

From SK Mike Moreno, Master- District 6

The following is information and goals of our Vice Supreme Master SK Daniel Hogan, PSD for all Masters and Faithful Navigators in Our Lady of Guadalupe Province (Texas and Oklahoma). Dated December 17 2014.

Please distribute the following information to your Assembly Faithful Navigators, and urge them to make their member Sir Knights aware of the issues that were discussed and emphasized at our annual Provincial Meeting in September:

Our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, has stated: "The Fourth Degree shall have one set of rules, one Drill Manual, and one Color Corps." The Goal of the Province is for every member of the Color Corps to be able to serve in any District in the Province or Supreme Event with confidence and with minimal correction of action.

The "Laws and Rules Governing the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus" dated September 2012, and the "Color Corps Drill Manual" dated October 4, 2008 are the primary references to be used for direction.

Exemplifications

A Knight does not have to wait for a specified time period before joining the Fourth Degree after he has joined the Order; a member is only required to be a member in good standing in his council.

A Fourth Degree Exemplification ceremony shall not be part of any "Knight in a Day" activity in the Order. On other words, the Exemplification of the Fourth Degree shall always be a "Stand Alone" Ceremonial.

Training

In an effort to achieve the Supreme Knight's directive that there is one Fourth Degree, all new Assembly Color Corps Commanders appointed by the presiding Faithful Navigator shall be trained and certified by the District Marshal and/or his designee either from the Assembly's Diocese or the District. The District Marshal shall report to the District Master and the Navigator that "the Commander has been instructed on all Color Corps Procedures as per the Official Drill Manual of the Knights of Columbus and is ready to lead the Color Corps of his Assembly." It is the responsibility of the Color Corps Commander to assure that his Color Corps Members are trained and qualified to serve. (A sample Color Corps Training Session is presented in the attached directive from the Supreme Master.)

The District Marshal will assist the District Master to maintain a listing of qualified Color Corps Commanders within the District.

Reporting to the Supreme Council

There are three mandatory reports which must be submitted by each assembly to the Supreme Council:

Form 186 Report of Officers Chosen (due July 1st)

Form 1315 Assembly Annual Audit (due August 1st)

Form 1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal (due January 31st)

Historically, Supreme has been very patient with Assemblies reporting late on various forms. These reports are for your benefit as an Assembly. Failure by the Assembly Officers to assure that the forms are completed accurately in a timely manner is a dereliction of duty to the Assembly.

Dress Code:

The official regalia dress is fully described in the Color Corps Drill Manual at pages 10 through 13. By January 1, 2016, all Color Corp Members must work on obtaining Tuxedo Shoes as part of their official uniform. We are to look the part of Catholic Gentlemen.

Wakes

When requested by the family of a deceased 3rd Degree member in good standing, a Grand Knight may request a Fourth Degree Honor Guard. A Fourth Degree Honor Guard for a Third Degree Member should be considered based on the member's level of commitment to the order and the ability of the Assembly to provide a proper Honor Guard.

Celebration of the Mass

General directions for the Color Guard/Honor Guard during a Mass are in the Color Corps Drill Manual at pages 20 through 25. More specific directions for some activities during the Mass are as follows:

During the Lord's Prayer, Sir Knights shall conform to local custom with regard to joining hands with those in the same pew while praying the Our Father. If joining hands is not the local custom, place your hands together palm to palm, fingers straight facing up with your head bowed. This gesture represents a sign of Knight's total obedience and servitude toward God. As Fourth Degree Knights in full regalia we are an example of "Catholic Gentlemen" who are prepared to defend our Church. We set the example for all who look upon us as to how a "Catholic Gentleman" will conduct themselves both in Mass and in life.

During the Sign of Peace, Sir Knights shall remain in formation, with hands on your side after the Lord's Prayer. The Sign of Peace shall be extended to those in close proximity. As Knights we are One with the congregation and will do all in our power to be kind, thoughtful, and reverent. Our swords will be silent. There shall be no leaving the pews whatsoever during the Sign of Peace. If a member of the congregation extends the Sign of Peace to you, you shall reciprocate in a courteous, reverent, and congenial manner.

Patriotic Activity

The Our Lady of Guadalupe goal is that 5% of all Assemblies should submit a "To Be a Patriot" application. The application can be found on the Supreme website and must be submitted by an Assembly to the District Master by April 30th.

Vivat Jesus!
SK Daniel Hogan
Vice Supreme Master