

REV. THOMAS F. CANTY COUNCIL  
NO. 3197, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
P.O. BOX 207  
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## *The KnightLetter*

January - February 2021

GRAND KNIGHT - Andrew Wnukowski 908-353-3987, 908-764-3559

Council Phone (908) 688-3197

Hall Rental (908) 688-3197

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### Grand Knights Message

Brothers, Greetings:

While looking for thoughts for this issue I was perusing the one from a year ago in which I had stated "I pray that the new Decade of The 20's will be a stable, productive and peaceful one", after which I proudly reported on the Council's accomplishments of those past months. Oh my God! Who could have imagined what lay ahead? We closed down Council Operations, to include charitable fundraisers such as participation in KofC Free Throw program and several dinners, pancake breakfasts and a church and store collection. We did manage, under guidelines of Government restrictions, to hold a successful Annual Family Fun Picnic in our parking lot. Because of the continuing health issues and government regulations we were unable to hold our Annual Deceased Members Mass, nor the joint UNICO/Council Annual Columbus Day wreath laying and the Annual Veterans Pancake Breakfast. We also cancelled, with painful hearts, our Annual Christmas/PGK/Knight and Columbian of the Year Dinner Party and the Annual Children's Christmas Party. We did manage to hold in October a successful first, In-person, New Combined Degree Exemplification, under the rules of health safety. However, out of the ashes of 2020 came a good thing. During the virtual closure of our Columbian Club a great thing happened. Over a dozen Council members helped clean out accumulated detritus of 30 or more years. Then, using the funds of the Capital Improvement Fund so generously donated by our near and far flung Brother members, along with donations from the Hillside Historical Society and the Union County Corrections Officers Association, they jumped in to renovate the premises of our Columbian Club, including new paint and flooring in our hall and cleaning and painting of the bar. This effort resulted in a cleaner and more appealing inside environment, which has already, and will in the future attract prospective hall rentals, our only means of defraying operating costs and keeping our Columbian Club from folding. Thank you to all!

Because of the cancellation of the Christmas and Annual awards dinner, and because so many gave exemplary service, no one person was awarded Knight or Columbian of the Year. That honor goes out to all those who work to keep our Council alive. And your Past and still present Grand Knight, with a limp and a cane, continues through the last half of his 5th term. I hope you will join me in praying that the promised vaccine will return us all to a state of relative normalcy so we can continue our fight for Life issues and charitable projects.

May you all stay Safe, Healthy and reasonably happy!

May the Good Lord Watch Over Us All.

Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of the Knights, Pray for Us

Fraternally Yours

Andrew Wnukowski, Grand Knight.

## COLUMBIAN CLUB

Columbian Club will now meet at 6:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month, with the exceptions for holidays. Work continues to go forward to upgrade our Council Hall. Continued cleaning and sanitizing efforts are being performed daily. At this time we ask for volunteers who are willing to help with our next phase of repairs. Repairs planned are bathroom upgrades and repairs ceiling tiles upon completion of roof repairs and flooring in the bar area. Cleaning of the kitchen is also high on our agenda. We have a great Council Hall and your help in providing manpower and expertise in making repairs is always needed and appreciated. No amount of time and help is too small. Thank you.

## HALL RENTAL

Please know that our (recently renovated) hall is again available for rental within the parameters of the State and CDC guidelines for occupancy, etc. If you or an acquaintance is looking for a place to hold a birthday party, shower, a funeral repast or memorial lunch that was delayed due to the pandemic, consider our Council Home. Contact the Club at 908-688-3197. Pictures are available on our web site at <http://www.hillsidekofc.org>

## DUES

Second notice of dues will be mailed on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please pay your dues promptly to avoid the added expense of printing, stationary and postage. There are many outstanding dues at this time. If your invoice shows outstanding dues please contact our Financial Secretary, Robert Kaelblein at 973-663-2870 and leave a message. He will contact you to discuss payment options and/or make corrections.

**If anyone no longer wishes to be a member please state that in writing on your invoice, sign (a signature is required) and mail to Knights of Columbus 3197, PO Box 207, Hillside NJ 07205**

## MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE, JANUARY - FEBRUARY

Jan 14 COLUMBIAN CLUB DIRECTORS meet:	6:00 pm
" " COUNCIL meet:	7:00 pm
Feb 11 COLUMBIAN CLUB DIRECTORS meet:	6:00 pm
" " COUNCIL meet:	7:00 pm
Feb 17 Ash Wednesday	

PLEASE NOTE: Due to current circumstances imposed on us, the Columbian Club and Council have agreed to modify meetings as stated above. The hall will be set up to provide adequate social distancing. Masks are recommended.

## COLUMBIAN CLUB CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

A special "Thank You" to the additional following Brother Knights and friends who have made contributions toward the Columbian Club Capital Campaign:

W John Hanlon, Charles Serafin, Kevin Davis, Kevin Morris, John Piecko, Bernard Corigliano, Joseph Senchyshyn, and Gregory Peterpaul

Thanks also to all the volunteer members who have spent countless hours in cleaning, removing peeling wall covering, repainting walls, and clearing debris off the flat roof. Please check the Council's new website [hillsidekofc3197.org/hall-rental](http://hillsidekofc3197.org/hall-rental) for some pictures of the refreshed hall.

Donations are still welcomed and encouraged toward the campaign, and should be made payable to the "Knights of Columbus Council #3197" with a memo "Club Capital Campaign" and send to the Knights of Columbus Council #3197, PO Box 207, Hillside, NJ 07205 if you are unable to come to a meeting. (Please note that these donations are not tax-deductable

## **LENT**

Lent begins Wednesday February 17<sup>th</sup>. We will keep our fingers crossed that governmental regulation on inside dining eases so we will be able to host at least one meatless Lenten dinner sometime in April. Please keep your eye on our next printing of the Knightletter or our website at <http://www.hillsidekofc.org> for details

## **NEW COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Please check out our still new website at <http://www.hillsidekofc.org> . **NOTE:** this is a great way to be informed and updated on all Council activities. If you wish to access the Knightletters click on tab for 'newsletters' and type in password 'hillsidekofc3197.

## **KofC INSURANCE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTE. Our Council continues to be under the auspices of the Bob Mc Geehan Agency, contact #732 569 6045. Also working with us is Field Agent Thomas Brennan, cell #201 637 4603, e-Mail: [thomas.brennan@kofc.com](mailto:thomas.brennan@kofc.com).

## **POLAR PLUNGE TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

This annual event, which benefits the NJ Special Olympics, that is held at Seaside Park has been rescheduled for some time in April (details to follow). Our Council representative (I shudder at the thought) will be PGK FDD Joseph Michalik, Trustee. For more info on participation or donations please contact PGK Michalik. Thank you, Br Joe, for your fortitude and dedication.

## **BAPTISMAL ROSE PROGRAM**

The Council presents congratulatory roses to mothers of children baptized at St. Catherine's and Christ the King churches. If you can help with the presentation program let Angelo Bonanno, program coordinator at St Catherine's, or Andy Wnukowski, program coordinator at Christ the King, know of your interest. This is a well received program and a beautiful way to let parents-parishioners know about our Council.

## **HELP WITH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

As vaccines begin to be distributed and our hopes for a return to a semi-normal lifestyle it is important to begin thinking of ways to step up and put our Council at the forefront of charitable endeavors within our community. All ideas are welcome and will be considered.

As always we ask that if you can find the time to chair or contribute to a program or activity, please contact me, it will be greatly welcomed and appreciated. A few hours of your time on a weekend or after work to help with our Capital Improvements goes a long way to meeting our goals. It's okay to think out of the box, and pass it on. Ideas are as welcome as service.

## **KNIGHTLETTER PROGRAM**

Material to be submitted in the March – April issue of the KL must be received NO Later than February 15. Contact GK Andy Wnukowski at 908 764 3559, or leave in the wooden KnightLetter box at the bar. To place an ad, please call the Columbian Club at 908 688 3197.



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