



# Knight Digest



Union Council 4504

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## Columbian Club Plans Race Track Extravaganzas

Race track fans will have a real treat in store this summer as the Columbian Club is sponsoring two completely different trips to Monmouth Park. The first will be on Saturday, July 31 and will feature the use of a private grove complete with a catered lunch and plenty of liquid refreshment. The grove has its own teller, and is located at the point where the horses enter and leave the track. The cost for this event is \$35.00, with children under 16 only \$10.00.

The second trip will take place on the following weekend, Saturday August 7. This is the annual bus trip to the park, and will include admission to the park, as well as sandwiches, snacks and drinks. The bus will leave the Council at 10:00 am and will return after the last race.

To reserve spaces for either trip, contact Jamie Zapula (908) 964-7377 or Kevin Connors (908) 687-1247.

## Helmstetter Selected Columbian of the Year

At the final business meeting of the 2003-2004 Columbian year on June 28, 2004, many Brother Knights were cited for their key contributions to the Council over the past year. Among those receiving recognition were those Brothers who had been selected as Knights of the Month, and those who had served as officers or chaired events during the preceding year.

The highlight of the evening was the announcement that Steve Helmstetter had been selected as the Columbian of the year. Steve served as the Lecturer, and also ran a trip to Yankee Stadium last summer and is also chairing the upcoming trip to see the Bronx Bombers in Toronto. In addition, he was a key force in the revival of the Council's softball team, and has taken accountability for a raffle to raise money for the team's registration and uniforms.

More importantly, former Grand Knight Mike Cavallo noted in his presentation, Steve has always been available to contribute his time and energy to many of the Council's charitable events. Throughout the course of the past year, as well as prior years, he has collected food for our Food Drives, spent time at our churches and city streets collecting for the RCD Drive, and sold Roses for Life at our Churches. For these reasons and more, Steve richly earned this award!

## Council Schedules Installation, Blood Drive and Family Picnic

Although the new Columbian year has only just begun, there are already several key events planned at the Council over the remainder of the summer. The Installation of Council Officers will take place on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM at St. Michael's Church, followed by refreshments back at our Council Home. This is a very important and special event so please make every effort to come out and show your support for your new council officers. This event is open to all members and their families.

On August 21, we will host a blood drive in the Council hall from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Blood banks usually experience a shortage during the summer months so please come out and donate. You must be 18 years old, and bring your social security card and a signed form of identification. Remember that by hosting these drives, Brother Knights are entitled to receive blood from the Blood Center at no charge if they should ever face a medical emergency where a transfusion is required. Please stop by and donate if you will be in the area. Volunteers to assist should see Joe DeMarco.

Plans are already in place for the Council's annual family picnic which will be held on Saturday, September 11 from 12:00 to 7:00 pm. Frank Santamauro will again chair this event, which will feature hamburgers, hot dogs, pasta dishes, corn on the cob, soup, beer and soda. In addition, there will be a DJ, a moonwalk and a clown to entertain the children (and the adults!), and the pool should also be open.

The cost is \$35.00 per family, \$20.00 per couple, and \$15.00 per person, and tickets are on sale now at the gate house. Be certain to buy your tickets in advance, as they will cost an extra \$5.00 on the day of event.

Although we will have many activities planned for the younger children, suggestions for the older children are always welcome. Please feel free to contact Frank, or Kevin Collins if you have any ideas.

The rain date for this event will be Sunday, September 12.

At our business meeting on July 12, Grand Knight Joe DeMarco read a letter from Archbishop Meyers announcing that Father James Worth from St. James parish in Springfield has been appointed Chaplain for Union Council 4504. We would like to welcome Father Worth and are looking forward to working with him for many years to come.

## KNIGHT DIGEST

This bulletin is published monthly, by and in the interest of the Knights of Columbus Union Council 4504 and registered as third class matter April 23, 1958, at the Union Post Office, Union, NJ.

**RULES FOR SUBMISSION:** Submissions for consideration are due in writing by the tenth of the month for the following month. Please mail or drop off submissions, with contact information, to Andy Schopfer, Knight Digest Editor, 1034 Jeanette Avenue, Union, NJ 07083 or via email at [Aschopfer@comcast.net](mailto:Aschopfer@comcast.net). You must clearly identify all people in photos submitted and at what council event the photo was taken. Photos with alcoholic beverages will not be considered. Photos may also be submitted via email as hi-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

## COUNCIL OFFICERS

<i>Chaplain</i>	Father Jim Worth
<i>District Deputy</i>	Michael L. Cavallo
<i>Grand Knight</i>	Joseph DeMarco 908-964-1870
<i>Deputy Grand Knight</i>	Harry Lupo
<i>Chancellor</i>	Buddy Cotter
<i>Warden</i>	Andy Schopfer
<i>Recorder</i>	Mike Peter
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Kardys
<i>Fin. Secretary</i>	Thomas Hornig
<i>Inside Guard</i>	Mike LoGuidice
<i>Outside Guard</i>	Frank Santangelo
<i>Program Director</i>	Kevin Collins
<i>Membership Director</i>	Nick Belmonte
<i>Advocate</i>	James Conlon
<i>Lecturer</i>	Steve Ruhle
<i>3rd Yr. Trustee</i>	Dom Clementoni
<i>2nd Yr. Trustee</i>	Larry Killmer
<i>1st Year Trustee</i>	Mike Carr
<i>Columbian Club President</i>	Sam Maffei
<i>Swim Club President</i>	James Feehan

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

1st Mon.	Council Officers
2nd & 4th Mon.	Council
3rd Mon.	Swim Club
1st Wed.	4th Degree Officers
2nd Thu.	4th Degree Corps
3rd Wed.	Assembly
4th Thu.	Columbian Club

## Grand Knight's Column

I would like to thank everyone for the support and encouragement given to me these past weeks since I was elected Grand Knight of Union Council 4504. This support makes me very optimistic about the success of the upcoming Columbian year.

I am very eager to work with the slate of officers that have been elected, and could not be happier with your decision; you have given me a great team to work with. I will be working closely with all of them, I will be expecting a lot from them and I know they will be there for me.

I look forward to working with The New Columbian Club President Sam Maffei and his board as well as the swim Club President James Feehan and his board. Working together we will be able to accomplish great things.

I look back on the past couple of years and regard them as a time of healing for Union council 4504. We have made great progress in bringing back the Unity of this council, and I plan on continuing to work towards that goal.

I am asking everyone from this day forward to put the problems of the past behind us and to move on. Let's all start to put principles before personality, and to work together for the same cause: **The Success of Union Council 4504.**

I will be around our Council Home as often as I can, and I will make my phone number, cell phone number and Email address available to everyone.

I ask everyone, if there are any problems, please talk to me first before it gets out of hand. After all we are Brother Knights, working together for a common goal, to do charitable work for our Church and community.

This past May I had the privilege to be a delegate to the State Convention and was amazed at the number of awards that were handed out. Although we did receive one for our food drive, I sat and wondered why Union Council 4504, the largest council in New Jersey, received only one award. I spoke to members of other councils and when they heard I was from Union Council they commented on, how in the past they were thinking of splitting up our council, because we were too large and were receiving all the awards. Well brothers, I think it's time we show them that Union Council is back and better then ever. Working together, we can bring this council back to the greatness it once had.

Brothers I know it will be a lot of work, but I'm up for the challenge. I am asking that each and every brother work with me do what ever you can to get involved. Together, working as a team, we can do it.

I have a lot of new ideas that I will be instituting in the upcoming year which I will be announcing over the next few months. All of the changes will require time and man hours so I am asking everyone for their help and support. I will not be asking anyone to do anything that I would not do myself, but I can't do it alone- I need all of My Brother Knights behind me.

In closing I would like to thank Past Grand Knight Michael Cavallo for all his help and encouragement these past two years, I learned a lot from him. I want to congratulate him on his appointment to District Deputy. Good Luck Mike! I'd also like to thank the nominating committee for all their hard work and for giving me a great team with which to work.

I can always be reached by E-mail: [Joe@njdemarco.net](mailto:Joe@njdemarco.net). My cell number is (908)-337-1198, and my home number is (908) 964-1870.

## Columbian Club News

Dear Brother Knights, I would like to welcome the new 2004-2005 Grand Knight Joe DeMarco and his board, along with our new Columbian Club Board. I would also like to thank our past Columbian Club President, Allen Pascullo and our Board of Directors for a job well done!

There are a lot of functions going on this year, starting off with two trips to Monmouth Park on July 31st and August 7th. For more information about these trips, contact Kevin Connors at (908) 347-8655 or Jamie Zapulla at (908) 964-7377.

We are also running a fund raiser at our outside TIKI Bar for new stools, tables and chairs for next season. Donations are \$50.00, and your name will be put on a plaque around the bar.

Summer is now in full swing, so come out on a Friday night and enjoy the DJ out on the patio.

Also, plans are already in the works for a special New Year's Eve party- Start planning now for a great Knight out! More details to follow.

**Sam Maffei, Columbian Club President**

### **Grand Knight Announces Plans for New Events**

At the first meeting of the new Columbian year on July 12, Grand Knight Joe DeMarco announced plans for several initiatives that will be taking place during this Columbian year.

To begin, the Council will sponsor a Clothing Drive in September. While the dates have not yet been confirmed, it's not too early to begin to save those old clothes and be prepared to drop them off at the Council during the drive. Once collected, the clothes will be donated to charity.

In addition, plans are also in place to hold a Tricky Tray at the Council in April. This event takes a lot of work and planning, so the committee is being formed now. Harry Lupo will be the Chairman of this event. However, if any wives would like to help out, please contact Diane Lupo at 908 851-2493.

Other planned events include an Art Auction and Comedy night. More details will be available in upcoming Digests.

### **Get Knights News Via EMail**

This year we will be setting up an Email chain for the Council. While its main purpose will be to remind new Brother Knights of our up coming meetings and events, this chain will not be limited to new members only. If you would like to be notified about the events coming up please send an email to the Grand Knight at [Joe@njdemarco.net](mailto:Joe@njdemarco.net). All you need to do is to put the words "add me" in the subject line and you will be added to the list.

## Council Welcomes New Membership Director

Nick Belmonte has joined the ranks of the officers of Union Council 4504 in as the new Membership Director. He is taking over for Rich Fuentes, who has served in this role for the past several years. Although Nick was officially introduced at the first meetings of the 2004-2005 Columbian year, he will work closely with Rich over the next several months in order to make certain that there is a smooth transition.

The new Membership team plans to continue our goal of having a first degree every two months, and has scheduled their initial degree ceremony for Monday, August 23. In addition, they have also discussed several initiatives to recognize those Brothers who are actively sponsoring new members, such as the awarding of shirts and jackets for recruiting two or five members respectively. For more information, be certain to contact Nick.

This team will no doubt have a challenging job ahead of them, as State has already announced that increasing membership will be a primary goal for the new Columbian year. Toward that end, we will be having a membership blitz at our local churches the weekend of September 25th and 26th. Please mark that date on your calendars and be ready to assist with the recruitment of new members.

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GO UP OR DOWN?  
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Attention- Several of our Brothers are currently volunteering to paint the inside of the Convent at St. Michael's Church. If you would like to assist, contact Mike LoGuidice or the Grand Knight at 908 964-1870.