



OHIO STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

REPORT OF THE STATE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN

123rd STATE CONVENTION

**OHIO STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

SANDUSKY, OHIO – MAY 14, 2022

REPORT OF THE STATE DEPUTY

Welcome

I would like to extend fraternal greetings and best wishes to our clergy, my Brother Knights, ladies, and guests of this 123rd Annual Ohio State Council Convention conducted this May 13– 15, 2022 at the Kalahari Resorts in Sandusky, Ohio. It has truly been an honor to serve you as your State Deputy this past fraternal year.

It was 9 years ago right here at Kalahari Resorts in Sandusky, Ohio that I was elected State Warden. Now 9 years later that we meet for the last time here at Kalahari, I am State Deputy.

Our Theme

Our theme this year, “*Lord, I Am Your Servant,*” came from when I was running for State Warden, I was praying over the decision to run or not and Our Lord said, he wanted me to run. So, I said, “Yes, Lord, I am your servant; I will do what you want me to do.”

Membership Growth

Each one of us knew there needed to be some far-reaching changes made regarding membership recruitment and retention here in Ohio. We conducted a series of monthly membership contests throughout the fraternal year. Every council would then at some point have an opportunity to cash in on a membership incentive. No council would be left behind or out of the membership contest. Councils that may have had a slow recruiting month would be able to get back in the game the following month.

I asked every District Deputy to schedule and conduct an admissions degree in his district every month. The State Website Degree Page should be overflowing with the posting of degree work in Ohio. It is still the belief of the State Council that if you schedule them, they will come.

Membership Retention

The job of a State Retention Chairman resembles that of a long-distance runner. Many times, he is working alone, always at his own pace, but determined to finish the race. His race though is never ending. Each Saturday they obtain a list of Brother Knights from the Supreme Website that are a log of “Intent to Retain” submitted for suspension. It is their job to make one last attempt to retain this brother Knight as a member of our Order. I am sure they grow weary from the endless hours spent trying to locate and speak with these Brother Knights. I cannot begin to thank them enough for their dedication and determination in the retention efforts they make. Thank you, Brothers Dan Warnock, and Brother Michael Jordan, for a job well done.

New Council Development

As I am preparing this document for the State Convention, we have successfully started one new Spanish council in this great state of Ohio. It is:

- Willard Council

Although we may not be able to obtain our Supreme Council quota, the opportunity to establish many more council in Ohio still exists.

I want to thank State Membership Director, Brother Michael Friel, and his associates throughout Ohio for an outstanding job this past fraternal year. We can only now look forward to exceeding our goals and once again becoming a leader in new council development.

State General Program

Councils also had an extra program to report to, Retention. Our two State Retention Chairmen asked to be a part of the reporting process to evaluate a council's retention activity. This has worked well and has taken some of the work load off the State Membership Director.

Councils were also required to bring in a new member for each Membership Activity reported. It was always my opinion that if you conducted any type of Membership Drive its success would be measured in new members.

State General Program Director Andrew Nuckols and State Directors were up to the challenge. Our State Program directors are as follows:

- State Family Director Joseph Hartle
- State Community Director Duane Bassett
- State Life Director Christopher Bercaw
- State Faith Director Anthony Offenberger
- State Membership Director Michael Friel
- State Retention Directors Dan Warnock and Michael Jordan
- State Insurance Liaison Jason Staas GA

State General Program Contest

The breakdown of Councils reporting an activity in each area is as follows:

- Life– 167 Councils
- Community – 144 Councils
- Faith – 139 Councils
- Family – 130 Councils
- Membership – 109 Councils.

Councils participated and reported at least one activity.

Insurance

We are truly blessed with an excellent group of men dedicated to our Order and the financial protection of our families. Each one of them is a full-time employee of our Order and day in and day out live Father McGivney's Dream.

The four General Agents of Ohio are Brothers Jason Staas, David Cary, John Spencer, and Ross Conklin.

The General Insurance Agents with the addition of many new Field Agents continue to respond to the insurance needs of our members and their families, to provide an excellent product of insurance benefits, and to assist in the exploration of potential new growth within our state.

Please take every advantage of these fine gentlemen with not only your insurance needs but with Parish Drives and Membership Promotion within your council. All of them are excellent cold call recruiters; well versed and able to help secure that new member.

Administration

Administration or paperwork is always an area that needs more attention. Forms are required and due dates are requested but somehow year after year we spend a lot of time chasing down forms. It doesn't seem to matter how we present or showcase our efforts to receive forms on time, the plan fails.

Please Brothers upon the return to your councils, make every effort to complete and submit the required Supreme Council forms legibly and on time.

I would like to recognize the work completed by my Administrative Staff. They were always willing and able to meet the challenge whenever I called. They are:

- State Administrative Director Willi Meyer
- State Administrative Staff Joseph Mackos
- State Administrative Staff James Colegrove
- State Administrative Staff Bernie Fielder
- State Administrative Staff - Audio-Visual Sean Weirich
- State Administrative Staff- Audio-Visual Terry Fitzpatrick
- State Website Director Tom Buehner
- State Fundraising Chairman Gary Eckstein, PSD
- State Special Warden Arron Mier
- Special Reports Chairman Ken Girt
- State Legal Counsel Richard Myers

Support Our Seminarians (SOS)

The Support Our Seminarians program continues to be one of the shining stars of the State Council's fund-raising efforts. From its conception in 1991 beginning as a simple "pass the hat" pocket change collections it has become the pride of our efforts as Brother Knights in the funding of religious vocations.

I would like to recognize Robert Byers, IPSD for another SOS successful year.

Measure Up Campaign

I would like to personally thank all the Brother Knights and their families who have made the 2021 Measure Up Campaign another success!

There were 158 Councils that participated in the campaign that raised over \$247,000. Their contributions will benefit over 322 agencies, programs and schools throughout Ohio that provide

service to citizens with developmental disabilities. We as Knights of Columbus and charitable men have demonstrated our continued support of our “flagship” charity.

On behalf of all the citizens in Ohio with developmental disabilities; thank you for your generosity and dedication to this program.

I would like to recognize State Measure Up Chairman State Warden James Maslach for another successful Measure Up Campaign.

Matching Funds Campaign

I would like to personally thank all the Brother Knights and their families who have made the 2021 Matching Funds Campaign another success here in Ohio.

A total of 161 Councils and 9 Assemblies and 2-Chapters participated that raised \$35,172.50 A \$25,000.00 Matching Fund Grant was awarded by the Ohio Charity Foundation bringing the campaign total to \$65,172.50. An additional grant of \$1,500.00 was also awarded to Byzantine Eparchy of Parma for their use in religious education. These contributions will support the many agencies, programs and schools throughout the six Catholic Diocese of Ohio providing religious educational services to the local parishes and schools. We as a brotherhood have demonstrated our continuing support of religious education. The real success of this annual campaign will be measured by the educational materials that the Catholic people of each diocese will continue to receive in the years to come.

On behalf of all the Directors of Religious Education throughout Ohio, I thank you for your generosity and dedication to this program.

I would like to recognize State Matching Funds Chairman for 2021, State Advocate James Maslach for another successful Matching Funds.

Super Cash Bonanza

As I write this summary of the fraternal year the 2022 Super Cash Bonanza Campaign is well underway. State Treasurer Michael Felerski and his “Road Show” Team did a great job of presenting the campaign to the membership. The idea and rewards of a good partnering program along with council ticket sales was stressed. A record number of 600,000 tickets were distributed at nine “Road Show” stops throughout Ohio.

Football Frenzy Sweepstakes Program

The Football Frenzy Sweepstakes program has continued to provide local councils an opportunity to earn money for their general operating funds. The 2021 ticket sales were up 5,463 tickets and equates to a 26.45% increase in sales. Many of the councils took advantage of a special incentive rebate offered in this year’s program to reduce their state per capita liability.

All in all, we improved in overall ticket sales. That is a good thing. We are headed in the right direction. Even so we continue to leave a lot of money on the table in the Football Frenzy Sweepstakes Program. There were still over 10,000 tickets left unsold. That equates to \$200,000.00 dollars in potential bottom line revenue for everyone to share.

Look for the State Council to continue the State Per Capita Rebate based proposals in the next State Council Administration. I still believe that this may be Ohio's sleeping giant of a fundraiser.

I would like to recognize State Fund Raising Chairman PSD Gary Eckstein for running another successful Football Frenzy Campaign. Few of us know what goes on behind the scenes and what it takes to chair a program of this importance. I cannot thank him enough for what he does for everyone at the State Council.

March Madness Basketball Sweepstakes

The March Madness Basketball Sweepstakes was a general mail program that had a limited ticket distribution to a database of prior ticket purchasers. A low-key sweepstakes campaign was run as not to interfere with the Super Cash Bonanza Program. A reinvestment of a portion of the proceeds of the Football Frenzy Sweepstakes Program was used to fund the program.

With limited sales of 6,102 tickets sold the State Council earned nearly an additional \$26,900.00 for general operating expenses. This was nearly a 53% increase in sales over the previous year. Thank you to everyone who participated in this extra fundraising effort.

I would like to again recognize State Fund Raising Chairman PSD Gary Eckstein for taking it upon himself to run this campaign.

State Council Website

With thanks to a lot of patience and planning, we have a website is highly informative. It is just not a website anymore. The site has the ability to instruct and inform our members. It has the ability to give the members the opportunity to grow as a member, as a council, and as a jurisdiction.

I would personally like to thank State Webmaster Thomas Buehner for all his time and efforts he has put forth to make the State Website as functional as possible. We also look to him for greater things to come within the electronic realms of the State Council Website.

Ohio License Plates

When renewing your plates, you must ask the Deputy Registrar for Knights of Columbus plates. Many members continue to request Knights of Columbus license plates here in Ohio. I trust that someday all members will have a vehicle with a Knights of Columbus license plate. Remember \$10.00 of the extra \$20.00 license fee is refunded to the State Council and is used as a part of our donation to the Ohio Special Olympics.

Our Patriotic Degree

We thank the Brother Knights that serve this great State of Ohio with distinction as Masters of the Fourth Degree under Vice Supreme Master Edward Ponder of the Hennepin Province. The District Masters for Ohio are Duane Lord, Michael Gauder, and the recently deceased Robert F. Solomon.

The Ultrasound Initiative

I would like to send out a special “Thank You” to the councils and Grand Knights for successful fundraising to purchase an Ultrasound Machines in their local areas.

- Archbishop Elder Council #1195, the Elizabeth New Life Center
- Father Frank Patala Council # 11716 Pregnancy Resource Center
- Council #10716 Cornerstone Pregnancy Services
- St Ladislav Council #16373 ICU Mobile, Cuyahoga

May God bless them for their extraordinary Pro-Life efforts.

Saint Joseph Icon Program

The Saint Joseph Icon program began the month of October. The four icons of the Saint Joseph icon will circulate through the State of Ohio over the previous 20 months. The Icon was scheduled in each district for an entire month. This schedule would give every council and district some time to set up the prayer service either in a council chamber or in a parish. Many councils took full advantage of this prayerful opportunity to honor the Saint Joseph Icon within your council and parish.

We thank State Warden Brother Christopher Sarka for accepting the Chairmanship of this prayerful cause.

Finances

The finances of the State Council continue to be a challenge. Our job as State Officers should be to find ways to enhance our programs rather than eliminate or cut funding to them. We have taken measures to reduce cost in many areas but still at time find it hard to make ends meet.

With an aging membership we again are presented with a significant loss in per capita revenue. We also have had a significant loss in membership over years past; this also has contributed to the loss in per capita revenue.

The Ohio membership is by far the least taxed of G-11 Jurisdictions, yet they are one of the most compensated. Very few states pay their delegates as well as we do to attend the annual convention.

Town Hall Meetings

The “Town Hall” meetings throughout Ohio began in September and continued throughout November. The meetings all had an open forum and were live and on Zoom. Meetings were scheduled throughout each diocese to give Brother Knights an opportunity to meet State Representatives near their council homes. It gave anyone attending a chance to talk about whatever subject might be on their minds that evening. The meetings were open to all Knights of every degree, age, and time of service. Knights were just asked to attend and bring an open mind, your thoughts, ideas, and ways help each other become a better Knight.

In my estimation the “Town Hall” meetings seem to work well. Some of the meetings were very well attended. There has been excellent dialogue and debate among me, other State Officers, State

Directors, and the Brother Knights in attendance. These meetings became a great place to learn about the working of your State Council, the State Website, the State General Program, Church Drives, and membership recruiting. Thank you to all the Brother Knights who took the time out of their busy lives to attend one of these “Town Hall” meetings.

District Deputies

The work of a District Deputy cannot go unnoticed. The job of a District Deputy is not that of a titleholder anymore. They have become an integral part of the State Council. They have been given a great responsibility to present, to promote, and to monitor all the programs the State Council sets before them. We know all too well that this is not an easy task. We also realize that you sacrifice many evenings away from the family in the workings of your office.

I, as State Deputy, and in unison with the State Officers would sincerely like to thank you for all the hours of service you have provided to the State Council. May God continue to give you strength to continue your work and bless each one of you in your efforts.

Appreciation

It has been an honor to serve with such a talented team of State Officers, Directors, Chairmen, and Staff. I thank you fellow officers for the continued direction, fraternity, and patience during my first year as State Deputy.

I must also thank my loving wife Beth, for without her approval, support, and understanding none of this would have been possible. I thank God each and every day for the talent and ability he has given me and for the energies necessary to complete my tasks to serve our Order in this capacity.

In Closing

May God Bless you in your efforts as you continue to do the work you do in Jesus name. Dedicate everything you do to Him for the honor and glory of God the Almighty. Stop and then see what changes it has made in your life.

“Lord, I Am Your Servant,” O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours for ever and ever. Amen

Respectfully submitted,
Mark A. Siracusa.
State Deputy

REPORT OF THE STATE CHAPLAIN

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Directors, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, Brother Knights, and guests of the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus,

As State Chaplain I provide spiritual assistance to the State Officers and to brother Knights who attend our various state events.

We initiated the first holy hour as mandated by the Supreme Council at the District Deputy meeting in Columbus in July of 2021. The theme for the reflection was creating a spiritual plan of life. Feedback from the brothers in attendance indicated that the holy hour was well received.

Unfortunately, due to illness, I was unable to attend the District Deputy meeting in January of 2022. Fortunately, a former State Chaplain was able to provide the Holy Mass for those that attended that event.

Fraternally,

Reverend Adam L. Hertzfeld, S.T.D.
State Chaplain

REPORT OF THE STATE SECRETARY

I bid you fraternal greetings to all in attendance at the 123rd annual convention of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus.

As my first year as State Secretary comes to a close, I want to take a moment here to thank all of the Brother Knights throughout Ohio for allowing me to serve as a State Officer. It has been an extremely gratifying and eye-opening experience. I continue to learn something new about the State Council each and every day and I know it will continue to be a tremendous challenge for me in the days ahead. Any success will be only made possible by the efforts of many and the grace of our Blessed Mother and our Lord Jesus Christ.

The office of Secretary has especially been a tremendous learning experience. As the State Secretary, you are responsible for the record keeping of the day-to-day financial workings of the Ohio State Council. It continues to be a constant process in growth as an officer, always preparing oneself for the next level of involvement. I am most fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such a talented group of dedicated men. They have gone the extra mile to ensure that I am comfortable in my position and with my duties as the State Secretary. I respectfully thank them for their assistance and co-operation.

As the State Secretary I have maintained of the three State Council bank accounts. This includes issuing and writing checks as directed by the State Deputy and the reconciliation of each of those three accounts every month. During this past fiscal year, there were over 1800 checks written against those accounts for State Convention Mileage and Per Diem, Measure Up Grants, Super Cash Bonanza Rebates, Football Frenzy Prizes and Rebates, Basketball Final Four winners and general operating expenses of the Ohio State Council. At the end of the State Council fiscal year a record of all deposits, checks, and reconciliations are submitted to the accounting firm of Blue & Company for audit, verification, and agreement with other state council financial records. These records and audit were made available to the Convention Audit Committee on Wednesday 5/11/22, for their online inquiry and review via the Zoom internet meeting platform.

As State Secretary I continue to oversee the state councils accounting operation on a web-based operation through Quick Books. This operating system allows each of the fiscal officers also monitor and to take a greater role in the state council's day to day finances. Having a web-based operation allows the State Deputy to have complete access to all the three state council accounts and at any time knows where the state council stands financially. This process has given the State Treasurer the ability to record all state council deposits and have a hands-on responsibility of the financial and accounting system two years earlier than as in past administrations. This system has also allowed me as State Secretary, more efficient record keeping and the ability to keep the officers of the state council informed to state council finances. The web-based operation also provides the state council's accounting firm of Blue & Company to oversee the financial workings of the state council at any time eliminating any chance of major error to our financial record keeping.

As State Secretary I am the chairman of the Audit and Credentials Committees. The Audit Committee members are given the opportunity to review the state council's financial records for the past fiscal year, which runs from April 1 to March 31. This also includes the review of the State Council's financial audit for the past fiscal year. The Credential Committee will ensure that the convention is correctly represented with an accurate count of delegates and hierarchy within the state council.

As the State Officer of the Diocese of Youngstown, I truly believe that "Team Youngstown" is 100% committed to advancing and growing the order in the Youngstown Diocese. They continue to rise to the occasion and have made this year another year to remember. The councils have taken to the task coming out of these "pandemic" years and are working on getting their membership and programming levels back to pre-Pandemic standards. I am proud to represent them as a State Officer.

The three General Insurance Agencies that cover our diocese with the addition of several new Field Agents continues to respond to the insurance needs of our members and their families, to provide a great product of insurance benefits, and to assist in the exploration of potential new growth within our diocese.

In closing it has been an honor to serve our State Deputy Mark Siracusa and the team of Brother Knights of the "*Lord, I am Your Servant*" State Program. I thank you fellow officers for the continued direction, fraternity, and patience during this year as State Secretary. I must continue to thank those who assisted me and put up with me most, my closest associates and their wives, Brothers Mike Jordan, Chris Dodson, Mark Kahanca, Phil Salasek, and Pete Rich. I must also thank my loving wife Judy, for without her approval, support, and understanding, none of this would have been possible. I thank God each day for the talent and ability he has given me and for the energies necessary to complete my tasks and serve our Order in this capacity.

May God Bless all of you for the work you have done and the work I know you will continue to do for our church, our community, and our Order in Jesus' name.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey T. Kiliany
State Secretary

REPORT OF THE STATE TREASURER

Greetings brother Knights and ladies to the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus. How wonderful is it that we can once again meet in person together!

The primary responsibility of the State Treasurer is recording deposits for the three major State Council accounts: General, Fundraising, and Measure Up. This past fiscal year there were 325 deposits made and over 6600 checks deposited with Chase Bank into the State Council's accounts. At the end of the State Council fiscal year, the records of all deposits are submitted to the accounting firm of Blue & Company for the financial audit, verification, and agreement with other state council financial records. These records and audit are made available to the Convention Audit Committee for their inquiry and review.

As a member of the Ohio Charity Foundation the State Treasurer is required to attend the Foundation's semi-annual meetings and serve on the Foundation's Scholarship Committee. In addition to this, the Treasurer is also a member of the Foundation's Budget and Investment Committee and serves as the Recording Secretary for that committee. I have also taken on the responsibility of the Ohio Knights of Columbus specialty license plate program. These special plates which cost an additional twenty dollars per year brought in over \$2,600 this past fiscal year which goes directly into our Measure-Up program account. The plates are also a great way to increase our recognizability within our communities.

Brother Knights, as I write this report, we are less than a month away from the 2022 Super Cash Bonanza drawing to be held on Saturday, May 21st and streamed live. My goal for this year's charity raffle – the largest fundraiser of the year for the Knights of Ohio – is to reach \$1,000,000 in sales and we are currently on pace to achieve that. The prospects were looking good at the beginning. Although we started the program earlier this year, mother nature had other ideas the first weekend of the Super Cash "Road Show". A huge shoutout to my fellow officers and brother Knights on the eastside of the state for distributing the tickets.

In addition, I would like to thank "Mackinac" Matt Stapleton, Rob "Curtis" Malone, "Southside" Jim Maslach, and of course "Sister" Alicia Gresko for helping me bring the Charity Brothers to life for this year's Super Cash Bonanza Charity Raffle theme. It was a lot of work, but we had a lot of fun making the video to kick off the campaign. You can find it on our state YouTube channel. As always, when the pressure is on, your brother Knights and their wives come through for you.

The first year of any new job or position can be trying. I cannot say enough about the support I received from everyone throughout the state especially my "Barrel Captain" Benjamin Tobe, my District Deputy Coordination Timothy Mangan, our State Program Chairman Andrew Nuckols, and of course PSD Dave Helmstetter. But sadly, this fraternal year our state lost a great Knight in Past State Deputy and Former Vice Supreme Master Albert Hickey. PSD Hickey's contributions to the Knights in Ohio are far too numerous to list here, but foremost he was always there to offer help and guidance in all things fraternal and treated you like an equal even when you were just a rookie state officer.

I would like to close by thanking my wonderful and loving wife Heather for listening to me on all those long-distance phone calls over the fraternal year while out of town. She has always been there supporting me along with our son T.J. And of course, thank you my brother Knights for helping me and all of us on the state council and team make this a successful “re-building” year as we move forward from the pandemic under the leadership of State Deputy Mark Siracusa – “Lord, I am your Servant”.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Felerski
State Treasurer

REPORT OF THE STATE ADVOCATE

Fraternal greetings to all in attendance during this historic 123rd State Convention of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus. It is great to be able to be back together after the last two years of dealing with COVID. The opportunities that we were afforded during that time will only help to strengthen us for the future.

One of my primary responsibilities as State Advocate in the Jurisdiction of Ohio is Chairman of the Matching Funds Campaign held in the fall of each fraternal year. The monies collected for Matching Funds are given to the religious education departments in each diocese in Ohio. All the money collected stays within the council's or assembly's diocese. This fraternal year created a challenge since many of our councils often collect their donations in their churches, and with so many of them operating at a reduced capacity, we did not know how well the program would fare this year.

With our 2021 theme; "Growing the Faith Through Catholic Education" our councils, assemblies and chapters were able raise \$35,172.50 which was only \$4,772 less than the previous fraternal year. This showed that, despite the pandemic and financial hardships, the Knights of Columbus in Ohio continued our commitment to Catholic Education in our dioceses and throughout the state. When you include the generous \$25,000 matching contribution by the Ohio Charity Foundation and a \$5,000 match from the Ohio State Council State Officers, we reached a grand total of \$65,172.50. Thank you everyone throughout the state for your diligent efforts in supporting this fraternal year's campaign.

A total of seven (7) checks were presented to the six (6) dioceses:

- Archdiocese of Cincinnati: \$11,567.00
- Diocese of Cleveland: \$9,938.80
- Diocese of Columbus: \$9,652.10
- Diocese of Steubenville: \$2,726.40
- Diocese of Toledo: \$13,006.00
- Diocese of Youngstown: \$17,082.20
- Eparchy of Parma: \$1,500 on behalf of the Ohio Charity Foundation.

An additional duty was to close out the 2021 Measure Up Program that I was responsible for as State Warden. The 2021 Measure Up Program raised over \$264,277 to support the agencies, programs, and schools throughout Ohio which provide service to our citizens with developmental disabilities. Once again, we have demonstrated our unending love and support of our own Knights of Columbus "flagship" charity. With this you exemplify the true spirit of "Columbianism"!

The 2021 campaign saw 158-councils participate and their contributions went to assist 196-agencies throughout Ohio. I would like to congratulate those councils who "Thought Differently" to participate during the pandemic this year. Your dedication, effort, enthusiasm, and creativity have been an example for all. On behalf of all the citizens in Ohio with developmental disabilities, thank you for your generosity and dedication to the program.

In addition, the state continues to offer our Online Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity every Wednesday night at 7PM via Zoom. We have offered these online exemplifications since April 2020. For the fraternal year, we have hosted over 40-exemplifications and have brought in a total of 171-new, e-members and advanced members through April 2022. I would like to personally thank the six diocesan teams for their continued dedication and support of this project.

Archdiocese of Cincinnati	Diocese of Cleveland	Diocese of Columbus
Robert Burns Danny Sprouse Jeff Rohde Steve Berns Ken Haacke Ed Ponder	Joe Vallowe George Metz Mike Incorvati Paul Visnosky Teran Taggart	Joe Dickman Jim Malinowski Eric Yang Marty Majka Tom Prem Michael Williams Rod Anderson Rob de Santos (prior to move)
Diocese of Steubenville	Diocese of Toledo	Diocese of Youngstown
Tom Offenberger John Hirschfield Vince Stollar Adam Schwendeman Larry Moegling	Greg Singular Matt Smith Dave Hasting Michael Marshall Eric LoPrete	Ron Marcala Michael Jordon Jeff Kiliany Chris Dodson Phil Salasek

A very special thank you to Phil Salasek for filling in as the facilitator when Youngstown presents so that I can have an evening to work on other projects or visit councils.

This year, I have also been given the honor to sit on the Ohio Charity Foundation’s Scholarship Committee and had the added responsibility of being the chairman of the Foundation’s Grants Committee. It is through your efforts statewide, brother Knights, that we can support our Catholic youth and so many charitable organizations in Ohio which is truly humbling.

I would like to thank you my brother Knights and my fellow officers on the State Council for all your help during my first year as State Advocate. This year continues to be a learning experience as there was several cases and questions with legal ramifications that required my attention. I would like to thank, publicly, Supreme Advocate John Marrella. John was always available, no matter the time, to discuss any legal issues or concerns that I had during my research.

I would like to thank my Cleveland Leadership Team for their assistance and communication throughout this fraternal year. District Deputy Coordinator George Metz, Diocesan Membership Directors Brett Hazen and Mike Incorvati, and General Agent David Cary for all their work with the talented and dedicated district deputies and council officers in Cleveland. I also would like to thank PSDs Roland Bator and Robert Collins Jr for their continued support and advise.

I offer a sincere thank you to all the councils and brother Knights within the Diocese of Cleveland and throughout Ohio who have met the challenge of the pandemic and strived to *Leave No Neighbor Behind* during these difficult times. All of us have a great bond through our Catholic faith and our brotherhood in the Order. But most of all the Knights of Columbus offers friendship, a friendship which is not unlike a true family.

Finally, where would I be without the love and support that my wife, Kathy, provides. She diligently works alongside me in the office on those late nights, conference calls and online sessions. She is my reminder of when it is time to stop and get some rest so that we can come back tomorrow and continue to move forward. Thank you, Kathy. I love you.

Respectfully submitted,
James K. Maslach
State Advocate

REPORT OF THE STATE WARDEN

Fraternal greetings to my fellow bother Knights and guests as we share the excitement to meet in person once again for this 123rd Annual Ohio State Convention. With the fraternal year winding down, we once more reflect on our achievements and opportunities. In addition, we plan for the future of the Order, the Church, our families, and communities. We do so stronger than before as we push through what we pray to be the final stages of this pandemic.

Stronger together, as Knights, maintaining the balance of our core principles. Brothers, I am truly honored to serve you as your State Warden. This past year, as a “junior officer”, I have witnessed more than ever the genuine fraternity between catholic gentlemen. The support of many have helped me to develop further in my role to become a better Knight and leader within our jurisdiction. How appropriate is our State Deputy’s motto, “Lord, I am Your Servant”, for He calls every one of us to follow His commands with joy and to live not for the things of this life but for those of eternity.

Serving as your State Warden, gives me the privilege to take on many responsibilities from those before me who have paved the way and given so much back to Ohio. I also look forward to progressing into 2022-23 fraternal year continuing to chair programs such as our “flagship” charity Measure Up, along with the faith-based programs of the Pilgrim Icon and Silver Rose.

Thank you to the 158 councils that participated in the 2021 Measure Up campaign. With your efforts, over \$247,684 was raised to support agencies, programs and schools throughout Ohio which provide service to our citizens of Ohio with developmental disabilities. Despite the challenges many faced, Knights kept adapting and finding new ways in addition to the core methods that produce these great results. Great work by St Joseph of the Three Rivers Council 11550, who raised \$8,500 in 2021 and received recognition as the highest total collected by a council.

With the current 2022 Measure Up campaign in currently in progress, a report of the 2022 results is not attainable currently. Campaign end date is August 1st, 2022.

How blessed am I to have so much support and guidance as this first year of my journey. With that, I am very thankful to all my fellow Brothers in this great state of Ohio that has given me their full support. Thank you to the Columbus Diocesan Team for your dedication and hard work, Columbus Chapter Officers for bringing men of charity together, my fellow State Officers and of course the wisdom and support of our Past State Deputies.

In closing, I would like to thank my wonderful wife and best friend, Gina. Many challenges have come our way and yet she has always been 100% supportive of our work and dedication with the Knights of Columbus. She is my strength to continue forward and with the graces of our Lord Jesus Christ remain to serve you for the years to come.

Fraternally,
Christopher Sarka
State Warden

REPORT OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY

Delegates, Attendees, and Guests of the 123rd Ohio State Convention,

As Immediate Past State Deputy, I have served in an advisory capacity to our State Deputy Mark Siracusa and the state officer team. It has been an honor to serve with this team of officers. Congratulations to Mark, his officer corps, and his membership and programming team for a successful 2021-2022 fraternal year.

My prime responsibility this fraternal year has been tracking the financial contributions of the annual Support Our Seminarians (S.O.S.) program. I am pleased to report that this has been a very good fraternal year for vocations overall. At this time, 207 councils, three assemblies, and one chapter have contributed \$164,806.03 to support the vocations programs in our six dioceses.

The diocese summary (before expenses) is the following:

Diocese	Amount	Councils	Assemblies	Chapters
Cincinnati	\$17,438.82	41	1	0
Cleveland	\$22,265.96	31	0	0
Columbus	\$64,637.83	47	2	1
Steubenville	\$4,488.61	12	0	0
Toledo	\$33,061.88	41	0	0
Youngstown	\$19,829.68	35	0	0

Over the last several years, Columbus has exceeded \$50,000 in each campaign, the most in Support Our Seminarians history. What a tremendous improvement over the 2002 campaign when the diocese raised a little over \$6,000. Congratulations are extended to Columbus Knights for such a great effort.

This year's campaign marks the eleventh straight year in which the overall state total has exceeded \$100,000 and is the fourth highest campaign total in program history. This campaign raises our collections for vocations to just over \$1.8 million since 2002.

I would also like to recognize three councils that donated over \$10,000 each and received the Platinum Award: St. Francis Assisi Council #10792 at \$10,438.97, Dover Council #1973 at \$12,404.54, and Perrysburg Council #7978 at \$12,539.14.

This year 43 councils and 1 chapter reached the \$1,000 plateau or better to earn recognition at this state convention. Again, special thanks to all. *Please refer to the following chart.*

In closing, I would also like to thank everyone in the great jurisdiction of Ohio for their support during this past year as a state officer. I am always pleased to say that the Ohio Knights of Columbus and their families are the greatest people in the world. My wife Peggy and I thank all for your kindness and support.

Fraternally,
Robert E. Byers
Immediate Past State Deputy

The “Support Our Seminarians” Club Recognition

Total	Council No.	(Location) Council Name	DIO
\$12,539.14	7978	Perrysburg	TOL
\$12,404.54	1973	Dover	COL
\$10,438.97	10792	Strongsville St. Francis of Assisi	CLE
\$5,940.42	1362	Delphos Ray McKowen	TOL
\$5,002.01	11188	Columbus Miraculous Medal	COL
\$5,000.00	591	Fremont	TOL
\$5,000.00	3777	North Canton Bishop McFadden	YOU
\$4,874.00	13705	Columbus Christ the King	COL
\$4,000.00	10765	Powell Saint Joan of Arc	COL
\$3,975.26	16561	Canal Winchester St. Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli	COL
\$3,690.45	4324	Johnstown Ascension	COL
\$3,386.24	11915	Boardman St. Frances Cabrini	YOU
\$3,285.58	910	Danville St. Luke	COL
\$3,000.00	8829	Wauseon St. Caspar	TOL
\$2,850.00	576	Denison	COL
\$2,509.00	5582	Navarre Rt. Rev Msgr. Anthony P Boeff	YOU
\$2,374.00	14502	Perrysburg St. John XXIII	TOL
\$2,300.00	4603	Grove City Perpetual Help	COL
\$2,286.00		Columbus Chapter	
\$2,050.00	957	Findlay Leo	TOL
\$2,000.00	14671	Cardington Sacred Heart	COL
\$1,823.74	4587	Miamisburg Saint Joseph	CIN
\$1,724.00	14282	Columbus Our Lady of Peace	COL
\$1,500.00	341	Canton	YOU
\$1,500.00	5776	Westerville	COL
\$1,500.00	11187	Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	COL
\$1,337.00	7970	North Ridgeville	CLE
\$1,283.00	6034	Van Wert	TOL
\$1,172.00	4733	Canton Holy Martyrs	YOU
\$1,100.00	2158	Minster Fr Andrew Kunkler	CIN
\$1,012.00	4448	Mansfield Joseph Scholl	TOL
\$1,010.00	3727	Columbus Assumption	COL
\$1,005.50	14551	Akron St. Hilary	CLE
\$1,001.00	14504	Centerville Father Francis X Hoffer OFM	CIN
\$1,000.00	1039	Defiance Monsignor Lang	TOL
\$1,000.00	1641	Cambridge	STEU

Total	Council No.	(Location) Council Name	DIO
\$1,000.00	2565	Caldwell Father Klueber	STEU
\$1,000.00	3269	Avon Lake Father Ragan	CLE
\$1,000.00	5669	Kalida Fr. Michael Muehe	TOL
\$1,000.00	10863	Dublin Saint Brigid of Kildare	COL
\$1,000.00	10941	New Albany	COL
\$1,000.00	12359	Cincinnati Joseph Cardinal Bernardin	CIN
\$1,000.00	13813	Loveland St. Columban	CIN

REPORT OF THE STATE GENERAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Directors, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, Brother Knights, and guests of the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus, I want to Thank all Councils who put their Faith in to Action under the “**Lord, I am Your Servant**” Ohio General Program this past year. I know the start of the fraternal year was rocky with more lock downs and semi-lock downs for COVID-19. As we went into Fall, then Winter and now Spring, more councils have gotten active doing programs and reporting them on the Fraternal Program Report (Form #10784).

I want to say a big Thank You to my Faith in Action Directors who read, review, grade and tracked all the Council Choice activities that come in each first of the month from Supreme from Fraternal Program Reports (10784's) submitted by councils. It is only due to their dedicated and assistance throughout the year, especially this past month as we closed out the Ohio General Program for the State Convention. Thank you to Tony Offenberger - State Faith Director, Joe Hartle – State Family Director, Duane Bassett – State Community Director, Christopher Bercaw – State Life Director and Michael Friel State Membership Director for making the state program run as smooth as it does. I also thank the Wives and Families of these mem to allow them to dedicate so much time to Ohio State Council.

I also own a sincere gratitude to Tom Buehner – State Webmaster, Ken Girt – State Special Reports, and Jim Maslach, State Advocate for their work to help keep the statistics, reports and tracking systems up to date and available for the State Team and all the Councils in Ohio. Their behind-the-scenes work does not go unnoticed by me and all that they do to make my job easier.

I also sincerely thank State Deputy Mark Siracusa for having the faith in me and offer this opportunity to serve the brother Knights and their Councils as well as the Ohio State Council. This past year has been rewarding and satisfying experience. Thank you, Beth, and Mark for all your dedicated support!

We have roughly 45 days left in the Fraternal Year, still time for Councils to make the Star Council Award. Make sure you send in Columbus Award (Form SP-7) by June 30, have earned the Fr. McGivney Founders Award (hosting or attending online two Fraternal Benefit Nights Form #11077), Submitted both the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form #1728) and Service Program Personnel Report (Form #365) and fully compliant with the Safe Environment requirements.

Now is also a good time for Councils to conduct their 2021-22 Fraternal Year in Review, to discuss what lessons were leaned this past year, what they can improve upon for next fraternal year. Successful planning and effective implementation will lead to a year strong in Charity, Unity and Fraternity putting your Faith in to Action under “**Lord, I am Your Servant**” program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew J. Nuckols
State General Program Director

REPORT OF THE STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Greetings fellow Knights and family to the 123rd Annual Ohio State Convention. I am going to give you a brief rundown on how Membership has been in Ohio the past year. As we are winding down from the Pandemic, Membership is starting to pick up, as more Councils and Parishes are becoming more active. People have been confined and cooped up for the past two years and are now wanting to be active once again. That's good for our Membership, as it is growing.

As you are reading this report, we are at about 68-70% of our Goal of 1,850 New Members that Supreme Council has assigned us to recruit. We are at about +1300 new members brought in since July 1, 2021.

State Deputy Mark Siracusa and I are hoping for a big push in the last two months of our Fraternal Year. I think that we will be able to make it happen. If You Do Not Ask Men to Join...they probably will not. **ASK THEM TO JOIN US.**

The biggest asset we have in our Membership toolbox is the online e-member. We have recruited about 680-700 men via the online e-member. Our conversion rate from e-member status to being placed into a Council is approximately 54% of those that signed up. There are many men who have signed up as an e-member and just do not want to be involved with a Council or participate in any activity...yet. So perhaps one day when they see the good works that our Councils throughout the State of Ohio, they might change their mind and join a Council.

The other asset in our Membership Toolbox is the Membership Directors that are in each Diocese. These men have been working hard with our Online E-membership Director Stu Vetter and getting the e-members contacted and into a Council. The Membership Directors are also contacting the Councils in the State and assisting them with recruiting and Membership Drives. I am very proud of these men chosen to be Membership Directors as they are helping the State achieve and increase our Membership. Without them we would not have as many new members as we do now. Job well done. Thank You Membership Directors.

One of the biggest areas of growth in Membership this year has been with the Hispanic Councils. In September we started a Hispanic Council in Springfield, Ohio Council 17793 Padre Miguel Pro. There are approximately 34 members in the Council now, and it is still growing. There is also another Hispanic Council in formation in Willard, Ohio. At the time of this writing, Supreme Council has not assigned a Council number yet. There are approximately 32 men in that Council, and that one is growing also. There is another Hispanic Council in the early formation stages in Wauseon, Ohio. Both Councils were requested by the Parish Priest.

Recruiting a New Member into the Order is one of the most important and noteworthy accomplishments that any Knight can achieve. New Members keep our Councils vibrant and ensure our success in the years ahead. **IF YOU DO NOT ASK A MAN TO JOIN HE PROBABLY WON'T. ASK A CATHOLIC MAN TO JOIN US.**

By joining the Knights of Columbus, it will make a man a better husband, father, and Catholic.

Recruit a New Member into your Council. By doing so it will help invest our time, our effort, and our resources into our values CHARITY, UNITY, FRATERNITY & PATRIOTISM.

The more men you recruit into your Council will lessen the time and burdens on those who are constantly giving of their time. Together Everyone Accomplishes More.

Fraternally Yours,
Michael Freil
State Membership Director

REPORT OF THE STATE DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR

I have heard many people from Grand Knights to State Deputies say that District Deputies are the backbone of our order. Those gentlemen were spot on.

This fraternal year provided some real challenges coming out of the quarantines. Not all parishes opened at the same time. Many people were thrilled to get out among the people and socialize, while others didn't trust that it was safe to do so.

We started the fraternal year with a District Deputy meeting focused on training. We began by asking the experienced district deputies, "What I wish I knew as a new District Deputy?" This didn't produce as many answers as we had hoped, but it gave us a good starting point. With that, we broke Friday night's training up into four sessions – Membership, Meetings, Forms, and Websites. Our very own District Deputy Coordinators teamed up to teach these topics.

Thanks to State Secretary Jeff Kiliany and State Advocate Jim Maslach for putting together an excellent District Deputy Training Video. I highly recommend all new and perspective district deputies watch this. It is available on the Ohio State Council website.

One of the things I did when I was a District Deputy Coordinator was to send monthly suggestions of topics for district deputies to discuss at their council meetings. I have continued this practice as District Deputy Director. Thank you to District Deputy Coordinator Tim Mangan of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati who beat me to the point on a few occasions which allowed me to plagiarize his information. Sharing information is something we all need to do.

As I mentioned before, some Knights couldn't wait to get out into the public. This provided excellent opportunities to conduct successful programs. Some councils were putting on more successful programs than they ever had.

In August we had our Second Pseudo Virtual Supreme Convention. Delegates met together within their jurisdiction and viewed the ceremonies that took place in New Haven, Connecticut. Archbishop Leonard Blair of Hartford was the officiant over the opening mass. He also presided over the beatification mass of our founder Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney. What most people don't know is the Archbishop Blair maintains his Fourth-Degree membership in Ohio with Assembly 807 in Toledo.

Again, this year, Territorial Growth Director and Maryland Past State Deputy Steve Cohen offered his services working with district deputies in a "Check In" to get an idea of where they stood working with their councils. This was a disappointing event as less than half of our Ohio District Deputies took advantage of this opportunity.

State Deputy Mark Siracusa has always referred to district deputies as conduit. Our conduit should be a two-way flow of information – a feed and return. Right now, I believe we are doing a pretty good job of feeding information from Supreme and the Ohio State Council to our district deputies. Unfortunately, the return is weak. There are many DD's who don't understand how important sending information back up the chain is. For those who don't know, we use the

monthly council visitation report for this. District Deputies are required to visit and fill out this report once a quarter for each council. Over the last several years the state staff has greatly improved this form. It now only takes a minute or two to complete. I want to thank George Metz and the District Deputies of the Cleveland Diocese for ensuring all their reports were filled out in the third quarter.

In January, we held our Mid-Year District Deputy Meeting. This time we featured evaluations. We can't expect our people to improve if we don't give them feedback. State Deputy Mark Siracusa insisted that one-on-one evaluations of district deputies were conducted by the District Deputy Coordinator. This would help ensure the DD fully understood what was expected of him. He also insisted that the evaluations take place on Friday night so that no one missed out on the valuable information being distributed on Saturday and Sunday.

District Deputies had the opportunity to win several awards. The Bronze Platter Award winners were presented with a \$25 gift card for ensuring all council Form 185's was turned in by the July tour meeting, for attending the June District Deputy Meeting in Columbus, and for attending the July State Tour meeting in their diocese. Nearly a dozen District Deputies were awarded the Bronze Platter Award. We also had two Silver Award Winners. DD #36 Eric Yang and DD #71 William Howe were presented \$50 gift cards for winning the Silver Platter Award. The criteria for this award included having all council Form 365's turned in, have at least 50% of your councils do at least four state program activities by December 31, 2021, have a positive membership intake, and have at least 50% of their councils participate in the Matching Fund Program.

The mid-year meeting also presented the opportunity to name the top DD in each of the six dioceses. These individuals were selected by the District Deputy Coordinators in conjunction with their diocesan officer. The top District Deputies for the First Six Months of the 2021-2022 fraternal year were DD #8 Kenneth Haacke from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, DD #26 from the Cleveland Diocese, DD #36 Eric Yang from the Columbus Diocese, DD #54 Anthony Offenberger from the Steubenville Diocese, DD #68 Daniel Roggelin from the Toledo Diocese, and DD #82 Raymond Zornjak from the Youngstown Diocese. DD #26 Teran Taggart was selected the Ohio State Council District Deputy for the First Six Months.

Our mid-year meeting also saw the departure of District Deputy Coordinator Rob de Santos from the Columbus Diocese. He began a new stage in his life with a move to Portugal. DD #43 David Bogner has been named as his replacement.

March brought the annual Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Championship again held at Bishop Ready High School in Columbus. Participation appeared to be slightly lower which is probably because of the lingering effects of the COVID-19 lockdown. Obtaining gyms for council and district contests continues to be a challenge.

Thank you to District Deputy Coordinators Tim Mangan, George Metz, Rob de Santos, David Bogner, Jeff Turner, Tim Bohls, Jr., and Mark Kahanca for holding everything together. I only mentioned that something needed to be done and these gentlemen got it done.

Number one goal for the upcoming fraternal year is to maximize training opportunities. We also need to encourage councils hold programs to in turn grow membership. Other goals include doing what we can to open parishes and councils.

Fraternally
James Collins
State District Deputy Director

REPORT OF THE STATE FAITH DIRECTOR

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Directors, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, Brother Knights, and guests of the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus, how do you strengthen men and their families in their Catholic faith? You do spiritual activities that involve the family and the Catholic Church.

During the past year, there were 139 councils that submitted at least 1 faith activity then of those councils 49 of them max the faith program with 100 points. There were 59 Chaplin/Spiritual Advisor of the year nominations submitted.

How is that compared to past years you might ask? It is better as far as councils reporting but the number of councils that reached 100 points was down a little. So how can we do better next year? I think it is very simple. We need more councils to report their programs. I know there is more going on in this great state then what is being reported. Also, the councils that are reporting need to finish the year with a nomination for a spiritual person within their council. It can be anyone that fits that role. I received several that were just Brother Knights that exemplified that role. There were many councils that were very close to 100 points. All they needed was that nomination and it turned in on time. I think it is very possible to get 175 councils reporting at least 1 activity and 75 councils max the faith program. This is my challenge to you, my Brother Knights.

I would like to thank all the 139 councils for their reports and the 59 Chaplin/Spiritual Advisor of the year nominations. Picking the Diocesan winner for each Diocese was hard but choosing the overall winner was considerably more challenging.

I would also like to thank our Worthy State Deputy, Mark Siracusa for asking me to serve my Brother Knights, the State Council, and our Order as the State Faith Director over this past year. If any of you Brother Knights are asked to take a position like this, please consider it an honor. You will not regret serving this great State.

Finally, and most of all, I want to thank my wife Kristin for all her support and understanding. (And helping pick the overall winners) If not for her support, this would not be possible.

Vivat Jesus!

Respectfully Submitted,
Tony Offenberger
State Faith Director

REPORT OF THE STATE FAMILY DIRECTOR

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Directors, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, Brother Knights, and guests of the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus, it has been my true honor and pleasure to serve this past fraternal year as your Ohio State Family Director. Despite the limitations imposed due to the recent health pandemic, it has delighted me to see all the great works that our Councils have done this past year to get families back in our parishes, back in our councils, and back together again. Seeing how councils have adapted and the unique ways they have implemented their family activities has been inspiring and enjoyable.

This past fraternal year, we had 130 councils report at least one family related activity. In total, we had 619 family activities reported. We know that there are more councils conducting family activities and events throughout their parishes and community, so please remember to report these activities so we can see what you do to get families together in the name of fun, fraternity, faith, and friendship. Thank you for your reports and keep up the great work!

Of note, we had 95 councils report participation in the Food for Families program, a flagship program of the Knights of Columbus to help support our food pantries and organizations so that no one is left hungry. The effort of these councils resulted in thousands of pounds of food being donated to those in need. I commend all councils that participate in the Food for Families program.

Sadly, we had very few reports of councils participating in activities meant to bring families together in faith and prayer, such as Family Prayer Night, Family Fully Alive, and Consecration to the Holy Family. Certainly, the pandemic played a role in limiting our abilities to get together at various levels. But, with the changes in technology and the way that people participate in activities, our councils need to adapt and embrace a new way of doing things. So, I encourage all councils to think outside the box to join our families together in faith, fun and prayer. Several councils reported a Memorial Mass this year. These are some of my favorite reports to receive, as it demonstrates our dedication to Fr. McGivney's call to action to remember our deceased brothers and support the families of our departed Knights. Now is more important than ever that we reinvigorate that spirit and commitment. I challenge you to find new and unique ways to remember our deceased Knights and their families, not just once a year, but throughout the year.

Thank you to our Worthy State Deputy for his confidence in me and allowing me to serve as your Family Director this past year. Thank you also to our General Program Director, my fellow Directors, and all our State Officers for their support, guidance, and fraternity this past year.

Finally, and most importantly, thank you to my wonderful wife, April, and our beautiful daughters, Audrey, Penny, and Evie, who have sacrificed time with their husband and daddy to allow me to serve in this position. I love you all dearly. May God bless you and your families in all you do! Vivat Jesus!

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph S. Hartle
State Family Director

REPORT OF THE STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Directors, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, Brother Knights, and guests of the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus, the word that expresses my first year as your State Community Director for the State of Ohio, is EXHILARATING! COVID-19 is still with us in a few instances, but the fraternal year has seen councils getting back into the normal phase in reporting their community activities. I am overwhelmed and proud of the different community activities councils in the State of Ohio have reported throughout the year. Brother Knights are continuing to be a leading source for church and community needs. The community activity reports show the desire and commitment of Knights of Columbus councils to be supporting leaders in volunteer service.

The programs such as Leave No Neighbor Behind, Coats for Kids, Food Drives, Blood Drives have been successful because the knights have support of one another, coming together for a good cause and the determination for success. I received photos, documentation, and positive feedback from councils reporting.

The Soccer Challenge was conducted in the timeframe as outlined in the Supreme Official Guide Booklet. The Ohio State Council was notified that one State Winner was named International Champion based on best scores from the state competitions. The Catholic Citizenship Essay contest was also completed in the period outlined by Supreme. The number of entries were small, but the essays were beautifully written. The Free Throw Championship program was conducted at the Council, District, Regional and State level. The State level was held this year after a two-year absence. The State level had sixty contestants complete for the honors and trophies. I want to thank all the Program Directors, District Deputies and District Deputy Coordinators, and supporting staff for their help in getting me prepared for these programs.

The fraternal year show 144 councils submitting at least one Community Program Activity. A total of 748 Community Activities were reported. 43 councils maxed the Community Program which is lower than the past year. The high number of councils reporting Community Activities is encouraging because it is the first-time reporting for some councils.

The Youth of the Year activity had reports from 43 councils. The numbers are down slightly from last year, but the nominations received displays an array of extraordinary youths. The selection process was very time consuming and difficult. I enjoyed reading the supporting reviews of the nominees and thank the councils for submitting their choice.

I would like to thank our State Deputy Mark Siracusa for selecting me to be the State Community Director this year. I want to thank the State Officers and staff for supporting me in my new position. The help I received was very instrumental in making this year an enjoyable experience. I encourage all Councils to start planning for next fraternal year for your community activities. Vivat Jesus!

Respectfully Submitted
Duane A. Bassett
State Community Director

REPORT OF THE STATE LIFE DIRECTOR

Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy State Directors, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, Brother Knights, and guests of the 123rd Annual Convention of the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus, even though only 167 of the 373 councils in the GREAT State of Ohio reported programs, there was great programs reported. This year, though challenging on so many levels, the Ohio Knights still seen some major progress in Pro-life!

The Marches for Life were held across the state despite COVID restrictions. Though it was reported they were not as well attended as in previous years, they were held and allowed a choice for the unborn to be heard. Several Councils still sponsored groups to the Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Fundraising for various Pro-life causes were hampered, but still had success across the state. Many held their “banquet” virtually this past year and they were a success. Several Councils held baby bottle drives in support of pregnancy centers and Ultrasound initiatives and were successful despite a pandemic. Ten council reported they are helping to make new Ultrasounds on their way to being added to women’s health clinics in our state.

Nine councils reported they helped to provide diapers, formula, baby clothes and food as well as emotional support. We can be proud that the Ohio Knights don’t just pray, they work to answer those prayers as well.

Thirty-three councils participated in praying the Novena for Life and eleven participated in 40 Days for Life.

I was happy to see that so many councils are supporting our friends in the Special Olympics (18). Supreme Council sent a check for \$2,500 to Ohio State Council for the Special Olympics programs reported on the Fraternal Programs Report (10784’s). Five councils doing Masses for the people with special needs.

I see thirteen councils supporting Christian Refugee relief and several councils supported the Ukraine relief. Although I know the Silver Rose prayer service was being conducted, not as many reported the program.

Let's not forget the Knight of the Year, I received over 60 nominations!! They were all great in their own way. This made it difficult to decide who the "best" was in each diocese and the state.

I admonish you, do not give up! The spiritual challenge remains, *“Be sober and watch: because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, goeth about seeking whom he may devour.”* 1 Peter 5:8

Respectfully Submitted
Christopher Bercaw
Ohio State Council Life Director

REPORT OF THE STATE SPECIAL REPORTS CHAIRMAN

I would like to extend my fraternal greetings and best wishes to all the delegates attending the 123rd Annual Ohio State Council Convention being held May 13 - 15, 2022.

It has been an honor to serve our State Deputy Mark Siracusa this past year as the Special Reports Chairman, continuing several of the special reports that I developed over the years as a state officer. Those reports include:

Monthly Star Council Status Report. This report is updated and distributed every first of the month using data from several of the Supreme Council reports from their website. This report is used by the state officers and district deputies as a current “snapshot” of their council’s activities, submitted reports, membership growth, and state fundraising participation. I know we have many grand knights and councils who are working hard to achieve the Star Council Award despite the ongoing COVID pandemic. And Supreme Council has even made it easier this fraternal year by continuing the reduced council membership quota and insurance requirement.

Council Master List. This list of all active and inactive councils is used for various program and fundraising activities for establishing quotas. It is also used as a reference guide for all our councils as it lists their Supreme Council official name and location, district number, district deputy, diocese location, and membership total as of May 1 of previous fraternal year.

I assisted our State Secretary, Jeff Kiliany, this past year in establishing the State Council Per Capita invoices, mileage calculations for convention and district deputy meetings, and convention per diem and mileage rebate calculations.

I also assisted our State Treasurer, Mike Felerski, in recording the Super Cash Bonanza tickets and payments from our councils for this important charity fundraising campaign. I also created a back-up rebate calculation program as a verification for the rebate calculations of our primary raffle-ticket recorder.

I would like to thank our state officers, district deputies, general agents, and state directors for their continued support of the Star Council Award. And thanks to you, the Grand Knights, and leaders of our councils! You have been elected to lead your council in its quest for the Star Council Award. Everything expected of a Grand Knight during a fraternal year is included in this one award.

In conclusion, let us all continue to grow our councils and to grow the Order here in Ohio. We need to bring in other Catholic men to help us with all our work. Vivat Jesus!

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Girt, PSD
Special Reports Chairman

REPORT OF THE STATE SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR AND WEBMASTER

The state of Ohio has taken great leaps over the last couple of years. Various councils, diocese and districts have all started Facebook pages and have linked with the State Facebook page. This only increases the amount of people that we can reach with the message of the Knights of Columbus. But it also shows the activity that we all do in the name of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Our Facebook page continues to draw attention and we use it more and more. As of this report, the number of likes on the Facebook page is over 1200. We continue to explore new uses for Instagram as State Treasurer Mike Felerski continues to post new and re-post council and Supreme messages and images. Our email distribution system has been upgraded to include all the council officers and program directors. This is over 7,500 contacts allowing the state to have a massive distribution system of information that can be quickly put out there for all to have available. Our YouTube Channel has really taken off with training and some fun videos for all to see. We continue to use our YouTube Channel to broadcast state and special events. Finally, the last couple of years, the state has used Zoom to host meetings, get together, and our weekly online Exemplifications. All these tools are designed to help keep our members informed and to also show the world that Ohio is doing great things.

The state website continues to be an evolving entity all to itself. It has become the single source of information for the state. New this year is the addition of the Past State Deputies page where, thanks to PSD Al Hickey, a list of all Past State Deputies and their pictures are available. It is a lasting tribute to the men that have helped to build Ohio to where it is today. All the state programs, forms, events, and resources are available at a moments notice. Direct links to Supreme forms and pages again allows the state website to be the portal to find the information you need when you need it. Thank you for your continued support and use of the state website. If there is something that is missing or you think should be there, please let us know.

This year, we were able to work with Supreme to allow councils to submit their General Program activities directly to Supreme via the Fraternal Programs Report Form #10784. At the end of each month of the fraternal year, Supreme provided us with a data dump of everything submitted to them from the councils across the state of Ohio. In turn, we were able to import this data into our state website, allowing the State Program Directors to grade the activities to count toward the State General Program. This eliminated the need for councils to duplicate submitting the same information twice (once to Supreme and again to the State). As of April 18, 2022, Supreme received 2,191 activities submitted to them from 163 councils in the state of Ohio. Thank you to all the councils that submitted activities!

Finally, special thanks to State Treasurer Michael Felerski and State Advocate James Maslach for their continued work on our social media platforms, state website, and other media outlets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Buehner
State Website Chairman

REPORT OF THE FUNDRAISING CHAIRMAN

Worthy State Deputy Mark Siracusa, State Officers, State Directors, District Deputy's, Grand Knights, and Brother Knights of the 123rd Annual State Convention of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus.

The 2021 Football Sweepstakes program continued to grow thus helping all councils that participated to earn additional cash rebates along with a credit toward this annual state per capita tax. The State Council created new incentives that encourage councils to increase their football ticket sales so they may increase their rebates to over \$10.00 for each ticket sold. As a result, council sales increase by nearly 26%, this year, thus increasing cash rebates and per capita credit to over \$225,000.00.

The 2021 FBS sales were up 5,495 tickets over the 2020 sales as councils took advantage of the incentives offer by State Deputy Mark Siracusa. As a result, we had over 26,100 football sweepstake tickets sold. An outstanding job that directly benefits our local councils.

The 2022 Football Sweepstakes will begin in July, with tickets being distributed on the diocesan tours. **Our goal -- selling all 35,960 tickets.** Last year we sold nearly 73% of our goal and awarded over \$202,000.00 in cash rebates – so should we reach our goal of 35,960 – **councils will be sharing in nearly \$500,000 proceeds.** So, **get on the 2022 Football Sweepstakes team** and make extra money for your council while enjoying the NFL football season by winning some of the over **\$27,500.00** in prizes.

<u>Diocese</u>	<u>Council Winners</u>	<u>Total Winners</u>	<u>\$\$ Awarded</u>
Cincinnati	40	72	\$ 6,792.01
Cleveland	37	70	\$ 5,990.62
Columbus	35	53	\$ 4,277.11
Steubenville	10	23	\$ 2,187.14
Toledo	30	48	\$ 5,256.43
Youngstown	25	38	\$ 3,491.83
TOTAL	177	306	\$ 27,995.14

<u>Top Council Winners</u>
Father Ragan 3269 (9)
Msgr Dooley 361 (8)
Fr. Kunkler 2158 (6)
Santa Maria 2898 (6)
St. Josephs 11550 (6)
Van Wert 6034 (5)
New Albany 10941 (5)

Top councils earning rebates were:

- Van Wert 6034 - Toledo - \$ 5368
- New Albany 10941 - Columbus - \$ 4170
- St. Henry 2640 - Cincinnati - \$ 3895
- St. Joseph 11550 - Cincinnati - \$ 3894
- Msgr. Dooley 4361 - Steubenville - \$ 3531
- Fr. Borrano 11369 - Youngstown - \$ 3322
- Fr. Ragan 3269 - Cleveland - \$ 3240
- Coldwater 1991 - Cincinnati - \$ 3120
- Fr. Kunkler 2158 - Cincinnati - \$ 3051
- St. John XXIII - Toledo - \$ 2619

Top councils \$\$ winners:

1. Fr. Kunkler 2158 - \$ 893.75
2. Msgr. Dooley 4361 - \$ 753.33
3. Brookpark 13984 - \$ 636.67
4. Card. Bern. 12359 - \$ 625.00
5. Maria Joseph 4022 - \$ 538.00
6. Santa Maria 2898 - \$ 512.28
7. Msgr. Lang 1039 - \$ 511.67
8. Van Wert 6034 - \$ 498.00
9. Massillon 554 - \$ 487.50

A total of 332 councils participated in the 2021 Football Sweepstakes; with 137 councils earning additional per capita credit. In a separate program, the Final Four Sweepstakes made an additional \$ 18,548.44 for the State Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary A. Eckstein, PSD
Football Sweepstakes Chairman