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February to Feature Key Council and Columbian Club Events

February may be the shortest month on the calendar, but it will be a very busy month for Union Council 4504. The Council has scheduled two significant events in this month, and we are also assisting Sister Ann Domenic with her annual St. Valentine's Dance for Camp Fatima. The Columbian Club will be equally as busy, starting with the Super Bowl on February 5, and with the staging of a comedy night set for the middle of the month.

The month's festivities begin on Super Bowl Sunday when our Council Home will salute the end of the football season with its usual Football Sunday of food and refreshments. Although the game itself doesn't begin until early evening, an early arrival is suggested in order to have a good seat for the game and for the rest of the day's activities.

On Saturday, February 11, the Council will be holding the first of its two double bingos at the Boys and Girls Club of Union (next door to our Council home). The first bingo begins at 7:30 PM, with the second commencing at 10:30. All money raised at these bingos is used donated to our scholarship fund.

Volunteers are needed to sell boards at the door, work in the kitchen, and to work on the floor selling additional cards. If you are available for either or both sessions, contact Tony Quinones at (908) 265-2757.

On that same evening, Sister Ann Domenic will be holding her St. Valentine's Dance in the Council Hall from 7:00 PM until 12:00 midnight. The cost is \$60.00 per couple, and will include full course dinner, soda and beer. The deadline for ordering tickets is Wednesday, February 8, 2006. All proceeds go directly to support Camp Fatima, which is the only one to one camp for the Handicapped in New Jersey.

For further information, contact Sr. Ann at St. Michaels in Union - (908) 686-5271. Checks for tickets should be made out to Camp Fatima or to the Knights of Columbus.

On Saturday, February 18, the Columbian Club will be sponsoring "A Knight to Remember" featuring a roast of fellow Knights Frank Santomauro, Tom Conte, Pat Scanlon, and current Grand Knight Harry Lupo. Music for the evening will be provided by the featured band from July's Summer Slam,

"Sound Investment". The cocktail hour will begin at 7:00, and a sit down dinner as well as open bar will be included in the cost of \$45.00 per person. A special guest comedian will also be on hand to add a unique twist to what promises to be a first class event. Tickets must be purchased in advance by contacting Mike Scanlon (908) 964-7722 or Bob Calderone (908) 337-2504.

The final event of the month will be on Saturday, February 25, when the Council sponsors a Tricky Tray with the doors opening at 6:00 PM. Admission for the evening will be \$15.00 which will provide each customer with a sheet of tickets to use toward the many available prizes. Additional tickets will be available. In addition, coffee and cake will be served.

If you are interested in donating a prize, or purchasing tickets please contact Diane Lupo (908) 851-2493.

As we did last year, we are seeking to create a basket of instant lottery tickets from the Council. If you are buying lottery tickets for yourself, why not purchase a few scratch offs and donate them to this worthy cause? Donations can be dropped off to any of the Council officers.

Reservations Available for State Convention

The annual State Convention will be held in Wildwood NJ from May 18th thru 20th. Union Council will be staying at the Adventurer Motor Inn with rooms available Thursday thru Sunday evening. All 3 nights cost \$382.00 which includes the \$75.00 hospitality fee. If you are only able to stay 2 nights (Friday and Saturday) the cost is \$283.00.

Please make your reservation as soon as possible since we need to give the Hotel a room count. A deposit of one nights stay plus the \$75.00 hospitality fee is required to hold your reservation. Please contact Deputy Grand Knight, Buddy Cotter at 908-447-3378 or 908-964-9311 to make your reservation.

We are counting on everyone to make this years Convention the best we have seen in years.

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. 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 high-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Words from the Grand Knight



I hope everyone had a pleasant New Year. We have a few events coming up in the next several months which promise to offer all of our Brother Knights and their families a chance to participate and enjoy the benefits of being a Knight of Columbus. First, we have our double bingo on February 11. Anyone interested in calling Bingo or working the floor should contact me or our chairman Tony Quinones as soon as possible.

On Saturday evening, February 18, we will be having a comedy show where several of our Brother Knights will be roasted after a sit down dinner. In addition, a live band will be appearing to cap off what should be a great evening and a lot of fun. I hope to see as many of you and your families there!

On February 25th we will be holding our Tricky Tray. As I write this, donations have been slow to come in, so please find it in your hearts to donate something to make this a successful event. We may also be needing some help on that day for set up and to work the floor during the event itself. Anyone who is interested in helping, please see me or my wife Diane, who is the chairperson for the Tricky Tray. Depending on the success of the evening, we plan to donate the proceeds to Make a Wish and to Juvenile Diabetes. Since our charitable contributions depend on the efforts of all Brothers, it is important for as many of you as possible to make a donation or get involved. Ask anyone of our members and their families who are always involved in our events why they give so much of their time and effort, and I know that they will tell you that they derive their greatest satisfaction from helping the less fortunate. Remember that the main principle of the Knights is charity. Our steady contributors can use some assistance, so I am reaching out to all of you and asking for your time and your help.

Additional upcoming events will include a breakfast with the Easter bunny on Palm Sunday, April 9, and a golf outing on Monday, May 1st. The latter will be a joint event between the Council and the Columbian Club, with all proceeds going to Juvenile Diabetes.

On a negative topic, our chaplain, Father Jim Worth has advised us that due to personal issues, he will be resigning as our chaplain. I would like to thank Father Jim for the time, experience and knowledge that he has brought to the Council. It has been a true pleasure to have known and worked with him. If anyone knows of a priest who may be interested in serving the chaplain of Union Council, please let me know.

On a final note, we have a great Council here in Union, and if all of the work didn't depend on a chosen few, it would be even more fun, and less work for all. Give your time, give your effort, give a damn. Thank you and God bless you all.

Harry Lupo, Grand Knight

COUNCIL OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Chaplain</i> | Father Jim Worth |
| <i>District Deputy</i> | Michael L. Cavallo, PGK |
| <i>Grand Knight</i> | Harry Lupo (908) 851-2493 |
| <i>Deputy Grand Knight</i> | Buddy Cotter |
| <i>Chancellor</i> | Andy Schopfer |
| <i>Warden</i> | Mike Peter |
| <i>Recorder</i> | Frank Santangelo |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Peter Kardys |
| <i>Fin. Secretary</i> | Thomas Hornig, PGK |
| <i>Inside Guard</i> | Lenny Tripodi |
| <i>Outside Guard</i> | Rob Salvatore |
| <i>Program Director</i> | Clarence Cunningham, PGK |
| <i>Membership Director</i> | Nick Belmonte |
| <i>Advocate</i> | James Conlon |
| <i>Lecturer</i> | Steve Ruhl |
| <i>3rd Yr. Trustee</i> | Joe Bennanato, PGK |
| <i>2nd Yr. Trustee</i> | Dom Clementoni, PGK |
| <i>1st Year Trustee</i> | Joe DeMarco, PGK |
| <i>Columbian Club</i> | Bob Calderone |
| <i>President</i> | |
| <i>Swim Club</i> | James Feehan |
| <i>President</i> | |

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 |

As part of our efforts to redecorate the bar area, we are looking for contributions of sports or old time memorabilia. If you have any such items to contribute, please contact John Peters (908) 296-1638. In addition, we are also looking for Union High School football pictures from 1990-2005. We will make copies of your original and return it to you. Please call John or Mike Scanlon at (908) 278-8796 if you have a photo from any of these years.

Columbian Club News

Brother Knights and Ladies: Here it is February, 2006 already, and fortunately, we have had only one plowable snow event. Hopefully, we can make it through this month and then its clear sailing to opening day. Its hart to think about the pool when it is 30 degrees, but it is only 3 and a half months until we open outside.

Tom Walsh held his second annual chili cook off on the last Saturday of January. The number of cooks and attending tasters was better than last year, and hopefully it will continue to grow. The chili ranged from mild to mouth numbing hot. Thanks, Tom!

The Columbian Club Comedy night will be held on February 18, 2006. For tickets and reservations, please contact myself at (908) 337-2504 or Mike Scanlon at (908) 964-7722. There will be a cocktail hour starting at 7:00 PM, a sit down dinner and an open bar until 12:00 midnight. The band will be "Sound Investment", the band that played at the Summer Slam last July. Please come out and support your club- I can guarantee a great time! Tickets are \$45.00 per person.

The next event on our agenda is a bust trip to Mohegan Sun casino being organized by Jamie Zapulla. The trip will be held on on March 4th. The bus will leave the Knights' parking lot at 9:00 AM, and will return approximately 7:00 PM. Sandwiches and beverages will be served on the bus, and each person will receive a \$10.00 voucher or entrance to the buffet at the casino. Please contact Jamie for reservations at (908) 964-7377.

At this time, I would like to congratulate and welcome all of the new members who joined the Knights in the past few months, and invite all to attend the events being held. It's your club, and the events are held for your enjoyment. Let's all pray for a short winter and a sunny summer. May the mercy of the Lord be with us always.

Bob Calderone, Columbian Club President.

Council Plans Charity Golf Outing

On May 1, 2006, Union Council will hold a golf outing at the scenic Whitetail Golf Club in Bath, Pa. for the benefit of Juvenile Diabetes. A luxury bus will be provided for all golfers and their clubs. The cost is \$110 per golfer, and includes coffee and doughnuts before the bus departs, food at the turn, refreshments, a full barbecue, and prize giveaways.

All proceeds will be donated to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Sponsors for the event are needed. If you are interested in being a golfer or sponsor, contact Tony Quinones (908) 265-3757, or pick up sponsor forms at the council.

Easter Bunny to Visit Council on Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, April 9th the Easter Bunny will be making an appearance at the Council Hall at a breakfast which will begin shortly after the conclusion of 9:00 mass. The breakfast will feature eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage links, home fries, fruit, toast, coffee, and juice. The cost is only \$10.00 a family (2 adults and 2 children). Each additional child is \$2.00, and adults are \$5.00. In addition to the visit from the Bunny, other children's activities are planned. For more information about the breakfast, contact chairman Tony Quinones (908) 265-3757.

After breakfast, the children will all be invited to participate in the annual Easter egg hunt in the picnic grove behind the Council. Youth Activity Director Matt Cunningham has noted that there will be two different age groups for this hunt, to allow all of the participants an opportunity to find eggs and win prizes.

Columbian Club Sets Casino Trip

On Saturday, March 4, 2006, the Columbian Club will once again sponsor a bus trip to the Mohegan Sun Casino in Connecticut. The cost is \$32.00 per person, and will include bus transportation, drinks and sandwiches on the bus, a \$10.00 food credit or full buffet, as well as a \$10.00 bet on the Big 6 Wheel on arrival at the casino.

This is the second annual trip to this location, and tickets are going fast. The bus will be leaving at 9:00 AM from the Council, and will leave the casino at 5:00 PM. To reserve a seat, contact Jamie Zapulla at (908) 380-9155.

Chili Contest a Success

The Columbian Club held the second annual Chili cook off on Saturday, January 28, 2006, and it was a huge success. There were 15 entries with many varying styles and flavors. Contestants and fans eager to sample the tastes filled the bar area.

First place went to Rachel LaMotta, second place to Tom Walsh, and the third place finisher was Joe Burlew. First, second and third place winners received gift cards for a dinner at Chili's (where else?). All contestants received tee shirts donated by Kevin Connors and the Columbian Club Board.

Some heartburn (heartfelt!) thanks go to our intrepid panel of judges: Jim Feehan, Richie Arnold, Gary Hornig, John Cisco, Joe Simmor, Sam Maffei, and Marie Arace. I also want to thank my wonderful wife Carol for all of her help with the registration and tabulation of the scoring. Thanks also to Kevin for the legwork with the shirts and setup for the contest. Last, but not least, thanks to all who entered the contest and those who just came to have a great time.

Tom Walsh, Chairman