



KNIGHT LETTER

July 2017

COUNCIL 816 MARY QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS

Grand Knight's Report

Brothers,
 We must know and Celebrate our past as we move forward!
 114 years ago, on Sunday, Aug. 30, 1903, Rev. Gather Roche summoned Catholic men of the Church of the Holy spirit to form a council of the Knights of Columbus in the basement of that church. On Sept. 13, 1903, District Deputy Rafferty presided and set forth the laws and rules of the order. There were forty-one charter members, the officers of Red Bank council on Sept. 30, 1903 initiated the charter members of Asbury Park council No. 816 into the Knights of Columbus at Winckler's Hall on Mattison Ave in Asbuty Park, the first Grand Knight of our council was James D. Carton. Our council 816, has had several meetings throughout the years, Winckler's Hall, the Lyceum at Holy Spirit School, the Lyceum at Bond Street School, the Moose Hall on Cookman Ave, the Golden Eagles' Hall on the west side, and the Italian Progressive Club.

On Sunday, May 3, 1953, Council 816 dedicated their new home at 1017 Main Street in Asbury Park.

www.kofc816.org



**Why aren't all
 Catholic men
 Knights?
 They weren't
 asked!
 Ask a fellow
 Parishioner,
 You'll be
 surprised!**

Dinner Alert
 Burgers and Dogs
 w/ Potato Salad and
 Pasta Salad

Charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism continued to the corner stone of our council. As the council continued to flourish, the members approved the purchase of its present home on West Sylvania Ave. in Neptune City in May 1979. I am so proud and honored to be your 71st Grand Knight. Let's continue and build upon the success that those forty-one charter members started 114 years ago. I would like to thank Past Grand Knight Herb Hagman and his Officers for their dedication and hard work. They certainly left our council in wonderful condition. Thank you Brothers God Bless You,
 Sebastian P. Vaccaro
 Grand Knight

Supreme News

The Supreme Council is mandating changes to all Councils that own their own Council Homes. It involves legal changes to our Founadation and the Council. We hope to be able to announce the changes at the August Business Meeting. Hopfully everything will be ready by then. More info in the next edition.

The Spiritual Corner

by Deacon John Kopcak PGK

In the Gospel of Matthew Jesus tells us not to fear or act out of fear. Going back to the earliest times fear has brought catastrophe upon the human race. The Romans persecuted the early Christians in part because they feared the effects of a religion based on love and peace. The Roman empire that was based on war and conquest. Osama Bin Laden and declared a Holy war against the United States because he saw our culture with its freedoms as a threat to his dream to have an Islamic state throughout the world. Why do politicians vote according to what the polls say even when it goes against their conscience? It's simple they fear losing the next election. Why do they consult with lobbyists and allow them to influence their vote? They are afraid that they won't have enough money to get re-elected. Why don't we speak out against injustice? We are afraid that our friends might criticize us. Why is it that in spite of Jesus teaching we act out of fear more often than not. There is a wonderful story about a man who got the idea of walking on a tightrope over Niagara Falls. Other people had done it, but this man had a new twist. He was going to push a man in a wheelbarrow. He began at once to prepare for the event, even though he hadn't yet found anyone to ride in the wheelbarrow. He set up a tightrope near the falls and everyday he could be seen pushing and balancing the wheelbarrow filled with stones. One day a young man came up to him to wish him well. "Good luck," he said. "I've watched you practicing and I have confidence in you. I know you can do it." The tight-rope walker answered, "Do you believe I can do this?" And the young man replied, "Yes, of course." Again, he said, "But do you really believe I can do this?" "Yes, of course," the young man repeated. "Well then you're my man. Get in the wheelbarrow." Do you think the young man got in the wheelbarrow? I don't think he had enough faith in the tight-rope walker. I think the same is true with all our fears. We act out of fear because we don't have enough faith. We really have a hard time putting complete faith in Jesus. You and I know that it is a struggle to do so. Even Mother Theresa struggled with her faith. So how do we make our faith stronger? When I was coaching I found that the best athletes were the ones who were never satisfied. They always tried to get to the next level by working hard to increase their strength and endurance. I think that the same thing is true in our spiritual and moral life. We have to work at increasing our faith. Did you know that the average Church going Catholic goes to Mass about once or twice a month? If you fall into that category you can begin to increase your faith by going three times a month or every week. I heard some people say that they get bored at mass. Their mind wanders. They get nothing out of it. You know what? That simply isn't true. Because every time your mind wanders and you realize it and try to focus on the Mass you are turning back to God and each time you turn towards Him he reaches out to you and draws you closer to Him. Another way we can strengthen our faith is through prayer. If you don't pray, start to pray. If you already pray, pray more. Prayer does not have to be formal. It can be the simple act of recognizing God through his creation, the ocean, the sky birds etc. Try to find time to be alone with God. Relax close your eyes and allow yourself to feel His presence in you life. We must make our faith a bigger part of our lives. We must live our faith. It is only by living our faith that it will strengthen and then we will no longer act out of fear but out of Christ's love.

2017-2018 Columbian Year Council 816 Officers

Grand Knight Sebastian Pasquale Vaccaro Jr

Deputy Grand Knight Paul J Charette

Chancellor Christopher J Piazza

Recorder Stephen Grandinetti

Treasurer Joseph A Lynch - PGK

Advocate Daniel J Maxwell

Warden Richard Coscarelli

Inside Guard Michael F Mangeri

Outside Guard Anthony R Pappa

Lector Bob Lynch

One Year Trustee James A Emmons - PGK

Two Year Trustee Dominick P Pondaco - PGK

Three Year Trustee Herbert D Hagmann

Financial Secretary Deacon John M Kopcak - PGK

God bless our Officers

July Events

July 13 Business Meeting- Election of officers

July 15 Blueclaws Game

July 18 Work Party

July 23 Breakfast Buffet and Raffle Drawing

Upcoming Events

Sept 9 PGK Dinner

Sept 23 Installation of Officers

July

Birthdays

Brothers,

Happy Birthday!

Vincent Allegro

Robert Burney

Paul Charette

James Degnan

Richard Greco

John Karon

James Kopcak

John Kopcak

John McLoughlin

James O'Malley

Anthony Pappa

Joseph Pawlak

William Tencza

Sebastian Vaccaro III

Men's Annual Retreat

September 22-24

At **San Alfonso Retreat House**

Long Branch New Jersey

COST: \$210.00

Limited Availability

\$50 Non refundable Deposit

required by August 20th

For Reservations

Call Deacon John

732-776-7643

Foundation News

Our cleanup and maintenance was a great success. Thanks to the Brothers that took time from their busy evening to help spruce up the property. Another work party will be on July 18, 7 PM. Hope to see you then.

June's Raffle Winners

1st Prize Eleazar Mejta \$115.00

2nd Prize Dave Reeves \$57.50

3rd Prize JOlivia L. Brangan \$57.50

4th Prize Gerard D'Angelo \$28.75

5th Prize Gerard Brown \$28.75

Degree Alert

Congrats to (new) John Ganley and Frank Caponergo on becoming Third Degree Brothers.

Ladies Auxiliary News

Once again the Auxiliary is offering a \$500.00 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who is Catholic and who will pursue further academic studies.

This year the scholarship is in memory of Emily A. Donovan. Emily was a charter member of the Auxiliary and was devoted to its work. It was her request that donations be made to our scholarship fund. Through the generous gifts of her friends and family we are able to offer the scholarship again this year. If you would like an application, please call Karen Kopcak (732) 776-7643.

Good of the Order

"As a reminder, it is the responsibility of all Brothers to inform either the Grand Knight Sebastian P. Vaccaro (732-762-2609), or the Financial Secretary John Kopcak (732-776-7643) upon the learning of the death of any K of C Brother, so proper actions can be taken. Don't assume that the GK or FS automatically know about all Brother's deaths, sometimes they need your help!"

Editor's Note

Thanks to all who participated in our dinner last month, particularly those who worked the event. We are still compiling the figures with purchases and donations. Preliminary figures are pointing to a success. A good time was had by all with delicious food and camaraderie. Starting in September the Knightletter will be published every-other month.

Finally, Chris Piazza's name was inadvertently left out of the June announcements. Happy Birthday Brother!

God bless, Joe