



From the office of:
State Program Director
Tony Levesque

January 9, 2017

My Brother Knights:

I have just returned from the Winter Meeting held in Old Town. Hopefully we all had our batteries recharged. There were some very good discussions on the importance of using the SURGE Program as a recruiting tool for Membership. This month's Columbia has a great message from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson who wrote "*As Knights of Columbus, we must strive to be a source of unity in our Church and society, and we must do this in a way consistent with our commitment to charity, fraternity and patriotism.*" The SURGE Program is just the tool to help implement that strategy.

A successful SURGE Program gives the membership a reason to participate. Membership and programming are intimately connected in that Councils need a steady flow of new members to continue and expand programs and they need interesting and relevant programs to attract new members. One cannot exist without the other. I strongly recommend that you use the Surge Program to stimulate more participation in and recognition of Council Activities.

All "Family of the Year" nominations need to be submitted to The State Family Director John Cummings by March 1, 2017.

All "Chaplain of the Year" nominations need to be submitted to The State Deputy Norman Gray.

This year's Surge with Service Program is coming to a close. It is not too late to submit your Surge Reports. There are a lot of tremendous activities happening around the State and some of them are not being reported. Let us help you to show your membership how their efforts are appreciated.

The Judging Weekend is fast approaching. The Directors and I will be meeting in Old Town on March 11th. All reports have to reach me by **March 1st** in order to be judged with this year's activities. Please do not hesitate to send the reports in. They are all equally important.

If anyone needs any assistance feel free to contact me at any time.

Fraternally yours,
Tony Levesque, State Program Director