



Knights of Columbus Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism



Official Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri

VOLUME 12, NO 2

“Honoring Faith, Serving Community”

SEPTEMBER 2025



STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR BRIAN ZIEGLER

Brothers What a great time to be a Knight. Who amongst us is not proud to be a member of the order? My next question if we are so proud of order why do we have such a hard time inviting others to join? We invite guys to ball games, to tailgates, to poker games but why not invite them to join us in the Knights?

With the season's changing to fall brings football games and hayrides and bonfires. I guarantee we have no problem asking guys to these so at the same time ask them to join the Knights. With fall also comes the Tootsie roll drive and what a better chance to get new members involved or to spark new interest in joining.

Brothers we are in Missouri are now over 44,000 Knights strong which is great but with the amount of Catholic men in this state we should be hitting at least 50,000.

So I challenge each and every one of you to over these next few weeks to invite at least 2 men to join.

Vivat Jesus

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR CHUCK PAQUETTE



Faith in Action: Share Your Service Stories

Every year, Knights of Columbus councils across our state do incredible service programs that truly make a difference. From supporting local charities to running food drives, and more, your dedication to our **Faith in Action** program is inspiring. However, many of these great works go

unnoticed by the state council.

This is your opportunity to shine a spotlight on your council's hard work! We encourage every council to write up a summary of your service programs and submit them. It's never too early to send them in—the sooner the better.

At our annual state convention in April, we will recognize and announce the winning councils for their outstanding service. Let's make sure your council's efforts receive the recognition they deserve. Please send your write-ups to me directly. Chuck@shopprobe.com



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Visit Knights of Columbus
Historical Museum
Fr. Helias Council #1054
1822 Tanner Bridge Rd.,
Jefferson City, MO
Contact: Tony Dohmen,
(573) 635-1898
tonyedohmen@gmail.com



STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR JOHN “ROCKY” GAMBON

Welcome to the Fall! We are approximately one month away from our **53rd Developmental Disabilities Drive** and we are excited to make this drive the best that puts us over our goal of \$700,000! Every council should be ready to have their best drive ever! This year, we have our contract with Schnuck's Grocery Stores throughout Missouri on October 10-12 and again on Oct 17-19. We have instructions on how councils can set up an account with Walmart to use their locations and we have QR codes available to assist those who wish to give but do not have cash on them.

First of all, if you wish to hold your Drive at an area Schnuck's grocery store and haven't contacted me, please do so at JGambon3645@gmail.com. There are still locations available throughout central and eastern Missouri. Additionally, if you wish to approach your area Walmart to hold your drive there, you will need to set up an account with Walmart and the company helping them with donations and requests from non-profit organizations. That company is known as Deed Inc.

Instructions on how to set up your Walmart and Deed account can be found by clicking on the following link: <https://mokofc.org/Programs/Community-Program/Developmental-Disabilities-Drive>. Once there, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click to download the instructions on how to set up your account with Walmart Inc and Deed Inc. There is also a second set of instructions showing how to set up an event with your local Walmart location. It's been a long road but hopefully with our ability to reach out to Walmart and Schnucks, we may still reach our \$700,000 goal!

Finally, each council should be putting together an insert or ad in their bulletin with a QR code in the publication pointing to their own giving page. Many councils have purchased a sign and a-frame to help people know of our goal while giving them the chance to donate by QR code if they like. Speaking of QR codes, if your council would like a code to help with your donations, please reach out to me by either phone or email. I can be reached at 417-830-6389 or JGambon3645@gmail.com I encourage all councils to promote the DDD drive through their church bulletins, email blast to your members, and by handing out information to businesses in your area. Plus, if you get a QR code from me, you can put it on your collect cans during the drive. Continue following the Grand Knights Check list located on our website mokofc.org under services and forms then community. Don't miss the boat! Call me or email me, I will help you in any way that will make this drive the best ever!

Soccer challenge is about to start, as councils should be preparing by contacting local soccer groups and schools for participants. Children age 9-14 can compete at Council, District, Regional and State levels. Councils should have their competition between September 16th- 25th, winners will then move to the district contest from October 1st-16th, as the kids keep winning regional contest will take place between October 16th-30th. And finally, the State contest will host the winners on November 9th at Westphalia Council 1171 starting at 1pm. If you have questions, please contact Chairman Tim Vargesco at timvargesco@columbiaknights.org or Richard Wieberg at richtwieberg@hotmail.com

This is a busy time for everyone, but we need to be proactive and start thinking about our orders for the Coats for Kids. Whether your council orders coats on your own or you group your orders through Chapters or districts, Let's have a Knight assigned to be the chairman and be very proactive in getting this event up and going. Many kids are in need of coats this winter, don't let them go without! The forms are on our supreme website, under “what we do” then “Programs” then “Community”, all the help you need is here. Remember, when you do any program or event make sure you fill out the #10784 report at the supreme website. Coats for Kids chairman Bill Lueckenhoff is there to assist you. Reach out to him at Bill.Lueckenhoff@gmail.com.

Don't forget the value of a Blood Drive. While some councils have struggled to get a Blood mobile out to there location, councils can pick a day or time and go to the local Red Cross or other center and give blood as a group. Did you know that such an approach counts toward holding a blood drive? Dare to notify your church and community to join you in going to your local center on a set day. Let the blood center know of your intention to bring many donors on a given day and who knows, you just might be surprised by your turnout. Once done, please reach out to Blood Drive Chairman Charles Lenau at cmalenau12@spectrum.net. Brother Charles keeps meticulous statistics on councils blood drives and wants to make sure Missouri receives credit for all that you do.

Finally, let me finish by saying that councils are always encouraged to come up with new and novel ways of helping the community. These few ideas mentioned above are very helpful but if your council comes up with its own idea to help the community, then by all means consider it. State awards and Supreme awards often go to councils with novel ways of helping the community so dare to dream because your idea now may become a great success to those around you.

Vivat Jesus!



STATE FAMILY DIRECTOR JOHN CLARKE

Family activities kicked off the fraternal year with several events. We started with the State Golf Tournament July 19th, the State BBQ Competition July 25th and the State Horseshoe Tournament on August 15-17 at Guardian Angel Council 4311 in Oran.

The Knights of Columbus State golf tournament was held July 19, 2025, at Mozingo Lake Golf Course in Maryville. The tournament, hosted by Maryville Council 13369, enjoyed wonderful weather on Saturday with blue skies highlighting the beautiful Mozingo Lake Golf Course. The winning score of 59 by Jeffrey and Jesse Schott was an impressive performance, setting them well ahead of the competition.

Winners:

- 1st place: Jeffrey Schott & Jesse Schott – 59 (Council 1111)
2nd place: James Mattson & Scott Walk – 67 (Council 1339)
3rd place: Patrick Jordan & Steve Klotz – 67 (Council 1339)

The Knights of Columbus State BBQ Contest was held in Perryville at the beautiful picnic grounds hosted by Wm. J. Barnwell Council #1263 on July 25-26. There was a great gathering of families at the get together Friday night with lots of great food. The smell of smoke and aroma of BBQ filled the air Friday night and Saturday morning. And for the first time we had a team from the west side of the state compete this year, Council 10200 of Ozark MO.

RIBS	PORK
1 st place – Kingsway Knights – Council#11205	1 st place – Really Damn Delicious – Council #1121
2 nd place – Really Damn Delicious – Council #1121	2 nd place – Disciples of the Holy Smoke – Council #10200
3 rd place tie – Brew Crew – Council #6405	3 rd place tie – St. Vincent’s – Council #1111
My Daddys BBQ – Council #3911	BBQ So Good – Council #1263
BBQ So Good – Council #1263	
CHICKEN	BRISKET
1 st place – Kingsway Knights – Council #11205	1 st place – BBQ So Good – Council #1263
2 nd place – Brew Crew – Council #6405	2 nd place – St. Vincent’s _ Council #1111
3 rd place – Really Damn Delicious – Council #1121	3 rd place – Brew Crew – Council #6405
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION	GRAND CHAMPION
Kingsway Knights – Council #11205	BBQ So Good – Council #1263

Winners of the Friday night categories were:
Margarita – Kingsway Knights – Council #11205
Bloody Mary – Kingsway Knights – Council #11205
Wings – Can’t Beat our Meat – Council #6420

The State Horseshoe Tournament held on the weekend of August 15-17 was hosted by Guardian Angel Council 4311 in Oran. There were 291 teams competing this year on a very hot weekend. A big thank you to the council for providing free water for all attendees due to extreme temperatures. A complete list of winners was not available at the time of writing this article, but we will provide the results in future articles.

The St. Louis Cardinals game held on Sunday July 27 was a great success. We had a total of 173 Knights, family members and friends brave the heat at the game. We had more attendees this year resulting in a total donation of 1,088.17 toward the State Council annual donation to the K of C Development Center at Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center. The Cardinals graciously helped with a free cap for adults and kids entering the stadium, a free hot dog and beverage, and the kids running the bases after the game. Our new online option to order and pay for tickets exceeded conventional mail-in and in-person sales.

Upcoming Events:

The State Sporting Clay Shoot sponsored by Sacred Heart Council 6525 in Troy will be held on September 6, 2025, at Black Hawk Valley in Old Monroe. The shoot is open to shooters of all skill levels and will feature multiple classes of competition. Join us for a day of fun and friendly competition. Please contact Jacob Weinand at (636) 358-7116 or check the State Website (mokofo.org) for more information.

The Ladies Auxiliary Area meetings will be happening across the state during August and September. The dates and locations of the area meetings can be found at the bottom of page P24 in the State Program directory or on the State Web Site under Family and then Ladies Auxiliary Area Meetings. All Grand Knights, council representatives, and District Deputies are encouraged to attend the closest area meeting to exchange ideas, learn best practices, and to support the Ladies Auxiliaries in your area. Any Knights Council with a Ladies Auxiliary knows how much the Auxiliary can contribute to their success.

Keep your eyes open for Knights and families in your council as well as Parish youth that help with the council and Parish. Recognize these individuals and families by nominating them as a Knight, Youth or Family of the Month. Show them off not just at the council level but send the applications to the State Council. To nominate someone, visit the State Website, navigate to the Family section, and select ‘Family Forms.’ Complete the form and submit it by the 15th day of odd months, January, March, May, July, September and November. Help us to recognize the families and individuals that support or councils and Parishes. Your nominations help shine a spotlight on those who make a difference – lets celebrate their dedication together.

STATE LIFE DIRECTOR TONY JANSEN

Greetings Brother Knights and Your Families!

I’m sure most of you know we will again be voting for life in November 2026. Again, this will be called Amendment 3. In this case, we will want to vote yes. As expected, we need this law to amend the constitution to protect women and our children. Specifically:



Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- Guarantee access to care for medical emergencies, ectopic pregnancies, and miscarriages;
- Ensure women’s safety during abortions;
- Ensure parental consent for minors;
- Allow abortions for medical emergencies, fetal anomalies, rape, and incest;
- Require physicians to provide medically accurate information; and
- Protect children from gender transition?

Again, I ask every Knight that reads this to educate yourselves on this bill. We also need to make sure our friends and relatives are educated as well. I would hope and pray I wouldn’t have to ask or persuade any of you here to vote to protect the preborn, women, and children. What we are asking and encouraging you to do is go to your workplace, schools or friends’ groups and bring up the subject. Make sure your circle knows how you stand and that they know the facts of this amendment. If your council has not done so, please reach out to your pastor on how the Knights can help educate members of your community as to the facts of this bill. Make sure he knows we will support him in any way he asks.

I need to recognize and talk about another amazing program, Special Olympics. There are a number of programs throughout the state that the Missouri Special Olympics puts on for their athletes. Councils are strongly urged to go to somo.org and click on the calendar to find Special Olympic events in their area. Please make a concerted effort on behalf of your councils and Ladies’ Auxiliaries to volunteer. Only good things can come from this and your help is truly needed. For more information, contact Gary Beussink at 573-382-4002 or email him at garybeussink@gmail.com. There is some much more that can be said about the wonderful programs offered by the Meet Life team, but I offer this for now as a way to pique your interest. Be on the lookout for more programs and more opportunities to show Missouri Knights are Honoring Faith, Serving Community, and Defending Life.

STATE FAITH DIRECTOR JOSH NEUWEG



We just had a great turn out for our first Pilgrimage of the year in Perryville. Around 20 people and 7 Honor Guard attended. Chairman John Myer did a great job on his first Pilgrimage as Chairman. I know everyone who attended had a great experience even with the heat of the day. Our next Pilgrimage is scheduled for Oct. 5th. at The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church. More information can be found on the State website mokofo.org .

Hopefully all the council’s are getting ready to start their Cor meetings if they haven’t started yet. Cor is what our members and potential members are looking for. We need to help foster stronger men to lead their families, parishes, and communities. Don’t let this opportunity to help build better men and councils by not having a Cor meeting scheduled for your council. If you need any help please reach out to Jason Kehl if you need any ideas or help. jasonkehl@spirit-machinery.com

We have great ways to help support our Catholic Faith here in Missouri. The Missouri Religious Vocations Fund (MRVF) and the Religious Information Bureau (RIB), are two funds that help support our faith. MRVF helps fund religious vocations in the State and the RIB helps with Evangelization and Education of our fatih to all the Diocese in the State. Please continue to financially fund these very important programs in the State.

Please use QR codes to receive information or watch the recently released in regards to KNIGHT’S LEGACY Program.