



NEW MEXICO



State Council Newsletter



FRATERNAL YEAR 2009-2010

March-April 2010

Divine Mercy Billboards

Father Stephen Imbarrato is the President of Project Defending Life (PDL) and a Third Degree Knight. PDL is a Catholic Pro-life Organization, which has been in existence for more than seven years in the Albuquerque Area.

PDL currently needs monetary assistance to pay for 12 Divine Mercy billboards. We encourage every council to show PDL that the Knights of Columbus solidly support the Pro-life Movement by sending a donation to PDL to help cover the cost of these billboards.

The billboards will be displayed near **high schools** throughout **Albuquerque**, in **Valencia County**, and in **Las Cruces**. The billboards will be up for the entire month of April, so please contribute toward this campaign.

All monies raised over and above the cost of the billboards will go to the Gabriel Mom's Ministry, which is currently taking care of 44 moms who have chosen life for their babies.

Last year PDL had 175 turnarounds and 48 babies were born. This year, PDL has had

over 36 turnarounds so far and 11 babies born in the past two months.

For more information or to donate by phone, please call 505-266-4100, or mail your tax-deductible donations to:

Project Defending Life
625 San Mateo Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108



Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for April

General: That every tendency to fundamentalism and extremism may be countered by constant respect, by tolerance and by dialogue among all believers.

Missionary: That Christians persecuted for the sake of the Gospel may persevere, sustained by the Holy Spirit, in faithfully witnessing to the love of God for the entire human race.

New Mexico is still in the lead

By Benny Viegra, Regional Membership & Programs Coordinator

"Year of the Volunteer" -- "Year for Priests"

New Mexico 2009-2010 Goals: *Intake - 470; Net Gain - 329; NCD - 4; RT - 70; Co. Reactivation - 3.*

New Mexico Membership-July 1, 2009-7,416; 80 Councils; 69 Active Councils; 10 Suspended; 1 Pending.

New Mexico Membership-March 17, 2010-7,609; 82 Councils; 73 Active Councils; 9 Suspended.

New Mexico is now over 7,600 members! We have reached a new plateau and still growing!

Membership—March 17, 2010—INTAKE—365—77.66%; Needed 105; #5 of 72 jurisdictions—moving toward #1—New Mexico is leading the states in Region IX. NET GAIN—293—89.06%; needed 36; #10 of 72 jurisdictions—we're nearing our goal!

New Mexico is the only state in Region IX that is in the top 10 for both Intake and Net Gain. Congratulations! Keep up the good work!

New council development is looking good; council reactivation goal made. Round Tables goal has been surpassed. With every new council, there is an average of 25 new members; with every council reactivation, an average of 11 new members; and with every Round Table, an average of 3 new members for the State.

NCD: GOAL 4—GAIN 2—NEED 2. This is coming along real well, and we should be reaching our goal, right?

Co. Reactivation: GOAL 3—GAIN 0—NEED 3. If you can make this goal and all others, we'll qualify for the Pinnacle Award!

Round Tables: GOAL 70—GAIN 88. Surpassed goal by 18 RT's!

We also need to get our required forms in—we are very close to 100% in some of these categories: Officer's for the current term please note that **Form #185** was due July 1, 2009 (one needed as of 3/18/10). **Service Program Personnel Report Form #365** is due August 1, 2009. (5 needed as of 3/18/10). **Semi-annual Audit Form #1295** was due February 15, 2010 (33 needed as of 3/18/10).

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Form #1728 is due on January 31, 2010 (17 needed as of 3/18/10).

**From State Deputy
Joseph W. Pozzi**

My Brother Knights and Families:

May all be well with you and your loved ones. Julia and I are fine, but we ask you to pray for our nephew, Robert, who has lived with us for the past four years. He was diagnosed with melanoma cancer on his right shoulder that required surgery.

Brother Knights, the number of members suspended this fraternal year is unduly high. I fear it is due to our current economic downturn, but remember that the first and foremost principle of our Order is **charity**. I know that money for councils and brother Knights is not easy to come by. But judging by the Service Program Forms submitted to the State Program Director and me, we see that councils throughout New Mexico continue to accomplish many great acts of charity for their parishes, youth, and communities.

I, therefore encourage you, as brother Knights, to consider various options before suspending members based simply on unpaid dues.

Consider, for example, the option of a semi-annual or annual "Council Fundraiser" that will provide your council with funds to help members who have lost their job, or have additional medical bills, or have had some other financial mishap. Members using this fund would be asked to serve on the committee handling the fundraiser.

As for our new members, we must all take a "proactive, can-do attitude." Don't just sit and "let the other guy do it." Engage your new members in your recruiting programs, take advantage of their enthusiasm and energy, give them each a couple of Form 100's before they leave their First Degree Exemplification, and ask them to return them completely filled out. Get your Parish Priest's permission to leave your **Columbia** Magazine on a table/rack in the Church foyer (after you and your family have read it, of course). The magazine is a great recruitment tool; just jot a note of invitation and add your phone number so that whoever picks it up (hopefully a Catholic gentleman) will seek information about joining the Knights of Columbus--try this, it really work! The Forms Booklet is also a good resource, especially Form 2629 (Page 7), and Form 2630 (Page 25), both forms can be found at www.kofc.org. Form 2630 lists the various ministries--use that information as a membership tool.

Worthy Grand Knights, reconsider how each of your members participate and assist at their parish Masses as Lectors, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Choir Singers, etc. Note the funds donated to the Church and/or Parish School, the good works done for the community. Summarize this information and, with permission, place an article in the Parish Bulletin to inform the parish's families about the Knights of Columbus and about the true meaning of "The Right Arm of the Catholic Church." By doing this, many Catholic men in the parish might be

(Continued on page 3)

**From State Treasurer
Allen Rowbotham**

State Raffle tickets and State Pins are necessary to our financial health. I am deeply grateful to all Councils for helping in these fundraisers. Our State Finances are not fantastic, but in good shape due, in part, to our State Deputy's prudence in expenditures, and to the fantastic sale of State General Raffle tickets and State Pins by many councils. The monies from the State Raffle and Pins are used for purchasing laptop computers, printers, toner cartridges, copy machine, audits of the State books, and various supplies for disseminating information to members statewide.

Because of the extraordinary response from the councils on the sale of raffle tickets, we had to postpone the drawing until the State Convention. This will be the first time in many years the large drum will be required for the drawing. Below is the State Financial Statement Summary (Mid-year meeting to Feb. 22, 2010):

General Raffle Tickets: (50% to State; 50% to Councils):
State purchased 40,000 tickets for distribution to the Councils.

A total of 38,980 tickets (51 books held in reserve) were issued to 67 Councils; 74% of the tickets were sold which far exceeded sales in previous years.

Funds collected: \$29,641—councils retained half.
Funds deposited by State Council: \$14,820.50.

State Pins: Pins were distributed to 68 councils by the District Deputies. At the Mid-Year Meeting, \$820 was collected from 16 councils.

A report was made of the financial books at the Mid-Year meeting, so this report is from that date to February 21, 2010 (no bank statements for month of February, accounts are based on perpetual balance in accounts as of date indicated):

Disabilities Account

Starting Balance...	\$11,300.06
Deposits.....	200.04
Interest.....	7.12
Withdrawals.....	0.00

Ending Balance: \$11,507.00

Charity Account

Starting Balance...	\$7,755.31
Deposits.....	550.00
Interest	3.23
Withdrawals.....	558.93

Ending Balance: \$7,749.61

General Account

Starting Balance....	\$17,000.41
Deposits.....	15,815.50
Interest.....	10.58
Withdrawals.....	8,929.10

Ending Balance: \$23,897.39

State Deputy (Continued from page 2)

encouraged to join us. It is up to each of us to insure that every eligible Catholic gentleman and his family is invited to join the Knights of Columbus.

The Knights of Columbus in New Mexico have made another giant hurdle: as of March 2010, there are 7,600 brother Knights in New Mexico. This qualifies the New Mexico Knights of Columbus to now have **four** Delegates as long as we maintain at least 7,600 members. So, if all goes well, we will be represented by the State Deputy, Immediate Past State Deputy and four Delegates at future Supreme Conventions.

May our dear Lord continually bless and keep all of you safe and well. *Vivat Jesus!*

**From State Secretary
Joseph B. Austin**

Don't forget to collect as many pennies as possible by the date of the State Convention. Also, please "convert" the pennies into a check made out to "New Mexico State Council." As you may know, this money will help defray travel costs to Rome for our State Chaplain, Fr. **Vincent Domínguez**, who will visit the Vatican and meet the Pope, along with all the other State Chaplains from throughout the United States.

**From State Advocate
Steve Torres**

During the past months several councils have raised questions about amending or updating Council By-laws. Based on my research, it appears that in previous years councils first submitted their proposed amendments to the State Advocate in writing. The Advocate then reviewed the proposed changes and, if any changes or corrections were needed, the proposal was mailed back to the council. The council then resubmitted the corrected amendments to the State Advocate who, in turn, forwarded the proposed changes to the Supreme Advocate in New Haven, Connecticut.

Fortunately, Supreme has simplified the process, which can now be accomplished via the Internet. Attached is copy of a form letter from Supreme Advocate Joseph Marrella. This letter will be sent to all Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators who contact Supreme with inquiries about by-law amendments. Hopefully, this new process will be user friendly. Nonetheless, feel free to call me at my office, (505) 839-0123, with any questions or concerns. *Vivat Jesus!*

NEWSLETTER

Publisher: New Mexico State Council
Editor: María Cortez (spouse, Bill, RIP, Council 6696)
Webmaster: Larry Kolker, larry.kolker@gmail.com

**From State Executive Assistant
Wheeler M. Greene**

The Knights of Columbus **New Mexico State Council** and **Village Inn** (Corporate Stores only) have partnered with **New Mexico Special Olympics**. This means that each month as of April, Village Inn will select a store and tell us that on a specific date, between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., they will donate 10% of the profits made on that date to the Special Olympics of New Mexico.

We, as members of the Knights of Columbus, are to encourage all our brother Knights, friends, and relatives to take their families to dinner to the selected Village Inn. Make sure to **identify** yourself (ves) by giving your **Council number**. The Knights of Columbus will be credited for the donation when Village Inn sends the check to Special Olympics of New Mexico.

Overdue Reports:

The **Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities** and **Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics** are overdue. If you haven't completed and submitted your reports to the Supreme Office and to the State Executive Assistant, please get them in as quickly as possible.

The **Semi-annual Council Audit Report** for the period ending December 31, 2010 was due to Supreme Office and the State Executive Assistant Office by February 15, 2010. If you haven't submitted your audit report please submit it as quickly as possible.

**From Program for People with Intellectual
Dissabilities State Chairman
Leo A. Pilat**

I hope you are involved in the Program for People with Intellectual Disabilities. This is one of our most cherished programs that help so many of our disabled citizens. Each council should have a goal to reach for this program. If you are using the Tootsie Rolls from Tootsie Roll Industries, for donations, remember to order them at least 30-40 days before your drive dates. If you need forms, call me at 505-220-7658, or contact your District Deputy.

The state-wide drive date is April 17, 2010. I ask that each council try to have a fundraiser on this date. The need to help the disabled is even greater now. I know you can have successful drives. You have done it in the past, raising over \$80,000 statewide, with over 40 councils participating!

If you are having activities connected with the Program for People with Intellectual Disabilities, please send in your reports to me. *Vivat Jesus!*



From State Youth Director Richard J. Espinosa

The Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge is a competition designed for players to demonstrate the most basic soccer skill--the penalty kick. Open to all boys and girls in your community (ages 10-14) where each player will be allowed 15 shots at the goal from the penalty line. Winners progress to the District, State Competition.

The recommended time frame for the soccer challenge: council in September; district in October; state in November. During the past couple of years we have not had large council participation. This year we want to get the word out early, and our goal is to have the first ever state competition. I have received calls and questions in reference to the soccer challenge. If we work together, we can achieve our goal just like in the basketball free throw contest.



Pictured above are participants of John F. Kennedy Council 5729 Soccer Challenge.

As the world faces difficult economic times, it is important to remember that donating money is not the only way to contribute. **Squires Circles** are needed now more than ever. The Squires are an international fraternity of approximately 25,000 Catholic young men, ages 10 to 18. Founded on August 4, 1925, Squires Circles involve young men in programs that benefit the church, the community, and provide recreational and social activities. Please contact me by email or phone for any help in getting these activities started: Richard Espinosa, State Youth Director, telephone 505-2814288; cellphone 796-2280; email coachespi@yahoo.com. *Vivat Jesus!*

Those in need of prayer

Brother Knight **Gilbert Pérez** lost his daughter, Sylvia Fajardo, through a long-term illness. Let us pray for the Pérez family.

Please pray for brother Knight **Johnny Moore**, Council 10560.

Isaac Martínez, Council 4227, needs our prayers for a successful triple by-pass heart operation.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Sir Knight **Luis Maestas**, Española Assembly 1982.

District Deputy **Patrick Griego**, recently had a knee replacement but is back in the hospital with blood clots in his leg.

District 11 Crowns District Free Throw Champions

A total 23 boys and girls (ages 10-14) representing councils from Las Cruces, Alamogordo, and Ruidoso participated in the Knights of Columbus District 11 Free Throw Championship on February 20th. The contest was hosted by St. Mary's Council 3355 in Alamogordo. The contestants previously qualified for the District contest by winning the council-level contests in their home cities. Winners and runners-up in each age category:

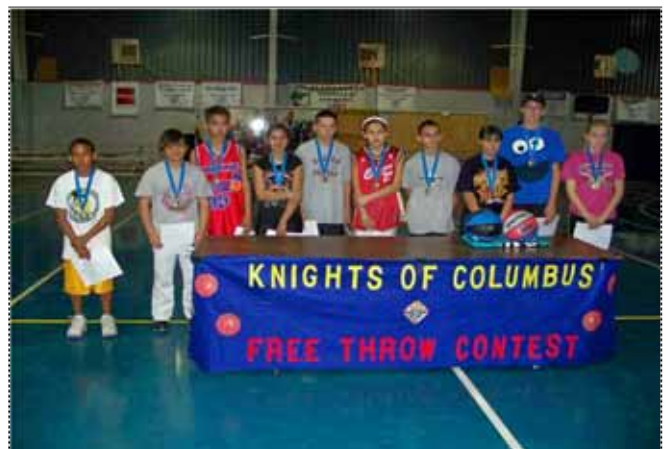
Boys 1st Place: Melvin Green, age 10, Council 13969; Bobby Spedalieri, age 11, Council 13969; Tristan Bowden, age 12, Council 6597 ; Marcus Covarrubia, age 13, Council 3355; and Jeremiah Johnson, age 14, Council 3355.

Boys 2nd Place: Jarod Johnson, age 10, Council 3355; Charles Imparato, age 11, Council 6597; Jordan Benavidez, age 12, Council 1226 ; Daniel Maldonado, age 13, Council 1226 ; and Jake LaMay, age 14, Council 6597.

Girls 1st Place: Anali Marmolejo, age 10, Council 1226; Adriana Joyner, age 11, Council 3355; Monique Hernández, age 12, Council 3355; Jessica Montoya-Ortega, age 13, Council 13969; and Ryata Daniel, age 14, Council 3355.

Girls 2nd Place: Katrina Soto, age 10, Council 3355; Katrina Arguello, age 12, Council 1226; and Kianna Kekebah, age 13, Council 3355.

Jeremiah Johnson and Monique Hernández were awarded basketballs autographed by the NMSU men's and women's teams for the best overall boy and girl shooters. Winners of the District contest advanced to State level.



Winners (l-r): Melvin Green (age 10), Anahi Marmolejo (age 10), Bobby Spedalieri (age 11), Adrianna Joyner (age 11), Tristan Bowden (age 12), Monique Hernández (age 12), Markus Covarrubia (age 13), Jessica Montoya-Ortega (age 13), Jeremiah Johnson (age 14), Ryata Daniel (age 14).

From Councils throughout the State

Fr. Carl Hammer Council 11218

The 59th Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Fundraiser Dinner was a night in service to Brother Mathias Barrett. A religious Irish lad, he fed the poor in this valley for 53 years before he died. This is a yearly event we do in his memory, and soon we will start planning the 60th such event.



Surely Father McGivney and Brother Mathias grinned knowing the good work done in their names. Thanks to all brother Knights and Ladies who helped serve over 1,500 dinners on March 17th (pictured above are just a few of the many who helped in this event).

Las Cruces Council 1226

Las Cruces Council 1226 will host a 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification on April 18, 2010, at their Council Hall. The Exemplification will begin at 11 A.M., but all candidates should arrive at Hall by 10 A.M. The ceremonies should conclude around 2:30 P.M., and will be followed by light snacks and refreshments.

A \$10 fee will be assessed to all candidates, which includes snacks and refreshments. For other members and guests who attend, a small donation is appropriate.

There are no prior registration requirements, but please be at the Council by 10 A.M. If you wish to make a prior commitment for the Exemplification, or if you have any questions, please contact Grand Knight **Dominic Fierro**, (575) 496-3424 (email: dominic@fierrocpa.com), or Financial Secretary **Billy Lucero**, (575) 382-8381, or District Deputy **John Byers**, (575) 382-5276 (email: jhbyers@msn.com). **Mike Fietze** (575- 526-8375) is Exemplification Team Captain and coordinator.

Directions to Council 1226 Hall:

From Truth or Consequences--Take Lohman Exit from I-25 on your right. Make a left turn onto Lohman from the light at the exit ramp. Get into the far right-hand lane immediately after you turn onto Lohman. Continue on Lohman until the light at Telshor. Make a hard right onto Telshor at this light. Continue going south on Telshor through two lights--you will pass the Mesilla Valley Mall on your right. After the second light, continue on Telshor for 2 blocks to East Idaho and turn right. Continue on down (west) E. Idaho until you see the Parking Lot and Council 1226 Hall on your right.

From Alamogordo or Ruidoso--Traveling west on US 70, take the exit marked El Paso/Albuquerque to your right. Bear to the left at the sign marked "El Paso" and merge with traffic going south on I-25. Then follow the directions above (i.e., **from Truth or Consequences**).

From State Pro-life Couple José & Rosely Valdez

We thank all the councils and members that helped in the Santa Fe Sanctity of Life Rally in January. We fed over 1,000 participants. The councils that donated funds were Archbishop Lamy Council 4227, \$100; Fr. Reynaldo Rivera Council 8230, \$100; Holy Family Council 14452, \$200; Tucumcari Council 6937, \$100 and their Ladies Auxiliary, \$100; plus donations totally \$145.45 of on the day of the breakfast.

Santa Fe Councils 1706, 10517 and 13699, under the leadership of DD **Lee García**, helped set up and deliver donated food and refreshments. Pro-life signs for the procession were distributed by State Youth Director **Richard Espinosa**, Pro-life Chairman **Robert Madrigal**, and other Knights. The Color Corps, under the leadership of District Marshal **Phil Lucero**, were present on both days at St. Anne, the Basilica, and the Round House. Several ladies also helped, including **Rosely Valdez**, **Janice Espinosa**, **Theresa Lucero**.

GK **Michael Specht**, from Santa Fe Council 1707, and Pro-life Chairman **José Valdez** set up a nice Pro-life display in the exhibit hall where other Pro-life organizations had their exhibits.

Now we need to work and participate in the 40 Days for Life Program, which consists of 40 days of prayer and fasting, 40 days of peaceful vigil, and 40 days of public witness.

Also, Project Defending Life needs fund donations for their Good Friday Rally at Holy Innocents Chapel and for their rally at the Planned Parenthood facilities. For this, the Color Corps, in full regalia, is requested.

Be sure to submit to your District Deputy your entries for Council Pro-life Couples of the Year due by March 1st.



Directions to Council 1226 Hall (Continued)

From Deming--Get off I-10 at Picacho Avenue (west Las Cruces) exit and follow Picacho to the stoplight at South Main. Go straight across South Main and continue straight ahead to the stoplight at North Solano, where the street name changes to Spruce Street. Continue straight ahead on Spruce; go under the overpass of I-25 to the stoplight at Telshor. Turn right on Telshor and drive south to the stoplight at Lohman. Continue going south **as per directions given under section, "From Truth or Consequences"** (in the left column on this page).

From Councils throughout the State (Continued on back page)

Below is a letter from Supreme Advocate John A. Marrella concerning the establishing of by-laws electronically, should be much easier compared to the way it has been done in the past.

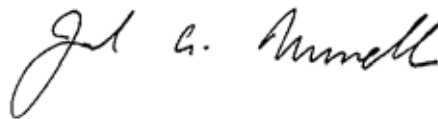
Worthy Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators:

We are pleased to inform you that a new application is available on our website which allows councils/assemblies (Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators are the only officers who have access to this program) to establish by-laws electronically, receive automatic approval, submit a request for printing (if your council/assembly wishes to have the by-laws printed by the Supreme Council) and maintain a historical file of by-laws that had been previously been submitted and approved.

In order to access "By-Laws Online", simply visit the Order's website at www.kofc.org and click on Reports Online. In the event you do not have a registered account with Officers Online, please follow the necessary instructions on the site. Once you have obtained access, simply click on the By-laws Online tab next to the Reports Online and Program Calendar tabs.

We are returning the model set of by-laws that you had previously submitted and encourage you to make use of the new By-laws Online format. If you need assistance obtaining a user name or password or if you have any questions related to the By-laws Online program, please feel free to contact the Supreme Council Customer Service Department at 1-800-380-9995. The Customer Service Department is available Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 7:30pm EST. They are also available via e-mail at info@kofc.org.

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Marrella". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John A. Marrella
Supreme Advocate

New Mexico's Fraternal Insurance Team



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AGENT OF THE YEAR: 2008 & 2009

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nmknights.com



Vivat Jesu!



Serving Catholic Family's for Generations



From New Council Development & Retention State Chairman Francisco R. Gómez, IPSD

Our Founder, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney dreamt of having a Knights of Columbus in every parish. The development of new councils is primarily the responsibility of the District Deputy, with the assistance of the State New Council Development Chairman and the Insurance Agent, plus council teamwork. If you see the potential, please contact your District Deputy or me.

The following should be noted regarding expenses in starting new councils:

1. The necessary expenses of the State Deputy (in the jurisdiction) and the District Deputy (in the district) for work performed in new council development will be paid by the Supreme Council and will not be chargeable to the State budget. Properly chargeable items are lodging, meals, transportation, and telephone. These should be put through on regularly submitted expense forms (#267) and noted as NCD.
2. At the institution of the new council, after all forms are submitted--Membership Documents (30 minimum), Notice of Institution (#136), and Application for Charter (#137)--the Supreme Council will pay jointly to the District Deputy and the New Council a sum of \$200 for expenses incurred in the development of the new council for expenses other than those normally allowed, e.g.: Ceremonial teams; Candidate Kits; Printing or Postage; Incidentals like ads, coffee, doughnuts, etc.
3. After the District Deputy takes what is due to him, the balance is deposited in the new council's account.
4. If the new council is not instituted, **none** of these extra expenses will be allowed.
5. The Candidate's Kits (531) are chargeable, and should be ordered by the District Deputy through his own council; he will reimburse the council upon receipt of the \$200 payment from Supreme Council.

Questions relating to the institutional allowance should be referred to the State Deputy, the State New Council Development Chairman, and/or Supreme Council Growth and Development Department. *Vivat Jesus!*

From Councils throughout the State (Continued from page 5)

BROTHER MATHIAS BARRETT COUNCIL 10560

On March 27th, GK **Juan Espinosa** and wife, Maria, Council Treasurer **Rich Stange** and wife, Helen, DD **Juan García** and wife, Sandy, PGK **Serafico Carrillo** and wife, Eva, **Gil Najar** and wife, Rosemary, and State Advocate **Steve Torres** of Council 10560 made a Lenten Pilgrimage to Taos where they were hosted by GK **Ezequiel Trujillo**, **Ernesto Montoya** and **Arturo Trujillo** of Taos Valley Council 7313, and greeted by Father Martin Brito, Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who gave them a short lecture on the church's history. After stops at various points of interest, the day's trip was concluded with a sumptuous meal at Taoseño Restaurant.

Some 25 Fourth Degree members of Council 10560 agreed to establish the State's newest Assembly (St. Joseph the Worker) under the guidance of DM **George Martínez**. This newest Assembly brought in five new Sir Knights at the recent Fourth Degree Exemplification at St. Jude Parish in Albuquerque. Also, the Assembly sponsored and led a rosary on March 25th to pray for abortion victims and to end abortion on demand.