privileged to celebrate on a Sunday two 'unusual' feast days. Well, they really aren't unusual. We celebrate them every year, but most years they fall on a weekday, so many people who aren't able to attend daily Mass are not aware of them. They are the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) and the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. Our celebration of these feasts has a lot to tell us what we as Catholics believe.

The celebration of All Souls' Day reminds us that we need to pray for the dead and that our prayers for them are effective. Prayer for the dead is one of the seven Spiritual Works of Mercy. Christians have always prayed for the dead. Because we are united in the Body of Christ, we can pray for the dead. (This is also why we can pray for each other here on earth and the saints in Heaven can pray for us.) It is the teaching of the Church that the effects of and attachment to sin must be purified for a person to enter into the presence of God. The sad thing is that many just assume that the dead are in Heaven and don't bother to pray for the Poor Souls in Purgatory.

The celebration of the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran reminds us of two things. First, our churches are more than meeting halls or mere buildings. They are places where, through the celebration of the Sacraments, Heaven touches earth. They are also icons of Heaven, which is one of the reasons that in them you will find images of saints and other heavenly things. It is also why they look and feel different than other kinds of buildings. They are sacramentals; physical objects that are blessed and intended to increase and incite devotions. Second, because it is the cathedral church of the diocese of Rome, its dedication reminds us of our union with all other Catholics under the Successor of St. Peter, Our Holy Father Pope Francis.

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Assistant State Chaplain's Summation (Cont.)

Our opening statement can be expanded, "The law of prayer is the law of belief and the law of belief is the law of life." This because what we believe must be lived out. Do we remember to pray for the dead, especially our brother Knights and those who have no one to pray for them? We need to do this all year, not just on All Souls' or during November. Do we treat our churches with reverence as holy places. This includes ensuring that they are well maintained. The Knight have helped the Church do this in many ways; restoring St. Peter Basilica, helping to build the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and contributing to the restoration of the Cathedral of the Madeline as well as many parish churches here in Utah. These are just a couple of examples of how our prayer influences our beliefs which influences our lives..

Fr. Erik Richtsteig

Assistant State Chaplain

State Deputy's Message (cont.)

We do not rest over the winter as shown by our programs. Just to mention a few is the State Free Throw Challenge, Diocesan Science Fair, Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), Military Chaplains Fund, and the Veterans' Wheelchair program sponsored by the Fourth Degree. These are all worthy endeavors and we should keep your councils educated on the good we are doing with these programs.

A Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to all. Celebrate them wisely and remember the charity our order is founded on. Extend that charity to your friends and family. The gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus is a tangible gift which can be given. Think of the joy and rewards you have gotten with your brother knights. Why would you not wish that same joy be experienced by someone you care about? The **"Power of One"** is something that is real and when multiplied we can and do produce miracles. **"One New Member per Council per Month"** is something you should be thinking about year round to support your council and parish. Vivat Jesus.



Jerry Hanten
State Deputy

State Secretary's Corner

Do you know how when you do something good you feel great about it? As it turns out, there is a system of chemical rewards within the human body. This is the finding of a scientist named Simon Sinek.

Sinek said that being kind to one another releases "feel-good" chemicals in the brain and that if you are charitable once you are more likely to continue being charitable. This chemical is oxytocin and the more oxytocin we have in our body, the more we actually want to do good. So, the more we do good the more we want to do good. The person on the receiving end of our generosity? They also get a shot of oxytocin. As it turns out, just *witnessing* an act of human generosity, human kindness, releases oxytocin in the witness.

The greatest thing we can do is give time and energy to others. This generates a great deal of oxytocin for both the giver and receiver. It's just not the same writing a check. You can always make more money, but you can't make more time. We seem to instinctively know this.

What does this mean to you as a Knights leader? Giving new Knights the opportunity to "work the line" whether it be dishing out the food rather than cooking it; handing out winnings at bingo; actually handing a child a new coat, these are the kinds of things that get them hooked on participating in more Knights events.

The same thing goes for inactive Knights. Invite them to work an event and put them in the same sort of position. Think of all the good these Knights will do for those they are helping, those who are watching, and themselves.

There is a terrific video on how these chemical work in our bodies and how you as a leader can take advantage of them. Yeah, the video is of a scientist, but trust me, it is a terrific 45 minutes that starts out with an amazing story about pilots in Afghanistan helping each other out. It's time that will make a big difference in how a you, Knights leader, can get the most out of and give the most to those in your council and community.

vimeo.com/video/79899786

Andy Airriess
State Secretary



You are invited to attend the
2014 – 2015 MID-YEAR MEETING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2014
St. Ambrose Church Hall
1975 So 2300 West Salt Lake City, UT 84108



MEAL RESERVATION FORM
****DEADLINE – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2014****

NAME: _____ COUNCIL: _____

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

_____ Yes, I will attend the breakfast served between 8:00 & 8:45 AM (no charge).

_____ Yes, I will attend the lunch served between 12:00 & 12:45 PM (no charge).

Note: Those who RSVP will be served first. Those who do not RSVP run the risk of not being served

WIVES Suggested tour of University Natural History Museum. Details to follow

ORGANIZATION DINNER (PRICE AT \$25.00 EACH MEAL)

_____ @ \$25.00 – Buffet dinner with Broccoli & Cauliflower, Roast Potatoes

Choice of:

- Prime Rib with Roasted Garlic Au jus
- King Salmon with Citrus and Artichoke Buerre Blanc
- Eggplant Parmesan (Vegetarian Option)

Dessert

_____ **TOTAL DUE**

Reduced rate for **Knights of Columbus** for Friday and/or Saturday accommodations for meeting:

Hampton Inn – 1345 Foothill Blvd, SLC
 801-583-3500 / 801-583-8373

MAKE ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS INFORMATION AS NEEDED

****** ALL DINNER RESERVATIONS MUST INCLUDE PAYMENT ******

Make all checks payable to **"KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS"**

PLEASE MAIL RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS TO:

Richard Hall
Council 15418 Financial Secretary
4004 Brockbank Way
Salt Lake City, Utah 84124
H 801-277-5323 C 801-891-9792
rhall5323@gmail.com

Andy Airriess
Utah State Secretary
7215 S. 2530 W.
West Jordan, UT 84084

State Program Updates

Red Cross Media Blood Drive - The drive is coming up on Tuesday, December 16th. We need volunteers. The work is simple and gratifying. You can sign online by clicking the **Volunteer Sheet** link on the home page at utahknights.org by calling State Community Director Nick Neilson at 801-618-6595, or emailing him at kofc5502@gmail.com. The Red Cross collects over 500 pints of blood every year and could not without Knights as volunteers (and some donate). The Red Cross counts on this drive to help it get through the Christmas season and the Red Cross counts on the Knights to help.

The **State Poster Contest** is on us. This is an easy, simple program that can build a lot of support for your council and its events in your parish. It's not too late to get it done for your council and the kids in your parish. Utah has some international winners in the last few years. Your council could have one just waiting for the chance.

The **State Essay Contest** - Sponsor the Essay Contest at schools and in your parish CCD classes. The essay contest is a creative way to encourage young people to become citizens who are firmly grounded in the faith. For both the essay and poster contests, contact: Tom Giron, giront58@msn.com 801-867-3347.

Science Fair - The call for volunteers is going out soon, so it is time to get the members of your council thinking about it. It is also almost time to make your contribution to this event which is unique across our order. An email will be sent to Financial Secretaries soon with the amounts your councils have pledged. February 21st is the day, and Juan Diego school is the place. Details will be distributed soon.

State Free Throw Championship - As always, this is a great event. Yes, it is in the latter part of March, but this is the time to get your council challenge organized, dates, set, etc. Then comes the district challenge, then on to state. The State Challenge does not happen unless the activities begin at the council level. As with other programs, this is a great recruiting tool. While moms and dads are at your challenge it is a great time to talk to them about joining the Knights. For details, contact State Free throw chairman Ron Mecham at 801-973-8337.

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