Convention Rooms Still Available, Reserve As Soon As Possible

# One Nation Under God Rally Draws Well Over 200 Attendees

Reservations will be closing shortly for this year's annual State Convention of the Knights of Columbus which will be held on May 14th through the 16th. If you have made a preliminary reservation but have not yet paid your deposit, it will be imperative that you contact Deputy Grand Knight Joe Demarco as soon as possible. If you are still considering attending, you should also contact Joe before May 7 to confirm room availability.

A crowd estimated at close to 300 came out to Union's Town Hall on April 24 to support maintaining the words One Nation Under God in the Pledge of Allegiance. The rally was arranged after the Supreme Court recently heard legal arguments that will decide whether the words will be stricken from the pledge.

Although attendance at many of the formal activities of the convention are restricted to our convention delegates, the weekend traditionally provides an opportunity to meet with fellow Knights from across the state in an informal setting. In addition, the weekend does provide an opportunity to get an early start on the summer season at the Jersey shore, and many of the boardwalk activities in Wildwood will be in full operation.

Organized by Union Council 4504, Saturday morning event was moderated by Grand Knight Michael Cavallo, and featured inspirational speeches from Assemblyman Joseph Cryan, Mayor Anthony Terrezza and County Sheriff Ralph Froelich. At the end of the ceremony, the American flag was then raised, and under it, a pennant donated by the Council which featured the words One Nation Under God. That pennant will be raised along with the flag on a daily basis at Town Hall..

The cost is \$337.00 for three nights, and \$263.00 for two. The weekend includes use of the Hospitality room which will be stocked with food and drink for the weekend. Please plan on attending if at all possible.

The Grand Knight's speech highlighted the role that the Knights of Columbus played in adding these words to the Pledge in 1954, and that we intend to be in the forefront of the initiative to maintain these words in the pledge.

# May Crowning, Pool Opening, Nuns and Widows Dinner Highlight Spring Schedule

Due to advance publicity, an atheist group was allowed to hold their own demonstration at the rally. However, their presence only fueled the energy of those attendees who supported keeping the pledge as written.

Now that Spring has arrived, the Council will be home to several events over the next few weeks which will lead us into the summer season. To start, Friday, May 7th will feature our May crowning ceremony in the Council Hall. The Mass is scheduled to begin at 7:00 and light refreshments will be served afterward. This event is run in conjunction with the Catholic Daughters, and is conducted annually on the First Friday of May. The chairperson for the event is Chuck Cababe.

# Bart Supino Honored as Knight of the Month for May

On Saturday, May 29th at 11:00 am the pool will officially be opened with a poolside Mass. The pool will be open weekends through the end of the school year when the full summer program will begin.

Bart has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for five years. He has served as our recorder, and is currently serving as our Youth Activity Chairman. In that position, he has successfully organized the children's Halloween party, their Christmas party, and most recently, the Easter egg hunt.

Finally, the annual Nuns and Widows Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, June 6. Reginald Inwirika is the chairman for this event, and should be contacted for further information.

Bart has been a resident of Union for six years. He has been married to his lovely wife Judy for sixteen years and is the proud father of Nicole age 7 and Christine age 6. White Rose Dairy in Avenel has employed Bart for 18 years where he is a warehouse supervisor. He is also a member of Saint Michael's parish and is a catechist teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade on Sunday morning.

Union Council 4504 is proud to name Bart Supino Knight of the Month for May 2004.

#### KNIGHT DIGEST

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

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2nd Yr. Trustee Ist Year Trustee

Mike Carr Larry Killmer

lst Year Trustee Columbian Club

Allen Pascullo

President

Swim Club

James Feehan

President

#### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Ist Mon. Council Officers

2nd & 4th Mon. Council

Brd Mon. Swim Club

Ist Wed. 4th Degree Officers

2nd Thu. 4th Degree Corps

3rd Wed. Assembly

4th Thu. Columbian Club

#### Grand Knight's Column



Brothers, I hope that your Easter Holiday was a Blessed one and that the risen Lord is truly with you and your loved ones.

This month I want to talk about retention of our members. Membership recruitment is very important to the future of any organization but retaining new members is even more important.

Over the course of this year we have picked up many new members, and I am glad to say that a lot of them are coming to meetings, supporting various functions and some even taking on chairman positions. This is fantastic news for our

council and I only hope that it continues. But brothers, I urge each of you to help us retain these new members and the way to do this is to make them feel that they are a part of Union Council's family. If possible spend time after a meeting and introduce yourself to some of them to help them become acclimated to our council and maybe answer some questions they may have about the knights. Make sure you let them know you look forward to seeing them at the next meeting and maybe even make plans to meet at the bar for a beer or soda on an off meeting night. Doing this will make the new member feel welcomed and make him want to come back. To my new brother knights who have already taken an active role, I applaud you for getting involved. It is new members like yourself that our council needs to be able to continue our good works.

WOW the month is May! Can you believe it? I really have no idea as to where this year has gone. But it is not over yet, we still have two months left before the 2003-2004 Columbian year draws to an end. The next two months are busy with communions, confirmations, Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations and Memorial Day but please don't forgot your council and come around to enjoy the fellowship as we continue the good works of the Knights of Columbus.

A special thanks to the following chairmen for doing an exceptional job, your willingness on chairing an event is greatly appreciated. Thanks to Bart Supino for the great holiday youth parties, Jim Chamberlin for our annual fall and spring food drives, Buddy Cotter for the Catholic Education Benefit Breakfast and Tony Manocchio Jr. for the RCD Drive. A thank you also goes out to all our brother knights who assisted these chairmen in putting together successful events. I would be remiss if I did not thank all of our brother knights who have worked very hard over the past few months on Saturdays and Wednesday nights to prepare the grounds and pool for the upcoming summer season. Without you gentlemen our facilities would not be as well kept as they are for our family and friends to come and enjoy. I personally thank each one of you for your dedication to our council, it is greatly appreciated by myself and the rest of our membership. Kudos to all of you.

May is the month that is set aside to honor our Blessed Mother. The Blessed Mother has a special place with the Knights and is often referred to as Mary Queen of the Knights. This year our state theme is "To Jesus Through Mary". So this month pray to our Blessed Mother that she will intercede for us and ask our Lord to Bless us and to keep us holy so that through Him, with Him and in Him we can live more faithfully everyday of our lives.

Vivat Jesus! Michael Cavallo, Grand Knight

# **Busy Weekend to be a Knight**

The last weekend in April was a perfect opportunity to remind a number of the Brothers of Union Council 4504 of just what it means to be a Knight of Columbus. On Saturday alone, there was a full day of events which allowed us to demonstrate our commitments to charity, unity and brotherhood. Finally, on Sunday, five of our fellow Knights opted to complete the requirements of the Fourth degree, and earned the opportunity to be called Sir Knight.

Saturday morning began with a weekly spring work party devoted to preparing the pool and picnic areas for the upcoming summer season. Each weekend seems to feature a different project, including painting of tables, moving mulch to the playground, or replacing tiles in the pool. Regardless of what work needs to be done, the assembled workers always manage to work together in a unified manner to get each task completed. In addition, the wise cracks and teasing keep the atmosphere light and enable everyone to enjoy even the dirtiest of tasks.

Many of the volunteers on this particular Saturday took a break from the work party to attend the Council sponsored rally at Town Hall in support of keeping the words One Nation Under God in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those who did so were able to experience an event which was truly inspiring, reinforcing the values of the Knights and our commitment to our God and our community.

In addition to the rally, a number of Brothers also devoted a portion of their weekend to soliciting contributions for the annual Retarded Citizens Drive. Over the course of the weekend, approximately \$5,000 was raised in support of this worthy cause.

Saturday evening featured a unique demonstration of fraternity, as the Columbian Club held its annual appreciation dinner. This was their chance to thank those brothers and their families who have worked hard over the course of the year to make the Council Hall an enjoyable place to visit and spend time. For this one night (and well into Sunday morning) their efforts were duly noted as the Club honored past President Jamie Zapulla.

After experiencing all that Saturday had to offer, current members of the Fourth Degree then spent Sunday at the 4th Degree Exemplification, welcoming Brian Ford, Greg Lodato, Livinius Adibe, Reginald Inwirika and Andy Schopfer into their ranks. All in all it was a weekend that embodied the spirit of Knighthood!

# Easter Egg Hunt A Happy Event for All

At our annual Easter Egg Hunt approximately 75 children were in attendance. The children had a great time hunting for eggs on the grounds. There were hot dogs soda, chips, as well as plenty of candy for the children. There was also a goodie bag and a kite given to the children there. A special thanks to Ron Giameo (Easter Bunny) and the Columbian Club for the use of the kitchen. A great time was had by all as all the children left with big smiles on their faces.

Don't miss our next event. Keep reading the digest and keep coming to the council for a great time to be shared by all.

#### **Bart Supino**

### Council to Sponsor Yankee Trip

If you have not yet made your vacation plans for July, the Council is offering a unique opportunity to attend a Yankee game in the beautiful city of Toronto, Canada when the Bombers take on the Blue Jays at the world famous SKYDOME ballpark on July 26.

The trip will depart on Saturday morning July 24th @ 8:00 am and return on Tuesday evening the 27th. We will travel via a luxury motor coach along with snacks and soft drinks, and will also include a stop for lunch along the way. The estimated travel time including a one-hour stop for lunch is about 9 hours.

We will stay at the Skydome Renaissance hotel, which is connected to the ballpark. Our trip will include club level seats for the game on Monday evening and a tour of the facilities on Monday afternoon. Haven't you always wondered how they can open and close SKYDOME roof so quickly?

If you are not solely a baseball fan, the Hockey Hall of Fame is located within walking distance of the hotel, as is the CN Tower. Toronto also boasts numerous restaurants and an exciting nightlife.

The cost for transportation, tickets and refreshments to Toronto will be approximately \$125 per person. The cost of the hotel room, depending on the exchange rate in July, will be between \$400 (2 persons per room) to \$525 (4 persons per room) for the 3-night stay. EACH person will be responsible for booking his or her own room directly with the hotel.

There are only a limited number of seats available, so if you are interested, please call Steve Helmstetter @ 688-5039.

With this Columbian year coming to a close, we will soon be announcing nominations for officers for the 2004-2005 Columbian year. If you are interested in becoming an officer of our Council, please contact Past Grand Knight Dominic Clementoni at 908 608-3618.

## The Prayer of a K OF C Insurance Member

Now I lay me down to snore,
Insured for several thousand more.
If I should die before I wake,
My spouse would get a real big break.
But should I live for 20 years,
My spouse and I will shed no tears.
We will retire and fish and rest;
Back comes my cash with interest.
When we're old we can keep our house
And not live with our daughter's spouse.
So thank god for the great endurance
of the person who sold us K Of C Insurance.

K of C Insurance –sold solely by brother Knights for brother knights and their families. Contact Rich Fuentes (908) 437-0310 for more information.