

District 10 – Summer 2023 Meeting 7/14/23

Introduction & Welcome – RM

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance – Fr. Daniel (introduce Fr. Fr. Elaiyaraja Thaniyel)

Mission and Focus – RM

- Review - Communication & conduit between Councils and State
- Improve Collaboration and Support – Examples – Prince-A-Palooza, Chicken BBQ, upcoming Eucharistic Procession (to be discussed later)
- To continue to be the “right hand” of the church, working with the priests to serve the community – Support for seminarians, Meetings with priest to determine priorities

Summer Meeting Recap – RM

- Membership – Things are really turning around. State-wide, last year’s goal was 175 and we were at 168 as of convention. We were shooting for 200 by year end (Jon Harvey to speak more of this). Next year’s goal is 230.
- Focus on the e-Membership. This is where the numbers are coming from. Supreme would prefer that we sign all new members electronically and not use form 100’s. If we reach ½ of our quota by December 31, we will get 5% deducted from our total. Council incentives: for top recruiter: Duffel bag valued at \$150. For each Council that reaches ½ of their goal by Dec. 31, they will get a 10% reduction in their per capita! Please pay the total amount and you will receive a refund check.
- Take advantage of the online learning opportunities through Supreme. KofC.org, “For Members”, “Training & Webinars”.
- Affiliate Program – 168,000 members added to Affiliate Status, 6000 added back to Councils. The month of January will provide us with another opportunity to utilize the Affiliate program. However, do your due diligence to retain members.

- Advertise the kofc.org/join in all of your publications
- Please fill out the 10784 for Special Olympics; we should have double the donation from Supreme that we received last year. Even if your council does nothing for Special Olympics, fill out that you did nothing, and Supreme will send a certain amount of donation to Special Olympics for every form filled out and submitted.
- ASAP Program – Aid and Support After Pregnancy – kofc.org/asap – for every \$500 (up to \$2,000) Supreme will donate an additional \$100.
- Star Council – Star Tracker is LIVE – check this regularly
- Form 10784 (online) and FIA Reports (online – MaineKnights.com) – duplicate, but have to do them both.
- Membership Recruitment
 - It isn't what you say but how you say it when talking with potential new members.
 - Work with our priests. They have a lot on their plate and we are here to help. They can and should also be some of our best recruiters
 - Work with the priest and church to invite new people to the faith, which will, in turn, help us as well.
 - Focus on the benefits of being a Knight, that the KC will make you a better husband, father, person and Catholic.
 - We can no longer be the best kept secret of the church. We need to publish our activities – before & after. Increase awareness about what the K of C is really all about today. Use the resources at your disposal such as the parish calendar and bulletin, and Dave Guthro to get your accomplishments publicized in the media.
 - Use the New Member Surveys to find out what your new members can do and what they are interested in doing to help the Council. Don't get stuck on "we tried that before and it didn't work". We live in much different times these days and growth is going to require a different approach.
 - Rely on your State Officers and Insurance Agents to help.
 - Softer sell, focus on faith and service to the church and community
 - Involve the Wife / Family of Prospects
 - New quotas:
 - McGivney – 6% membership increase (up from 5%), but deaths do NOT count against the Council.

- Founders – Must hold 2 Fraternal benefit seminars with 7 people participating – can include spouses, prospects.
 - Columbian – 16 program credits (at least 4 FIA’s in each of the 4 categories)
 - Star Council – all of the above and all of the paperwork submitted on time (185, 365, semi-annual audit) – please submit electronically whenever possible and send copies to me, State Deputy and Ray Sargent.
 - Star District – At least 1 Star Council and 70% of Councils participating.
- Leverage our Field Agent – Same phone number, different structure
 - Introduce Bill Weiss
- Faith In Action
 - News: Pro-Life Directors – Charlie and Courtney Bougie – Windham
 - Community Director – Anthony Alfieri:
 - Encourage participation in Essay contest – entries due Jan 1.
 - All councils should submit Special Olympics form, even if they didn’t participate – Form 10784 online
 - Free Throw Contest – Form 1598
- Faith Director – Spike Brimmer
 - Encouraged participation in church activities, Eucharistic processions, Adoration hours, Holy Hours, etc.
 - Show on video
- Vocations – Bob Dumond
 - 6 new seminarians – please support
 - Please e-mail Bob whenever you do anything to support the seminarians – send money, etc.
- Family Director – Wesley & Charlene Tabb
 - Family of the Month / Year – form 10784 (online) Due 15th of each month
 - Family Fully Alive – Activity booklet 10162
 - Family Prayer Knight – 4 to qualify
 - Food for Families - \$500 in donations or 1,000 lb of food
 - Keep Christ in Christmas w/ Poster Contest
 - Camp Tall Pines – this weekend

- Working With Our Pastors
 - GK Meetings to resume w/ Fr. Dan – September

General Agent – Bill Weiss

- Need to keep beneficiary info up to date
- Use them as a resource for financial / retirement planning
- Note: When new members sign up, Agents are NOT automatically notified – please e-mail Bill at: william.weiss@kofc.org
- Host Fraternal Benefit Seminar – very useful

Afternoon session – Ralph Rossi – guiding principles:

- Actively listen to prospects
- Lead by example
- Be men of prayer
- 1:1 recruiting works best
- Plan for 1 degree exemplification / Qtr and then execute it!

4th Degree Exemplification – Duane Belanger

- September 16 or 23 – Economical Degree in Houlton
- November 12 – Patriotic Degree at Togus
- Dec. 10 – Wreaths Across America - Cheverus

New Executive Secretary – Ray Sargent – cc: him on all form submissions and directory updates.

PSD Mark Bourgoin – Retreat to return at CLC in Frenchville March 15-17 - \$100

IPSD John Deetjen – would like to see Ceremonial team in each District and even in each Council.

Introduce State Deputy Jon Harvey

Upcoming Events:

- Tootsie Roll Drive
- Cash Calendar Sales Reminder

- 40 Days for Life
- Polar Dip
- Monthly Rosaries – Rotating around parishes. First Wednesday of Each Month, 6 PM. October may move to Thursday October 7 at 6 PM at Our Lady of the Rosary so that it falls on that Feast Day
- Catholic Essay Programs
- Soccer Challenge
- Coats for Kids
- Light up For Christ
- Food for Families (Thanksgiving)
- Bean Suppers / Special Meals (Thanksgiving Dinner)
- Lectio Devina – Thursdays at Our Lady
- Share what your Council has coming up....

Reporting What We are Doing

- Faith In Action Reports
 - Enter them timely fashion
 - Be sure to cover all categories
 - Track your progress – MaineKnights.net
- GK's – stay on top of your required reports – Forms 185, 365, semi-annual audits, etc.
- Safe Environment Training – Required for 4 key offices (GK, Program Director, Family Director, Community Director), but it is open to all
 - Recommended – have more people take the training – **PRINT OUT AND RETAIN CERTIFICATE!!!**
 - Training is good for 3 years, then you will need to re-take the course
 - Note that all officers and especially those Safe Environment trained need to have their **PERSONAL** e-mail address on file, not an officer address that gets passed on to the next officer. I can help set up e-mail accounts for those that do not have one.
 - Safe Environment is a Process, not just a training session. **WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF THOSE PARTICIPATING IN OUR PROGRAMS**
 - Recommended: Keep a sign in sheet at every event, with check boxes for those who have Safe Environment training. At least 2 are required at each event. Retain the documentation from that function

for future reference in case a problem arises. Recommend filing records is a safe place and / or making reference to it in the next month's meeting minutes.

- If you don't have enough SE trained people to attend a function, grab someone trained from another Council or you will not be able to hold that function!
- Share events with State – for publication in their newsletter and to be posted on the State Calendar
- Supreme is recommending the use of a Council Credit or Debit Card. Knights Store will no longer invoice – card sales only
- Special Olympics form – This needs to be submitted even if your council does not have any hours to report (enter all 0's)
- Make sure your Council is submitting their annual tax form 990

Closing remarks – RM

Blessing – Fr. Raja