



June, 2008 Newsletter

Knights of Columbus
John Paul the Great Council #486
Middletown, New York
New York District #50

The Shipwright

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Grand Knight's Message

Council Officers

Chaplain

Rev. Dennis Nikolic
343-6013

Grand Knight

Richard Trapani, Jr.
956-6383

Deputy Grand Knight

Gregory Sillen
343-7343

Chancellor

Michael Biondi
343-1285

Warden

Douglas Linguanti
344-5922

Recorder

Paul Dickinson
692-0938

Financial Secretary

Jim Higgins
360-2454

Treasurer

Larry Bedosky
343-0180

Advocate

John O'Connor, PGK
343-7164

Inside Guard

Christopher Pratti
342-5188

Outside Guard

Edwin Diaz
342-1630

Trustee 1st Year

Joseph Hartmann, PGK
744-3795

Trustee 2nd Year

Matthew Enering, PGK
692-2720

Trustee 3rd Year

Carl Williams, PGK
342-8740

Lecturer

Deacon Richard Trapani, Sr.
344-1087

Insurance Agent

William Schimpf FIC
427-2957

District Deputy #50

Burton Struble, PGK
342-0190

Shipwright Editor

Richard Trapani, Jr.
956-6383

Brothers,

I can honestly say that the experience of these two years have been challenging for me as an individual. As you well know my family and I have been forced to undergo some difficult trials that have only made me more fervent in my faith, and stronger in my resolve to follow the Lord. I can honestly say that this has been a challenge for me, but a truly enjoyable one, one that I will always cherish.

One of my last jobs as Grand Knight is to thank those individuals who have been responsible for our Council's success during my term. But, as I sit here composing this final report, I find that it is quite impossible, there have been so many people involved in the many service programs that we have done. None of these would be possible without the constant support and dedication of so many Brother Knights. Our officers have provided great leadership to the Council and its members, even when it called for personal sacrifice and time away from their loved ones. Our selfless and experienced Past Grand Knights have provided us the wisdom of their counsel, never refusing to assist in any way they could. There have been many family members of Brother Knights who have supported us and assisted our endeavors in many ways. And there are those who have given of themselves, whether attending our meetings and service programs, or supporting us with their prayers.

In a few very short weeks, we will be blessed with a young, hard-working, and dedicated NEW Grand Knight. Full of new and innovative ideas, he has shown himself worthy of the position, and is a true leader. He is a right fit for our Council. Greg has become a great friend to me over the past few years, and I have truly enjoyed the harmonious working relationship that we have had together. I ask that you pray for him and his family, and I know that you will offer him the same support that you have most generously given me.

Of course, I will continue to be involved with our great Council as a trustee, and will offer my prayers for its continued success. Greg has also asked me to continue as Shipwright editor and website coordinator. Once again, I thank you for asking me to serve you as your Grand Knight for the past two years.

Please continue to pray for our priests and clergy, and for an increase in vocations. May God bless each of you and your loved ones.

Vivat Jesus!

Rich

Calendar of Events

Thursday, June 5	Council Officers' Meeting	7:30PM
Friday, June 6	Chapter Meeting (Wappingers Falls)	8:00PM
Sunday, June 8	Columbian Squires Meeting	5:00PM
Thursday, June 12	Council Business Meeting and Elections	8:00PM
Thursday, June 19	Assembly Meeting and Elections	8:00PM
Sunday, June 22	Columbian Squires Meeting	5:00PM
Thursday, June 26	Potluck Dinner and Family Social	6:00PM

Our Meeting Schedule

Our Council Officers' meeting is held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30PM. Our Business meeting is held on the 2nd Thursday at 8:00PM. Our pot-luck dinner and social, which is open to all, is held on the 4th Thursday at 6:00PM. All events are held at the Saint Joseph's Parish Center located at 113 Cottage Street in Middletown.

The meeting of our 4th Degree Assembly #762 is held at 8:00PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center, 100 Euclid Avenue in Middletown.

If you wish to contact us by mail, our address is:

Knights of Columbus
John Paul the Great Council 486
P.O. Box 323
Middletown, New York 10940

Please Pray for our Sick

Msgr. George Valastro	Henry Seiffert
Joseph Szela	Thomas Colligan
Elfio Politi	Thomas Shormis PGK
Thomas DiDiego	Frank Vignola PGK

We wish to reach out to all of our members and their families. If you, or somebody you know is in need of any assistance, such as the Sacraments, a helping hand, or perhaps a visit from another Brother Knight or clergy, please contact our sick committee chairman **Deacon Richard Trapani** at 344-1087, or any other Brother Knight.

Hudson Valley Chapter Lourdes Program

The Hudson Valley Chapter of the Knights of Columbus will be sending a child to Lourdes, France this year. In order to support this cause, we have included a book of raffle tickets with the May newsletter. Please be as generous as possible. Please mail them to PO Box 323, Middletown, NY 10940. The drawings will be at the Chapter Charity Ball on June 13.

2008-09 Council Officers Slate

The elections for our Council Officers are scheduled to take place at our business meeting on Thursday, June 12th:

Grand Knight	Gregory Sillen
Deputy Grand Knight	Michael Biondi
Chancellor	Douglas Linguanti
Warden	Christopher Pratti
Inside Guard	Edwin Diaz
Outside Guard	James Lounsbery
Recorder	Paul Dickinson
Advocate	John O'Connor PGK
Treasurer	Larry Bedosky
1 st Year Trustee	Richard Trapani PGK
2 nd Year Trustee	Carl Williams PGK
3 rd Year Trustee (not elected)	Matthew Enering PGK

Communion Breakfast

Thank you to all those who have made this year's Communion Breakfast a success. Our chaplain Father Dennis and Deacon Trapani celebrated Mass in Saint Joseph's, served by many Columbian Squires, with the 4th Degree Color Corps present. We appreciate Dr. Jack Dermigny, our New York State pro-life director, who was our keynote speaker. And of course, our hats are off to Lou Scarano who chaired and organized this event.

Our Knight of the Year...

Congratulations to our Council's Knight of the Year, **Gregory Sillen**, who has provided us with leadership and dedication, and has contributed to the many successes of our service programs and activities throughout this Columbian Year. Our hats are off to Greg, as he prepares to lead our Council next year!

...and Our Family of the Year

Congratulations to **Deacon and Mrs. Richard Trapani**, chosen as our Family of the Year. Involved in many activities within the Council and the community, they both truly exemplify what family and Catholicism are all about. Thank you for all of the work that you do.



4th Degree Assembly Officers Elections

Elections for the Fourth Degree Assembly will take place at the June 19th meeting.

Faithful Navigator	Michael Biondi PFN
Faithful Admiral	Michael Cummings PFN
Faithful Captain	Richard Trapani
Faithful Pilot	Edwin Diaz
Faithful Bursar	Matthew Enering PFN
Faithful Scribe	Steven Maleike PFN
Faithful Comptroller	Gregory Sillen
Faithful Inner Sentinel	Paul Silipino
Faithful Outer Sentinel	Nicholas Cortese PFN
Faithful 1 st Year Trustee	Carl Williams PFN
Faithful 2 nd Year Trustee	John O'Connor PFN
Faithful 3 rd Year Trustee	Joseph Hartmann PFN

Money club drawing

Thank you for your support of our money club fundraiser. Due to a glitch in receiving our tickets on time, we are forced to reschedule the drawings until our pot-luck dinner on Thursday, June 26th. This will also provide more time for those who wish to participate. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Field Agent's Corner

Brothers,

Ah, at long last, springtime is upon us, so they tell me. With it usually comes dances, picnics, baseball games, etc., with all of the wonderful distractions of ones personal and family life. Not meaning to sound morbid, but one thing that should be on all of our minds, as we read the daily obituaries of friends or family, is that our face to face meeting with Our Lord is also coming. We know not the day, nor the hour, but it is certainly coming. When it does, are we as Brother Knights, going to be prepared to leave behind a legacy of love and security, or are we going to be bankrupt in that area.

Are you wise, like Father McGivney was wise, in providing for orphans and widows, or are you foolish about such things? Remember, this is not my responsibility, it is yours. My job is to assist widows and orphans. But, if there is nothing to assist them with, especially when the wife, asks, "Didn't John, have any life insurance with the Knights of Columbus," and all I can say is, "I'm sorry Mrs. Doe, guess he was busy with the foolish things of life, and didn't really take the time."

Brothers, that's the reality of it all. Don't be fooling yourselves, when for pennies on the dollar, you, too, can provide for the widow and orphan in your life. Call me now, and let's talk without any obligation on your part.

In Brotherhood,
William J. Schimpf, FIC
Field Agent
(845) 427-2957

Eucharistic Adoration

Saint Joseph's Parish has recently celebrated 10 years of perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in the Blessed Sacrament chapel. It is through the efforts of many faithful Catholics from many Parishes in the area that this has been possible. We thank all those for their sacrifices in supporting this program, and especially our Lord for the opportunity to visit him in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Our Council participates in an hour of Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday evening from 8:00-9:00 PM. In addition, many of our members and their families participate in an additional hour of their own during the week. Are you interested in developing a personal relationship with Him? If you would like more information, or would like to sign up, please contact **Jim Higgins** at 360-2454.

Catholics react favorably to pope's visit

New polling data released on May 8 shows that Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the United States produced a sharp jump in the proportion of American Catholics with a more positive view of the pope following his trip.

The proportion of practicing Catholics describing the Holy Father positively as a spiritual leader went from 70 percent before the visit to 82 percent afterward. Among

non-practicing Catholics, the proportion went from 62 percent before the visit to 79 percent afterward.

A majority of Catholics, 54 percent, said they were more in touch with their spiritual values as a result of the pope's visit, and 41 percent said they were more likely to vote in the November elections as a result. 64 percent of Catholics said they better understand the Catholic Church's position on important issues as a result of the trip. Among the other key findings:

- 88 percent of practicing Catholics and 73 percent of non-practicing Catholics say the trip met or exceeded their expectations.
- 72 percent of Catholics have a more positive view of the Church as a result of the visit, including 82 percent of practicing Catholics and 56 percent of non-practicing Catholics.
- 81 percent of Catholics – practicing and non-practicing – have a positive view of Pope Benedict, compared to 63 percent before the visit.
- 82 percent of American Catholics view Pope Benedict positively as a world leader

Also important, 50 percent say they are more likely to lead a moral life and make family a bigger part of their lives, while nearly 40 percent say they are more likely to become more active in their community or church.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said that the poll results show clearly that Pope Benedict has presented the Catholics of the United States with a tremendous opportunity. "Americans are a religious people, and they responded very positively to the message of faith, hope, and love that the Holy Father delivered throughout his visit. It is now up to all of us in the Catholic community to walk through the door he has opened for us, and work together to build a civilization of love."

"Retiring" District Deputy

Many thanks to the "retiring" Burt Struble, the Chairman of the Board of District Deputies, for his service to the Hudson Valley. During his five-year tenure, he has spearheaded the formation of new Councils in the area, and has provided much-needed support and leadership, to the Councils in our district. His accomplishments as a past Grand Knight of our Council, and as a District Deputy and chapter officer, are far too numerous to mention. He has also had the distinctive honor of being the Hudson Valley Chapter's Knight of the Year in 2006-2007. We are privileged to have him as a member of our Council, and we wish him well as he continues his distinctive career in the Knights of Columbus.

Support Our Council through Advertising

Help support our Council through advertising in our newsletter. For as little as \$100 per year, it's simple. Please contact **Richard Trapani** at 956-6383 or **Gregory Sillen** at 343-7343 for an application. Please patronize those who continue to support our Council.

Thank you for your support!



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The logo for ASTAR, featuring the word "ASTAR" in a bold, stylized font with a flame icon.

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The logo for Kristen Enering graphic design, featuring the name "kristen enereng" in a light font, "graphic design" in a large, stylized font, and "Kristen Enering" in a bold font below. It also lists services: "posters", "banners", and "logo design".

Kristen Enering
kenering@excite.com
845.820.0131



Knights of Columbus
John Paul the Great Council #486
Past Grand Knights Association

***True holiness does not mean a flight from the world;
rather, it lies in the effort to incarnate the Gospel in
everyday life, in the family, at school and at work, and in
social and political involvement.***

- Pope John Paul the Great -