

Recruitment with Knight Vision

A monthly newsletter intended to provide recruiting guidance and membership growth success.

Looking back and ahead; As we look back over the past Fraternal Year, we would like to think that each and every council was able to achieve its membership targets and we want to congratulate the many councils who were successful. Unfortunately, some Councils view membership drives as a nuisance and their members have simply stopped asking men to join the Order. This is a serious thinking error for a council for with no plans for future growth, the council will soon wither and die. There is also the myth that now that summer will soon be upon us, we all get to take two months off!! Unfortunately, this is not true. There is nothing in the Laws of the Order that allow us to do this in fact, Section 124 states the contrary, that every council is required to hold two meetings each month. Further, it is not correct to assume that "you are taking only two months off". The June meeting is in most cases, a social. Add to that June, July and August. Then September rolls around and people are still in summer mode so meetings are poorly attended, but this is the month that the membership blitz should be planned. Not much activity in September. October may be more productive, then comes November where many councils hold Memorial Services and in December, we're having another social. So since May, we have had perhaps only one productive meeting. Then in January we realize we haven't recruited anyone and we only have 6 months to meet our targets! No, we had 12 months, but we lost 6 months because we thought it was safe to take "only two months off". Brothers, no council can afford to take July and August off and the Laws of the Order do not permit us to do so. As loyal, Catholic gentlemen, we are expected to uphold the Laws.

Looking ahead to June, State Deputies will be attending "State Deputy School", in New Haven followed later in the month by State Secretaries, State Membership Directors and State Program Directors attending training in Dallas, Texas. This is not only a commitment by the Order for continued and sustained membership growth, but indicates a clear goal of improving succession planning for State Leaders. These two initiatives should indicate that we are serious in our commitment to you, the members of the Order, and ensuring that we are trained and prepared to meet the challenges of the future. Thank you for all you do to keep alive the vision of our Founder, Venerable Father McGivney.

Thoughts for June:

- Always have the best interest of the Order uppermost in you minds and daily life.
- Work together as a team within your unit of leadership. Mentor, and share information with each member.
- Involve your families in all your activities.
- Work closely with the agency personnel in your state and in you area.
- Start a Squires circle, support Scouts and conduct spiritual and wholesome programs for youth.
- Be involved in a variety of programs and activities in your neighborhood.
- Have a positive, "can do" attitude.
- Use the admission committee to determine a member's volunteer interest and the amount of time he chooses to spend volunteering.
- Stay membership active throughout the summer.
- Publicity is so critical to our success. Develop a council bulletin, post pictures in public places. Practice effective communications!
- Show your appreciation for all that anyone does for you.
- Support your Pastor in his mission to his Parish.
- Always be looking for ways to provide valuable, Charitable programs in your community.

The Knight Visionary says in June

Conduct at least 2 more first degrees before June 30th.
Send all Form #100s to Membership Records B4 12:00 PM on the 30th. Fax number is 203 752 4113.

Recruit to earn Star or Double Star Council, Star District or Circle of Honor for your state.

B. Dan O'Hara, PSD, MPC #2