



Knight's Visions

Keeping the vision of Father Michael J. McGivney
May 2011

State Deputy's Message:

I am happy to report some great news. Through hard work from all the councils and Brother Knights, Montana achieved 10% of our membership goal for the month of March. We were 1st in our jurisdiction for the month and it also put Montana in the black for recruitment. For your hard work, Montana will receive \$200.00 for March for making 10% membership. This membership promotion will last until the end of the Fraternal Year so we have three more months to where Montana could, collect. Where the councils now can read the 1st degree, every council should be able to have a 1st degree every month. There will be two major Degrees in May and the Ceremonials Chairman will report those. The State Secretary, Art Malisani, Jr., and Ceremonials Chairman Sonny Haugen, flew to Dallas, TX. March 18th to view the new 3rd Degree. Sonny will have more on that in his news letter.

The State Convention days away so I want to remind our councils about getting their Green Sheets, Credentials and their per capita turned in. If your council hasn't paid their per capita, their delegate (s) can't be seated. There is one issue that I would like to address and that is communication. I believe that we have a solution and will present it at the Convention. Thank you, Brother Knights, for all you do for God, the Order and your fellow man.

I thought I would pass this around to everyone so you could see the progress Montana is making. Until you see it, sometimes you can't know what has taken place. Most of the State Officers and some Program Directors get this report but I don't know about you DDs. As you can see we are on the uphill side and climbing. All it takes is just a reminder and an offer to be of assistance. With the first degree, only, being read no candidate should have to more than a couple of weeks at the most to become a knight. When the candidate says yes, he is ready and willing to become active because he feels that the council really cares about him. We are doing well so far but our neighbor Idaho is again pushing us. So I ask everyone to be of assistance and help all councils where ever you can. This is THE YEAR OF THE VOLUNTEER. Thanks everyone for all you do. I'll see you at the Convention. **Rod McElwee**

State Chaplain
Fr. Leo McDowell

State Deputy
Rod McElwee

State Secretary
Art Malisani

State Treasurer
Steve Zachmann

State Advocate
Dave McLean

State Executive Secretary
John Glen, PSD

Immediate Past State Deputy
Bill Burke

State Warden
Evert Lovec

State Program Director
Wayne Mangold

State Membership Director
Ron Kazmierczak (West)
Terry Cody

District Deputies:
Kevin Miller
Norman Carr
Louis Hull
Eugene Miceli
Kelly Smarsh
Steve Geiger
Michael Preciado
Larry C. Hillard
Scott Kinzie
William Breitbach
Gerald Killen
Allen Cormany
Dean Hermes

Web Site
montanaknights.org

			YTD Change			
Total Membership:	5,183	Associate:	3,257	14	Honorary:	137
		Insurance:	1,538	13	Honorary Life:	892
		Inactive:	388	-15	Disability Ex:	26

Awards							
	Month To Date			Year To Date			
	Gain	Loss	Net	Gain	Loss	Net	Quota
Membership:	19	0	19	136	27	109	0
Insurance:	3	1	2	62	20	42	0

Gains			Losses			Non-Quota		
	MTD	YTD		MTD	YTD		MTD	YTD
New:	18	116	Suspended:	0	19	Deaths:	8	89
Re-entry:	1	19	Withdrawals:	0	8	Trans in:	5	50
Adjust on:	0	1	I to A:	1	18	Trans Out:	4	49
A to I:	2	48						

State Chaplain’s Message:

This Lent, I took Great Falls. Parenthood We had people up. We had hands. Some job!!!" Others positive than the young girls the passenger attempted to of us on the side spilled on the Passion Sunday,



part in the 40 Days for Life campaign in While we were in front of the Planned center, we had a variety of responses. honk their horns and show us a thumbs- others raise a different digit on their people drove by and hollered, "Good shouted, "Get a job!!!" By far the responses were much more prevalent negative. I did have a car with two create a bit of a laugh. The window on side was rolled down and the driver throw a paper dish of ice cream at those walk. It hit the top of the window and street. As we read the Lord's Passion on the idea of being spat upon and

ridiculed took on a different meaning this year. The Lord tells us that we need to take up our cross and follow him. Sometimes when we take a stand for the truth of innocent life, it does become a cross. The truth sometimes puts us at odds with society, our neighbors, our friends and sometimes even our families. We need to take seriously the challenge to, "Be not afraid" when it comes to promoting life from its very beginning.

To wrap up the 40 Days for Life in Great Falls we had a short walk for life from the Holiday Village to the Big Flag Overlook Park. The 70 or so people that took part in the walk were a witness to the truth. We had participants from 2 years of age through their 80's. The example of these people and families to take up their crosses in the cause of life is to be applauded. I want to encourage each and every one of you to make supporting life in a visible way a part of your life.-
Fr. Leo McDowell.

Ceremonials Director's Message:

Exciting news! The Supreme Council summoned representatives to Dallas Texas where a Ceremonials Conference and workshop was held. The new 3rd Degree Ceremony was revealed and we are to begin the work by May 1. Thank you to all past, present, and future Degree team members and captains who have so faithfully traveled our vast State to spread the principles of the Knights of Columbus. We are beginning a new era. Although there have been some changes in the 1st Degree recently, there are no new changes in the 2nd Degree. The 3rd Degree however has been drastically improved and refined. The emphasis will still be on Fraternity, but our faith and the importance of the Eucharist will shine through. We think the new Ceremony will make our work of sharing Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism easier. We will be more current and relevant in our Degrees. We will be able to have more teams in the State without the miles of travel and we can make your recruiting simpler. Instead of setting a Degree and trying to recruit new members to fill that event, we will be able to be "membership active" all year long. It will not happen overnight, but with your help we can develop teams in your areas and share our ideals with more Catholic men. The need for more 2nd Degree teams is apparent too. We need your participation. In 2011 and 2012, we need 4 more 2nd and 3rd Degree teams throughout Montana. We can thus recruit 12 months a year and see our membership grow. Please consider a team in your Council or District. Feel free to contact me for any information or questions. M.G. "Sonny" Haugen, Montana State Ceremonials Chairman. 2725 - 4th Ave So., Great Falls, MT 59405 (406) 454-1218. -**Sonny Haugen**

Pro Life Chairman:

What does Pro-Life Mean? The definition of life as defined by the Catholic Church is: Conception to Natural Death. Simple enough! No! As Catholic Gentlemen we have an obligation to protect all life from Conception to Natural Death. But being Pro-Life is more than saving the unborn. It is about preventing suicide, euthanasia, an end to the Death Penalty and assisted suicide for the Elderly. Being Pro-Life is getting to the root of our problems as a society where we are called to help all those in need, especially the sick, the lame, the downtrodden, and the poor. We as Catholic's believe that every human life is precious. If life is so precious, why do we as a society make such an effort to kill people through the use of wars, abortion, assisted suicide, and the use of the death penalty? It is about caring for all those in need.

Friday, January 21, 2011, was the 38th Anniversary of the Wade vs. Roe Supreme Court Decision whereby they interpreted that Abortion without restriction could be allowed throughout a pregnancy. Since that decision the Guttmacher Institute, a division of Planned Parenthood, show that between one-third and 40 percent of U.S. women have had an abortion. Based on this statistic, we, as a nation have killed an estimated 52 million unborn babies since the Wade vs. Roe Decision in 1973. I wonder if Social Security would be broke if all of these innocents were contributing to the system.

There is hope that some of this will come to an end. This past week, Congress voted to rescind the 325 million dollars a year that the taxpayers were funding Planned Parenthood, who is the largest performer of abortion in the United States.

And here in Montana, our Legislature has given us a mixed bag of proposed bills for the protection of life. It appears the repeal of the Death Penalty will be headed to the Governor for signature. Time will tell if the Governor will sign the bill, as he tends to still be somewhat if favor of the Death Penalty.

All Bills concerning abortion have died in committee. The strongest ones out there would have made it a crime to kill a fetus. My philosophy has always been: "If it is not a Baby – then she is not Pregnant!" Another Bill would have required any girl under the age of 16 to have their parent's written permission to have an abortion. And the Bill I felt had the best chance was that any women seeking an abortion would be required to have an ultrasound prior to the abortion. Studies have shown that those women who have an ultrasound chose alternative methods, usually adoption.

The major item that we need to be concerned about in Montana is the "Assisted Suicide" Bill that our Legislature chose not to tackle. If passed Montana would be the third state to allow assisted suicide. I have spent quite a bit of time studying Oregon's Assisted Suicide Law and the affect it has had on the bill that passed versus what is taking place currently. National studies show that among patients requesting assisted suicide, depression is the only factor that significantly predicts the request for death. An estimated 90% of suicides in the U.S. are associated with mental illness, most commonly depression. Diagnosing depression can be challenging, but is often found with good psychiatric care. Part of Oregon's law mandated that anyone seeking physician assisted suicide, had to first go through psychiatric evaluations. In spite of these facts, in Oregon's 12th year, not even one suicide victim received psychiatric counseling. For more information on Montana's Proposed Assisted suicide mandate, you can access The Montana Catholic Conference at <http://www.montanacc.org/>

The good news this spring is that for the first time, all major cities in Montana with an abortion clinic will have a prayer vigil with "40 Days for Life." As of this writing, "40 Days for Life" held Prayer Vigils in Billings, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell, Livingston, and Missoula. The "40 days for Life" began at 11:30pm on March 9 (Ash Wednesday) and ran for 40 days, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through April 17, 2011. All prayer shifts were in one hour increments throughout the 24 hours in the day. You could sign up for an hour, or as a Knights of Columbus Council you could sign up for the entire 24 hour period. I have been involved with "40 Days for Life" in Kalispell for the past 3 years. While the "40 Days for Life" did not start in Kalispell, we

were the first Prayer Vigil in the nation to shut down a Planned Parenthood facility. If you have not been previously involved now is the time to be the Catholic Gentlemen that we are and volunteer for the odd times for prayer vigil. These times are normally after 10:00pm to 6:00am. To sign up for a shift go to the following website and register: <http://www.40daysforlife.com>

For those seeking a project to fill your needs for Pro-Life projects, March 25 is the "Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord." For the Knights of Columbus it is also the "Day of Prayer for the Unborn Child." Go to the National Knights of Columbus Website at the following to have this day of prayer in your parish: https://www.kofc.org/un/en/prolife/day_of_unborn/index.html

One item of note: if you have not given to the Miles City Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative, now is the time to participate. Let's get Montana on the Map with the National Ultrasound Initiative.- **Floyd and Connie McCubbins**

Program Director's Message:

I would like to address the timing of the reports. The Program Chairman need time to select the winners in each category, and then the Program Director needs to have time to have the plaques produced and delivered by the KC State Convention. Usually the state convention is in late April, so several years ago it was agreed upon that the Award Year for Montana Activities would be March 1st to February 28th of each year. **March 1st** has been and will be the due date for awards to be turned in to the State Program chairman each year. Council Program chairman need to put the March 1st deadline on your calendars and turn those reports in!

The number of reports has again remained about the same as in past years. Every council has its focus, one council may be the Family Activities where another may be Youth Activities. The one area that has the fewest reports is the Pro-Life Activities. We need to get these activity numbers up and reported. I believe that Montana KC's do many, many activities that are worthy of recognition, but you need to **send in those reports!!!**

Also, as always we need to have councils turn in the paperwork for the Supreme Columbian Award. Of all the reports that Supreme asks for, I believe this is the easiest and the quickest fill out and more councils should be getting the Supreme Columbian Award. -**Wayne L. Mangold**

Special Olympics Chairman:

Helena Athlete "Raises the Bar"

JD Dempsey is "raising the bar" as a Special Olympics Power Lifter and also when it comes to selling raffle tickets! JD try's to sell a raffle ticket to everyone he meets and always has one with him to sell. His personal goal is to sell\$2000 of tickets (currently at \$1600). If he continues to work as hard at selling raffle tickets as he does at power lifting, he just may reach it! JD is 28 years old and moved back to Montana about a year ago and currently lives in Helena. JD has 4 Gold medals in Power Lifting in Special Olympics Montana and also was able to compete at the national level one time. JD is very fond of his sister, Cindy, who trained him in Power Lifting in

2004-2008. Good Luck JD, we all hope you reach all your goals in raffle ticket sales and Power Lifting!

Town Pump Exceeds 2010 Sales!

Hats off to Town Pump for exceeding their 2010 ticket sales by 114%, selling 22,432 raffle tickets! Topping this year's sales was Tom and his crew at the Billings Flying J where Employees took pies in the face to raise awareness of this great fund raiser. Other top sellers were Ruth and her crew at Billings #2 (1684 tickets), and the crew at Belgrade#2 (1114 tickets). Thank you to all Town Pump employees! Each of you has "Given a Lift" to Special Olympics Montana athletes!

Big Sky 451
Central 834
CM Russell 2241
Five Valleys 278
Great Northern No Report
Northeastern 390
Prairie Badlands 592
One Month Left!

Tri-County 2071
Yellowstone Valley 1462
Southwestern 740
Glacier 155
Southeastern No Report
Bob Wards 539

Knights of Columbus 794
Murdoch's 1797
Pizza Hut No Report
Tire Rama No Report
Town Pump 22,432
Optimum No Report
Chevy Dealers 40

Believe it or not there is only a month left for raffle ticket sales! Make the most of your time left by making a plan to maximize sales!

Bresnan Communications Now Optimum

While our sponsor's name and logo are changing, their support for Special Olympics Montana remains as strong as ever. Check out the new logo. Welcome, Optimum! Bresnan Communications is under new ownership and is taking on a new name, Optimum, and a new logo. **Art Malisani**

Family Director's Message:

From the scant number of Family Activities Reports that was sent in for this reporting period, some would classify this year as rebuilding. However, in light of the fact that we have been at this for quite a number of years I find it very disappointing. Out of 54 councils listed for the State of Montana, a mere 7 councils or 13% submitted a total of 27 activity reports. The same seven councils were the only participants in the Family and Knight of the Year Program.

Five councils participated in Supreme Councils Family of the Month by submitting a total of 25 reports as of March 1st. Two councils submitted applications every month although one was late four months that resulted in their applicant not being in consideration for the Supreme monthly awards. Each of the five councils had one monthly winner.

From the reports I received there are only four councils who submitted enough reports to meet the family activity portion of the Columbian Award. This does not mean the councils not reporting to state did not have enough to qualify.

On the bright side the submissions for Knight and Family of the Year were excellent. It is truly amazing to see how active these men and their families are in their councils, parishes and communities. I congratulate them on their accomplishments.

In closing, I thank those councils who participated by sending in reports. At the same time I urge those who did not submit to commit to sending in at least one report in the coming year.- **Dave Zachmann**

Fourth Degree:

It was announced today, March 1, 2011 that our own Brother and Sir Knight - Jerry Johnson of East Helena Council # 10576 and Helena Assembly # 589 has just been awarded the: **Knights of Columbus VAVS (Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service) Male Volunteer of the Year Award for the De Smet Province.** Jerry was nominated by District Master Ken Kingman for his program - Operation Phone Home that is currently underway in Montana and provides hospitalized Veterans with free long distance phone cards in order to call home for free. Jerry's Provincial Award now qualifies him for consideration for Supreme's National Award. Please be sure to congratulate Jerry on his wonderful program and his well deserved award. He will be officially presented with his award on April 3rd at the 4th Degree Exemplification in Helena.

SCHEDULED 4th Degree Exemplifications

June 12 2011 Billings 587 Contact FC Art Loendorf 656-6761
Ken Kingman, Grand Master

2011 Affirming the Culture of Life Conference:

The Montana Catholic Conference is planning the 2nd *Affirming the Culture of Life Conference for 2011.* Last year's conference was held in Billings and this year it will be held in Helena. The conference will be held in the Civic Center in Helena Friday September 30th -Saturday October 1st.

Speaker this year will include Wesley Smith-Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia, Sister Helen Prejean-Death Penalty and Abby Johnson-abortion. The Knights of Columbus are integral in planning and assisting with the conference. Last year, over 700 attended the conference and the attendance goal for this year is 1,000. Several Knights are on the planning committee. Watch future newsletters for more information.

District 9 Report

The annual report of district nine, for the following councils, Wolf Point (1959), Glasgow (2997), Scobey (4272), and Plentywood (2613). The councils that make up the northeastern portion of the states have been diligent in their mission of the Knights of Columbus. Each council strives to maintain hardworking relations with priests in their towns and doing good

works for our churches. Many of the council members volunteer their time and talents to enrich the Catholic faith by being Eucharistic minister, lecturers, and catechist, among other duties. But, council missions don't end there. Many have active round tables, and help maintain churches in the area. Each council have breakfasts that they participate in to help bring congregations together and add to churches donations.

Many of the councils participate in the Knights mission for Right to Life issues. Many have given donations, made efforts to support life in all aspects from conception through natural death. One of those efforts is to lend cribs to mothers that are expecting so that they will not be burdened with financial cost of purchasing a new crib. Other are having special prayer sessions or marches for pro-life activities. Other activities of these Knights are the annual Hoop Shoot. Even though, participant entries are down, councils still continuing to give the youth an outlet to excel in.

These councils have a base group of members that continue to drive the councils forward. In these tough times, with membership being down, and recruitment is not the level Supreme would like, each member does his part, and then some. Many Knights wear several "hats" in order to accomplish goals that have been set. All councils participate in some manner to contribute to the good nature of the church. By having fish fries during lent, or food and clothing drive for the needy, or giving donations of time or money, all councils adhere to the teaching of Jesus Christ. By being Christian, and living and fulfilling those teachings in our own spiritual live, will make us the best Knights of Columbus that we can be. Thank you one and all.

I'm sorry for the cancellation of the First, Second & Third Degree Exemplification that was scheduled for February 27TH in Deer Lodge. However, plans are being made to reschedule the Exemplification for May 22ND in Deer Lodge. And, Butte Council 668 has volunteered to host a First, Second & Third Degree Exemplification in 2012.

This Month, the Councils of District 12 are working on the sales of Special Olympic Pickup Raffle tickets, Lenten fish fries, soup & bread nights and pancake breakfasts. Council 10576 is helping with a special dinner for Father O'Donnell on the occasion of his 50TH year as a priest. Council 844 has scheduled a First Degree for April 14TH at 7:00 PM. Council 668 is serving breakfast on April 10TH and Council 2360 is having a fish fry on April 15TH.

See you in Miles City.

Remember to Pray the Rosary for your personal needs and vocations. -Allen Cormany District 12

In Memoriam:

Please pray for the following members who have recently died. May they rest in peace!

Paul A. "Mike" Mueller-Billings
Joe Budd-Anaconda Council 882



Montana Knights Website

The website for the Montana State Knights of Columbus is <http://www.montanaknights.org>. The webmaster is Bernie Adams and his email address is bernie@amc-hln.com. 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 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. 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>