



# Knight Digest



Vol. 59 No. 10

[www.kofc4504.org](http://www.kofc4504.org)

June 2018

## Calendar of Events

June 11th ..... Council Meeting 8:15 PM  
June 6th ..... 2nd Degree  
June 8th ..... 3rd Degree  
June 17th ..... Father's Day Breakfast  
June 17th ..... Renewal of Wedding Vows (25th & 50th)  
June 21st ..... Knights Family Dinner  
June 25th ..... Council Meeting 8:15 PM  
July 7th ..... Pig Roast  
July 8th ..... Installation of Council Officers 1:30 PM  
July 8th ..... Senior Social 3PM to 5PM

## Intellectual Disabilities Drive

Our Intellectual Disabilities Drive is just about coming to a close for the 2017-2018 Columbian Year.

We collected at the convenient stores in October, which was okay, but possibly could have used more volunteers. We did the streets in April and the Churches in May.

Next Columbian Year of 2018-2019. We will raise one dollar more. Thank you to those that were involved. - Mike Peter

## Knights Family Dinner

The next Knights Family dinner is scheduled for **Thursday, June 21st**. The dinners are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month except when noted otherwise.

Anyone planning on attending must call Pat Wittek in advance at 908-964-3989.

## 2018-2019 Council Officers

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for the 2018-2019 Columbian Year.

L-R: Anthony Ibida (Inside Guard), Giftus John (2-Year Trustee), Kris Cancellieri (Chancellor), Luke Sangiamo (Financial Secretary), Greg Henn, PGK (1 Year Trustee), Paul Willemse (Treasurer), Phillip Cababe (Recorder), Ed McCormick, PGK (3 Year Trustee), Mike Willemse (Grand Knight), Robert Pynckles (Outside Guard), Dave Wozniak (Deputy Grand Knight), and Josh Merida (Warden)

## Casino Knight - Postponed

It is with a heavy heart that Casino Knight must be postponed to a later date due to licensing issues and other assorted difficulties.

We hope to have this event later in the 2018 - 2019 Columbian Year. Apologies for this issue.

"In June as many as a dozen species may burst their buds on a single day. No man can heed all of these anniversaries; no man can ignore all of them."  
- Aldo Leopold



## 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 15th of the month for the following month. Please mail or drop off submission, with contact information to:

**Tom Dudek**  
**Knight Digest Editor**  
**549 Robinson Ter.**  
**Union, NJ 07083**

or preferably via email to: [tomdudek@outlook.com](mailto:tomdudek@outlook.com).

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

*Chaplain*..... Rev. Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu  
*District Deputy*..... Alex Costa, PGK  
*Grand Knight* ..... Michael Willemse  
*Deputy Grand Knight*..... Ed McCormick, PGK  
*Chancellor*..... David Wozniak  
*Warden* ..... Phillip Cababe  
*Recorder* ..... Joshua Merida  
*Treasurer*..... Paul Willemse  
*Fin. Secretary*..... Luke Sangiamo  
*Inside Guard*..... Anthony Ibida  
*Outside Guard* ..... Robert Pynckels  
*Membership Director* ..... Greg Chaves  
*Program Director*..... Mike Peter, PGK  
*Advocate*..... Stephen F. Hehl  
*3rd. Yr. Trustee* ..... Giftus John, PGK  
*2nd Yr. Trustee* ..... Greg Henn, PGK  
*1st Yr. Trustee* ..... Mike Peter, PGK  
*4th Degree Faithful*  
*Navigator*..... Len Komar  
*Columbian Club*  
*President* ..... John Bashaw  
*Swim Club President*..... Joe Marateo, PGK  
*Columbiette President*..... Fran Corcione

## Monthly Meetings

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

## MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Brothers All,

We enter the last 30 days of our Columbian Year, and I take this moment to reflect. Our Council has gone through quite a few challenges and changes over this past year. Supreme and State has made multiple changes to the membership such as the Color Corp's Uniform, Online Membership, Separation of Council & Home Corporation Insurance and now an increase in NJ State's pro capita. We, as a Council, certainly have been through our fair share of trials and tribulations, but we have banded together in a way I did not think possible and we continue to strive forward.

There are only four (4) awards a Council can receive, and we are easily on track for three (3) of those. Union 4504 had an Admission Degree on 05/23/2018, with seven (7) new Brothers joining our Order and Council. I am incredibly happy to announce that we have satisfied our criteria for the Father McGivney Membership Award. As the largest Council in the state, our criteria is also the highest, at 35 new members not including transfer in's or online members. We are also on track on receiving the Columbian Award for Charitable Activities and the newly created Domestic Church Award. The only award we are shy on is the Founder's Award for Insurance. Just like our Membership award, we have the highest quota in the state, at 18 new insurance contracts. Currently, we are + 6. To my knowledge, the last time Union 4504 received all the awards was back in the year 1982. I make a final call out to any Associate member who wishes to assist in us securing Founder's Award, please contact our insurance rep, Brian Reilly at (973) 738-4248, ASAP. New first year members can start an annuity with as little as one \$100 payment, and Brothers in the Order for over a year can start the same with as little as \$300.

The Columbian Swim Club is now open, and we are ready for the next four months of gorgeous weather. We have fantastic summer events coming up. On Father Day, 4504 will be hosting an Affirmation of Wedding Vows Breakfast. This is a new program the Council wishes to do in order to support and preserve the wonders of marriage. This is open to any married couple who wishes to have a renewal and affirmation of their vows. Please contact Giftus John, PGK at (908) 370-7760 to reserve your spot. Saturday, July 7th 2018 will be our second annual Pig Roast. Last year's Pig Roast was a huge success, and we hope everyone will join us this year as well. We will be taking a page from the Lobster Fest, and taking only advanced reservations this year as we were met with overwhelming numbers of at the door sales.

Council elections have come and gone, and we have an amazing group of gentlemen as officers. This is the youngest group of officers I have ever witnessed since I joined the Knights of Columbus eight years ago. The average age of the officers is now 24 years old. I have been given the privilege of being elected for the position of Grand Knight for a second year. I am incredibly humbled that the membership wished for this, and I will do my best for our Council. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the Brothers, and for their continued support. Let's make this second tenure even better than the first!

Vivat Jesus!  
Michael P. Willemse  
Grand Knight; Union 4504

## Columbian Club Officers 2018-2019

As proscribed by Article VII, section 1 of the Columbian Club by-laws a Nominating Committee of 5 members was formed with the purpose of meeting with and vetting any member interested in being a member of next year's Columbian Club board of directors.

The committee met with several gentlemen who expressed interest in holding Columbian Club board positions.

Following is the slate of officers being presented by the nominating committee.

**President**  
John Bashaw

**1st Vice President/Bar Manager**  
Ron Giameo, Sr.

**2nd Vice President/Kitchen Manager**  
Frank Santangelo

**Treasurer**  
John McEvoy

**Recorder**  
Alex Rivera

**3 Year Trustees**  
Robert Pynckels  
George Gaydos  
Mike Campanelli  
Jack Schultz

**2 Year Trustees**  
Ron Giameo, Jr.  
Steve Nagy, PGK  
Ron Salzano  
Giftus John, PGK

**1 Year Trustee**

The slate will be read at the General Council meeting to be held on June 11, 2018. The current Columbian Club by laws prohibit candidates running from the floor. Therefore, the slate will be considered elected after it is read on June 11, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

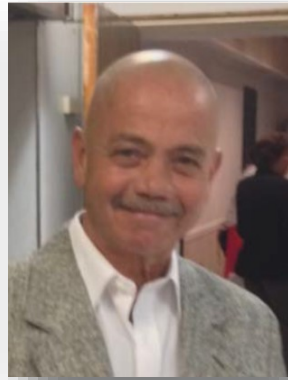
Edward McCormick, PGK

Chairman – Columbian Club nominating committee

## Knight of the Month

**June 2018**

**Ron Giameo**



This month's knight of the month is Ron Giameo, Sr. Ron has been a member of the knights for the past 25 years. He can be seen at many work parties and is constantly painting and freshening up things around the hall.

He bartends often and is frequently house manager for events in the banquet hall. Every year he freshens up the paint on our statue of the Blessed Virgin in advance of the May crowning.

Ron lives in Union and has 3 children. A son Ron jr. and 2 daughters Sandy and Nicole and on grandchild. He is employed by the township of Union DPW.

Ron is an example of what a knight should be. It is my pleasure to name Ron Giameo Knight of the month for June, 2018.

## Affirmation of Wedding Vows

**When:**  
Sunday, June 17th 2018 at 10am

**Where:**  
KofC 4504 Council Hall  
1034 Jeanette Ave.  
Union, NJ 07083



**Price: \$10/couple**



Breakfast served with wedding vow service

Please contact Giftus John  
giftusjay@msn.com

### **Brothers in Business**

Are you a brother who has his own business? From a suggestion by Mike Ibbotson during one of our regular meetings, Council 4504 has decided to spotlight, on a monthly basis, in the Digest and on the Council's website, a brother who has his own business. That business may be in or out of Union.

We therefore are asking all brothers who own your own businesses, to submit your names, business name and services offered to GK Michael Willemse or PGK Giftus John. We will then randomly pick a business to highlight. All businesses submitted will be highlighted, and submissions will be on an ongoing basis. No deadlines!

We are hoping that this initiative will work at building stronger ties between our business brothers and our general membership who have need for their services, hopefully at a special rate.

Thanks Mike, for bringing the suggestion to the Council.

### **Affirmation of Wedding Vows Breakfast**

When: Fathers Day, June 17th 2018 at 10am

Where: KofC 4504.

1034 Jeanette Ave. Union, NJ 07083

Cost: \$10 / couple

RSVP to Giftus John, PGK at (908) 370-7760

by June 14th 2018.

### **25/50 Year Wedding Anniversary Celebrations**

Council 4504 will recognize brothers and their wives who have celebrated or will be celebrating their 25th and 50th Wedding Anniversary this year, at a Father's Day breakfast on the 17th of June. We will also make special presentation to the brothers and their wives who have celebrated incremental five year anniversaries after 25 years.

Any brother who would like to be recognized at the ceremony is asked to contact PGK Giftus John or GK Mike Willemse by June 10th so that Certificates can be ordered in time for the event.

We extend our sincerest congratulations to Mike and Nancy Ambrosia 50 years, Paul and Lucille Willemse 40years Joe and Nancy Harbison, 30 years; Steve and Carol Nagy 35 years.

### **He Who Casts the First Stone**

John 8:7 teaches us "He who is without sin. Cast the first stone." Brothers, it appears that we have one or more among us who is without sin. Over the last few months there have been many stones cast at Council and Columbian Club Officers via anonymous letters. I for one would like our sinless brother(s) to identify themselves. I would truly like to meet the sinless members of our Council.

The damage that is done by such cowardly acts is immeasurable. The Knights of Columbus is an organization consisting of Catholic gentlemen. The writing of anonymous letters to harm brothers is neither gentlemanly, nor Catholic. If a brother has issues with another brother's behavior he should talk to that brother man to man and express his concerns. Failing that, the brother should approach the Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight or one of the three Trustees privately to air his concerns.

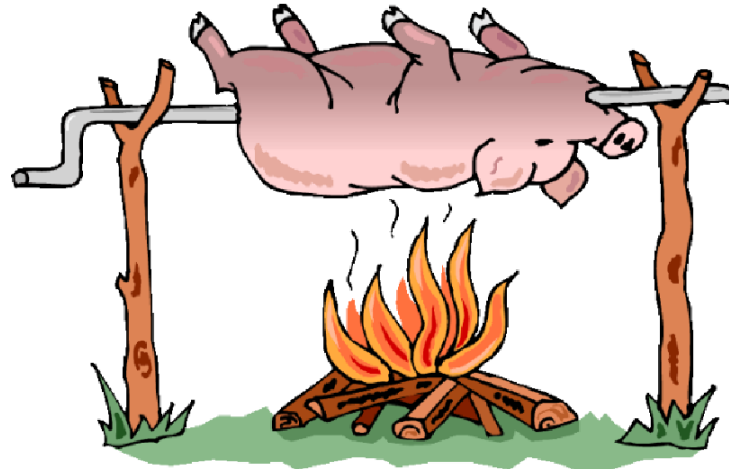
Writing anonymous letters to State or Council officers or worse yet to the general membership is the coward's way of behaving. Please come forward and identify yourself to all of us less than perfect men. You could teach us how to be without sin.

The current Grand Knight has verbally told you how to handle concerns you have. Yet you continue to behave in a cowardly manner.

If you care about Union Council and have issues about our officers (who give freely of their time) please share your concerns with Council officers. If you don't care about Union Council and are bent on destroying it please just quietly slither away like the coward you are.

SK Edward McCormick, PGK

# PIG ROAST



**Saturday**

**July 7th**

**2 pm- 5 pm**

**1034 Jeanette Ave  
Union, NJ 07083**

CASH BAR

ROASTED PIG

CHIPS, CORN, SALAD

and MORE!

LIVE MUSIC

POOL ACCESS

**\$25 per  
person**

This event is hosted by the Knights of  
Columbus to benefit **St. Jude Children's  
Hospital**.

RSVP needed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Advanced  
Reservations only.

Call Big G at (908) 868-7684 or Robert Pynckels  
at (908) 578-1206 to RSVP





## Yellow Ribbon Ceremony

By KATHY CRYAN

As is customary each time a member of their Knights family deploys overseas, the JFK Assembly 0666 along with Union Council 4504 held a Yellow Ribbon Ceremony on Saturday in honor of US Army Sgt. Erik Santiago.

For the past ten years, it has been a practice to put a yellow ribbon around a tree anytime a Brother Knight or a family member is deployed overseas. "The JFK Assembly does this as a reminder to their members that one of their Knights family is deployed overseas and to keep them in their prayers and thoughts until their safe return home," said Steve Nagy, Union Knights of Columbus / JFK Assembly Fourth Degree 0666.

Sgt. Santiago's father Jose is both a Sir Knight with the JFK Fourth Degree Assembly 0666 and a Brother Knight at the Union Council 4504.

This is not Sgt. Santiago's first "Yellow Ribbon". This deployment to Iraq will be his seventh, with previous deployments to South Korea, Kuwait, two to Afghanistan and two to Iraq.

Sgt. Santiago's father Jose and his uncle Felix did the ribbon reveal since Sgt. Santiago is now over in Iraq.

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu from St. Michael's Church the Council's Chaplain, blessed the ribbon and offered up blessings and prayers for Erik's safe return home next January. "The Knights look forward to his safe return home and his coming and cutting his ribbon off," said Nagy.

## Pope: Heaven is not boring!

Pope Francis said that Heaven cannot be boring as some people might imagine it, because it will be an encounter with Jesus, who is awaiting our arrival by praying for us.

The pope drew from the First Reading of the Mass taken from the Acts of the Apostles, when Paul tells the Jews how the inhabitants of Jerusalem and their religious leaders had not recognized Jesus and had condemned him to death, but he was raised from the dead.

Paul, said Pope Francis, calls Jesus' resurrection the fulfillment of God's Promise. The people of God trusted in the promise, because they knew God is faithful, he said.

We, too, are in movement along the path. When asked where we are heading, we say, 'Towards heaven!' 'So what's heaven?' some ask. There we begin to be unsure in our response. We don't know how best to explain heaven. Often we picture an abstract and distant heaven. And some think: 'But won't it be boring there for all eternity?' No! That is not heaven. We are on the path towards an encounter: the final meeting with Jesus. Heaven is the encounter with Jesus.

Jesus prays for us

Pope Francis said we must often recall this idea: I am traveling in life to meet Jesus. This meeting will make us happy forever, he said.

But what does Jesus do in the meantime? the pope asked. As John's Gospel points out, he said, Jesus is working for us and praying for us. Pope Francis recalled Jesus' words at the Last Supper, when he promises Peter he will pray for him.

Each of us must say: 'Jesus is praying for me, working to prepare me a place.' He is faithful. He does so because he has promised it. Heaven will be this encounter, this meeting with the Lord who went ahead to prepare a place for each of us. This increases our faith.

May the Lord give us the awareness of walking along a path with this promise. May the Lord give us the grace to look upwards toward heaven and think: 'The Lord is praying for me.' -Aleteia | Apr 27, 2018

## Knights of Columbus Annual Convention

Wildwood, New Jersey

Members of Union Council along with family and friends gathered at The Adventurer Inn in Wildwood Crest to attend the Knights of Columbus Annual State convention on May 17 to 20. Despite the weather a good time was had by all who attended. Thanks to Frank Santangelo for cooking. Union Council was joined in the hospitality room by Council Members and family from St. Ambrose Council and St. Thomas the Apostle Council both from Old Bridge. The interaction between the members of all three councils was magnificent to witness. A new tradition has been established. Below are the attendees from Union Council who found a few minutes between the raindrops for a photo op.





**Knights of Columbus**  
**COUNCIL 4504**  
 1034 Jeanette Avenue  
 Union, NJ 07083



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Council Officers	5	6 2nd Degree 8 PM	7	8 3rd Degree 8 PM	9
10	11 Council Mtg. 8:15 PM	12	13	14	15	16
17 Father's Day Brkfst. Renewal of Wedding Vows	18 Swim Club Mtg.	19	20	21 Knights Family Dinner - 6:30 PM	22	23
24	25 Council Mtg. 8:15 PM	26	27 4th Degree Assembly	28 Columbian Club	29	30