



THE CROSS-COMMUNICATOR

District Deputy Newsletter

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I attended the State Council Organizational Meeting and learned a lot of things about the Knights of Columbus. I now have information overload! Where do I start and what do I do now?

This probably applies to a lot of you – especially first year District Deputies. Thank you for taking the time to attend the State Organizational Meeting where the plans and goals for the Texas State Council are communicated. A large amount of information is distributed for you to refer to and use throughout your term as a District Deputy. This first issue of the District Deputy Newsletter will help guide you to make plans for your Diocese, your District, and your Councils for the 2006-2007 Fraternal Year. The key to success is to **SET GOALS, PLAN, SCHEDULE, and EXECUTE THE PLAN ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE.** So let's get started!

ATTEND YOUR DIOCESAN MEETING

Announce the date(s) for your Diocesan meeting and get a commitment from each Council to have three representatives attend the meeting. You should attend with them! Set up a car pool to the meeting, if necessary. The schedule of meetings is as follows:

DIOCESAN MEETINGS

DIOCESE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Amarillo	Jul 15	10 am	Council 4635 Hall
Austin	Aug 5	9 am	St. John Neumann]
Beaumont	Aug 5		Council 5145 KC Hall
Brownsville	Jul 23		
Corpus Christi	Jul 22	8 am	St. Cyril Church
Dallas	Jul 22	8:30 am	Council 5052 Hall
El Paso	Jul 22		
Fort Worth	Aug 5	9 am	Council 4701 Hall
Galv – Hou	Jul 15	9 am	St. Mary Magdalene - Humble
Galv - Hou	Jul 22	9 am	Sacred Heart - Galveston
Galv – Hou	Jul 29	9 am	Council 3077 Hall
Laredo	Jul 22	9:30 am	Blessed Sacrament
Lubbock	Aug 12	9 am	Council 8097 Hall
San Angelo	Aug 13	10 am	Council 12008 Hall
San Antonio	Jul 22		
Tyler	Jul 22	9 am	Council 1502 Hall
Victoria	Aug 6		

SCHEDULE A DISTRICT PLANNING MEETING

Get with your Grand Knights and set a date for a District Planning meeting. Utilize this time to insure that your Councils know the criteria for attaining Star Council and the Lone Star Award for Excellence. Set a goal for each of your Councils to attain Star Council status and get a commitment from them to achieve this goal. By doing this, you will insure a successful year in your District for membership growth, programs that keep all Council members involved and active, service to your communities, Church, youth, families, and Council members, and CHARITY. Go one step further and set a goal to attain the Lone Star Award for Excellence to insure a successful year for State Charities as well – an excellent way to show your support for your Diocese and your Bishop. Use your DD Handbook and the DD packet you received at the Organizational Meeting as references to help set the agenda for this planning meeting.

SCHEDULE DISTRICT FIRST DEGREES

Set up a schedule for First Degrees in your District, preferably one per month. If you have a schedule of degrees and then recruit to get new members to attend the degrees, you will be much more successful than if you recruit at random and then try to schedule the degrees later.

PLAN FUND-RAISING EVENTS FOR CHARITY

Insure that each Council has fund raising events for charitable causes – especially those that will help them achieve their State Charity goal of \$10 per member. This could be one large fund-raising event or several smaller events depending on what is best for each Council.

PLAN A MAJOR DEGREE

Get a commitment from at least one of your Councils to host a major degree in your District. This will give all of your First Degree members a chance to attain the full honors of Knighthood in the Third Degree. Coordinate the date for the Major Degree with your Diocesan Deputy. Once the date and location are set, submit a Major Degree request form to the State Ceremonials Chairman – Bill Carroll.

PLAN MAJOR PROGRAMS

Insure that all Councils plan and conduct at least 4 different programs in each of the five program areas (Church, Community, Council, Family and Youth) to qualify for the Columbian Award. Achieving the Columbian Award is one of the requirements for Star Council.

SCHEDULE MEMBERSHIP DRIVES

Insure that all of your Councils schedule membership drives to meet their Council membership goal. Obtain permission from each pastor to conduct the drive at the Church and to make an announcement from the pulpit on the day of the drive. Make sure that all of your Councils are active in recruiting new members. Plan to participate in the blitzes in October and March. New members are the future of your Councils and your District.

REACTIVATE A DORMANT COUNCIL

If you have a dormant Council in your District, set up a meeting with the pastor of the parish involved and find out who the leaders in the Parish are. You will need a strong leader who is (or was) a Knight to help you reactivate the Council.

DEVELOP A NEW COUNCIL

If there is a parish in your District that does not have a Council and the pastor of the parish is supportive, set up recruitment drives and information meetings to get a new Council started. Submit Form 133 to the State Deputy to identify your intent to start a new Council.

TRAIN FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Insure that your Council Financial Secretaries are fully aware of their responsibilities and that they carry out these responsibilities according to the laws of the order. Have them attend Financial Secretary Training for your Diocese. If you are not familiar with the duties of a Financial Secretary, take the time to read through the Financial Secretary Handbook.

SET GOALS TO BE A STAR

Set a goal for all of your Councils to win the Lone Star Award for Excellence and help them plan and execute throughout the year to attain this goal. You will then assure that your District will be a Star District and that your Councils will fulfill their mission of growing membership and insurance, conducting programs for Church, youth, community, family, and Council members, as well as fulfilling their charitable obligations.

GET YOUR INSURANCE AGENT INVOLVED

Contact your General Agent and Field Agent and have them attend your planning meetings. They are experts at recruitment and will help you attain your membership and Insurance goals.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

FILL OUT AND SEND IN FORM 185

Your Councils should have elected officers and you should officially install them. Insure that each Council fills out and submits a Form 185 to both Supreme and State Council by July 15, 2006. THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR THE LONE STAR AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE!

FILL OUT AND SEND IN FORM 365

Insure that Grand Knights appoint Directors and committeemen to help them attain their goals. Fill out and submit Form 365 to Supreme and State Council by Aug. 1, 2006 – THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR STAR COUNCIL!

COUNCILS SHOULD ORDER THEIR KITS FOR THE YOUTH SOCCER CHALLENGE IMMEDIATELY!



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