



The Golden Plume

District of North Carolina

September 2008



District Master's Message

Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers,

Vivat Jesus!

I begin by thanking my Brother Sir Knights for nominating me again for the District Master's position. I have received a confirmation letter from the Supreme Master, SK Joseph Schultz, confirming my appointment for the following two-year period. Thank you all for your confidence in me and I will make every effort to live up to your expectations.

I also thank you all for all you continue to do to perpetuate the ideals of the Fourth Degree. I see from your newsletters and reports that all Assemblies are very active with many, many activities. Dedications, parades, Honor Guards, just to name a few, keep the Sir Knights in this District extremely busy and visible. Thank you Sir Knights!

I would also like to thank the FVSM and a number of the FDM's for their enthusiastic assistance at installations of Assembly Officers around the state. Without their help, many of these ceremonies would not have been possible.

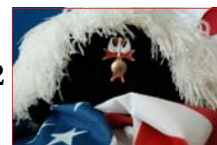
There are a number of items that need to be brought to your attention this month, so I have decided to use bullet points rather than the standard paragraph form of this message.

- **2008 Exemplification** – Go to the state web page www.kofcnc.org for information concerning this years event. Please remember to include an Assembly check, payable to **District Master**, for all attendees, which include candidates, observers and Ladies. Cut off date for all is October 5, 2008. Send all information to SK Robert J. Grabasky, District Master, 608 Pleasant Drive, Greensboro, NC, 27410-5334. RECRUIT . . . RECRUIT' . . . RECRUIT!

All Sir Knights with regalia are invited to participate in the Exemplification and/or the Exemplification Mass.

- **Exemplification Host Assembly** - The Father Robert J. MacMillan Assembly #1828, High Point, has graciously accepted the responsibility to host this years Exemplification in Greensboro. This is costly to them as they not only supply the manpower, but also operate your hospitality suite. Please consider making a donation to the Assembly to help defray the costs. Donations, made payable to the Assembly, should be sent to the Faithful Comptroller, SK James Neely, FVSM, PSD, at 2711 N. Centennial Avenue, High Point, NC 27265.
- **Exemplification Program Ads** – As in past years, to assist the District Master with costs, ads are accepted for the Banquet Program. Watch for a separate email with details from the District Secretary.
- **Wounded Warrior Leave Donations** – There is information concerning this great program elsewhere in this publication. Please bring this before your membership at your next meeting as the Military Order of the Purple Heart is already making plans to obtain transportation to send these wonderful men and women home for the holidays. Donations are payable to Military Order of the Purple Heart, and sent to the Vice Supreme Master, SK Robert J. Singer. Be sure to add Wounded Warrior Leave in the memo area.

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District Master's Report
Continued from Page 1



- **Eucharistic Congress, Charlotte Diocese, October 3 & 4, 2008** – SK Ron Carney, FDM, PSD, has an article in this month's publication asking for Fourth Degree Honor Guard members to attend this important event. Please read Ron's article and come out and support the Bishop as the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus. SK Carney has worked very hard again this year. Please don't let him down.
- **Catholic New Web Sites** – With the coming of a national election, it is important that we all, as Catholics, get as much information as possible before we go to the polls to cast our vote. There are two very informative web sites for the Catholic viewpoint of the news which you will not get from local media. These websites are Catholic Online at <http://www.catholic.org> and another one, supported by the Supreme Council, Headline Bistro, www.HeadlineBistro.com. Be a well informed Catholic!
- **Dress Code Reminder** – Sir Knights and Candidates – When candidates take their Fourth Degree and Sir Knights are in regalia, shirt collars must be standard collar. **Fly away (tab) collars are not acceptable. Earrings are not to be worn.**
- **Sir Knight of the Month** – I have not received any recommendations for Sir Knight of the Month. Worthy Faithful Navigators, please, take a few minutes and send me a short biography for those Sir Knights in your Assembly that deserve this recognition. The article will be published and a certificate mailed to you for presentation. There are many good Sir Knights in North Carolina who are deserving of this recognition. Only you can make it happen.
- **Audit Reports** – I still have several outstanding Audit that have not been received. Please, get these in with a copy to both me and the Vice Supreme Master. You all know when they are due. Get them done ON TIME. Thank you to those Assembly Officers who follow the due dates.
- **Email Addresses** – Within the past month, I have sent several email messages to both the Faithful Navigators and Faithful Comptrollers. If you have not received these messages, we either do not have an email address for you or the one we have is incorrect. Notify the District Secretary, SK Greg Ciesielski, (lilski@ec.rr.com), of your correct electronic address as soon as possible.

While the above information is available on the state web page, Worthy Faithful Navigators, please, share it with your members at Assembly meetings.

I look forward to seeing many of you at both the Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte and the Exemplification in Greensboro.

God Bless you all and God Bless America,

SK Bob Grabasky, District Master



Knights of Columbus
F O U R T H
D E G R E E
Highest degree of Knighthood.



Worthy Sir Knights of the DeSoto Province,

Congratulations to all of the District Masters in the DeSoto Province. They were all reappointed for another two year term.

August was a very busy month. First was the Supreme Convention, in Quebec City, followed by the Supreme Assembly Meeting, also in Quebec City.

Firsts I want to say, I believe that our Supreme Knight gave the best Annual Report I have ever heard and I have been attending the Supreme Conventions since 1980. The Supreme Knights talk on the "Culture of Life" and our need to defend the sanctuary of human life, the institution of marriage, between a man and woman, was one of the most important subjects I have ever heard. If you can, please read his entire report.

At the Supreme Assembly the Vice Supreme Masters from all over the Order gathered to discuss the important items regarding the Fourth Degree. The Supreme Master gave his annual Report, which was also very moving. Many items, regarding the Fourth Degree Exemplification, the Importance of Reports being submitted, on time and many other items were discussed. I will be conducting the DeSoto Province "Provincial Meeting" in Raleigh, North Carolina on September 13, 2008. All District Masters will be present and we will discuss the important items from the VSM Annual meeting. Many of the items we will discuss are very important, especially as we are nearing an election for President and Senators and Representatives. We, as Catholic Knights, MUST, insure that only those who are willing to vote our thoughts on such items as Abortion and Marriage receive our votes. This is not only a K of C Obligation, but as a Catholic we must follow our Bishops teachings.

Although Tropical Storm "Fay" was raging in Florida, I bypassed the storm and drove to Coral Springs, Florida for their first Exemplification of this Fraternal year. I can truly say this was a terrific Exemplification, with 190 new Sir Knights receiving their Fourth Degree. The Florida Exemplification Team did an outstanding job, as usual. The banquet on Saturday night had some 562 attendees. A terrific showing for such inclement weather. This just shows how strong the Fourth Degree is in Florida. Much of this is due to superb leadership of District Master, Gary McLain.

The Wounded Warrior Program is started for this Christmas. As in previous years, the Knights of Columbus will participate with the Military Order of the Purple Heart to send all of our Wounded Warriors, from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars home for Christmas. At Christmas 2007 we sent 143 Wounded Warriors home for the holidays. Although I do not know the number of Wounded Warriors this year, we will need to have another successful collection for this very worthy purpose. Any donations may be sent to me and I will be working very closely with the Military Order of the Purple Heart. All checks should be made out to "MOPH Wounded Warriors". Send to me at:

VSM Robert Singer
2506 Canal Drive
Wilson, NC 27896

The VAVS received much discussion at our VSM meeting. We MUST be sure we have representatives in EVERY Veterans Hospital, as volunteers. Every Assembly should budget funds to assist with this volunteer work. For information as to what is needed in your area, please contact your District Master.

REPORTS: DO NOT mail any reports to the Supreme Masters home. All reports should be sent "Hard Mail" to the Supreme Master Office at the Supreme Office.
1 Columbus Plaza New Haven, CT 06510

Be sure to look for further information, from your District Masters.



Fraternally,
SK Robert J. "Bob" Singer, VSM



Eucharistic Congress



The Diocese of Charlotte will hold the Annual Eucharistic Congress at the Charlotte Convention Center on October 3rd and 4th. An evening of Sacred Music and a presentation takes place on the Friday evening the 3rd, beginning at 7 p.m.. The Eucharistic Procession with Bishop Jugis carrying the Presence will leave St. Peter's Church, Saturday, the 4th at 9 a.m. and will process along a three-quarter mile route to the Convention Center. An Hour of Adoration follows. The participants will then be split into five tracts for presentations that speaks specifically to their needs.

During the day, while the presentations are being made, The Eucharist will reside in the Adoration Chapel. Priests will be available for Reconciliation in a specified area. Vendors of Religious articles, music and literature will occupy another area. Along with the latter there most probably will be religious and lay societies offering information about their mission to those who may be interested.

What does this mean to we Knights.

Well the Fourth Degree in regalia will lead the procession, and escort the Bishop carrying The Eucharist. Sir Knights will provide an honor guard for the procession for Benediction and the closing Mass; serve as guides for the priests to the distribution places for Communion reception; as escorts for the Benediction visits to the children's tracts; and throughout the day as guards at the Adoration Chapel. In summary we need as many Sir Knights in regalia as we can get. Some will need to be there early on Saturday morning for the procession and Benediction. Adoration Guards will be needed from after Benediction to the closing Mass time. Then we will need an Honor Guard of at least 40 men for the Mass and Communion distribution.

We will have a room on the second floor of the Convention center to assemble in and to store our gear. Last year it was room 201, if that changes I will advise you. We will use it as our reporting post as well.

The time frames are as follow:

- Saturday Morning Procession: Report no later than 8:30 a.m.
- Benediction Procession/Adoration Chapel: Report no later than 9:30 a.m.
- Closing Mass: Report no later than 3:30 p.m.

We have also been asked to furnish people who can serve as ushers on Friday or Saturday, who can direct traffic, and help in crowd control. Here my hope is that Third Degree Knights, spouses and even teen-aged offspring would like to volunteer for these services. A half dozen men can handle traffic and crowd control, while the number of ushers being requested is 40 for each of three sessions.

**CAN YOU HELP ?
WILL YOU HELP?**

Please let me know. **Ron Carney PSD FDM**
E C Coordinator
ronc1265@charter.net
828 758-9343



**It Is Christ
Whom We Proclaim**
Colossians 1:28



**North Carolina Fourth Degree
Exemplification**



Honoring

SK JOHN CARDINAL McCLOSKEY, Jr.

October 25, 2008

Embassy Suites Greensboro

PHONE (336) 668-2873

204 Centreport Drive

Greensboro, North Carolina

Candidates - \$70.00 (set by Supreme)
Includes pin, baldric and candidates banquet

Guest Banquet - \$47.00

Ladies Luncheon - \$20.00

Candidate Form 4/with Assembly check to
District Master by October 5, 2008

Candidate must be Third Degree Member.
Candidates with 6 months but less than one year of
Membership in the First Degree must have a Waiver.
Form 4 to Master by October 1, for Waiver.

The Hotel Suite Rate is: \$113.00/Day plus taxes
Includes Full Cooked Breakfast for 2, with each Suite
Managers Hospitality Hour each evening

*** NO Babysitting Available ***

**Goal is for 200 Candidates,
Recruit, Recruit, Recruit!**