



April 2015

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Official Publication
of the
**NEW JERSEY
STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



The Cavalcade



2015 NJ Knights of Columbus State Convention

May 15 – 16, 2015

Wildwood, NJ

Convention Activities Schedule

Friday – May 15

9:00 am	Opening Mass – St. Ann's Church, 2901 Atlantic Avenue, Wildwood
10:30 am	Registration of Delegates – Convention Center
11:30 am	Wreath Laying Ceremony – Columbus Monument
12:00 pm	Opening of First Business Session – Convention Center
3:00 pm	Conclusion of First Business Session – Convention Center
3:15 pm	Convention Committee Meetings – Convention Center
3:30 pm	Registration Closes

Saturday – May 16

8:00 am	Registration of Delegates – Convention Center
8:30 am	Start of Annual Blood Drive – Convention Center
9:30 am	Opening of Second Business Session – Convention Center
12:00 pm	Ladies Luncheon – Two Mile Landing, Fish Dock Road, Wildwood Crest
3:00 pm	Conclusion of Second Business Session – Convention Center
4:30 pm	Closing Mass – St. Ann's Church, 2901 Atlantic Avenue, Wildwood
6:00 pm	Reception and Banquet – Convention Center

State Deputy's Message

Brothers,

When we began the month of April, we set out on the last quarter of this Columbian Year, and we are now about a month away from our State Convention.

I hope you have made strides to complete your membership and program goals that you set out in your planning meeting last summer.

If needed, you certainly have this last quarter of the year to complete those goals. Your district deputy, state membership and program teams and insurance benefits consultant stand ready to assist you in attaining those goals. Whether you are completing your term as Grand Knight or not, please make the most of this remaining time.

I also hope that you are planning to attend the annual Convention in Wildwood. Our convention committee team, lead by State Advocate, Vince Tavormina, has been working diligently to make this a fantastic convention weekend.

The annual State Convention is the one time during the year when we join together to celebrate the many accomplishments of our Brothers, to honor those who have excelled in their service to others, to conduct our business as a State Council and to enjoy the fraternity of Brothers and their families from around the State on what is promised to be a beautiful weather weekend in May.

I am extremely pleased to announce that our banquet keynote speaker will be Chief Scott Thomson of the Camden County Police Department. We also are honored to have Sr. Helen Cole, S.S.J. Director of Guadalupe Family Services, who assist the needy in North Camden.

We will also have our own Dr. Daniel Rossi, Supreme

Director, representing Supreme Knight, Carl A. Anderson at the Convention.

Our convention opening Mass, as usual, is Friday, May 15th at St. Ann's Church, Parish of Notre Dame de la Mer, in Wildwood. His Excellency, Bishop Dennis Sullivan, Bishop of Camden will preside at opening Mass.

Of course, we also have the opportunity to elect a new slate of state officers as leaders for our jurisdiction for 2015-2016. Our State Nominating Committee, which is composed of the Past State Deputies, has interviewed and proposed the following to serve as state officers for the next year.

For State Deputy: Bruce DeMolli; State Secretary: Bob Hatler; State Treasurer: Vince Tavormina; State Advocate: James Stoevers; State Warden: our present General Program Director, Raymond Sands.

I am confident that they will do their best to represent you well and I hope they can count on your support!

I am also confident that this year's convention and banquet will be very special and look forward to seeing you there!

My wife, Maria and I wish you and yours the most holy and joyous Easter Season!

Vivat Jesus,
Andy Lipenta
State Deputy



State Chaplain's Message

EASTER SEASON IS HERE

For our Faith it is a wonderful celebration. But the wonder of this Easter Season is often overlooked. Kids are filled with thoughts of the Easter Bunny and an Easter basket full of candy. Many adults are interested in getting their new spring wardrobe.

This holiday makes us think of spring, warmer weather, baseball games and parties. There is nothing wrong with any of these, but the most important wonder of this sea-

son is the celebration of the resurrection of the crucified Christ.

This is truly the foundation of our Faith. Jesus, who died to save us from our sins proved His divinity by raising from His death. Only God can do that! Think about it. How



(continued on page 5)

General Program Director's Message

Greetings and salutations from the flatlands down Jersey!

Here we are in the fourth quarter of this Columbian year; the last call for excellence. This is a time when we, as Knights, can shine. Remember, it is not just about putting our ideals forward as activities. It is a way to live Charity as we are called to by Christ, bringing other like minded Catholic men into our Order, and having some fun together in the name of Fraternity; The Knights of Columbus.

You should take advantage of the time we have remaining in this Columbian Year. Be involved and engaged. Continue collecting food and eyeglasses for the needy, praying the rosary as a group, attending Mass as a council with a fraternal gathering afterwards, honor the long lived marriages in your parish with Wedding Anniversary Certificates, give all of your members a chance to be involved and have fun through your Council's service programs.

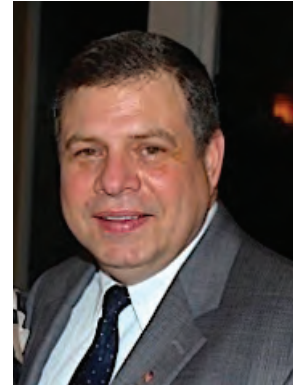
The NJ State Council State Convention is rapidly approaching and is on May 15^h and May 16th. We honor the exemplary Knights, Councils and Others who have sacrificed and given of themselves. Be there to celebrate them for allowing our Order to be all that it can be. Make your voice known and submit a resolution to the convention. Be there to share in the resolutions others have submitted.

Have fun in the debate and the group consciousness that makes us who we are. Take advantage of the night life in Wildwood, stay a night or two, visit the different chapter hospitality suites, enter a team in the State Horseshoe Tournament. Chairman, John Fennekohl, arranged the event in Wildwood for the conventioners to have fun.

All of this is held as a fraternal benefit for you. When you see me there, do not be a stranger. Be sure to say hello! I look forward to seeing you, hearing about your council and its activities, and personally shaking your hand to thank you.

June will be here before you know it. It is the time to congratulate our new Officers. Why not help build the new team by getting involved together in a project – The Knights of Columbus 6th Annual Tank Pull! If you really want to get the point across to the new team as to what to expect, then register them for the Tank pull on Sunday June 14th in Clifton. Registration is online at www.tankpullkofc.org. Pulling a 80,000 lb. tank will be their easiest chore of their year! It is also a great way to take us into Memorial Day and honor our veterans!

(continued on page 5)



State Membership Chairman's Message

Brothers,

Happy Easter Brothers. With the Rite of Christian Initiation as Adults (RCIA) program completed on Easter, you now have a few more members in your parish. It is encouraged that you ask these new men to get to know some of their fellow parishioners by joining the Knights of Columbus and by getting involved in some council and parish activities.

Now that the March church drives are over, it is time to follow-up with your prospect list and invite the prospects and their wives to an open house and to have them make their first degree. Be sure to send them a letter announcing the first degree and the details needed for them to experience a nice exemplification. Your letter of invitation should include the sign-in time, the amount of money needed for the one-time initiation fee and prorated dues. Also mention that a jacket and tie is preferred for degrees. Include the contact information of the council membership director or whoever is collecting the

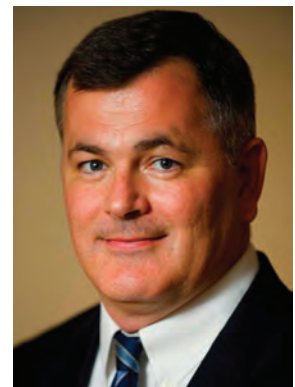
names of the candidates for the degree.

Not everyone on your prospect list will be able to make the degree schedule sponsored by you so it is a good idea to list two or three other dates of degrees in your area as well as to offer the chance to take the degree by DVD. Hopefully, giving alternates dates and methods will enable your prospects to join your council in a timely manner.

Good luck with your March prospect lists, Brothers.

Vivat Jesus,

John Erwin, FDD
State Membership Director



Culture of Life Program Director's Message

Brothers:

Although we are approaching the end of this Columbian Year, we must not slacken our efforts in bringing about a Culture of Life! In fact, as May (Mother's Day month) approaches, we should be redoubling our efforts in this area. Let's get ready for a major sprint in the home stretch!

Fundraising for Life. I know that as a council you are constantly inundated to participate in this or that program, and that there are only so many hours in a day and dollars in your treasury. Fortunately, with the latter, you can always increase it with a fundraiser! Hopefully, you are planning a Rose Sale or Baby Bottle Drive for May, or have already held one recently.

These programs are proven to be highly successful and can provide you with the funds to provide a home for a mother, support a pregnant woman in crisis, or help your local pregnancy care center. You can also improve the quality of life for many of our citizens by donating some of the money to our Alzheimer's Awareness and Deborah Hospital programs. Remember, every little bit counts and is very effective, as a donation of \$150 to Deborah or \$250 to Alzheimer's Awareness from each of 200 of our councils would allow us to make our goals for those programs! We can do it!

Special Olympics. Our fundraising this year for this program was spectacular, due to the efforts of John Gazis and his team! Last year, our Polar Penguins, with 47 participants, raised \$22,369.22. This year, with 58 participants, they raised \$32,401! This ranked them as the third highest team in fundraising out of over 300! In addition, our own Gary Seals personally raised \$6,500, representing a full

20% of the amount raised by the team and ranking him 6th in fundraisers for the entire Plunge, not just our team!

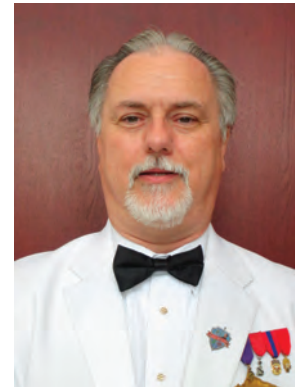
Catholic Citizenship. But raising money is not enough. We must also raise our voices as Catholic Citizens to speak out on issues of life. How many of your members participate as letter writers in Our Catholic Voice in the Media? How many of them have e-mailed or written their legislators about important legislation, like the so-called "Death with Dignity Act"? Remember, evil wins if good men do nothing!

We also need to publicize what we do! The media far too often controls the narrative and portrays the Pro-Life movement in a negative light. We need to show that we are espousing our beliefs in a positive and practical way! Write to your local newspaper about your donations to Pro-Life causes, whether it be in money or time, or post something on social media, like Facebook. People need to know that we support women in the choice for life both before **and after** the child is born.

We have accomplished quite a lot this year, but the job isn't over yet. In fact, it will never be over, since even after we re-establish a Culture of Life, we must work to maintain it! But I know we are all up for it!

Vivat Jesus!

Steven J. Richardson, FM
Culture of Life Programs Director



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Chaplain (continued from page 2)

often, outside of the Mass in our Church, do you spend time thinking about or discussing this gift of God that shows us the tremendous love that God had for each of us?

This is what the Easter Season is all about. How great is God's love for you? Consider how much your spouse and your children love you. The love of God for you is so much greater. He went through great suffering and a painful crucifixion for you to prove that love. He died for you and then rose from the dead. Scripture tells us that soon after His resurrection, Jesus ascended into Heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father and intercedes for us. All we need to do is to cooperate with Our Lord and we will spend eternity with Him.

Jesus has done so much for us. Think about it. He created us, gave us our families, He gave us life. He also gave us our Faith and shows us the way to paradise. If we ask Him, He will give us the grace to handle any problem as we grow in our faith. He only asks that we cooperate and use those graces. They are free gifts that He will not force us to use. That is our choice.

During the Easter season our Church gives us the opportunity to grow in holiness. It prepares us to come closer to Jesus and to grow in the sacraments we have received. It helps us on the feast of Pentecost to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit who confirms us in our Faith. At the first Pentecost Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the Apostles who then began to spread God's word to the world. You received the Holy Spirit at your Baptism and Confirmation to give you God's love and the grace to spread that love to those you encounter as you live your faith.

The Easter Season is upon us. Use the graces Jesus gives us by the way we live our faith. It will show our love for Jesus and help others to grow in their Faith.

God Bless.



Bishop Charles J. McDonnell
State Chaplain

Editor note: Article is reprint of article from April 2014 Cavalcade. As stated in the last issue, Bishop McDonnell had a fall before Christmas, and presently resides in Totowa. Please keep Bishop Mac in your prayers.



Program (continued from page 3)

My darling wife Barbara and I hope you had a blessed and happy Easter, and wish you a grand time at the convention, and a safe Memorial Day with a big thank you to all of our Veterans!

May God bless you and your family in abundance for all that you do in His name through our Order of Columbian Knights!

Yours in friendship and fraternity,
Ray Sands
General Programs Director
Proclaim and Defend our Faith
<http://dssjnow.info/>
www.njkofc.org



AED Defibrillator Donated

Pittstown, NJ, March 10: Cardiac events, such as AMI (Acute Myocardial Infarction) are almost always unexpected. They could even happen suddenly during a church service or function. To that point & to provide confidence in this life threatening situation, the St. Catherine of Siena Knights of Columbus have provided the parish with an Automatic External Defibrillation (AED) unit. Using an AED in conjunction with Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) increases the chances of survival for someone in cardiac arrest.

In order to ensure that a trained responder is available at church functions, the Knights and the Ushers of the church are being trained in CPR and AED with the help of Hunterdon Medical Center. The parish has two locations, the church in Pittstown, and the parish center in Union Township. Both of these locations now have AED units.

In the photo below, Grand Knight Ed Schilke is presenting to Father Chester, the Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena, the AED unit.



6903 Coat Drive

Knights of Columbus Council **6903** in Prospect Park held their annual coat drive at St. Paul church in conjunction with their participation in the K of C "Coats for Kids" program.



*Pictured delivering the warm outerwear to the Fr. English Center in Paterson, are Jack Hainthaler, FS and Sonny Piccolo, GK from Council **6903**.*



Trenton Knights send Heroes Home

For the second year in a row, the Knights within the Diocese of Trenton through their generosity pulled together to make the Christmas holidays brighter and warmer this past December for some of our dedicated men and women serving their country in the Armed Forces.

Begun as a simple idea at an annual meeting of District Deputies in August 2013 pitched by State Warden, Jim Stoever, operation "Send a Hero Home for the Holidays" took wing and has surpassed the expectations of him and those men discussing it. Stoever explained that as a young boy growing up he recalled that on more than one occasion his family would bring an enlisted Navy Sailor home with them after attending Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. His mom always made sure she had a small gift that they would receive as well as a place at the dinner table. He continued that the Trenton Diocese is home to 5 military installa-

tions and he is sure that there are many stationed at them who although had the "leave" time did not have the financial means to get home for Christmas. Knowing the Knights are masters of fundraising he pitched his plan.

An appeal was made to each Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator within the diocese asking each to contribute whatever amount they could afford and the monies would be pooled into a fund. Then, working with the Chaplain's Office of the bases enlisted candidates would be identified and round-trip fare would be provided to them to be home for Christmas. While donations were coming in legal issues were cleared working with the Judge Advocate General's office. In a month's time nearly \$9,000.00 was donated, Stoever said. "Through the generosity of the Knights we were able to reunite 11 'Heroes' with their families."

2013 was only the beginning though. The 2014 appeal saw over \$13,000.00 donated. Sixteen service men and women awoke Christmas morning in the peaceful surroundings of their homes and families. Equally important was the fact that their proud parents had their children home again. "That last point, about the parents, is what I first thought of when I awoke Christmas morning and that's what makes what we've been able to do so special and why I am so proud to be associated with not only the Knights of Columbus but with them in my diocese, the Diocese of Trenton." Asked what he thinks will happen in 2015 Stoever said "Who knows? For two years we haven't been able to penetrate the two Weapons Station Earle facilities although we've tried. Maybe this year they'll see our record and open the doors for us."



FATIMA

On March 15, 2015, Our Lady of Fatima Council **15958** held its first installation for its charter officers. Paul Pinkman District Deputy 4 installed the new officers and handed over the Council Charter to Chaplain & Pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Father Yuvan Alvarez and the Councils First Grand Knight Andrew Ventura.



Polar Penguins

On Saturday, February 21, 2015 the State Council team of Polar Bear Penguins converged on Seaside Heights to take part in the annual Polar Bear Plunge for the benefit of the New Jersey Special Olympics. While the weather was a balmy 28 degrees and the water temperature was a bit warmer at 34 degrees, over 6,000 dedicated individuals from all over the State plunged into the ocean to raise money for Special Olympics. The NJ State Council sponsored a team of individuals and raised over \$31,000 for Special Olympics. The team sent out the following note for all:

"On behalf of the NJ Knights of Columbus Polar Penguins, we would like to thank you for your support and the generous donations made to Special Olympics New Jersey on behalf of our team. Thanks to your generosity, our team donation ranks in third place in the State. As of January 21, 2015 the team raised \$31,401 with more to be added. Donations turned in on the day of the plunge could take 4 - 8 weeks to appear on our team ledger page, so a final report of donations will be forthcoming. A special "THANK YOU" to the Officers and brother knights from Council **8415** for showing true Fraternity by providing a light breakfast and wonderful lunch for those who took the plunge and those who were there to support the team! Thanks to all - it was a GREAT DAY!



Polar Plunge

Once again this year, as they have for the past several, St. Philip the Apostle Council **11671** braved this frigid winter to take a dip in the Atlantic Ocean at Seaside Heights for the Special Olympics. As part of the Polar Penguins Team, Saturday, February 21st was a day to prove their true commitment to this worthy charity. Thankfully, the weather was not the single digits we've been experiencing so much lately but it still was only in the upper 20's; not exactly "beach" weather. With a team consisting of 58 members, the Penguins came in a respectable third raising in excess of \$31,000. Overall the Polar Plunge this year collected about \$1.6 million for the Special Olympics.

Special Olympics New Jersey is a not-for-profit organization that provides sports training and athletic competition to children and adults with intellectual disabilities. The organization is primarily funded through individual, corporate, civic and foundation dollars that make up more than 98% of its annual operating budget. All programs are free to registered athletes including insurance, facilities, equipment, uniforms, housing & meals for events, awards, sports, education and more. The annual Polar Plunge is one of their main fundraising efforts.

The Knights of Columbus Polar Penguins Team is planning on participating again next year and is not limited to Knights but is open to anyone who would like to participate. For more information go to <http://seaside-bpp.kintera.org>.



Polar Plunge legend: L-R Standing : Tom Fudali, Brian Kulesa, Gary Klunder, PGK, FDD Ray Lill, GK David Cordero, Tom Kulesa, PGK Jack Jaeger, PGK Bob Martin, Justin Marotte, Keith Martin; Kneeling : Robbie Martin



Spelling Bee

The NJ Knights of Columbus Chapter 4 conducted the annual Spelling Bee for eighth grade students in the Diocese of Metuchen. The event was held Saturday, March 7th at St. Ann School, Raritan hosted by Knights of Columbus Sgt. John Basilone Council **13264**.

Officiating were Diocese of Metuchen Spelling Bee Chairman Steven Bauernfeind of St. Joseph Council **10627** in High Bridge assisted by Hugh Gallagher, Past Grand Knight, host council **13264**, Kevin Loughney, Grand Knight St. Joseph Council **10627** and Thomas Klawunn, St. Joseph Council **10627**.

First place winner was Alexa Marsh, St. Ann School, Raritan. Other winners were: second place Kirk Olandres, St. Helena School, Edison; third place Carly Rodriguez, St. Ann School, Raritan and fourth place, Aparna Natarajan, St. Helena School, Edison.

The four students are eligible to participate in the Knights of Columbus State Finals Spelling Bee to be held on April 12, 2015 at 2 PM at the Church of the Epiphany in Brick, N.J.



Photo: (L to R) 4th place winner Aparna Natarajan, Mr Steven Bauernfeind (Spelling Bee Chairman - Knights of Columbus - Metuchen Diocese), 2nd place winner Kirk Olandres, 3rd place winner Carly Rodriguez and 1st place winner Alexa Marsh.



OLOH Cheerleading

Grand Knight Robert Galasso and District Deputy Frank Brandis both of Holy Crusaders Council **#9193** in Blackwood, NJ shown with the Our Lady of Hope Regional School Cheerleaders. The squad recognized Holy Crusaders Council **#9193** for providing funding toward the purchase of gym mats for the cheerleader squad to safely perfect their routine.

The Our Lady of Hope Cheerleaders took First Place at the National Grammar School Cheerleader Championship held in Wildwood, NJ on March 1, 2015.



God's Special People Breakfast

Several years ago, St. Joseph's Council **4969**, Toms River, decided to re-name the People with Intellectual Disabilities program to "God's Special People", not only because it is more "politically correct", but because not all of the children who benefit from the program are "intellectually disabled". The groups serviced by the God's Special People program all have special needs of one type or another, and Council **4969** takes pride in being able to support children and adults with a variety of special needs.

Traditionally, Council **4969** has been among the top councils in the State of New Jersey in collecting funds for the People with Intellectual Disabilities program. A "Breakfast at the Knights" was held at the Council home last October, where over one hundred guests enjoyed breakfast together, and a profit of \$720 was made for the program. More recently, in February, a "Blast from the Past" was held at the Council, resulting in a profit of over \$1,100. Throughout the year, collection containers have been placed at local diners and restaurants, giving the public an opportunity to contribute to the God's Special People program.

Groups receiving funds from Council **4969**'s collection efforts include Our Special Kids of Toms River, Team Randy, 21 Plus, Easter Seals, the Holy Innocents Society at St. Justin's Church, and the New Lisbon Developmental Center. In addition, social events are held at the Council for group home residents serviced by Easter Seals, including the annual picnic and Christmas party. After all, one of our most basic principles of the Knights of Columbus is Charity, and our membership goes a long way in support of the many projects and activities that are conducted on behalf of the program. A great deal of time and effort is devoted to the God's Special People program, not only by our Brother Knights, but from our Squires and members of our Ladies Auxiliary. In addition, two groups that we traditionally support each year are there along with us collecting at various locations, making this truly a "team effort".



Star Award

Knights of Columbus, Don Bosco Council **7784**, Newton, NJ, has earned the distinction of Star Council, one of the K of C organization's top Awards for the 2013-2014 fraternal year. The organization's headquarters, located in New Haven, Connecticut, made the announcement.

In announcing the winner of the Star Council Award, Carl Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of the Knights of Columbus International, said "Please accept my sincere congratulations upon attaining this prestigious award. Your dedication to the Order is seen in the high standard of excellence you have achieved." Bob Tiscornia, Past Grand Knight of the local Council, said " This is quite an honor for us. We are extremely proud of this accomplishment, and for the work and dedication of the members of the Don Bosco Council"

The Knights of Columbus, with over 1.8 million members world wide, and about 64,000 members in the State of New Jersey, are dedicated to the principals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. The Knights of Columbus annually donates more than \$170 million and 70 million hours of service to charitable causes.



In the photo, left to right, Bob Barcelona current Grand Knight, looks on as Tom Passage, NJ State District Deputy, presents the Star Council Award to Bob Tiscornia, Past Grand Knight, on behalf of the Don Bosco Council.



Religious Retirement

The St. Philip the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council **11671** presented a check for \$500 to Sr. Christine Liegey, a sister in the order of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary community, for the retirement fund for her order. Many people are unaware of the dire financial situation many of the communities of our religious Sisters, Brothers and Order Priests find themselves in due to lack of funds for their retirement years. Having taken vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience these holy and dedicated people have given their entire lives to the ministries of the Church and the betterment of all of us and find themselves with little to support them in their later years. Most Sisters labor well beyond their retirement years. While the church holds a special collection yearly for retired religious Sisters, Brothers and Order Priests, this collection is divided among the many religious groups all over the U.S.A. The Knights of Columbus first principle is Charity and St. Philip's Council **11671** in donating these funds would like to encourage other Councils and other charitable organizations to take up this challenge and help these holy people who have spent their entire lives dedicated to the betterment of our parish community. It is our desire and hope that other Councils will seek out the religious communities in their parishes and help these people in any way they can.



Legend: L-R Grand Knight SK David Cordero, Sr, Christine Liegey, O.P., FDD, PGK Ray Lill, Pastor and Knights Council Chaplain Fr. Joseph Garbarino.

Service Awards



On March 3, 2015, the K of C Council **857** of Woodbridge, NJ, presented their Community Service Awards. From left to right, David Gerity, CCD Teacher of the Year, St. James School; EMT Joanna Prumos, Emergency Care Service Award; awards presenter and Grand Knight, Robert Paul; Jacqueline Simon, Parochial School Teacher of the Year, St. James School; P.O. Michael Csanyi, Police Shield Award; FF Eric Seniakevgh, Fire Shield Award. All were recognized for their outstanding service to the township of Woodbridge, New Jersey and presented with plaques.



ARC Canteen

The Knights of Columbus Council **4524**, East Rutherford sponsored a dance canteen for the Bergen Passaic ARC. on Friday, February 13th at the ARC Center in Hackensack. This is held every year and the money that is collected during our intellectually challenged citizen's drive allowed us to donate \$3000.00 this year.



In the picture are the people that came to help us serve the patrons. From left to right standing is Pat Brislin. Clare Volpitta, Renee Trottier; kneeling Rich Volpitta, Jim Fitzsimmons, Tom Capone; seated Joe Egan presenting the check to Joanne Brady. Standing Joe De Pascale. kneeling Joe Podolski and Dan Grossano. Also present but not in picture was Grand Knight Eugene Sanchez. Standing behind are the clients of Bergen Passaic ARC.



Communion Breakfast

St. Philip the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council **11671** held their annual Communion Breakfast Sunday, March 15th following the 8:00am Mass. Over 100 people were in attendance including the Monsignor Stein Assembly Fourth Degree Color Corps Honor Guard, the District Deputy SK Ken Molnar and the State Secretary SK Bruce DeMolli. The honorees for this year were Lady Sharon Festa the head of St. Philip's Columbiettes and Mrs. Debbie Deluca another active parishioner at St. Philip's. It was noted that these two ladies were some of the unsung heroes at St. Philip's as they do so many tasks with excellence without complaining and are seldom if ever recognized for all they do. The breakfast was dedicated to the memory of recently deceased brother Ken Papuzenski who is greatly missed by all his brothers.

The keynote speaker was Sr. Ann Marie Paul, SCC, Director of the Passaic Neighborhood Center for Women in Passaic who spoke on the "Role of Women in the Church today". Attending with Sr. Ann Marie were sisters Mary and Marie who both also serve as nurses in the local hospitals for the community. Sr. Ann Marie's very well researched and informative speech focused on the Sisters of Christian Charity and then expanded to the other orders of sisters, the larger areas of state and country and world and finally the role of women in general in the church today. At the conclusion of her talk all present had a greater appreciation for how much our religious contribute not just to the church but the community as a whole.



Legend: l-r Back row: Grand knight SK David Cordero, Communion Breakfast Chairman SK Mike Cervine, State Secretary SK Bruce DeMolli, District Deputy SK Ken Molnar; front row l-r: Lady Sharon Festa honoree, Mrs. Debbie Deluca honoree, Sr. Ann Marie Paul, SCC Keynote speaker, Sr. Maria & Sr. Mary.

Valentine Dance

For the second consecutive year, the Matawan Knights of Columbus Council #5324 held a Valentine's dance for members of H.A.M. (Hazlet, Holmdel, Aberdeen, Matawan) Therapeutic Recreation Program. The event was held Sunday afternoon, February 22 at the St. Clement Church Annex where the Knights host their meetings.

The Knights of Columbus provided the DJ entertainment as the dance floor was constantly filled with H.A.M. members enjoying the festivities.

The Knights and their wives helped serve the special Valentine's meal that was graciously donated by Whole Foods of Marlboro along with Livoti's Old World Market and DeMarco's Catering & Gourmet Deli.

At the conclusion of the dance, Worthy Grand Knight Joseph Caccavo presented H.A.M. director Jenna Vecchione with a \$500 donation for the organization's use, which Vecchione said would be put toward the planned purchase of a bus.

Founded in 1980, the H.A.M. Therapeutic Recreation Program provides a variety of educational and social activities for developmentally disabled residents of the four-towns including bowling, exercise class, dance classes, arts & crafts, movies, cooking classes and a six week traveling summer day camp.

H.A.M. members join a congo line and dance the day away at the Matawan Knights Valentine's Dance. GK Joseph Caccavo presents a check for \$500 to Jennifer Vecchione, Director of H.A.M.



Photo Courtesy of Joseph Parisi

Three Generations

The Knights of Columbus is and has always been a family oriented program. While the Knights only enrolls Catholic men over the age of 18 there are several Columbiettes chapters who enroll women in the same age category and also Squires groups for our youth. You might say Knighthood is in the blood of families. Recently St. Philip the Apostle Council 11671 added another new young member to our Council, Nicholas Garruto, the grandson of the council's FDD, PGK SK Ray Lill and the son of SK Mark Garruto. Three generations of Knights dedicated to serving the church and the community through works of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.



Legend: l-r FDD, PGK SK Ray Lill, new 1st degree Knight Nicholas Garruto, SK Mark Garruto.

South Plainfield

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council 6203 held their annual Keystone Community Lunch at the Holy Savior Academy on March 14th. Every Month Sacred Heart Church holds a special Mass for the Mentally Challenged residents from the Keystone Community as well as other residents from around Middlesex County. This month's theme was St. Patrick's Day.

The South Plainfield Knights have supported this lunch for over 30 years. Pizza, pretzels, dessert and drinks were served to the over 80 residents that attended.





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Lighthouse Dinner

On March 2, 2015 the State Officers and other Knights with their wives attended a dinner celebrating LIFE with over 700 people who support the Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center. A dinner of gratitude and support was held at the Venetian Banquet Hall in Garfield, NJ. Lighthouse has locations currently in Hackensack and Hawthorne, NJ and is building one in Paterson. The Knights have assisted financially in the placement of Ultra Sound machines in both open locations and has submitted a request to Supreme (pending at this time) for their location in Paterson. Executive Director of lighthouse Debbie Provencher specifically thanked the New Jersey Knights of Columbus for their support in providing the funding for UltraSound machines placed in all its locations that have saved hundreds of babies in the past 5 years.



Pictured in this photo from right to left bottom row are: Maryann Hatler, State Treasurer Robert Hatler, State Deputy Andy Lipenta, State Secretary Bruce DeMolli. Upper row: Vincent Tavormina State Advocate, Jim Stoevers State Warden, Debbie Provencher Executive Director of Lighthouse, Anna DeMolli, Pat Vaclavick and Mike Vaclavick, President of the Paterson Federation.



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