



# Knights Digest



Vol. 56 NO. 5

www.kofc4504.org

January 2015

## Calendar of Events

### January

January 24th ..... Free Throw Contest  
January 26th ..... Weight Loss Talk

### February

February 1st..... Super Bowl Party  
February 14th ..... Valentine's Day  
February 21st..... Winter's Night Out

## FREE THROW BASKETBALL CONTEST



On **January 24, 2015**, Saturday morning from 8:30am to noon the Knights of Columbus will be conducting our annual free throw basketball competition. The location for this event will be at Connecticut Farms Elementary School. The gym entrance is towards the back of the school near there basketball area.

The competition is open to any boy or girl that will be the age of 9 or 14 prior to January 1, 2015. For further instructions please contact Mike Peter, Knights of Columbus Program Director at 908-759-3588 or email [mikepeter46@yahoo.com](mailto:mikepeter46@yahoo.com).

# Happy New Year!

## GOOD TIMES AT THE POOL!

I realize the pool season ended on Labor Day, and as we prepare for the 2015 season, I was reflecting on the many good times and challenges. I remember -- as many of you veterans of the pool may - - a three-year waiting period to join. At that time the pool had 500 members! Besides the gate house, there was a gentleman stationed inside the pool area who kept track of your coming and going and handed you a pass to leave and come back.

My children learned how to swim at the pool and eventually, when they were old enough, tried out for the swim team. Most of the parents volunteered to help at the swim meets whether we were home or away. Every lane was full of swimmers, and we used the deep end of the pool, too.

After swim lessons and swim team practice was over, we went to the picnic grove where it seemed to be 10

*(Continued on page 4)*

## COAT DRIVE



Clean out your closets, Help the less fortunate, It's gonna be a cold winter this year. Union Council 4504 is doing a coat drive! We have a collection box just inside the council. All gently used coats are appreciated. Men's, women's, boys and girls. Every coat will help.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UP-COMING EVENTS



Super Bowl Party

Valentine's Day

A Winter's Night Out - Part Two

## Knights 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**  
**Knights Digest Editor**  
**1034 Jeanette Avenue**  
**Union, NJ 07083**

or 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. Ranulfo D. Docabo  
*District Deputy*..... Alex Costa, PGK  
*Grand Knight* ..... Ed McCormick  
*Deputy Grand Knight*..... Greg Henn  
*Chancellor*..... Giftus John  
*Warden* ..... Michael Willemse  
*Recorder*..... Kevin Gongob  
*Treasurer*..... Frank Santangelo  
*Fin. Secretary*..... Thomas Hornig, PGK  
*Inside Guard*..... Paul Willemse  
*Outside Guard*..... Rob Genovese  
*Membership Director*..... Nick Belemonte  
*Program Director*..... Mike Peter, PGK  
*Advocate*..... Stephen F. Hehl  
*3rd. Yr. Trustee* ..... Steve Nagy, PGK  
*2nd Yr. Trustee* ..... Joseph Burlew, PGK  
*1st Yr. Trustee* ..... Andy Schopfer PGK  
*4th Degree Faithful*  
*Navigator*..... Andy Schopfer, PGK  
*Columbian Club*  
*President* ..... Allen Pascullo  
*Swim Club President*..... Joe Marateo, PGK  
*Columbiette President*..... Bernadette Watson

## 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

### My Brother Knights at the Union Knights of Columbus,

It's hard to believe that half of this Columbian year is over as we celebrate the coming of 2015. The first half of the 2014-2015 year has been good in Union Council. Many successful events have been run both by the Council and Columbian Club. The most recent event was breakfast with Santa which was well attended and enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to Mike Willemse and Kevin Gongob who chaired the event and to all the brothers who jumped in and helped.

The Council's sale of Keep Christ in Christmas magnets raised \$305 for the Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities Fund. Thank you to all who bought magnets to support this worthy cause. And a special thank you to Kathy Boetsch who was our super salesperson.

Coming up is our annual Super Bowl party in early February. The Columbian Club is running a few other events which are published elsewhere in the Digest.

Also on the horizon is the renewal of the Council's scholarship for children of Knights or Columbiettes to help defray the cost of attending Catholic High School. More details about this will appear in future months.

My main message here is to say thank you to all the brothers who helped make the first half of this Columbian year the success that it was. A lot of good things have occurred in Union Council and many more are to come. Please keep up the good work. To those who have not participated in Council events in recent years, please make a New Year's resolution to join in the action in our upcoming events.

Happy New Year to all.

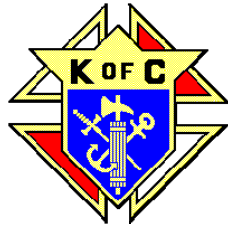
**Vivat Jesus**  
**Ed McCormick**



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For More Information Contact:

Greg Chaves (732) 492-3049 or  
gregory.chaves@kofc.org

## ***COLUMBIAN CLUB NEWS***

If you have not been down to your Union Council #4504 in a while, why not? As usual, the Council Lounge has two great looking and decorated Christmas Trees and other Christmas decorations. The Nativity is up on our front lawn. The Christmas spirit is in full swing. Come on over and share some special time with us at your Council. Football Sundays (and Mondays and Thursdays) are always in full swing. Basket Ball is competing for large-screen TV time, majority wins, but you have to be here. Pick a day, any day, every day - stop by and say hello.

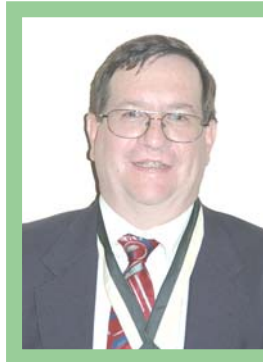
For your information, much-needed repairs were made to the chain link fence in the back grove area which runs the length of our property line. It was three hours of tough work in the cold on Saturday morning, December 20, but with the help, and much thanks, to Joe Marateo and Frank Santangelo, we got everything back to where it needs to be and the repairs should last a while. Many of the top poles were either partially or completely out of the upright poles and much of the tie-down wire was either not there or was not securing the fence to the poles and uprights. The over-grown vines and assorted shrubbery were removed from the fence as well and they were also cut back a few feet from the fence. This is something that, while not seen or is even aware of by most, is very important and worth mentioning.

Allen Pascullo - Columbian Club President

## ***KNIGHT OF THE MONTH JANUARY 2015***



### **Andy Schopfer**



Andy Schopfer has been a member of the Knights for the past 13 years. During his 13 years with the Knights he has served as Grand Knight twice. Andy made his 4th degree in April 2004 and is currently Navigator of the 4th Degree, in addition to serving as 1st year Trustee. For the past several years Andy has also run the charitable raffle. Andy is an active parishioner at Holy Spirit Church in Union, attending baptisms with Steve Nagy that take place at the parish.

Andy was born in Elizabeth and moved to Union in 1991. His son, Brian, serves in the Army National Guard and recently returned from Afghanistan. He also has a step-daughter Liz. Andy has a masters degree from Moravian College. He works for Prudential as a disability claim manager.

Andy likes to play golf in his spare time and is an avid sport fan for the NY Giants, NY Mets, and NY Rangers.

Congratulations to Andy for Knight of the Month January 2015.

## ***SWIM CLUB NEWS***

The Columbian Swim Club annual meeting will be on Friday, **January 16th** at 7:30 pm. More information will be mailed out to the members in early January.

Swim Club renewals will also be mailed out in January, if you do not receive one please email Jim Ford at [jford1488@comcast.net](mailto:jford1488@comcast.net).

## ***FAMILY DINNERS***

Due to the increase of people coming to the family dinners we are now taking reservations for this event. If you plan on attending please call Pat Wittek at 908-964-3989. If you don't make a reservation we can't guarantee you a plate for dinner. Thank you for making this event extremely successful.

*(Continued from page 1)*

degrees cooler, thanks to all the wonderful trees. While the children played on the swings or at basketball, lunch was being prepared by the parents.

Back then we were limited to 10 guests per season with a card that had to be punched indicating how many guest visits were remaining. The children were lined up at the gate waiting for the pool to open, and they all would challenge each other as to who would be the first in the pool. Years ago we had a diving board; but with increased insurance costs, it became too prohibitive to maintain.

Most of the families stayed at the pool and cooked dinner on the grills in the grove area, and then they either attended swim meets or just played with the kids. The parents had a good time socializing, as well as the children. Many families were there from morning until it became dark. The night time splash parties were a big hit for the children; then adult swim parties came along and were great as well.

Before I was a member and after I became a member of the pool, I attended as many work parties as I could for the work party pool passes. There was a sign-in sheet for the volunteers, and for years we had four to five full pages with names. Today, there are perhaps five to ten names on the volunteer sheet. I realize there are a lot of reasons why people can't attend, but the work only gets done by members volunteering.

When I became membership director, we had 350 families who were members of the pool; today, we have a little over 200. Why has membership declined? There are many reasons and not one single is predominant over the other. But one thing is for certain: if we don't increase membership, we may not have a pool. So, we ask you to do your part with work parties and talk to your neighbors and friends about the wonderful opportunities and relaxing time at our pool. Jim Ford - Pool Membership Dir.

## ***SUPER BOWL PARTY REMINDER!!!***

The Columbian Club will be having our annual Super Bowl Party in the Council Lounge and Hall on **February 1, 2015**. As usual, there will be plenty of snacks, phenomenal cold and hot dishes, Large screen TV's, etc. You should be getting your tables together now to ensure the best seating in the Hall.

## ***VALENTINE'S DAY FEBRUARY 14, 2015***

If you are planning to go to a restaurant or if you do not have any plans as yet for this special day - here is the best plan around. The Columbian Club is now in the planning stages for the special Valentine's Day event for couples on Saturday, February 14, 2015. This will be a fine dining and music event and **all tickets must be purchased in advance.** We are planning an evening of hors d'oeuvres, a special meal and desert - Entertainment will be provided. Flyers with pricing and menu will be put up at the Council during January and a Blast Email will be sent.

## ***RETURN OF A WINTER'S NIGHT OUT PART TWO***

Based on the wild success this event enjoyed last year, the Columbian Club will be doing something similar this year. February 21, 2015, is the date for this event. Put this date on your calendar - the theme of this year's "Night Out" has not been finalized but whatever it turns out to be - it will be good food and fun no matter what, and we would like for you to be part of this event. Those whom attended last year's Winter's Night Out raved about it and this year's event will surely be just as good, probably better.

## ***COMEDY NIGHT AT THE COUNCIL Save the Date - Saturday, April 11, 2015***

Uncle Floyd (TV/Radio Personality) will headline an evening of comedy, music and food. More details will be given in upcoming digests.



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*Union, NJ 07083*

*Feel free to invite any friends and family whom may benefit.*



Michael P. Willemse, D.C., CCIC

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# January 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Council Officers Meeting	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Council Mtg. 8:10p	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Swim Club Mtg.	20	21	22 Columbian Club Mtg.	23	24 Free Throw Contest
25	26 Council Mtg. 8:10p Weight Loss Talk	27	28 4th Degree Assembly	29	30	31