



## Meeting Minutes October 17, 2022

- 1 **Call to Order** – GK Hillanbrand at 7:33 pm. This Council 11564 Meeting was held in person in the Saints Simon and Jude Room of The Meehan Center and virtually thru a GoToMeeting link. There were **14 Attendees**, 13 in person and 1 virtual. This meeting also followed the New Format for Council Meetings per “The Guidelines for Council Meetings” from KOC Supreme.
- 2 **Opening Prayer** – Tom Lopez, Faith Director, led us in The Our Father.
- 3 **Pledge of Allegiance** - Led by GK Hillanbrand and recited by all Knights.
- 4 **Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting** – A **Motion** to accept the Minutes of the September 19, 2022 Council Meeting was unanimously accepted. Minutes are included on the Knights website at <https://ssiknights.org> under the Council Pages (with private Password login).
- 5 **Chaplain’s Message** – Father Gerlach, our Chaplain – not present
- 6 **Grand Knight’s Report**
  - Council now follows the new format directed by Supreme per “The Guidelines for Council Meetings” to include two meetings per month: an **Officers’ Planning Meeting** (held 10/13/2022) and a regular **Council Meeting**. This is designed to streamline the flow of the regular monthly Council Meeting. **All Knights are invited to attend both meetings.**
  - **GK Hillanbrand** proposed a **Retreat Weekend, December 2-3-4, at Malvern Retreat House just for Council Members**. More info to follow.
  - Thank you letters from PREP and SSJ School students for Bibles provided by the KOC were circulated.
- 7 **Financial Report**
  - **Charlie DiValerio, Treasurer**, advised re the September Treasurer’s Report : Bingo is averaging \$2,000 net proceeds per session; a 6 month CD was purchased thru Council’s regular bank at 0.49 % interest rate; \$4,000 was already funded to SSJ Parish for a new advanced computer tower capable of providing better live streaming.
  - A **Motion** was presented and all accepted the **Treasurer’s Report of September 2022**.
  - Ending Bank Balance \$34,564 / Reserve Fund \$3,069 / Bingo Petty Cash \$300/ 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Fund \$202 / Fourth Degree Uniform Fund \$2,505 / Available Cash Funds \$31,293
- 8 **Membership Report** - Two online candidates, Patrick Lymon and Tom McNasby, have already been accepted by Council. Two other candidates, Andy Weiss and Donald DeFranco, are still considering joining the Council.
- 9 **FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS - OTHER REPORTS**
  - LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND - Program Director Jim McCarry**
    - Thanked all Council Knights for their help in providing an **Ultrasound Machine** to Chester County Women’s Service, now **Chester County Connect Care**. Their joy was reflected in their invitation to have all SSJ Council visit their facility !
    - **The Spiritual Adoption Program** has started for a second year thru Margaret Strate and the Charismatic Prayer Group.
    - The movie, “**Mother Teresa: No Greater Love**”, a documentary produced by the KOC Supreme that tells the inspirational story of Mother Teresa of Calcutta is to re-release in early November and later for KOC Councils for parish showings.
    - On November 3<sup>rd</sup> Father Gerlach will lead SSJ Parish in saying the Rosary in front of Planned Parenthood of West Chester.
    - The **Special Olympics** will be held at Villanova University on November 4-5-6.
    - The **Pro-Life March in Washington DC** to be held January 20, 2023 will march to the steps of the Capitol.

Council activity continues in the **Leave No Neighbor Behind** program including livestreaming the 9:30 Mass, Rosary Recital on selected Sunday evenings, PREP sessions, donation to Community and SSJ Parish activities, and promoting Blood Donation at SSJ Parish and via appointment thru the Red Cross website at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) for the Red Cross Donation Center (Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat) on Gay Street, West Chester. **A Blood Drive is scheduled at SSJ Parish in The Meehan Center on Tuesday, Oct 18 from 1-6 pm.**

#### FAITH

- **Adoration Night for SSJ Knights** is every Thursday 5-6 PM. Regular SSJ Parish Eucharistic Adoration in the Sacred Heart Chapel is 7:30 am until 8pm, Monday thru Friday.
- **Rosary Recital times** are daily before the 9 am Mass; **Respect Life Rosary** every Monday night; **Flame of Love**, Thurs at 7pm.
- **The Five First Saturday Devotions to Our Blessed Mother** as a request at Fatima were completed October 1<sup>st</sup> following the 9 AM Mass. Tom has a booklet describing this Devotion of Our Blessed Mother's request and the specific requirements. Following a poll of interest there will be a second Fatima Rosary Devotions to begin on **November 5** following the 9am Mass.
- Recent **Rosary dates** included **September 25** with the Respect Life Group /Kathy Bond leading and a Healing Rosary on Tuesday evening **September 27** at 6pm for "Healing, Remembrance, and Thanksgiving".  
On Sunday, **October 30 at 7pm** there will be a Rosary led by the Knights and the Charismatic Prayer Group / Margaret Strate.
- A **Patriotic Rosary for Veterans Day** with the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights leading will be held on **Saturday, November 12** in the Chapel.
- **Discovering Christ**, a 7 week experience began **Thursday, October 6** to explore faith and a deeper purpose in life.
- Forty Hours** will be held at SSJ Parish on **October 23, 24, 25** offered by Fr Leo Patalinghug in connecting food, faith, and family. Help from the Knights may be needed after each Mass in the Welcome Center in selling Fr's cooking materials and in carrying the canopy for the procession on Tuesday evening, October 25, during Forty Hours.

#### FAMILY

- For **Family of the Month** all Knights are asked to continue to present additional candidates thru the Council website especially targeting younger families involved with SSJ School and Parish.
- Paul Bellino circulated a list for Knights to provide **names of SSJ Parishioners who might be recognized for their contributions.** **Kathy Bond**, following hesitation for any recognition, has sent her response to accept a special certificate award.
- The Knights, especially Paul Bellino, are asking if Council might sponsor a **Hospitality Sunday**, possibly in November ? This would be coupled with a Pulpit Talk on the same Sunday to encourage new younger membership and charitable involvement.
- Catholic Leadership Institute / CLI** interviewed Knights Paul Bellino, John Ellis, and Mac McCracken seeking opinions as to why SSJ Parish is doing so well in CLI's quest in identifying direction for the next generation and future parish assistance. Questions included why Catholics are not attending Church especially since Covid which may be a result of Family dissolution and lack of parental encouragement and enforcement.

#### COMMUNITY

- **Joe Gothie, interim Community Director, hopes for a replacement Director for 2022-23.** Knight volunteers and help are requested!
- **Help is still needed for livestream at the 9:30 Mass on Sundays !** Instruction will be provided. **Jonathan Little**, our newest online transfer Knight, was actually instrumental in helping start **livestreaming at Mass** at SSJ ! and has offered to **refresh the KOC Website !**
- The **Catholic Essay Contest** began October 10 with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher Mrs. Dryfoos leading. Knights as judges will be needed in November during Thanksgiving week to judge the essays. Winners will be recognized at an SSJ School assembly in December.
- St Veronica Church, our sister parish, has received their first supply of cleaning materials from Council as seen in a picture from Mother Mary of the Incarnation. She would also like to **have a Sister attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Spain in 2023** to chaperone youth. Cost is estimated at \$3,000 which perhaps Council might help fund ?
- The **Warm Coat Drive** will begin the weekend following Thanksgiving, **November 26-27**, with donations planned to St Veronica Church.

## LIFE

- **Rose and Rosary – Baptisms** –All Baptisms are now again at the same 1PM time on Sunday, and the Rose & Rosary are presented at that time. Although there were no Baptisms scheduled for October 16 and 23, and private Baptisms are scheduled for Oct 29-30, Knights as Rose and Rosary presenters are needed for baptisms in November. Please volunteer !!

## COMMITTEES :

- **Retention Committee - Gordon Jefferes** - not present

- **Health Services Committee - Director Bill Aaronson** – not present

- **Fundraising Committee - Paul Bellino**

- **BINGO** – The next Bingo will be held **Friday, October 21** and Paul will be the numbers caller and MC.

Announcements will be requested for the SSJ Sunday Bulletin and KK / Knights Korner for Bingo.

**Council hopes that future Bingo events might be held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday night.**

Knights' help will be needed for set up, check-in, sales, seating, 50/50, 400 Club, and cleanup.

- **400 Club sales**, offered at Bingo, and in the Narthex in September resulted in 371 sales with an approximate net profit of \$6,300 expected. Tickets cost \$25 and drawings will be held October, November, and December. **October Drawing Winners** included Maureen DeMaioribus \$100, Steve Keefer \$100, Anne Sweeney \$125, Steve Keefer \$125, and Captain Chucky \$200.

Thank you to Ed Lack who has managed this important fundraiser!

- **Italian Night** was held **October 8** in The Meehan Center, and all 200 tickets were sold. Tickets were offered for sale at just \$35 each, for adults only. This catered event was great fun and a good SSJ Parish social event ! Per Mac McCracken this event should realize net \$1,850 for Council. Special thanks to Mac, Paul Bellino, and John Ellis -and Wives- who made this such a wonderful evening !

-**Crab Feast sales** will begin during the first two weekends of November with Distribution 11/19-20.

- **Social Committee - John Ellis** - no report.

**FOURTH DEGREE - Gordon Jefferes** – not present.

**INSURANCE AGENT - Jim Siermine** -not in attendance. Monthly emails continue from Jim on KOC insurance and financial benefits.

**DISTRICT DEPUTY - Effective July 1, 2022 Frank Bruno** became our new **District 19 Deputy** as Gordon Jefferes moves on to the PA State level as Online Membership Director. DD Bruno has emphasized the continuing importance of KOC retention and recruiting as Catholic participation at Mass and faith activities continues to wane. On behalf of DD Bruno, GK Hillanbrand passed around a tri-fold brochure entitled, **"Prayers Unite the World"**. We were encouraged to go to the website, request a prayer, offer a donation, and receive a confirmation that the prayer was said. God's love is conveyed thru their prayer network.

CC Assembly is still awaiting word from West Chester Borough for participation in their **Veterans Day Parade**.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT - Dennis Kolesinkas, Bill Robinson, Ed Lack** - no report.

## 10 Unfinished Business

-A Council or SSJ Parish Retreat Weekend at **Malvern Retreat**, possibly in March for the Holy Family, is still to be decided and organized.

- **CYO Outreach** – GK Hillanbrand did meet with Bob DelVescovo and the hope is to have a **Tootsie Roll Sale** to benefit the CYO. Further review is planned as there is certainly opportunity for mutual aid and benefit to each's program.

**11 New Business**

-Council has received approval from SSJ Parish to **construct shelves in the storage shed** outside for better arrangement of KOC supplies. Paul Bellino is managing this project . . . and he also reminded about engaging the **wives** for ideas and support.

-**ASAP / Aid and Support After Pregnancy** is a new \$5M program announced by Supreme to help young mothers following delivery. Jim McCarry advised there is a \$100 giveback to Council for a \$500 donation - a worthy cause for our Council to consider.

**12 Good of the Order**

- **The following were presented for special prayers by SSJ KOC 11564 Knights :** Brother Deacon Joe Ruggiero, Brother Deacon Jim Owens, Brother Bill Robinson, Brother Al Greto, Sasin Family, DeMaioribus Family, Cellini Family, Deacon Paul McBlain, Deacon Bill Shearer, Jenna Desmarais, Peter VanderHeide, Thomas Duane, Patti Glenn, Bob Magliano, John and Maureen Doran, Theresa Toscani, John McClanahan, Judy McCracken, Brother Jim Bushong, Hanna Biella, Joanne Gentry, Ron Avellino.

**13 Grand Knight’s Summary.**

- With so many **Knight activities** GK Hillanbrand continues writing and emailing a **weekly summary to all Knights**, a great reminder for all with our busy calendars ! Thank you GK Hillanbrand !
- **Officers’ Planning Meetings** are held the week before our Council Meeting and any Knight may attend, not just Officers.  
**Next OPM will be Thursday, November 17**, 2022, 7:30 – 9PM.
- **Next Council Meeting - Monday, November 21**, 2022 at 7:30 PM in The Meehan Center - including Drawing #2 of the 400 Club.

**14 Closing Prayer** – Tom Lopez read the “Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney”.

**15 Adjournment – 9:00 PM**



