

Fraternal Leader Success Planner



February 2017

"I don't think there's any other Catholic volunteer association that is making such a difference day in and day out in our communities for charity. That is our mission. And we are going to grow and accomplish that mission."

Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight

Alain Cayer, Ontario State Deputy

Brothers

Programs and membership, they go hand in hand.

If you want to be successful in your efforts of recruiting, we must understand that we need to invest time in visible programs. The parishioners of your communities will observe what you do and who you help, and then they will find interest in joining us after. BUT, we must make this move first. We need to make an impression by our actions.

It is proven, let's make a move to build our future, today. Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally,

David Peters, State Treasurer

Worthy District Deputies

At this point of the 2016-2017 Fraternal Year we find ourselves, because of your conscientious and dedicated efforts, in a position to return Ontario to the enviable status it once enjoyed as of one of the most successful jurisdictions within our Order.

I must congratulate each and every one of you for your dedication to the expansion of membership in our Order and for offering the opportunities which membership grants to such a great number of Catholic families. Our founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, would be proud of you, I am certain.

We have been blessed by having an increased number of Brothers step forward to create more Exemplification Teams and I trust that you will continue to promote membership so that these Teams will be kept busy bringing our message to the fore.

As State Treasurer, I am excited when I see the number of members increase... this means that we will have even more Brothers available to bring the Order's message to the general public and to assist the needy and less-fortunate. We must always remember our commitment of **charity**.

I ask you, my Brothers, to continue promoting the Lottery ticket sales at all your Council meetings. We should have a "sell-out" as the target this year.

My Brothers, although I dislike having to constantly address the issue of importance of timely submission of Council dues to State, I must request that you keep in mind and work with your Council's Financial Secretaries so that all levels of administration are kept happy.

God bless you all. I look forward to our many upcoming meetings and our getting together at the State Convention.

Fraternally

Arthur Peters, Supreme Director

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

At the November, 2015 State Deputies mid-year meeting, Supreme Knight announced the new 'Building the Domestic Church' initiative, which is designed to focus the activities of our Councils on strengthening parish and family life.

I will be writing each month in our Planner on different aspects of the Program, and how our Councils can work toward integrating this initiative into their activities.

This month, I'd like to focus on the new requirement for the Columbian Award. From the requirement of four activities in each of the six program areas, four must be identified as Domestic Church activities. As Council review their activities over the next few months, it will be important to ensure that your Columbian Award application indicates which activities fulfill this requirement.

The Supreme Council has designated activities to fulfill this requirement, including a 5th Sunday Rosary Program, Holy Family Consecration, Family Fully Alive, Father's Day affirmation of wedding vows, Family Week, Holy Family Prayer Program Food for Families, Keep Christ in Christmas, and Spiritual Formation Groups. There is also the new Catholic Information Service Building the Domestic Church kiosk display for Councils, and a pilgrimage to the St. John Paul II Shrine in Washington will be considered as an activity in this category. Rather than explain each program here, I would ask that you refer to the Supreme Council website, www.kofc.org, under the 'Domestic Church' tab, for more information about each of these programs.

Our parishioners are seeking to be more involved in their faith, and as Knights of Columbus we have a role to play in supporting our parishes as they promote family life and evangelize the Gospel. Including four activities as part of the Columbian Award requirements aligns our programs with our mission to support our clergy and help to strengthen our parishes, and also helps to create a deeper understanding of the role that the Knights play in the life of the parish, which can only help to encourage Catholic men to join the Order.

As this is my first message since becoming a Supreme Director, I would like to thank the membership of Ontario for your support. It is an honor to represent our jurisdiction as a member of the Board of Directors, and I want to extend our gratitude to our members, Councils, and Assemblies for all that they do for the Order. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at arthur.peters@kofc.org.

Fraternally

Mario Duguay, State Program Director

Here are some steps to take to ensure your council succeeds:

- Set the service program calendar early in the fraternal year and publicize it to the membership.
- Regularly review service programs to determine if they were successful.
- Send out a Member/Prospect Interest Survey (#1842) annually to determine the interests of your members.
- Ask different members to take leadership roles in service programs and your council.
- Utilize the suggestions of members for new service programs or to improve current service programs.
- Make council meetings productive.
- Utilize members' time efficiently on meeting nights.
- Present information in a clear and concise manner.
- Hold officer meetings to limit lengthy discussion in council meetings.
- Provide frequent Second and Third Degrees.
- Host fraternal benefits nights.
- Invite the field agent to council meetings and allow him to speak.
- Ask the field agent to contribute an article to your council's newsletter or Web page.
- Ask yourselves the following questions in order to evaluate your programs:
 - Are your programs still relevant in today's world?
 - Do you have at least one program in the 6 program areas?
 - Are your programs easily sustainable?
 - Are your programs relatively simple to run?
 - Do you have a succession plan in place for all programs?
 - Do you hold an exit meeting after each project?

Vivat Jesus!

David Gelinas, Membership Retention Director

Brothers,

At this time the retention committees should be reactivated again for this calendar year and reach out to members on the list provided to them by the GK.

With our main objective to re-establish any distant relationships; lets use the opportunity to inquire about the family and ask for ideas of new programs the council should provide to the membership.

Submit these ideas to the GK and with the advice of the executive bring at least one new idea to the council for approval. The GK, with excitement, should then visit the member who provided the idea to inform him of the council's decision to act upon his new idea and seek his assistance to support a chairman already selected for the program. The GK's offer to that member to help the chairman is to ensure his idea is carried out to the full extent of his vision. Offer other members of his family for their help to ensure complete success.

This act will provide two objectives. Achieving the member's help with the project chairman will likely re-inspire him and his family and maybe he'll be more inclined to support the council again in the future. The acceptance of a new project will also prove to the rest of the membership that their ideas are welcome and the council is willing to act upon them.

Let's call this initiative the "silent chairman" program. It's a novel way to get members who currently don't find any value in their membership a special opportunity to re-evaluate their membership and become happier in their decision to join the Order because they feel valued again.

It's certainly a better opportunity to improve member satisfaction than the usual routine of just asking for payment of dues with the alternative of suspension of a disappointed member.

Please keep me informed of any successes.

Vivat Jesus!

Jerry Hayes, Communication Director

Worthy District Deputies:

If I were to challenge you with a question regarding upcoming degrees in your area as it relates to the date and location of the next – Admission Degree, --or the next Formation Degree, -- or even the next Knighthood Degree; – would you be able to come up with a quick answer, right on the spot regarding these details? It certainly goes without saying that in order to bring members into our Order we must hold degrees. However, in many cases, potential members who have actually made at least a verbal commitment to join our ranks, are left in a state of limbo for such a long period of time before they are invited to an Admission Degree that they lose all enthusiasm to even become a Knight. In some cases, I'm sure, that in the shuffle of the paperwork between one member Knight and another, the potential candidate's enquiry regarding joining our ranks falls completely between the cracks and in some cases, is lost forever.

For this reason, the ongoing lines of communication between you, your Grand Knights as well as your Membership Directors must remain vibrant at all times. If a potential candidate has expressed an interest in the Order, --- even if it is only in passing. – this could possibly lead to a new member. However, immediate follow-up with the individual is essential, and in doing so the Knight completing this task must be armed with the information that is necessary to allow the candidate to make a logical decision regarding Knighthood. Although there is certainly a necessity to be armed with information regarding what the K. of C. is all about, a secondary and very essential component surrounds the ability to be able to inform this man definitively as to when and where he can make that crucial first step into Knighthood by participating in a degree. As the saying

goes” we must strike while the iron is hot” – and in far too many cases we are losing prospects by letting that initial enthusiasm cool to the point where it will not be easily rekindled.

Vivat Jesus

Bud Duguay, State Church Chairman-Shrines

Where did the time go??? There are only 5 months left in this fraternal year!

All the Shrines in Ontario are busy planning for their next season that is approaching quickly. I hope that all district DDs and GKs in Ontario make this one of their most successful year in persuading their members to attend a function at a Shrine near them.

We all know that the devotion to our blessed Mother, The Virgin Mary, is dear to all knights. With the help of Knights and the Fourth Degree members a rosary Sunday is held at every Shrine in Ontario.

Please support the few that organize these events. One of the best ways of supporting them is by making plans now for your council to be there in the greatest numbers possible. The key is to plan, plan ahead.

When you do go to our National Shrine for the Canadian Martyrs’ in Midland you will see the good work that is in progress by your Annual Martyrs’ Shrine restoration project committee, the restoration of the two Large Church Rose Windows. Thank you to all councils that have sent in their annual restoration

donation, we are at the half way point with the money needed for this year.

Please, if you have not yet made a donation, now is the time to send it in.

We should not let all these good opportunities, to show others the good works and devotions of the knights, be lost. One way is to encourage your members to invite a friend to attend one of these Shrine events. Who knows you may be able to recruit a new member this way.

Make every moment count,

Together we can succeed.

John P Semaan, Ontario State Church Chairman, Vocations-RSVP Program and Coins on a Mission Program

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

An easy way to get the ball rolling on filing your Council's RSVP (Supreme Form #2863) Application is to remind your members of so many of its benefits. First and foremost your Donation assists a Seminarian or a woman Postulate in their time of financial need, thereby arguably helping our Church when it is in need. The benefits to the Council are the \$100 Refund from Supreme (for the \$500 Donation), the Plaque/Sticker recognition for your Council, and, the use of this effort as being all 4 Church Categories for your Columbian Award Application. The RSVP really is a WIN/WIN/WIN Application.

An easy way to get the ball rolling as to your Coins on a Mission (ON State Form #SO-42) Council initiative is to designate one dedicated council member to be in charge of placing the Coins Canister in full view at all Council events/Meetings. Maybe the Warden or a Guard would be a good choice. A Motion that a donation amount for each member Dues collected (\$1 per member, \$0.25, or even \$0.10 per member, depending on the size of your Council and its available donation funds) is also an easy way to assist our Canadian Missionaries via the Coins on a Mission Program.

Let's all help our Catholic Church by participating in the RSVP (Form 2863) Program and the Coins on a Mission (Form SO-42) Program.

Vivat Jesus!

(519) 977-8764.

Dan Lohin, Youth Chairman Free-Throw

Basketball Free Throw Program

This program has already proven itself as an excellent way to organize and get youth involved.

We also have the opportunity to involve parents that come out to support their children.

Consider asking the parents to help out in scoring, catching and retrieving the ball.

Getting them to take an active part would be a way of introduction of yourself and possibly the Order.

Participation is not limited to the fathers. Girls participate and so mothers can as well.

Thank you for all that you do,



The Power of 1

"1 Member, per Council, per Month"

"1 Star Council, per District"

"1 New Council per Diocese"

"1 First Degree, per District, per Month"

"1 Verbal Contact, per Member, per Month"

"1 Member, per Program"

R.E.S.P.E.C.T.