



A Knight's View

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council
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May 2019

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to Fr. Murphy for Seminarian
support.

Council News

The 126th RI Knights of Columbus was held last weekend at the Radisson Airport Hotel. It was a great success. While not the extravagant affair that was the 125th Anniversary Convention, it in some ways was even better. We began on Friday, May 3rd with Hospitality Night. There were 11 Hospitality Rooms with 12 Councils participating (the Pawtucket Councils of Delaney-St. Teresa and John Paul II continued the tradition of co-hosting).

We began Saturday by opening the Convention with Mass before proceeding to the business sessions. Saturday's morning session included the annual presentation of checks to the Bishop's Charity Fund Appeal and



Fr. Murphy receiving the Seminarian support donation
from SD Mike Dziok

We were also treated to a presentation by Brother Knight Michael Walter. Michael annually



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takes a Winter ocean plunge to raise funds for Special Olympics. Last year Michael raised over \$11,000 for his efforts. The State Council on behalf of our constituent local Councils presented a donation check to RI Special Olympics.

and Program reports from each of the Directors and chairmen. Also, we were introduced to our Supreme Representative for the weekend, Ralph Rossi of Delaware.

The Convention held a Ladies Luncheon, as usual, which was enjoyed by all who attended.

The evening saw the State Dinner with the presentation of awards. Beginning with the Faith in Action Service Awards. Congratulations are extended to each of the 4 Councils for their efforts. The **Faith in Action** category winners were: **FAITH** - East Providence Council # 1528; **FAMILY**- Fr. Rooney Council # 3618; **LIFE** – SS John & James Council #7238; **COMMUNITY** – Woonsocket Council #113.



Michael Walter (left) & Dennis DeJesus (right) during their presentation for Special Olympics RI

The afternoon Business session consisted of Membership



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Rossi, State Program Director Jeff Gaulin and Family
Director Mike Guerra.



Left: E. Prov. GK Tom Clupny w/ Faith Director Mike DeAngelis at FIA-Faith Award presentation. Right: SS John & James GK Mike Osenkowski w/ Life Director Mike Kryzwonos for FIA-Life Award (SD Mike Dziok in background)

(L to R) Community Director Steve Perry, Fr. Joe Paquette, Woonsocket Council GK Jack Tracy, SD Mike Dziok, Supreme Rep. Ralph Rossi and State Program Director Jeff Gaulin at the FIA-Community Award presentation.



(above)Receiving the FIA-Family Award on behalf of Rooney Council is DD Paul Saunders (2nd from left) with (L to R) Fr. Paquette, SD Mike Dziok, Supreme Rep Ralph

The 2nd Annual Youth of the Year Award was presented to Coby Michael Babbitt. Coby is an active member of St. Eugene's in Chepatchet where he assists at the altar, is an aide for religious education, helps at the annual Parish Yard Sale and is active in



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the parish Youth Group. He also has assisted with distribution of food to the homeless at the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul. Coby has attended the Steubenville East Youth Conference twice (will attend this year also) and has attended the Quo Vadis camp for young men in discernment for the priesthood.

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Coby joined by his family

Coby has received a \$500 award, \$250 for himself and \$250 to a charity of his choice. He has decided to award the charity portion to Rhode Island Right to Life.

The festivities proceeded with the awarding of the Family of the Year and Knight of the Year.

The RI Knights of Columbus Family of the Year was awarded to the family of SK John "Jack" & Linda Tracy of Woonsocket Council (& A Knight's View Newsletter



(above) Youth of the Year Coby Babbitt (2nd Left) w/ (L to R) Fr. Joe Paquette, SD Mike Dziok, Sup. Rep. Ralph Rossi, State Program Dir. Jeff Gaulin & State Family Dir. Mike Guerra



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Editor) & include daughter Kara Taft and son-in-law SK Jonathan Taft, son SK Matthew Tracy, and Daughter Caitlyn Tracy.

deserving choice could not be made. Bob is currently the Degree & Ceremonial Director for the State.



Congratulations to all!

Membership News

Making Councils Stronger

Strong Councils through Engaging and Diverse Programs

NOW is the time to recruit younger members (middle-age & older members are still okay too)! And, a perfect opportunity to employ the new on-line membership tool www.kofc.org/JoinUs. Once we have them, we then need to ensure they are **engaged in our programming** and wish to further its aims of **Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism**. Without new blood, we will eventually die out, and so will our good works.

Fr. Joe Paquette, SD Mike Dziok, Linda & Jack Tracy, and Supreme Representative Ralph Rossi at the 2019 Family of the Year presentation.

The Highlight Award for the evening was the presentation of the RI State Knight of the Year. Congratulations to FDD Bob & Joanne Lynch on being awarded this singular honor. A more



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Following are the upcoming degrees
scheduled (so far):

May 14th – 1st/2nd at SS John &
James Council @ 7 pm, candidates at
6:30

May 15th – 3rd at Delaney/St. Teresa
@ 7 pm, candidates at 6:30

May 19th – 4th at SS John & James
Council (hosted by Wallace Assembly),
starting @ 1 pm

June 3rd – 1st at Woonsocket Council
at 7 pm, candidates at 6:30

June 5th – 1st at Newport/Middletown
Council @ 6 pm, candidates at 5:30

Degrees and Ceremonials Director
Bob Lynch would like to see more on
the calendar, let's help him out.

**Remember! *One member
per Council per month!***

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Message from the State Deputy

Brothers,

I would like to thank all my
brother Knights and their families
who attended the 126th
Convention of the Rhode Island
Knights of Columbus this past
weekend. To start us off, 11
hospitality suites hosted by local
Councils allowed the attendees to
renew friendships, make new
friends and share in the offered
refreshments.

The convention began on
Saturday, May 4th with the
celebration of Mass offered by our
State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette
with prayers offered for the
success of all our deliberations. In
attendance were our Supreme
Representative Ralph Rossi and



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his wife Becky, who were with us the entire weekend. Brother Rossi made excellent presentations and we appreciate his comments, and suggestions made as a result of his observations. Brother Rossi wanted to let us know that he and his wife had a wonderful visit and was thankful for the hospitality extended to them both.

That evening the Memorial Mass was celebrated by Fr. Joe during which time our Brother Knights and clergy who had passed during the past year were recognized. A truly moving event. Immediately following the Mass was our Convention Banquet at which a number of award presentations were made (see above). I congratulate all recipients, you are truly worthy.

Sunday the consideration of convention resolutions was

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conducted as well as the election of State Council officers. I am appreciative of being returned to serve a second term as your State Deputy as well as the entire current slate of State Officers. I know I speak for my fellow State officers when I say that we are grateful of your support and confidence, allowing us to continue to serve you for the upcoming Columbian Year. District Deputy Robert Moniz of St. Francis Council #2011 was elected as our representative to the Supreme Convention being held this year in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

A three-day event of this magnitude takes an extraordinary amount of planning, organization and flexibility to see that the event is executed as intended. I cannot thank our Co-Chairman Stephen



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Cioffi and PJ Shea for orchestrating
a wonderful experience.



Vivat Jesus!

Mike Dziok

Patriotic (4th) Degree News

From the District Master

Sir Knights and Brothers,

I would like to give one last
reminder that there will be a
Patriotic Degree Exemplification on
May 19th at SS. John & James. The
day begins at 1 pm with Mass.
There will be a Ladies program at
the same time as the
exemplification and Banquet

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following. Cost to Candidates is
\$70. Guests are \$30. Please
contact me or Secretary to the
Master Ron Ross ASAP. (contact
information below)



Vivat Jesus!

Robert (Bob) Gallant

General Agent

Introduced to us at the
Convention was our new General
Agent, John Ruffo. John began his
tenure on May 1st. Let's all make
him feel welcome. He can be
reached at john.ruffo@kofc.org or
by phone at 860-807-3234 (office)
& 860-531-8883 (cell)



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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.**

Events of Note

- **Mondays in May** – Holy Hour & Exposition at St. Mary's in W. Warwick at 7 pm sponsored by SS John & James

- **May 10-13** – Kandi Drives for various Councils around the State
- **May 12th** – Mother's Day
- **May 15th** - Knighthood Degree (see above)
- **May 18th** – Armed Forces Day
- **May 18th** - Teens R Dynamite (see below)
- **May 18th** – Bristol Council Clam Boil (see below)
- **May 19th** – Patriotic Degree (see above)
- **May 27th** – Memorial Day

Check the State Website regularly for details and new listings.

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.....

.....while doing good works.



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informing as well as peaceful demonstration.

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? (Jas 2:14)

So also, Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (Jas 2:17)

We also need to rally against Assisted suicide legislation and any other anti-life efforts which our current culture is keen to foist upon us.

Life Activities



Pro-Life rallies continue against legislation allowing late-term abortions and even disallowing medical treatment for babies who survive such abortion attempts (called NY/VA style abortions) and must continue to be held. Pro-Life supporters must make our presence felt by educating and

Community Activities

Bristol Council will hold a Clam Boil Dinner on May 18th to benefit the Robotics Program. It will be @ Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School beginning at 6 pm.

Faith Activities

Easter Monday (April 22nd) the Diocese was host to the incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney, a First Class Relic. The relic tour has been arranged by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council with the goal of visiting each of the 48 contiguous States. The Providence



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Diocese chose the Chapel of Our Lady of Providence Seminary for displaying the Relic. The Patriotic Degree of the District of RI provided an Honor Guard for the event, with Sir Knights from throughout the District participating.

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The Relic at the front of the Sanctuary



The Relic with the reception Honor Guard posted

Each Monday in May, SS John & James is sponsoring Holy Hour and Exposition at St. Mary's church beginning at 7 pm

Each first Saturday of the month, East Providence Council sponsors a Family Rosary at the Council home, 3200 Pawtucket Avenue.



A visitor paying respects to the Relic

Family Activities

The Youth of the Year has been awarded to Coby Michael Babbitt (see above).



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Woonsocket Council is hosting a Craft/Vendor Fair with food, raffles & more. It will be from 10 am to 3 pm on May 18th at All Saints Church, 323 Rathbun St. to benefit the family of a young mother who died unexpectedly. After which, you can run over to St. Agatha Church, 34 Joffre Ave, from 5-7 pm. for the best dynamite supper (***Teens R Dynamite***) in the State to benefit the 2 CYO Centers in the Diocese (**Fr. Marot** in Woonsocket & **Rejoice in Hope** in Cranston).

Want to help benefit **Catholic Education Scholarships**? Of course, you do! How? It's time to start putting together your golf foursomes. The Annual State Charity Golf Tournament (the proceeds benefit the aforementioned scholarships) has been booked for Saturday, June 15th at Swansea Country Club (299

Market St., Swansea). There will be a 12:45 pm Shotgun Start. Cost for the day is \$125 per person and includes a BBQ lunch on site. There raffles, prizes and, of course, The Championship Trophy. For those of you who don't play (or shoot a nice 72 on the front nine like your editor) but would like to contribute, there are sponsorship opportunities. Contact PJ Shea 401-480-2365 or Phil Shea 401-585-8528 or KofCGolfRI@gmail.com for information or with questions.

Fraternal Training and Communication

Training

There are many training opportunities throughout the year (see the Supreme Website – www.kofc.org), they are open to any Brother Knight who may be interested. You can register



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from the Home Page of the supreme website:
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 stevec618@aol.com.

State Website

Check out the State Website at www.kofcri.org .
It is connected to UKnight Interactive
(kofcknights.org) and allows connection to any
local Council website that is also a part of the
UKnight family. There are also links to other sites of
interest such as Fathers for Good, the Supreme
Council et alia.

State Newsletter

News items for the newsletter can be sent
to me at rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com, through
your DD, who will forward it to me, or the various
program Directors. I also welcome photos from the
event itself.

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State Meeting

Remember! these meetings
allow interaction between local
Councils, and allow information to be
exchanged between the local and
State Councils (in **both** directions).
Each Council should ensure that it is
represented at these meetings.

The next **State Meeting** will
be the on **June 28th at 7:30 pm** at
Pope Pius XII Council, St. Veronica
Chapel, (1035 Boston Neck Rd)
Narragansett. This meeting is a
good opportunity to exchange
information with the State and
other local Councils. Remember,
these meetings belong to YOU.
The State Council does not exist
without the local Councils.

Fraternal Concern

Brothers, as noted previously, our
membership is older, with an average age of



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64. Implicit in that average is the fact that we have many older Brothers. 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. In my home Council, I have designated a member to scan the newspaper obituaries. However, with fewer people utilizing the newspaper obits we must now add word of mouth or social media methods of communication.

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

Prayers Requested



Prayers are requested for Bishop Louis Gelineau, Fr. Dennis Reardon, Fr. Robert Bailey, Angelo Plumbo, Phil

Shea Jr., Patricia Moran (grandmother of Membership Director PJ Shea) Nancy Forest (wife of PGK Richard Forest), Pat Logan (wife of PGK Greg Logan), Cheryl Tedeschi (wife of FDD Anthony Tedeschi), PSD/FVSM Sav Giusti, FDD Ray Riel, PFN Rick Regan, Roger Depot, Executive Secretary Mike Krzywonos, PGK PFN Ernie Pennine, PGK/PFN Walter Jalbert, DD Bud Garceau, PGK/PFN Stanley Eason (Woon. Council/ Moylan Assembly), GK Jerry Marra, Ellen and PSD Normand Charpentier, Pat DeMello (wife of recently deceased FDD Bob DeMello), Bob Jackson (St. Francis Council), Mike Magill, DD Alan Lamake, David Riendeau (John Paul II Council), DD Dave Lucas, and FDD George Plante 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.

(to have someone mentioned, contact me @ rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com or ask the state to add to the prayer list on the website)



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Contact information of subcommittee chairmen
and other State Staff can be found on the State
website www.kofcri.org

Remember, these men are here to
help you and your Council. Don't be
afraid to contact them for help or with
any questions you may have.

Vivat Jesus!

