

WYOMING KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



COWBOY BULLETIN



JULY 2009



Happy Birthday America!

July 4th, 1776..... On this date, brave men of our country became independent from foreign rule, became free, and gave birth to the Democratic Republic that we enjoy today.

Every day, in great numbers, people leave their homeland and come to the "Land of the free and home of the brave".

We are a great nation made up of diverse, dynamic, and hard working people, as we strive to realize our individual American dream.

On July 4th, each year, we celebrate that freedom and independence in various forms. There will be Barbeques, picnics, and most families will gather to view those grand firework displays with oohs and aahs!

Many nations around the world have declared their independence from tyranny and oppression, but none has provided its citizens with the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

On this 233 anniversary of the first independence day, let us proudly wave our nation's standard and renew our "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands; One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and Justice for ALL!"



Wyoming State

Council Officers



Advocate
Paul E. Puebla



Secretary
Donald J. Scott



State Deputy
Patrick J. Doherty



Treasurer
Carl "Joe" Welte

Picture not available

Warden
John Benedik Jr.



Chaplain
Rev. Thomas Kadera



Immediate P.S.D.
Douglas A. Gasseling

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**Amidst our celebrations,
let us all remember those
serving in the U. S. Armed
Services.**

**These brave men and
women continue to be
under daily attacks in all
parts of the world while
they protect us.**

**Keep them and their
families in your prayers.
May God watch over them
and protect them.**

As we start the fraternal year, let's look forward to the opportunities it will bring with great pride, joy, and anticipation. This year's theme is "**the year of the volunteer.**" That is a great reflection on what we as Knights of Columbus are all about – volunteerism. During 2008 Our Order contributed \$150,036,865.00 and volunteered 65,783,653 man hours in fraternal service and other projects.

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, in his recent address to State Deputies, noted: "We are in tough economic times...money may be scarcer, but there are still 24 hours in a day... We need to stick together even more. This may also mean that the guys on the fence about joining our order may be ready, ask them again. More people will be searching for support networks and ways to give back to the community".

Membership is always a hot topic. There are several reasons to recruit new knights, ranging from: helping a new prospect and his family enjoy the benefits of knighthood; finding "new blood" to sustain the life of the Council – to mention only a few.

Quotas are real and a fact of council life. Our focus should be on the rewards of recruitment: the good feeling that comes from helping a brother; the opportunity to make new friendships; and, getting more help for your council's projects. Two simple formulas:

**More Projects = Easier Recruiting
More New Members = More Projects.**

If you recruit only to fill a quota, you'll only increase your suspension rate next year. Ask good men to join the Order. Invite them to your social events and open meetings. Call often!. He may say now. A time may come when he says YES!

Our future leadership will come from those that you recruit today. If it were not for the persistence of John Davila Sr., I would not be addressing you today. Sign up a new member and help him to become involved in the Knights of Columbus, you and he will be glad you did.

Patrick J. Doherty, Wyoming State Deputy.

A simple tool that you may want to use to foster recruiting.

**"The Knights of Columbus support the clergy (Pope,
Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Sisters) and the Catholic
Ch__ch."**

What is missing? (Answer on last Page of this newsletter).

Brothers,

As I write this news article, I have but two days left in my tenure as the Wyoming State Deputy. It has been a very enjoyable and rewarding two years for me. I wish to thank all the officers, district deputies, directors, and chairmen for their support and hard work they put into their position. I hope that I have been able to help those councils that needed assistance over the last two years.

As we enter into the next fraternal year, please support our new officers as they lead you through the 2009/2010 fraternal year. I had hoped that we would achieve our membership goal of 3,100 members by the end of my two years term, but we did not make it.

Please try to recruit new members into your councils. A council that does not recruit new members is not growing in -- numbers or activities. It has been shown that with no new members, a council can become stale and stagnate. So let's get out there and recruit some new members. This should especially be this year's goal for those councils that did not recruit a single new member during this past fraternal year.

Again, Cristie and I want to thank each and everyone for allowing us to represent the great State of Wyoming as your State Deputy these past two years.

Fraternally, *Douglas A. Gasseling, P.S.D.*

Freedoms of Religion in Jeopardy???

Over the last few weeks, Sally and I have been following the case that was presented to the State legislature in Connecticut. Those supporting the right of same sex marriages (commonly called UNIONS) seem to think that they should press their views upon all of the people. According to their way of thinking, a minister or even a priest who would refuse to marry them could be arrested and jailed for standing up for what he believes. Had it passed, this bill would have also applied to doctors refusing to perform abortions on demand. These doctors would have been subjected to civil punishments and have their licenses to practice revoked -- just for standing up for what they believe in. Accordingly, this agenda purports that: what Catholic's believe about the sanctity of marriage and life is not to be believed in.

It's now a matter of history that the Knights of Columbus and other Catholic organizations voiced their protest against the attempts to enact this overbearing law which resulted in its defeat. This shows what a group of people can do when they make their minds up.

As Catholic gentlemen, we believe the marriage, ordained by God the Father in Eden and sanctified by Christ at Cana, is between a man and a woman, for the procreation of this world and heaven. We must, nay we will, stand up against any attempts to detract against such a sacred union. This issue is not over with. It will raise its ugly head again.

I want to thank all of the delegates who attended the last State Convention, in Cheyenne, for electing me as your State Treasurer. My thanks also go to Doug Gasseling for his past two years of leadership as State Deputy. To Pat Doherty, our current State Deputy, I wish him well on his current term of office. Congratulation also go to Don Scott, Paul Puebla, and John Benedik on their recent elections to new positions on the State Council. I hope to see all of you at the summer meeting in Saratogo.

Vivat Jesus *Joe Welte State treasurer*

**Have you asked someone to join today?
MAYBE YOU SHOULD!**

IMPORTANT REPORTS DUE

Two very important reports are due and should be submitted as soon as possible. One is the Form 185 which lists all the officers elected by your council for the fraternal year 2009/2010.

Note: This information requested on this form can also be completed on line at the following internet web link:

<http://kofc.org/un/eb/en/officers/forms/185.html>

A second and equally important form is the Service Program Personnel Report form number 365 listed below:

Note: This information requested on this form can also be completed on line at the following internet web link:

<http://kofc.org/un/eb/en/officers/forms/365.html>

On July 1st, all existing officer and program personnel's names are replaced with the information submitted by your council on the above forms. If you have not submitted these documents yet, the officers of your council as well as your program chairmen will not receive important news and correspondences from Supreme. Once you are registered, you will be able to access the on-line Management system.

Happy New Year!

Tempus Fugit! No doubt about it. No! It's not January 1, but it definitely the start of the 2009/2010 fraternal year, and a really exciting time for my brother knight.

The elections are over, the briefcase and papers have been passed and now it's time for you newly elected and appointed brothers to take charge.

Right now you're probably saying to yourself, "What have I gotten myself into?" Well, help is on the way.

Great resources are readily available at the Knights of Columbus internet website: www.kofc.org.

There you will find training modules, and a number of resources A to Z with many links to just about anything you might need.

Of course, there are also many experienced brothers in and around Wyoming ready to help you succeed in your duties. For one, your state council officers, district deputies, and directors/chairmen are all there to help you. You need only ask.

This year the Wyoming Cowboy newsletter will be posted during the 1st week of the month on the Wyoming state's website at:

<http://www.wyomingkc.org/>

I would encourage all state council officers, district deputies, directors and chairmen, council and assembly officers to avail themselves of this state-wide publication. Let others know what you think, and what you are doing. Make this one of your publicity tools.

Please submit your articles, scheduled events, and news items to me via email at:

w yokcnews@gmail.com no later than the 20th of the month preceding publication of the Cowboy Bulletin.

Thank you for your support over the past years. With your help, I hope to continue publishing your newsletter on a monthly basis throughout this fraternal year.

Raoul Laqaniere, Newsletter Editor/Publisher

Answer to the Missing Letters:

**U R THE ANSWER
TO INCREASING MEMBERSHIP!**

Thanks to all of you in Wyoming for electing me to the position of State Secretary for Wyoming. I am looking forward to serving all of you this next year. I have served the last 8 years in the State Council, first as Membership Director, District Deputy 6, State Warden for 2 years, and State Advocate for 2 years, and the last 2 years performing the duties as State Treasurer. I also serve as District Marshal for the 4th degree.

I have been a member of the Knights of Columbus for almost 36 years. I joined in Kimball, South Dakota in October of 1973. I was a member of the Squires affiliated with that Council for 2 years.

I have been a member of the Monsignor James Ruddy Council in Gillette since the fall of 1982. I served in most all of the offices in Council 3477. For 11 years I was the Financial Secretary for Gillette.

I have been married to my best friend, Lauree, for the last 32 years. We both teach in Gillette. Lauree teaches 4th grade and I am a science teacher at Twin Spruce Jr. High in Gillette.

Just a reminder, as we get going in the new year that all bills and reimbursements are first sent to the new State Deputy Pat Doherty on the proper form. He needs to review them, approve them, and then send them on to me. I assign them a voucher number and then order payment to be done by State Treasurer, Joe Welte. As you can see the steps we need to take to insure the clear and transparent handling of the state's business will take a little time so please be patient.

Vivat Jesus, *Donald J. Scott, State Secretary*