



# Knight's Visions

Keeping the vision of Father Michael J. McGivney

April, 2009

## State Deputy's Message:

We are three quarters through the fraternal year. As I review various reports and council newsletters, many councils have conducted wonderful events and projects for their communities, youth, families, and church. I congratulate Knights who keep the spirit of the Knights of Columbus alive and well. As always we still have a lot to accomplish during the last quarter of the year.

Membership is very important if we are to grow the Knights of Columbus in Montana and continue to be the strong right hand of the Church. We have gained 91 new members this year but unfortunately have lost 55 members. Twenty seven councils have admitted at least one new member. I strongly encourage the twenty four councils that have not admitted a new member this year to vigorously try to recruit members. Your district deputy will help you in your recruitment efforts as well as the state officers. Also, it is important that we have retention committees. Retention committees can help reduce the loss of members.

A number of councils have already conducted Tootsie Roll Drives. Hopefully most if not all councils will conduct Tootsie Roll Drives. Eighty percent of the money collected goes to your local organization that works with people with disabilities and twenty percent goes to Montana Special Olympics. The Knights in Montana over the years have made it possible for people with disabilities to actively participate in community life and learn important skills. We are making a difference. You can get the order form as well as other information for Tootsie Rolls from Dan Norman who serves as the Tootsie Rolls Director for the State Councils. His address is 121 Cascade Street, Lolo, Montana 59847 and his phone number is 406-240-9371.

Each year at the State Convention councils participate in the Care and Share Project. At the end of the convention we present to a local food bank both money contributed by councils as well as non perishable foods. I encourage every council to participate by contributing money and/or non perishable foods. This year's local food bank is the Haven House in Hamilton, Montana. If you are contributing money, please make out your checks to the Montana Knights of Columbus and list in the memo section of your check "Care and Share". At the convention please give the checks to the State Secretary, Rod McElwee. Non perishable foods can be given to the State Warden or his assistants.

As everyone knows, the Knights of Columbus stands strongly with the Church in the defense of life from conception to natural death. We have serious challenges to

**State Chaplain**  
Fr. Leo McDowell

**State Deputy**  
Bill Burke

**State Secretary**  
Rod McElwee

**State Treasurer**  
Art Malasani

**State Advocate**  
Dave McLean

**State Executive Secretary**  
Edward G. Wirtz, PSD

**Immediate Past State Deputy**  
Bob Murphy

**State Warden**  
Bob Howard

**State Program Director**  
Wayne Mangold

**State Membership Director**  
Ron Kazmierczak

### District Deputies:

Kevin Miller  
Pete Pfau  
Louis Hull  
Paul Mahony  
Dale T. Blom  
David D. Scott  
Michael Winters  
Larry C. Hillard  
Terrence Cody  
William Breitbach  
Gerald J. Killen  
Allen Cormany  
John Kelly

**Web Site**  
montanaknights.org

our efforts at building a “Culture of Life”. At the federal level there will be an effort to pass in the United States Congress the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA). The Knights have helped many parishes throughout Montana in sending post cards to our elected representatives (Senator Tester, Senator Baucus, and Representative Rehberg) asking them to not support FOCA. In Montana, we have Senate Bill 46 (protection of unborn life as a compelling state interest), a joint resolution (#47) stating that Montana opposes FOCA, and Senate Bill 236 (abolishing the death penalty). We need to continue to contact our state senators and representatives and urge them to support these three bills. Moe Woespka, Director of the Montana Catholic Conference, is working hard for Bishops Thomas and Warfel to see that these bills pass. They greatly appreciate our support in our ever continuing efforts to support life from conception to natural death.

Please make certain that your council’s financial obligations to the Supreme Council and the Montana Council have been met. Last week I received a letter from the Supreme Secretary informing me that according to Section 57 of the Laws of the Order, Councils failing to pay both Supreme and State Council assessments and charges within the time specified by the respective Supreme and State Council By-laws shall not be entitled to representation at the State Council meeting.

I welcome all Knights to attend the State Convention in Hamilton on April 16<sup>th</sup> -- 18<sup>th</sup>. Included in this edition of the newsletter is additional information about the convention. Our Supreme Knight regrets that he cannot attend but he has assigned Supreme Director Frederick J. Abraham Jr. as the Supreme Council representative. Moe Woespka, Director the Montana Catholic Conference, Rosemary Miller, Director of Montana Social Services, John Meyer, a FOCUS missionary, Bob Norbie, Montana Special Olympics, and several others will address the convention. The Convention Planning Committee chaired by Brother Rick Floch has worked hard to assure an enjoyable and successful state convention for all participants.

Finally, please keep in your prayer Michael Haugen, Grand Knight of Council 1021 in Missoula, who was diagnose with cancer; Delores Heinen who is recovering from a severe stroke, she is the wife of our state 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Master Bob Heinen; and the family of Jack Tacke. Jack served as the General Insurance Agent for the Montana Knights of Columbus. He passed away on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Also keep Jerry Johnson in your prayers. Jerry as you all know was the District Deputy for the Helena area. He currently is the State Chair of our Church Committee. Jerry underwent a major medical operation. I will keep you all informed as to his well being.



In closing, I thank all the Knights for the support you have given me this fraternal year. God bless you and your families for making this fraternal year a success.- **Bill Burke**

#### **Chaplain’s Message**

Spring is a crazy time of year. One day it is 70 degrees and the next there is snow in the air. A year out, it is difficult to predict what the weather will be on any given day. Sometimes the forecasters can't get it right a week out.

Sometimes it seems like our lives are just as unpredictable. We have the days when things seem to really be on the high end and then there are days that don't go so well. Our moods can really swing with our experiences.

Our faith is the equalizing force in our lives that keep us from falling into a pit when things do seem to go bad. Our trust in the promises of Christ to be with us always, and our understanding that we may have to carry a cross in this life, but there is a promise of a better life to come give us home. Both that trust and understanding help us to make it through the more difficult times of our lives. As we wrap up these last days of Lent and look forward to the joy of Easter, let us reflect upon the promises of Christ. Let us pray for His help when we are tempted to dig ourselves deeper into the pit.

We don't know what our lives may bring in the next year, but we do know that by the grace of God we will deal with it and reach our ultimate destiny with God. **-Father Leo McDowell**

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#### **Ceremonials Chairman's Message**

We have had only 3 major degrees held this fraternal year and brought 47 new brothers into full Knighthood. There have been 14 1st Degree exemplifications held. There are still 25 councils that have not added a new member so far this year. I would encourage you Grand Knights and District Deputies to get together and get scheduled a degree in your council before the state convention or shortly after.

Our commitment as knights is needed now than in the recent history with the continued attacks on our church. We need no further than Connecticut. Thank God actions of the Knights of Columbus and Supreme Knight Carl Anderson to overturn that damning legislation. John PSD **-John Glen, PSD**



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#### **February 15<sup>th</sup> East Helena Exemplification**

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#### **State Council/Round Table Chairman's Message**

The Montana Council Director is responsible for the support to Councils in the following areas:

Council activity growth and reporting  
New Council Development  
Council Reactivation  
Council Round Table Program

I am excited to report that Council activities continue to be a very strong point in the State of Montana. It is also exciting to see the uniqueness of each Council and that uniqueness fitting into the big picture that we know as the Montana Knights of Columbus.

Active Councils are growing Councils. Inactive Councils are dying Councils. We have some of each, but fortunately we have more of the active than the inactive.

Which category does your Council fit into? If you think your Council is in the inactive category, what can we do as State Council and especially myself as the State Council Director?

The number of activity reports submitted to the State Program Director shows what our Councils are doing for the Church, Parish Families, Our Communities and especially our Youth. Our youth activities are a look into the future of the Knights of Columbus in Montana. How active is your Council in Youth Activities?

New Council Development is slow but several parishes are interested in a Knights of Columbus council. Further action is being taken. Council Reactivation is also slow and the Roundtable Program is being promoted in these parishes.

As of this date, we have 35 active Round Tables. Our goal is to have 56 active and reports submitted by June 30, 2009. Of the 35 active councils we have only 15 Councils who support Round Tables and they are:

1493	Great Falls - 4 Round Tables	6200	Teton - 4 Round Tables
1959	Wolf Point - 1 Round Table	6260	Polson - 1 Round Table
2464	Roundup - 4 Round Tables	6294	Baker - 2 Round Tables
2860	Conrad - 3 Round Tables	6455	Laurel - 1 Round Table
3002	Sidney - 5 Round Tables	7630	Whitefish - 1 Round Table
3039	Forsyth - 2 Round Tables	8345	Billings Heights - 1 Round Table
3250	Libby - 1 Round Table	1190	Thompson Falls - 3 Round Table
13093	Stevensville - 1 Round Table		



Earlier this year Council Grand Knights were sent the name of a parish or mission in their area along with the name of members of their Council who are living in those parishes. If your Council has not acted upon this information, it is not too late. Please don't let your Council be one of those who do not act. Remember, a Knights of Columbus presence in every Parish is our goal in the State of Montana.

If you have misplaced the information, or just can't find it, I can send it again, please let me know and I will help you in any way.

Worthy Delegated, please take this report back to your councils and make it part of your report. –  
**Bob Murphy, PSD**

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**Special Olympics Chairman:**

Ticket sales of raffle tickets for the Montana Special Olympics end at the end of April. Councils should turn in their tickets, ticket stubs, and money to their district deputy so he can turn them into the Montana Special Olympics. I received a check for \$4500.00 for the Montana Special Olympics from Supreme. This is part of the KC/SONA Partnership, divisional incentive distribution. Montana was number 1 in our Division (Division V).

## Congratulations!

The Montana **Knights of Columbus** have been

**NAMED #1**

**in their Division for Special Olympics activities!**

*There are six divisions in the U.S.—and there are many criteria for winning, including the amount of money raised, as well as their contribution of time and effort!*

*A big thank you to our Montana Knights of Columbus!*

**Art Gregr**

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**Youth Director**

The 2008/2009 State Council Youth Program will conclude in April at the state convention when we announce the state free throw champions and winners of the substance abuse poster contest. State Champion Free Throw Champion's Trophies and US Savings Bonds for the poster contest winners are given to the sponsoring council's delegation at the award luncheon on Friday. Also, monies collected from councils FOCUS fundraisers and the "blue sheet charities collection" will be presented to one of our Montana Missionaries at the opening morning session. Please make sure to send all FOCUS funds to the state secretary before the convention. Individual score sheets of district champions need to be sent to the state youth director by each district deputy by the end of March and all council winnings posters from the poster abuse should have been returned by March 15th. - **John Beck**



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**District Deputies Report**

Thanks to Council 10576 for hosting the 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup> and 3<sup>RD</sup> Degree Exemplification in February. A total of 8 new members joined our Order and 32 brothers received their 2<sup>ND</sup> and 3<sup>RD</sup> Degrees. Thanks to Council 844 for helping with the 1<sup>ST</sup> and 2<sup>ND</sup> Degree ceremonies in East Helena. Thanks to Foy Cox, the Billings area Degree team and thanks to all the brothers that attended this Exemplification.- **Allen Cormany, Dist.12**

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### **Family Chairman' Message**

Today, it seems especially important to promote families and family life as well as give support to local families in light of recent political and economic events. We have seen new affronts to the right of the unborn, the invalid and the elderly and a lessening of the importance of the traditional family headed by a husband and a wife. We're starting to see downturn in our economy add additional stress and pressure on families as well. This will probably help us understand the harsh conditions Irish American families suffered brought our Order to existence. we should revisit that history to better understand how important it participate now in the lives of the around us.



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It takes vigilance on our part to conduct a good Family Activity Program in our council each year. Families in need of moral, spiritual or financial support will seldom come directly to us – we need to go to them. Through conversation with other members of the parish and community, the council Family Director or other member(s) can discover areas of concern or families in need of help. Try having a discussion during or following your next monthly meeting about what you can add to your council's activities to support or entertain families.

If your council is working actively in this area, we thank you very much and ask that you keep up the good work! If there is room to improve, we encourage your growth! If your council hasn't recently supported some family activity, we say "Now's the time! Go for it!" - **Steve**

**Lachmann**



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### **Family of the Month**

The Montana winner of the January 2009 "Family of the Month" contest, obtained through a random drawing held at the Supreme Council Office from many nominees is:

**Family of  
Robert & Barbara Ludwig  
Council 1328  
Kalispell**

The Montana winner of the February 2009 "Family of the Month" contest, obtained through a random drawing held at the Supreme Council Office from many nominees is

**Family of  
James & Judy Hufford  
Council 6294  
Baker**

**Congratulations!**

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**Montana State Knights of Columbus  
2009 Convention – Hamilton, Montana  
Thursday, April 16 through Sunday, April 19, 2009**

The **2009 State Convention for the Knights of Columbus** is fast approaching. This year's convention will take place April 16, 17, 18, & 19 in Hamilton, MT. General Sessions of the convention will take place at the Bedford Building (City Hall), at Bedford and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Registration for the convention will take place at the newly constructed St. Francis Parish Pastoral Life Center, 411 S. 5th Street, just a few blocks from the Bedford Building. The Pastoral Life Center will also be where meals are served during the convention, including the banquet on Saturday night, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

This letter is an open invitation to all members of all councils to attend any part of the convention. The Saturday night banquet will include a great meal, enjoyable entertainment and socializing, sincere brotherly friends, and encouraging remarks from a featured speaker from the Supreme Knights of Columbus office from New Haven, Connecticut.



Please read the attached information pertaining to the procedures you must follow in registering for the convention. Once again, there will be a Silent Auction with proceeds going to Project Hope. A place has been arranged for your entry so please participate. We also encourage each council to place an ad in our convention program (see attached information). A golf tournament and a limited number of guided fishing floats on the Bitterroot River are also planned for your enjoyment.

We hope any or all members will consider attending this memorable event! If you do plan to attend, kindly return the attached registration information by March 15<sup>th</sup> so that we can prepare for the convention in a timely manner. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at the telephone number below. As a reminder, delegates should be at least 3<sup>rd</sup> degree Knights and **all attending need to have in their possession their Knights of Columbus membership card to obtain access to the convention.**

Thank you all for being a Knight!! **Rick Floch. - 2009 Convention Chairman**

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**April 16-20, 2009 Montana Knights of Columbus  
State Convention Activities Schedule**

**Men's Schedule**

**Thursday – April 16<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Noon–4:00 PM	Golfing at Hamilton Country Club/Guided Fishing Float
Noon–8:00 PM	Registration/Check-in at Pastoral Life Center outer entrance
2:00-5:00 PM	Charities Inc. & State Officer's Meeting – Pastoral Life Center classroom
6:00-8:00 PM	Past State Deputies Dinner – B J's Family Restaurant and Lounge, 900 N. 1 <sup>st</sup> St.
7:00-10:00 PM	Mixer at Pastoral Life Center w/no host bar

**Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> (Silent Auction 11:00 am-7:30 pm –at Pastoral Life Center)**

7:00 – 7:45 AM	Mass at St. Francis
7:45-8:30 AM	Breakfast buffet at Pastoral Life Center
8:45-10:00 AM	General Session #1 – roll call, Welcome, State of State, etc. at Bedford Bldg.
9:00-9:45 AM	State Sec. and Credentials Committee meet in back room of Bedford Building
10:00 AM	General Session #1 - Ladies and guests excused – 15 minute break
10:00-11:50 AM	General Session #1 continues in Bedford Bldg.
12:00-1:30 PM	Awards Luncheon w/wives in Pastoral Life Center
1:30-4:30 PM	General Session #2 in Bedford Bldg.
3:00 PM	General Session - 15 minute break
4:30 PM	General Session - Closing Prayer
5:00-	Dinner on your own

**Saturday, April 18 (Silent Auction 11:00 am-7:00 pm - at Pastoral Life Center)**

6:30-7:30 AM	Breakfast buffet at Pastoral Life Center
8:00-9:15 AM	General Session #3 in Bedford Bldg.
9:15-9:40 AM	Break
9:40-11:15 AM	Resolutions (Mildenberger Rm), Audit and Mileage/Per Diem Committee (AA Rm), Finance Secretaries (Rivera Rm) and Program Directors (Helppie Rm) meetings in Pastoral Life Center Classrooms.
11:15 AM	Break for lunch
11:30-12:30 PM	Men's Luncheon in Pastoral Life Center
12:30-4:00 PM	General Session #3 at Bedford Bldg. (4th degree depart at 4:00 to change)
2:00 PM	General Session #3 – 15 minute break
5:30-6:30 PM	Mass at St. Francis
6:30-7:30	No-Host cocktails in Pastoral Life Center
7:30-10:00 PM	State Banquet in Pastoral Life Center w/no host bar

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 & 9:00 AM	Masses at St. Francis - followed by coffee/donuts – Convention delegates and wives are welcome!
12:00 noon	Motel check-out
	Thanks for a Successful State Convention and please have a safe trip home.
	<i>Vivat Jesus</i>





**April 16-19, 2009 Montana Knights of Columbus  
State Convention Activities Schedule**

**Women's Schedule**

**Thursday – April 16**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Noon–4:00 PM	Golfing at Hamilton Country Club/Guided Fishing Float
Noon–8:00 PM	Registration/Check-in at Pastoral Life Center w/Delegates
7:00 pm–10:00 PM	Mixer at Pastoral Life Center w/no-host bar

**Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> (Silent Auction 11:00 am-7:30 pm – at Pastoral Life Center)**

7:00 – 7:45 AM	Mass at St. Francis
7:45-8:30 AM	Breakfast buffet at Pastoral Life Center
8:30-10:00 AM	Opening Prayer – Session #1 (Wives attend until 10:00 am) at Bedford Bldg.
10:00 AM	Ladies and guests excused – 15 minute break
10:15-12:00 AM	Ladies shop Downtown Hamilton
12:00-1:30 PM	Awards Luncheon w/delegates in Pastoral Life Center
2:30-4:30 PM	Fashion Show – “Spring is in the Air” - Ice Cream Social – Pastoral Life Center
5:00-7:30 PM	Dinner on your own

**Saturday, April 18 (Silent Auction 11:00 am-7:00 pm – at Pastoral Life Center)**

6:30-7:30 AM	Breakfast buffet at Pastoral Life Center
9:30-11:30 AM	Travel to Stevensville – Tour St. Mary’s Mission
11:30- 1:00 PM	Luncheon at St. Mary’s Parish Center – Clogging Demonstration
1:00-2:00 PM	Shopping in Stevensville
2:00-3:00 PM	Travel back to Hamilton
3:00-5:30 PM	Ladies shop Downtown Hamilton
5:30-6:30 PM	Mass at St. Francis
6:30-7:30 PM	No-Host cocktails in outer entrance of Pastoral Life Center
7:30-10:00 PM	State Banquet – Pastoral Life Center w/no-host bar

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 & 9:00 am	Masses at St. Francis – followed by coffee and donuts – Convention delegates and wives are welcome!
12:00 noon	Motel check-out
	Thanks for a Successful State Convention and please have a safe trip home.
	<i>Vivat Jesus</i>

**There is a lounge area in the Pastoral Life Center staffed with snacks and refreshments where women can meet, rest, and visit during the convention. It is in the basement – take the elevator or stairs down, then turn right and go to the room at the end of the haul.**



### **Montana Knights Website**

The website for the Montana State Knights of Columbus is <http://www.montanaknights.org>. The webmaster is Randy Heinz and his email address is [randy@sfolife.net](mailto:randy@sfolife.net). Go to the website to see what's going on in Montana! The Knight's Visions newsletter is available only on-line. Councils must submit the name and email address of the Grand Knight and Financial Secretary to Marty Beatty, [mnmmt@attglobal.net](mailto:mnmmt@attglobal.net) who will receive an email and a link to the Knight's Visions newsletter. Material to be included in the newsletter can also be submitted to [mnmmt@attglobal.net](mailto:mnmmt@attglobal.net). Send articles and pictures of what your Council is doing and we'll publish the information in the newsletter. Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries and District Deputies are asked to appoint a Knight who can print and bring the newsletter to Council meetings. Anyone can read the current newsletter at <http://www.montanaknights.org>