

Published Quarterly

Second Class Postage Paid at Celina, Ohio

(USPS 296880)

Vol. 51 No. 1

IN GOD WE TRUST

March, 2014

# KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN INTERNATIONAL 64th ANNUAL NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT Applil 95 to Applil 97, 9014

# April 25 to April 27, 2014

# **AMF THRUWAY LANES**

1550 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York 14225 Phone 716-896-8507

Friday, April 25 – Supreme Officers Match – 8 PM Saturday, April 26 – Doubles/Singles – 10 AM and 2 PM if necessary Sunday, April 27 – 4 Man Team Event – 10 AM and 1 PM if necessary Entries Close – Friday April 4, 2014

All Entries **MUST BE POSTMARKED** by Saturday April 5, 2014

Headquarters Hotel

# MILLENNIUM HOTEL BUFFALO

2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York 14225 Phone: 716-681-2400 or 716-681-8067

Room Reservations \$99.00 per night plus tax (13.75%)
There is an upgrade available for an additional \$10.00 per night.
Please Mention Group code **Knights of St. John Bowling** while making reservations.

Reservations Close on Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Mass at the Hotel Saturday- 6:30 PM

Note: Captains from the last three tournaments have received applications, if interested; please contact the chairman at 315-723-7585 or email commandery41sports@yahoo.com for an application.

Make your plans NOW!

# See pages 14 and 15 for 2014 Supreme Convention Registration and Hotel Registration forms.

### **POSTMASTER**

Send address changes to: Knight Of St. John The Messenger Press Carthagena, OH 45822-9998

The Knight of St. John is the official organ of the Knights of St. John Internatinal and is entirely devoted to their interests.

The Knight of St. John is published under the supervision of the Supreme Board of Trustees.

Communications will not be published unless accompanied by the name and address of the author. Communications for the current issue should be sent directly to the assistant editor.

The name "Knights of St. John International" and its logo are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Ser. No. 78-713,532, Filed 9-15-2005

The Knight of St. John (USPS 296880) is a quarterly publication of the Knights of St. John International. Second Class Postage paid at Celina, Ohio.

### Printed by The Messenger Press Carthagena Station Celina, OH 45822

### **MARCH. 2014**

### **SUBSCRIPTION \$6.00 PER YEAR**

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

James Schafhausen, Asst. Editor 4224 Green Cook Road Westerville, OH 43082-9706 KSJInews@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., Blasdell, N.Y. 14219.

Supreme President - General Dale Gossiaux, 7375 E. Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 - Tel. 810-694-0203, - 400-6

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

Past Supreme President - General Daniel R. Vaske, 13 Pike St., Cincinnati, OH 45215 - Tel. 513-733-0198 - Daniel.Vaske@lexis-nexis.com

Past Supreme President - General John M. Windsor, Jr., 1809 Altamont Pl., Forestville, MD 20747 - Tel. 301-350-1874 - Fax 301-808-5090

Past Supreme President - General Thomas C. Graziano, 2206 Pinnacle Dr., Utica, N.Y. 13501-4218 - Tel. 315-724-9238

Supreme First Vice President - Lieut. Gen. Thomas DeLuca, 135 Pontiac St., Buffalo, New York 14206-3330 - Tel. 716-827-8934 LtGenTJD@roadrunner.com

Supreme Second Vice President - Lieut. Gen. Fred Akwaboah, ABP Consult Ltd., Box AN 7186, Accra, N. Ghana, W.A. - fkakwaboah@abpconsult.com - fakwaboah@gmail.com

Supreme Secretary - Lieut. Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz, 238 Kerber Rd., Frankfort, New York 13340 - Tel. 315-733-8694 supremesecretary@yahoo.com Supreme Treasurer - Lieut. Gen. Terrence W. McCann, 63 Butternut Circle, Orchard Park, N.Y. 14127-1904 - Tel. 716-662-5723. - Assistant Supreme Treasurer - Francis Jerome Countiss, Jr.

Supreme Trustee - Major Gen. Douglas Francony, 1010 W. North St., Piqua, OH 45356 Tel/Fax 937-778-0804 - dfrancony@woh.rr.com

Supreme Trustee - Major Gen. Dan Anaebo Okekenta, Darumi District of Area One Flyover, P.O. Box 6252, Garki, Abuja, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 011-080-37-872835 - anebsons@yahoo.com

Supreme Inspector General - Major Gen. George M. Check, 107 Miller Ave., Blasdell, N.Y. 14219 - Tel. 716-826-0538 - GGRANDPUBA@aol.com Assistant Inspector General - Capt. James M. Gibbons II, 76 Sunset Creek Dr., West Seneca, NY 14224-3870 - Tel. 716-675-0720 imgibbonsii@verizon.net

Supreme Counsel - Maj. Gen. Charles O'Neil, 32642 Harper, St. Clair Shores, MI 48082 - Tel. 586-294-1116 - oneil5120@aol.com

### SUPREME BOARD OF OFFICERS

Gen. Dale Gossiaux, Supreme President, Gen. Timothy Hoerst, Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr., Gen. Daniel Vaske, Gen. John M. Windsor, Jr., Gen. Thomas C. Graziano, Lieut. Gen. Thomas DeLuca, Lieut. Gen. Fred Akwaboah, Lieut. Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz, Lieut. Gen. Terrence W. McCann, Maj. Gen. Douglas Francony, Maj. Gen. Dan Anaebo Okekenta, Maj. Gen. George M. Check, Maj. Gen. Charles O'Neil

### U. S. GRAND PRESIDENTS

Baltimore-Washington - Brig. Gen. Robert F. Brown, Sr.; 1708 40th Street SE, Washington, DC 20020 - Tel. 202-575-3566

Buffalo - Brig. Gen. James Setlock, 1078 Lyndale Lane, Elma, NY 14059 - Tel. 716-655-1236 jsetlock1@rochester.rr.com

Cincinnati - Brig. Gen. James Schafhausen, 4224 Green Cook Rd, Westerville, OH 43082 Tel. 740-965-8274 - jimjs46@aol.com

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

Kentucky - Brig. Gen. Jerome J. Moser, 3977 Loftyview Place, Erlanger, KY 41018 - Tel. 859-746-1607 - jimoser@fuse.net

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

New York - Brig. Gen. George Hoffman, Jr., 99 Saint Casimir Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14621 - Tel. 585-342-5427 - tedebear@frontiernet.com

Ohio - Brig. Gen. Charles Conrad, 1051 W. 9th St., Lorain, OH 44052 - bea439@centurytel.net

### 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, PO. Box AN 12345, Accra-North, Accra, Ghana, W.A. Tel. (+233) 277201230 - (+233) 543344645 - mvidekar@yahoo.co.uk supsubsecgh@yahoo.com

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

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

### OVERSEAS GRAND PRESIDENTS

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

Accra-West - Brig. Gen. William Adjei, Box AN8356, Accra-North, Ghana, W.A. - MOB: +233-24-4356277 - bill 2202@yahoo.com

Cape Coast - Brig. Gen. Francis Koomson-Barnes, PO. 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, W.A. - MOB: +233-20-2019848 - psangdery@yahoo.co.uk

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

 $\begin{array}{l} Tamale - Brig. \ Gen. \ Ernest \ Konadu, PO. \ Box \ 502, \\ Tamale, \ Ghana, - Tel. \ +233-244960720 - \\ ernesthers@yahoo.com \end{array}$ 

Wa - Brig. Gen. Moses Donneyong, P.O. Box 33, Daffiama, U/WR, Ghana, W.A., 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, W.A. - 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, W.A., - Tel. 08033570026 - gnmuotolumezie@yahoo.com

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

Calabar - Brig. Gen. Maurice Effiwatt, P.O. Box 2656, Calabar, Cross River, Nigeria, W.A. - sirmauriceeffiwatt@yahoo.co.uk

Enugu - Brig. Gen. Patrick Nwajagu, 10 A Savage Crescent, G.R.A. Enugu, Nigeria, W.A. - patricknwajgo@gmail.com

Jos - Brig. Gen. Clement I.C. Nwankwo, P.O. Box 5645, Zaria Road, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 08037009224 nwankwocic@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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

Owerri - Brig. Gen. C.C. Onwuneme, 34 Primary School Road, Amakohia-Owerri, Imo State - Tel. 07030451903 - clemonwuneme@yahoo.com

Port Harcourt - Brig. Gen. George Ikioumoton, Bungalow A25, Senior Civil Servants Estate, Ovom, Yenegoa, Bayelsa State, Nigeria, W.A. -Tel. +2348033416318 -

dr.ikioumotongeorge@yahoo.com

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

Monrovia Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Moenti E. Young, Liberian Band for Dev.&Inv., 9th Street/Tubman Blvd., P.O. Box 10-547, 1000 Monrovia 10, Sinker, 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

Trinidad and Tobago - Brig. Gen. Victor Cuffy, 10 Amowville, Point Cumana, Carenage, Trinidad W.I.

# SUPREME UNDER SECRETARIES QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

Brig. Gen. Edward Obermeyer, Quartermaster General - 23129 Vote Rd., Batesville, IN 47006-9539 - Tel. 812-934-3417- Packing and Shipping of all Supplies for all Commanderies 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 / SPORTS

National Sports Chairperson - Brig. Gen. Joseph F. Schmitt, 1217 Parker St., Utica, NY 13502 - Tel. 315-724-0795 - Cell Phone 315-723-7585 - Send all questions pertaining to our Sports Events to the above address.

### UNDER SECRETARY / RITUAL

Asst. Ritual Director - 1st Lieut. Vincent Binder, 1633 Orchard Park Rd., West Senecca, NY - Tel. 716-675-6745 - vincebinder12@yahoo.com

# 675-6745 - vincebinder12@yahoo.com 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 CORRESPONDENTS

Innocent S. K. Appiah, Ghana Augustine P. Gebeh, Liberia

### SUPREME CADET ORGANIZING CHAIRMAN

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

# KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN INT. SUPREME COMMITTEES

 $Effective\ July\ 2012 \sim July\ 2014$ 

### SUPREME CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE

John M. Windsor, Jr., Chairperson Thomas Graziano Daniel Vaske Frank Waseleski, Sr.

# SUPREME RITUAL REVISION COMMITTEE

Vincent Binder, Chairperson Thomas Zdanowicz Thomas DeLuca

# SUPREME PROMOTION OF THE ORDER COMMITTEE

Douglas Francony, Chairperson Dan Anaebo Okekenta Eugene Sniezyk

# IN THIS ISSUE

Supreme President's Messagepage 4
Supreme Secretary's Messagepage 4
Supreme Spiritual Director's Messagepage 4
Welcome to New Memberspage 5
Supreme Convention Resolutionspage 6
Kentucky Grand Commanderypage 9
Accra West Grand Commandery page 10
Michigan Grand Commandery page 11
Buffalo Grand Commandery page 12
2014 Supreme Convention Registration Forms page 14
Port Harcourt Grand Commandery page 16
New York Grand Commandery page 18
Makurdi Grand Commandery page 20
Awka Grand Commandery page 22
Owerri Grand Commandery page 24
Baltimore/Washington Grand Commandery page 25
Supreme Military Committee page 26
Cincinnati Grand Commandery page 28
In Memoriam page 28

### SUPREME FINANCE COMMITTEE

Terrence McCann, Chairperson Thomas Graziano Thomas Zdanowicz Francis Jerome Countis, Jr.

# SUPREME ORGANIZING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Frederick Awkaboah, Chairperson John M. Windsor, Jr. Bruce Stowers Peter Ozemoyah Victor Cuffy

### SUPREME CADET ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Sean Dey, Chairperson Vincent Binder Matthew Trossman

### OVERSEAS CADET ORGANIZERS

Robert Foli, Chairperson Joseph Lambert Joseph Kandy Pupo

### SUPREME OVERSEAS SPECIAL ADVISORS

Joseph Biney, Chairperson Anselm Okafor Larry Kofi Tandjie Charles Kpan Assed Shallop Michel Dosseh-Anyron

# SUPREME PRESIDENT'S STAFF

Ernest Stehlin, Jr. TBD

# SPECIAL ADVISORS TO THE SUPREME PRESIDENT

Thomas Graziano, Chairperson John M. Windsor, Jr. Daniel R. Vaske Frank Waseleski, Sr. Timothy Hoerst

# SUPREME PUBLIC RELATIONS/PRESS COMMITTEE

James Schafhausen, Chairperson Herb Reilinger Jim Kiger

# SUPREME NATIONAL SPORTS COMMITTEE

Joseph Schmitt, Chairperson (Knights) Swynice Hawkins, Chairperson (Ladies)

### SUPREME CONVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Frank Waseleski, Sr., Chairperson Thomas DeLuca Douglas Francony

### SUPREME MILITARY COMMITTEE

George Check, Chairperson James Gibbons Thomas Graziano Ron Taylor Douglas Halleaux

### SUPREME JOINT OVERSEAS COMMITTEE

Timothy Hoerst, Chairperson Thomas DeLuca, Vice-chairperson Daniel R. Vaske John M. Windsor, Jr. Joseph Biney Douglas Francony Terrence McCann

### KNIGHT OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE

James Hortemiller

# SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON WEB-SITE

Daniel R. Vaske, Chairman James Schafhausen Douglas Francony Joseph Schmitt James Gibbons

### SUPREME RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE

Daniel R. Vaske, Chairman John Windsor Frank Waseleski Joe Biney Fred Akwoboah Anselm Okafor Terrence McCann Thomas Zdanowicz Thomas DeLuca Dan Okekenta Doug Francony

### AIDE DE CAMP

Brian F. Stehlin Joseph Charles Osei



# 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 mentioning this year's National Bowling Tournament. It is being held in Buffalo, NY and all of the information has been mailed out by our National Sports Committee Chairman, Brig. Gen. Joseph Schmitt. It is the weekend of April 25 - 27, 2014. The local committee in Buffalo always does a splendid job of hosting this event and we should all patronize the Buffalo Knights for their hospitality. Please plan on attending and bowling. You can also cheer on the men on Friday night for the annual Supreme Officer's tournament. With your help and encouragement, the men defeated the ladies last year. We sure can use your help again this year!

During the week of July 21, 2014, the Knights of St. John International Convention kicks off in Columbus, OH. The local host committee has been working very hard to make sure that all officers and delegates are well taken care of. Brig. Gen. James Schafhausen and his committee have been working on this convention for the past  $2 - \bar{3}$ years and have put a lot of effort into making everyone's stay very enjoyable. When not in sessions, the delegates, spouses and others in attendance can sample what Columbus has to offer. I am sure that the committee will have all the information needed for sightseeing.

At the convention we will be going through a lot of reports and other important business. Lately, a lot of issues have been bubbling up to the Supreme Commandery that really should have been handled on the local level. An important item to be considered this year is one of the resolutions that you will find a little later in this issue of the Journal. That resolution is the "Dispute Resolution Process". In a purely voluntary organization such as the Knights of St. John International, there has never been a need for this kind of process. Recent events however have shown that it would be prudent to have a process that the Commanderies, Districts, Grands, Supreme Subordinate and Supreme Com-

(Continued on page 23)



# SUPREME SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

The topic for this message usually comes to me in a dream, in a moving homily at Church or in some great thought that has crossed my mind. It seems that lately there are no great ideas passing through my grey matter.

I will, therefore, leave the Spiritual Matters to our illustrious Spiritual Director and the words of wisdom on the Knights of St. John to our Worthy Supreme President. I have other fish to fry.

As I write this, we are wrapping up the season where I receive Year End Reports from our Commanderies Worldwide and begin to prepare the data for the Per Capita Tax Billing. I am pleased to say that, with very few exceptions, the reports have been received in a timely manner. Some Grand Commandery Officers needed a little prompting, but on the whole it all went smoothly. Very few fines where assessed. I would hope that by the time you read his message, your Grand Commandery has already received their Per Capita Tax Bill.

Speaking of Year End Reports, most of them are e-mailed to me. That is a lot of e-mails considering there is one report per Commandery. When they are received, I note the date received, the membership data and a copy of that report is kept in a folder for each Grand Commandery. A great time for my printer to start breaking down. It was so bad, that it was putting out about one sheet per minute. What I ended up doing was, entered the pertinent numbers and let the machine print. When I quit for the day, the printer would keep printing and do so all night long. In the morning I would gather the reports and insert them in their folders. Finally got a new one. What a joy!

Requests for Letters of Invitation that our African brothers require so they can apply for their VISAS are starting to deluge this office. I am beginning to wonder who is going to be left in West Africa, when they all arrive in Columbus for the Convention. Who is going to be left to turn out the lights and close the door. By the number of Delegates and Observ-

(Continued on next page)



# SUPREME SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

# Dear Knights and Ladies of St. John International,

May the grace, love, and blessings from our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

Since our universal Church has returned to the season of Ordinary Time, we have been hearing from our Sunday readings the theme around service. One of the greatest prayers given to the church is written around the theme of service. The Prayer of St. Francis is very familiar to us. I came upon a prayer very similar to the Prayer of St. Francis. I want to share this prayer with you. Because we are an organization based on charity, faithfulness to the Church, and service to the Church, this prayer can also assist us in what we do, and who we are. Enjoy this prayer:

Lord, make me an instrument of your love

Where the darkness of loneness reigns, let me bring the light of friendship.

Where the darkness of bitterness reigns, let me bring the light of forgiveness.

Where the darkness of hurt reigns, let me bring the light of healing.

Where the darkness of discord reigns, let me bring the light of harmony.

Where the darkness of sadness reigns, let me bring the light of joy.

Where the darkness of doubt reins, let me bring the light of faith.

Where the darkness of despair reigns, let me bring the light of hope.

And where the darkness of hatred reigns, let me bring the light of love.

Amen.

Each of us can be a source of light to a darkened world. Indeed each of us is called to that task. Being of service to the Church, each other, and to those in need, we are living the greatest Commandment: Loving God with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and loving our neighbors as we love ourselves.

# Welcome to our New Members

Commandery:			
31	Greensburg, IN	Matt Lawrence, Mike Fields	
41	Utica, NY	Sean S. Bonney	
69	Eastpointe, MI	Michael Zrepskey	
	Schenectady, NY	Timothy D. Febbie	
	Richmond, IN	Gary West	
	Depew, NY	Thomas G. Stachowski	
	Hamburg, IN	Neal Nobbe	
	St. Wendel, IN	Daniel Hoffman	
	Washington, DC	Ukkundo'Oohwaka	
		David M. Seitz	
	Cleveland, OH		
	Haubstadt, IN	Riley Farmer, Keith Dewig, Aaron Kissel, Brian Ward	
	W. Seneca NY	Rev. Mark Noonan, Rev. Darrell Duffy	
	Blasdell, NY	Joseph Simon	
	Awka, Anambra, Nigeria	Hilary Okoye	
	Enugu, Nigeria	Keneth Onyeka, Emanuel Nwafor, Patrick Oluka, Robinson Anieke	
	Onitsha, Anambra, Nigeria	Alexander Okagbue, Felix Mba	
	Abakaliki, Ebonyi, Nigeria	Gregory Azih, Patrick Obiora	
493	Idah, Kogi, Nigeria	Lawrence Achuinga, Basil Abuka, Samuel Udakuse	
	Nnewi, Anambra, Nigeria	Jonathan Okonkwo, George O. Iloka, Ifeanyi Amuta, Ernest I. Onwuta	
512	Ihiala, Anambra, Nigeria	Dona Nwosu, Reuben Nwosu, Innocent Ohazulike, Kingsley Onwu, Jude Ononuju,	
		Felix Onyimadu, Gregory Otuadimma, Lawrence Obiano, Hyacinth Anaefo,	
		Godwin Obodo, Paul Uzdamaka	
	Bawku, Upper East, Ghana	Jambeidu Simon Atibugri, Loenidas K. Dakura	
	Afikpo, Ebonyi, Nigeria	Celestine E. Eze, Bede E. Onwujiariri, Christopher Ngwoke, Joseph A. Chukwu	
	Urualla, Imo, Nigeria	Vitus Ezenwa, Linus Usoma	
535	Yenagoa, Bayelsa, Nigeria	Lawrence Ewhrudtakpo	
547	Ozubulu, Anambra, Nigeria	Hyacinth Izumuo, Remmy O. Raluchi, Jerome Onuigbo	
	Okija, Anambra	Simon Ude M. Okeke, Ramigius Okereke	
	Awada-Onitsha, Nigeria	Sixtus Chika Obiefuro, Joseph O. Obalum, Bartholomew M. Okafor	
	Fegge, Onitsha, Nigeria	Patrick Emeka Okafor, Edward Odu Nwosu	
	Obollo-Afar, Enugu, Nigeria	Samson Eze, Christopher Okanya, Cosmas, Ugusa	
	Udi, Enugu, Nigeria	Arthur Williams Mbah, Henry Ari Chinedu, Hyginus Amadi Aroh, Felix Amaechi	
001	eui, mugu, mgena	Okonkwa	
588	Agulu, Anambra, Nigeria	Ferdinand Muojekinu	
	Abagana, Anambra, Nigeria	George Okohro	
	Trans Nkisi, Onitsha, Nigeria	David Okafor	
626	Queens, NY	Emmanuel Nwoha, Marcellus Oparah, Patrick Ogoke, Christopher Amobi, Agbai	
020	queens, 111	Kalu Agbai	
638	Kogi, Enugu, Nigeria	Marcellinus Chuks Inionu, Daniel N. Uke	
	Ngbo, Ebonyi, Nigeria	John Obo	
	Awkuzu, Anambra, Nigeria	Boniface Izuogu, Joseph Madubuike, Paul Monwuba	
	Dunukofia, Anambra, Nigeria	Raphael E. Ogbonna, Celestine C. Ennenike	
	Ajalli, Anambra, Nigeria	Marcel O. Nwankwu	
	Edda, Ebonyi, Nigeria	Brown S. Chukwu, Benedict Enuwu, Francis Kabu, Fabian Okpani, Isrel O. Ngbor	
	Iwollo-Oghe, Enugu, Nigeria	Anthony I. Esim, Boniface Citibuoke, Charles C. Chibuke, Dons Eze	
600	Don't Hangaunt Divona Nigeria	Harry Ejenavi, Emmanuel Ayika, Igwe Ikekchukwu, John Okechukwu Oparaugo,	
000	i ort Harcourt, rivers, Nigeria	Gerald Chimezie Onwuekweikpe	
Q () 1	PortHorogent Divore Niceria	Ofili Theophibus Ikechukwu, Asoegwu Chijioke, Valentine Ugboma, Felix	
001	PortHarcourt, Rivers, Nigeria	Amorue, Louis Afugbuom, Michael Iwomi Eboagu, Anthony Thomas Udoh,	
		Cyprian Chima Choko, Samuel Mmerimikwu	
		Dec. 2013 thru Mar. 2014	
		Hec 2013 thru War 2014	

# Dec. 2013 thru Mar. 2014

# (Supreme Spiritual Dir. from page 4)

I thank each Commandery for their service to our organization and especially to our loving Catholic Church.

Peace and Blessings,

Msgr. Federico Britto Supreme Spiritual Director (Supreme Secretary from page 4)

ers seeking their letters, we should anticipate a great turnout at the Convention.

This is getting to be an exciting time, preparing for the Convention. We greatly enjoyed the Supreme Board Meeting last summer and it is so good to be going back to that venue. Columbus is a warm and friendly city

and it has so much to offer. Only wish there was more time to explore, but we have meetings to conduct. If you are coming to Columbus, you are in for a treat. I look forward to seeing you there.

> Fraternally, Lt. Gen. Tom Zdanowicz Supreme Secretary

# Proposed Resolutions ~ 2014 Supreme Convention

### Proposed Constitutional Revisions

The following proposed Constitutional Revisions were submitted to the Supreme Secretary as required by the Supreme Constitution. These, as submitted, will appear in the March 2014 and June 2014 issues of the Knights Journal and will be discussed and voted on at the Supreme Board Meeting and Supreme Convention, at Columbus, OH in July 2014. They are as follows:

# PROPOSAL #1

Be it Resolved - That the delegates of the Monrovia Grand Commandery assembled in a Delegate Meeting of the said Grand Commandery in the City of Monrovia, Liberia, on August 31, 2013, approved for presentation the following amendment of the Constitution of the Knights of St. John International, to wit:-

### Resolution 1

CHAPTER IV, Grand Commandery, Section 10, Page 41, which now reads

The Grand President shall have the military rank of Brigadier General. The Grand Secretary shall have the military rank of Colonel.

That the above section be amended to read ......

The Grand President shall have the military rank of Brigadier General. The Grand First Vice-President, Grand Second Vice-President and Grand Secretary shall have a military rank of Colonel.

By a majority vote, the members present approved the above amendment for submission to the delegates at the next Supreme Convention for approval or rejection.

September 2, 2013
Brig. Gen. Moenti E. Young
Brig. Gen. Moenti E. Young
Grand President
Monrovia Grand Commandery

Attest:

Col. Daryl Ambrose Nmah Col. Daryl Ambrose Nmah Grand Secretary Monrovia Grand Commandery

# PROPOSAL #2

**Be it Resolved -** That the members of the Kentucky Temple Noble and Exalted Knights of the Holy Cross as-

sembled in an annual Meeting at the Knights of St. John Hall in Reading, Ohio, on November 17, 2013, approved for presentation the following amendment to the *Constitution of the Knights of St. John*, to wit:

CHAPTER I, Supreme Conventions, Section 4, Pages 8-9, which now reads

The following members shall have the right to cast one (1) vote each at all elections and on all questions that may come before the Supreme Conventions:

- (a) The Supreme Spiritual Director
- (b) The Supreme President
- (c) All Past Supreme Presidents
- (d) The Supreme Vice Presidents
- (e) The Supreme Secretary
- (f) The Supreme Treasurer
- (g) The Two Supreme Trustees
- (h) The Supreme Counsel
- (i) The Inspector General
- (j) The Supreme Subordinate Presidents of Ghana and Nigeria
- (k) The Supreme Subordinate Secretaries of Ghana and Nigeria
- (l) The Grand Commandery Presidents or the First Vice President
- (m) The Grand Secretaries
- (n) The District Commanders or Vice Commanders
- (o) All members in good standing of each attached Local Commandery, through its delegate or alternate elected by it and ratified by its Grand Commander and certified to the Supreme Commandery, shall have a vote.
- (p) All members in good standing of each attached Unattached Commandery through its delegate or alternate elected by it and certified to the Supreme Secretary by the Local Secretary.
- (q) The Local Presidents
- (r) The Commander of the Uniformed Rank of he Local Commandery

That the above section be amended with the addition of a new paragraph to read ....

The following members shall have the right to cast one (1) vote each at all elections and on all questions that may come before the Supreme Conventions:

- (a) The Supreme Spiritual Director
- (b) The Supreme President
- (c) All Past Supreme Presidents
- (d) The Supreme Vice Presidents
- (e) The Supreme Secretary
- (f) The Supreme Treasurer
- (g) The Two Supreme Trustees
- (h) The Supreme Counsel
- (i) The Inspector General

- (j) The Supreme Subordinate Presidents of Ghana and Nigeria
- (k) The Supreme Subordinate Secretaries of Ghana and Nigeria
- (l) The Grand Commandery Presidents or the First Vice President
- (m) The Grand Secretaries
- (n) The District Commanders or Vice Commanders
- (o) All members in good standing of each attached Local Commandery, through its delegate or alternate elected by it and ratified by its Grand Commander and certified to the Supreme Commandery, shall have a vote.
- (p) All members in good standing of each Unattached Commandery through its delegate or alternate elected by it and certified to the Supreme Secretary by the Local Secretary, shall have a vote.
- (q) The Local Presidents
- (r) The Commander of the Uniformed Rank of the Local Commandery

# (s) The Grand Master of each Noble Temple

By unanimous vote, the members present approved the above amendment for submission to the delegates at the next Supreme Convention for approval or rejection.

November 17, 2013

Signed:

Daniel P. Bronner

Daniel P. Bronner

Noble Grand Master, Kentucky Temple

Attest

**Brig. Gen. Lee Stachler** Brig. Gen. Lee Stachler Noble Scribe, Kentucky Temple

# PROPOSAL #3

**BE IT RESOLVED -** That the Supreme Commandery Constitution Revision Committee approved for presentation the following amendments of the Constitution of the Knights of St. John International, **TO WIT:** 

# Chapter I, Supreme Conventions

Section 4

Insert after (k) the Supreme Subordinate Secretaries of Ghana and Nigeria

(l) The Supreme Under Secretaries (Quartermaster, Journal & Ritual)

Re-order the existing items as (m) through (s)

# Chapter II, Supreme Commandery, OFFICERS

Section 2:

Replace:

The following appointments may be made by the Supreme President and approved by the Supreme Board of Trustees:

- 1. One Quartermaster-General who shall rank as a Brigadier General
- 2. Such number of additional appointees as the Supreme President may been necessary and advisable.

### With

The following appointments may be made by he Supreme President and approved by the Supreme Board of Trustees:

- 1. One Under Secretary/Quartermaster who shall rank as a Brigadier General.
- 2. One Under Secretary/Journal who shall rank as a Brigadier General.
- 3. One Under Secretary/Ritual who shall rank as a Brigadier General.
- 4. Such number of additional appointees as the Supreme President may deem necessary and advisable.

# Chapter II, Supreme Commandery, DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 6:

Insert the following at the end of Section 6:

Supreme Secretariat:

The Supreme Secretariat will consist of the Supreme Secretary and three (3) Under Secretaries. The three Under Secretaries will be the Under Secretary/Quartermaster, the Under Secretary/Journal and the Under Secretary/Rituals. The Under Secretary/Rituals. The Under Secretary/Rituals. The Under Secretaries (Quartermaster, Journal and Ritual) will be appointed by the Supreme President after the Supreme International Convention for a term of two years or until a successor is appointed. By nature of his duties and responsibility, the Under Secretaries will have the rank of Brigadier General.

The Supreme Under Secretary/ Quartermaster will be responsible for all materials held by the Supreme Commandery for sale to Grand, District or Local Commanderies. He will keep an inventory of all materials on hand. He will keep track of all material sold and forward monies to the Supreme Treasurer. He will re-order inventory as required to ensure needed items are on-hand. He will work in conjunction with the Under Secretary/Rituals to provide Grand Commanderies with ritual inventory required.

The Supreme Under Secretary/Journal (Assistant Editor, KSJI Journal) will assist he Supreme Secretary in the creation, editing and distribution of the Knights of St. John International Journal. He will be responsible for the collection of information from all Grand Commanderies. He will edit the material and assemble it for the printer. He will maintain the address list of Journal recipients and arrange for the mail or e-mail of the Journal to all members.

The Supreme Under Secretary/Rituals (Assistant Supreme Ritual Director) will assist the Supreme Secretary in the exemplification of Rituals by all Grand Commanderies. He will coordinate all ritual efforts and will be responsible for maintaining the rituals and associated documents. He will work with the Quartermaster General to maintain inventory for the rituals and will keep a record of all rituals held and all members receiving degrees.

Approved by the Constitution Revision Committee on December 24, 2013

Attested to by

Thomas J. DeLuca

Thomas J. DeLuca

Chairman of the Constitution Review Committee

# PROPOSAL #4

**BE IT RESOLVED -** That the Supreme Commandery Constitution Revision Committee approved for presentation the following amendments to the Constitution of the Knights of St. John International. **TO WIT:** 

# Chapter II, Supreme Commandery, DUTIES OF OFFICER

Insert after Section 20

Section 20.5

The Supreme Inspector General shall be responsible for the Military efforts of the Supreme Commandery. His duties shall include:

a.) He shall call for a yearly inspection and muster of each Grand Commandery, at the order of the Supreme President, to be held in the Fall of the year. The order shall be published in the Knights of St. John Journal. He

shall provide reporting forms to each Grand Commandery and collect the information from said Grands. He shall produce a report to the Supreme Commandery showing the results of the Inspection and Muster of all Grand commanderies.

- b.) He shall review all Constitutional revisions and make recommendations for any changes submitted that relate to the military.
- c.) He shall be an investigative officer for the Supreme Commandery in cases of Military Dispute Resolution when so ordered by the Supreme Commandery President. Under direction of the Supreme Commandery President or designee, the office of the Supreme Inspector General will conduct an investigation to determine all facts in the matter. The Supreme Inspector General's office shall report the findings to the Supreme President for review.
- d.) He shall be the liaison with KSJI uniform suppliers and shall inspect all proposed uniforms and accessories and report to the Supreme Board. He shall assist Grand Commanderies with acquisition of uniforms and accessories.
- e.) He shall perform any other duties assigned to him by the Supreme President or designee as required.

Approved by the Constitution Revision Committee on December 24, 2013

Attested to by

# Thomas J. DeLuca

Thomas J. Deluca

Chairman of the Constitution Review Committee

# PROPOSAL #5

**BE IT RESOLVED -** That the Supreme Commandery Constitution Revision Committee approved for presentation the following amendments to the Constitution of the Knights of St. John International. **TO WIT:** 

# Chapter II, Supreme Commandery

Insert at the end of the Chapter:

# **Dispute Resolution**

Section 30

When issues arise with or between:

- 1. Members of the Order within a Commandery,
  - 2. Local Commanderies
  - 3. District Commanderies
  - 4. Grand Commanderies

(Continued on page 8)

# (Proposed Resolutions from page 7)

5. or any others,

every attempt should be made to resolve them at the lowest level and as informally as possible.

### Section 31

When disputes arise within a local Commandery, It will be the duty of the Commandery Officers to resolve the dispute as prescribed by this Constitution in the appropriate section for Local Commanderies.

However, when a dispute cannot be resolved at the Local Commandery level or a dispute arises between Local Commanderies; the dispute shall be escalated to the District or Grand Commandery, whichever is appropriate. The District or Grand Commandery President or designee shall conduct an investigation to determine all facts in the matter. The District or Grand President will have the authority to mediate between the parties and order a resolution to the dispute.

When a dispute cannot be resolved at the District Commandery level or a dispute arises between District Commanderies; the dispute shall be escalated to the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commandery President or designee shall conduct an investigation to determine all facts in the matter. The Grand Commandery President will have the authority to mediate between the parties and order a resolution to the dispute.

When a dispute cannot be resolved at the Grand Commandery level or a

dispute arises between Grand Commanderies where there exists a Supreme Subordinate Commandery; the dispute shall be escalated to the Supreme Subordinate Commandery. The Supreme Subordinate Commandery President or designee shall conduct an investigation to determine all facts in the matter. The Supreme Subordinate President will have the authority to mediate between the parties and order a resolution to the dispute.

When a dispute cannot be resolved at the Grand Commandery or Supreme Subordinate Commandery level or a dispute arises between Grand Commanderies where there is no Supreme Subordinate Commandery; the dispute shall be escalated to the Supreme Commandery. The Supreme Commandery President or designee will direct the office of the Supreme Inspector General and/or the Supreme Counsel and/or a Special Committee, depending on the dispute, to conduct an investigation to determine all the facts in the matter. The investigating body (Inspector, Counsel or Committee) shall report the findings to the Supreme President for review. The Supreme President will have the authority to mediate between the parties and order a resolution to the dis-

### Section 32

The mediation decision of the Officer in Charge at the appropriate level (Local Commandery President, Grand Commandery President, Supreme Subordinate President, or Supreme President), will be communicated to all par-

ties involved. The decision will be binding if accepted by all parties. The decision may be appealed to a higher command if all are not in agreement. In all disputes, the order of appeal set forth above shall be followed.

When the dispute reaches the Supreme Commandery, the mediation decision of the Supreme President shall be final and binding to all parties without exception.

### Section 33

When the mediation decision of the Officer in Charge includes the recommendation of penalties, then the following shall also be followed:

The Officer in Charge may recommend reasonable penalties which may include fine, suspension or expulsion for violation of any by-law of the Local, District, Grand, Supreme Subordinate or Supreme Commandery or violation of any lawful order made, in writing, by a Supreme Officer. The OIC will present the recommendation to the Authoritative Body (Local Commandery, Grand Commandery, Supreme Subordinate Board or Supreme Board) for a vote on the recommended penalties.

Any member who is charged with any offense considered conduct unbecoming a Knight shall stand suspended until completion of the investigation and the decision of the Authoritative Body.

### Section 34

Litigation brought forth against the Knights of St. John International by any member of Local, District, Grand, or Supreme Subordinate Commandery, without following the due process outlined above, will be cause for suspension from the Order pending investigation. In all cases, the dispute resolution and appeal process set forth here shall be used by all members of the Knights of St. John International and litigation may be cause for expulsion from the Order.

Approved by the Constitution Revision Committee on December 24, 2013

Attested to by

Committee.

### Thomas J. DeLuca

Thomas J. DeLuca Chairman of the Constitution Review

# ~ 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 proceedures are now being used.

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

All photos should be of highest resolution possible and <u>attached</u> 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 TWO (2) pages maximun.

Articles submitted <u>after the deadline</u> will be included on a space available basis. (see page 11)

Instructions and examples will be available, upon request, at the 2014 Supreme Convention, in Columbus Ohio.

Thank you for your assistance.

# Kentucky Grand Commandery

Sunday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> Living Rosary at Assumption, 3:00, nine members present.

On Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> we gathered to pay respect to our deceased relatives and friends on All Soul's Day at Calvary Cemetery at 11:00am. Four members showed up including Archbishop.

On Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Lawrence on our Memorial Mass we had Mass at 10:30am. Eight members showed up.

Dec. 18th District meeting at 7:30. Both commandaries 103 and 130 assembled at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church to prepare 178 boxes of food for the poor of our area. All of us enjoyed the fellowship we shared with the other commandaries. We were very, very busy those three days and learned a lot from each other.

Our commandary 103, gathered at Chili's on Dixie Hwy. at 4:30 on a Sunday in December. Once again we enjoyed each other's company and the fondness we shared on recalling the past year together.

On January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 we were busy installing our new officers for commandary 103. Father Timmell officiated. The people who are missing fron the photo are: Phil Bray,



The new officers for Commandery 103: (left to right) Maurice Lamkin, Joe Beinlein, Joe Miller, Tony Cloe, Tony Tabler, Joe Brown, Robert Hodge. (seated) Father Timmel, Alan Beisler.

George Ritchie, Joe Bowman, and Paul Bartsch.

The Right to Life Mass was held at 3:00pm at Saint Martin's Catholic Church. Both commandaries 103 and 130 and other organizations like Knights of Columbus, and Knights of

Peter Claver were also there to support this important cause.

Commandary 103 likes to stay busy by helping the community.

Tony Cloe, Commandery 103 Louisville, Ky

Jam Stryffler is a member of St Ignatius commandery 94. Jam is a former teacher and track coach at St Henry District High School. Jam then made the decision to move to and teach in Nigeria. He first worked in Abuja the capital of Nigeria as the Interim Headmaster of Hampstead Academy a British International School. It was a boarding school including grades pre K to 12. He served in at that position for about five months. It was a very demanding job where he lived at the school took the kids on excursions, supervised students in the dorms till 10 pm and so on. Jam was then recruited to go to the northern part of the country which is majority Muslim. His new job was to run a school named Prime College. Prime College was also a Pre K-12 school. He introduced western style education, ended corporal punishment, introduced sports programs, modern sciences, computer science to name a few. Female students wore Hijab's (The Nigeria term for a head scarf). The school was located in Kano, Nigeria a once prosperous city and commercial center of northern Nigeria. Kano is now plagued by violence by extremists know as Boko Harem. They targeted him as a teacher of false western knowledge.

After about 15 months Jam was forced to flee after his teachers were attacked, had their homes burned, and the high amount of casualties in the city. Priests were forced to arm themselves to protect their parishes. Jam

would like to make it clear most Muslims are not extremist and Muslims had invited him to Kano to help their people and run Prime College. Jam had a chance to see large Knights of St. John contingents in the cities of Lagos, Abuja and Port Harcourt. Lagos is the largest city in Africa but also one of the poorest. Most Nigerian villages are the same as they were a thousand years ago. Jam had the chance to spend one month living in a village during a break from school. The village was made up of mud huts with dirt floors, no electricity and one well for the whole village. People live on about a dollar a day, yet they are willing to share whatever they had. In many cases Jam was the first and only white person they saw.

Jam has also taken the generous step of adopting two Nigerian children. Right now he is trying to get visas for them to be able to move here with him. Immigration is not cooperating so he still has them in a boarding school in Kaduna, Nigeria. Jam is currently living in Naples, FL working as the vice principal of St. John Neumann High School there. Jam would like to ask for your prays for not just the Catholics but all the people of Nigeria as they try to move past the violence and tension. All the Brothers of St Ignatius 94 would like to express their pride at Jam's work for the church and the Knight of St John.

# Accra West Grand Commandery

Martyrs of Uganda Commandery #797 and Mary, Mirror of Justice Ladies Auxiliary #677 of Martyrs of Uganda Parish, Mamprobi, Accra, were inaugurated on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> December 2013, and the Thanksgiving Mass was held on Saturday, 29th December 2013.

The Past Supreme Subordinate Trustee Ghana, currently Accra West Grand Trustee, Colonel Carl B. Sackey, (a.k.a., Emeritus), who was the brainchild for its formation, was elected and installed as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of Martyrs of Uganda Commandery #797.

Elected officers are: S/K James K. Amissah, President; Lt. Alfred Paddi, 1st Vice President; Col. Carl B. Sackey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; S/K Emmanuel Abotsi, Secretary; S/K Augustine Ayikon, Financial Secretary; S/K Jacob Koranteng, Treasurer; S/K Seth Ankrah, 1st Trustee; S/K Martin Pappoe, 2nd Trustee; S/K C.K. Tedam, 3rd Trustee; S/K Darlington Abotsi, Commander; S/K Archadius Nambazing, 1st Vice Commander; S/K Samuel A. Quave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander; S/K Alex Ametepe, Sgt-at-Arms; S/K James Cobblah, Messenger; S/K Dominic Conduah, Guard; S/K Kweku Arthur, Cadet Organizer. Officers for the Ladies are: Sis. Pat Vera Pappoe, President; N/Sis. Grace Amartey, Past President; Sis Joana Opoku, 1st Vice President; Sis. Stella Cudjoe, 2nd Vice President; Sis. Yvette Mortoti, Secretary; Sis. Juliette Afriyie



1<sup>st</sup> Row from Left Col Carl Sackey, Lt. Alfred Paddi and S/K James Amissah; 2<sup>nd</sup> Row Noble Brother Clement K Tedam

Ankrah, Financial Secretary; N/Sis. Matilda Ankrah, Treasurer; N/Sis. Hannah Ehun Amu, 1st Trustee; N/Sis. Elizabeth Abotsi2nd Trustee; Sis. Martha Akuavi Kudamah, 3rd Trustee; Sis. Adelaide Nambazing, Sentinel; Sis. Maurina Doe, Messenger; Sis. Joana Angela Pappoe, Guard.

At about 06:00 a.m., Saturday, 28th December 2013, some Brothers and Sisters from the Accra West Grand and Accra East Grand Commanderies/Ladies Auxiliaries gathered at the Martyrs of Uganda Catholic Church, Mamprobi, Accra, to celebrate the grand event. Members

of the Mother Commandery, Sacred Heart Commandery # 351 as well as Sisters of the Mother Auxiliary, Saint Bernadette Ladies Auxiliary # 325, among others, were in the greater part. They turned out in great numbers in support of their "twin born babies" who were to be inaugurated, the occasion of which, incidentally, happened to be the first in its kind in the Accra West Grand Commandery and Auxiliary.

**MARCH, 2013** 

The programme started at 07:00 a.m.; with a Holy Mass celebrated by Very Rev. Fr. Delase Atsu Parku the Parish Priest, Spiritual Advisor and was assisted by Rev.Fr. Destiny Amenuvor, the Assistant Parish Priest.

Father, in his homily, preached the sermon based the book of **Proverb 16 verse 30**; and entreated on all Knights of Saint John international and Ladies Auxiliary in his message, to be the real model of our Patron, Saint John the Baptist; emphasizing, therefore, the good judgment to stand by the truth and die by the truth.

The Mass ended at 08:30 a.m. at which period brothers and sisters had a thirty-minute break. Thereafter, we had separate business sections. The Business for the special Accra West Grand Board Meeting for the occasion started at 09:00 a.m. with the opening ceremony ritual followed by initiation, installation of officers and others.

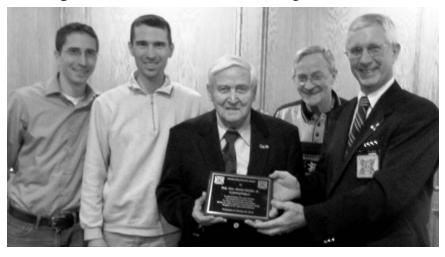


2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Col. Carl Sackey (a.k.a. Emeritus) Holding the Charter after Installation of officers & Inauguration of 797 while the President S/K James Amissah holding the Gavel looking on.

# Michigan Grand Commandery

The Michigan Grand Commandery welcomes its newest member, Past Supreme President General Frank Wasileski, who has transferred to St. Malachy Commandery #171; he is already an usher at Sweetest Heart of Mary Church. St. Malachy Commandery is soon to become Sweetest Heart of Mary Commandery #171 in a significant move from a suburban parish to a downtown Detroit church. Grand Spiritual Director Fr. Gregory Tokarski, pastor of Sweetest Heart of Mary, St. Joseph and St. Joseph churches in Detroit, is anxious to receive the new Commandery as it changes parish allegiance. Members of Sweetest Heart of Mary Commandery will have many opportunities uniformed turnouts for liturgies, and service for parish events at all three churches. Fr. Greg is one of our proudest new citizens, having been granted United States citizenship in a ceremony last December.

St. Isaac Jogues Commandery #239 is re-establishing ties to its parish church after having spent many years at a distance. Fr. Darrell Roman, former Pastor of Sweetest Heart of Mary, St. Josaphat and St. Joseph is now pastor of St. Isaac Jogues parish in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Fr. Darrell will meet with Commandery representatives led by General Dale Gossiaux later in February; he has already expressed his warm approval of the Knights becoming involved



again in liturgies and parish events. I am grateful that two of our Commanderies will once again be better situated to serve the Church and our clergy, and follow the example set by members of our newest Commandery, St. Alphonsus #742 in Minnesota. This Commandery answered a request for aid from Fr. Charles Ogada for his children's home and school in Ebe, Nigeria, sending books and other much needed supplies, joining hands between continents to assist the Spiritan Fathers in their work.

At the annual installation of officers dinner, General Dale Gossiaux presented an award plaque on behalf of St. Isaac Jogues Commandery #239 on the occasion of his stepping down as Commandery President after

many busy years in that office. The plaque also recognizes Ernie's 71 years of service to the Knights. General Gossiaux credited Ernie's invitation to join and his decades of counsel and encouragement which helped sustain him in his career with the order. Ernie received a well-deserved standing ovation, and accepted the award with characteristic humility. I must add that Ernie is responsible for my remaining with the Knights after my old Commandery merged with #239; his advice and good humor have helped to keep me focused on service to the Church through the Knights of St. John International.

> Sean Dey, President Michigan Grand

# (Accra West Grand from previous page)

The following of whom some were Cadets and Senior Cadets were among the first and news initiates of the Martyrs of Uganda Commandery #797: ANYIGBA Ebel, DZIKUNU Christopher, FIAGBE Julius, TH-OMPSON Henry, STEVEN E.

Before noon, the Knights' Grand Board meeting came to a close whereas while the Ladies closed at about 3:00 p.m.

The Thanksgiving Mass, which coincidentally fell on the Feast of the Holy Family, was held on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December 2013, and lasted for about 4 ½ hours. It was very solemn, the main celebrant was the Parish Priest, Spiritual Advisor Very Rev. Fr.

Delase Atsu Parku and the co-celebrant was Rev.Fr. Destiny Amenuvor, the Assistant Parish Priest.

During the Post Communion, the installed officers, both Knights and Ladies, were introduced to the congregation respectively by the Accra West Grand Secretary Col. Kingsley Arthur and Grand Ladies Auxiliary N/Sis Pertrina Coker; subsequently, Very Rev. Fr. Delase Atsu Parku gave his blessings.

This was followed by Presentation and handing over of the Charters respectively to the Presidents of the Local Commandery and the Local Ladies Auxiliary.

Accordingly, in a colorful ceremony the Commandery implanted the Papal and National flags in the Church to signify the permanent presence of KSJI in the Martyrs of Uganda Parish, Mamprobi, Accra, and also "FOR GOD AND OUR COUNTRY".

The Commandery and the Auxiliary made a donation of some amount of money to the Parish towards the construction of the new church.

After the Mass, an organiz ed route march was undertaken through some principal streets of Mamprobi, amidst pomp and music, and the whole event ended up with a lunch at the Infinity Club.

S/K Emmanuel ABOTSI Corresponding/Recording Secretary Martyrs of Uganda Comm. #797 Mamprobi, Accra

# Buffalo Grand Commandery

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

The winter months will soon be behind us. We have endured these few months of extreme cold and snow which are now waning. Soon we will be able to enjoy much better weather. I know for myself and family we are looking forward to these better days of spring.

With spring will come many new and challenging opportunities for our Buffalo Grand Commandery to improve. The advancement of the Buffalo Grand will surely enhance our Supreme Noble Order as well. With God's continued help our accomplishments will be many throughout the year.

The Buffalo Grand has instituted a new procedure for installing new Civil and Military Officers of each Commandery under its jurisdiction. This involves Installation teams going to each Commandery meeting and installing their new Officers. Previous Officer Installations were done at a designated location where all new Officers of each Commandery were to attend. This didn't work out very well as all members of the various Commanderies and their Officers usually did not attend.

Implementation of our new procedure has demonstrated its effectiveness. All Commanderies have responded with great enthusiasm. Members of their respective Commanderies now feel they all are part of the installation process upon seeing their Brothers Knights being installed. This mission has been accomplished!

I would like at this time to thank members of the Installation Teams; they are: Past Grand President Lt. Gen. Thomas DeLuca; Past Grand President Brig. Gen. Donald Killian; Col. Richard Braun; Col. Dennis Potozniak; Col. William Pocobello and Capt. Michael Stiglmeier. Without the diligent work of these fine men our success would have been diminished.

The Buffalo Order of Chevaliers Chapter No. 2 has successfully updated their 1956 By-Laws. The updated by-laws were approved by their members; Buffalo Grand; and Supreme Officers of the Knights of St. John International. At this time I would like to thank Capt. James Gib-



Supreme 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President Lt. Gen. Thomas DeLuca presenting the Jewel of Honor to 1<sup>st</sup>. Lt. Robert Steglemeier of Commandery # 135, with Supreme President General Dale Gossaiux and Capt. Michael Stiglemeir.

bons and Sgt. Maj. Robert Mayer for their aid in updating this important booklet.

May God Bless and keep all my Brother Knights safe and secure with the knowledge he will be there for us. God Bless America.

# **BUFFALO REGIMENT:**

Christmas -Colonel Potozniak, chairman of the Regimental Gift Card Program, wants to thank all commanderies of the regiment in their enthusiastic participation in helping over 25 families with gift cards (Tops Markets) on the Christmas holiday.

# Colonel's Comments: Col. Dennis Potozniak

Dear Brother Knights: This is that time of year, after the holidays, stuck in the middle of winter where most of us long for warmth and sunshine and grow weary of the snow and cold of winter. We often feel this time of year drags and it becomes very easy to get a bit depressed if one is not careful. I think it reflects, in general where many are right now in their overall lives. We have gotten caught up in the material things and often get ourselves worked up about things really not that important. I say this believing that we all get this way, yours truly definitely included. What to do about it, how does this relate to ourselves, our fraternal order?

I believe, and try to practice (and not as consistent as I would like), imaging what things would be like and how would I feel without the

things most important to me. Like our families and close friends of course. I ask myself is it really worth getting upset about a car not starting or an appliance breaking down? I try to take stock in the gifts given daily that get forgotten all too often until they are taken away. Things like our health or employment. I try to refocus before something serious happens that has to shock me into reality. Again, I say this because I truly cannot believe how blessed I am. I have so much to be grateful for I could write pages and pages and know I would leave so much out. This is why I get mad at myself when I feel lackluster and don't put forth the effort I expect from myself. Isn't this what we struggle with within our fraternal order? We want to do more, put forth a better effort but we get a bit complacent and stay in that same rut so to speak. Doing enough to get by and waiting for something else to happen to move us off "our best intentions". Am I right or wrong?

The answer lies right before us. We know the story; we hear the words every week at Mass. Our Lord blesses us all, provides everything we need. Never lets us out in harm's way. Let's get off "our best intentions", waiting for something or someone else to make something better. Let's try harder ourselves. It doesn't have to be a major thing, just a bit more effort on something small but together we can make ourselves, our loved ones and our fraternal order so much bet-

# (Buffalo Grand from previous page)

ter. I can't promise you you'll never be discouraged or unhappy again, but I believe you will feel better and more fulfilled by trying to do something more. Let's all try to make 2014 a much more forgiving and understanding year for us all.

God Bless us all always!

### **Commandery News:**

Commandery #381 Christmas baskets. December 13, 2013 was the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Parish Wish Tree from Blessed John XXIII. 250 gifts were donated to all the patients at the Seneca Health Care Facility of West Seneca NY. The smiling happy faces certainly made their Christmas a very happy occasion.

Commandery #204 -Welcome home to SK. Deacon John Hendricks from his Pilgrimage to El Salvador and Guatemala. Visiting sites of modern time Catholic Martyrs, reminds us that even in the Western Hemisphere that there is a continual struggle for our faith and the Catholic Church in our day and age.

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

Note: Let us know if a Brother Knight is 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



SK. Deacon John Hendricks of Commandery #204, St. Martha's Parish just returned from a pilgrimage to Guatemala and El Salvador visiting sites of modern day Catholic Martyrs in Central America.

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: Maj. Joseph Kleinfelder a charter member of Commandery #382 for 55 years; Capt. Richard Horner, a charter member of Commandery #382, for 55 years; S.K. Dave Nneji from Commandery #710.

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



13

Another one of 1<sup>st</sup>. Lt. Vince Binder's many appreciated duties in the Buffalo Grand, our caterer.

Please visit our present web site at:www.ksjibuffreg.com/

# 2014 KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN and LADIES AUXILIARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

# Convention Souvenir Program Booklet Advertising

Ad cost: Full Page Printing area  $7^{1/2}$ " x 10" \$120.00 One-half Page Printing area  $7^{1/2}$ " x  $4^{3/4}$ " 75.00Printing area  $3^{1/2}$ " x  $4^{3/4}$ " One-quarter Page 50.00 One-eighth Page Printing area 31/2" x 21/4" 40.00 **Special Patrons** One line 5.00

# Deadline for submission of all ads - April 30, 2014

Please make all checks payable to: Knights of St. John

Mail all copy with payment to: Convention Committee 4224 Green Cook Rd.

Westerville, OH 43082 USA

Your name
Address
City, State, Zip, Country
Phone #

# 2014 CADET CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Please register me for the 2014 Supreme Convention

First/Given Name		
Last/Sur Name		
Title, Officer, Delegate		
Cadet Number		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Country		
Price of advance registration - \$1.00 Price of Registration at Convention - \$2.00 Make checks payable to: <b>Knights of St. John</b>		
Mail to: Convention Committee		

# 2014 JUNIOR CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Please register me for the 2014 Supreme Convention

First/Given Name		
Last/Sur Name		
Title, Officer, Delegate		
Junior Auxiliary Number		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Country		
Price of advance registration - \$1.00		
Price of Registration at Convention - \$2.00		
Make checks payable to: <b>Knights of St. John</b>		
Mail to: Convention Committee		
4224 Green Cook Rd.		
Westerville, OH 43082 (USA)		

# 2014 WELCOME PARTY REGISTRATION FORM

Westerville, OH 43082 (USA)

Wednesday, July 23, 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Admission:

Purchased before June 20, 2014 ----- \$15.00

Purchased after June 20, 2014 or At Door - - \$20.00

Desserts

Music - Dancing - Cash Bar

Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Country		

Make checks payable to: Knights of St. John

Mail to: Convention Committee 4224 Green Cook Rd.

Westerville, OH 43082 (USA)

# 2014 FAREWELL PARTY REGISTRATION FORM

Saturday, July 26, 8:30 p.m. – midnight Join us for a fun-filled evening Awards Presentation

Admission:

Purchased before June 20, 2014 ----- \$15.00 Purchased after June 20, 2014 or At Door -- \$20.00

Music - Dancing - Cash Bar

Desserts

Name \_\_\_\_\_Address \_\_\_\_\_City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John** 

Mail to: Convention Committee 4224 Green Cook Rd.

Westerville, OH 43082 (USA)

# 2014 CONVENTION RESERVATION SUMMARY

ı		0011121	110111	PERCENT !		
	<u>Form</u>	Number	<u>\$ Paid</u>	<u>Form</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>\$ Paid</u>
	Registration	@ \$15.00	\$	Welcome Party	@ \$15.00	\$
	Cadet Registration	@ \$ 1.00	\$	Banquet & Ball	@ \$65.00	\$
	Junior Registration	@ \$ 1.00	\$	Farewell Party	@ \$15.00	\$
				Total Amount En	closed \$	



# 2014 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Please register me for the 2014 Supreme Convention

First/Given Name		
Last/Sur Name		
Title, Officer, Delegate		
Grand		
Commandery or Auxiliary Number		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Country		
Advance registration: before June 20, 2014 - \$15.00		
Registration after June 20, 2014 and at Convention - \$20.00		
Make checks payable to: Knights of St. John		
Mail to: Convention Committee 4224 Green Cook Rd. Westerville, OH 43082 (USA)		

# 2014 SUPREME CONVENTION BANQUET AND BALL

Friday, July 25, 2014

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Ball: 9:00 p.m.

Cash Bar – Music – Dancing

Please confirm \_\_\_\_\_\_ reservations at

Reservations made after June 20, 2014, will be \$70.00.

\$65.00 per person.

Amount enclosed \$		
Name		
Address		
<b>G</b> :	7.	

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_\_Country

Make checks payable to: Knights of St. John

Mail to: Convention Committee 4224 Green Cook Rd.

Westerville, OH 43082 (USA)

# 2014 CONVENTION HOTEL RESERVATIONS

# RENAISSANCE HOTEL 50 NORTH THIRD STREET COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

To reserve your accommodations, reservations can be made on the internet or by phone.

On the internet go to:

https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\_gi\_new&groupID=20345135

enter this completely and it will take you directly to the special reservations web site for the Knights of St. John.

By phone call:

877-901-6632 Tell them you want to make reservations at the **Renaissance Hotel in Columbus, Ohio** and you want the **Knights of St. John special room rates**.

– or–

Call the Renaissance Hotel direct at 614-228-5050 (this is not a toll free number) and they will forward your call to the reservations department.

The rate schedule for the 2014 Convention will be: **Standard Guest Rooms - \$129.00 plus applicable taxes.** 

The absolute cut-off date to make reservations is June 20, 2014.

# Make Your Reservations NOW!

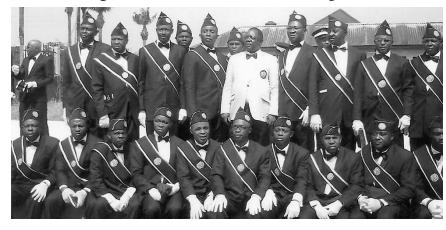
# Port Harcourt Grand Commandery

# Increasing & Multiplying - physical

Port Harcourt Grand Commandery has experienced tremendous physical "increasing and multiplying" this year, with many families handing over their Juniors and Cadets in marriage. Recently, Brother and Sister Ejele, Brother and Sister Iwunze, Aghughu, Igwbuike, Kenekayaro, Ekwelibe. But, on September 27/28, 2013, Brig. General George Ikioumoton handed over Junior Timiebi Amanda to Victor in holy matrimony in Yenagoa.

The Bishop of Bomadi Vicariate, Most Rev Dr. Egbebo, assisted by an array of 10 priests presided over the nuptial Mass. He also preached the homily, an elaborate exhortation to love, total commitment and faithfulness in the lives of the young couple. Dignitaries from across the Niger Delta and beyond, brothers and sisters of Port Harcourt Grand Commandery and beyond, were on hand to witness the event. The Spiritual Director of Onitsha Grand Commandery, Rev. Fr. Major Nwabude, conducted the wedding ritual. Abuja Grand President was represented by Col Anselm Onyemekwu, the Grand Secretary. The Supreme Subordinate President, Major General Anselm Okafor, chaired the reception ceremony. Major Dr. Steve and Lady Ify Ekwelibe sponsored the wedding.

The wedding was turned into an evangelization outreach as Brother George delivered a fiery appeal to the congregation to support the Vicariate



in its quest for upgrading it into a Diocese.

The stage was set the day before at a fascinating traditional marriage, "a -la- Niger Delta". It was a thrilling experience for non-Niger Deltans to watch the intriguing moves by representatives of both families. It was like watching the finale of an international competition in the game of chess: the move (demand) - the surprise look in their faces, the consultations, an equally surprising (offer) response, the counter-demand .....all in the jovial light hearted mode, moderated by two affable super MCs, with a talented Niger Delta band-Set playing-now soft, now stimulating, now rustic music of the Rex Jim Lawson blend.

The popular Niger Delta gourmet specialty of roasted plantain and fish served on fresh strongly spiced red oil was a lead item on the menu. Others like porridge plantain and an assortment of "swallow" items found their way there too, along with jollof rice for the classic eater. And drinks galore!

Prudence is the better part of valour. In important matters like getting married, it is prudent to "shine your eye", to avoid grievous errors. So it was that the groom demanded to see his bride, to be doubly sure. To his shock and consternation, a hobbling, weather beaten elderly woman was presented to him. He immediately repudiated the offer. "That's not may love" he shouted. His face was grave and sullen.

The Jacob/Rachel/Leah/Laban in the wilderness of Haran saga, played out.

But, in Kaiama, Victor, sharp like a razor, could not be hoodwinked. He insisted and the true love of his heart was ushered into the arena, amid jubilation of the guests and dancing.

All in all it was a delightful evening, a high society wedding, where the Knights and their Ladies came in full force to honour their Junior

# Increasing & Multiplying - Spiritual

The maiden initiation into the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree of the Order took place from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2013. Under the theme: "Defending the Faith of Our father in Contemporary Society".

It was hosted by St Mary's Commandery #460 and Our Lady Seat of Wisdom, LAUX #394, Port Harcourt. The Grand Spiritual Director, Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Kabari and the Spiri-



# 2014 SUPREME CONVENTION THEME BASKET RAFFLE

The beautiful city of Columbus, Ohio, will be the site for the 2014 Supreme Convention for the Knights of St John International and Ladies' Auxiliary, Knights of St. John International. The "Theme Basket Raffle" has been a very successful endeavor during our past conventions. It was recommended that the "Theme Basket Raffle" once again be held during the 2014 convention. The profits from this fundraiser will help to defer expenses for the convention.

The Committee is encouraging and inviting all Commandaries and Auxiliaries to participate in this effort and to donate at least one "Theme Basket" for this project. The cost of each basket should not be more than \$40.00 to \$50.00. The goal is to make your basket attractive enough to sell as many raffle tickets as possible. We are also welcoming monetary donations in lieu of "Theme Baskets". All baskets should be delivered to the convention by Tuesday, July 22, 2014.

The following is a list of suggestions for your "Theme Baskets":

- Bath and Body Basket
- Snack Basket
- Sport Snack Basket
- State/Country Basket
- Game Basket

(Assortment of Adult or Children games)

- Romance Basket
- Wine and Cheese Basket
- Assorted Chocolates Basket
- Religious Basket
- Candle Basket
- Imported Beers Basket
- Hair Products
- NFL/NBA Theme Baskets
- Coffee/Tea Basket

The baskets will be displayed at the convention and the raffle tickets will be sold during the week of the convention. Each sheet of raffle tickets will cost \$5.00 or 5 sheets for \$20.00. Drawings will be held Saturday afternoon and winning numbers posted to aid winners in picking up baskets. The winning ticket numbers will be displayed throughout the convention center.

Let's work together to make our "2014 Theme Basket Raffle" another huge success!

To obtain a "Theme Basket" commitment form, or have any questions or need additional information, please

Connie Schafhausen, Chairperson

Phone: (740) 965-8274

email: SupremConv2014@aol.com

### (**Port Harcourt Grand** from previous page)

tual Advisers to Commanderies #634, and #535 were on hand to assist in the activities.

The squad was named the Bishop Camilus Eetokudoh's Squad in honour of the Bishop of Port Harcourt Diocese. Bro Lawrence Ewhrudiakpo was appointed the squad leader

# KSJI WEEK - further increase

Port Harcourt Grand Commandery ended the year with a big bang! In a programme, tagged KSJI week, with theme: Nurturing our confidence in the Catholic Faith, the Commandery featured many activities.

On December 12, 21 brothers were invested in marching uniform and 10 brothers in full dress.

Initiation of 40 brothers, under catechesis since June, took place on December 13 and their outing Mass was held in Holy Family, Woji, whose parish priest, Monsignor Charles Agu was celebrating the 40th Anniversary

of his priestly Ordination. Monsignor Major Agu was the immediate past Spiritual Adviser for Commandery #460 and Chaplain to District 12 Port Harcourt. The squad was named the Monsignor Charles Agu Squad, and Bro Emma Ayika is the squad leader.

Earlier in the month, 16 brothers were exemplified into the 4th Degree of Bishop Okoye Chapter of Chevaliers. The high point of the KSJI Week was premier AGM which featured competitions between Commanderies and among cadets and juniors.

In the competition, Cadet Success Akaigwe of Comm. 460 excelled in one category and won a cash prize of N5,000. Junior ..... won in the B category and went home with a cash prize of N5,000.

In the Chess game competitions, Saints Commandery 633 Oyigbo won in both competitions and carted home the coveted trophies for both events. In the cooking competitions, LAUX 584, Oyigbo, who presented continen-

tal dishes, won the 1st prize. LAUX 587, Bodo, was the 2<sup>nd</sup> place with Hausa dishes while LAUX 394, won the third place with Igbo dishes. Thus, All Saint's Commandery 633 won the overall prize, with an overall

The evening was concluded with a bash-eating, drinking and dancing.

### Conclusion

All in all, it was a tough year, a rewarding year, a tearful year. It was a year of sweat and toil, a joyful year; it was a year of creativity resulting in increasing and multiplying. Above all, it was a year of grace, overflowing grace. We know that the future belongs to those who consistently walk towards it: with a vision and an irrevocable commitment to it.

> Col Dan Onuoha **Grand Secretary**

# New York Grand Commandery

New York Grand News:

The 2014 New York Grand Delegates meeting will be held at Blessed Sacrament Church in Newark, NJ, and is being hosted by Commandery #680 and Auxiliary #592. Informational letters will be sent; as well as posted on the Grand's Web site at frontiernet.net/~nygrand.

# From Utica:

Congratulations to Capt. Mike Rose, of Commandery #385, and his wife Florence, of Ladies Auxiliary #321, Utica, NY. On Sunday, December 8, 2013, at a standingroom-only vespers service at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse, NY, they were presented the Distinguished Immaculata Award by the Most Reverend Robert J. Cunningham, Bishop of Syracuse. Immaculata Awards were created by Bishop Cunningham in 2011 as part of the diocese's 125th anniversary celebration. The awards recognize and honor "those who generously and unselfishly give of themselves to their parishes and whose love for the Church has been shown through their devotion to the Holy Father as well as to our diocese." Recipients were nominated for the award by their pastors, church personnel or church council members. They are the unsung heroes in our midst who build up our parish communities by extraordinary service in parish ministry in volunteer service.

From Rochester:

We extend our sympathy to Capt. Michael Perri on the recent death of his sister Sera. May her Soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

The following Knights and Ladies are ill or recovering from surgery, Most Rev. James Moyniham, Frank and Elizabeth Meleca, Tom Meleca, Charles Perri, George Schum, James Duignan, Edwin Morris Jr., Al Keidel, Kenneth Scholl, Charles Stitch, Carmen Cinanni, Chester Ventura and Donald Santangelo.

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.

> Publicity Chairman Brig. Gen. George Hoffman Jr.



Florence & Mike Rose with Father Mark Kaminski.

District 4:

We experienced a bitter blast of cold during this winter season and still have a long way to go. We have continued to intensify efforts in our outreach and humanitarian programs. During the Thanksgiving celebration of 2013, we served in the soup kitchens, fed the homeless and provided for the underprivileged. We had a white Christmas which heralded the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Condolences go to Brother Canice & Lady Martina Ngobidi, Brother Damian & Lady Ngozi Ozuzu of Commandery 680 Newark NJ, who lost their mother and mother-in-law respectively in Nigeria. May the souls of Ezinne Lydia Ngobidi, Madam Charity Ukwuoma, and the souls of the faithfully departed rest in Peace.

2014 is declared a year of forgiveness. May KSJI families be filled with peace of the Lord, love, prosperity, and renewed vigor to cope with the challenges of 2014. As we all try to warm up we wish you all Happy New Year!

In compliance with the Supreme Inspection Order No. 1 dated September 1, 2013, in the month of December, 2013, the District Commander, Maj. Charles Abiakwe and the District Inspector, Lt. Sebastian Ike, carried out inspections and muster of all the Commanderies of District 4. Detailed report of the inspections will accordingly be forwarded to the Supreme Inspector General.

# Commandery 676, Trenton NJ Cadets:

Following a retreat officiated by Rev. Fr. Guilherme A. Andrino, Pastor and Spiritual Director, 16 (sixteen) Cadets of Commandery 676 Trenton NJ received their charter and were formally inducted into the Order on November 9, 2013 at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament -Our Lady of the Divine Shepherd. The Grand Cadet Organizer, Maj. Alexander Jaeploe, gave an overview and extoled the virtues and etiquettes of the Cadets in the Order of Knights of St. John International during the induction ceremony. They had their Thanksgiving Mass and received blessing from the Spiritual Director on Sunday November 10th. This ceremony was watched by Knights of Commandery 676 and Ladies Auxil-

# (New York Grand from previous page)

iary 598, the cadets' families, friends and well-wishers.

The new Cadets Inductees are: James Mawolo, Richard D. Weedor, Anthont Aririguzoh, Franklin Aririguzoh, Richmond Aririguzoh, Gabriel Scott, Ishamael A. Mamu, Rugeline Torbor, Nnamdi Nnajiofor, Leon T. Nimley, Daniel Nimley, Anthont Aririguzoh, H. Terrence Snetter, Alexander N. Jaeploe, II, Paschal Madu, Jacob B. Mamu, Dave T. Wilson, Jr.

We congratulate and welcome the new cadets to the Order of KSJI and wish them the best experiences.

Commandery 676 had its general elections and swearing in ceremony according to their byelaws during their January 2014 business meeting. The election produced the following leaders: President-Dave B. Wilson, Sr., First Vice-John Peeples, Second Vice-Madu Umezirike, Recording/ Corresponding Secretary-Maurice Mbata, Treasurer:-Francis Doe, Financial Secretary-Michael Days, Messenger-Philip Nnajiofor, Sergeant at Arms-Rupert Peters, Guard-Spearman O'Neal, Commander-1st Lt. Chuku Akalegbere, Trustees-Torh Tuan (Chairman), Nathaniel Davis, Arthur Gboryou. We congratulate and wish the new administration a fruitful tenure in their various endeavors.

# Commandery 680

Congratulations to Knights of Commandery 680 and Ladies Auxiliary 592 on their tireless efforts to support the Blessed Sacrament Church of the Archdiocese of Newark. The congregation applauded them in



Cadets of Commandery 676 with their Spiritual Director.

replacing the Mustrand and Tabernacle which were stolen by thieves who broke in and entered into the Sanctuary sometime last year. The items cost \$5,000.00 (US Five thousand Dollars) to procure.

During the Thanksgiving Celebration of 2013 on Thursday, November 27, immediately after the Eucharistic Mass, Knights of Commandery 680 and Ladies Auxiliary 592 fully participated in the preparation of food and beverages that were served to the homeless totaling over 300. Also in October 2013, the Knights and Ladies took the initiative and prepared assorted foods and beverages and served the homeless in the metropolitan area. These humanitarian and charitable efforts are highly commendable.



Knights and Ladies of 680 serving the homeless.

# Good of the Order Outreach, Hospitality, Charity:

Knights and Ladies of Commandery 680 and LAUX 592 have continued to reach out to their membership. They participated in the wake keeping organized by two of the brothers (Ngobidi and Ozuzu) who lost their mother and mother-in-law in Nigeria respectively. They also presented checks to the bereaved families as benefits according to their byelaws.

During the quarter under review, the Commandery and Ladies also presented benefit checks to brothers Francis & Lady Asogwa, brother Innocent & Lady Martina Enwere on behalf of their cadet sons who wedded in 2013.

The Commandery has continued in their spiritual growth. They held a retreat and workshop in December 2013. The retreat was officiated by Rev. Fr. Albert at the Blessed Sacrament Church, Newark NJ.

Commandery 680 and Ladies Auxiliary 592 had their Christmas and End of Year Party on December 8, 2013. Awards were given to the members who went beyond the call of duty during the year.

### **Cadet News:**

Commandery 680 NJ Cadets will be officially inducted on April 12, 2014. We will bring you news of the induction in the next quarter.

Fraternally submitted; Sir Titus Osuagwu Media and Information Officer District 4, New York Grand

# Makurdi Grand Commandery

The Grand President Brig. Gen. Simon Aondona on behalf of Makurdi Grand Commandery wishes to welcome the Supreme President, General Dale Gossiaux, and all members of Knights of St. John International in their hierarchies to the year 2014. The year 2013 has come and gone with a lot of memories sad and joyous. It is our hope that the year 2014 will see more progress and increase in our membership across the globe.

The year of faith which was an initiative of the Pope Emeritus, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI imbued a transformational image to the entire faithful of the Catholic Church. The Year of faith came to an end within Makurdi Grand Commandery on October 19 with a high Mass to mark the end of the event. The Grand Commandery turned out led by the Grand President Brig. Gen. Simon Aondona. The turn out was impressive and activities of the closing ceremony included traditional dances and refreshments. At the Mass the Catholic Bishop of Makurdi Diocese invited all to attend the investiture ceremony of fourteen persons who were awarded Papal Knight by His Holiness Pope Francis. The three Dioceses that were of the same jurisdiction until late 2013 came together for celebration at the end of Year of Faith which took place at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral Makurdi. In the same vain the activities marking the end of Year of Faith were celebrated in Lafia and Otukpo Catholic Dioceses respectively and were attended by the Commanderies 571 for Lafia and District 41 Otukpo comprising 508, 650, 651 and 673 were at Otukpo accordingly.

### **End of Year Reports**

Reports were successfully sent out accordingly which showed that some Commanderies had elections and were installed in January according to the constitution. We are glad to welcome Captain Joseph Agbo as the new Worthy President of St. William Commandery 571 Lafia. Other Commanderies that had elections retained their officers for a second term, they include:

St. Thomas Aquinas Commandery 540 Gboko with Sir Godwin Onov as their Worthy President, St. Gerald Commandery 590 Katsina Ala with Sir Augustine Avaan as Worthy President, SS Peter & Paul Commandery 591 Aliade with Sir Thomas Kyuior retaining the seat of Worthy President. Other Commanderies that had elections were St. Joseph Commandery 592 Korinya with Captain Moses Dekaa as Worthy President, St. Theresa Commandery 593 High Level Makurdi with Sir Emmanuel Agena and Christ the King Commandery 594 Vandekya with Sir James Dugeri retaining their seats as worthy presidents. At the time of publication report of elections in St. Francis of Assisi Commandery 508 was vet to reach the office of the Grand Secretary.

# **End of Year Get Together**

The Grand Commandery turned out key officers to celebrate the end of year 2013 on January 2, 2014. The Grand President Brigadier General Simon Aondona led the brothers while Grand Ladies Auxiliary President Noble Lady Priscilla Gbillah led the sisters. At the gathering the Grand President announced that one of our brothers whom God had blessed and elevated sent a big cow on the eve of Christmas to enable the Grand Commandery have a feast on Christmas. In consultation with the District Commanders, the date of January 2<sup>nd</sup> was chosen to convene the Grand Commandery Officials for the feast. He said the brother was Senator Brother George Akume who has continuously shown great commitment and concern over the events that occur in the Grand Commandery. He mentioned how the brother was of help during the inauguration of Makurdi Grand Commandery and their Ladies Auxiliary respectively. Senator George Akume is a member of St. Thomas Aguinas Commandery 540 Gboko.

# Wedding and Investiture Ceremonies

The Grand Commandery and the Ladies Auxiliary turned out to witness the wedding of the daughter of Brother George Akume at St.



**MARCH, 2013** 

Christopher's Parish Wannune. The wedding which was between Edet and Kperngu Akume was a mixed marriage as the Groom was not a Catholic.

The Grand Commandery was turned out led by the Grand First Vice President Sir Ben Onyilo while the Grand ladies Auxiliary President, Noble Lady Priscila Gbillah led the Ladies Auxiliary. In the same month the Respected Auxiliary President of Gboko Ladies Auxiliary celebrated twenty-five years of sucssessful marriage with her brother Sir Ferdinand Tyoakaa.

### Papal Award

Two brothers of the Noble Order of Knights of St. John International were among the fourteen persons that were invested with the medal of Knights of St. Sylvester the Great by His Lordship Most Reverend A.A. Usuh at the Cathedral Church in Makurdi. The recommendation for this award was made at the Centenary celebration of the then Catholic Diocese of Makurdi which is now split into three to cover Gboko and Katsina Ala. One of the brothers who was honored with the award is also the Grand Treasurer of Makurdi Grand Commandery, he is Sir Francis Ode. Sir Francis Ode is from St. Theresa Commandery

# (Makurdi Grand from previous page)

593 High Level Makurdi. Sir Pius Gele of St. Mary Commandery 674 North Bank Makurdi was also among those invested. The Grand President Brig. Gen. Simon Aondona and the entire membership of Makurdi Grand Commandery wish to felicitate with these brothers on this prestigious award.

# Service Stripes Introduced in Makurdi Grand Commandery

It was somehow strange to some people even some very old knights when they saw someone wearing Service Stripes from Makurdi Grand Commandery. Questions arose of whether the symbols conformed to the uniform of the Knights of St. John International. Some people were not aware that anything of that nature exists in the Supreme Constitution while others thought that a high ranking officer should not go back to wearing Service Stripes. This writer took time to study the Supreme Constitution and its provision on Service Stripes and since it does not require approval from the higher Commanderies came out with this write up as contained in the Supreme Constitution Chapter XI thus Service Stripes: For every five years of active service as a Sir Knight, he shall be entitled to wear a service stripe upon both sleeves of the uniform dress coat below the elbow of white cord cone-half inch wide, extending from seam to seam. The front end nearest the cuff and onequarter inch above the point of the cuff and extending diagonally across the arm. Service Stripes to be issued under the indorsement of the Captain of the Commandery of which he is attached.

When a Sir Knight has served twenty-five years as an active member the cross of Malta (gold worked if a commissioned officer and silver worked if a non-commissioned officer) shall be placed two inches above the cuffs of the dress uniform. This is to take the place of the five service stripes.

This writer took time to find out who is a sir knight and the same Supreme Constitution defined sir knight thus:

Chapter VI Section 62 under MISCELLANEOUS provides;



Whenever it is provided in this constitution, or in any by-law of a subordinate Commandery that a member must be a sir Knight to be eligible to hold any position, the words shall mean a uniformed member of any Commandery, or one on the retired list thereof, and shall include uniformed privates and officers, but no others. A non uniformed member shall be known as a Brother Knight.

It is the intention of this writer that those who read this article will appreciate the rich culture of the Knights of St. John International and come to love it more as they grow in it. Activities are endless. The service stripes as explained have nothing to do with ranking whether you are a Lieutenant to General bearing in mind that these ranks can be assumed upon election into and office. One can join the Order and after twelve months one can become a Sir Knight and be eligible for election into any office of a high rank. It is not so with service stripes. One must be a sir knight for an active five years before one

can wear one stripe, if one is ten years, one adds another stripe, fifteen years is three while twenty is four and before one will wear the fifth one the constitution provides for a replacement with Cross of Malta gold or sliver depending on ones position at the time of reception. There is a great difference from who is a Brig. Gen. who has served the Order for twenty-five years and above to the one who has just come into that office by choice after few years in the Order. When we take to embrace the Constitution there are areas we can conveniently utilize to satisfy our emotions with or without ranks. This writer intends to wait reactions from readers concerning this publication before writing the first application to the Supreme Secretary requesting for the Cross of Malta to be worked for the brother from Makurdi Grand Commandery who is currently putting on four service stripes.

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

# Awka Grand Commandery

We give thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has in His wisdom and infinite mercy given us the opportunity to see this year 2014. It is actually the Lord's doing and we are happy and glad. How can we repay Him other than to promise to know, love and serve Him even to the hour of our death? May our wish be acceptable in the sight of Him who knows, loves and cares for us in every way, – Amen? We say Happy New Year to all brothers and sisters of our Noble and Exalted Order.

January 26th this year which was actually the feast of SS Timothy and Titus was a spectacular day in the history of Awka Grand Commandery. It was the first year anniversary of the Grand and a date that will always be fresh in the minds of those who made concerted efforts towards realizing the creation of Awka the Grand. Precisely on 28th of January, the feast of that great man, St. Thomas Aquinas, BGen. G.N. Muotolu commemorating the date his gavel was first put to use as the Grand President of Awka Grand Commandery hosted some of the stakeholders responsible for the actualization of the Grand at his residence. Present were the Grand Secretary Col. P.C. Egwui, who was the initiator of the proposal for Awka Grand Commandery and who chaired the stakeholders that worked tirelessly to ensure Awka Grand was created out of Onitsha Grand Commandery, the three best Worthy Presidents of the Year (# 548, # 588 and # 645), the Supreme Subordinate Under Secretary (Admin), Major R.G. Okafor, District 28 Commander, Major Clement Odinye and a host of other brothers

In his welcome address to his guests, BGen. G.N. Muotolu extolled their collaborative efforts for the past one year. He announced the Grand's intention to appreciate those who have in the words of the Supreme Present, continued 'our mission of serving others and serving the Church'.

A cursory look into the history of Awka Grand Commandery shows that the beginning of what is today known



Delegate at Awka Gaand Convention Saluting our departed members at a memorial Mass.

as Awka Grand Commandery was the pioneering work of the Past Commander of District 28 who is now the Grand Secretary, Col. P. C. Egwui, who had a dream that one day a Grand Commandery would be domiciled in Awka, contrary to the views of some others.

History has proved that this dream cannot be regarded as night dreaming neither can it pass for day-dreaming. It was a passionate dream which transformed his inner drive to propel the wheel of action never stopping until achievement was recorded. He engaged the assistance of some other brothers, Noble Bros. M. C. Okeke and Dom Ezeh and they presented their request to the then Onitsha Grand President, BGen. C.N.C. Nwafor. The assessment of the desire to have Awka Grand Commandery by BGen. Nwafor was positively strong that he gave them immediate instructions on what must be done. They must present the proposal of the new Grand Commandery in a written format not more than a paragraph which would be accommodated in his written address to be read during the visit of the then Supreme President, Gen. Timothy Hoerst, to Commandery #434 Awka in the then Onitsha Grand Commandery. The instruction was followed as one paragraph proposal was written and presented. September 4, 2009 was the D - day. The weather was clement, the crowd was cheerful and people high and mighty were all present to receive the Supreme President General Timothy Hoerst and his team. When the Onitsha Grand President took his turn to address the august visitors, he only read the one paragraphed request for a new Awka Grand Commandery for want of time.

A thunderous ANCIENT took over the sky as if the Angels were part of those applauding. When the ovation finally came to a controlled whisper, the message has been passed. It was clear to all that C.N.C as he is popularly called knew when and how to put issues straight and still maintain his good will.

The rest of the stories are now history being celebrated today as we gathered under the canopy of the Grand President, a man whose fame most people envied and whose personality we could not but admire. As we await the official celebration of our anniversary scheduled for a yet to be approved date, we pray that our Patron Saint will continue to intercede on our behalf.

As we celebrate our one year as a Grand Commandery, we are proud to announce that the following ten Brothers were initiated into the Order on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 at the Grand Hall: Brothers Branden Anaekwe, St. Patrick's #434 Awka; Benedict Agbogu, St. Patrick's #434 Awka; Paul Orakie, St. Anthony's #545 Enugwu-Ukwe; Marcel Nwankwo, St. Matthew's #759 Ajalli; others are



A cross section of Supreme Subordinate President and others inspecting parade during Awka Grand Maiden Convention.

### (Awka Grand from previous page)

Ferdinand Mojekwe, Madonna Commandery #588 Agulu; Solomon Ozuah, St. Patrick's #434 Awka; Charles Agazie, St. Patrick's #434 Awka; Hilary Okoye, St. Thomas Aguinas' #712 Awka GRA; George Okaro, St. Mark's #613 Abagana and Anthony Ugorji, St. Patrick's #434 Awka. At the initiation Mass, the Grand Spiritual Director, Very Rev. Fr. Anthony Ezeoke (Noble), reminded all of the call to participate in the mission of the Church which is the sanctification and salvation of souls. To mark the Year of Faith, the Grand named the new initiates 'Faith Squad'.

The Grand Commandery also recorded 20 of its members being exemplified into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees, while 16 brothers were invested in Sir Knights' Marching Uniform, 14 were invested with Officers' Marching Uniform and 6 brothers were invested in our enviable Full Dress Uniform.

Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th December, 2013 witnessed our maiden Grand Convention with the Theme: "Faith and Knighthood in the Contemporary Society". The Key Note Address titled: 'The Faith of the Catholic Church which Knights must rise to Defend' was presented by Very Rev. Fr. Chika Okpalike, a University don. In his address, he took us through the Faith of the Catholic Church as expressed in the Creed, the sources of Revelation, Knights, Knighthood and Knighting in the Catholic Church and concluded with the odds up against the dependability of the Faith and resolute defense of it.

During the Grand Convention, the Governor of Anambra State Mr. Peter Obi (ably represented by the Head of



Three hearty Cheers for the Grand Commandery at one year.

Service of Anambra State, Mr. Chidi Ezeoke) and our Lordship, Most Rev Dr. Paulinus Ezeokafor, the Diocesan Bishop of Awka, joined the Supreme Subordinate President and His Secretary, BGen. Chidi Arinze, to inspect the colorful parade and display of Color Flags from all Commanderies and LAUX. The Convention created the occasion for Spiritual reunion and social interactions among members.

The Grand commiserates with all Commanderies whose members have joined the ranks of the dead. Some of them are: brothers Cyril Uzoh, Immaculate Heart, # 589 Uga; Godfrey Umeobi St. Joseph's, # 509 Ekwulobia; Gabriel Onyia, St. Patrick's, # 434 Awka; Daniel Ezeuzor, St. Patrick's # 434 Awka; Edward Oficha, St. Patrick's # 434 Awka; others are Noble Brother Dom Eze, St. Patrick's # 434 Awka; Donatus Ogu, St. Patrick's # 434 Awka; Peter Ibekwe, St. Patrick's # 434 Awka; brother Martin Ezeobi of St. Joseph's # 509 Ekwulobia and District 30 Commander, brother Andy Umeoji of St. Joseph's #5 09 Ekwulobia. We are not forgetting our Cadet, Pascal Ifeanyi Anosike, the son of our 1st Vice Commander of District 28 Noble Brother Laz Anosike, who died on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December, 2013 at the age of 33. We note the coincidence of the three perspectives – Pascal-33 years-25<sup>th</sup> of December. Though their death left us in pains but it left us with pleasant memories. May the good Lord rest their souls in peace – Amen.

For our bedridden brothers, the Grand continuously remembers them in daily Masses while the leadership of the Grand continues to talk to them on phone or visit them to encourage and wish them quick recovery.

Once more, the Grand Commandery is grateful to all those who contributed to the successes recorded in the past one year. The future of Awka Grand Commandery is certainly bright for its creation was the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes. We thank the good Lord who is, who was and who will certainly continue to shower his merciful and mighty works in us – To him be glory forever and ever.

Capt. Peter C. Uttazi Awka Grand Secretary

# (Supreme President from page 4)

mandery can follow that allows for a "due process" format. In this way, all levels of the organization will have the same criteria to use to aid and assist in those situations where there are honest disagreements over actions, policy, by-laws or the Supreme Constitution. Now, knowing that nothing is perfect, except for Christ Jesus, this process will take time to implement properly. It is always the ideal that all issues are handled at the lowest level possible, i.e. commandery level. In those situations where they cannot, then the next level is the District, etc. There may be instances when the issue begins at the District level, then the next level is the Grand Commandery, and so on. Please read all the resolutions and have your delegates understand what they all are and be prepared to vote on them during the convention. Now, because of the length of some of these proposed resolutions, I am asking that all those who will be making reports to do the following:

1. Please have enough copies of the reports for both the Board Meeting and the Convention.

2. Have a summary that you can read during the board meeting and convention. I will cut-off anyone who exceeds 10 minutes while reading their report. I know that all the information that you have is important, that is why you need to bring enough copies of your report for the delegates and officers, but to take valuable time away from the work of the board and/or convention, we just won't be able to start and end each day at an appropriate time. The local convention committee has events planned that need to begin on time. We cannot be late!

Another item we may try this year on the Saturday of the convention concerns the uniformed men (and some of the ladies) and in particular the officers of the commanderies, districts and grands. If there are not enough teams to compete in the Color Guard competition and/or drill competition, the Inspector General will conduct a School of the Knight. Through these instructions, it is hoped that officers can become better at giving orders and for the uniformed knights (and the ladies) to become more adept at conducting the maneuvers.

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

# Owerri Grand Commandery

### **Oweri Grand Convention**

Thursday 5 December - Sunday 8 December, 2013, Pastoral Centre Owerri, the Grand Commandery held her 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention with the theme, "The Laity". The 4 days action-packed convention was attended by 181 delegates as well as observers from the 30 Local Commanderies of the Grand.

The Grand President, Brig. Gen. Ezekiel Ihionu in a welcome address told the delegates that the Grand activities for the past years would be reviewed. He further explained that the convention would sensitize brothers on their roles as lay members of Christ's faithful in those areas and circumstances of the church where the laity is seen as the salt of the earth.

Concluding his address, he called on the delegates to give their best in the fraternal spirit of the order especially as the hall-mark of the convention would be the elections of new officers of the Grand.

It would be recalled that Brig. Gen. Ihionu had conducted the Grand since July 2013, when the former Grand President, Brig. Gen. C.C Onwuneme, was suspended by the Supreme Subordinate Nigeria for answering a query which the Supreme Subordinate Presi-



The worthy president, Capt. B.C. Okoro at the foundation laying site of #705 Hall, behind Stanley are the Commander Lt. E.E. Nwala, Rec/GR Sec. Lt. Vincent Azubuike, and messenger, Lt. James Egbule



dent Nigeria said "opened a keg of worms".

In the elections that followed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the convention, the following Grand officers emerged: President-Brig. Gen. Ezekiel Ihionu, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Maj. F.A Chukwu, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Maj. Anthony Enukeme, Secretary-Col. T.K. Nwachukwu, Financial Secretary-Lt. Donatus Onyenanu, Treasurer-Capt Vincent Agu, Sargent at Arms-Col. Val Oboh, Messenger-Capt. Jude Alozie, Guard-Capt. Mike Okereke, Trustees-Maj. BL.C. Okoro, Maj. Jude Otum, Maj. Alugbuo Cosmos, Maj. Demian Ojimba and Maj. Leo Ozurumba.

The convention featured investiture of brothers into 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4th degrees of the order as well as drill competition among the Districts of the Grand.

In the Masses said during the convention, the Grand Spiritual Director, Rev Fr. Dr, Anthony Njoku advised brother and Sister Knights to attend masses first thing every morning. He urged the Knights to request Masses for their departed ones and in the outing Sunday, he enjoined Knights of St. John International, to allow themselves be touched by God and to imitate St. John the Baptist's qualities of simplicity, humility, boldness who refused distractions in his life.

It was a lively convention as delegates were treated to sumptuous African food, Peagantry and pump of drinks

# St. Michael Commandery #705 and Gate of Heaven Laux #648, Umuacha, Declare 2014 as Year of Hall Building

The worthy President Capt. Bernard Chukwuemeka Okoro in a Special Speech on the hall building project declared 2014 the year for vigorous block top-up for the commandery hall.

He said this during the first regularly meeting of year held Saturday 18th

January, 2014; while calling on those who pledged cash and materials during the foundation lying launching of the hall, 24 August 2013 to redeem their pledges.

The commandery which started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2011, had 31 members and rose to 33 by the 2011 October, initiation. In 2013 it had 5 new initiates which brought the total membership to 38. But it lost 3 by call to eternal Glory and another 8 charter members by return to their former commandery, the total strength is presently 27 with hope of new members by 2014 initiations.

The number notwithstanding, the commandery will fight hard to erect a hall that is going to meet the taste of time. More so, with the return of the ladies Auxiliary 648, the commandery would be equal to the task of taking the bull by its horns.

# St. Michael Commandery #705, Umuacha, Ended 2013

It was a memorable day as commandery #705; Umuacha ended 2013, on the 18<sup>th</sup> December with a send forth for its charter members and welcome its ladies Auxiliary Gate of Heaven #648, Umuacha.

In his end of year speech, the worthy president, Capt B.C. Okoro thanked the charter members who had stayed in at Umuacha for 2 years especially their contributions towards the initial take off and growth of the commandery as pioneer members.

Eight from the charter members had earlier in the year indicated their willingness to return to Christ the King Commandery #445, Aba where they were initiated into in 2009. They are; Capt. Francis Agyekum – Pioneer Worthy President, Bro. Maxwell Ebiringa Pioneer 1st Vice, Bro. Lawrence Obetta

# Baltimore-Washington Grand

Bishop Leonard Olivier commemorated twenty five years as Bishop with family and friends at a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on December 15, 2013. Knights from Commandery #309 were in attendance to express gratitude to Bishop Olivier for his work which included serving as regional bishop of deaneries in Washington D.C., Prince Georges's County and Southern Maryland. Congratulations Bishop Olivier.

# Sacred Heart Parish Hosts Safe Nights Program

Sacred Heart Church (the home church of Sacred Heart Commandery #309) hosted a Safe Nights Program during the last week of January 2014. The Safe Nights Program is directed and coordinated by Life Styles, Inc. of Charles County, Maryland to serve the homeless. Safe Nights is a homeless shelter program that rotates among county churches where shelter and meals are provided to homeless men, women, and children. The program functions by church and community volunteers donating, preparing and



Bishop Leonard Olivier "A Good and Gentle Pastor" Celebrates 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Bishop.

serving meals and acting as monitors at night. Knights from Commandery #309 provided breakfast for over thirty five homeless people on Sunday, February 2, 2014 in the Sacred Heart Church Friendship Room. It is a rewarding experience to interact with the less fortunate in the community and to hear them express gratitude for the chance to receive shelter and food.

# **Events/Activities**

Commandery #309 and Sacred Heart Auxiliary #301 prepared and

# Commandery

provided over fifty food baskets that were distributed to families in Charles County, Maryland. This has always been a delightful activity with the Knights and Ladies coming together and preparing distributing the food baskets.

Commandery #309 in unity with Sacred Heart Junior Auxiliary #51 held an annual Gospel Program. The program continues to be a success with great performances by outstanding singers and musicians with dinners for sale. This event is a signature fund raising activity for the Juniors to raise funds to cover their expenses to attend Knights of St. John events.

Please remember that when we gather to meet or to socialize keep in mind those Brothers and Sisters who are ill or confined to their residence or to a private nursing home. They will appreciate your telephone calls, personal visits or cards to show that they are not forgotten. But most of all keep them in your prayers. Also, pray for the homeless, men, women, and children in our society.

William B. Young, Jr., Historian Sacred Heart Commandery #309





### (Owerri Grand from previous page)

Pioneer 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Bro. Clement Ndukaji Pioneer treasurer, Bro. James Egbule, Pioneer messenger, Br. Kenneth Oriaku Pioneer Commander, Bro. Emmanuel Ihekwaoaju Pioneer 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander and Capt R.O. Nwigwe, Grand Organizer.

The pioneer 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Bro. Maxwell Ebiringa who stood in for the absented Pioneer Worthy President, Capt Francis Agykum and on behalf of others thanked members of #705 for their hospitality, one love of brotherhood. He confessed that their stay in #705 exposed them to know more about the Noble Order of Knights of St John International and that they were returning home more equipped than they had come. He pledged that they would always, remember #705 and would be willing to answer any time they are called upon.

In an acceptance speech, the Re-

spected President of Gate of Heaven Laux 648, Umuacha Sister Josephine Aliche, thanks brother Knights and the Worthy President for welcoming them. She pledged to work harmoniously with commandery #705 and compliment all her efforts towards uplifting the Noble Order of Knights of St John International.

Lieut. Vincent Chukwuemeka Azubuike Rec/Cor. Secretary #705

# SUPREME MILITARY COMMITTEE

The Knights of St. John, International, Supreme Commandery Military Committee is publishing the rules governing the Color Guard Drill Competition, Mileage Competition and Exhibition Drill Competition for the 2014 Supreme Convention. The deadline for submitting your letter of intent to participate is May 1st, 2014. Prizes for the Color Guard Drill Competition (Knights & Auxiliary), Mileage Competition (Knights & Auxiliary) and Exhibition Drill Competition (Cadets & Juniors) will be announced in the next "Journal" publication.

### **Color Guard Teams -**

You will note from the Rules Governing the Color Guard Drill Competition that it only takes a minimum of Six (6) individuals in line and One (1) Commander to form a team.

### **Mixed Teams** -

- (1) The greater number of Knights or Ladies will determine the category for the team to compete. (Example Four (4) Knights and two (2) Ladies, the team will be competing for the Knights prize; a team consisting of four (4) Ladies and two (2) Knights, the team will be competing for the Auxiliary prize.)
- (2) If a team consists of an equal number of Knights and Ladies, the Commander of the team will declare which prize he / she will be competing for. This declaration must be made at the time the application is submitted.

Captain James M. Gibbons II KStJI Supreme Commandery Military Committee, Chairperson

# Knights of St. John International &

Ladies Auxiliary Supreme Convention 2014 Color Guard Competition

### FORM OF INTENT

(Prepare in Duplicate and Mail to Addresses below.)

Commandery No
Auxiliary No
of will
participate in the following:
Color Guard Drill Competition:
Knights ( ) Ladies ( )
Mileage Competition: ( )
Exhibition Drill Competition: ( )
Commander (Signature)

Commander (Print Name)

Please send letter of intent form to the Supreme Commandery Military Committee Chairpersons.

Mail to:

Capt. James M. Gibbons II 76 Sunset Creek Drive West Seneca, NY 14224 USA

and

Kathy Moore 2337 Walnut Lane Richmond, IN 47374 USA

# RULES GOVERNING THE PRIZE DRILLS AND MILE-AGE

COMPETITION AT THE SUPREME MILITARY CONVENTION IN COLUMBUS OHIO

The following rules have been adopted by the joint Supreme Military Committee of the Knights of St. John, International and the Ladies Auxiliary, governing the Color Guard Competition, Mileage Competition and Junior Exhibition at the 2014 Supreme Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

- 1) All Supreme Subordinate, Grand Commandery, Brigade, Regiment, Battalion or District Commandery and Auxiliary Color Guard Teams desiring to compete for prizes must notify the Supreme Com-mandery Military Committee Chairpersons: Capt. James M. Gibbons II, 76 Sunset Creek Drive, West Seneca, NY 14224, USA, and Kathy Moore, 2337 Walnut Lane, Richmond, IN 47374, USA, by May 1, 2014.
- 2) All Supreme Subordinate, Grand Commandery, Brigade, Regiment, Battalion or District Commandery and Auxiliary Color Guard Teams members in approved uniform MUST muster and participate in the Pontifical Mass Processional and Parade as a unit to be eligible for Drill and Distance Prizes.
- 3) Each Knight or Ladies Color Guard Team competing shall report to the Drill Competition with not less than six (6) in line and one (1) Commander. The Commander shall be a member of the Knights of St. John, International or Auxiliary. A PENALTY OF ONE POINT ON GENERAL AVERAGE WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR EACH PERSON SHORT OF THE REQUIRED PERSONNEL AS OUTLINED IN THE RULES.
- 4) Knights of the Noble and Exalted Degree of the Holy Cross may wear the Noble Degree Cross, Ribbon and gloves. Auxiliary Ladies who have received the Military Degree may wear their Military emblem. NO OTHER decorations or awards are permitted on the approved uniform.
- 5) After inspection, each team shall march on the floor and form a line in front of the judges. The Commander salutes and reports: Sir, Local Commandery No.\_\_\_, Supreme Subordinate Commandery Grand Commandery, Brigade, \_\_ Regiment, \_\_ Battalion, \_\_ District Commandery or Auxiliary No. \_\_\_, (omit those designations that do not pertain) awaits your orders," and hands the Chief Judge a certification properly signed by the Commander containing these words: "I certify on my honor that every one of the (give number) Officers, Sir Knights OR Ladies in line before you are bona fide members of Local Commandery No. \_\_\_, Supreme Subordinate Grand Com-Com-mandery Brigade, mandery, \_ Regi-District Battalion, \_ ment, \_ Commandery or Auxiliary No. (omit those designations that do not pertain), stationed at \_\_\_ and were not transferred for the occa-

sion from other commands.
Signed:

(Commander)"

A penalty of three (3) points will be deducted from final general average for failure to present above certification.

6) Any requirements herein or in the Schedule of Movements if not understood will be construed by the Judges on the Floor and their decision in all cases shall be final.

7) The Schedule of Movements is intended to be a nearly consecutive as practicable, however, a necessary intermediate movement made to enable a Team to execute the next schedule movement, is permissible.

8) All movements shall be made and will be judged according to the Knights of St. John, International Drill Regulation (Revision June, 2008).

9) Only authorized tactical commands will be allowed to be given. No assistance or prompting will be permitted during the Drill Competition. A penalty of one (1) point will be deducted from the general average for violation of this rule.

- 10) The Color Guard Drill Competition shall be under the complete control of two (2) impartial judges. The two (2) Field Judges, and an Inspector who will judge the Color Guard Drills, will be selected by the Supreme Military Committee. These two (2) judges will be from the uniformed rank of the Knights of St. John, International and one of these appointees will be designated as Chief Judge, with one alternate judge available. Whenever feasible, judging appointments shall represent impartial Grand Commanderies without representation in the Drill Competition. All judges will serve with approval of the Joint Supreme Military Committee and shall be accountable to them in the fulfillment of their du-
- 11) Judges may not place themselves any closer than five (5) paces from competing Teams for the purpose of judging.
- 12) The local Grand Commandery shall designate one of its members to act as Timekeeper. It shall be his duty to sound the recalls, and see that no Team exceeds the maximum time allowance of ten (10) minutes. They shall also designate a Cadence Checker who will check the cadence (120 steps per minute) periodically. A penalty of one tenth (1/10) of one (1) percentage point will be deducted for each step out of cadence, but in no case may the deduction be more than one (1) point. This deduction, if any, will be taken from the general average.

13) Drilling shall be without music. All movements will be executed in quick time unless otherwise ordered.

14) Commanders commanding with the use of a written "Schedule of Movements" will be penalized two (2) points on the general aver-

age.

15) No team entered in the competitive drills shall be permitted to perform a PRACTICE DRILL on the designated drill floor.

Color Guard Exhibition Drill: The Knights of St. John, International Overseas Cap and Sash will be permitted for the Exhibition Drill Competition only but not for

the Color Guard Drill Competition.
The Exhibition Drill Competition shall be JUDGED on the basic military rules for ability and show-

manship.

Exhibition Teams may, in addition to National Colors, utilize other organizational color(s) and or other approved banner(s).

Minimum number of members in line shall be six (6) with one (1) Commander with no restriction on the maximum number.

Exhibition Teams may consist of a mix of Knights, Ladies, Cadets and Juniors.

Exhibition Teams shall be allotted one tenth of one percent for each member above the minimum number of six (6).

The time allowance for the completion of the "Schedule of Movements" will be thirteen (13) minutes at a cadence that must be maintained at 120 steps per minute. A penalty of one tenth (1/10) of one (1) percentage point will be deducted for each step out of cadence, but in no case may the deduction be more than one (1) point. This deduction, if any, will be taken from the general average.

The use of Colors (National Colors) when in competition must be consistent with the dignity and respect required by each represented nation's FLAG CODE. The AMERICAN FLAG or NATIONAL COLORS cannot be MARCHED TO THE

REAR. This is only accomplished with a "Wheel Movement".

Color Guard Drill Competition Schedule of Movements for 2014 Convention:

- 1. Present the Drill Team to the Chief Judge and Reviewing Officers and proceed to starting line.
- 2. Par. 405 Form Greek Cross.
- 3. Par. 406 Section, Right in Circle Wheel.
- 4. Par. 45 Sections, Forward Twelve steps.
- 5. Par. 53 Sections, to the Rear, Twenty Four steps.
- 6. Par. 53 Sections, to the Rear, Twenty Four steps. Reform Cross.
- 7. Par. 429 March in Circle by File.
  - 8. Par. 39 Right Face.
- 9. Par. 45 Forward, Twelve steps. 10. Par. 53 To the Rear, Twelve steps.
- 11. Par. 406 Reform Greek Cross.12. Par. 407 To Reform Line from Display Greek Cross. Facing
- the reviewing Officers.

  13. Time stops here.
- Exhibition Drill Competition Schedule of Movements for 2014 Convention:
- 1. Present the Drill Team to the Chief Judge and Reviewing Officers and proceed to starting line.
  - 2. Par. 499 Pass in Review.
  - 3. Par. 53 To Rear and Repeat.
  - 4. Par. 378 Order in Echelon.
- 5. Par. 381 March in Echelon by the Flank.
- 6. Par. 382 To Reform Line from Echelon.
  - 7. Par. 132 Right Forward Wheel.
- 8. Par. 136 Fours in Circle Right Wheel.
  - 9. Par. 432 Front Take Distance. 10. Par. 405 Display Greek
- 11. Par. 406 Threes Right in Circle Wheel.
- 12. Par. 407 Form Line from Greek Cross.
  - 13. Par. 361 Wheel subdivisions.
  - 14. Time stops here.

Captain James M. Gibbons II KSJI Supreme Commandery Military Committee, Chairperson

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

# Cincinnati Grand Commandery

All in the Cincinnati Grand are looking forward to the Grand Convention. Traditionally we meet jointly with the Kentucky Grand and we will be with them, in Covington, on March 22, 2014. A one day Convention is held during the same year a Supreme Convention is scheduled. After registration both Grands will meet separately. At noon Convention meetings will recess and all will attend a Eucharistic celebration, with those eligible receiving the 2nd and 3rd Degrees after Mass. Following Mass and lunch both Grands will reconvene with separate meetings. After all business has been concluded a joint meeting and installation of any newly elected officers ends our convention day.

# Commanderies 97 & 98:

On February 15, members of Commandery 97 & 98 once again attended the St. Mary's Gala. This year the 4-S Club was honored for their continued support of St. Mary Parish. The Knights of St. John #98, the St. Xavier Society, Catholic Order of Foresters, St. Paul Society, and the K of C are all members of the 4-S Club. The evening of food, drink, music, and a silent auction was most enjoyable. All proceeds from the evening 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 again for the annual Appalachia Project. They also attended their fund raising event on February 23, with checks from the Knights, in hand. This program, celebrating 21 years of success, 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, will travel to Scioto County 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. This year's largest project is building a new trailer home, on a donated mobile home frame, for a family whose present house is about to fall in around them due to a collapsing foundation. All supplies are either donated or purchased using money from a stock sale where parishioners invest in the

youth, fully knowing where and how their donations are being used.

### 2014 Convention News:

Being your hosts for your 2014 Supreme Convention, we have now switched into high gear. Most preparations are in the process of being finalized. The Renaissance Hotel and the convention registration committee have already been receiving reservations (registration information has been printed on pages 14-15 in this and in the previous issue).

We hope all attendees will join us for the Welcome Party, Banquet and Ball, and the Farewell Party. No special event has been planned, for Thursday evening, as Columbus, Ohio has so much to see and do, we couldn't pick just one. Places of interest, attractions and restaurants along with addresses and possibly coupons will be included in the registration packet.

Jim Schafhausen, President Cincinnati Grand

# In Memoriam

Com	mandery:	
41	Utica, NY	Rev. Raynold E. Yudin, OFM Conv.
103	Louisville, KY	Charles Schwenkel
172	Richmond, IN	Jason Szymanowski
218	Washington, DC	David O. Thomas
276	Hamburg, IN	Bob Patterson
$\frac{1}{282}$	St. Wendel, IN	James Knapp
330	Cleveland, OH	Stu Foster
330	Cleveland, OH	Marn Troneonte
335	Evansville, IN	William Holland
345		~
$\frac{345}{385}$	Haubstadt, IN	Stephen Weber
	Utica, NY	Joseph Montana
414	Enugu, Enugu, Nigeria	Felix Nnam
414	Enugu, Enugu, Nigeria	Joseph Ndibnagu
422	Owerri, Imo, Nigeria	Hyacinth Anyaso
433	Orlu, Imo, Nigeria	Christopher E. Adindu
434	Awka, Anambra, Nigeria	Daniel Ezeuso
438	Onitsha, Anambra, Nigeria	Anthony Obiezu
438	Onitsha, Anambra, Nigeria	David Okafor
438	Onitsha, Anambra, Nigeria	Edmund Obiemeka
443	Bolgatanga, Ghana	Leonard Baba Atampugnire
443	Bolgatanga, Ghana	Cosmos Kwame Beliebe
445	Aba, Abia, Nigeria	S.M.C. Ihakweazu
445	Aba, Abia, Nigeria	Linus Okoronkwo
446	Abakaliki, Ebonyi, Nigeria	Patrick Ejiopor
479	Okigwe, Imo, Nigeria	Austin Ihejirika
493	Idah, Kogi, Nigeria	Gabriel Sunday Apanja
509	Ekwulobia, Anambra, Niger	
511	Nnewi, Anambra, Nigeria	Kevin Onwuekwe
511	Nnewi, Anambra, Nigeria	Cyprian Nwagbala
511	Nnewi, Anambra, Nigeria	Anthony Ifechieha
515	Bawku, Upper East Reg., Gl	
532	Urualla, Imo, Nigeria	Magnus D. Alugheri
532	Urualla, Imo, Nigeria	John Obidiegwu
532	Urualla, Imo, Nigeria	Sylvester Onyekwere
545	Enugu-Ukwu, Anambra, Nig	
548	Umunze, Anambra, Nigeria	Michael Anabbo
559	Uli, Anambra, Nigeria	Justin Okafor
559		Fabian Agbasiere
572	Uli, Anambra, Nigeria	M.N. Nwanekezi
$572 \\ 572$	Okija, Anambra, Nigeria	
$572 \\ 572$	Okija, Anambra, Nigeria	Cyprian Ojeanalonye
$\frac{572}{572}$	Okija, Anambra, Nigeria	Ignatius Azubuguli
	Okija, Anambra, Nigeria	Clement Nwazuluoke
589	Uga, Anambra, Nigeria	Cyril I. Uzoh
592	Korinya, Makurdu, Nigeria	Vincent Akosu
590	Katsina Ala, Benue, Nigeria	
633	Oyigbo, Rivers, Nigeria	Augustine I. Ekeocha
708	Ngbo, Ebonyi, Nigeria	Dominic Elom Obassi

Dec. 2013 thru Mar. 2014