



943 Bridgeboro Rd
Delran. NJ 08075

St. John Neumann Blood Drive
Monday, March 8, 2021
Time: 2-7 PM

American Red Cross Introduces
The NEW Blood Drive Management Portal

Dear Valued Partner,

Our upcoming blood drive is nearly four weeks away. Now is the perfect time to Log in to the Blood Drive Management Portal to schedule your time.

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Neumann News

Volume Thirty-one

February-March, 2021

My Fellow Knights

I pray and hope that you and your families are doing well during the Covid-19 pandemic. 2020 will certainly go into the books as one of the more crazy times in modern history. It only seemed fitting that some news sources had reported an asteroid of significant size, will collide with Earth around Election Day. No news out of the norm surprises me anymore. Tropical storms, protests, looting, virtual meetings, live stream Masses, and professional sports in bubbles are things that made this year memorable, or in many opinions forgettable.

It seemed that once Covid-19 hit, every type of event planned, was literally cancelled or postponed in a span of a few short weeks. Our Council Hall, a Friday night hub of activity, has basically been inactive. In a nutshell, this means no bands, djs, gourmet pizza, meetings, or rentals. The sad result of this is a once dependable stream of revenue used to pay Home Association related bills and fund charitable endeavors has become dormant.

The funds in our Home Association's general fund account had been used to cover the various expenses associated with maintaining our building. This includes utilities such as gas, electric, water, insurance, and supplies. Unfortunately, these funds slowly depleted. The Home Association presented a motion to our Council to approve a special fundraising drive, designed to help replenish the General Fund in order to cover these expenses until our Council Hall is able to reopen for Friday night events and hall rentals. I'd asked every member to consider contributing towards this cause. Whether it's \$30, \$50, \$100, or \$500, every single dollar helped. Our Brother Knights in the early 1970s, made significant financial donations to not only build our hall, but to ensure its mortgage would be totally paid in a relatively short time frame. Your act of charity in this fundraiser was strongly encouraged and ultimately appreciated by your Council and Home Association.

The topic of money is a nice way to transition into a formal welcome to our Council's new Treasurer Michael Janus, PGK, PFN. Mike transferred to our Council from Maryland during the last Columbian Year. In addition to serving his former Council as Grand Knight, Mike was a Financial Secretary. He served as Faithful Navigator at his 4th Degree Assembly, which is the equivalent of being GK. Please be sure to give Mike a welcome next time we have a meeting or event at the hall. Also, please take time to thank Tom Lyons for his many years of devoted service. We also welcomed our new District Deputy to District 35 this Columbian Year. Taking over for Butch Paramore is John Villane, currently the Financial Secretary of Council 589.

As of mid January, we have received over \$3,000 in dues from 92 Council members. I thank those of you who have paid. You should have received your new travel card when this article is printed. I fully encourage those who haven't mailed their dues, to do so. Dues help pay our Council's per capita assessments from both Supreme and the State Council. Funds also help with general operating expenses.

Congratulations to 2020 High School graduating seniors Richard Brown III, Elizabeth Klein, and Lauren Wszolek, who were awarded \$500 from our Educational Fund, whose major fundraiser is our annual golf outing. Although the outing was cancelled in 2020, the hope is it will be back and better in June 2021.

Many thanks and congratulations go to Moo Derrico and has many volunteers for the Annual Christmas Basket Drive. This year was particularly challenging due to obstacles presented by Covid-19. Local schools were not doing complete in person learning. Delran High School took an innovative approach to procure donations by offering students an hour of community service time in exchange for 6 food items.

Moo placed collection cans outside of our hall entrance. This allowed a safe, contactless means for donations 24/7. The cans yielded dozens upon dozens of filled food boxes, before the first donations from schools arrived. Close to 200 families benefitted from the dedication of Moo and his volunteers. Special thanks to the Delran FOP, Delran FD, and Lieutenant Jim Mitchell for their financial support and manpower.

Our Venerable Founder Michael J. McGivney was beatified on October 31, 2020 in New Haven, CT at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. His Sainthood has been a long process in the making. When it does occur, it will be something we as Knights should all feel a sense of honor and pride.

Lastly, our State Deputy Vinnie Tavormina passed away on January 27 after a battle with Covid-19. I'd again ask that you keep Vinne, his wife Tamara, their family, and our State Officers in your prayers. Covid-19 has affected many in our order. Please do all that you can to remain safe. With 2021, let's all pray for the success of vaccines and the end to this pandemic.

SK John T. Howey, Jr.
Grand Knight
St. John Neumann Council 1436

Financial Secretary

Ray Henry reported \$3K collected so far for dues from 92 members; 2nd notices to be sent out this week. Christmas Basket Program: Approx \$8K received in donations from members and friends. Check from Food for Families program received: \$500 (Christmas Basket Program)

Home Association

President John Welsh reported that hall rentals were started in January according to state of New Jersey covid requirements. Also reported that in February we are in discussion about the use of Hall for activities.

The Heat in hall is being maintained at 55 degrees in order to save on energy. Snow removal: Arrangement w/ Jay's Landscaping to check w/ us prior to any plowing to verify that it is needed for some event – only for Jan. thru April. Stuart Moo (Tom Derrico)To all Brothers and to the public: We are renting the Hall at present with the State guidelines and restrictions. Please call 856-764-1436 for more information.

Christmas: A Time of Giving

It started out as an impossible task but this Council didn't want to hear that. The biggest obstacle was gathering canned goods from schools that weren't even having students. But persistent phone calls and new ideas proved to be successful. Delran,Riverside, and Delanco were on board with much enthusiasm. I set up a drop off at the entrance of our hall, and every day there was food waiting for us. Brother Knights and others donated a generous amount of money for perishable goods. Marty Scheen came through again with many toys. The Delran Police led by Officer Jim Mitchell donated money and turkeys along with the Delran Fire Department. And finally slow but sure I was able to gather 195 families in need. Like magic our Hall was filled with over 800 boxes of joy. Many volunteers came all week to help sort, and finally deliver to the families in need. A miracle happened at 943 Bridgeboro Rd. that never would have happened without the help of many. Many thanks to everyone who donated and worked so hard to help so many in need at the worst of times. Tom Moo Derrico.

SK Joe Jankowski, PGK, Trustee, Fraternal Chairman

Dear Brother Knights; My wife Betty and I want to wish all our Council's brother Knights a very Happy New Year 2021, and God's blessings to you all. We will get through these uncertain times with God's help and our steadfastness in confronting this terrible pandemic with resolve. The end to this virus will come to pass. I am

eagerly looking forward to our Council meetings and social events in person with all of you, as I begin my 34th year as a Knight. Joining our great K of C Delran Council was one of the highlights of my life, and I am thankful for all you wonderful brother Knights. I will keep y'all in my prayers, and ask that you all keep me in your prayers as well. Please share this message for other brother Knights, whose E-mail addresses I don't yet have. Take care and keep in touch.

Chapter Meeting for January 2021 via Zoom: President Vince Schnell opened the meeting with twelve Councils present. He reported that State Deputy Vinnie Tavormina passed away from Covid virus. New meeting protocols will be as follows: One Hour meeting time limit, no formal roll call of councils or trustee report, two minutes DD report: We will end the meeting with prayer for the canonization of Father Michael McGivney.

SK George Tower, Treasurer, reported Balance of \$4083.45 and all council dues are paid up. A discussion was held on state convention, tentatively set for May 14 and 15. Adventurer Motel is requiring a \$500 Deposit. The chapter will be requesting 12 rooms. Federation President Ed Michalak reported the Federation took out half page ad in the Monitor congratulating Carl Anderson's receipt (Pro Legacy award), also the bishop's annual dinner is scheduled for the fall. The chapter Spring Golf tournament needs a Chair person and a location for the event. This event helps support the Convention Hospitality suite. George Tower reported that the Virtual Fourth Degree will be on April 25, with applications due by April 2. The seminarian dinner, tentatively scheduled for March 10 has been postponed (No new date given). Also reported that the joint military base council has been suspended and is leaving the chapter. Grand Knight John Howey Jr. reported that St John Neumann council 1436's Annual Christmas Basket Drive was very successful in distributing 195 baskets. Respectfully submitted by Sk Joe Jankowski

Deputy Grand Knight SK. Rich Layton would like to introduce a new project Caring and Sharing

During these difficult times, many of our families are suffering. There are restrictions on the way we work, how our children are educated, and how we practice our religious beliefs. Our council meetings are limited to 10 people. The officers have met online, and have decided that in the spirit of UNITY, FRATERNITY, AND CHARITY, it's imperative that we stay in touch with other members and their families. We care about our faith, our church, and our council. We have to stick together.

To this end, we've decided to start a telephone calling chain, and ask members to give us feedback on this endeavor. Please

make an effort to reach out to friends and families. "Check in" on how they're doing. We have to make the effort, and help one another. Expect a call. It's all about "Caring and Sharing". Jesus showed us the way. I will need the help of all members to make this endeavor successful; please contact me at Email: dicklayton294@yahoo.com or Phone 856 313-5804. Brother Knight, Richard Layton

From Desk of Ricardo A Mariano

Happy New Year to all council members. Blessings to all! Yes, I pray that we all can one day come together and resume "business as usual" as before. I pray for good health and safety for all of our families and friends, and may we always be one nation under God. Whatever plans and desires we have, may the Holy Spirit always guide us.

Rick Mariano

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.--Proverbs 16:9 (NIV)

From the Desk of Richard C. Brown, Trustee:

To my brother Knights on the COVID: It will go down in history books as a year of cancellations. It was with a heavy heart that I missed doing our deceased members breakfast in November and last year's golf tournament. I am looking forward to planning this year's golf tournament for Friday, June 26 at Golden Pheasant or Rancosa Country Club depending on Committee recommendation. I will be forming a committee to assist me in this endeavor.

For those members that are interested in playing in the Golf Tournament or who are willing to assist please contact Richard Brown at (856) 630 -1792 or Email: rbrown194444@gmail.com).

THE LOSS AND RESTORATION OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY

Annie Homquist recently wrote an article about the 1953 classic, "The Quest for Community," by Robert Nisbet. In that book Nisbet gives us signs to be aware of in the loss of faith and community. He also gives some tips on restoring faith and community. Nisbet suggests being aware of 4 signs that show the corrosion of faith and community. First, there is the loss of individual freedom. He calls this first step "politics is everything." Gone is the importance of the individual. Instead, individuals are viewed as members of a centralized government. In the making of old European towns, the Catholic Church would be the first building built. Everything else would be built around the Church. In that way, the Church was the center of

the town symbolizing that it should be the center of our lives. Individual freedom was paramount to deciding to place God first and establish a relationship with Him. In the "politics is everything" mindset, individual freedom is lost or limited to the decision making of a centralized government. As Nisbet says, this creates a "psychological setting for that alone makes possible the massive remaking of the human consciousness." The second sign Nisbet calls hiding behind a front. In the case above where big government limits human freedom, Nisbet says that the government does not wish to appear as controlling and centralized as it is. Instead, "the power of the government must seem to proceed from the will of the people." Thus, when laws limiting individual freedom are passed they will be framed as necessary (even when it is clear that nothing could be further from the truth). "Doing so enables the government to bend, soften and corrode the will to resistance in preference to forcible and brutal breaking of the will." In other words, things aren't always what they appear to be or what others around us think they are. The loss of faith and community begins with the loss of individual freedom. Third, diversity is abolished. Diversity is a popular term used in society today. Yet, when faith and community begin to corrode, diversity is "swept away." In its place comes conformity. It could be conformity to the will of a political government or party that is usually based in atheism or conformity to big business or the wealthy also based in atheism, as they choose what "is best" for society.

Fourth, the new replaces the old. The past becomes synonymous with the bad and everything is redefined. However, in matters of faith and morals, the teaching of the Church cannot change since this comes from God who is immutable. Atheism wants to constantly replace the old with the new so that old traditions of prayer and community are forgotten. It also realizes that when the old, such as tradition, is removed, there is a void that needs to be filled. Often, this void is filled through some form of idolatry – money, power, entertainment or fame in today's culture.

So, how do we prevent ourselves from being sucked into the loss of faith and community? If atheism wants us to erase our memories of history, community, morality and faith, then we must cling tightly to those very things. Also, we can read good books, especially the classics, studying authentic history such as Warren Carrol's "History of Christendom." We should also discuss the classics and history with others. In Moses' last speech to the Israelites he emphasized to teach your children the faith.

We need to teach our younger generations about God, our traditions and our history. Regularly attending Church, getting involved with the Church community and inviting that community into your home for fellowship will help to foster faith and community. Finally, embrace family life and model good behavior and morals to our youth will not only be helpful for current battles against atheism, but future battles as well. Nisbet's final suggestion – "don't run with the crowds." May God bless you! Rich Scanlon, Director of Religious Education Resurrection Parish