

The information contained in this publication has many items that are of great importance to the success of each council during the coming fraternal year. Please read this and pass it on to other officers, directors and members in your council so that they may also be informed about upcoming matters. Send information to Doug Chilson, 1921 Iowa Ave SE, Huron, SD 57350.

Dates to Remember

- Now – Make Convention Plans
- Jan 31– Tootsie Roll report due
- Jan 31 – Fraternal Survey due
- Feb 15 – Semiannual Council audit due
- Feb 15-Knight of the year/Family of the year due
- Feb 15-Essay contest entries due
- Feb 28-Outstanding Activities applications due

Things get real busy as we get closer to the State Convention. Please review the complete list of Dates to Remember on pages 4 & 5 in the state forms book. It is so much better to be aware of the deadlines so there isn't a big rush at the end.

DEADLINES

This is the time of the year when there are many deadlines that are rapidly approaching with some past due already. These deadlines are set for a reason and should be taken seriously. Many things need to be compiled and verified at this time of the year and it is important to have all of the information needed. I would like to especially remind you of the per capita tax and ceremonial assessment. Your council will not be seated at the convention if these are not paid. Please send the extra copy of the billing with your check. Please review your forms book for forms and due dates. Pay special attention to page 58 to make sure that information gets in.

STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention will be held at the Spearfish Holiday Inn on April 27-29. Please refer to the Crusaders, Forms Book and the web site to guide you so you can be sure to get things done on time.

WANTED

Two of the many causes that we are trying to raise funds for are the Disaster Relief Fund and the KC Foundation.

Those that have attended any of the recent state conventions recall the vast amount of change that has been collected to help these causes. Please consider having a fund raiser to help out or at least set out some collections containers for people to drop their change into. It is amazing how much 20 pounds of change adds up to! Also wanted are men wanting to become involved at the state level as a DD, Director, or officer.

MEALS & DELEGATES

The meal ticket form on page 37 in the state forms book doubles as the delegate designation form. Meal tickets ordered and paid for before April 1st qualify for the early bird pricing. All ticket orders must be received by April 15th.

FUNDS

Another item that should be handled as soon as possible is to forward any funds due or any donations to the State Council. Student Loan donations should be sent to Doug Chilson. All other moneys, including Tootsie Roll, should be sent to State Secretary Gerald Dvorak. The State Council would also appreciate the Bishop's Burse and Pro Life contributions as soon as possible. Both Bishops have put out a plea for additional funds for the seminarian fund in each diocese. The costs of educating and training toward priesthood has risen a great deal over the years and more help is needed. Please consider donating \$2 per member toward the Bishop's Burse fund. Is there anything more important to put our money toward?

CEREMONIALS

- Feb 25th -----Chamberlain
- Feb 25th ----- Miller
- March 4th ----- RC St Therese
- March 18th ----- Mitchell

April 8th -----Spearfish
April 15th -----Brandon
Let's get all new members to one of these scheduled degrees. There may be a 4th Degree Exemplification held during the state convention.

BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Centerville won the bid for the bowling tournament this year. The tournament will be held March 17-18 and March 24-25 at Mushy's Bowling Alley. Call Mushy's at 563-2695 to line up times. Or you can call 214-3893 or 214-4832.

FREE THROW TOURNAMENT

The state free throw contest is scheduled for March 5th at the Chamberlain Community Center located on Main Street in Chamberlain. Shooting will start at 1:00 pm.

WHAT NEXT!

Do you ever think what next! While it is true there are numerous items that need your attention throughout the year and especially around convention time, we need to stay focused and realize that there are reasons for things. One of the items that has come up as a result of events is the Safe Environment Training. All Grand Knights are required to complete this training. The KC's have had this training available for several years so we should all be proud to be part of an organization that recognized what was coming and got out in front of it.

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Greetings Brother Knights. I hope you are all well and I assume you are all looking forward to St. Patrick's Day. As usual, I have good things to report in South Dakota. So many councils are doing such wonderful things. So many councils are adding members to help sustain the Order. So many councils have complied with all Forms requirements. Thank you to all of you who are leading your councils. Sadly, we still have some councils who are not on board yet with forms in on time, adding members to help sustain the Order. Please, we ask each council to add members and complete the 2 -3 required forms that are due currently.

The State Convention is coming us quickly in Spearfish. We would like to have many of those wonderful activities that councils are doing submitted for judging in the Outstanding Activities Categories in South Dakota. Your council should be recognized for what you do, and your members will appreciate it. Knight of the Year and Family of the Year Applications are due shortly also. I am 100% positive that every council worthy applicants for this high honor. Please submit them to the State Competition. All of the information and forms for the State Convention have recently

been emailed to every Grand Knight in the State. Please utilize them.

We would like to see every council represented at the convention. Try and send someone to the convention as it is a wonderful time to meet your Brother Knights from around the state.

Thanks again to all of you for all that you do for the Knights of Columbus and your communities.

Vivat Jesus,

Pat Powers

State Deputy