

The Golden Plume

District of North Carolina

January 2009



District Master's Message

Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers,

Vivat Jesus and Happy New Year!

I am writing this on December 17, 2008, as we will be as busy as everyone else with Christmas and I will be out of town until the new year has begun.

Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has once again come into the world on Christmas Day. I hope it was a joyful time for all. Now, more than ever, with the problems in our country, and the world as well, it is a time to seek His peace and comfort.

I also take this opportunity to thank all of the North Carolina Sir Knights for all that you do to demonstrate to everyone that we are a strong patriotic organization of Catholic men and are willing to show it. We are the visible arm of the Order and we continue to prove it when we wear our regalia. God bless you all for your participation.

January is a busy month for the members of the Fourth Degree. There are three major Right to Life events planned: Charlotte Right to Life March, Friday January 16th; 12:00 noon, Raleigh Right to Life march, Saturday, January 17th, 12:00 noon, Annual Right to Life Rally; and the National Right to Life March, Thursday, January 22nd, Washington, DC. There will be a North Carolina mass concelebrated by both Bishops of North Carolina at **11:30 am**. (More details on Page 2). ALL Sir Knights are invited to attend in regalia for an Honor Guard for our Bishops in Washington, DC. Refer to the December 2008 "Golden Plume" issue for details concerning participation. I hope we can fill the isles at the Basilica with North Carolina Sir Knights.

Worthy Faithful Navigators, remember that your Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity, Form 1728C, is due on or before January 31st. **Mail it to Supreme, even if you submit it on line** and don't forget to send copies to me and the Vice Supreme Master. It is also not too early to start on submission forms for To Be A Patriot Award and the Civic Award. Every Assembly does something to report. Let's get that 100% participation and show the new Supreme Master that we are busy.

Dome Fund contributions are due before June 30th, 2009. If you haven't already done so, please process the check and send it to Supreme. Do it at your next meeting. Don't wait until June, as it will sneak up on you when it is a very busy time.

Once again, I remind all that you have a Sir Knight in your Assembly that should be recognized as the Sir Knight of the Month. Sit down and write a few paragraphs about him and submit it to me. I should be inundated with nominations, but sadly, I am fortunate if one per month is received. **GET THE LEAD OUT AND NOMINATE THAT SIR KNIGHT!**

Due to my writing this early, I believe we will officially have a new Assembly formed, either by the end of December or very early in January, in Concord. The official request was forwarded to Supreme and we await their response.

God bless you all,
SK Robert J. "Bob" Grabasky, District Master



Pro-Life Opportunities



March for Life - Charlotte

Friday, January 16, 2009 at 11:00 am

March and pray for an end to abortion during the March for Life Charlotte Jan. 16. Marchers should gather at the diocesan parking lot on the corner of W. Palmer and Church Sts. across from the Diocesan Pastoral Center at 11 a.m. The march will proceed to Trade and Tryon Sts. at 12 p.m. and continue to the court house at 401 W. Trade St. where participants will pray a rosary and chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Raleigh Right to Life March

Saturday, January 17, 2009 at 12:00 noon

North Carolina Mass for Life

January 22, 2009 at 11:30 am

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Diocese of Raleigh, and Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Diocese of Charlotte, will celebrate a Mass for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC at 11:30 am, followed by participation in the National March for Life.

Fourth Degree Exemplification – June 27, 2009

There will be a one day Fourth Degree Exemplification to be held on Saturday, June 27, 2009, in Wilmington, NC at St. Marks Church and it will be hosted by the Msgr. Dennen Assembly No. 2017. All candidates are invited but we offer this exemplification especially to our military members, and our older members, as a one day, inexpensive way of obtaining the Fourth Degree. Candidates fees will be \$70.00 as set by Supreme. We will have the exemplification, lunch and tentatively a Mass, all in one day.

Please start to recruit for this event. Our goal is to have a class of 75 candidates. More information will be coming in the near future.

Directory Correction

Please change the email address of the Comptroller in Fr. William J. Dillon Assembly No. 2069 to geisert@nc.rr.com



Sir Knight of the Month – January 2009

I am pleased to announce that:

Sir Knight John William (Bill) Brennan

is the Sir Knight of the Month for January 2009. The following was submitted by SK Kevin J. McGrath, Faithful Navigator, Outer Banks Assembly No. 2989.

Our Pastor, Father William Walsh, recently celebrated 40 years as a priest. Father Walsh would not use any parish money for this celebration. Sir Knight Brennan took it upon himself to organize a Parish celebration for Father's anniversary. Under Bill's direction, Holy Redeemer by the Sea Parish recognized our Pastor, Father William Walsh, with a Program and Dinner on November 16, 2008. Over 200 parishioners attended the celebration. The funds and workers for the event were provided by Kill Devil Hills Council No. 8759, Outer Banks Assembly No. 2989, the Parish Men's Club and the Ladies by the Sea for the celebration. Without the leadership of Sir Knight Bill Brennan, this celebration would not have happened.

Sir Knight Brennan serves as the comptroller of the Outer Banks Assembly No. 2989, a Trustee of Kill Devil Hills Council No. 8759, Treasurer of our Parish Men's Club, and Treasurer of the Outer Banks Senior Fellowship. He also serves as a Church Lay Distributor and Lecturer. Sir Knight Brennan is a Past Grand Knight of Kill Devil Hills Council No. 8759 and has served on Parish Finance Council. In his spare time, Sir Knight Brennan advises and prepares Senior Citizens Income Tax Returns. When the Assembly, Council, Parish or Parishioner is in need, all they have to do is call on Bill Brennan and he is there to help in any way possible.





DeSoto Province Vice Supreme Masters Message



I hope this finds all of you having had a very Joyous Christmas and New Year. I know Assemblies are very busy around the holiday times, but we must always remember that our main objective is to show the world our belief in our Churches teachings.

I want to thank all of those who contributed to the Wounded Warrior Fund, this year. As of this writing we have collected \$53,717.90. This is nearly \$2,000 behind last year, but with the economic situation, I personally think this was a very successful year. I had the opportunity to attend a reception for these Wounded Warriors on December 10. Those Wounded Warriors who were able to be transported to New Bern, NC were honored; by this reception. This was also a fund raiser to assist with this years Christmas Trips Home. Meeting these Warriors and being able to visit with them was a terrific experience. Father Bill Lesak, the North Carolina District Friar, and a Navy Captain and Command Chaplain at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, attended with me. The Knights of Columbus were recognized as the largest organization for fund raising for this Christmas Trip Home, of any organization. These Warriors gave the K of C a standing ovation. This is not easy for some of these Warriors. I can verify personally that every one of these Warriors is very deserving of anything we do to make their lives a little easier or more enjoyable. I believe that we made some of the Catholic Warriors think very hard about joining our great organization. Due to the number of Wounded Warriors, we MUST make this a year round drive for funds.

There are a few items that I want to draw your attention to at this time. First I want to again remind every Assembly that we need to make sure that each Assembly meets their obligation of sending \$3.00 per member to Supreme for the Basilica Dome Fund. The deadline for this is June 30, 2009. We are making progress but still have a way to go to meet our Province goals.

The second item I want to bring to your attention is the Fraternal Survey. This report is due, at Supreme, by January 31, 2009. A HARD COPY must be sent, even if you file on the internet. This Fraternal Survey is what Supreme uses to justify to the IRS of our Non-Profit status. Every Assembly does many good things each year that MUST be reported. Don't think that because you also belong to a council, who is reporting, that you don't need to report. I will be following these reports very closely, during January.

I want to congratulate the Districts in the DeSoto Province, for their excellent work on New Assembly Development. We met our Annual Goal by December 1, 2008. The Supreme Master acknowledged this in a letter to all VSM's regarding New Assembly Development. The DeSoto Province leads the entire Order on New Assembly Gain. We must continue to work on new Assemblies, even though we have met our goal. If you are traveling 25 miles or more to attend an Assembly Meeting, you need to look at starting a new Assembly closer to home. Your District master will give you all the help you need to organize and start a New Assembly, just let him know that you believe this is needed in your area.

Vice Supreme Master's Message continued on Page 5

Vice Supreme Master's Message Cont.



Another item I want to congratulate the Province on is Exemplifications. Each District Master is working hard this year to make Exemplifications readily accessible to every Knight in their District by conducting more Exemplification across each District. It is the duty of each Sir Knight to work on recruiting new members for their Assembly. Those Exemplifications I have already attended have been excellent. I will be traveling to Tucson, Arizona in January to observe the New Fourth Degree, along with other VSM's. After every VSM has had the opportunity to observe this new Degree, it will be distributed to every District and every District will be required to change to this New Degree immediately. A lot of hard work has gone into this new Degree.

In closing I want to wish each Sir Knight in the DeSoto Province a Happy New Year and every Assembly a very successful year in 2009. If I can be of any assistance to any Assembly, all you have to do is notify me and I will help anywhere I am needed.

Vivat Jesus,

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



The Wounded Warriors Fund

As "Operation L.A.M.B." is the charity of choice for the State Council, I would like all of my Sir Knights to consider making the Wounded Warriors Fund the District's charity of choice.

We have no greater responsibility as the Patriotic Degree than to take care of those that protect our liberty and freedoms especially when they need our help so greatly. Working with our Vice Supreme Master Bob Singer, the Military Order of the Purple Heart and all of our Sir Knights and families, I would like to make this fundraising a year-long event. So please consider having various fundraisers starting this month until December 2009 with the proceeds earmarked for these wounded warriors.

According to the MOPH National Director Jim Casti (a SK in the Havelock Assembly), we have wounded warriors at MCB Camp Lejeune and Fort Bragg. These Army, Navy and Marine Corps members have various injuries and need our support and help.

Please consider this request and lets make the North Carolina Sir Knights the leaders in this effort!

SK Robert J. (Bob) Grabasky,
District Master



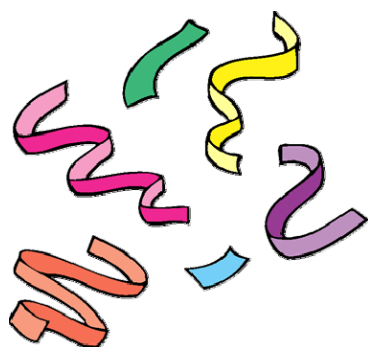
Last, but Certainly Not Least...



Drum Roll Please...

Please Welcome Our Newest Assembly!

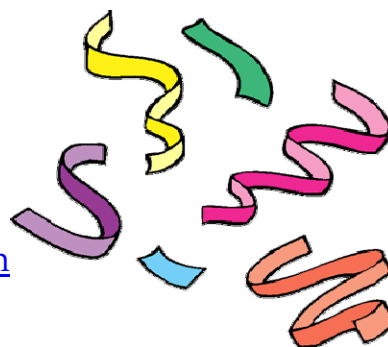
Central Piedmont Assembly No. 3158, Concord, NC



Charter Faithful Navigator

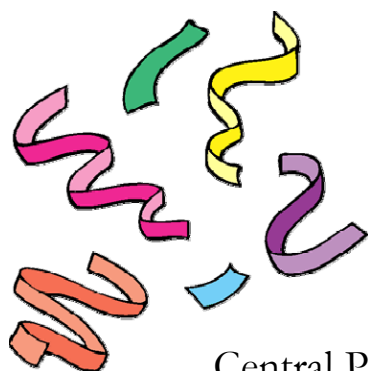
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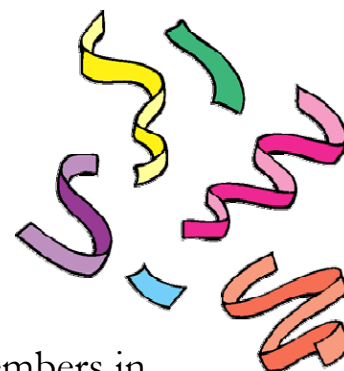
Charter Faithful Comptroller

SK Ronald P. Babbit
153 Pounds Court SW
Concord, NC 28205
(H) 704 785 9181



Charter Faithful Friar

Rev. John T. Putnam
128 Fulton Street
Salisbury, NC 28144



Central Piedmont Assembly will cover members in
Councils 7450 Concord, 9680 Salisbury, 10495 Albemarle
and 12167 Kannapolis.

CONGRATULATIONS!