



A Knight's View

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council
Knights of Columbus

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**Serving the Church and Community through Charity, Unity, Fraternity and
Patriotism since 1893**

April 2020

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RI State Convention Cancellation

By now you should be aware that the RI State Convention scheduled to take place at the Radisson Hotel the weekend of April 24, 25 and 26, 2020 has been cancelled.

Anyone who had made a room reservation with the Radisson for that event must call the Radisson and cancel their reservations.

As of this writing Supreme Council is developing a method to conduct a "virtual convention" for Council delegates. Information will be provided as soon as it is finalized by Supreme.

State Charity Raffle

The one activity not cancelled or postponed is the **State Charity Raffle Drawing**. It must still take

place on April 26th as a matter of legal record. However, the logistics will be severely curtailed. We are exploring the option of "broadcasting" the drawing on the *Gotomeeting* app for those who wish to log-in. The number of physical witnesses will of course be limited to comply with the current Social Distancing rules. The winners will be published via email and newsletter. Some logistical details have yet to be finalized. The important thing for all to know is that ALL ticket stubs must be delivered to DD Jack Tracy at 15 Lewis Street, Woonsocket or to the State Offices at 3200 Pawtucket Avenue, East Providence by **April 25th**. This is a HARD deadline.





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Membership News

Supreme will be holding an online Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity on April 16th, with a training webinar on April 8th. At this writing, full details have not been released. This would be a great opportunity for those previously unable to advance to the 3rd Degree to do so from the comfort of their homes.

through our charitable endeavors. By our reaction to this global medical crisis the world should find us more attractive than ever. This provides us an answer to the inevitable questions of ***How can I Help?*** And ***What can I do?*** Just by being ourselves we can attract new membership without being intrusive.

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

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)!

While the current pandemic has restricted our movements, we are still able to recruit new membership

Message from the State Deputy

It is amazing how all of our lives have been dramatically affected the past two months by the COVID-19 Pandemic, and unfortunately with no definite end in sight. Social distancing, traveler



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quarantines and shelter in place orders are now part of our everyday conversations.

As a result most of local and state council meetings and in-person activities, including the Annual State Convention, have been cancelled in an abundance of caution to protect the health of all participants. However, that does not mean that as Knights we sit back and remain on the sidelines.

Our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson has challenged the Knights to take this moment as an opportunity to “deepen our commitment to the very principles which define us: Charity, Unity and Fraternity”.

Knights are encouraged to engage in five types of service activities in a program entitled

Leave No Neighbor Behind:

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Support Your Brother Knights – Contact each Knight to inquire as to their well-being and needs

Support Your Parish -Ask your pastors how we might be of assistance during this time

Support Your Community –Assess the local needs and support the broad community

Feed The Hungry – Assist in the donation and distribution at local food pantries.

Participate in a Blood Drive

While engaging in these activities –
Do Not Put Yourself or Others at Risk of Infection

With all of the above occurring, the celebration of daily and Sunday Masses has been restricted to virtual viewing and participation on-line. Many, if not most, of the scheduled parish Lenten retreats



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and events had to be cancelled. With Holy Week services and Easter Sunday Mass likely to have a similar fate, we should make an effort to spiritually prepare ourselves to celebrate the resurrection on of our Lord, Jesus Christ, Alleluia!

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to wish you all a very Happy and Holy Easter!



Michael Dziok

State Deputy

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Patriotic Degree News

Worthy Sir Knights,

Brother Sir Knights, Your District Master is being tested again. After spending a good portion of my term convincing all to accept the new look of the Patriotic Degree, I was looking forward to coasting these last few months and do business as usual. Now we need to learn a new way to hold our meetings. We are truly in a different world than we are used to. Especially us 'old-timers'.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, I scheduled the very important Biennial meeting of the Patriotic Degree for Wednesday, April 30, 2020 @ 7:00 PM at All Saints Church hall in Woonsocket. Well we all know now, that cannot happen. With the help of some of my Sir Knight Brothers, this meeting is still on for the same date and time. The difference is we will all be in our own



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homes. Yes Brothers I am forced into the 21st century innovations. This meeting will be via computer and / or telephone. More info will follow as this gets set up. Meanwhile any Sir Knight who wishes to take part in this meeting please send me your name, email address, and phone number at bobgal664@gmail.com or 401-767-6955. Keep in mind "Sir Knights" only.

Fraternally yours,



Robert (Bob) Gallant

4th Degree District Master,
Rhode Island

Also, the next Exemplification of the Patriotic Degree scheduled for **Sunday, May 31, 2020** at St. Teresa Church hall, 358 Newport Ave., Pawtucket may end up suffering

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cancellation due to COVID-19 issues. For now, it is still on the schedule because it is easier to cancel than start from scratch. Stay tuned for further details.

General Agent

Knights of Columbus Insurance Update

The mission of the Knights of Columbus today remains the same as when it was founded in 1882: to protect Catholic families financially and to help strengthen the Catholic faith of our members.

While the current medical, social and economic issues we face are unsettling, it's not the first time we have risen to meet such challenges. Our Order has stood strong through past crises such as the Spanish flu in 1918, the Great



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Depression and the financial crisis
of 2008.

Just as we stood together during those times, we stand ready in our own difficult times to provide life insurance, annuities, long term care and disability insurance. Knights of Columbus Insurance agents are fully equipped and eager to help you understand how the current climate may affect your personal finances and how our products can help.

Our agents can meet with you in person, talk to you over the phone (when appropriate) or through a virtual meeting using Skype or similar software. Agents are ready to answer questions, assist with service-related issues and help show you how you can reduce your financial risk.

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As the Knights of Columbus turns 138 years old, it is an opportune moment to thank our founder, Father Michael McGivney, for his foresight in founding an Order that consistently provides reliable financial protection for Catholic families. You do not face the current challenges alone. Our commitment to helping you and your family remains strong.

Vivat Jesus!

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
860-807-3234 (office) & 203-501-
3219 (cell). God Bless!



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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.**

K of C Hockey Ticket Refunds:

Those with tickets to the March 29, 2020 K of C Hockey event with the Providence Bruins are aware that they were required to cancel the game due to the restrictions put in place as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In order to refund those who purchased tickets, please mail your tickets along with the food coupon, and your return address to the State Office:

**RI State Council
ATTN: Mike Dziok
3200 Pawtucket Ave.
Riverside, RI 02915**

A shout-out to St. Pius XII Council of Narragansett for their mealtrain.com participation to provide meals/food to our retired clergy & religious. Their efforts were recently recognized by Supreme during a recent webinar.

Events of Note

- **April 12th – Easter Sunday – Christ is Risen!**

Check the State Website regularly for details and new listings.



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Naturally, because of the restrictions imposed on us due to the Corona Virus (COVID-19), our charitable endeavors have needed to change. Yet, we are still called to help our fellow man. See the abbreviated program information and the letter from State Program Director Jeff Gaulin for some ideas.

(just down the road from the Council home @ All Saints Church). With questions, or to participate contact State Program Director Jeff Gaulin (event chair) at jagaulin@verizon.net or District Deputy Jack Tracy at jklmc.tracy@att.net.

Milestone Celebration



Woonsocket Council #113, whose 125th Charter Anniversary date was January 27th, has postponed their Gala Celebration to June 13th. It is still @ St. Ann's Arts & Cultural Center on Cumberland Street in Woonsocket

From the State Program

Director

Dear Brothers and Families,

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, our duty is to lead our families, protect our parishes, and serve our communities, remembering always that where there's a need, there's a Knight.

Programs can be done by your council, although in quarantine



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times, you must do things a little different:

Life Programs

Blood Drives, call the RI Blood Center and plan to donate blood

Community

Collect Gift Cards for Grocery Stores and use them to help your fellow knights, reach out to the Pastors in your Parish to see if there are families in need

Faith

Setup a conference Call or send an email to your council members and their families and setup a night to pray the Rosary together.

Family

Organize Game Knights with your family, setup Video chats using tools on the internet such as Zoom, GoToMeeting, invite other families

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in your council and have an online get together checking in to make sure people are doing ok and to see if they need help, use your imagination .

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson has challenged Knights to take this moment as an opportunity to “deepen our commitment to the very principles which define us: charity, unity and fraternity.” These are just some examples of how your council can continue programs in a different way and still participate in the Faith in Action Programs. These are new times for all of us, but as Knights we can still work together in UNITY and make a Difference in the Parishes and Communities in which we live!!!

May GOD bless each and every one of you and your families during this time.



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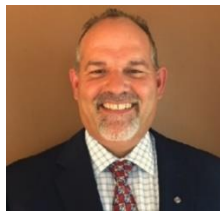
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On behalf of myself, my wife
Sue and our Family, stay Safe and
continue to be a positive
inspiration!!

***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)

Jeff Gaulin



RI State Program Director

Life Activities

You are urged to stay in
touch with your legislators to
inform them of your opinion
whenever any life issue
legislation is before either
chamber of the RI Legislature.
The same holds true for
nationally considered bills.

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.

**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.**



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Youth Recognition

Faith Activities



While we may be prevented from physically gathering for Mass, technology is a beautiful thing. There are many parishes streaming the Mass on their facebook or other social media platforms. I encourage you to log in to one. Check with your own pastor to see if he is streaming or even assist him in setting up the capability. Some of the ones of which I am aware include Fr. Woolley in Coventry, Fr. Kelley in Woonsocket, Fr. Najim, and even Bishop Barron.

Youth of the Year and Youth Scholarship & Book Awards will still be announced this month. Deadline for Scholarship & Book Awards is **April 18th – Hard Deadline** as the Convention is the following week. See the State Website (www.kofcri.org) for more information.

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 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



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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.

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State Meeting

The next State Meeting will be
announced when the pandemic
restrictions have been lifted.

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

Reminder: I include as much as possible in
this newsletter. But I need your help by
sending me information & photos from your
events.

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.

A Note of Fraternal Concern

Brothers, as noted previously, our
membership is older, with an average age of
62. 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

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



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Prayers Requested

prayer for protection distributed by
Supreme:

Please pray for the repose of:

- Charles Sweeney (Blessing Council)
 - Gilbert S. Almeida (Bristol Council)
 - George Tessier (St. Philip Council)
 - Joan Thompson (companion of Patrick Hurley of Blessing Council)
 - Marcel Duguay (Moylan Assembly)
 - Richard Desrosiers (Woonsocket Council)
 - Chris Young (passionate Pro-Life advocate)
- And God's comfort to their families



Many of us know people who have contracted the Corona Virus (COVID-19). Please pray for them, their caregivers and families. Below find a

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.



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Prayers are requested for Orlando Giasanti . Ongoing prayers are also requested for Bishop Louis Gelineau, Fr. Dennis Reardon, Fr. Robert Bailey, PGK Daniel Danis (Blessing Council), Kristen Jarret, FVSM Michael Donnelly, GK Joseph Bedard (Pascoag Council), Becca and Brianna Arel (granddaughters of Woonsocket Council Chancellor OJ Auger), Phil Shea Jr., Patricia Moran (grandmother of Membership Director PJ Shea), Gerry and Pat Desmarais (St. Eugene Council), Barry Chevrette (Pascoag Council), Matt Parent, 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, PGK/PFN Stanley Eason (Woon. Council/ Moylan Assembly), GK Jerry Marra, Ellen and PSD Normand Charpentier, Bob Jackson (St. Francis Council), Mike Magill, DD Alan Lamake, David Riendeau (John Paul II Council), FDD 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 at rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com or ask the state to add to them to the prayer list on the website)

Contact Information

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mdziok1067@aol.com

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JoePaquette1@gmail.com

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davequinn.rikofc@aol.com

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joe.carrigan@outlook.com

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ebkofc@gmail.com

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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.

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of the Risen Christ. From Linda and me – Have a Blessed Easter –

HE IS RISEN – TRULY RISEN!

-DD *Jack Tracy*

Newsletter Editor



Vivat Jesus!

I wish to end with a message of hope for us all in these difficult times. The best message of hope of which I know is demonstrated in the photo below: the empty Cross



(photo from a previous year's Living Stations of Cross at St. Agatha/Precious Blood parishes)