



Knight Digest

NJ State Council Bulletin Award 2010



Vol. 54 NO. 10

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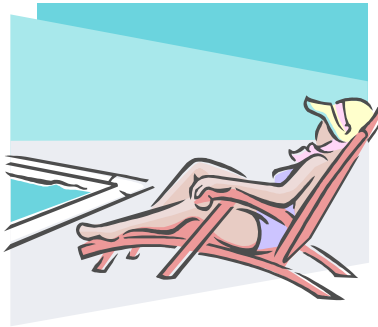
June 2013

Upcoming Events

June 2nd.....Runnells Hospital
 June 30th..... "Midnight" Toast at 10 PM
 June 10th.....Council Elections
 July 10th.....Council Swim Day
 July 24th.....Council Swim Day
 July 27th.....Monmouth Park Race Track
 August 10th.....Monmouth Park Race Track
 August 14th.....Council Swim Day
 August 28th.....Council Swim Day

Swim Club Council Days

Once again our Columbian Swim Club will open the pool to our Brother Knights at Union Council 4504 and the Columbiettes of Union 4504 for the 2013 summer season. All members in good standing, along with their immediate family can swim at no charge. They may have guests and whom may pay the daily fee.



The dates for this summer are on the following Wednesdays July 10 , July 24, August 14, and August 28. You must have a current valid Knights or Columbiettes membership card and obtain a wrist band at the gate house prior to entering the pool area. Come and get wet and cool off in the pool.

Water Aerobics are back again

Once again Don will hold Water Aerobics in our pool every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:00 PM during the months of July and August. These free classes are open to all Swim Club members and daily paying guests. It is still not too late to join the Swim Club for this summer and enjoy the pool and work out with Water Aerobics.

Thank You

I would like to Thank everyone that helped and supported me with my Eagle scout project. The project is almost done and just needs some finishing touches. I look forward to finishing the project soon and unveiling it to the family and students of Ms. Caruso. Special thanks to everyone that helped me with this project. -Mark Gallegos



Our "Midnight" Toast at 10pm



All are welcome and encouraged to come out for this traditional event where we say THANK YOU to our current head officers of the Council, Swim Club, Columbian Club and Columbiettes and we say WELCOME to the incoming head officers of these entities. It is held at the end of our Columbian Year so it take place on Sunday June 30th 2013 at 10pm SHARP (some of the old folks got to get to bed).

Monmouth Park Race Track

July 27, 2013

Private Grove near the Finish Line.

\$32.00 per person - Price includes Entrance Fee, Program and Pencil.

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Salads and Snacks

Cold Beer, Water and Soda

Dessert



First Race 12:50 pm

Knigh 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
Knigh Digest Editor
1034 Jeanette Avenue
Union, NJ 07083

or via email to: tomdudek@att.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

Chaplin Rev. Ranulfo D. Docabo
District Deputy John Scioscia, PGK
Grand Knight Alex Costa
Deputy Grand Knight Steve Nagy
Chancellor Ed McCormick
Warden Greg Henn
Recorder Giftus John
Treasurer Frank Santangelo
Fin. Secretary Thomas Hornig, PGK
Inside Guard Michael Willemse
Outside Guard Open
Membership Director Rich Fuentes
Program Director Mike Peter, PGK
Advocate Stephen F. Hehl
3rd. Yr. Trustee Andy Schopfer, PGK
2nd Yr. Trustee Michael Gasser, PGK
1st Yr. Trustee Mike Peter, PGK
4th Degree Faithful
Navigator Andy Schopfer, PGK
Columbian Club
President Rob Salvatore, PGK
Swim Club President Joe Marateo
Columbiette President Eileen Lettier

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

This is it, my final Grand Knight article. I would like to offer an apology to one and all for being a little absent these past few weeks. My wife gave birth to our twins on April 4th so I had a few more family duties than usual. But we are thrilled; Paul Alexander and Christina Marie are finally here.

That being said, I guess it is only right if we discuss the topic that seems to be on everyone's lips these days. **WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE COLUMBIAN CLUB?** In short, I removed three (3) officers from their positions as President, 1st Vice President (Bar manager) and 2nd Vice President (Kitchen manager). That was it. **NO ONE ELSE!**

We were 6 months into the Columbian year and things weren't getting done. Things that put our members and their family's safety at risk, things that were fiscally irresponsible and things that just should have been done by the men who volunteered for the positions they held.

There was a lot of resistance that I still don't understand. We had meeting after meeting to try and resolve things. In 6 months, there were ample opportunities to resolve situations or bring up issues for discussions. We had 12 Council Meetings, 6 Officers Meetings, 6 Columbian Club Meetings and close to a half dozen "private" meetings along the way. Plus countless emails and text messages all in an effort to communicate and get things done in the fashion they needed to be done. Ask those removed how many Council meetings they attended or how many Officer Meetings they attended and I think you will find where communications broke down.

Don't be fooled by the nonsense that some have been spewing. These dullards who are using social media and blast emails to dispatch half-truths and incorrect information (I don't think one of them were at both the "dismissal meeting" and the "unsanctioned meeting") are doing a disservice to one and all. They are regurgitating biased, second hand information at best. I did NOT just come in one day beating my chest with my fists in a tyrannical manner. I think close to 30 meetings and other communications show I was more than patient. In this world, if you don't do your job then you shouldn't expect to have that job for long. That holds true regardless if you work for IBM or volunteer at the Knights of Columbus.

I only removed three (3) gentlemen from their officer positions, not this guy, not that guy, just the three (3) I mentioned earlier. These three (3) could have very easily gone to the bar and drank their beer and cursed me under their breath, they could have easily done the things that needed from the start, and they could have appropriately gone through the chain of command and contacted the District Deputy and said something. But no, they did none of these things. Instead they screamed and yelled and walked out like 5 year olds throwing a tantrum. They sent letters to Supreme and to State written in a tirade of accusations, filled with diatribes and maledictions but not one supporting fact or one contradictory by-law.

So in a show of what I can only call misguided loyalty the other 9 or so (a few members weren't at that meeting that night) members of the Columbian Club WALKED OUT of the meeting when I announced the change I was implementing. I understand loyalty, I understand friendships of 10, 20 and 30 years, so I announced in this meeting (and also put it in the digest) that these men who walked out had 48 hours to contact me should they reconsider their decision when cooler heads prevailed. 48 hours was unofficially extended to a week and a few contacted me and retained their positions. **AND TO THOSE BROTHER KNIGHTS I AM TRULY THANKFUL.** But in

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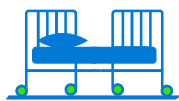
Knights Family Dinner

Please join us on Thursday June 20, 2013 at 6:30 PM for our traditional Bar-B-Que Family Dinner. This will be the last Thursday Night Family Dinner until September 19, 2013 when we resume them after the summer break.



2012-2013 Runnells Hospital Schedule

Below is Council 4504's schedule for volunteering at Runnells Hospital. Take a moment to add these dates to your calendar and make a commitment to yourself to volunteer to help.



June 2, 2013
July 7, 2013
August 11, 2013



Your help is greatly appreciated!
Contact Charlie Cunningham at 908-419-2310.

Columbian Swim Club News

Due to rising operating costs and with the need to purchase replacement items such as the pool pump motor, the Swim Club Board has made the decision to implement a modest \$10.00 increase in this coming season's dues. By virtue of the continuous efforts of the Swim Club Board to implement various cost savings measures, the dues have not been increased for 3 years but we must do so at this point in time. This year family dues will be \$260.00, widows and widowers will remain \$220.00. Single Membership will be \$ 135.00 this season. Application are available on the council website. All payments are due by March 15, 2013. Late fees will be assessed at \$25.00 commencing April 1, 2013. For Membership Information please contact: Jim Ford @ jford1488@comcast.net.

The Swim Club season will begin with a Mass at 11:00 AM on Saturday, May 25, 2013, Memorial Day weekend. Swim Club pool badges will be available at the gatehouse after the opening of the pool after Mass. Badges can only be picked up by the pool member or spouse, and only by presenting a paid up Council Membership card for the 2013 year. Council dues will not be accepted at this time.

Council Swim Days: July 10th, July 24th, August 14th and August 28th. Mark your calendars!

Knights of the Month

June 2013

Jim Ford



If you are reading this while sitting beside our pool, you probably know Jim Ford, or at least receive an annual letter from him. All winter long Jim works hard to prepare and send out the Swim Club membership dues letters, and then receives the payments back from members (some even after the pool opens) and processes them. This may not seem like much, but Jim has been doing it for almost 15 years as

Swim Club Membership Director.

Jim has been married to his wife Debbie for over 35 years, and they have three children; Brian, Kelly and Tim as well as three Grand children. Jim and Debbie are parishioners at St. Michael's Church where Jim has been very active for over 15 years and has served as a Eucharistic Minister and is a member of the Choir.

Being a Knight of Columbus and a member of the Union Council is a Ford family tradition. Jim's father Jim Sr. joined our Council in the 1960's and served as a bar opener, bartender and Columbian Club President. Jim Jr. grew up at the Council and in 1979 made his First Degree. Presently Jim's son Brian and son-in-law Matteo are also a Brother Knights at the Union Council.

As a second generation Brother Knight at the Union Council, Jim grew up at our Council and Swim Club as did his three children.

Another Family Tradition is Law Enforcement. Jim is a retired Police Lieutenant from Chatham Township Police Department. He obtained his Doctorate in 2007 from Cappella University and is currently a full-time Professor of Criminal Justice Studies at the College of Saint Elizabeth. His Grandfather was a Summit Police Office, his Father was a Union County Corrections Officer, and his sons are Police officers too. Brian is with the Florham Park Police Department, and Tim is with Union Police Department.

Besides his second career teaching, involvement with St. Michael's Church and the Union Knights of Columbus, Jim and Debbie enjoy traveling to Vermont, dancing and their children and grandchildren.

For all that Jim does for his Church, Family, Community and Council which represents what the Knights look for in Knights of the Month, Union Knights of Columbus are proud to honor Jim Ford Jr. as our Knight of the Month for June 2013. Congratulations Jim.

(Continued from page 2)

my opinion, the rest didn't stick up for their friends. Walking out like that, they abandoned 1,500+ of their Brother Knights.

Then there was an "unsanctioned" meeting of what I must refer to as the "old" Columbian Club. In this meeting a resolution was brought for a vote and it "passed". The resolution stated that the three (3) removed were to retain their positions as they "old" Columbian Club members felt (no proof but they felt) the Grand Knight was wrong in his actions. How you expect to vote yourself back into a job you were essentially fired from is beyond me but this is what they were trying to accomplish. I was at this meeting but did not vote. I was there merely to see who was attending and who was voting. You see, voting in favor of this resolution in this "unsanctioned" meeting is directly in violation of COUNCIL/SUPREME By-laws.

Anyone who knows me knows I don't do things half way. The Old Columbian Club may have FELT I was wrong but they were wrong. I had gone over this on numerous levels. I had several meetings with more than one DD, I had met with the State Warden, and I had communications with the State Advocate as well as the State Deputy. I had my ducks in a row and made sure all was in accordance with Supreme and Council By-Laws. END OF STORY! Those who say I didn't need to get a NEW By-Laws book. Everything was in accordance with the 2012 by-laws.

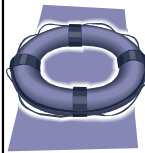
At this point we have three (3) men removed from their office in the Columbian Club but wanted to vote themselves back in and we have 9 or so Columbian Club Directors/Officers who walked out on their positions and are now supporting "illegal" actions and resolutions. Sadly, I truly believe a number of these Knights went with these actions out of ignorance of procedure and the fact they did not know what had transpired over the last 6+ months. Had they had all the facts, I like to think some would have governed themselves accordingly. Regardless this now left us with proceedings through the State Knights of Columbus.

That is it in a nutshell. As of this writing we are awaiting the results of the Tribunal. According to by-laws, the results will be read at the next council meeting after the dismissals and/or sentences are handed down. I wish things had gone differently, I wish things could have been resolved but I spent the last 6 years working my way up the chairs in the council. I took my acceptance of the Grand Knight very seriously. It would have been much easier for me to just shut up and drink at the bar all year. But I couldn't. I made a promise; I made a commitment to not a few Brother Knights but to ALL my Brother Knights and to Union Council # 4504. So if after reading this you want to blame me, go ahead. If after reading this you think I did what I had to do, good. But I can look at myself in the mirror each day and sleep well at night knowing I did what was best for the Council. Thank you one and all for an exciting year. I look forward to seeing where things go from here.



Vivat Jesus, Alex

Summer Safety Tips



Each year around 350 people die unintentionally from drowning. Take a quick glance at some of our top pool safety tips!

- Always have an adult present when a child is swimming. Never let them swim alone. If they are old enough to swim "alone", have them swim with a buddy.
- Pool covers should always be on when pool is not in use. Ladders should be IN when pool is IN use and OUT when pool is not being used. Gates should be shut and locked when not in use.
- Never jump or dive into shallow areas!
- Kids should never run or pretend to drown.

Wanting a non-swimming pool alternative for the younger kids? Try sprinklers, inflatable boats or even small pools that can (and should) be emptied nightly! Always research before you buy!



Fire in the grill, under hot dogs and burgers, is a welcome sight at the family cookout. But fire anywhere else can make your summer kick-off barbecue memorable for all the wrong reasons.

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.



Are you thinking of taking the kids camping? Please do some research before you go. Make sure you know the terrain, the weather and even the wildlife. Make sure to pack accordingly. Do you have all your medications, food and emergency phone numbers? Oh, and you cant forget the bug spray! Camping can be a wonderful thing, until you forget to pack something important or the weather turns bad. Make it a memorable summer and double, triple check everything.

Do your kids know street safety? Have you taught them to look both ways and to stay out of the streets while riding bikes? Have you checked out the expiration dates and read the manuals to all toys? Do helmets fit and brakes work? We know being a parent can be stressful, and sometimes we forget to do the smallest things. That is why we wanted to remind you.

More summer safety tips!

- Always make sure children (and adults) are wearing sunscreen. Check expiration dates since the SPF can break down and last years may not be good.
- If someone in your house is allergic to bee stings, make sure your EPI pen is still good.
- Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of fluids and always have some on hand for younger children.

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Stay in touch with your Council

During the summer months and all year long keep informed of the happenings and events going on at the Union Knights of Columbus by making sure you get your copy of the Knight Digest each month. It's FREE.

You can receive an email copy each month to your email address by going to our web site <http://kofc4504.org/> and clicking on the link to receive the Knight Digest each month. Or you can read the current edition and almost every back issue back to the first September 1958 edition by going to <http://kofc4504.org/history1.html> on our web site.

If you would like to receive a copy each month mailed to your home please send a note to us requesting to receive it in the mail at:

Union Knights of Columbus 4504
1034 Jeanette Ave.
Union, NJ 07083
Attn: Knight Digest

Congratulations Father Chuck

The Union Knights of Columbus congratulate Father Charles B. McDermott on the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination into the Priesthood on May 26th. May God's Guidance and Blessings be with him always.

Summer Safety Tips

(Continued from page 4)

- Children under 16 should not use a riding mower and children under 12 should not use a push mower. Keep an eye on children while mowing.
- Children should always tell a parent or guardian where they are going.
- Pets should have access to shade and water.
- Never leave children/pets alone in a parked car.
- If you are going to a crowded place, dress your child in bright colors to be spotted easier.



Welcome New Brother Knights

We had nine new Brother Knights join the Knights of Columbus and Council 4504 at the First Degree held on Monday, May 20, 2013. In the photo left to right, Patrick Wildridge, Antonio Braca, Jared Crowley, Rob Garland, Marc Lupo, Anthony Marzocca, Anthony Natale, Joseph Avveniri, and Jhonifer Casello. Welcome Brothers to the Knights of Columbus and Union Council 4504.

Knights of Columbus
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June 2013

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 Runnells Hospital	3 Council Officers Mtg.	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 8:10pm Council Mtg. Council Elections	11	12	13	14 Flag Day 	15
16 Father's Day 	17 Swim Club Mtg.	18	19	20 6:30pm Knights Family Dinner	21 	22
23	24 8:10pm Council Mtg. Columbian Club Elections	25	26 8pm - 4th Degree Assembly Meeting	27 7:30 pm Columbian Club Mtg.	28	29
30 10pm Champagne Toast						