



A Note from Our Grand Knight

Brothers and Worthy Sirs –

My last message before Christmas time started with saying how time flies and now here we are in March and the start of the Lenten Season is upon us. So remember what we learned in the First Degree - *Tempest Fugit, Memento Mori*.

First, I hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas holidays and had a chance to relax, recharge their batteries and enjoy their families. As we entered the New Year, our Council quickly got back up to speed with a variety of activities. And the coming months will only get busier! Looking at the events of January, February and early March I see a lot of activity.

We had our annual Free Throw contest in January and had 50% more contestants than last year, still a small group but increasing! Bobby Scanga led this activity with a team of brothers supporting. Right after that we began preparing for the Valentine's Dance and held the dance on Saturday, February 15. The weather sure was not cooperative but we fought through and held the dance and everyone in attendance had a great time. A big thank you to Brothers Bobby Scanga and Walt Lublanecki for all their work in pulling off the Valentine's Dance and thank you to all the brothers who came out to set up, serve and clean up. It always helps when we get a few extra hands to help out and members of this Council are always there to help out.

I had the opportunity to have dinner with Fr. Mike, Fr. Joe and Fr. Abuchi along with DGK John Clary, Brother Pat Gibbons and Brother John Larkin down at Valley Restaurant in mid February. It was a great chance to talk to our priests in a quiet and informal environment. Our priests are all very grateful for all you do for them and the three Long Valley Parishes and are very supportive of the Knights. We had an overall good conversation on how to make the Knights more visible and one simple suggestion from Fr. Mike and Fr. Joe was to create a collage of brother Knights that could be displayed at the 3 parishes. Our DGK has started collecting pictures to pull this together – be prepared to have your picture taken!

Under the leadership of Brother Walt Lublanecki a group of brothers and their wives fed the Veterans down at Lyons, for breakfast on January 26 and then dinner on February 24. More on this is the article on the next page. We made a commitment at the beginning of the Columbian year to increase our support of the veterans in the PTSD Ward at Lyons and we are following through on that commitment. Thanks to all of you who have helped in this noble cause!

Our Scholarship Committee is up and running under the leadership of PGK John Arrambide. Also, PGK Mike Leyden and Dan Flaherty will be running in the Relay for Life Race on March 5 to raise money for this great cause.

And under the leadership of our Evangelization Director, Brother Rick Wagner, we have put together Lenten messages that will run on WRNJ from March 3 – March 15. Rick worked with Fr. Joe, Fr. Mike and some of the Deacons from our three parishes to compile all the Lenten activities that will occur over the 40 days of Lent. The list is posted on our website. **GREAT** work, Rick! This is another example of our Council putting our money where our mouth is and stepping up to the challenge given to us by Deacon John to increase our Evangelization efforts! We have done just that. By the way, also be listening to WRNJ for Deacon John's Easter Radio messages which will be on the air shortly.

And now I look ahead and we get even busier! There will be a lot going on over the next couple of months, starting with our March Madness Raffle on March 16 and then our Open House on March 25. After that, we hit April running with a Federation Meeting on the evening of April 11 @ St. Luke's (we will be hosting the 53 councils in the Paterson Diocese for their quarterly meeting – and we will need some help – please consider helping out!). The Food Drive is April 12-13 and

then the Intellectually Challenged Drive on May 2 -4. There is much more! Please go to the website to see all upcoming events www.lvkofc.org.

I am going to leave you with this message that I am plagiarizing from the Evangelization messages that were run on WRNJ *The 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter is a great time to rediscover your relationship with the Lord and the meaning of your life. Consider taking some personal time out from your day to day activities and joining in the Lenten programs offered by the 3 Catholic Parishes of Long Valley. You will find uplifting 1hr retreats, Lenten reflections, healing masses and meditations in addition to the traditional Lenten activities of Stations of the Cross and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Give it a try. God is waiting for you.*

Have a Blessed Easter. Vivat Jesus

Faternally,

Lou Monteforte, Grand Knight

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Who We Are ...

Our council was chartered June 27, 1990 and currently includes over 130 members. We are a three-parish based council. We are affiliated with the Long Valley parishes of Saint Luke, Saint Mark, and Our Lady of The Mountain.

The Knights in our council are active in their parish ministries and volunteer their time in support of programs and activities serving the Church, the community, and those in need. As Knights we are guided not only by our belief in God and the Catholic Church, but by our belief in each other, and in ourselves. We believe that a man is defined by his actions as a follower of God, the Catholic Church, and as a leader in his community.

Our Council meets twice monthly at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at Our Lady of The Mountain Parish.

Lyons Involvement Growing

As mentioned in previous newsletters our Council's involvement with the Lyons Veterans Facility is growing. The brothers are very much aware of the plight of not only the many disabled veterans coming home from the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts but also those who have served during previous years. The Lyons Campus, which is a part of the Department of Veterans Affairs New Jersey Health Care System (VANJHCS), is an excellent facility where single individuals or entire organizations can devote time and energy to improving the lives of these veterans. To this end our Council is involved with several activities at the Lyons campus with many brothers volunteering their time and resources in an effort to help.

Our most recent undertaking is providing a dinner service for the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) combat unit. Most of the veterans in this unit served in either Iraq or Afghanistan. Our Council has committed to serving dinner six times a year; and the dinner service is scheduled for every fourth Monday of the even months. During this past summer we started out by having a barbecue on campus, which was attended by over forty veterans including the ladies ward of the PTSD building. In October, Brother Porfirio Bracero from our Council (known to us all as JR), a renowned chef throughout this area, prepared a gourmet meal for the veterans which was enjoyed by all. The next two dinner services were prepared by several brothers and their wives with some of the food donated by outside establishments, such as Applebee's and The Market Place in Mount Olive Township. Our sister organization, the Columbiettes, also help us in preparing and serving food at these functions. More barbecues are planned for the summer months and Chef JR promises to do a special dinner in June featuring Puerto Rican cuisine.

In addition to the dinner services, our council provides a coffee and donut social three times a year for all of the wards in the PTSD building. These socials are scheduled for Sunday morning before mass, and afterwards we assist at mass by transporting residents from the psychiatric ward who are not ambulatory to the chapel. In the past our Chaplain, Deacon John Meyer, has been called upon to serve at mass and deliver the homily. Several of our brothers read, and in general monitor and assist the residents when necessary.

Our Council is now looking to get more involved with the Community Living Center (CLC) at Lyons, which is the facility that houses many of the older veterans and those with physical disabilities. The CLC provides nursing and palliative care for the older veterans in addition to rehabilitation services. The volunteer services department at Lyons plans many programs for the CLC and is constantly looking to organizations such as the Knights of Columbus for help. Last fall several brothers from our Council and sisters from the Columbiettes volunteered to help out at the Fall Festival held in the CLC. We are looking to get involved with more of these programs in the future and work with the volunteer services department.

For more information regarding the dinner services please contact Brothers Bobby Scanga, bscanga1234@gmail.com, or Walt Lublanecki, bwlublanecki@gmail.com.

Membership and Recruiting

We will be hosting an Open House at Our Lady of the Mountain Parish Center on Tuesday, March 25th at 8 pm. All men 18 and over are welcome to attend to learn more about becoming a member. Food and refreshments will be served. Come out and join us.

Our fall recruiting drive was a success. So far in this Columbian year we have had several new additions to our council. Congratulations especially to three new members who joined our ranks in the past few months: Joseph Vacca, David Cherubin, Bernard Connell, John G. Scala and John Sholmer.

We are always looking for good candidates to join our ranks, be sure to have a form 100 with you and always be prepared to explain to a potential candidate what we do as Knights and how we support our local parishes and the community. Be proud of who we are, who you are, what we do and share that with others!

For more information contact Brother Patrick Gibbons, patgibb@gmail.com

March Madness Raffle

We have our March Madness Raffle drawing coming up on March 16th at 5:00pm. The drawing will be held at Our Lady of the Mountain Church gathering space. The proceeds of this year's raffle will be given to the parishes to support needy families in our Long Valley Catholic community. We will be selling tickets after Masses on the weekends of March 8th and March 15th.

Although tickets sales after Masses are important, the success of any raffle is dependent on us individually selling. Brothers, please help! Take a ticket book or two to sell to your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers. Remember that all net proceeds will be going to help those in need. If you can help please let me know and I will get raffle books to you. We will be raffling great prizes:

1. Apple iPad Air with WiFi 16GB
2. Hewlett Packard 14 inch Chromebook Computer
3. \$100 Best Buyer Gift Card

Brothers, thank you in advance for all your assistance. For more information please contact Brother John Creamer, creamer1@comcast.net or by cell phone [908-642-5255](tel:908-642-5255).

For the 2013-2014 Columbian Year, we would like to provide to you a complete list of the officers of Council 10419.

2013-2014 Officer Slate, Council 10419 and Committee Directors

Grand Knight:	Louis Monteforte	Lecturer:	Armand Catalusci
Deputy Grand Knight:	John Clary	Financial Secretary:	Alan McGrath
Chancellor:	Patrick Gibbons	Chaplain:	Deacon John P. Meyer
Treasurer:	John Larkin	<u>Committee Directors:</u>	
Advocate:	Grover Cribb	Church:	John Creamer
Recorder:	Kevin Daily	Right To Life:	Patrick Koba & Dan Flaherty
Warden:	Richard Wagner	Evangelization:	Richard Wagner
Outside Guard:	Bobby Zampese	Council:	Bill Conover & John Groel
Inside Guard:	Anthony DeStefano	Community:	Walter Lublanecki
1st Year Trustee:	John Arrambide	Family:	Bobby Zampese
2nd Year Trustee:	Thomas Sanders	Youth:	Bob Scanga
3rd Year Trustee:	Michael Leyden	Public Relations:	Pete Halko & Joe Mascott

Calendar—Meetings and Events

Please note that Council meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. When those days conflict with holidays or other events, changes to the schedule will be announced. Location of Council meetings will be Our Lady of the Mountain unless otherwise indicated.

Adoration

There will be adoration on the 2nd Friday of each month at Our Lady of The Mountain. All are welcome to attend.

Blood Drive

We will be holding a blood drive will on Saturday May 18th from 7:00AM to 2:00PM at Our Lady of the Mountain. Please consider making the donation.

For additional information contact Brother Bill Conover, conover.william@yahoo.com

<u>March 2014</u>	<u>April 2014</u>
<p>9th — St. Patrick's Day Parade 11th — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM 16th — March Madness Raffle Drawing 5:00PM 25th — Open House 8:00 PM</p>	<p>8th — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM 12th – 13th – Food Drive 22nd — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM 28th – Dinner for Vets at Lyons 5:00PM</p>
<u>May 2014</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<p>2nd – 4th – Intellectually Challenged Drive 13th — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM 18th – Blood Drive 7:00AM 25th — Breakfast a Lyons 8:00AM 27th — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM</p>	<p>10th — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM 14th – 21st – NJ hosts Special Olympics 24th — Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM 30th – Dinner for Vets at Lyons 5:00PM</p>



Website

Our website has gone through a major over-haul! Be sure to visit our website for all the recent events and updated calendar.

The website address is www.lvkofc.org

Annual Programs

Our Recent Events outline only a few of the special fundraising events or causes we support throughout the Columbian year. If you have any special talents you could contribute by leading and/or planning an event, please attend a meeting and suggest the event for consideration during the “new business” segment of the business meeting. Your time, talents and leadership are not only welcomed but greatly appreciated. Event coordinators and support are always needed and appreciated.

Editor's Notes: Please direct any articles or event notifications and announcements you wish to have inserted into the newsletter to our email or postal addresses, attention of Kevin Daily, telephone #908-452-5467 or email at kevinjdaily@gmail.com.