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Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary

93rd Annual National Convention

July 24th -30th 2008

93rd National Convention- Jacksonville, FL



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Welcome

By FYI Team

Welcome Claver Family, Approximately 7 years ago under the leadership of Past Supreme Lady Mary L. Briers the FYI was established and continues through the leadership of Most Esteemed Supreme Lady Geralyn C. Shelvin. The purpose of the FYI is to provide precise information from the National Convention to the membership.

Supreme Knight Phillips' Annual Report

Most Worthy Supreme Knight Gene A Phillips, Sr. thanked God for the opportunity to stand before the membership. He stated that the past two years have not been easy. The loss of Bro.W. Charles Keyes, Jr. brought on many challenges. Supreme Knight Philips said he thought that taking over as CEO would be a cakewalk but it was not. "We cannot recover from Katrina overnight".

- We must take care of our business because no one else will
- We must correct the recommendations given to us
- We must serve today, tomorrow and for the future of our Order and our children, who we should be looking out for.
- Units must be consistent in paying dues
- Units are to report dues for members when paid to the local unit, who serves as the agent of Peter Claver. However, KPC is the responsible entity.
- Supreme Knight reminded us that:
- November 2009, we will be 100 years in existence and upon the close of the 2008 convention we will begin planning for New Orleans. KPC will host the International Catholic Alliance in conjunction with the KPC Convention.
- The Junior National Convention will be in Houston, Texas at the Western Galleria.
- 2009 is a Constitution By-Laws convention and if there are changes to be made, resolutions must be submitted for consideration.
- Ladies were encouraged to submit resolutions through their respective Councils
- The website is to be maintained in the National Office.
- The Public Relations Committee has been established. To move forward we need to exhibit a positive image of KPC.

*"Attitude is a little thing
that makes a BIG
difference."*

In closing, Supreme Knight Philips introduced his family, thanked God and the members for the encouragement to continue on. It has been a hard two years but we survived and on our way to success.

Convention Mass

By FYI Team



"Listen."



Sunday, July 27, 2008

The 93rd Annual National Convention of the Knights of Peter Claver, and Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary convened in Jacksonville, Florida, Sunday, July 27, 2008 with the National Convention Mass. The Principal Celebrant and Homilist of the Mass was Most Reverend Victor Galeone, Bishop, Diocese of St. Augustine. Bishop Galeone gave an uplifting and inspiring Homily.

The Concelebrants of the Convention's opening Eucharistic Celebration were Most Reverend Joseph N. Perry, Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, and National Chaplain of the Knights of Peter Claver, and Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary, Most Reverend Dominic Carmon, S.V.D., Retired Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of New Orleans; Most Reverend Curtis J. Guillory, S.V.D., Bishop, Diocese of Beaumont, TX, Most Reverend J. Terry Steib, S.V.D., Bishop, Diocese of Memphis, TN, Most Reverend Shelton Fabre, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of New Orleans, and Most Reverend Leonard J. Olivier, S.V.D., Retired Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Washington D.C. Several clergy and deacons from across the country assisted in the Eucharistic Celebration. More than 2000 people attended the Convention Mass.

The Mass was concluded with remarks from Most Worthy Supreme Knight Gene A. Phillips, Sr. and Most Esteemed Supreme Lady Geralyn C. Shelvin.

Bishop Perry acknowledged Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Shelvin for 25 years of marriage and Mr. & Mrs. Ludlow Muir for 40 years of marriage. Bishop Leonard Olivier, SVD administered a blessing for continued success in their marriage.

Earl Harvey BINGO



Sir Knight Thomas Shelvin and Gracious Lady Elsa R. Phillips, co-chairs provided an update on the Charity Bingo. \$2000 was spent for prizes, materials and machine.

During the Convention Banquet the co-chairs presented a check in the amount of \$4000 to the Kidney Foundation. They are still soliciting donations if members desire to participate.

Brother Thomas and Lady Phillips requested that we indicate on the Convention Evaluation Form if we desire to have the Charity Bingo for the Earl Harvey Kidney Foundation as a permanent project. Supreme Knight Phillips thanked the co-chairs for their efforts in this endeavor.

Welcome & Supreme Knight and Supreme Lady Reception

By FYI Team

The reception was well attended and provided an opportunity for all Clavers to fellowship. During a brief program, introductions and welcomes were presented. In addition, Brother Athanase Jones, Convention Coordinator presented to the Supreme Knight and Supreme Lady a Proclamation from The Honorable Charlie Crest, Governor of the State of Florida. Other gifts and acknowledgements were presented to the Supremes.



Clavers socializing together

Monday Morning Mass

BY FYI Team

Thanking God for all things, our day was started by celebrating Mass. The Principal Celebrant Most Reverend Joseph N. Perry, Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago. His message was centered on Christ assurance that the greatness of God perceives from the apparent meagerness and nothingness of our life: the miniscule mustard seed becomes a humongous bird-boarding bush... the least of yeast makes batches of bread burgeon. When we obey God's words we come to realize that in divine providence nothing is "good for nothing." We become "his people, his renown, his praise, his beauty."

Supreme Lady Shelvin's Annual Report

Most Esteemed Supreme Lady Geralyn C. Shelvin recognized and thanked Unit #335 and the Gulf Coast District for their assistance in implementing the Convention plans.

Supreme Lady Shelvin's remarks focused on the theme, "**A Time for Change.**" It is time to change the direction of the Knights of Peter Claver. We are seen as being stagnant and lifeless. If we are going to remain strong we must reposition ourselves, we can't afford to sit back, our reality has been screwed. She further stated that we must become open. We have valuable resources in our Order. We need to listen and conduct ourselves by working smarter not harder.

She acknowledged the fact that of the 18,000 members in our Order the Ladies account for 11,000 +. We are wives, mothers, and sisters...strong, proud, independent, self-confident and not afraid to express ourselves. We are prayerful women and willing to serve.

Supreme Lady Shelvin challenged the attendees, "**If you are willing to work together, stand!**" Knights and Ladies accepted her challenge and rose to their feet. She closed by saying, "**Stand on your principles and show the good Lord you mean what you say.**"

Individual Ladies Session

The Most Esteemed Supreme Lady Geralyn C. Shelvin called the Ladies Session to order and was followed by prayer, Ode, Pledges and Creed.

Past Supreme Ladies Consuella Broussard, Leodia Gooch, and Immediate Past Supreme Lady Mary L. Briers were recognized and shared words of encouragement to the convention attendees. In addition all past National Officers, First Time attendees and others were recognized.

Congratulations and welcome were extended to St Monica Court 388, Raleigh, NC ("Baby Court")

Special Awards

2008 Jr. Expansion Award Report

266 Juniors were initiated. 21 Juniors reinstated and 3 courts were re-activated 1 court established

*Most Juniors Transferred Court 63 and Court 73

Expansion Districts	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
Central States District –	Court # 57		
Gulf Coast District –	Court 4		
Northern District	Court # 97	Court 109	Court
State of Louisiana*	Court # 8	Court 63	Court 242 Court 32 Court 78
State of Texas	Court # 64	Court # 169	Court # 138
Western States District	Court # 127	Court # 121	Court #306



Individual Knights Session

The Session was called to order by the Most Worthy Supreme Knight followed by the opening prayer, Ode, and Pledges. Members of the convention welcomed the newest council, Msgr Thomas P. Hadden, Council 388.

National Treasurer Brother Philip Stiell presented the annual audited financial statement, which was accepted by the National Council.

The Greetings to the Ladies Committee collected and purchased large flower bouquets for the Ladies chamber. The National Council donated residual funds to the Earl Harvey Fund on behalf to the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary.

Joint Technology Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Supreme Knight, Supreme Lady, National Council and National Court need to be committed and fully supportive in sustaining and enhancing the website that membership wants and will be proud of.
2. Supreme Knights, Supreme Lady, National Council and National Court need to ensure funding is available to maintain the domain name and server and the enhancement and sustainability of our servers and applications. Payment for domain service will be made 60 days prior to expiration.
3. The Executive Director will be responsible for paying the bill for operating and maintaining the website.
4. The National Secretaries and Technology Committee will work as a collaborative to ensure there is a person or persons responsible for the content on the website and that it is effectively maintained.
5. A resolution is submitted by a Council in time for action by the 2009 Convention to create a financial assessment to support the KPC technology effort.

Convention Banquet

This year's Toast Master and Mistress were Bro. Leonard Stiell and Lady Gwendolyn Lewis.

JUNIOR DIVISION AWARDS

Junior Daughter Counselor of the Year

Lady Gwendolyn McGill, Court #199

Commander of the Year

Bro. Christopher Pichon, Council #138

Outstanding Service Awards

Bro. Norman Gallo, Council #50, Past Louisiana State Director

Bro. Gene Phillips, Jr., Council 284, Past Texas State Director

Recruitment Award

Bro. Carlton Robinson, Council # 148

Christopher Pichon Award for Devoted Service-

SENIOR DIVISION AWARDS

Grand Lady of The Year

Lady Mary J. Holley, St Felicitas, Court #223

Grand Knight of The Year

Lawrence Edwards, Council #325

National Court of The Year

Our Lady of Guadalupe Court #110

National Council of The Year

Holy Cross, Council #284

National Family of The Year

St. Monica Court/Council/Jr. Branch/ Jr. Court #151

Gold Medals

Lady Vertelle A. Kenion, Court #110

Lady Demaris D. Brown, Court #1

Bro. Hosea Harris, Council #151

Father Enette, Council # 152

SILVER MEDALS

Northern District

Lady Dorothy May Thomas-, Court #154

Lady Marion Smith Reynoso, Court #277

Central District

Lady Gloria Douglas, Court #213

Bro. Raymond Myers, Council #57

Gulf Coast District

Lady Marylin Smith, Court #6

Bro. Athanase J. Jones- Council #335

Texas State

Lady Helen V. Sam, Court #101

Lady Edwina McGee, Court #238

Bro. Calvin Donatto, Council #238

Bro. Leonard Joseph, Council #252

Western States

Lady Rebecca Charles Watts, Court # 371

Bro. Andrew Know, Council #259

Louisiana State

Lady Marie Monroe, Court #79

Lady Norma Lewis, Court #116

Lady Gail Barnes Johnson, Court #240

Bro. Larry Dubriel, Council #116

Bro. Milton Bellard, Council #141

Financial Secretary of the Year Award

Lady Renee Fleming ,Court # 151

Tuesday Mass

Memorial Mass- July 29, 2008

On Tuesday, July 29th, we began our day with the morning Memorial Mass for our deceased Clavers. Most Reverend Dominic Carmon S.V.D., Retired Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of New Orleans, was the Principal Celebrant and homilist. He spoke about Saint Martha a true woman of charity who had great faith and hope. Her faith led her to know Jesus. Bishop Carmon encouraged the congregation to be servants to the Lord by saying, yes Lord I come to believe. If we live in others God remains in us. Hospitality to others is a true mark of Claverism.

Tuesday Session

Joint Vocation Clergy Relations Committee

The committee asks each Council and Court throughout these United States of America to please identify one young person from your parish that you feel is receiving God's calling. Pray for that young person and have the membership of your unit to pray. Hopefully within a year this young person will feel the true calling to give of himself as a servant of the Lord.

Once the young person is identified; we ask that you please find him a Spiritual Mentor that will assist and nurture their call to the life of committed service to Holy Mother, Church and mankind.

We also ask that you pray for increased Vocations not only on the local level, Inter Councils and Courts Area but also at your District/State Conference.

UNCF Committee

Xavier Project

The UNCF Committee Reported the following:

UNCF Goal - \$300,000.00

Collected to Date - \$240,645.41

2008 UNCF Dance Proceeds - \$5,200.00

Approximate

The following checks were submitted during the National Convention.

\$1,230.30 - Court 110, Charleston, SC

\$1,195.00 - Gulf Coast District Conf.

\$ 100.00 - Attendees Our Lady of Lourdes, Ct. 4

Members are encouraged to participate with this National Program because we have an outstanding balance of \$56,855.00.

Emerging Leaders

Emerging Leaders reviewed previously submitted recommendations.

New recommendations are as follows:

- That the Emerging Leaders host the UNCF dance at the National Convention
- That there is a page or link on the National website for the Emerging Leaders where we can post information.
- That the Emerging Leader Committee has an annual meeting that includes the District and/or State Deputies.
- The committee has the following action items:
- The Emerging Leader Liaisons from each state/district will contact the national chair quarterly and give an update about Emerging Leader activity within their respective state/district.
- Once receiving this information the National Emerging Leader Chair will put together a newsletter informing the Emerging Leaders in Each District or State of activities, service projects, etc. This will be distributed to all courts and councils. To ensure that the emerging leaders stay connected throughout the year.
- That the District/State Deputies report Emerging Leader Activity to the National Board.



Joint Commanders and Counselors Committee

The items for discussion included the following topics for the 2009 Junior National Convention:

1. Junior Convention Surveys
2. Surveys for the "Junior Store" at the 2009 Junior National Convention
3. Young Authors Competition
4. Recommendations from the science fair and essay committees
5. Recommendations from the Jr. National Board
6. Electronic voting

Bro. Coleman elaborated on the expansion money that is available for each state and district.

We also discussed ideas for the Junior Division web page. We need volunteers from each district/state to volunteer to work with the technology committee to keep the junior division web page current.

Recommendations:

- Consider electronic voting for the 2009 Jr. National convention
- If a tour is scheduled for the convention, make it optional to minimize the loss of revenue for people who do not wish to attend the tour
- Utilize and have the participation as of our Emerging Leaders as much as possible.

Soaring High Committee

The committee received eight applications. Of the eight applicants presented to the committee, four were not considered because they did not contribute to the Soaring High program, or the application was incomplete

The four applications that met the criteria of the Soaring High Committee are as follows:

- St. Cecelia, Court 140, Birmingham, AL - \$375
- St. Felicitas – St. Ailbe, Court 181, Chicago, IL - \$1,000
- St. James, Court 6, Bay St. Louis, MS - \$300
- Immaculate Heart of Mary, Council 141, Lake Charles, LA - \$500

Sickle Cell Committee

The committee received 8 applications for review and funding. The committee agreed to disburse \$6,000 at \$1,000 per recipient.

Court # 4 Our Lady of Lourdes, Pascagoula, MS
 Court #6 St. James, Bay St. Louis, MS
 Court #277 St. Augustine Tolton, Verona, PA
 Court #301 St. Paul, Atlanta, Ga
 Court #267 St. Joseph The Worker, Marrero, LA
 Court #267 St. Joseph The Worker, Marrero, LA

Workshops

Lady Hilda Wiltz, Lay Board Member provided the 2008 Workshops Hand Book to each Grand Lady entitled **Clarvisim**: "Empowering Membership through Committed Service"



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

There were two winners for the Thomas R. Lee Scholarship. The two top applications received the memorial scholarship in honor of Thomas R. Lee, Jr. These scholarships are in the amount of \$2,000.00 for a period of two academic years – a total of \$4,000.00. The recipient must maintain a “B” average in his or her freshman year of college to receive \$2,000.00 for the second year.

Joshua Powell - Houston, TX

Lauren Warner – Inglewood, CA

The Willie Polk, Jr. Scholarship . There were eight scholarships awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each:

Louisiana Recipients

Renada J. Living - Lafayette, LA.
Keristian D. Edwards – Eunice, LA.

Gulf Coast Recipients

Brittany Washington

Texas Recipients

Antoinette J. McCarthy - Houston, TX.
Cambrian L. Pichon - Houston, TX.

Central States Recipients

Kacda Ann Daleross - Okjulgee, OK

Western States Recipients

Andrea Auguster - Inglewood, CA.

Northern States Recipients

Chinonyelum Nwosu - Chicago, IL

KPC FOUNDATION

The board selection committee operated under the premise that the Foundation's Board of Directors should be a diverse group of Knights of Peter Claver members, and other business and community leaders. This Board would be responsible for all grant allocations made from the Foundation's funds and provides overall direction and policy and lastly that the members should represent various regions, age groups, gender, and professional interests. The committee received twelve recommendations. There was at least 1 nomination from each of the geographical units of the Knights of Peter Claver and there were at least five nominations from the Knight of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary from three of the six geographical units. There was also two non-claver also recommended. Two members of committee were nominated and therefore did not vote nor take part in any discussion of the nominees. Each of the candidates brings varying degrees of experience to make the Foundation a success. The Board of Directors appointed the following individuals to the Foundation.

Bro. James Terry (LA)
Lady Loretta Richardson (CO)
Lady Lois Carson (CA)
Bro. William Jemison (MS)
Bro. Philip Stiell (AL)
Lady Consuella Broussard (TX)
Bro. Anthony Calhoun (IL)

Bro. Everett Sanders (MS)
Lady Francis Owens (CO)
Bro. William T. Everett (LA)
Bro. Arthur C. McFarland, Past Supreme Knight
Lady Mary Louis Brier, Past Supreme Lady
Mr. Michael Seals (AL)
Mrs. Georgia Prevost (TX)

Bilingual Committee

The committee reviewed the previously submitted recommendations. To date there has been no action taken on those items.

The Committee recommends the following:

1. That the Supreme Lady presents the recommendations of this committee to the “Joint-Post 2008 Convention Board Meeting” for approval and implementation
2. Applications for membership and governing handbooks be printed in multi-languages (as needed)

ELECTION RESULTS

The winners of the 2008 National Council and National Court elections are

Bro. Gene A. Phillips, Sr, Cn #231
Supreme Knight
 Bro. Paul Jones, Jr, Cn #168
Deputy Supreme Knight
 Bro. James Kelley Terry, Cn #325
National Secretary
 Bro. Philip Stiell, Cn #287
National Treasurer
 Bro. Omar Mason, Cn #
National Advocate
 Bro. George Williams, Cn #49
Lay Board Member
 Bro. Tilmon King, Cn #325
Director General Jr. Knights



National Court
 Lady GERALYN C. Shelvin, Ct 11
Supreme Lady
 Lady Yvonne Jackson, Ct 116
Vice Supreme Lady
 Lady Delise Coleman, Ct 340 & 313
National Secretary
 Lady Melissa Sais, Ct 11
National Treasurer
 Lady Hilda Wiltz, Ct 75
National Lay Board Member
 Lady Diane Asberry, Ct 181
National Counselor of Junior Daughters

2008 Scholarship Raffle Winners

\$5000.00	Lori Senagal	Maurice, LA
\$2000.00	Mary R. St. Julien	Houston, Tx
\$1000.00	St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church	Pascougla, MS
\$100.00	E. Thomas	Lake Charles, LA
	Nicole Metcalf	Seattle, WA
	Angela Lipton	Port Arthur, TX
	Sexton Jean	Chicago, IL
	Gary Starks	Oakland, CA
	N.L Wilson	Natchez, MS
	Juanita Bruns	Richmond, CA

2008 Scholarship Raffle Winners (cont.)

G. Smith
 Robert Cooper
 Council 114
 Kentral Davis
 Lily Wright
 Veronica Alexander
 Chris Paisley
 Council 9

New Orleans, LA
 Belleview, NE

 Donaldsonville, LA
 Montgomery, Alabama
 Edgard, LA
 Court 323
 Natchez, Mississippi

It has been our pleasure to produce this newsletter from the 93rd Annual National Convention.

FYI NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lady Tobin Hawkins, Court #159 - **Consultant**
 Bro. James Kelley Terry, Council #325, National Secretary, **Advisor**
 Lady Vertelle A. Kenion Court # 110 – **Advisor**
 Immediate Past Gulf District Deputy
Chairperson(s)
 Lady Cheryl Flotte Court #325
 Lady Katie G. Johnson Court #141
 Bro. Robert Williams, Council #259

REPORTERS:**Central States**

Lady Alma Moore, Court # 264

State of Louisiana

Lady Cheryl Rivera, Court #78
 Lady Krystal Hooker, Court #73

Northern States

Lady Stephanie Inis, Court #200
 Lady Candace Procter, Court #247

State of Texas

Lady Angela Duplechain, Court #138
 Lady Eboni NiCole Graham, Court # 138
 Bro. Daniel Glover, Council #256