

Mark Borytsky, State Deputy

Knights Courier

June-July 2020

Vol 48 No 4



Words from our State Deputy

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

As our fraternal year comes to an end it has been one for the record books. Our fraternal year was met with a debilitating virus that affected us to our core making our fraternal year so difficult. Not only did we miss attending church, community events and visiting family and friends we missed council and state meetings, social functions, and our state convention. As we took the needed precautions, we became stronger religiously and communicated in new ways to keep in touch with our families, friends and our Brother Knights and their families that made a difficult time more palatable.



As we move forward into our next fraternal year and the state social distancing rules begin to lessen, we as knights need to abide by those state rules keeping our brother knights and their families as safe as possible. You have seen and can rest assured your state council will continue to provide you as much information and education as possible as we move forward. We are truly honored to have a dedicated team of state officers, state advisor, executive secretary, program and membership team, and district master who have worked countless hours to provide some type of normalcy through this pandemic. They had to redesign a normal fraternal year to meet the pandemic limitations trying to keep you as involved as possible. The process included increased state emails and with the events that had to be canceled produced wonderful live stream/YouTube opportunities. These opportunities allowed you to be able to view or listen to the state lottery drawing, virtual state convention, state awards notification, and in July will live stream/YouTube the state leadership seminar. As far as any knights' meetings or events after July we will have to wait and see what our governor's guidance will be to ensure our health and safety.

Brother Knights and families, as we move forward and make minor adjustments to our lifestyle let us put on the Armor of Christ to revive and rejuvenate our church, community, and council. We will overcome this pandemic and come back stronger.

I would like to thank our State Chaplain Fr. Joshua Brown for his spiritual guidance and for his continued prayers and blessing for our state Knights, families, and all of Humanity. Let us please keep our wonderful state chaplain Fr. Josh in our prayers.

In closing, I thank you for re-electing me to another term as your State Deputy. I am overwhelmed and humbled by your confidence in my ability to lead the state and be your representative to the Supreme Council and I am truly honored. Audrey and I are blessed to be part of the Nebraska Knights of Columbus family and we wish you health and happiness.

God Bless you all.

St. Michael the Archangel Pray for us.

Vivat Jesus,

Mark Borytsky

State Deputy, Nebraska Jurisdiction 402.212.9612 | mborytsky@cox.net



Fr. Joshua Brown (Fr. Josh) State Chaplain frjosh@st-pats-online.org



See the pin in color at www.nebraskakofc.org under Resources Logos/Emblems

Words from our State Chaplain

St. Michael Leads Souls to Particular Judgment.

Over the past few months, we have been looking at the duties of the "offices" of St. Michael the Archangel. As a reminder, they are:

- 1. The first is to do battle against satan and his minions
- 2. The second is to be the untiring champion of God's chosen people
- 3. The third office is to protect the souls of the faithful from the influence of the devil, especially at the moment of death
- 4. And the fourth office is to call away men's souls from their earthly life and bring them to judgment

This final office of St. Michael is an important one, and really has a lot for us to consider. To call men from life and escort them to their particular judgment, whatever that might be, is such an honorable and yet weighty task. He is in fact the Angel of Death. In fiction and legend, the Angel of Death is depicted as a dark, menacing figure with a sickle, when in fact it is St. Michael who is given power to cut down life according to God's will and bring the soul before the judgment seat of God. To understand this office, we must first note that there are two judgments for man. The first, or particular, sometimes called immediate judgment when St. Michael leads the soul to be judged according to our life on earth. "It is appointed to men to die once, and after that comes the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27), then, "Each one will receive his pay, according to his works" (1 Cor 3:8).

Then, the final judgment, would be when Christ triumphantly returns in all His Glory to draw all mankind to Himself, the living and the dead. "This Jesus who is taken up from you to heaven, will come in the way in which you saw Him going into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

Let me explain. The particular judgment is what happens at a person's death. God judges the person, who either enters into eternal life (purgatory and heaven) or hell.

The final judgment occurs at the end of time when all the dead are resurrected. The righteous inherit the new world and the wicked are condemned to hell.

The first is "private" and occurs immediately after death, with St. Michael fulfilling his fourth office or duty. He brings a soul before God safely, beyond the grasp of satan and any evils, so that the life of the soul might be proven to be worthy either immediately to enter heaven, as with the Saints, or, whether the soul is in need of purgatory to purify it and make it holy and ready for heaven, since nothing that is unholy or impure enters heaven. St. Michael gives us, in my opinion, the safe journey to this particular judgment and confidence in the love of God and the capacity for authentic holiness. If by chance the departed soul has no desire for God, does not have a repentant heart and willingness to be purified, then St. Michael would unfortunately escort that soul to eternal damnation.

As we can see, this fourth office of St. Michael is a difficult one, yet he is strengthened by the grace of God to perform such a task. May he welcome us at the hour of death and take us to judgment safely, please God to be purified and made Holy for heaven. And may St. Michael guard and protect us until that day, they we might be spared the fires of hell, and come to the beatitude of eternal bliss in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Vivat Jesus

Fr. Josh Brown, State Chaplain

Ishua Brown



Michael Schaeffer State Warden 402.651.9840 cell schaef5252@gmail.com

STATE LOTTERY \$87,500 Added to Vocations Fund

The results of the 2020 State Lottery drawing held on Saturday April 25th at the Knights Event Center in Bellevue was a resounding success. Due to the overwhelming generosity of Brother Knights and their families who participated, and after paying all lottery expenses, we raised over \$87,500 to support vocation activities for our Seminarians and those seeking to join the religious life.

2020 LOTTERY WINNERS

1st Prize \$2,500:	Natalie Butterfield – O'Neill
2nd Prize \$1,000:	Ramona Svoboda – David City
3rd Prize \$750:	Dorest Harvey – Papillion
4th Prize \$500:	Al Gruenes – Wahoo
5th Prize \$100:	Sheryl Krings – Columbus
6th Prize \$100:	Kent Volkmer – Auburn
7th Prize \$100:	Randy Rentschler – Atkinson
8th Prize \$100:	Amanda Ehlers – Davey
9th Prize \$100:	Steven Rogers – Kearney

Shelly and I wish you and your family a safe and healthy summer as we look forward to getting back to a "new normal" in our upcoming fraternal year.

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The Catholic Church in Nebraska Welcomes Nine Newly-Ordained Priests

The world looks to the priest, because it looks to Jesus! No one can see Christ; but everyone sees the priest, and through him they wish to catch a glimpse of the Lord! Immense is the grandeur of the Lord! Immense is the grandeur and dignity of the priest! St John Paul II - 1979

The Catholic Church in Nebraska welcomes nine newly-ordained priests.



Prospective member of the Knights of Columbus
Member of Knights Council 13523 San Antonio, TX
Member of Knights Council 1336, Falls City, NE
Member of Knights Council 15380, Wynnwood, PA
Member of Knights Council 9088, Victoria, TX
Member of Knights Council 10913, Lincoln, NE
Member of Knights Council 1123, Hastings, NE
Member of Knights Council 3152, Nebraska City, NE

Grand Island Diocese:

Dan Gilbert Member of Knights Council 15058, St. Meinard, IN



Rod Hofschulte, PSD State Vocations Chairman 402.510.7250 cell rhofschult@msn.com



Richard Lowery, PSD
District Master
5011 Woodhaven Dr
Lincoln, NE 68516
402.432.6748 cell
nefourthdegree@gmail.com



A Gift Among Dark Days

On May 28, 2020, Pope Francis approved a long-awaited miracle attributed to our founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney. What an amazing gift during these dark and difficult days we face as a nation and a world community.

Fr. McGivney, who labored through, and succumbed to, a pandemic showed us that caring for the needy and the outcast was the ultimate service to our neighbor. Fr. McGivney Left No Neighbor Behind and today we continue to follow in a soon-to-be Blessed's footsteps. How amazing was his foresight, his love for neighbor, and his commitment to Jesus' command of Love Thy Neighbor.

Now more than ever we must honor this soon-to-be Blessed by making sure that every Catholic family has the opportunity to become a member of this great Fraternity. We must protect our Neighbor not only physically but spiritually. The Knights of Columbus is a spiritual safe haven for every Catholic to not only practice their faith but to enrich it through study and practice.

As the Patriotic Degree of the Order, we Sir Knights need to be involved in our Assemblies, Councils, Parishes and Communities. We need to lead by example and help others see what it truly means to be Catholic. One of the ways we can continue to be this driving force is to recruit new members into the 4th Degree. In May we held the first Virtual 4th Degree Exemplification in Nebraska. We brought in 49 new Sir Knights. What a wonderful accomplishment!

Due to the ongoing pandemic and local health rules, we will host two more Virtual Exemplifications in June, one on Saturday, June 13 and Wednesday, June 24. Information about these Exemplifications is available on both the State and 4th Degree websites and was sent to Assemblies, District Deputies and Grand Knights. As you continue to check on family and friends in your Councils, take a few minutes to offer them the opportunity to join the 4th Degree and complete their Knighthood.

We continue to plan for the leadership seminar in July and once again Faithful Navigators and Faithful Comptrollers will be invited to participate. More information will be provided as soon as plans are finalized.

Brothers, continue to pray to Fr. McGivney for his intercession and help. Continue to ask him to help grow our Order so that we can Leave No Neighbor Behind.

Vivat Jesus

Richard W. Lowery, PSD, District Master - Nebraska

Prayer to St. Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation. Through that charity which bound you to the immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be propitious to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness; and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's children from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection.

Amen.

Prayers for the World During the Outbreak of the corona virus (Excerpted from the Enchiridion of Indulgences, 1969) https://catholicvoiceomaha.com/archbishop-lucas-asks-local-catholics-to-invoke-st-joseph

Ending the Fraternal Year with Virtual Meetings and Online Lottery Drawings

Don Hypse, State Program Director | 402.689.0814 cell | hypse@conpoint.com

What a year we are having! In March we had to cancel the State Awards Selection meeting, and we learned how to do a Zoom meeting instead. In April we had to cancel the Nebraska Knights of Columbus State Convention. And we learned how to have the State Lottery Drawing over Facebook Live. Then Supreme helped us hold a virtual State Business Meeting via a conference call. Finally after much hair pulling and hand wringing, we learned how to hold a State Awards Banquet via a YouTube video.

Saturday, July 18, 2020: Attend the Annual Leadership Seminar in the Comfort of your Home

Now the July State Leadership Seminar has been cancelled. But not really! We are just changing the

location. Instead of having to go to Grand Island on a hot July weekend, you will be able to receive all the same training from the comfort and safety of your own home.

We are making plans now to have live stream/video interactive computer meeting on Saturday, July 18th. Again, we are learning how to do some of this as we go, so stay tuned for the details. We plan to mail out much of the information you would normally receive in the packet and have it in your hands before the July 18th meeting.

We hope to be able to present you with more information and more tools to help you help your council to succeed. We are creating a plan to help keep you informed and reminded of upcoming due dates for reports and activities. So, make sure to check your e-mail often. The main goal of every State Officer and Director is to see the local councils succeed. When the local councils are active and busy, then their good works are being felt and passed on to the parish and community.



State Program Director Don Hypse is pictured at the virtual State Business Meeting. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson was on the call, so Don was dressed and ready in case he was called on, even though he was sitting at his kitchen table.

One Step Closer to Sainthood fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/michael-mcgivney-closer-to-sainthood.html

The Vatican announced on May 27, 2020, that Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, a Connecticut priest who served his flock during the pandemic of 1890, before himself becoming ill and dying of pneumonia.

The pope's action means that Father McGivney can be declared "Blessed," the step just prior to sainthood. An additional miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession will be required for his canonization as a saint.

The miracle recognized as coming through Father McGivney's intercession involved an unborn child in the United States who in 2015 was healed in utero of a life-threatening condition after prayers by his family to Father McGivney.

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.

Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.)

2020 State Family of the Year Awards

Jeff and Cathy Gokie, State Family Directors | 402.270.2304 cell | jlgokie@jgokie.com

Tom and Linda Yeradi - State Family of the Year

We would like to extend our warm congratulations to Tom and Linda Yeradi of Council 1128, Msgr. Michael E. Dolan of Chadron, who were named our Family of the Year for 2020! The Knights have been part of their family life for over 74 years and four generations which includes Tom's father Gus Yeradi, PGK.

Tom and Linda have worked together with Religious Education classes, organizing countless parish-wide dinners and breakfasts, Marriage Encounter, IEC, Cursillo, Eucharistic Ministers, fundraiser benefits, Thanksgiving and Christmas community dinners, Bazaars, Children's Christmas Store, the Knights Installation of Officers Dinner, Memorial for Deceased Knights and family members, Ash Wednesday Soup Supper and much more. With over 50 years at their parish they have logged over 300 years of service to various efforts!

Linda enjoyed her years as the Religious Education Coordinator for St. Patrick's. She took theology classes and youth ministry to assist with performing the job for the betterment of the entire parish. Tom and Linda say that it has truly been a blessing to share the talents God has given them and working with so many other talented people. They have really enjoyed



Tom and Linda Yeradi Nebraska Knights of Columbus 2020 Family of the Year Council 1126, Chadron

the time working with youth, especially the things they've learned and the enthusiasm of energetic young parish members.

We are blessed to have so many strong families in our state and we were very moved and motivated as we read how these families carry out our Lord's work daily!



Family of the Year Runner-Up:

Michael & Maria Edwards of St. Charles Borromeo Council 14077, Gretna

Family of the Year Honorable Mention:

- 1) Craig & Patty Marmie of Council 10913 of St. Michael's Parish, Lincoln
- 2) Greg & Angie Fisher of Council 10387 of St. Leo's Parish, Grand Island

The Family During Coronavirus:

God did not will the Coronavirus, but God gives us the grace and the will to use the virus for good. Even though the devil will use it, (if we allow it) to breach our family unit for bad.

In the family, we must consider how we are impacted, as individuals and as a unit. Do we allow the virus to breach the family and cause harm such as stress, anger, or fear? Or do we shore up this breach in our lives by seeking God and using the welcome down time to strengthen our family relationships? We can also use this time to support neighbors and fellow parishioners through phone calls, Zoom, FaceTime, etc. We suggest you take this opportunity to watch a series of 12-minute on-line videos to help you get through this Coronavirus trial. We would recommend "Family" and "Brotherhood" found at www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.

The choice is yours: Secure the family unit or continue to let the devil breach our daily lives.





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

PER CAPITA DUE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

Your September Per Capita Must Be Paid On Time To Be Eligible For ICC Gold Next Year!

Matt Richardson, State Secretary | 402.380.3513 cell | mattconn1@msn.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 percapita 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.

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.

As part of these dues, \$6.60 per member this 2021 fraternal year is currently assessed by the State Council and is your council's State per capita billing. One part will be billed July 1, 2020, and due by September 1, 2020, for \$2.20 per member. The remainder will be billed \$4.40 per member on January 1, 2021, and due by March 1, 2021. Please note, this amount reflects the State Council's decision to reduce the first billing by 50% for the 2021 fraternal year only.

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 are billed by Supreme directly to your council's Financial Secretary.

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 Supreme's 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.

Beatification of Fr. McGivney Sets Example

We are continuing to deal with very unusual circumstances as the pandemic affects how we conduct our lives and interact with each other. While these times are unusual, they are not unprecedented and neither are they impossible to overcome. They certainly shouldn't paralyze your council's efforts to provide charity to our neighbors and community. And they shouldn't paralyze your council's efforts to bring more men into our Order.

Fr. Michael McGivney, who passed away during a pandemic similar to the current one, didn't see any reason to stop doing the work of evangelization when the odds seemed to be stacked against him. He pushed through and found like-minded men to help him look after the widows and orphans in his parish. His vision created the Knights of Columbus, and we can follow his example by continuing to grow the Order which he founded.

With Fr. McGivney's imminent beatification, now is a great opportunity for us to inspire more Catholic men to put their volunteer efforts into charitable work within the church and for the disadvantaged members of our parishes and communities. We can publicize his efforts to strengthen Catholic families and use it as an example to invite more families into our councils.

The most important part is to follow his example of never giving up when things look bad. We need to find safe ways to continue to reach out to more of our fellow parishioners, co-workers and friends. We need to invite them to join us in our work through pulpit announcements, phone calls and emails. We need to use the live-streamed degrees from Supreme and the State when we cannot conduct exemplifications in person.

If we are confident in following Fr. McGivney's example, we can look back at this time as a time when we persevered and overcame the obstacles that we encountered.

Have new members sign up at www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html



Kevin Ostdiek Membership Director 402.613.1381 cell kevinostdiekkofc@gmail.com

State Service

12086

St. Isidore, Columbus

Congratulations 2020 Nebraska Knights of Columbus Award Winners!

PUBLICITY			FAITH - SUPPORT		OLIC EDUCATION
Div 1-1st Place	2351	Wood River, Wood River	1st Place - tie	833	Fitzgerald, Lincoln
Div 2-1st Place	1128	Msgr. Michael E. Dolan, Chadron	1st Place - tie	3152	Fr. Joseph Vanderheinden, NE City
Div 3-1st Place	11001	Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln	FAITH - SUPPORT	OF VOCA	TIONS
Div 4-1st Place	6192	Columban, Bellevue	1st Place - tie	1407	
Div 1-2nd Place	10163	St. Joseph's, Benkelman/Stratton	1st Place - tie	1091	•
Div 2-2nd Place	10184	Fr. Clement Bracht, Omaha			,
Div 3-2nd Place	1906	St. Stephen, Lawrence	FAITH		
Div 4-2nd Place	9563	Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln	Chaplain of the Yea		
CULTURE OF LIFE					Lape, Columban, Bellevue
Supreme Service	13576	Monsignor David R Hintz, Lincoln	2nd Place - 9565, F	r. justin vv	lylie, Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln
State Service	1793	Sacred Heart, Norfolk	FAMILY		
State Service	17 75	Sacred Fleary Politon	Supreme Service	2411	St. Boniface, Elgin
CULTURE OF LIFE A			Supreme Service	2411	Consecration to the Holy Family
1st Place	2272	St. Joseph, West Point	State Service	11879	St. Matthew, Bellevue
2nd Place	10795	St. Vincent DePaul, Omaha	State Service	110/	Mardi Gras Fundraiser for
3rd Place	9562	St. Anthony, Grand Island			Teacher's Compensation
ONE ROSE - ONE LI	FE		FAMILY		reaction 5 compensation
Div 1 - 1st Place	2351	Wood River, Wood River	Family of the Year		
Div 2 - 1st Place	10894	St. Joseph, Springfield	,	inda Yerac	di - 1128, Msgr. Michael E. Dolan, Chadron
Div 3 - 1st Place	5045	Christ the King, Omaha			Edwards - 14077, St. Charles Borromeo, Gretna
Div 4 - 1st Place	10108	St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha			Marmie, 10913, Saint Michael's, Lincoln
Div 1 - 2nd Place	7889	Ct. Anthony Codes Danida		-	Fisher, 10387 St. Leo's, Grand Island
Div 1 - 2nd Place	14320	St. Anthony, Cedar Rapids St. James, Cortland			
Div 2 - 2nd Place	10412	St. Francis Borgia, Blair			RIAL COMMUNITY SERVICE
Div 3 - 2nd Place	10387	St. Leo's, Grand Island	P.A.C.E. Youth Eve	ents 3019	, Archbishop James Hugh Ryan, South Omaha
Div 4 - 2nd Place	10909	St. Wenceslaus, Omaha	COMMUNITY		
			Supreme Service	12086	St. Isidore, Columbus, Treasures of the Church
INTELLECTUAL DISA	ARILITY		State Service	2716	St. Anthony of Padua, Schuyler
Money Earned Div 1 - 1st Place	7081	Imporial Imporial			In God We Trust" Courthouse Entrance
Div 2 - 1st Place	7684	Imperial, Imperial Fr. Ulenberg, Geneva/Grafton/Shickley	COMMUNITY		
Div 3 - 1st Place	10923	Prince of Peace, Kearney	Knight of the Year		
Div 4 - 1st Place	10929	St. Wenceslaus, Omaha			r - 6192, Columban, Bellevue
		Sti Werteeshaas, Sinana	2nd Place - Pat Wa	igner - 109	13, Saint Michael's, Lincoln
INTELLECTUAL DISA	ABILITY		COMMUNITY		
Percentage Increase	(20F		Rookie Knight of the	he Year	
Div 1 - 1st Place	6385	Father Robert Barry, Bassett/Ainsworth	1st Place - Michael	l Howick, S	Sr., 9771, St. Elizabeth Ann, Omaha
Div 2 - 1st Place Div 3 - 1st Place	6750 4979	Msgr. Thomas Barden, Tecumseh	2nd Place - Michae	el Hall, 619	2, Columban, Bellevue
Div 4 - 1st Place	9518	St. Luke, Ogallala Father William A. Foster, Ralston	COMMUNITY - YO	OUTH	
Div 4 - 1st i lace	9310	ratiei William A. Postei, Raiston	Substance Abuse P		rest
Div 1 - 2nd Place	7778	High-Line, Grant	1st Place (Ages 8-11		
Div 2 - 2nd Place	8590	All Saints, Holdrege	1st Place (Ages 12-1		9
Div 3 - 2nd Place	10895	St. James, Omaha	· ·		
Div 4 - 2nd Place	11312	St. Isaac Jogues, Lincoln	Keep Christ In Chr		0 Ct I I I:1
Div 1 - 3rd Place	5218	St. Francis of Assisi, Verdigre	1st Place (Ages 5-7		
Div 2 - 3rd Place	2693	Indianola, Indianola	1st Place (Ages 8-1		1 -
Div 3 - 3rd Place	8625	Msgr. Raymond Wageman, Valparaiso	1st Place (Ages 11-	-1+) 9/3	Holy Rosary, Alliance
Div 4 - 3rd Place	3844	Father Trecy, So. Sioux City	GEORGE NUSSRA	LLAH CER	REMONIAL AWARD
FAITH		•			te - 10909, St. Wenceslaus, Omaha
FAITH	11070	Ct Matthory Polloyu-	1st Place - tie - Lar	ry Reed, 61	192, Columban, Bellevue
Supreme Service	11879	St. Matthew, Bellevue			

Congratulations 2020 Nebraska Knights of Columbus Award Winners!

MEMBERSHIP

Highest Percent Gain

Div 1 - 1st Place 2351 Wood River, Wood River
Div 1 - 2nd Place 16680 St. John Paul II - UNO, Omaha
Div 1 - 3rd Place 7704 Victor Vifquain, Crete

Div 2 - 1st Place 10607 St. Rose of Lima, Genoa

Div 2 - 2nd Place 13584 St. Michael's of Spalding, Spalding

Div 2 - 3rd Place 7550 St. Francis, Neligh

MEMBERSHIP

Highest Percent Gain

Div 3 - 1st Place 11001 Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln
Div 3 - 2nd Place 8579 Father William Kearns, Wayne
Div 3 - 3rd Place 10387 St. Leo's, Grand Island
Div 4 - 1st Place 10913 St. Michael's, Lincoln

Div 4 - 2nd Place 10795 St. Vincent DePaul Council, Omaha
Div 4 - 3rd Place 11280 Msgr. Maurice Helmann, Lincoln

STATE SPECIAL PROJECTS AWARD

1st Place - tie 12687 Fr. Robert Foster Jubilee

Elm Creek Flood Damage Repair

and Benefit Fundraiser

1st Place - tie 4979 St. Luke, Ogallala - Caregiver Beds

STATE ONGOING PROJECTS AWARD

1st Place - tie 10965 St. Leo the Great, Omaha

Irish Soda Bread

1st Place - tie 11879 St. Matthew, Bellevue

Minute Man Program for Helping Parish

DISTRICT DEPUTY OF THE YEAR

1st Place - Glen Kampschneider - DD34 2nd Place - Dr. Bryan Welty, DVM - DD33

AGENT OF THE YEAR

Pfeifer Agency Craig Pfeifer of Madison Swanson Agency Tim Nowak of Ogallala



ICC Champion Council - 11001 Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln - Shawn Wilke Grand Knight

ICC Gold

11001 Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln Shawn Wilke Grand Knight

11879 St. Matthew, Bellevue Dave Boone Grand Knight

ICC Silver

1966 Fr. Shine, Plattsmouth George Johnson Grand Knight

9563 Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln Phillip Frost Grand Knight

10387 St. Leo's, Grand Island Brent Keenportz Grand Knight

10795 St. Vincent DePaul Council, Omaha Dave Pastor Grand Knight

10913 Saint Michael's, Lincoln Daniel Mickells Grand Knight

ICC Bronze

1497 Phil Sheridan, Fremont Richard Beran Grand Knight

1723 Beatrice, Beatrice

Dr. Joseph Brewer Grand Knight

ICC Bronze

1728 St. James, Kearney Andy Donovan Grand Knight

2272 St. Joseph, West Point Scott Eisenmenger Grand Knight

4434 Fairbury, Fairbury Randall Prellwitz Grand Knight 4923 St. Joseph's, Lincoln Michael Sibbel Grand Knight

5143 St. Frances Dechantal, Randolph

Mark Korth Grand Knight 6192 Columban, Bellevue

Robert Hasaik Grand Knight

6750 Msgr Thomas Barden, Tecumseh Tim Sisco Grand Knight

7704 Victor Vifquain, Crete Mark Pribyl Grand Knight

8579 Father William Kearns, Wayne Timothy Reinke Grand Knight

10510 Saint Peter, Lincoln Raymond Davis, Jr., Grand Knight

10815 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Omaha Samuel Lara Grand Knight

ICC Bronze

10894 St. Joseph, Springfield Kenneth Callicutt Grand Knight

11280 Msgr. Maurice Helmann, Lincoln Steven Wallingford Grand Knight

11800 St. Margaret Mary, Omaha Jeffrey Steiner Grand Knight

11823 St. Cecilia, Hastings Marv Schultes Grand Knight

12086 St. Isidore, Columbus Greg Jochum Grand Knight

12530 Father McGivney, North Platte Loren Baxa Grand Knight

13576 Monsignor David R. Hintz, Lincoln James Bunch Grand Knight

14914 St. Patrick of Elkhorn, Elkhorn Jim Sperry Grand Knight

15647 St. Mary's/St. Patrick's, Davey Gerald Mestl Grand Knight

15944 Mary Queen of Angels, Bellwood Kenneth Schmid Grand Knight

2020 SUPREME DELEGATES

Primary:

Mark Borytsky, State Deputy
Fr. Joshua Brown, State Chaplain
Lou Gasper, Immediate Past State Deputy
Matt Richardson, State Secretary

Ken Aylor, FDD

Primary:

Lawrence Koerner, DD38
Pat O'Shea, DD40
Rich Lowery, PSD, DM
Larry Reed, PSD
Tony Hergott, PSD

Alternates:

Chris Kreikemeier, DD41 Bob Wolf, State Treasurer Jim Haiar, PSD, FDM

News from the **NEIL PFEIFER AGENCY**

Knights of Columbus Insurance Serving Northeast Nebraska and West Central Iowa



Neil Pfeifer General Agent

Congratulations!

The Neil Pfeifer Agency finished 14th in the Order for 2019. There are approximately 103 agencies in North America.

Supreme Knights Club members are Neil Pfeifer, Craig Pfeifer, Noah Pfeifer and Roy Metter.











Roy Metter

AGENTS OF THE MONTH

The following Knights of Columbus field agents earned Agent of the Month honors in the Neil Pfeifer Agency:

March - Noah Pfeifer of Norfolk; April - Noah Pfeifer of Norfolk; May - Noah Pfeifer of Norfolk

Questions? Looking for a Career Opportunity?

Contact your council's agent or Neil Pfeifer, General Agent for Northeast NE, West Central IA

402.379.0180 | neil.pfeifer@kofc.org | www.kofcins.com

DATE June 27	FORM/EVENT	TO/CONTACT
June 27		
June 27		
jane 21	State Directory Updates Due	Executive Secretary Ray Guggenberger
June 30	Applications for Vocations Support/RSVP Refund	Supreme Council
June 30	Food for Families Report/Refund	Supreme Council cc: Executive Secretary Ray Guggenberge
June 30	**Columbian Award Application	Supreme Council cc: Executive Secretary Ray Guggenberge
July 1	**Report of Officers	Supreme Council District Deputy NE Executive Secretary
)		
August 1	**Service Program Personnel Report	Supreme Council District Deputy NE Executive Secretary
August 15	Semi-Annual Report of Audit	Supreme Council District Deputy
2020		
September 1	Report of KC Round Table	Supreme Council NE Executive Secretary
September 1	First Log Book Submission	Program Director Hypse
September 1	Supreme Per Capita Payment	Supreme Council
September 1	Nebraska Per Capita Payment	State Secretary Richardson
	June 30 July 1 August 1 August 15 2020 September 1 September 1 September 1	June 30 **Columbian Award Application July 1 **Report of Officers August 1 **Service Program Personnel Report August 15 Semi-Annual Report of Audit 2020 September 1 Report of KC Round Table September 1 First Log Book Submission September 1 Supreme Per Capita Payment

News from the TONY SWANSON AGENCY

Knights of Columbus Insurance Serving Southeast, Central and Western Nebraska

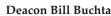


Tony Swanson General Agent

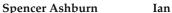
Congratulations!

The Knights is one of six companies - out of a total of 66 - that has a AA+ rating on financial strength, and a stable outlook.











Ian Johnstone

AGENTS OF THE MONTH

The following Knights of Columbus

field agents earned Agent of the Month honors in the Tony Swanson Agency:

March - Dcn. Bill Buchta of Grand Island; April - Spencer Ashburn of Lincoln; May - Ian Johnstone of Lincoln

•••••

Knights of Columbus Insurance Rated One of Industry's Most Financialy Sound Companies

S&P Global Ratings issued a report that ranked all of its rated North American Life Insurance Companies from strongest to weakest. You should be proud to know that your Knights of Columbus are tied for first! The Knights is one of six companies - out of a total of 66 - that has a AA+ rating on financial strength, and a stable outlook. S&P also lists the Knights as having a "very strong" business risk profile, and an "excellent" financial risk profile. Financial strength and

stability are on a lot of people's minds lately, and it's reassuring to know that the Knights stand tall among the competition.

However this unprecedented international crisis may be impacting your family, please know that KC advisors are here to help you review your situation and discuss how the Knights may be able to help.

Questions? Looking for a Career Opportunity?

Contact your council's agent or Anthony Swanson, General Agent for Southeast, Central, Western NE 402.463.2845 ext 1 | anthony.swanson@kofc.org | www.swansonagencykofcins.com

Introducing the Knights of Columbus Protector Guaranteed Individual Universal Life Policy

This new life insurance program is now available to members and their spouses 50 - 80 years of age. This policy provides guaranteed lifetime protection with premiums that are typically lower than traditional whole life programs. Call your local agent to see if the Protector would be a good option for your life insurance needs.

Introducing Life Paid Up @ X!

Imagine a permanent life insurance policy where you can decide exactly how many years you want to pay premiums. A program that fits exactly with your plans regarding retirement and other considerations. Imagine no longer! The Knights of Columbus now offers Life Paid Up @ X! With this Whole Life policy, you can choose to have the policy premiums due from 5 to 100 years! Please contact your Field Agent to see if this plan is right for you today!

"Keep Christ in Christmas" Cards at "Early Bird" Prices!

Enjoy special "early bird" prices by purchasing your first assorted box before September 25, 2020

There is no Leadership Training in Grand Island this July. To order cards or other available items, contact State Faith Director Mark Main with your selection. Then mail a check to the address below (right) made payable to "Nebraska Knights of Columbus". You may also go to the Nebraska Knights of Columbus website and order from the forms on the website - (nebraskakofc.org/resources/pdfforms/KCIC.pdf)

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRICES BELOW!

Our "early bird special" (ENGLISH version) - ONE CASE ONLY PER COUNCIL - contains 32 boxes of 10 different spiritual Christmas cards + 2 Holy Family car magnets and 25 color brochures showing the different card designs.

ORDERED BEFORE 9-25-2020

Per case - \$140 plus \$19 shipping/handling (totals \$159.00 first case only)

ORDERED AFTER 9-25-2020

Per case - \$169 plus \$19 shipping/handling (totals \$188 per case)

EACH CASE CAN BE SOLD FOR \$304

Our "early bird special" (SPANISH version) ONE CASE ONLY PER COUNCIL - contains 21 boxes of different styles of spiritual Christmas cards + 4 Spanish car magnets.

ORDERED BEFORE 9-25-2020

Per case - \$76.00 plus \$12.50 shipping/handling (totals \$88.50)

ORDERED AFTER 9-25-2020

Per case - \$83.00 plus \$12.50 shipping/handling (totals \$95.50)

EACH CASE CAN BE SOLD FOR \$145.00

ORDER ADDITIONAL BOXES

After you purchase an initial case of assorted cards, you can order more of the individual boxes of cards that sell well for your council. The cost varies with each different type of card. **See the order forms** for the shipping and handling charges for the individual boxes.

OTHER ETHNIC VARIETIES AVAILABLE

There is also an additional variety of ethnic cards that can be purchased (i.e. Tagalog, Native American, African-American, Polish, Italian, Ukrainian, and French). **See more information and the order forms online (PDF).**

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR PURCHASE

Other products you can purchase to "Keep Christ in Christmas" are items such as Advent wreaths, yard signs, lapel pins, bumper stickers, ornaments, car magnets, Christmas seals, and other cards that are not in the original box of assorted cards. See more information and the order forms online (PDF).

Take advantage of the special pricing, and your council will help "Keep Christ in Christmas" and also earn money that can be donated to a family in need or another special cause this Christmas season.

QUESTIONS or MAILING CHECKS

Mark and Julie Main, State Faith Directors 808 Karen Dr, Lincoln, NE 68522 402.416.6458 cell | markmain65@gmail.com

"Keep Christ in Christmas" order form and information is available online at www.nebraskakofc.org/resources/pdfforms/KCIC.pdf

The Knights of Columbus offers multiple activities that promote Christmas and the season of Advent in their proper context: Journey to the Inn, Spread the Light of Christ, Crèche or Advent Wreath Blessing, and the Christmas Poster Contest. These programs are centered on the example of the Holy Family and the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The new Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Program brings all KCIC activities together under one umbrella. It encourages councils to prompt their neighbors to shift from a preoccupation with materialism to the light of Christ and the spirit of giving. KCIC activities include whatever efforts best suit the parish and community of a particular council and do not need to originate from the Supreme Council.



See Nebraska Knights' Keep Christ in Christmas winning posters on page 14

June 26, 2020 Deadline for Buck-A-Month Contributions

Brian & Mary Jo Hamik, Nebraska Culture of Life Directors | life@nebraskakofc.org 402.379.1665 home | 402.841.2605 cell | 824 Volkman Dr., Norfolk, NE 68701

June 26, 2020 is the new deadline, extended due to COVID-19, for getting Buck-A-Month contributions into the Culture of Life Foundation. You are to send all Buck-A-Month contributions to the Culture of Life Foundation. Fifty percent of these funds will be returned to your council to be used for your parish and community Culture of Life projects and activities. Refund checks will be mailed.

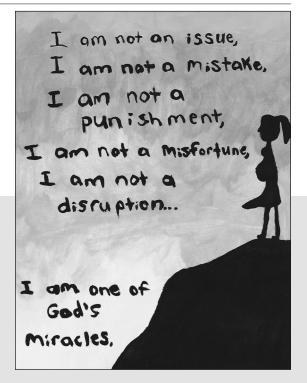
For complete details visit http://www.nebraskakofc.org, click on the Rose and follow the links for Buck-A-Month. Contributions are to be sent to Brian Hamik, 824 Volkman Dr., Norfolk, NE 68701.

2020 CULTURE OF LIFE ART CONTEST WINNERS

1st Place: (see right) Joelle Peatrowsky Guardian Angels Central Catholic, West Point, NE

> **2nd Place: Eva Pflaum** St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Omaha, Ne

3rd Place: Alexxa HiegelBlessed Sacrament CRE, Grand Island, NE



2020 Culture of Life Art Contest Winners' Prizes

1st Place: The school or religious education program from which the winning entry is received will receive a \$500 cash prize. The winning artist will receive a \$200 cash prize.

This entry will be displayed on the One Rose, One Life prayer cards. (See it in color at www.nebraskakofc.org.)

2nd Place: The school or religious education program from which the winning entry is received will receive a \$250 cash prize. The winning artist will receive a \$100 cash prize.

3rd Place: The school or religious education program from which the winning entry is received will receive a \$150 cash prize. The winning artist will receive a \$50 cash prize.

New Culture of Life Directors Take Over on July 1, 2020

Brian: I have accepted another position in the Nebraska State Knights of Columbus. Thank you for your past support and participation in all the COL programs. The new Culture of Life Directors as of July 1, 2020 will be Mike (Past State Deputy, Former Supreme Director) and Mary Conrad.

State Knights: Thank you Brian and Mary Jo Hamik for all of your hard work and your many years of service. Congratulations on your new position!





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

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

https://saintmichaelcc.org/prayer-to-st-michael-the-archangel

State Soccer Challenge Set for Saturday, October 24, 2020

Councils Need to Plan their Soccer Challenge Now

Peter Peil, State Youth Director | 402.910.6442 cell | ppeil8904@gmail.com

State Soccer is still scheduled to be held Saturday, October 24, 2020 at Schuyler Middle School Field House. Councils need to start planning now, always following current CDC guidelines. If you have any questions or problems, please contact me.

Congratulations!

State Substance Abuse Poster Contest Winners

1st Place	Ages 8-11	Msgr. Maurice Helmann Council 11280, Lincoln	Artist Kaelin Ta - A
1st Place	Ages 12-14	Msgr. Maurice Helmann Council 11280, Lincoln	Artist Olivia Pokorny - B
	Keep	Christ In Christmas Poster C	ontest Winners

1st Place	Ages 5-7	St. Isaac Jogues Council 11312, Lincoln	Artist Timos Miller - C
1st Place	Ages 8-10	Pope John XXIII Council 5439, Howells	Artist Evan Hegemann - D
1st place	Ages 11-14	Holy Rosary Council 975, Alliance	Artist Alexis Libsack - E





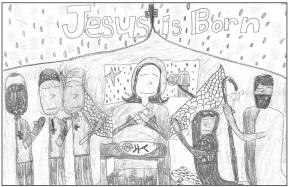
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See them in glorious color at nebraskakofc.org



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ONE LIFE, ONE ROSE: Our Lady Of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program

Jack Revelle, State Community Director | 308.631.8026 | jrevelle@vistabeam.com



Traveling from Colorado to Nebraska August 9 to September 13, 2020. Watch for more information and sign up to participate.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

The Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program began in 1960 as a project of the Knights of Columbus Columbian Squires of North America to honor the

Blessed Virgin under her title of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**, **Patroness of the Americas**. The program has continued since then as a project in most Knights of Columbus jurisdictions.

From early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded

by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This year these prayer services will be live-streamed while the transfer of the rose will be face-to-face, with Supreme supplying disinfectives, gloves and face masks.

A Silver Rose "honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe and reaffirming our commitment to the sanctity of human life" is carried by Knights from Canada, through the United States, and into Mexico to arrive at the Basilica in Monterrey, Mexico on December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Read more at: kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/life/silver-rose.html

For any and the state of the st

ARRIVAL IN NEBRASKA

Conditions permitting, the Silver Rose will arrive in Nebraska from Colorado on Sunday, August 9, 2020, and continue to cross our state. We'll pass it on Sunday, September 13, 2020. The location of the Rose entering and leaving Nebraska has not yet been determined.

ADD YOUR COUNCIL TO THE HOST LIST

The proposed Silver Rose route through Nebraska with confirmed dates will be set soon and finalized before the Grand Knights seminar in July. Those District Deputies and Grand Knights of councils participating in this year's program will be asked to help with the transition of the Silver Rose to ensure a smooth hand-off from council to council. To help organize or sign your council up, please contact:

Jack Revelle, State Community Director, by phone/text at 308.631.8026, or email jrevelle@vistabeam.com

As Knights, the sanctity of life is something we hold dear. Volunteer to participate and "honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, reaffirming our commitment to the sanctity of human life."





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







State Knights of Columbus announces their

Nebraska Knights of Columbus State Golf Tournament

Sunday September 27, 2020 Four Person Scramble



Check in opens at 7:30 A.M.

Shotgun start at 8:30 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.





Name

Mail your reservation to:
Joe Bober,
4070 I Street,
Omaha, NE 68107
Checks payable to the
Knights of Columbus
Deadline Sept. 25, 2020



Questions?

Call Joe at 402-290-7954

Players in Foursome

Name	Address	Phone	Parish
	Dinner Only \$15	.00 per perso	n

Also find this form online at nebraskakofc.org
Sign up deadline Sept. 25, 2020
You may copy this form as needed

Phone

Parish

Address

Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation TYPES OF GIFTS





Daniel Wells Don Ferneding, PSD Foundation Advisors

Cash Gifts

To make a cash gift, mail a check payable to Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation, PO Box 98, Elkhorn, NE 68022, or visit **www.catholicgift.org** to make a gift online. On the Southern Nebraska home page, hit the DONATE button, follow the prompts to the drop-down menu where you'll find the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation, and then make either a one-time gift or a recurring gift via electronic funds transfer (EFT), or your credit card.

Gifts of Stock or Mutual Funds

To make a gift of stock or mutual funds, contact **The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska at 402-488-2142,** or send an email request to **chris-raun@catholicgift.org**. He will provide you with the instructions you need to transfer stock or shares of mutual funds directly to the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation.

Gifts of Grain

If you own grain that you would like to donate to the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation, call Chris Raun or Claire Pohlen at The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska and they will provide you with simple instructions for a grain donation. If your local elevator or co-op doesn't already have a Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska account, call **Chris Raun at 402-488-2124** and one will be immediately opened to receive your gift (transfer) of grain. The Foundation's account will receive the donation, the grain will be immediately sold, and a check will be sent directly to The Catholic Foundation for deposit into the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation. There will be no fees charged by The Catholic Foundation to diminish your gift.

It's always a good time to give!

Please mail your donations to:

Nebraska State Council

McGivney Foundation

PO Box 98

Elkhorn, NE 68022-0098

Memorials

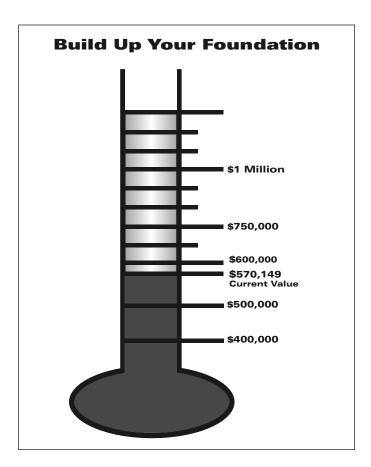
People often struggle to decide where memorial money should be directed at their deaths. For an active and committed member of the Knights of Columbus, the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation is a natural choice for a memorial gift or planned estate gift. A memorial gift to the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation will be a gift of principal which, when endowed, will continue to generate ongoing gifts to charity every year into perpetuity. It is a one-time gift that becomes an ongoing legacy gift.

Gift Acknowledgement

In all cases, once your gift is received, you will receive a gift acknowledgement letter. With the exception of grain donations, you can use the acknowledgement letter to claim a charitable deduction from your income tax. In the case of a grain donation, the acknowledgement letter will confirm and thank you for your gift. Once sold, the value of the grain sold will constitute your gift, and you will not have to pay income tax on the value of the grain donated.

Questions?

For further information on any and all types of gifts that can be made to the Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation call **Chris Raun or Claire Pohlen at 402-488-2124** or email Chris at **chris-raun@catholicgift.org.**



Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation Request for Funds

In December, 2001, the Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council McGivney Foundation was created. Since that time, the Foundation has attracted donations from Knights of Columbus members throughout Nebraska. These donations are endowed and become a source of grants for charitable projects, programs and other good works funded by the Knights of Columbus throughout Nebraska

Submit request to

Dan Wells at danielwells5@gmail.com or Don Ferneding don.ferneding@gmail.com Phone numbers: Dan Wells: 402-880-2586 DonFerneding: 402-943-6320 US Postal address: PO Box 98, Elkhorn, NE 68022

Please complete the following info	ormation as completely as	possible.	Date:
	Organization		
Name of Organization:			
Contact Name and Title:			
Address:			
Phone: Cell: _	Email: _		
Wohsita address:			
Is this organization recognized as a	a nonprofit or charity by th	e IRS? Y or N	
Has your organization received fur	nds from the Foundation ir	the past Y or N?	
Carracil Names and Normalian	Council information	(must be completed)	
Council Name and Number:	Name	Council Number	
Grand Knight's Name:			
Grand Knight's Phone Number:	Fmail·		
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CHARITY + UNITY + FRATERNITY + PATRIOTISM



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U S POSTAGE P A I D OMAHA NE PERMIT NO 2101

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEBRASKA STATE COUNCIL

8818 OHERN ST. OMAHA, NE 68127-3529



Becoming a Nebraska Knights' Tradition QUILTS OF VALOR Quilts = Healing

This year's Quilt of Valor recipient to be announced in July is one of more than 250,800 United States veterans to receive this honor since the Quilts of Valor Foundation began in 2003.

"Thanks to the councils that submitted so many worthy nominees," said District Master Richard Lowery, PSD. "Thanks to all that have served and are currently serving this great country of ours."

According to the foundation's website, "The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor."

This foundation began with Catherine Roberts' dream while her son was deployed in Iraq. The message of this dream was, "Quilts = Healing."

Along with a quilt's specifications, Ms. Roberts also outlined standards of excellence for these quilts: "...(a quilt) had to be a quality-made quilt, not a 'charity quilt.'...had to be quilted, not tied, which meant hand or machine quilting...would be 'awarded,' not just passed out like magazines or videos...would say unequivocally, 'Thank you for your service, sacrifice, and valor' in serving our nation in combat."

Quilts of Valor is a non-profit foundation whose goal is to cover ALL physically or psychologically wounded service members with a freedom quilt, honoring them for their sacrifices.

For more information about the Quilts of Valor Foundation, visit https://www.qovf.org/