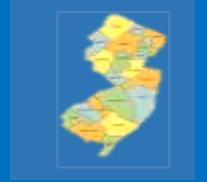


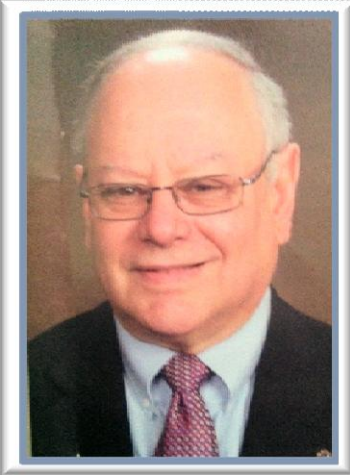


NEWSLETTER NJ STATE COUNCIL



Official Publication of the New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus

State Deputy's Message



Andrew E. Lipenta
State Deputy



Inside This Issue:

- 1 ~ State Deputy's message
- 2 ~ State Deputy's message
- 3 ~ Program Corner
- 4 ~ General Agents Report
- 5~ Culture of Life Corner
- 6~ Scheduled Degrees
- 6~ Charter Anniversaries
- 7 ~Immaculate Conception
- 8~ Archived Articles
- 8~ From the Editor
- 9~ Upcoming Events
- 9~ Mark Your Calendar

My Brother Knights

The snow is swirling as I prepare this letter and it seems that spring is far off.

The reality, however, is that spring will soon be here and there are less than five months remaining for us to achieve our membership gain goals that we set last July 1st.

Keeping with the membership slogan from Supreme Council, *One Member per Council per Month*, we continue to stress, that membership growth campaigns need to occur **365** days a year, not just during the fall and spring membership drives.

Remember our motto "One Member per Council per Month" and "One First Degree per Council or District per Month." If you are successful achieving those goals your will have the additional manpower to help achieve those wonderful programs in support of our Church and our community.

Supreme Knight addressed a recent gathering of state deputies continuing his theme 'We will all be Brothers, Our Vocation to Fraternity.'

"The vast majority of men who are Knights of Columbus members were asked to join by a family member or a friend," the supreme knight said. "And the vast majority said that they never or rarely ask someone to join the Knights of Columbus. That has to change, and that message has to come from you and me repeatedly. Ask a friend to join. Ask a fellow catholic to join, that's our responsibility for membership growth."

He added that the Order has the building blocks in place for steady consistent growth: the one new member, per council per month recruitment plan; the focus to increase the number of Star Council award winners; and the urgency to increase the number of First Degree exemplifications.

(Continued on page 2)



[View previous](#)

[Issues of](#)

[Our State](#)

[E-Newsletters](#)



Official Publication of the

**New Jersey State Council
Knights of Columbus**



Published Monthly

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

172 Main Street
West Orange, NJ 07052-5605

Executive Secretary
John W. Connell, FDD

Ω

EDITORIAL BOARD

Publisher
Andrew E. Lipenta
State Deputy

Editor
Carmen A. Blandino, FDD

Assistant Editors
Frank A. Manganelli, FDD
Walter F. Marino,
Editorial Staff Writer

Circulation
Bernard J. Ernst, FDD

State Deputy's Message *(continued)*

Increased membership will afford the opportunity to increase our manpower for our program activities for all we do for our Church, community, our youth and for we do for the Order.

Please take advantage of this opportunity and help us grow the order so we will have a louder, larger collective voice to ***“Proclaim and Defend our Faith”***.

Vivat Jesus,

Andrew E. Lipenta
State Deputy

Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Drive
Thursday April 2 thru Sunday - April 26
Time to assign your members for collections

What do you do with your E-Newsletter when you are finished reading it? Before you delete it, consider the following:



- Family and friends;
- Your membership prospects;
- Local parish priests;
- Your Councils Columbian Squires;
- Add one of your own.
-

After all, we are proud of what we do! So let's brag about it, by telling others.

Program Corner

March is a time of preparation and transition. For their observance of Lent, many of us go the route of “I am giving up (fill in the blank)” in an effort to purge the body and purify the soul, making a place open to God and hospitable to His presence. May I suggest, with respect, an alternative practice? This one will discipline body and mind, spirit and will, all as one, with an aim toward CHARITY – the principle of the First Degree; the key to eternal life itself. Charity brings us closer to the Author of Charity because it draws us out of the self and into the service of the church and of our brothers and sisters. What form of charity it takes, I leave open to you, whether it be personal, family, or Council obligation. Furthermore, if you have not already done so, speak with your pastor and see what your council can do to lighten his burden this Lenten season.

Now is also the time for a nomination of the most important and prestigious awards that State Council can bestow: State Chaplain of the Year, State Family of the Year, and State Knight of the Year. Do not take this responsibility lightly. Submit applications to the State Chairmen by **March 31st**. You will be glad you did!

My sincerest gratitude to all of the Councils, Districts, and Chairmen who gave of their time, talent, and treasures to make the Free Throw and Spelling Bee events the best they have ever been. Salve!

From Supreme in March ...

- Consider incorporating a charitable service program in addition to a first degree the week of **March 23rd thru March 29th** in honor of our founder, Fr. McGivney. Our State McGivney Guild invites you to consider a healing mass asking for Fr McGivney’s intervention, and to start a tradition of ending all your events with his prayer for canonization

March program considerations should be:

- State Chaplain of the Year—application *due* to State Chairman **03/31** - [LINK](#)
 - State Family of the Year—application *due* to State Chairman **03/31** - [LINK](#)
 - State Knight of the Year—application *due* to State Chairman **03/31** - [LINK](#)
 - State Bowling Tournament; event **dates 03/07 & 08 and 03/14 & 15**, Howell Bowling Lanes
 - “Keep Christ Before Us” coloring book order *due* **03/01** to the chairman - [LINK](#)
 - Bishop Dougherty Scholarship [Application](#), [Service Record](#) - *due* **03/01** to Grand Knight; *due* to State Chairman **04/01**
 - Fr. John Murray Scholarship [Application](#) — *due* **03/01** to Grand Knight; *due* to State Chairman **04/01**
 - John Attardo Memorial Scholarship [Application](#)—*due* **03/01** to Grand Knight; *due* to Chairman **03/31**
 - Coats for Kids report due to District Deputy **03/1**
 - State Photography Contest—Entries *due* to State Chairman **03/31** - [LINK](#)
 - Letters to Seminarian - [LINK](#), Food for the Hungry - [LINK](#), New Eyes for the Needy – [LINK](#), Council Website Contest (deadline extended) - [LINK](#) — Reports are *due* to State Chairman **03/31**
- April programs to be considered and acted upon in March *because of their April 1st deadlines...*

- Bishop Dougherty Scholarship Application—*due* to State Chairman **04/01**
- Fr. John Murray Scholarship Application—*due* to State Chairman **04/01**

Let us, together, do our best to develop a calendar of programs with the tools supplied by our State Council and Supreme. Remember, have fun in doing and promoting God’s work while bringing other like-minded Catholic men into our Order as we **Proclaim and Defend our Faith!** Vivat Jesus!

Yours in friendship and fraternity, Ray Sands FDD

General Agents Corner

Retirement Planning in Three Buckets:

Taxable – Tax deferred – Tax free -- Where is your money?



I cannot tell you how many times I listen to a talking head on one of the news networks tell me that taxes are going to be lower when I retire.....I know I am a simple man, but even I know that there is no way the government can afford to lower taxes and pay off \$14,700,000,000,000.00, (\$14 Trillion, 700 Billion), of debt without either slashing spending to the bone or raising taxes.

The popular talking heads all say things like the government will probably raise the capital gains tax, etc. Well, here's a look at the 2012 statistics that should be an eye opener for most of us.

In 2012, Americans reported on their tax forms \$6.3 Trillion of taxable wages.
And the following:

- \$333 Billion in capital gains
- \$320 Billion in dividends from Stocks
- \$300 Billion in cash disbursements from owned businesses

Or about a Trillion or so. So, if the government needs to close a budget gap to pay off debt service, where can they get their biggest helping of cash????? Doubling the capital gains tax would only increase revenue by \$30 billion, that is about 2 tenths of one percent of the debt. If the government raised taxes across the board 10% it would raise \$630 billion or about 4.2% of the total debt.....

So in the next ten years or so, when there will be 1.5 working Americans for every person on Social Security, (60 years ago there were 42 workers for each person receiving benefits).....and when the costs of Medicare exceed the taxes brought in and the cost of Medicaid is expected to go up 50%, where is the government going to go find the revenue? Capital gains? Tax the top 1%? It is time for us to wake up and smell the coffee. Taxes are not going down when you retire.

People yearn for the good old days, but in the 50's the top tax bracket was over 70% and the lowest was twice what it is today. Ladies and gentlemen I am here today to tell you, that for taxes, we are in the midst of the good old days, because we are in an extended period of the lowest income taxes that have ever been on the books in the history of taxes in the United States.....and our government spending is higher than ever. All of us who have a budget to stick to in our homes, know you cannot continue to spend more than you make or else trouble is brewing.

Why is this our insurance report for the month of March? Meeting with your assigned Field Agent or General Agent, we can help you analyze your current situation and see which bucket you have your money. We can help you with strategies that will help you reposition your retirement assets so that you minimize your taxable income in retirement. We are here to help you plan a strategy that will make your retirement as comfortable as possible and work around risks and pitfalls.

It's who we are and what we do.....Protecting Catholic Families since 1882.

Charles Miraglia, FICF, CSA

Culture of Life Corner

March is not only the month that ushers in Spring; it starts the run-up to the state convention in May! We have lots of awards to give out, and hardworking councils to recognize, so be sure to get your program report forms in as you complete each activity!

Our Catholic Voice in Social Media. It was discussed at the February R & C Committee Meeting how important social media is becoming, with politicians using it to take the pulse of the people by data mining posts. This therefore gives us another opportunity to speak out on issues that are important. Don't hesitate to post your views (tastefully and non-confrontationally) on Facebook, Google+, Twitter, etc., to help promote them to our leaders.

Also, if you see something on social media that is insulting or disrespectful of our beliefs, don't just scroll past it; call them to account on their words by commenting. I have done this, and have been surprised at the number of Likes my comment garnered, as well as other comments agreeing with me. Sometimes it just takes someone else going first to encourage others to do the same. Remember, if these posts go unchallenged, the politicians will think that the opinion expressed in the post is a reflection of the will of all the people when it isn't!

The perfect forum for our posts, in addition to our own Feeds, is the New Jersey Knights of Columbus Facebook Group, reachable through this [LINK](#). As I write this, there are only 462 members of this Group out of over 63,000 Knights in New Jersey. If you are on Facebook, and haven't joined the Group, please do today!

Diaper Drive. I hope your council has held at least one Diaper Drop this Columbian Year. If you have, please fill out the reporting form in the Grand Knight's Handbook and get into the running for the 2015 Huggie Award! In addition, as with last year, we will be holding a Diaper Drop at the State Convention. Be sure to pick up a box of diapers or wipes on the way to Wildwood and bring them to the convention center!

Disabilities Drive. If you have not already sent in your report (and your money) on this drive, please do so, even if you did not participate. We are going to be recognizing councils for their participation and not just those that raised over \$10,000! As with last year, those that raised at least \$5,000 will also be recognized!

You should also be well on your way to starting next year's Drive. We want to kick off things in a big way in April, so please plan at least one activity for raising money. As Easter is on April 5 this year, it will be easier to book parish drives, so talk to your pastor if you haven't already.

That's it for this month. Hopefully we will see the end of the snow and be enjoying warmer weather when I write to you again!

Vivat Jesus!

Steven J. Richardson, FM
Culture of Life Programs Director




The Bulletin Board

SCHEDULED DEGREES

[LINK](#)  individual councils below for

DEGREE: LINK , LOCATION & DATE:

CAMDEN:

First [Council 3546](#)  Tues. Mar. 10
 First [Council 7439](#)  Thurs. Mar. 19
 First [Council 3784](#) Thurs. Mar. 19
 First [Council 6364](#) Mon. Mar. 23
 Second [Council 7463](#)  Mon. Mar. 23








METUCHEN:

Third [Council 6930](#)  Fri. Mar. 6
 Third [Council 299](#)  Fri. Mar. 13

NEWARK:

Second [Council 8103](#)  Tues. Mar.3
 First [Council 2188](#)  Tues. Mar. 10
 First [Council 3546](#)  Tues. Mar. 10
 Third [Council 6209](#)  Fri. Mar. 13
 First [Council 6226](#)  Thurs. Mar. 19
 Second [Council 6226](#)  Wed. Mar. 25
 First [Council 4505](#)  Mon. Mar. 30

TRENTON:

First [Council 3187](#)  Wed. Mar. 4
 Second [Council 7103](#)  Tues. Mar. 10
 First [Council 5903](#)  Mon. Mar. 16
 Second [Council 3187](#)  Mon. Mar. 16
 First [Council 3784](#)  Thurs. Mar. 19
 First [Council 7429](#)  Thurs. Mar. 19
 Third [Council 836](#)  Fri. Mar. 20
 First [Council 6364](#)  Mon. Mar. 23
 First [Council 7463](#)  Mon. Mar. 23

[All Website Schedules](#) 



*Celebrating
Anniversaries
this Month*



<u>COUNCIL</u>	<u>CHARTERED</u>	<u>YRS</u>
857 MIDDLESEX Woodbridge	3/13/1904	111
1378 CARROLL Union City	3/28/1909	106
10281 St. Lawrence Lawrence Harbor	3/11/1990	25

Our State Deputy Andrew “Andy” Lipenta along with the entire NJ State Council and the Newsletter Staff would like to take this opportunity to wish **ALL** councils best wishes on their **Charter Anniversary**.

May your council continue to grow and do good deeds for many more years to come! Let’s continue to grow our ranks, expand our programs and, in doing so, “**Proclaim and Defend our Faith!**”

Happy Anniversary

[NOTE: Due to the large number of anniversaries each month we have limited the publishing list to the names of councils celebrating their 25th, 50th, 75th and 100th Anniversary during the current month.]

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Program

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Marian Program Image



*You are all beautiful, Mary, and there is
in you no stain of original sin.
Image Blessed by Pope Francis*

The Knights of Columbus Immaculate Conception Marian Prayer Program honors the central place the Blessed Virgin Mary holds in the life of our Order, and historic devotion that has been afforded to the Immaculate Conception by the Church in North America. The first cathedral in the New World, north of Mexico, was named for the Immaculate Conception, and the bishops of the United States named Mary, under her title of the Immaculate Conception, as the patroness of the nation.

In 1647 the Jesuit missionaries traveled throughout the new North American territories as evangelists spreading the word of God. They faced many challenges and numerous obstacles in the evangelization process. They were 'not afraid' to spread the word of God.

In 1664, Bishop Francois de Laval designated the current cathedral as the first parish church of Quebec and named it Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. At this period of time, possessions of France, from the Atlantic Coast in Canada, to the Diocese of Quebec, encompassed all the North America, the plains of the far West, plus the Mississippi valley and Louisiana territories – an area far larger than all of Europe. The cathedral celebrated its 350 anniversary last year.

Sister Marie of the Eucharist, a young artistically talented Sister of Charity of Quebec in 1925 painted this picture to replace an 18th-century painting destroyed during a fire at the cathedral. Our traveling image is about a half-scale exact reproduction of the painting by Sister Marie that hangs behind the main altar of the Basilica-Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Quebec (Google this site for more info). The image is set under a large golden dome structure above the altar.

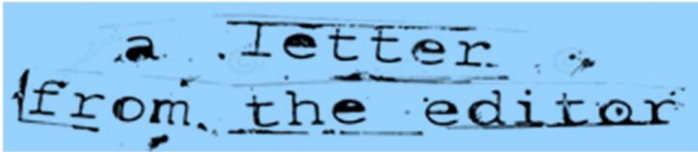
Today we, the Knights of Columbus, together with Our Blessed Mother and Her Rosary, must continue the evangelization process. Embrace Her and go out and spread the good word to all. Pope Francis asks this of us, our order implores us, and the church needs us. - If not us who will do it?

Our Mother will help us. As St John Paul said, "Do not be afraid". Our Order says "If it is to be, it is up to us".

Bernie Ricciardi,

Marian Devotions Chairman,

bvricc5@gmail.com 732/528-9259



March looks like it will be a very busy time for all Grand Knights. St. Patrick's Day parades, parties and dinner dances keep everyone on their toes and active. It is also a time to seriously look into the many, many activities that each council is involved in. A look at the schedule of deadlines for obtaining forms and reporting your council's various activities shows ten (10) forms coming due.

For a Grand Knight, whose council is very active, this could be time consuming and tedious, but, we assure you, very rewarding. You, as a Grand Knight, took an oath of responsibility to manage and lead your council as prescribed by the Supreme Council and your council by-laws. Maintaining and submitting report forms are one of your responsibilities and very necessary to maintaining the health and vibrancy of our Order in our great State


It is also a great service to your council! What better way is there than to let our State Council, and our brother Knights know of the many charitable, fraternal and patriotic activities we are doing. It does not matter if the council does one thing or ten things, the main point is to let us know what it is by sending in the form. This is your council, don't let your members down from all the great things they do and start working on those forms so that you and your council can be recognized by the State.

Remember, programs lead to membership and membership is the life blood of our Order which allow us to do more great d

Carmen Blandino
Newsletter Editor



SELECT ARCHIVED ARTICLES:

The following *"Editor's Choice"* specially selected past articles of interest are available on our State Website under the ["Media"](#)  section:

[September 2013](#)  – *"I Hate Selling"*


[October 2013](#)  – *"Consider using Brochures"*

[November 2013](#)  – *"Your Role as a K of C Leader"*

[December 2013](#)  – *"Keep **CHRIST** in **CHRIST**mas"*

Page 8 – *"Saint Nicholas ~ Santa Claus"*
Are they one and the same?

[January 2014](#)  – *"We Can, We Must, We Will"*

[February 2014](#)  – *"Communications"*


"Extra, Extra" – *Saint Valentine*

[March 2014](#)  – *"Attention Webmasters"*

Page 7 – *"Saint Patrick"*

[April 2014](#)  – *"Welcoming Younger Members"*

[May 2014](#)  – *"Member Retention"*

[June 2014](#)  – *"Teamwork"*




[July 2014](#)  – *"The Importance of Planning"*

[August 2014](#)  – *"What does the K of C do for me?"*

[September 2014](#)  – *"Have we forgotten them?"*

∞

[Special Papal Issues:](#)

- [Part 1](#)  – *"Pope Benedict XVI Resigns"*
- [Part 2](#)  – *"The Process to Elect a New Pope Begins"*
- [Part 3](#)  – *"Habemus Papam" – "We Have a New Pope!!!"*

∞


[Special May 2014 Convention Issue:](#)

"Publicity"

∞

Upcoming Events:

* PLEASE NOTE - **ALL MONTHLY REPORTS ARE DUE AT THE STATE COUNCIL OFFICE ON THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.**

Be sure to make a note of the activities that are scheduled for the next several months. Click the specific activity [\[hyperlink\]](#)  to obtain more information, details and forms. Log-in required.


2015

- March 1 – Bishop Dougherty Scholarship-[Application](#), [Records](#)
- March 1 - Fr. John Murray Scholarship - [Application](#)
- March 1 - John Attardo Memorial Scholarship - [Application](#)
- March 20 - Newsletter Article Submission Deadline
- March 31 – Extended Council Website Contest Deadline – [LINK](#)
- March 31 - Check Website for Various Activities - [Form/LINK](#)

- April 15 - Wings for Life Award Nomination [Form](#)
- April 20 - Newsletter Article Submission Deadline
- April 30 - Intellectual Disabilities Drive [Report](#)

- May 1 - Wireless Amber Alert - [Form](#)
- May 15-16 - State Council Convention, Wildwood
- May 16 – Horseshoe Tournament - [Form](#)
- May 20 - Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

Please forward this Newsletter to all your council members.

WHEREVER YOU SEE PRINT [“LINK”] THE COLOR OF THIS BOX – OR  – YOU CAN HYPERLINK DIRECTLY TO THE WEBSITE

CHECK for “Summary of Forms & Deadlines” 



Quarterly Calendar



MARCH 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
APRIL 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
MAY 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						