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# Courier



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NEBRASKA STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS \* 4x Yearly

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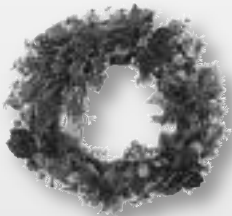
**DEADLINES:**  
December issue distributed  
around 12-15,  
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around 3-25,  
deadline Feb. 10  
June issue distributed  
around 6-15,  
deadline May 10  
September issue distributed  
around 9-15,  
deadline Aug. 10

We apologize for any  
errors or omissions.

# ❄️ Greetings from State Deputy Jim Haiar ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️



**James N. Haiar,**  
Nebraska State Deputy



“Last year Nebraska was one of the states to receive about \$10,000 . . . All we have to do to receive this again is to report our food drive donations . . .”

Brother Knights,

As we enter the Christmas season, we are reminded of the blessings and gifts we have received. One of these blessings is the opportunity to be a Knight of Columbus. While this is a blessing, we have the responsibility to give this gift to other men in our parish. We, as Knights, do a lot of great projects for many different needs. In order for us to continue to minister to the needs of others, we will need to continue to increase our Order to have enough men to do this work.

### “I am my Brother’s Keeper”

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson has declared this year’s focus as “I am my Brother’s Keeper”. During the Christmas season we will have many opportunities to assist others through food pantries, coat drives, and gifts for underprivileged children.

Supreme has announced a program similar to last year’s “Food for Families” program, which will give money to state jurisdictions that report their food donations to pantries. Last year Nebraska was one of the states to receive about \$10,000 that was divided between the three dioceses. All we have to do to receive this again is to report our food drive donations that councils are participating in. Let’s take advantage of the great worthwhile program.

### Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

Linda and I want to thank all of the councils for their invitations to their events. We have enjoyed attending these and meeting the wonderful people in the Knights of Columbus throughout our state.

We would like to wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. God Bless!

Vivat Jesus,

James N. Haiar, Nebraska State Deputy  
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## NEW AT nebraskakofc.org



Rev. Scott Hastings  
Nebraska State Chaplain

### Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Scott Hastings, our State Chaplain, has monthly reflections on the State Website. Be sure to check them out. You can find these thought provoking reflections by using the button under the "Quick Find" area on the left column of the Home Page:

**nebraskakofc.org**

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#### Online Directory

You will no longer need to log-in to the secure area to access the online Directory information.

You can continue to find it under the "Directory" tab on the drop down menu.

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#### Around the State

New photos and stories from councils across the state are now available for viewing.

You can continue to find it under the "News" tab on the drop down menu.

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#### Fourth Degree Website

The Nebraska Fourth Degree Assemblies now have access to information at

**fourthdegree.nebraskakofc.org**

You can also find it under the "4th Degree" tab on the drop down menu at **nebraskakofc.org**

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#### Daily Scripture Readings

Access to daily Scripture readings can be listened or viewed by clicking on the links near the top of the Home Page.

This has been available since last year.

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## A COURIER UPDATE: Paper or Electronic Courier?

By Rich Lowery, Nebraska State Treasurer

In the last issue of the *Knights Courier* we told you that there are changes coming to help us reduce costs. While we are still working on the specifics, I wanted to give you an update.

#### "OPT-IN" FOR ELECTRONIC VERSION

As we move toward State Convention in April/May 2011, we are working on developing an **opt-in process for those that would like to receive an electronic version of the *Knights Courier***. Many of you were concerned about not receiving a paper *Knights Courier* or about having to do something to continue to receive the paper edition.

#### WE LISTENED TO YOUR CONCERNS.

We want this process to be one that meets your needs and we want to make sure that you are receiving all the information you need in the format that works for you at this time.

1. Today, you need to do NOTHING to continue receiving a paper copy.
2. If you would like to receive an electronic version of the *Knights Courier* you will have many opportunities to sign up.
3. We have set a goal of December 12, 2012 as the date we hope to convert to all, or mostly, electronic.

As we move forward in this electronic age moving to electronic distribution is the next logical step in delivering current, relevant information to all our members. Communicating with you is our most important resource. We want to provide you with all the information that you need while keeping our costs as low as possible.

#### WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION

Continue to watch for more information as we finalize our plans. Our first goal is to have at least 10% of our membership signed up to receive the electronic version by the end of the 2011 convention. By signing up for the electronic version of the *Knights Courier*, you will help us reduce printing and mailing costs. **The money we save will help us better meet our mission of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.**

#### QUESTIONS?

Contact Rich Lowery, Nebraska State Treasurer,  
402.488.4667 • 402.432.6748 (mobile)  
rwlowsy@windstream.net

**Meet Rich Lowery ... see page 8**

## CONTINUED LOTTERY SUPPORT VITAL TO MINISTRY Proceeds used to support seminarians, postulants

By Tony Hergott, Nebraska State Warden

During this holy time of year, it's good to reflect on the sacrifice of our young men and women who have responded to God's call to the religious life. The Nebraska Knights of Columbus has long been a financial supporter of these men and women. **Your participation in the State Lottery is vital to the continuation of this support.**

Postal regulations changed a few years ago prohibiting the mailing of lottery tickets. Because of this, we have seen a dramatic drop in our own lottery revenue. **Mailing of purchased tickets and sale proceeds is also prohibited. The following is an outline of distribution:**

- The State Warden is in charge of the State Council Lottery. The drawing will be held April 30, 2011, during the State Convention (need not be present to win).
- At the December 2010 Mid-Winter Meeting, each District Deputy attending received a State Lottery Packet that contained a predetermined number of tickets for each of his councils and details concerning sales, obtaining more tickets, and the return of tickets, stubs, and sale proceeds to the State Warden. **Please read these instructions carefully and completely.**
- Each District Deputy is responsible for distributing tickets and information to each council general meeting before the beginning sales date of February 1, 2011.
- Each District Deputy, Field Agent, State Director, State Chairman, and State Officer received an allotment of tickets so that additional tickets are disbursed throughout the state and quickly available should more be needed.
- All requests for additional tickets must go through the State Warden for accounting purposes. **All distributed tickets are tracked.**

If your council doesn't receive tickets in a timely manner, please contact your District Deputy or Tony Hergott, Nebraska State Warden (contact information to the right). You'll also be receiving updates and reminders.

**IMPORTANT: Please remember, tickets cannot be sold before February 1, 2011, and under no circumstances is the U.S. Mail or a commercial carrier to be used to transport unsold tickets, sold ticket stubs, or ticket sale proceeds.**



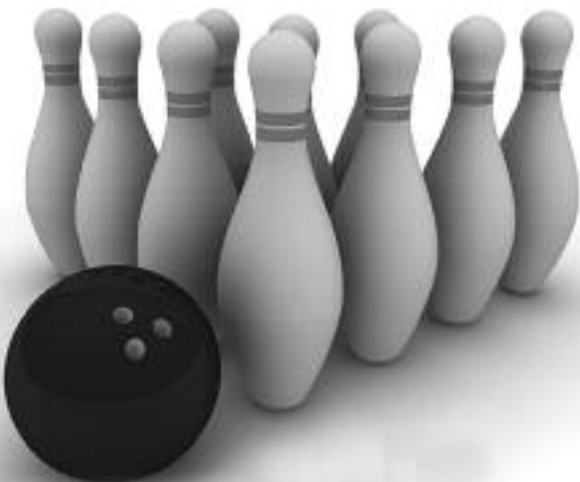
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**"The Nebraska Knights of Columbus has long been a financial supporter of these (seminarians and postulants) men and women.**

**Your participation in the State Lottery is vital to the continuation of this support."**

## Knights of Columbus 2010 State Bowling Tournament



**February 19-20, and 26**

**Westbrook Lanes**

**3156 51st Avenue • West Hwy 81, Columbus, NE 68601  
402-564-6034**

**Cost: \$19 per event (unit)**

Competitions in Singles, Doubles, Team, and all events.

There will be an evening steak fry February 19th and 26th in the bowling alley lounge.

The registration form is now available on the state website: **nebraskakofc.org**

GETTING TO KNOW ...

*Butch Kreikemeier*, NEBRASKA STATE SECRETARY

Meet Rodney "Butch" Kreikemeier, a Brother Knight who's a hard man to overlook. It's not just his regal stature that makes him stand out, but also his exuberant laugh and unfailing presence at Knights of Columbus functions.

In his current position as State Secretary, Butch has moved up the ranks bringing his quiet enthusiasm and love of the Order with him.

"I joined the Knights right out of high school at age 18," Butch said. "In West Point, Nebraska, that's just what we did. And my dad, Don, is a life-long member, so we were already a Knights of Columbus family."

After experiencing what all new members do – the hard work and commitment of Knights to doing good in the community – Butch filled chairman and officer positions in his home Council 2272, St. Joseph's, West Point.

"I enjoyed moving into the various positions," Butch shared, "and it gave me better insight into what being a Knight was really about. I liked being part of this group of dedicated men and their families."

Butch had his first experience with the State Council when he attended a state convention. "As Grand Knight, I accompanied council members to my very first convention and saw the enthusiasm others from across Nebraska had for our great Order."



Butch Kreikemeier

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[jnowak@hillelectric.com](mailto:jnowak@hillelectric.com)

Early on, Butch had been asked to fill the Program Director slot at the state level, but due to work responsibilities, felt he would be unable to meet that commitment and turned it down. Later, State Deputy John Melena approached him with the same opportunity.

"I was State Youth Director under State Deputy John Smith and enjoyed interacting with all the councils and the kids," Butch recalled. "I acquired more insight into the workings of the Knights at the state level, but it wasn't until I attended my first Supreme Convention in Toronto, Canada, that I really felt called to move up. I felt the momentum and committent of everyone there and that memory has never left me."

This was a defining moment of Butch's life. He accepted the position of Program Director from John Melena, went on to be elected State Warden, State Treasurer, and now serves as State Secretary.

"It's been a wonderful experience," Butch said. "Being part of this great organization has increased my Catholic Faith and kept me going through some very tough personal years."

Butch said, "I am deeply committed to our state and to the Order and feel extremely privileged to be a Knight. Membership has been a life-changing gift from God for me and I can't imagine how any Catholic man wouldn't want to accept the same gift."



<http://fourthdegree.nebraskakofc.org>

# NEBRASKA FOURTH DEGREE

*The Patriotic Degree of the Order*

By Don Ferneding, State Master

My hope is that this finds each of you having a blessed and family-filled Christmas season and may a successful new year.

**HTTP://FOURTHDEGREE.NEBRASKAKOFC.ORG**

If you haven't seen the new Website, please check it out soon. Please thank Aaron Goodrich for all of his design work and keeping it updated. If you would like any other information on the site, please send me an email with your suggestions. This Website will be another of the mechanisms I use to communicate to all our assemblies.

As the current year ends and the New Year begins, **I am announcing the formation of three positions in the Fourth Degree** to help serve and support our state's assemblies. I have created three Diocesan Directorships that will help each assembly with the scheduling, hosting and the organizing of Fourth Degree exemplifications, help with any desired training needs in your assembly and provide a communications network to you.

**The three Diocesan Directors are listed at the lower right.**

**The assemblies they will serve will be available on the Fourth Degree web page.**



*Leading the Honor Guard at the 2010 State Convention Mass are Former State Master Allen Koliha and Greg Kozakiewicz*



**OFFICIAL FLAG PIN**

By now, all Fourth Degree Faithful Navigators should have received their new "flag pins" from Supreme, along with a letter explaining the use of the pins. They are to be worn as the official pin. Color and honor guards can wear the new flag pin on formal occasions. More information can be found on the Website or please contact me.

**FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE**

The Fourth Degree exemplification schedule for the remaining of the fiscal year has been set. Details will be posted on the Website.

January 29, 2011	North Platte
February 20, 2011	Beatrice
March 15, 2011	Humphrey
May 15, 2011	Lincoln

Please remember to bring your regalia along with you to the State Convention in April. As always, we will have a color guard at the convention Mass. I will be sending out more information as the time gets closer.



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**District Master**  
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GETTING TO KNOW ...

*Rich Lowery*, NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER

**M** eet Richard "Rich" Lowery, one extremely dedicated Knight who, along with his wife, Gail, is raising an entire family of extremely dedicated Knights! Rich and Gail have been married for 28 years and are the parents of four sons. The two oldest, Mitchell and Stephen, joined when they turned 18 and are both Fourth Degree Knights.

Well into their college years, the young men reflected on the past. "We grew up being involved in my dad's council activities," Mitchell recalled. "We were always helping at Lenten fish dinners and Tootsie Roll® drives."

"Yeah," smiled Stephen, "when we were very young, we thought we were already Knights!"

Stephen is on the board of the Newman Center at University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and both young men serve the Nebraska Knights of Columbus at the state level as State Production Specialists.

Rich, a Fourth Degree Knight, joined at his own father's invitation. "One night Dad called me on the phone and asked what I was doing later," Rich said. "When I told him I didn't know, Dad then said, 'well, you're joining the Knights'. And so I did!"



**Gail and Rich Lowery**

Besides being active in his home Council 11001, Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln, Rich has served as Faithful Navigator for Bishop Kucera Assembly 595, also in Lincoln.

Active participation in his own council is what brought Rich to the attention of soon-to-be State Deputy Don Ferneding. Don invited Rich to be his State Program Director and the rest is history. From there, he has served the State Council as State Warden and now State Treasurer.

"Each position has been as rewarding as it has been challenging," Rich said, "but has strengthen my Catholic Faith and my love for my family."

"Family support is a very important part of what the Knights are all about," Rich explained. "Without family support, none of what we do would be possible. Now there is very little that we as a family do that is not influenced by the Knights."

Rich and Gail have served as Presidents of the Lincoln Southeast High School Band Boosters for two terms (2003-2004, 2009-2010) and were "head chaperones" when the band traveled to San Diego for the Holiday Bowl last year. Both parents have also been very involved with Scouting. Mitchell and Stephen are both Eagle Scouts; younger sons Patrick and A.J. are working on their Eagle rank. And this family of Knights will add another Knight in January when Patrick takes his First Degree.

**NOTE:** Rich, Gail and their entire family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to their Knights of Columbus family members whose prayers, hugs and deepest concern helped get them through a most difficult time. They are proud to be a part of the Knights and will cherish your kindness always.

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**2010 PRO-LIFE ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS**

Grade	Winner's Name	Parish/City
7th Grade	Lucy Wunderlich	St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha
8th Grade	Brian Hula	St. Peter, Omaha
9th Grade	Matthew Anderson	St. Peter, Omaha
10th Grade	Katrina Sramcik	St. Mary's, Sterling
11th Grade	Weston Stokey	Sacred Heart, Sutherland

Thank you to all the students who submitted an entry and congratulations to all the winners!

**ONE ROSE, ONE LIFE**

One Rose, One Life cards and envelopes were given to your District Deputy or your Knights of Columbus Insurance Agent at the Mid-Winter Meeting in early December. These should have already been distributed to your council. Information about the use of the new One Rose, One Life envelopes for the upcoming campaign in January has also been sent out. **If your council has not yet received either of these, please contact the State Pro-Life Directors as soon as you can.**

**OTHER REMINDERS**

**Buck-a-Month**

Buck-a-Month starts January 1, 2011 and goes through April 1, 2011.

**Pro-Life Art Contest**

Pro-Life Art Contest for all art entries deadline is March 1, 2011.

Please see the State Website for rules and other details on both of the programs listed above. [nebraskakofc.org](http://nebraskakofc.org)

**Pro-Life Essay Contest**

**Theme:** Mother Teresa said "How can there be too many children? That's like saying there are too many flowers". Various national and international groups say that the world is overpopulated. Make a persuasive argument as to why these groups are wrong about overpopulation.

**DO NOT SEND ESSAYS TO THE STATE PRO-LIFE DIRECTORS.**

All essays due at your diocese for first round judging by March 26, 2011.

Submit the essay to your diocese listed below:

Archdiocese of Omaha Respect Life Apostolate — Fr. Damien Cook  
 c/o St. Peter's Catholic Church,  
 709 S 28th St, Omaha, NE 68105  
 402.341.4560 ext. 104

Diocese of Lincoln Pro-Life Office — Fr. Jeff Eickhoff  
 800 Fletcher Rd, Seward, NE 68434.  
 402.643.4052

Diocese of Grand Island Pro-Life Office — Fr. David Rykwald  
 PO Box 250, Bridgeport, NE 69336-0250  
 308.262.1332



Bob and Anita Finger  
 Nebraska State  
 Pro-Life Directors  
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 402.953.7181 (cell)  
[bob.finger.kofc@gmail.com](mailto:bob.finger.kofc@gmail.com)



**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

If your council has not yet received One Rose, One Life cards and envelopes or needs information on the use of either of these, please contact the State Pro-Life Directors as soon as you can.

GETTING TO KNOW ...

*John Smith*, NEBRASKA FOUNDATION/INVESTMENT DIRECTOR

**M** eet John F. Smith, a Past State Deputy and the man at the state level who handles the funds in the (KCNSC) Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council Foundation Endowment Fund. The KCNSC was established in December of 2001, and John has faithfully and expertly handled all financial matters since it began.

John and wife Karen Smith, have been married for 30 years and are the parents of four grown children, two boys and two girls. One year after he and Karen married, John became a Knight.

“Joining the Knight of Columbus is one of the best things I’ve ever done,” John said. “And I couldn’t do any of the things I have with and for the Knights throughout these years without total family support. Karen has been my co-pilot and has helped me navigate my way through the many positions I’ve been involved with at both council and state levels.”

John has certainly had his share of involvement. He has held every chair and officer position in his Council 2388, St. Joseph’s, Broken Bow. He graciously accepted the State Membership Directorship when it was vacated mid-term in 1993. Larry Reed, then State Deputy, was grateful for John’s help.

“All my council positions have been wonderful steps toward fulfilling the duties of the State Membership Director and State Program Director,” John said. “I also served as State Warden, State Treasurer, State Secretary, and finally State Deputy from 2002 to 2004. I enjoyed every office I held and Karen and I gave every one of them our all.”

John also accepted the challenge of managing the State Foundation as Foundation and Investment Director while he was still State Secretary in 2001 and has been in that position ever since.

John feels very strongly that joining the Knights of Columbus is something every Catholic man should do. He also believes that any Knight can achieve anything he wants to within the Order, “as long as he puts his mind to it.”

About the Foundation, John said: “It has grown over the past nine years and held its own during our country’s years of economic distress.”

“I encourage everyone to remember that there are many ways to give to the Foundation. It’s only with your help that it will continue to grow and be a greater resource for the State Council.”



John Smith (above with guitar) and John Soukup performed as the “Others Brothers” for PSD John and Margie Melena during the 2006 Mid-Winter Meeting.



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[www.madonnaschool.org](http://www.madonnaschool.org)

**REMEMBER THAT ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
ENDOWMENT FUND ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

Gifts must be received by December 31, 2010 to be eligible for this tax year.

We are grateful to all our generous donors. Because of them your Foundation continues to grow.  
Create a wonderful family tradition this time of year by giving a gift to your Foundation.

Gifts of cash are always appreciated. There are also other ways you can benefit the Foundation.  
We encourage Knights and their family members to remember the Foundation when doing your estate planning.

Our emphasis on Catholic beliefs and direction is always first and foremost when we consider  
how to best use the interest generated from the Endowment Fund.

To find out more, contact:

John Smith, KCNSC Endowment Fund Director, PO Box 211, Broken Bow, NE 6822 • 308.872.2194

**Meet John Smith, State Foundation and Investment Director ... see opposite**

**Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council (KCNSC) Endowment Fund**

**DONOR INFORMATION**

(Please print information below so we can send you an acknowledgement for tax purposes)

Donor name \_\_\_\_\_

Council \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INITIAL ONE**

\_\_\_\_\_ Please do not publish my/our name(s). I/We wish to remain anonymous.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please add (publish) my/our name(s) to the donor list.

**MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM**

My company has a matching gift program.  
(name, address of company)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT OF GIFT**

Enclosed is a gift to the Endowment Fund

in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My/our check is enclosed and made payable to  
KCNSC Endowment Fund

**SUSTAINING MEMBER**

\_\_\_ I/we wish to become a sustaining member(s)

Individual (min. \$50 annually)

Council (min. \$250 annually)

**MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM GIFTS**

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Please make my gift (please print):

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In Honor of

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ happy occasion \_\_\_ illness \_\_\_ thank you

\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

**MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE**

\_\_\_ Please have someone contact me with other  
ways I/we can contribute to the KCNSC  
Endowment Fund.

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR CHECK TO:  
Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council Foundation Endowment Program  
PO BOX 211, Broken Bow, NE 68822**

## Nebraska Knights of Columbus

**A**



Above photo by Bob Ervin  
Others photos by Rodney Green

**B**



**A.** Guests enjoyed the unique atmosphere at the Strategic Air and Space Museum in Ashland for the 5th Annual Spirit Award Dinner sponsored by Spirit Catholic Radio Network.

**B.** Pictured (l to r): Agents Neil Pfeifer, Tony Swanson, Tim Heller, Steve Kluthe; Jim Carroll, Spirit Catholic Radio Network Executive Director; Agent Doug Kelly; Mike Conrad, PSD; Agents J.G.Krawczyk, Kevin Pfeifer, Will Greitens; and Brother Knight John Soukup, Spirit Catholic Radio Station Manager.

## Spirit Award presented by Spirit Catholic Radio to Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council and Knights of Columbus Nebraska Insurance Agents

By Brother Knight John Soukup, Station Manager - Spirit Catholic Radio Network

Amid the enormous aircraft of a bygone era and the spaciousness of the building they are housed in, around 350 people gathered at the Strategic Air and Space Museum in Ashland, November 6, 2010, for the 5th annual Spirit Award Dinner for the Spirit Catholic Radio Network. This year, the Knights of Columbus, and Knights of Columbus Field Agents were honored for their support of this radio apostolate. In addition, internationally known speaker and author, Sr. Ann Shields, was the guest speaker.

The Spirit Award Dinner honors individuals whose spiritual gifts, values and life's work reflect the values, vision and mission of Spirit Catholic Radio. Having devoted time, talent and treasure, recipients vigorously champion the Church's call to employ modern communication techniques for the New Evangelization ... *bringing Christ to people and people to Christ.*



**C.** Pictured (l to r): Knights of Columbus General Agent Kevin Pfeifer and his wife Cindy; John Soukup and Jim Carroll.

### SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO

Spirit Catholic Radio can be heard in much of eastern Nebraska and western Iowa on 102.7 FM and 98.3 FM in Norfolk. In central Nebraska, people can tune into 91.5 FM out of Grand Island, and it can be heard on the Internet at [www.kvss.com](http://www.kvss.com).

"We thought it only natural this year to honor the Knights of Columbus councils and field agents who have been so instrumental in their prayers, support, and volunteerism for Spirit this apostolate," said Spirit Catholic Radio Network Executive Director Jim Carroll.

"As an example of the Knights commitment to this apostolate, members of Ashland/Greenwood Council 12557 were a big help in setting up for this dinner."

### AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Nebraska State Council for the Knights of Columbus, Past State Deputy Mike Conrad and General Agent Kevin Pfeifer both accepted Spirit Awards on behalf of members (current State Deputy Jim Haiar was not able to attend).

"We're proud to have played a part in the success of this radio station since its inception in 1999," said Conrad. "I'm excited that more Knights will have the opportunity to join in its mission as the signal continues its expansion across the state."

Kevin Pfeifer, who played a key role in efforts to bring Spirit Catholic Radio to central Nebraska, emphasized the importance of this ministry in today's world.

"We need to get the truth of the Faith out there, and the Knights and their families can play a key role in the new evangelization by directing people to listen to Spirit Catholic Radio. It is Catholic radio for the Christian community."

A member of The Servants of God's Love, a charismatic religious community established in the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan, Sr. Ann Shields spoke about inspiring holiness in others.

"We are all called to grow in holiness no matter what our station is in life. That holiness can then be spread to others with as little as a smile." She explained that a person once told her she was Christ to him that day because of her smile.

Sr. Shields was also presented with a Spirit Award. She is currently host of the daily radio program "Food for the Journey" heard on the Spirit Catholic Radio Network Monday through Friday at 6:40 a.m. and 8:40 a.m.

Learn more at the Spirit Catholic Radio Network Website [www.kvss.com](http://www.kvss.com) and their Facebook page

## 2011 Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Competition

Sunday, March 27, 2011, Lynn Farrell Arena, Hastings College, Hastings  
 Noon Registration • Competition Begins at 1:00 PM



**Jack Nienaber**  
 State Youth Director  
 916 Glenwood Ave  
 Hastings, NE 68901  
 402.463.6082  
 jmjnien@windstream.net

The Nebraska Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Basketball Contest is scheduled for Sunday, March 27, 2011, at the Lynn Farrell Arena at Hastings College in Hastings, Nebraska. Registration will begin at Noon, CST with competition scheduled to begin at 1 PM. The Arena is located on East 12th Street, part of the Osborne Family Sports Complex.

Only winners of their Regional competitions may participate in the State event.

**The Regions are defined by the Districts as follows:**

Region 1 includes Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 33, & 35

Region 2 includes Districts 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 34

Region 3 includes Districts 13, 14, 18, 19, & 20

Region 4 includes Districts 15, 16, & 17

Region 5 includes Districts 21, 22, 23, 24, & 25

Region 6 includes Districts 28, 29, & 30

Region 7 includes Districts 26, 27, 31, & 32

We currently have several Regional competitions tentatively scheduled which include:

- **Region 1** to be coordinated by District 2 and possibly held at Skutt.
- **Region 2** to be coordinated by District 10 and to be held at St. Pat's in Lincoln.
- **Region 7** to be coordinated by District 26.

As of this printing, no exact locations or times are available.

- **Council competitions** should be completed in January.
- **District competitions** should be held in early February.
- **Regional competitions** held in late February or early March.

We will post the Regional times and dates on the State Website as they become available. [nebraskakofc.org](http://nebraskakofc.org)

**ALL YOUTH ARE INVITED  
 TO TAKE PART IN THE  
 FREE THROW COMPETITION  
 REGARDLESS OF  
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AFFILIATION.**

As in the previous years, youth will be categorized according to their age as of September 1, 2010 and then by gender. Age groups are: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14-year-olds.

Medals will be awarded to District winners for each age-gender category and regional winners and runners-up will also receive medals.

The state winners and runners-up will receive trophies at the close of the competition in Hastings with the final scores being submitted to supreme for the national competition.

Last year, Nebraska contestants received three national trophies presented at the the Nebraska Grand Knights-District Deputies Seminar in June.



## 2010 Knights of Columbus State Soccer Challenge

The State Soccer Challenge was held at St. John's in Lincoln on October 31, 2010. Contestants represented council, district, and regional competitions held in three regions: Omaha, Lincoln, and Central Nebraska.

**WINNERS**

Age/Gender	1st Place	2nd Place
9G	Sarah Albin	
9B	Alex Sailors	Ben Koch
10G	Emily Anthone	Chloe Barkow
10B	Sean Philbin	Isacc Carpenter
11G	Isabelle Walz	Melissa Garcia
11B	Christian Salinas	
12G	Acena Carter	
12B	Kyle Kramer	Alex Koch
13G	Courtney Stodola	Makayla Carter
13B	Andres Salinas	

There were no 14-yr old contestants this year.

Soccer Challenge photos can be found on the State Website  
[nebraskakofc.org](http://nebraskakofc.org)

## Prayers for our Troops

In years past we've had a section set aside with featured stories about Knights or members of Knights' families who are in the armed services. We'd like to revitalize that column, but need your help. Please send us stories (and photos if you have them) about family members or members of Knights' families that you know who are serving our country. You don't have to write the story - we can do that for you. Write, email, or call us at

Knights Courier  
 8818 Ohern St, Omaha, NE 68127  
 402.592.0823  
 We're waiting to hear from you.

## Heavenly Father

Please bless our troops both at home and abroad.  
 Hold these brave men and women in your loving hands.  
 Send your angels to protect them as they sleep and guide them safely through each day.

Please bless those who have given their lives for us.

Take them into your loving arms that they may celebrate this holy season, in communion with all the angels and saints now gathered in your heavenly kingdom.

Please bless the families of our troops.

Grant them your peace – a peace that surpasses all understanding.  
 Provide them with every need and help these families feel your love through all of us, especially during this holy Christmas season.

Please bless our country's leaders.

May they make just and wise decisions and be guided by your grace.

We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour.

AMEN.  
 — anonymous —



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## Greetings Fellow Recruiters!

Yes, that means you, Brothers — You all are Recruiters, Right? . . . “Just Ask!”



**Bob Brown**  
Nebraska State  
Membership Director  
5215 Oak Hills Cir  
Omaha, NE 68137  
402.895.3133  
402.651.2225 (cell)  
bob.brown@firstdata.com



Help keep  
Fr. Michael J. McGivney’s  
dream alive:  
“That every Catholic  
gentleman is offered an  
opportunity to join the  
Knights of Columbus.”

“Just ask!”

### Successful Membership Seminars

Membership Seminars have been conducted throughout the State in Lincoln, Omaha, Minden and North Platte. Thank you for all who helped set these up and those who attended. The agenda included a personally delivered message from José L. Jiménez, PSD (Oklahoma) and Supreme Membership and Program Coordinator. The Membership Team discussed BLITZ activities and membership recruitment techniques. Those who were able to attend received a great deal of information to help with their recruitment efforts. More seminars will be scheduled on an as-needed basis. If your council needs additional help or information, don’t hesitate to contact me or one of my team members:

**Tony Salazar** (tonysalazar@charter.net • 402.296.2419)  
**Tom Schmitz** (tschmitz@firstmortgageco.com • 402.734.6365)  
**Russ Bohenkamp** (cfo@chadronhospital.com • 308.432.2003)

### Sizzling Summertime Membership Blitz

We recruited 55 new Knights during the Sizzling Summertime Membership Blitz. The drawing prize winners are:

- 1st Prize Winner of a 42” Flat Screen TV Donald L. Pfeifer, Council 14508
- 2nd Prize Winner of a \$50 Lowe’s Gift Card Todd A. Cerny, Council 11823
- 3rd Prize Winners of Commemorative Medallions (1 to each)  
M. Gregory Burrows Council# 10184, Neil J. Pfeifer, Council 1793,  
Charles A. Homolka Council# 10386, Clement A. Pella Council 11001

Congratulations — thanks for your recruitment efforts!

### Other Membership Blitzes

We are doing this again for the **Bountiful Harvest Membership Blitz**, so keep on recruiting for your chance to win one of these wonderful prizes including another 42” flat screen TV! The drawing will be December 30, 2010!

We will also hold a **Wintertime BLITZ** starting in January in honor of our Immediate Past State Deputy and newly elected member to the Supreme Board of Directors, Mike Conrad. Show Mike how proud you are of him! Recruit a new member in his Honor! This drawing will be held March 31, 2011. Check out the State Website soon for more details.

**nebraskakofc.org**

### We have recruited 230 new members so far this year!

Keep up the good work! If we recruit 135 new members per month from December 2010 thru June 2011 (with no more suspensions), we will make our goal for Circle of Honor. **We’ve done this before and I know we can do it again!**

Please check out the State and Supreme Websites for more membership information and materials.

**Ask One to Be One!**

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**From our Cover**

**A.** Pictured left (l to r) Nebraska State Deputy Jim Haiar, Grand Island Bishop William Dendinger, Omaha Archbishop George Lucas (top), Lincoln Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz, and Linda Haiar. The three Nebraska Bishops graced us with their presence at the December 4, 2010 dinner Saturday evening during the Mid-Winter Meeting, held this year in Omaha.

**B.** Mike Conrad displays the certificate authenticating the flag presented to him by Bob Wolf. (The flag was flown over Fort Carson, Colorado, in honor of Wolf's son, James, killed in Iraq in 2003.)

**C.** Tony Hergott, State Warden was the evening's emcee.

**D.** Several priests also joined us for the meal and program. Seated at this table are: (l to r) Msgr Andrew Meister, Past State Chaplain; Msgr. Daniel Rayor, Bishop Bruskewitz' driver; Fr. Jim Schwertley, friend of Mike Conrad; Fr. Bob Preisinger, Pastor of St. John the Baptist in Fort Calhoun; Fr. Troy Schwieger, Father Prior.



**Mid-Winter Meeting, Mass, Dinner, and Mike Conrad Tribute**

The Annual Mid-Winter Meeting was held December 3, 4, 5 at the Double Tree Hotel in downtown Omaha. During this year's Saturday evening dinner, a tribute was paid to Immediate Past State Deputy, Mike Conrad. Many gifts and tokens of appreciation were presented to Mike for his good work and dedication to the State Council this past two years.

Mike and his wife, Mary, were at times overwhelmed by everyone's praises.

Bob Wolf generously gifted Mike with the United States flag that was flown over Fort Carson, Colorado, in honor of Wolf's son, James. Spc. James Wolf was killed in Iraq in October 2003 when a roadside bomb exploded near him.

Mass preceded the dinner, with Archbishop George

Lucas presiding and Bishop William Dendinger as co-celebrant. Later, Lincoln Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz joined the other two bishops and all the Knights, ladies, and guests for a wonderful dinner and constant updates on the Nebraska-Oklahoma football game.

Also in attendance was José Jiménez, PSD (Oklahoma) and Supreme Membership and Program Coordinator.

Tony Hergott, Nebraska State Warden, was the evening's emcee. Jimmy Weber, a Bellevue resident and member of the United States Air Force Band, entertained the audience with his guitar and wonderful medley of songs. Before the evening ended, he announced that he was joining the Knights and signed his Form 100 on the spot.

# News from the Swanson Agency

## Knights of Columbus Insurance - Serving Central & Western Nebraska



### Michael Scholz Joins the Swanson Agency

After extensive training and licensing, Michael Scholz, FA, has been appointed to the position of Field Agent with Knights of Columbus Insurance in Nebraska in the Swanson Agency. Michael and his wife, Sara, have two children and reside in Bertrand, Nebraska. Michael's home council is 12687, Fr. Robert Foster Jubilee, Elm Creek

Contact Michael Scholz at 308.991.6157 • michael.scholz@kofc.org

Michael will serve members and their families from the following councils:

- 1728 St. James, Kearney
- 2040 St. Ann's, Lexington
- 2388 St. Joseph's, Broken Bow
- 5315 Christ the King, Cozad
- 10923 Prince of Peace, Kearney
- 12687 Fr. Robert Foster Jubilee, Elm Creek



### Swanson Agency Announces Agents of the Month

The Swanson Agency has recognized the following Field Agents as "Agents of the Month":



#### August and September 2010

##### Tim Nowak, Ogallala

###### Home Council:

4979 Msgr. Peter J. Kenney, Ogallala

###### Serving Councils:

- 1126 Fr. Trayer's, McCook;
- 1211 St. Patrick's, North Platte;
- 2693 St. Catherine's, Indianola;
- 4979 Msgr. Peter J. Kenney, Ogallala;
- 7081 Imperial, Imperial;
- 7734 St. John Neuman, Arapahoe/Cambridge;
- 7778 Highline, Grant;
- 10163 St. Joseph's, Benkelman/Stratton;
- 10506 Holy Spirit, North Platte;
- 12530 Fr. McGivney, North Platte



#### November 2010

##### Kurt Hammond

###### Home Council:

11737 Bishop Glennon P. Flavin, Denton

###### Serving Councils:

- 1336 Falls City, Falls City;
- 1723 Beatrice, Beatrice;
- 7704 Victor Vifquain, Crete;
- 7966 Fr. Berabek, Wilber/Tobias;
- 7967 Wymore;
- 10000 Sacred Heart/St. Anthony, Steinauer/Burchard;
- 11674 Msgr. John Flynn, Dawson/Shubert;
- 11737 Bishop Glennon P. Flavin, Denton;
- 13015 Our Lady of Good Counsel, Lincoln;
- 14320 St. James (UNL Council), Cortland



#### October 2010

##### Bill Buchta, Grand Island

###### Home Council:

10387 St. Leo's, Grand Island

###### Serving Councils:

- 1708 Pope Leo XIII, York;
- 7954 St. Peters, Fullerton;
- 8010 Msgr. Campo, Aurora/Giltner;
- 9562 St. Anthony's, Grand Island;
- 10386 St. Michael's, Central City;
- 10387 St. Leo's, Grand Island;
- 11363 Resurrection, Grand Island;
- 14508 St. Maximilian Kolbe, Beaver Crossing/Utica



*"Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."*

— MATTHEW 2:11 —

**MAY YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES EXPERIENCE THE JOYS OF A BLESSED & HOLY CHRISTMAS SEASON**

— FROM ALL YOUR —

**NEBRASKA  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
INSURANCE AGENTS**

# News from the Pfeifer Agency

## Knights of Columbus Insurance - Serving Eastern Nebraska



### Pfeifer Agency Announces Agents of the Month

The Pfeifer Agency has recognized the following Field Agents as "Agents of the Month":



**August 2010**

**Doug Kelly, Omaha**

**Home Council:**  
10108 St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha  
**Serving Councils:**  
6192 Columban, Bellevue;  
7740 St. John Vianney, Omaha;  
10108 St. Robert Bellarmine, Omaha



**September 2010**

**John Stoeckinger, Lincoln**

**Home Council:**  
4923 St. Joseph, Lincoln  
**Serving Councils:**  
4923 St. Joseph, Lincoln;  
10510 St. Peter's, Lincoln;  
10913 St. Michael's, Cheney;  
11280 Msgr M Helmann (St. John's)



**October 2010**

**John Dunham, Lincoln**

**Home Council:**  
11312 St. Isaac Jogues, Lincoln  
**Serving Councils:**  
3152 Fr. Joseph Vanderheiden, Nebraska City;  
6750 Msgr. Thomas Barden, Tecumseh;  
7021 Fr. Flicek, Auburn;  
7614 Fr. McFadden, Syracuse;  
9704 St. Mary's, Lincoln;  
11312 St. Isaac Jogues, Lincoln;  
12557 St. Mary's and St. Joseph's,  
Ashland/Greenwood



**November 2010**

**J. G. Krawczyk**

**Home Council:**  
11364 Holy Cross, Omaha  
**Serving Councils:**  
3019 Archbishop James Hugh Ryan, Omaha;  
11364 Holy Cross, Omaha;  
11700 Mary Our Queen, Omaha;  
11879 St. Matthew, Bellevue

Find your Agent quickly at  
**nebraskakofc.org**

under the "Directory" drop down menu item.

### QUESTIONS?

Contact your council's Agent or

Kevin Pfeifer, General Agent - Eastern Nebraska • kevin.pfeifer@kofc.org • 308.381.2075

Tony Swanson, General Agent - Central and Western Nebraska • anthony.swanson@kofc.org • 402.463.2845

## OWN YOUR FUTURE: What Are My Risks of Needing Long-Term Care?

About 70 percent of individuals over age 65 will require at least some type of long-term care services during their lifetime. Over 40 percent will need care in a nursing home for some period of time. Factors that increase your risk of needing long-term care are:

- **Age:** The risk generally increases as you get older.
- **Marital Status:** Single people are more likely to need care from a paid provider.
- **Gender:** Women are at a higher risk than men, primarily because they tend to live longer.
- **Lifestyle:** Poor diet and exercise habits can increase your risk.
- **Health & Family History:** These also impact your risk.

This year, about 9 million Americans over the age of 65 will need long-term care services. By 2020, that number will increase to 12 million. While most people who need long-term care are age 65 or older, a person can need long-term care services at any age. Forty (40) percent of people currently receiving long-term care are adults between the ages of 18 and 64.

For more information on how Long Term Care insurance can help your family, call your local agent or 888-381-2075 toll free, or with questions on any of our products: life insurance, term insurance, IRA's, annuities, IRA and 401K roll-overs.

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### LOG BOOK REPORTS DUE

There are still councils that need to send in their **Planning and Council Information Reports**. We have only received 23 Council Information Reports and 19 Planning Reports.

### Log Book, Supreme and State Award Nominations Due March 1

Log Book, Supreme/State Award Nominations are all due by March 1, 2011. You can submit more than one report for most activities.

### Major Activity Report

Here's a challenge to all councils to submit at least one Major Activity Report. In years past it has been difficult to choose winners because the selections are so small and we try not to repeat awards for the same events. The odds are good that if your council has never submitted an application in the past and you do this year that you could be a winner. Directors and Chairmen are available to help with your concerns and needs. Contact information is in the state directory.

## The Doubletree Hotel & Executive Meeting Center Welcomes the Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council!!



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any questions you may have  
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GETTING TO KNOW ...

Mike Conrad, PAST STATE DEPUTY

Meet Michael G. Conrad, Immediate Past State Deputy and newly appointed to the Supreme Board of Directors. State Deputy from 2008 to 2010, Mike has been served in all the officer positions at the state level.

"When I joined the Knights," he said, "I thought it was just a church-based group. I didn't realize how much the organization did for the community at large. I also didn't realize how busy I'd be."

Mike joined at his wife, Mary's urging. "She thought it would be a good experience for me," he reflected, "but I'm not sure if she realized that she and the kids were joining, too."

Of course, the Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization, strongly rooted in the Catholic Faith, but family involvement is crucial to any of its successes.

"Mary has been my partner in everything I've done. My accomplishments - from serving council Grand Knight and in state officer positions, to recently being honored with a Supreme Directorship - are Mary's accomplishments, too," Mike said.



Mary and Mike Conrad, PSD,  
Supreme Director

Married for 20 years, Mike and Mary are the parents of three daughters and one son. Mike is a member of Council 10305 St. John the Baptist, Fort Calhoun.

"The kids have helped at events and attended many council and state functions with us," Mike shared. "Now it's as if they have a second family of aunts and uncles - an extended family - all involved with the Knights and spread all across the country."

Mike admits that being a Knight has not only strengthened his own faith life, but "this has been a very positive experience for all of us."

Mike's duties as a Supreme Director will be to oversee the Pro Life-Family and Youth-Athletics Committees, not just in the United States but overseas as well.

"I'm so proud of Mike," Mary beamed. "He's worked so hard in all his positions and really cares about the good of the Order. I've enjoyed everything we've done together."

"And one more very important thing," Mike said, "Supreme has approved funds for restoring St. Mary's Church in Newhaven, where it all began. When Fr. McGivney is canonized, his former church will become a shrine. This will be an historical event, not only for Knights and their families everywhere, but also for our great country."


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Omaha, NE 68117  
331-0520

# Memento Mori

*May the angels come to greet you*



To submit a name to be entered into Memento Mori, both online and in future issues of *Courier*, email the member's name with his council number and month and year of death. Send to [knightscourier@cox.net](mailto:knightscourier@cox.net) with "Memento Mori" in the subject line. **The following are the names submitted through December 15, 2010.**

## JANUARY 2010

Francis L. Olson, Council 1497  
Lawrence F. Kosowski, Council 3019  
Engene Lewandowski, Council 5455  
Ian Lechner, Council 9562  
Meryl M. Veit, Council 1728

## MARCH 2010

Milo Kasper, Council 1717  
Edward N. Dasovic, Council 3019  
Richard Wyszenski, Council 3019  
William "Bob" King, Council 5455  
L. Robert Kreizinger, Council 9264  
Allen Kreifels Council 10894  
Harvey F. Shoberg, Council 10184  
L. Robert Kreizinger, Council 12086  
Florian Pfeifer, Council 13584

## APRIL 2010

James K. Murphy, Council 1497  
Anton Samek, Council 1717  
Clarence F. Pfeifer, Council 9562  
Ray Bartunek, Council 10387  
Michael T. Roach, Council 11824

## MAY 2010

Richard J. Jensen, Council 3019  
Louis E. Narke, Council 3019  
William A. Rasmussen, Council 10965

## JUNE 2010

David J. Siderewicz, Council 3019  
Patrick Begley, Council 10184  
Charles A Murphy, Council 13584

## JULY 2010

Msgr. Charles Keenan, Past State Chaplain  
Gayle A. Hupf, Council 1123  
James J. Targy, Jr., Council 3019  
Arnold J Harders, Council 9562  
Richard Karnish, Council 10184  
Daniel Ristau, Council 10909

## AUGUST 2010

James Folda, Council 10184  
Charles Lee Winbinger, Council 11700

## SEPTEMBER 2010

James P. Dunlay, Council 2373  
Clarence J. Wiedel, Council 2373  
Conrad Kwapnioski, Council 10894  
Lyle Orcutt, Council 11824

## OCTOBER 2010

Joseph J. Gilmore, Council 3019  
Tom Kaminski, Council 5455  
Paul Mayhan, Council 10184  
William J. Deppe, Council 10965

## NOVEMBER 2010

Edward J. Sterba Jr., Council 3019

## IMPORTANT DATES

FORM NO.	DATE	FORM/EVENT	TO
<b>JANUARY 2011</b>			
	Jan 22-23	One Rose, One Life Weekend	Bob & Anita Finger, State Pro-Life Directors
1728**	Jan 31	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity	Supreme Council Ray Guggenberger, State Executive Secretary District Deputy
4584**	Jan 31	Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics	Supreme Council Ray Guggenberger, State Executive Secretary District Deputy
<b>FEBRUARY 2011</b>			
1295	Feb 15	Semi-Annual Council Audit Report (as of Dec 31, 2010)	Supreme Council Ray Guggenberger, State Executive Secretary District Deputy
	Feb 19-20, 26	State Bowling Tournament, Columbus	Don Loecker, State Athletics Chairman
<b>MARCH 2011</b>			
	Mar 1	Pro-Life Art Contest Entry Deadline	Bob & Anita Finger, State Pro-Life Directors
	Mar 1	State Per Capita Payment	Butch Kreikemeier, State Secretary
	Mar 1	Final State Log Book Reports	Chuck Kozisek, State Program Director
	Mar 1	Supreme/State Service Award Nominations	Appropriate State Director
	Mar 1	Resolutions for Annual Convention	Ken LeRoy, State Advocate
	Mar 26	Pro-Life Essay Contest First Round Judging	Appropriate Diocesan Pro-Life Office
<b>APRIL 2011</b>			
	Apr 1	Buck-a-Month Proceeds Due	Bob & Anita Finger, State Pro-Life Directors
	Apr 8-10	Tootsie Roll Drive	Matt & Connie Richardson, State Health Services Directors
	Apr 30-May 2	State Convention, Kearney	

\*\*May be filed electronically on Supreme Website.

**MAJOR DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULES AND OTHER UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION  
CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE AT [nebraskakofc.org](http://nebraskakofc.org)**

**FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 7  
AND AT <http://fourthdegree.nebraskakofc.org>**



**“OPT-IN” FOR ELECTRONIC VERSION OF COURIER.  
WE LISTENED TO YOUR CONCERNS.**

As we move toward the State Convention in April/May 2011, we are working on developing an opt-in process for those that would like to receive an electronic version of the *Knights Courier*. Many of you were concerned about not receiving a paper *Knights Courier* or about having to do something to continue to receive the paper edition.

**READ MORE ON PAGE 4**



**CHARITY † UNITY † FRATERNITY † PATRIOTISM**

For up-to-date information visit [www.nebraskakofc.org](http://www.nebraskakofc.org)

For KCNSC Foundation visit [www.nebraskakofcfoundation.org](http://www.nebraskakofcfoundation.org)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
NEBRASKA STATE COUNCIL

**Courier**

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**A Christmas Message from all the  
Knights of Columbus Nebraska Insurance Agents.  
See page 16**



*The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid,  
I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.  
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you:*

*He is Christ the Lord.”*

— Luke 2:10-11 —

May the Blessings of this Holy Season  
surround You and your Family  
this Christmas and throughout the  
coming New Year.

From the  
Knights of Columbus Nebraska State Council  
Officers, District Deputies, Directors, and Chairmen

Council 11312 St. Isaac Jogues, Lincoln sponsored a "Keep Christ in Christmas" billboard along Cornhusker Highway, just west of 11th Street in Lincoln to remind everyone about the “reason for the season”.