



My Brother Knights:

Have you noticed how much earlier the Christmas season starts these days? Years ago the traditional start of the Christmas shopping time was the day after Thanksgiving. Now, however it is not unusual for merchants to start their sales promotion in October. The reason for this extension is of course the pursuit of the almighty dollar, and nothing to do with the true meaning of Christmas. Perhaps, as Catholics and members of the Knights of Columbus we can use this early commercial display of lights, Santa Claus, Christmas trees and such to remind us of our need to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ. For unless Christmas means a pause to remember, that the Birthday of Christ is important to us today, there is no such thing as "Christmas Spirit". All we need do, for at least the week before Christmas, is to abstain a little from social convention, stay close to home and church, family and friends. This should bring us to the manger in a sincere mood of peace on earth, good will among men.

"BONO NATALE"
DOM CLEMENTONI

New Year's Eve Party

*Say goodbye to the old
and hello to the new
we're having a party
for me and for you.
We will wine you
and dine you
Some dancing too.
So come and celebrate
on this evening date
with fun, frolic and cheer
to wish one and all a
HAPPY NEW YEAR
It's 12 dollars a throw
for one person to go
bring your wife
bring your friend
the hours are from
nine until I don't know when
Dress is semi-formal
You know what to wear
Here's hoping that
I'll be seeing you there.*

R. J. Trupiano
Council Activities Chairman

WANTED

For out of town Brother's son. Room with kitchen facilities. Contact Anthony Noivo at DeVry Technical Institute or 873 Santoro Ave., Irvington.

Random Thoughts

The difference between gossip and news is whether you hear it or tell it . . . Tact is the ability to make a person see the lightning without letting him feel the bolt . . . In college the "in" things for girls are dungarees and loafers. They're wearing the dungarees and dating the loafers . . . People who remember way back when eggs were only 15 cents a dozen, seem to forget way back when salaries were only 15 dollars a week . . . Reputation or character: The circumstances amid which you live determines your reputation; what you believe determines your character. Reputation is what you are known to be, character is what you are. Reputation is a manufactured thing; character is a growth. Reputation comes over one from without; character grows up from within. Reputation is what you have when you come to a new community; character is what you have when you go away. Your reputation may be learned in an hour; your character may not come to light for a year. If you want a position, you need a reputation, if you want to keep it, you need character. Reputation will get a man to the top of the ladder, but only character will keep him from falling off . . . What is small, has four wheels, two headlights and long hair? A hippie driving a Volkswagen . . . A teenager to his father "How can a soda spoil my dinner when two martinis give you an appetite?" . . . For every woman who's timid about wearing a new style there's a saleslady to talk her into it . . . Parents telling children "Be careful" is about as effective as children telling parents "Don't worry" . . . Inflation is when the outrageous prices of today are the dirt cheap bargains of tomorrow . . . Those Miami hotels are so swanky. I know of one where they won't even let you into the steam room without a tie and jacket . . . Real friends are those who, when you've made a fool of yourself, don't feel that you've done a permanent job.

Jim Moran

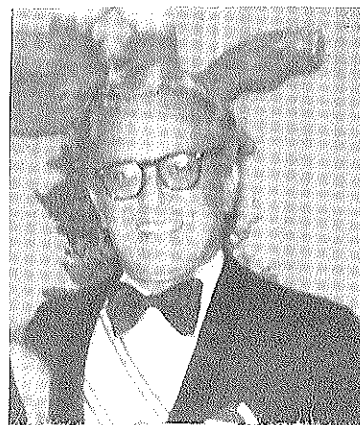
**JFK Assembly
4th Degree Activities**

JFK Assembly 4th Degree K of C layed a wreath at the John F. Kennedy statue in Newark on Nov. 22nd in commemoration of the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Color Corps will meet on the second Wednesday of every month in the Union Council Home, not on the first Wednesday as previously stated. The starting time is 8:00 p.m. All 4th Degree members interested in joining the Color Corps please contact SK Stan Rucki or SK Leo Lupia.

Knight of the Month

December 1971



LEO LUPIA

Santa Claus is usually the man who spreads good cheer and is forever giving.

But we have found a second Santa Claus who has been giving to Union Council many hours of his time and efforts.

Our Santa Claus is Mr. Leo Lupia a Brother who has worked in many capacities at Union Council, whether it be summer or winter you can always find Leo around working or assisting someone with new ideas.

Leo is retired from the United States Army after 21 years of service and is now employed with the Engineering Department of Public Service.

Leo resides in Union at 445 Carpenter Place with his charming wife Marion and their two lovely daughters Jeri and Patti.

Leo is treasurer of J.F.K. Assembly 4th Degree and is recent member to Union Chapter of Unico.

We are proud indeed to have honored you, Leo Lupia, as our Knight of the Month and we extend to you and yours a Blessed and Holy Holiday.

NOTICE

The Board of Directors of the Swim Club are currently reviewing the management situation for next year. Any one desirous of submitting a bid to manage the Swim Club next year is requested to contact Frank Weber as soon as possible. The board is anxious to conclude this bit of business at an early date.

Christmas is the birthday of freedom,
For it is only the following of Christ
That makes men free.
Not until men lay aside greed,
Hatred, Pride,
And the tyranny of evil passions,
To travel the road that began at
Bethlehem,
Will the star of Christmas peace
Illuminate the world.

*From the writings of
Francis Cardinal Spellman*

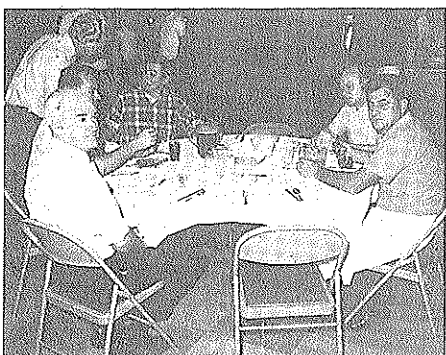
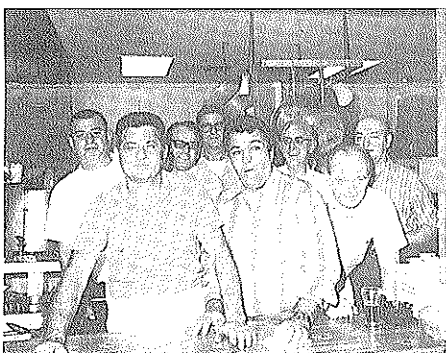
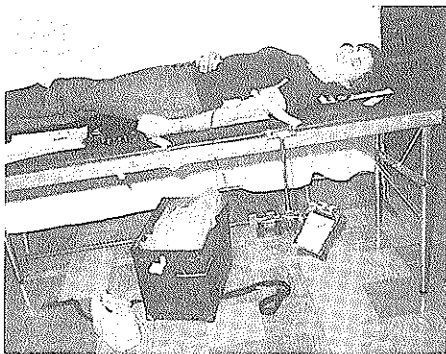
Swim Club News

Appreciation Night for the men who participated in eight or more work parties was held on Nov. 13th, and a fine evening was had by 55 Knights and their ladies. The highlight of the evening was attendance at a performance of Man From La Mancha at the Paper Mill Playhouse.

The Board of Governors is busy with plans and projects for the 1972 season. The Board is now receiving bids for the Management of the Pool for next summer, as noted by the Grand Knight elsewhere in the Digest. Brothers Rocco Corbo and Joseph Portly have been appointed to the Swim Club Board by the Grand Knight and the Columbian Club President. A nominating committee under chairmanship of Frank Zusi will bring in the names of two candidates for election to the Board at the annual meeting of the Swim Club on January 21, 1972.

Plans for the Annual Dance of the Swim Club are well underway. Rocco Corbo and his committee announced that the Dance will be held on January 22, 1972. The price — \$6 per person which will include cocktails, dinner, liquor, beer and dancing. Tickets will be limited to Swim Club Members and will be on sale at Kay's Hardware after the Christmas Holidays. Hang in there gang, Spring is coming.

Bill Renner
Swim Club President



Congratulations to All of You

Sunday, Nov. 21, 1971 the sun rose to find a busy crew working in the kitchen of Union Council #4504. These were the people preparing the Roast Beef Dinner for the people that were giving blood that afternoon.

The 23 nurses, nurses helpers, Candy Stripped Girls and workers from the Red Cross worked continuously from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There was a slow, steady, but continuous flow of donors. They netted us with a count of "94" pints and approximately 5 that could not give because of one reason or other.

This total came out of a mixture of Council Members, members' friends, wives and daughters of Council Members, the Chaplin and others as shown by the pictures in this month's Digest. Council #4504 is proud of all of you.

As in any operation there is always those who work behind the apron i.e. "The Kitchen Crew" lead by the worthy head cook Walter Hoelderlin, Assistant Cook Jack Bruno, Pearl Divers: Tony Tobia, Ed Cort, Andy Nadzan Sr. and Bob Koslowski; slicer Peter Hoelderlin, Frank Rygiel, Lenny Migliara; Servers: Tony Sibilgia, Rocco Corbo, Dom Quagliato, Tony Piatkiewicz, Paul Blume, Cal Calcagno, James Moran, Bob Hillock, Henry Nadeau, Bill Renner and Martin Veale.

Our bartenders were Andy Nadzan Jr., Walter Wasowski and Timothy Hayden.

A special thanks goes to those who gave their time and blood. They are too numerous to mention. Anyone I may have overlooked please forgive me.

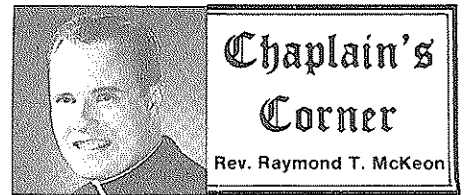
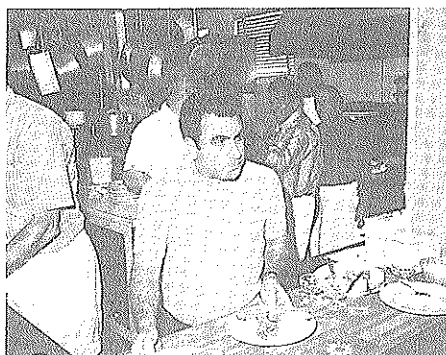
For those who couldn't make the Blood Bank Program, the menu offered was as follows:

Liquid refreshment "whatever", Roast Beef with delicious "Hoelderlin Gravy", Creamed Corn, String Beans, Buttered Mashed Potatoes, Bread and Butter, Jello and Whipped Cream and Coffee and Pastry.

So once again Council 4504, Union Council can say we almost hit 100 pints. Maybe next year.

Again with God's help we'll see you again next year.

Your Fraternal Chairman
Yours in Christ
Joseph Bilicska



Advent is meant to be a season of silence. A season of thought and meditation. A season of penance and discipline. It is the great hush in anticipation of the coming of God's special graces to us . . .

Advent is what the world needs — if it would only use it. Each of us needs its healing. It is a time for each of us to "get our bearings" again.

It is sad to see this short season before Christmas neglected. Instead of slowing down and doing a little penance and meditation in a spirit of silence, we yield to modern pressures and make Advent a whirlwind of straw chasing. The pools of our souls are not widened and deepened by it. We arrive at Christmas in the very opposite condition — tattered and frustrated, dry and empty.

Advent is a St. John the Baptist. It is the forerunner of the Savior.

This is the season, therefore, when we ask what life is all about. It is a picnic or is it a reality deadly serious? Santa Claus in the dime store is not qualified to give the correct answer.

"When you are marching in a parade," writes Father Robert Frewen, "you cannot see it. You are not able to see where it begins or where it ends and the different units in it. All you can see are the few people to the front and to the side of you. If you really wish to view the parade, you would have to step out of the line of march and watch it go by.

"Life is a parade in which every man, woman, and child is a marcher. Yet it is very important to get a look at the parade — to see where it began and where it ends and your own place in it. However, there is only one way to view it and that is to step out of the line of march, stand on the curb, and watch it go by."

The streets are decorated with Christmas reminders; the stores are packed with items for sale; people are in the midst of the Christmas rush. Yet Christmas means peace. The birth of Jesus was the birth of the Prince of Peace; the angels sang about peace to men of good will. I wish you, brother members of the Council, true Christmas peace . . . peace in the world, in our towns, peace in your homes, peace in your hearts. This sincere wish for peace in your lives cannot be a reality unless you work at attaining peace. Advent, now, is the hour for you to be men of peace, at peace with yourself, your families, your world. May the peace of Christ be yours now and yours through the new year.

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