

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council

Knights of Columbus

formed in 1893 as the first State Council

Serving the Church and Community through Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism

since 1893

July 2021

Volume 5, issue 1

Welcome to a new Fraternal Year

As we begin a new Fraternal Year pandemic restrictions easing are easing and we can begin resuming "normal" activities. However, we still should be mindful of the sensitivities of our Brother Knights (& families) and the community. While visibility and Charity are extremely important, safety is still paramount.

<u>State Councíl News</u>

We begin the new year much like last year, with the same leadership and the same membership goals. But we seem to have a renewed vigor for programming. We seem prepared to show COVID that we are stronger and more resilient. And that our flexibility and adaptability are second to none.

<u>Message from the</u> State Deputy

Great Accomplishments! More to Come!

Brother Knights,

It is hard to believe that we are ready to start the 2021-2022 Columbian Year. Looking back at all the great accomplishments we Rhode Island Knights have made last year, can it be that we are ready to turn the page and accomplish all those great things again... and now that the pandemic is firmly in the rear-view mirror, can we really show our neighbors what the Knights of Columbus can do to make a difference as we all try to get back to our 'usual'? Hint: the answer is yes, we can and yes, we will!

I cannot thank all the brother Knights and their families and



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friends who helped Rhode Island cope with the pandemic. You all made a difference, and as a result we were able to attract new brother Knights who appreciated what we do and wanted to join us. We came so close to making our goal. I want to thank Jeff Gaulin and all the Knights who made the effort to bring in our new brothers. We need to start bringing in new brothers now... remember that your summer events and activities will bring in members and free membership is extended to December 31, 2021. Take advantage of that and have them use their phones to sign up. Bob Lynch and his FIA chairmen have done an outstanding job of providing great programs and opportunities to demonstrate what our Order stands for; I know their efforts have brought in new members, and they will have more great event opportunities this year. And what the councils were able to accomplish during this past year made us all proud of what Rhode

Island Knights can do. We just got it done, and with style.

So, now what? We need to begin again with the same determination and energy to do what we did last year; and now that the pandemic roadblocks are gone, aim higher and accomplish what we could not do last year. We will be having our **Organizational Meeting of District** Deputies on July 31st at the Warwick Council Hall. Your district deputy will have the information and tools necessary to help each council be all it can be work with him to make 2021-2022 a great year.

Enjoy the summer, relax, but get started now...



SD Dave Quinn



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<u>Patríotíc Degree News</u>



From the District Master My Brother Sir Knights,

As this Columbian Year comes to a close, I would like to thank everyone for their assistance in making 2020-2021 successful. On Thursday, June 24, a virtual exemplification was held and four (4) new members were inducted into the Fourth Degree, bringing our total new members this Columbian Year to 54. While this number is significant under pandemic situations, there are many more Third Degree members that should be invited to join the Patriotic Degree. Furthermore, WE MUST HAVE MORE MEMBERS IN UNIFORM, to honor our deceased members, to escort our bishops at confirmations and our local priests on feast days and special events.

We are pleased to welcome to the Patriotic Degree: Jeffrey Harrington to Rebello Assembly #2808 Paul Sanders and Anthony Bettencourt to Rosecrans Assembly #1058 Adam Correiro to Delaney Assembly #1059

I hope to see many of you on July 5th at Bristol's parade honoring America. Fraternally,



Peter Lentini, PSD

District Master



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From the Membership Dírector

Keep the Drive Alive

The Final Hours for 2020 - 2021

Brothers,

As I put this information together, we sit at 17 more members needed and just 30 hours of time left in the fraternal year.

You have done a great job in bringing in new members and I encourage you to continue the work for this year and come out of the gate for the 2021 – 2022 Fraternal Year Stronger and Eager to bring more Brother Knights and their families into our Honored Order!!!!

Let's continue the momentum!!!! The more we have the better we can help those in our parish and community!!!

Thank you for a GREAT YEAR under very TRYING circumstances

and with your dedication, we can help our Parish Priests and communities.

We Truly Can Make A Difference!!!!

Let me share with you a quote that my son took from our Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly's speech and shared with our council.

"We are stronger when we stand together, and the Knights of Columbus offers men something that I think all men want, which is faith, friendship and service. We empower men to live that in their parishes, their homes and their communities."

God Bless you all, and on behalf of my Wife Sue and I, we extend the best wishes to you as you gather with your loved ones and family and celebrate our Country's Independence

Jeff & Sue Gaulin

RI State Membership Director



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<u>Fraternal Benefíts</u>

General Agent John Ruffo is available for all your Fraternal Benefits questions. He can be reached at john.ruffo@kofc.org or by phone at 860-866-8712



Editor's reminder – Fraternal Benefits include much more than Life Insurance

Events of Note

- July 4th Independence Day
- July 5th –Independence Day Parade in Bristol
- July 31st State Organizational Meeting

There are hopeful signs everywhere of a return to "normal" in what we hope are **post** – pandemic times. As evidence of such is the photo below of St. John Vianney Council's last meeting of Fraternal Year 2020-2021. This was their first in-person meeting of the year and was held at the home of GK Patrick Cannon. A social time followed at the conclusion of the Business Meeting. (Just a light note from your editor \bigcirc .)



Milestone Celebrations



As we all know by now **Woonsocket Council #113**,

whose 125th Charter Anniversary date was January 27, 2020 has yet to celebrate its 125th Anniversary Gala Celebration due to RI



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COVID19 restrictions. Well, it may finally happen (I will be as relieved as the rest of you when I no longer have to include this article $(\mathbf{\mathfrak{G}})$. The new date for the Gala is September 25, 2021. The celebration will begin with a 4pm Mass at St. Joseph Church, 1929 Mendon Road, Woonsocket, before proceeding to St. Ann's Arts & Cultural Center on Cumberland Street in Woonsocket (not far from St. Joseph which will be the new Council home at that time). With questions, or to participate, contact State Membership Director Jeff Gaulin (event chair) at jagaulin@verizon.net or DD Jack Tracy at jklmc.tracy@gmail.com. Deadline for tickets is July 31st.

Programming Activities

All our State sponsored and promoted activities can be used to satisfy requirements of the Columbian Award. Note also that some of our biggest State initiatives began as a local Council activity (e.g. – Operation R.O.V.A.C.). Supporting the causes of other Councils will also get them to reciprocate and support your causes.

- Fraternity begets Unity and together lead to an increase of Charity.

State & Local Happenings

Below are just a few of the many activities held by Councils around the State. Many of our functions build a spirit of Fraternity.....

The **Columbus Club of East Providence** held its Memorial Golf Tournament & Steak Fry on June 27th. There were 60 golfers separated into 12 groups of 5. Steak Fry and raffles followed. A great time was had by all. (photos below)



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The attendees at the Steak Fry



Some of the Raffle prizes won at the Steak Fry

.....while doing good works.

But someone may well say, "You have Faith and I have works; show me your Faith without the works, and I will show you my Faith by my works". (Jas 2:18)

Leave No Neighbor Behind

Like the fibers in the rope bound together, we can be stronger and make a difference!!! Lincoln Council and the Columbus Club of Lincoln jointly sponsored a First Responders Breakfast in appreciation for their service to the community. This was a no-charge breakfast for those who dedicate themselves to serving. (see photo below).



Life Activities

We must always be vigilant when it comes to Life issues. Never be afraid to engage your local, State and National officials in a dialog of truth. While we should always be respectful and civil in this dialog, we need not fear the truth regarding the sanctity of life from conception to natural death.



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East Providence Council has scheduled a Blood Drive for Sunday, July 25th from 9 am until 2 pm at the Council home. At last check there were still time slots available.

Blood Drives have long been a staple of Knights Life programming and continue to be important events during this time. Some tweaking of the logistics has been required due to COVID19, but the need is still there. It is strongly recommended that appointments for donations be made, though the RI Blood Center will allow walk-ins **IF** spacing permits. This is a program we can all get behind, even in these times

St. Pius XII has shared some photos (below) from a prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood in Providence. Brother Knight Bill Murphy is joined by Brother Knight Deacon Joseph Clossick of St. Thomas More Church in Narragansett and Ernie Piette, (a parishioner of St Mary in Providence). Thank you Brothers.



Additionally, **St. Pius XII Council** has furthered the cause of Life Programs with a \$2000 donation to RI Special Olympics. Pictured in the photo below, is Grand Knight Ed McLaughlin(I) presenting a check to Dennis DeJesus, SORI CEO.





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Silver Rose Program

The Silver Rose will be in the Jurisdiction of RI beginning August 23rd and stay until September 19th. To schedule your Silver Rose service contact State Life Director Paul Gebhart at

paul_gebhart@outlook.com. He will need the following information from you:

- Knight Contact Name & Cell phone #
- Parish Name & address
- Requested date of prayer service
- Time of prayer service

Paul is also looking for volunteers to assist in transporting the Silver

Rose to the various service locations.

From Life Director Paul Gebhart - Save these Dates:

- Saturday, August 28th Mother of Life Center Open House
- September 22nd -October 31st
 \$0 Days for Life Fall
 Campaign
- January 15th (2022) RI Prolife Dinner

More on each of these in future newsletters.

Breaking!! Here is a synopsis on the Mother of Life Open House from Life Director Paul Gebhart:

The Rhode Island State Council is planning a very special LIFE event on Saturday, August 28th. We will be having an Open House at the Mother of Life Pregnancy Center. This is an opportunity for Council Brothers and their families to not only support this pro-life Pregnancy Center but also to inform and educate on what this important pro-life center does each and



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every day to save the unborn and help young pregnant woman in distress. This event will include free food and private tours of the facility given by their staff. We think that these informative tours could have huge potential impact on teenagers! In a few words, the Mother of Life Pregnancy Center builds relationships with young woman through truth, hope and education. Please help the state council promote this new program to your councils. I attached the flyer in this e-mail, and it has all the pertinent information. It also provides details on how to get "Faith in Action" program credit toward the Columbian Award and Star Council status for this event. Thank you for helping us promote this Life event and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me at

paul_gebhart@outlook.com. This event flyer will also be available on the R.I. Knights State web site.

Always remember that the fight to protect life never ends. Whether it is end of life causes, treatment of the living in this world (social justice issues) or treatment of the not yet born.

Faith Activities

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, on your own intelligence rely not; In all your ways be mindful of him and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)



At the June State Meeting, **St. Pius Council** received its FIA Service Award for Faith Programs, which was announced at the State Awards & Raffle Drawing session of the State Convention. (photo below).





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RSIP

One of the most important things we can do for the future practice of the Faith is the development of the priesthood. Much like our pledge to support our priests, our Seminarians are most deserving of our spiritual, emotional and financial support. To sponsor one of the young men in Seminary through the RSVP program, Contact Fr. Christopher Murphy at (401) 331-1316 or fathercim@gmail.com.

Food for thought

"The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; It signifies Love, It produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life." (St. Thomas Aquinas)

Family Activities

State Family Director Mike Guerra has begun planning for the State Family Day gathering and picnic. More information to follow as the plans solidify.

Save these Dates

Car Show



NORTH SMITHFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL 1850 PROVIDENCE PIKE



SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021 REGISTRATION \$10.00 CLASSIC CARS, TRUCKS AND MOTORCYCLES WELCOME ENTRIES 8-10 AM ** CAR SHOW 10-2 PM JUDGING NOON ** AWARDS 1:30 PM

TROPHIES

BEST OF SHOW, PEOPLE'S CHOICE & 19 CATEGORIES TOTAL

DASH PLAQUES TO THE 1st 100 CARS

Mickey G's Clamshack will be on site for food & drinks

SPONSORED BY



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT PAUL VADENAIS pvsandman@yahoo.com



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In a sign that things are beginning to return to normalcy, **Frehill Council** will resume its Annual Car Show this summer. Proceeds from the event benefit the Council's Scholarship Fund. It will be held at the North Smithfield Middle School Complex, Providence Pike, on July 25th. See the flyer below.

Teens "R" Dynamite



From FDD Bob Moniz

SAVE THE DATE September 18th!!! *"TEENS R DYNAMITE"* will be held at St Agatha's, 34 Joffre Ave., in Woonsocket. I am hoping for a <u>GRAND</u> response from our Councils and Assemblies this year. As we all know, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many events and activities had to be either canceled or postponed. I am hoping that we will be able to enjoy this event as we had before Covid-19.

Brothers, I am asking that each Council and Assembly consider making \$100.00 at least а contribution to this most worthwhile which allowing is cause, the remaining two CYO Centers to continue to help guide our youth in the right direction.

The Knights of Columbus have always taken pride in helping those need. and know in our Councils/Assemblies have, and will always, follow in Fr. McGivney's footsteps. If you have any questions can e-mail me vou at rjm51@cox.net or give me a call at 401-439-0581.



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State Meeting

The State Organizational Meeting is scheduled for **Saturday**, **July 31st at Warwick Council**.

<u>A Note of Fraternal</u> <u>Concern</u>

Brothers, while we are making progress, our membership is still older. Implicit in that is the fact that we have many older members with medical issues. These Brothers often are unable to regularly attend meetings and functions. This can lead to Councils losing track of them and, unfortunately, should they pass away, we fail to recognize their significance and membership in our Order. I am asking that the word be spread among your membership and families to be vigilant to the passing of a Council member or Council family member and relay the information to the Grand Knight

Regardless, we must be informed to properly **Honor the Dead.**

<u>Prayers Requested</u>

There are still people who have contracted the Corona Virus (COVID-

19). Please pray for them, their caregivers, and families. Below find a prayer for protection distributed by Supreme:

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen. Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



Please pray for the repose of:

Fr. Timothy Gorton



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PGK Daniel Danis (Blessing Council)

And God's comfort to their families.

We ask you to pray for the following:

The Unborn, The Mother of Life Center, All active Military personnel, First Responders and (new requests)

Walter McLaughlin (Blessing Council)

Ryan Bilodeau (Woonsocket Council)

And from the June Good of the Order: Mike DeAngelis, Fred Anderson, Ralph Dykstra, Pat Dahlen, Don Csizmesia, Joe Guilbeaux, Walter Jalbert, Robert Brice, Mike Alexander,

Ongoing prayers are also requested for Bishop Louis Gelineau, Fr. Dennis Reardon, Fr. Robert Bailey, FDD Ron Trottier, Jess Carrignan, Mike DeAngelis, DD Roger Johnson, Don Csizmesia (Woonsocket Council), Don Godin (Sullivan Council), Jack Walter, Dave Riendeau (St. John Paul II Council), Orlando Giansanti Jr., PGK Tom Boucher (St. Thomas 14

Council, Cumberland), Annette Bebyn (mother of State Secretary David Bebyn), Pat Logan (wife of FDD Greg Logan), FDD Ernie Pennine, Ron Portella (Hickey Council), Dr. David Dubois (Frehill Council), Don Stubbs (Frehill Council), James Capenito (father-in-law of IG Marc Pare of Woonsocket Council), FDD Bob Moniz, Denis Richard, Ron Andrade (E.P. Council), Phoebe Andrade (mother of Ron), Pauline Neri, Moses Segbe, FDD Charlie Fleurant, Armand Dufresne (Woonsocket Council), GK Joseph Bedard (Pascoag Council), Patricia Moran (grandmother of State Warden PJ Shea), Gerry and Pat Desmarais (St. Eugene Council), Barry Chevrette (Pascoag Council), Matt Parent, Nancy Forest (wife of PGK Richard Forest), PFN Rick Regan, Roger Depot, FDD Mike Krzywonos, PGK/PFN Ernie Pennine, PGK/PFN Stanley Eason (Woon. Council/ Moylan Assembly), GK Jerry Marra, Ellen Charpentier (Wife of PSD/FM Normand Charpentier), Bob Jackson (St. Francis Council), Mike Magill, DD Alan Lamake, David Riendeau (John Paul II Council), and FDD Dave Lucas, as they each deal with various health concerns.

I am sure I am missing others, and for that I apologize. Please feel free to add them to this list of those we pray for and remember.



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(to have someone mentioned or if someone wishes to be removed from the list, please contact me at <u>rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com</u>. You can also ask the state to add to them to the prayer list on the website as I check that regularly)

Fraternal Training and Communication



The Supreme Council has initiated a member exclusive web series, *KnightCast.* This is an ongoing series of webcasts on topics of interest to Knights. While you do need to register (have your membership number handy), the one-time registration will get you all the webcasts as they are presented, or on demand after the initial broadcast.

You can sign up here:

https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6105948/Knigh tCast-Registration

Iraining

There are many training opportunities throughout the year (see the Supreme Website), they are open to any Brother Knight who may be interested. You can register from the Home Page of the Supreme website(<u>www.kofc.org</u>): go to Members, Resources & then the Fraternal Training tab. You must register to participate, but once registered, you do not have to view it live. Rather, you can view it later at a time of your convenience.

Additionally, the State Council has a Training Officer available to assist with any topic. **PSD/FM Steve Ciolfi** is here to help. You can reach him at <u>stevec618@aol.com</u>.

News items for the newsletter can be sent to me at <u>rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com</u>, through your DD, who will forward it to me, or the various program Directors.

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