Grand Knight Message

Brother Knights,

I would like to thank all of you for your support since I took over as Grand Knight this past fall. It made my role easier knowing you were there to help in the many activities that involves our council.

We just completed our Breakfast with Santa which was very successful due to 20 Brothers who were there to help. Special thanks to Newt Schoener (Santa) and Bill Maffucci (The Grinch). Other activities this past fall were the Chicken BBQ, feed the homeless in Camden, winter coats for needy kids, support of families in need, hospitalities for the Parishioners after the Masses, help support the annual Circus for children with special needs, and provided various items of support for Parish Religious Education. We kept pace in supporting our activities with successful fund raisers such as the hoagies sales, Thanksgiving pie sales, Christmas Magnets and the can shake.

During this time St. Andrew Apostle Parish celebrated our 50th Jubilee. Our council was involved with the work of the preparation for the celebration. The Knights did an outstanding job being members of the Parish working committees and supporters of the fund raising projects. Our council designed a Christmas Ornament with the likeness of St Andrew's Church. The Ornament was made of sturdy brass covered with 24K gold. All the proceeds from the sales are going toward the Tabernacle relocation project.

The membership of our council continues to grow. A little over 3 years ago we totaled 84 members. Today, we are 130 strong. Just last month 18 of our Brothers completed the 4th Degree. All councils strive for meeting the requirements to achieve star council and only a few make it. Our council achieved double star the last two years and we are on target for reaching double star again this year.

(continued on page 2)
Grand Knight Message (continued)

All of you joined to give back to others in need and be closer to your faith in God through St Andrews. You have joined to increase your values which makes you a better person as a family member. This is a special council with special people and I'm asking you to consider bringing your family members that are 18 years and older to the Knights so they can share in the same values that you have. Think about it!

Vivat Jesus

Grand Knight Tom Mullen

E-Mail Addresses Needed

If you have not been receiving Grand Knight or Financial Secretary E-mail messages, Council 6551 does not have your e-mail address!

Like all organizations, we would like to move away from snail mail and related postage costs as much as possible. Money saved from postage can be used to expand our charitable work. Meeting announcements, activity announcements, and special information can reach you faster with e-mail. Please send your email address to: kofc_1@juno.com and/or j.a.brennan@comcast.net.

Shining Armor Awards

The Knights of Columbus organization recognizes outstanding new members with the Shining Armor Award. A new Brother Knight is eligible for this award by completing the following requirements during the first year of membership after their First Degree ceremony:

- Worked on 3 Council service programs
- Attended at least 3 Council business meetings
- Received the Third Degree
- Met with the Council Insurance Field Agent
- Recruited one new member

Upcoming Events

Our future success depends directly on you. Come to our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30 PM in the Classroom Area of Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish Hall.

During the Summer and Fall of 2013, we plan to do the following:

- Support for Degree Events – TBD
- Membership Blitz Weekend of 1/11/2014 and 1/12/2014
- Can Shake – WalMart Berlin, 1/12/2014
- Free Throw Competition, Saturday, 1/18/2014
- Breakfast with Easter Bunny – 4/19/2014
- Easter Egg Hunt – 4/19/2014
- Serve Refreshments after Holy Mass – Next one is 4/27/2014
- Hoagie Sale, 5/10/2014
- Can Shake – WalMart Berlin, 6/21/2014
- Collect Eye Glasses for the Needy – As available

Internet - Web Pages

Portable Document Format (PDF) files of this issue of Council Matters and past issues have links on http://www.pfmc.info/KofCC6551.htm with links to additional information about this council and the Knights of Columbus.

PDF files require use of the FREE Adobe Acrobat Reader downloaded using the link on the above web pages.

Event Photo Pages

In the effort to find more photographs for this newsletter we have tapped into some sources of
photographs that show Brother Knights in action.

Sometimes we have too many Event Photos and therefore developed some Event Photo Pages which will be updated and posted with page links at the bottom of the web page http://www.pfmc.info/KofCC6551.htm.

Links to these pages will be inserted in this and future issues to guide readers to the specific Event Photos. When appropriate the sources of the photographs will be recognized with links to where they can be found on the Internet.

Financial Secretary

Brother Knights,

I would like to thank you for your prayers and kind thoughts for my wife, Diane, during the many months of her hospitalization. Your kindness helped speed her recovery.

I would also like to congratulate our Grand Knight, Tom Mullen, and the other officers on the outstanding job they have done so far this year with membership. It looks like we are solidly on target for Star Council again this year.

I congratulate the many members of our Council who have volunteered and served at our fund raising and charitable events this year. Also, thanks to Monsignor Marucci for allowing us to expand our presence in St. Andrew the Apostle Parish. Your efforts have put us in a strong financial position.

Since taking over as your Financial Secretary in September, I have been busy updating our records in Supreme’s database making this tool more functional for us in the future. I have also been trying to catch up with those members who are in arrears with dues. Remember, members who are current in their dues have a free accidental death insurance policy. But, you must be current for your family to collect on this policy.

Also, in January, Supreme will bill us for per capita which is a tax that we pay for every member on our roster. A sizable piece of your dues goes to pay this tax as well as the per capita from State which comes due later in the year. If you don’t pay your dues, the Council still has to pay these per capita charges for you. As Christmas approaches, our Council will once again sponsor needy families in our area with food and gifts. The money we spend on per capita charges for members who do not pay their dues cuts into our ability to sponsor more families at Christmas.

If you do not have a 2013 membership card, you are in arrears. Please pay your dues and catch up. I will be billing 2014 dues in January. So again, please catch up now. If you are disabled or otherwise unable to pay your dues, please contact me and we will handle it on a confidential basis.

Meanwhile, I wish you and your families a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

Jim Brennan PGK, Financial Secretary

Pasta with the Pastor - 5/18/2013

Brother Knights participated in the Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish Pasta with the Pastor night. In the photo below, Brother Knight Brandon Tull left and Brother Knight Brian Higgins right join Chaplain / Faithful Friar Monsignor Louis A. Marucci, Pastor of Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish.

For additional pictures please go to: http://www.pfmc.info/2013-5-18PastaPastor.pdf.

Additional photos of this Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish event are available at: http://share.shutterfly.com/share/received/detail.sfl y?imageIndex=0&sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVlxw&fid=09 d7e28d97333e8c6cbbd47cbb382743.

Holy Land Pilgrimage - 6/21 to 6/28/2013

Some Brother Nights participated in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 6-21 to 6-28-
2013 under the Spiritual Direction of Chaplain / Faithful Friar Monsignor Louis A. Marucci, Pastor of Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish.

In photo below you can see Chaplain / Faithful Friar Monsignor Louis A. Marucci, Pastor of Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish in white just to the right of the Latin Patriarch, with Deacon Bill Slaven to his right and Brigid Stagliano, who normally takes all these pictures to the right of Deacon Bill Slaven. Greg Stagliano is at the center of the last row in the black shirt.

For additional pictures please go to: http://www.pfmc.info/2013-6-21Pilgrimage.pdf.

There are 19 files posted on Shutterfly with exceptional group and individual photos of the 6 days of this pilgrimage.

The links are as follows:

Day 1, Welcome to Israel:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVmgA

Day 2, Nazareth:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVnbw

Day 2, Cana:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVoBq

Day 3, Mount of Beatitudes:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVoUw

Day 3, Capernaum:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVorA

Day 3, Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVo-Q

Day 4, Baptism at the Jordan:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVpng

Day 4, Bethlehem:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVp6Q

Day 5, Welcome to Jerusalem:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVqNw

Day 5, Chapel of the Ascension:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVqiA

Day 5, Mount of Olives:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVq2Q

Day 5, Dominus Flevit, The Lord Wept:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVrJw

Day 5, Wailing Wall:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVryQ

Day 5, The Via Dolorosa, Way of the Cross:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVsAg

Day 5, The Holy Sepulchre:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVsiA

Day 5, The Upper Room:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVsRg

Day 5, Masada:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVsoA

Day 6, Latin Patriarch:
http://share.shutterfly.com/share/received/welcome.sfly?fid=188efe1ab6ae4ec2&sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVsig

Day 6, Dead Sea and Goodbye Dinner:
http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVsqA
**Scholarship Award - 7/29/2013**

In photo below are Erik Errickson, Tom Mullen, Bill Graves, Recipient Jack Kearney, Joe Turt, Steve Mignogna, Norb Bucholtz, Dan Worstall, Bill Harris, and Brian Higgins who participated in the Scholarship Award Ceremony held at Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish, Gibbsboro, NJ sponsored by Saint Jude Council 6551 and the Mignogna Family Endowment.

**Officer Installation - 8/24/2013**

In photo below are Deputy Grand Knight (DGK) Erik Errickson, Trustee Ray Rossignol, Chaplain / Friar Monsignor Louis Marucci, Warden Rich Smyth on the floor, Stand-In Norb Bucholtz, Trustee Keith Werner, and Financial Secretary Jim Brennan on top step.


**Membership Blitz / Hospitality - 9/7/2013 and 9/8/2013**

We held a membership blitz before and after all Weekend Holy Masses 9/7/2013 and 9/8/2013. At least two Brother Knights at each Mass to answered questions and took applications.

Thanks to all the Brother Knights for helping make another Membership Blitz a success.

In photo below are Gary Strain, Gary Tanner and Ben Vasta with a Form 100 for Gary's grandchild after 10 AM Holy Mass at Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish, Gibbsboro, NJ.

**Council 6551 Hosting Hospitality Refreshments -9/8/2013**

We hosted Hospitality and Refreshments after the 10 AM Holy Mass with setup at 8:30 AM and cleanup when done after 11:30 AM.
This is very important since it encourages our parishioners to socialize after the **10 AM Holy Mass** and helps with our recruiting especially during the **Membership Blitz** which occurred at all **Holy Masses** this weekend. See article above.

Pictured on the below is **PGK PFN Joe Turt**.

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### Chicken BBQ - 9/29/2013

Many **Brother Knights** assisted with the **Chicken BBQ**.

In photo below are **Bill Graves, George Laigaie, Gary Tanner**.

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### Circus - 9/28/2013

Annually there is a **Circus** for **Special Needs** individuals and families in **Waterford Works, NJ** supported by a number of **Knights of Columbus Councils and Assemblies** in **South Jersey**.

In photo at left you can see the **Zerbini Circus** tent behind the camel set up for riding.

Young children got to ride with one of their parents.


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### New Visions - 2013

Some of the **Brother Nights** support food service at the **New Visions Center** in **Camden, NJ**.

In photo below from left to right you can see Bill Graves, Greg Stagliano, Ed Garruto, Deacon Bill Slaven, Fred Dick, Jr., John Daddario, Bill Harris, Troy Brocco, Gary Strain, Bill Thorpe, Tom Mullen, and George Laigaie.


Hoagie Sale - 10/12/2013

Our hoagie sale was a complete success with all 200 hoagies sold prior to 11:30 AM. Initially, we had six brothers step up, however, the Brother Knights that came forward proved the reason for the successful sale of the hoagies.

In the photo below are Brother Knights Greg Stagliano and Dave Jenchura.

For additional photos please see: http://www.pfmc.info/2013-10-12HoagieSale.pdf.

Fund Raisers - 2013: Thanksgiving Pie Sale and Parish Christmas Ornament

Our Thanksgiving Pie Sale was a success despite the constraints of celebrating Holy Mass in the Parish Hall and no Galaxy Youth Group this year.

The Brother Knights came forward to man the table at every Holy Mass along with efforts to sell the Parish Christmas Ornament with the proceeds from that going through the Council 6551 Treasury to the 50th Anniversary Gala Fund.

In the photo on the next page you can see some of the Brother Knights supporting these fund raising activities. They are from left to right: Keith Werner, Ray Rossignol, Brandon Tull,

At the end of this article is a photo of the announcement.

Additional photos are available at: http://share.shutterfly.com/action/welcome?sid=wAcOGThi2ZMmbVvAQ.

Trunk or Treat Night - 10/25/2013

The Brother Knights supported this night with a donation to Religious Education to cover some of their expenses.

Unfortunately, none of the Brother Knights were recognized in any of the available photos.
and **Bill Harris** at work on these fund raising efforts for both the **Saint Jude Council 6551** and the **Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish 50th Anniversary Gala – Tabernacle Relocation**.


**Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish 50th Anniversary Gala - 11/30/2013**

Many of our **Brother Knights** put in many hours on the **Committees** and **Sub-committees** involved with the **Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish 50th Anniversary Gala**.


**Breakfast with Santa - 12/8/2013**

The annual **Breakfast with Santa** was supported by a large number of the **Brother Knights**.

We had a great turnout after the **8:30 AM Holy Mass** as **Santa** went over to guide the faithful to the **Parish Hall**.

Unfortunately, it started snowing during the **10 AM Holy Mass** and **Santa** was unable to convince people to walk through the snow to the **Parish Hall**. We got nearly **2 inches** of snow just in the short time of **Holy Mass**.

Pictured in the photo below from left to right front area are: **Tony Peseller**, **Ben Vasta**, **Greg Stagliano**, **Santa** (Newt Shoener), and **Dan Worstall**. Standing are: **Bill Graves**, **Jamie Luscombe**, **Dave Jenchura**, **John Daddario**, **Keith Werner**, **Norb Bucholtz**, **Caddy Alfonso**, **Fred Dick, Jr.**, **Tom Mullen**, **Rich Smyth**, **Gil Scutti**, **Gary Tanner**, **Ed Garruto**.

The ticket table, as shown in photo below, was manned by **Sir Knight (SK) Fred Dick Jr.**, **Brother Knight (BK) and Recorder Jamie Luscombe**, and **SK, Past Grand Knight (PGK) and Past Faithful Navigator (PFN) Joe Turt**.

For additional pictures see: [http://www.pfmc.info/2013-12-8BreakfastSanta.pdf](http://www.pfmc.info/2013-12-8BreakfastSanta.pdf).

**Degrees**

**Third Degree – 6/14/2013**

**Rudy Rotter** made this degree.

No pictures provided.

**First Degree – 6/24/2013**

**Daniel Carmody**, **Dominic Cotugno**, **Bill Graves**, and **Mark Testa** made this degree.

No pictures provided.

**First Degree – 8/12/2013**

Council 6551 hosted this **Degree** in the **Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish Hall**.
In the photo below are the **Brother Knights** from Saint Jude Council 6551 with left to right Host Sir Knight (SK), Past Grand Knight (PGK) and Financial Secretary (FS) Jim Brennan, George Laigaie and Bill Thorpe.


**Degree – 9/9/2013**

In photo below are George Laigaie, Bill Thorpe, Bill Graves, and Fred Dick, Jr. after a degree ceremony in Waterford Works, NJ.


**Fourth Degree – 11/24/2013**

The photo below shows most of the **Brother Knights** who became **Sir Knight** at this **Fourth Degree**. From left to right we see SK and Chancellor Bill Graves, SK Deacon Bill Slaven, SK and Past Grand Knight (PGK) and Former District Deputy (FDD) Bill Harris, SK Sam Parry, SK Fred Dick, Jr., SK and Advocate Joe Antinori, SK and Trustee Ray Rossignol, SK and Grand Knight (GK) Tom Mullen, and SK Steve Mignogna.

Missing from the group picture were SK Norbert Bucholtz, SK Dominic Cotugno, SK George Laigaie, SK Greg Melara, and SK Tony Peseller.

**Highlights of Minutes - May to December 2013**

**June 2013**

3 Candidates for First Degree scheduled for 6/24. (Daniel Carmody, Dominic Cotugno, Bill Graves, and Mark Testa actually made this First Degree.)

3 Candidates for Third Degree scheduled for 6/14. (Rudy Rotter made this Third Degree.)

New candidate Daniel Carmody.

Council members helped relocate the Priests residence and parish office from the Rectory to the Parish Center and everything went well.

**First Degree – 10/24/2013**

Stanley Rimdzius and Arcado “Cadie” Alfonso made this degree.

No pictures provided.
Made Double Star Council and passed gavel to new Grand Knight Tom Mullen.

July 2013
New candidates George Laigaie and Son / Seminarian Henry Laigaie.

September 2013
Purchased flowers for Jamie Luscombe new baby.
Donated to Deborah Hospital for full page ad.
Donated to Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish for full page add in 50th Anniversary Gala Ad Book.
Purchased 3 carts for Religious Education use.
Donated for Golf Tournament sponsorship to raise money for Sanctity of Life organization.
Purchased wallet sized Rosary Prayer Cards in Spanish for school children in Dominican Republic.
Christmas Ornaments have arrived and scheduled for sale after Holy Masses on 10/19 and 10/20.
New Visions Shelter lunch support scheduled for 10/19.
Chicken BBQ scheduled for 9/29.
Hoagie Sale scheduled for 10/12.
Christmas Ornament and Magnet Sale scheduled for the weekend of 10/19 and 10/20.
Membership Blitz scheduled for weekend of 10/26 and 10/27.
Thank you letter read from Tony Oleaga for Rosary Prayer Cards.

Erik Errickson resigned as Deputy Grand Knight and Chancellor Dan Worstall elected to replace him.
Proposal made, then motion made, discussed and approved to award Larry Analage with two gift cards in honor of his service to Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish.

October 2013
New candidate Troy Brocco.

Thank you letter from Deborah Heart and Lung Hospital.
Donated to Religious Education in support of the Trunk or Treat Night.
Sold out all the Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets.
Ordered 4 cases (12 per case) of Winter Coats for kids.
Approved Gift for Lady who lost her job with 2 kids and was begging outside Parish Center.

November 2013
Bill Graves elected as Chancellor.
Financial Secretary Jim Brennan reports that our Total Membership is at 128 with Net Gains of 6 members and 4 insurance members. We are at 75% of our membership goal and 133% of our insurance membership goal.
Monsignor Marucci requested help with construction of a Marian Grotto using a statue that he already has. Apparently there a lot of volunteer companies who want to do the major work but parish help will be needed.
Funds authorized to adopt two families in need for both Thanksgiving and Christmas.
Gil Scutti donated a jacket which will be raffled off. (Accomplished at the Breakfast with Santa and won by George Laigaie for his son, Henry, who wrote a nice thank you note to the Council.)

December 2013
The minutes for the 12/12/2913 meeting were not available at press time.
From memory, we recall a Motion by Keith Werner to restore the Council 6551 High School Scholarship with an increase to $1000 and an opening of eligibility to the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Brother Knights. The Motion went into discussion and was never voted upon so it is apparently tabled for further discussion. It was recognized that the Mignogna Family Scholarship is for $1000 for High School but is currently limited to children from Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish. It may be applied for in 8th through 11th grades.