

Knight^{of} St John[®]

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IN GOD WE TRUST

June, 2015

Supreme Board Meeting Knights of St. John International

Millennium Hotel - Buffalo

2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York 14225

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Now is the time to make your plans!

<http://KSJI.org>

The new Knights of St. John International website is up and running, thanks to the efforts of Under Secretary / Website, Col. Dominick Pepe. His contact information is on page 3.

POSTMASTER

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THOMAS ZDANOWICZ, EDITOR
238 KERBER RD.
FRANKFORT, NY 13340-4365
supremesecretary@yahoo.com

James Schaffhausen, Asst. Editor
4224 Green Cook Road
Westerville, OH 43082-9706
KSJnews@aol.com

Supreme Spiritual Director - Monsignor Federico Britto, Saint Cyprian Rectory, 525 Cobbs Creek Parkway, Philadelphia, PA. 19143 Tel. 215-747-3250

Supreme Spiritual Director Emeritus - Rev. Fr. Lawrence Burns, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, 3688 So. Park Ave., Bladell, N.Y. 14219.

Supreme President - General Dale Gossiaux, 7375 E. Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 - Tel. 810-694-0203, - dgossiaux1@aol.com

Supreme First Vice President - Lieut. Gen. Thomas DeLuca, 132 Rushford Hollow Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14227 - Tel. 716-827-8934 LtGenTJD@roadrunner.com

Supreme Second Vice President - Lieut. Gen. Dan Anaeb Okekenta, Darumi District of Area One Flyover, P.O. Box 6252, Garki, Abuja, Nigeria, WA. Tel. 011-080-37-872835 - anebsons@yahoo.com

Supreme Secretary - Lieut. Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz, 238 Kerber Rd., Frankfort, New York 13340 - Tel. 315-733-8694 supremesecretary@yahoo.com

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Past Supreme President - General Timothy Hoerst, 631 Jefferson Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45215 - Tel. 513-821-3243 - Thoerst631@aol.com

Past Supreme President - General Frank Waseleski, Sr., 28173 Eaton Dr., Warren, MI 48092 frankwaseleski@aol.com

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Indiana - Brig. Gen. Larry Neumann, 4200 Pirates Alley, Evansville, IN 47715 - Tel. 812-457-0408 rjhummingbird@wowway.com

Kentucky - Brig. Gen. Dave Schreiber, 564 Timberwood Circle, Edgewood, KY 41017 Tel. 859-344-0303 - dschreiber@zoomtown.com

Michigan - Brig. Gen. Sean Dey, 21515 Military, Dearborn, MI 48124 - Tel. 313-562-5194 byzantion@wowway.com

New York - Brig. Gen. John R. Russo, Sr., 439 Sunlit Terr., Utica, NY 13502 - Tel. - 315-733-3804 (home) 315-725-0002 (cell) - jrrusso1@yahoo.com

Ohio - Brig. Gen. John Basso, Jr., 3225 W. 30th St., Cleveland, OH 44109 - Tel. 216-798-6773 bassojr@aol.com

SUPREME SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

Supreme Subordinate Commander - Ghana - Justice Maj. Gen. Dennis Adjei, Court of Appeals, Judicial Service, P.O. Box 119, Accra, Ghana, - Tel. +233 24 9610182, +233 20 8121468 - sirdennisadjei@yahoo.com

Brig. Gen. Marcel E. Videkar, Subordinate Secretary, P.O. Box AN 12345, Accra-North, Accra, Ghana, WA. Tel. (+233) 277201230 - (+233) 543344645 - mvidekar88@gmail.com supsubsecgh@yahoo.com

Supreme Subordinate Commander - Nigeria - Maj. Gen. Anselm I. Okafor, Supreme Subordinate President, 18 Ridge Road, P.M.B. 2246, Onitsha, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. 2348033219217 - ansyglobe@yahoo.com

Brig. Gen. Chidi Arinze, Subordinate Secretary, C-Fraternity Diagnostic Laboratory, 94 Zik Ave., Uwani, Enugu, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. 011-080-36-660526 - lachidorinze@gmail.com

OVERSEAS GRAND PRESIDENTS

Accra-East - Brig. Gen. Anthony Chinebuah, Box 8399, Tema, Ghana, WA. - MOB: +233-24-4330217 achinebuah@cocacola.com

Accra-West - Brig. Gen. William Adjei, Box AN8356, Accra-North, Ghana, WA. - MOB: +233-24-4356277 - bill_2202@yahoo.com

Cape Coast - Brig. Gen. Francis Koomson-Barnes, P.O. Box CC1471, Cape Coast, Ghana - Tel. +233-274-775733 - franco_marie2002@yahoo.co.uk

Koforidua-Ho - Brig. Gen. Peter C.N. Sangber Dery, ADB, Box 4191, Accra, Ghana, WA. - MOB: +233-20-2019848 - psangder@yahoo.co.uk

Kumasi - Brig. Gen. Dr. Aaron Asare, Healthlane Hospital, Box 799, Sunyani, Ghana, WA. - MOB: +233-20-8160771 and +233-24-3866485 aasare09@yahoo.com

Tamale - Brig. Gen. Ernest Konadu, P.O. Box 502, Tamale, Ghana, - Tel. +233-244960720 - ernesthers@yahoo.com

Wa - Brig. Gen. Moses Donneyong, P.O. Box 33, Daffiama, U/WR, Ghana, WA., MOB: +233-20-786002 - wagrand.ksji@yahoo.com

Sierra Leone - Brig. Gen. Assed Shallop, 1B Regent Rd., Hill Station, Freetown, Sierra Leone, WA - Tel. 232-76-602-715 - assed_shallop@yahoo.com

Abuja - Brig. Gen. N.N.N. (Jude) Nwanesi, Transworld Materials, Impex Ltd., Plot 377, Deidei/Jabi Rd., Deidei, P.O. Box 5675, Garki PC 900001, Abuja, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. (9) 7805533, 2907285, Mobil# (806) 555-6644

quadrantn@yahoo.com - Abujagrand@hotmail.com
Awka - Brig. Gen. G. N. Muotolu, 69 Ifite Rd., Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria, WA., - Tel. 08033570026 - godfreymuotolu@yahoo.com

Benin - Brig. Gen. Joseph Ojuba, 159 Old Lagos Asaba Road, Agbor, Delta, Nigeria
Tel. 008033439321 - sirjoojobu@gmail.com

Calabar - Brig. Gen. Joseph Onah Odey, 9 Agabi Estate, Ogoja, Calabar, Cross River, Nigeria, WA. odevjosephonoh@gmail.com

Enugu - Brig. Gen. Patrick Nwajago, 10 A Savage Crescent, G.R.A. Enugu, Nigeria, WA. - patricknwajago@gmail.com

Jos - Brig. Gen. Theophine Nnoli - sirtheocon@yahoo.com

Kaduna - Brig. Gen. Anthony Okechukwu, 2 Rabah Rd., Malari, G.R.A. Kaduna, - Kaduna, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. 011-080-33-117053 - info@tycol.net

Lagos - Brig. Gen. Patrick Igwilo, Plot 103, F Close, 3rd Avenue, Gwona estate, Egbeda Alimosho, Lagos, Nigeria, WA. - patyigwilo@yahoo.com

Makurdi - Brig. Gen. Simon Aondona, 29 Kashim Ibrahim Rd., Old Gra Makudi, Benue State, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. 08038153264 - simonsengev@yahoo.com

Nsukka - Brig. Gen. Michael Amadihe Enugu, 63 Ugwuechara Road, Box 815., Nsukka - Enugu State, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. 08034723804 - mamadiheezugu@yahoo.com

Onitsha - Brig. Gen. Alex Nnabuife, Ikeobi Royal Palace, Unuikue, Anambra State, Nigeria - Tel. 080-37-224828 - alexnnabuife@yahoo.com

Orlu - Brig. Gen. Valentine Obogh, 14 Owerri Road, Box 105, Orlu, Imo State, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. 08035527440 - obohvale@gmail.com

Owerri - Brig. Gen. Ezekiel Ihionu, Dept. of Chemistry - University Owerri, Calabar, Imo, Nigeria - Tel. 0-703-8281537 - ezyihionu@gmail.com

Port Harcourt - Brig. Gen. George Ikioumoton, Bungalow A25, Senior Civil Servants Estate, Ovom, Yenegosa, Bayelsa State, Nigeria, WA. - Tel. +2348033416318 - drikioumotongee@yahoo.com

Gbarnga-Cape Palmas Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Patrick Lougon Lah, P.O. Box 2035, 10 Liberia, WA. - luogon@yahoo.com

Monrovia Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Moenti E. Young, Liberian Bank for Dev. & Inv., 9th Street/ Tubman Blvd., P.O. Box 10-547, 1000 Monrovia 10, Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia, W.A. - nyonmoenti@yahoo.com
 St. Paul River Bank Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Andrew N. Nimley, Jr., Archdiocese Youth Secretariat, Catholic Archdiocese of Monrovia, P.O. Box 2078, 46 Ashmun St., Monrovia 10, Liberia, W.A. - papajnimley2009@yahoo.com
 Togo - Brig. Gen. Michel Dosseh-Anyron, Lome, Togo, W.A. - emdossah@yahoo.fr - togo_ksji@yahoo.fr
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Brig. Gen. Matt Trossman, Quartermaster General - PO Box 266, Oldenburg, IN - Tel. 812-212-9483 - quartermaster@etczone.com

UNDER SECRETARY / JOURNAL

Assistant Editor Knights Journal - Brig. Gen. James (Jim) Schafhausen, 4224 Green Cook Rd., Westerville, OH 43082-9706 - Tel. 740-965-8274 KSJInews@aol.com

UNDER SECRETARY / RITUAL

Col. Richard Morse, 1143 Newport Rd., Utica, NY 13502 - Tel. 315-735-8081, cell# 315-796-5346 undersecretaryritual@aol.com

UNDER SECRETARY / WEBSITE

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**UNDER SECRETARY / OVERSEAS
 GHANA**

Brig. Gen. Marcel Etsey Videkar, P.O. Box AN 12345, Accra-North, Accra Ghana, W.A. - Tel. 011-233-277201230, 011-233-543344645 mvidekar@yahoo.co.uk

**UNDER SECRETARY / OVERSEAS
 NIGERIA**

Brig. Gen. Chidi Arinze, C-Fraternity Diagnostic Laboratory, 94 Zik Ave., Uwani, Enugu, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 011-080-36-660526 lachidorinze@gmail.com

**APPOINTED KNIGHTS JOURNAL
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Local Commanderies, Grand Commanderies, Districts, and Regiments, send your articles to be printed in the Knight of St. John Journal to:

KSJInews@aol.com

or mail to:

BRIG. GEN. JAMES SCHAFHAUSEN
 Under Secretary / Journal
 Assistant Editor
 4224 GREEN COOK RD.
 WESTERVILLE, OHIO 43082-9706

Articles need to be submitted **BEFORE** the copy deadline:

March Issue: by February 1st
 June Issue: by May 1st

September Issue: by August 1st
 December Issue: by November 1st



SUPREME PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To my brother knights throughout the world I bring greetings from the officers of the Supreme Commandery!

I would like to start this article by thanking Commandery #41 for hosting this year's National Bowling Tournament. There were a lot of high scores and everyone who participated had a great time!

As I write this article, the Easter season is almost over and Pentecost will have come and gone. We now are in "ordinary time" according to the church calendar. A time where we try and put into action the lessons we learned through Christ's Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection. The calendar may say "ordinary time", but we can do extraordinary things!

I received a letter from a concerned brother knight back in late March. He was concerned about what the Knights of St. John International stands for, since, in his experience, the KSJI does not take sides on any issue, particularly social issues. My response to that concern was this:

"Allow me to alleviate this concern. First of all, you need to read the preamble and introduction to the Constitution of the Knights of St. John International. The words printed there spell out pretty clearly why the Knights came into being and the purpose for our existence.

*"The founders of the Knights of St. John had ideals which they desired to spread and foster among Catholic men. They understood the truth of the adage, "In unity there is strength". Alone they could do little, but by uniting many groups and people under a leadership, they could accomplish much. They stated their purpose to be: to create and foster a feeling of fraternity and fellowship among the various commnderies; to improve their moral, mental and social condition; and to aid, assist and support members and their families in case of want, sickness and death and to promote the welfare of the Roman Catholic Religion."*¹

For many years these purposes were attained through the activities of the

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1. The Knights of St. John, "A short story of its History, Activities and Objectives", pg. 1



SUPREME SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

I have read with great interest the Supreme President's Message to the Indiana and Cincinnati Grand Conventions concerning membership and our lack of. His arguments are correct. Times have changed in these United States. Family values continue to be challenged and our present "lifestyle" (including that of our children) gives us very little freetime for involvement in our parishes, joining fraternal orders and doing volunteer work. We are stretched to the breaking point. I don't dispute any of this.

While I travel around the country, I have observed some other reasons that might be why we aren't recruiting new members.

Gen. Tom Graziano, Past Supreme President, was famous for telling us as we vested in our Church Hall, "Be sure you look good. Remember, the eyes of the world are on you." And, we would each look over our fellow knights to make sure their uniforms were neat and in order, before we processed down the aisle in Church. There is much in what he said, and goes further than our appearance. How do we look to the world in the eyes of our friends and neighbors, fellow employees, and prospective members to our Order.

A knight complained that his Pastor didn't seem to know anything about the KSJI in his parish and always requested the Knights of St. Peter Claver turnout for special Parish Liturgies. Why not the KSJI? What to do? Duh! There is a Commandery President who refuses to take a lead part in Liturgical Services with his fellow knights. He says, "It's not my thing, and it's not my parish." The Commandery who has six uniformed knights take part in Holy Thursday Liturgy and guarding the Sepulchre until midnight, while the rest of the commandery is hanging out at their clubhouse, because, "Thursday is usually a busy night." How about,

(Continued on page 16)



SUPREME SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

May the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

We have completed our wonderful season of Easter. In addition to the celebration of Jesus Christ' resurrection where He opened the gates of heaven for all believers, many of our churches also celebrated new members into the Catholic faith through baptism and reception into the Church. The season of Easter is a joyful season filed with hope, grace, and pageantry. For this reason, we sing the Alleluia hymns. May our Easter celebration not end on Pentecost Sunday. May we rejoice daily, singing God's praises, and acknowledging all Jesus Did, and continues to do for us.

In addition to our Easter celebration, we rejoice with the people and families in Nigeria whose daughters were rescued and returned to their families. Hundreds of girls were captured by the Boko Haram militants for over a year. Their rescue brought joy globally and prayers answered. While these horrific actions contine, we must not stop praying for the release of other girls who are in captivity. But we rejoice for those girls who did return to their families.

Speaking of families, the Catholic Church looks forward to the World Meeting of Families this international gathering of families initiated by Pope Benedict will take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the United States. I know many delegates will gather to celebrate the gift of family along with our present Pope Francis. I ask you to join me in praying for all families throughout the world. May our loving God in Jesus Christ, and His Mother Mary, bless, strengthen, and nourish all families.

Finally< I continue to ask God's blessings upon our fraternal family in the Knights of St. John International. What we do, and say, as A Catholic organization can be an influence upon our Church and local families. May the good work begun in us continue to grow and flourish.

As always, thank you for all you do for the good of our order.

*God bless you!
Monsignor Federico Britto
Supreme Spiritual Director*

Welcome to our New Members

March, 2015 to June, 2015

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31 Greensburg, IN	Dale Grieve
94 Covington, KY	Andrew L. Goderwis, Joseph C. Shelton
97 Columbus, OH	Benjamin T, Dweh
204 Depew, NY	Justin Janca
243 Batesville, IN	Tim Volz
282 St. Wendel, IN	Danny Ray Wheeler
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427 Jirapa, Ghana	Richard Dorzi
499 Effiakuma, Takoradi, Ghana	Frederick Jude Mwinwule
500 Dansoman, Ghana	Dabbie Johannes, Johnson E. Rutilius
453 Asamankese, Ghana	Augustine Nsiaw, Isaac Appiah Kubi
521 Prestea, Ghana	Benjamin Elleason Morkeh, Emmanuel Mwinsori
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634 Port Harcourt, Rivers, Nigeria	Dennis Osahon Isibor, Celestine Osim Tawo
677 Bolgatanga, Ghana	Akapeeri Edward
742 Brooklyn Center, MN	Vanni Scott
746 Hamile, Ghana	Clovis Solutuo, Alfred Yir-Obr, Augustine Beve, Alpitio Dayi Der
813 Bibiani, Ghana	Joseph Ankrah, Joseph Ansah, Abraham Amoako, Henry Mensah, Anthony Cobbold, Abraham Amoah, Peter Ampomah, Appiah Kubi Asibe, Peter Kwadwo Afari, John Boadi
827 Suhum, Ghana	Rev. Derick Senanu
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(Supreme President from page 4)

commanderies, be they through various funds/benefits that they established or through the local parishes.

Secondly, it has always been a foundation of the Knights to support the Roman Catholic Church, not just through the good works of the order at the parish or diocesan level, but to support the teachings of the church as handed down to us through the centuries. Those basic tenets include loving God with all our hearts, all our minds all our strength and all our soul and to second is to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Thirdly, we support the Catholic Church in that life begins at conception, abhor abortion and that life should continue until its natural end.

Fourthly, we believe that marriage is a sacred institution that should not be used and misuse by those who want to tear it down and cheapen the truly sacramental union that it is. We also believe that a true, sacramental marriage is one between one man and one woman and that they must always work to stay in love and stay together.

There are other “hot button” issues however that people with not so hidden agendas have politicized and therefore becomes more difficult to define without being ostracized by those with the loudest voices or those that buy ink by the barrel.

For example, what the Knights could be doing is to fight for social justice where injustice exists. The term “Social Justice” however has been changed over the years. Where at first it was associated with the civil rights movement and to attain equality between all races where that equality wasn’t present it is now being used to divide this country into different groups. The Knights of St. John International are not about dividing, but uniting.”

In the end of the text, I gave him a challenge, “Before I sign off, I want to leave you with a challenge and an opportunity. You have questioned what the Supreme Commandery stands for, I would ask you, what does your commandery stand for? Bring this letter to your next commandery meeting and read it aloud, then ask the members present what it is that they stand

for. If there (is) a Catholic tenet, ideal or issue that really stands out, challenge them to do something about it; be it small or large, it will help bring positive activity to your commandery and show your neighbors that the Knights of St. John International does stand for something!”

One more item, I would like to remind all of the Supreme Officers and Grand Commandery Presidents about the Supreme Board Meeting in July. It is being held in Buffalo, NY and will be a two-day meeting from July 17 – 18, 2015 (Friday and Saturday). Please arrive on Thursday afternoon. It is being held at the Millennium Hotel. Please see this issue for more information. There will be plenty of work to do, just as there was at the last board meeting.

Until the next issue, have a great three months and I look forward to continue to serve the organization and you, the membership!

*Fraternally in Christ,
General Dale Gossiaux,
Supreme President
Knights of St. John International*

Cincinnati Grand Commandery

The joint Cincinnati~Kentucky Grand Convention was held on March 21, 2015. St. Joseph Commandery #130, of Louisville KY, was a most gracious host. After coffee, donuts, and registration, Kentucky Grand President, Jerry Moser, and Cincinnati Grand President, Jim Schafhausen, opened the convention's first joint session remembering all members who have passed on to serve with our Lord, since our last convention.

A short recess was then called so both Grands could meet individually. The Cincinnati Grand morning session was filled with committee assignments and reports. During the afternoon session, the balance of the reports were given and elections were held resulting in second term re-elections of: President, James Schafhausen; 1st Vice, Jason Rader; 2nd Vice, Emmanuel Toe; Secretary, Robert Brokamp; Treasurer, Richard Bruns; Financial Secretary, Joseph Brokamp; Judge Advocate, Ken Schlarman; Sergeant-at-Arms, Dan Bronner; Messenger, Leo Oberting; Guard, Paul Vitartas; and Trustees, Charles Schafhausen, Joseph Mitch and Ronald Holthaus.

During the afternoon joint session, officers from both Grand Commanderies were installed by Supreme Past Presidents Dan Vaske and Tim Hoerst.

To close the day a Eucharistic celebration was held at Our Mother of Sorrows Church.

On A Sad Note:

Commandery 300, Fort Loramie, Ohio, lost two of it's long time members this past few months. Now serving under Our Lord's Command are Col. James Hilgefert and the Commandery's current President, Douglas Gehret. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and friends.

Commandery 59:

The 2015 Commandery #59 Golf outing is Sunday, August 2nd at Avon Fields Golf Course in Cincinnati, Ohio. We are having a shotgun start this year at 8 am. We would like to have at least 20 teams. We have been close for the last few years at 18. This year's tournament again is open to all knights, relatives and friends. The



Attendees of the Joint Cincinnati/Kentucky Grand Convention.

tournament is a scramble format with senior players (over 70) playing from the forward tees. The course itself is a fairly short open course that is suitable for all players. Cost for the tournament is \$280 per foursome. This includes your golf & cart, along with food and drinks at the hall after the outing.

Ken Vaske is the tournament chairperson and can be reached at (513) 702-2675 or email at: kelsdav@yahoo.com. All entries need to be turned in by July 20, 2015. We are also looking for hole sponsors to help out our scholarship program for high school students. Contact Greg Ernstes at (513) 563-0641 or email at: dme62@aol.com.

Commanderies 97 & 98:

This past January members of Commandery 97 & 98, again, attended the St. Mary's Gala. The evening of food, drink, music, and silent and live auctions are always enjoyable. All proceeds go to help support St. Mary's Elementary School, Columbus, Ohio's oldest Catholic School and the home parish of Commandery #98.

Several members from Commandery 98 are also gearing up for the 22nd annual Appalachia Project. This program consists of approximately 50 high school and college age youth from Christ the King and St. Catharine parishes and from several high schools in the Columbus area. During the last week of June, these youth along with an experienced adult staff, journey to Scioto County, Ohio to do home repairs for the needy in Southern Ohio. Roofing, siding, flooring, painting, bath and kitchen repairs, and cutting firewood for heating are only a few of the jobs taken on each year. Last year ten families benefitted from this program.

Commandery 313:

28th Annual Maria Stein Country Fest June 26 - 28, 2015.

Totally free entertainment beginning with featured performances of Big Air Insanity Freestyle Motocross Show and the nationally known Country Fest Tractor Square Dancers (two-ton tractors maneuvering to square dance calls!) Additional entertainment includes: Antique, Garden, and Stock Tractor Pulls, Cruise-In Car Show, Chainsaw Wood Carving, Go-Kart Races. Competitions include Mini-Indy racing, Diaper Derby, Punt-Pass-Kick, Quarterback Challenge, and 5k Run~Walk. Tournaments include Volleyball, Dodgeball, Cornhole, and 3 on 3 Basketball.

The festival includes music for all ages throughout the weekend, and has plenty of food to satisfy anyone's palate, plus a petting zoo, games of chance, rides, and fun for all. Free Parking, Free Admission, Free Entertainment. For more information, please visit the website: www.mscountryfest.com

Religious events will include a Folk Mass on Saturday afternoon, the 81st Annual Peace Pilgrimage, and the Maria Stein Art Show. Stop at the Heritage Museum & Gift Shop.

The Maria Stein Country Fest is held on the beautiful grounds of the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics. Members of KSJI Commandery 313 and Auxillary 288 of Maria Stein make up part of the committee that is in charge of the Maria Stein Country Fest and it is one of Commandery's biggest fundraisers.

*Fraternally submitted,
Brig. Gen. James Schafhausen
Cincinnati Grand President*

Abuja Grand Commandery

Joint Grand Board of Trustee meeting was held on the 13th of February 2015 at the KSJI Hall, Our Lady Queen of Nigeria, Garki, Abuja. The meeting was well attended. Newly elected officers (Brothers and Sisters) were introduced.

Special Mass

A special Mass was celebrated on the 21st of February for good health and general progress for all members of the Grand. It was well attended by brothers and sisters.

Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria Plenary Session

The CBCN plenary session held from the 21st-25th of February 2015 at the DRACC Lugbe. During the plenary session, the Supreme Subordinate Commandery President Maj-Gen. Ansem Okafor gave a report of the activities of KSJI Nigeria. Abuja Grand Commandery donated branded bottled water for use by the bishops throughout the plenary.

Installation of Officers

Elected Officers of Commander 574, Holy Trinity Maitama were installed on the 21st of March 2015. Other officers of outstanding Commanderies were also installed.

KSJI Catholic Academy

The KSJI Catholic academy is a new project to be executed by the Abuja Grand commandery. The chairman of the Building Committee, Col. Jerome Nwokeji gave a detailed report during the JGBOT meeting on the design of the Academy, complete with power point/picture presentation. The facility opens up with a sports field, an administrative block and a Chapel. The facility also hosts two classroom blocks for about 480 students each, a dormitory and a refectory. The refectory block also holds a KSJI hall on its first floor. Execution of the project is to commence immediately.

Donation

The sum of two hundred and fifty thousand naira (N250,000) was raised by the Abuja Grand commandery and donated towards the rebuilding of the burnt seminary in Kafanchan.

Joint Supreme Subordinate Board Meeting

The Joint Supreme Subordinate Board meeting which was scheduled to

take place on the 27th of March 2015 was postponed due to the elections and has been rescheduled to hold on the 15th of May 2015.

Grand Workshops

The workshop which was planned by the Abuja Grand Commandery for all secretaries, financial secretaries and presiding officers was postponed as a result of elections taking place in the country.

National Missionary Council of Nigeria Meeting

The Abuja Grand Commandery participated in the National Missionary Council of Nigeria meeting which held in April at DRACC, Lugbe. The meeting was attended by representatives of the grand.

Inaugural Mass of Commandery 696

The inaugural Mass of The Cathedral of the Twelve Apostles Commandery 696 and the newly inaugurated LAUX 696 took place on Saturday 18th April. Officiating at the historic occasion was the Spiritual Adviser of the Commandery Rev. Fr. (Lt. Col.) Willy Ojukwu.

Commencing the Mass, which was attended by eight sisters, fourteen brothers, five LAUX aspirants and one Commandery aspirant, Rev. Fr. Willy Ojukwu thanked God for giving all present the grace to witness the historic occasion. He also thanked God for providing the resources to put in place the containers being used as the temporary meeting venues for the LUAX

and Commandery pending the commencement and completion of the Cathedral building.

Delivering his sermon after the day's readings which were taken from Acts 6:1-7 and John 6:16-21, Rev. Fr. Willy Ojukwu remarked that nothing can take away the human element in us which sometimes results in discrimination against others as complained of by the Hellenists in the first reading and currently being experienced with the Xenophobia in South Africa.

However, Rev. Fr. Willy Ojukwu appealed to everybody to rise above this weakness by living up to our Christian calling and drawing strength from our Lord Jesus Christ. Speaking further on the first reading, the priest drew members' attention to the division of labour practised by the early Christians.

Expounding on the Gospel, Rev. Fr. Willy Ojukwu reminded members of the words of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Gospel "It is I, do not be afraid" and asked all present to remember these words in times of trouble and apprehension.

After the Mass, Rev. Fr. Willy Ojukwu appealed to brothers to attend meetings regularly. He also thanked members for their sacrifice especially Sir John Ibe for providing the containers.

These are the most recent activities of the Abuja Grand Commandery.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Anselm O. Onyemekwu
Abuja Grand Secretary, KSJI*

~ PLEASE NOTE ~

Due to the ever-growing number of members who submit articles and photos to be printed in the Knight of St. John Journal and an endless number of computer programs available, new procedures are now being used.

All articles submitted via email should be saved in a **MicroSoft Word format (without photos)** 12 point TimesRoman.

All photos should be of highest resolution possible and **attached** to an email **DO NOT embed photos in Word files**; captions may be included at the end of the submitted article or in the email message.

PLEASE LIMIT ENTRIES TO ONE (1) PAGE MAXIMUM.

Articles submitted after the deadline (see page 3) will be included on a space available basis.

Thank you for your assistance.

Port Harcourt Grand Commandery

PORT HARCOURT GRAND COMMANDERY AND NIGERIAN GENERAL ELECTIONS 2015

Introduction

The elections have come and gone but their impact on the Nigerian society at large and on KSJI, Port Harcourt Grand Commandery will endure for a very long time. Generally, Nigerians heaved a sigh of relief, at the end of it all, with some crying and some others rejoicing. The elections produced a winner, a loser, and a hero.

War Drums at the Primaries

Although 16 political parties were registered to participate in the elections, only two parties had a national outlook and the financial muscle to pursue their campaigns – the party of the ruling government in office, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the All Progressive Congress (APC), the opposition.

All along, Church authorities have been persuading Catholics to participate in party politics and show case honour, integrity and the life of Christianity in their public service. Some brothers and sisters registered with political parties and became active participants in all the parties. After party primaries in October, only a few brothers were left standing: Brother Collins Owhondah Our Lady of Lourdes of Commandery 634 in APC, and Bro Elochukwu of Commandery 460 in APGA Port Harcourt, both contesting for the Federal House of Representatives. Sister Stella Ezekiel Udoh, (PDP) was gunning for the House of Assembly, Uyo. Numerous members of our Commanderies were involved in various party positions, planning, directing and perfecting party strategies. Bro Laz Okoro and Bob Odinkemelu (460) were campaign strategists for candidates in Imo State; Brother Francis Okoro, ADC, to the Grand President, of Commandery 779, was elected a Returning Officer in Abia State. The Governor of Rivers State, and Commander, District 48, Bro Rotimi Amaechi, was appointed the Campaign Manager for the opposi-

tion Presidential Candidate, Maj. Gen. Muhamadu Buhari (Rtd).

The Gathering Storm

The atmosphere was taut with tension as both parties campaigned hard, and dirty – mudslinging, accusing one another, while they key issues of alleviating poverty, growing the economy, health, education, and insurgency were relegated to the background and not properly addressed.

Old ethnic rivalries reared their ugly heads; one of the parties boasted that if it did not win the elections, it would form a parallel government. Another in the South-South Geopolitical Zone, boasted that if their man, the serving President, did not win, no oil would ever flow. The insurgency raged in the North-east States with bomb blasts in Churches and market places, and kidnappings in the East, and insecurity everywhere. Many thought that the Nigerian State was tottering to a total and imminent collapse.

World leaders poured in messages suing for a peaceful conduct of the elections. The American President, Barack Obama, through John Kerry, sued for peace, before, during and after the elections. The specter of violence, reminiscent of the past elections, when hundreds of persons were killed in post-election violence, loomed ominously over the country like the swinging sword of Damocles. Pope Francis added his voice for peaceful elections.

The chief protagonists, at the persuasion of world leaders, entered a peace accord to the relief of millions of people.

The President on the campaign trail, often said: ***“No one’s ambition is worth a drop of blood of any Nigerian.”*** Such statement helped to reduce tensions.

So, the Grand Commandery prayed. The Church prayed and fasted. It was the Lenten Season. The Bishops ordered the *“Prayer for Nigeria in distress”*, a radical prayer that had done miracles for us during the tyrannical Sani Abacha years.

Anti climax, March 28, 2015

And then the elections came, amid tight, very tight security. We all held our breath. There were reports of sporadic violence and electoral malpractices, here and there. International observers lauded the process and called the elections free and fair. Then, on Monday night, five hours before the final results were announced, the Presidential Candidate for PDP and the incumbent President, conceded defeat to the opposition counterpart, and front runner, Maj. Gen. Muhamadu Buhari. The entire Nigerian nation heaved a loud sigh of relief. The International Community was amazed at this singular feat of sportsmanship and humility. The stock exchange jumped a few points up. Fewer bomb blasts were heard in the North-east.

God had again wrought a miracle for us – and we were back again as one Nigeria, stronger than ever, united in our diversity.

Epilog

Our two brothers lost their elections. Our sister, too. Governor Amaechi, our District 48 Commander, had done very well as Campaign Manager for the winning opposition, but all his candidates for the Federal and State House of Assembly lost their bids. The Grand Commandery will miss him and the assistance he often gave us. He had assisted us to host the Visiting Supreme Officers in 2010 and 2013.

At the close of the elections, there was a winner – General M. Buhari (Rtd); there was a loser, President G. Jonathan; there was a hero, President Goodluck Jonathan – he had won the hearts of all Nigerians. President Barak Obama awarded him the Ambassador of Peace, for Africa.

Col Dan Onuoha

Enugu Grand Commandery

An-Easter Retreat for Grand Officers

Knights/Laux, District/Regimental Commanders, Worthy/Respected Presidents, Vice of all echelons Recording secretaries, Adjutants, Local Commanders and Drill Witnesses organized from 13th to 15th March at Pastoral Centre, Abakaliki started with a courtesy call on the Bishop of Abakaliki Diocese His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. M.N Okoro.

After the opening prayer by Rev. Father Agim, the Grand Spiritual Director Rev. Fr. Clement Obasi introduced the first resource person, Rev. Fr. Longinus Ugonwa – editor of Catholic Choice Newspaper, Enugu – Theme: *Knighthood: You Are In The World But Not Of The World*. Topic: *Applying Responsive and Responsible Stewardship in the Church and Families*. Starting with the song “Lift Him up higher - “he quoted from John 17: 6-19, John 15: 19. He distinguished between the Church in Corinth known for *Carnality* has opposed to the Church in Philippi known for *Compassion* and Church Ephesus known for *commitment*. He summarized that Knights/Laux of the Church are to be separated but not isolated from the world. As skilled physicians then should practice contact without contamination. Shine as lights.

The second lecture was delivered by Rev. Fr. Areji Okonkwo of Brigard Memorial Seminary. Theme: *Knighthood, You Are In The World But Not Of The World*. Topic: *Reflections With The Knights/LAUX On Christian Call By Vocation*. After quoting from the bible he reminded Knights and Laux that they have to honour the tenets of the sacrament of matrimony they have taken as a vocation. He admonished all that they have to make heaven by withdrawing sometimes to go and pray as exemplified by our Lord Jesus Christ.

The third lecture was delivered by Mr. Ukpai Francis, a retired Director of Education, Ebonyi State on *The Economic, Social And Religious Impact Of KSJI College at AGBA Has So Far Made On The Community*. The school in its sec-



The Enugu Grand President addressing spiritual advisers.

ond year of intake has provided employment to the people of Agba and others who from their salaries have improved the economic fortunes of businesses. Excursions, bible readings at Sunday Masses and orderly procession to and fro the church have caught the fancy of the inhabitants and children nurse the idea of being students of the college-evangelization par excellence. In all the retreatants felt satisfied for the sacrifices they made to found the college.

The fourth lecture was a health talk on *Hypertension* delivered by Dr. Emmanuel Ndukwe. The talk which dwelled from signs and symptoms, to ways of management was appreciated by Knight/Laux who asked many questions and got answers from the resource person.

The Grand Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Clement Obasi met separately with the spiritual advisers of the various local commanderies. The Grand President Brig. General P.S. Nwajagu who joined them after a while informed the retreatants on their decisions/advice for the good of the order.

Knights/Laux left for their destinations on Sunday, 15th March, after Mass, with a bountiful harvest, spiritually and physically.

The Lord Calls Brigadier General Romanus Unegbu

A noble brother of the Nigerian Temple of Noble and Exalted Knights of Holy Cross and immediate past President, Enugu Grand

Commandery Nigeria, Professor Romanus Okeke Unegbu (1934-2014) was an outstanding and exemplary educationist. He served as pioneer Vice-Chancellors to Madonna University, Okija and Caritas University, Amorji Nike, Enugu. He later held positions in many tertiary institutions in Nigeria. He was a community leader, peace maker and Prime Minister of his Obinugwu autonomous community.

As a Knight of St. John he was an effervescent leader (Brig. Gener P.S. Nwajagu) and rose to become the Grand President, Enugu Grand Commandery. During his tenure, he increased the number of local commanderies from twelve to twenty. Under his watch, as Grand President (2005 – 2010) the first Knights of St. John International College was established. The school which stated in 2013 is managed by Daughters Divine Love (DDL) congregation.

He was buried in his hometown, Obinugwu, Imo State, Nigeria - a ceremony attended by Maj. Gen. Anselem Okafor (Supreme subordinate Prondent, Nigeria). Brig. Gen. Chidi Arinze (SSS), Brig. Gen. P.S. Nwajagu (Grand President, Enugu), Brig. Gen. M. Ezugu (Grand President, Nsukka), Enugu Grand Laux President, Cecilia Omeje, Grand Officers Worthy Presidents brothers and sisters.

*Col. Charles Nwakanma
Enugu Grand Secretary*

Buffalo Grand Commandery

Grand President's Comments: Brig. Gen. James J. Setlock

Adverse weather for the last few months has had a horrendous effect on the Buffalo area. One result has been the January plan for our Civil and Military Commandery installations to be put on hold for the next few months. We are finally, playing catching up resolving this Installation problem. I thank the Installation team efforts of Col. Dennis Potozniak and Capt. Michael Stiglmeier for their efforts resolving these Installations issues at various local Commanderies.

The Buffalo Grand Convention will take place Saturday, June 20 at 11.00AM. The Convention will be held at Our Lady Pompeii, school hall (Marion Room) located at 158 Laverack Avenue, Lancaster, NY 14086. Important issues will be discussed and voted on. Buffalo Grand Officers are up for another two year reelection or election. It is important for your Commandery delegates to attend. Please make every effort to attend this important Convention. Letters will be sent out to all Grand Delegates and Commandery Officers detailing topics for discussion at this convention. Additional matters for the good of the Grand Commandery will also be discussed. One such matter will be the formation of a traveling Membership Committee available to all Commanderies and their home Parishes for all new Knights.

The Supreme Board Meeting for the year 2015 will take place at the **Millennium Hotel Buffalo**, 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York 14225, phone 800-323-3331. The meeting dates are Friday, July 17 & Saturday, July 18. Room daily rates are \$119.00 for Guestrooms and \$129.00 for Courtyard Superior Guestrooms. All room rates are subject to an additional tax of 13.75%. When contacting the hotel, please mention "**Knights of St. John**" for the preferred room rate.

The proposed 4th Degree Installation is being planned for October 10, 2015, if we have the necessary numbers for the installation. We have confirmation of a hall for our use at Queen of Heaven Parish, West Seneca, New York for this event. Letters

will be sent to all Grand Commanderies regarding all matters pertaining to the plans as well as applications to be dispersed to their various Commanderies and their members. We will seek Supreme approval when the number of participants of 2nd and 3rd degree Knights is secured. Remember, this installation will be opened to all Grand Commanderies members.

I wish at this time to thank all my Brother Knights for their participation at various turnouts and meetings that include all Grand, Regimental, Battalion, Chevalier and Local Commandery functions. Their success and well being depends on support of all my Brother Knights. This show of support surely will strengthen our goal as Catholic men and our Order.

God, Bless all my Brother Knights, keep them in good health and free from all Harm. God Bless America and Canada.

BUFFALO REGIMENT Colonel's Comments: Dear Brother Knights,

I must admit I did not think I would be writing any further articles as the Regimental Commander of the Buffalo Regiment but as things go, well you just never know.

This time around, I will make this article a short one. No whining or complaining. Life has too much of this in it now. I just want to state this observation on my part and a question for everyone to consider.

As we look at the many troubles of our world these days, in our country, in the world in general, is it just me or do you see so that so many problems are caused by a lack of willingness to listen and consider ALL sides to every story or a problem? We judge something so quickly. We listen to no explanation. If we do not listen, how can talk? How can we negotiate? How can we resolve our differences? Is this how we wish to be treated? Especially when it comes time for our judgment by the only one who truly matters, Our Lord?

I personally pray that is not the case. I could only hope we could at least try to emulate our Savior, Jesus Christ and follow his example. Maybe things in this crazy world would become a bit saner. Maybe life would

slow down a bit. Maybe our troubles would not seem as bad. Just maybe we'd smile a bit more and feel a bit better about our lives.

What do you think? Do you want to be part of the problem or the solution to the problem?

Just a little something to consider next time we are watching the evening news or reading the newspaper, do we rush to judgment or not?

*Col. Dennis R. Potozniak
Regimental Commander, Buffalo, NY*

Don't forget those who are ill or recovering from surgery:

We have quite a few Knights and spouses that are ill or recovering from surgery. They have been faithful members for many years and now can use our support. If you know of a member who is ill or homebound, give them a call, see what you can do to help them. They would appreciate your prayers, so that they all experience a speedy and a full recovery.

May the Heavenly Father bestow on them his healing power and give them, every grace and blessing in this life and everlasting joy in His presence.

In Memoriam:

The following Brother Knight has passed away since our last JOURNAL article:

Rev. Dennis Wolf, Chaplin Commandery #381- St. John XXIII.

S.K. John J. Kaczor Commandery #391 - Our Lady of Good Counsel

2nd Lt. William Eberth Commandery #377, Our Lady of Pompeii.

Major Oneil Cozzolino Commandery #377, Our Lady of Pompeii.

Capt. Kenneth A. Rzesutedk Commandery #382, Queen of Heaven of Heaven.

May their souls, and the souls of all departed Brother Knights, through God's Mercy and Compassion rest in peace

Brothers, when contacted please turn out for Wakes & Funerals.

*Col. William Pocobello
Buffalo Grand Secretary*

Please visit: www.ksjibuffreg.com

Togo Grand Commandery

On April 18th 2015, the Togo Temple of the Noble and Exalted Knights of the Holy Cross, Knights of St John International, conducted exemplification ceremonies of the Noble Degree at Our Lady of Redemption Church, Be Klikame Lome.

The 31 qualified candidates including one brother priest Rev. Father Laurence BOCCOVI chaplain of the Order in Lome Diocese.

The ceremonies were presided by the Rt. Rev. Denis AMUZU-DZAKPAH, Metropolitan Archbishop of Lome, assisted by a Degree Team, the principal members of which were:

- * Noble Lecture : V. Rev. Father Col. Pierre Dovi N'DANU ALIPUI
- * Noble Grand Master : S/K. jean Claude TONATO
- * Noble Vice Grand Master : Col. Georges SYLVESTRE
- * Noble Esquire : Col. Edward Aristide AGBODJAN
- * Assistant Noble Esquires : Maj. Jean Marie MAWENA ; Maj. Florentin SODJADAN.
- * Noble Scribe : Capt. Joseph SODOGAS.
- * Noble Capt. of Sentinels : Capt Ben JOPPA
- * Noble Capt of Guards : Maj. Elias AMEGONOU
- * Noble Capt. of Colours : Capt. Rocky SOSSOU

A pontifical holy mass was celebrated during the ceremonies by the Archbishop Denis AMUZU-DZAKPAH and all the degree candidates received Holy Communion.

The beautiful ceremonies of the exemplification ended with a short parade by the members of the Knights of St John and the Ladies Auxiliary. Music for the parade was provided by the Band Vox clamantis of the Order in Togo.

To crown it all a sumptuous banquet was held in honor of the new entrants to the Temple.

Noble Brother Col Edward Aristide AGBODJAN

Below are the lists of the members of Togo Grand Commandery honored:

Commandery N° 364

Felicien COLLEY
Maurice HOMA WOO
Isidore KANYI
John DA-ERNESTO

Commandery N° 410

Theodore TUGAN
Valere LAWSON
Valerien LAWSON
Stephan SOSSOU
Blaise AMEYAPOH
Eugene Bruno SOSSOU

Commandery N° 465

Symphorien WOAMENOR
Charles MONDEDJI
Commandery N° 501
Nicolas KETOHO
Victor VOVOR

Accra West Grand Commandery

Accra West Grand unlocks its growth potential a year on.

The Accra West Grand Commandery has started reaping the benefits of the split of the erstwhile Accra Grand only a year into its establishment as a Grand. The proponents of the split believed that for the Order to grow in tandem with the growth of the Catholic Church in Ghana, which had culminated in the creation of new dioceses, and also for the Order to remain relevant, the need to look at the administrative structure of the Order had become a matter of necessity. The gains made by the Order, resulting from the creation of new grand commanderies are beginning to show.

The leadership, driven by its goal to grow the new Accra West Grand Commandery embarked on initiatives to create and inaugurate new commanderies in parishes where hitherto, the Order did not have footprints.

In what appears to be unprecedented, commanderies have been set up at seven parishes in a matter of a year and half. Parishes such as St Theresa, Martyrs of Uganda, Prince of Peace, Star of the Sea, St Francis Xavier, St Dominic and St John the Baptist have Commanderies of their own. Almost all these parishes have been in existence for more than 20 years and had parishioners who belonged to Commanderies elsewhere within the Grand. The inauguration of the Accra West Grand unlocked the

potential for growth spurring on members in these communities under the auspices the Grand and District Commanderies to initiate steps to form their own local commanderies.

In the last quarter of 2014, there was a flurry of activities culminating in what passed for a “Season of Inauguration”, an unprecedented development in the life of the Order in Ghana.

Today, the Accra West Commandery can boast of an additional 7 new commanderies. It has seen its membership strength grow by 33 percent from 587 to 782, that is, an additional 195 new brothers and sisters. This growth does not include members who have resigned, been expelled or fallen.

The inauguration of new Commanderies was expected to affect the numerical strength of some existing Commanderies, however the net impact has been quite positive with some Commanderies recovering by initiating new members.

Of particular interest were Sacred Heart Commandery #351, the oldest Commandery in the Grand and second oldest in West Africa as well as St Margaret Mary Commandery # 500. Sacred Heart Commandery # 351 for example, had members migrate to form Martyrs of Uganda Commandery # 797 and St. Theresa Commandery # 815, the net impact has been a dip in the membership strength from 102 to 73, a 28% drop.



Having suffered this drop, the Sacred Heart Commandery still remains one of the biggest in the Grand.

St Margaret Mary Commandery #500 on the other hand has already started demonstrating signs of recovery after losing more than 20 members to form the Ss Peter and Paul Commandery # 747 in 2012 and another 21 members during the Season of Inauguration when the Star of the Sea Commandery # 825 was inaugurated. The St Margaret Mary Commandery went down by only 3% of its numerical strength having lost 24 members through transfers and expulsions and initiated 22 new members into the Commandery.

Average growth rate within the Grand Commandery for existing local commanderies stood at 13% with Commanderies such as Holy Family Commandery # 495, St Paul Commandery # 618, Our Lady of Assumption Commandery # 619, and Martyrs of Uganda Commandery # 797 outperforming the growth average significantly. Almost 50% of new members initiated in the Grand Commandery come from the newly inaugurated local Commanderies.

If these developments are anything to go by, then the Accra West Grand is poised for a rapid growth and it is expected that the Order will continue to make a significant impact on the life of every community and bring the message and virtues of love, unity, charity, loyalty and fraternity to all in the years to come.

Story filed by Bro Knight Benjamin Dwummah-Adu



New York Grand Commandery

New York Grand News:

On May 1st thru 3rd the New York Grand Knights of St. John and Ladies Auxiliary held their Convention at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, NJ. On Saturday prior to the start of our business meetings a memorial Mass was celebrated at the Hotel followed by the Exemplification of the 2nd and 3rd Degree to thirteen Brother Knights.

The Convention was well attended and there was much business discussed. Along with all the business meetings there was Election of Officers. The new elected Officers are as follows: New York Grand President – Brig. Gen. John R. Russo, Sr., 1st Vice President – Col. Thomas Dwyer, 2nd Vice President – Col. Bruce Stowers, Secretary – Col. Louis F. Parrotta, Financial Secretary – Col. Richard Morse, Treasurer – Col. Dominick Pepe, Judge Advocate – Capt. Jason Fazio, Messenger – John Akwuobi, Sgt.-at-Arm – Emmanuel Nwoha, Guard – Bonaventure Duru, and two Trustees (4 year term) – Gabriel Wolo and Ben Onwuegbu and one Trustee (2 year term) Marthin Ukeje. Congratulations to all and best of luck in the upcoming years.

The evening concluded with a dinner and dance at the Hotel. The convention closed on Sunday with a 12:30 PM Igbo Mass, celebrated by our Grand Spiritual Advisor Rev. Msgr. Ansem Nwaorgu at Blessed Sacrament ~ St. Charles Borromeo Church. A special thanks to Co-Chairs Charles Abiakwe and



Knights and Ladies of the New York Grand after the Eucharistic Mass.

Marcelina Akanno and their Convention Committee for hosting a terrific weekend. The 2016 Delegates Meeting and 2017 Grand Convention will be hosted by Commandery #41 in Utica, NY.

The Rochester Temple of the Noble Degree held a brief ceremony on Saturday remembering those Noble Brothers who have passed since our last convention and also honoring our new Gold Card (50 year members). The results of the election of Noble Officers for the term 2015 – 2017 were also announced. Noble Grand Master - Sir Noble Francis Kollie, 1st Vice Grand Master - Sir Noble John R. Russo Sr., 2nd Vice Grand Master - Sir Noble Thomas Zdanowicz, Noble Scribe - Sir Noble George Hoffman Jr, and Noble Keeper of the Exchequer - Sir Noble John Lloyd, congratulations to all.

From Rochester:

The following Knights and Ladies are ill or recovering from surgery, Most Rev. James Moynihan, Frank and Elizabeth Meleca, Tom Meleca, Charles Perri, Michael Perri, George Schum, Al Keidel, Kenneth Scholl, Tony Perrotta, Joseph and Joyce DeFranco.

Please keep these and all our Brother Knights and Ladies who are ill or recovering from surgery, and all those ailing at home, in hospitals and in nursing homes in your prayers.

frontiernet.net/~nygrand

*Publicity Chairman
Brig. Gen. George Hoffman Jr.*

News Report From District 4:

2015 Catholic Men's Conference of Archdiocese of Newark:

Brother Knights of Commandery 680 participated in the 2015 Men's Conference of Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, which was held on Saturday, March 14th, 2015 at the Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ. It's a day of reflection for men and also featured workshop with inspiring and challenging discussions under the theme: "Come Follow Me". Participants were drawn from all the Catholic Communities and Parishes of the Archdiocese of Newark. Participants had opportunities for confessions. Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu, Spiritual Director, was one of the officiating priests. The event ended with a Eucharistic Celebration and the Archbishop of Newark Archdiocese was the Chief Celebrant. Over 4,500 (Four thousand, five hundred) men participated in the Conference.

Upcoming Events:

Feast of St. John the Baptist – June 24th, 2015.

District 4 Delegates Meeting, Commandery 676 Trenton NJ – June 29th, 2015.

Supreme Board Meeting: Cheektowaga New York July 17 – 18, 2015.

New York Grand Pilgrimage – Mount Poconos, PA – September 2015.

*Fraternally submitted,
Sir Titus Osuagwu
Media and Information Officer
District Four, New York Grand*



Installation of Maj. John Russo as New York Grand President by Lt. Gen. Tom Zdanowicz.

Monrovia Grand Commandery

Monrovia Grand Commandery holds mid-term Retreat

As the second term of the current leadership of the Monrovia Grand Commandery reaches its halfway mark, the leadership of the MGC held a one day retreat on Saturday, March 14th at Our Lady Queen of Peace Shrine in Virginia, a suburb situated about 5 miles (8.3 km) outside Monrovia. The retreat brought together grand officers as well as officers of the two districts of the MGC. The objectives of the retreat were to have spiritual awakening during this Lenten season and have the grand and district officers do an inward assessment of their individual performances, list challenges that have impeded the growth and development of the Order in its jurisdiction and put forth solutions.

The retreat commenced with a period of spiritual renewal led by Fr. Adrian Crowley, the resident priest of the center, leading the mediation with the recitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. This was followed by a talk on the power of prayer. In his message, Fr. Adrian spoke of how being prayerful brings about a closer relationship with God and blessings unto the individual and his/her family. He also spoke of the power of prayer and ended by quoting from the Book of Genesis: "To you who respect me and keep my words, I will bless you and a thousand generations". Fr. Adrian also briefed the brothers of the work of the CENACOLA Community which currently runs the Shrine. He said it was established in Italy by Sr. Elvira. He said the Community works in Europe and the Americans helping young people addicted to drugs helping them rebuild their lives. Liberia is the first



Fr. Adrian Crowley leading the devotion at the start of the retreat.

African country the Community has been established in. Here in Liberia he said, the Community focus is in helping orphans and other disadvantaged children.

The second phase of the retreat saw Grand and District officers of the MGC doing an inward reflection and assessment of their individual duties and responsibilities as it relates to their respective offices and the challenges faced by the Monrovia Grand and its subordinate districts and local commanderies. From these tasks several points, were put forth and discussed, namely: 1. The roles and responsibilities of Grand and District officers. 2. The duty of the Knights of St. John International to the Church and vice versa. 3. Harmonization of rituals and practices. 4. Coordination with sisters of the MGLA. 5. Ensuring adherence to the rituals and practices during Church official functions and commandery meetings.

After a lengthy discussion, several suggestions were put forth as possible solutions. These included commanderies establishing closer relationship with their spiritual advisors,

taking much more active role in their parishes especially through greater participation in organizations, the grand vice presidents assuming oversight of the districts and commanderies, ensuring that operations are in conformity with the rituals and practices, and putting into place measures to improve the relationship with the MGLA. The attendees also set goals that the MGC would seek to achieve before its tenure comes to an end. These goals are to institutionalize the meetings of the Grand Board and Expanded Grand Boards of the MGC, form, train and equip a band unit, produce a comprehensive road map for the MGC/KSJI property in Monrovia, and establish an enterprise for investment. Two committees were set up to draft and submit the MGC Byelaws and submit a progress report in the formation of the band unit.

At the end of the retreat, Brig. General Moenti E. Young, Grand President of the MGC, thanked the participants and urged each to work to ensure the goals set were achieved. Before leaving the Shrine, the Grand President on behalf of the MGC, presented to the community, through Fr. Adrian, 36 plastic chairs and two tables for use at the Shrine. Fr. Adrian expressed thanks to the MGC for the donation and said it was well appreciated as the MGC was the first organization to use the Shrine since the Community started operations there.

The retreat was facilitated by Brig. Gen. Charles G. Kpan and Col. Michael A. Clarke, past Grand President and past Grand Secretary respectively of the Liberia Grand Commandery.

*Submitted by:
Col. Michael A. Clarke*



Brig. General Moenti E. Young, Grand President MGC, making the presentation of chairs and tables to Fr. Adrian.

Owerri Grand Commandery

Owerri Joint Grand Board of Trustees Meeting:

Wednesday 11 February, 2015, Owerri Grand held its 1st JGBOT meeting for the year 2015. Grand President B. Gen E.A. Ihionu, Grand Secretary Col. T.K. Nwachukwu worked assiduously to close ranks as Orlu Grand became a reality on 21 Jan. 2015.

Grand President reminded brothers and sisters in his New Year speech the 4 cardinal principles of KSJI; Spirituality, fraternity, discipline and charity.

Grand hostel launching of Dec. 2014 was revisited. All commanderies and Auxiliaries were directed to do the launching in their various meetings and forward the proceeds to the Grand.

Grand President has remained unequivocal in completing the Grand hostel before this year's Grand Convention and initiations as the activities of these events will be held at the Grand hostel.

Bishop of ABA Laid to Rest:

Friday 27 Feb. 2015, mammoth crowd gathered at Christ the King Cathedral CKC Aba Seat of the Diocese to bury Bishop Ezeonyia.

Born Feb 1941, died and buried Feb. 2015. Bishop Vincent Valentine Ezeonyia touched his flocks and raised many parishes.

Bishop Lucuis Ugorji testified in his homily that his twin Bishop Brother died in his hands and praised God for such glorious pass on.

48 Bishops, two Archbishops and Sea of Clergy including the papal Nuncio in Nigeria, Archbishop Augustine Kasuja were in attendance.

District 13 turned out its military to welcome the Supreme Subordinate President Maj. Gen. Anselm Okafor, Grand President B. Gen. E.A. Ihionu who attended in company of B. Gen. Chidi Arinze, Col. T.K. Nwachukwu as well as all the Executives of Owerri Grand.

Grand Sergeant-at-Arms Buried Father:

Friday 6 March, 2015 Owerri Grand Sergeant at Arms brother Mike Okereke buried his father Pa Titus Ubamadu Okereke aged 110 years.

Pa Titus was among the 1st generation Catholics in Ngor Okpala who



Installation of newly elected officers.

carried the missionary priests boxes on their heads during the missionary treks.

Grand President Ihionu led his executive to Umugo Eziamma Ngor Okpala to attend the funeral Mass and to condole Brother Mike and family.

The burial Mass at C.K.C Parish Achara, Rev. Father Christian Nwachukwu Capped his homily with "Happy are those who die in the Lord".

District, Regimantal Officers Installed:

Saturday 7 March, 2015, Grand hall Owerri, the newly elected officers of the Districts and Regiments in the Commandery were installed.

Grand President decked the installed officers with relevant sections of the KSJI constitution pertaining to their offices.

Owerri Grand Consoles Metropolitan Archbishop AJV Obinna:

Tuesday 10 March, 2015 Grand President Ezekiel Ihionu and Grand Executive condole Archbishop AJV Obinna of Owerri ecclesiastical province on the death and burial of Bishop Vincent Ezeonyia Catholic Bishop of Aba Diocese.

Archbishop Obinna expressed gratitude to Owerri Grand Knights and Ladies and of St John International Order for their impressive turn out during the burial which he said added colour, honour and impetus to the dignity of burying a Bishop.

He reminded the Knights and Ladies the 4 cardinal principles: Spirituality, fraternity, discipline and charity.

He enjoined Knights to influence others with the good things they do.

Archbishop Obinna prayed for the prosperity of Owerri Grand and blessed the Grand Executives.

Regiment 3:

Friday 13 March 2015, Col. Joe Onwukamuche convened the 1st Quarter Regimental meeting and hosted by Mater Dei Commandery 469 Umuahia.

The newly elected officers received a formal handover from the outgoing executive. They are presently: Regimental Commander-Col. Joe Onwukamuche, 1st Vice -Maj. C.J. Nwaukwa, 2nd Vice -Maj. A.G.I Avoaja, Adjutant -Capt. Loius Okite, Inspector - Lt Thaddeus Agbasi, Quarter Master - Brother Peter Okereke, Paymaster- Lt Vincent Azubuike.

Table Officers Workshop:

Friday 24 April 2015, Workshop for all Local Commanderies table officers was held by the Grand. In a well attended workshop the officers were treated to workshop papers on - keeping commanderies alive and functional by Col. T.K. Nwachukwu, Cultivating and sustaining the culture of Discipline at Commandery level by B. Gen. Eugene Emenalo, Principal duties of treasurers and financial secretaries by Bro. Dom Edomobi and Safe Guarding the finances of commanderies by Lt. Remigus Ifeobu.

The one day workshop ended by 5 pm local time.

*Lt. Vincent Chukwuemeka Azubuike
Under Secretary, Owerri Grand*

Makurdi Grand Commandery

There will be very scanty news from this Grand Commandery because there had been no activities to report about. The Grand Commandery held her third Joint Grand Board meeting in October last year and since then another Joint Grand Board was held recently in April 2015. Local Commanderies are however carrying on with their normal regular meetings as well as the Districts. The Grand Ladies Auxiliary are taking a good step in keeping with the memories of the Grand Commandery.

The Grand Ladies Auxiliary President Noble Sister Priscilla Gllillah initiated a move to visit the

Catholic Bishop of Makurdi Diocese which idea was considered reasonable and the Grand Commandery jointly with the Grand Ladies uxiliary paid a courtesy call on the Catholic Bishop of Makurdi Diocese and made a cash donation of N100000.00 (one hundred thousand naira). There are five Catholic Dioceses surrounding Makurdi Grand Commandery.

Good of the Order:

Our Cadet Hon. Mark Gbillan, the son of our Grand Ladies Auxiliary President was elected into the Federal House of Representative in one the Federal Constituencies in

Nigeria. Similarly, our famous Brother George Akume had been re-elected Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Grand President Brigadier General Simon Aondona and the entre members of Makurdi Grand Commandery felicitate with Brother George Akume and our Cadet Mark Gbillah for their victory at the polls and wish the a successful tenure n the upper and lower houses of the National Assembly.

*Col. Godwin A. Nen-na
Makurdi Grand Secretary*

(Supreme Secretary from page 4)

the District and Local Commandery that requires a Supreme or Grand officer to be in attendance during elections to assure that they are conducted fairly, constitutionally, and without someone getting hurt. Do you want to join a commandery such as any of these? Not me.

"Remember, the eyes of the world are on you."

And yet, there are the commanderies who reach out to those around them. One such commandery has taken on the care and maintenance of a Home for Retired Nuns as a permanent project. Another meets every Thursday evening and make pots of soup and sandwiches for their parish's Soup Kitchen. There is a commandery that kneels and recites the Rosary before each monthly meeting. Many Commanderies are their pastors "right arm". They are available to help raise funds for the parish and take on the chores of minor maintenance and landscaping of the parish grounds. I would really consider joining a group of people like these. Wouldn't you?

"Remember, the eyes of the world are on you."

*Lt. Gen. Tom Zdanowicz
Supreme Secretary*

In Memoriam

Commandery:

40 Rochester, NY
40 Rochester, NY
94 Covington, KY
94 Covington, KY
98 Columbus, OH
100 Schenectady, NY
171 Detroit, MI
261 Arima, Trinidad
282 St. Wendle, IN
282 St. Wendel, IN
282 St. Wendel, IN
300 Fort Laramie, OH
300 Fort Laramie, OH
308 Rochester, NY
308 Rochester, NY
313 Maria Stein, OH
335 Evansville, IN
345 Haubstadt, IN
364 Lome, Togo
391 Blasdel, NY
398 Lome, Togo
411 Wa, Ghana
413 Osu, Ghana
416 Techiman, Ghana
427 Jirapa, Ghana
492 Tamale, Ghana
517 Wa, Ghana
540 Gboko, Benue, Nigeria
580 Awgu, Enugu, Nigeria
596 Adenta, Ghana
633 Oyigbo, Rivers, Nigeria
634 Port Harcourt, Rivers, Nigeria
638 Uwani, Enugu, Nigeria
676 Trenton, NJ
789 Bekwai, Ghana

Rev. Paul Freemesser
Charles Stich
William Cason
Rev. Msgr. Thomas B. Sacksteder
Patrick J. McCarren
Michael Gillooley
Charles O'Neil
Allan John
Bernard Baehl
Wilbur Fehrenbacher
Frederick Hoefling
James Hilgefort
Douglas Gehret
Chester Ventura
Andrew Meloni, Jr.
Albin Kramer
HermanFroehle
Ray Dewig
Simon Amevor
John J. Kaczor
WilfriedGogovor
Ignatius Nababong
Benedictus Yao Ledi
Eugene Gokel
Lawrence Suma
George AsokeAwuntenga
David Doohaana
Emmanuel Makir
Jerome Ebelechukwu
J.P.N. Swatson
Celestine Opara
Anthony Okoye
Emmanuel A. Okeke
Nathaniel Davies
Godfred Assibi Dery

March, 2015 thru June 2015