



Knights Digest



Vol. 59 No. 01

www.kofc4504.org

September 2017

Calendar of Events

September 9th Family Picnic & Raffle
 September 17th Half Way to St. Patty's
 September 21st Knight's Family Dinner
 September 22nd Cigar Knight
 September 23rd Special Olympics Run
 October 7th Past Grand Knight's Dinner

KofC 4504 welcomes new Members

Union Council 4504 hosted two (2) Admissions Degrees on July 24th, 2017 and another on August 14th 2017. We are proud to welcome our new Brothers into our community.



Union Council 4504 Installation of Officers

Our Installation of Officers ceremony was hosted by St. Michaels Church on July 23rd. Thank you so much to St. Michaels for hosting us, and to all our Brother Knights, family and friends who came out to support us.



From left to right: Ed McCormick, PGK, Anthony Ibida, Alex Costa, PGK, DD, Mike Peter, PGK, Luke Sangiamo, David Wozniak, Greg Henn, PGK, Mike Willemse, GK, Joshua Merida, Anthony Hernandez, Monsignor Nyugoir, Paul Willemse. Missing from photo: Robert Genovese, DGK and Giftus John, PGK.

Knight 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
Knight 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 hi-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Council Officers

Chaplain.....
District Deputy..... Alex Costa, PGK
Grand Knight Michael Willemse
Deputy Grand Knight..... Rob Genovese
Chancellor..... David Wozniak
Warden Eric Hernandez
Recorder..... Luke Sangiamo
Treasurer..... Paul Willemse
Fin. Secretary..... Ed McCormick, PGK
Inside Guard..... Anthony Ibida
Outside Guard..... Josh Merdia
Membership Director..... Rich Fuentes
Program Director..... Mike Peter, PGK
Advocate..... Stephen F. Hehl
3rd. Yr. Trustee Giftus John, PGK
2nd Yr. Trustee Greg Henn, PGK
1st Yr. Trustee Mike Peter, PGK
4th Degree Faithful
Navigator..... Alex Costa, PGK
Columbian Club
President John Bashaw
Swim Club President..... Joe Marateo, PGK
Columbiette President..... Fran Corcione

Monthly Meetings

1st. Mon. ----- Council Officers
2nd & 4th Mon. ----- Council Mtgs.
3rd Mon. ----- Swim Club
4th Wed.----- 4th Degree Assembly
4th Thu. ----- Columbian Club

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Brothers All,

It's hard to believe how fast the summer months have gone by, and I am writing my second Grand Knight message. First and foremost, I want to thank everyone who was able to attend our Installation of Officers ceremony. I also would like to extend my heartfelt thank you to St. Michael's Church for always being so accommodating to us.

We had some excellent events over this past summer. We were able to launch our newly reactivated Pig Roast, our annual Splash Party, the 4th Annual Lobster Fest and our Annual Family Picnic will take place in just a few days. In addition, this year marks the Council's 60th anniversary! We are mustering together to create a fantastic event for this occasion. We will keep everyone abreast on the status of this event as it draws closer.

I stated at the Grand Knight's toast that I felt our Council was the best in the state. I truly mean this from the bottom of my heart, and I have not been disappointed. During this summer, we had an incredible surge in membership; holding a record 29 applications in just the first month of the Columbian year. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate and welcome our new brothers and their families. I look forward to working closely with all of you in the future. Russell Petrocelli, the state membership director, declared that our council was "the shining star of the archdiocese," at our most recent Admissions Degree. I could not be prouder of our council.

We have some fantastic programs coming up in the next couple months. As I previously mentioned, we will be having our Annual Family Picnic on September 9th, a Halfway to St. Patty's event on September 17th as well as our Past Grand Knight's Dinner on October 7th. I hope everyone will be able to come out to our events and enjoy.

Let's continue to have a fantastic year!

Vivat Jesus,
Michael P. Willemse Grand Knight;
Union KofC #4504





UNION COUNCIL #4504 FAMILY PICNIC TICKETS

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017
12:00 TILL 6:00 pm

FOOD, DRINKS, ACTIVITIES, AND GOOD OLD COMARADERIE!

ADVANCE PURCHASE TICKET COSTS:

FAMILY (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN)--\$45.00
ADDITIONAL CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD-- \$10.00
ADULTS--\$20.00

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS,
SWIMCLUB GATE HOUSE(CHECKS OR EXACT CHANGE)
OR CONTACT:

Ed McCORMICK @ 973.650.7643
E MAILS: 4504blast@gmail.com

ADVANCE SALE OF TICKETS WILL END 9/2/16
LIMITED TICKETS DAY OF, AT THE GATE THEY WILL
BE AN ADDITIONAL \$5.00 PER TICKET



Swim Club News

We've had a great response with additional families since we opened the membership to other councils and Catholic Church members. The number of daily guests increased which certainly helps us promote our pool and our wonderful facilities.

We are always looking for new members and members to renew their membership.

Thank you for supporting our membership.

Jim Ford - Membership Director
jford1488@comcast.net

Knight's Family Dinners

The Knight Family Dinners will resume this month on September 21st. Each month the dinner will take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Anyone planning on attending must call Pat Wittek in advance at 908-964-3989.

Union Council 4504-Anniversary Circle... A celebration of 25 and 50 years married.

Are you celebrating or have you celebrated your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary this year? If you have, or will be, please send your names to the Grand Knight, Mike Willemse with the details. We will present Certificates of Commendation from Supreme to all our brothers and their wives who have reached one of these milestones.

Also, if you have celebrated anniversaries in increments of 5 years-30, 35, 40, 45 etc, please let us know. We will also present certificates to all brothers who have also reached one of those milestones.

Hoping to hear from you. Congratulations!!!

Half way to Saint Patrick's Day

Join us for a traditional Irish breakfast!

Sunday, September 17th, 2017
10AM to 12PM

Tickets \$10.00



Knight of the Month

September 2017

Mike Eger



The Knight of the Month for September 2017 is Mike Eger. Mike Eger has been a member of our council for nearly 30 years. Mike lives in East Hanover with his wife Nancy. They have been married for 41 years. They have a daughter, Emily, and son-in-law, Kevin. Mike has a grandson, Luke, and a granddaughter named Molly. .

Mike is not a stranger to Union. He lived in Union and worked for the township of Union and is now retired. Mike enjoys spending time with his grandson and he also enjoys playing golf. He is also a master gardener.

In his years at the council Mike has been the digest editor, helped with many IDD drives, golf outings and work parties.

Mike runs the food pantry at St Michael's Parish. Over the years, Mike has moved countless numbers of refrigerators and freezers in and out of the convent, trimmed shrubs on the parish grounds and helped collect and transport food for the needy all over the township of Union. Mike's willingness to run the food pantry is what being a Knight of Columbus is about. Congratulations, Mike!

Knights of Columbus Union Council #4504 Charitable Fund Raffle

The next drawing is Saturday, September 9, 2017 at the Council Picnic. Raffle tickets have been mailed home and additional tickets are available.

Cigar Knight

Friday, September 22nd, 2017

7:00 PM

Steak, Potatoes & Veggies (for you Lite Beer Drinkers) and whatever else Chef Frank wants to spoil you with.

Beer, Wine and Soda Included

High End Spirits Bar

(experience the good life. Enjoy an upscale beverage like Johnnie Blue with your Cigar)

Raffles / 50-50s / Beer Pong

Goodie Bag

(two cigars, a cutter and a lighter)

Additional Cigars for purchase

Only 100 tickets are being sold!
(Ya Snooze, Ya Lose)

All this for a mere bag of shells
(\$45 per smoker, \$35 per non-smoker)

For tickets, contact
Gino Gonzalez at 973-444-6899 or
Alex Costa at 305-898-1570

Proceeds will benefit:
Union Council #4504
Columbian Club of Union

Camp Nejeda
NJ Knights of Columbus Motorcycle Ministry's NJ
Special Olympics Run.



JFK Assembly

What is the Fourth Degree?

The Fourth Degree is the highest Degree of the Order. Members of this Degree are addressed as "Sir Knight". The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of Patriotism and to encourage active Catholic Citizenship.

After taking their Third Degree, Brother Knights are eligible to receive their Fourth Degree. Fourth Degree members, in addition to being members of their individual councils, are also members of Fourth Degree assemblies which typically comprise members of several councils. Each assembly is led by a Faithful Navigator. Other elected assembly officers include the Faithful Friar, Faithful Captain, Faithful Admiral, Faithful Pilot, Faithful Scribe, Faithful Purser, Faithful Comptroller, Faithful Sentinels and Faithful Trustees.

Fewer than 18% of Knights join the Fourth Degree, which is optional, and whose members are referred to as "Sir Knight". A waiting period of one year from the time the Third Degree was taken was eliminated in 2013, and now any Third Degree Knight is eligible to join the Fourth Degree.

The first exemplification of the Fourth Degree was held at the Lenox Lyceum in New York on February 22, 1900. The event was infused with Catholic and patriotic symbols and imagery that "celebrated American Catholic heritage". The two Knights leading the ceremony, for example, were the Expositor of the Constitution and the Defender of the Faith. The ritual soon spread to other cities. The new Fourth Degree members returned to their councils, forming assemblies composed of members from several councils. In 1903, the Board of Directors officially approved a new Degree Exemplifying Patriotism Order-wide, using the New York City model.

Sir Knights from the Union Council 4504 are part of the John F. Kennedy Fourth Degree Assembly 0666 with other Sir Knights from Hillside Council 3197, Kenilworth Council 4186, and Springfield Council 5560. The JFK Assembly 0666 is part of the 1st NJ District Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification for 1st NJ District will be on Sunday November 19, 2017 in Haledon, NJ. Contact any Assembly Officer for details if interested in taking your Fourth Degree.



**THE NEW JERSEY
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MOTORCYCLE MINISTRY'S 8TH ANNUAL
SPECIAL OLYMPICS RUN**

LIVE MUSIC! / FOOD! / VENDORS! / 50-50S!
A GREAT DAY OF RIDING, ALL FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

Date: Saturday September 23rd 2017 (Rain or Shine)
Registration: Starts at 10am
Kick Stands Up: High Noon! (ESCORTED RIDE!)
Where: VFW POST # 2197
1 Veterans Ln, Port Monmouth, NJ 07758
(DOORS OPEN AT 1P/M FOR ALL)
Cost: \$20 per Rider / \$15 per Passenger/non rider

**Our ride has gotten bigger and better each year.
That has been made possible by your support.
Remember, this is not just a good time and a great ride,
At the end of the day, THIS IS FOR THE KIDS.**

**LIVE MUSIC BY THE SPIDER
DANIELS BAND**



WWW.NJKOFCMM.COM

Do You Know How Delightful Is the Ecstasy of Union with the Divine?

You know that feeling you get when you read something that puts into words your own interior experience of life? That joy of “Oh, thank you, I’m not the only one who feels this, and you expressed it so well”? I had that a few weeks ago reading a reflection from Saint Bonaventure:

“As for you, chosen servant of Christ, ... prompt your heart and your soul; lift up your whole mind and consider as intently as you can: If good things are so pleasant even when enjoyed singly, imagine how delightful beyond delight that Good must be which contains the delightfulness of all goods. If life created is so precious, imagine how enrapturing must be Life All-creating! If salvation is our best end as an acquired state, how transporting must be Salvation Itself, the Author of all deliverance! ...What will a man have who possesses that Good, and what will he not have? Assuredly, he will have everything that satisfies him and nothing that displeases. Eye has not seen nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man what bodily and spiritual goods he will enjoy in heaven. Why, then, servant of God, do you wander so far, seeking delights for your body and mind? Love one single Good in which all goods are found, and that will suffice; desire simple Good, which is all good, and that will be enough....

The more we love God here, the more we shall enjoy God there. Therefore, love God much in this life, and you shall enjoy him much in the next; let the love of God increase in you now, so that you may have then the fullness of his joy. This is the truth to be pondered in your mind, proclaimed by your tongue, loved in your heart, expressed by your lips; your soul should hunger, your body thirst, your whole substance crave for nothing but this until you enter the joy of your God, until you are clasped in your Lover’s arms, until you are led into the chamber of your beloved Spouse who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.”

This is my life’s mission: to help others see how all the good things in this life, all the pleasures and de-

lights of being alive, are but little signs, little glimmers, little icons of the Infinite Good and Delight that await us in the next life. We only get in trouble with the pleasures of this world when we expect them to be our ultimate fulfillment. When we do that, we’re turning the icon into an idol.

It’s a scary thing to realize that God honors our desires. If in the end we cling to something less than God as our satisfaction, then that is what we shall have. The question here is not whether we desire “heaven,” but what we desire as “heaven,” as the fulfillment of our longing. We all desire some kind of heaven, some kind of lasting fulfillment. Nothing can change that about us. But in the end, if we’re not aiming our ultimate desire at the Ultimate, we miss the mark. And when the mark is heaven, that’s something we really don’t want to miss.

Thank you, Lord, for all the pleasures of this world. May we come to see them rightly as so many glimmers, so many icons of your infinite goodness. And if we’re clinging to them as our ultimate fulfillment, teach us how to redirect our desire according to your design so we can reach our eternal destiny. Amen! – Christopher West

Welcome new 4th Degree Members

We will like to announce and welcome the 4Th Degree officers for the 17/18 year.



from left to right.

Trustee SK Allen Pacullo Acting Faithful Friar SK Raymond Gora, Color Guard Commander SK Andrew Schopfer, Faithful Pilot SK Michael Pete, Faithful Navigator SK Len Komar, Faithful Captain SK Steve Nagy, Faithful Admiral SK Alex Costa and Faithful Scribe SK Andrew Wnukowski. Not in the photo Faithful Comptroller SK Steve Whoeler, Inside and Outside Sentinels SK Gregory Henn and SK Mike Ibbotson.

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



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September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Council Officers	5	6	7	8	9 Family Picnic
10	11 Council Meeting	12	13	14	15	16
17 Half way to St. Patty's	18 Swim Club	19	20	21 Knights Family Dinner	22 Cigar Knight	23 Special Olympics Run
24	25 Council Meeting	26	27 4th Degree Assembly	28 Columbian Club	29	30