

Worthy Grand Knight, Sir Knights and Brothers all,

This is really a special time as we approach the end of the year and our thoughts turn to themes of "Peace on Earth" and "Goodwill to Men!" Many of us will be scurrying around buying a Christmas tree, getting it decorated; looking for that perfect gift for our spouse, our kids and maybe grandkids. There are parties and school Christmas shows. There is a lot going on and you're busier than ever.

But let me ask you to slow down for just a few minutes and consider some issues that come up at the end of the calendar year.

1. Now is a good time to review and update your life, disability and long term care insurances.
2. If you have earned income for the year, what amount will you want to contribute to your traditional IRA, Roth IRA or 401k? Are you eligible to contribute much more based on the "catch up" provision? You won't have to make that contribution until you pay your taxes and that could be four months away; however now is the time to start making plans.
3. Speaking of IRAs, have you received your required minimum distribution for this year? If not, the Internal Revenue Service penalty is a hefty 50% of the amount you should have received!

If you do have questions on any of these issues, please contact me.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us. I hope you and your families have a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Vince Creo