



Council Matters



Saint Jude Council 6551

Winter 2010 Newsletter

Calling All Brother Knights

We had a busy first half of the Columbian year and we're off to a good start in calendar 2010. In this edition of the newsletter you'll read about our first Bocce Tournament, Roses for Baptism and other fall activities, the Breakfast with Santa fundraiser, our December social meeting and the Free Throw Contest.

Like all organizations, the more active members we have, the more we can do. Suggestions are always welcomed... along with a willingness to help see the projects through. Our meetings are on the second and fourth Thursday's at St. Andrew's parish hall at 8:00 PM.

Upcoming Activities

- Soup For Lent
- Membership Blitz
- Easter Basket Raffle

- Can Shake for Citizens With Developmental Disabilities
- Spring Hoagie Sale
- The awarding of the Michael P. Flanigan Memorial Scholarship
- The awarding of the Alex Beden Memorial Scholarship at Eastern High School in June

If I do not have your email address and you'd like to receive emails about our meetings and activities please email me at gjstrain96@aol.com.

Fraternally,

Gary Strain (856-489-6455)
Grand Knight

Council Activities

Summer Activities - In July Brother Bill Maffucci ran our first bocce ball tournament. Thanks to Bill for all of his hard work. Additionally, this summer we purchased and donated a Papal flag to St. Andrew's.

Roses for Baptism – Osvaldo Agrait continues to lead the Roses for Baptism program. Osvaldo has presented roses to more than 60 mothers of children baptized at St. Andrew's since the beginning of the Columbian year. The moms continue to be both surprised and thankful for this kind gesture. Thanks to Osvaldo for his work with this program.

Other Fall Activities – In September Joe Turt collected 30 pair of eyeglasses for the Eyes for the Needy Program. Thanks to Joe for his efforts. In October we conducted a very successful hoagie sale, made a donation to Deborah Hospital Foundation and sponsored Halloween decorations for the Bancroft School. In November we sponsored the prizes for the CCD drawing contest and refreshments after the 10:00AM Mass on the 15th.

Breakfast with Santa - Our annual Breakfast with Santa was held on December 6th after the 8:30AM and 10:00AM Masses at St. Andrew the Apostle. This year's breakfast was another success. Thanks to the Summerville Senior Living for providing all of the drinks, Lance Beden for taking the pictures with Santa and to all of you who volunteered your time.

Other December Activities – Our December meeting was a social meeting with many of us getting together for dinner at The Library. Since this is the “Year of the Priest” Monsignor O Mearain and Father Howard joined us. A good time was had by all! Once again, we sponsored a large family from Camden this holiday season. Thanks to Greg Melara for shopping for the gifts that made Christmas merry for that family.

Free Throw Contest – We partnered with Arch Angel Council #7429 to sponsor this year’s contest at Our lady of Mt. Carmel School on February 13th. We had a good turnout of 30 participants and sent our winners on to the district finals. Five of our shooters have advanced to the regional competition. The contest ran smoothly; thanks to Ben Vasta and Gary Tanner for volunteering.

Upcoming Events

Membership Blitz – This fall we welcomed our newest brother, Jim Pietripaulo and Jim Brennan and Joe Avellino have been very active since transferring to our Council this year. We have other candidates showing interest. We will hold the spring blitz on the weekend of March 27th & 28th. We need volunteers to man our table after all masses. Please contact Gary Strain to volunteer for one Mass during that weekend. If you cannot attend the blitz, you can help us by identifying a friend or neighbor who you think might be a good candidate to join the Knights.

Soup For Lent – Working with Sister Alma once again this year the Knights have volunteered to provide refreshments after the Friday night Stations of the Cross during Lent. Gil Scutti kicked off the first week and he reported everyone enjoyed the soup, cheese and crackers after Stations. Thanks to Gil for getting things rolling. We have a number of weeks covered but we still need coverage for a few weeks. Please contact Gary Strain to volunteer.

Easter Basket Raffle – To help raise funds to support our charitable acts we are holding our second annual Easter basket raffle this spring. Joe Turt has arranged for the basket to be donated. Included in this mailing are five \$2 tickets that we’re asking you to sell to support the raffle. Please bring the completed tickets stubs and the money you collect to a meeting or mail them to Joe Turt at 67 Cornell Drive Voorhees, NJ 08043 no later than Thursday March 25th. We’ll select the winner that night and arrange for the basket to be delivered before Easter Sunday. Thanks in advance for your support.

Can Shake for Citizens With Developmental Disabilities – This year we will be shaking the cans! Our tentative plan is to conduct the Can Shake at Canal’s in Berlin on April 16th, 17 & 18th. We’ll confirm the details and communicate them to everyone.

Pride in Our Priest Dinner – Once again this year we’ll be inviting Monsignor, and Fathers Howard and Allen to accompany us to the annual Pride in Our Priests Dinner on April 16th. This year’s dinner will be held at Merighi’s Savoy Inn in Buena Vista.

Hoagie Sale – We’ll follow up the success of the fall hoagie sale with a spring sale in early May. This event supports our scholarships and other charitable acts.

Spring Scholarships – This year we will award the \$250 Michael Flanigan Memorial Scholarship to a graduating high school senior St. Andrew the Apostle parish. We will open begin to advertise in the church bulletin for applicants to submit essays beginning in early April. Once again, we will be sponsoring the Alex Beden Memorial Scholarship at Eastern high School.

From the Financial Secretary

Dues paid by Council members help underwrite our charitable activities, as well as our activities in support of the Church and the youth of the Parish.

Your dues statement is enclosed with this newsletter. You can pay your dues at any of our meetings or you can mail them to me. Upon receipt of your dues your membership card will be mailed to you.

I mentioned in our last newsletter that we are assessed each year by Supreme Council and the NJ State Council to help underwrite their charitable activities. **We are required to remit for each member on our roster regardless of whether that member has paid his dues. Therefore, when a member does not pay his dues, he reduces the**

amount of money available to the Council for charitable acts. Some members have not paid their dues in a number of years. We appreciate the efforts of those brothers in arrears to become current.

Please remember if you are experiencing financial difficulties that prevent you from paying what you owe in past or future dues, please contact me.

God Bless,

Ben Vasta (856-627-2916)
(bvasta@comcast.net)