

Alabama State Council

Knights of Columbus

State Meeting – January 10, 2015

Mid-year

Prattville, Alabama

Call to Order:

R. Evan “Pete” Parrish, State Deputy, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

Opening Prayer:

Reverend Monsignor G. Warren Wall, State Chaplain gave the opening prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Steve Koach, District Master, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome:

SD Parrish welcomed everyone present. Thanked everyone for their participation at the meeting.

State Chaplain Remarks:

Monsignor Wall spoke on Pope Francis' visit to the Philippines. He also spoke on Saint Andre Bessette from Montreal, Canada. He also described marriage as being between one man and one woman. He discussed this as The Year of The Family. He talked on the great importance of the family in our own individual lives.

General Agent's Remarks:

Charlie Groves FA spoke on General Agent John Stice's behalf. He presented \$178.90 to the Priesthood Scholarship Fund from his appearance on Archangel Radio. He described the importance of insuring your income. He introduced the Field Agents present. Top Sales Agent in the state Mark Stice also made comments on insurance.

SD Parrish then asked State Warden Danny Garcia to escort Janie Carnie, President of the ASK AL KC to the podium for her remarks.

President, ASK AL KC:

Ms. Janie Carney described how we are here by the grace of God. We are all privileged to have the jobs and duties we have volunteered to do. We must work to accomplish the goals and tasks of our individual councils. Membership and growth is important to our whole organization. Please help form ladies auxiliaries. She was very encouraging to the membership.

Convention Report: Les Wrobel gave a report on the upcoming convention. He stated the date for the next convention was the weekend of April 17th 2015 in Birmingham. The package information is available on the website and if anyone wants a hard copy please notify the State Deputy. Please register early. Mr. Wrobel stated the need for more attendance at the conventions. Dr. Bill Watkins spoke on the programs at the convention. He described some of the many fun activities which will occur at the convention. Any Knight and their family can attend the convention events.

Cuddle Cot:

SD Parrish introduced Field Agent Perry Burden who introduced Sir Knight John O'Connor who delivered information on the Cuddle Cot. It is a device used to give the gift of time to families dealing with the loss of a child.

Ultrasound Initiative 2015 Operating Plan:

Lee John Bruno was introduced and spoke on the successful and ongoing Ultrasound Initiative. He spoke on the great courage of the workers in pregnancy counseling centers. He spoke on the courage of mothers who keep their babies. He wants to help, in any way, anyone interested in starting an initiative to get ultrasound machines.

SD Parrish then excused the Ladies to conduct their business.

Pete Parrish, SD, stated he had scheduled no breaks in the interest of keeping the meeting brief.

Credentials Report:

Danny Garcia, SW, vouched that all present possess a current membership card.

State Deputy Report:

SD Pete Parrish gave a brief synopsis on the current state of membership growth and asked everyone to "kick it up a notch" in recruiting. We are

halfway through the year and have achieved one-third of our goal. He would prefer to achieve our goals sooner rather than later.

Permanent Roll Call:

Griffin Shreves, SS, called on the SW who reported that all elected state officers were present along with the State Chaplain and Associate State Chaplain, 6 of 25 state directors or chairmen were absent. SS Shreves then called on the DD's to give the total councils in their respective districts that were not present. Of the 78 councils in the state 14 were not represented in the meeting. This represents 82 percent attendance of the councils. 12 of 19 districts had all their councils represented at the meeting. Councils with no representation present at the meeting were: District 2, 13513; District 3, 2631 and 15367; District 4, 13519 this council is being dissolved; District 5, 14894 this council is being dissolved, District 12, 5164; District 13, 666 3565, and 15247; District 14, 3038; District 15, 12914; District 17, 2734 and 8740; District 18, 635, 4304 and 10064.

Reading of Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Griffin Shreves, SS, said that the minutes of the July 12, 2014 State Kick-Off Meeting had been posted to the website shortly after the meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes as published on the website. The minutes were approved as published.

Communications:

Griffin Shreves, SS., stated there were no communications to present to the group.

Treasurer's Report:

Jason Esteve, ST, described the Priesthood Scholarship Fund being moved to the Supreme Christopher fund. The matched funds have been added to records. The per capita billings have sent out. We have made over \$5000 on the Henry Rifle raffle. He is available for any questions on the state's finances.

Audit and Budget Committee:

Steve Koach, IPSD, Chairman of the Audit and Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had reviewed the reports, had found the accounts to be in order, and had voted to approve the financial reports and budget.

Membership:

G. V. "Skip" Gentle, PSD, FM, VSM, and Membership Director thanked everyone for their prayers during his recent illness. He presented a video from Supreme on attainment of the Star Council award. It described the tangible goals to earn the Star Council award. Supreme Officer Gary Nolan hosted the video. Membership Director Skip emphasized getting all forms turned in. He

encouraged the representatives to follow the steps to achieve Star Council. The Knight before Christmas program resulted in \$100 to councils 4304 >100 17 new members and 13085 < 100 2 new members. A District Deputy pool was won by DD15 Ed Antoine. Money for these awards comes from Supreme incentives. Councils which met their quotas are in a pool for \$1000. The winner was Council 3038 Springhill College.

The Knights of Columbus is a way of life. It is very important to him.

Presentation of lapel pins for Star Councils. They go to the Program Director, the Membership Director, and Grand Knight of each council.

Star Councils – 893, 8959, 12011, 11537, 9862, 5636, 12618, 764, 13339, 13446, 2736, 13367, 12270

Double Star – 7679, 12765

Triple Star – 15845, 5597, 10903, 2631

Star Districts - #1 Jack Hahn, #3 Bill Mores, #9 Ike Williams

District Master Steve Koach presented charter to new Assembly in Albertville. Former District Master Steve Griffin was presented the charter replica. The Bienville province Family of the Year award went to Ishmael Amaro Zambriano. Fr. Jeremiah Tracy Assembly #4 won the Bishop Ott Memorial award for service.

Assembly #3 Montgomery, Assembly #4 Albertville, Assembly #2507 Birmingham, Assembly #2867 Fort Payne, Assembly #2972 Pell City, Assembly #3028 Trussville, Assembly #347 Leeds, and Assembly #3419 were presented civic awards.

Ceremonials

Bill Schultz, Ceremonials Director, instructed that the District Deputies are responsible for the 2nd degree. Check with your DD on the time and location for the next scheduled.

The 3rd degree schedule is being prepared for the next fraternal year.

Programs:

State Deputy recognized Jim Kaelin for his many years of service as Pro-Life Director

Bill Mores, Program Director, presented on the different service program areas. He encouraged utilization of the many online resources. Need to make sure all your reports are turned in. Get your council activity reports turned in for the state awards. Forms are available on the state website. He mentioned Jerry

Brecher as the Special Olympics Chairman. He recognized Joe Behr as the Vocations Chairman and congratulated the councils for their contributions to this cause. He asked for comments from his chairmen.

Herman Weber – Church Director had no comment.

Tim Creamer - Community Director, spoke on how important the Intellectual Disabilities drive is important to the many organizations in our various communities. He reminded everyone to promote their activities in publications and to send in state activity reports.

Larry Cannon – Family Life Director, encouraged every council to participate in the Family of the Month program and to submit the names each month to Supreme.

John Blackburn – Youth Director, reminded everyone of the Free Throw contest and the State competition was going to be in Montgomery.

Pat Jackson, Council Director, discussed the awards available for the various service program activities and how the councils can win them at the state level. He explained part of the process was the committees to decide the winners. He also said examples of past winners would be sent out to the councils. Your council cannot win if you do not send in a submission.

David Birchmeier, Culture of Life Director, thanked Jim Kaelin for his many years of service to the Pro-Life cause for the state and read from a detailed prepared speech on the current status of the Pro-Life movement.

Disaster Relief:

Les Wrobel has agreed to take over from Bill Drescher.

Campaign for Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities

Ron Belz stated we currently have collected \$87,190 of a \$148,000 goal. It is not too late to participate and he encouraged councils to join in the drive. He described the process to participate and the importance of the Forms 1 and 2.

Silver Rose and Marian Hour of Prayer:

Skip Gentle, PSD, VSM, Chairman, stated that the Silver Rose program was a big success in the state last year. There were over 20,000 participants across the state and it was televised to 2.1 million on EWTN. The transfer between the State Deputies of Alabama and Mississippi occurred during the production on EWTN. It is imperative to send in your request to have the Silver Rose.

The Marian Hour of Prayer Icon is moving around the state. There was a question on where the icon ends up permanently. There is one in the state where the priest requested it and Supreme granted his request. It is noted on the back where they are to be ultimately returned after use in the state.

Fourth Degree Report:

Steve Koach, District Master, since he has become District Master we held an exemplification and welcomed 22 Sir Knights at Gulf Shores. The next 4th degree exemplification is scheduled for January 31, 2015 at Our Lady of the Valley in Birmingham.

Supreme Representative's Remarks – Deputy Director of Membership Growth Al Cala gave a very informative talk on how to build a successful council. He covered a wide variety of different topics relative to the health of a council. He discussed the need of a Knights of Columbus presence in all parishes. He described the importance of the Star Council program. New level of quadruple Star Council and the inclusion of the Field Agent for Star Council pins.

Presentation – Grand Knight David Galloway of Council 14507 presented \$1,000.00 for Priesthood Scholarship Fund. Steve Koach reminded members we are at the beginning of the calendar year so the funds collected between now and the State Convention will be the amount distributed to the Bishop and Archbishop.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: GK Ken Friedrich talked about Knight and Seminarian Jim Handerman having health issues and requested prayers from the membership.

Remarks from the Associate State Chaplain: Father Joe Lodi described the need for perspective on our projects, goals and lives.

Past State Deputy Remarks:

Skip Gentle, PSD, FVSM: stated we have state program to locate members. Please pray for each other, pray for our Church and our country.

Ray Carney, PSD: congratulated the participation at the meeting. He stressed the importance of having a Ladies Auxiliary.

Steve Koach, PSD: Thanked everyone for attending and recommended letting the parishes and community be aware of your activities which will attract new members.

State Officer Remarks:

Danny Garcia, SW: Asked everyone to pass their placard to their District Deputy and announced his intent to run for the office of State Warden at the State Convention.

Joe Flaherty, SA: Asked everyone to send in resolutions to be voted on at the State Convention. He announced a proposed by-law change to be voted on at the State Convention. It involves the change to the Priesthood Scholarship Fund from calendar year to fraternal year. He thanked everyone for assistance with the Rifle Raffle. He announced he would be running for the office of State Advocate at the State Convention.

Jason Esteve, ST: He reminded everyone per capita payments are due. Send in money and forms for the ID drive. He announced he would be running for the office of State Treasurer at the State Convention and as a delegate to the Supreme Convention.

Griffin Shreves, SS: Thanked everyone for their attendance and announced his intent to run for the office of State Secretary and to be a delegate to the Supreme Convention at the State Convention.

Pete Parrish, SD: Thanked everyone for attending and announced an 82% representation at the meeting. He announced he would be running for the office of State Deputy. He asked SA Joe Flaherty to conduct the drawing of the winner of the raffle. Monsignor Wall drew the winning ticket of the Rifle Raffle. The winner was Bill Chambers from Gulf Shores. He announced Mass would be celebrated 15 minutes after the conclusion of the meeting. With no further business to conduct he called on Monsignor Wall to close us in prayer.

Closing Prayer:

Monsignor G. Warren Wall, State Chaplain, led the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM by State Deputy Parrish.

Respectfully Submitted,

Griffin Shreves, State Secretary