



Worthy Grand Knight and Brother Knights,

For the past few decades, the Minnesota Knights of Columbus have been represented in numerous parades throughout the state by the "KC Marching Unit." This group brought a float, a vehicle to pull it, and provided marchers to carry the American Flag.

Before last year's parade season, the KC Marching Unit nearly ceased operations. However, the Knights on Bikes stepped up to fill this important public relations role for the Order, and conducted nine parades over the course of the year. In addition to the float, we offer the option of having some of our members ride their motorcycles in the parade, which has proven to be a real crowd-pleaser. Our parade entry even received the second place award in the Non-Profit division at the Defeat of Jesse James Day parade in Northfield!

We work for the Councils. We only participate in parades where the local Knights of Columbus Council invites us to come. We put the name and number of your Council on the side of the float so that it looks like your float. We encourage you to put your Council members and their families on the float – it is an opportunity to put your face out to the community. To see what this looks like, go online to <http://www.konbmn.com/Photos.html> and select the "2009 Parade Slide Show."

Of course, maintaining the float and the vehicle which pulls it, storing them over winter, insuring them, and buying the gas to drive the float to wherever in the state it needs to go, all costs money. As a result, we can only accept invitations from Councils that are willing to help share the cost. We ask for \$350 to \$600, depending on how far the parade location is.

We would like to make two requests to all Councils in the state:

First, please consider having us come to parades in your area to promote your Council. If you know of an event which you might like to have us for, contact the Knights on Bikes Secretary, Matthew Heffron at matt_heffron@hotmail.com or 1186 Hewitt Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55104. Second, whether or not you have a parade to invite us to, please consider making a donation to the upkeep of the float and vehicle to support this important source of publicity for the Knights of Columbus. Donations can be sent to:

Patrick Burkhart, Knights on Bikes Treasurer
365 Columbine Lane
Shakopee, MN 55379

Thank you for considering both of these requests. We need your help to keep representing our great organization to the public!

Sincerely,

Terry Englund
State President, Minnesota Knights on Bikes
Commander, KC Marching Unit

Also On Behalf of:
Daniel LaFond, Vice-President
Matt Heffron, Secretary
Patrick Burkhart, Treasurer
Fr. William Skarich, Chaplain
Paul Wilson, Road Captain
Marching Unit Co-Commanders