



# *A Knight's View*

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council  
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June 2019

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As this is the last newsletter for this Fraternal Year, I would like to start with some “*Thank You*s”. An endeavor such as this requires input from many sources. I am indebted to the following: SD Mike Dziok for his monthly contribution and missives. As also DM Bob Gallant for his 4<sup>th</sup> Degree messages. IPSD Mike Benson provides me with a vast number of photos (& is much better at it than I) while DD Paul Saunders has kept me informed as to the activities of the East Bay. Mike Osenkowski has kept me informed about the Coventry – West Warwick area. Mike Krzywonos has supplied me with a good amount of information (which I “borrow” from his facebook posts). Also, the State Directors (especially the ***Faith In Action***

Team) are crucial to my reservoir of material. There are others who have supplied me throughout the year. Thank you to each and every one of you. May you be there for me in the next Fraternal Year as well.

## *Council News*

### *Scholarships & Book Awards*

I begin with some items from the State Convention. The annual awarding of scholarships & book awards was announced at the Sunday morning session. Once again, Chairman Adam Scott assembled his team of judges and determined the following award earners: For the \$500 Elementary school award winner, Jonathan Sepulveda was sponsored by his Grandfather Ronald Pagliarini from



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Scalabrini Council, #3547.

Jonathan will be a 4th grader next school year at St. Mary's Elementary School in Cranston.

The \$500 Secondary School Award was earned by Sabrina Randall, sponsored by her grandfather, PSD Peter Lentini of Scalabrini Council, #3547. Sabrina will be a sophomore at St. Mary's Academy Bay View next school year. She is an extremely impressive young lady in that she is a high honors student at Bay View, volunteers at a local animal shelter, and her extracurricular activities at school include being an active member of the Bay View Writer's Club, Assistant Tech Manager for the Bay View Theater Program and is an Ambassador for Bay View Academy.

The College Book Award Winners (\$1250 each) are:

1) Miss Rebecca Arel, sponsored by her Grandfather, Ovide Auger of Woonsocket Council #113. Rebecca is currently enrolled at the Culinary Institute of America as a Culinary Arts Major. She has served her community as a volunteer with the Woonsocket Police Department's annual Toy Drive, Christmas Party and breakfast, has volunteered at the Beacon Charter High School for the Arts during the City of Woonsocket's Revitalization of Main Street project and has volunteered numerous hours assisting Woonsocket Council with their annual November Toy Drive and their COPS (Concern of Police Survivors) Walk Pasta Dinner. As one of the Woonsocket Brothers stated, "We have been blessed to have her part of our Knights of



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Columbus Family and without her help, we would not have been as successful”

2) Miss Nicole Bowman, Under the sponsorship of her deceased grandfather, John Cardillo of Scalabrini Council #3547. Nicole is currently enrolled at Springfield College to obtain a master's degree in occupational therapy. Nicole has 56 hours of documented community service as a volunteer with the Springfield College Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Build Program and she was the Springfield College president of their Best Buddies Chapter where she not only helped to organize events but was also a peer buddy in a one to one friendship relationship with a student with special abilities.

3) Mr. Michael Ryan, sponsored by his father, GK Keith Ryan of St.

Gregory the Great Council #12821. Michael is currently a senior at Bishop Hendricken High School and plans to study Biomedical Engineering next year at George Washington University, Drexel University or Fairfield University. Michael has served his community as a volunteer CCD teacher at St. Gregory the Great Church, a volunteer camp counselor for a weeklong bible school at St. Gregory the Great Church and gives back to his school as a peer tutor at the Hawks Writing Center.

4) Miss Emily Mikolay, sponsored by her father, Michael Mikolay of St. Mark Council #9197. Emily is currently a senior at North Kingstown High School and plans to study Communications next year at Salve Regina University. Emily has served her community as a volunteer at various festivals,



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dinners and socials at her home parish of St. Mark Church and as an additional note of interest about her Catholic values, she was also her younger sister's Confirmation Sponsor. As her pastor, Fr. Amaral, noted, "she is a fine young woman following the Catholic teachings".

5) Michael Santos is a 3rd Degree Brother Knight of Fr. Joseph Boehr Council #4753. Michael is currently attending the Franciscan University of Steubenville and will be attending Providence College next year to study Education. Michael has served his community as a volunteer with Dirty Vagabond Ministries, which is an outreach program to the underserved youth in the city of Steubenville, was a sacristan for liturgical celebrations on the campus of Franciscan

University, has assisted his parish of Holy Ghost in many different parish initiatives and has volunteered his time at numerous events at the Fr. Boehr Council, such as with their weekly fundraisers and with their Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Event.

As a closing note, Adam begged to be given more work/a harder choice next year by seeking more applications.

Congratulations to all and thanks to Adam & his team for all their work.

## *State Charity Raffle*

The last item from the convention is to announce the winners of the State Charity Raffle. The winner of both the \$1000 and \$500 prizes was Ann Fortin of



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Pascoag. (that's right, 2 tickets drawn separately by Supreme Representative Ralph Rossi (I kid you not). The \$250 prize winner was Sherice Riel of Cumberland.

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Woonsocket. More in the July newsletter.

## *Installation of State Officers*

The Installation of State Officers will take place on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, at 1 pm. It will take place at St. Aiden parish in Cumberland. The Installation Mass will be followed by a collation in the St. Aiden Parish Center.

## *Leadership Workshops*

The annual Leadership Workshop for Fraternal Year 2019-20 has been scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup> at All Saints Church in

## *Membership News*

### *Making Councils Stronger*

#### **Strong Councils through Membership Growth & Engagement**

**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](http://www.kofc.org/JoinUs). Once we have them, we then need to ensure they are **engaged in our programming** and wish to further our aims of **Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism**. Without new blood, we will eventually die out, and so will our good works.

Following are the upcoming degrees scheduled (so far):



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

**June 8<sup>th</sup>** – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Thomas the  
Apostle Council @ 9 am, candidates at  
8:30

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!***

## *Patriotic (4<sup>th</sup>) Degree News*

The District of RI recently added 16  
new Sir Knights, including 2 Priests  
Fr. Charles Galligan & Fr. Douglas  
Spina,



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Fr. Spina receiving his certificate at the banquet flanked  
by (L to R) Fr. Henri Lemoi, Jim Gilcreast, Fr. Douglas  
Spina, DM Bob Gallant & SD Mike Dziok (background –  
emcee PSD/FM Steve Cioffi). Fr. Charles Galligan was  
unavailable for the photo.

at an Exemplification held at SS.  
John & James Church in West  
Warwick with Wallace Assembly  
serving as host. The Honoree for  
the Degree was James "Jim"  
Gilcreast. Jim has been a member  
of the Patriotic Degree since 1970  
and on the Degree Team for 20  
years. Congratulations to the new  
Sir Knights and to the Honoree.



Wallace Assembly Faithful Friar Fr. Lemoi, Honoree  
Gilcreast, MC Cioffi and DM Gallant



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## *General Agent*

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

General Agent, John Ruffo.  
John began his tenure on May 1<sup>st</sup>  
and was introduced to us at the  
State Convention. He can be  
reached at [john.ruffo@kofc.org](mailto:john.ruffo@kofc.org) or  
by phone at 860-807-3234 (office)  
& 860-531-8883 (cell).

## *Events of Note*

- **June 9<sup>th</sup>** – Pentecost Sunday
- **June 14<sup>th</sup>** – Flag Day
- **June 15<sup>th</sup>** – Provincial Exemplification in Manchester, NH
- **June 15<sup>th</sup>** - State Charity Golf Tourney (see below)
- **June 16<sup>th</sup>** – Father's Day
- **June 21<sup>st</sup>** – Matthew Kelly *Passion & Purpose* (see below)
- **June 28<sup>th</sup>** – State Meeting at Pope Pius XII Council in Narragansett (see below)
- **June 30<sup>th</sup>** – Installation of State Officers

## *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.**

Check the State Website regularly for details and new listings.



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

## 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.....

## Life Activities



Photo from St. John Vianney Council's participation in the Elisha Project, helping feed the homeless

.....while doing good works.

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



One of the many KANDI Drive efforts, this is SS. John & James Council

KANDI Drive efforts were held during the past month and significant funds were raised to assist those with intellectual





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disabilities. Thank you to all for  
your efforts.

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RI Special Olympics opening  
ceremonies on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Below are  
some images from the event.

## *Community Activities*

Blessing Council recently held  
a "Knight Out" event at Morse  
Tavern. This type of event is a  
great way to be visible in the  
community.



SORI Board Director & PSD Peter Lentini participating in  
the Awards Ceremony.



Blessing Council's "Knight Out" at Morse Tavern



SORI athlete & Bishop Hickey Inside Guard Michael  
Walters among the athletes being honored.

As is customary, Knights from  
around the State participated in the



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## *Faith Activities*

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

Matthew Kelly will present ***Living Every Day With Passion & Purpose*** on June 21<sup>st</sup> at SS Rose & Clement Church, 111 Long St., Warwick. Tickets are \$39 and the start time is 7 pm.



SD Mike Dziok & DM Bob Gallant representing the delegation that led the parade of athletes into the arena.

## *Family Activities*

This next item is one of those that can fit into any of the 4 *Faith In Action* categories.

The annual ***Teens R Dynamite*** fundraiser was held on May 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Agatha in Woonsocket. Chaired by DD Bob Moniz, this cooperative venture of the RI State Council, St. Francis Council, Woonsocket Council



Color Guard representing all Rhode Island Knights



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(chefs extraordinaire! With the assistance of Scott Blanchette of Pascoag Council) and many Councils throughout the State of RI raised over \$4500 (preliminary count) for the 2 CYO Centers in the Diocese of Providence to share.



Want to help benefit **Catholic Education Scholarships**? Of course, you do! How? The Annual State Charity Golf Tournament (the proceeds benefit the aforementioned scholarships) will be held Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Contact PJ Shea 401-480-2365 or Phil Shea 401-585-8528 or [KofCGolfRI@gmail.com](mailto:KofCGolfRI@gmail.com) for information or with questions.



Rich Riel (Left) of Woonsocket Council preparing dynamites while (Right) Sue Moniz of St. Francis Council & Carlene Fontaine of Fr. Marot Center and Woonsocket Council prepare for the Penny Social & Raffle sales.

SD Mike Dziok recently presented a check at Bishop Hendricken to assist with their Options Program. This came from the KANDI FUND. (picture below)



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interest such as Fathers for Good, the Supreme Council et alia.

### *Fraternal Training and Communication*

#### *Training*

There are many training opportunities throughout the year (see the Supreme Website – [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)), they are open to any Brother Knight who may be interested. You can register 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](mailto:stevec618@aol.com).

#### *State Website*

Check out the State Website at [www.kofcri.org](http://www.kofcri.org). It is connected to UKnight Interactive ([kofcknights.org](http://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

### *State Newsletter*

News items for the newsletter can be sent to me at [rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### *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 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm** at Pope Pius XII Council, St. Veronica Chapel (of St. Thomas Moore Church), 1035 Boston Neck Rd., Narragansett. This meeting is a good opportunity to exchange



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information with the State and other local Councils. Remember, these meetings belong to YOU. The State Council does not exist without the local Councils.

## *Prayers Requested*



### *Fraternal Concern*

Brothers, please remember, our membership is older, with an average age of 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.***

Please pray for the repose of  
PGK Joseph Rezendes (East Prov.  
Council)

Angelo Carmine Palumbo (Bristol  
Council)

Louis Carlevale, stepfather of Ann  
Bebyn (wife of State Treasurer Dave)

Lillian Richard, sister of GK Leo  
Larivee of Sullivan Council

And God's comfort to their family

Prayers are also requested for  
Bishop Louis Gelineau, Fr. Dennis  
Reardon, Fr. Robert Bailey, 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),



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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, PFN Gerry L'Esperance (Moylan Assembly) 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](mailto:rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com) or ask the state to add to the prayer list on the website)

### *Contact Information*

#### Officers

State Deputy Michael Dziok  
[mdziok1067@aol.com](mailto:mdziok1067@aol.com)

State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette  
[JoePaquette1@gmail.com](mailto:JoePaquette1@gmail.com)

State Secretary Dave Quinn  
[davequinn.rikofc@aol.com](mailto:davequinn.rikofc@aol.com)

State Treasurer Dave Bebyn  
[dbebyn@beconsulting.biz](mailto:dbebyn@beconsulting.biz)

State Advocate Joe Carrigan  
[joe.carrigan@outlook.com](mailto:joe.carrigan@outlook.com)

State Warden Eric Batista  
[ebkofc@gmail.com](mailto:ebkofc@gmail.com)

Immediate Past State Deputy Mike Benson  
[MBenson.rikofc@gmail.com](mailto:MBenson.rikofc@gmail.com)

#### Patriotic Degree

District Master Bob Gallant –  
[bobgal664@gmail.com](mailto:bobgal664@gmail.com)

District Marshall John Tougas –  
[jtougassr@gmail.com](mailto:jtougassr@gmail.com)

District Marshall Warren Rensehausen -  
[wrensehausen@hotmail.com](mailto:wrensehausen@hotmail.com)

Executive Secretary Ron Ross -  
[1970cheron@gmail.com](mailto:1970cheron@gmail.com)



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### District Deputies

District 1 Al Nunes – [al.nunes@trimarkusa.com](mailto:al.nunes@trimarkusa.com)

District 2 Jerry Scannell –  
[paulgscannell@gmail.com](mailto:paulgscannell@gmail.com)

District 3 Bob Moniz - [rjm51@cox.net](mailto:rjm51@cox.net)

District 4 Mark Paul – [mpaul@astromed.com](mailto:mpaul@astromed.com)

District 5 Victor Silva – [vmsilva58@gmail.com](mailto:vmsilva58@gmail.com)

District 6 Mike Colvin – [mikegcolvin@gmail.com](mailto:mikegcolvin@gmail.com)

District 7 Matt Belair – [mattbkofc@gmail.com](mailto:mattbkofc@gmail.com)

District 8 John Kay – [jkay4021@aol.com](mailto:jkay4021@aol.com)

District 9 Paul Saunders – [psaund1229@aol.com](mailto:psaund1229@aol.com)

District 10 Dave Lucas – [ldaviddance@aol.com](mailto:ldaviddance@aol.com)

District 11 Bud Garceau –  
[gene.garceau@gmail.com](mailto:gene.garceau@gmail.com)

District 12 Alan Lamake – [allamake@aol.com](mailto:allamake@aol.com)

### Directors

Membership Director PJ Shea –  
[sheapj@yahoo.com](mailto:sheapj@yahoo.com)

Degree & Ceremonial Director Bob Lynch  
[rlynch1@cox.net](mailto:rlynch1@cox.net)

Program Director Jeff Gaulin  
[jagaulin@verizon.net](mailto:jagaulin@verizon.net)

Church Director Mike DeAngelis  
[deangelis36@msn.com](mailto:deangelis36@msn.com)

Community Director Steve Perry  
[brady12qb@verizon.net](mailto:brady12qb@verizon.net)

Family Director Mike Guerra  
[mikegonemad@gmail.com](mailto:mikegonemad@gmail.com)

Life Director Mike Krzywonos  
[mikrzywonos@gmail.com](mailto:mikrzywonos@gmail.com)

Staff et al.

Exec. Secretary Mike Krzywonos  
[mikrzywonos@gmail.com](mailto:mikrzywonos@gmail.com)

General Agent John Ruffo  
[john.ruffo@kofc.org](mailto:john.ruffo@kofc.org)

State Webmaster John Tougas  
[jtougassr@gmail.com](mailto:jtougassr@gmail.com)

State Newsletter Editor Jack Tracy  
[rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com)

Contact information of subcommittee chairmen  
and other State Staff can be found on the State  
website [www.kofcri.org](http://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.

