



Knights Digest



Vol. 50 NO. 4

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December 2008



Breakfast With Santa

Date: Sunday, December 21, 2008

Place: Council Hall

Time: 10:00 AM (after 9 AM mass)

Price: \$23.00 for a family of 4

(2 adults & 2 children)

Each additional adult—\$7.00

Each additional child—\$5.00

Menu include our famous omelet station, egg, bacon, sausage, home fries, bagels, fruit, coffee and juices

Bring the whole family for this great family day
Come sing songs and have your children take a photo with
Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus

**** Reservations Requested ****

Tony Quinones

908-265-3757

Parents: Please bring a gift for
Santa to give to each child!!!!
(No more than \$15.00)



DUES INCREASE

A motion was read on the floor at the Council meeting on November 9th. Due to increased costs and an assessment by the Supreme Council of \$3 per member, we must increase our yearly membership dues by \$4. A vote on this proposal will take place at the Council meeting on Monday December 8. Since that night is our Annual Christmas Dinner meeting, please remember that the meeting time will be 6:30 p.m. It is recommended that you attend this very important meeting.



NATIVITY FUND RAISER

The new Nativity set for the lawn at Town hall has arrived and is beautiful. Due to the generosity of the members we also had enough money to purchase a small Nativity set for the lawn at our council hall. I would like to invite everyone that contributed to this worthy cause to attend a viewing of both Nativity sets on Tuesday, December 2, 2008.

We are looking to have the Nativities blessed on this day in conjunction with the Supreme Councils request to hold a **"LIGHT UP FOR CHRISTMAS"** on this date nation wide.

We will meet at Town Hall between 7 and 7:15 pm to bless that Nativity scene and then move to our council hall to bless the small set. A small wine and cheese reception will follow. At the request of the Supreme Council we are asking members to bring some non- perishable food items for a local food pantry. We will donate the food to Sr. Ann at St. Michael's Church. This will be a great way to start celebrating the Christmas season.

Its still not to late to donate to the Nativity fund raiser as we will need to purchase a storage shed once the Christmas holiday is over. Thanks again to all who helped make this fund raiser a success. Bro. Steven M. Ruhl 899 Lafayette Ave. Union NJ 07083



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 15th of the month for the following month. Please mail or drop off submission, with contact information to:



Tom Dudek
Knight 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

District Deputy Lawrence Killmer, PGK
Grand Knight Mike Peter
Deputy Grand Knight Rob Salvatore
Chancellor Joe Burlew
Warden Gino Gonzalez
Recorder Jim Devico
Treasurer Frank Santangelo
Fin. Secretary Thomas Hornig, PGK
Inside Guard Kyle Wiklanski
Outside Guard Alex Costa
Membership Director Nick Belmonte
Program Director Position Open
Advocate Stephen F. Hehl
3rd. Yr. Trustee Position Open
2nd Yr. Trustee Buddy Cotter, PGK
1st Yr. Trustee Harry Lupo, PGK
Columbian Club President Jamie Zappulla
Swim Club Pres. Steve Ruhl

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

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT



Brothers, and friends of the Knights,



On November 11th I attended the Veterans Day Memorial Service at the American Legion. Many of our fathers and grandfathers, uncles, cousins, and brothers as well as their female counterparts, and for some, your sons and daughters, who served our country could and should be recognized as heroes. But they often do not wish to dwell on the memories of the heroic deeds they performed, but to be honored solely because they served our country as a patriotic duty. I wish more of our members could have been there to witness this moving tribute on a day that was given over to honoring those who selflessly fought and died for the principles that make our country great. They are truly heroes in every sense of the word whether they profess to be or not.

On a less somber note, I would like to thank Jaime for putting up the plaque signifying the Anniversary of the Fourth Degree. It adds a nice touch to the wall of our hall. I would also like to thank all those who contributed to the Nativity Scene that Steve Ruhl worked on so diligently, ordering not one but two sets, one of which will be displayed at the Union Town Hall. The other will be set up at our Council Home. I am planning to have the sets displayed at both locations starting December 2nd. . All of the Councils within the Order are suggested to light up a Nativity scene or a Christmas tree at 8pm eastern time on this date to begin the Christmas season with the annual "Light Up for Christ". This will be a great time for families and friends to gather around to celebrate the start of the Christmas season. Refreshments will be served at the council.

There is a campaign within our Order to "Keep Christ in Christmas". People often tend to forget that Christmas is one of the holiest days of the year when we celebrate the birth of Christ. A priest once told me that we should be proud of our religion, and should also be proud to call Christmas as it is meant to be called instead of Happy Holidays, or X-Mass, or some other generic term that fails to recognize the birth of our Savior. As Catholics, we should always identify this season properly as "Christmas".

With all this talk of Christmas I may be rushing the season, but I want to take this opportunity to be one of the first to wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas, and a Holy, Healthy, Happy, Prosperous New Year!



God Bless all of you! - - - Mike Peter, G.K.

TRICKY TRAY

Our annual Tricky tray is scheduled for Saturday, February 28, 2009. Letters were sent out to our members and to local merchants asking for donations.

We hope each member can contribute something towards our Tricky Tray. Donations can be made in many different ways. For example, gift certificates for stores, restaurants or places of fun and interest. We can also utilize miscellaneous items for raffling. Last year, many families donated a "themed basket" which was a big success. Of course, monetary donations are always helpful. However, any and all donations would be accepted and very much appreciated.

Should you need any further information or have any questions regarding donations, please contact Diane Lupo at 908-577-6606 or Chris Burlew at 908-403-1590.

Please note that we are also collecting unscratched NJ Lottery tickets at Council meetings to make a "lottery" basket from all council members.



Sister Ann will again be having her Christmas party for Camp Fatima of New Jersey on December 14th at the Union Knights of Columbus which will start at 1:00 pm with lunch will be served shortly there after.

At 2:00 pm Santa will then distribute presents to the Special People and take photos. Sr. Ann is also inviting all Special People of New Jersey, their parents and counselors of Camp Fatima. Please reply to Sr. Ann no later than December 9th by calling her at St Michael's Convent 908-686-5271 ext 110.

Thank you



Country Jamboree

Save the Date!!! - We will be having a Country Jamboree at the council on February 21st. More details to follow in the next issue. Any questions contact Kyle Wiklanski or Tom Leddy.

Dinner Meeting

Our dinner meeting this year will be held on December 8th. Cost for the dinner will be \$10.00 and will begin at 6pm followed by the regular council meeting. The charitable raffle drawing will also take place at this time.



Deadline for submitting articles for the January digest is December 19th.



Knight of the Month



Steve Ruhl



As Knights of Columbus, we all know that it is important to have a good framework by which to live a rewarding catholic life. Our Knight of the month not only sets a good example for his family, but also for those he comes in contact with. He not only sets a standard within the club, with his hard work, but also in all his outside endeavors.

Steve Ruhl has been a Knight for close to 20 yrs, from bringing his family every summer to the pool, to himself becoming the current Swim club President, making sure the pool remains up to par, for the children as well as the adults. WHEN he has free time, Steve likes to be involved as much as he can, besides the swim club, he has helped out at work parties, and almost any other charitable function that we have.

Steve has been married to his lovely wife Donna for 24 yrs, and they have 2 children, Ryan 19 and Amanda 16. Ryan Ruhl, as part of an eagle scout project, along with Steve, redid the landscape in front of the Council hall with a statue of the Blessed Mother. Ryan is also an EMT in town, and would like to be a Fireman one day....Just like Dad... Like I said, Framework....

He is also a dedicated fan to Amanda, going to all of her varsity soccer and softball games along with her traveling soccer team, attending games as far away as Delaware.

As mentioned Steve has been a fireman in Hillside for over 25 years and he is currently Deputy Chief. He is also a Mutual Aid Coordinator, or MAC9, for Union County. There are only 12 countywide. There he is responsible to assist an incident commander with the mutual aid companies in where to go and what to do in cases of a major fire or emergency.

In his spare time he enjoys skiing, camping, is a member of the Board of Ed. and a parishioner of St Michael's for over 20 years where he helps with the CYO in raising funds by selling wreaths and grave covers and is on the committee to help raise funds for St Michael's HVAC.

But we all know what he loves doing the best... Halloween... He (along with his family) spends so much time decorating for Halloween, that the town closes the street to traffic because they have over 600 kids visiting their house. Steve has always set up and taken down the Nativity scene in front of town hall. Last year, when our figurines were on their last legs, Steve took it upon himself to help raise funds so we can buy a new set. Steve did so well, that we not only bought a set for town hall, but we can also place the Nativity outside the Council hall. Union council #4504 is proud to make Steve Ruhl its Knight of the Month.

Anthony E. Russo
Attorney

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