



# Knight Digest



Union Council 4504

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## Dinners, Blood Drive, Highlight Upcoming Events

Although the Columbian year is drawing to a close at the end of June, the Council will still be sponsoring a number of important events in the remainder of this year, and continuing on through the summer.

On Sunday, June 6, 2004, the annual Nuns and Widows dinner will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the Council Hall. This annual event allows us to remember and support the families of our deceased Brothers, as well as the nuns who support our parishes. It will be chaired this year by Reginald Inwirika, who has noted that he can use the assistance of anyone who is available that afternoon. He can be reached at (973) 384-3804.

The following Monday, June 14, the election of Council officers will be held during the normal business meeting.

The Council will also be holding separate degree ceremonies prior to the end of the Columbian year. On Tuesday, June 8, we will hold a first degree, and the on Wednesday, June 16th we will hold our Second Degree ceremony. Finally, we will then conclude the degrees with the semi-annual 3rd degree ceremony on Friday, June 25th. All of these events will take place in the Council Hall.

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### Monmouth Park Trips Slated by Columbian Club

If you enjoy horse racing, the Columbian Club is offering two different weekends of racing at Monmouth Park in Eatontown this summer. The first event will be held on Saturday July 31, and will feature the opportunity to watch the days events from a private picnic area alongside the rail where the horses enter and leave the track. The grove has its own wagering booths, so guests will never have to go far to place their bets! The cost for this event will be \$35.00 and will include admission to the park, programs, plenty of great food, bottled beer and soda.

The second event is the annual bus trip which will be held on Saturday August 7. The bus will leave our Council home at 10:00 am and return after the last race. Cost for this trip is only \$12.00 and will include the bus ride, sandwiches, snacks and liquid refreshments.

For more information about these two trips, contact Jamie Zapula (908) 964-7377 or Kevin Connors (908) 687-1247.

## Council Cited for Food Drive at Convention

Union Council 4504 received a special commendation for the success of its food drives at the annual State Convention which was held in Wildwood the weekend of May 14-16. The award, which was presented to Food Drive Chairman Jim Chamberlin at the Council meeting on May 24th, lauded our willingness to reach out and assist those who are less fortunate.

This year's convention was marked by excellent weather, which enabled those who attended to truly enjoy the weekend in the company of their Brothers and their families. Many of the Council's attendees enjoyed the benefits of our Hospitality room in the Adventurer Hotel.

Thanks to all who assisted in the preparation and set up of the room, as well as to those who assisted in the planning and running of the many family events. Special Kudos go out to Deputy Grand Knight Joe Demarco and Chancellor Harry Lupo for their sterling efforts.



### Buddy Cotter Named Knight of the Month

Buddy has been an active member of Union Council for over 10 years. This past year Buddy has decided to take an even more active role in the council, and has served as our Warden. Buddy chaired the pasta Dinner In "Solidarity with Our Priests", as well as the Benefit breakfast for Catholic Education. Buddy can be found helping out at the work parties, collecting food at the food drives, and has attended many of the functions held at the Council. He is the type of Brother Knight you know you can depend on when you need a helping hand.

Buddy is employed by Fairfield Distributors as an Operations Manager. He has two sons, Kristopher age 20 who attends college in South Carolina, and Matthew age 15 a sophomore in Union High School. For recreation, Buddy loves to get away to Atlantic City and Las Vegas whenever he can.

Union Council is proud to name Buddy Cotter as Knight of the Month for June 2004. Congratulations, Buddy!

## 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>District Deputy</i>	Clarence Cunningham
<i>Grand Knight</i>	Michael L. Cavallo 908-686-7540
<i>Deputy Grand Knight</i>	Joseph DeMarco 908-964-1870
<i>Chancellor</i>	Harry Lupo
<i>Warden</i>	Buddy Cotter
<i>Recorder</i>	Andy Schopfer
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Kardys
<i>Fin. Secretary</i>	Thomas Hornig
<i>Inside Guard</i>	Mike LoGuidice
<i>Outside Guard</i>	Mike Peter
<i>Program Director</i>	Larry Killmer 908-389-1341
<i>Membership Director</i>	Rich Fuentes 908-437-0310
<i>Advocate</i>	James Conlon
<i>Lecturer</i>	Steve Helmstetter
<i>3rd Yr. Trustee</i>	Hank Skarbek
<i>2nd Yr. Trustee</i>	Mike Carr
<i>1st Year Trustee</i>	Larry Killmer
<i>Columbian Club President</i>	Allen Pascullo
<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



My brother knights, families and friends of Union Council. It is very hard to believe that this is the last Grand Knight's Column that I will write. The past two years have been very challenging to me and I can honestly say that I have enjoyed all of it. During my tenor as the leader of Union Council I feel that I have moved this council ahead and have positioned it in a positive direction that will allow the grand knights who follow me to continue the successes that have been laid down by past grand knights and be able at the same time to also create their own success stories. As I look back over these two years as your grand knight, here are some of our successes: a new annual pasta dinner in recognition of the priests in our parishes entitled "In Solidarity with Our Priests", our involvement with Runnels Hospital picked up once again, a new annual Benefit Breakfast for Catholic Education, and the "One Nation Under God" rally to support keeping "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our council also saw an increase in our Council dues from \$24 to \$32 per year. There was also a change in our Bylaws for the dues increase, as well a change to the Nomination procedures for council officers. The memorial board was updated with deceased members; the tradition of honoring someone at our Second and Third degrees was also returned, as well as our presence at the Union County Federation Meetings. The creation of the Past Grand Knight's Council was established and Council finances were brought back up to an appropriate operating level. The Leadership Seminar also returned for our Officers and any other member wishing to attend, and the maintenance of our membership directory and creation of mailing labels was brought in house and is being maintained on our own computer. As you can see there were many success stories over my two years but none of this could have happened if I did not have members behind me supporting the programs I brought forward, and for this I am truly thankful.

I would specifically like to thank all of my Council, Columbian club and Swim club officers and program chairmen that have served with me over these past two years. Your support and dedication is greatly appreciated. I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to all the Past Grand Knights who have in some way or another offered me their support, advise and provided me with some direction in leading Union Council. I would like to especially thank Past Grand Knight, Trustee and my Program director for the past two years, Larry Killmer for being there for me. If it weren't for Larry's guidance as a Past Grand Knight and for his performance as program director I would not have had the successes I have mentioned. I would also like to thank Father Ted, our former chaplain, for the spiritual guidance that he provided to the council and myself.

I wish the new Grand Knight much success in this upcoming Columbian year and am very confident that he will continue to forge ahead in bringing this council forward. He knows that he will have my support and guidance every step of the way. I look forward serving the council as trustee for the next three years where I will work closely with the Grand Knight and other officers to continue the good works of the Knights of Columbus.

In ending I want to once again thank each of you for allowing me and having the confidence in me to be your Grand Knight for not only one year but for two years. A first in Union Council's history and for that I am deeply honored. I hope I have been able to live up to your expectations, realizing it is very difficult with an organization of our size to satisfy everyone. My only wish is that I was able to make an impact on each of you during my term in office. May God Bless each of you and may He remain among us as we all continue to be His disciples in bringing the good works of our order to the many people we serve. Remember to keep praying for the canonization of our founder Father Michael J. McGivney.

Have a safe and healthy summer!

**Vivat Jesus!**

**Michael Cavallo**

## Spring Food Drive A Success

The Spring Food Drive is over and once again was a success. 1,950 pounds of non-perishable food were delivered to Sister Ann for the Food Pantry at St. Michael's. To all my Brothers who gave up a little of their time to help with this worthy cause, I thank you. Our total contribution to Sister Ann this Columbian year was 4250 pounds of food and additional \$335.00 in cash.

Once again thanks to the following: Mike Loguidice, Frank Santangelo, Buddy Cotter, Andy Schopfer, Steve Mercurio, Frank Santomauro, Chuck Cababe, Steve Helmsetter, Joe DeMarco, John Murphy and last but certainly not least, my wife Laurie.

### Jim Chamberlin, Food Drive Chairman

### St. Michael's Plans Two June Events

Sister Ann Domenic is planning two events in June at St. Michael's Church in Union that may be of interest to the Knights. The first is her annual spring Blood Drive, which will take place in the school cafeteria on Sunday, June 6 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. If interested, please be certain to bring your Social Security card and another signed form of identification. Refreshments will be provided to all donors.

The second event is a special Mass for the Sick and Elderly which will be celebrated in the Lower Church, on Saturday, June 26 at 11:00 am. As part of the ceremony, the sacrament of the anointing of the sick will be administered. In addition, a fellowship hour will be held immediately after the Mass.

If you are available for either or both of these events, Sister will be grateful for your participation.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Columbian Club, notably Sam Maffei, President, Bob Calderone, Bar Manager, and Kevin Connors, Kitchen Manager. Good luck in the upcoming year!

### Summer Events Scheduled

*(continued from page 1)*

On Monday, June 28th, the Council will have a special dinner meeting to end the Columbian year 2003-2004, at which time we will have the drawing of our second quarter charitable raffle. Contact chairman John Murphy at (908) 964-4361 to purchase any additional tickets you may need.

On Saturday afternoon August 21, we will be conducting our Blood Drive from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Council Hall. As the blood supply typically dwindles during the summer months, this will be a valuable opportunity to assist the local blood centers at a critical time. Blood can be donated every 56 days, so donors can also contribute to the St. Michael's drive in June with no worries. Contact chairman Joe Demarco (908) 964-1870 for more details.

## New Volunteers Boost Runnels Program

Runnels Hospital is located in the Watchung Reservation off of Bonnie Burn Road. It is not a Hospital as many of us know it, but rather a rehabilitation hospital that helps many people who need medical treatment and therapy before they can return to living on their own. In addition, the hospital also has a number of residents who have been a patient there for years with no hope of ever going home.

Every fifth Sunday Union Council 4504 volunteers meet at the Hospital to provide assistance to patients who desire to attend Sunday Mass. While this may not sound difficult, the job does take time, because all patients are either wheelchair or bed confined.

When I took over the job of coordinating our Council's program for these patients at Runnels, Mike Carr and I were the only volunteers. Fortunately, over the past year, we have had many new volunteers come forward to help at the Hospital. I would like to thank all the men who have volunteered: Mike Cavallo, Joe De Marco, Pat Lettier, John Moco, Jim Beury, Chuck Cabab, Joe Aviles, and Livy Adibe. In doing so, they have given to people who truly need our help. Thanks to all, and a special thanks to Sal Wood who coordinates this program on behalf of the Knights of Columbus.

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