

119th Alabama Knights of Columbus State Convention

Business Meeting Minutes

Hotel Capstone - The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, Alabama

April 22-24, 2022

1) Call to Order: Joseph Flaherty, State Deputy

The State Deputy gaveled the meeting to order at 9:00am.

2) Opening Prayer – Fr. Vernon Huguley, State Chaplain

Father Huguley offered the opening prayer.

3) Pledge of Allegiance – Mike Weist, District Master

Posting of the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance

4) State Chaplain Remarks – Fr. Vernon Huguley

Father provided an engaging and inspiring report related to being open to witness and understanding. He encouraged the membership to be receptive to learning and to absorb information much as the disciples did. He led right to the Holy Hour.

5) Holy Hour of Prayer – Fr. Vernon Huguley

Father led the Holy Hour based on the worship aid that was distributed to the membership. It opened with song, prayer, and silent reflection in front of the exposed Sacrament.

-----Prayer continued for 1 hour and concluded -----

6) Archbishop of Mobile Remarks – Archbishop Thomas Rodi

Archbishop Rodi started his remarks by stating that the Bishops that impress him were Bishops during difficult times, times of tremendous social upheaval – they are the ones that kept things together. He went on to say that our State Deputy has been the State Deputy of COVID and through the dark and difficult times of COVID he kept us together and we are still here. Applause proceeded.

7) Bishop of Birmingham Remarks – Bishop, Steven Raica

Bishop Raica stated that this is the first time he has attended a State Convention. He expressed his sincere thanks at the work being done by the State Council. He went on to say that he never thought that he would ever be in Alabama and that he has met some wonderful friends in Alabama. He spoke about those who are committed to our Order and are committed to living with Christ and being an echo of Christ to those who are wounded and suffering. He added that he was amazed at all that is being done to bring Christ to others.

8) Video Address from Supreme Knight – Brother Patrick Kelly, Supreme Knight

An uplifting video message from the Supreme Knight was played for the membership.

9) Supreme Representative Remarks – Brother Stephen Kehoe, PSD

Brother Kehoe provided his remarks to the membership highlighting some of our accomplishments such as: \$598,000 to charitable causes, 160,000 of community service, tremendous support for coat of kids, and food for families. Alabama placed 12 ultrasound machines in local areas saving and changing lives. He mentioned the work being done to assist the people of Ukraine. Reminded us to always pray to St. Joseph as our spiritual father.

10) State Deputy Remarks – Brother Joseph Flaherty, SD

State Deputy Flaherty started his remarks by paying honor to St. Joseph. It has been a hard two years and easy to feel overwhelmed by our circumstances. But we must come to realize that these struggles have strengthened us and not diminished us. The challenges have worked in our favor. He called for a moment of silence for all deceased members he specifically mentioned the following brothers – Jason Esteve, PSD, John Horch, and Gilbert Esquivel, PGK. Alabama councils have donated over \$1.3 million dollars for ultrasound machines this past year. From my leaps to your ears I love you.

11) General Agent’s Remarks – Brother George Allers, Field Agent

George provided engaging remarks to the membership remarking how important and essential a tool it is when it comes to providing for member’s families in times of need. He added that field agents are mandated to recruit 12 members per year. He introduced the agents present at the meeting and thanked everyone on behalf of John Stice.

12) ASK AL KC Representative – Lois Mores, President

Lois stated that she was very happy to be present at the convention and went on to say that they have a scholarship for a young lady going to college. She added some announcements related to when the winners for their raffles would be drawn.

13) Special Olympics Presentation – Brother Joseph Flaherty, SD

A check of \$1650 was present to Dr. Birshong, Director of Alabama Special Olympics. Accompanying Dr. Birshong was Jane, a Special Olympian who provided her thanks for the donation.

-----Ladies Excused and 2 minute Break-----

14) Credentials Report – Brother Danny Garcia, State Secretary

59 Total Voting Delegates

7 State Officers

1 Immediate Past State Deputy

51 Council Delegates

15) Forgoing the meeting agenda – Brother Joseph Flaherty, SD

Without objection, the rules will be suspended, and the following shortened Order of Business will be adopted:

- Prayer
- Appointment of Committee on Credentials
- Report of Committee on Credentials
- Approval of 2020 Minutes
- Reports of Committees
- Reports of State Officers
- Nomination and Election of State Officers
- Nomination and Election of Representatives and Alternates to the Supreme Council
- Consideration of Resolutions
- New Business
- Prayer
- Adjournment

At this time, we will proceed with the approval of the minutes of the 2021 State Convention which have been distributed prior to the State Convention. A motion and second were received to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept them as published on the State Website.

At this time, we will proceed with the Reports of Committees. As the various reports of the committees have been distributed prior to the State Convention, without objection they will be adopted as written and included in the minutes.

Before we move to the Reports of Officers, I would like to remind delegates who have not registered with Election Buddy yet, that they should check their e-mail inbox or Spam / Junk box and register with Election Buddy to be allowed to vote during today's business session. After the State Deputy's report, the delegates' registration with Election Buddy will be closed.

16) State Treasurer's Report – Brother Bill Mores, State Treasurer

The State Treasurer reported that the State Financial reports were copied and distributed to all attendees. Reports run through March 31st. Mileage will be distributed shortly and anyone wishing to donate their mileage to the PSF may do so.

The State Treasurer also reported that the pin order forms are available for ordering the 2022 State pin.

17) Finance and Audit Committee – Brother Pete Parrish, PSD, FDM, VSM

Brother Pete Parrish gave a brief report for the finance and audit committee stating that all reports are in order. Brother Parrish also recommended that the Satte Council keep Jamie Waldrop as our CPA.

18) Membership Report – Brother Chris Rickling

Reported that Prattville won the membership incentive by reporting a 400% increase. The state is 107 short of meeting our state goal. Need to focus on getting field agents involved in membership recruitment. Are we self-promoting? 14 councils have achieved over 100%! Several need just 1 new member to make goal. 38 councils have not recruited anyone. Church Drives are important.

19) On-Line Membership – Brother Pete Parrish, PSD, FDM, VSM

This year we have recruited 236 new members on-line and as of April 23 we are approximately 15 members short of meeting our state membership goal. On-line membership gets new members in quickly. We need local council to get them transferred into their council and get them involved in the good works of the councils. Brother Parrish displayed councils that are leading in recruitment. 15 councils have made their goals, several need just 1 new member. Brother Pete reported that we have the opportunity to have a bumper crop of Star Councils.

20) District Master Report – Brother Mike Weist, DM

Many opportunities to serve your community and parishes in the 4th degree. Sir Knight Weist asked that council's include the 4th degree Assembly in council planning. SK Weist also mentioned the upcoming 4th degree exemplification in Madison on May 7th and the biennial 4th degree meeting tomorrow morning.

21) Challenge Coin Award – Brother Joe Flaherty, SD

The following councils received challenge coins for meeting membership goals:

- 15093 - Tallassee
- 13415 – Phenix City
- 15810 - Andalusia
- 15845 – Albertville
- 17519 - Madison

22) State Program Director Report – Brother Stephen Koach, PSD, FDM

Brother Koach expressed his thanks to the members of the committees that reviewed all the entries. Brother Koach also reported that he only received reports from 15 councils. Encouraged councils to do a better job of reporting. Brother Koach spoke on the effort by US Catholic Bishops regarding the Eucharistic Revival. Brother Koach called on Deacon John Cooper to revive our belief in the Eucharist. It's a 3-year effort. Our dioceses is planning a 40 hour devotion followed by a Eucharistic procession. Approximately a 1/3 believe in the real presence. Deacon Cooper encouraged members to go to the USCCB website for further information.

23) ID Drive Report – Brother Ron Belz, Chair

Brother Belz passed out his report for the 2022 ID Drive. This year we collected \$78,500 about \$12,000 higher than last year. Glasses were given to all councils and DDs that met their criteria. Brother Belz also mentioned that the DDs met the previous day and distributed almost \$20,000 to local organizations.

24) 2nd Annual BBQ Program - Brother Rick Hycoop

Inviting everyone to come down to Madison and take part on May 21st.

25) Updates to Credentials Report – Brother Danny Garcia, State Secretary

There has been a change as shown below:

66 Total Voting Delegates

- 7 State Officers
- 1 Immediate Past State Deputy
- 58 Council Delegates

26) New Business

• **Voting for State Officer's and Delegates**

Appointment of tellers: John Hudak, Andre Patterson, and Mark Woodard

State Officer Election

Nominations:

- SD – Danny Garcia
- SS – Bill Mores
- ST – Pat Jackson
- SA – Brian Lagasse
- SW – John Bares and Randy Ross

Results:

- Unanimous (1 ballot cast for)
- Unanimous (1 ballot cast for)
- Unanimous (1 ballot cast for)
- Unanimous (1 ballot cast for)
- John Bares (by Election Buddy and paper ballot)

Delegates for Supreme Convention Results

Nominations:	Result:
Bill Mores	Delegate
Pete Parrish	Delegate
Pat Jackson	Delegate
Mike Weist	Delegate
Brian Lagasse	1st Alternate
Griffin Shreves	2nd Alternate
Steve Koach	3rd Alternate
Johnny Bares	4th Alternate
Ryan Marks	5th Alternate
Dennis Vaglica	6th Alternate
Terry Carmoney	7th Alternate

- **Resolutions – Brother Pat Jackson, State Advocate**

4 resolutions were submitted and approved

- *In Gratitude to the Supreme Council – Approved*
- *In Appreciation and Unwavering Support for Pope Francis – Approved*
- *Thanking all Local, State, Federal Law Enforcement and First Responders for Their Service – Approved*
- *In Support of Our Military – Approved*

- **Bylaws Changes – Brother Pat Jackson, State Advocate**

- *Article 1 – Language rephrased to simpler wording to make it easier to understand. Approved.*
- *Article 2 - Language rephrased to simpler wording to make it easier to understand. Requirement to send a list of delegates on council stationary was struck to permit digital transmission of the delegates. Approved.*
- *Article 3 - Language rephrased to simpler wording to make it easier to understand. Approved.*
- *Article 4 - Language rephrased to simpler wording to make it easier to understand. Approved*
 - *In section 9 - additional language was made defining the role of the State Chaplain. Approved*

- Article 5 –
 - Section 1. All language relating to convention packages was removed. Clarification was asked for and discussion ensued. Hand vote was held, and change was Approved.
 - Section 3 - Language permitting a designated subordinate council was added. Approved.
 - In Section 4 – a typographical error was corrected. Approved

- Article 6 –
 - Section 1 - a typographical error was corrected. Approved.
 - Section 2 – language was added to permit digital balloting. Approved.
 - Section 4 – a typographical error was corrected. Approved.

- Article 7 –
 - Section 3 – the State Advocate is now specifically noted as serving as the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Approved.
 - Section 4 - a typographical error was corrected. Approved.
 - Section 7 – the list of officers to receive mileage was corrected to reflect the current offices that exist in Article 5, Section 1. Approved.
 - Section 8 - The awards categories noted were aligned with the Faith in Action Categories. Approved.
 - Section 9 – a typographical error was corrected. Approved

- Article 8 –
 - Section 1 - a typographical error was corrected. Approved.

- Article 9
 - Section 2 - rewritten with simpler wording to make it easier to understand. It now requires funds to be deposited in a fiscally conservative account or accounts instead of institutions paying the highest interest rates. The reason for this is to simplify management of accounts as interest rates change. Approved.
 - Section 3 – language was added to permit the digital movement of funds in alignment with modern banking practices. Approved.
 - Section 6 – a typographical error was corrected. Approved.

- *Article 11 – Submission of changes to the bylaws and resolutions will now be done digitally instead of submitting and printing copies in triplicate. Approved*
- *Article 13*
 - *Section 1– removed the word “for all” for submission requirement. Approved.*

27) Supreme Representative Remarks – Brother Stephen Kehoe, PSD

Concluding remarks to the body. Three focus areas – (1)membership- emulate St. Joseph (2) Provide for your families – insurance program (3) Star Council – outstanding achievement in membership, insurance and reporting. VJ

28) PSD Remarks

- Brother Steve Koach – Congratulations to new officers and delegates.
- Brother Pete Parrish – Thanks for being elected a delegate. Likes the setup at the convention. VJ
- Brother Griffin Shreves – Thank you for being here today. VJ

29) State Officer Remarks

- Brother John Bares – State Warden Elect – Thank you.
- Brother Brian Lagasse – State Warden– Thank you.
- Brother Pat Jackson – State Advocate - Thank you.
- Brother Bill Mores – State Treasurer - Thank you for the vote. Do my best to serve you. VJ
- Brother Danny Garcia State Secretary – Thank you.

30) Concluding Remarks – Brother Joseph Flaherty, SD

- Thank you for being here.
- We are not done yet.
- Georgia shirt will be raffled off and proceeds will go to the Ultrasound Fund.
- Thanks to the Convention Committee for a great convention.

31) Closing Prayer – Fr. Huguley

Bishop Raica offered the closing prayer.

Adjournment: 12:55pm

