



Cowboy Bulletin

Wyoming Knights of Columbus



January 2024



Worthy Grand Knight and Program Chairmen,

The Fraternal year is proceeding as you have planned, I trust, and while the year is not over it is time to reflect and choose the activities you want to showcase. Our Wyoming Councils have been as active and vibrant this year as of any of the last 100 years that Wyoming has had Knight of Columbus Councils. It is truly exciting to be part of a Brotherhood in which we share common beliefs and excitement for our Faith. We do this through our Council activities based in our Faith in Action.

The Faith in Action program sections have given you a guide for using and demonstrating those time-honored gifts of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. First and foremost, the Council completed activities needs to be told in the reports you submit for the Columbian Awards Application (#SP-7). You will find that form and the others that I will reference throughout this letter listed below.

You now also have the opportunity to submit your Council's activities to the State for consideration for the State Awards. As you fill out those award forms, use the **FAITH IN ACTION guidebook** from the Supreme website as a guide. The **Fraternal Programs Report Form** will also help guide you through the process.

Once you have completed that process, please do us the honor of submitting your single best program or activity **in each of the four (4) categories: Faith, Family, Community, and Life** to the State Council for judging **before** the Wyoming State Convention being held in Lander, April 25th through the 27th.

Award nominations are due to **April 11th**!

The Form **State Council Service Program Awards Entry Form (#STSP)** is the proper way to submit each of these entries for four categories. You are also encouraged to submit **Wyoming State Family of the Year (form #10680)** and the **Wyoming State Knight of the Year** (no form as it is a State Program). The links for the forms are listed below.

For the 3rd straight year the Knights are accepting the **State Blessed Michael McGivney Award** (form #SBMMA). A matter of courtesy and protocol it would probably be best to obtain the Priest's permission to nominate him.

We need to have the entries in early to judge the **Faith, Family, Community and Life** entries plus the **Wyoming State Family of the Year** and the **Wyoming State Knight of the Year**.

The Past State Deputies will conduct an on-line review and judging as we did last year. We found that the ability to see, read, and review the submissions with more time was beneficial. In the past when having to do these on an early Friday morning, many times we ran into and over some of the opening ceremonies at the Convention. Please note again the due date is April 11th.

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I am excited to see the entries that will be submitted. You must always remember that when you spread the word about what you do, it is an encouragement to others. We do many good works for Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Please celebrate and share that Columbianism.

Links referenced above:

Columbian Award link: https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/columbian_awardap_p.pdf

State Service Award link: https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state_serviceaward_p.pdf

Fraternal Reports form link: <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/council-forms.html>

State Blessed Michael McGivney Award: <https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state-blessed-michael-mcgivney-award.pdf>

Family of the Year: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/family-of-the-month-year/10680-family-of-year-form.pdf>

Tootsie Roll & Lifesaver report link: <https://www.wyomingkc.org/forms.html>

[tootsie-roll-reporting-form.1.1 \(wyomingkc.org\)](#)

[2017-lifesaver-report.pdf \(wyomingkc.org\)](#)

To ensure that the entries will be there to be judged for the awards please submit them to me, **PSD Bret Ladenburger by April 11th**. You can email them to me at ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com. Please make sure they are in PDF format. If you are mailing them **allow enough time to have them delivered by April 11, 2024** to:

Bret Ladenburger
6638 Mustang Trail
Evansville WY 82636

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Vivat Jesus.

Bret Ladenburger, PSD

Wyoming State Awards Chairman

307-760-1003

ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com



NEWS FROM THE FOURTH DEGREE

Upcoming Fourth Degree Exemplification dates:

February 15, 2025, in Rock Springs

March 8, 2025, in Torrington

April 26, 2025, in Lander at the State Convention

May 17, 2025 in Casper (confirmation pending)

No times or venues are set at this time. More information to follow.

God Bless,

Ray Malek

Wyoming District Master

Thermopolis Knights in Action

The Thermopolis Council had a great year, bring in 5 new members, holding a successful beef raffle to raise money for our projects- backpack, people for people, T-Town cancer ,3 cookie jar auctions, five seminary supports, ASAP, and Coats for Kids. Our total spent was \$5,425. We also cleaned up 2 miles of highway this fall.

Maynard Bills Jr.

Grand Knight

Council 2578

Torrington Knights in Action

Torrington council #6623 is having a 4th degree exemplification on March 8. We welcome candidates from other councils.

We will be having our annual Right to Life breakfast Sunday January 19 8am to noon.

Ted Church

Grand Knight

Council 6623

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Please feel free to make any submissions to wyokcnews@gmail.com. I will do my best to put out an issue of The Cowboy Bulletin every month, but I need your help to know what's going on out there. Upcoming events, council projects, and sharing ideas that could benefit other councils are all things we as Knights are interested in hearing about. Remember that we are Brother Knights, united in one cause.

Vivat Jesus

Steve Grapes

There is a wealth of information on our State Council web site. Check out www.wyomingkc.org. All members are encouraged to check it out.



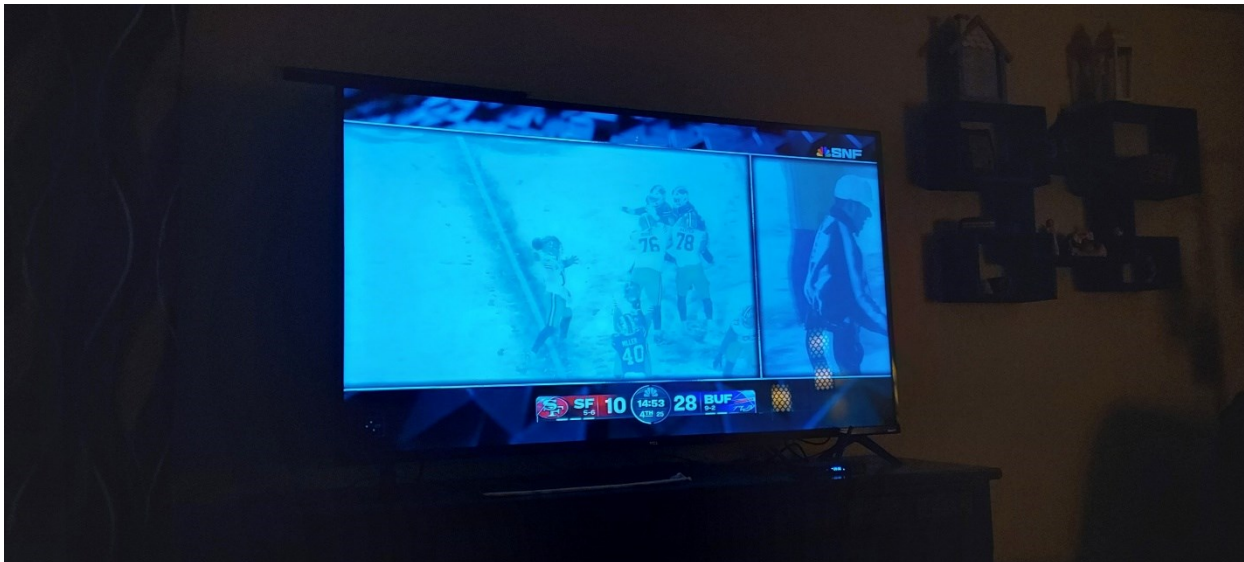
From Chuck, Our Regional Growth Director

Brothers and Leaders,

On the Sunday of Thanksgiving Weekend, I was watching the NFL Game between San Francisco and Buffalo. The conditions were terrible. It had snowed the day of the game, several inches. The Team asked the fans to help clear the field and the stands and they turned out “in droves”. They couldn’t get all the seats cleared but they did clear the aisles so the fans could at least stand and still cheer during the whole game. The stands were full, the whole game. The crowds cheered the whole game.



The field was snow-covered so the players couldn’t maneuver as normal or at times, even stay on their feet but the players adjusted and kept playing, kept competing and kept trying to win. Even in the terrible conditions, players made incredible plays and because of the terrible conditions, some terrible plays happened but still the players kept working, trying and competing.



The Forty-Niners lost their star running back and fell behind 28-3 in the late third quarter. Their second string back came in and they still kept playing, kept trying, kept competing, even in the terrible conditions through the end of the game.

The Bills were well ahead and the Niners were floundering but both the Bills Defense and the Offensive kept pushing, kept getting hit and kept hitting others through the end of the game.

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The players on the bench watched and cheered their teammates in the frozen, snowy conditions, all the time being ready to enter the game and contribute and many did.

As I watched, I saw an outstanding example of perseverance, of dedication to a cause and what is necessary to succeed in life and the keys to success for our Councils, Districts and States.

Each of the fans as well as the coaches and players on both Teams continued to play to their role to the fullest, continued to fulfill their role as planner, as strategist, as support, as back-up and as starter through the end of the game.

Each of us has a role in the Knights of Columbus, in nearly all cases it is a volunteer role, but it is an important role that each of us accepted with a promise to the Team that we would fulfill our part of the mission.

Each of us are an important part of our Council, our District and our State. For our Councils, Districts and States to succeed, whatever success looks like, each of us must play our part.

We have just come out of halftime of the Fraternal Year. Some Midyear Meetings are completed, some are yet to come but in each case, what are our plans for the last half of the year?

Maybe we first have to work on the basics – completion of Forms, including the forms due this month, and Safe-Environment Compliance.

We must ask ourselves:

What worked well in the 1st Half of the year that we can use to even greater success in the 2nd Half?

What adjustments have we made to handle the obstacles we have encountered so far this year to complete our mission yet this year?

What additional Programs and Membership Drives and Fraternal Benefit Events have we planned **and scheduled** to start or complete in the 2nd Half of the year to make sure we reach Star Council?

What relationships can we strengthen and enlarge in the 2nd Half with our Pastors, Parish Staff, Parishes and Communities?

Perhaps most importantly, who can each of us invite to join us in a program or in an event in the next 6 months?

Which man and his family can we engage and inspire to become involved in our work even if they don't join the Order right away?

What is YOUR plan to invite one man and his family to join our Knights Family this month, this quarter and in the remainder of this Fraternal Year?

That's what it really comes down to, our Programs attracting the attention of members and non-members alike followed by one Knight asking another man to come see what else we do.

Each and every Knight asking another man and his family to find out who and what we are, to join our activities and maybe, to join our Order.

Plan for your success, work for your success, celebrate your success.

Fraternally,

Chuck Davlin




Knights of Columbus

Chuck Davlin
Supreme Regional Growth Director
 Phone: 203-500-1302
Chuck.Davlin@kofc.org

Supreme Council
<https://kofc.org>

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Member Benefits

Aside from the numerous personal rewards that come from being a Knight, here is a list of the many substantial rewards for you and your family.

Columbia Magazine - Free subscription to the Order's award-winning magazine examining issues of concern to Knights, Catholics and families

Knights of Columbus rosary - Blessed by the supreme chaplain presented during the Exemplification of Charity Unity, and Fraternity to each new member

Mass of Remembrance Each Weekday - Celebrated for deceased members and their wives at St Mary's Church, the birthplace of the Order

Insurance - Access to a portfolio of top-quality life insurance long-term care insurance, disability Income insurance and annuity products exclusive for members, their spouses and their dependent children

Family Fraternal Benefit - Benefits for children of insured members that include guaranteed-issue insurability under age 18 and automatic death benefits for children dying before age 61 days

Orphan Fraternal Benefit - Provides monthly benefits and college scholarships to each eligible orphan of insured members

Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit - Accidental death benefit for member in good standing and spouse at no additional cost

Widow Benefits - a) continues to be covered under the Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit:

- b) the surviving spouse of a Knights of Columbus insured may purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance or annuities after insured member's death;
- c) receives a free lifetime subscription to *Columbia*;
- d) eligible with her children for scholarships

Scholarships - Scholarship programs for higher education available to members, their spouses and children

Leadership Development - Opportunity to build personal leadership skills, public speaking ability, organizational skills, etc.

Fourth Degree - Eligibility to join the Patriotic Degree

Honorary Life Membership - At age 70 with 25 years of membership

Membership Card - Entitles participation in all Catholic fraternal and social activities in member's council and also in over 15,000 councils throughout the world

Activities - Participation in a variety of programs and activities conducted by your council

**Subject to eligibility requirements, conditions and restrictions.*



SUPREME CHAPLAIN'S MONTHLY CHALLENGE

January 2025

[A]nd on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. (Gospel for Jan. 5, Mt 2:11a)

The solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord recalls the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus. The Magi recognize the newborn king and offer him homage. This great feast occurs during the liturgical season of Christmas, which begins on Christmas Eve and continues through the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During Christmas time, we all remember and celebrate the reality that God assumed our human nature and became a little child. May this season also remind us to recognize the dignity of all children — including unborn children — today.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to work toward greater recognition of the sanctity of unborn human life by participating in a peaceful pro-life demonstration or supporting a pregnancy resource center.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you look upon the lives of children — and all people — with respect, recognizing the dignity of human life? What more can you personally do to protect and support life wherever it is threatened or in need? Are there ways you can witness to others — in word or deed — to foster awareness of the sanctity of life?

FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS

Free Throw Championship

Provides an athletic outlet and encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition.

A HIGHER PURPOSE

Offer an athletic outlet for young people ages 9 to 14 through a fun free throw competition. To sponsor a competition start by ordering a Free Throw Championship Kit, or volunteer to host and/or support the district, regional and state/province championships.

OVERVIEW

Since 1972, councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls from the ages of 9 to 14 to provide an athletic outlet and encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Kids compete within their own gender and age and progress from local level to district, regional and state/province competitions. This program is a great way to introduce the Order to your community and recruit faithful family men of service



SEMINARIANS OF THE DIOCESE OF CHEYENNE

Deacon Lee Noel



Vocational Synthesis Year
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

1000 E. Maple Ave.
Mundelein, IL 60060

Home parish: Newman Center, Laramie
email: lnoel@dcwy.org

Daniel Simon



Discipleship II
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

1000 E. Maple Ave.
Mundelein, IL 60060

Home parish: St. Mary's Cathedral, Cheyenne

Anthony Richter



Configuration II
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

1000 E. Maple Ave.
Mundelein, IL 60060

Home Parish: St. Matthew's, Gillette
email: arichter@dcwy.org

David Stotzer



Propaedeutic Year
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

Bishop Quarter House
750 N Wabash
Chicago, IL 60611

Home parish: St. Paul's Newman Center, Laramie
email: dstotzer@dcwy.org



Wyoming Knights of Columbus—For the Good of the Order

Deceased Knights

- [Gary Klispie](#) of Council 8635 in Worland passed away January 6, 2024
- [Lewis Landkamer](#) of Council 6623 in Torrington, passed away April 15, 2024
- [Karl Hornick](#) of Council 6658 in Douglas, passed away July 4, 2024.
- [Deacon Phil Wanek](#) of Council 16510 in Thayne, passed on August 3, 2024
- [Deacon Michael Burke](#) of Council 1653 in Casper, passed away August 29, 2024
- [Carl Bozner](#) of Council 2441 in Rock Springs, passed away August 28, 2024
- [Bob Vesco](#) of Council 2441 in Rock Springs, passed away September 3, 2024
- [George Burns](#) of Council 3237 in Riverton, passed away October 10, 2024
- [Bill Arner](#) formerly of Council 9917 in Casper, passed away November 1, 2024.

Please pray for our Brother Knights:

Marlene Pexton, wife of State Treasurer Mike Pexton

Please send any future prayer intentions to
w yokcnews@gmail.com



Blessed Father Michael McGivney



Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please report all favors received: The Father McGivney Guild
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510-3326 • USA
www.fathermcgivney.org

Painting by Chas Fagan © Knights of Columbus
10502 10/20

A Prayer for Study

Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words and deeds.

O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of You. Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervor and delights in thinking of You, Your grace and Your tender compassion toward us.

Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for.

— Saint Thomas More (1478-1535)

To aid blind or low vision members in your council or parish, direct them to xaviersocietyfortheblind.org for audio and braille versions of many Catholic books and references.

If any member of the Knights of Columbus (or anyone else, for that matter) missed the beatification Mass of Father McGivney, you can still view it at www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMF2aOZBQ3M.

Join the Father McGivney Guild

As the sainthood process for Blessed Father Michael McGivney continues, it becomes ever more important to increase membership in the Father McGivney Guild. Membership stands at over 171,000, but only 464 listed to be from Wyoming. There are 2600 members shown in Wyoming.

Please encourage every Knight in your council, and their families, to join the McGivney Guild. Membership is open to everyone, not just Knights and families. It is easy to sign up at <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/index.html>. And please continue to pray the canonization prayer for Father McGivney.

Shawn Moody

Father McGivney Guild Chairman

esmmoody@gmail.com