

Alabama State Council

Knights of Columbus

State Meeting – July 25, 2015

Prattville, Alabama

Call to Order:

R. Evan "Pete" Parrish, State Deputy, called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM.

Opening Prayer:

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Steve Koach PSD, District Master led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome:

SD Parrish welcomed everyone present. He then asked for remarks from State Chaplain Reverend Monsignor G. Warren Wall.

State Chaplain Remarks:

Monsignor Wall described the upcoming trip of Pope Francis to the United States. He led everyone in a prayer from Supreme Chaplain Lori in preparation of the Pope's visit.

General Agent's Remarks:

John Stice introduced the Field Agents present who were also having an Insurance meeting coinciding with the State Meeting. The Agency has written 50 million dollars in coverage for the first 6 months of 2015. Goal for the year is over 100 million. The new member \$100 annuity plan is no longer available. Everyone needs to work on keeping the lines of communication open. He asked for any questions.

President, ASK AL KC:

Mrs. Janie Carney was escorted to the podium by the State Warden. She congratulated all the newly elected Grand Knights and Presidents of the Ladies' Auxiliaries. Her message was we are all ambassadors for Christ. We lead by example. We need to take time to do HIS work on earth. We need to work together. We can accomplish this through recruiting more membership. Mrs. Carney introduced the ASK AL KC Board.

2016 Convention Preview: Les Wrobel gave a report on the upcoming convention. He stated the date for the next convention begins Thursday, April 28th, 2016 in Huntsville. The package information should be out at the Regional Meetings. He thanked Dee Watkins and his wife, Cindi Wrobel. SD Pete Parrish stated we are still working to improve the convention participation and control the costs.

Associate State Chaplain Remarks:

Father Vernon Huguley presented his remarks and asked those present what would be said at our funerals. He asked if the priest presiding would have an abundance of homiletic material.

SD Parrish thanked the ladies for all their support in our councils and then excused them for their activities.

State Deputy Report:

Pete Parrish, SD welcomed everyone especially new Council 16248 in Huntsville. He thanked the newly elected officers and representatives. We had 352 new members last year. Our overall net/net was negative 3 which we should work to improve in the current fraternal year. We need to be working earlier and harder to make our goals. We supported seminarians in the amount of \$50,000 through the RSVP program. He asked for everyone's support to help him get it right.

Credentials Report:

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

Permanent Roll Call:

Griffin Shreves, SS, called on the SW who reported that all elected state officers were present, 5 of 30 state directors and 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 79 councils in the state 20 were not represented in the meeting. This represents 75 percent attendance of the councils. 4 of 18 districts had all their councils represented at the meeting – Districts 8,9,10, and 14. Councils with no representation present at the meeting were: District 1, 3568; District 2, 10331 and 13513; District 3, 2631, and 15367; District 4, 13519; District 5, 5164, 7213 and 14894; District 6, 15093; District 7, 12011; District 11, 1484; District 13, 3565; District 15, 8959 and 12914; District 16, 3986; District 17, 2734 and 8740; District 18, 635; District 19, 3859.

Reading of Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Griffin Shreves, SS, said that the minutes of the April 18, 2015 State Convention Meeting had been posted to the website. Motion 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. He described the Necrology Register / List of Brothers in Distress and advised it was being passed around to note any deceased Brothers and Brother Knights in need of prayer.

SD Pete Parrish announced the District Deputies were dismissed to meet with the Ceremonials Chairman Bill Schultz. He asked them to return after they finished.

Treasurer's Report and Budget Report:

Jason Esteve, ST, described the package of Financial reports. It contained the Balance Sheet, Budget vs Actual, 2015 Convention Income and Expense reports, and the 2015-2016 Budget. He gave a descriptive overview of all the reports. He also made the group aware if they have questions about the reports later to contact him.

Finance and Budget Committee:

Steve Koach, IPSD, Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee, reported that the Committee had reviewed the Financial reports, had found the accounts to be in order, and had voted to approve the financial reports and the 2015-2016 budget.

Membership:

Skip Gentle, PSD, FVSM, and Membership Director told of his passion for membership and the necessity to bring in new members and to retain our current members. He noted his Membership team is comprised of Past State Deputies. He introduced his Retention Chairman PSD Bryant Collins. PSD Collins stated the easiest way to retain membership is to not suspend members. Dropping members because they do not pay dues goes against the 1st principle of the Order – Charity. He also described the timeframe involved in processing withdrawals and how all involved should make personal contact to keep members in the Knights.

Membership Director Gentle introduced New Council Development Chairman PSD Ray Carney. MD Gentle gave a lengthy speech on how to recruit and the importance of making membership a priority. New members mean a healthy council.

SD Pete Parrish said the State Chaplain reminded him to announce regular Mass would be held 15 minutes after the conclusion of the meeting. SD Parrish said the new District Deputies would also be installed at the end of this Mass.

Presentation:

Supreme Representative Membership Programs Consultant Dave Tebo presented an entertaining performance on recruiting. He gave some interesting and memorable recruiting techniques. Asking your pastor for prospects is one. There are inspirational clips available on the Knights of Columbus website. He showed 5 of these clips and recommended them for open houses. He said when someone says the Knights of Columbus only care about membership to tell them the Knights of Columbus are about faith.

Gun Raffle:

The State Council's Raffle to subsidize the State Convention is for 2 items this year and will be drawn at the 2016 Convention. Grand prize is a Henry Big Boy Carbine 357/.38spl Rifle and 2nd prize is a Franchi Infinity 12ga Shotgun. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Only 2001 tickets have been printed.

Ceremonials:

Ceremonials Chairman Bill Schultz spoke on the current philosophy of Supreme on ceremonials. He reminded everyone to send in Form 450c reporting 1st degrees held. The 3rd degree schedule is out. District Deputies will be scheduling 2nd degrees.

SD Pete Parrish announced the State Treasurer has State Pins for sale and to see the ST to purchase.

Programs:

Bill Mores, Program Director, stated he will be communicating better this year on programs, deadlines, and submissions. He encouraged pursuing activities relevant to the parish involved. Make sure to advertise your programs. He described the process of doing the programs to fill out the SP-7 form.

Training webinars are available from Supreme at the website – www.kofc.org.

Use your daily planner supplied from Supreme Council. Form 365 is a required form and should already be turned in. Special Olympics is a great program to be connected with.

He then introduced his chairmen.

Shawn Miller, Community Director, looks forward to helping in this position.

John Blackburn, Youth Director, encouraged everyone to participate in Soccer Challenge.

Culture of Life Director David Birchmeier commented on the current Planned Parenthood controversy. Information is coming out about their sales of aborted baby body parts. Rallies are being coordinated to defund Planned Parenthood and end abortion. He addressed the root cause of so many of our cultural problems such as abortion and same sex marriage. He recommends Natural Family Planning. Ultrasound Initiative Coordinator Lee John Bruno was introduced. Lee John Bruno spoke on the great start to the calendar year of 2015. Two Ultrasound machines have been acquired. One has been put in Decatur and one in Montgomery. Currently there is an effort in Madison. He started a pledge rally was held to raise the funds to help the Council raise the funds. A list of councils was created and the funds will need to be sent in the next week. The State Secretary compiled the list and volunteered to send e-mails giving details to the councils on where to send their contributions.

Based upon question a search was conducted to find the Planners for the Grand Knights.

Awards and Recognitions:

Anniston Council 3227 won \$500 for meeting their quota in the last quarter. Council 8551 was recognized for their highest per capita contribution to the Priesthood Scholarship Fund for councils under 100 members. The council for over 100 members was Council 10354. Most money, \$1,501.00, donated was from Council 10354.

Campaign for Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities

Ron Belz played video to begin his presentation. He stressed the importance of submitting a drive chairman. He went over the basics of the program and the deadlines, goals, and many different possibilities to participate. He encouraged every council to participate. He went over the different forms to turn in for the campaign. He read one of the thank you notes from the organizations who received funds from the program.

Silver Rose and Marian Hour of Prayer:

Skip Gentle, PSD, FVSM, Chairman, stated that the Silver Rose will come into Alabama this year in the Mobile Archdiocese on August 16 and will leave the State from the Birmingham Diocese. It will be at Mass at EWTN on September 13. The schedule has been published and distributed. He will be creating the new schedule in October for the next year. Be sure to request it if you want it. The new Marian Icon will begin in the Huntsville area September 1 and end in Mobile on May 21st. Councils are encouraged to advertise and also get it to schools.

Fourth Degree Report:

Steve Koach, IPSD and District Master, reported we exemplified 109 new Sir Knights in the past fraternal year. He noted we can do better and stated the schedule for 4th degree exemplifications has been distributed. He encouraged all 4th degree Knights to recruit members into the 1st degree and work with them through all the degrees. Patriotism is defined as love of country. The threats to our freedoms are real. The importance and necessity of our displays of patriotism is vital in the current environment.

Supreme Representative's Remarks:

MPC Dave Tebo told everyone their council will reflect their energy and attitude. Everyone knows someone to invite to join the Knights of Columbus.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business

New Business:

Motion to exempt new council 16248 from per capita for first 6 months was made by DD Jack Hahn. The motion was seconded by PSD, DD Maurice DuPont. The motion passed.

A 50/50 raffle was held during the meeting and a winner was drawn. Winning ticket was 544215 and the amount won was \$78.

Past State Deputy Remarks:

Skip Gentle, PSD, FVSM: say your 3 Hail Marys every day.

Bryant Collins, PSD: said it was great to be back involved.

Maurice DuPont, PSD: stated he wants to make the State Deputy proud.

Ray Carney, PSD: said it was great to be among friends and he considered everyone present a friend. It was great to have 5 Past State Deputies present. He reminded everyone to get a Ladies Auxiliary.

Steve Koach, IPSD, DM: He stressed the importance to grow the order.

State Officer Remarks:

Danny Garcia, SW: Thanked everyone for attending and he said his council appreciated the thoughts and prayers for the council member who died suddenly.

Joe Flaherty, SA: Thanked everyone for attending and said he looked forward to working with the Rifle raffle. The winners would receive the funds at Bass Pro

Shop for the guns but if they did not qualify to purchase they would receive store credit. The paperwork process was easier going through the gun retailer. He encouraged all Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and Faithful Navigators to familiarize themselves with the Desk Reference section of the Supreme website. It contains important information for running our organization. Home Corporations is a situation being stressed by Supreme. Safe Environment is another program being stressed by Supreme.

Jason Esteve, ST: He reminded everyone per capita payments are due. He distributed past due invoices. Pins are for sale. He asked if anyone wanted to donate mileage it would go to the Priesthood Scholarship Fund.

Griffin Shreves, SS: Thanked everyone for attending and representing their councils. He asked everyone to return with the valuable information they gathered to their councils and give it to their officers and members. He thanked everyone for their contributions to others as Knights of Columbus. He stated sometimes we forget to remember there are new Grand Knights so if there are questions please ask. He said you cannot reach a goal if you do not set a goal. He asked everyone to set the goal of Star Council and start working toward it.

Administrative Assistant Dave Hester asked everyone to pass their placards to the aisle so they could be used again.

SD Pete Parrish noted the Planners had been found and could be picked up when leaving the meeting.

Pete Parrish, SD: Thanked everyone for attending. With no further business to conduct he called on Monsignor Wall to close us in prayer.

Closing Prayer:

Monsignor G. Warren Wall, State Chaplain, congratulated several long-term anniversaries, he thanked Jim Kaelin for his Pro-Life work, and then he led us in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 PM by State Deputy Parrish.

Respectfully Submitted,

Griffin Shreves, State Secretary