



Inside this issue:

State Chaplain's Message	1
State Warden's Message	2
Family of the Month	3
California Columbian Charities News	4
2009 State Convention Souvenir Book Ads	4
2009 State Convention News	5
State Freethrow News	6
California Columbian Squires News	6
Orange County Chapter News	9
Prayers for Brothers, Family, & Friends	10
About The California Knightletter	10



State Chaplain's Message

Dear Brother Chaplains and Fellow Knights,

In a recent letter to all Council Chaplains and Priests throughout the United States, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson called on each Council to set up and conduct a "Food For Families" program at their parish. In this letter he reminded all Knights that their founder, Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest, started the Knights of Columbus "to be a source of stability for struggling families in his community in the 1880's," and urged us "to answer this call again, in these difficult times, in a way that lives up to his vision and our proud tradition of helping families in need."

He went on to point out rightly that "food banks throughout the United States are being stretched to the limit, and in some cases, have little or no food at all for those who need it." He urged each Council to work with their parish priests to conduct a major food drive. Anderson added: "Collection of canned food at parish Masses, or similar efforts to aid local food banks or soup kitchens does not require an enormous effort, but the benefits are very real to a hungry child, or to a family on the brink of economic collapse" and "...no parents in a community of Knights of Columbus Council should have to put their children to sleep hungry. We have the ability and the duty to respond. To address this very real problem, I am calling on every council to act in a simple and concrete way to help eliminate one of the major financial considerations each family faces: the cost of food."

I have found many reasons to be proud of being a Knight, but never more so than when I read this letter and the challenges it lays before us to go back to our roots.

Well done Mr. Anderson. Now it is up to us to pick up the challenge!.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
 Rev. Charles Fuld, State Chaplain



State Warden's Message

Lent is a time of preparation.

Important events in everyone's life take preparation. We take time to prepare for the first day of school and for those final exams. How much time did you take preparing for your first date? Would anyone be able to pass the drivers test without some preparation?

Even unimportant things take preparation. I put some effort into preparing to go to work every day. I even prepare to come home from work. I start by turning off the computer and removing my "cac" card. Then I get into my bag and find my train token and put it in my back pocket so that I'm not fumbling and looking for it when I get to the train station.

How much time should we prepare for eternity? How important is our own salvation? Lent is a time of preparation. Each year we're asked to take a few weeks to prepare ourselves for everlasting life. To reflect on the greatest gifts ever given; the gifts of free will and salvation.

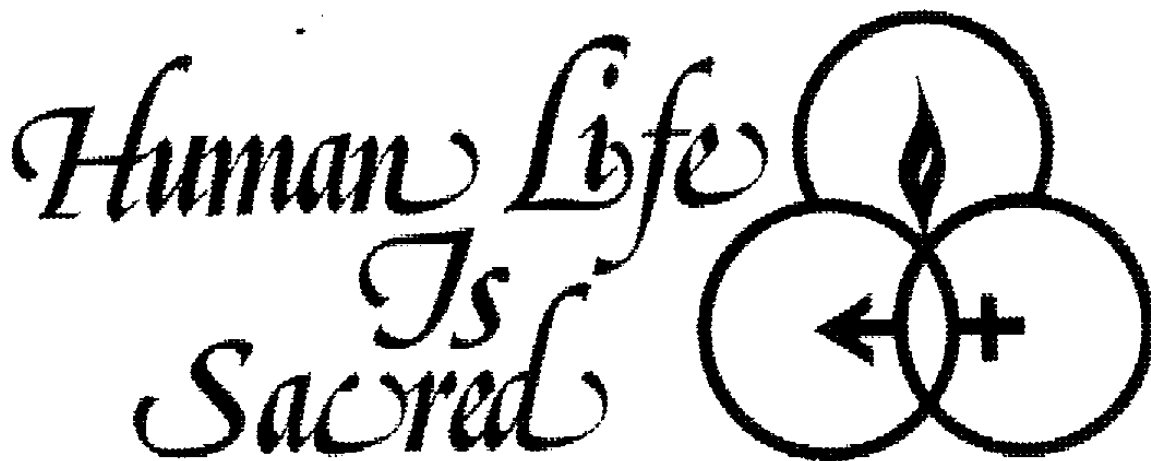
Should we worry about it if we can't find time this year? The US and the world are in a major economic crisis. Can I just wait until next year? The answer is, we don't know. Just this week I got an e-mail from someone I went to high school with. This is someone I rarely spoke to in high school and haven't had any contact with in over 35 years. She asked if I remembered her.

I remembered her and her husband were successful business people from our 20 year reunion; almost 18 years ago. So I e-mailed her back and asked she and her husband was doing. I was shocked to find out that her husband passed away in his sleep, almost 4 years ago.

This weekend, I am leaving the office and all the other distractions to go on a retreat and hopefully be able to focus and to prepare for eternity. I encourage you during this time of preparation to do the same.

May God bless you and keep you all the days of your life, and eternity.

Dr. Ray Warriner, State Warden



Family of the Month

The following are the California winners of the "Family of the Month" contest, obtained through a random drawing held at the Supreme Council office from among many nominees submitted by councils throughout the order.

January 2009

Family of
Ruperto & Ruth Rosario
Council 4436 – LaPuente

Family of
Vincent & Yvette Skalka
Council 8879 – El Cajon

California Family of the Month

The Knight of Columbus California Family of the Month for January is from the Arden-Carmichael Council #4970 in Carmichael, CA

Brother Loren Wallin and Wife Aurora
With Children Cristal, Elisa and Malenda.

Grand Knights and Council Family Directors should remember that each month, when you pick a family of the month from your council, that you need to send the California State Family of the Month Committee Chairman a copy of Supreme's Form 1993. Submission of a copy of Form 1993 puts the Council's Family of the Month in the running for State Family of the month for that month. The monthly nominations must be **received** by the 15th of the following month.

Furthermore, please keep in mind that the deadline for the Family of the Year form submission is **April 15, 2009**. This form can also be found on the state web site, and has been included as an attachment to this letter. The state winners of the Family of the Month will automatically be entered in the running for the State Family of the Year. Although not required, your family of the Year nominee ideally comes from one of the monthly recipients.

When filling out a nominee form please say more than "this family goes to church together and takes part in council activities", as hopefully that could be said of all our council families. Give a full picture of why this family stands out in your council and reflects the ideals of a K of C Catholic family. For example: "This Brother Knight, wife, and both of their children are Eucharistic Ministers, the wife and daughter are both Lectors, the wife is on the parish council, the wife and Brother Knight are on the parish fund raising committee, the husband and wife take part in all the council activities including most recently cooking for the council breakfast with Santa and the council clergy night...etc." **Tell us why they were picked.**

The state committee has only been receiving a hand full of submissions each month. There must be many more deserving families in our state. Please send in your nominees.

Please e-mail your form to me or send by mail, and be aware of the deadlines.

Thank you and Vivat Jesus!

Gregory Marracq, Family of the Month/Year Chairman
E-mail: marracqs@comcast.net

California Columbian Charities News



Brother helping Brother - California Columbian Charities, Inc.
Columbian Charities is committed to assisting Brothers and their widows in distress. For over fifty years our charity has worked to satisfy Father McGivney's mandate by putting into practice the first principle of our Order.

So far this Columbian year Columbian Charities has issued grants to forty-nine Brothers, totaling \$145,000. If grants are approved at this rate for the remaining four months of the year, Brothers will receive much more than \$200,000 in assistance.

California and the nation are in the midst of an economic slowdown. Brothers are starting to feel its monetary impact, but our charity will make every effort to extend them a helping hand.

The "Parade of the Grand Knights" is only two months away. Please plan to be generous - Your Brothers need assistance!

We are ready to provide financial aid to our Brothers in their time of need. Any member who has information about a Brother in distress should notify the Grand Knight of his Council. The Grand Knight can obtain charity application forms from the State Office by phone or by email to KofC_California@mpowercom.net.

The application forms will be sent with additional instructions about how to investigate the problem and verify the need. More information about the charity is available on pages 121-122 of the 2008-2009 California Program Handbook.

Brothers, Thank you for upholding the principles of our Order - CHARITY, UNITY and FRATERNITY!

Dr. Ray Warriner, SW
President, Columbian Charities

2009 State Convention Souvenir Book Ads

By now you should have all received the Marketing Booklet outlining all the events for the upcoming State Convention being held in San Diego on May 14 – 17, 2009.

Included in the booklet is the form for submitting Council, District, Assembly, Chapter and Agency ads to be included in the State Convention Souvenir Book.

Please remember, the deadline for submitting your ad is March 23, 2009.

Jerry Constance,
Souvenir Book Chairman

2009 State Convention News

It is time to make reservations to attend the 2009 California Knights of Columbus State Convention. Mark your calendars to block out Thursday, May the 14th until Sunday, May the 17th as the time to be in San Diego at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center. There you will be able to meet and exchange ideas with Brother Knights from across the State. The business meetings are open to all 3rd Degree Knights (be sure to bring your current traveling card). All other activities are open to Brother Knights, their families, and the public. You could use the vibrant activity surrounding our State Convention as a recruiting tool – invite a friend!

Are you having trouble locating your Convention Booklet and the forms for registration? No problem. Your State officers have made all of the forms, even the entire Convention Booklet, easy to find and access via the State Website.

Log on to the Internet using the State website URL address www.kofc-ca.org and you will be on the Homepage. There is an interactive menu bar below the title. Click on “EVENTS.” A new page opens and to the left, below the word HOME on the menu bar, is an Events box. Click on “2009 State Convention.” Doing so opens up another interactive menu to the right. Click on each of the items listed there; they are buttons that pop up to other pages with information and forms. You will be able to easily find the ticket registration form, the hotel registration form, the golf tournament registration form (under Events and Activities), and you’ll find the Convention Booklet under the label Downloads.

Don’t forget an important item on that sub-menu: Advertizing Opportunities. Clicking on that title will open a box that describes the Souvenir Booklet. Talk to you Council, your District, your Assembly, and your Chapter to arrange to place ads in this memento. Click on the Download: Souvenir book advertising contract (pdf) at the bottom of the Advertizing Opportunities page to get the form you can use to place an ad. Hurry – the deadline for ads is March 23, 2009.

Are you still intimidated by the technology of the Internet? Ask a Brother to help you. What are Brothers for? Or, attend your next Chapter Meeting. Each of the Chapters should be displaying a presentation board with nearly all of the pages from the booklet attached. Simply remove the brass fasteners and make copies of the pages you need. Please return the pages after you’ve copied them so that other Brothers may see them after you.

Remember: make your reservations soon! Reservations for the Town and Country Hotel must be made before April 21, 2009 to guarantee the \$110.00 rate.

See you in San Diego in May!

State Freethrow News

Daryl R. Mueller California State Free Throw Championship
March 21, 2009.

San Joaquin Memorial, High School
1406 Fresno St.
Fresno, California

Registration will open at 9:00 AM, at the Cafeteria
Opening Ceremony will begin at 10:30 AM in the Gym

Do not forget to send the Original Score Sheet / Permission slip and Proof of Age , by
March 6, 2009, to: Roman Bejarano, P.O. 235, Selma, Ca. 93662.

Without the score sheet and proof of age, the contestant will not be eligible to participate
at the STATE FINALS. Keep in mind that the council that the contestant is representing
must be current with their dues , both Supreme and Chapter.

We look forward to seeing each Chapter represented at the State Finals. If you have any
questions, Please Contact the State Free Throw Chairman at the following numbers:

Roman Bejarano, State Free Throw Chairman
skrb@sbcglobal.net

California Columbian Squires News

My Brother Knights,

March has arrived and with it, my ninth article addressing the Squires of
California. But we cannot forget those men who have oversight
responsibility within the State Circle. As was reported by the State
Office in mid-February, F.D.D. and Arrowhead Desert Chapter State Committeeman Tom
Quinn was admitted to a nursing care facility where he continued his battle with cancer
and his condition required around-the-clock care. Being as feisty as Brother Tom is, he
tolerated this... for a whole week!!! I spoke with Brother Tom on March 7th and he is
doing quite well at home with hospice care. Your continued prayers are requested for
Brother Tom, wife Joanne and the Quinn family. As was also reported by the State Office,
F.D.D. and Southern California Chapter State Committeeman Bob Vinson Sr. also spent
some time in the hospital for a lumbar fusion. I also spoke with Brother Bob and he is
now at home healing from his surgery. Your prayers are also solicited for the quick
recovery of Brother Bob and for wife Aurora and the Vinson family. Brother Bob is
chomping at the bit to do a couple of Columbian Squires Workshops with co-State
Committeeman John Jouver before convention time rolls around in mid-May and June.



California Knightletter

Just before Christmas, the State Office reported that Ellen Riopel, wife of F.D.D. and immediate Past State Circle Director Denny Riopel had a heart transplant. I received an e-mail from Brother Denny at the beginning of the month informing me that Ellen is now at home, having been released from the U.C.L.A. Medical Center on February 13th. Ellen is doing well under the circumstances, but she still has a long road to hoe; she will soon be entering pain management and cardiac therapy programs and needs to gain weight and build muscle. Ellen has been through a lot, but prayer never fails, so you are asked to remember Ellen, Brother Denny and the entire Riopel family in your prayers. Thank you, brothers.

Now for some news from around the state:

On January 30th, Escondido's "senior circle," Fr. Rosario LoGatto Circle, No. 4449, hosted a lock-in at the Knights of Columbus Hall for the new Squires of school-based Msgr. James F. Lawlor Circle, No. 2148. Needless to say, there was plenty of food for all, lots of fun for the boys... and little sleep for the counselors!!!



Fr. LoGatto Circle Squire Gavin Roberts (far right) jams with guitar players from the new St. Mary School's Msgr. James F. Lawlor Circle at their recent lock-in in Escondido.

Left to right, Msgr. Lawlor Circle Chief Counselor Jeff Wheelock and Chief Squire Jack Wheelock, Fr. LoGatto Chief Squire Damon Schexnayder, food donor Joan Ayash with granddaughter Vivienne, and Fr. LoGatto Chief Counselor Mike Bacho... with all the goodies!



California Knightletter

On February 21st, the Squires of Laguna's St. Timothy Circle, No. 5001, were at it again at Toby's House; they were getting a little Spring gardening done at the Mission Viejo location. This fine, hard-working Circle is led by Chief Counselor August Polito, who also pitched in with the day's chores.

On March 7th, the Squires of Oceanside's Pope John Paul II Circle, No. 4974, assisted the altar servers of San Luis Rey Parish with bagging 1,600 pounds of rice and beans for the Social Concerns Easter Food Baskets project. This effort also included parents with children in grades K-12 which demonstrated in a very real way that parents and kids can work together to help those in need this Lenten season.

On March 8th, State Chief Squire Jeffery Tice will be travelling with his team from Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Sammon Circle, No. 1707, Buena Park, to invest five candidates into Norwalk's St. Dominic Savio Circle, No. 1174, led by Chief Counselor Santiago Sierra Jr. Down in Escondido, Fr. Rosario LoGatto Circle, No. 4449, "California's Only Assembly-Sponsored Circle,"

Chief Squire Damon Schexnayder and his team will be investing five more St. Mary students into the recently reactivated Msgr. James F. Lawlor Circle, No. 2148, a school-based circle headed up by Chief Counselor Jeff Wheelock.

The above gives you a little of the "flavor" of WHO your Squires are, fine Catholic boys and young men who, with your guidance and encouragement, will become the Knights of tomorrow and the strong defenders of our Catholic faith, men who will be needed as our ever-worsening hedonistic society continues to grow like a cancer.

On the lighter side, the 58th Annual California State Circle Convention is scheduled for the weekend of 12-14 June at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, CA. I am hoping that the chapters, councils, assemblies, circles, general agents, field agents and Knights owning businesses will support our convention book which is produced "in-house" for Squires and counselors attending the convention. With an austere budget, your generous support is absolutely imperative. Please give this request prayerful consideration when you are asked to support the boys.

In closing, I would like to remind chief counselors that liability insurance payments are overdue. A .pdf form, State Circle Form 1 (Insurance), is now available on this website. Prompt payment of just bills is important to maintain the financial viability of the State Circle.

Fraternally, Gene Buehl, Director, California State Circle



St. Timothy Squires Mark Loftus (left) and Jeff Atkinson take a break from their gardening chores at the Mission Viejo location of Toby's House.



2009 Orange County Chapter's State Deputy Testimonial Dinner



**Honoring California State
Deputy Robert Villalobos
and Chapter President
Joseph G. Krochmalny**

Hosted by Fr. Kass Council 3526

April 4, 2009

**Mass at 5:15 pm
St. Pius V Church
7691 Orangethorpe Avenue
Buena Park, CA**

**No host bar at 6:30 pm at Kass Hall
Dinner at 7:00 pm at Kass Hall**

Barbeque Tri-Tip, Ribs & Chicken

Cost \$20.00

For reservations contact:

John: 714-883-1836 or email: jem5108@msn.com

Phil: 714-828-5633 or email: pamant@sbcglobal.net



**Dress: White Tuxes for State and Chapter
Officers - Suit/Sport Coat and Ties for men.**



California Knightletter

Prayers for Brothers, Family, and Friends

Please pray for the repose of the souls of our deceased Brother Knights, relatives, and friends:

Rev. Father Steve Vecsey, Faithful Friar for Gov. Peter H Burnett Assembly and the St. John Bosco Assembly, passed away on Saturday, January 11, 2009.

The father of State Secretary Vince Pacis, passed away on Tuesday March 3, 2009.

Betty Sanford, widow of Former Vice-Supreme Master Daniel Sanford, passed away on Sunday February 15, 2009.

Irma Galvan daughter of District Deputy Eduardo & Herminia Galvan passed away on Sunday February 15, 2009.

Let us also remember our members, relatives and friends who have had medical attention recently, or will have in the near future:

Jose Manuel Villalobos, brother of State Deputy Robert Villalobos.

Brother Richard Bejune, Past Chapter President of the So. Cal. Chapter.

Brother Del Esguerra, Past Chapter President of the So. Cal. Chapter.

Brother Brian Olivier, Supreme Insurance Field Agent

Brother Robert Vinson Sr., Former District Deputy

Brother Fred Chrisman, District Deputy #96

Brother Dietrich Rubelius, Fourth Degree So. Cal. District Marshal.

Nancy Glover, wife of San Jose Chapter President William Glover.

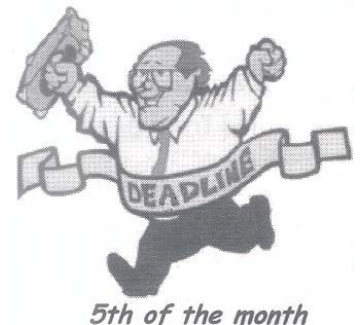
About The California Knightletter

The *California Knightletter* is posted to the California State Council Web Site after the sixth of each month for download in PDF format. PDF readers can be downloaded for free from www.adobe.com. Both the full color and black & white version will be available for download and distribution.

Would you like to see your Council news here? Prepare up to one page including pictures, describing your Council's recent events or achievements. Please send in Word format (.doc) to the Editor. Picture formats (.jpg, .gif, etc.) are acceptable for pictures and artwork. When preparing these reports, please be sure to write them in the third person, identify the activity depicted and all persons in the photos, and describe the event completely. **Remember: Who What Where When Why.**

Also, we will publish one page flyers for golf tournaments, Bishop's Vocation dinners, Chapter testimonials or significant Council anniversary dinners, and other major events.

All input for the newsletter should be sent directly to Peter Dreisbach at CaKnightletter@comcast.net.



The deadline for the next newsletter will be April 5th.

N.B.! Due to the time required to convert them for proper inclusion, all input must be sent electronically, in the "content created format" (e.g. Word, e-mail, or text). Please write your articles in the third person and **not as personal letters** (exceptions: State Officers and Directors). Do not send PDF documents or images of text or flyers. Input sent as PDF files will not be included. Do not send scanned images of text. All input is subject to minor editing to adjust for formatting.

California Knightletter



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Rev. Charles Fuld	State Chaplain
Vince Pacis	State Secretary
Ivan A. Reek	State Treasurer
Charles Clark	State Advocate
Dr. Raymond Warriner	State Warden
James R. Scroggin	Immediate PSD

California Knightletter

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California Knightletter

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