



Meeting Minutes June 19, 2023

- 1 **Call to Order** – GK Hillanbrand at 7:03 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 **24 Attendees**, 22 in person and 2 virtual. This meeting also followed the 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 and DGK McCarry provided a Juneteenth Prayer.
- 3 **Pledge of Allegiance** - Led by GK Hillanbrand and recited by all Knights.
- 4 **Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting** – A **Motion** to accept the revised Minutes of the May 15, 2023 Council Meeting was unanimous. 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 follows the format directed by Supreme per “[The Guidelines for Council Meetings](#)” to include two meetings per month: an **Officers’ Planning Meeting** (held 6/15/2023) 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, completing his final KOC Council Meeting and 2nd year as GK, acknowledged that this has been a good year working with a great group of Knights. Recruiting new Knights was successful, Bingo provided enhanced financial opportunity for charitable works, and activities with SSJ Parish are growing. He is proud to have served the last two years and gave thanks to all Knights for working with him.
- 7 **Financial Report**
 - **Charlie DiValerio, Treasurer** – A **Motion** was presented and all accepted the **Treasurer’s Report of May 2023.**
 - Ending Bank Balance \$25,549 / Reserve Fund \$3,069 / Bingo Petty Cash \$300/ 4th Degree Fund \$202 / Fourth Degree Uniform Fund \$1,046 / Available Cash Funds \$22,278.
- 8 **Membership Report** – Joe Gothie read two names for membership into Council, Tom DiMaioribus and William Watts, with background commentary from Paul Bellino resulting in a **Motion** and unanimous vote for each to join Council 11564. Following this vote, Gordon Jefferes asked if Council might consider having both candidates join online via e-member for June which would make the KOC State of PA eligible for the Circle of Honor award, a prestigious honor. Thus, new membership credit accrues to the State of PA for June and to our Council for the new FY beginning July 1, 2023. Council accepted this proposal.
- 9 **FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS - OTHER REPORTS - Program Director Jim McCarry**
 - Council activity continues with live streaming 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.
 - DGK McCarry highlighted recent Council activities :
The **Communion of Reparation Vigil** for First Friday and First Saturday of June from 7:30pm to 2:00am led by Knight Joe Labriciosa was a success; **Fr. Meehan Awards** were presented by Council to a PREP boy and girl who best exemplified Fr. Meehan’s way of Catholic life; at the PREP wrap-up session for teachers Council **presented Sr Barbara Jude a \$1,800 check for her Baby Formula Project** : A **Rosary on Father’s Day** was live streamed; KOC provided cold water and a great show of support at the **SSJ Parish Picnic** on June 14.
 - Sister Barbara Jude might need Knight manpower volunteers for **Vacation Bible Camp, “Stellar 2023”**.

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.
- **Rosary dates** :
- **The Five First Saturday Fatima Devotions to Our Blessed Mother** began again following the 9am Mass and continues on July 1, 2023.
- A **Rosary** was offered on **Father's Day, Sunday, June 18** at 7pm in the Chapel which was livestreamed.
- On **July 4** a **Patriotic Rosary** is planned following the 9 am Mass in the Chapel which will be live streamed.
- Saturday, June 24** is the second annual local **"Biking For Babies"** ride to support crisis pregnancy centers. The ride starts at 7:30 am at SS Philip and James Church using the Chester Valley Trail for 10-25 miles, rider's choice. Registration of \$50 cost is completed thru the bikingforbabies.com website. The goal is to triple the number of riders to 150. Council made a \$500 contribution. Local riders and staffing by Knights and friends are needed. Please contact Tom Lopez if you might help.
- A **Chester County Men's Retreat** is planned for **August 11-12-13** at Malvern Retreat House.
- News of a **possible Eucharistic Miracle** was reported by Tom as included in "Our Sunday Visitor" newspaper, April 9-15, 2023. Fr. Joseph Crowley from St. Thomas Catholic Church in Thomaston, CT shared news that "one of our Eucharistic ministers was running out of hosts and suddenly there were more hosts in the ciborium. God just duplicated himself in the ciborium." Fr. McGivney was Pastor at this parish. This extraordinary manifestation has been presented to the Vatican.

FAMILY

- **Family of the Month**, **Mark and Bernadette Langdon**, are expected to be honored in July. As always, all Knights are invited to be recognized at the presentation. Brother Paul had asked the IHM Sisters to recommend, and he received 3 more candidates for future consideration. To date 31 Families-of-the-Month have been recognized and awarded by Council.

COMMUNITY

- Joe Gothie, interim Community Director**, requested any member who is interested in becoming the Community Director for the 2023-24 fraternal year beginning in July to contact him, and he offered his assistance and support for the transition.
- Gift cards for Academic Awards were presented by KOC with the help of Teacher, Mrs. Dryfoos at SSJ School Graduation on June 14.
- **Vacation Bible Camp "Stellar 2023"** at SSJ is **June 19-23** and Council will be providing t-shirts thru Sr. Barbara Jude.
- St Joseph Medals** were provided and presented by Knights to Fathers following Masses on Father's Day, June 18. Supply of only 216 medals ran short by the 11:30 Mass, and Council will consider purchasing 500 medals in advance for next year.

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. Thank you to John Ellis for presenting R&R for Baptisms on June 18 and 25. **Baptisms are scheduled for July**, and Knights are still needed to step up to present the Rose and Rosary.
- The movie, **"Mother Teresa – No Greater Love"**, is now available for purchase as a DVD (perhaps for an SSJ Parish showing later ?)
- Baby bottles as a fundraiser to benefit Mothers Home** in Darby ended June 18. Unfortunately, due to parish collection obstacles, a poor response resulted in collecting only 135 bottles with donations and many unused bottles remaining for next campaign.

COMMITTEES :

- **Retention Committee** - **Gordon Jefferes** - Encouraged inactive Brother Knights to return to help with Council service.
- **Health Services Committee** - **Director Bill Aaronson** – not present
- **Fundraising Committee** - **Paul Bellino**

- **BINGO** – Bingo was held **Friday, June 16**, and will be followed **Friday, July 21, but not in August**. June 16 Bingo, although not as well attended as May, still resulted in more than \$2K profit to Council for SSJ Parish charitable activities. All who attended remarked how enjoyable an evening it was and how much fun they had visiting socially with friends and other parishioners ! **Council hopes that future Bingo events might continue to be held every 3rd Friday night** subject to the availability of the Meehan Center. Knights' help is always needed for set up, check-in, sales, seating, 50/50, and cleanup.

-400 Club Drawing 2023 ticket sales have begun ! This is Council's 3rd year for this fundraiser to be managed again by Ed Lack. All 400 tickets were sold in 2021 and 380 tickets in 2022, so help from all Knights in buying and selling is needed ! Packets of 10 tickets were provided by Paul Bellino to Knights in attendance tonight and are available for all Knights. Sales of all tickets would result in \$10K revenue reduced by monthly prize drawings in October, November, and December totaling \$2,750. The 1st place prize is worth \$1,000 ! Sellers of 10 tickets will be eligible for a raffle worth \$200 cash ! We hope that 400 Club Drawing sales will be permitted in the SSJ Church Narthex in the future.

- Social Committee - John Ellis - A 50/50 Drawing was held for tonight's meeting with George Duane the winner of \$37 ! Refreshments were also available after the Council Meeting thanks to John Ellis and zucchini bread made specially by Karen Galese !

FOURTH DEGREE - Gordon Jefferes

-Assembly meets Monday, June 28 at 7:30 (not again until after Labor Day) and SSJ Council 4th Degree Knights are encouraged to attend.
-The next **Fourth Degree Exemplifications** will be held on **June 24** at Flaherty Council in Glenside, PA; **October 8, 2023** in Harrisburg, PA; then May 4, 2024 in Philadelphia.

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

DISTRICT DEPUTY - Frank Bruno, District 19 Deputy

-DD Bruno congratulated Council 11564 in attaining 9 new members (6 quota) toward Star Council qualification for FY 2022-23.
-Reminded that Council Election reports are due by June 30 which count toward Columbian Award and Star Council.
-Council 11564 has earned the Father McGivney Award, Founders Award, Columbian Award, and Star Council Award.
-On **Saturday, June 24 there will be a Fourth Degree Exemplification** in Glenside, PA.
-The **KOC State of PA** is very close to attaining Council of Honor status by obtaining two new Knights.
-On **July 18** there is a **Financial Officer Training** webcast at 8pm. Obtaining the link will allow watching the webcast at any time.
-Incoming Officers were reminded of the need to obtain Safe Environment compliance training and certification.
-**Honor Flight Philadelphia** Chapter is coming to SSJ on **September 9, 2023 at 6:15 PM**. This honors American Veterans returning from their Day of honor in Washington DC. Knights may attend as Color Corps or as Council Knights.

TRUSTEES' REPORT - Dennis Kolesinskas, Bill Robinson, Ed Lack - no report

10 Unfinished Business

- GK Hillanbrand has emailed Fr Gerlach an "**SSJ KOC Scholarship Award**" proposal which resulted in a meeting with SSJ Parish IHM Sisters. Scholarship awards, a donation to the SSJ School Annual Fund, security enhancements for SSJ School, and the \$5K cost of religious education materials were all discussed as possible contributions. The focus of the conversation evolved into how Council Knights may best help SSJ School and how SSJ School may help Council. The KOC Committee included GK Hillanbrand, DGK McCarry, Trustees Ed Lack and Dennis Kolesinskas.

-The effort of **Tara Foret** in requesting a standing **group of SSJ Parishioners to volunteer for parish activities** when needed was recognized. This connection will hopefully provide increased Knights activity with the SSJ School Volunteer Group such as Council enjoyed for the SSJ Parish Picnic held on Sunday, June 4.

- As re-affirmation following are the final **Officer Elections for Council 11564 for the 2023-24 FY which begins July 1, 2023 :**

Grand Knight - Jim McCarry
Deputy GK - Gordon Jefferes (DGK typically serves as Program Director).
Chancellor - Jim Bushong
Warden - Ken Kelly
Inside Guard - Carlos Guzman
Outside Guard - Seth Lengel
Recorder - Tyler Costello
Treasurer - Charlie DiValerio
Advocate - no nomination (Parliamentarian)
Trustees - 3rd Year Trustee - Sam Hillanbrand
-2nd Year Trustee - Dennis Kolesinskas
-1st Year Trustee - Ed Lack

Appointed Officers not subject to Council Nominations :

Chaplain - Fr. Michael Gerlach - Appointed by Grand Knight.

Financial Secretary - Is an appointed position by Supreme Knight for a 3 year term. Joe Gothie continues thru November 2025.

The new Grand Knight is to appoint the **Faith-in-Action Directors for FY 2023-24** by 6/30/2023 and the Financial Secretary is to file a report online with Supreme.

Tom Lopez was chosen by GK-elect McCarry to be **Lecturer** for Council 11564 effective July 1, 2023.

Officer selection is only open to 3rd Degree Knights in good standing. Officer Duties are outlined on the Council website at ssjknights.org.

11 New Business

- **Name Badges** were developed and presented by Paul Bellino initially to a core group of Knights regularly attending Council meetings. The Badges are double-sided, presenting the Knight's name and KOC on one side and SSJ Council identification on the other side. Thanks, Paul !
- **Installation of New Council 11564 Officers** will be requested again on August 15, Feast of The Assumption, following the Holy Day Mass.
- **ASP / Appalachia Service Project** is conducted each summer, organized by SSJ Parish and Advent Lutheran Church. Carlos Guzman and family will be participating with an expected cost of \$750 per volunteer to be raised. A **Motion** by Council to provide \$750 to SSJ for ASP support was unanimously approved.
- Council now has **two metal cabinets** in the SSJ Room supply closet which will be keyed alike and 4 keys to be distributed at the next OPM.
- Per Jim McCarry, GK-Elect, there are **three Program Positions** available for Knight volunteers : Health Services, Public Relations, and Recruitment. PR would include the KOC website, bulletins, KK/Knights Korner. Recruitment volunteers included Sam Hillanbrand and Todd Hagenbuch. Final Knight volunteers will be reviewed at the next OPM.
- **PGK/Past Grand Knight "Club"** - Gordon Jefferes congratulated GK Sam Hillanbrand for 2 years as GK culminating in the award of Star Council.
- **Awards** were announced by GK Hillanbrand and presented by DGK McCarry to the following Knights :
 - **Honorary Member – Dr. Joseph Labriciosa**
 - **Honorary Life Member - PGK Dr. Frank Bruno 25 years ; PGK Gordon Jefferes 28 years; PGK A. Dennis Kolesinskas 25 years**A certificate from Supreme was read and each was awarded a merit pin. Congratulation and thank you for your service !!

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 Jim Bushong, Brother Bill Aaronson, Brother Charles McGuigan, Brother Hank Fisher, Trish Ruggiero and Family, Janet Sasin & Family, Maureen DeMaioribus & 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, Anna Piella, Ron Ellis, Teresa Toscani, Ross Family, Jocelyn Gruver, Ron Avellino, Joe Martino, Sally Martino, John McCann and Family, Ray Magliano, Bob Magliano, Joann Alleva, Bob Ritter, Emily Rocco, Binnie Estrada, Paula Reilly, Anne Cane, Rob McCarry, Suzann Wickersham, Sheryl Fanelli, Gregory Krajnik, Robert Bellino, Officer Chris Fitzgerald and Family, Bishop David O'Connell, Louis F. Gentry, Deacon Jim Lyon, MSU Students, Sarah Whelan, Maryann McCracken, Bo Brazill, Louise Duane, Eileen Friend of John Larkin's, Dr. Rosalie Miranda, Cathy McFarland, Dale Bartlett, Brother Dominic Golato, George Gosin, Blaze Robinson, The Lyon Family, Kevin White, John Ellis Jr., James Duane, Herman Guzman.

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 and continue in your healing !
- **Officers' Planning Meetings** are held the week before our Council Meeting and any Knight may attend, not just Officers.
Next OPM will be Thursday, July 13, 2023, 7:00 – 9PM, Virtual only.
- **Next Council Meeting - Monday, July 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM** in The Meehan Center and Virtual.

14 Closing Prayer – Faith Director Tom Lopez read the "Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney".

15 Adjournment – 8:25 PM



Saints Simon And Jude
Knights of Columbus

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