



Knights of Columbus **WYOMING STATE COUNCIL**



“Eucharistic Renewal” **104th WYOMING STATE CONVENTION** **April 26, 27 & 28, 2024, Cheyenne**

MINUTES

Friday, April 26, 2024 (Casey’s Club, 507 West 28th Street)

- 8:00 am** **Registration Desk Opens** – Casey’s Club
- 8:00 am** **Awards Committee Meeting** – Casey’s Club
- 9:00 am** **State Officers & District Deputies Meeting** – Casey’s Club
- 10:30 am** **Late Breakfast / Lunch** – On your own
- 12:00 pm** **Opening Mass** – St. Mary Cathedral, 100 West 21st Street
Very Rev. Louis Shea, Wyoming State Chaplain
- 1:15 pm** **Open Session** – Casey’s Club
Opening Prayer – Very Rev. Louis Shea, State Chaplain
Setting the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance –
Ray Malek, District Master
Opening Ode- Don Scott, PSD
Welcome and Introductions - Brian Duyck, State Deputy
Brian reported the State received a check for \$1500 from Supreme for the Wyoming Special Olympics and that the State Officers approved donating \$500 to the Wyoming Special Olympics – both checks will be presented to a representative from Wyoming Special Olympics during Saturday’s awards luncheon
Welcome Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly (Video) if available
Supreme Representative – David Tebo, Regional Growth Dir, SE
- 1:45 pm** **Opening Session-** Casey’s Club
Programs -- Rod Birkle, Program Director
Mike Dahl, Community Director
Peter Timbers, Family Director **Absent; Steve Grapes gave his report**
Josh Serr, Life Director **Absent; Brian Duyck gave his report**
Don Scott, St. Joseph Icon Chairman
- 2:15 pm** **Insurance Report** - GA Andrew Wheaton
Absent; Dane Hegestad/Leo Klatka gave his report
- 2:30 pm** **Break**

- 2:45 pm Charitable Trust** - Ken Stockwell, PSD
Ken gave an update on the Trust and where we stand today – see attached report
- 3:15 pm 4th Degree Meeting** - Ray Malek, District Master
Ray reported the following:
- The new 4th degree ceremony was held in Casper in March
 - The \$70 initiation fee may need to be increased
 - Form 1291 needs to be submitted by Saratoga and Laramie
- 4:00 pm Standing Committee Meetings** (Audit, Budget, Credentials, Memorials, Mileage/Per Diem, Resolutions)
- 5:00 pm Adjourn**
- 5:30 pm Social Gathering** - Casey's Club
A 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degree exemplification was held and the following men became new members of the Knights of Columbus:
- Parker Koress
 - Jacob Roth
 - Andrew Kief
 - James Betsill
 - Nicholas Alcon
- 6:15 pm Dinner and Entertainment** – Casey's Club

Saturday, April 27, 2024 (registration in Casey's Club)

- 6:30 am - Breakfast** – Casey's Club
8:30 am
- 8:30 am Holy Hour, St Joseph's Catholic Church/ 603 House Ave, Cheyenne**
(attendance is expected)
- 9:45 am Open Session** – Casey's Club
Opening Prayer – Very Rev. Louis Shea, State Chaplain
Pledge of Allegiance - District Master, Ray Malek
Welcome Remarks - Very Rev. Louis Shea, State Chaplain
- 9:55 am Welcome Address** - Supreme Representative David Tebo
David reported Wyoming is 7 members away from Pinnacle status and there are two (2) upcoming fraternal benefit nights – one at end of April and one in May. David also did a "chain " demonstration with the delegates and SD
- 10:10 am Keynote Address – The Real Presence** - Very Rev. Louis Shea

10:30 am Standing Committee Reports:
Memorials Committee Chairman - GK 2337
The names of 27 deceased members were included in the report to be read at the Memorial Mass
Credentials Committee Chairman - GK 2128
Zach Johnson, Chairman, reported that the committee had reviewed all delegate credential forms and determined all to be proper; 22 councils had sent delegates
Audit Committee Chairman – GK 2578
Maynard Bills, Chairman, reported that the committee recommends that the audit of the State Council be accepted and that the State Treasurer, State Secretary, State Deputy and Immediate Past State Deputy continue to meet semi-annually to review current vouchers, check registries and Quickbooks to ensure all entries are correct.
Mileage/Per Diem Committee Chairman – GK 2104
Ralph Blommel, Chairman, reported that the committee recommends an increase to \$90 per day per diem and mileage be increased \$0.45/mile.
Budget Committee Chairman - GK 2720
John Van Heule, Chairman, reported that the committee recommends approval of the 2024-2025 Budget.
Resolutions Committee Chairman - District Deputy 8
Brad Bettolo, Chairman, reported that the committee recommended adoption of all 18 resolutions that were submitted.

10:50 am Roll Calls

Change from Heaven - Jim Larscheid, State Secretary
Mileage & Per Diem - Jim Larscheid, State Secretary
State Liability Insurance - Jim Larscheid, State Secretary

Larry Higgins (Council 3237) asked for donations to help support a nurse (Courtney) to attend the “Be Not Afraid” training. This training is sponsored by Supreme and Courtney will be the only nurse in Wyoming to have gone through the training.

11:10 am Marriage Encounter – Angie and Archie Roybal
WWME Team Members, Region 9

11:30 am Most Rev. Bishop Steven Biegler
Bishop Steven gave an update on the diocesan costs for seminarian education and recognized the councils who have donated to the diocese through the RSVP program; he reminded councils to get with Father Hess before sending a check to the diocese so that Father can recommend a seminarian to earmark the funds for and thus fulfill the requirements from Supreme.

12:00 pm Awards Luncheon – Supreme, State, Special Olympics – Casey’s Club

- Brian Duyck presented the \$1500 check from Supreme and the \$500 check from the State Council to Wyoming Special Olympics
- Brian Duyck presented a 75-year award to Council 3237
- Brian Duyck presented a 50-year award to Council 6558
- Bret Landenburger presented the Family Award to Council 3477 for their Coats For Kids program

- Ken Stockwell presented the Faith Award to Council 1563 for their Vocations Prayer Ministry
- Don Scott presented the Community Award to Council 801 for their Food Drives
- Terry Archbold presented the Life Award to Council 3477 for updating their Respect Life Sign
- Council 3477 won the award for the best Tootsie Roll Drive

1:30 pm 4th Degree Exemplification

The following 11 men were knighted as new Sir Knights in the 4th Degree:

Nicholas Alcon
 Brian O'Connor
 Duane Foster
 Samuel Szott
 David Leighton
 Erik Babel
 Dale R. Austin
 Robert Fox
 Andrew Kiet
 Danny Cosner
 Dane Hagestad

3:00 pm Break

John Van Heule promoted the Father Ogg Memorial Golf Tournament to be held in Laramie on August 31 and asked the delegates to sponsor a hole for \$500. A motion was made and seconded to approve the sponsorship – motion passed

3:15 pm COR update / RSVP update

Mike Pexton reported that only 4 councils have Cor Directors assigned.

Mike also reported that there are currently 51 on-line members in Wyoming and encouraged councils to get them to a degree ceremony and into their council.

Mike reported that the Affiliate Membership program is on-going and reminded councils that a 2nd Notice must have been sent and members must be at least 180 overdue with their dues; Mike can provide guidelines if needed.

Brian Duyck said to contact him if there are any issues with the RSVP program and sending checks to the Diocese.

3:30 pm State Officer Nomination Speeches

State Deputy: Kevin Finn gave a nomination speech for Brian Duyck

State Secretary: Ken Stockwell gave a nomination speech for Jim Larscheid

State Treasurer: Don Scott gave a nomination speech for Mike Pexton

State Advocate: Rod A. Birkle gave a nomination speech for his son, Rod E. Birkle

State Warden: Mike Dahl gave a nomination speech for Sean Sherwin

4:00 pm Adjourn for Mass

6:00 pm Memorial Mass – St. Mary’s Cathedral - Very Rev. Louis Shea

7:00 pm Social Gathering – Casey’s Club

7:30 pm Banquet and Awards – Casey’s Club

Very Rev. Louis Shea, State Chaplain

Supreme Representative Remarks: **David Tebo**

State Priest of the Year: **Father Ray Moss, Torrington**

State Knight of the Year: **Sherwin “Buddy” Cater, Gillette**

State Family of the Year: **Louis & Marilyn Kuhnel, Torrington**

State Advocate Rod Birkle read Resolution 9 commending Council 801 for hosting this year’s convention; motion was made and seconded and approved

Council 6623 challenged councils for the next 5 years to put together a scrapbook and bring to the state convention

Sunday, April 28, 2024 (Mother Cabrini Hall, 1808 Hot Springs Ave)

6:30 am- Breakfast – Mother Cabrini Hall
8:30 am

7:30 am Rosary – Mother Cabrini Hall

8:00 am Closed Session – Mother Cabrini Hall

Opening Prayer – Very Rev. Louis Shea, State Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance - Ray Malek, District Master

Official Roll Call - Jim Larscheid, State Secretary

8:30 am Resolution Committee Report

Presentation and Action – Rod Birkle, State Advocate

After each resolution was read by Rod, a motion to approve was made and seconded. All resolutions passed unanimously.

State Secretary Jim Larscheid reported the following:

- Change from Heaven resulted in \$2,446.45 which will go to the Diocese of Cheyenne in care of the Father McGivney Burse for Seminarian Education
- The silent auction at the banquet raised \$1,117 which will go to St. Joseph’s Food Pantry in Cheyenne
- Fines collected at the convention resulted in \$12 which will also go to St. Joseph’s Food Pantry

9:40 am Report of Minutes of 2023 Convention

Presentation and Action – Jim Larscheid, State Secretary

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the 2023 State Convention – motion passed unanimously

9:45 am Report on State Audit and Budget

Presentation and Action -- Mike Pexton, State Treasurer

Mike Pexton presented the 2024-2025 Budget

Ralph Blommel made a motion to raise the per diem from \$70/day to \$90/day and the mileage from \$0.35/mile to \$0.45/mile; the motion was seconded by Mike Dahl. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Don Scott and seconded by Ken Stockwell to approved the budget as amended. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Mike Pexton presented the audit for FY2023. A motion was made by Ron Engelhart and seconded by Mike Dahl to approve the audit as presented. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

9:50 am Break

10:00 am Elections

State Officers

Council 3043 nominated Brian Duyck for State Deputy; after no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Brian Duyck by unanimous vote; Motion Passed

Ken Stockwell nominated Jim Larscheid for State Secretary; after no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Jim Larscheid by unanimous vote; Motion Passed

Ken Stockwell nominated Mike Pexton for State Treasurer; after no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Mike Pexton by unanimous vote; Motion Passed

Council 1563 nominated Rod Birkle for State Advocate; after no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Rod Birkle by unanimous vote; Motion Passed

Council 7453 nominated Sean Sherwin for State Warden; after no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to cease nominations and elect Sean Sherwin by unanimous vote; Motion Passed

Alternates to the Supreme Convention

Jim Larscheid was elected 1st Alternate

Father Louis Shea was elected 2nd Alternate

Selection of the 2027 Convention Site

A motion was made and seconded to select Torrington as the site for the 2027 State Convention; Motion Passed

11:00 am Open Session

Host Grand Knight Report – Ronald Engelhart Council 801
Host District Deputy Report – Larry Espelage, District 1
2025 Convention Report – Jacob Foster, GK Lander Council 5447

11:15 am Closing Remarks -

Supreme Representative David Tebo
Ron Morris, Immediate Past State Deputy **Absent**
John E. Benedik, Jr., PSD, State Executive Secretary **Absent**
Sean Sherwin, State Warden
Rod Birkle, State Advocate
Mike Pexton, State Treasurer
Jim Larscheid, State Secretary
Very Rev. Louis Shea, State Chaplain
Brian Duyck, State Deputy

Closing Prayer – Very Rev. Louie Shea, State Chaplain
Closing Ode – Don Scott, PSD

11:58 am Retiring of Colors – Ray Malek, District Master

11:59 am Adjournment

12:00 pm Lunch – Sack lunch provided

Thank you for participating and making this Convention a Success!