

The Golden Plume

District of North Carolina

May 2009



District Master's Message

Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers All,

Vivat Jesus!

It is hard to believe that we are beginning the fourth week after Easter, Spring has arrived with summer temperatures, and we are almost at the end of our fraternal year. I hope that you all enjoyed your Easter. We do know that a certain Captain of a cargo vessel received a wonderful gift on Easter Sunday, thanks to the outstanding job done by our military.

I have already received three submissions for the **To Be A Patriot award**. Thank you to those Assemblies who have taken the time to complete the paperwork and submitted an entry the due date of June 1. I hope in the coming weeks I will be receiving many more submissions as there are many qualifying programs that you all do in the name of patriotism.

Nominations and Elections – By this time Assemblies should have the slate of officers for the next fraternal year in place. By-Laws state that elections must be held between May 15 and June 15. Immediately after elections, the Faithful Comptroller is responsible for filing Form 186, Report of Officers Chosen for the term before July 1, 2009. This form should be filed even if the current officers are staying in place for another term. Filing deadline is July 1, 2009.

RSVP and Civic Award Applications – Deadline for these two applications is also June 30. Don't delay until the last minute to file these reports. Something will slip through the cracks. It's easier to get them done and know you have done your job.

To date, North Carolina is one of the few District's who can claim 100% filing of reports thus far. I thank all of you for your diligence and hard work. While the work is sometimes a burden, you all have fulfilled the requirements admirably. Both the Vice Supreme Master and I are so proud of the Fourth Degree Assemblies and members of our great state. Please keep up the good work.

Exemplification – June 27, 2009 – St. Mark's in Wilmington. The information is on the State Council web page (www.kofcnc.org) under the Fourth Degree button. If your Assembly is going to have candidates for this exemplification, please email with the expected number. An Assembly check for the total amount of the applicable fees should be made payable to "Master's Account" and sent to me with the completed Form 4's and registration forms. We are looking to have a class of between 50 and 75 candidates. Remember, waivers are no longer issued. Candidates for the Fourth Degree now have to be Knights for six months and have taken their Third Degree. The only exception when a waiver should be requested is for military men who have Orders for deployment and desire to become a Sir Knight.

Officer Installations – Please contact me with the planned dates you have chosen for the Installation of your Assembly Officers. The calendar is filling quickly. The current calendar also is posted on the State Council web page.

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State Convention - New Bern is the place, May 15-17, 2009 is the date. If you are attending and have regalia, please bring it with you and help make a great showing of Sir Knights in Regalia for the Mass.

Once again, I want to thank each of you for your dedication to the Order, the Fourth Degree and your country. God bless you all and all of our troops that are serving for our freedom.

Fraternally,

SK Robert J. "Bob" Grabasky, PSD
North Carolina District Master



Knights of Columbus

FOURTH

DEGREE

Highest degree of Knighthood.

I Spied...



In Raleigh, North Carolina are (Left to Right), Howard Brink, district marshal of the NC Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus, Maryann Grabasky, national director and NC state regent, Bob Grabasky, NC district master, Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree, and Karen Sadowski, regent, Court Greensboro #1200.

Photo courtesy of "SHARE" - Catholic Daughters of the Americas - Spring 2009 edition



Sir Knight of the Month, May 2009

Our Assembly has selected a Sir Knight who has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for ten years and a Fourth Degree Sir Knight for 9 years. From the day he took his Fourth Degree and joined our Assembly, he has been our Faithful Purser. This Sir Knight has faithfully served our country and retired from the U. S. Army after completing 20 years of active service as a Green Berets and a member of Special Forces.

Our Assembly annually sponsors dinners where we honor the widows of our former members. Our most recent one was held at Adileo's restaurant in Lumberton. There were five widows present. Each was treated to dinner by the Assembly and received a dozen roses. These bouquets are donated annually by our Sir Knight of the Month who never asks to be reimbursed. Thanks to this Sir Knight and the Assembly members, our widows have a wonderful evening and look forward to this event each year.

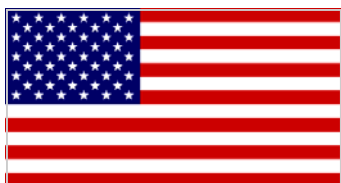
This Sir Knight also provides all the bread for our food baskets for needy families at both Thanksgiving and Christmas annually and many items for our bake sale fund raisers.

It is my pleasure to recognize

Sir Knight Paul Shedlock

for Sir Knight of the Month on behalf of the members of the
Father Bumann Assembly #2238, Hope Mills, NC.

SK Alan R. Grupy, Faithful Navigator





VICE SUPREME MASTERS MONTHLY LETTER MAY 2009

April has been a busy month, with Exemplifications in both Florida and Georgia. On April 4, Florida held an Exemplification at the Tampa Marriott Airport Hotel, with 240 New Members joining the Fourth Degree. This was a very good degree. Supreme Ceremonials Director SK Gary Nolan was a guest for this Exemplification.

Then on April 25, Georgia held an Exemplification in Mableton, Georgia with 113 New Fourth Degree members receiving their Degree. This exemplification was held at a Latin Rite Church property. I want to express my appreciation for the hospitality shown to me and all of the Knights by this parish. We attended a high Latin Mass on Saturday evening. This took us all back a number of years, but it was beautiful.

May is going to get started off busy with another Exemplification being held in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that I also received a New Assembly package from South Carolina, for an Assembly at Conway, SC. This has been sent to Supreme for final approval. The DeSoto Province leads the entire Order for New Assembly's for this Fraternal Year. I am a true believer that if we can have Assemblies convenient to Sir Knights, we will gain more Sir Knights. I will assist with any New Assembly request, if the location can be justified with number of members and desire of the Parish to have an Assembly.

May will be the month for State Conventions. Most states ask for Honor Guards for the Convention Mass. Be sure to make a good showing. This will impress others attending the convention to want to be a Sir Knight and be a part of Honor Guard. Remember that the Fourth Degree is a PART OF the State Council, not APART FROM.

The new Fourth Degree books have been sent to the District Degree Teams. We MUST work on getting this New Degree perfected. I can assure you that it is impressive and worth the work required to make it successful. I will be attending all Exemplifications to certify the teams on the new Degree. There will be no deviation from the written script. Be sure to study the books thoroughly. Also the Slide Show furnished with the New Degree MUST be used, with no changes or exceptions.

I want to make another pitch to ALL ASSEMBLIES who have not yet sent in their Dome Fund Donations. This should be done by 100% of the Assemblies in the United States, and must be to Supreme by June 2008. If your Assembly has not yet made their donation, please get it in NOW. Some Districts were in very poor shape for donations as of the last reports. One District in the Province had met their 100% goal for donations.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INCARNATION DOME

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Vice Supreme Master's Report Continued from Page 4

Another item that needs immediate attention is the election of Officers for the 2009-2010 Fraternal year. Another requirement is to send in the Report Of Officers for the new Fraternal year, immediately after the elections. This is the only way that Supreme can furnish each Assembly with the supplies needed. Each year we have some Assemblies that must be reminded to send in REPORTS several times. This is a pet peeve of mine, and I will do all in my power to make sure that ALL Assemblies follow procedures. If you are going to hold the Office of Faithful Navigator then you assume the responsibility to get in your reports. If you do not believe you can meet this responsibility, please do not accept the position.

I wish all of you a very pleasant summer. Don't forget that Assemblies do not shut down for the summer, so if you are home, please attend your Assembly meetings and keep your Assembly alive.

Fraternally,

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





Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Exemplification



The North Carolina District of the Fourth Degree DeSoto Province will conduct a regional Exemplification on Saturday, June 27, 2009 primarily for those for whom travel to the regularly scheduled state-wide exemplification in October would be difficult and our active-duty Servicemen. All qualified brother Knights are invited to become members of the Fourth Degree, known for its Patriotism and often referred to as the “visible arm of the Order.” The deadline for receipt of Registration Form for the June Exemplification is May 27, 2009.

Exemplification Information

- Where:** St. Mark’s Catholic Church, 1013 Eastwood Rd., Wilmington, NC 28403
- When:** Saturday, June 27, 2009
Candidates check-in at 11:00 a.m.
Exemplification begins at noon (see schedule below for more details).
- Dress Code:** Candidates & Observers will wear tuxedos (black, black tie, white dress shirt with “turned-down” collar – speak with your Grand Knight or the Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree Assembly in your area for specifics). Military personnel may wear dress uniforms instead of tuxedos. Priests/religious may wear their customary religious garb. Requests for dress code exemptions should be directed to District Master Robert Grabasky (see contact information below).
- Spouses/Guests:** Spouses and guests are welcome to attend the Mass and luncheon; during the Exemplification they will have the opportunity to visit historic Downtown Wilmington on the Cape Fear River or “shop” at Mayfaire, the region’s finest outdoor mall or enjoy Wrightsville Beach with friends & a good book from St. Therese Church’s deck overlooking the Atlantic Ocean (see schedule below).
- Schedule:**
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:00 a.m. | Candidates check-in |
| Noon | Exemplification begins; Spouses & guests transported to historic Downtown Wilmington <u>or</u> Mayfaire Mall <u>or</u> Wrightsville Beach. |
| 2:30 p.m. (approx.) | Mass
(Knights with regalia are requested to be in the Honor Guard at Mass) |
| 3:15 p.m. (approx.) | Luncheon celebration |
| 4:15 p.m. (approx.) | Adjournment (Note: There is no formal adjournment) |
- Cost:** Candidates = \$70 per person (fee set by Supreme)
Observers/Spouses/Guests = \$15 per person
Make all checks payable to: **MASTER’S FUND** and mail with Registration Form (see below) to District Master Robert Grabasky, 608 Pleasant Dr., Greensboro, NC 27410-5334. (He may be contacted at (336) 299-7151).
- Hotels:** Wishing to stay overnight? A wide range of hotels are nearby – contact Denis Carter (below).
- Registration:** Please complete the Registration Form below (or a copy of it) and submit with check and required document (KofC Form 4) to the Faithful Comptroller.
- Deadline:** Registration Form, required documents (as appropriate) and payment must be received by May 27, 2009. Candidates will be limited to approximately 75, thus it is highly recommended to submit registration forms early.
- Contact:** For general information, contact District Deputy Denis Carter (910) 616-2826 or deniscarter@bellsouth.net.

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[REGISTRATION FORM to Faithful Comptroller. Also attach KofC Form 4](#)

NAME (Please PRINT): _____
(First)
(Middle)
(Last)

KofC Member # _____ Phone # _____ Council # _____

Name of Spouse or Guests: _____

Spouse/Guests Preference (check one): Historic Downtown Wilmington Mayfaire Mall Beach

Do you or your accompanying spouse/guests have any specific dietary restrictions? Yes No

Registration Form, payment check and a completed KofC Form 4, must be received no later than May 27, 2009 to DM Robert Grabasky, 608 Pleasant Dr., Greensboro, NC 27410-5334.