



Meeting Minutes November 21, 2022

- 1 Call to Order** – GK Hillanbrand at 7:28 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 October 17, 2022 Council Meeting was unanimously accepted. Minutes are included on the Knights website at <https://ssjknights.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 11/17/2022) 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.**
 - Knight transfers are helping increase membership.
 - New recruitment should be helped in Jan-Feb 2023 with Hospitality Sunday and Pulpit Talks.
 - 7 Financial Report**
 - **Charlie DiValerio, Treasurer**, advised re the November Treasurer’s Report: Italian Night realized a net profit of \$2,570, and Bingo continues to average \$1,800 - 2,000 net proceeds per session.
 - A **Motion** was presented and all accepted the **Treasurer’s Report of October 2022.**
 - Ending Bank Balance \$27,439 / Reserve Fund \$3,069 / Bingo Petty Cash \$300/ 4th Degree Fund \$202 / Fourth Degree Uniform Fund \$2,505 / Available Cash Funds \$24,168
 - 8 Membership Report** - Two online candidates, Patrick Lymon and Tom McNasby, have already been accepted by Council. However, Tom McNasby has not yet taken his degrees and is not yet a member of the Council. Two other candidates, Andy Weiss and Donald DelFranco, are still considering joining the Council.
 - 9 FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS - OTHER REPORTS**
 - LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND - Program Director Jim McCarry**
 - Sister Barbara Jude has offered Council the opportunity to recruit with table and KOC flyers at a **PREP pizza night in January and February 2023 for students and parents.** She is also willing to support Council’s Free Throw Contest on January 14, 2023.
 - Word thru a meeting at Schuyler Hall of SSJ Council’s purchase and donation of an Ultrasound Machine prompted six Councils in the Exton-Pottstown area to unite and organize to purchase another Ultrasound Machine for donation.
 - SSJ Council will provide a \$500 donation to the ASAP / Aid & Support After Pregnancy program.
 - Gene Cleary, an SSJ Knight, is in charge of the gym schedule and has accommodated Council’s request for the contest.
 - 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 for the Red Cross Donation Center (Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat) on Gay Street, West Chester.

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 1st 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 is a second Fatima Rosary Devotions which began on **November 5** following the 9am Mass.
- **Recent Rosary dates included :**
 - Sunday, **October 30 at 7pm** led by the Knights and the Charismatic Prayer Group/Margaret Strate.
 - **November 5** re-started the **Five First Saturday Devotions to Our Blessed Mother** as a request at Fatima.
 - A **Patriotic Rosary for Veterans Day** with the 4th Degree Knights leading was held **Saturday, November 12** with 20-25 attendees.
 - **National Night of Prayer For Life** will be **December 8**. SSJ Parish intends to have hourly "sponsors" including a young family to pray 8-9 pm, Senior Citizens will lead the 9-10 hour, the **KOC will lead the 10-11 pm hour** and the final hour 11-12 will include young adults / all.
 - On **Sunday, December 11** at 7pm the KOC and SSJ ProLife Ministry will recite a Rosary honoring the Immaculate Conception of Mary and Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- An **Immaculate Conception Retreat at Malvern Retreat House will be held Dec 2-4** with Jeff Cavins, a world renowned public speaker and bible teacher, as guest speaker. Cost is \$260 and Council Knights should advise GK Hillanbrand if interested to attend.

FAMILY

- For **Family of the Month** Sister Barbara Jude recommended a family and individual, but 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 has previously circulated a list for Knights to provide **names of SSJ Parishioners who might be recognized for their contributions**.
- **Christmas Posters** will be received from SSJ School on November 23 for selecting a winner at the Knights Christmas Dinner on Dec 9.
- The Knights, especially Paul Bellino, are asking if Council might sponsor a **Hospitality Sunday**, possibly early in 2023 This would be coupled with a Pulpit Talk on the same Sunday to encourage new younger membership and charitable involvement.
- Paul has assembled a list of activities, charities, and organizations which "**Our KOC Council 11564 Supports**" which was placed on all Bingo tables at our recent Nov 18 Bingo night. This list of "**what Knights do**" will be further publicized to advertise Council's support of SSJ Parish and provide support in recruiting new young fathers as Knights. Nice job, Paul !

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 8th Grade teacher Mrs. Dreyfoos leading. The essays have been received and will be reviewed and judged (Joe, Jim, Paul, Sam) on Nov 29 at 7pm in The Welcome Center. Winners will be recognized at an SSJ School assembly on December 16.
- Mother Mary of the Incarnation of St Veronica Church, our sister parish, would like to have two young people and a **Sister to chaperone attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Spain in 2023**. Cost is estimated at \$3,000 each where perhaps Council might help fund the Sister's cost. Council will provide \$500 from the cleaning budget for St. Veronica's and see if additional funds are needed later.
- The **Warm Coat Drive** will be held **November 26-27**, the weekend following Thanksgiving, with donations planned to St Veronica Parish and to Casa del Carmen, both located in Philadelphia. On Saturday, Dec 3, Knights Joe G, Ed L, Paul B, John E, Tom L, and Steve K will meet at 9am to load and deliver the SSJ Parish-donated coats and 72 new coats purchased by Council.
- The **Basketball Free Throw Contest** will be held in the SSJ Gym on **Jan 14 from 11:30 – 1:30**. Knights' help will be needed to conduct and recruit new Knights. Bob DeVescovo as Athletic Director is expected to help advertise this event to SSJ basketball teams.

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. There is **no Baptism schedule issued yet for December 2022**. Please volunteer when December dates are announced!
- SSJ Council did not participate in the Special Olympics held in December at Villanova University.
- The **March for Life in Washington DC will be January 20, 2023**.
- **“Keep Christ in Christmas” magnets will be sold December 17-18** in The Welcome Center following each Mass.
- Jim McCarry reported on his attendance in November at a Rosary at Planned Parenthood in West Chester where “escorts” in orange vests were provided by PP. Help should be provided on Parish and KOC websites for pregnant women seeking help. ProLife and ProChoice continue to be difficult and confrontational positions for Parish Pastors.

COMMITTEES :

- **Retention Committee - Gordon Jefferes** - not present
- **Health Services Committee - Director Bill Aaronson** – not present
- **Fundraising Committee - Paul Bellino**

- **BINGO** – Bingo was held **Friday, November 18** with Paul as numbers caller and MC. The evening was probably a record with 174 players. With December a busy month for Christmas activities, Council will forego **Bingo until January 13, 2023**. 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 3rd Friday night**. Knights' help is always needed for set up, check-in, sales, seating, 50/50, 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. **November Drawing Winners** included Judy Rudiger \$100, Judy A \$100, Maureen Zuber \$125, William Gaul \$125, and Maureen Zuber \$200. Thank you to Ed Lack who has managed this important fundraiser!

- **Crab Feast sales** continued thru the first two weekends of November with Distribution 11/19-20. Special thanks to GK Hillanbrand who was ever-present in managing and driving this Parish service. Future crab product online pricing should include the PayPal fee.

- **Social Committee - John Ellis** - no 50/50 or social this evening, but plan to do social following the Dec 19 Council Meeting.

FOURTH DEGREE - Gordon Jefferes – Frank Bruno, DD, asked if all 4th Degree Knights present were receiving emails from The Assembly ? Yes And advised the Dec 5 Assembly Christmas Party was “no cost” but an RSVP and appetizer were expected if to attend.

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

DISTRICT DEPUTY - Frank Bruno, new District 19 Deputy :

- Presented both **Columbian and Founders Awards** to GK Hillanbrand on behalf of Supreme as earned by Council. Pictures were taken.
- Presented to **Joe Gothie a Recruiter’s Award from PA State KOC** for enlisting the first recruit of the month.
- Advised that Council should provide any group activity pictures to PA Council to Rick Gironey for publication in the newsletter.
- Advised that the **Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities is due January 31, 2023**.
- Encouraged **recruiting new members** in saying Council has increased with 2 new members already toward 6 required for Star Council Award.
- Encouraged online exemplification although active participation is available on the 3rd Sunday monthly at 7pm at St Josephs Church, D-town.
- Advised of interest from a few Knights in the **Color Guard Uniform** where sizing can be reviewed at KofCUniform.com . Orders should be given to FS Joe Gothie to order utilizing Council money.

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

10 Unfinished Business

- A Council or SSJ Parish Retreat Weekend at **Malvern Retreat, March 10-12, 2023**. This will be the Holy Family Retreat which might be a group activity sponsored by Council if so decided.
- **CYO Outreach** – Although GK Hillanbrand did speak with Bob DelVescovo, a **Tootsie Roll Sale in March** might be a better opportunity with **Cub Scout Pack 168**. Further review is planned as there is certainly opportunity for mutual aid and benefit to each’s program.

11 New Business

-The **RSVP Program designed for Seminarian support** is not needed by Deacon Anthony Albanese who receives a donation from another KOC Council. Therefore, FS Joe Gothie proposed a **Motion to donate \$800 (per Budget) instead to the St Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal** which was approved. The \$100 return from Supreme for a \$500 donation will not apply to this \$800 donation to the Seminary Appeal since it is not part of the RSVP program which requires direct support to a specific seminarian.

-**Honorary Life membership** has been earned by Joe Kirlin and Mike Desmarais. Mike will be presented with a KOC pin at the Christmas dinner. Joe Kirlin was not expected to attend and will be presented with a KOC pin at a later date.

-**SSJ School will celebrate their 60th Anniversary Gala on Friday, January 20 in The Ballroom at Ellis Preserve, Newtown Square, PA**. The School Board and Home and School Association are seeking sponsors, donations, and attendees with costs ranging from \$1,000 to \$10K. Since there is already \$1,000 budgeted by Council to The SSJ Fund, this amount will be donated to this important fundraiser which will provide name recognition for Council 11564 on the H&SA website, in the sponsorship booklet, and at the Gala site. Council will also “gift” a fragrance basket valued at \$500.

-**Cub Scout Pack 168 purchased a Banner costing \$130** used in the West Chester Halloween Parade. Council approved a **Motion to fund this purchase**, and in return Pack 168 will consider working with Council for a Tootsie Roll Drive in March 2023 to benefit people with disabilities.

-**“Keep Christ in Christmas” magnets will be sold in The Welcome Center following all Masses on December 17-18.**

-The **KOC Annual Christmas Dinner** will be **Friday, December 9 at Charlotte’s Restaurant in Newtown Square**. This special evening is to honor SSJ’s Priests, Deacons, and Sisters for their help to the Parish, to choose winners of the “Keeping Christ in Christmas” poster contest, and to draw the final winners of the 2022 400 Club Raffle. Tickets are the same \$45 with seating for 70 at 8 per table. Should be a delightful evening!

-**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, Brother Jim Bushong, Brother Bill Aaronson, Brother Charles McGuigan, Brother Hank Fisher, Janet Sasin & Family, Maureen DeMaiores & Family, Kathy Cellini & Family, Dolores DiGregorio & Family, Deacon Paul McBlain, Deacon Bill Shearer, Jenna Desmarais, Peter VanderHeide, Lee Gamma, John and Maureen Doran, Bob Magliano, Sara Purcell, Daniel Gallagher, Evan Anderson, Judy McCracken, Tonianne Santangelo, Lauren Dior, John McClanahan, Hannah Piella, Ron Ellis, Teresa Toscani, Ross Family, Dan Gibson, Anne Cane, Drew Turack, Rob McCarry, Suzann Wickersham, Sheryl Fanelli, Gregory Krajnik, Robert Bellino, 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 Virtual, Thursday, December 15, 2022, 7:30 – 9PM.
- **Next Council Meeting - Monday, December 19, 2022 at 7:30 PM in The Meehan Center.**

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

15 **Adjournment – 9:10 PM**



Saints Simon And Jude

Knights of Columbus

*Council 11564
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