



# The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

Volume 31 Issue 11

May 2020

## “A Higher Authority”

By Deacon Bob Cox, State Spiritual Director

Greetings my Brother Knights and families! In our environment today, things are really topsy turvy aren't they? Wearing masks. Staying at home. Social distancing when away from home. My wife Sue and I wear masks and social distance as instructed. We stay home for the most part. So many people do not. Why? We listen to higher authorities (medical doctors, health officials and scientists) and follow the recommended guidelines. So do not take the easy way out. St. Joseph (the second greatest saint of all time) never took the easy way out. He listened to a higher authority. He listened to his angel. I suspect that he also listened to the Holy Spirit.

On Saturday/Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the birth of the Catholic Church, Pentecost. Brought to us by the Holy Spirit, an authoritative figure. Listen to Him. He is the soul of the Church. Listen to Him.

In the Acts of the Apostles, St. Paul describes to us the tongues of fire, of flames, that come down on the apostles. This flame allowed them to speak in various foreign languages. The flame will be our light in the darkness of sin. The power of the symbol of the dove can heat up our cold hearts. The dove can also make us think of the Holy Spirit as the wind, as a breath, as Jesus breathed upon his apostles, sending His own Spirit into them.

But let us remember, the Holy Spirit did not just come into being on Pentecost Sunday. Remember that the Spirit remained suspended over the waters in Genesis, He communicated through the prophets and our Lord Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

So, on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the Church's birthday when the Holy Spirit was given to us and the Church.

Pentecost is about the life of all Christians. Down deep inside, from Baptism and Confirmation, burns a flame or maybe a fire that will sustain us spiritually, a present given to us by Christ as the gift of His Easter...the Holy Spirit.

No matter how we experience the Holy Spirit, as fire, as water, a dove-like gift, or as breath, the Holy Spirit will always be there to help us and the Church, being guided by Jesus' will. We all know that friends will leave us. People or groups will abandon us. Scandals will test us. However, the Holy Spirit is our link to the Church and to Jesus forever.

With today's world, the pandemic, the COVID-19 virus, we still have the words of Jesus, "He that is in you is greater than he who is in the world." The Spirit of God is greater than the spirit of the world. The Holy Spirit is as close to us as the beating of our hearts.

Viva Cristo Rey...Deacon Bob



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### SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

#### May 2020

- 16 Grand Knights Boot Camp, at St John Neumann School beginning 0830
- 21 Holy Day of Obligation - Ascension of Jesus

#### June 2020

- 7 State Deputy Meeting - New Haven, CT
- 11 Feast of Corpus Christi
- 26 - 28 State Officers and District Deputies Installation of Officers and DD - Charleston, SC
- 25 Grand Knight Organizational Meeting starting at 0830 at St John Neumann School - Columbia, SC

#### August 2020

- 4 - 6 Supreme Convention - Washington. DC
- 11 Formation degree - TBD - Council District 11



## From the State Deputy

*Daniel Barton*

Brother Knights,

I hope this edition of the Palmetto Bulletin finds you and your family well.

To say that we are living in an unprecedented time is an understatement. Last month, on April 26, 2020, the South Carolina State Council held its first-ever, and hopefully last, 'virtual' State Convention. While most of us have become accustomed to sheltering in place, to holding virtual meetings and online Exemplifications, life is slowly getting back to normal.

While it might be easier to say, let us wait until after this passes, that is not what the generations of Knights did before us. My brother, I ask you to think where we would be today if Fr McGivney took such an approach? What would have been the morale of our military if the Knights did not have hospital-huts during World War I where our motto was "Everybody Welcomed, Everything Free"? To the present day, where we respond to man made as well as natural disasters.

While being a Catholic and a Knight of Columbus has never been easy, doing the good works of our Faith In Action programs as well as that of our Leave No Neighbor Behind program has never been simpler. Additionally, achieving the status of Star Council has never been simpler with the revisions that Supreme has recently made reducing the required programs from 16 down to 10, a 40 % reduction in membership quota and a 50% reduction in the Insurance requirements (or hold a benefits night by June 30, 2020). All of those plus weekly online exemplifications makes it a great time to be a Council Leader. I highly encourage thinking outside the box and challenging yourself, as well as your council officers, to achieve this high distinction. For if you do, I truly believe you will be setting your Council up for success for many years to come.

Finally, as the process of slowly getting back to normal is underway, let us remember to exercise patience as well as humility. With Sunday Masses resuming with smaller con-

**State Deputy continued on page 5**

## From the Vocations Director

*Jim Weiskircher, Vocations Director*

During the Coronavirus, we have been participating in the Mass from our home and watching the diocesan feed from the Chancery. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, it was Good Shepherd Sunday and World Day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. The homily was given by one of our seminarians, Deacon Michael Cellars. The sign of a good homily is that its message sticks with you for a long time. He will make a good priest once he is ordained. Thank you to all of the councils that have supported him for many years. Below is part of his homily.

"It is important to understand that our principal vocation in life is not something that we choose. It is a calling from the Lord that he implants in each of us. And through prayer and discernment we can come to have a better understanding not only of who we are but what we are called to be. Our own vocations are personal. The Lord calls each of us individually.

Pope Francis reminds us, those called to the priesthood and religious life is that we are to be people of mission. Our vocations should not merely remain in the confines of our churches or convents. No, our vocation is one of service. It is to be out in the world, to the point of smelling like our sheep.

The priesthood is no easy task. For many the priesthood can be physically, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally draining. Our priests work very, very hard and mostly behind the scenes. This may look like a priest that has woken up in the middle of the night to rush to the hospital to be with someone in the final moments of their life. This can be hearing hours and hours of confession, helping to be reconciled to God through his mercy and love.

Friends, the calling of the Lord to the priesthood and Consecrated Life is radical because it is a calling to follow the Good Shepherd wherever he takes us and to act as a good shepherd for the faithful and to stand ahead of them and to protect them at all costs from those that would lead our flock astray.

It is no secret that our seminaries are not overflowing. Many of our faithful shepherds are going gray, bent, and broken from a life of sacrifice that they all readily accepted on that day of their ordination, you are a priest forever. To all of our priests, I would like to say thank you. Thank you for all that you have done for me, helping me to hear my own calling to the Lord. Thank you for being there, in the good times and the bad, at our Baptisms, our first Confessions, Communion and Confirmations, at our weddings and funerals. Thank you for your radical yes. I would like to ask all of you to take some time to think about the priests that have impacted your life and in a special way to pray for them. Lastly, I would ask you to pray for more vocations to the priesthood and Consecrated

**Vocations continued on page 5**



## Patriot's Corner

Michael A. Allen, PSD  
Master, South Carolina  
District, DeSoto



Brothers,

Charity, unity, and fraternity are lessons not only for the Knights of Columbus and Catholics, but for everyone, and Fourth Degree members are the missionaries of this message. As the Fourth Degree, we also practice the principle of Patriotism, we are the sons of our Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the heirs of our beloved founder, Father Michael J. McGivney. **Now is the time to rise to the challenge and take the Fourth Degree to the next level.**

Someone must stand up for what should be an obvious truth that **“Catholics are good citizens”** Fourth Degree members are the most suited for that task. Now more than ever, we need the Fourth Degree, the Patriotic Degree, of our Order. The Church and the country need the Fourth Degree now as much as at any time in our history.

Encourage your assemblies to undertake programs – especially Blue Masses in honor of police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel – to promote unity and prayer to help overcome the deep division currently in the country. And look for ways to commemorate the 120th Anniversary of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree first exemplified in 1900.

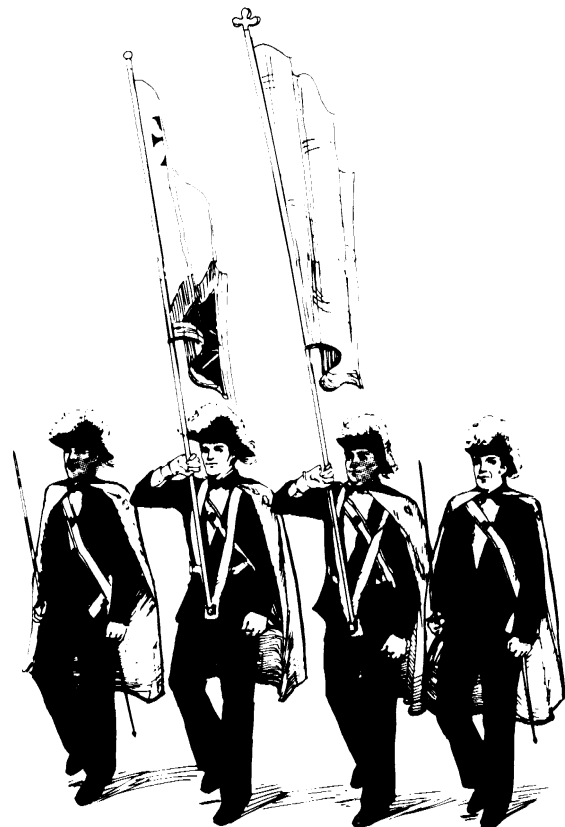
Assemblies should also look to incorporate programs of outreach to veterans and military personnel, these men, as well as emergency and law enforcement personnel, would be a natural fit for Knights of Columbus membership, and especially in the Fourth Degree.

No other organization has a component like the 4th Degree with the special combination of honoring and serving our church and clergy and our also serving our beloved country. If you are a 3rd Degree member talk to your Grand Knight or Financial Secretary to get the process started or feel free to drop me an email or a phone call and I will be happy to assist you. Also know that if you are not currently a member of the Knights, becoming a 4th degree knight has never been easier or less expensive. With a standard dark business suit and \$70.00 you can join our ranks! No longer are you required to purchase a tuxedo to become a Sir Knight. As Assemblies we need to be recruiting now and it needs to happen at the council level. If you are a Sir Knight go to your local council meetings. Take form 4s with you. Be ready to answer questions. As you go to various events, bring up the 4th degree and all it has to offer. If we got only 1 new member from each of our councils, we would bring in a great class of new Sir Knights. That should be a very attainable goal for even the

smallest councils. *The 4th Degree Ceremonial is truly one of the most beautiful and moving experiences you will have in your life.* It is also the last remaining degree where you are knighted. A moving and memorable experience indeed! Avail yourself of this opportunity. You will be a better person for it.

Your faithful servant,

Mike



# From the State Ceremonials

## Chairman

Richard A. Gabriel, PSD

Brother Knights,  
 Hope that you and your family are safe and free of the COVID-19 virus. As the stay at home and business closures restrictions begin to ease, it is still a very challenging and stressful time. We must continue to be careful and to be aware of the danger as your council continues its efforts to assist those in need. I encourage you to help in any way that you can.

Any council that has a candidate desiring to join the Knights can do so by scheduling an online exemplification. The council can contact the Director of Ceremonials, Tom Hamling at ceremonials@kofc.org for additional information and suggestions. Additionally, the candidate can participate in the Supreme Council frequent on line exemplification. We must give every catholic gentleman the opportunity to become a brother knight.

Congratulations' to Lexington Council 11325 and Moncks Corner Council 11471 for achieving their degree goals.

Please review the degree report and let me know if your council has received credit for all the degrees you have conducted this year. If there are any discrepancies please provide me with the correct information at ceremonialscc@gmail.com.

Vivat Jesus

## Admissions Degree Standings (FY 18-19)

DISTRICT	COUNCIL	CITY	GOAL	ACTUAL	%of GOAL
Edward Kamenski	DD #1		17	5	29.4%
	5026	Beaufort	4	0	0.0%
	7289	Hilton Head	3	1	33.3%
	10668	Hilton Head	5	1	20.0%
Christopher Hilditch	12263	Bluffton	5	3	60.0%
	DD # 2		16	7	43.8%
	2207	Sumter	4	2	50.0%
	6847	N. E. Columbia	5	3	60.0%
V. Patrick Eagan	9672	Camden	3	0	0.0%
	13713	Blythewood	4	2	50.0%
	DD # 3		16	1	6.3%
	5086	Myrtle Beach	4	0	0.0%
Sherrill Wilcox (Ed)	7122	N. Myrtle Beach	5	1	20.0%
	7531	Conway	4	0	0.0%
	14892	Loris	3	0	0.0%
	DD # 4		12	2	16.7%
Joe Friend	3684	Aiken	5	1	20.0%
	7062	N. Augusta	4	1	25.0%
	9161	Barnwell	3	0	0.0%
	DD # 5		16	2	12.5%
	6629	Summerville	5	0	0.0%
	8502	Walterboro	3	1	33.3%
	8900	N. Charleston	4	0	0.0%
	11910	Summerville	4	1	25.0%

DISTRICT	COUNCIL	CITY	GOAL	ACTUAL	%of GOAL
Donald Thurlow, Jr.	DD # 6		13	4	30.8%
	6884	Seneca	5	2	40.0%
	8295	Anderson	4	2	50.0%
	9576	Pickens	4	0	0.0%
Peter LaPierre	DD # 7		14	7	50.0%
	6891	Orangeburg	3	0	0.0%
	11325	Lexington	4	6	150%
	12554	Columbia	4	1	25.0%
James O. Alford	15223	Manning/Santee	3	0	0.0%
	DD # 8		21	6	28.6%
	1668	Greenville	5	0	0.0%
	8182	Mauldin	4	0	0.0%
**	10819	Simpsonville	5	3	60.0%
	13112	Greenville	4	2	50.0%
	15960	Newberry (NJL)	3	1	33.3%
	DD # 9		21	5	23.8%
James Daugomah	704	Charleston	5	0	0.0%
	6250	James Island	4	2	50.0%
	9475	Mt. Pleasant	5	1	20.0%
	10334	Charleston	3	1	33.3%
Claire N. Buckley, Jr.	12472	Charleston	4	1	25.0%
	DD # 10		14	3	21.4%
	6756	Rock Hill	5	3	60.0%
	10066	Lancaster	3	0	0.0%
**	12268	York	3	0	0.0%
	15611	Rock Hill	3	0	0.0%
	DD # 11		13	2	15.4%
	3067	Georgetown	3	0	0.0%
Ronald E. Gilbert	8980	Garden City	5	1	20.0%
	11028	Pawleys Island	5	1	20.0%
	DD # 12		13	1	7.7%
	5194	Florence	4	0	0.0%
Frank Love	8123	Hartsville	3	1	33.3%
	8790	Marion/Dillon	3	0	0.0%
	10867	Cheraw	3	0	0.0%
	DD # 13		16	8	50.0%
Mike Cousino	6726	Hanahan/Goose Creek	4	1	25.0%
	6900	Citadel	4	0	0.0%
	11471	Moncks Corner	3	3	100.0%
	11991	Goose Creek	5	4	80.0%
Jim Steffey	DD # 14		23	3	13.0%
	6076	Spartanburg	5	0	0.0%
	9184	Taylors	4	0	0.0%
	9575	Spartanburg	5	3	60.0%
**	12274	Greer	3	0	0.0%
	12995	Gaffney	3	0	0.0%
	15519	Greer	3	0	0.0%
	DD # 15		14	3	21.4%
James D. Walters	12366	Fort Mill	5	2	40.0%
	14475	Lake Wylie	5	1	20.0%
	14765	Indian Land	4	0	0.0%
	DD # 16		16	2	12.5%
Thomas Armel	724	Columbia	5	0	0.0%
	6892	Irmo	4	1	25.0%
	7129	Greenwood	4	0	0.0%
	16903	Chapin	3	1	33.3%
Totals			255	61	23.9%

## First Degree Standings Notes

NOTE: Councils Indicated with an \*, Team Has Been Re-certified

\*\* Indicates Team Has Not Been Certified

Goal for FY 18-19

Degrees Per Council

Div I -1-99 - 3 Div II -100-199 - 4

Div III -200-above - 5

## From the State Protocol Chairman

*Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM*

Worthy Grand Knights, Faithful Navigators and Members of the State Council:

### GREETING YOUR GUESTS

All guests should be greeted by the Grand Knight or Faithful Navigator. The Grand Knight or Faithful Navigator should be assisted by a committee whose function would be to care for the guests' coats, to introduce them to others in attendance and to answer any questions they may have.

Guests should not be left talking among themselves. They usually do not know many of your council or assembly members, and therefore should not be left alone for any period of time. Various persons should be altered to converse with and keep company with guests during their visit (not necessarily the same person or persons for the entire visit).

### INTRODUCTIONS

Many if not most introductions involve people of unequal or different status or positions. They can differ in rank, in age or in sex, but the result is the same: an introduction usually consists of presenting one person of lesser importance or status to another of greater importance or status.

In introducing a group of people to an individual, avoid running through all the names without a break. It is better to introduce two or three people at a time, so that names can register properly. This is where use of name tags is most effective.

A form of acknowledgement used chiefly when meeting a group is repeating the name of the person to whom you have just been introduced.

Before introducing dignitaries at the head table, be certain names are spelled correctly and proper titles are used. It is a good idea to check the pronunciations of any names to be announced. The order of rank should be observed meticulously. A person who has been elected but has not yet taken office is called by the title of the office with – “elect” after the title. A Monsignor is not addressed as “Father” and a state officer is not addressed as “Brother.” Remember, if you don't announce the name and title to the gathering, how can they be expected to know who the person is?

### State Deputy continued from page 2

gregational sizes this coming weekend, it might be another month or longer for our Councils to once again meet in person. I expect to hear from Supreme shortly concerning when subordinate councils can once again meet in person. Once I do I will let your Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and District Deputy know. Additionally, please understand that when you are allowed to meet at your local Parish certain guidelines will more than likely be required by your local Pastor or Administrator. These guidelines are to ensure the safety of all on Parish grounds. I ask that you accept what Father sets as the guidelines for meetings on Parish grounds without argument.

Fraternally Yours,

Daniel Barton

### Vocations continued from page 2

Life. I always have people ask me how they should pray for vocations and I tell them, to be specific in their prayers. It is good to pray for more priests but be intentional with your prayers. Pray for vocations from your parish, to come from your family. When we start praying in this way and encouraging those around us to consider serving the Lord it will be heard. “

In your council, do you pray for vocations to come from your parish and your family? I would like to thank all of the councils that are supporting seminarians this year. Your prayers and support means so much to them.

**Form #100  
Belongs in  
All of These Places**

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!



**SIGN UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

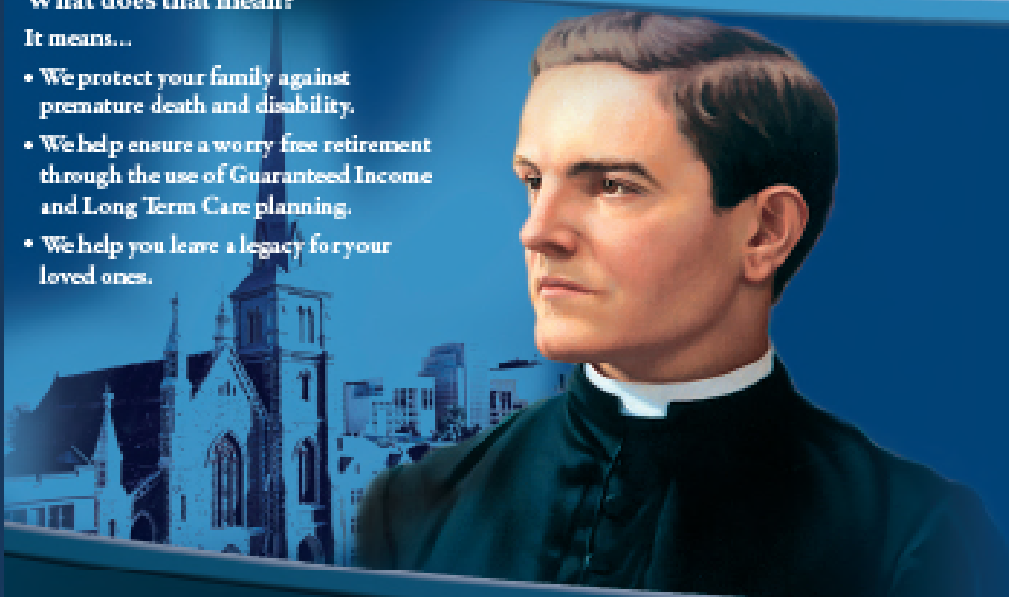
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Aiken



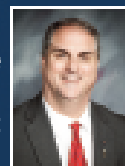
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Summerville





STATE OFFICERS

State Deputy .....	Daniel Barton.....	843-367-1871
State Chaplain .....	Fr. Robert F. Higgins .....	843-249-2356
Immediate Past State Deputy .....	Ed Griffin.....	803-325-1497
State Secretary .....	Paul V. Burchell.....	803-499-9395
State Treasurer .....	Jeff Crouch.....	864-430-0938
State Advocate .....	Ronald L. Stanley .....	864-415-9417
State Warden .....	Patrick A. Davis.....	843-830-5939
District Master .....	Michael A. Allen, PSD.....	803-397-7803
Vice Supreme Master .....	Tom Monahan, PSD .....	803-648-9925
General Insurance Agent.....	Robert Boni, Jr.....	843-824-5632

DISTRICT DEPUTIES

District No. 1 (5026, 7289, 10668, 12263).....	Edward Kamenski.....	843-705-9922
District No. 2 (2207, 6847, 9672, 13713).....	Christopher Hilditch .....	803-436-2307
District No. 3 (5086, 7122, 7531, 14892).....	V Patrick Eagan.....	919-622-0061
District No. 4 (3684, 7062, 9161).....	Sherrill E. (Ed) Wilcox .....	803-221-5934
District No. 5 (6629,8502, 8900, 11910).....	Joseph W Friend .....	843-296-2574
District No. 6 (6884, 8295, 9576).....	Don Thurlow.....	864-275-7141
District No. 7 (6891, 11325, 12554, 15223).....	Peter D. La Pierre.....	803-237-8444
District No. 8 (1668, 8182, 10819, 13112, 15960) .....	Jim Alford.....	864-595-8640
District No. 9 (704, 6250, 9475, 10334, 12472).....	James W. Daugomah.....	843-817-9655
Dist No 10 (6756, 10066, 12268, 15611) .....	Claire (Buck) Buckley, Jr.....	803-389-9004
District No. 11 (3067, 8980, 11028) .....	Ronald Gilbert .....	509-290-2405
District 12 (5194, 8123, 8790, 10867).....	Frank E. Love .....	843-665-2265
District 13 (6726, 6900, 11471, 11991).....	Michael P. Cousino.....	843-607-1007
District 14 (6076, 9184, 9575, 12274, 12995, 15519) .....	Jim Steffey .....	864-804-3076
District 15 (12366, 14475, 14765).....	J. David Walters.....	803-372-8895
District 16 (724, 6892, 7129, 16903).....	Thomas C. Armel.....	540-230-4281



STATE DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership Diector .....	Bob Rooney .....	516-456-5738
Ceremonials .....	Michael A. Allen, PSD.....	803-397-7803
Program Director .....	Christopher Hilditch, DD #2.....	803-316-6283
Youth Director.....	Bill Weiss .....	864-574-7889
Community Director .....	Sherrill “Ed” Wilcox.....	803-278-4013
Family Director.....	Robert “Bob” Poyer.....	843-571-5941
Membership Retention Chairman.....	Joe Balotti .....	843-679-0967
Vocations Chairman .....	Jim Weiskircher.....	864-706-0768
Life Director.....	Bill Hooks .....	864-238-9123
Spiritual Director .....	Rev. Mr. Robert Cox.....	843-661-6057
Public Relations .....	Donald Thurlow Jr.....	864-275-7141
Insurance Promotion Chairman .....	Robert Boni.....	843-824-5632
Audit Chairman.....	Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM .....	843-553-2171
Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities.....	Joseph F. Gubeli, Jr., PSD, FM.....	843-871-2158
Charities Board Chairman.....	Daniel Barton, SD.....	843-367-1871
State Convention Chairman .....	Ronald Stanley .....	864-415-9417
Inter-Council Competition Chairman .....	Joe Balotti, FDD .....	843-679-0967
Hispanic Council Growth Coordinator .....	Michael D. Radl.....	803-984-0287
Awards/Report Forms .....	Patrick Davis.....	843-830-5939
Information Technology Director .....	Clem Thoennes .....	843-995-3289
Newsletter/Bulletin Bulletin Editor .....	Stephen T. Dunlap, PSD .....	843-224-7263
SC Catholic Men’s Conference.....	Richard Gabriel.....	843-797-6804
New Council Development/Round Table .....	Richard Gabriel.....	843-797-6804
Father McGivney Guild .....	James Nettles, PSD, FM .....	843-830-9996
Columbian Squires.....	Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM .....	843-553-2171
Faith In Action Director.....	Jim St. Clair .....	803-968-5884
Faith Director/Marian Hour Chairman/Silver Rose Chairman.....	Michael Mancari.....	803-917-6444
Protocol Chairman .....	Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM.....	843-873-8581
Disaster Response Coordinator.....	Greg Scheuer.....	803-210-7272
Ultrasound Initiative .....	Raymond Ireland.....	864-329-0044
Online Membership Chairman.....	Keith Kingren .....	864-962-5295
Insurance Promotion Chairman .....	Robert Boni, GA .....	843-824-5632
Athletic Events Chairman/Catholic citizenship Essay Contest .....	Bill Weiss .....	864-574-7889
Free Throw Chairman/Soccer Challenge Chairman .....	Bill Weiss .....	864-574-7889
State Directory Chairman .....	Buck Buckley, DD #10 .....	803-389-9004
Silver Rose Chairman .....	Michael Mancari.....	803-917-6444
Special Olympics Chairman .....	Robert “Bob” Brohm .....	864-367-9254
Young Adult Outreach Chairman.....	John Olson .....	864-354-5680
Round Table Chairman .....	Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM .....	843-553-2171
State Trainer .....	Richard Swain.....	573-465-2402







South Carolina State Council  
Columbiettes Officers

President ————— Edie Van Demark  
Past President ————— Gloria Kinney  
Vice President ——— Caroline Paulhus  
Secretary ————— Nancy Kuffel  
Financial Secretary - Lorraine Catoe  
Treasurer ————— Barbara Bowers  
Advocate ————— Beverly Mills  
Sentinel ————— Janice Coty

**Palmetto State Bulletin**  
**Knights of Columbus**  
**South Carolina State Council**

