



# *The Golden Plume*

## *District of North Carolina*

### *October 2008*



## **District Master's Message**

Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers,

Vivat Jesus!

We are almost at our 2008 Exemplification, Saturday, October 25, Embassy Suites, Greensboro. I know that currently, many are concerned about the availability of gasoline if they make the trip. Currently, there are sporadic outages in the city, but there is ample fuel available and the situation is improving daily.

Next weekend, Friday and Saturday, October 3 & 4, is the Charlotte Diocese Eucharistic Congress. I believe you will find a schedule of events in this issue provided by FDM, PSD, SK Ron Carney. These events are open to everyone. Any Fourth Degree Knight who has regalia can participate in any and all Honor Guards. If you do have regalia and want to participate, Ron is looking for ushers in tuxedo with baldric. Either way, please notify Ron of your participation.

If you have not notified the District Secretary, SK Greg Ciesielski of your Assembly EIN (Employee Identification Number), please do so immediately. The IRS requires ALL Assemblies to have such a number and 990's MUST be filed. This not a choice, but the LAW!

Donations for the Wounded Warriors Christmas Leave program should be sent to Vice Supreme Master, SK Robert J. Singer, 2506 Canal Drive, Wilson, NC 27896-1326. Please do not delay if you are going to participate. The checks are to be made payable to M.O.P.H. with the notation "Wounded Warrior Leave" in the memo line. These checks are used in North Carolina and are not sent to the National M.O.P.H. organization. Please help to send our wounded hero's home for the holidays.

Finally, we have all been committed to make donations for the refurbishing of the Reincarnation Dome at the National Shrine in Washington, DC. We have been requested by Supreme to send \$3.00 per member to help defray the cost. These checks are made payable to the Supreme Council, noted "Dome Fund" and sent to the Supreme Secretary, SK Donald Kehoe, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06507-0901.

North Carolina is lagging behind most jurisdictions. We have only accounted for 45% of the total number of Assemblies in the District. Please make every effort to rectify this situation.

I look forward to seeing many of you either at the Eucharistic Congress in Charlotte and/or the Exemplification. This year's Exemplification is another first for our State Council. The State Chaplain, Padre Leon, will be taking his Fourth Degree so he too can wear "feathers". In his honor, I have asked the State Officers to be present in regalia and they have all agreed. I'm thrilled that we have that kind of support from the North Carolina State Officers. There is no "We" and "They" in North Carolina.

Still looking for those nominations for Sir Knight of the Month. Let's get 'er done!

May God bless you and your families,

SK Robert J. "Bob" Grabasky, PSD  
NC District Master





## Message from the DeSoto Province Vice Supreme Master

Brother Sir Knights,

Another month has passed. During September the District Masters from all five states in the Province met in Raleigh, N.C. for the annual Provincial Meeting. At this time we have the opportunity to discuss items which I received information on at the Vice Supreme Masters meeting in Quebec City. It also give everyone a chance to discuss any problems they have encountered, any ideas they may have for bettering the Order or any other subject they want to discuss. It also gives the district Masters to get together and have a little social time together. I believe that these meeting cause our Province to be able to stay in the lead in the Fourth Degree. We already have two new Assemblies, in the province and two Exemplifications for the 2008/09 Fraternal Year.

In October we will hold four more Exemplifications. On October 11, South Carolina will hold an Exemplification on James Island, just off of Charleston, S.C., On October 12, Florida District Master, Gary McLain will take his Exemplification team to Freeport, Bahamas to conduct an Exemplification. On October 18, Georgia will hold an Exemplification at the Airport Westin Hotel, in Atlanta. On October 25, North Carolina will hold an Exemplification at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro, North Carolina. I encourage all Sir Knights to be observers at these exemplifications if at all possible and show our support for the new Sir Knights, who will be taking the exemplifications.

We have also started our Wounded Warrior Program for the 2008 Christmas Holiday. I ask all Assemblies that can see fit to do so to consider making donations to this very worthy cause. With this program, working with the Military Order of the Purple Heart we are able to send all of the Wounded Warriors, from the special Hospitals which were build for the Iraq and Afghanistan Warriors, home for the Christmas Holidays. In December 2007 we sent 143 Wounded Warriors home. These Warriors were from all over the United States. It is just that they built the special hospitals in North Carolina. Many Parishes will allow the Sir Knights to talk about this program, at Mass and collect funds after Mass. The largest donations, last year were gathered that way. I will be the contact for all Wounded Warrior Checks. All checks must be made out to M.O.P.H. and in the memo space, write Wounded Warriors. MOPH is a 501-c-3 tax status so all donations are tax deductible.

One of the big subjects at the VSM Meeting was the Incarnation Dome Project, at the Basilica, In Washington, D.C. Last year the Supreme Knight asked the Fourth Degree to donate \$3.00 per member for the cost of the Dome Project. The total amount to collect was \$500,000. As of August 1, 2008 only 25% of the DeSoto Province Goal has been achieved. Florida has 222%, Georgia has 5%, South Carolina has 40%, North Carolina has 53% and Puerto Rico has 5%. As you can see we have a long way to go to meet our Goal. The total amount is due by July 1, 2009. Please be sure to make this a high priority. Assembly Audits show that All Assemblies can afford to meet their goal of \$3.00 per member.

On the Positive side, the DeSoto Province was awarded First Place Plaque for New Assemblies for 2007/08, with 11 New Assemblies. My thanks to those who made this possible. The DeSoto Province also was Second in Membership Performance in % of Goal. I want to thank all of the District Masters and the Assemblies for our performance. I am looking forward to leading the Order again this year.

Many Assemblies send me their Monthly Bulletins. May I ask that all Assemblies who publish Monthly Bulletins, please add my newsletter to their Bulletin so EVERY Sir Knight is able to read it. I realize that some Districts post this newsletter on their Web-Site. I appreciate this very much.



SK Robert J. "Bob" Singer, PSD, FDM  
Vice Supreme Master  
DeSoto Province





# Eucharistic Congress



**Last word, Sir Knights. The Diocese of Charlotte's Annual Eucharistic Congress will be 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 specified areas. 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.

Our participation will be as follows:

The Fourth Degree in regalia will lead the procession.

Four Sir Knights in regalia will walk with Bishop Jugis and the Blessed Sacrament in the procession.

The same four will escort the Blessed Sacrament to the Adoration Chapel.

The Honor Guard will lead the procession to the altar for the Holy Hour.

About 10:30 AM, the Four Bishop's guards will escort the Blessed Sacrament to the Adoration Chapel.

Pairs of Sir Knights in Regalia will stand guard at the Adoration Chapel from 10:30AM to 4 PM.

The Honor Guard will line the aisle about 11 AM as the priests retire from the Holy Hour program.

The Bishop's Guard will escort the Blessed Sacrament to the Youth Tracks from 12:45 to 2:30 PM.

At 4 PM the Honor Guard will assemble for the Mass procession.

Sir Knights will lead the priest/deacon groups to their assigned places for distribution of the Eucharist.

The Honor Guard will retire immediately after the Bishop.

**We have been assigned a place in the convention center to assemble in, to vest and to store our gear. They are rooms 206 A & B.** We will use them as the 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.

Three Sir Knights have accepted assignments for specific parts of the activities:

Past Faithful Navigator Ron Harbert will lead the group of four who will attend the Bishop and Presence during the street procession.

Past Faithful Navigator Art Fitzgerald will do the morning procession lineups.

Commander Johan Rief will handle the scheduling of the guards for the Adoration Chapel.

**The Knights have also been assigned a specific hour for Adoration in St. Peter's Church. It is very early, 1 AM to 2 AM on Saturday morning. No need for regalia then, but we need warm, prayerful bodies.**

**Volunteers are also needed. If you would like to volunteers go to the Diocese of Charlotte website, click on the Eucharistic Congress and click on the volunteer button in the menu listed at the left edge of the page**

Any questions?? . **Ron Carney PSD FDM**  
**E C Coordinator**  
**ronc1265@charter.net**  
**828 758-9343**



**It Is Christ  
Whom We Proclaim**  
October 1-28



**North Carolina Fourth Degree  
Exemplification**



**Honoring**

**SK JOHN CARDINAL McCLOSKEY, Jr.**

**October 25, 2008**

**Embassy Suites Greensboro**

**PHONE 1-336-668-4535**

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!**