

Alabama State Council Knights of Columbus

State Meeting - July 20, 2019

Prattville, AL

CALL TO ORDER

Jason Esteve, State Deputy (SD), called the meeting to order at 12:03pm

OPENING PRAYER

Father Vernon Hugely, Associate State Chaplain (Assoc. SC), gave the opening prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Bill Mores, State Warden (SW) led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT

Jason Esteve, (SD) greets the Alabama State Council recognizing each of the officers and their ranks in attendance.

The SD asks the Associate State Chaplain to provide his remarks before he gives his remarks.

I am humbled being your State Deputy. I am reminded of this simple lesson, every time you accept a position within the State Council you learn a lesson. I learned to be humble. It's my job to help you be as successful as possible and my personal goal to leave this office better than I found it.

This year we should focus on getting back to basics. The four tenets that I am thinking about are Growth, Lead, Serve, Protect.

We must grow the Order. The average age in the Order is 60. Where would we be in 10 years if this trend continues? We must focus on the youth. However, growth is not just numbers. It's about understanding where men are and going to them where they are. We Knights are leaders in our parishes, communities, and in our families and we have to continue

this tradition. Councils need to be the right hand of the parish priest. In leading we serve. The motto, "In service to one in service to all" means serving the Lord and in doing so we serve our brothers and sisters in far off places. Who stood up with persecuted Catholics in Mexico, or the Catholics in this country against the Klan – The Knights of Columbus. We need to protect our families. Father McGivney's dream was to protect families and while we don't sell insurance, we can sell the agent. We are entering into a great year and if we keep it simple I have no doubt that we will exceed every goal. Vivat Jesus.

STATE CHAPLAIN REMARKS

Father Hugely, (Assoc. SC), presented his remarks. Father Hugely's remarks centered around the Gospel reading regarding who is our neighbor. Anyone who has a need. When Father thinks of the KofC he thinks about an organization who is going to enhance our spirituality, he thinks of God and our needs. It is an organization that reminds us of why we are Knights and why people want to be a part of us. It's because there is a need to be Catholic, a need for Love, and a need for service.

GENERAL AGENT'S REPORT

John Stice, Asst. General Agent, presented his report.

A year of reflection for me. Its been 20 years since I have been coming to this meeting. He recognized his agents in attendance and recognized Kevin Smith, Supreme Representative. In a departure from his usual comments Brother Stice asked for questions from the audience. He received questions; about new agents being needed. Brother Stice said that he is actively looking for young energetic young men to serve as agents and for some that may even be fluent in Spanish.

SUPREME REPRESENTATIVE'S REMARKS – KEVIN SMITH, FIELD LIAISON FOR ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP

Kevin Smith presented his remarks.

Good afternoon! He spoke about how the Order needs men more than ever. The KofC is a tremendous group of men that can do all of the physical work around a parish. But in today's world we need men more than ever because of the need that exists in our communities and parishes. Our priests also need our help more than ever. By being here on a

Saturday afternoon you show that you care. We are doing our best at Supreme to give you the tools to help turn things around. I will talk a little more later about On-Line Membership.

PRESIDENT, ASK AL KC

Jo Ellen Karazim, President of the ASK AL KC, addresses the State Council.

We handle the softer side of things. I think its great that all of you guys are here to support us. We need you and your help in getting people involved. Every lady we meet is a potential member of the Auxiliary. We help a variety of causes from domestic violence to pregnancy crisis. It's a selfless act of what we do. Jo Ellen spoke about her daughter who passed away suddenly 16 years ago and how members of the Knights assisted her family in the time of tragedy. If you love your neighbor you will get farther in life. Good luck in the year ahead.

THE LADIES WERE EXCUSED.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Bill Mores, State Warden (SW), vouched that all present possess a current membership card.

PERMANENT ROLL CALL

Joe Flaherty, (SS), called on the SW who reported that all elected state officers were present, State Chaplain was excused. 22 of 33 state directors and chairmen were present. SS Flaherty then called on the DD's to give the total councils in their respective districts that were not present. Of the 82 councils in the state 42 were represented in the meeting. Five DD's were not present, 1 of 19 districts had all their councils represented at the meeting – District 6.

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Joe Flaherty, (SS), said that the minutes of the State Convention Meeting had been published on the State web site. There was a Motion made by Council 893, seconded by Council 1484 to approve the minutes as distributed. The minutes were approved as published.

COMMUNICATIONS

Joe Flaherty, (SS), reported that there were no communications at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BUDGET REPORT

Danny Garcia, State Treasurer (ST), provided a report of the State Council financial status. The report contained the Balance Sheet, Budget vs Actual, and the 2019 Budget. He also made the group aware if they have questions about the reports to contact him.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Pete Parrish was not in attendance at the meeting but had reviewed the Budget and end of year reporting and concurred that it was in order. Danny Garcia (ST) reported on the 2019 State Council Budget in Brother Parrish's absence. The budget presented was a balanced budget that was approved by the Finance Committee. The end of year financial reporting by the State Treasurer was approved.

MEMBERSHIP

Pat Jackson, State Membership Director (SMD) gave his remarks.

The SMD started his report by recognizing the Supreme website (kofc.org) and in particular the membership section. He made note of the videos available that can be used for recruitment. Watched membership video. Brother Jackson, made note of the Circle of Honor and specifically mentioned the State's Goals (i.e., Intake Goal of 413, Net of 262, Council Growth of 2 councils, and 16 star Councils).

The On-line membership was productive last year with 20% of members coming through that program.

The state Initiative consists of recruiting 3 members and waiving the per capita for one member.

In the second half of the year through June 19 the state will cut a check for \$4/member for each member recruited. Pat went on to mention that Supreme is also extending their program to waive Supreme Per Capita. The State Council will also provide additional membership incentives through drawings for the GK, DGK, and the membership director tied around membership and church drive activities.

PROGRAMS

Seth Tolson, State Programs Director (SPD), presented his report. Seth spoke in detail about the Faith in Action Program and its reporting requirements. He imparted detailed information for each of the 4 categories of the program. He went through the 10 steps for successful implementation of the program. Seth mentioned providing the SP7 and 365 reports. Seth touched on the Safe Environment Training and the details associated with complying with the program.

Family – Ken Friedrich

There are 82 councils in the State and he is encouraging that all councils recognize outstanding families in their councils. Reported on Father Jim Handerhan and his suffering with a brain tumor. Also, please pray for Deacon Tim Vaughn who suffered a heart attack.

Life – Dan Celeski

No Report

Community – Maurice Dupont, PSD

Maurice Dupont provided a report on his council initiative to promote flu shots. He went on to mention the Priesthood Scholarship encouraging councils to send in a minimum of \$100 for this worthy activity.

Health Services – John Horch

Provided a report regarding conducting blood drives across the state. John mentioned that he has information available for each council on how to conduct the drive. Councils with most blood drives will be eligible for recognition at the State level.

Faith – Michael Bass-Smith

Brother Smith discussed hosting a retreat in Tuscaloosa and is inviting all councils to attend. He went on to discuss other Faith related activities that councils can participate in.

SUPREME REPRESENTATIVE'S REMARKS – KEVIN SMITH

Kevin Smith provided a detailed presentation regarding what on-line membership is and how it can be a benefit to State Councils. He touched on the importance of immediate contact with prospective on-line members. He showed various examples of the tools that have been developed to help councils with recruiting. Materials are available in Spanish. Questions were taken from the floor.

DRIVE FOR CITIZENS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Ron Belz, State ID Drive Chairman. Ron handed out ID Drive materials to all of the councils explaining the details related to conducting a successful ID Drive. He mentioned having a signed proclamation signed by the State Governor making the month of October Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities month. He will provide a framed copy to the State Deputy.

CEREMONIALS – BRUCE GRASSO, DIRECTOR

Bruce provided a short introduction and discussed the schedule of 3rd degree exemplifications for the State. He thanked Griffin Shreves, IPSD, Pat Jackson, and Jerry Brecher for their help in putting together the schedule. He mentioned that the 4th degree exemplification schedule would be discussed by Pete Parrish, DM.

PRIESTHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Griffin Shreves, (ISPD), described the fund briefly. He presented the balance sheet for the amount of money (\$224,926.48) that the State currently has invested with Supreme (Christopher Fund). He encouraged councils to support the State's Priesthood Scholarship with donations.

VOCATIONS CHAIRMAN REPORT (John Bares)

Brother Bares provided a listing of seminarians for the State. He asked that councils provide him with names of which councils are supporting which seminarians.

SILVER ROSE

G.V."Skip" Gentle, PSD, FDM, FVSM was not in attendance. Report provided by Jason Esteve, SD. The SD mentioned that Skip sends his apologies for missing the meeting. The Silver Rose schedule is available on the State website under calendar.

MARIAN HOUR OF PRAYER

Joe McCarty, Chairman, He spoke of the Marion Hour of Prayer Icon. Supreme created an Icon that will basically travel around the state. He has been in contact with DDs plotting out a route around the State for the Icon and provided additional details regarding the transfer of the Icon and the connected prayer service that goes along with it.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY TRAINING

Brother Alan Cannon, FS Trainer, provided a reminder to follow standard office keeping courtesies. He mentioned that the semi-annual audit is due. He also reminded the membership of the requirements for appointing a council FS. He also reminded everyone needing FS Training to contact him.

FORMS / YOUNG ADULT CHAIRMAN

David Smallwood, Chairman, No one likes to do form, but we need to get them in! For help in getting young men into your councils and need ideas please contact me.

HISPANIC COORDINATOR

Joe Castillo, Hispanic Coordinator, is willing to travel and meet with councils that have a high percentage of Hispanics in their area. Please contact him for further information.

FOURTH DEGREE REPORT

Joe Flaherty (SS) provided the report for Pete Parrish (DM). He thanked everyone for their contribution to the 4th degree of our great Order. This past year we added 155 new Sir Knights. We accomplished many civic programs. I hope that you join me this fraternal year in making the 4th degree a better organization. Please remember the Supreme Council's Military Chaplain's Fund is nearing its goal of \$200,000. The fund needs another \$51,000 to meet its goal. Please support this financially through your Assemblies if possible. There is plenty of room for grow for the 4th degree in Alabama. As of July 1, 2019 our 4th degree members total 2340 members or 26% of the 8869 members of the Knights of Columbus in Alabama. Please share your Assembly's activities with me both photographs and written information so that I can include them in my future newsletter. Thanks for your good works and contributions to the Knights of Columbus. Vivat Jesus.

STATE ADVOCATE REPORT

Jack Hahn, State Advocate (SA), provided a report on the Safe Environment program. Last year our participation as a state was less than 50%.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall Regional Meetings: weekends of October 12&13 and 26&27, 2019

Mid-Year Meeting: January 11, 2020 in Prattville

Spring Regional Meetings: March 7&8 and 26&27, 2020

State Convention – Huntsville – April 25, 2020

State Convention – Tuscaloosa – April 24, 2021

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

PAST STATE DEPUTY REMARKS:

Maurice Dupont – No Remarks

Griffin Shreves – Just got an on-line member will get with him this week. An I forgot – the interest from the Christopher Fund provided \$5000 towards the State Council's funds provided to the Bishops for Seminarian support.

STATE OFFICERS REMARKS:

Griffin Shreves, (IPSD) – No Remarks.

Bill Mores, (SW) - Thanked everyone for attending.

Jack Hahn, (SA) – Thank you.

Danny Garcia, (ST) – Box for PSF donation up on the dais. Vivat Jesus.

Joe Flaherty, (SS) – Thanked everyone for coming. Please update your council's directory information it's on the website, password "mcgivney" any corrections please email me. Vivat Jesus.

Jason Esteve, (SD) - Thanked everyone for attending. He also thanked the Supreme Representative for attending. Presented Kevin with state pin of Alabama.

CLOSING PRAYER

Father Vernon Huguley, Asst. State Chaplain said the closing prayer (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be).

MASS DOWNSTAIRS AT 4:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 P.M. by SD Jason Esteve.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph E. Flaherty III

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State Secretary