

Hello, I'm David Dudden, your friendly Colorado State Membership Coordinator. Many thanks to Brother Jay Dougherty for handing over a thriving state of membership. I look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence. Congratulations to the previous administration on a job well done. 2008/2009 was another glorious year as Colorado again achieved the Circle of Honor designation.

The focus of my term will stem from these three thoughts:

- When a man is surrounded by men who love God, he is more open to love God.
- When a man is needed to do God's work, he is more open to need Jesus Christ.
- When a man's heart is touched while doing God's work, his heart is more open to feel the love of the Holy Spirit.

Our mission in membership stems from Fr. McGivney's original vision for the Knights. First, he wanted to protect the family from an untimely death. And second, he wanted men to come together and be strengthened in their faith. Talk to any of our field agents for the former vision; as members, it is our responsibility to promote the latter.

Now is the time to re-evaluate your council. We should be open and honest with this evaluation to see if we are meeting the needs of our Brother Knights. Per Supreme's *Leadership Guide for Membership Recruitment*, "Membership in the Knights of Columbus must provide value for the members' time, energy (through programs and activities), and annual dues while offering spiritual development for him and his family." Is your council accomplishing this? Are your members fulfilled and satisfied in their needs to serve others and the Church?

It is easy to see from the membership recruitment and suspension numbers, which councils are achieving this vision and which councils are in need of help. It is my goal to not only assist councils with recruitment of new members, but to give them tools to satisfy the needs of their present members.

If we are truly fulfilling the needs of our members, their love for the Knights will be infectious and their friends will want to join. How can we start to accomplish this in *all* councils?

Here are some thoughts as you re-evaluate; discover the main purpose of each of your projects. Is the purpose to involve as many members and their families, or is the purpose purely to clear a dollar value? Is your motivation to enrich the lives of your council by serving your parish and community, or has your council just become a business? Does your council promote social and spiritual activities to enlighten all members and their families? Please utilize the Membership Satisfaction Questionnaire from the *Leadership Guide for Membership Recruitment* to assist in your evaluation. This can be found on Supreme's website, www.kofc.org, under the Officer Section.