
The KnightLetter

November - December 2021

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

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Grand Knights Message

Brothers, Greetings:

Soon you will be raking pesky leaves, decorating for Halloween and readying to celebrate Thanksgiving. And worrying about Christmas presents.

And so this issue, full of happenings and events past and future, continues with some hope of improvements on the health horizon, at least for those of our Brothers living in N.J. which currently appears to be healthier than most states. However, in September we were hit badly by Hurricane IDA which ravaged our area with rain, flooding and resultant damage and losses. In particular, our Brothers Jim Hellwig of Hillside who lost both his vehicles and the entire basement of his house and Chris Chervenjak of Cranford who also received extensive flood damage to his home.

On a positive side, (thanks to your donations) we accomplished the repaving of our very sad and holy Columbian Hall parking lot. We also conducted a needed cleanup of the Club premises, held a well attended Annual Family Fun Picnic and a Walk-in Charity Fundraiser Dinner. Note that the proceeds of the October 17 Charity Fundraiser was earmarked for Disaster Relief and various Knights Charities

We were also to be the hosts of an in house Blood Drive, which unfortunately was canceled by the blood services company for lack of volunteer staffing.

On November 8, at 7:00 pm we will once again hold our Annual Deceased Members Mass, to be celebrated at our Columbian Club by our Chaplain Fr. Luke, with refreshments to follow.

On December 18 we are having our Annual Christmas/PGK Dinner Party, and on December 19th our Annual Kid's Christmas Party, both having been canceled last year. For further details and an insert see inside the newsletter. In closing, we wish You and Yours a Happy Halloween, a Blessed Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year!

May the Good Lord continue His Watch Over Us All.
Blessed Mary, Queen of the Knight's, Pray for Us.

Fraternally Your
Andrew Wnukowski, Grand Knight.

COLUMBIAN CLUB

Work will continue to go forward with upgrades to your Council Hall. Sanitizing efforts are being performed daily. This is done to keep our Council Hall, bar area, and bathrooms sanitized. Even though restrictions have been eased we will continue to insure the health and safety of our members and guests. **Our Club is Open!**

Although we do not at this time have regular hours the bar and the Club is open to members to socialize and enjoy our cable TV and wi-fi. Stop in for a visit and see the improvements to our Club made during the downtime of the pandemic. When a member of the Club's House Committee is on site, the statue of our Blessed Mother at the corner of the building will be illuminated. Please stop in!

COLUMBIAN CLUB CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

I hope you had a chance to read the September, October KnightLetter which outlined all the improvements made to our Council building. The work has been quite extensive with many projects still planning to be done. These include but not limited to ceiling tiles in the back hall and bar area, improved lighting in the hall, improvements to the kitchen bathroom and kitchen floor. There is also more outside work to be done including brick work to the grotto and building, as well as sealing of windows and cellar door. If any member has experience in any of these projects please contact Columbian President Bob Kaelblein at 973-663-2870. Donations are still welcomed and encouraged toward this campaign, and should be made payable to the "Knights of Columbus Council #3197" with a memo "Club Capital Improvement" and send to the Knights of Columbus Council #3197, PO Box 207, Hillside, NJ 07205. Please note that these donations are not tax-deductable

HALL RENTAL

Please know that our hall is again available for rental within the parameters of the State and CDC guidelines. If you or an acquaintance is looking for a place to hold a birthday party, shower, graduation party, a funeral repast or memorial lunch that was delayed due to the pandemic, consider our Council Home. **The hall is being totally sanitized before and after each event and hand sanitizers are conveniently located for your use.** Contact the Club at 908-688-3197. Pictures are also available on our web site at <http://www.hillsidekofc.org>

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER

Nov 08. DECEASED MEMBERS MASS.	7:00 PM K of C Hall
" 11. Columbian Club Directors meet.	6:00 Pm
" " Council meet.	7:00 PM
" 25. HAPPY THANKSGIVING	
Dec 09 Columbian Club Directors meet.	6:00 PM
" " Council meets.	7:00 PM
" 18 ANNUAL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS/PGK DINNER-PARTY.	5:00-10:00 PM
" 19 ANNUAL KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY.	1:00-4:00 PM
" 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	
" 31. Happy New Years Eve	
Jan. 01. HAPPY NEW YEAR!	

PLEASE NOTE: The hall will be set up and sanitized to provide adequate social distancing and safety.

DUES

Dues notices will be mailed on December 16th. It is important to the health of the Council to pay your dues promptly. There are many outstanding dues. 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 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

ANNUAL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Annual Council Christmas party will be held December 18th from 7:00pm to 12:00am. Once again we will celebrate our Past Grand Knight, Knight of the Year, and Columbian of the Year. This years buffet will include Appetizers, Salad, Roast Beef, BBQ Ribs, Chicken Marsala, and Stuffed Shells. The cost is \$30 per person. This is a big sell out so please contact PGK Bob Kaelblein at 973-663-2870 to reserve a seat.

ANNUAL KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Annual Childrens Christmas Party will be held Sunday December 19th from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. All children of members in good standing up to and including 8 years old will receive a gift from Santa. Please see the enclosed flyer, fill it out and return it no later than December 3rd.

DECEASED MEMBERS MASS

This year we are again able to hold this venerable event at our K of C Hall. This will allow for the attendees, most of whom are elderly, to stay in place after the Mass to participate in refreshments. We thank our Chaplain, Rev. Luke Tran for agreeing to celebrate this Mass, which will be held at 7:00 pm on November 08. Please join us in commemorating those who passed recently and in the past.

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.

BLOOD DRIVE

We have to regretfully report that our anticipated in-house blood drive hosting of September 21st was abruptly cancelled by Vitalent Blood Services with little notice, due to their claim of COVID related volunteer staffing shortages. At that point we had over 20 contributors lined up, and our project director PGK, FDD Joe Michalik, who is to be congratulated for his efforts, scrambled to notify as many as possible of this unexpected cancelation. To those whom we missed...we tried. To those who volunteered we thank you for your generous offer on behalf of the public good and the community.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets (\$5 Donation) and Lapel Buttons (\$1 Donation) are available at the Columbian Club. Those unable to get to a meeting or visit the club are welcome to contact PGK Joe Michalik at 732-778-8978 who will have them mailed to you.

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.

KNIGHTLETTER PROGRAM

Material to be submitted in the January - February issue of the KL must be received NO Later than December 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.