



Knights Digest



Vol. 61 No. 11

www.kofc4504.org

July/August 2020

Calendar of Events

August 8th..... Lobster Fest 2020 (cancelled)
 August 9th.....Blood Drive - Holy Spirit Church
 September 12th..... Family Picnic
 October 10th Past Grand Knight's Dinner
 TBD..... Western Night

Dates are subject to change based on the status of the social distancing rules in effect.

2020-2021 Knights of Columbus Council Officers

Chaplain..... Rev. Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu
 District Deputy.....Michael Willemse, PGK
 Grand Knight Leonard Komar, PFN
 Deputy Grand KnightPhillip Cababe
 Chancellor..... Gerry Aponte
 Warden Anthony Ibida
 Recorder Robert Pynckels
 Treasurer.....Chuck Cababe
 Fin. Secretary..... Luke Sangiamo
 Inside Guard..... Allen Pascullo, PFN
 Outside Guard Vacant
 Membership Director Gerry Aponte
 Program Director..... Vacant
 Advocate..... Stephen F. Hehl
 3rd. Yr. Trustee Andy Schopfer PGK
 2nd Yr. TrusteeBob Wozniak, PGK
 1st Yr. Trustee.....David Wozniak, PGK



The Columbettes are pleased to announce 2020-2021 officers.

Pres. Fran Corcion
 VP Christine Chamberlin
 Secretary Judy Supina
 Fin Sec Donna Costa
 Tres. Diane Lupo
 Sentinel Roseann Torr

Meetings held on the second Thursday of each month at the Council Hall. Next Mtg: **Sept. 3rd 7:30 PM**



We will be collecting old used cell phones for Cell Phones for the Soldiers which is a non profit organization that provides cost free communications and emergency funding to active and military veterans.

Please save your used cell phones and place them in our collection box at the Council Hall. Thank you . Please contact Steve Nagy or Len Komar for any questions.

Knights Digest

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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
549 Robinson Ter.
Union, NJ 07083

or preferably via email to: 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 high-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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Inside Guard Allen Pascullo, PFN
Outside Guard..... Vacant
Membership Director Gerry Aponte
Program Director..... Vacant
Lecturer..... Raymond Gora
Advocate..... Stephen F. Hehl
3rd Yr. Trustee Andy Schopfer, PGK
2nd Yr. Trustee..... Robert Wozniak, PGK
1st Yr. Trustee David Wozniak, PGK
4th Degree Faithful
Navigator Steve Nagy III, PGK
Columbian Club President Alex Rivera
Swim Club President Andy Schopfer, PGK
Columbiette President Fran Corcione

Monthly Meetings

1st. Mon.-----Council Officers
2nd & 4th Mon. -----Council Mtgs.
2nd Thu. -----Columbiettes
4th Wed. ----- 4th Degree Assembly
4rd Thur.-----Columbian Club

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Brothers All,



When I joined the Knights of Columbus Council 4504 back in 1992, I was impressed with all the charitable works the Council was involved in. As I attended more meetings, events, and work parties, I got to meet more Brother Knights and the Columbiettes and discover what an overwhelming pool of talent we have here at 4504. Educators, plumbers, electricians, engineers, artists, culinary chefs, computer technicians, mechanics, doctors, nurses, firefighters, EMTs, police officers, corrections officers, and veterans are just a few of the vocations of our members. We have members from all different walks of life, backgrounds, and experiences but are united by our religion and our philanthropy. As our Council history proves, there is nothing we can't do when we work together with God in mind. The physical formation of the Council from a vacant lot, to a Council Hall, to the Swim Club Pool, to the extensions on the Council building, to the updates to the patio it is a physical representation of how we adapt and grow together. We are continually making improvements not only to our location but also to other's lives of others as we raise money for various charities. We, as a Council constantly moving forward. Even now, when we face unprecedented challenges to ourselves, our families, our communities' I do not doubt that we will continue to advance. Although we face a global pandemic and social unrest, we must use our core principles as guidelines and stay united as Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Our three principles, Charity, Unity, and Fraternity:

Charity – Our faith teaches us to love our neighbor. God has gifted each of us a talent, and we give thanks to Him by using that talent to help others. Whether your talent is a skill set or being financially secure enough to donate to a cause we must use them to help our neighbors. By gathering our talents as a Council and fundraising, we are able to make a positive impact on the world around us. Charities like Camp Fatima, ARC, The Special Olympics, Unlimited Development, COE, The Challenger League, Sister Ann's food bank, and many others benefit from our united talents and hard work.

Unity – Working together. The Council Hall that our members built and we continue to work to maintain is not the extent of what we can do when we work together. Not only can we unite to do wonderful things for charity, but we can band together to fight social injustice. As an organization, the Knights of Columbus has actively stood against racism. It is important to remember that labels are humanmade tools of division and not are recognized by our

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Swim Club Update

It has been a most unusual spring and summer in regard to our efforts to open the Columbian Swim Club pool. The end result has been that our facility is being used as of July 13, in a shared agreement with Union Township.

While many members of the Swim Club, the Columbian Club, the Columbiettes, and the Council have received emails and Facebook updates, it is appropriate to use this edition of the Knights Digest to provide a full update of the different events that led us to forge that agreement.

On March 21, when the full scope of the Covid-19 pandemic was starting to be realized, we began to conduct work parties to open the pool for our members as of Memorial Day in late May. While we had made good progress toward that goal, only 3 weeks into the work parties, Governor Murphy's state at home order was first announced. Reluctantly, we opted to abide by that order, and ceased our efforts.

In late May, as the situation in New Jersey had begun to stabilize, we realized that even if pools were allowed to open, there would be significant new restrictions imposed, including extra sanitation requirements and reduced capacity at the pool. Realizing that we would not be able to offer our members the type of pool experience that they had come to expect, the Board of the Columbian Swim Club reluctantly voted not to open the pool for 2020. Emails were sent to members offering those who had submitted renewals the opportunity to request a refund or to leave their dues with us for the 2021 season.

Around that same time, members of the Columbian Club were approached by the Township of Union, to discuss whether or not there might be an opportunity to work with them to open the pool for this year, using Township funds that had been allocated for several events that had been cancelled due to the pandemic restrictions (notably the funding for the July 4 fireworks.

After several weeks of discussion, the Board agreed to an arrangement in which the Township would provide funding to allow both Township members, the Knights and the Columbiettes the opportunity to use the pool for the majority of July and through Labor Day.

In order to comply with the State's guidelines for opening public pools, the Township is providing a sign up program on their website, which all members and township residents must use to sign up to use the pool. Registration is limited to 74 individuals, with all users asked to pay a modest admission fee (\$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. There will be two open sessions per day (noon to 3:00 and 4:00 to 7:00) and the pool will be closed between sessions for cleaning and sanitizing. There will be Department of Recreation employees on hand each day to complete those sanitizing procedures and to also ensure so-

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Holy Father, who loves and treats us all equally as his children. We should always, but especially in these difficult times, strive to do the same.

Fraternity - We are a diverse collection of people united by our religion. We are all family in the eyes of the Lord. Like any family in good times, we gather together to celebrate, and in difficult times we stand ready to give support. As such, we assist our members in need. Whether it is emotional support due to the loss of a family member or physical and monetary support due to loss of housing, we are ready to help in any way we can. Please keep these principals in mind as you go throughout your day.

Due to Covid19, many of us mourn the loss of our loved ones. Because we cannot be physically together at this time due to state restrictions, we would like to hold a memorial service for our deceased members in the near future. I will provide updates as we finalized the details. Please also remember to give thanks for the recovery of family members and friends who have suffered from this illness.

As state restrictions are lifted, work parties and in-person meetings will resume. I ask you to reach out and invite a non-active member to a meeting or work party. I know the term "work party" conjures thoughts of physical labor, and none of us need extra work. However, there is a sense of comradery as we all pull together towards a common goal, and as they say, many hands make light work. Another saying I often think of is, "there are no strangers just friends we have not met yet." Work parties are another way for us to come together and learn about each other, share our talents, enjoy each other's company, and share some laughs. Come on out and enjoy the fun.

It humbles me to be elected Grand Knight of this Council. I look forward to continuing to work with each of you at our meetings, events, and work parties. Each activity allows me to learn more about and from each of you. United we stand, and together with God's grace we can overcome anything. I pray the Lord continues to bless us and our families.

Leonard J. Komar Jr. GK KofC 4504



Columbian Club

The Columbian Club is pleased to announce that the Grove and Tiki bar will be opening Friday June 26th. We will be able to accommodate 250 members with the expectation to increase on July 6th. Social distance and guidelines must be adhered to. Mask are a requirement to enter the premises. Adult beverages may be purchased and bought back to the Grove. Only 1 person at the bar at a time. Drinks will be ordered in the designated marked area. There is absolutely no sitting or standing at the bar. Please be patient as this is a big change in how things were done prior to the pandemic.

Mask should be worn when you are 6 feet or less to a non-family members. If you have flu or cold symptoms please stay home. Bartenders will be asking for up to date membership cards. During the hours the pool is open anyone entering the Columbian club premises will have their temperature checked, this includes all staff. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 will not be allowed on the premises. This is another step being taken to insure everyone's well being.

(Continued from page 3) (Swim Club Update)

cial distancing of all visitors. We will not be able to provide chairs for visitors, and the baby pool and the sun deck will not be available. Sign up instructions can be found on the Union Township NJ website, using a specific link to the Columbian Swim Club.

All registrants will be temperature screened on arrival at the pool, and will be required to show identification prior to being admitted to the pool. Masks are encouraged while not swimming, and social distancing will be enforced. As per State guidelines, anyone in the pool exhibiting any signs of Covid-19 will be escorted to a tent within the baby pool area until arrangements can be made for their care.

The snack bar will be open to all registrants, but the grove and the Tiki Bar will be accessible only to Members. Entrance to those areas will be by the playground only. However, everyone entering the premises will be temperature screened.

This agreement does allow us to offer employment to the life-guards who were available to return this year, and we are also pleased to note that Heather Bauman and Don Erdman have agreed to work as Pool Operators for this season.

It is important to note that this arrangement is for the 2020 season only, and that the Board fully intends to open strictly to its membership next summer. The agreement does allow us to make use of the pool this summer and to ensure that we have a viable understanding of what will be required next season if the guidance from the State remains the same.

If anyone should have any questions regarding the process that was followed, feel free to reach out to me or any member of the Board.

Andy Schopfer
Columbian Swim Club President (908) 265-7895

What is a family?

One definition is “a group of related things”. Family members rely on each other. They enjoy good times together and building everlasting memories. These memories are reinforced by the time we invest in each other and the projects we completed. Sounds a lot like our Council. Our Council family is together celebrating during happy times and standing together during the sad times. Currently, we are facing one of our biggest challenges: a global pandemic as well as global social unrest. Through this health epidemic, we try to continue our work while facing restrictions we have never seen before. Church attendance has been suspended and is only just now reopening with restrictions in place. Our physical meetings have been replaced with virtual or phone conversations. Still, we continue to support the community. Instead of Collecting at stores and street corners, we ask for a mail-in donation. Our work parties to maintain the building and pool have been limited to the number of attendees. All of this while we mourn the loss of those in our Council family, Brother Knights and spouses, that have passed due to Covid19. To add to this pain, due to restrictions we could not attend their wakes and funerals.

We were denied a chance to honor them as well as a chance to support their grieving families as they have supported our Council in the past. To make amends for this a memorial service for the members we have lost and their families is currently being planned for a future date. Since restrictions are constantly changing there is no set date but please look for updates. For now please remember those we have lost and say a prayer for their families. They are gone but not the love we have for them remains.

Stephen Grabley 3/23/2020

Mary Blake 4/3/2020

Theodore Cielecki 4/7/2020

Joseph W. DiRoma 4/23/2020

George F. Kovach 4/25/2020

Dolores Deck 5/9/2020

Loretta Williamson 5/9/2020

Antonio Pete Genova 5/9/2020

Milton J. Lepski 5/9/2020

Please continue to pray for the recovery of those who are ill and everyone's safety.



Shield Awards

Knights of Columbus
June 22, 2020



Grand Knight David Wozniak presenting Shield Awards to; EMT of the year Sean Prawdzik (bottom left). Firefighter of the Year Captain Steven Spurr (bottom right). St Michael Catchiest of the year Jovel Gologan (top left) and senior citizen of the year Phyllis Monquso (top right).

Congratulations to Len Komar for being named Knight of the Year, and to Allen Pascullo for being named Columbian of the Year. Both Brother Knights are well deserving of these Honors.

Knights of Columbus
COUNCIL 4504
 1034 Jeanette Avenue
 Union, NJ 07083



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July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6 Council Officers Meeting	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Council Meeting 8:15p	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Columbian Club Meeting	24	25
26	27 Council Meeting 8:15p	28	29	30	31	