



Knights Digest

Union Council 4504



VOL. 45 NO. 2

WWW.KC4504.HOMESTEAD.COM

November 2003

Food Drive Scheduled for First Week in November

The Council's semi-annual food drive will take place in the first week of November. The drive is aimed at assisting the less fortunate and needy of our community. All of the food that is collected will be donated to Sister Ann at Saint Michael's for distribution during the Thanksgiving holiday and beyond.

From Monday, the 3rd to Friday the 7th, donations of canned and non-perishable foods can be dropped off at the Council. Students from Union's Middle Schools will also receive flyers asking them to bring any donations to school during that same week. In addition, local businesses have also been asked to lend their support.

On Saturday, November 8th, members of the Council will be at Union's major supermarkets soliciting food donations from shoppers between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 P.M.

The drive's success will depend on the support of all members. Be sure to make your contributions on any day throughout the week. In addition, if you are able to donate a few hours at a supermarket on Saturday, please call chairperson Jim Chamberlin at (908) 232-0053.

Columbian Club Heading to Atlantic City

The Columbian Club is sponsoring its second trip of the year to Atlantic City on Saturday, November 8. Feedback from those who were able to attend the first trip in May was extremely positive, so the Club has decided to sponsor this second Jersey shore trip.

The cost per person is \$35.00 and includes round trip transportation from the Council to the Trump Plaza Casino, coin voucher and bus coupon, a continental breakfast served at the Council, snacks and refreshments on the bus ride back and forth, as well as a complementary drink ticket and evening snack upon return.

The bus will leave the Council at 9:45 a.m. and will arrive at the casino by noon. On arrival, guests will be on their own to enjoy the sights and sounds of the city at their leisure. The bus will depart Trump Plaza promptly at 6:00 pm (stragglers will be left behind!). Upon returning to the Council, everyone will be welcomed to come in and enjoy a free beverage and snack.

Contact Shawn Young (908) 419-0516 or Jamie Zapulla (908) 380-9155 to reserve a seat. Reservations are limited, so be certain to obtain your tickets early.

Communion Breakfast Planned In Memory of Deceased Members

The annual Memorial Mass and Communion Breakfast to honor our deceased brothers will take place on Sunday, November 8. The mass will be held at 9:00 at Holy Spirit, and will be followed by the breakfast which will be held in the Council hall.

This traditional event has a history of being well supported, as it is an opportunity to gather in memory of those Brothers who have passed on. Tickets are \$8.00 and can be obtained by contacting chairperson Bob Litter, (908-245-0091) or Program Director Larry Killmer, (908-389-1341).

Degree Dates Set for November

Our next second Degree ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 12 at 8:00 in the Council Hall.

Our traditional third degree will take place on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, November 26, also at 8:00.

Anyone who needs to complete these degrees should contact Membership Director Rich Fuentes in order to be included.

The next First Degree will take place at the first Council meeting of 2004 (January 12). If you are aware of anyone who is interested in becoming a Brother Knight, please be certain to contact Rich.

Pre-Thanksgiving Blood Drive Planned

On Sunday, November 23, the Council will be holding its next Blood Drive at the Council from 11:00 am to 4:00 P.M.. Last year we received commendations from the State on the success of our Blood Drives, and we hope to continue to build on that success. Giving blood is a simple process that generally takes less than half an hour to complete. Donors receive free cholesterol screening in addition to free snacks. If you have any questions, or would like to assist during the day of the drive, contact chairperson Joe DeMarco.

Insurance Update

By Rich Fuentes FIC, CSA (908) 437-0310

DID YOU KNOW BY BEING PART OF OUR INSURANCE PROGRAM YOU....

- 1 Created the \$20 million "Knights of Columbus Vicarius christi" fund the earnings fund the Holy Fathers personal charities.
- 2 . Committed \$8.8 million to the U.S. Bishops pro-Life campaign and budgeted an additional \$1 million for Pro-life materials.
3. Contributed \$600,000 for new mobile television center for the Vatican.
- 4 Established the \$2 million Count Enrico Galeazzi Fund for the Pontifical North American College for the benefit of U.S. Bishop-and Priests.
- 5 Completed the renovation of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome (the most famous church in the world).
- 6 Contributed, since 1981, over \$16.5 million to thousands of seminary students through our Vocations programs.
- 7 Created the Father Michael J. McGiviney Memorial Fund for new Initiatives in Catholic Education in the amount of \$1 million.
- 8 In 2002, raised and distributed nearly \$109 million and contributed 56 million volunteer-hours in service to church, community, youth, and surge with service.
- 9 Have distributed millions of special Knights of Columbus rosaries at a rate of 10,000 per month, especially to new members.
- 10 Support a multimillion dollar student loan program for members and their children pursuing higher education, with all seminarians eligible.

ARE YOU IN THE INSURANCE PROGRAM? IF NOT WHY NOT?

Mark Your Calendars!

For those of you who wish to conclude your Thanksgiving evening among friends and family, the Columbian Club bar will be open after 6:00 P.M.

The Columbian Club's annual Bring a Dish will be held on Friday, December 19.

The Children's Christmas party will be held on Sunday December 14. More details will be provided in the December Digest.

The council will be sponsoring a New Year's Eve celebration, complete with buffet dinner, DJ, midnight toast, noisemakers and more! The cost is \$35.00 per adult, \$15.00 for children 12 and over, or \$95.00 for the entire family. Reserve early by contacting Larry Killmer (908) 389-1341 or Grand Knight Michael Cavallo (908) 686-7540.



Thanks to all who supported the annual Roses for Life sales at our local churches during the weekend of October 18 & 19. Please continue to support Life!

From The Columbian Club

Let me begin by saying, "WOW, WOW, and WOW". Were the HAPPENINGS happening or what? For all of you that came to the club to see "The Return of the HAPPENINGS" on October 4, you know what I'm talking about. What a great night of entertainment, socializing and fun for all. I would like to extend my thanks to all who came and to all who participated. Harry Lupo and Steve Helmsetter did a tremendous job chairing this event. Thanks to Sam Maffie, Buster Rapke and Mike Malloy for their assistance in cooking up a great meal. Jamie Zappulla and Vinny Iannuzzi kept the spirits flowing at the hall bar. Dianne Lupo and Angela Rapke did a fantastic job with the decorations. For those of you that missed this event, talk firsthand to someone that went and see what you missed. When there is this level of support from you, the membership, than this is the kind of event that we can offer.

Around the Club, we are "winterizing" the grounds and are ready to button up for the season. We have settled in to the inside bar and Football Sunday is going strong. If you would like to be in and with a crowd to root for your favorite team, come on down and enjoy a nice meal and some "spirited" conversation. Sam and Bobby do a great job every Sunday and you could be (should be) a part of it!

November brings with it Thanksgiving. This is a special time, a time to be with our loved ones and to collectively give thanks for what we have now and to remember what we once had but now is gone. Some of these memories are happy ones, but some of these are sad as well. Caring for each other and sharing our thoughts with each other is what it is all about. As long as we are together as one, we can all go forward. Here at our Council home, there is a fraternity that provides a level of comfort to many people in many different ways. Being among friends at this time of year can be a very important part of our daily routine. If you need some support, if you want to talk, or if you just want to come and watch TV with your fellow brother Knights, come on down to the Council any night of the week. We are here, even if you are not. Sometimes just being in the company of people we know is a good thing.

Before you know it, Christmas will be here. It can be a very stressful time of year juggling all of the things that we have to get done – the job, the house, the car, school, outside activities and responsibilities. Take the time to do the things that are important for those that mean the most to us. And don't forget to take care of THE most important person – YOU.

Please look for details in this Digest for our upcoming "Fall Trip to Atlantic City."

See you next month, unless you stop by and we see you sooner.

Allen

The next charitable raffle will be conducted at the Christmas Dinner meeting in December. Chairperson John Murphy is always available to sell any additional tickets that you may need.

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 at the fifth 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.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

<i>Chaplain</i>	Fr. Ted Osbahr
<i>District Deputy</i>	Clarence Cunningham
<i>Grand Knight</i>	Michael L. Cavallo 908-686-7540
<i>Deputy Grand Knight</i>	Joseph DeMarco 908-964-1870
<i>Chancellor</i>	Harry Lupo
<i>Warden</i>	Buddy Cotter
<i>Recorder</i>	Andy Schopfer
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Kardys
<i>Fin. Secretary</i>	Thomas Hornig
<i>Inside Guard</i>	Bill Morris
<i>Outside Guard</i>	Mike Peter
<i>Program Director</i>	Larry Killmer 908-389-1341
<i>Membership Director</i>	Rich Fuentes 908-437-0310
<i>Advocate</i>	James Conlon
<i>Lecturer</i>	Steve Helmsetter
<i>1st Yr. Trustee</i>	Hank Skarbek
<i>2nd Yr. Trustee</i>	Mike Carr
<i>3rd Trustee</i>	Larry Killmer
<i>Columbian Club President</i>	Allen Pascullo
<i>Swim Club President</i>	James Feehan

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 Wed.	Council Committees
4th Thu.	Columbian Club

Grand Knight's Column



Brothers, last month was dedicated to "Respect Life". As Knights of Columbus we must speak out on behalf of the unborn child. We must let it be known that abortion is truly a crime and that we are not going to stand around letting millions of babies each year be killed through abortion. These innocent little babies have a "Right to Life" as well and we as knights will do everything we can to put end to this horrific act. As I write this article on the eve of our own Roses for Life sale I only hope that each brother knight did their share in promoting the sanctity of human life.

This month we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. This year as we gather with family and friends lets be mindful of the many gifts of the earth that our Lord has given us. Remember to thank God for giving us Father Michael J. McGivney our founder. It is because of Fr. McGivney's efforts that the Knights of Columbus exist today and that we are able to provide assistance to charitable organizations that look to the knights for our support.

In closing my article I end with a very serious matter that faces each and every member of our council. That very serious matter, is the future of our council. Brothers, membership involvement is at it's lowest it has ever been. We have roughly around 1900 members in our council but only around 50 to 60 I would consider as active members. Even with these so called active members it is extremely difficult to get volunteers for our various programs. Well I think the time has come that something must be done to correct this problem or our council will be threatened to close it's doors. Brothers, we must wake up and smell the coffee! I realize that I will probably be offending and making some brothers upset and you know what I say to that I AM SORRY! It is most likely these brothers who don't do any works of charity for our council. This may sound harsh to you but it is my responsibility as the Grand Knight to ensure that we as a council are living up to the commitments laid down to us by the Supreme Council. Personally and as Grand Knight I do not want to see our council come to an end. And for those that do not know it already, I take my job very seriously. Coming and hanging out at the patio or pool over the summer months, or hanging out at the bar sharing a beer with a brother knight is not the Knights of Columbus and brothers if you think it is you have totally missed the boat. I am not saying that hanging at the patio or sharing a beer with a brother knight is not important to our fraternal organization but they are not the core reason why we exist. We are not a Social Club, there are many social clubs out there that you can join if that is what you are interested in. We are more than a social club- we are a Catholic Fraternal, Charitable organization and Charity is our number one responsibility. Over this month I will be meeting with the other officers of this council to come up with an action plan to rid our council of this problem and will publish this plan in the upcoming digests. I urge each brother knight to not wait for an action plan, that you will most likely not be happy with and get involved sooner on your own.

Here is one example of the seriousness of this issue: This past April our council sponsored as we do every year the Retarded Citizen's Drive. The chairman of the event asked for several weeks at meetings and it was also in the digest that he was in need of volunteers to help collect donation on the streets of Union. Out of our 1900 membership, we were able to get 8 brother knights, how pathetic. This must somehow change. I wish each of you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and remember to pray for the betterment of our council. **Michael Cavallo**