

## **Martin Beatty**

### **State Secretary**

Marty is a native Montanan, growing up in Anaconda. He graduated from Anaconda Central High School and then Carroll College with a degree in English with emphasis toward public relations. He retired from the State of Montana after 41 years of service, most of it with the Department of Transportation. He is married to Madilon and they have two sons, Joe (Tasa) and Todd (Jennifer) and 4 grandchildren: Brayden, Anna, Aubry and Andrew.

### **Council 844**

He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 844 Helena for 20 years and has held every Council office. He has chaired many council events, reaching out with phone calls, emails and conversation with members, to recruit members to participate in Council activities. With many participating, the job was always easier for everyone.

Marty's favorite program is Food for Families, a Supreme program which he initiated in Council 844. Members are encouraged to bring food to each Council meeting and Marty takes food and monetary donations to Helena Food Share every month after the meeting. At Council Fish Fry events, people are asked to bring a non-perishable item for Food Share in return for a reduced price for the meal. Marty usually delivers the donations to Helena Food Share too. He has encouraged Council gardeners to give their excess harvest to Food Share as well. Between Council, Fish Fry event and individual donations, the Council will donate 10,000 pounds of food to Helena Food Share this fraternal year. The Council has earned the maximum Food for Families reward amount from Supreme for the past few years. The rewards help fund the Thanksgiving basket program of St. Mary Catholic Community.

Kindness Makes Miracles is a program started by Council 844 to combat bullying and promote kindness in Helena and East Helena at school, at home and in the community. Marty is one of the founders of this program. Marty chairs the Council's Fifth Sunday Breakfasts which fund this program. KMM provides treats for kids at various times giving an underlying message promoting kindness.

Marty started the Coats for Kids program in Council 844 and distributed coats through the three local parishes and Good Samaritan Ministries, an outreach for the needy in the Helena area. Since its inception, Marty has served as the Knights of Columbus chair for the annual St. Francis soup dinner, an event requested by Bishop Thomas about 12 years ago as a joint project between the Knights and the Hibernians to benefit the Good Samaritan.

Marty is a master of paperwork! Every year he collects the Food Share receipt documentation and completes the application for the Council reimbursement from Supreme for the Food for Families Program. He ensures that Council 844 meets all the qualifications for the Columbian Award and completes and submits that form to the Supreme Council as well.

There are very few Council activities that Marty does not participate in. Because of his leadership and participation, Marty was nominated for the Knight of the Year Award by Council 844 in 2011 and was chosen for that honor by the State Council.

## **State Council**

Marty has been involved in the Montana State Council for about 15 years.

At the Anaconda State Convention, State Deputy John Glen commented that he would like to have someone who would write and distribute a newsletter and do other public relations projects for the Knights. Marty volunteered and he became the Public Relations chair, producing the *Knights' Vision*, originally a print document snail-mailed to all Grand Knights and now an online newsletter electronically sent to all Grand Knights, State Officers and any others that request it.

Public Relations and Community were combined under State Deputy Bill Burke and Marty chaired those committees for several years. In addition to the newsletter and other news releases, he encouraged and reviewed Council reports for Community projects. Whenever possible, he reported to local newspapers what Knights of Columbus Councils did in their communities. He reviewed Councils' Community Activity reports and determined Community awards.

State Deputy Steve Zachmann appointed Marty Program Director, a position he has held for the past six years. He led Grand Knights and Program Chairs to

participate in the six Knights of Columbus activities and report these activities to the State Council and encouraged Councils statewide to participate in Knight and Family of the Year selections. He helped Councils complete program activities and submit program reports. He judged activities for awards at the State Convention and helped Councils apply for the Columbian Award and the Star Council Award. Often times, there was feedback on how programs should be run and Marty was always willing to listen to criticism, pleasantly talk about the resolution and move forward.

Two years ago, Marty helped implement the new program module for the Knights of Columbus. Faith in Action was a new program, different from what had been for a lot of years. It reduced the number of key programs from 6 to 4. Helping Councils learn how to incorporate Faith in Action program suggestions into what they were already doing was a very rewarding job. He passed information from Supreme about Faith in Action to Grand Knights, Program Chairs and others that needed it. When he didn't know the answer to a question, he contacted Supreme or a State Officer for the information. He explained the program over the phone to many Grand Knights. He worked with the Grand Knights and Program Chairs to make the project a success and not a disaster. He made it a point to return phone calls and answer emails within a reasonable amount of time.

In October of 2017, State Deputy Ron Kazmierczak called Marty in a quandary and asked for advice. The current Membership Chair had notified Ron that he could no longer do the membership job. Marty told Ron he would take on the job if he could find a co-membership chair and he would continue as Programs Chair until a new Membership Chair could be found. The two are so closely related, it turned out to be a good fit! Without membership, you can't have programs and vice versa. Pat Perrella was asked to be co-chair. Marty's idea to have two membership chairs - one in the east and one in the west - turned out to be a great idea! They work together on membership, Pat in the Eastern Diocese (Great Falls Billings) and Marty in the Western diocese-the Diocese of Helena. As Co-membership chairs, they have consistently increased membership in the Knights of Columbus. Last year, Montana earned the Circle of Honor award for membership. The Circle of Honor is a Supreme program to recognize jurisdictions who have met their membership quota. To reach their quota, they created many

different promotions including, "A Knight Before Christmas," "Make the Right Call," "The Key to a Council's Perpetuity is Recruiting New Members."

Marty has assisted State Deputies with whatever was asked of him. He has been the "go to" person to get questions answered.