



Knights of Columbus  
Louisiana State Council  
YEP Newsletter Article - Sept 2011

Date: 9/11/2011

To: State Deputy, State Council Officers, State Program Director, State Youth Program Chairmen, Area Coordinators, District Deputies, Council Grand Knights, KC State Office Administrator

From: Rennan Duffour  
State YEP Chairman

Subject: Youth Expansion Program (YEP) Quiz and Newsletter

Please take this short five Question YEP Quiz.

- ◆ *I am not having a problem communicating the **Importance of the Youth Expansion Program (YEP)** to our Council Members. .... (True or False)*
- ◆ *I know where the **YEP Budget Funds** are spent this year. .... (True or False)*
- ◆ *I know the amount of our **Council YEP Goal (YEP Quota)**. .... (True or False)*
- ◆ *I am not meeting any resistance **raising funds** from our Council to implement a **YEP Council Plan** to achieve our Council YEP Goal. .... (True or False)*
- ◆ *I have already discussed **YEP at our Council Meeting**. .... (True or False)*

If you answered **True** to all five statements, Congratulations, your Council is on it's way to implementing a successful YEP Plan to achieve it's Council YEP Goal.

If you answered **False** to any one of the five statements above, you should continue to Read On, as this newsletter can help you with these YEP issues.

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Brothers ...

At the recent KC State Horseshoe Tournament on Sept 10, 2011 the State YEP Chairman (Rennan Duffour) was pleased to hear that the Youth Expansion Program (YEP) was a topic of discussion with many Brother Knights at that event. As expected, many Councils have already planned their YEP fund raising efforts for the 2011-2012

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Columbian Year and have begun implementing their plan to achieve their Council YEP Goal (or YEP Quota) for this year. But there were some Councils that had questions and were having difficulty getting started with their Council YEP Program. This newsletter is dedicated to clarify YEP questions raised and help Councils implement an effective YEP Plan in the 2011-2012 Columbian year.

## **Importance of Youth Expansion Program (YEP)**

The Goal of the Youth Expansion Program (YEP) is to raise the necessary monetary funding to implement the Knights of Columbus Youth Programs promoted and sponsored by the Louisiana Knights of Columbus State Council. The Youth Programs include the participation of all Councils in the State of Louisiana.

The Youth Expansion Program (YEP) is a sterling example of KC Leadership in Action. It is our responsibility as a practicing Catholic and Knight of Columbus Member to be the Leaders for our Youth in our Families, our Churches and our Communities. The KC Youth Programs implemented by the State KC Council is the tool for us (as KC Members) to display and implement that Youth Leadership Responsibility by participating in the KC State Youth Programs. The State Youth Programs include material costs, awards, scholarships, donations, fees and any costs required to implement and make the Youth Programs an effective and meaningful experience for our Youth in the State of Louisiana.

The Youth Expansion Program (YEP) is the strategy used by the Louisiana State Council to collect the funds necessary to operate and maintain the Youth Programs on a Year to Year basis. The Youth Programs and the YEP are important programs that are linked, as one will not be effective without the implementation of the other.

The YEP Budget for the current year is based on the collection of funds from the previous year. The funds collected this year will dictate the level of funding for the Youth Programs next year. The 2011-2012 Year YEP State Goal is \$135,000 to maintain the current level of funding for the 2012-2013 Columbian Year. The participation by all Councils in YEP is critical to enable YEP to be successful.

## **YEP Budget for 2011-2012 Year**

The YEP budget for expenditures dedicated to Knights of Columbus Youth Programs for the 2011-2012 year is \$170,000. As Members of the Knights of Columbus for the great State of Louisiana, the Councils are to be commended for the results achieved last year to enable this funding level for the 2011-2012 year. This level of YEP activity sets the standard that we must all strive to achieve to support the Knights of Columbus Youth Programs for our Church, Family and Community in the future.

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Below are the 2011-2012 KC LA State Budget for YEP funding of the following Youth Programs (\$170,000).

- Catholic Youth Leadership Awards -- \$32,000
- Catholic Student Centers -- \$25,000 (Distributed to Seven Dioceses)
- Seminarian and Vocations Support -- \$ 6,000
- Columbian Squires -- \$ 5,000
- Pro-Life Camp -- \$30,000 (Camp Joshua & other Youth Camps)
- Diocesan Scouting Awards -- \$ 4,500
- Youth Retreats -- \$ 3,000 (Squires and Youth Retreats)
- Soccer Challenge -- \$ 3,000
- Free Throw Competition -- \$ 6,000
- Other Youth Programs -- \$12,000 (Youth Rally, Special Olympics, etc)
- St Mary's Training Facility -- \$ 8,500
- Purchase Ultra Sound Machines -- \$35,000 (Supreme Fund Match for add \$35K)

The YEP Budget will again provide funds for the purchase of an Ultra Sound Imaging Machine. The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will again provide matching funds to any donation towards an Ultra Sound Imaging Machine, which will enable the Knights of Columbus Louisiana State Council to donate two (2) Ultra Sound Imaging Machines in the State of Louisiana to Women's Pro Life Centers this year.

It is very important that each Council contribute their Quota to enable the continued funding of the Knights of Columbus sponsored Youth Activities. Funds can be sent to the YEP Chairman at any time of the Year, but must be submitted by **April 5, 2012** to be counted for points towards the 2012 State Deputy's Award.

The YEP Budget for the 2011-2012 year listing is available on the State KC Website at the address below.

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/yep/>

### **Council YEP Goal (or Council YEP Quota)**

The Donations collected by YEP fund all the Youth Activities sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Council contributions and donations are 95% of the funds annually collected under YEP. The YEP Council Goals (or YEP Council Quotas) have been determined for the 2011-2012 Columbian year and have been distributed at KCLS to all the Council Grand Knights. The YEP Council Quotas are attached and listed on the State KC Website at the address below.

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/yep/quotas-2011.pdf>

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## **Raising Funds for a YEP Council Plan**

Many Councils have already begun to implement their plan to achieve their Council YEP Goal (or YEP Quota) for the 2011-2012 Columbian Year. But there were some Councils that had questions and were having difficulty getting started with their Council YEP Program.

Here are some of the ideas that have been discussed that are successful in raising YEP Donations and are opportunities for Councils to include in the implementation of their Council YEP Plan.

- 1) Collect and hold a 50/ 50 raffle at each Council Meeting and Council Events. Proceeds from the Raffles are reserved on the Council books towards the Council YEP Contribution
- 2) Hold a separate fundraiser with proceeds designated for Council YEP Contribution (BBQ Dinner, car wash, a Bingo night, Statue Raffle, etc.)
- 3) On any State event hosted by a Council (i.e. Major Degrees), hold a 50/50 Raffle and designate proceeds to be dedicated to Council YEP Contribution
- 4) On any Council Social Activity where a Cover Charge is requested to participate, ask for an additional \$1 towards donation towards YEP. Council would collect and include in Council YEP Contribution (ie Fairs, Dinners, Golf Tournaments, Professional Sporting Events, Dances, etc)
- 5) Ask each member to voluntarily contribute \$10 to YEP when Annual Dues are Collected. A note can be included on the Dues Invoice to the Council Membership. Council will collect the Member Contributions and include in the Council YEP Contribution.
- 6) Council to match any Council Member YEP individual donation. All funds collected from the Council Members and Council Matching Fund will be donated from the Council for the Council YEP Contribution.
- 7) After all YEP funds are collected by the Council, any shortfall from the YEP Goal is donated from the Council, therefore Council will always reach their Council YEP Goal (or Council YEP Quota)

These are a few of the ideas that can be utilized to attain a part or all of the Council YEP Goal. A Council can focus on one or use as many of these ideas to complete a strategy to attain the Council YEP Goal

Councils are probably using many more ideas than listed here in their Council YEP Plan. All YEP Fundraising ideas are welcome and will be shared with all Councils to identify best practices for all to use. What works best for any individual Council in raising funds to meet their Council YEP Goal should continue, but if additional funds are needed to achieve the Council YEP Goal, consider the ideas above to help improve the Council YEP Plan.

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Look to the Squires, Boy Scouts, Youth Group, Alter Servers, etc to participate in any YEP Fundraising effort to show who will benefit from the Youth Expansion Program (YEP) and ultimately the Youth Programs. The Youth participating in the Fundraising effort will be seen as the benefactors from the Youth Programs and YEP.

## **YEP Presentation at Council Meeting**

If your Council has not already implemented a YEP Plan, now is the time to start planning for the YEP Council Quota commitment by incorporating the YEP Council Quota into your annual Council Budgets and Fund Raising Planning activities. Develop a YEP Plan early and work your YEP plan to achieve or exceed your Council's YEP Quota. Consider a separate YEP Fund Raising event to contribute additional funds to YEP.

The YEP plan should be initiated at the Officers Meeting, finalized and presented to the Council at a General Meeting. In an effort to ensure that a YEP Presentation is made at each Council, the State Program Director, Tim Boudreaux, has allowed this YEP Newsletter to be read as the YEP required presentation to inform the Council Members about this year's YEP Goals and also satisfy the State Deputy's requirement for points for the YEP presentation.

This YEP Newsletter - Sept 2011 will be available on the State KC Website page at the address below.

<http://www.louisianakc.org/programs/yep/>

We thank you for your support of YEP and look forward to this year as being a banner year for the Program. May God bless you, your family and your Council for your support of our Youth and Unborn through your generous participation in YEP.

If you have any questions concerning YEP, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Vivat Jesus!

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