



Matthew Richardson, State Deputy

Knights Courier

June 2023

Vol 51 No 4



Counterclockwise from top left: Archbishop Lucas, Bishop Hanefeldt, Fr. Fulton, Bishop Emeritus Dendinger, Fr. Rooney, Fr. Brown, Fr. Kovar; Chaplain of the Year Fr. Matthew Kovar, Rookie Knight of the Year Logan Erickson, and District Deputy of the Year Jesse Hines receive their awards; Family luncheon headtable and attendees. Bottom right: Color Guard concludes Grand March for Saturday evening's banquet.

18th Nebraska State Convention One for the Record Books

The 2023 Nebraska State Convention, held at the Younes Center in Kearney on April 28-30, was an event for the record books. If you were not able to attend, you missed an enjoyable weekend filled with renewing old friendships, making new ones, socializing, emotional presentations, and many awards.

Friday was filled with meetings, and the evening social set the mood for a festive Awards Banquet. Awards were presented to a record 73 different Councils. Council awards were chosen by the State Officers and Directors from the 672 ICC submissions received from the Councils. There were also awards for membership, funds collected through the One Rose One Life and the Intellectual Disability (Tootsie Roll) programs, as well as Chaplain (Fr. Matthew Kovar), District Deputy (Jesse Hines), Rookie Knight (Logan Erickson), and

Knight (Harold Nielsen) of the Year. A complete list of all the awards can be found on pages 8 and 9.

Special recognition was also given to Field Agent Deacon Bill Buchta, as he retires after more than 30 years of service. The evening concluded with music, drinks, socializing and a special visit from some "Hawaiian dressed dancers" in the Hospitality room!

Saturday morning started with the Past State Deputy and Former Chaplain Breakfast. There were also meetings held for specially appointed Delegates representing Councils from throughout Nebraska. Holy Hour was held with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Continued with more pictures on page 22.

"So Longs" on Life's Journey

Father Justin Fulton
State Chaplain
Vicar General
Moderator of the Curia,
Diocese of Lincoln

Dear Knights of Columbus Members and Families:

Peace be with you.

August of 1999. I vividly remember packing up my '91 Dodge Shadow in Auburn and getting ready to fire it up and move to UNL for my Freshman year college studies. I was pumped to finally have my "freedom." I was ready to be an adult.

As I backed that little stuffed car out of the driveway, I saw Mom and Dad on the front porch---Mom crying and Dad holding her---both waving their goodbyes to their third-born son. In my first act of being an adult, I found a lump in my throat and a mist in my eye like a little baby. A flood of emotions hit me as I drove down 16th Street for the last time as a kid and turned north on Highway 75 into adulthood. Trying to act like a "grown man," I choked back the tears forming, cleared my throat, and turned on some Chris LeDoux on the CD player.

The memory of my folks on that porch is etched in my mind. And every time I leave the old two-bedroom home in Auburn, Mom still waves goodbye to me from the large front window. Dad passed in September of 2020. And it still gets to me at age 42.

I suppose all of us can replay moments like this one. I guess as my journey with you as State Chaplain comes to an end, this is the image that comes to my mind. In a way, I think it is fitting---I wonder if our past years' patron, St. Joseph, experienced similar "so-longs" with Jesus and Mary.

We should always remember that everything we do as Knights materially is derivative of our spiritual belief that God became man so that man could become God. Jesus took on our mortal flesh so that we could be lifted up by His Sacraments and elevated to a life of grace and Eternal Life. No matter where we go as Knights, may we remember this reality...that doing good and being kind does not get us to Heaven...but a life lived in His Sacraments and in His Church does get us to Heaven.

Be proud of who you are...you are all children of God. You have a Church to pray for..... and you have a Church that prays for you.

It has been an honor to serve you as State Chaplain. Thank you for allowing me to walk with you these past couple of years.

Do not be afraid. God bless and keep you always!

St. Joseph, Pray for Us. Blessed Michael McGivney, Pray for Us.

Vivat Jesus!

Cheers,

Very Rev. Justin Fulton
Vicar General/Moderator of the Curia, Diocese of Lincoln
State Chaplain, Nebraska Knights of Columbus

Words from our State Deputy

Brother Knights,

The fraternal year and my term as State Deputy are ending. Connie and I feel truly blessed, humbled, honored, and privileged to have served you, the more than 26,000 Nebraska Brother Knights, and their families.

Nebraska has accomplished so much in the past two years. We emerged from COVID and returned to in-person council meetings. In 2021 the state returned to in-person meetings, beginning with the Leadership Training Seminar. With in-person meetings came evangelization, councils promoting a return to Mass, and council membership growth.

Fulfilling the responsibilities of State Deputy is impossible without the love and support of a family. It is very rewarding, but also challenging. I am grateful for my wife Connie, my two sons, Nathan and Josh, and both of our parents for their love, help, and support.

There are simply no words to express my gratitude, respect, and love for the Very Reverend Father Justin Fulton. I am truly thankful to him for his spiritual guidance, leadership, friendship, and for ensuring we kept Christ at the forefront of all we did.

Thank you to State Program Director / State Warden-Elect Brian Hamik, Associate Program Director Mitchell Lowery, and Membership Director Rich Lowery for ensuring programs ran smoothly and for making sure we as a state continued to evangelize.

To Bob Wolf, Mike Schaeffer, Jim Korth, Don Hypse, Mark Borytsky, Mike Conrad, Neil Pfeifer, Tony Swanson, Ray Guggenberger, all directors, chairmen, and district deputies, it has been a blessing to serve alongside each one of you. I thank all of you for sharing your time and talent with this great jurisdiction.

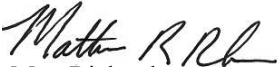
Thank you to all the Nebraska past state deputies. Your leadership, guidance, and advice have been invaluable during these past two years. It has been a blessing to serve with you.

On July 1, 2023, it will be my honor to pass the gavel to Nebraska's new State Deputy, Bob Wolf. I pledge my support to Bob and the incoming state officers, directors, and chairmen. Nebraska is on solid ground and is in good hands.

Connie and I will always be grateful for the team we were privileged to work with, the time spent with councils, and the memories made over the past two years.

Do Not Be Afraid. St. Joseph, Pray for Us.

Vivat Jesus,



Matt Richardson



Matthew R. Richardson
State Deputy

Worthy Grand Knights

Please think of us when your council hosts an event or conducts a service project. Please send us pictures from your events and include a description and council number so we can credit you. We can't promise to post each one we receive, but we would sure like to post what we can.

We have Facebook @NebraskaKofC, Instagram @kofc_nebraska, and Twitter @kofc_nebraska. If you haven't followed us yet, Do Not Be Afraid. The pictures can be sent to Josh at jprichardson248@gmail.com, and Nathan at nrichardson2139@gmail.com.

Preparing for the State Golf Tournament and Bowling Results



Joseph Bober
Athletics Chairman
bojober@cox.net

This information may seem like a repeat, but some of it bears repeating.

I'm sorry to report that we will not host the **I-80 Collar Series** in 2023. Due to problems beyond our control, we could not play the game that would meet our standards.

We hope to have all of the issues resolved so we can play the series in 2024. We hope to hold the series in the Lincoln Diocese. We would like to play it on Sunday, June 9, 2024. This would be the Sunday before Father Day.

We are looking for a location with a ball field and surrounding area that could accommodate about 800 people. The ball field would not need to seat that many people because we could put lawn chairs and blankets around the field and in open areas. We would like this to be a social event, as well as a ballgame for our clergy. If you know of a location in Lincoln that meets this criteria, please contact me so we can start the arrangements.

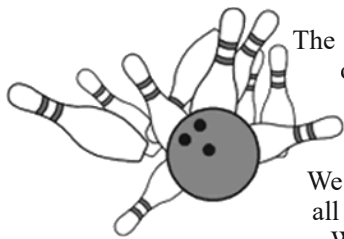
The **State Bowling Tournament**, held on February 18, 19 and 25 at the Westbrook Lanes in Columbus, NE, was a big success. We had 9 teams participate, and the winners are listed below. I would like to again thank Dave Westermann, Gary Groteluschen, John Eckholt and everyone in Columbus who helped in hosting this event.

Don't forget about the **State Golf Tournament** on September 24, 2023, at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Papillion, NE. We will go again to Council 3019 for a steak fry dinner and raffles. Last year, we raised over \$3,600 for religious vocations and scholarships. Make sure you send in your registration form (see page 13).

I would like to thank my Brother Knights and their families for making this chairmanship easy and fun. If you know of an event you think we should do, please contact me.

Vivat Jesus!

2023 State Knights of Columbus Bowling Tournament Winners



The State Bowling Tournament, held on February 18, 19 and 25 at the Westbrook Lanes in Columbus, NE, was a big success.

We had 9 teams participate, and we all owe much appreciation to Dave Westermann, Gary Groteluschen, John Eckholt and everyone in Columbus who helped in hosting this event. We all had a good time. Congratulations to the winners!

9 Team Entries

1st Place	Average Knights	Columbus	3190
2nd Place	West Point	West Point	3138

14 Doubles Entries

1st Place	Marty Krings, Mike Krings	1447
2nd Place	G. Groteluschen, C. Wonzy	1375
3rd Place	Roger Cech, Dave Blum	1323

28 Singles Entries

1st Place	Rod Zarek	Columbus	695
2nd Place	Dean Engquist	Columbus	669
3rd Place	Mike Emenuel	Hartington	653
4th Place	Justin Stutzman	Columbus	652
5th Place	Broderick Emenuel	Hartington	646
6th Place	Charlie Wonzy	Columbus	644
7th Place	Ron Starzec	Columbus	631

All Events Entries

1st Place	Roger Ceck	West Point	2005
2nd Place	Dean Engquist	Columbus	1964



Be sure to follow the Nebraska Knights of Columbus on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and at www.nebraskakofc.org

Fabulous State Convention

With my last article as State Program Director, I would like to thank State Deputy Matt Richardson for having confidence in me and asking me to be his Program Director. It has been a pleasure to serve under Matt and all the State Officers, as well as all the Knights in Nebraska.

There have been a lot of phone calls, emails, and late-night hours to complete items, but it was all worth it when we could gather at the meetings and conventions and reflect on the many great things done for so many.

At the recently held State Convention, it was great to honor so many councils and individuals for their service and accomplishments. Over 70 Councils were honored for their programs.

There were a record number of ICC applications sent in this year – 672 to be exact. It is amazing to see all the programs that Councils do to help people in need. It was very difficult to judge, to pick just one or two to receive the awards when there were so many that were worthy.

Thanks again to all the local officers for stepping up and taking the leadership roles. Without your dedication and hard work, these programs could not be successful.

Vivat Jesus,

Brian Hamik
State Program Director



Brian Hamik
Program Chairman
blhamik@gmail.com

Lottery for Vocations Tops \$130,000

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to all the Brother Knights who purchased a Nebraska Knights of Columbus State Lottery Ticket! From mid-February until the day I left for the State Convention in Kearney, I opened envelopes containing lottery ticket stubs.

When I was finally done opening all the envelopes, I had a tote containing more than 13,000 lottery ticket stubs. At \$10 each, that means, thanks to you, the Nebraska Knights of Columbus were able to raise over \$130,000 for all the seminarians from Nebraska. Every seminarian from Nebraska will receive a monetary Christmas and Easter gift. All three Nebraska dioceses will receive monetary gifts for their vocation's programs.

At the Saturday evening State Banquet, Bishop Hanefeldt drew the ten winning names. The winner of the grand prize of \$2,500 was P.J. O'Neill of Kearney. Other winners included Braxton Augustin, Martha Blotkamp, Tim Karstrom, R.B. Kaslon, Mark Polacek, Jim Barra, Verl Squire, St. John the Evangelist Church, and Joseph Stankus. (for whom we are still trying to decipher the name on the ticket).

The lottery is one the most important programs of the Nebraska Knights of Columbus because it supports vocations. By supporting the seminarians, we are supporting our future Priests.

Vivat Jesus,

Don Hypse
State Warden



Don Hypse
State Warden
hypse@conpoint.com

2023 Lottery Winners

Over \$130,000 was raised in 2023 from the Lottery for vocations! These were the drawing winners:

1st Prize \$2,500	P.J. O'Neill, Kearney, NE
2nd Prize \$1,000	Braxton Augustin, Shelby, NE
3rd Prize \$750	Martha Blotkamp, Lincoln, NE
4th Prize \$500	Tim Karstrom, Omaha, NE
5th Prize \$250	R.B. Kaslon, York, NE
6th Prize \$100	Mark J. Polacek, David City, NE
7th Prize \$100	Joseph C. Stankus, Omaha, NE
8th Prize \$100	Jim Barra, Omaha, NE
9th Prize \$100	Verl Squire, Omaha, NE
10th Prize \$100	St. John the Evangelist, Stapleton, NE

2023 McGivney Foundation Heads or Tails Winners

Thanks to everyone who participated in the inaugural year of Heads or Tails. It was such a fun way to help build your McGivney Foundation and help those in need. The following were this year's prize winners:



1. \$500 Cash - Roy Zach
2. Four Nebraska Football Tickets and Hotel Stay
Gary Grotelueschen
3. Golf for Four Weekend in Kearney
Justin Wemhoff
4. Spa Package \$500 - Jason Danner

IMPORTANT DATES

FORM NO.

June

Jun 25 State Directory Updates
Executive Secretary

ABC/XXX

Jun 30 Application for Vocations
Support/RSVP Refund
Supreme Council

10057

Jun 30 Food for Families Report/Refund
Supreme Council

SP-7

Jun 30 **Columbian Award Application
Supreme Council
Cc: Exec Secretary

185

Jun 30 **Report of Officers
Supreme Council
Cc: Exec Secretary

365

Jun 30 **Report of Service Personnel
Supreme Council
Cc: Exec Secretary

July

July 1 Download Supreme Per Capita
Statement
Supreme Website

Jul 15-16 Grand Knight/Financial Secretary/
District Deputy Training Seminar
Kearney

August

1295-1

Aug 15 Semi-Annual Report of Audit
Supreme Council

September

Sep 1 State Per Capita Due
State Secretary
Schaeffer

****May be filed electronically on Supreme Web site.**

Ray Guggenberger
Executive Secretary
(402) 681-6572
3101 Washington St, #7
Bellevue, NE 68005

Invitation to Leadership Training for All Interested from Across the State

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Mitchell Lowery, and I have the privilege of having been asked by State Deputy Elect Bob Wolf to serve as Program Director beginning July 1, 2023, for the upcoming fraternal year.

I am excited to have this opportunity to work with the councils and Knights across Nebraska as we prepare for another fantastic year of programs throughout the state.

I have spent several years serving the State Family in Nebraska, from State Production Specialist (2004-2013 and 2019-2021), State Youth Director (2013-2017), and most recently as Assistant State Program Director for the last fraternal year.

As we prepare for the upcoming fraternal year, it is time to start thinking about the annual Summer Meeting. This year, we have decided to change the name, based on feedback from many of our councils. We are returning to the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and District Deputy Training Seminar.

This event will be held July 15-16, 2023, in Kearney, at the Holiday Inn Hotel. This weekend will be an excellent opportunity for Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and District Deputies to come together to learn about the new

programs for the 2023-2024 fraternal year and to meet with the State Family and other council leaders.

All council members are also welcome to attend this event. In fact, it is highly encouraged councils send some of their potential future leaders to this seminar to help prepare them for leadership roles in the council. At this event, we will discuss changes to the ICC (Inter-Council Competition) Program, as well as sharing information and support for councils to thrive and grow during the upcoming year.

The State Officers, Program Directors and Membership Team are planning a full weekend of education and information to help you and your councils get this fraternal year started on the right foot. See pages 14-15 for more information. If you have any questions regarding the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and District Deputy Training Seminar, or on any other Knight's subject, please feel free to reach out to me.

I look forward to working with each of you this next fraternal year and seeing you at the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and District Deputy Training Seminar this July.

Mitchell Lowery
State Program Director Designate



The Pass the Hat collection at the State Convention for the new ASAP (Aid and Support after Pregnancy) program was a huge success, raising \$12,530.60. The Culture of Life added \$37,469.40 for a grand total of \$50,000.

For more information about how to participate in supporting life, talk to Mike and Mary Conrad (mconrad@abbnebraska.com) or to print the ASAP handbook visit:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/life/pregnancy-center-support/11371-aid-and-support-guide-book.pdf>.



Be sure to follow the Nebraska Knights of Columbus on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and at **www.nebraskakofc.org**

118TH ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION CONGRATULATIONS 2023 AWARD WINNERS



Publicity

Div 1 – 1st Place	10163	St. Joseph, Benkelman/Stratton
Div 2 – 1st Place	9704	St. Mary, Lincoln
Div 3 – 1st Place	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
Div 4 – 1st Place	11001	Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln
Div 5 – 1st Place	6192	Columban, Bellevue

Div 1 – 2nd Place	11822	American Charities, Exeter/Friend
Div 2 – 2nd Place	15101	St. Pius the Tenth, Omaha
Div 3 – 2nd Place	10184	Fr. Clement Bracht, Omaha
Div 4 – 2nd Place	N/A	
Div 5 – 2nd Place	9563	Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln

Culture of Life

Supreme Award	10412	St. Francis Borgia, Blair
State Award	10510	St. Peter, Lincoln

Culture of Life Art Contest

1st Place	10592	Fr. Auer, Bloomfield
2nd Place	10795	St. Vincent DePaul, Omaha
3rd Place	3720	Rev. W. W. Kroupa, Spencer

One Rose - One Life

Div 1 – 1st Place	14320	St. James, Cortland
Div 2 – 1st Place	9704	St. Mary, Lincoln
Div 3 – 1st Place	13956	Pope John Paul II, Omaha
Div 4 – 1st Place	10965	St. Leo the Great, Omaha
Div 5 – 1st Place	10108	St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha

Div 1 – 2nd Place	2351	Wood River, Wood River
Div 2 – 2nd Place	10592	Fr. Auer, Bloomfield
Div 3 – 2nd Place	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
Div 4 – 2nd Place	1918	St. Peter & Paul, St. Paul
Div 5 – 2nd Place	9518	Fr. William A. Foster, Ralston

Intellectual Disabilities Money Earned

Div 1 – 1st Place	12530	Fr. McGivney, North Platte
Div 2 – 1st Place	7684	Fr. Ulenberg, Geneva/Grafton/Shickley
Div 3 – 1st Place	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
Div 4 – 1st Place	10387	St. Leo, Grand Island
Div 5 – 1st Place	2716	St. Anthony of Padua, Schuyler

Intellectual Disabilities Percentage Increase

Div 1 – 1st Place	10815	Our Lady of Guadalupe, Omaha
Div 2 – 1st Place	12687	Fr. Robert Foster Jubilee, Elm Creek
Div 3 – 1st Place	10607	St. Rose of Lima, Genoa
Div 4 – 1st Place	14077	St. Charles Borromeo, Gretna
Div 5 – 1st Place	10909	St. Wenceslaus, Omaha



ICC AWARDS 2023

ICC Champion Council	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
ICC Gold	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
ICC Gold	6192	Columban, Bellevue
ICC Gold	9771	St. Elizabeth Ann, Omaha
ICC Gold	10913	St. Michael, Lincoln
ICC Gold	11879	St. Matthew, Bellevue
ICC Silver	9563	Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln
ICC Silver	9704	St. Mary, Lincoln
ICC Silver	11001	Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln
ICC Silver	11364	Holy Cross, Omaha
ICC Silver	13576	Msgr. David R. Hintz, Lincoln
ICC Bronze	1723	Beatrice, Beatrice
ICC Bronze	6429	Archbishop Bergan, Papillion
ICC Bronze	7740	St. John Vianney, Omaha
ICC Bronze	10047	Fr. John V. Wallace, Gretna
ICC Bronze	10160	St. Stephen the Martyr, Omaha
ICC Bronze	10387	St. Leo, Grand Island
ICC Bronze	10412	St. Francis Borgia, Blair
ICC Bronze	11280	Msgr. Maurice Helmann, Lincoln
ICC Bronze	12530	Fr. McGivney, North Platte

118TH ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

So many amazing councils and individuals were recognized for their good work during the past year.

Besides the many awards announced at Friday's dinner and listed here, Bishop Emeritus William J. Dendinger of the Diocese of Grand Island, received a Quilt of Valor for his service to our country. The Quilt is handmade by Carol Weber (far right photo, with her husband Leland). Bishop Dendinger is also a Former State Chaplain and is known as Ret. Maj. Gen. William Dendinger, who served as a former Chief of Air Force Chaplains.

Past State Deputies were recognized with the Past State Deputy Medal with black ribbon (photos below) and Former District Masters received a bronze eagle statue for their service as District Master (photo top right, page 8).

Insurance Agent Dcn. Bill Butcha also received special recognition as he is retiring.



Intellectual Disabilities Percentage Increase (continued)

Div 1 – 2nd Place	12530	Fr. McGivney, North Platte
Div 2 – 2nd Place	7954	St. Peter, Fullerton
Div 3 – 2nd Place	5881	St. Boniface, Stuart
Div 4 – 2nd Place	1126	Fr. Trayer, McCook
Div 5 – 2nd Place	1497	Phil Sheridan, Fremont
Div 1 – 3rd Place	9898	St. Mary, Leigh
Div 2 – 3rd Place	15647	St. Mary and St. Patrick, Davey
Div 3 – 3rd Place	13584	St. Michael of Spalding, Spalding
Div 4 – 3rd Place	1906	St. Stephen, Lawrence
Div 5 – 3rd Place	938	Columbus, Columbus

Faith

Supreme Award	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
State Award	6192	Columban, Bellevue

Faith Support of Catholic Education

1st Place	1966	Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth
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Faith Support of Vocations

1st Place	16878	Fr. Kenneth Walker, Lincoln
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Faith Chaplain of the Year

1st Place	Fr. Matthew Kovar, 11001, Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln
2nd Place	Fr. Joseph Walsh, 9704, St. Mary, Lincoln

Family

Supreme Award	10913	St. Michael, Lincoln
State Award	2388	Broken Bow, Broken Bow

Family of the Year

1st Place	Pella Family, Blessed Sacrament, 11001, Lincoln
2nd Place	Fehring Family, Fr. William Kearns, 8579, Wayne
Hnr. Mention	Morgan Family, St. Michael, 10913, Lincoln
Hnr. Mention	Ysusi Family, Columban, 6192, Bellevue
Hnr. Mention	Doerneman Family, St. Isidore, 12086, Columbus

Leonard Feehan Memorial Community Service

1st Place	10305	St. John the Baptist, Fort Calhoun
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Community

Supreme Award	13576	Msgr. David R. Hintz, Lincoln
State Award	2388	Broken Bow, Broken Bow

Community - Knight of the Year

1st Place	1723	Harold Nielsen, Beatrice, Beatrice
2nd Place	10913	Loran Stara, St. Michael, Lincoln

Community - Rookie Knight of the Year

1st Place	12086	Logan Erickson, St. Isidore, Columbus
2nd Place	11001	Jason, Danner, Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln

Community Youth - Keep Christ in Christmas

1st Place, Ages 5-7	10895	St. James, Omaha
1st Place, Ages 8-10	11312	St. Isaac Jogues, Lincoln
1st Place, Ages 11-14	11312	St. Isaac Jogues, Lincoln

Membership - Highest Percent Gain

Div 1 – 1st Place	7734	St. John Neuman, Arapahoe/Cambridge
Div 1 – 2nd Place	14320	St. James, Cortland
Div 1 – 3rd Place	2351	Wood River, Wood River

Continued with more pictures on page 11.

New Year, New Leaders, New Invitations



Mark Borytsky
Nebraska District Master
Immediate PSD
13005 S. 29th Place
Omaha, NE 68123
402.212.9612 cell
mborytsky@cox.net



Brothers,

As this fraternal year comes to an end, I'm looking forward to a new and exciting fraternal year full of many opportunities for our state, assemblies, and councils to enjoy.

As the Patriotic 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus, we Sir Knights need to continuously be involved in our assemblies, councils, parishes, and communities. Our support with parades, visiting veterans to providing honors at funerals and so much more will only enhance the relationship with which so many will see and witness our 4th Degree presence.

We held a state 4th Degree meeting at the State Convention in April 2023 in Kearney. The meeting was a huge success with over 41 Sir Knights attending, along with four Former District Masters. The information provided and the interaction between those attending and myself was well received. We are now planning for the Grand Knight, Financial Secretaries and District Deputies Training Seminar on July 15-16, 2023, in Kearney.

I will be inviting our Faithful Navigators and Faithful Comptrollers to attend or send a representative. The formal invitation with specifics will follow. Please plan to attend and let's see if we can get 100% Nebraska Assembly attendance.

As we move forward, I would like to congratulate our Worthy State Deputy Matt Richardson and First Lady Connie for their time and efforts over the past two years. Their dedication to the state councils and assemblies is admirable and we're a better state for their leadership and friendship.

I would also like to thank our newly elected State Deputy Bob Wolf and First Lady Chris. Looking forward to your leadership and continued friendship over the next two years. We are blessed to have Fr. John Rooney as our new State Chaplain. His spiritual guidance will carry us for the next two years. Additionally, I'm excited to work with all our new state officers, program and membership teams for the betterment of our assemblies and councils, encouraging program and furthering membership in Nebraska and the 4th Degree.

I am looking forward to an amazing fraternal year as we reach new heights with events and membership.

God Bless,

Mark Borytsky, IPSD
Nebraska District Master

Worthy Grand Knights

Please think of us when your council hosts an event or conducts a service project. Please send us pictures from your events and include a description and council number so we can credit you. We can't promise to post each one we receive, but we would like to post what we can.

We have Facebook @NebraskaKofC, Instagram @kofc_nebraska, and Twitter @kofc_nebraska. If you haven't followed us yet, Do Not Be Afraid. The pictures can be sent to Josh at jprichardson248@gmail.com, and Nathan at nrichardson2139@gmail.com.



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Family of the Year



Clem and Maggie Pella (center) are the 2023 Nebraska Family of the Year.

The 2023 Nebraska Knights of Columbus Family of the Year is the Clem and Maggie Pella family from Lincoln's Blessed Sacrament Council # 11001. They received the award from Family Directors Nick and Katie Ladenburger and State Deputy Matt and First Lady Connie Richardson.

Married since April 2020, the couple have a two-year-old daughter. They are both from large Catholic families – she is one of eight children, and he is one of 10!

Clem works for the University of Nebraska Foundation, and he uses those professional skills to help his local council with various fundraising efforts. He has successfully co-led his parish's largest fundraiser and fellowship event, Fest Quest, for two years. He also plays a critical role in his parish's fish fries by keeping inventory, ordering food and needed supplies, as well as organizing the work shifts for serving help and clean up.

Maggie is also an avid volunteer, sharing her time and talents to help others in groups such as PCCW and as a

substitute adorer for parish adoration, while maintaining her own holy hour with her husband and daughter. She was a Catholic school educator for seven years and hopes to become a substitute teacher at local Catholic schools in the future.

The Michael and Penny Fehringer family (below) of the Father Kearns Council #8579 are this year's runner-up family. They have been married for 25 years and have five children. Besides being a Knight, he often serves at funeral Masses and at Christmas Midnight Mass and



Michael and Penny Fehringer, surrounded by their children, received the 2023 Nebraska Family of the Year Runner-up.

has chaperoned local youth attending the Steubenville Conference five times. Penny has been a key organizer for many events. At home she guides table prayer focusing on gratitude for God's grace and listens to the Halo app's bedtime stories with their youngest child.

Honorable mention recipients were also recognized during the luncheon. They were the Mike and Kris Morgan family of St. Michael Council # 10913; the Paul and Wild Ysusi family of Columban Council # 6192; and the Michael and Sarah Doerneman family of St. Isidore Council # 12086.

Awards, continued from page 9.

Div 2 – 1st Place	16680	St. John Paul II - UNO, Omaha
Div 2 – 2nd Place	8590	All Saints, Holdrege
Div 2 – 3rd Place	6750	Msgr. Thomas Barden, Tecumseh
Div 3 – 1st Place	13015	Our Lady of Good Counsel, Lincoln
Div 3 – 2nd Place	1238	Count Creighton, Creighton
Div 3 – 3rd Place	13956	Pope John Paul II, Omaha
Div 4 – 1st Place	975	Holy Rosary, Alliance
Div 4 – 2nd Place	652	Fr. Flanagan of Boys Town, Omaha
Div 4 – 3rd Place	11001	Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln
Div 5 – 1st Place	10108	St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha
Div 5 – 2nd Place	10160	St. Stephen the Martyr, Omaha
Div 5 – 3rd Place	10795	St. Vincent DePaul, Omaha

State Special Projects Award

1st Place – Tie	6192	Columban, Bellevue
1st Place – Tie	9704	St. Mary, Lincoln

State - On-Going Projects

1st Place – Tie	13080	Our Lady of Lourdes, Omaha
1st Place – Tie	12687	Fr. Robert Foster Jubilee, Elm Creek

State - District Deputy of the Year

DD of the Year	Jesse Hines, District 11
Runner Up	James Vath, District 34

Agent of the Year

Pfeifer Agency	Agent of the Year	Noah Pfeifer, Norfolk
Swanson Agency	Agent of the Year	Brian Almond, Hastings

Planning for 2023-2024



Sammi & Stephen Lowery
Intellectual Disabilities Directors
402.540.1670
sglowery82@gmail.com

Intellectual Disabilities Foundation

“Helping People with Special Needs”

As the fraternal year closes, we look forward to the start of the next year and the opportunities that are presented to us to hit a reset and evaluate how we want the next year to look.

One of the first opportunities our councils have is to start strong with the Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities Drive.

The 2022-2023 drive was a huge success, and we owe that all to you and your hard work. We had 131 of the 167 councils in Nebraska report this year and saw an increase of over \$15,000 in donations.

We were able to distribute well over \$100,000 to qualifying organizations across our state. These funds will be used to impact a great many lives.

With our new fraternal year about to start, we must begin thinking now about the 2023-2024 Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities. The dates the state has selected for the drive this fall are October 5-8, 2023. As always, if these dates do not work for your council, please feel free to adjust them as needed.

The information packet for this year's drive will be distributed at the summer leadership meeting. Candy orders are due by August 1, 2023, to ensure delivery in time for the October drive. The order form for the candy changed in 2022. The new form is available on the state website and will also be included in your packets.

The ordering amounts and costs are the same as past years, so please start thinking now about how many cases you will need. Also, please consider how you will work within your area and district to arrange larger orders to save on shipping costs.

As in previous years, ALL money collected and

your report form must be turned in to the Intellectual Disabilities Foundation Directors by January 31, 2024. Your council may request up to 50% of your funds collected to be sent back to qualifying organizations of your choice and all requests must be received in writing by June 30, 2024.

The Intellectual Disabilities Foundation will be providing more information in the coming months related to other program activities such as Special Olympics and Project Lori, as well as sharing the stories of the organizations and people that we serve throughout the state. Please be on the lookout for this information and share it with your council and community so we can showcase the good works we do.

While the 2022-2023 drive was a huge success for the Intellectual Disabilities Foundation, we can always do better. For the 2023-2024 Campaign, we are hoping to raise over \$200,000.

This will only be possible with the hard work and creative ideas of each of our councils. If the candy distribution does not work for you, we are happy to help with new ideas to raise funds for this worthy cause. Reach out to the businesses in your community to see if they will let you promote your drive with them.

It is your excellent work that will allow the Knights of Columbus in Nebraska to continue “Helping People with Special Needs!”



Be sure to follow the Nebraska Knights of Columbus on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and at www.nebraskakofc.org



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



State Knights of Columbus announces their

Nebraska Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament

**Sunday September 24, 2023
Four Person Scramble**



Check in opens at 7:00 A.M

Shotgun start at 8:00 A.M.

Eagle Hills Golf Course

501 Eagle Hills Drive

Papillion, Ne. 68133

402-592-7788

\$80.00 per golfer - Foursomes encouraged

Open to any Catholic age 18 and older

Men 65 and older shoot from seniors' tees

Women shoot from Red Tees

Includes golf cart and steak dinner at the

South Council Hall

4323 Washington, Omaha, NE

Cocktails 12:30 p.m. Ribeye dinner 1:00 pm.

**Not golfing? Join us for drinks and dinner for
just \$15.00 per person.**

Players in Foursome

Mail reservations and checks to:

Joe Bober
4070 I Street
Omaha, NE 68107

Make Checks to Knights of Columbus

Questions? Call Joe at 402-290-7954

Name	Address	Phone	Parish

Dinner only

2023 Leadership Training Seminar

Council and District leaders are invited to a training seminar, July 15-16, 2023. This weekend is not limited to Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and District Deputies. Any council members are welcome to attend as well.

This is a good opportunity to meet other leaders from around the state and learn about new programs that can be implemented in your councils and districts. We are excited to see what this next fraternal year holds for all of us.

Registration:

Once again, we will be using Eventbrite for the registration and payment process. We will open registration in early to mid-June. Registration will close July 7th. Please note: make sure to click the "Apply" button after typing the promo code. A password and promo code may be necessary to advance through the site. Instructions, promo code and password will be provided to each council's leadership group (e.g. Financial Secretary and/or Grand Knight) by Executive Secretary Ray Guggenberger.

All registration and payment information is due by July 7, 2023.

- Please use the site to register all council members who plan to attend the seminar (even if you are not joining us for Saturday's dinner). There is no charge to attend the training sessions, but a count of attendees helps us keep the weekend flowing smoothly.
- Register and pay online for all meals. Join us for great food and socializing. Registration and payment help us provide the hotel with an accurate count.

Councils will be responsible for contacting the Holiday Inn in Kearney to reserve their room(s) for the weekend.

If you have difficulty registering, please contact Jesse Hines at 615-587-4694 or email - jesse.hines86@gmail.com.

Thank you, God bless, and we look forward to serving you for this and upcoming events.

Jesse Hines
State Event Coordinator Co-Chairmen

Please make sure that you turn your registrations in on time!

If late registering for meals, you can be added to a wait list. We cannot guarantee these late meals.

If meals become available, you will be notified in the order requested.

Late registration for hotel accommodations (for those of you who register through the state), may require you booking a room directly with the hotel and may result in no discounted special Knights' rate at the hotel.



Ladies Program
Saturday Afternoon



Join other women during the training time to learn more about the ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) program, created to help mothers and their babies by supporting pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes.

You will also be asked to provide your insights and thoughts as the State explores a new associated project.

Of course, there will be time to catch up with friends and make new ones during this time.

Hope to hearing from all of you amazing ladies as we start the next two years!

Chris Wolf
wolfc52@gmail.com

2023 SUPREME CONVENTION DELEGATES

**Congratulations to these Delegates to the 140th Supreme Convention in Orlando, FL
July 31 - August 3, 2023!**

Delegates:

Robert Wolf, State Deputy
Rev. John C. Rooney, State Chaplain
D. Gregory Jochum
Larry Koerner

Delegates:

Matthew Richardson, IPSD
Neal D. Johnson, FS
Brian Hamik, SW

Delegates:

Larry Reed, PSD
Very Rev. Justin R. Fulton, FSC
Mark Borytsky, PSD, DM

Alternates: Richard Lowery, PSD, FDM, and Michael Schaeffer, SS

Grand Knights, District Deputies, Financial Secretaries and Future Leaders - Join Us

The Seminar is scheduled for the weekend of July 15-16, 2023, in Kearney, NE.

Meetings for the Officers will begin Friday morning, while the District Deputies, Directors and Chairmen will meet Friday evening. Registration and meetings for Council Officers and other members will begin on Saturday morning, July 15, and continue through Sunday, July 16.

An agenda is listed below. Times are tentative.

**Annual
Leadership Training
July 15-16, 2023**

**LEADERSHIP
SEMINAR
REGISTRATION**

through
EventBrite

[https://](https://nekc2023JulyTraining.eventbrite.com)

[nekc2023JulyTraining.
eventbrite.com](https://nekc2023JulyTraining.eventbrite.com)

**HOTEL
RESERVATIONS**

Holiday Inn
Conference Center
110 2nd Ave.
Kearney, NE

RESERVATIONS
308-237-5971

You must tell them you are
with the Knights of Columbus
to get the special rate.

NEW DIRECTORIES

Each council will receive
two (2) Nebraska Knights of
Columbus Directories, one
(1) each for the Grand Knight
and the Financial Secretary.
There will be no extra copies
available.

Nebraska Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and District Deputy Training Seminar

July 13 - 16, 2023

Holiday Inn Conference Center

110 2nd Ave., Kearney, Nebraska

Friday, July 14, 2023

7:15 - 9:30 PM	State Program Director/Chairmen Meeting
7:15 - 9:30 PM	State Membership Director/RGD Meeting
7:30 - 9:30 PM	District Deputies Meeting

Saturday, July 15, 2023

7:30 - 10:00 AM	Registration / Check-In
9:00 - 9:50 AM	Holy Hour
10:00 - 11:15 AM	Financial Secretary Training
10:00 - 11:15 AM	Grand Knight & District Deputy Training
11:15 - Noon	Lunch
12:30 - 2:00 PM	Fourth Degree Meeting
12:30 - 4:00 PM	Grand Knight & District Deputy Training
1:00 - 2:30 PM	Ladies Program
5:00 - 6:30 PM	Mass & Installation of Officers
7:30 - 9:00 PM	Dinner

Sunday, July 17, 2023

7:00 - 8:00 AM	Mass
9:00 - 11:00 AM	Financial Secretary Training (if needed)
8:30 - Noon	Grand Knight & District Deputy Training

**If you miss registration deadline for meals, we cannot guarantee the meal.
Please register on time. Thank you!**

Per Capita Due September 1, 2023

**Your September per capita must be paid on time
to be eligible for ICC Gold next year**

Mike Schaeffer, State Secretary Elect 402-651-9840 Cell schaef5252@gmail.com

What is per capita? Where does it go? How much is it? Where do the assessed numbers come from? These are some of the frequently asked questions when it comes to the per capita billing. Following are answers to each of these questions. Hopefully this will help everyone understand the per capita assessment.

What is per capita?

Per capita is an assessment on every member of the Knights of Columbus in all jurisdictions. Only Disabled and Honorary Life members are excluded from this yearly per capita assessment. Both the State Council and Supreme have a per - capita assessments.

Where does the money go?

The state assessment is designed to assist the State Council in funding items such as programs, conventions, Knights Courier, and the other expenses that are associated with running an organization like ours. Your State Council does not have other fund-raising programs to pay the general expenses of the State Council. Fund raisers such as Tootsie Roll Drive, Buck-a-month, One Rose – One Life, and the Vocation Lottery all go to the Foundations that promote them for their use and that of the local Councils.

How much is it?

State per capita assessment

Your state per capita invoice is received two times each fiscal year. Invoices are sent directly to your council's Financial Secretary and are to be paid from your council's annual dues. Starting the 2023 Fraternal year, \$10.75 per member is assessed by the State Council and is your council's State per capita billing. One part will be billed July 1, 2023, and due by September 1, 2023, for \$5.88 per member. The remainder will be billed \$5.87 per member on January 1, 2024, and due by March 1, 2024.

Supreme per capita assessment

Supreme's per capita assessment is currently \$4.50 per member per billing (twice yearly) and is your council's Supreme per capita billing. These invoices need to be downloaded from the Supreme website as Supreme no longer mails the assessments to the Councils.

Where do the assessed numbers come from?

For both per capita invoices, the State Council uses the number of members that each council has on Supremes membership roster as of July 1st of that current fiscal year. This is another reason why it is important that your council's Financial Secretary accurately maintains and updates your membership records with Supreme.



Mike Schaeffer
State Secretary Elect

McGivney Foundation Benefit Cookbook

The McGivney Foundation has elected to publish a cookbook as a fund raiser to help the endowment grow and help more Knights and their families and communities in the greatest need.

This wonderful custom cookbook will feature favorite recipes from the Knights of Columbus Family. The cookbook is certain to become a treasured keepsake.

For this to be successful, we need your help.

- 1) Please submit 3–5 of your favorite recipes so you can be represented in this cookbook. Follow the instructions below. **The deadline for submitting these recipes has been changed to June 30, 2023.** Your name will be printed with each of your recipes. Thank you for contributing recipes!
- 2) Purchase/reserve your copies of the cookbook by contacting your Grand Knight or Financial Secretary. The cookbooks are \$20 each.
- 3) Tell your friends, family and parish friends about the cookbook. Ask them to commit to purchasing their copies of the cookbook at this time. Because they will be delivered late fall of 2023, they will make a great Christmas present. They are also a good wedding shower surprise, birthday gift, etc.



We anticipate a great demand for this cookbook because great cooks like you will submit your favorites – plus it helps the McGivney Foundation help others. We want to be certain to order plenty. You can reserve one or more for yourself and your family by contacting your favorite Knight! *Your council will receive a rebate of \$1 for each book sold up to its designated number and \$2 for every book sold above this number. These rebates will be distributed by the end of the calendar year.*

Thank you for participating in this cookbook fundraiser and helping your foundation reach its goal of one million dollars in the endowment so we can provide assistance to more Nebraska Knights, their families and their communities. Please contact your foundation advisors Don Ferneding 402-943-6320 or Dan Wells 402-880-2586 with any questions.

RECIPE SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Two ways to submit 3-5 of your best recipes:

1. Online - typensave.com Username: elwells, PW: banana722
2. Use the paper form through your Council. **Mail by June 25:** McGivney Foundation, PO Box 98, Elkhorn, NE 68022.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Ferneding 402-223-8281 or Beth Wells 402-880-0510.

Please submit your recipes by June 30, 2023, so we can meet our deadline. Thank you!

Your Nebraska State McGivney Foundation is Growing

The McGivney Foundations started in 2001 with just under \$500. Today, due in a large part to the charitable donations of our brother Knights, it has grown to over \$600,000. Our goal of reaching the \$1,000,000 by 2026 is well within our reach.

When Father McGivney started the Knights of Columbus, his main goal was to create a fund to be used to help families in financial need. Father McGivney wished to help families with devastating financial needs such as the death of father or mother, families with medical issues, or families experiencing a devastating financial crisis. Today, we have that same goal. We wish to help families and brother Knights that have suffered from house fires, lose of life from accidents, or families struggling with large medical bills, etc.

How can you make a difference?

Sell the cookbooks | Make one-time financial gift of any amount | A donation of grain

A monthly recurring gift can be set-up of any size | Make the Foundation a beneficiary of a life policy

A donation of \$100 or more will qualify you as a sustaining member

News from the **NEIL PFEIFER AGENCY****Knights of Columbus Insurance Serving Northeast Nebraska and West Central Iowa****Congratulations Million Dollar Round Table Agents*****Awesome!*****Agents of the Month**

February
Noah Pfeifer
Norfolk



March
Jeremy Borchers
West Point



April
Craig Pfeifer
Madison



Congratulations to the Agents from the Neil Pfeifer Agency who qualified for Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) this year. MDRT is the premier association of financial professionals.

The 2023 qualifying agents from our agency are (from left to right, top row to bottom): Jeremy Borchers of West Point, Matt Harm of Omaha, Stewart Havranek of Omaha, J Krawczyk of Omaha, Roy Metter of David City, Craig Pfeifer of Madison, Noah Pfeifer of Norfolk, Kevin Weber of Gretna (Lifetime).

MDRT members demonstrate exceptional professional knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding client service. MDRT membership is recognized internationally as the standard of sales excellence in the life insurance and financial services business.

Congratulations!

Investment Solutions

KoCAA is the intersection of Catholic and Capable. With an investment portfolio over \$28 billion strong and a commitment to the socially responsible investment guidelines set by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), we offer clients a way to invest with integrity, assured that their funds are invested with companies committed to sound ethical, environmental, social and corporate governance practices. That's how we provide "value with values," by helping clients grow their future with faith-based investing.

Neil Pfeifer, General Agent for Northwest Nebraska and West Central Iowa
402.640.1239 ext. 1 | neil.pfeifer@kofc.org | www.neilpfeiferagencykofcins.com



**Knights of
Columbus**
Asset Advisors®

News from the **TONY SWANSON AGENCY****Knights of Columbus Insurance Serving Southeast, Central and Western Nebraska****Celebrating Our Million Dollar Round Table Agents**

Agents from the Tony Swanson Agency qualifying for the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) this year are: (from left) Dcn. Bill Buchta of Grand Island (Lifetime Member), Brian Almond of Hastings, and David St. Hilaire of Lincoln! MDRT agents rank in the top 3% of financial professionals in the world.

Celebrate!
Agents of the Month

February
David St. Hilaire
Lincoln



March
Brian Almond
Hastings



April
Dcn. Bill Buchta
Grand Island

Agent Dcn. Bill Buchta Retires

We would like to recognize Field Agent Dcn. Bill Buchta, FICF, as he has announced his retirement at the end of June. He has provided steadfast service to the Knights of Columbus families he has served for 33 years.

Dcn. Bill began his career on May 1, 1990, in the Ed Petr Agency, continued with the Kevin Pfeifer Agency, and has spent the last 14 years in the Swanson Agency. During his time as a Field Agent, he was recognized as Agent of the Year, Fraternalist of the Year, top Long Term Care producer in the Swanson Agency and the Order, five-time qualifier for the Supreme Knight's Club, and is a lifetime member of MDRT, an industry organization that represents the top 3% of producers in the world. This is in addition to the other awards he has received over the years. Dcn. Bill could always be depended on to uphold Blessed McGivney's vision of providing reliable and conscientious service to his members and their families. He has also been a wonderful asset and mentor to many of his Brother Field Agents.

Dcn. Bill is a member of Council 10387 in Grand Island. He joined the Order in 1987. He became a Sir Knight in 1995 in Assembly 601. Dcn. Bill and his wife, Nancy, reside in Grand Island and have three children and five grandchildren.

Thanks for your years of service, Dcn. Bill and Nancy, and have a wonderful retirement!



State Deputy Elect Bob Wolf's Letter

My Brother Knights and Families,

I am deeply honored that you have elected me as your next Nebraska State Deputy. I want to thank all of you for your support and confidence in me and in your next Nebraska State Team.

This is a great responsibility that I and my team do not take lightly. I guarantee you we will do our best to help you and your Councils to help our Brother Knights fulfill the legacy of Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney.

I am very honored to announce our next State Chaplain is Father John Rooney. Father Rooney is the Vice Rector, an assistant professor and Director of Technology at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward, Nebraska. Father Rooney and I served together during Past State Deputy Tony Hergott's tenure, Father Rooney as State Chaplain and myself as State Program Director. He will be the spiritual rock I need to help guide the State Council.

Our theme/motto for the next two years will be "Seek First the Kingdom of God." This is from Matthew 6:33. The entire quote is: *"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides."* It is to remind us that as Knights our first duty is to God, and our works should reflect that.

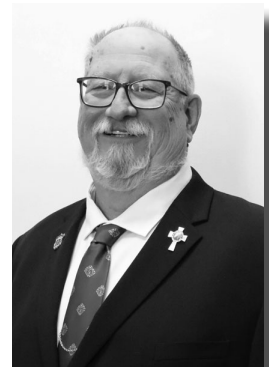
Our patron saint will be St. Andrew, the first called. He was the first disciple to follow Jesus. He brought his friend, St. John, and then his brother, St. Peter, to Jesus. St. Andrew took a great leap of faith to follow our Lord that day. This is the same leap of faith we ask Catholic men to take when joining the Knights of Columbus.

I would like to take a moment to thank my lovely wife Chris, as well as my children and their families, for their love and support throughout my time serving the State Knights of Columbus. I also have much appreciation for all my Brother Knights and their families for the help and guidance over these past years.

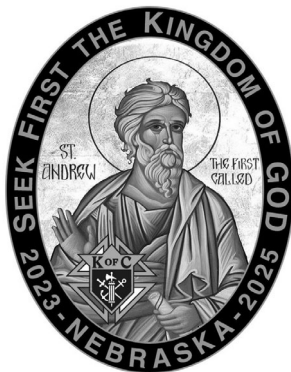
Brothers, I promise you that my team and I will do everything we can to help you and your Councils continue the work started by Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney. We will continue to follow the pillars of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism and pass them on to new Knights and their families.

Thank you for your support, and may God Bless you and your families.
Fraternally Yours in Christ,

Robert Wolf
Nebraska State Deputy-Elect



Bob Wolf
State Deputy Elect
bbwolf1955@gmail.com



PRAYER TO ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE

*O Glorious St. Andrew,
you were the first to recognize and follow the Lamb of God.
With your friend St. John, you remained with Jesus from that first day,
for your entire life, and now throughout eternity.
As you led your brother St. Peter to Christ and many
others after him, draw us to Him.
Teach us to lead others to Christ solely out of love for Him
and dedication to His service.
Help us to learn the lessons of the Cross and
to carry our daily crosses without complaint
so that they may carry us to Jesus. Amen.*



Be sure to follow the Nebraska Knights of Columbus on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and at **www.nebraskakofc.org**



The 2023 Keep Christ in Christmas Program is back and stronger than ever.

The English text Christmas cards are back along with a full line of ethnic cards.

It will continue to offer specialty items, such as ornaments, magnets, billboards, bumper stickers, seals, yard signs, etc., and a full line of Ethnic Christmas Cards, including the Spanish Display Box with 20 boxes of mixed Spanish style cards, four Spanish magnets, and a new specially designed Our Lady of Guadalupe pin display card.

This is a great opportunity to raise funds for your council. The English assortment case price is \$255 and the Spanish display box is \$83. Their special pricing is available on an assortment case of 38 boxes of English text cards if ordered prior to September 25, 2023.

The Spanish Display Box is also available at a special price. Individual boxes of cards can be purchased.

This season's public color brochure highlights the variety of KCIC items available. It will be shared electronically after June 1st along with the order forms. Print your order form, fill it out and mail it along with your payment (Including freight cost) to:

Larry Koerner, NE State Faith Director
1700 St Andrews Drive
Crete, NE 68333

Preprinted order forms will also be available at the Leadership Training Seminar in Kearney on July 15-16, 2023.
Questions? Contact Larry Koerner at 402-381-8550.

Check Your Inbox for "Keep Christ in Christmas" Order Forms

ORNAMENTS

CA-1023 THE NATIVITY ORNAMENT



This beautiful nativity scene by Hector Garrido depicts Jesus, Mary, and Joseph along with the shepherds and three kings.

This is a 2½" full-color epoxy ornament encased in an elegant brass frame.

Shipping is free!

\$2.00 each

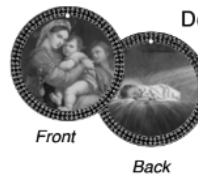


CA-1043 ST. FRANCIS ORNAMENT

Gold-embossed, two-sided ornament. 1¾" x 2½" Featuring Saint Francis and the Holy Family.

Shipping is free!

\$1.25 each



CA-1133 MADONNA AND CHILD ORNAMENT

Double-sided ornament featuring Raphael's Madonna of the Chair. Full-color, 3¼".

Shipping is free!

\$1.25 each

Assortment Case

Contains 38 Boxes:

5 boxes of each design
(CC-01 thru CC-06)
5 boxes of CC-MIX
+ 3 bonus boxes

Spanish Display Box



Contains 20 Boxes:

4 SP Madonna del Rosario
3 SP Holy Family
5 SP Christmas Greetings
8 SP Adoration of the Child
+ 4 Spanish car magnets
and 2 Our Lady of Guadalupe pins

OUTDOOR BILLBOARDS (PAPER, VINYL, AND ECOFLEX)



Design Sample #KC107



Design Sample #KC100

Visit our website,
www.CHRISTisCHRISTmas.com,
to view all our Christmas designs, as well as those available for other occasions. Billboards and posters come in a variety of sizes and can be customized.

118TH ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



State Convention, continued from page 1.

The Family Program, A Son's Story of a Birth Mother's Gift, featured Mark Schultz, a platinum-selling, award-winning artist whose career has spanned two decades and includes thirteen #1 hits. He has garnered accolades like Artist of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, and Album of the Year. He has also appeared on ABC's 20/20, Extreme Home Makeover, and CNN's Morning Edition.

Mark was adopted when he was two weeks old and raised by loving parents. And, though he's never met her, he's grateful to his birth mother for giving him life. His touching story and songs pulled at the heart strings of many, as tears could be seen on the cheeks of most attending. His hit single "Everything to Me," a song about his life and gratitude to his birth mother. "I wanted to write a song for birth mothers, so that they could hear how grateful I am to my birth mother and how she made the choice to give me life," he said.

The Family Luncheon recognized the Clem and Maggie Pella family from Blessed Sacrament Council #11001 Lincoln, as Family of the Year. The runner-up and honorable mention recipients were also recognized at this time.

The Business meeting started with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance. The roll call of Officers was taken followed by roll call of all the Delegates attending. Many business decisions were voted on and approved by the Delegates. A special vote was taken to name the ICC Gold Champion. There were five Councils that qualified for GOLD this year, Fr. Shine Council #1966 Plattsmouth, Columban Council #6192 Bellevue, St. Elizabeth Ann Council #9771 Omaha, St. Michael's Council #10913 Lincoln, and St. Matthews Council #11879 Bellevue. A listing of programs completed from each qualifying Council was presented to the Delegates for their reference before voting. The Council that was voted as the ICC Champion and winner of the "ICC Belt" (for one year) was Fr. Shine Council #1966, Plattsmouth. Congratulations on your award and to all the Councils for all the hard work that went into it.

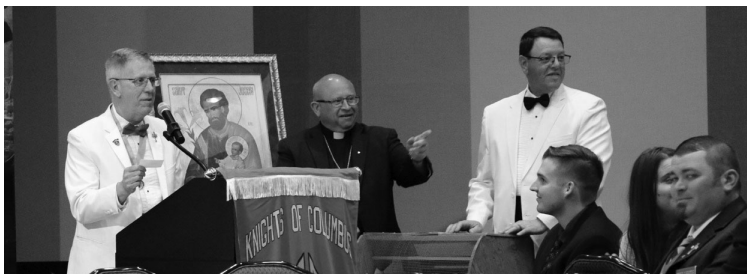
The Ladies Program was "Family Feud/Bible Edition." Teams were formed and two by two they responded to biblically-based questions competing for the most popular correct answers. It was very entertaining and fostered a wonderful environment for getting better acquainted.



Saturday Vigil Mass was celebrated with three Bishops presiding. Principal Celebrant was Bishop Joseph G. Hanefeldt, Diocese of Grand Island. Con-celebrants were Archbishop George J. Lucas, Archdiocese of Omaha, and Bishop Emeritus and Former State Chaplain William J. Dendinger, Diocese of Grand Island. State Chaplain Very Rev. Justin Fulton, Associate and Former State Chaplain Rev. John Rooney, Former State Chaplain Rev. Josh Brown, and Chaplain of the Year Rev. Matthew Kovar were also at the Mass. The 4th Degree was led by District Master and Immediate Past State Deputy Mark Borytsky and stood guard for the Mass. PSD Larry Reed read the necrology.

A social and the State Banquet followed. All attending watched a video message from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly





maker, to drape the beautiful keepsake over him as those in attendance gave a standing ovation.

A special presentation to Father Rooney for the year of formation for the seminarians at St. Gregory the Great Seminary was also given. The money will be used to assist in the costs associated with retreats, etc. to fulfill the propaedeutic year requirement for its seminarians.

Sunday morning began with Mass followed by the business meeting for the men and a brunch for the women. Election of officers was held for the following positions for the term starting July 1, 2023. The new State Officers are: State Deputy Elect, Bob Wolf; State Secretary Elect, Michael Schaeffer; State Treasure Elect, Don Hypse; and State Warden Elect Brian Hamik.

With only one submission for someone for the Supreme Convention, SD Matt Richardson appointed this year's Nebraska delegates. For a full listing see page 14.

and a video about "Project Lori," which was introduced by State Deputy Matt Richardson and First Lady Connie. After the meal, Bishop Hanefeldt spoke to the group. Supreme Guest, Anthony Minopoli, Executive Vice President, COO Knights of Columbus, and CIO of Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, also spoke.

The McGivney Foundation held its first "Heads or Tails" fundraiser with four different rounds and prize packages. The luck continued as Lottery winners were drawn by Bishop Hanefeldt. (See page 6 for a list of all winners.)

A very surprised and humble Former State Chaplain and Bishop Emeritus of Grand Island William J. Dendinger was the recipient of the "Quilt of Valor." Also, known as Ret. Major General William J. Dendinger, United States Air Force and former Chief of Air Force Chaplains, he graciously allowed District Master and Immediate Past State Deputy Mark Borytsky and Leland and Carol Weber, the quilt

Mark your calendars now for next year's convention dates – April 26, 27, 28, 2024, which will be held at the Younes Center in Kearney.



Be sure to follow the Nebraska Knights of Columbus on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and at www.nebraskakofc.org

Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism



KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
NEBRASKA
STATE COUNCIL
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PRAYER 101

ONE DAY AT A TIME



MAKE TIME EVERY DAY

Your most important daily appointment is with your maker.



REFLECT ON THE WORD

God's promises are as relevant today as they ever have been.



LISTEN

Create enough quiet, be still and allow God to respond.

God is always there.
Our job is to show up.