

*The Golden Plume*  
*District of North Carolina*  
*June 2010*



## District Master's Report



Worthy Sir Knights and Brothers All,  
Vivat Jesus!

If you attended the State Convention in Charlotte this past month and participated in the Honor Guard for mass, thank you very much. The turnout was outstanding with some 35 Sir Knights in regalia, but the presentation of colors by the Color Guard was a crowning glory that made this District Master proud. The presentation, reversal of flags and the precision of the team was outstanding. Having the luxury of standing on the dais gave an excellent viewing position of their flawless performance. Worthy Sir Knights thank you for a job well done!

Once again, the month of May has been very busy for all Assemblies in the District as I have seen from newsletters and invitations with no sign of slowing down during June. Many of you have participated in Honor Guards for both Bishop's at confirmations, special masses and the unfortunate attendance at the wakes and funerals of deceased brother or family members. Memorial Day was another busy period for your attendance at ceremonies honoring our fallen military men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our great country. Sir Knights, take a bow for your dedication to our faith and the Fourth Degree.

By this time, Assembly elections have either been held or will be very shortly. To the Officers who will be completing their terms, I extend my sincerest thank you for the performance of your positions. It has been my pleasure to serve with each of you. To those who have been newly elected to an officer, I congratulate you and wish each of you well during the coming fraternal year.

During the change of the guard, it is the duty of the incumbent officer to turn over all of the data and information to his successor as well as being the successors mentor. New management brings new ideas but there is always the need to advise concerning the timetables of events. Past officers should not be meddlesome but be available to assist. There is nothing worse that "past something" who doesn't want to let go.

It is the responsibility of the Faithful Comptroller to complete the Report of Officers Chosen for the Term report immediately after the Assembly election. **This form must be filed even if all officers are remaining in their current positions.** The original being sent to the Supreme office by mail, with copies to the Vice Supreme Master and the Master. If this report is completed online, be sure to print it before sending it to Supreme. **Reminder: the online function to submit reports to Supreme does not work properly. Mail ALL reports to Supreme!**

I have been receiving requests for Installations of Officers and I am doing my best to fulfill the requested dates or getting an appropriate substitute to perform the ceremony. It is best if you can offer more than one date, if possible. Dates are assigned on a first come, first served basis. If I will be the officiating officer, the District Marshal will usually accompany me along with our spouses. If you email mail me a request, which is preferable, and you do not hear back from me within 48 hours, I probably have not received the request or I am out of town, which is rare. In any event, please contact me again so the date can be placed on the calendar. The calendar will shortly be on the web page for your reference.

Continued on Page 2



## District Master Report Continued

When making a request, please give me as many details as possible, to include, time, place, is it after a particular mass, Assembly name and any other information you may have that you feel I should be aware of. I live in Greensboro and the more I have the easier it is for planning.

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held November 6, 2010 at the Renaissance Hotel & Suites in Charlotte, NC. Please recruit now. We are gathering information for both the web site and distribution. It should be ready for publication within a few weeks. I am waiting for menu prices before publicizing.

Many of you have asked if I will be the Master again during the next two years. Thank you for your interest. I can only say that if chosen, I do intend to serve. Typically, the Vice Supreme Master will be advised by Supreme of their decision in late August after the Supreme Board of Directors meeting. Stay tuned and we will let you know their decision once it has been announced.

God bless you all,

SK Robert (Bob) J. Grabasky, PSD,  
NC District Master

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## From the District Secretary

In case you don't know, or haven't noticed, this newsletter is late as is replacement Degree Certificates and Sir Knight of the Month certificates. Why? My computer is having difficulties (Blue Screens of Death and Shutdowns) and I am having difficulties getting my technician back to fix it. Living in a rural setting, these services are few and far between. Please be patient, I have all the requests and will get to them as fast as my computer cooperates.

Thank you.



Fraternally,

SK Greg Ciesielski, PFN  
NC District Secretary





## Vice Supreme Master's Report

We are heading into the Last Month of the Fraternal Year. If you have failed to accomplish something this year you still have one month to complete that task. One item that you **MUST** complete is your "Report of Assembly Officers Chosen for the Term, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. A hard copy of this report must be sent to Supreme before June 30, 2010. Without this report Supreme does not know who to send information to. Also a copy of this report must be sent to your District Master and Vice Supreme Master. These can be sent via the internet e-mail.

June will be very busy month for Exemplifications. Puerto Rico will hold their Exemplification on June 6, 2010; Florida will hold an Exemplification on June 12, 2010 in Coral Springs, Florida, Georgia will hold an Exemplification on June 19, 2010 at St. Catherine of Sienna, in Kennesaw, Georgia.

The DeSoto Province is very close to meeting our New Member goal for the year. With any luck the above mentioned Exemplifications will put us over our Annual Goal. Of course the reports of these Exemplification's **MUST BE SENT TO SUPREME**, immediately following the Exemplification. The cut off date for membership is June 30, 2010.

**DOME FUND**, A last reminder that if you're Assembly has **NOT** met their goal for this extremely important Project, you **MUST GET IT DONE NOW**. This program has been going on for 3 years and we still have Assemblies who have not sent in even \$1.00. The goal is \$3.00 per member. Let's make this a 100% participation.

In case there is any question as to when the District Master term is up, it is on September 1, 2010. Make sure you request a date for Officer Installation, **NOW**. The schedule fills up fast, in all States.

**WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM**, We will again participate with the Military Order of the Purple Heart on this program. The Knights of Columbus are the largest fund raiser for this program. We need all of the Assemblies assistance to make this a success. Last year we collected \$64,121.91. My personal thanks goes out to everyone who assisted in this program. The Wounded Warriors have given a lot for our country and we need to do all we can to make their lives more complete. This program sends **EVERY** Wounded Warrior, in the two Military Hospitals at US Army Base Fort Bragg and US Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, home for the Christmas Holiday. Any funds left over are used to pay for emergency leaves for these same warriors, in case of Death or Serious Illness, at home. Remember that the Warriors are from every State in the U.S. and Puerto Rico, and from all Branches of the Military. They are both Male and Female.

I have found that best way to collect funds for this program is to request your priest to let a Sir Knight speak at the end of all masses on a certain weekend, explaining the program and asking for the parishioner's assistance. Then have Sir Knight at each Exit of the Church with containers with **WOUNDED WARRIOR FUND**, painted on the container. All funds must be sent to me, Robert J. "Bob" Singer, VSM, DeSoto Province, at 2506 Canal Drive Wilson, NC 27896. The Military Order of the Purple Heart will send a thank you receipt to everyone who donates by check. We record all the information, Name, Address, etc. so we can insure that everyone who donates will get their receipt for **TAX** purposes. Checks are maybe payable to **MOPH**.

If I can be of any assistance to any Sir Knight, please advise me.

SK Robert J. Singer, PSD, FDM, VSM  
[rjskofc@nc.rr.com](mailto:rjskofc@nc.rr.com)



**UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS:**

Due Now	Report of Officers Chosen for the Term (Form 186)
June 30,2010	Annual Assembly Audit Report (Form 1315)
*Within 90 Days of 6/30	Form 990 filing with Federal Government
September 10 & 11	Eucharistic Congress Charlotte, NC
November 6	Fourth Degree Exemplification, Renaissance Hotel, Charlotte

\*This is the last year of grace for not having filed. If you do not file this year and every year thereafter, you could lose your tax exempt status. If you do not have a Federal Tax ID number, contact the Supreme Advocates office for advice.

**HONOR GUARDS and FUNERAL PARTICIPATION**

Recently, there was some confusion concerning the District Master’s decision concerning the participation of an Honor Guard at the wake and funeral of a Brother Knight. I will not go into details as I don’t believe they are necessary.

Laws and Rules Governing the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus (February 2008 edition), Article XII, Color Corps, Section 41,

- (a) Assembly may henceforth establish a uniform drill corps with the approval of the Master of the District and such unit shall be known as “Fourth Degree Color Corps of \_\_\_\_\_ Assembly.”
- (b) A Color Corps may participate in exemplifications, religious and public functions only with the consent of the Master. The Master shall have full control of the Color Corps in his district, except hereinafter provided and shall be held strictly accountable for each unit.
- (c) The Faithful Navigator shall appoint a Commander of the Color Corps for his Assembly. One and only one Commander shall be appointed . . . . .

Also, from the current Color Corps Manual (2008 Edition), Wakes, page 27:

A two-man Honor Guard team in intervals may be offered to the immediate family members of a Sir Knight in good standing and Third Degree members in good standing and to their immediate family members provided a request is made.

It must be distinctly understood that the wishes of the family of the deceased member are paramount and will be given the fullest consideration as to the selection of elements of the Honor Guard involved, if any

Without going into a great deal discussion, our Laws and Rules clearly state that the Honor Guard operates only with the consent of the Master. Therefore if the Master makes a ruling that a Color Corps may or may not participate in an event, the ruling is not open to discussion.

Furthermore, the second paragraph under WAKES in the Color Corps Manual makes it very clear that the wishes of the family are of the utmost importance.

Worthy Brothers All, rules should not be broken, but think, at times, they can be bent to some degree. Let’s be open minded and remember our Degrees.



Continued from Page 4



**Note:** *The 2008 Color Corps Manual was sent to the Faithful Navigator of record in the FN's package (2 Copies). Six (6) additional copies are available from Supreme at no cost.*

### **Color Corps Commanders Take Note:**

Over the past two years, the District Marshal and I have noted some discrepancies that are worth noting and asking the CCC's to aware of:

**At any event, there is only one Color Corps Commander in charge!** He advises what will be done. **Listen to his instructions!**

**Chapeaus** are to be worn square on the head. To do this, take two fingers and place them at the bridge of your nose. The chapeau should touch the top finger. In this way, chapeaus will not look rakish from a side view.

**Swords At The Carry** are to be carried with the edge out, extending the lower part of your arm parallel to the ground and elbow held close to the body. Upper part of the sword rests against your shoulder.

**Present Sword** is accomplished by bringing the hand to your chin, flat part of blade touching the bill of your chapeau. By doing so, there is less movement in this position and the sword is easier to control.

**Return Sword** is a maneuver that needs to be practiced, recommended in front of a mirror. Sir Knight should not be looking down to place the sword in the scabbard. Refer to the photos on page 49 of the Drill Manual.

**Capes** should be pressed and clean. Either by hand pressing or professionally cleaned and pressed.

**Sword and Scabbard** should be controlled at all time with the left hand. They are not to be swinging free.

**Help Your Buddy** by being attentive to the man in front of you. If his cape is off his shoulder, either advise him quietly or adjust it for him.

**Marching** is always, always begun with the left foot. Watch the man in front of you. If you are out of step, get it corrected.

**Finally** there is no better teacher than practice. If the CCC calls a practice, make every effort to attend. The accolades received after an event will be worth the effort.

All of the above are really common sense but the CCC has a lot going on and need everyone's co-operation and assistance.

### **Sir Knights of the Month**

This feature depends on the Faithful Navigators making nominations. Every Assembly has more than one member who should be recognized. **JUST DO IT!**



*Sir Knights of the Month:*  
*There are three this month*



In recognition of his many outstanding accomplishments, this Sir Knight is enthusiastically awarded Senator Albert J Ellis Assembly's District Sir Knight of the Month for the Month. The Assembly no longer has its own meeting hall and currently meets in the Infant of Prague Social Hall. In order to utilize this space, careful and detailed coordination is required with the church staff. This Sir Knight, in his role as Faithful Purser, has ensured the Assembly continues to have a place to hold their monthly meetings. Without his unswerving support, the Assembly would lose their ability to hold meetings in Jacksonville. His dedication to the Order, his Assembly, and his fellow Knights, along with his commitment to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, makes **Sir Knight John W. Bradley** truly deserving of this award.

SK Kenneth S. Fischler,  
Faithful Navigator, Assembly #1541, Jacksonville

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Our District Sir Knight of the Month is a Past Faithful Navigator and is currently serving as the Assembly's Worthy Purser. He is very involved with the day to day affairs of the Assembly, continuing his guidance and helping the assembly maintain his vision for the Degree as a whole. Of particular note was his single-handed development of a fund-raiser for the Wounded Warrior program in our area consisting of three parishes. Due to his diligence and persistence, the Assembly was able to raise over \$1700.00 during the last few weeks of the year, helping to ensure that a number of wounded and convalescing U.S. Veterans would make it home for Christmas to be with their families and loved ones. This Sir Knight is an Honorary Life Member and maintains a dedication to our order and local assembly with over 40 years of service.

His dedication to the Order, his Assembly, and his fellow Knights, along with his commitment to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism make this Sir Knight truly deserving of this award.

In recognition of his many outstanding accomplishments and contributions,

**Sir Knight Frank Mizak**

is enthusiastically recognized as the Father Stanley Grubitz District Sir Knight of the Month.

SK Jason H. Martin,  
Faithful Navigator  
Fr Stanley Grubitz Assembly, Elizabeth City, NC

## Sir Knight of the Month continued



As the social arm of the Knights of Columbus we strive to have 4 or 5 events annually which include our wives. To do this every Assembly needs a social director to plan events for all to enjoy. As the saying goes “If Mama isn’t happy, no one is happy”.

To do this you need a good consigliere. We are fortunate to have one of the best who works tirelessly planning dinner shows, plays, baseball games etc. The hours that this Sir Knight puts in to search out the venues, purchase the tickets and collect from each member, is very much appreciated. When this Sir Knight says this is a good deal, we all listen.

Needless to say, Mama is happy and so are the Sir Knights of Pope John Paul II Assembly 3017 in Kernersville. We are proud to submit **SK Salvatore Vita** as the District Sir Knight of the Month.

SK Jean R. Dion, Faithful Navigator  
Pope John Paul II Assembly 3017, Kernersville NC

Worthy Sir Knights all,

I have in my possession the following TUX components: Coats: 34s, 36s (2) 37s, 39R, 40R (4), 52R, 54R, 56R, 56L, 58R. Trousers: 27-28-29 (2 pair); 30-31-32 (2 pair); 24-25-26. Patent Dress Shoes: 6M, 7M, 7 1/2M (2 pair), 8WW, 8 1/2 M (2 pair) 9M (3 pair) 9 1/2 M (2 pair) 10M, 10 1/2 W (2 pair), 10 1/2 Med, 11 1/2 M (3 pair).

I know that a Sir Knight in N.C. talked to me about a 56 Coat, I forgot who it was, If anyone can use any of these please notify, The price is right, (FREE)

I will be glad to bring to any Exemplification if you will just let me know where and when.

SK Robert J. Singer, VSM



It Is Time To Start Raising  
Money To Send Our  
Wounded Warriors Home  
For Christmas



## SNUG HARBOR -



“I am truly honored to be in the company of so many fellow veterans!”

That’s how one member of the group felt on a recent Saturday morning when 36 veterans joined together at the Snug Harbor community clubhouse to celebrate patriotism. Over 75 residents and members of the Snug Harbor Homeowners Association had come together for the monthly Saturday breakfast with a special theme for the March meeting.

The Father Stanley Grubitz Assembly of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Elizabeth City, had come to Snug Harbor to present a recognition certificate to the Property Owners Association to recognize the manner in which they display the American flag on their community’s flagpole.

“The main principle of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree of the Knights of Columbus is Patriotism”, said the Assembly’s Faithful Navigator, Jason Martin. He continued, “With that in mind, we’d like to honor the Snug Harbor Property Owners Association for the excellent manner in which they honor our country and its flag.”

“This is especially exciting for me,” said Pat Finn, “since I’m a member of both the association and the Knights of Columbus and I am a veteran.” Pat, dressed in his order’s tuxedo uniform, joined all the other veterans from the area outside and gathered around the flagpole for a presentation of a new national flag to the association and a celebratory photo session.

Supporting and assisting in this celebration were veterans residing in the community, representing World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraqi Freedom, and the current fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some were reported to have served in the Civil War, but that could not be confirmed. Past Association President Peter LeRoy also recognized community members who had been veterans but had passed away by reading off a list of those who had passed away.

Snug Harbor is a covenanted community having a diverse population, enjoying an abundance of natural beauty, numerous opportunities for recreation, pleasure and relaxation. It is a compassionate community with neighbors caring for and helping others. A central gathering place for the members of the community is the clubhouse which allows residents and their guests to participate in numerous activities such as Civic League breakfasts, suppers, and dances. Also, community governance actions are discussed and decided in the community clubhouse. Fronting the clubhouse is a flagpole, complete with nocturnal lighting. “This is what struck us as so impressive,” said Jack Martin, Patriotism Committee Chairman for the Knights of Columbus. “The continued maintenance of the flag, the pole, and the excellent night-time lighting all combine to create a moving patriotic presentation.” Colin Caron, the other member of the Knights of Columbus present to recognize the association, was moved, saying, “It’s truly a pleasure, in this day of declining respect for our flag and our country, to be here today to recognize such a great group of people and the community they’ve established.”

