



January, 2008 Newsletter

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

# The Shipwright



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## 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 1<sup>st</sup> Year

Joseph Hartmann, PGK  
744-3795

### Trustee 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

Matthew Enering, PGK  
692-2720

### Trustee 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

## Grand Knight's Message

Brothers,

I wish to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families a very happy and prosperous 2008. As we reflect on the events of the past year, we grow to appreciate just how precious human life is to us. With the world the way that it is, our faith continues to be tested in every facet of our lives. As Brother Knights and as Catholics, we can all be proud of the way that we stand up to all the challenges that face us on almost a daily basis. The media continues to blur the ethics of embryonic stem cell research and abortion, making it almost impossible to decipher, even for the savvy Catholic to understand. And so, it is even more important for us to be strong in the face of adversity and deception.

With half of the Columbian year behind us, we look forward to a very active period ahead of us. Our basketball free throw challenge and substance abuse poster contest will take place later this month to administer to the youth of our community. Our Council will participate in the annual March for Life in Washington DC. Of course, our Council pot-luck dinners have been a great success and are set to resume starting this month. Our Annual Council Dinner Dance will take place in February. I only ask that you support our Council directors and help them in the planning and implementation of these events.

Please, continue to pray for the intentions of our Holy Father, and for all of our priests and clergy.

God Bless, Rich Trapani

## Calendar of Events

### January

Thursday, January 3	Council Officers' Meeting	7:30PM
Thursday, January 10	Council Business Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, January 17	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, January 24	Potluck Dinner and Family Social	6:00PM

### February

Thursday, February 7	Council Officers' Meeting	7:30PM
Thursday, February 14	Council Social Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, February 21	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly Meeting	8:00PM
Thursday, February 28	Potluck Dinner and Family Social	6:00PM

**\*To be scheduled – Free Throw Competition, Annual Dinner Dance**

## ***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 family social get together is held on the 4th Thursday at 6:00PM. All of these meetings and events are held at the St. Joseph's Parish Center at 113 Cottage Street in Middletown.

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

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### ***Please Pray for our Sick***

Msgr. George Valastro  
Mike Cummings PGK  
Thomas Colligan  
Carl Williams PGK  
Thomas Shormis PGK

Anthony Parenti  
Joseph Szela  
Daniel Bellotto  
Anthony Leo

If you are aware of a Brother Knight or family member who is hospitalized, confined at home, or in need of pastoral care, please contact our sick committee chairman **Deacon Richard Trapani** at 342-7188 or 344-1087, or you may notify any Council Officer.

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### ***In Memoriam***

Please remember in your prayers, the family of Brother Knight **Michael J. Mingolla**, who passed away on December 14th at the age of 80. He was a 44 year honorary life member who was a very active presence in our Council. He will be greatly missed by all of us who had the pleasure of knowing him. Please pray for the repose of his soul, and for the comfort of his family.

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### ***Weather-related closings***

Well, the cold winter weather is now upon us. As a result, we may need to cancel or postpone council events or meetings due to stormy conditions. Please listen to WHUD radio at 100.7 FM for up-to-date weather reports and cancellations. You may also log onto their web site at [www.whud.com](http://www.whud.com). We will try to keep you updated in a timely fashion, and we thank you for your patience this season.

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### ***Past Grand Knights' Meeting***

Due to a snowstorm, the Past Grand Knights' Meeting originally scheduled in December had to be postponed. It will be rescheduled for a later date as weather permits. We apologize for the inconvenience. Again, thank you for your continued support of our Council.

## ***Welcome New Members***

Welcome to our new Brother Knights, who were inducted into our Order by making their first degree at our Council on Thursday, November 29th:

**Brother Knight Gerry Acerno**  
**Brother Knight Wayne Bricker**  
**Brother Knight Albert Prado**

We congratulate our newest members and thank their sponsors. There will be other degrees scheduled in the coming months and will be posted as the details become available. For more information, please contact our Chancellor Michael Biondi at 343-1285 or at [mdbiondi@frontiernet.net](mailto:mdbiondi@frontiernet.net).

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### ***Insurance Agent's Corner***

If you're like me, you derive great joy from your children. It's a great feeling when a teacher, coach or fellow parent compliments you on your child. We all know that raising children these days is no easy task, especially when the values we're trying to instill in them – concerns for others, accepting responsibilities for their actions, saving money rather than spending it – seem to run counter to what society is trying to teach them. Yet these are exactly the values that tend to draw compliments from teachers, coaches and fellow parents. We also know that the best way to teach is by example.

If you carry enough life insurance to protect your family and if you share with those of your children old enough to understand why that's important, you're exhibiting and imparting many of the values you hope your children will absorb. You'll show them by example that you love them and are concerned about their welfare. You'll show them that you take your responsibility to provide for your family seriously, and that you want to make sure that they are provided for even if you're not around. And you'll show them that investing money in your life insurance protection is more important than the new set of golf clubs you might want, the newest and best home theater system you've had your eye on, or whatever else you might be sacrificing to pay the premiums.

Sure, they'll probably roll their eyes at you as you're explaining this, and they'll certainly moan and groan if they can't get the newest CD, video game, or piece of clothing. But they learn from what you do – just like they learn from what you won't do. What lessons would you like to teach them?

I want to meet with you to review your existing insurance coverage. Based upon that review, and on the comprehensive needs analysis that I will perform, free of charge, we will be able to put a plan in place that will meet your needs, goals and budget. Please, feel free to contact me for all of your insurance needs at 427-2957.

Fraternally, William Schimpf FIC

## ***Adoration of the Eucharist***

Did you know that many of our Brother Knights participate in an hour of Eucharistic adoration every Wednesday evening? Many benefits are gained through the devotion of Jesus Christ, who is truly present for us in the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist. All it takes is a small commitment on your part to establish a personal relationship with the Lord. Please consider spending one hour a week with Him at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Saint Joseph's Church. For more information, or to sign up, please contact Jim Higgins at 360-2454.

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## ***Updating our Records***

In order to inform our membership of important news and events, we are constantly updating our phone tree. This information may include news of deceased members, changes in scheduling, or cancellations of Council functions. This will also enable us to reach out to our sick or shut in Brother Knights and family members. If you would like to be included in this important list, we will need your telephone number and e-mail address. Please contact Rich Trapani at 956- 6383. All information will be kept confidential.

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## ***Every Life Matters***

Every life matters, whether brief or long. We each sing a different but meaningful song. The life we are given was planned long ago by God in Heaven, for He made it so. He whispered our names before we but knew how much He would love us, and all He would do. The stars in the heavens give honor to Him by shining His Glory again and again. The hairs on our heads are numbered, you see, and God has a plan for you and for me. He's strong in our weakness and carries our pain, erasing our troubles, forgiving our shame. Every life matters, as God has expressed, for we are His children - the best of the best. We sparkle as diamonds in the eye of our King; His treasures on earth, what a beautiful thing!

- Jill Lemming-LeBlanc



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## ***We Are Here!***

As a Catholic family, we want to make sure that all of our Brother Knights and family members are cared for, whether it involves attending our Council functions, or if they are in need of the Sacraments or a visit from a friend. Please contact Rich Trapani at 956-6383, or any other Brother Knight if you or someone you know is in need of assistance.

## ***Upcoming Third Degree***

Just in time for eligible members to qualify for the annual Fourth Degree Exemplification on April 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Third Degree scheduled to be held at Sacred Heart Parish in Monroe on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, please contact Chancellor Michael Biondi at 343-1285 as soon as possible for further information or to sign up. Sponsors are also encouraged to attend.

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## ***Come and Join Us***

The 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month has been set aside as a pot-luck dinner and social get-together, as we strive to reach out to our families and friends of our local community. Each of these events will begin at 6:00PM with a family pot-luck dinner, followed by a special guest speaker at 7:00PM. Please bring a covered dish or desert to share, and take part in our family celebration. ALL are invited to attend. Our Lecturer, Deacon Richard Trapani, has been responsible for scheduling the speakers at these events. For more information, please contact him at 344-1087. We hope to see you there.

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## ***Thanks for Advertising with Us!***

We wish to thank all of our organizations and especially the generous members of John Paul the Great Council's Past Grand Knights Association for being the newest organization to advertise in our Shipwright newsletter. We recently had the opportunity to honor each of them and their outstanding leadership at our annual Past Grand Knights' Dinner and Business meeting in December. We thank them for their past and continued support of this great Council.

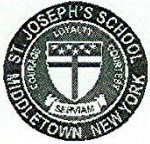
Please, be sure to support those who have advertised in the Shipwright. Businesses and other community organizations are invited to advertise in our monthly newsletter for as little as \$100 per year. While helping our Council financially, it will help you reach a whole new customer base. Please help us as we strive to reach out further to the community. Please contact Grand Knight Rich Trapani at 956-6383 or Deputy Grand Knight Greg Sillen at 343-7343 for an application.

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## ***The Patriotic Degree***

Have you ever thought about joining the Fourth Degree of our Order? If you are a Third Degree member and have been a member in good standing for at least 1 year, you may be eligible to join. With the annual Fourth Degree Exemplification scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> in Fishkill, New York, it is imperative that you sign up as early as possible. You'll be proud to be a part of the most visible arm of the Knights of Columbus, which includes the Fourth Degree Color Corps and Honor Guard. If you are interested, please contact our Faithful Navigator Michael Cummings at 733-5345 for more information. You can also visit their web site at [www.assembly762kofc.catholicweb.com](http://www.assembly762kofc.catholicweb.com)

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

***"There are people and nations, Mother, that I would like to say to you by name. I entrust them to you in silence, I entrust them to you in the way that you know best."***

***- Pope John Paul the Great -***