



## Meeting Minutes February 21, 2022

- 1 **Call to Order** - DGK Jim McCarry at 7:30. This Council 11564 Meeting was held in person in The Meehan Center as well as virtually thru a GoToMeeting link. There were **18 Attendees**, 15 in person and 3 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 DGK Jim McCarry and recited by all Knights.
- 4 **Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting** – By a **Motion** the revised Minutes of the January 17, 2022 Council Meeting were 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, has been away.
- 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 2/17/2022) 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.
  - Council is in good standing with **100 members** including two member transfers completed in January.
  - For 2022 Council’s recruitment goal is to engage a younger 30-40-year-old group of fathers to increase our Knights’ ranks. More events with SSJ Parish require all able-bodied Knights to participate in minimum 1-2 events or more per year.
  - **Scout Sunday Breakfast** for Cub Pack 168 on **February 13** after the 9:30 am Mass was a grab-n-go breakfast instead of the usual pancake breakfast due to Covid. GK Hillanbrand attended in BSA leader uniform as seen in the group picture.
- 7 **Financial Report**
  - Following a short review by **Charlie DiValerio** of Receipts and Income for January 2022, a **Motion** was presented and all accepted the **Treasurer’s Report of January 2022**.
  - There are now two CDs purchased which total \$16,280 funds toward the purchase of an ultrasound machine.
  - Ending Bank Balance \$22,467 / Reserve Fund \$3,069 / Bingo Petty Cash \$300/ 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Fund \$202 / Available Cash Funds \$19,196
- 8 **Membership Report**
  - Jim Bushong advised prospect John Lyons must complete Exemplification before being officially accepted. Two Knights recently transferred into Council. There has been no response from other candidates.
- 9 **FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS - OTHER REPORTS**

**LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND** - Program Director **Jim McCarry** affirmed that the Faith, Family, Community, and Life Program Directors are all focused on coordinating their program activities for Council participation.

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.

## 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 9am Mass; Respect Life Rosary every Monday night; Flame of Love, Thurs at 7pm.
- **Rosary Recitals** - Due to bad weather on January 16 the Rosary Recital was rescheduled to **February 27 still to be led by SSJ Youth Group** thru the help of Sister Barbara Jude. Other Rosary Recitals are planned for March or a night in Lent including a possible Rosary for Peace.
- A **Healing and Thanksgiving Rosary is planned for March 8 at 7:30 in the Chapel** as prayers are still needed for Rich Sasin and Deacon Joe Ruggiero who are battling cancer - and for anyone to attend and pray for all needful of prayers and help.
- **Tom Lopez, Faith Director**, encouraged the Council to continue personal participation in the **30 day spiritual reflection** and consecration to St. Joseph during the time period Feb 15 to March 19 / Feast of Solemnity of St. Joseph. As encouragement Tom provided a reading to emphasize the chivalry of St. Joseph to Mary.
- On **Saturday, March 12, 8AM until noon**, there will be a **special virtual morning retreat entitled, "A Father's Heart: Celebrate St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family."** There is a link to Register which will be included in the SSJ Parish Bulletin. This retreat was created specifically for Catholic men as we extend the Year of St. Joseph to help them realize their essential role as spiritual leaders in their families.

## FAMILY

- The **Family of the Month for January 2022 was the Vanic Family, Kevin, Amy and two sons**, who were recognized on Sunday, February 20 by Paul Bellino at the 11:30 Mass. Pictures will be taken after Mass. Any Knights present should participate. All Knights are asked to continue to present additional candidates thru the Council website.  
**Family of the Month for February will be PGK Bill Robinson and wife, Dot, to be celebrated on Sunday, March 20 at 11:30 Mass.**
- Paul Bellino still hopes **Council will recognize non-Knight/ Guest attendees at future Council Meetings**, who might be SSJ Parishioners, to be celebrated for their special support, parish activity, or religious service participation. Council may recognize them in person at the beginning of future Council meetings by an award for their contributions, and Paul proposed the purchase of three gift items.
- Paul hopes for a planning meeting soon for a **KOC Family Picnic, Saturday May 22, 2022.**
- **Barry Phillips, KOC Field Agent**, attended our Feb 17 Council OPM to discuss KOC financial investment, Faith Formation, and programs for recruiting younger members and to teach Catholicism to younger Men.

## COMMUNITY

- **Joe Gothie, interim Community Director, hopes for a replacement Director for 2022** . Ideally this role is best filled by a father of an SSJ School student. Is there a Knight who would volunteer ? Help is needed !
- The **Camera for the Chapel** has been received and is scheduled for installation by SSJ Parish for the **livestream of daily Mass** in late Spring/Summer. Help is still needed for livestream at the 9:30 Mass on Sundays ! Instruction will be provided.
- The **Leave No Neighbor Behind contact campaign** will renew in February to contact Knights not attending or participating. This is one of the 5 LNNB / Leave No Neighbor Behind spokes. This contact campaign will be coordinated with the Retention Committee. There is a script available if needed, and additional Knight volunteers may be needed as contact callers.
- The **District Competition Round of the Free Throw Championship** for boys and girls ages 9 thru 14 was held Saturday, February 19 at the SSJ Gym. Thanks to our Council Knights who assisted DD Gordon Jefferes as help and judges.
- Mother Incarnation of **St. Veronica Parish in N. Phila., SSJ's Sister Parish**, posts a monthly "wish list" of cleaning supplies on Facebook for convent, school, and church needs. In addition to Council's previous \$284 supply, another \$244 of cleaning supplies plus a \$75 gift card for later needs were provided representing a \$600 donation from SSJ Council (funding of \$50 per month thru 2022). Council, in the person of Joe Gothie, personally delivered these supplies to St. Veronica Parish when Amazon would not deliver to this address !!

- A **Blood Drive** is scheduled for Thursday, March 10, at SSJ Parish from 1-6pm in The Meehan Center. Please donate if possible
- To **Feed the Hungry** Council is considering ways to collect canned goods thru current Council activities.

#### LIFE

- **Rose and Rosary – Baptisms.** The following Knights volunteered : Feb 20 (3) John Ellis; Feb 27 (0): March 20 (1) Jim McCarry. **All Baptisms are now again at the same 1PM time on Sunday,** and the Rose & Rosary are presented at that time. DGK McCarry asked that all Knights volunteer for Rose and Rosary so that assignments are not necessary.
- The **"Man Up Philly 2022", 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Spirituality Conference,** will be held in person **March 19 at Immaculata University, 7-3:30.** Sign-up online at manupphilly.com. Cost of \$60 includes a box lunch and inspiring speakers. Archbishop Perez will be there.

#### COMMITTEES :

- **Retention Committee** - 2022 Dues collection continues.
- **Health Services Committee** - Director Bill Aaronson not present
- **Fundraising Committee** - Paul Bellino
  - **BINGO provided by the KOC continued on Friday night, February 18, 6:00 – 10PM with 158 players** (although 173 sign-ups). All attendees and players enjoyed a great evening ! Bingo continues to be a great success in SSJ Parish public relations, fundraising, and fun ! Tony DeMaioribus is fantastic as MC and Bingo Caller ! Many Knights have helped with set-up, recruiting bingo players, managing the evening, and clean-up. Special thanks to them for their help !
  - ALL KNIGHTS SHOULD ATTEND - TO HELP AND TO PLAY BINGO !!!**
  - Next Bingo is Friday, March 11.**
  - **Italian Night** is still in the works for 2022, although on-hold until a date is decided perhaps at the next OPM. Per Mac McCracken, who met with Sabatino's, the plan would provide an evening of fun for 70 couples at \$60 per couple / \$30 per person, and opportunity to realize \$975 profit (cost increased). This would be an adults-only evening, and live entertainment would cost \$400 /\$200 per hour. Date depends on Hall availability, Omicron safety, Lent . . . Mac and Paul will choose a few dates to consider.
  - **Crab Feast sales** product will be distributed next weekend before Lent which GK Hillanbrand will again manage.
- **Social Committee** - John Ellis
  - Thanks to all Knights who help, play, or clean up at Bingo !! Some Knights do ALL of these to support our fundraising.

#### FOURTH DEGREE - Gordon Jefferes, District Deputy

- The next **Assembly Conclave is Monday, March 7, 2022** at 7:30 in the Msgr. Schuyler Council Home in West Chester. It will be held in person and virtually as we continue to recover from the Omicron virus threat.
- On **Feb 27** there will be a **Wives Appreciation event** beginning with Mass at 10:30 at St. Agnes followed by Brunch at Msgr. Schuyler Council Hall in West Chester.

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

#### DISTRICT DEPUTY - Gordon Jefferes

- **Eastern Region Caucus will meet March 20** at Msgr. Schuyler to elect the next PA State Deputy.
- **COAL / Chance Of A Lifetime tickets** are available for purchase and will be mailed out to all Council Knights.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT** - Dennis Kolesinskas, Rich Sasin, Ed Lack –Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity report was submitted to Supreme.

#### 10 Unfinished Business

- Election of Officers - The **Advocate** officer role will be left open for now as there is no requirement to fill this position. Volunteers are needed for **unfilled Program Personnel Appointments.** Any Knight who might help, please contact GK Hillanbrand.

- **CYO Outreach** – GK Hillanbrand did meet with Bob DeVescovo and discussed the idea of a 3-on-3 basketball tournament for 6-7-8 graders and PREP students of SSJ, possibly late March or April. Further review is planned although the difficulty may be acquiring gym time. But there is certainly opportunity for mutual aid and benefit to each's program.

- **Ultrasound Machine Committee** – Sam H, Bill R, Rich S did meet to discuss program requirements. Rich Sasin reported that the KOC PA Deputy Director was most helpful and wants to work with Council as 3 ultrasound machines are needed in PA. Birthright of West Chester will determine if they might be a recipient, and Bill Robinson reported there may be an organization in Philadelphia interested. The difficulty continues to be locating a qualified partner to work with.

- **Bingo and Small Games of Chance Licenses** have been acquired and originals provided on February 17 to our Council FS. Both licenses, costing \$100 and \$125 respectively and issued by the Chester County Treasurer's Office, are required for KOC Council to conduct Bingo with 50/50 and for 400 Club sales, and will be an ongoing annual expense.

- **COAL / Chance of a Lifetime tickets** are now available from Gordon Jefferes. For the cost of a \$5.00 ticket winners can share in 16 great cash prizes ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to total \$65,000 in prize money !! COAL is a PA State Council Fundraiser that enables PA college scholarships and other charitable programs. The **drawing date is Friday, May 13, 2022** during the PA State Convention. It is hoped each Knight will purchase 2 tickets at \$5.00 cost each, which will be mailed to each Knight. Each \$5.00 ticket provides a \$3.25 benefit to Council. Father Gerlach has graciously offered to permit Council to sell COAL tickets in the Welcome Center.

- **Poor Man's Supper in Lent** – PGK Bill Robinson suggested Council restart this event which basically included soup and/or stew, bread, and drink at nominal cost. This would be a Parish / Community event and not intended for profit. Bill has a contact who might help restart, although all of the food would have to be made outside and brought into (catered) The Meehan Center due to Covid restrictions. A Guest Speaker with a message of importance would be needed.

## 11 New Business

- **Spring Picnic** – Paul Bellino requested Council hold a potluck "Spring Picnic" activity on **May 22<sup>nd</sup>** with Council providing hot dogs and burgers (rain date?) at the Assembly outdoor picnic location on Phoenixville Pike. Knights and wives/partners would be invited. A "Provisioning Committee" including Paul B, Bill R, Mac M, and John E will meet to plan this Spring Picnic.

- A **KOC Women's Auxiliary** has been proposed by Paul Bellino with the purpose of supporting the Knights' activities by adding a Ladies' touch. This might also be a social activity for Knights' wives/ partners and a further help in recruiting younger Knights. Gordon Jefferes is still researching this activity plan. Ladies with interest to organize and run this activity should contact GK Hillanbrand.

- **Barry Phillips, KOC Field Agent**, attended our Feb 17 Council OPM to discuss KOC financial investment, Faith Formation, and programs for recruiting younger members and to teach Catholicism to younger men. A **handout** which he provided entitled, "**Why Choose the Knights of Columbus**", would be beneficial for all Knights to review and for Council to distribute. He also provided a wonderful prayer booklet which might be beneficial for Council to offer to Knights.

A **Motion** was accepted to purchase 20 booklets at total \$100 cost for Council use.

A **Motion** was also approved to spend \$100 to purchase "tokens of appreciation"/giveaway samples including pens and cups.

## 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 Rich Sasin, Brother Jim Bushong, Brother Bill Aaronson, Brother Bill Robinson, Deacon Bill Shearer, Brother Al Greto, Sara Purcell, Peter VanderHeide, Robert Bellino, Tonianne Santangelo, Ron Ellis, Anne Cane, Drew Turack, Rob McCarry, Suzann Wickersham, Sheryl Fanelli, Deacon Paul McBlain, Christine DeFelice, Lauren Dior, Jenna Desmarais, Kathy Cellini, Cellini Family, PGK Jim Barnes, Patti Glenn, Bob Magliano, John and Maureen Doran, Lee Gamma.

## 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 of 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 **Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 7:30 – 9PM** in The Meehan Center
- **Next Council Meeting - Monday, March 21, 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** – 8:35 PM

