The Explorer

A Publication of the Kansas Knights of Columbus

SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE SUNDAY, May 2, 2010

109th Annual State Convention Banquet

The Knights and Honored Guests were welcomed by the Vice Mayor of Wichita, Jeff Longwell, Saint Francis of Assisi parishioner and member of Council 4118. He commented on one billion dollars to charity and four hundred million man hours the Knights of Columbus have donated over the last ten years.

Archbishop Emeritus James P. Keleher spoke of the importance of lay people. One example was the sacrifice of St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe referenced by Msgr. Chavez. He also talked of the appreciation of the support of priests and seminarians given by the Knights of Columbus.

Bishop Paul S. Coakley voiced his continuing appreciation for the Knights' outstanding support of vocations and spiritual discernment, and reiterated, "The Knights are the right hand of the priests and bishops."

Bishop Michael O. Jackels spoke of the new translations for the missal for mass to take effect Advent 2011. It is a closer connection to scripture and prayer. He referenced the new translation, "My sacrifice and yours," to show both priests and congregation are co-celebrants of the Mass. This also emphasizes the quality of the sacrifice not the quantity of the sacrifice. "We share God's gifts to give glory to God and to help others." Mass ends with the command, "Go and do." We are to live for the honor of God and the benefit of others.

Opening Mass

The Celebrant and Homilist for the opening Mass of the 109th Convention was the Most Reverend James P. Keleher, Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Kansas City. He was joined by State Chaplain Rev. David J. Metz, Monsignor Eduardo Chavez, former State Chaplain Rev. Tom Dolezal, and Rev. Regie Saldanha. The feast of the celebration was St. Joseph the Worker.

In his homily, the Archbishop shared that we all have vocations within our vocation and that God gives us the grace to fulfill these callings. All St. Joseph wanted was to get married and raise a family. He was ready to divorce Mary until God called him in a dream to the role of protector for the Holy Family. He is now the heavenly guide and protector of the Church.

Most members of the Knights of Columbus are also called to the primary vocation of being married to a wonderful woman and raising a family. The Archbishop noted that we also have a vocation to be the lay advocate, guardian and protector of the Body of Christ on earth, the Church. We love the Church Universal and the Holy Father. We accept all of the teachings of the Catholic Church. We proclaim our love of the Eucharist, the sacredness of life in the womb, the dignity of natural death, marriage as a union between a man and a woman, that the family is the first church. We support our priests and seminarians. We protest the immorality of using human embryos for stem cell research. The Knights of Columbus proclaim to the world a moral code based on the Ten Commandments of God and the Precepts of the Church. We profess our love and devotion to Mary, the bride of St. Joseph. We support the charitable works of the Church. The Archbishop closed with thoughts from Mother Teresa that we are all called to do something beautiful for God and the world in the spirit of St. Joseph.

State Knight of the Year - Ray Kennedy

The 2009-10 State Knight of the Year is an exemplary model of what it means to be a Knight of Columbus and is often referred to as "Mr. Knight" by Fr. Wayne Schmid, his pastor. Raymond Kennedy has been a key member of Derby Council 4458 since 1968. During those years, he held numerous council offices and volunteer positions. Following four years as District Deputy for District 32, Ray served the State Council as Pennies from Heaven Chairman for two years and the Community Activities Director for another two years. Ray was instrumental in establishing Bishop Mark K. Carroll Assembly 2138 and was the first Faithful Navigator for the Assembly. He is still an active member and serves on the Assembly's Color Guard. He has attended and participated in over one hundred First, Second and Third Degree Ceremonials and serves as the sound man on most Second and Third Degree ceremonials in south central Kansas.

In the late 1960's, Council 4458 purchased 80 acres of land near Derby and built a Council Clubhouse on the land. Ray managed the clubhouse from the beginning until 2005. Those

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State Family of the Year
Kent & Lori Linnebur Family

Our Kansas Knights of Columbus State Family of the Year, the Kent and Lori Linnebur Family, comes to us from St. Jude Parish in Wichita and St. Jude Council 12049. Kent and Lori will celebrate 30 years of marriage on May 17th and are the parents of five daughters and two sons.

Kent and Lori and their family are very active within their parish where Kent and Lori are both Extraordinary Ministers of Communion. Kent has been a mass lecturer for over 32 years and serves on the Parish Finance Committee. Lori is a past president of the Altar Society and also coordinated funeral dinners. For many years she has been a school room mother at St. Jude Catholic School and helps with extra school activities and functions. As a family, they have always supported Catholic

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(Family of the Year Continued)

Education, as they have had one or more children in the St. Jude School for 22 consecutive years and all of their children have attended Bishop Carroll High School. Their youngest son, Scott, starts next year. Two of their daughters have taught CCD/PSR classes and both sons have participated in parish grounds upkeep and planting trees at the newly re-modeled church. Kent is past president of the Holy Name Club, which led to his being a charter member of the St. Jude Knights of Columbus Council. Kent and Lori also serve the Diocese of Wichita by serving on the Natural Family Planning and Family Life Advisory Board.

Kent has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for over 20 years and is an insurance member. He has been the council's Pro-Life Chairman multiple terms over the past ten years. He and Lori are very active with Pro-Life activities and together they have championed the annual January Pro-Life Baby Shower where newborn clothing, diapers and formula can be dropped off before and after the masses, then delivered to local charities. Kent is also a past president of Kansans for Life. Most of their children have attended the March-for-Life in Washington, D.C. Their two sons help at Pro-Life and Vocations support breakfasts and the children have also participated in many K of C Pro-Life Essay Contests. Kent also served his council as the Vocations Chairman, vigorously pursuing seminarian support during his tenure. His late brother, Fr. David Linnebur, was a Wichita diocesan priest. Kent and Lori have been selected as Family of the Month by the council each of the past four years and Kent also has been selected Knight of the Month several times.

Kent, along with his family, has worked the Tootsie Roll fund drives and the St. Jude K of C sponsored Christmas tree lot for many years. All of his (eligible) children participated in many of the K of C Free Throw Championships since the council began 13 years ago. Kent rarely misses a Corporate Communion Mass. As you can see, Lori and the kids have greatly supported Kent in his K of C activities and have made the Knights of Columbus a "family affair."

Kent is a master electrician. He and Lori started Linnebur Electric 28 years ago. Lori, works in the office for their business and is a very busy homemaker as well. Kent is secretary for the Independent Electrical Contractors Association and is a past treasurer of the local "Pheasants Forever," a conservation organization.

The whole family has been active in the community as he and his older son have volunteered whenever needed for electrical repairs at The Guadalupe Clinic. The family also volunteers at the The Lord's Diner. All five of their daughters have volunteered for as much as two years each as teen nurse's aids at Via Christi-St. Francis Hospital. Kent's idea of volunteering is, "Call me for anything you need help with. I'll be glad to!"

As mentioned earlier, Kent and Lori have five daughters and two sons: Donna, Martha, Tammi, Steve, Teresa, Angela and Scott. They also have four grandchildren.

Their daughter, Donna, and husband Chris Snook have one child and are members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish in Wichita. Daughter Martha and husband Trinity Muth have three children and are members of St. Mary's Parish in Newton, KS. Daughters Tammi and Teresa live in Overland Park, KS and are working and going to college. Son Steve is a Journeyman electrician working for Linnebur Electric and lives in Wichita. Daughter Angela is a junior at Bishop Carroll High School and plans to go to college and study art. Son Scott is in 8th grade at St. Jude School and loves sports and hunting with his dad. All seven kids have played basketball and have been involved in sports in high school.

Kent and Lori Linnebur set such a positive example of Catholic parenting, parish family membership and stewardship, that their seven children also follow this example of volunteerism in their own lives, and pass on to the next generation these qualities of a Christian lifestyle. Kent says, "Our lives are centered on church and family, all of our volunteering is around the church or within the diocese." This, along with the solid involvement in Pro-Life activities and so many other organizations, both within and outside the K of C, is proof of their dedication to CHRIST and how HIS role in their family brings them such blessings and joy. Their marital happiness is evident to all who know them and their openness they share as well, always inviting others to know how GOD works in bringing them closer together.

Kent and Lori credit their parents' and grandparents' strong Catholic faith and family ties in laying the foundation for their own large, strong Catholic family. It is evident in their life that GOD is first!

The Kent & Lori Linnebur Family exemplifies the Catholic family spirit. It is for these reasons, and many others, that the Kent & Lori Linnebur Family has been selected as the 2009-2010 Kansas State Family of the Year.

Greetings from Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson sends greetings on behalf of his fellow Supreme Officers and Supreme Directors to all brother Knights at the annual Kansas State Convention. The complete text of his greeting can be found in the convention book you received at registration.

Memorial Mass

Our annual Memorial Mass for all deceased brother Knights will be tomorrow at 8:00 am in Emerald Ballroom 1–4 of the Convention Center. The Celebrant will be Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita. The Concelebrant will be Most Reverend George Fitzsimons, Bishop Emeritus of Salina along with State Chaplain David Metz, Council Chaplains and visiting priests. Join us in offering prayers for our deceased members and their families.

Today's Schedule — Sunday, May 2

6:00 am	Breakfast	On Your Own	12:30 pm	Business Session	Emerald Ballroom 1-4
7:30 am	Pennies from Heaven Parade	Pre-Function Hallway	4:30 pm	Convention Mass	St. Francis of Assisi
8:00 am – 1:00 pm	Registration	Hotel Lobby	6:00 pm	Chaplains Social & Dinner	St. Francis of Assisi
8:00 am	Opening Prayer Service	Emerald Ballroom 1-4	6:15 pm	BBQ Dinner	St. Francis of Assisi
8:30 am	Awards Presentation	Emerald Ballroom 1-4	9:00 pm – midnight	Hospitality Rooms	5th Floor-South Tower
9:00 am	Country Store Opens	Consulate 3	10:00 pm	Pennies from Heaven Auction	Pre-Function Hallway
12:00 pm	Ladies Luncheon & Activity	Botanica	11:30 pm	State Officers Meeting	Board Room

(Knight of the Year Continued)

duties involved overseeing the numerous activities the council hosted and catered. In addition, he mowed the grounds as well as the other duties required to keep the property well maintained. Ray has served as Council Activities Chairman for over twenty years. He is the "go to" guy to organize workers for their many activities, including the council's main fundraiser which is hosting "Casino Nights" throughout south central Kansas.

Fr. Schmid became the pastor of St. Mary Parish twelve years ago. He says, "From day one of my arrival, Ray Kennedy was out in front in terms of support, encouragement and commitment in assisting as the parish and I addressed the challenges facing us. Ray was instrumental in the success our parish achieved." Fr. Schmid also said he believed Ray was a "primary mover" in the Knights decision to donate 30 acres of the council's land that enabled the parish to move their total parish facility to its current site and later an additional 40 acres of land to help pay for the new school. Ray served as chairman for the "Pitching the Tent" fundraising campaign in 2005 to build the new Faith Center for St. Mary Parish.

On the community level, Ray has been a key organizer and supporter of the council's annual Tootsie Roll Drives. He helped organize the council's participation and assistance with the Holy Family Camp. He is an active member of the Kansas Farm Bureau and served two years as the president of Sedgwick County Farm Bureau.

Ray has actively supported the council's efforts to establish a Squires Circle for young Catholic men from the Derby, Rose Hill and Mulvane areas. This dream was realized when a Circle was established March 4 of this year. One of Ray's grandsons serves as an adult leader for the new group.

Ray served his country in World War II. Upon his return, he lived on the family farm north of Derby with his wife Tommie. They have been married 62 years raising seven children, and have 22 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren. Ray and Tommie have been recognized as the council's Family of the Month numerous times because of their continuous support of the parish and council. Two of their sons, a son-in-law, a grandson-in-law and three grandsons are current members of Derby Council #4458.

Grand Knight John Washburn has this to say about Ray: "Ray Kennedy may be the most recognized member of the Knights of Columbus in south central Kansas. He has been an important ambassador for the Knights of Columbus for forty-two years. He continually lives the life of Catholic Stewardship and is a role model for every member of our council."

Convention Mass Today

The Kansas Knights and their guests will gather today to participate in our annual Convention Mass at 4:30 pm Sunday at St. Francis of Assisi Church. The Celebrant will be Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita. Concelebrants are Most Reverend Paul Coakley, Bishop of Salina; Most Reverend Ronald Gilmore, Bishop of Dodge City; Most Reverent Eugene J. Gerber, Bishop Emeritus of Wichita; and Most Reverend George K. Fitzsimons, Bishop Emeritus of

What's Going on Tomorrow?

8:00 am	Memorial Mass	Emerald 1-4
9:30	Business Session	Emerald 1-4
12 noon	Supreme Conv. Delegates Mtg	Emerald 1-4

Columbian Award Forms

Grand Knights: Don't forget the best time to turn in your Council's SP-7 Columbian Award Form is at the State Convention! By turning in the form this weekend you not only assure you have completed one of the requirements for Star Council (the deadline is June 30 to Supreme), but the State Council will also take care of the postage! So save your Council the cost of postage and take care of this today!

Candidates for the 2010 Supreme Convention

Kansas is allowed ten delegates to the Supreme Convention in Washington, D.C. this coming August. The State Deputy and the Immediate Past State Deputy are automatic delegates. The following are candidates running for the other eight delegate positions.

Norbert L. Otter, DD #3	Michael J. Grothoff, DD #10
Robert J. Duffin, DD #17	Robert A. McNally, DD #22
Robert L. Steimel, DD #27	Steve A. Bockhaus, DD #29
Curtis A. "Sam" Widener, DD #54	Gary Hoppe, State Membership Director

Past Supreme Knight to Attend Chaplain's Dinner

Past Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant was asked by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson to attend the Texas State Convention, also being held this weekend, and represent the Supreme Council in the Lone Star State. Our Worthy Past Supreme Knight will join us Sunday evening for the Chaplains Dinner, and Monday morning for the Memorial Mass and business meeting. Thank you, Virgil, for your service to the Knights of Columbus and for taking the time to be with us this weekend.

Recruitment = Circle of Honor

For the remaining two months of this fraternal year, we must be membership conscious. We must seek out and sign up potential members and their families to join our honored Order.

We must be pro-active in promoting and selling the ideals that represent the Knights of Columbus to every eligible Catholic man and his family.

Look over your membership rosters, invite the inactive members to reactivate their membership. This counts as a new member and also an insurance member. Hold an Open House, Information Night and explain to the prospective member and his family what we do and what the Knights can do for them. Schedule first degrees for the remaining two months and recruit towards them. Utilize your Council Chaplain, Parish Priest, Field Agent and District Deputy. They can assist your council with membership recruitment.

Golf Tournament Winners

"A" Flight
1st place (Score 63) - Tommy Negrete; Pete Negrete; Tony Rameriz, Sr; Tony Rameriz, Jr.
2nd place (Score 64) - Rev. Daryl Befort; Mike Flores; Dean Leddy; Joey Carter

"B" Flight
1st place (Score 68) - Mike Baalmann; Thomas Baalmann; Harold Baalmann; Jeremy Baalmann
2nd place (Score 68) - Bruce Heir; John Malone; Mike Pasch; TBA

Insurance Agency Awards

Once again the Knights of Columbus insurance program continues to grow and set new records. The Knights of Columbus Insurance program now has over $75 billion of insurance in force worldwide with almost $2 billion of that total here in Kansas. Last year our Kansas agencies issued approximately $252 million of life insurance on members and their families.

Our full time agency staff continues to grow and to work with the council officers in membership growth. Two field agents were recognized in the area of membership development. Joseph Cummings of the Eastern Agency was awarded 1st place recruiter and Wade Greif of the Central Agency received the 2nd place award.

The 2009-2010 fraternal year has brought about a new life insurance product to better meet the needs of our members and families. The order introduced a Survivorship Universal Life policy designed to address estate planning needs and charitable giving opportunities. This past year, the Supreme Council sponsored the first ever summer sales conference for Field Agents. It was held in St. Louis, MO. The Kansas agencies were well represented at the conference with 19 Field Agents and 3 General Agents attending. The 2010 conference will be held in Dallas, TX in July of 2010.

Justin Deges and Darin Reed of the Western Kansas Agency have qualified for the prestigious Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT). The MDRT recognition is awarded to only 5% of all life insurance agents, both fraternal and commercial worldwide.

The Western Kansas Agency was recognized this year for finishing 9th in the order in life insurance sales. The Eastern Kansas Agency finished 19th. It is an honor to have two agencies from Kansas recognized in the top 20 of all agencies in the order.

The following men were our leaders for 2010 and have qualified for the Knights of Columbus incentive trip:

Central Agency
Chad Mishmash
Wade Greif

Western Agency
Justin Deges*
Darin Reed*
Steve Schmidt

Eastern Agency
David Soukup*
Joseph Cummings
Luke Henry
Mark Stallbaumer
William Roggenkamp

General Agents
John Mahon*
George Spinelli*

*Supreme Knights Club qualifier

Career Opportunity as an Insurance Field Agent

The Knights of Columbus has a career opportunity for you — an opportunity that some say is the best paid hard work in the world — and an opportunity to help the Knights of Columbus in "protecting families for generations."

The life insurance sales career offers qualified, dedicated members of the Knights of Columbus the chance to provide a valuable service to others by uncovering prospects' needs and recommending a life insurance solution. Through periodic reviews, the life insurance agent helps clients keep abreast of their constantly changing financial security situations. Through such service, he can enjoy the financial rewards of job satisfaction inherent in a professional career.

- **If you are interested in helping others**, maybe you should consider the K of C agency force. Your ideas — your recommendations based on your ability to design appropriate plans to meet them—can have a significant effect on your clients' personal and business lives.
- **If you are interested in career growth,** maybe you should consider the K of C agency force. Once you become established in your career, you are your own boss and, after a period of training, you plan and work your own hours.
- **You also might be interested in the financial rewards** the career brings — rewards that are in proportion to your achievement. In the life insurance sales business, you determine your own income, and you are paid what you are worth.

Protecting families for generations
is more than a motto.

For Knights of Columbus agents,
it is a sacred trust.

If you are a Knight, or eligible to become a Knight, **this could be the career for you.** To find out more, feel free to contact our Field Management Department. At (203) 772-2130, ext. 261 or one of the General Agents listed below.

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